



IMS Explorer

Our Explorer of the Month has been especially involved with over 40 years of studying not only the site but the carved stelae at Izapa. Who is this man?

A monthly newsletter published by the **Institute of Maya Studies**



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An affiliate of the Miami Science Museum

Archaeologists at Teotihuacan Unearth Tunnel That May Lead to Possible Tombs

In an important story released by AP, archaeologists in Mexico have found a sealed tunnel under the Temple of Quetzalcoatl that seems to branch off and may hold tombs of rulers. No tomb of any ruler has ever been found at Teotihuacan. They have been digging for 8 months and have reached the roof of the tunnel, 40 feet below.

by Mark Stevenson

A long-sealed tunnel has been found under the ruins of Teotihuacan and chambers that seem to branch off it may hold the tombs of some of the ancient city's early rulers, archaeologists said on August 3, 2010.

Experts say a tomb discovery would be significant because the social structure of Teotihuacan remains a mystery after nearly 100 years of archaeological exploration at the site, which is best known for the towering Pyramids of the Moon and the Sun.

No depiction of a ruler, or the tomb of a monarch, has ever been found, setting the metropolis apart from other Mesoamerican cultures that deified their rulers.

Archaeologists had suspected the hidden tunnel was there after a heavy rainstorm in 2003 caused the ground to sink at the foot of the Temple of Quetzacoatl, in the central ceremonial area of the site that is located just north of Mexico City.

Starting last year, they began digging, and after eight months of excavation, they reached the roof of the tunnel last month, 12 meters (40 feet) below the surface.

They lowered a small camera into the 4-meter-wide (12-foot) corridor, which had been carved out of the rock early in Teotihuacan's history, and got the first glimpse of the



The excavation, protected under a canopy, is directly in front of the Temple of Quetzalcoatl.



Looking down into the hole that leads to what archaeologists describe as a mysterious, 37-meter (100-yard) tunnel that was probably closed intentionally about 200 CE. It may well hold chambers with tombs of the rulers of the city founded 2,500 year ago, where the Teotihuacan culture blossomed starting around 100 BCE. Images courtesy of AP, by Alexandre Meneghini.

space that they say was intentionally closed off between 200 and 250 CE.

"I think the tunnel was the central element, the main element around which the rest of the ceremonial center was built," archaeologist Sergio Gómez said. "This was the most sacred place."

The camera showed the tunnel appearing to extend about 37 meters (100-yards) before it is blocked by a wall or mound. *continued on page 3*

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IMS Presentation 8 pm, September 15:



Lintel in Structure 22, Copan

"An Overview of IMS Research in Mesoamerica"

with **Joaquín J.
Rodríguez III,
PE, SECB**



**Jim Reed,
Editor**

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In Memoriam: Robert L. Rands

Recently, the IMS received a notice from Antonio Benavides (archaeologist for INAH, Campeche) of the passing of one of the great researchers in the field of Maya studies. Robert L. Rands entered the Road to Xibalba on July 24 of this year, after having spent over five decades in investigative analysis, especially as it relates to the study of ceramics



Dr. Robert Rands (left) is interviewed by Research Associate Alonso Méndez on October 26, 2003. You can search for and read the whole interview in the Spring 2004 issue of *ArchaeoMaya*, the online newsletter of the The Maya Exploration Center, at www.mayaexploration.org.

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and jadeite.

In 1998, the Society of American Archaeology (SAA) gave the year's Award of Excellence in Ceramic Studies to Robert L. Rands. In the conference brochure, a nice review of his lifetime of achievement was shared:

"Throughout his career, Rands has conceived of ceramic studies in multi-dimensional terms and contributed to both theoretical and methodological aspects of ceramic analysis. Rands presented his first paper on the ceramics of Palenque at the 1952 SAA meeting and participated in the seminal Maya Lowlands Ceramics Conference in 1965. During those years he focused on spatial analysis as a basis for inferences about centralization in early state societies and examined variability in natural resources, relating their use to production and trade issues.

"In subsequent years, Rands pioneered the study of compositional approaches to ceramic studies in order to address questions of regional exchange and interaction. His research on the ceramics of Palenque represents a culmination of this multidimensional approach. Although Rands's research has focused on the Lowland Maya, his articles in the *Handbook of Middle American Indians* remain key references on Highland Maya pottery and figurines.

