

# LGI NEWSLETTER 2015

## WE'VE GONE DIGITAL

This year, for the first time, we are sending the Newsletter digitally to alumni/ae whose e-mail addresses we have. Since this is all new, there might be some mixups. Married couples might receive only one e-mail, if we do not have the spouse's address. Paper copies will be sent to alumni/ae whose e-mail address we don't have. Please let us know of any errors.

## SUMMER 2016

In addition to the basic programs, we are offering an Upper Level Latin this summer. It will run for seven weeks, from June 6<sup>th</sup> to July 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-3:30 and will offer eight credits through Brooklyn College. The readings will include Suetonius, selections from Caligula, Seneca's Thyestes, selections from Lucretius, De Rerum Natura 1 and 5, and selections from Tacitus, Annales 4-6 and 14-16. For more information, see our website [www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/latingreek](http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/latingreek).

## Through The Grapevine

We hear that **Nancy Caciola** (L87) is professor of medieval history at University of California, San Diego.

**Seth Koproski** (L14) is in the Ph.D program in English at Cornell.

**Chris Long** (G95) is Dean of Arts and Sciences at Michigan State University.

**Caitlin Miller** (L14) is in the art history Ph. D. program at Columbia.

**Tony Sirignano** (Faculty) died after a long illness in 2012.

**Izzy Stern** (L14) is in the English Ph.D. program at Rutgers.

## Sad News

**Debbie Narcini Antanaitis** (L75) died suddenly on November 24, 2014, after a long illness. Her husband's loving obituary gave many insights into her life: e.g., she read the entire Golden Book Encyclopedia, cover to cover, when she was six years old. She was a music major when she received her B.A. summa cum laude. From Harvard divinity school, she earned a master's degree in theological studies and from Yale, two more: one in medieval history and another in medieval musicology. She worked for the New Jersey department of education, first as an analyst for the N.J. School Boards Association, second as an analyst for legislative services, and finally as a controversies examiner for the Bureau of Controversies and Disputes. Even though she had no formal training in law, she became the director of the bureau, directing the activities of a small, elite group of lawyers. She spoke and could read several languages and played five musical instruments (piano, organ, harpsichord, clavichord, and violin). Debbie loved to listen to and sing opera, loved silent and classic movies, especially horror films, and she was a gourmet cook!

## 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.

Marco Aydos (G95)  
Joydeep Bagchee (G03)  
Stephen Bennett (L94)  
Tim Brelinski (G88, L89)  
Charley Davis (L89)  
Jim Frakes (G95)  
Edward Frueh (G80)  
Alissa Gafford (G09)  
Peter Giordano (L79)  
Sophia Giordano (L04)  
Shani Goldsmith Berrin (G87)

Eileen Grieco (G80)  
Lewis Henkel (G85)  
Janine Korringa (G94)  
Tara Kott (AL85)  
Jesse Lasser (L06)  
Ben Laurence (G03)  
Susan Lussos Paolini (L77)  
John Mallinson (G90)  
Paul Markosian (G90)  
Billy Marshall (L78)  
Sarah McCleskey (G87)  
James McGoldrick (G85)  
Ted Merwin (L75)  
David Paskin (G87)  
Howard Rhodes (L01)  
Lesley Russell (L90)  
Ellen Salter (L74)  
Sandy Schaeffer (L90)  
Zoe Senecal (L14)  
John Vigushin (L80)  
Benjamin Weaver (L92)  
Liz Weinstock (L98)  
Adam Wilkins (G01)  
Stefan Zimmers (L93)

#### LGI at the A.P.A. (S.C.S.)

Many of our friends presented papers at the January meeting of the American Philological Association (now known as the Society for Classical Studies).

**James Andrews**, Plato's Protagoras as a Comedy of Pleasure

**Bill Beck**, The Turning Post and the Finish Line: False Boundaries in the Iliad

**Chris Celenza**, What Kind of Language Did Ancient Romans Speak? A Fifteenth-Century Debate

**Carlo Da Via**, Method in Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics

**Kathy Gaca**, Aristotle and the Peripatetics of the Historiography of Martial Rape

**Mary Kay Gamel** gave the response to a panel on Writing Outside the Box: Communicating Classical Studies to Wider Audiences.

**Patrick Gauthier**, Playing the Volcano: the Metamorphoses

**Ella Haselswerdt**, A Theban Odyssey: Family, Identity, and finitude in the Epic Cycle

**Bryant Kirkland**, No Place Like Home: Narratorial Participation in Lucian's True Histories

**Joel Lidov**, (S)he do the Polis in Different Voices

**Katherine Lu Hsu**, Between Hesiod and the Sophists: Prodicus' Heracles at the Crossroads

**Mallory Monaco Caterine**, Lycurgus and Other Lies: Plutarch's "Agis and Cleomenes" and the Rhetoric of Political Revival

**Fred Naiden**, Finley in America

**Sarah Nooter** organized a section of Voice and Sound in Classical Greece and gave a paper on Choral Ventriloquism in Aeschylus' Agamemnon

**Jonathan Ready**, On The Scribe as Performer and the Homeric Text

**Jamie Romm**, Modern Ancient History

**Michael Tueller**, Dido, Epigram and Authorship, before and after the Aeneid

**Jeff Ulrich**, Apuleius' Use and Abuse of Platonic Myth in the Metamorphoses

**Pamela Zinn**, Love and the Structure of Emotion in Lucretius

Once again at the meetings in January, Katherine will organize a drop-in for L/GI alumni. See our Facebook page for the date and time.

