

YERONISOS ISLAND EXPEDITION

December 2010

New York University, Department of Classics

Cypriot President Demetris Christofias and First Lady open Yeronisos and First Lady open Yeronisos Twentieth Anniversary Celebrations

President of the Republic of Cyprus Demetris Christofias and Mrs. Elsi Christofias opened the Yeronisos Island Expedition's Twentieth Anniversary Ranieri Conference on Friday evening Sept. 24th at NYU's Hemmerdinger Hall. "Archaeologies of Yeronisos Off Cyprus: The Island Beyond the Island" brought together an international group of speakers, the Yeronisos Expedition team, over sixty NYU undergraduate team members from years past, faculty, members of the diplomatic community, and the New York public. Dean of the College Matthew Santirocco welcomed the audience, President Emeritus John Brademas offered greetings, and President Christofias spoke on the importance of the study and preservation of Cypriot cultural heritage. First excavator of Yeronisos, Sophocles Hadjisavvas, and director of the Yeronisos Island Excavations, Joan Breton Connelly, delivered the keynote address, "Saving and Exploring Yeronisos: A Cyprus-American Collaboration." Friend of Yeronisos Charles Scribner III gave closing remarks. The next day, six speakers presented on the archaeology and ecology of Yeronisos from the Chalcolithic through the Byzantine periods. Speakers travelled from Cyprus, Greece, the U.K. and Poland to present their work, now published in the *Report of the Department of Antiquities of Cyprus* for 2010.

Princetonians in attendance, left to right, Exec-u-Digger Martha Sutherland, George Frelinghuysen, Joan Connelly, Nonnie Frelinghuysen, Peter Blanchard, Kinsley Morse, Kip Hewitt, and Charlie Scribner. Below: NYU student team members with conference speakers Jolanta Mlynarczyk, Mariusz Burdajewicz, Paul Cartledge, Charalampos Chotzakoglou, Sophocles Hadjisavvas and Joan Connelly.



Please help us continue our work!
Do send your fully tax deductible contribution to:

"NYU Yeronisos Island Excavations"
Dept. of Classics, 503 Silver Center
100 Washington Square East
New York, New York 10003

Why not join us for a week in the trenches on our Exe-U-Dig Program this May/June? A donation of \$10,000 brings the experience of a lifetime! For further information contact: joan.connelly@nyu.edu

The Yeronisos Island Expedition warmly thanks Charles and Ritchie Markoe Scribner (NYU '76) for their generous gift in support of the conference keynote address, the Scribner Distinguished Lecture in the History Art, and festive dinner that followed at the NYU Torch Club. Leading patrons of the project gathered to celebrate with conference speakers and team members. Thanks to the thoughtful care of special friend Anastasia Vournas, the Torch Club never looked more elegant. Yeronisos excavator, war hero, and winner of the National Humanities Medal (and a chestful of other decorations!) Marine Colonel Matthew Bogdanos gave a rousing toast. A member of the 2004 dig team, Colonel Bogdanos is a leader in global cultural heritage preservation and author of bestseller *Thieves of Baghdad*, the story of his investigation of the looting of the National Museum of Iraq. We thank the Colonel for making a special effort to be with us.



Charles Scribner III, Col. Matthew Bogdanos, Ritchie Markoe Scriber (WSUC '76); Below, Yvonne Constantine, John B. Watts, III, Anastasia P. Vournas, Costa Constantine, Kip Hewitt, Maureen Footer, and George Frelinghuysen.

Execu-U-Diggers William R. Rhodes, Martha Sutherland, Barnaby Conrad, and John B. Watts III shared tales from the trenches. Joan Connelly told of progress made in the 2010 season: architect Richard Anderson's mapping of Yeronisos with a laser theodolite and continued digging around the "dance floor" and in the domestic quarter. We thank the A. G. Leventis Foundation, James Ottaway, Jr., and our Yeronisos Friends for making this work possible. Special thanks go to the Coca Cola Hellenic Bottling Co. for supplying the team with limitless fruit juice and soft drinks during the dig season.



CYPRUS: CROSSROADS OF CIVILIZATIONS

The largest exhibition of Cypriot antiquities ever to travel to the U.S. is on view at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C. until May 1st. Four artifacts from Yeronisos are featured in the show, including the lion's head waterspout, discovered by George Marshall Peters (NYU '94) in 1993, and three Ptolemaic amulets. Don't miss this special opportunity to see these important finds! The sumptuous catalogue includes a chapter by Prof. Connelly on "Cyprus in the Age of Empires."

Upper left: Curator of the exhibition Dr. Sophocles Hadjisavvas and former American Ambassador to Cyprus Donald Bandler at the opening of the show on Sept. 28th.

Left: Savvas Tsivicos, former President of the Panpaphian Association of America, views Yeronisos lion's head.





Pamela Jacovides, Susie Firestone, Klio Demetriou, and Ambassador Andrew Jacovides at the Conference Dinner.

We thank Aristos Constantine, Trade Commissioner of Cyprus, the Cyprus Embassy Trade Center, New York, and Klio Demetriou for hosting the Cypriot wine and food tasting following the keynote address on Sept. 24th. We are also grateful to Michael Hadjiloucas and the Panpaphian Association of America for their sponsorship. Special thanks goes to Ambassador Minas Hadjimichael, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations, for his gracious assistance in the planning of our celebration.

It was a big week for Cypriot Cultural Heritage in New York! On Thursday, Sept. 23rd, the Cyprus Tourism Organization and the Archaeological Institute of America hosted an evening at The Times Center, featuring Joan Connelly's lecture, "Tales of Romance from Aphrodite's Cyprus."

YERONISOS DIG TEAM REUNION DINNER AT ROCCO'S



Above: George Marshall Peters and Ben Fraker; Left: Brian Shelburne; Below, Edgar Castillo, Hannah Mohn, Mary Dempsey, Andreina Mazzei, Neil Solanky, Charlie Bartlett, and Jason Ackerman.



It was just like old times around the Yeronisos dig team dinner table, with George and Ben on the guitar, and Brian on the conch shell. Members of the 2010 team reported on amazing finds from this past season: two limestone amulets, a bronze handle showing a bearded male face, and a giant Ionic cornice block with an inscription.



Friend of Yeronisos Gilbert H. Lamphere, right, generously hosted fifty former team members, current NYU students, and conference speakers to dinner on Saturday evening, Sept. 25th, at Rocco's Ristorante on Thompson Street. Thank you, Gil!

Dr. Sophocles Hadjisavvas, first excavator of Yeronisos and former Director of Antiquities of Cyprus, was the guest of honor, toasted by team members from across the past twenty years.



The December edition of the *Explorers Club Journal* features a special report "Yeronisos: Twenty Years on Cleopatra's Isle." Stay tuned for future publications on www.yeronisos.org. Our 2010 excavation season begins on May 22nd. We will be digging in the domestic quarter and near the Byzantine square houses. Why not come visit us in the trenches? Our warmest thanks to all the Friends of Yeronisos who have supported our work in uncovering the lost world of Cleopatra's Cyprus.

Above : Bridget Moriarty and Megan Gannon; Below, counter clockwise: David Rissmiller and Leslie Merz; Myungjin Shin, Dale Eadeh, Joelle Nivens, Laura Mathis, Arielle Kern, Megan Frost, and Natalie Dupecher; Catherine Trejo and Marina Thomatos, excavator of the carnelian frog amulet in 1996; Lauren Drew and Catherine Wayland; Jolanta Mlynarczyk and Marius Burdajewicz.