"At Palenque, Rands took on the responsibility of establishing a ceramic sequence which would enable later researchers to answer many of the questions about the history of the site (see chart at right). This investigation has continued to this day, and there are many results derived from it, such as the proposed ceramic complexes clustered in specific chronological frameworks, the identification of production areas in the region based on the analysis of paste composition, and the establishment of possible commercial exchange routes with sites around Palenque."

Friend and colleague Ronald L. Bishop worked alongside Rands on many projects over the years, especially in analyzing the numerous ceramic incense burners uncovered at Palenque. Bishop's contribution was being able to point



Two of the many beautiful ornate incense burners from excavations in the Temple of the Cross at Palenque. Left: Ox P'uluut K'u ó Dioses Incensario. Right: Incensario Dios Remero - Jaguar. Photos courtesy of Jorge Pérez de Lara, INAH.

out the interrelationships between science, archaeology, history, and art utilizing Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis.

You can search for articles that mention the work of both researchers at www.famsi.org and www.mesoweb.com.

DATE	PERIOD	PHASES
300 BCE		
	Late	Pre-Picota
250 CE	Pre-Classic	
		Picota
	Proto-Classic	
	and	
	Early Classic	Motiepá
600 CE		
		Otolum
	Late Classic	Murciélagos
800 CE		Balunté
900 CE	Terminal Classic	Huipalé

Palenque ceramic sequence (after Rands).



Who is our man?

V. Garth Norman is an archaeologist, archaeo-astronomer, epigrapher, and

art historian with graduate degrees from Brigham Young University. Norman is best known for his pioneering research of the early or pre-Maya sculpture at Izapa, see article on page 6.

Toniná's Monument 171 Now Complete

With more than 2,000 years of age, a carved stone monument that depicts the "Divine Lords of Toniná Creating the Universe", one of the most emblematic pieces on display in the Maya Hall of Mexico's National Museum of Anthropology (MNA) will appear complete once the missing part that corresponds to a hand is reintegrated.

Archaeologists from Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) recently found the missing fragment at the site of Toniná in rubble within a structure named the Palacio de los Caracoles.

Archaeologist Juan Yadeun Angulo mentioned that the carving was found in 2002 at Witz Palace, in Toniná, where it was used as a lintel by Tzeltal groups that reoccupied the

Acropolis centuries after it was deserted.

According to Yadeun, the limestone stela was originally part of the throne of ruler Jaguar Claw.

Central glyphs of the stela narrate that on October 28, 727, a ballgame began in the underworld between solar lord Jaguar Claw, the one at the left, and Kinich Baknal Chaak, to the right. Both appear wearing the ritual ballgame garments.

The stela represents the third creation of the universe, when one of the divine twins (whose deeds are narrated in the Popol Vuh) defeated



A stela called Monument 171 depicts a ballgame that took place between Jaguar Paw and Baknal Kinich Chaak. They both are wearing knee pads, leather skirts and yokes. The stela was originally found in 37 fragments and the hand of one of the ballplayers was missing.



the lords of the underworld. Jaguar Claw is to the left, the side of life, wearing the Ixbalanque deity attire, while his ancestor is located on the side where the Sun dies, wearing the underworld deity attire.

Source: From an INAH report released 7/10/2010 at www.artdaily.com

Tunnel at Teotihuacan

continued from page 1

Ground-penetrating scanner images found the tunnel extends beyond the blockage and ends in a large chamber that measures 3 meters (10 yards) on each side, lying almost directly beneath the temple. Two smaller chambers appear on either side of the rough-hewn corridor.

All the signs point to it being a ruler's tomb, Gómez said, including the rich offerings tossed into the tunnel at the moment it was closed up: almost 50,000 objects of jade, stone, shell and pottery, including ceramic beakers of a kind never found before at the site.

"Up to now, every archaeologist who has worked in Teotihuacan has tried to find the tombs of the rulers," Gómez said. "There is a high possibility that in this place, in the central chamber, we can find the remains of those who ruled Teotihuacan."

