

Sortes - Fall 2012

Vergilian Society President's Report, 2012

As I look back over the past twelve months, I am struck by what a good year we have had: the finances are under control again, the villa is being restored to its former glory, and our academic programs are strong.

We turned a slight profit in the last fiscal year, which is especially satisfying given the economic slow-down. In addition we have now received three of what are intended to be five very substantial checks from Mr. Harry Wilks. These contributions have rescued us from the brink of insolvency and allowed the officers to move from crisis management to the sort of long-term planning that we have been wanting to do. Our financial needs remain substantial—a point to which I shall return—but thanks to Mr. Wilks, the villa has been transformed and an important new scholarship program has been established.

First, the villa. Plans have been drawn up for both the interior and exterior renovation of the building, and substantial progress has already been made on the outside. I was able to visit this summer, at which time the roof, tower, and rear façade had been totally transformed. We were able at that time to start on the two exterior sides, and I understand that good progress is being made there as well. Pictures are available at the website (<http://www.vergil.clarku.edu/repair.html>), and I encourage you to have a look if you have not done so already. We hope to be able to get going on the front façade and the interior work soon. The situation with the lease remains unresolved, but we have significant support at the highest levels within the Italian government and our ability to do substantial renovations on the building strengthens our hand considerably. The current fiscal crisis has diverted most of the responsible authorities to more pressing matters, but we continue to make our case and will press forward more vigorously again when the opportunity allows.

The first group of Wilks scholars, a dozen high school students from Hamilton, Ohio, visited the villa this summer, and we are expecting another group in 2013. Our secondary school exchange program continues, and we have a new vice president for secondary school relations, so you should be seeing several new initiatives at this level soon. To my knowledge the Vergilian Society is unique in having a mission that extends from the schools through the university, and we intend to continue developing programs at all levels.

Our scholarly endeavors remain extensive and successful. The 2012 symposium, under the direction of Professor Pat Johnston, took place last June, and planning is well underway for the 2013 symposium on “Aeneid 6 and Its Cultural Reception,” coordinated by Prof. William Gladhill. The panel on “Teaching Vergil’s Aeneid” at the 2012 APA went very well, “Virgil’s Detractors, Grammarians, Commentators, and Biographers: The First Fifteen Hundred Years” is scheduled for the 2013 meeting, and we are now circulating a call for papers on “Vergil’s Commentaries: La Cerda to Horsfall” for 2014. The Vergilian Society continues to maintain its presence at regional classics meetings, especially at CAMWS, where we will be having a reception, business meeting, and breakfast, as usual. I would also like to draw your attention to Vergilius, which is sporting a new look and has grown substantially in size over the last couple of years.

Contents:

President’s Letter, p. 1

Reflections: Nancy Antonellis, p. 4

Reflections: Angie Bohon, p. 7

Tour Report: Roman Jordan, p. 8

Tour Report: In the Footsteps of Poets and Painters, Proletarians, and Princes, p. 9

Tours for Summer of 2013, p. 12

Tour Report: The Italy of Caesar and Vergil, p. 2

Reflections: Nathan Wade, p. 6

Reflections: Matt Lindbloom, p. 7

Membership Form, p. 13

The tours remain a central part of our mission, and we are continuing our efforts in this area. We ran four tours in summer, 2012: “Roman Jordan,” directed by Philip Stanley and George Perko; “In the Footsteps of Poets and Painters, Proletarians and Princes: Rediscovering the Bay of Naples in Greek and Roman Times,” by Ann Koloski-Ostrow and Steve Ostrow; “The Italy of Caesar and Vergil: A Workshop for Teachers,” by Steve Tuck and Amy Leonard; and “The Archaeology of Identity in Coastal Campania: How Ancient Italians and Greeks became Romans on the Bay of Naples,” by Anne Haeckl and Christopher Gregg. For 2013, we will offer four tours: “Sicily,” directed by Beverly Berg, “Vergilian Turkey,” by Andrew and Amy Goldman, “From Neapolis to Apragapolis: The Greco-Roman Bay of Naples,” by James Andrews and Randall Colaizzi, and “Vergil the Poet and Medieval Wizard: Literary Magic,” by Chris Ann Matteo and Ray Clark. Plans for the 2014 tours are underway as well, with further information forthcoming.

