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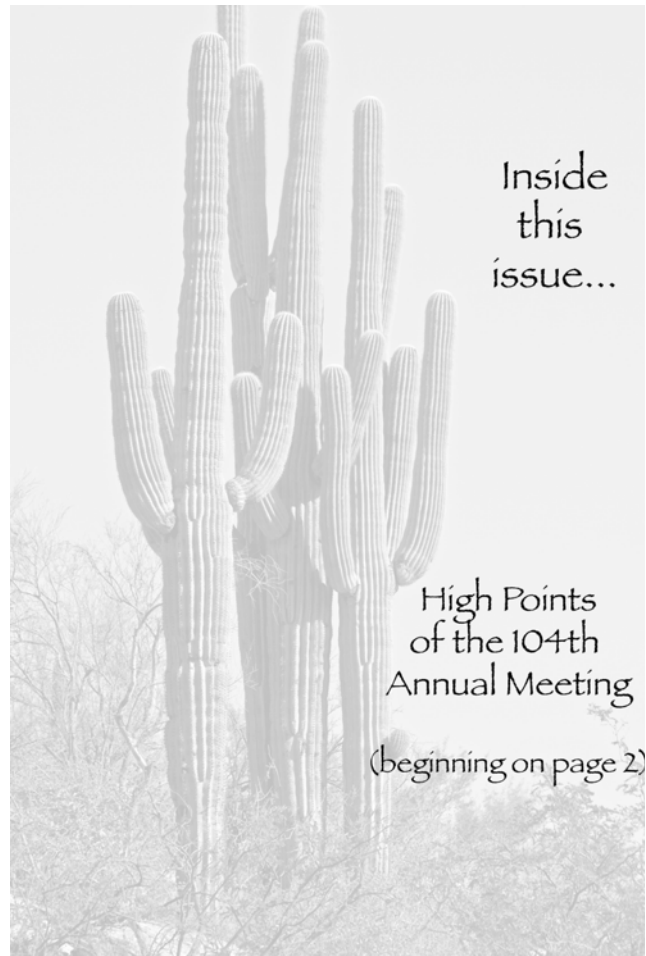
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*Oculus*  
 The Newsletter of CAMWS  
 Editor: James V. Lowe  
 c/o John Burroughs School  
 755 South Price Road  
 St. Louis, Missouri, 63124  
 jlowe@jburroughs.org



Inside  
 this  
 issue...

High Points  
 of the 104th  
 Annual Meeting  
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## Message from Our Incoming President

As I enter upon this office in the midst of a national energy crisis, I can only express my trust that the crisis will not extend to the energies of our CAMWS membership: *O passi graviora, dabit deus his quoque finem!* ... *Durate, et vosmet rebus servate secundis!* Yes, I just finished reading yet another book about Virgil and his hero and must resist the temptation to identify with either of them.

My first wish is to thank the Secretary-Treasurer and her office for guiding CAMWS through another successful year, and I extend those thanks to all those who have contributed to the work of our various committees, particularly those whose terms are now ending.

My second wish is to make two invitations: to all of you, to offer your ideas and your best scholarship to those charged with forming the Program for our 2009 meeting in Minneapolis; and to my fellow Southerners (*sive re sive animo*) to join us in Asheville for this year's Southern Section meeting, November 13-15.

--Robert W. Ulery, Jr., Wake Forest University

# AND THE WINNER IS...

CAMWS is pleased to celebrate by recording herein all those who won the Association's awards for 2007-2008, which were announced and delivered during the annual meeting in Tucson.

## Ovations

Monica S. Cyrino, Samuel J. Huskey, David W. Tandy

## Presidential Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Paper



Lynne Kvapil

### Winner

- Lynne A. Kvapil, University of Cincinnati  
"Controlling the Countryside: Defining the Territory of Mycenae"

### Honorable Mention

- Charlie R. Harper, Florida State University  
"The Beast Within: Lucan's Lion (1.205ff.) and his Achillean Caesar"
- C. Michael Sampson, University of Michigan  
"The *themistês* of Zeus (*Od.* 16.400-5)"
- Aaron W. Wenzel, Ohio State University  
"*Beneficia* in Cicero's *De Officiis* and *Philippic II*"

## Semple, Grant, and Benario Awards

- Semple Award: Derek Smith, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, to attend ASCSA Summer Program
- Mary A. Grant Award: Christopher D. Bravo, University of Arizona, to attend AAR Summer Program
- Janice and Herbert Benario Award: Charlou Koenig, University of Iowa, to attend *Aestiva Romae Latinitas*

