

NEWSLETTER 2008

Old News

Sometimes it happens that papers get hidden on a desk, when new papers are placed on top of them. The result can be that the underlying papers don't reach the surface until long after they should have been acted upon. Such is the case with the following items that should have been included in last year's Newsletter.

Steve Hildebrand (L95, G97) taught an introductory Greek course in the Fall of 2007. "I wasn't as good as Hardy or Jack, but who is?" He is coming up for tenure soon and received a grant to translate a work by a Medieval theologian, Robert Grossiteste.

Maureen Meehan (L77) is living with her son in Madrid, where she is teaching English. She has written one book and is beginning her second.

UBI SUNT?

We do not have the current address for the following people. If anyone knows how we can contact them, we should appreciate having that information. We don't like to lose contact with old friends.

Elitzer Bar-Asher (G04)
Julie Clark (L87)
Kefei Li (G94)
Rowen Pigott (G85)
Deborah Rotenberg (L81)
Conderidge Smith (G06)
Sharon Weintraub (G85)
Nao Takizawa (L95)

LGI AT THE A.P.A.

Some of our friends presented papers at the American Philological Association meeting

in January:

Yelena Baraz (G94, UL95, UG96, Faculty), "Philosophia Iacuit: Cicero's Defense of Philosophical Translation"

Jennifer Ferriss (Faculty), "Vergil Polyglottos: Sabellic Etymologizing in Aeneid 7"

Kathy Gaca (AL 80), "Ancient and Modern Warfare Against Female Captives: A Composite Sketch of Historical Continuities"

Megan Nutzman (G02), "Faith or Family? Jewish Epitaphs from Rome"

Jamie Romm (L82, AG84), "Europe and Asia in the Hippocratic Airs, Waters, Places"

Emma Scioli (UL95, UG96), "Tamora in the Arena and on Stage in Julie Taymor's Titus"

Melissa Barden Dowling's (G88) book, Clemency and Cruelty in the Roman World, was exhibited at the meeting as was **Chuck Platter's** (L80) Aristophanes and the Carnival of Genres.

HOPLITE CHALLENGE CUP

The 31st Hoplite Challenge, the highly anticipated battle for supremacy in Greek morphology, was waged on July 17th, before a throng of boisterous onlookers, keen for action. Seth Appelbaum, Michael Esposito, Kuba Kabala, Leo Keliher, Petra Laohakul, and Joshie Simmons, the hoplite challengers, eagerly reviewed their notes as the garrulous old guard, Paul Barndt (G06, UG07), Anthony Carreras (G07), Hardy Hansen, Bill Pagonis, and Steve Pigman faced their

adversaries. Alan Fishbone was judge, and Collomia Charles, timekeeper, both esteemed Latin faculty. Rita Fleischer opened the eagerly hoped for contest at 3:45 p.m. precisely. Two sure-footed faculty members, Hardy Hansen and Bill Pagonis, rapidly dispatched their hoplite contenders in early skirmishes. Seth Appelbaum stumped former Greek student Anthony Carreras for the hoplite's first point, but then Leo Keliher missed an accent and Steve Pigman narrowly eked out a third faculty point. Suddenly, the hoplites came to a stand still; the ever loquacious Joshie Simmons blurted out, "I forget what a tense was" to much smothered laughter by the audience and smirking by the faculty team. In a lightning-fast stroke, Paul Barndt then captured the faculty point. Next up, the queen of the hoplites, Petra Laohakul, and Hardy Hansen battled out the thrilling sixth match. With flawless recall, Petra completed an astonishing three rounds and won her team the requisite extra 1/2 point. A furious scuffle between the always speedy Steve Pigman and the cool-headed Seth resulted in a near hoplite triumph. Steve misplaced an accent mark, but, with chalk-encrusted hands, deftly corrected it and went on to crush his opponent. In the resulting melee, Joshie Simmons recovered from stage fright and tackled a skillful three rounds with H.H., but, alas, was overcome. Onlookers were on the edge of their seats, but, the faculty high-scorer, Steve Pigman, was again undaunted and undefeated. The final score was Hoplites 5 1/2, Faculty 8.