#### 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Hoplite Challenge

The 36<sup>th</sup> Hoplite Challenge proved to be a thrilling battle between the students and

the faculty. After seventeen tense rounds of play, the students emerged victorious, defeating the faculty with a close final score of 8 1/2 to 7.

Once Rita Fleischer had read the rules of the contest, Katherine Lu Hsu was announced as arbiter, Geoff Moseley as timekeeper, and Jessica Lee as scorekeeper. Rita then named the order of players. The students were represented by: Chris Conway, Judah Eisenman, Amanda Evans, Josh Lash, Gabriel Parlin, Eva Romm, and Chelsea Simon. Meanwhile, the faculty and alumni/ae were represented by: Jamie Banks (L13, G14), Hardy Hansen, Katia Kosova, Aramis Lopez, and Lupe Terrones (G14, UG15).

Gabriel and Aramis faced off in the first round; Gabriel secured the first point of the contest for the students; in the second round, Chris tried to trip Katia up, but she easily scored a point for the faculty. Eve against alumnus Jamie in round three succeeded to take another point for the students. Amanda and Lupe came to a draw, which gave a half-point to the students. Not to be defeated so quickly, the faculty rallied in the following three rounds. Chelsea fought bravely but lost a point to the formidable Hardy; round six saw Aramis secure another point for the faculty against Judah. In the seventh round, Katia stumped Josh and won another point for the faculty.

Gabriel and Chris won points for the students in the eighth and ninth rounds against Jamie and Lupe, respectively, but Hardy, refusing to let the students gain momentum, broke their two-point streak in a round against Eve. Amanda fought valiantly against Aramis, securing a half-point for the students. Despite Katia's best efforts, Chelsea took another point for the students in round twelve. Gabriel kept the ball rolling when Jamie left off a breathing; Chris and Lupe faced off, and Chris won another point for the students, maintaining their lead. Eve and Hardy met each other again in round fifteen, and although Eve tried to confound Hardy, he easily stole another point for the faculty. Next, Amanda won another half-point in her second draw

with Aramis. In the final round Chelsea and Katia went head-to-head, and Katia secured the final point of the contest for the faculty.

## RITA'S DIGEST

**J. AULTMAN-MOORE (G78)** is a professor of philosophy at Waynesburg University.

**NITI BAGCHI (UL11)** began teaching Latin and Greek in a private school in New Jersey this fall. She has four Latin classes (beginning through advanced) and a beginning Greek class

**SAMUEL BAKER (G04, UG07)** teaches ancient Greek as well as philosophy at the University of Southern Alabama.

**EMMA BIANCHI (G95)** is the director of graduate studies in the comparative literature department at N.Y.U. She has written a book about Aristotle.

**CARLO DA VIA (UG10)** received his Ph.D. from Fordham in May. His dissertation was on Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics.

**DANTE DE LEO (L10)** is a lawyer at a civil rights firm in Orange County, New York.

**ALISSA GAFFORD ABRAMS (G09)** is at Yale as a Ph.D. student in the history department, studying ancient legal systems. She and her husband have two small children and in August moved to Zurich for three years.

**SIMON GROTE (UL 05)** finished his Ph.D. at Berkeley in 2010. He then had a three-year fellowship at Princeton and began teaching at Wellesley last year.

**DIETER GUNKEL (G01, L03, UG07, Faculty)** was married on August 2, 2014. **DAVID GOLDSTEIN (UL2000, Faculty)** and **TIM MC CAFFREY (G99, L03, UL05)** were present. Dieter and his wife became parents of Jasper, born September

16 this year, weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces. He was 21 inches long.

**JIM HUNT** (L93, G94, Faculty & Staff) and his wife had their fifth child, Matthew Dennis, in August.

**BRYANT KIRKLAND** (G04) is writing a dissertation on the reception of Herodotus among Imperial Greek authors. He spent Fall 2014 in London and in Spring 2015 gave a paper in Denmark on the Herodoteanism of Antonius Diogenes' "Wonders Beyond Thule." Earlier, Bryant was a Fulbright Research Fellow in Germany.

**JASON LEE** (G80, L84 ) has read the entire Greek New Testament several times and recently began the Septuagint. He has taught hundreds of Bible students the basic koine Greek grammar both abroad and near home, in person and online.

**JESSICA LEE** (G10, UL11, Staff) received her Master's in classics from Bryn Mawr in May. She read the whole *Iliad* in three weeks in the Spring. She was the assistant in the Institute for the second year.

