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### President's Message

Greetings everyone. The society continues to grow and the newsletter continues strong. There has not been a great deal of activity to report since our last newsletter. In January the annual meeting of the American Historical Association was held in Chicago while the combined annual meeting of the American Philological Association and the American Institute of Archaeology was held in Philadelphia. There were few papers on ancient military history directly, but on many related topics and it provided an opportunity for many people to catch up with colleagues and recent work in the field.

The next few months will be an active period for ancient military historians. The Classical Association of the Midwest and South (CAMWS) will hold its annual meeting in Baton Rouge March 28-31. The University of Calgary is hosting a two-day conference March 30-31 "War and Society: The social and cultural impact of War from ancient times to the present day." Papers to be presented will be on an array of topics, but most will be about the ancient world. In April the Ancient Borderlands Research Focus Group at UC Santa Barbara will host a graduate conference on "Conflict, Consensus, and the Crossing of Boundaries in the Premodern World." During the first weekend in May the Association of Ancient Historians will hold their annual meeting in Chapel Hill and Durham North Carolina and we hope to see many of you there. Then during the second weekend in May, the Society for Military History annual conference will be held in Arlington Virginia. During that conference there will be four panels on ancient military history, two of which are sponsored by the Society of Ancient Military Historians. It will be a busy spring and we hope to bring reports from several of these conferences.

I also draw your attention to the books we receive for review. We now regularly receive books and we are actively seeking interested experts to review them. If you would like to volunteer to write a review and are familiar with the topic a book we have covers then please let us know you are interested. You can reach me at the address in the newsletter. Similarly, if you are a publisher seeking to gain wide exposure for a review of your book then do not hesitate to send us a copy at the address in the newsletter.

Finally, I observe that this is my last column as president of the SAMH. In May I will step aside and Jonathan Roth, current Vice-President, will take the helm. It has been an immense pleasure to work with Jonathan and Dan to shepherd the organization through its reorganization and see it emerge stronger. I will not be leaving the organization entirely, however, as I will continue on as book review editor for the newsletter. If you would like to become more active in the organization by contributing to the newsletter or being an officer please contact one of the current officers and let us know. We are always looking for volunteers.

Thank you for your support,  
Lee L. Brice  
President, SAMH

**Notes from the Secretary**

With the new year upon us, we thank Professor Brice for his dedication and service as the President over the last several years. His determination and steadfastness has helped SAMH to prosper during difficult times. Over the last year he was the guiding force in bringing the society back to an active status. Please send him a note to let him know that his hard work is appreciated. I am grateful for his efforts to bring me on board to help the society. I would also like to express my support for Professor Roth, who will be stepping in as President. I had the opportunity to meet him in person over the summer. It was incredibly inspiring to have a long conversation over lunch, coffee, and a tour of his campus at San Jose State. I look forward to continuing to work with him in the society.

The Society is still undergoing some minor growing pains. During the month of February our website was down for nearly 3 days due to technical server issues. I strongly encourage everyone to check the website regularly and offer feedback that will help us better manage our internet presence to be helpful to our members. If you happen to notice a broken link, missing file, or other technical problem - please email me so that we can get the problem resolved. We do our best to keep up, but this is much easier in theory than in practice.

We hope to see many of you at the upcoming annual meetings of the Association of Ancient Historians in North Carolina, as well as those who may be attending the annual meeting of the Society for Military History the following week in Arlington, Virginia. We are very grateful for all of the support from everyone, your assistance is not unnoticed and is greatly appreciated by all of us.

If you have news of an upcoming event, or would like to have information included in the newsletter, then please contact me with the information to be included in the next newsletter. We expect to have the next issue prepared in early June following the Spring conferences and welcome small write ups reporting on the relevant papers, panels, and conferences.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and productive Spring conference season!