RITA'S DIGEST

Kiki Aranita (L05, G07) took the summer course at the American Academy in Rome this past summer. She is preparing for her first Ph.D. exam while teaching four courses this fall in three different schools:

mythology, classical literature, and English composition.

Jennifer Ball (G96) is a faculty member in the art history department of Brooklyn College, who has been appointed also to the Graduate Center faculty.

Yelena Baraz (G94, UL95, UG96, Faculty) is enjoying being a member of the classics department at Princeton. The author of numerous articles, papers, and a book, Yelena is expecting twins early in March. She will be returning to Brooklyn College (where she did her undergraduate work) in November to give a talk.

Steve Behnke (L80) was one of twenty speakers at the Center on Terrorism at CUNY's John Jay College in September. The topic was "The Interrogation and Torture Controversy: Crisis in Psychology."

Brooke Bryant (L07) gave a vocal recital at the Graduate Center on May 22nd, singing poems of Sulpicia, a female Augustan poet, as well as pieces of Baroque music representing women from Roman history "who refused to conform to standard behavioral mores."

Jeff Bussolini (G98) gave a lecture to the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies at The Graduate Center in February.

Chris Carroll (G05) has been an intern at the "Paris Review," a researcher and fact-checker for various magazines, and is now applying to law school. He is keeping up his Greek by reading the Agamemnon.

Morgan Condell (G07) spent the summer at Middlebury learning German.

Grace Connelly Brophy (L77) has a second book, A Deadly Paradise, available on Amazon. Her previous book, The Last

Enemy, is out in paperback. These are murder mysteries set in Italy where Grace lived for many years.

Pell Coruzzolo (L77) gave up his position teaching ESL at LaGuardia Community College after four years and now works for a large not-for-profit community-based organization in their adult literacy program. He teaches English to foreign-born people living in Brooklyn.

Valentina DeNardis (L91, G92) is now teaching at Villanova University, where two colleagues are **Mark Shiffman** (G90) and **Jim Wetzel** (L85, UL95), a former teacher of hers.

Toan Do (G06), working on his dissertation in Germany, is learning German intensively.

William Duffy (G02) is a fourth-year graduate student at the University of Buffalo where he has finished his course work. He taught Latin last year and spent this past summer at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens.

Tim Ellison (G06) tutored Latin and Greek at Yale last year where he read a lot of Greek. He is now a comparative literature major with interests in Greek, German, and French literature, philosophy, and theory. He went to France this past summer. Tim has won prizes at Yale: The John Hubbard Curtis prize (for writing) and the Latin and Greek Poetry Recital Competition (two years in a row).

A lengthy article in The New York Times in January discussed criticisms of **Robert Faggen's** (L82) book, The Notebooks of Robert Frost. Robert is chair of the English department at Claremont McKenna College in California.

Tova Friedman (G98) is a second-year

graduate student in linguistics at Cornell. She is very happy there, although she "had been under the impression that graduate school should feel more like torture." She has done some Greek, but is now studying Arabic. Her major field is syntax, with her secondary paper in semantics.

Peggy Fuller (L85) is Managing Attorney of the Facility Victim Program at the Texas Legal Services Center. She travelled a great deal in 2007--Miami, Washington, D.C., New Orleans, Houston, Florida, Turks and Caicos, California, Kansas City, North Carolina, Atlanta, San Antonio. She bought a house in Austin, Texas, became scuba-certified and took her first dive. She "can't wait to go again."

Rich Giambrone (G81, L82) works in marketing. He lives in Minneapolis and keeps up with his Greek and Latin from time to time. He helped in a research project two years ago with a friend who was testing the acoustics of an ancient Greek theater. Rich read the opening of Demosthenes' "On the Crown" for the project.

Sara Gorman (L07) is currently matriculating in the English Ph.D. program at Harvard. Her focus is the medieval period.

Sarah Graff (G05) is continuing working in the Near East wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Her dissertation proposal was approved.

Guy Gronquist (L80) and his wife have both retired from investment banking and, with their two daughters, moved back to the U.S. (New Mexico) after living in London for the past twenty-plus years.