## Manson A. Stewart Teacher Training and Travel Awards

### Teacher Training

- Alexandra Bullard (undergraduate senior, University of Texas)
- Scott A. Holcomb (Latin teacher, Deerfield-Windsor School, Albany, Georgia)
- Gregory T. Johnston (graduate student, University of Georgia)
- Louise C. Rocco (Latin teacher, King High School, Tampa, Florida)

### Travel (to the 2008 CAMWS meeting in Tucson)

- Gregory T. Johnston (graduate student, University of Georgia)



Gregory Johnston

## Manson A. Stewart Scholarships

### Winners

- Meghan Freeman, Creighton University
- Amanda Gregory, University of Georgia
- Benjamin Jerue, University of Michigan
- Benjamin Mize, University of Kentucky
- Jana Mokrisova, Trent University
- Daniel Picus, Macalester College

### Honorable Mention

- Noah Frederick, University of Michigan
- Karen Marks, University of Georgia
- Nicholas Rich, University of Iowa
- Shelby Walchuk, Northwestern University

## Outstanding Publication Award

William E. Hutton, College of William and Mary

Reading is surely the pleasure that attracts Classicists to our discipline beyond all others. We must confess, however, that seeing has its own attractions that pull us to visit, to witness, to learn the ancient past as it survives to us in enticing fragments scattered across a glorious landscape. To combine these two should be an art whose temptations none of us could possibly resist. Why is it, then, that the best known and most widely cited classical author to have attempted the synthesis of text and travel, Pausanias, has long escaped the attention of serious scholars? To be sure, many have mined Pausanias' seemingly endless veins of information for historical and literary studies and not a few have wandered Greece with their tattered copy in hand. But until recently, Pausanias was generally dismissed as a "dependable dullard" by those committed to the explication of high literature.

With his *Describing Greece: Landscape and Literature in the Periegesis of Pausanias* (Cambridge University Press, 2005), William Hutton has finally given Pausanias his due. Through a meticulous investigation of this second century "pilgrim", Hutton has shown us that Pausanias was a gifted narrator with a flare for bringing landscape to life in his own very revealing way. Without descending into unwarranted panegyric, Hutton shows that "Pausanias' literary aims and methods are not only essential things to understand as background for an interpretation of his account; those aims and methods are, in their own right, illuminating artifacts of the time in which Pausanias lived." By carefully reading Pausanias back into his historical and topographical context, Hutton is able to map out the working methods of Pausanias qua author and show that he has indeed exercised a judicious guiding organizational and hermeneutical hand that ranks stories behind sites, that favors an archaic past only because it was alive in Pausanias' present, that selects places, events, shrines, and features that were meaningful in their own place and time but also retained meaning in the world of the high Roman Empire.

Hutton is an unquestionable expert in the topography and archaeology of Greece. Just as his Pausanias is shown to have combed and recombined the Greek landscape, Hutton has clearly done so himself in ways that enrich his book and our reading immeasurably. Hutton is also a masterful historian. Equally comfortable in the Classical, Hellenistic and Imperial ages, Hutton marshals a breadth and depth of knowledge that he can deploy to masterful effect, showing over and over again that details matter. Hutton is a careful theoretician. Gleaning only the best from recent debates on travel literature, he applies a light but learned touch to the bigger picture he succeeds in drawing. Hutton is also a nimble defender of Pausanias style, a style that has drawn criticism even for its virtues. The avoidance of Atticism, the self-conscious homage to Herodotus can finally be appreciated on their own terms in a contemporary world that has thankfully shed its hidebound adherence to stringently classical norms. Hutton's appreciation of Pausanias' style reflects both an enviable command of the Greek language and a refined taste for prosody that spills over abundantly into his own writing. Like previous winners of this award, he combines the ability to think in broad, lucid and complex ways with the ability to write elegantly and intriguingly.

This is a book that will take its place not just among former winners of this award but among the best monographs on classical antiquity. The jury this year consisted of a distinguished, dedicated and amicable cast: Kathy Gaca, Michael Gagarin, Vanessa Gorman, K. Sara Myers and Edward Watts. We were impressed by an unusually deep pool of high quality books. We choose to award the CAMWS Outstanding Book Award to William Hutton for giving us the pleasure of reading a book that helps us see into the ancient past richly, vividly, colorfully.