The complex of pyramids, plazas, temples and avenues was once the center of a city of more than 100,000 inhabitants and may have been the largest and most influential city in pre-Hispanic North America at the time.

Nearly 2,500 years after the city was founded – and about 2,100 years after the Teotihuacan culture began to flourish there –

These computer-generated graphics show the position of the excavation in front of the Temple of Quetzalcoatl and a view looking directly down into the dig. The images are part of a photo gallery

released on 8/4/1020 by Emilio Fernández Román and Jorge Serratos of El Universal at: www.eluniversal.com.mx

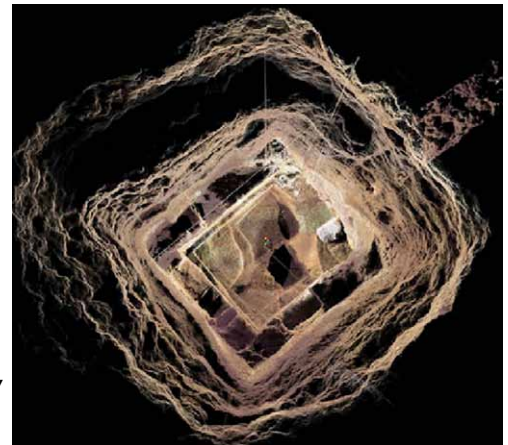


the identity of its rulers remains a mystery.

The city was built by a relatively little-known culture that reached its height between 100 BCE and 750 CE. It was abandoned by the time the Aztecs arrived in the area in the 1300s and gave it the name "Teotihuacan," which means "the place where men become gods."

Luis Barba, of the Anthropological Research Institute of Mexico's National Autonomous University, said that because there are no images, names or other references to rulers among Teotihuacan's rich murals and stone carvings, some experts suggest the city might have had a shared leadership, with rulers alternating between its four precincts.

"People have looked for these rulers for many years," Barba noted. "Perhaps they will be found now. There is nothing to rule it out or



make it impossible, but at this point, we have nothing."

Gómez said it will take at least two more months of digging before archaeologists can actually enter the tunnel. *The IMS will keep you posted!*

Source: From an original Associated Press news release by Mark Stevenson, posted 8/3/2010 by *The Palm Beach Post* at: www.palmbeachpost.com. An article in Spanish with images was posted 8/4/2010 by Emilio Fernández Román at: www.eluniversal.com.mx. ●●●

Since 2006, a team of archaeologists from Brown University, directed by Dr. Stephen D. Houston, in conjunction with the Departamento de Monumentos Prehispánicos of the Dirección General del Patrimonio Cultural in Guatemala, has been excavating at the site of El Zotz, El Petén. Recently the archaeologists unearthed an undisturbed tomb at the site, which is located some 23 km. west of Tikal.

Maya Royal Tomb Discovered Filled with Offerings at El Zotz

A well-preserved tomb of an ancient Maya king has been discovered in the Petén jungle of Guatemala by a team of archaeologists led by Brown University's Stephen Houston. The tomb is packed with carvings, ceramics, textiles, and the bones of six children, who may have been sacrificed at the time of the king's death.

The team uncovered the tomb, which dates from about 350 to 400 CE, beneath the *El Diablo* pyramid in the city of El Zotz in May, 2010. The news was made public during a press conference in Guatemala City, hosted by the Ministry of Culture and Sports, which authorized the work.

Before making the actual discovery, Houston said the team thought "something odd" was happening in the deposit they were digging. They knew a small temple had been built in front of a sprawling structure dedicated to the sun god, an emblem of Maya rulership.

"When we sank a pit into the small chamber of the temple, we hit almost immediately a series of "caches" – blood-red bowls containing human fingers and teeth, all wrapped in some kind of organic substance that left an impression in the plaster. We then dug through layer after layer of flat stones, alternating with mud, which probably is what kept the tomb so intact and airtight."

Then on May 29, 2010, Houston was with a worker who came to a final earthen layer. "I told him to remove it, and then, a flat stone. We'd been using a small stick to probe for cavities. And, on this try, the stick went in, and in, and in. After chipping away at the stone, I saw nothing but a small hole leading into darkness."

