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You are cordially invited to a lecture by Prof. Mark Lawall, University of Manitoba, entitled *“War and Wine: Archaeological Contributions to Ancient Greek Military History”*, to be held on **Thursday, February 18, at 6:00 pm at the Karpeles Manuscript Library, 21 W. Anapamu, Santa Barbara**. The Sandra L. Church Lecture is sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America and the Classics Department at UCSB. We hope to see you there.

Summary:

An army of 15,000 men might easily consume 7,500 to 22,000 liters of wine in a day. Ancient wine containers, transport amphoras, often held between 20 and 30 liters each, so that same 15,000 man army would need between 250 and 1,100 jars each day. With such numbers it is easy to see how an army’s supplies might result in massive quantities of amphora sherds in the archaeological record. Study of such sherds can often shed light on processes and impacts of military provisioning as well as on the narrative and impacts of particular battles and wars.

For example, we learn from Livy (38.12-27) that the Roman general Manlius Vulso rapaciously crisscrossed Anatolia in the early 2nd century BC ending up at Gordion. A large number of Rhodian amphoras have been found at that site just at the period of Vulso’s arrival. Though the numbers of sherds account for only the tip of the iceberg for Vulso’s supplies (his army of c. 35,000 would need roughly 1400 amphoras per day), the dominant presence of Rhodian jars might indicate both the source and path of his supply lines.

Rhodian amphoras also played a major role in the supply of the Ptolemaic forces during the poorly-understood Chremonidean War of the early 3rd century BC, which pitted Athens and Ptolemy II against Antigonos Gonatas of Macedon. Study of the amphoras found at sites related to events of this war, especially the likely Ptolemaic base at Koroni in southern Attica, shed light on both the narrative of the conflict itself and the war’s aftermath in terms of amphora shipping around the Aegean.

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