--Noel Lenski, Chair, Subcommittee on the Outstanding Publication Award

## CPL Award for Outstanding Promotional Activity

The 2007-2008 CPL Award for Outstanding Promotional Activity in the Schools went to the Knights of the Tiber Cantors, the Latin Club at St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio, sponsored by Stergios Lazos and Daniel Cavoli. Each year the Cantors perform Latin carols for various clubs and functions in the Greater Cleveland area. The singing troupe has even been featured on a local morning television show. During this year's holiday season the group reached out to the elderly community by visiting two nursing homes and bringing Latin joy to the residents there.

## Awards for Excellence in Teaching

Citations composed by Sarah Wright, awards presented by Eleni Manolaraki

### ***Kraft Award -- Secondary School***



Amy Elifrits (left), Lakota East High School,  
Liberty Township, Ohio

### ***CAMWS Award -- College Teaching***



Liane Houghtalin (right),  
University of Mary Washington

Amy Elifrits (daughter of CAMWS member Kathy Elifrits) came to high school teaching with an outstanding reputation from graduate school at the University of Missouri-Columbia. The chair of her department has called her the finest Latin teacher they ever had among graduate students, and she won the prize for Best Graduate Teacher an unprecedented two years in a row.

She has continued using her talents at Lakota East High School, where she combines a demanding curriculum with creativity, organization, and good humor. One school administrator says that she is willing to take on the tough tasks with tough students. Her Latin program has grown by leaps and bounds since her arrival, necessitating a second colleague to accommodate all the classes.

Parents report that Amy not only teaches and inspires her students in her Latin classes, but also helps in other subjects, and supports her students in various extra curricular activities. She has even gone so far as to accompany one student on the piano for a clarinet solo.

We are quite fortunate to have the multi-talented Amy Elifrits with us in Classics, since she might easily have gone into any number of other fields. CAMWS is honored indeed to be able to acknowledge her contributions and to present her today with the Kraft Award for Excellence in Secondary School Teaching.

Liane Houghtalin is Associate Professor of Classics at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where she is the senior classicist.

When Liane arrived at Mary Washington in 1995, the Classics program was dying and near elimination. She not only revived it almost single-handedly, but also turned it into a thriving program, which graduates nearly ten majors annually. She has accomplished this through curriculum reform, advising, sponsoring an Eta Sigma Phi chapter, and above all by her tireless dedication to her students.

In addition to these good works, Liane also established a symbiotic relationship with the National Latin Exam, with the university giving the NLE office space, and the NLE offering an annual scholarship to a sophomore Classics major. As noted by a colleague, Liane remains busy outside UMW as well, serving on the board of ASCSA and the University of Georgia's dig at Corinth. She is the placement officer for all prospective archaeology students at her school, and has helped undergraduates locate funding for these endeavors.

In short, Liane Houghtalin has been vital in the rebirth of Classics at the University of Mary Washington, and it is with great pleasure that we acknowledge her today with the CAMWS Award for Excellence in College Teaching.

## Resolutions for the 104th Annual Meeting

Presented by Craig Gibson, on behalf of the members of the Resolutions Committee

**WHEREAS** the indefatigable local committee, under the leadership of Bella Vivante, John Bauschatz, Doug Freeble, Holly Keech, Sarah Knapp Palumbo, Marilyn Skinner, Mary Voyatzis, and Cynthia White, representing Desert Vista High School and the University of Arizona, have worked so hard to make this meeting of CAMWS a success,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we tender to all these the heartfelt thanks of the Association.

**WHEREAS** we, having traveled countless *parasangs* and one desert day's journey to a city great and prosperous, where it said that the people worship wild cats as gods,

**WHEREAS** we extended our intellectual horizons through wide-ranging panels on philology, history, literature, material culture, and reception studies,

**WHEREAS** we explored the theory and practice of language instruction, balancing career and real life, and bringing all of Trajan's Column into the classroom,

**WHEREAS** we enjoyed talks ranging from Cicero, to Cicero, to Cicero, but also including select non-Ciceronian subjects,

**AND WHEREAS** the staff of the Marriott University Park Hotel ("11 PM—last call!") has readied its impressive facilities and supplied its services with the utmost diligence and professionalism,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we tender our deepest gratitude.

**WHEREAS** James May, with pennant held high, did enchant us with his musical and rhetorical stylings,

**WHEREAS** Monica Cyrino, Samuel Huskey, and David Tandy received *ovationes*,

**WHEREAS** Melodious Monica and Tennessee Tandy astonished everyone with their musical salute to the Old West and Greg "the Virginian" Daugherty,

**WHEREAS** President Gregory Daugherty gave a sharp-shootin' account of three iconic kinds of texts, hittin' the bullseye every time,

**AND WHEREAS** President-Elect Robert Ulery and the members of the Executive Committee and all the CAMWS committee members have worked unstintingly to make this meeting a reality, maintaining the strength and purpose of our organization,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that we offer our most sincere thanks and admiration.



