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# THE SAMH IS BACK!

## President's Message

Greetings everyone. After several years of hiatus while we reorganized, the Society of Ancient Military Historians (SAMH) is back in the saddle. Although the climate in academic history departments has improved somewhat for military history we find the historical landscape still much in need of what we have to offer. With that demand in mind, it is my pleasure to announce the publication of the book that resulted from the collaboration between the Society of Ancient Military historians and the Association of Ancient Historians – *Recent Directions in the Military History of the Ancient World*. This book, covering recent work in Ancient Near Eastern, Greek, Roman, and Late Antique military history, is a much-needed resource for anyone interested in what is going on in the field. The current release of this much-awaited book is why we are re-launching the organization now. That is the answer to why now, but what we do is important.

Our mission statement is key to understanding why we exist. "The Society of Ancient Military Historians is an international organization dedicated to promoting the study of military history, warfare, and related topics in the entire ancient world." We are international in stature, with members all over the globe. More importantly, however, we cannot afford to remain mired in exclusive Eurocentrism; we support not only the history of states and peoples centered near the ancient Mediterranean, but also the Ancient Near East, Persia, South-Central Asia, India, and China. Membership is open to anyone interested in the topics we support; you do not have to be an academic, teacher, or writer to join. Military history is obviously a large part of what we support, but because many people work on warfare and related topics without being military historians per se, we welcome them in too.

In terms of promotion, right now we have our website and this newsletter. The website will act as a central clearinghouse for bibliographies, links of interest, calls for papers, upcoming events, time-sensitive announcements, and similar items of interest to members. The newsletter will be published four times a year and will carry notices on upcoming conferences, publication announcements, reenactment events, and other items of interest. In the longer term we expect the newsletter to remain a work in progress; future elements will include book and film reviews and highlight certain research projects. We would eventually like to grow our promotion activities to include grants for research, teaching, and conference presentations, but for that to emerge we will need to raise donations for the purpose and that will take time.

What we do would not be possible without the efforts of the officers, Jonathan Roth, Dan Powers and myself.

Our Vice President, Jonathan Roth was one of the founding members of SAMH and has remained an active force throughout its existence. Jonathan is Professor of History at San Jose State University. He is author of numerous articles and chapters on the Roman army, Judaea, and historiography, and he is the author of two books, *The Logistics of the Roman army at war: 264 B.C.-A.D. 235* (Brill 1999), and *Roman Warfare* (Cambridge 2009).

Dan Powers, our secretary is a graduate student at University College Dublin where he is working with Philip de Souza on ancient military history. Dan is busy so he is always seeking persons willing to lend a hand with getting the newsletter ready.

I am an Associate Professor of History at Western Illinois University. In addition to the previously mentioned co-edited book I have articles out and coming out on a variety of topics including the Athenian invasion of Sicily, Philip II of Macedon, Indiscipline in ancient armies, and the Roman army in the HBO series *Rome*. Having been president of the SAMH for several years I am looking forward to handing over the reins to a new person in May 2012.

We are glad to have you on board. Join us in actively supporting the study of military history, warfare, and related topics in the ancient world. Do not be shy – we want your announcements, news, and upcoming events. Spread the word that we are back in the saddle.

Thank you,  
Lee L. Brice

### SAMH Officers and

- Dr. Lee L. Brice, [LL-Brice@wiu.edu](mailto:LL-Brice@wiu.edu)  
Western Illinois University, President
- Dr. Jonathan Roth, [Jonathan.Roth@sjsu.edu](mailto:Jonathan.Roth@sjsu.edu)  
San Jose State University, Vice President
- Dan Powers, [dan.powers@utah.edu](mailto:dan.powers@utah.edu)  
University of Utah - University College Dublin,  
Secretary and Magister Telae



**Notes from the Secretary**

As the new Secretary of the Society of Ancient Military Historians, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as an officer in the organization. I must also offer my gratitude to the founders for bringing the society into existence over a decade ago. My personal thanks to Lee and Jonathan, as well as to Rob Rice, for allowing me this opportunity.

It is a large responsibility to work the unseen logistics of any organization, especially one with the international flavor that the SAMH has. It has been a busy spring this year for most of us. I am happy that we have been able to bring the new website "online" *literally* and I am grateful for all of the support, help, and feedback. We are getting the SAMH back into the mix, so any help, no matter how small, is greatly appreciated.

We have been able to get the beginning of a permanent *ancient warfare bibliography* project started, thanks to the incredible efforts of two colleagues, Mark Kindrachuk and Patrick Waterson. I certainly hope that we as a community can contribute to maintain those bibliographies, as the standard has been set high. I am also working on compiling a short history of the society to include on the webpage. Please contact me if you have any information that may be helpful.

As the new secretary, I am happy to handle any inquiries, feedback, suggestions, as well as any information about upcoming events, CFP's, announcements, or conferences. We will also be starting a section of book reviews in the near future so please send any books for review to the conventional addresses on this page. My email address is on page 1.