Thank you,  
Dan Powers  
Secretary, SAMH

**Publications NOW AVAILABLE****Publications of the Association of Ancient Historians #10**

paperback 222 p. \$34.95 USD

ISBN 978-1-930053-70-0

***Recent Directions in the Military History of the Ancient World***

Produced with collaboration between the Society of Ancient Military Historians and the Association of Ancient Historians. *Co-Edited by Lee L. Brice and Jennifer T. Roberts*

**TO ORDER CONTACT:**

REGINA BOOKS

Regina Books - Phone: (908) 548-3491 Email: [sales@reginaacademics.com](mailto:sales@reginaacademics.com) - 2613 NE 277th Ave, Camas WA 98607



**The Autobiography of Gaius Petronius Merva** by George Saqqal

ISBN 978-1-934805-39-8.

“The Autobiography of Gaius Petronius Merva, Soldier of Rome “is an historical novel of the life and adventures of a Roman soldier who progresses through the ranks to become the Roman governor of the province of Dacia. The time is the umultuousThird Century, AD, the beginning of the end of the thousand year old Western Roman Empire that is fighting for its life.

Purchasing details at <http://www.3mpub.com/saqqal/> or **Amazon.com** books.

It is available as a trade paperback for \$17.95 or in electronic form for \$7.50. It was written for an adult audience.

**The Age of Titans: The Rise and Fall of the Great Hellenistic Navies (Onassis Series in Hellenic Culture)** by William Murray Oxford University Press. January 6, 2012

ISBN-13: 978-0195388640

While we know a great deal about naval strategies in the classical Greek and later Roman periods, our understanding of the period in between--the Hellenistic Age--has never been as complete. When these particular factors disappeared, this "Macedonian" model of naval power also faded away--that is, until Cleopatra and Mark Antony made one brief, extravagant attempt to reestablish it, an endeavor Octavian put an end to once and for all at the battle of Actium. Representing the fruits of more than thirty years of research, The Age of Titans provides the most vibrant account to date of Hellenistic naval warfare.

Available from **Amazon.com**. \$45.00

**Member Announcements**

**Virginia Military Institute**

The Virginia Military Institute's Department of History sponsors a World history lecture twice a year. The lecture series is an enrichment experience for our freshman, who are required to take World History I & II as part of their Core Curriculum requirements. The fall semester's lecture is usually on a topic from the ancient or medieval worlds. We have had several notable ancient historians and classicists come to speak to our Post including Josiah Ober, Jack Cargill, James Romm, Cecil Wooten, Adrian Goldsworthy and others. Although the topic does not necessarily have to be a military one, our cadets are particularly interested in ancient armies. Rather than try to contact each member of the SAMH separately, we thought placing an announcement in the newsletter might attract potential speakers who are available in the fall semester and might be interested in coming to Lexington, VA. We can offer travel expenses, a guest room, dinner with our faculty, and a small honorarium. If you are interested, please contact: **Col. Rose Mary Sheldon** ([rms@vmi.edu](mailto:rms@vmi.edu)) or **LTC Timothy Dowling** ([dowlingtc@vmi.edu](mailto:dowlingtc@vmi.edu)), Department of History, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA 24450.

**Books available for Review****Books Received as of February 2012**

The following books have been received for review (those with an asterisk are already assigned to reviewers). Qualified volunteers should indicate their interest by sending a message to [ll-brice@wiu.edu](mailto:ll-brice@wiu.edu), with their last name and requested author in the subject line. They should state their qualifications (both in the sense of degrees held and in the sense of experience in the field concerned) and explain any previous relationship with the author. Volunteers are expected to be familiar with the topics and will submit reviews of no greater than 1000 words within 120 days. Graduate students are welcome to volunteer, but should contact their supervisors to ascertain that a review is appropriate at this time.

**Meier, Christian.** *A Culture of Freedom. Ancient Greece and the Origins of Europe.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011. 302 p., \$29.95, ISBN 9780199747405.

**Murray, William M.** *The Age of Titans: The Rise and Fall of the Great Hellenistic Navies.* Oxford: OUP, 2012.

**Nordling, John G.** *Religion and Resistance in Early Judaism, Greek readings in 1 Maccabees and Josephus.* St. Louis: Concordia Publishing, 2011. 358 p., \$34.99, ISBN 9780758626677

**Pitassi, Michael.** *The Navies of Rome.* Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2009. 338 p., \$34.95 ISBN 9781843836001.