AND WHEREAS CAMWS continues to foster the careers of students and teachers by providing an atmosphere of academic openness and generosity, by encouraging them to share their research, and by promoting their professional development,  
**BE IT RESOLVED** that we thank all who have spoken or will do so later today, and all who have listened or will listen; these individuals together give life and meaning to our Association, and by the devotion of their intellect and dedication of their spirit guarantee the future of CAMWS.

From the Sonoran Desert to the 10,000 Lakes, **BE IT RESOLVED**, therefore, finally that we continue this year's conversation next year in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

### Memories from the Meeting in Tucson



Jim May congratulates Sam Huskey on winning one of this year's *ovationes*.



Melodious Monica and Tennessee Tandy sing for their supper.



Greg Daugherty (right) presents the CAMWS gavel to Rob Ulery.

### CAMWS School Awards, 2007-2008

#### *Cash Award Winners (alphabetically, with school and teacher)*

- Michael Cowett, Shaker Heights High School, Shaker Heights, OH (Robert White)
- Callan Candler, The Lovett School, Atlanta, GA (Ken Rau)
- Joseph Fallon, Crown Point High School, Crown Points, IN (Jeremy Walker)
- Gretchen Hensley, Crown Point High School, Crown Points, IN (Jeremy Walker)
- Krista Kennedy, Norfolk Academy, Norfolk, VA (Stephanie Pope)
- Jeremy Marinshaw, East Chapel Hill High School, Chapel Hill, NC (Betsy Dawson)
- Ketan Ramakrishnan, Madison West High School, Madison, WI (Gale Stone)
- David Sherman, The Lovett School, Atlanta, GA (Ken Rau)
- Collin Sibley, Flint Hill School, Great Falls, VA (Howard Chang)
- Amalia Skilton, Tempe Preparatory Academy, Tempe, AZ (Lori Hickemell)

#### *Book Prize Winners (alphabetically, with school and teacher)*

- John Behrman, Hoggard High School, Wilmington, NC (James Naylor)
- Michael Daugherty, Covington Latin School, Covington, KY (Kelly Kusch)
- Christopher Ell, Loyola Academy, Wilmette, IL (David Mathers)
- Erik Fredericksen, Flint Hill School, Oakton, VA (Chris Marchetti)
- Ryan Goellner, St. Ignatius High School, Cleveland, OH (Joseph Zebra)
- Sidhi Gosain, Hawken School, Highland, OH (Nick Fletcher)
- Roberto Gelpi, Norfolk Academy, Norfolk, VA (Stephanie Pope)
- Elizabeth Hamilton, Durham Academy, Durham, NC (Edith Keene)
- Jared Jones, University School, Hunting Valley, OH (Darren Keefe)
- Rahul Kumar, Memphis University School, Memphis, TN (Trey Suddarth)
- Theodore Lee, East Chapel Hill High School, Chapel Hill, NC (Betsy Dawson)
- Brittany Mayo, Eastside High School, Covington, GA (Eric Adams)
- Jose Molina, Oak Hall School, Gainesville, FL (David Jackson)
- Jack Montgomery, Memphis University School, Memphis, TN (Trey Suddarth)
- Susanna Pretzer, Shaker Heights High School, Shaker Heights, OH (Robert White)
- Shashank Suresh, Charlotte Latin School, Charlotte, NC (Lawrence Wall)
- John Trombetta, The Lovett School, Atlanta, GA (Ken Rau)
- Benjamin Vangelder, Oak Hall School, Gainesville, FL (David Jackson)
- Eleonor Wroblewski, Madison West High School, Madison, WI (Gale Stone)
- Leaha Wynn, Eastside High School, Covington, GA (Eric Adams)

#### *Letters of Commendation (alphabetically, with school and teacher)*

- Erin Lauer, Webb School of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN (Janet Colbert)
- Hena Naghmi, Flint Hill School, Great Falls, VA (Howard Chang)
- Matthew Shelton, Memphis University School, Memphis, TN (Trey Suddarth)
- Elizabeth Weisner, Charlotte Latin School, Charlotte, NC (Karen McQuaid)

