

# INSTITUTE OF MAYA STUDIES

## OF THE MIAMI MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Vol. 1 - No. 7

December 28, 1972

NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED....Elected to second terms by our new Board of Directors were Charles Lacombe, director; Dr. Allan Kaplan, associate director, and Beverly Little, secretary. Eugene Dynner was elected an associate director, and Bob Little, treasurer. The director and associate directors were designated an Executive Committee to conduct IMS affairs between Board meetings. Arthur Smith, president of the Museum of Science, installed our new officers at the regular monthly meeting on December 20. In his remarks, he paid tribute to the contributions of the Institute to the Museum during 1972 and predicted that IMS will play an important part in guiding the Museum's future development in the pre-Columbian area.

MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT, A KEYNOTE FOR '73....Your Board of Directors has given top priority to developing a program for involving the membership in the educational, research, and administrative activities of the Institute. As the first step in a program drafted by Board members Julius Blustein and Bob Little, survey forms have gone out to the membership on which members can designate specific areas of interest, such as architecture, art and ceramics, hieroglyphics, archaeology or anthropology (a general category). Members can also indicate interest in serving on such standing committees as publicity, telephone, hospitality, program, and library, as well as the NEWSLETTER. Under the aegis of section chairmen, members with similar interests will be encouraged to join together to plan and carry out projects in their specific field, to share knowledge with those desiring to learn, and to present programs from time to time at a regular monthly meeting. FYI, section and committee chairmen are:

Architecture	- Len Schafer	Exhibits	- Elayne Kaplan
Art & Ceramics	- Dr. Allan Kaplan	Publicity	- open
Hieroglyphics	- Charles Lacombe	Telephone	- Beverly Little
Archaeology	- Hal Ball	Hospitality	- Alberta Ball
Anthropology	- Timothy Sullivan	Program	- Elayne Kaplan
Photography	- Eugene Dynner	Library	- Pauline Potamkin
		Newsletter	- open

MEMBERS ACTIVITIES

Hal and Alberta Ball have returned from a short trip to Yucatan in their Piper Apache "El Quetzal". They spent three days in the Merida area, after which they flew to Etzna to take aerial photos of the newly discovered canal system adjoining the site to the south. Later, while spending two days at Palenque, they met Bob and Beverly Little and Chicanna archaeologist Jack Eaton who were on their way to Villahermosa. Prior to Palenque, the Littles visited and photographed Uxmal and Etzna, and afterwards examined the carved Olmec stones at La Venta Park.

Vera and "Chick" Chickos were "thrilled" with the museum in Mexico City and then hit the Maya route from La Venta Park to Palenque. The Chickos have some definite recommendations and non-recommendations to make on the accommodations enroute for members looking for this advice.

Board member Nevett Bartow is making a similar trek as of this writing, and will be visiting Mexican museum directors Ignacio Bernal in Mexico City and Alfredo Barrera Vasquez in Merida on IMS business in between visits to the ruins.

MORE ON MUSICAL STONES OF CHICHEN ITZA....Research regarding the musical stones mentioned in Vol. 1 No. 4 of the NEWSLETTER has revealed that these were first discovered by the Carnegie Institution staff while excavating at Chichen in the late 20's. It was reported by Frederick Peterson (Ancient Mexico) that it was a favorite pastime of the late Sylvanus G. Morley to play tunes on these at various times. Peterson further states that on one occasion, Morley dragged the stones into the ball court, and on Christmas Eve played a tuneful "Jingle Bells". We are still trying to get permission from the Yucatan authorities to do a study on these stones. Meanwhile, our expert on ancient music, Jacques Donnet, is waiting in the wings for his cue to go ahead.

WE ARE NOT ALONE....IMS has a "sister" organization in The Mayan Society of St. Louis. The group meets on the first Friday of each month in the St. Louis County Library, and all programs are open to the public. Director William Knocke is a member of the Institute.

ARTICLE BY DR. COE....Dr. Michael D. Coe, noted Mayanist, professor of anthropology at Yale and recent speaker in our lecture series, has written an interesting article with Sheldon Breiner on "Magnetic Exploration of the Olmec Civilization". It appears in AMERICAN SCIENTIST, October 1972.

RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS PERTAINING TO MESO-AMERICA.

1. CERAMICA DE CULTURA MAYA, vol. 8, Nov. 1972  
J.C. Gifford, Editor  
Department of Anthropology, Temple University
2. A COMMENTARY ON THE DRESDEN CODEX  
J. Eric Thompson  
The American Philosophical Society, Nov. 1972
3. COPAN, HOME OF THE MAYAN GODS  
Francis Robicsek  
The Museum of the American Indian, Dec. 1972
4. PREHISTORIC AMERICA  
Betty J. Meggers  
Aldine Atherton Books, 1972
5. PRE-COLUMBIAN ART  
Francisco Abbate, General Editor  
Octopus Books, 1972
6. THE PREHISTORY OF THE TEHUACAN VALLEY, vol. 4  
Richard S. MacNeish, General Editor  
University of Texas Press, 1972
7. BROKEN SPEARS  
M. Leon-Portilla  
1972
8. PRE-COLUMBIAN MAN FINDS CENTRAL AMERICA  
Doris Stone  
1972

If you are interested in acquiring any of these books and would like to take advantage of our institutional discount, please advise our librarian Mrs. Pauline Potamkin. Address her at the Museum of Science.

FINAL LECTURE IN SERIES JANUARY 17.... Dr. Gordon Ekholm's lecture on The Maya Civilization in World Perspectives will be held Wed Jan 17 at the First Presbyterian Church at 8pm. Since this co-incides with our regular meeting night, the January meeting will not be held to permit our members to attend the lecture.

IMS GROWS....A cordial welcome to the following new members:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Jones  
Mr. and Mrs. William L. Ward Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence J. Olsen  
Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Wladaver  
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Gladstone  
Dr. and Mrs. Morton Rosenbluth  
Lucinda A. Nowland  
John Gorman  
S. J. Boldrick  
Rodney Lethbridge  
Mrs. Edward L. Johnson  
Reginald T. Kennedy

Ellen D. Jacobs  
Peggy Wilner\*  
Mrs. Virginia Langbein  
Mrs. Kay Thompson  
Sebastian Trujillo  
Norman F. Lefevre Sr.  
Mrs. Mary E. Mitchell  
Tia van Zandt  
Bonnie G. Olsen  
Mrs. Charlotte F. Duvall  
Mrs. Edith Alchek  
Mrs. Harry Jensen

**NEWSLETTER**

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