I have been making a special effort to strengthen our relationships with scholarly groups abroad during the past year. The Dipartimento di filologia classica Francesco Arnaldi at the Università degli studi di Napoli Federico II will be co-sponsoring our symposia starting in 2013 and working with us in other ways over the coming years. I had a good meeting with the past president of the Accademia Vergiliana in Mantua in October; they, too, will be co-sponsoring our symposia, and we are exploring other ways in which we might cooperate as well. Finally I have made contact with the British Vergilian Society, and we are beginning to discuss what we might do together.

So, this has been a good year, but it was a good year in bad times, at least economically. Unlike many scholarly organizations, we do not have a large endowment on which to rely, and the depressed interest rates have cut into our income for things like scholarships. The Wilks bequest is meeting our most pressing needs in terms of building renovations and is offering some help with funding scholarships, but we could do more if we had more, in high school programs, scholarship, and tours. Please consider a gift, at any level, from a small one-time contribution to a larger bequest (I should note that we have an excellent finance committee that is able to deal professionally with the latter).

Sincerely,
Craig Kallendorf
President

The Italy of Caesar and Vergil: A Workshop for Teachers

On this, our third tour collaboration, Steve Tuck and I led a record number of friendly, smart, and talented high school teachers to sites both old and new. Of the 24 teachers (plus one mother, one husband, and one friend), several had not traveled to Italy before, so everything was a new experience for them. Of the remaining “seasoned travelers,” the site lectures and Latin readings made the trip a very different one from what they’d experienced before. In fact, several participants began to dub Steve “the Mythbuster” for his frequent and unapologetic challenges to the popular notions of life and events in the ancient world (many of which are perpetuated in the very textbooks we use with our students): the Flavian Amphitheater was NOT built with the labor of Jewish prisoners; thermopolia did NOT serve hot food.

The workshop followed a daily pattern of morning classroom sessions followed by afternoon excursions to sites in Rome and on the Bay of Naples with additional sojourns to Lavinium and Paestum. One might assume that coming all the way to Italy to sit in a classroom for three hours each morning would be not the best use of one’s otium, but the group devoured every morsel of pedagogy material, ever eager for more. Much of this enthusiasm was fueled by the upcoming changes in the AP Latin syllabus which now includes readings from Caesar’s *Bellum Gallicum*, a work that many teachers have omitted from their curricula for the past few decades.

Classroom sessions were devoted to successful methods in teaching at the AP level, guiding students to write literal translations, developing good sight reading strategies, and composing well-organized and insightful analytical essays about the writings of Vergil and Caesar. Having two experienced AP readers in the group

added wisdom to the discussions on grading translations and essays. In addition, we broke into small reading groups to translate the new syllabus lines of both Vergil and Caesar. Finally, each day allowed for small group discussions on textbook approaches, structure of a typical class period, assessment strategies, and methods to make Caesar “enjoyable” to the modern student. Fortunately for those who were lamenting the syllabus change, there were many avid readers and teachers of Caesar in the group to act as cheerleaders for *Commentarii*.

In Rome, we enjoyed the thoroughly modernized classroom facilities at the University of Washington Rome Center. Each morning, our army of teachers would meet in front of the hotel each morning, walk around the corner, through a charming frescoed tunnel, and trek up three flights to our classroom above the *Ristorante Pancrazio nella Curia del Teatro di Pompeo*. Sound familiar? You guessed it: the very site of Caesar’s assassination. We strove for thematic integration in all aspects of the tour!

The first day in Rome was devoted to defining and building the city as narrated in Book VIII of the *Aeneid*. We retraced the footsteps of Evander and Aeneas along the Tiber, through the Forum Boarium, and to the Lupercal on the slopes of the Palatine. Each stop was accompanied by Latin readings from the *Aeneid*, as participants performed their best dactylic hexameter in the heat of the afternoon sun. Truth be told, Steve knows all the shady spots. The afternoon ended at the (sadly unairconditioned) Capitoline museums as we contextualized the Rome of Caesar in the statuary and relief carvings, culminating with the marvelously evocative *Dying Gaul*.

Days two and three in Rome focused on the Campus Martius and the Imperial Fora, locations rich with the iconography of Augustus and Julius Caesar. Readings included Jupiter’s prophecy from *Aeneid* I at the *Ara Pacis* and book VI’s lament for young Marcellus at the mausoleum of Augustus. Additionally, we toured the Palatine and Forum Romanum to experience the simple city of Romulus and the modest home of Augustus.