**CAMWS Institutional Members, 2007-2008**

**Winners of CAMWS Awards for Outstanding Accomplishment in Classical Studies, 2007-2008**

Austin College, Sherman, TX Haley E. Smith	Flint Hill School, Oakton, VA
Ball State University, Muncie, IN Rachel Elise Fulton	The Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL Nicholas R. de Groot Megan M. Kabella
Barrington High School, Barrington, IL Claudia Hochstein	Franciscan University, Steubenville, OH Katherine Eddy
Baylor University, Waco, TX Ryan Hill David Morphew Erin Stewart	Georgetown College, Georgetown, KY Tyler Frailie
Brigham Young University, Provo, UT	Georgetown University, Washington, DC
Brock University, St. Catharines, ON Christopher Dawson	Grand Valley State University, Allentown, MI Christopher Hooker
Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI Steven Mellis	Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA
Carthage College, Kenosha, WI	Hampton High School, Allison Park, PA Emily Fustos
Charlotte Latin School, Charlotte, NC Rachel Crane Daniel Ryskiewich Alek Sharma	Hawken School, Gates Mills, OH
College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA Jessica Laura Lamont	Hollins University, Roanoke, VA Jenny Stracke
Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO	Hope College, Holland, MI Clayton P. Orr
Concordia College, Moorhead, MN Christine Schaefer	Indiana University, Bloomington, IN Jennifer Hoit Julianne Martin Andrew David Moore
Covenant Day School, Matthews, NC James D. Churchill	John Burroughs School, St. Louis, MO
Covington Latin School, Covington, KY Michael Daugherty Sam Rodgers	Kenyon College, Gambier, OH
Creighton University, Omaha, NE Vanessa Espinosa	The Lovett School, Atlanta, GA
Davidson College, Davidson, NC Erika Weiberg	Loyola University, Chicago, IL Samuel James Caldwell
DePauw University, Greencastle, IN Christina Dickerson Maddison Hamil Charles Drew Stanley	Luther College, Decorah, IA
Duke University, Durham, NC Elizabeth Rudisill	Marshall University, Huntington, WV Jennifer J. Kennedy
Emory University, Atlanta, GA Benjamin Carroll John Devlin	Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN Jacob S. Haag
Episcopal Collegiate School, Little Rock, AR Rachel Hildebrand	Miami University, Oxford, OH David R. Sheehan
	Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
	Millsaps College, Jackson, MS
	Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL Andrew Viscariello
	Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville, TN John Patrick Moynihan
	Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, VA	University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN William Blessing
Ripon College, Ripon, WI Samuel G. Smith	University of Mississippi, University, MS
Saint Olaf College, Northfield, MN Kayla A. Rasmussen	University of Missouri, Columbia, MO
Saint Stephen's Episcopal School, Austin, TX	University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM Israel F. McMullin Keith Alexander Woodell
Shaker Heights High School, Shaker Heights, OH Susanna Pretzer	University of North Carolina, Asheville, NC
Transylvania University, Lexington, KY	University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC
Trent University, Peterborough, ON Stephen Jarrett	University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK Mary Adrienne Rose
Trinity University, San Antonio, TX Christina Waite	University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
Uintah High School, Vernal, UT Jacob Percival Caitlin Wood	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN Nick Julian
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ Maggie Cohn Catherine Kearns	University of Texas, Austin, TX Ashley Bishop
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR Matthew C. Naglak Emily G. Nelson Jordan E. Shumaker	University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA William Purcell Killmer
University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH Louis Palazzo Dan Schwallie	University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI Matthew F. Amati Brian V. Lush
University of Colorado, Boulder, CO Stefan Hodges Kluck	Utah State University, Logan, UT Meaghan J. Nielson
University of Georgia, Athens, GA	Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA Paul Richardson William Storm	Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC Eric Robert Ellis
University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY Miller S. Krause	Webb School of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN Erin Lauer
University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA	Western Reserve Academy, Hudson, OH
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI Charlotte Franklin Lara Ghisleni	Westminster Schools of Augusta, Augusta, GA Rebecca Wiggins
	Wisconsin Latin Teachers Association Eleanor Wroblewski (Madison West H.S.)
	Wright State University, Dayton, OH Shawn Daniels
	Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH Connor E. Borchert

### **CAMWS Institutional Memberships for 2008-2009**

In 2007-2008 CAMWS welcomed a record number of institutional members: 84! We hope that we can beat that figure in our next fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2008. The application form for a 2008-2009 institutional membership is now available on the CAMWS website: <http://www.camws.org/about/im/index.html>. The deadline for receipt of the form is February 1, 2009, but receipt by December 1, 2008 will guarantee that the institution's name appears in the Program of the 105th Annual Meeting. Among the benefits of institutional membership is a complimentary departmental subscription to Volume 104 of *The Classical Journal*; the four issues will be mailed to each school's contact person.