Simon Grote (UL05) continues teaching and working on his dissertation. He gave his first hour-long lectures to a large audience. The first two were on Roman history and the

third, on his dissertation, was in German.

(George) Andy Hagerty (L99, G01) received his Master's degree from the CUNY Graduate School in May; his thesis was, "The Lyric Narrative Structure of Pythian 4."

Karen Hammerlof (AL 82) retired from teaching in 2005 and has enjoyed travelling (Peru and Ecuador in 2006) and doing the other things she never had time for. In 2006, she volunteered on an archaeological dig in Romania (a Roman fort) and in Fall 2007, she worked on potsherds on a Spanish program in Rome.

Henry Hample (L87) has moved to Louisiana where he teaches music and has married a "native girl" and plans to adopt her ten-year old son.

Jamey Hecht (G92, UG96) has sent the Institute copies of his translations of Plato's Symposium and the three Oedipus plays. His book of poetry, Limousine, Midnight Blue, will come out next year. ". . . comprises fifty poems that can be read as a single poem, like the Cantos of the Inferno. This sequence of 14-line poems uses the Zapruder Film of President Kennedy's murder as a prism through which to illuminate yet larger issues, national and cosmic."

Robert Hill (L97, G98) got his M.B.A. from New York University in May. He works on the Stock Exchange and was married to **Jennifer Ferriss** (Faculty) on August 17th. Jennifer received her Ph.D. from Harvard in May and is teaching at Hofstra University. She presented a paper at the Graduate Center in April, "Representations of the Everyday in the Roman World."

Cynthia Hornbeck (G07) doesn't read as much Greek as she would like, but does

work on the Helen of Euripides when she gets a spare moment.

Mariana Hoyt Schenke (L96) is teaching English, French, and Spanish in a private school in Boston where **William Hills** (G92, L93) is teaching Latin.

Jim Hunt (L93, G94, Faculty) is happy teaching in high school. His daughter Claire was born on June 29, 2007.

Jonathan Judge (G05), for his course in "Corruption and Other Pathologies of Government," wrote papers in which he "evaluated the issues of corruption in Roman provincial governance, Athenian imperialism, and pork-barrel legislation in electoral politics, comparing ancient and modern campaign financing methods that sacrificed the general welfare for special interests." Polybius, in particular, "helped me develop certain constructs of understanding trends in governmental evolution."

Drew Keller (AL80 & 81, AG82 & 83, Faculty) is now teaching in the same private school in Manhattan as **Stephanie Russell**.

Kerry Jane King (G84) works for the New York City Transit Authority and has a twelve-year old daughter.

Joe Kopacz (L82, AL83 & 84) was assigned to Mt. Pocono, near the Delaware Water Gap, one and a half years ago, where he teaches some Spanish classes. He celebrated thirty years as a priest in May.

Sharon Koren (L87) is very happy as assistant professor at the Hebrew Union College in New York, where she teaches Hebrew and Aramaic. Her daughters are six, ten, and fourteen years old.

Annie Labatt (G05), a student in the art history department at Yale University,

received a Phyllis G. Gordan/Samuel H. Kress prize to the American Academy in Rome where she'll be working on her dissertation, "In Search of the 'Eastern' Image: Sacred Painting in Eighth and Ninth Century Rome."

Jeffrey Lin (G03) received his B.A. from Harvard in May of this year where he majored in classics (Greek) and linguistics. He spent the summer at N.Y.U. studying Yiddish and is spending 2008-2009 in Berlin on a DAAD fellowship, specifically studying Alcman's dialect. He has been accepted for the following year to study in London at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London.

Sherwin Little (AL82) is president of the American Classical League.

Kathleen Lynch (G90) has received tenure in the department of classics at the University of Cincinnati.

Dan McNerney (G06) is reading Greek and Latin at Fordham University; he is enrolled as a student for the Master's degree.

Avi Mintz (G06) is an assistant professor at the University of Tulsa, teaching an undergraduate honors seminar on ancient Greek, entitled "poets, philosophers and paideia."

Mallory Monaco (G05) is enjoying the challenges of Princeton where she is studying Latin and Greek. She spent the summer at the School of Classical Studies in Athens.