Each day in Rome culminated in a vibrant dining experience, though fitting all 29 of us into a restaurant at peak dinner time was a challenge to say the least! Despite close quarters, the entire group revelled in the fabulous food and friendly atmosphere of every ristorante, sharing antipasti and anecdotes, wine and weary-traveler stories. It seemed always a surprise when the bill was paid, and it was time to leave.

The departure from Rome to head south to the Villa Vergiliana was one of great excitement and anticipation for everyone. Rome is an undeniably magnificent place, but the idea of a more intimate setting (with the prospect of clean laundry!) had become quite attractive to those who had quickly tired of the hustle and bustle of the Eternal City. We worked in two important sites en route to Campania, stopping to visit the museum at Lavinium and Tiberius’ villa at Sperlonga.

Delayed by Sunday beach traffic, we arrived late in the day at the villa to the warm reception of the incomparable famiglia Sgariglia. Once everyone was settled in their rooms – and we did fill EVERY room of the villa – we shared celebratory cocktails and the first of many excellent three course meals in the dining room. What a magical place!

Classroom sessions ensued on the following morning in the villa salon, and our first afternoon jaunt was to take in the vapors at Avernus and Solfatara. We had ample opportunities to read passages about the underworld from *Aeneid* VI. Fortune was favoring us when Carlos Santillo was able to provide a personal tour of the Sibyl’s cave at Avernus. Carrying lanterns and torches, we descended into the darkness and listened to Mr. Santillo’s ominous Italian stacatto as he guided us through the halls and rooms. Most participants took the opportunity to dip their toes in the waters of the Styx.

The ensuing days on the Bay of Naples took us to Pompeii, where we were joined by some friends of the Vergilian Society and given a surprise guest lecture by Dr. Francesca Tronchin at the House of Octavius Quartio. We spent another afternoon in Naples at the National Archaeological Museum, which had sadly closed a number of rooms that were of interest to us, and the Parco Virgiliano, where we read from Tennyson’s “To Vergil” and poured a libation at the poet’s supposed tomb.

Additional highlights included a visit to the Museo Archeologico dei Campi Flegrei at Baiae, an afternoon at a beach in Misenum, a knuckle-whitening walk to the grotto of the Sibyl at Cumae, a day-trip to Paestum, and a hike up the slopes of Vesuvius on a less than clear day.

By the end, our group had bonded immensely. Many friends were made, ideas were shared, and laughs upon laughs were heard. When we weren’t reading Caesar or discussing Vergil, we were taking in the views from the villa roof or chatting in the salon. It was a pleasure to lead such a wonderful group of teachers who are now

colleagues and friends. I hope that they've been able to take their experience back to their classrooms with fresh eyes and renewed enthusiasm for teaching the new AP course.

Directors: Steve Tuck and Amy Leonard

Participants: Mike Antonellis, Nancy Antonellis, Jane Batarseh, Bill Biondolino, Angie Bohon, Alan Brown, Philip Cortese, Jim Downey, Jo Feingold, Hallie Feingold, Wanda Finney, David Fisher, Elizabeth Kann, Nancy Lacy, Sarah Landis, Svetlana Lazarova, Matt Lindbloom, Chris Meyer, Mary Mouret, Matt Petersen, Amy Sommer, Noah Stanzione, Astrid Valdivieso, Erika Valdivieso, Catherine Venturini, Nathan Wade, and Kathy Whall.



The Italy of Caesar and Vergil Summer 2012—Nancy Antonellis

I need to preface my tour reflection by saying that this summer I had the privilege of studying in this second workshop with leaders Steven Tuck and Amy Leonard. I had also joined them in the summer of 2011 when the tour was exclusively about Vergil's Italy. The following academic year I had the good fortune to win two teaching awards. And I would be remiss in not crediting the excellent workshop Steve and Amy put together. That September I hit the ground running and there wasn't a day that passed that the influence of that workshop was not evident in my classroom. Lessons shared during the workshop through collaboration with the other participants and the enthusiasm gained inspired my teaching.