They lowered a bare light bulb into the hole, and suddenly Houston saw "an explosion of color in all directions – reds, greens, yellows."

●●●● It was a royal tomb



Jewel-bedecked teeth.



The tomb dates from circa 350-400 CE and was the final resting place of a male occupant, along with six children, and a multitude of invaluable artifacts including many beautiful polychrome ceramics like this ceramic lid (center) and plate (right). Also see Joel Skidmore's excellent report about this discovery at El Zotz on www.mesoweb.com.

filled with organics Houston says he'd never seen before: pieces of wood, textiles, thin layers of painted stucco, and cord.

"When we opened the tomb, I poked my head in and there was still, to my astonishment, a smell of putrefaction and a chill that went to my bones," Houston said. "The chamber had been so well sealed, for over 1600 years, that no air and little water had entered."

The tomb itself is about 6 feet high, 12 feet long, and four feet wide. "I can lie down comfortably in it," Houston said, "although I wouldn't want to stay there."

It appears the tomb held an adult male, but the bone analyst, Andrew Scherer, assistant professor of anthropology at Brown, has not yet confirmed the finding. So far, it seems likely that there are six children in the tomb, some with whole bodies and probably two solely with skulls.

And who was this man? Though the findings are still very new, the group believes the tomb is likely from a king they recognize only from other hieroglyphic texts – one of Houston's specialties in



Looking into the tomb for the first time, archaeologists saw "an explosion of color in all directions – reds, greens, yellows. ... These items are artistic riches, extraordinarily preserved from a key time in Maya history," said Houston.

Maya archaeology. "These items are artistic riches, extraordinarily preserved from a key time in Maya history," noted Houston. "From the tomb's position, time, richness, and repeated constructions atop the tomb, we believe this is very likely the founder of a dynasty."

Houston says the tomb shows that the ruler is going into the tomb as a ritual dancer. He has all the attributes of this role, including many small "bells" of shell with, probably, dog canines as clappers. There is a chance too, that his body, which rested on a raised bier that collapsed to the floor, had an elaborate headdress with small glyphs on them. One of his hands may have held a sacrificial blade."

"We still have a great deal of work to do," Houston said. "Royal tombs are hugely dense with information and require years of study to understand."

Source: From information released by Brown University and posted on 7/16/2010 at: <http://freerepublic.com>. Photos of ceramics by Arturo Godoy. Other articles also appeared at: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com> and www.archaeologynews.org.

Ancient Tomb Unearthed in Northern Peru

Archaeologists in Peru have unearthed the remains of what is believed to have been a high ranking official of the Sicán culture who lived about 1,200 years ago.

A team co-led by Peruvian archaeologist Carlos del Carpio found the tomb, along with many burial artifacts, about 1,500 meters west of the Lord of Sicán's tomb in Huaca Las Ventanas archaeological site, near the Pomac Forest Historical Sanctuary, in the northern Lambayeque region.

According to Peruvian daily *El Comercio*, the ancient nobleman was buried in a lotus posture (sitting with his legs half-crossed) and the finds included a winged eye mask, a ceremonial knife and a metal cup.

The tomb also contained a breastplate of coral colored Spondylus shell beads, seven ceramics and a gold tweezer, representing a bird image of the Sicán or Lambayeque cultures.

The contents of the burial are still being investigated, but the researchers explain that the bundle was covered with a large *unku* – an alpaca blanket known better in Spanish as a *poncho*. The *unku* had false arms attached, and these were covered with feather-shaped pieces of copper and gloves, all very well preserved.

Archaeologists Carlos Elera, José Pinilla and Carlos del Carpio, who work together in the area, described this discovery as a miracle given the erosive power of the La Leche river and the ongoing dam construction in the



Among the artifacts found in the archaeological complex of Las Ventanas was a type of sarcophagus for an adult with a headdress and a feathered eye mask, which are characteristic of the nobles of the Sicán culture.



Among the remains was a child of three to four years old and believed to be from between 1100 and 1150 CE. A researcher points to some well-preserved stuccoed murals.

area. Recognizing the importance of the discovery, Carlos Elera, the director of the Sicán Museum in Ferreñafe, put in a request to the Peruvian government to declare the area of the find to be an emergency zone. This status would release extra funds and security to advance the progress of the work quickly and

carefully before another imminent overflowing of La Leche river occurs.

