



Pennsylvania

Classical Association

Newsletter

Department of Classics
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh PA 15282-1741

Winter

2005 - 2006

How quickly the autumn is passing! Our first day back from Thanksgiving break I mentioned to my students that we certainly had much to accomplish in, gulp, only 19 days!

I hope that as the holidays approached, you were all able to take some time to curl up with a good book—a biography or fiction, or historical fiction. I've spent many happy hours at our newest local Barnes and Noble. If anyone has good suggestions for books that might appeal to the classics student or teacher, please send them along so I can include a short feature on literature in the next issue or two. I'd also love to hear any feedback on the HBO mini-series Rome. I reserve any comment here, but again welcome your reactions to this series for a future article for this newsletter. My students who watched it at home have certainly provided a number of insights.

Finally, my school district—along with many others—is continuing the trend of “differentiated instruction,” or utilizing multiple intelligences to reach and teach all students at all levels. The next issue will feature some suggestions which I took home from the October CAAS meeting. I'm sure your colleagues would welcome suggestions you may have for teaching challenging grammar concepts or difficult vocabulary. Please share!

As always, I'm eager for submissions and suggestions on how to create a useful newsletter. Please send any announcements, comments, concerns or suggestions to me via email. My contact information's on page 2. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is April 30, but please don't wait that long! I wish everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Joanna Rouse, Editor

2006 PENNSYLVANIA CLASSICAL INSTITUTE

HOLIDAY INN ALLENTOWN

March 31-April 1, 2006

Fogelsville, Pennsylvania

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Make reservations directly with hotel (610-391-1000); mention the conference by complete title to receive the **special rate of \$109 + tax per night**. An additional night is available at the same rate. After **February 28, 2006**, normal rates are in effect. The current rate is \$139/room. Free parking in hotel lot.

PCA MEMBERSHIP

Membership in PCA is open to all friends of classics as well as classics professionals. Dues are set at several levels. Benefits of membership include the newsletter and all information on the annual meetings.

In addition, the PCA membership form may be used to join the Philadelphia Classical Society.

For a membership form, go to the PCA website at http://www.dickinson.edu/prorg/pca/member_form.pdf



TRAVEL

VERGILIAN SOCIETY TOURS

Libya and Tunisia June 27 - July 9

KARL GALINSKY, DARIUS ARYA

Roman North Africa was one of the most significant components of the Roman Empire, home of the Severans, Apuleius, Tertullian, and Augustine. Sites to be visited include: Tripoli, Sabratha, Leptis Magna, Benghazi, Apollonia, Cyrene, Carthage, Thurburbo, Dugga, Bulla Regia, Kairouan (the Great Mosque), El-Djem, and Sousse (Hadrumentum).

Cumae I: Romanizing Campania July 1 - 8

JOHN WONDER

This week-long tour of the beautiful Bay of Naples provides a fascinating glimpse of the culture, archaeology, history, and lives of ancient Greeks, Etruscans, Oscans and Romans. Sites to be visited include: Herculaneum, Baia, Pozzuoli, Paestum, Saepinum, Cumae, Naples, Pompeii, Stabia, Villa di Oplontis, Capri, and Capua.

Cumae II: Magna Graecia July 10-22

BEVERLY BERG

Our Villa at Cumae is situated beside the remains of the earliest Greek colony on the Italian mainland, inspiring this program's theme of Magna Graecia. As we survey the remains we'll be walking in the footsteps and discussing the thoughts of Presocratic philosophers who came West, including Xenophanes, Pythagoras, and Parmenides. Sites to be visited include: Naples, Ischia, Cumae, Pozzuoli, Baia, Stabia, Herculaneum, Pompeii, Villa di Oplontis, Velia, Paestum, Metaponto, Taranto, Bari, Bitonto, Ruvo, and Trani.

Villas and Gardens of Roman Britain July 14-25

PHIL STANLEY, GEORGE PERKO

This tour of Roman Britain traces culture, art, and history of this province and includes visits to several gardens with a Roman theme. Sites to be visited include: London, Verulamium, Bignor Villa, Canterbury, Lympne Gardens, Portchester, Fishbourne Villa, Maiden Castle, Stourhead Gardens, Stonehenge, Bath, Chedworth Villa, Caewent, Cheltenham, Hidcote Gardens, Lunt Roman Fort, Lincoln, Hadrian's Wall, Cawfields Roman Fort, York, and Colchester.

Cumae III: Naples Bay as Melting Pot July 31 - August 12

ANN KOLOSKI-OSTROW and STEVEN OSTROW

This session will focus on the social history of ancient Greeks and Romans along Naples Bay, exploring the everyday life of the freeborn, freedmen, and slaves. Sites include: Terracina, Sperlonga, Cumae, Pozzuoli, Pompeii, Naples, Amalfi, Herculaneum, Vesuvius, Saepinum, Capri, Oplontis, Paestum, Capua, Beneventum, Baia, Bacoli, and Misenum.

For tour or scholarship information, and for application forms, please consult our website, <http://vergil.clarku.edu>, or contact Holly Lorencz, Secretary, Vergilian Society, vergsoc@yahoo.com, tel. (314) 993-4040 x341 c/o John Burroughs School, 755 S. Price Road, St. Louis MO 63124

PCA NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

This newsletter exists for and by classicists. Please send your announcements of events, scholarships, and publications of interest to classicists to:

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The PCA Newsletter is published biannually and features articles and announcements supporting those who teach and wish to learn more about classical cultures.