Barbara Morrow (G92, UG96) continues teaching Greek literature in translation for the inter-village continuing education program in Hastings, New York.

William Niederkorn (G93) has started

taking classes in classical Arabic, hoping to be able to read "The 1,001 Nights" before long. He wrote the music for and acted in a play of Vaclav Havel which his wife directed in Baltimore last fall.

Jeanne O'Neill Newman (AL86, AL88) is now head of the department at Davidson. Her sons are getting to be of college age.

Maggie Popkin (G07) spent this summer at the N.Y.U. excavation in Samothrace.

Greg Roberts (L07) last fall used his Latin in a research seminar on medieval law and took a course in Boethius in the spring.

Dylan Rogers (G05, UG07) was graduated from Tulane in May, where he majored in classical studies, Italian, and Greek. His last term was filled with classes in Thucydides and Tacitus, as well as his Senior Honors Thesis on the Roman Lares. He spent the summer at Middlebury studying German and began Graduate School at the University of Virginia in the fall where he is studying classical archaeology.

Christian Saenz (L07) was tutoring Latin last year and felt that by doing so, he was strengthening his own knowledge of the language.

Gideon Schor (G81) is a partner in a law firm from Silicon Valley which has an office here in New York. He represents computer and internet companies in lawsuits that are brought against such companies. He is fascinated by the clients "who have a clear view of the future since they are building it."

Paul Schwarzbaum (L83, G88), after five years of living in Iowa, has moved with his family to Michigan.

Steve Staats (G98), who works in national security, was best man at Rob Hills' and

Jennifer Ferriss' wedding. He read their translation on love from Plato's Symposium.

Oliver Traldi (G06) has kept up his Greek; his senior thesis was on Euripides' Bacchae and Iphigenia at Aulis for which he did "significant translation along with a page or two of pretty intense grammatical analysis" of which he was very, very proud. He has been working as a paralegal and is now making application to law school.

Alison Traweek (L01) is A.B.D. in classics at the University of Pennsylvania. This past summer she taught intensive Greek at Penn, using Hansen & Quinn. Next year she will move to New York to write her dissertation.

Tom Turnbull (L79) founded a ceramic supply business in Nashville in 1986, sold it in 1999, got married, and is now expecting a grandchild from his younger stepson. He sold his business and now devotes himself to producing works of art. He has had several exhibits and his works have been displayed prominently at important events (including one at which the president was present). In January, he was commissioned by a local bank to do a ceramic wall sculpture.

Sarah Wagner-McCoy (L05) was married on June 1st of this year. A graduate student in English at Harvard, she is writing her dissertation on pastoral poetry.

Gabriel Wasserman (UL02) is currently pursuing a Master's degree in medieval Judaism at Yeshiva University. Next year he will continue there for his Ph.D. in medieval Hebrew liturgical poetry from central Europe.

Jennifer Wasson (G06) is applying to classics graduate programs and is looking forward to taking an upper level program here at the Institute.

Jeff Wollock (L75, G82) has always specialized in speech perception/production. Now he is researching Jewish folk music manuscripts. For more than fifteen years, Jeff has made a special study of traditional East European Jewish music which he occasionally performs on violin. He is returning to studying Greek, since he has recently "found the 'missing link' between speech, music and dance in Aristotelian and Stoic poetic theory." His twin boys (4 1/2) have been joined by a baby sister (8 months old). The family uses Yiddish as their first language.

Becky Wysocki (G07) began the post-baccalaureate degree in classics at Columbia this fall.

Pamela Zinn (L03, G05) received her M.A. from the University of Pennsylvania last December and hopes to return to Cambridge for her Ph.D. She spent the past academic year as a lecturer in the Liberal Arts department of the University of the Arts in Philadelphia where she taught courses in intellectual and cultural history. She wrote an article on the early printed editions of Lucretius and has had a book review published. She spoke on Lorenzo Valla's use and abuse of sources on Epicureanism in a particular dialogue of his at the annual Renaissance Society of America conference. In addition to all this she does copy-editing for foreign friends and has taken up martial arts.