Letter from the President

As I sit down to write this letter, the temperature is over 80 here in Texas while the upper plains and New England are shoveling out of a late snowstorm. But spring is definitely coming, along with a new round of Vergilian Society activities.

We have an exciting tour season coming up, with one tour (to Turkey) already filled but with spaces remaining on the others. Plans are also well underway for the annual Symposium Cumanum at the Villa, which will be on Aeneid 6. Please see information on these programs elsewhere in Sortes, and consider joining us for them.

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Harry Wilks, renovations continue on the Villa Vergiliana. Much of the façade has now been restored to its pristine glory, and work is going on inside as well. Pictures are available on the Vergilian Society website, and I would encourage you to take a look if you have not already done so. I would also encourage you to consider bringing a group to the Villa at some point in the future. I am hosting two small meetings for scholarly organizations I belong to, and in both cases the participants proved eager to venture to Cuma when I told them about the beautiful location, the wonderful food, and the warm welcome they will receive from Mina and the family. Sessions like these help the Society by providing revenue through the Villa—it’s a win-win situation for everyone. Mr. Wilks has also been bringing high school groups to the Villa each summer, and I would ask those of you who teach at the secondary level to consider following his example; this can be a life-changing experience for students at this age.

Our session at the American Philological Association, on “Virgil’s Detractors, Grammarians, Commentators, and Biographers: The First Fifteen Hundred Years,” was well attended, and a survey taken afterward confirms that those in attendance rated it one of the best sessions they had attended. At the 2014 APA meeting, we will sponsor a session on “Vergil’s Commentaries: La Cerda to Horsfall.” Our scholarly activities, of course, focus on our journal, and most of you know that Vergilius has a new editor, Christine Perkell. Please consider sending her your best work: our journal can only be as good as its contributors make it. I am also pleased to announce that Vergilius will soon be accessible on JSTOR, which will increase its visibility considerably.

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The Vergilian Society has been a bit slow, I must confess, to enter the digital age, but we are now moving forward here as well. We have a Facebook page and are using services like Constant Contact to reach out more effectively. Our webpage is also being redesigned—keep an eye out for the coming changes. We are always open to suggestions on how to go forward here.

All of this, of course, comes at a price. Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Wilks, we are on solid financial footing again, but his help was for the Villa restoration and for scholarships, not for the financing of our basic operations and other programs. Some years we break even, but in others we don’t. Please consider a gift, in whatever amount you wish. Contributions can be made quickly and easily, as explained on our web page.

--Craig Kallendorf


We had perfect weather for our winter program in Sicily, with blue skies every day and temperatures of about 60 degrees. The group first gathered in Rome airport for our flight to Catania, and thankfully no one’s flight had been delayed by storms. Syracuse was our most extensive stay, and our hotel was located right on Ortygia island where the ancient Greek colony began. We had enough time to get to know the little island (and its great restaurants!) well before we took off in our hired bus via Taormina to Piazza Armerina. One spectacular site followed another, the floor mosaics of Villa Romana, the golden temples of Agrigento, Selinunte with its extensive and varied remains, Segesta’s romantic temple and theater, the Hellenistic-Roman town of Solunto with its residences climbing the hillside. Winter proved to be a great time to experience Sicily, as we were virtually alone among the dramatic ruins. The sixteen participants from all parts of the United States, plus Serbia, and of all ages, made a great team and were awed by the fine preservation of the sites, the beautiful landscape, and the excellent museums.

Submitted by Beverly Berg

ROMAN PROVENCE
Dec 27, 2013-Jan 4, 2014
or
Dec 24, 2013-Jan 4, 2014
Directed by Beverly Berg (bberg@linfield.edu)
Two options, please choose either SHORT VERSION Dec 27, 2013-Jan 4, 2014, or LONG VERSION, Dec 24, 2013-Jan 4, 2014

Provence was early and thoroughly romanized, and offers many spectacular Roman remains, including the Pont du Gard, the theater and arch in Orange, and the Maison Caree in Nimes. You may choose either a short version (SV), covering the major sites in Provence, or a long version (LV) which prefaces the short version with visits to Autun, an utterly charming city with the most extensive group of ruins in Burgundy, and the Roman colony of Vienne.

Warning! The director has spent two Januaries in Provence and experienced excellent weather (not guaranteed, naturally), sunny although occasionally crisp. Long Johns advised. The program uses largely public transportation, so participants will need to be hardy travellers and good walkers. The bargain Long Version extension uses decent but economical hotels in Autun and Vienne. Please see below for payment deadlines and how to contact the director.
Overview: LV: 2 nights Autun, 1 Vienne, 3 Orange, 2 Avignon, 3 Arles.
SV: 3 nights Orange, 2 Avignon, 3 Arles.