Source: Combined from an article released 7/19/2010 at www.archaeologydaily.com and an AFP report posted 7/21/2010 at <http://news.yahoo.com>. Most images by AP photographer Karel Navarro, courtesy of a report in Spanish at <http://elcomercio.pe>.



The Maya at the Playa Conference

It's time to make your plans for this 4th annual conference sponsored by American Foreign Academic Research and The Archaeological Institute of America. Participants ranging from archaeologists to folklorists are afforded the unique opportunity to re-contextualize their research within a larger context of Maya studies, at the same time creating public access to rigorous scientific and specialist data.

Enjoy hands-on workshops, lectures, engaging discussions, traditional Maya stories and cuisine, all in a relaxed format befitting the conference's seaside venue in Flagler Beach, Florida. This year's event will offer the same great content as the previous three conferences

but there are an increased number of offerings and even more professionals brought to the table. The event will be honoring Dr. Michael D. Coe with the second-ever Maya at the Playa Lifetime Achievement Award and he will deliver the keynote lecture. Conference dates are September 30 through October 3.

IMS Explorers Rick Slazyk and Joaquín Rodríguez will conduct a workshop on *Maya Architecture and Engineering* and Jim Reed will present a new program that connects the human body with the ancient Maya's centers of creation.

The IMS will be setting up an information booth. If you've never gone before, you can't miss this opportunity. Register now at : <http://mayaattheplya.com>



Dr. Michael D. Coe

Editor's Corner:

IMS Explorer of the Month: V. Garth Norman

Norman is the leading scholar in iconographic research of Izapan culture.

This past June, I had the great pleasure of traveling with Garth Norman and his wife Cheryl for nine days during an important mission of ceremony and ritual. We took Guatemalan Maya spiritual guides into Mexico to re-ignite the spiritual connection to the fire at Izapa – the ancient pre-Maya site that he has been researching for more than 35 years. I use his drawings, photos and insights in my presentations.

Garth was the first to speak at the press conference with the Mayor of Tapachula and he also presented his findings concerning the latest developments at Izapa at a local university. I am so very impressed with not only his vast knowledge of the archaeoastronomy at Izapa but



Dressed in their ceremonial attire under the cacao groves at Izapa, Garth and his wonderful wife Cheryl thoroughly enjoyed their immersion into Maya spirituality this past summer during Mission Izapa 2010.

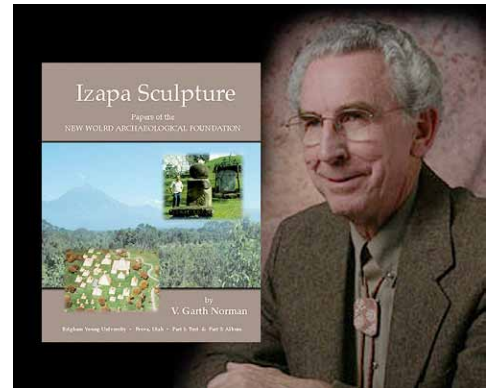
also with the man himself – that I want to share his story with you.

Norman has over 40 years of professional archaeological research experience and cultural resource contract work in Mesoamerica and in the Inter-mountain Western U.S. He has been a Research Associate with Brigham Young University's New World Archaeological Foundation from 1965 to 1976 and during that time published a two-volume monograph on Izapa Sculpture (Paper #30, 1973, 1976).

Norman has authored over 250 professional papers and contract reports and has been the Director of Archaeological Research Consultants since 1982. He travels the world pursuing studies in North America, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. He is also an advisory board member of The Maya Conservancy. Check out his website at www.vgarthnorman.com

Get Real with Maya Spirituality

You can join Garth Norman on a journey through Guatemala this October 22-31 for the 8-Batz ritual – the K'iché Maya's "New Year" fire ceremony. We will also participate in ceremonies at Iximché and at Copán, in Honduras. Norman and your editor will present programs in Copán that will be sponsored



Norman's most noteworthy book, Izapa Sculpture, is still available on Amazon.