Thank you,  
Dan Powers

**NOW AVAILABLE**

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

paperback 222 p. \$20.00 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*

Contents:

- Introduction – **Lee L. Brice and Jennifer T. Roberts**
- Mesopotamia and the "New" Military History – **Seth F.C. Richardson**
- Greece: Mad Hatters and March Hares – **Everett L. Wheeler**
- New Approaches to the Roman Army – **Sara E. Phang**
- Military History in Late Antiquity: Changing Perspectives and Paradigms – **Doug Lee**

**TO ORDER CONTACT:**

REGINA BOOKS  
P. O. Box 280 Claremont, CA 91711 (909) 624-8466

**To have books reviewed send review copies 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**

**Please indicate the following details: Date of availability and contact email or address**



### Upcoming Events

- **Warfare in Antiquity: Approaches and Controversies August 12-13th 2011** in University College **Dublin, Ireland** (See CFP Below)
- **DIODORUS SICULUS: SHARED MYTHS, WORLD COMMUNITY, AND UNIVERSAL HISTORY** an international conference **Glasgow, 31 August – 2 September 2011**  
<http://dab.arts.kuleuven.be/diodorus/programme.html>
- **Res Militares, September Edition**

### Upcoming Academic Conference Call For Papers

**Warfare in Antiquity: Approaches and Controversies. August 12-13th 2011 in University College Dublin, Ireland**  
**Deadline is June 18th, 2011.**

The study of ancient warfare is a broad and well established subject that stretches across a range of disciplines. However, persistent controversies regarding interpretations of and approaches to the subject matter remain. In light of this and in celebration of the recent 2,500 year anniversary of the battle of Marathon, the UCD Schools of Archaeology and Classics will be co-hosting a two-day interdisciplinary conference entitled 'Warfare in Antiquity: Approaches and Controversies' .

The aim of the conference is to provide a platform for discussion and exchange of ideas on current approaches and controversies regarding the study of ancient warfare. The conference is aimed equally at postgraduate students, early career researchers and established academics. There are no specific spatial or temporal parameters regarding the subject matter of papers, although it is anticipated that contributions will focus on the Mediterranean basin and North Western Europe from the Bronze Age to Late Antiquity. Proposals/abstracts should be no longer than 250 words and should be sent to <mailto:warfare.antiquity@gmail.com>

**The deadline for submission of proposals is June 18th, 2011.**

### **79th Annual Meeting of the Society for Military History**

**Arlington, VA, 10-13 May 2012**

**SMH Website** <http://www.smh-hq.org/cfp.html>

The Society for Military History is pleased to announce its call for papers for the 79th Annual Meeting hosted by the Army Historical Foundation in **Arlington, Virginia, 10-13 May 2012.**

The conference theme is "The Politics of War," highlighting the transition from war to peace, civil-military relations, the dynamics of coalition warfare and the problems of military government and occupation. We encourage a diverse group of participants and especially encourage junior scholars to present their work and to serve on panels. As always, the program committee will consider all panel and paper proposals dealing with important questions of military history.

Panel proposals must include a panel title, contact information for all panelists, a brief description of the purpose and theme of the panel, a one-paragraph abstract of each of the papers, a one-page curriculum vita of each panelist, including commentator and chair, and contact information. All presenters, chairs, and commentators must be SMH members at the time of the 2012 meeting. Proposals for individual papers are welcome and should include a brief abstract, a one-page curriculum vita, and contact information. Proposals must be submitted electronically to the conference coordinator, Mr. Matt Seelinger (<mailto:matt.seelinger@armyhistory.org>). Deadline for proposals is 1 November 2011.

The meeting will be held in the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. It is easily accessible by Metro and from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. More information on registration and hotel reservations can be found at: [www.armyhistory.org](http://www.armyhistory.org).



**XXII International Limes Congress 2012 – Bulgaria – Roman Empire Frontiers**

<http://www.limes2012.naim.bg>

**PRESENTATION, PAPERS AND SUMMARIES**

The following sessions are envisaged: Fortifications, Units and Arms, Civil Settlements, Roads and Trade, Burial Rites and Religion, Barbarians, Interdisciplinary Researches, Presenting the Roman Frontiers, Varia

Delegates are asked to send summaries of no more 250 words to [limes2012@naim.bg](mailto:limes2012@naim.bg), indicating for which session it is intended. Summaries should be submitted in one of the official languages of the Congress, which are English, German and French. The time allowed for each paper will be 15 minutes (PowerPoint presentation), followed by 5 minutes for questions. Summaries of papers can be accepted until 28th February 2012.

Delegates are encouraged to bring materials for the poster session. Please submit titles to <mailto:limes2012@naim.bg> by **28th February 2012**.

**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 also.**

Association	Date	Location	Information
The Classical Association of the Atlantic States	October 13-15, 2011	Baltimore, Maryland	<a href="http://www.caas-cw.org">www.caas-cw.org</a>
The Byzantine Studies Association of North America	October 21-23, 2011	Chicago, Illinois	<a href="http://www.bsana.net">www.bsana.net</a>
AIA/APA Joint Annual Meeting	January 5-8, 2012	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	<a href="http://www.archaeological.org">www.archaeological.org</a> <a href="http://www.apaclassics.org">www.apaclassics.org</a>
Classical Association of the Pacific Northwest	March 9-10, 2012	Salem, Oregon	<a href="http://www.historyforkids.org/CAPN/capn.htm">www.historyforkids.org/CAPN/capn.htm</a>
Classical Association of Mid West and South	March 28-31, 2012	Baton Rouge, Louisiana	<a href="http://www.camws.org">www.camws.org</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>

**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. We are a registered non-profit organization for tax purposes.



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

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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 by Postal Mail to:

**The Society of Ancient Military Historians**  
**c/o Lee L. Brice, President**  
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