

Between June 15 and August 3 excavation and survey work continued at the Sanctuary of Zeus at Mt. Lykaion, where investigations have been underway since 2004. The team included specialists and students from several universities, but primarily from the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology and the University of Arizona, in collaboration with the ΛΘ' Ephoreia of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities, Tripolis. The co-directors of the project are Dr. Michalis Petropoulos, Ephor of Antiquities of the ΛΘ' Ephoreia, Dr. David Gilman Romano of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, and Dr. Mary Voyatzis of the University of Arizona.

In addition, Anastasia Panagiotopoulou, Director of the Archaeological Institute of Peloponnesian Studies in Tripolis, has been one of our collaborators from the outset of the project. The work was carried out under the auspices of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and was made possible through the continued generosity of individuals, foundations and Greek-American supporters from the United States. The financial support of Mr. and Mrs Nicholas Karabots of Fort Washington, Pennsylvania and Ms. Annette Merle-Smith of Princeton, New Jersey, continue to be instrumental in allowing the project to take place. The Greek-American team, which consisted of up to 55 students and



The Mt. Lykaion team outside the Dining Palace and the Ethnographic Museum of Ano Karyes.



staff over the course of the summer, stayed in village accommodations in Ano Karyes and in nearby Kastanochoroi. The generous and cordial assistance given to all members of the project by the Politistikos Syllogos of Ano Karyes, and its President, Mr. Christos Koumoundouros, continued to make it possible for us to live comfortably in the region and to carry out our work at Mt. Lykaion.

Our 2010 investigations had numerous components including continued scientific excavation, topographical and architectural survey work, geological survey, faunal and floral analyses, chemical residue analyses, architectural documentation, planning for the heritage park, and museum and conservation activities. Two topographical survey teams, one at the summit of the mountain and the other in the lower mountain meadow, assisted with excavation recording. The

From top right clockwise: Jon Weiland and members of his team of surveyors at work; Tassos Georgotas demonstrating flotation to discover paleobotanical remains; Gabriel Buckett documenting an elevation of the 'corridor' in front of the 'xenon' building.





From top going clockwise: 5th century B.C. Argive silver hemidrachm; 5th century B.C. silver Aeginitan hemidrachm; Dan Diffendale and team at work at the altar; every spoonful of earth is sieved from the altar; location of the trenches on the southern peak of Mt. Lykaion.

topographical survey teams also worked closely with the architectural team, which continued to document all of the architectural blocks at the site. The architectural team, comprised of six architectural students, worked on the documentation of the 67 m. long stoa, the 39 m. long series of seats to the north of the stoa, the nearby fountain house, the "corridor" in front of the 'xenon' building, and the bath building. One of our architectural students was funded by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation as was our conservator Ms. Terri Moreno of the Arizona State Museum. A team from the ΛΘ' Ephoreia cleared a portion of the ancient Agno Fountain, halfway between the





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lower and the upper levels of the sanctuary.

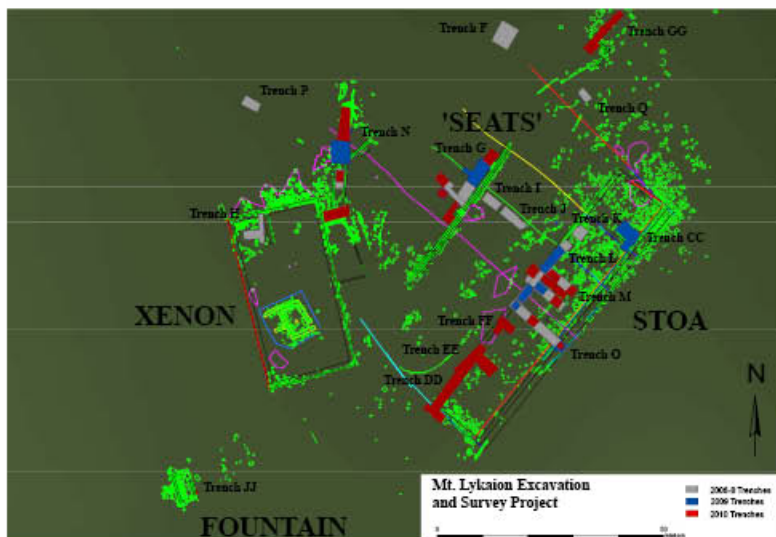
Excavation from 2009 was continued in several trenches and several new trenches were begun. At the altar we continued Trench Z, extending the trench to the north as well as expanding it to the east in several different areas. Stratigraphic sequences continue to reveal evidence for the earliest activity from the altar, dating from the prehistoric period and including pottery from the Late Neolithic, Early Helladic, Middle Helladic, and the Late Helladic periods, most of it mixed with burnt animal bones. The Mycenaean material includes large numbers of kylikes, deep bowls, stemmed bowls, cups, askoi, human and animal figurines of terracotta and other small finds. Above this level we continue to find Sub-Mycenaean and Dark Age material, and above that, Geometric, Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic sherds, in what appears to be a continuous sequence. Bronze tripods, coins, metal objects and miniature dedications were discovered. Trench ZZ, approximately 10 m. to the south of Trench Z was extended toward the northeast. Our work at the altar was supported in part by a grant from the Institute of Aegean Prehistory. Finally, 50