When your editor attended the 8-Batz ritual for this current 260-day calendar cycle – on Feb. 4 in Momostenango, Guatemala – our ceremony with Spiritual Guide Tat Rigoberto Itzep was broadcast live on "Radio Maya", reaching Maya people all over the Highlands.

by the Copán Association and the Honduran Ministry of Tourism.

It is one thing to study and admire the ancient Maya – It is heart-warming and soul-endearing to experience the spiritual traditions of the modern Maya. Join us by contacting Jim Reed for more details at: mayaman@bellsouth.net

Pre-Columbian Burial Ground Uncovered in Costa Rica

National Museum of Costa Rica archaeologists said on July 20, 2010, that an 800-year-old, pre-Columbian burial ground with baskets full of human remains was unearthed at a construction site outside the capital of San José.

"It's a funeral complex made from river stones and slabs," said Maritza Gutiérrez, who heads the digs at the Tres Ríos district that is 10 km (six miles) from the capital.

The burial ground, dating from about the year 1200 CE, yielded

26 sets of human bones from children to adults,

contained in baskets made of plant fiber, an unusual material for indigenous groups predating the discovery of the New World by Columbus. Archaeologists also found 98 artifacts made of stone and ceramics, Gutiérrez said.

It was too early to determine exactly to which indigenous group the remains belong, she mentioned, adding that before the 1500s about eight different ethnic groups lived in what is now Costa Rica.

Gutiérrez said the burial site was first discovered two months ago by workers digging foundations for a new house, but the news was kept from the public while archaeologists completed their excavations. The site lies in an empty lot surrounded by residential homes.

National Museum director Patricia Fumero noted the



Costa Rican archaeologist Maritza Gutiérrez works on tombs made with stones at an indigenous cemetery.

archaeological find was "very important," when added to two other pre-Columbian burial grounds, found last year in Costa Rica's jungles and mountains, that date from 1,200 and 1,700 years ago.

Source: From an AFP report released 8/20/2010 at: <http://news.yahoo.com>. Submitted by Scott Allen.

Institute of Maya Studies Line-up of Presentations!

September 8, 2010: IMS Explorer Session:

“Inka Coya – the Queen”

with Carol Damian, Ph.D.



*The Ñustas
(Inka noble women)*

Most people think (as Carol once did) that Inka means the powerful people of Inkan civilization, but truth is that only the king of Inka society was called Inka or more precisely Sapa Inka. His wife was called Coya, who was the queen of that society. In the later years of the empire when the Inka married his full-sister, Coya referred to both his wife and his daughters. However Coyas had power over all subjects at times. This illustrates the link between the political and economic power of women, and the Coya.



*Carol Damian
(modern noble woman)*

Dr. Carol Damian is Professor of Art History in the School of Art and Art History and the Director and Chief Curator of the Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University. She is a graduate of Wheaton College in Norton, MA, and received her MA in Pre-Columbian Art and her Ph.D. in Latin American History from the University of Miami. *See her full bio on the IMS website, under "Programs".*

September 15: IMS Presentation:

“An Overview of IMS Research in Mesoamerica”

with Joaquín J. Rodríguez III, PE, SECB



Maya Lintel Beams: This study is now complete and has been recently updated with the latest discoveries at Palenque and corrected with new data from Dzibilchaltún.

This program will cover an overview of the ongoing research projects at The Institute of Maya Studies by our IMS Director of Research, Joaquín Rodríguez. Our research covers the topics:

Stability of Vaults: The purpose of this study is to calculate and compare the mass stability and internal stresses of Maya vaults.

Maya Lime Mortar Mixes: The analysis and investigation of Maya mortar mixes involves chemical, isotopic and physical characteristics of the mortars used to determine properties and use.



Dzibilchaltún Forensic Analysis: involving material testing, stress analysis and stability computations especially at the Temple of the Seven Dolls.

See Joaquín's full bio on the IMS website, under "Programs".