Mon Dec 23: on this day (or before) LV (long version) participants should depart the U.S. for France, landing in Paris or Marseille. The train from Paris to Autun is a shorter ride than from Marseille, but it may be more economical to fly in and out of the same airport, Marseille, and in Marseille the train for Autun can be boarded at the airport itself.

Tue Dec 24: LV participants, having arrived in France, take train to charming Autun in Burgundy, where their program begins. Director will help check them into the hotel, which is visible from the train station.

Wed Dec 25: LV participants enjoy a walking tour of Autun with its scatter of unenclosed Roman ruins, and visit the beautiful 12th century cathedral with its famous tympanum sculpture of the Last Judgment. For the unweary there is a hike to a local waterfall.

Thu Dec 26: In the morning LV participants in Autun view Roman remains in the Musee Roland, and see carved medieval capitals up close in the cathedral museum. In the afternoon they set out on Agrippa's Way via train (fare included) for the Roman colony of Vienne. Overnight in Vienne.

On this day SV (short version) participants, having enjoyed Christmas day at home, depart for France.

Fri Dec 27: LV participants will visit the Roman remains of Vienne, including a theater and a well-preserved temple to Augustus and Livia, and board an afternoon train fare included) from Vienne to Orange. Meanwhile SV participants arrive at Marseille airport and take train to Orange, where the director will meet them and their program begins.

Sat Dec 28: Visit the theater of Orange, the arch with its well-known sculpture, and the historical museum, where a marble land tenure map from Roman times is on display.

Sun Dec 29: Short train (or public bus)ride from Orange to Avignon. Walking tour of Avignon includes the Palace of the Popes, the archaeological museum and, for those interested, a museum of European painting (Petit Palais). Return to Orange.

Mon Dec 30: Day trip by local bus from Orange to the well-preserved Roman town of Vaison-la-Romaine, with its well preserved and elegant ancient houses. Evening train (or bus) to Avignon.

Tue Dec 31: Day trip by local bus to charming St. Remy, the Roman monuments known as Les Antiques, and the remains of the Roman town of Glanum. Second overnight in Avignon.

Wed Jan 1: Short train ride from Avignon to Arles, walking tour of Arles and its many Roman monuments, including the evocative late Roman cemetery of Les Alyscamps. First overnight in Arles.

Thu Jan 2: Day trip by hired bus from Arles to see the renowned Roman aqueduct of Pont du Gard and the city of Nimes with its Roman remains, including the Maison Caree and the temple of Diana.

Fri Jan 3: In Arles, visit the spectacular Museum of Antiquities, and the Roman theater and amphitheater. Last overnight in Arles, but some may opt to take an evening train to Marseille if they have an early flight out on Saturday. Hotel in Arles is included, but not in Marseille.

Sat Jan 4: The program officially ends after breakfast in Arles. Participants make their way by train (fare not included) to Marseille airport.

Price: Long Version: $1895, single supplement of $300.
Short Version, $1595, single supplement of $250.
Price does not include lunches and dinners. All hotels, breakfasts, entry fees are included as is all transportation beginning in Autun for LV (Orange for SV) and ending in Arles. Deadline for the $750 deposit is due Sept. 1; the balance is due Oct. 1. Participants should please contact the director at bberg@linfield.edu as soon as they know of their interest.
Summer Tours, 2013

The Italy of Caesar and Vergil: A Workshop for Teachers  July 2-13, 2013
Directors: Christopher Gregg and Keely Lake
This workshop for high school Latin teachers will combine classroom sessions in successful pedagogical practices with thematically relevant site visits that illuminate the lives and works of Caesar and Vergil. Morning study sessions will provide ideas and skills to enrich both beginning and advanced courses, with a focus on the readings and abilities required by the revised Advanced Placement syllabus. Afternoon site and museum visits will contextualize the writings of these authors elucidating the common themes of Caesar’s commentarii and Vergil’s Aeneid. Through thoughtfully constructed lectures and on-site readings from ancient writers, teachers will acquire interpretive insights and instructional strategies for teaching these essential authors. Sites include: Rome (Forum, Palatine, Campus Martius), Temple of Apollo and Atrium of the Sibyl at Cumae, Lake Avernus, Tomb of Vergil, Sperlonga, Pompeii, Lavinium, and Herculaneum.
Price: $2,595