Through the generous support of both the Vergilian Society and my local classical association I was able to study yet again with these two excellent educators. Steve brings his expertise to each site with an engaging narrative which sustains us despite the heat of the midday sun. Amy brings all of this learning together in a cohesive way in order for us to possess the requisite strategies to bring Latin alive in our classrooms. The ripple effect of those morning classroom sessions continues long after the workshop commences. Beginning again this September my lessons integrated the materials, collaboration, and the inspiration gleaned from another excellent teacher workshop.

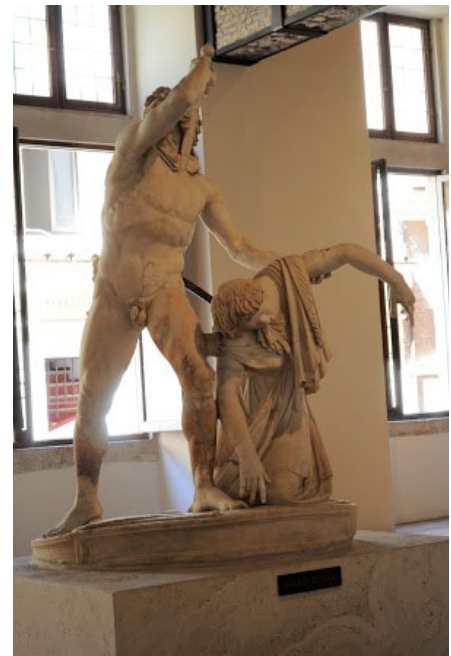
How the experience differed this summer was that our group was much larger so the sharing of materials and ideas was plentiful and varied. First year teachers and veteran teacher collaborated ways benefitting both groups. My teaching career falls somewhere in the middle as I am old enough to be a veteran although have only been teaching Latin for about seven years. So I was learning from both young and old, the young provided the 'new blood' with their tech savvy and ideas on how to bring Vergil and Caesar to the students in an engaging way, some ideas only in theory but no less thought-provoking and inspiring. The more-experienced teachers in the group who had in practice tested lessons shared their 'good, bad, and the ugly' of what they had tried in their classrooms. The humor shared in these stories bonded us in as a common experience. We so often as educators are great adventurers in the classroom in hopes that we will find the grail which will inspire our students. Sometimes we achieve those goals and at other times, well, we learn our own lesson and go back to the drawing board,

but that quality makes us good teachers.

I cannot rave enough about the materials that the workshop provided both on the website hosted by Miami University but also the book of supporting materials which Steve and Amy compiled. The book was our constant companion and a home for all our marginalia as we all took copious notes. While composing my lesson plans on Caesar this year that invaluable resource is always within arm's reach while the website that continues to be updated is only a click away. A presentation that I recently gave at the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association was built on the foundation the supporting materials compilation and the website provided.

Many of the photographs taken are now archived as I continue to build lessons around this summer's workshop. One such photograph is from when we visited the Palazzo Altemps where Steve elaborated on the statue of the dying Gaul in throes of death with his female companion. A rich resource for classroom discussion as we make connections not only with the Caesar text and how he attempts to dehumanize his enemy but how current events reflect a similar sentiment; Steve's observations about this evocative statue begs us to look at the subjects as humans in contrast to Caesar's description of Gauls. During that visit I had an 'ahah' moment as I envisioned using my image of this sculpture to stimulate a relevant class discussion making the past/present connection.

The site visits are almost too numerous to mention but what can be said quite succinctly is that each and every one will influence my lessons at some point during this academic year as many did last year. The value of visiting these sites cannot be overestimated. There is no other single experience that can parallel having a guide like Steven Tuck nor a master teacher like Amy Leonard to bring out the best in us as teachers. The day after I conducted my own workshop here in Massachusetts a participant sought me out to thank me for all I shared with the group. My presentation was called Caesar for the 21st Century, I expanded on the materials from this summer's workshop to provide teachers with even more materials as resources for lesson building. This young teacher said that he spend the rest of the evening pouring over the details of my presentation to develop a unit he would be introducing on Caesar at his high school in the coming week. He was elated to have this foundation for him to build his lessons on. This is what it is all about, this is the ripple effect we see from workshops such as this summer's The Italy of Caesar and Vergil. Although this young teacher may at some point in the future attend such an equally valuable workshop in the meantime it is our job as participants to be the messengers by throwing that first pebble and paying it forward.