**A BRIEF AUTOBIOGRAPHY
OF
PCA PRESIDENT
ELEANOR BRINKER**

Born in Reading, I grew up in Wescosville and graduated from Emmaus High School and then from Lehigh County Community College and Muhlenberg College. Since 1987, I have taught middle school Latin at Swain School in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

I have presented professional papers for the American Classical League (McMasters University, California State University at Northridge, University of Colorado at Boulder, Louisiana State University), as well as for many CAAS and PCA meetings. In addition, I have “presented” at *Orbis Romanus* (University of Notre Dame, Baltimore), the Baldwin School (Bryn Mawr), the Illinois State Classical Conference.

I am a co-author of the board game *LUDI*, available from the ACL Teacher Resource Center catalogue. CAAS awarded me a grant to develop classroom videos on the Roman calendar, sports fans, coins, and gladiators. I have also developed courses for the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit (Motivation, Foundations of the English Language), for Muhlenberg College (Community Opportunity Program for Minorities) and Cedar Crest College (Study Skills, SAT Prep). I most of all enjoy spending time with my husband Don in the home we built 29 years ago. We have three children: Byron, who works at Lehigh Valley Hospital; Douglas, in the financial industry; and William, who has a government position. Moreover, we have four grandchildren whom I watch during the summer at “Grandma’s School,” which includes Latin instruction. I like to read, listen to country music, arrange flowers, play the organ, and make ceramics. Don and I are raising three international champion Dobermans: Princess Siena, Pulchra Dea Onyx, and Magnus Canis Terrae Thor.

**ODYSSEUS UNBOUND
*The Search for Homer’s Ithaca***

What is potentially one of the most exciting classical discoveries for over 130 years was revealed in London on September 29. An international project team announced the discovery of Homer’s Ithaca. Dramatic geological shifts hid the solution to the mystery of

Odysseus’ island for 3,000 years, a peninsula in western Kefallinia believed to have been a separate island. A catastrophic earthquake triggered massive landslides that joined islands together. At a conference held at the Foreign Press Association, Robert Bittlestone (Metapraxi Ltd), James Diggle (Cambridge University) and John Underhill (Edinburgh University) announced that they had found new and compelling evidence in support of the location of ancient Ithaca, the island described in great detail in Homer’s *Odyssey*. By deploying computer-based technology, advanced satellite imagery and 3D global visualization techniques developed by NASA, as well as intensive field expeditions, the project team was able to analyze and visualize a mass of data, including literary, geological and archaeological clues.

Their conclusion is that Homer’s Ithaca was not the Greek island now called Ithaki, but was instead located on what is believed to have been the previously separated western peninsula of today’s island of Kefallinia, an area now called Paliki. Further information and details may be found at www.odysseus-unbound.org.

CAAS ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

The Classical Association of the Atlantic States held its annual meeting from October 6 through 8 at the Wyndham Hotel in Wilmington, Delaware. I attended only for the day, but had a wonderful time looking at the books for sale and also at the seminar I attended. The seminar was conducted by Luigi Miraglia though I must admit that I was quite disconcerted when I learned his entire presentation was to be in Latin. While it took time to get into the rhythm of such beautifully spoken Latin (and getting about every 4th word), I learned quite a bit about the history of using Oerburg’s *Lingua Latina* in the Italian classroom.

Additionally, I had opportunity to play with (and bring home for my students) software designed by Danish programmer Morten Rasmussen to accompany the *Lingua Latina* text. My students have already enjoyed playing the games for their *capitula* reviews! Incidentally, if you’re not familiar with quia.com, when you have some “surfing” time online, check it out! Several teachers have designed review games for students to play online as they prepare for tests on all the *capitula* in *Lingua Latina* Book I.

KENTUCKY *CONVENTICULUM*

From July 29 until August 6, 2005 at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, seventy or so friends from all over the world came together for some great conversation. We discussed Vergil's poetry—that captivating section where love-struck Dido listens to Aeneas recount the fall of Troy. We talked about Cicero's impassioned defense of poetry in the *Pro Archia*. We chatted about the weather, holidays, clothes, and food; we told and read jokes; we discussed artwork; we made up and acted out plays. Since this was a *conventiculum*, of course, we spoke only in Latin. How difficult it is to try to say something to a new and fascinating friend, and realize that you have forgotten tenses, moods, half the vocabulary, rules of special case use, and regular as well as irregular forms! After a short time using the living language, these patterns become, little by little, hard-wired in the brain; they are no longer rules, but sense units. What may have started out as a frustrating exercise opens a deeper understanding of Cicero's and Vergil's Latin, the Latin of the Middle Ages, the Latin of some two thousand years of scholarship. This exciting conversation, in a language we share with Horace and Erasmus, with Terentius and Aloisius, is what brings so many participants back for second, third, and many more years. Latinists who are comfortable with their knowledge of basic grammar and syntax should consider joining the conversation. For more details: www.uky.edu/ArtsSciences/Classics/aestivumeng.html

John Traupman

CALL FOR FACULTY

Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the classical world in the elementary school, is accepting applications for faculty and staff positions at LatinSummer 2006 now through January 15, 2006.

Any high school or college Latin student is welcome to apply. LatinSummer is a two-week long Latin Academy for students on the elementary level.

LatinSummer 2006 will run in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, from July 3-14, and in Alexandria, Virginia, from July 17-28, 2006. Prospective faculty members may apply for one or both programs. Each faculty member will receive an honorarium for their service.

For more information or an application, please ask your teacher or professor or contact:

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