*Move over, Ty Cobb! Praise for CAMWS's own "Georgia Peach"*

**Emory University's  
Distinguished Emeritus Award, 2008**

**Herbert W. Benario:  
Classical Scholar and Teacher, Colleague and Friend**



Exactly sixty years have passed since you graduated from the City College of New York, but signs of your New York origins have persisted, from the inflections of your speech to your love of opera. So also have your ancestral links to Europe, no least in the deep knowledge of German scholarship that has fostered the perfectionism evident in your research.


After City College, you remained in New York to earn your M.A. from Columbia (1949) before heading to Johns Hopkins where you completed your doctorate in Classics, under the redoubtable Henry Rowell, in only two years. Then after serving your country in the Korean Conflict (1951-53), you returned to Columbia to teach for five years. Following a sojourn at Sweet Briar you came to Atlanta in 1960. Here you have stayed for forty-eight years, a key figure in the fortunes of Classics on the Emory campus until your retirement in 1987, and an interested, engaged observer of the scene in your Emeritude.

Over the years you have had five particular passions: family, classics (these two in part overlapping in your wife Janice, herself a noted classicist), opera, track, and travel. Your encyclopaedic knowledge of opera and of world track competition shows the same thoroughness, the same exuberant admiration of expert and nuanced performance that marks your disciplinary work; your standards are evident in the 125 scholarly book reviews you have published to date. The professional world has reciprocated with an enthusiastic assessment of your work, as you have won awards at every level beginning with Phi Beta Kappa, through an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, a Fulbright Scholarship in Passau, and most recently a Heilbrun Emeritus Fellowship from this very body in 2001-02. You have also been a leader in two major classical organizations, holding office and, together with Janice, endowing travel awards for undergraduates.

But the most remarkable facet of your record is the abundant stream of writings since 1953, as scholar, teacher and professional citizen. The tally today stands at 285 published items: not only all those reviews, but ten books and over a hundred articles; add to all that a steady flow of papers and invited lectures. The bulk of your work focuses on the great Roman historian Tacitus, on whom you have long been a leading international authority (it is a lovely irony that you have said so much about an author whose name is the Latin word for "silent").

For many, retirement brings scholarly activity to a halt, or at least slows it down considerably. Since you retired, you have published sixty works (including five books), made nearly fifty trips to Europe, taught at Brigham Young University and Emory's Center for Lifelong Learning. Your energy is an example to all in retirement—indeed, even to those still far from it. Long may you persist as a pacesetter!

**Now therefore be it RESOLVED that Herbert W. Benario be honored with the Distinguished Emeritus Award, and that this tribute be made a permanent part of the Emory University Record.**

requiescant in pace			
	Charles M. Binnicker, Jr.	University of the South	July 29, 2006 (we regret that this sad news reached us only now, two years late)
	Hazel E. Barnes	University of Colorado	March 18, 2008
	Frank H. Longstreth	Western Reserve Academy	March 19, 2008

(The full necrology for 2007-2008, written by Ward Briggs, is posted on the CAMWS website.)



## “The more things change . . .”

Here are two snippets (well known, at that) from Thucydides’ *History of the Peloponnesian War*, in the English translation by Rex Warner:

Indeed, during the whole period of peace-time when Pericles was at the head of affairs the state was wisely and firmly guarded, and it was under him that Athens was at her greatest. And when war broke out, here, too, he appears to have accurately estimated what the power of Athens was. . . . But his successors did the exact opposite, and in other matters which apparently had no connection with the war private ambition and private profit led to policies which were bad both for the Athenians themselves and for their allies. Such policies, when successful, only brought credit and advantage to individuals, and when they failed, the whole war potential of the state was impaired. The reason for this was that Pericles, because of his position, his intelligence, and his known integrity, could respect the liberty of the people and at the same time hold them in check. It was he who led them, rather than they who led him, and, since he never sought power from any wrong motive, he was under no necessity of flattering them: in fact he was so highly respected that he was able to speak angrily to them and to contradict them. . . . So, in what was nominally a democracy, power was really in the hands of the first citizen. --2.65

We should realize that. . . lack of learning combined with sound common sense is more helpful than the kind of cleverness that gets out of hand, and that as a general rule states are better governed by the man in the street than by intellectuals. These are the sort of people who want to appear wiser than the laws, who want to get their own way in every general discussion, because they feel that they cannot show off their intelligence in matters of greater importance, and who, as a result, very often bring ruin on their country. But the other kind—the people who are not so confident in their own intelligence—are prepared to admit that the laws are wiser than they are and that they lack the ability to pull to pieces a speech made by a good speaker; they are unbiased judges, and not people taking part in some kind of competition; so things usually go well when they are in control. --3.37

In light of the preceding, consider these excerpts from “The Snare of Privilege,” an article by Elisabeth Bumiller that appeared in the May 25, 2008 edition of the *New York Times*:

Hillary Rodham Clinton, Wellesley ’69, Yale Law ’73 and the first lady of the land for eight years, is suddenly a working-class heroine of guns and whiskey shots. Barack Obama, Columbia ’83 and Harvard Law ’91, visits bowling alleys and beer halls and talks about his single mother who lived on food stamps.