From Neapolis to Apragapolis: The Greco-Roman Bay of Naples  July 15 - 27, 2013
Directors: James Andrews and Randall Colaizzi
The Bay of Naples was always one of the most important centers of Classical culture, and the culminating destination of the European Grand Tour. It was the foothold of the Greeks in their colonization of Magna Graecia; the scene of decisive moments in the Punic, Social, and Slave Wars of the Roman Republic; and the graveyard of Pompeii, Herculaneum, and the hundreds of villas buried by the eruption of Vesuvius in 79 AD. Celebrated here were the fishponds of Lucullus, the aqueduct of Augustus, the real extravagances of Nero, and the fictional eccentricities of Petronius. Greeks, Etruscans, Samnites, Lucanians, and Romans lived here; Augustus, Tiberius, and Pliny the Elder died here. We will visit the archaeological sites and the several museums which preserve the artifacts from two millennia of Greco-Roman culture. Sites include Sperlonga, Terracina, Cumae, Lake Avernus, Solfatara, Pompeii, Naples, Paestum, Pozzuoli, Beneventum, Saepinum, Herculaneum, Oplontis (Torre Annunziata), Capri, Baiae, Bacoli, and Misenum.
Price: $2,595

Vergil the Poet and Medieval Wizard: Literary Magic  July 29-August 10, 2013
Directors: Chris Ann Matteo and Ray Clark
We shall walk in the footsteps of Trojan Aeneas upon the acropolis of Cumae, in the Sibyl’s cave, and at Lake Avernus, where he descended alive into the Land of the Dead. Vergil’s immortalization of this landscape in the Aeneid resulted in many medieval legends attributing to him the magical power of transforming the landscape. Thus all the hot springs in the area were thought by medievalists to have been of his creation. With this and the Aeneid in mind we shall explore with on-site lectures the marvels of Cumae and other early Greek settlements set within the Flaming (Phlegraean) Fields and its environs, and explore places familiar to Vergil.
Price: $2,595

For further information, specific dates, costs, tour applications and detailed itineraries, contact the Society Secretary at vergsoc@yahoo.com
Symposium Cumanum 2013
“Aeneid Six and Its Cultural Reception”

Villa Vergiliana, Cumae and the University of Naples Federico II, Italy
June 25-27

Sponsored by
The Vergilian Society, Harry Wilks Study Center, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici
University of Naples Federico II, British Virgil Society, McGill University,
Accademia Virgiliana di Mantova.

Program

June 24
Cocktails (7:00pm) and Dinner (7:30pm)

June 25
Breakfast (7:30 am)

Greetings and Introduction (9:30-1030)

Session one (10:30-11:45): Pasts of Aeneid Six

Emily Gowers (Cambridge University)
“Why isn't Homer in Virgil's Underworld? - and other notable absences.”

Massimo Giuseppetti (Roma Tre University)
“L'eroe e l'aldilà: Virgilio di fronte ai suoi modelli greci.”

Jelena Pilipovi (Belgrade University)
“Lumen purpureum: A comparative interpretation of Vergil's description of Elysium in the Aeneid 6 and Plato's description of earth below the heaven in the Phaedo.”

Fabio Stok (Università Di Roma Tor Vergata)
“Peccatori e punizioni dell’ Oltretomba virgiliano nell’ esegesi tardoantica.”

Coffee Break (11:45-12:00)

Session Two (12:00-1:40): Elegiac and Lyric Underworlds

Micah Myers (North Carolina State University)
“Vergil's Underworld and the Afterlife of Love Poets.”

Francisco Edi Sousa (l’Université de Paris-Sorbonne, Paris IV)
“Cynthie aux enfers de Virgile: reception de l’ Énéide VI dan l’élégie 4.7 Properce.”
Lauren Curtis (Harvard University)
“Paradise and Performance in Virgil’s Underworld and Horace’s Carmen Saeculare.”

Ioannis Ziogas (The Australian National University)
“Singing for Octavia: Vergil’s Life and Marcellus’ Death.”

Lunch (1:45-2:30)

Session Three (2:30-4:15): Romanizing the Underworld

Alessandro Schiesaro (Università degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza”)
“Virgil’s Lucretian Underworld.”

David Quint (Yale University)
“How to be a Son of a God: Death and Survival at Virgil’s Underworld.”

Sarah Spence (University of Georgia)
“paci imponere morem and the role of discernment in Aeneid 6.”

Alison Keith (University of Toronto)
“Vergilian Underworlds in Ovid.”

