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## Archaeological Meeting at Barbarano Romano

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# REPORTS ON MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES



## ARCHAEOLOGICAL MEETING AT BARBARANO ROMANO

Stephan Steingraber

Stephan Steingraber, University of Tokyo, member of the Advisory Board of the Etruscan Foundation, organized an informal archaeological meeting on September 12, 1999 at his house in the historical center of Barbarano Romano (Province of Viterbo). About 15 colleagues and friends from Italy, Germany, and Japan participated in this successful event, among them Maria Bonghi Jovino (University of Milan), Antonia Rallo and Donatella Gentili (University of Rome, Tor Vergata), Antonietta Tomei (Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma), Michael Eichberg (Biblioteca Hertziana, Rome), Friedhelm Prayon and two members of his team (University of Tübingen), Giuseppina Cerulli-Irelli (Waseda University in Tokyo), Tomo Miyasaka (University in Hirosaki), Sakurako Imai, and local people from Barbarano. Unfortunately, the date was too late for American colleagues working in Etruria.

The purpose of the meeting, held in a friendly and almost intimate atmosphere, was an informal exchange of views among archaeologists and people excavating and currently conducting research in southern Etruria, in the coastal region as well as inland. Maria Bonghi Jovino reported on her excavations in the urban areas of Tarquinia. Friedhelm Prayon talked about his excavations in collaboration with a French team under the leadership of Gran Aymerich on the Castellina hill near Civitavecchia. Antonia Rallo presented an overview of her first two excavation seasons on the urban plateau of San Giuliano near Barbarano. Stephan Steingraber, along with his two Japanese colleagues, spoke about the excavation of a Roman *villa marittima* in località Cazzanello on

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the coast north of Tarquinia, on-going since 1992. The reports, illustrated by slides, photos, and plans, and the lively discussions were interrupted by a rustic *pranzo all'aperto* on the occasion of the Fiera del Bestiame, with impressive Maremma cattle and a beautiful view of the Tolfa Mountains.

The organizer plans to repeat this kind of informal meeting and discussion on Etruscan topics and hopes to attract other colleagues and students, including Americans and members of the Etruscan Foundation in the future (and indeed a second meeting took place on September 10, 2000). The picturesque historical town of Barbarano Romano, situated on a steep tufa rock and surrounded by many characteristic rock tomb necropoleis, offers an ideal atmosphere for such meetings. The local archaeological museum with finds from San Giuliano, the rustic Osteria Pacchiona with its old fireplace and local wine, and the friendly people, interested in their history and still remembering the unique personality of Sweden's former King Gustav Adolf VI, who excavated four decades ago in this area, are further attractions. For the accommodation of students Barbarano can offer two *foresterie*; and for the archaeological discussions, the library and slide collection in the organizer's house can be consulted.

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