John S. McCain III, United States Naval Academy ’58, the son and grandson of admirals, . . . chases after the conservative, anti-elite religious base of the Republican Party, and prefers to talk about the “cabin” at his Sedona weekend retreat rather than the Phoenix home lushly featured in the pages of *Architectural Digest* in 2005.

In an increasingly populist country, it’s not surprising that all three presidential contenders have been sprinting away from the elitist label for much of this primary season. But do they really expect to get away with it?

More to the point, should they? Don’t voters want the best and brightest, the best-credentialed, rising to the top?

Not exactly. Americans have been ambivalent about elites since the nation was founded by revolutionaries who were also, in many cases, landed gentry. And status and wealth still play an outside role in our supposedly classless society. . . .

There may be another reason Americans are skeptical about the idea that the best rise to the top: those at the top haven’t performed too well lately. Christopher Buckley, Yale ’75, the novelist and humorist, notes that recent Iraq books contain echoes of “The Best and the Brightest,” David Halberstam’s classic account of the huge failures of the Ivy League brain trust in the Kennedy White House who propelled the nation into Vietnam. . . .

Mr. Buckley also recalled a famous line uttered by his father, William F. Buckley Jr., Yale ’50, who observed in the 1960s that he’d rather “be governed by the first 2,000 names in the Boston telephone book than by the 2,000 members of the Harvard faculty.”

Ivy League credentials aside, what matters in the end to most voters, when it comes to choosing a president, is not academic pedigree, but rather the candidates’ ability to make an emotional connection and to win trust and confidence. The most famous aristocrat-presidents of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, John F. Kennedy and Theodore and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, all had that gift, and it outweighed the advantages—and drawbacks—of education, wealth and privilege.

## Taking a Leaf from Page's Book....



**Editor's Note:** this section temporarily replaces "Give Me That Old-Time Erudition," which will make a triumphal return if/when anyone submits anything that fits it. Meanwhile, the Editor has presumed to launch a special section devoted to his personal favorite among old-school commentators, namely T. E. Page, formerly of Charterhouse School in England.

Horace, *Epode* 15.15-16

nec semel offensi cedet constantia formae,  
si certus intrarit dolor.

*offensi* is a widely accepted emendation. Consider the following comments on this reading:

(1) David Mankin (1995):

"*offensi* was conjectured by H. Gogavius (1567) and later found in some of the 'Pseudacronian' scholia. The rest of the scholia and the MSS know only *offensae*, which seems to be acceptable Latin, although H. does not elsewhere use *offensus* in the active sense 'hateful.' Yet here it is not Neaera's *forma* that 'offends,' but her 'conduct, depravity, inconstancy, and perfidy' (Bentley), things which, in the tradition of love poetry, would in no way lessen her physical charms."

(2) T. E. Page (1883):

"Bentley asks *quid mirum, si formae offensae et invisae non cederet? si non illam deperiret, quam turpem iam et deformem esse crederet?* as though *forma offensae*, 'beauty that has become hateful,' meant 'beauty that has become ugly'! But Horace never dreams of Neaera as ugly. No: it is her very beauty itself which will make her more hateful and loathsome to him, if once the galling doubts of jealousy become certainties (cf. *certus*). Scholars should leave subjects they do not understand alone; yet L. Müller, Keller, Kiessling, and Schütz accept Bentley's conjecture *offensi*."

Take *that*, Mr. Bentley!

### *From the Editor's Padded Cell...*

Please consider contributing material for publication in *Oculus*. Please send either hard copy or (preferably) attachment via email to: James V. Lowe, c/o John Burroughs School, 755 South Price Road, St. Louis, MO 63124 [jlowe@jburroughs.org](mailto:jlowe@jburroughs.org) In particular, I am soliciting what I might call "teaching photographs," i.e. photos you have taken that illustrate your teaching; however, in the inclusive spirit of my predecessors, I am open to all kinds of submissions. Please send along submissions by September 15, 2008, for *Oculus* 18.1 Thank you!