Coffee Break (4:15)

Session Four (4:30-6:00): Aeneid Six in Imperial Poetry

John Schafer (Northwestern University)
“Seneca’s Book 6.”

Emily Pillinger (King’s College London)
“Statius and the Sibylline (Information) Superhighway.”

Damien Nelis (Université de Genève)
“Sailing to Hades: Aeneid 6 in the Argonautica of Valerius Flaccus.”

Cocktails (7:00)

Dinner (7:30)

June 26

Breakfast (7:30)

Session 1 (9:00-10:15): Aeneid Six in Late Antiquity

Moa Elisabeth Ekbom (Uppsala University)
“The reception of Aeneid VI in the Historia Augusta: Prophecy, poignancy, and puns.”

Gataeno Bevelacqua, (King’s College London)
“The Use and Reception of Aeneid Six in Late Antique and Early Medieval Epigraphy.”
Session 2 (10:15-11:30): Christianizing Aeneid Six

Tom Zanker (Harvard University)
“Aeneid VI and the Divinae Institutiones of Lactantius.”

Jacob Mackey (Queens College CUNY)
“The Silence of Aeneid 6 in Augustine's Confessions.”

Andrea Doyle (University of Johannesburg)
“The Sibyl of Cumae: A journey in text and image from Virgil to Michelangelo and beyond.”

Coffee break (11:30-11:40)

Session 3 (11:40-1:15): Aeneid Six and its Commentators

Anna Jourbina (Gorky Institute of World Literature of Russian Academy of Science)
“Fulgentius and his Exposition of the Content of Vergil: Gathering Knowledge in the Underworld.”

Adrian Mihai (École Pratique des Hautes Études)
“L' au-delà du livre VI de l' Énéide de Virgile dans le miroir du Néoplatonisme latin.”

Séverine Clément-Tarantino (Lille 3 Charles de Gaulle)
“La lecture du chant VI de l’ Énéide selon Tiberius Claudius Donat: une reception singulière-une lecture sans reception?”

Luigi Galasso (Università di Pavia)
“Some Aspects of the commentary by Norden on Book VI of the Aeneid.”

Lunch (1:15-2:15)

Session 4 (2:15-3:30): Aeneid Six and Memorialization of the Dead

Nandini Pandey (Loyola University Maryland)
“Some Architectural ‘Ghosts' and Their Reader Reception in Aeneid 6.”

Ourania Molyviati (Independent Researcher, Thessaloniki Greece)
“Reconfiguring Aeneid VI: Elysium and the Campus Martius of Rome.”

Linda Robertson (Hobart and William Smith Colleges)
“To pull history through to the present: The Aeneid and Artistic Design of the National September 11 memorial and museum.”

Coffee Break (3:30-3:45)
Session 5 (3:45-5:30): Tracking *Aeneid* VI from the Renaissance to Modernity

Matteo Soranzo (McGill University)

Valentina Prosperi (Università degli Studi di Sassari)
“Virgilian Katabasis and Trojan Genealogy in Early Modern Italian Poetry.”

Ippokratis Kantzios (University of South Florida)
“Fénelon’s Subversive Uses of Aeneid VI.”

Hallie Marshall (University of British Columbia)
“My Mind moves upon silence and *Aeneid* VI: the silent void in Classical Reception.”

Keynote Address (6:00-6:45)

Alessandro Barchiesi (University of Siena at Arezzo/Stanford University)
“Into the Woods.”

Cocktails (7:00)

Dinner (7:30)

June 27

Breakfast (7:00)

Travel to Naples (8:00-9:00)

Session 1 (9:45-11:30) Virgilio e la Campania nella ricerca dipartimentale
Chair e introduce Dir. Arturo De Vivo

Valeria Viparelli
“Tracciabilità del patrimonio culturale della Campania.”

Marisa Squillante
“BibCLat Biblioteca digitalizzata Commentari Latini.”

Giancarlo Abbamonte
“Letture lessicografiche di Virgilio e dei suoi commentatori nel XV secolo.”

Concetta Longobardi (Postgraduate)
“I commentatori virgiliani e la localizzazione cumana di Dedalo.”

Coffee Break (11:30-11:45)

Session 2 (11:45-1:30): *Aeneid* VI, Inspiration and the Soul

Renaud Gange (Cambridge University)
“The Sibyl and Oracular Poetry.”
Bill Gladhill (McGill University)
“Situating the Soul in Vergil’s Aeneid.”

Grant Parker (Stanford University)
“Spiritualist Philology.”

Miguel Herrero de Jáuregui (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)
“Ritual Readings of Aeneid VI: Mystics and Skeptics.”