m. below the altar, to the south of the southern summit, we initiated Trench KK where there may have been a roadway or a dromos.

In the lower sanctuary Trench G was continued in the area to the north of the seats. Trench N was extended to the northeast of the 'xenon' exposing more of the sub-surface open air corridor. Multiple trenches, DD, EE, FF, L, M, N and O and their extensions in the area of the 67 m. long stoa revealed more of the front and interior foundations of the building as well as the western



Top: a collection of Sub Mycenaean and Dark Age sherds from the altar; Bottom left: Plan of excavations in the lower sanctuary Bottom right: View of the stoa excavations





end. A new trench, GG, was dug in the vicinity of the statue bases to the east of Trench G. Trench JJ was excavated in the fountain house. In the area of the hippodrome we opened Trench HH and found a portion of the surface of the hippodrome floor.

On August 1, the Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project hosted a workshop, (ημερίδα), in the Cultural Center of Megalopolis, at which the proposal for the Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos was presented and discussed. The park would serve to protect and unify the ancient cities and sanctuaries in the area of Western Arcadia, Northern Messenia and Southern Elis. This conference was well attended (200-300 individuals) and was represented by

the Tripolis Ephoreia and local and regional government leaders of Greece. Dr. Michalis Petropoulos, Ms. Anastasia Panagiotoπούλου, Dr. Mary Voyatzis, Dr. David Gilman Romano, Dr. Costas Cassios, Mr. Mark Davison and Ms. Ximena Valle gave presentations at the event. The audience participated in a lively discussion with the presenters at the end of the event and broad and enthusiastic support was expressed for the establishment of such a park in the region. Finally the project has leased an apotheke in Tripolis for the finds from the Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project. We will undertake our study seasons for the next two summers at this site.



Clockwise from right: view of apotheke (storage space) in downtown Tripolis; Visit of Nicholas and Athena Karabots to the village of Ano Karyes to meet with Megalopolis Mayor Takis Bouras and village leaders; vertical banner that was produced for the August 1 presentation of the Parrhasian Heritage Park to over 200 individuals in the Cultural Center of Megalopolis. Multiple banners were hung in the city streets of Megalopolis in the days preceding and following the presentation.





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- Mr. Leon Limperis
- Ms. Marty Lynch
- Mr. Neil E. Matthew
- Mr. Alexander Nagel
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- Mr. Ned Nelson
- Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Ott
- Mr. Daniel J. Peters & Dr. Annette Kolodny
- Mr. Jeremiah Reedy



Amy Plopper digging down towards the floor of the hippodrome;



Mr. and Mrs. George Rosenberg
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 Mr. Curtis Scaife
 Ms. Cita Scott & Mr. Harry George
 Mr. Sidney Searles
 Ms. Heather Sigworth
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 Karagiannis, President



Left: Equipment used for excavation: *Right:* *spitakia* (storage sheds) to store equipment in the off-season



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Project website:
<http://lykaionexcavation.org>
 Project blog:
<http://mountlykaion.wordpress.com>

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