### *What's Religious about Ancient Mediterranean Religions?*

Inaugural Meeting of the Society for Ancient Mediterranean Religions

June 28, 2009

Pontifical Biblical Institute

Rome, Italy

At the inaugural meeting of the Society for Ancient Mediterranean Religions, we plan to begin our discussions by considering the ways in which the conceptual category "religion" is applicable to the study of ancient cultures. Sacrifice, prayer, pilgrimage, private and public devotion, beliefs about gods and goddesses--all of these practices and ideas seem to fall safely enough within the category of "religion." A question worth thinking about, however, is whether the boundaries of this modern category--and indeed the category itself--match up with any patterns of practice or belief held by the people we hope to understand. In other words, what did it mean to be "religious" in the ancient world? Perhaps behaviors that we might now call "religious" are better understood as falling within the realm of political acts, or as practices that delineate certain tribal or familial identities. Matching up ancient and modern ideas about this cluster of ideas and practices promises to reveal significant mismatches in our conceptual lexica where religion ancient and modern is concerned. We hope that it will also give rise to useful reflections about this inter-disciplinary project that we have initiated: what different methodological presuppositions do students of ancient Mediterranean cultures bring to the study of religious phenomena and what do we stand to learn from each other? Proposals addressing this topic and formed with reference to Mediterranean societies up through the Late Antique period are welcome.

Abstracts of 500 words should be sent to Barbette Spaeth ([bsspaeth@wm.edu](mailto:bsspaeth@wm.edu)) by September 1, 2008, with the conference slate to be decided by September 30. Please provide abstracts within the email itself, or as attachments in MS Word format (.doc or .docx). Participants should aim for papers of approximately 30 minutes in length. While the conference will be conducted chiefly in English, the committee will also consider papers (and abstracts) presented in Italian.



## THE 2009 BERNICE L. FOX CLASSICS WRITING CONTEST

sponsored by  
The Department of Classics  
at Monmouth College



**Topic for 2009:**

### **Twelve Olympian Gods for 21<sup>st</sup> Century America**

**If the twelve Olympian deities of Greece and Rome were worshipped today, what would be their areas of interest, attributes, etc.?**

This contest is open to any student enrolled full-time in high school during the current school year. An award of **\$250.00** will be given to the author of the best entry written in English on a specified theme. The entry may be an essay, a short story, a play, a poem, or any original literary work. This contest was established in 1985 by the Department of Classics at Monmouth College in Monmouth, Illinois, to honor Bernice L. Fox, to promote the study of Latin and the Classics in high schools, and to recognize the good work of high school students.

#### **Judging**

The entry should make frequent, specific, accurate, and appropriate references to Greek and Roman mythology and to modern events. Papers will be judged on historical accuracy, appropriate use of ancient sources, originality, quality of material, thematic development, appropriateness, correctness of English style, and effectiveness of presentation.

#### **Contest Guidelines**

Entries must be typed, double-spaced, on 8-1/2 x 11 inch paper, on one side only. No electronic submissions will be accepted. The entry must fit the theme of this year's contest. No minimum or maximum length is required. The entrant's name and school must not appear on the entry. Contestants should place a personal identification code (a *randomly selected* nine character series) on the top left-hand corner of every page of the entry and on a separate 8-1/2 x 11 inch sheet of paper which also contains the following information: author's name, date of birth, the student's personal identification code, school name, school address, teacher's name, and school phone number. No more than ten entries will be accepted from any individual school and only one entry per student. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in disqualification. Every entrant will receive a certificate of participation from Monmouth College. All entries must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2009, and mailed to Dr. Thomas J. Sienkewicz, Capron Professor of Classics, Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois 61462 (E-Mail: toms@monm.edu). For further information, including a list of previous winners, please consult the contest website

(<http://department.monm.edu/classics/Department/FoxContest/>)

All entries become the property of Monmouth College. The winner will be announced on or by April 15th on the contest website.

#### **About Bernice L. Fox**

Bernice L. Fox taught courses in English, Latin and Greek at Monmouth College from 1947 to 1981, and served as chair of the Department of Classics from 1970 till her retirement in 1981. Throughout her long and dynamic career she worked tirelessly to promote the Classics in Illinois high schools and colleges. She is also the author of *Tela Charlottae*, the Latin translation of E. B. White's *Charlotte's Web*. In 1991 Monmouth College conferred on her the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. She died in 2003.

## More Memories from the Meeting in Tucson



CAMWS, Dept. of Classics  
1520 St. Olaf Ave.  
St. Olaf College  
Northfield, MN 55057-1098  
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