Lunch Break (1:30-2:30)

Session Three (2:30-4:00): Literary Reincarnations

Joseph Farrell (University of Pennsylvania)
“Reading the Vergilian Underworld through Dante and Homer.”

Maggie Kilgour (McGill University)
“The Afterlife’s Afterlife.”

Phillip Hardie (Cambridge University)
“Some Early Modern Afterlives of the Virgilian Underworld” Tour of the Underground City (5:00-6:30)

Return trip to Villa (6:30)

Dinner (7:30)

VERGILIAN SOCIETY SYMPOSIA

We are now soliciting proposals from members who would like to organize a symposium on any topic that is relevant to the Society’s mission. We anticipate that most proposals will be for small scholarly meetings, but we also envision an occasional symposium with a pedagogical emphasis. Anyone who is interested in organizing a symposium is encouraged to communicate with the president, Craig Kallendorf (kalendrf@tamu.edu), or the vice president, Richard Thomas (rthomas@fas.harvard.edu), to begin the planning process. One of us will provide advice on the proposal’s academic components, and Mina Sgariglia, the director of the Villa Virgiliana, is available to answer questions about logistics.

Call for tour directors, 2015

The Vergilian Society invites applications for the direction of classical summer programs for 2015 and beyond. We are particularly interested in innovative and exploratory programs at different levels, wholly or partially held at the Villa Vergiliana at Cumae. Tours involving Campania are particularly sought after for 2015, as well as those with an emphasis on Etruria, Gaul or Greece. But prospective directors are invited to submit applications for programs that encompass any area(s) of the Greco-Roman world. The Chair of the Villa Management Committee will supply prospective directors with details regarding compensation, minimal enrollments, and shared direction. Please contact Franco Sgariglia, Chair of the Villa Management Committee, if you would like to propose a tour or discuss the possibility. CHAIR VILLA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (2012-2014): Franco Sgariglia, Administrative Director of the Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies in Rome; Via A. Algardi, 19; 00152 Roma, ITALIA; e-mail: franco.sgariglia@iccsrome.it.
Your Vergilian Society Membership includes: Vergilius; the Sortes Vergilianae (delivered electronically); opportunity to stay at the Villa as a Visiting Scholar or Vergilian Society Fellow; support for the Villa Vergiliana at Cumae, Italy; priority consideration for Vergilian Society tours; and eligibility for VS scholarships and fellowships. Contributing Members receive a 5% discount and Life Members a 10% discount when staying at the Villa as a Visiting Scholar. (Discounts are for individual members only and are not extendable to include any group brought by the members to the Villa.)

Membership Categories:

K-12 Student (all benefits except Vergilius) $10 ______    Student $18 ______
New Member $30______       Retired $35______
Regular $45______
Regular, three year option $125 ______
Supporting $60 ______
Contributing $110______
Life $750______
Institutional** $150______
* Life Benefactor indicates those who intend to will a portion of their estate to the Vergilian Society and the Villa Vergiliana. Those wishing to upgrade a current Life Membership to Life Benefactor may contact Keely Lake, Secretary.
** An Institutional Membership allows for groups from that institution (space permitting) to use the Villa for groups on overseas trips.

Please note that the society also requires that all who stay at the Villa to be at least “New Members.”

I wish to make special contributions to support:

Vergilian Society General Fund: $________   Alexander McKay Memorial Fund: $________
The Restoration of the Villa Fundraising Effort: $______
Society Scholarship Fund: $______    J. Appleton Thayer Library Fund: $______

Cookbook Offer: La Cucina Sgariglia contains recipes used at the Villa Vergiliana, with notes by Angela Lloyd, drawings by Marshal Lloyd, and edited by Susan and Hartley Scheerer.

Please send me _____ cookbooks at $11 each, totaling $______

As a convenience to our members, you may obtain the following:

American Classical League membership, including Classical Outlook, and ACL Newsletter ($55) $______
The Classical World, including membership in the Classical Association of the Atlantic States ($35) $______

Total amount enclosed $______ Please complete this form and return it with your check (made out to The Vergilian Society and payable in US currency)

Name ____________________________________________ phone (____)__________________
Address ___________________________________________ e-mail _______________________
City/State/Zip ___________________________________________________________
( ) check here if this is a new address and/or a new e-mail address
Check the appropriate box below
( ) College/University      ( ) K-12      ( ) Retired    ( ) Student ( ) Other __________________________

Thank you so very much for your on-going support of the Vergilian Society.

Keely Lake
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