The Prez Sez

The VIth International Conference on Rapa Nui and the Pacific will be a great success. We are delighted that so many are able to make it to Chile for the meeting, which also marks the beginning of a new collaboration between the University of Valparaíso, Institute for Rapa Nui Studies, and The Easter Island Foundation.

The new Institute for Rapa Nui Studies, in the capable hands of Jose Miguel Ramirez, still is in the developmental stage, and the VIth International Conference is a major undertaking. We expect that additional programs and collaborative research will emerge in the near future through the Institute, and will benefit all of those involved in Rapa Nui studies.

The selection of Viña del Mar as a venue enables many from South America to attend, including the Chilean archaeological community, along with international researchers and Rapanui islanders. In years past, a few contributors from amongst the island residents made the trek at great expense to the far reaches of Wyoming, New Mexico or Hawai‘i but, the VIth International Conference is likely more feasible. We hope the VIth International Conference will result in additional perspectives on the state of Pacific archaeological and anthropological research and, in particular, on Rapa Nui studies.

Christopher M. Stevenson

The CHAIRMAN OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP program, Marla Wold, is pleased to announce that we continue to offer scholarships to Rapanui youth, under 30 years of age, with college or university acceptance. We encourage all students to apply and to
meet the October 1st deadline. Contact us for further information at mwold@bresnan.net

OFFICE NEWS

GREETINGS FROM BAYWOOD PARK! We have some new EIF publications available that we'd like to tell you about. Early Visitors to Easter Island, translated from the French by Ann M. Altman, will make a wonderful addition to your Easter Island book collection. It contains the accounts of Eugène Eyraud, Hippolyte Roussel, Pierre Loti and Alphonse Pinart, giving various perspectives of life on Easter Island as was experienced by these early visitors, along with illustrations from the period. At $15, you can't afford not have a copy in your library!

By the time this issue goes to press, we will have copies of The Complete Guide to Easter Island, by Shawn McLaughlin. This comprehensive guidebook contains chapters on just about everything you might want to know about the island, including the latest information on accommodations. It's a must for a first-time visitor and even seasoned Rapanuiophiles will find it contains a wealth of information never before available in guidebook form. The Complete Guide sells for $25. It is an excellent reference book on all subjects related to the island and includes chapters on the Rapanui language, an extensive glossary and a detailed chronology.

The VIth International Conference on Easter Island and the Pacific is being held this month. After the conference there will be field trips to Easter Island and we plan to return with some wood and stone carvings, so if you are in need of carvings, please contact us at the EIF Office.

We now have the Rapanui Dingbats Font available on CD for $25! This collection of Rapanui icons is a fun way to get creative. It includes petroglyph designs and other Rapanui motifs. Each CD contains a version appropriate for PC or Mac along with a font table.

We also have a new shipment of posters from Easter Island, a Land of Rocky Dreams by Carlos Huber and José Miguel Ramírez. Images include a Rano Raraku moai, scenes from Tongariki, and aerial views of Orongo and Rano Raraku. These are stunning photographs that will enhance any wall and keep you dreaming about your favorite island in the Pacific.

Another new item is a set of custom-designed postcards with drawings by Paul Horley. Some of you may remember some of his beautiful drawings in an article on petroglyphs by Georgia Lee in the last RNJ. The set of black and white images includes eight different petroglyphs from Ahu Nau Nau, Ahu Ra'ai, Papa Tataku Poki, Orongo and Poike. A set of eight cards sells for $12.

Please note that all these items are also listed on our web site (www.islandheritage.org) and there is a downloadable order form that can be mailed or faxed to us.

Finally, to all of our members/subscribers who have renewed their membership on time, we are eternally grateful as it saves us much time and energy sending out renewal notices and emails. If the date on your mailing label has already passed, your membership has expired and you need to contact us immediately to renew. In order to encourage subscribers, we are offering a discount on a 2-year renewal. Please send us your email address if you have one, so that we may send you our interim email newsletter, Rero Rapa Nui, to keep you updated between issues of Rapa Nui Journal. If you don't have email, we will be happy to mail you a hard copy. You can reach us at: rapanuibooks@att.net or by calling 805-528-8558.

The EIF has received some interesting and rare books for sale, thanks to our Vice-President, Tom Christopher. Some are collector's items. The books are listed below, and are subject to prior sale. Please contact us for additional details.

Anderson, J. C. 1986: Myths and Legends of the Polynesians ($45)
Bandaler, A. F. 1969: The Islands of Titicaca and Koati ($75)
Bennett, F. D.: Narrative of a Whaling Voyage Round the Globe from the Year 1833-1836 (2 vols.) ($100)
Best, E. 1942: Forest Lore of the Maori ($50)
Comision para la Estructuracion de la Lengua Rapanui, 1996: Gramatica Fundamental de la Lengua Rapanui ($20)
Dodd, E. 1983: The Rape of Tahiti ($20)
Dodge, E. S. 1965: New England and the South Seas ($35)
Ellis, W. 1979: The Journal of William Ellis ($100)
Ferdon, E. 1966: One Man's Log ($30)
Ferdon, E. N.: Early Tahiti as the Explorers Saw It 1767-1797 ($20)
Fischer, H. 1998: Scenhatten auf der Osterinsel ($20)
Firth, R. 1979: Art and Life in New Guinea ($35)
Freeman, J. D. & W.R. Geddes 1959: Anthropology in the South Seas ($35)
Goldman I. 1970: Ancient Polynesian Society ($50)
Handy, W. C.1965: Forever the Land of Men ($20)
Heyerdahl, T. 1952: American Indians in the Pacific ($100)
Heyerdahl, T.1958: Aku Aku. The Secret of Easter Island ($10) (2 copies)
Howard, D. 1984: Tahiti, a Paradise Lost ($20)
Hupperset, J. 1994: Kulturtraditionen der Osterinselner ($10)
Mordo, C. 2002: Easter Island ($20)
Mulloy, W. 1975: Investigation and Restoration of the Ceremonial Center of Orongo, Easter Island ($25)
Report of the U.S. National Museum Under the Direction of The Smithsonian Institution for the Year Ending June 30, 1897 ($40)
Rocha-Ramirez, S. 1996 : La Propiedad de la Tierra en Isla de Pascua ($15)
Stimson, J. F. 1957: Songs and Tales from the Sea-Kings ($40)
Wolfe, W.1948: Island of Death (Easter Island) ($100)