

# CELEBRATE WITH US!

FOR OUR 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
SPOKANE SOCIETY of the ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

The Feast of King Midas and Lecture on  
the Gordion Tumulus Excavation by Dr. Richard Liebhart

Saturday, May 6, 2023, 6 – 9:30 PM  
CenterPlace Regional Event Center  
2426 N. Discovery Place,  
Spokane Valley, WA

The evening will begin with drinks (beer, red and white wine, and alcohol-free pomegranate punch) and appetizers (dried apricots with sheep’s-milk cheese & pistachios, olive & garbanzo spread with pita bread).

The entree buffet dishes are based on analysis of organic residues found in the pottery excavated at the archaeological site of Gordion in Central Turkey, representing a dinner King Midas served his guests at a feast honoring his father.

The buffet will feature lentil & lamb stew, chicken skewers with garlic & herb sauce, caramelized fennel tarts, and Turkish mezze salad with asparagus. A tasting of Midas Touch brew, the recreated ale from Gordion, will accompany the main course.

Dessert (Tuxedo cake) with coffee and tea will wrap up the dinner.

We’ll adjourn to the on-site auditorium for 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary remarks and a lecture on the excavation of the Gordion Tumulus by Dr. Richard Liebhart.

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## Spokane Society of the AIA’s 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala

Saturday, May 6, 2023 6-9:30 PM

Your contact e-mail or phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

We’ll use this to confirm your reservation.

Guest Names	Prefer Lamb-free Stew?
1. _____	[ ]
2. _____	[ ]
3. _____	[ ]
4. _____	[ ]

Please make out check for # guests x \$65 to “Spokane Society of the AIA”.

Mail check and this reservation form to: Cindy Bell  
20089 E. Glenbrook Ave.  
Liberty Lake, WA 99016

# Lecture on the Gordion Tumulus Excavation

by Dr. Richard Liebhart

Dr. Liebhart, professor emeritus of Art History at Elon University and author of “Tumulus MM: Fit for a King”, will speak on his findings at Gordion, an archaeological site located 95 km southwest of Ankara in Central Anatolia.

The site has a long history of occupation, extending from the Early Bronze Age into the medieval period (12th century BCE to the 13th century CE).

Gordion is best known for having been the political and cultural capital of the Phrygian Kingdom. The Phrygians were a southeast European people who probably first arrived in the 12th century BCE after the collapse of the Hittite Empire. The region thrived and the site gained further fame when Alexander the Great visited in 333 BCE and cut the proverbial Gordian knot.

Liebhart, who has been working at the Gordion dig in Turkey for more than 30 years, suggests that the mound, Tumulus MM (Midas Mound), may have been commissioned by King Midas as “the first prominent and public statement of his power and ambition.” Gordion is a World Heritage UNESCO Site.

