

## Membership Report, 2008

Society for Archaeological Sciences

VP for Membership Development – AJ Vonarx

Submitted April 24, 2009

<b>Membership at a Glance:</b>	<b>December 2007</b>	<b>April 2008</b>	<b>December 2008</b>
Total Members:	315		

<b>By Membership Category:</b>	<b>December 2007</b>	<b>April 2008</b>	<b>December 2008</b>
Regular	162		
Student	72		
Institutional	17		
Lifetime	64		

<b>Membership Stability:</b>	<b>During 2007</b>	<b>During 2008</b>	<b>During 2009</b>
<i>Nonrenewals (prior to follow-up)</i>	48	56 (**4/08)	
<i>Renewed after follow-up</i>	-23	TBA	
<i>New Members</i>	+25	+11	

### By Country:

	<b>D 2007</b>	<b>A 2008</b>	<b>D 2008</b>		
				Slovenia	1
USA	211			Sweden	1
Canada	25			Switzerland	1
UK	21			Thailand	1
Spain	5			Turkey	1
Mexico	2			Hong Kong	1
New Zealand	5			India	2
Germany	7			Norway	1
Greece	2				
Australia	3				
Japan	4				
Netherlands	3				
Israel	1				
Greece	2				
Portugal	2				
Italy	2				
	<b>D 2007</b>				
S. Africa	2				
Belgium	1				
Argentina	1				
Denmark	3				
Finland	1				
France	2				
China	1				

	<b>During 2007</b>	<b>During 2008 (4/08)</b>
<b>Payment via Paypal:</b>	74	118

**Current Membership Issues/Proposals:**

Let's rally the troops! SAS membership tallies are, as of April 2009, some of the lowest of the last fifteen years. In my opinion, this situation is the result of a number of factors: the current financial recession, a lack of SAS visibility at international meetings, the growth of other small archaeological organizations that encourage cross-disciplinary work (e.g. Association for Environmental Archaeology in the EU), and the development of specialty groups within large organizations (e.g. Geoarch Interest Group in the SAA and the Archaeology Interest Group in the Materials Research Society).

**“The Hot 250”:** In an effort to give SAS a membership boost, I've generated a list of 250 new contacts that will be emailed after SAAs. Many of the most prolific writers and researchers in archaeological science have never been members of SAS. For each topic housing an *SAS Bulletin* Associate Editor, I've collected twenty professionals and students for recruitment from journal notes and conference reviews. The rest of the “Hot 250” includes professionals and students from institutions beyond the US, Canada, or the United Kingdom.

I'm asking for help in this process. The list of names and institutions will be circulated at the General Meeting. If you have worked with any of these individuals, please sign up to send an “Invitation to Membership” email by printing your name next to the entry. I'll pass along a template for the email that can be used. A request from a familiar email address always fares better than one from a stranger.

**“Meeting Representatives” Proposal:** Students, for obvious reasons, are inconsistent in their membership renewals to the Society. Still, even Taylor Student Poster Award winners often fail to renew after their free year of membership. This proposal will allow students (who have already been members for at least one year) to earn a free renewal for 2010 by representing SAS at a professional meeting that I, or another board member, is not able to attend. The Board will identify international meetings (at which SAS would like a physical presence) and I will contact organizers about setting up a display. The new compact display and pamphlets will be mailed to the venue in a poster tube. To receive the free membership, the student must:

- pick up, set-up, and packing-up the promotional materials
- distribute a stack of Society pamphlets during the meeting
- collect and submit contact information for 25 potential new members

“Meeting representatives” that have served at a particular meeting will be listed on *SASweb*. We should try this system out at a meeting that other Board members plan to attend (like GSAs or SHAs), just so that we can provide guidance and observe the process in action.

**2009 Pamphlet Designs:** Please take a moment to comment on the three new pamphlet mockups handed out at the General Meeting and email me with your voice and choice ([ajvonarx@email.arizona.edu](mailto:ajvonarx@email.arizona.edu)).