**Pitassi, Michael.** *Roman Warships.* Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2011. 186 p., \$90.00 ISBN 9781843836100.

**\*Ray, Fred Eugene.** *Land Battles in the 5th Century BC Greece.* Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 2009.

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\*Denotes books already assigned to a reviewer.

Publishers interested in submitting books for review should send them to book review editor: Lee L. Brice, History Dept. MG438 - WIU, 1 University Cir., Macomb, IL 61455.

**To have your event or news included in the next issue of Res Militares, please contact Dan Powers <mailto:dan.powers@utah.edu> with details. If you have any suggestions, or feedback on this issue of Res Militares, please send it to Dan Powers.**



**Upcoming Events**

Association	Date	Location	Information
Classical Association of Mid West and South	March 28-31, 2012	Baton Rouge, Louisiana	<a href="http://www.camws.org">www.camws.org</a>
University of Calgary "War and Society: The social and cultural impact of War from ancient times to the present day"	March 28-31	Calgary, Alberta, Canada	Graham Wrightson ( <a href="mailto:gcwright@ucalgary.ca">gcwright@ucalgary.ca</a> ) or Waldemar Heckel ( <a href="mailto:heckelw@ucalgary.ca">heckelw@ucalgary.ca</a> ) <a href="http://grst.ucalgary.ca/home/department-conferences">http://grst.ucalgary.ca/home/department-conferences</a>
Classical Association	April 11-14, 2012	Exeter, UK	<a href="http://www.classicalassociation.org">www.classicalassociation.org</a>
Association of Ancient Historians	May 3-6, 2012	Durham, North Carolina	<a href="http://www.associationofancienthistorians.org">www.associationofancienthistorians.org</a>
Society of Military History	May 10-13, 2012	Arlington, Virginia	<a href="http://www.smh-hq.org">www.smh-hq.org</a>

**Upcoming Academic Conference Call For Papers**

**92nd Anniversary Meeting of the CAMWS Southern Section**

CAMWS-SS will be meeting in Tallahassee at the invitation of Florida State University on the weekend of November 1-3, 2012. The DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Tallahassee, 101 South Adams Street, will be the conference hotel, with Friday afternoon sessions taking place a few steps away on the even more beautiful campus of Florida State University.

The Call for Papers (with a June 1 deadline) and more details will appear soon!

<http://www.camws.org/southernsection/index.php>

**JOIN THE SAMH!**

Membership in the society is open to anyone anywhere in the world interested in supporting our mission. Dues are the same whether you are renewing or wish to join for the first time. Benefits of membership currently include receiving the newsletter early, either electronically via email or in the mail, and supporting the study of military history, warfare, and related topics of the ancient world. Watch for more benefits in the future.

For those who wish to renew or become a new member and receive the newsletter via email dues are currently \$0, with the option of paying full dues. Anyone wishing to join and receive the newsletter via mail anywhere in the world will need to pay the full \$5 annual dues to cover postal expenses. Of course, we accept donations to cover our web expenses and keep advertising off the webpage. Please send your name, address, professional affiliation if you have any and email to the president's address below. Be sure to indicate whether you wish to receive the newsletter electronically or by mail. Dues and donations can be paid in check or money-order made out to the "Society of Ancient Military Historians" in US dollars.



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR THE SOCIETY OF ANCIENT MILITARY HISTORIANS (SAMH)**

Title (or Rank): \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Address Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State or Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the options you prefer:

- Res Militares* by email (Free)       *Res Militares* by mail (\$5.00 USD year)
- Other Donation to SAMH (Amount): \_\_\_\_\_

Send this page by email to **Lee L. Brice** <mailto:LL-Brice@wiu.edu>

OR

to **Dan Powers** <mailto:dan.powers@utah.edu>

OR by Postal Mail to:

**The Society of Ancient Military Historians**  
**c/o Lee L. Brice, President**  
**History Dept.**  
**Western Illinois University MG 434**  
**1 University Circle**  
**Macomb, IL 61455**