**ANDY LUPU** (G79) has been teaching antitrust, privacy and technology law since 2005 at Hofstra Law School and Hochschule Darmstadt in Germany. He has his own law firm and many clients who are software companies for whom he does contract negotiations.

**BRUCE MCCUSKEY** (G14) spent the year enjoying Oxford. In the first term, he read some Aristotle and Thucydides and the next term he read the *Republic*. In the summer, he attended a program in Byzantine Greek at the University of Notre Dame.

**CAITLIN MILLER** (L14) spent last year in Austria working at the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. Her research was on a "proto-renaissance Italian shield that reinterprets a passage from Livy (complete with Latin inscription)" and so she re-read parts of Livy.

**KENNY MORRELL** (L79, AG81, AL82), an associate professor at Rhodes College, is the program director of the Sunoikisis Program (a collaborative consortium of classics programs).

**LEONARD PAILET** (L78) got his Ph.D. in English Renaissance Rhetoric and Literature in 1983. He used his Greek in his dissertation: "Schemes and Tropes as Organizational Devices in 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Century English Literature: Edmund Spenser, Fulke Greenville and Thomas Nash." He won a distinguished teaching award for teaching assistants and he continues to write using classical themes.

**ALEX (TIKHON) PINO** (L02) is in his second year of doctoral work in the department of theology at Marquette University.

**CHUCK PLATTER** (L80) was at the Hellenic Center part of this summer reading the *Alcibiades* with a group developing the Greek course for the Sunoikisis Program.

**DYLAN ROGERS** (G05, UG07) tells us that **MORGAN CONDELL** (G07, UG10), **CAMERON PEARSON** (G05, UG07), and **ELIZABETH BALTES** (G11) joined him at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens this year. Dylan was appointed the next Assistant Director of the School for a three-year term. He defended his dissertation in June.

**RONNIE ROMBS** (L94, G95, UL2000, Faculty) and **KATHRYN KREILING ROMBS** (L96) have been teaching in Rome for the past five summers. "The University of Dallas has a strong program in Rome for the fall and spring" and so Ron developed a summer program. "It allows our six children to get a different view of life than what they have at home."

**IAN RUBIN** (G96) is married with two children and is finishing his M.B.A. at Wharton.

**MARINA RUSTOW** (G95) is a professor in the department of Near Eastern Studies and department of History at Princeton. She won a MacArthur “genius” award in September for her work using the Cairo Geniza “to shed new light on Jewish Life and on the broader society of the medieval Middle East.”

**MALCOLM ST. CLAIR** (L08) teaches math at St. Bernard’s, a private elementary school in Manhattan. He is enrolled in the M.A. program in liberal studies at the CUNY Graduate Center.

**LISA SHIVES** (G90, L91) is now Director of Sleep Medicine at the University of California, San Diego.

**ELIZABETH STACHTIARIS** (G09) is a student in the College of Osteopathic medicine and in July applied for medical residency.

**LIANE STRAUSS** (L85, G91) is Head of Poetry in the creative writing division at Birbeck, University of London. She is the author of Leaving Eden (Salt, 2010) and Alfredo (Donut Press, 2009). Her work is featured in a number of anthologies.

**LUPE TERRONES** (G14, UG15) placed third in the Eta Sigma Phi sight translation in Greek. This exam is open to students throughout the country in advanced Greek.

**SYLVIA TOMASCH** (L74) taught Introduction to Graduate Liberal Studies at the Graduate Center in the spring.

**MAXINE TROST** (L85) has worked as an archivist at the New York Public Library, University of Wyoming, Massachusetts State Archives and now at Lawrence Livermore National Library. She will retire soon and move to San Francisco.

**MEENAKSHI VENKATASUBRAMANIAN** (G90, L91) is married and living in Texas where she is doing an M.S. in technical communication and professional writing. She is a freelance editor, mostly for Oxford University Press,

New York where she’s gotten some classics editing projects. Currently she’s editing some entries for the Oxford Classical Dictionary and some monographs that have Greek texts in them.

**ROBERTA VERDI BOLTIN** (L75) retired from the school where she was the K-5 library media specialist /teacher for thirteen years and is now working part-time in a high school in New Jersey.

**SARAH WIPPERMAN** (G12) loves her job as Repository Services Manager and Analyst for the Penn Libraries. “As such, I manage their institutional repository, ScholarlyCommons, and work with Penn professors, schools, centers, etc. to make their scholarship openly accessible to the world (simply put). It is really exciting because I get to work with a variety of materials across numerous disciplines—everything from scholarly articles to educational videos to 3D dinosaur scans.”

**XINYAO XIAO** (L14) got into the Ph. D. program in comparative literature at the University of Texas, Austin. She got a generous offer from CUNY, but turned it down, since New York is too intense for her.

**PHYLLIS ZAGANO** (L73), a senior research associate-in-residence at Hofstra University and winner of the 2014 Isaac Heckker award for social justice, gave talks at the University of Chicago and in Ireland. She writes a column, Just Catholic, in The National Catholic Reporter.