The Institute Maya Studies • All meetings are Wednesdays • 8-9:30 PM • Miami Science Museum 3280 South Miami Avenue, across from Vizcaya • \$6 donation requested from non-members <http://instituteofmayastudies.org> • Maya Hotline: 305-235-1192 • *Check us out on FaceBook!*

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at 305-235-1192

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www.instituteofmayastudies.org

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group: **Institute of Maya Studies**

Coming up next month:

In our October issue, we bring news of the resurrection of one of the four "earliest human" skeletons found in Mesoamerica. The Young Man of Chan Hol, named after the cenote it was found in, lived more than



Quetzalcoatl-Venus

10,000 years ago, in the Ice Age. It was recovered by Mexican specialists from a flooded cave in Quintana Roo. The information it has lodged for centuries will reveal new data regarding the settlement of the Americas. (How about from Southern Asia?)

Our October 15 program will feature Susan Milbrath, Ph.D. in a program entitled "Venus in the Art and Calendars of Ancient Mexico". She will explore the role of Venus cycles in the Precolumbian images from both the Maya area and Central Mexico, focusing especially on codices and architecture.

Upcoming Events at the IMS:

September 1, 8 pm:

IMS Board Meeting

All members are invited to attend.

September 8: *IMS Explorer Session*

"Inka Coya – The Queen" – with

Dr. Carol Damian. The Inka Empire

was very highly organized and the political organization reflected the religious ideology of the civilization. In Inka society, both women and men were entitled to varying degrees of services, herds, and estates based on their ranking within the system with the Sapa Inka and the Coya at the top. This illustrates the link between the political and economic power of women, and the Coya.

September 15, 8 pm: *IMS Presentation*

"An Overview of IMS Research in Mesoamerica" – with IMS Director

of Research **Joaquín J. Rodríguez.** This program will present a synopsis of the ongoing research in recent years sponsored by the IMS. Rodríguez will review our studies and investigations of Maya Lintel Beams; the Stability of Vaults; Maya Lime Mortar Mixes; and Forensic Analysis at Dzibilchaltún.

Upcoming Events and Announcements:

September 9: Lecture

"Crossroads of Faith: Uncovering the Secrets of Jerusalem" – with

Dade County's first archaeologist, Bob Carr. The lecture will feature highlights of the Archaeological Historical Conservancy, Inc. (AHC) summer project in Israel working with the Center for Research and Archaeology of the Southern Levant, CRASL, to discover the ruins hidden under the streets of Jerusalem. For the Archaeological Society of Southern Florida (ASSF), 7 p.m. at the Deering Estate Auditorium, 16701 SW 72nd Ave., Miami.

September 25: *Symposium*

"Under Cover of Darkness: The Meaning of Night in Ancient Mesoamerica" – Theme of the 17th

annual symposium of The Pre-Columbian Society of Washington, DC. At the U.S. Navy Memorial and Naval Heritage Center, Washington, DC. More info available at: www.pcswdc.org

Sept. 30–Oct. 3: *Conference*

Fourth Annual Maya at The Playa Conference – This year's conference

will take place at the same venues

in Flagler Beach, FL.

Keynote speaker: **Michael D.**

Coe. Entertainment: **Pablo**

Collado. Get more info at:

http://mayaatthep Playa.com/M@P_2009/Home.html

October 29-30: *Nahua Workshop*

"Recent Developments in Nahua Studies" – The Latin American Studies

Center of the University of Maryland, College Park, is pleased to announce the Second Nahua Workshop, that will address issues in both historical and contemporary research. Speakers include: Viviana Díaz Balsera, Richard Conway, Willard Gingerich, James Taggart, Camilla Townsend, and Joanna Sánchez. For more info, contact Jim Maffie at: maffiej@umd.edu

Ongoing: *Museum Exhibition*

Pre-Columbian Works of Art –

A stellar assemblage of more than 180 pre-Columbian works of art from the collection of Jean and David Colker of South Florida, ongoing exhibition at the Boca Raton Museum of Art. Get more info at: info@bocamuseum.org



IMS Explorer

Please note that all articles and news items for the *IMS Explorer* must be submitted to the Newsletter Editor by the second Wednesday of the month. E-mail news items and images to mayaman@bellsouth.net or forward by postal mail to: Jim Reed, 936 Greenwood Ave NE, Apt. 8, Atlanta, GA 30306