As a single parent making \$36,000 a year, I never thought I would be able to go to Italy, much less participate in an educational tour. The scholarship provided by the Vergilian Society and the tour arrangements for “The Italy of Caesar and Vergil” allowed me to experience firsthand what I have been teaching my students over the last 15 years. Literally each day we walked in places I had discussed from my limited book knowledge. As we walked among sites, I was able to connect locations with translations in my textbooks that I teach every year. I now know what it takes to walk up the Palatine Hill, how far the Colosseum is from the Circus Maximus, why the Capitoline was the refuge from the invading Gauls.

Part of my reason for going on this trip was to get useful strategies for teaching the new AP Latin syllabus. The classroom sessions gave me the material I needed to rework my old syllabus into the new one. Furthermore, discussions in the class opened up an idea for reading Caesar and Vergil in tandem, rather than all of one followed by all of the other. This method has prompted great discussions and comparisons in my Latin IV class already this year. Even something as simple as different nuances of the same vocabulary word are apparent using this method, which I would never have tried on my own.

I also hoped to find material for a new unit in my Latin III classes, something I was calling “A Tour of Roman Italy.” My plan was to fill short videos of the places we visited, hoping to integrate it with readings from Roman authors later. My best guess was that I could take material from Pompeii and Herculaneum and combine it with readings from Pliny the Elder. Not only did I get great video segments from Pompeii and Herculaneum, I also got the opportunity to climb on Vesuvius itself, visit volcanic craters at Solfatara, and climb around in caves near Lake Avernus. I walked the Forum of Cicero, saw the Rostra, and visited the house of the Vestal Virgins. I visited the remains of Aeneas’s tomb as well as Vergil’s very public one. And, thanks to the classroom sessions, not only did I bring home the 75 video segments I shot, but I also returned with a handbook full of already pulled and correlated readings from ancient Romans. In the next few weeks, my Latin III students will begin to walk vicariously where I walked this summer.

The benefits of this program for me were priceless. I am able to confirm even tiny tidbits in the Latin I class because I have actually been to Rome. All levels of my classes will benefit this year and for many years to come.



Every day was an amazing experience, so I am going to highlight just one to capture the essence of the tour:

Even on last full day of the tour, our 29 participants were still going strong both physically and mentally. At the sound of the villa’s gong, we all reported downstairs for a family style breakfast before heading to our final classroom session. Through our various classroom sessions, we had worked through most of the new material, discussed ways to handle the Latin and English of the curriculum, written AP style multiple choice and spot questions, discussed ways to handle and grade translations, and gained a myriad of resources. Once the classroom session ended, we grabbed a quick delectable lunch before departing for our sites.

Today’s focus was Hercules and Vulcan, so Vesuvius was a natural first destination. The bus wound its way up as far as it could take us – mirabile visu! – from which point we hiked to the outer rim. This part of the journey was not for the fainthearted, as the trek was quite steep and at incredible heights. However, once we all reached the top, we were able to enjoy the view of the caldera, the coastline, and even a distant Pompeii. As at all of our sites, we paused to read and discuss a few Latin passages that related to our topic of the day and the site. Then we headed back down at a moderate pace, stopping along the way to buy some souvenirs and refreshments.

Our next destination was Herculaneum, a place that should be on every Classicists’ list. We saw many of the same things you would see in Pompeii – a bathhouse, homes, apartments, shops, mosaics, frescoes, graffiti, fountains, streets, etc. – but in a matter of a couple of hours as opposed to the full day or days at Pompeii. We practically had the city to ourselves, so we were free to wander the streets more leisurely and enjoy ourselves.

After leaving Herculaneum, we headed back to the villa. After a quick shower, I took one last opportunity to explore the villa’s surroundings – complete with a Flavian amphitheater - before a last amazing dinner complete with toasts to our extraordinary hosts and tour directors. After dessert we headed upstairs for a “5 minute meeting”. Unlike the other nights, there was no voluntary Latin reading after dinner, but instead we relaxed outside and enjoyed our surroundings and the company of our new friends.



Reflections -- Matt Lindbloom

I can say without any hesitation that the program I attended this summer, The Italy of Caesar and Vergil, was one of the most rewarding, fascinating, and downright fun experiences of my life. It was the first time I had ever been to Europe, and the opportunity to stay in the heart of Rome and the Vergilian Society’s villa in Cumae was magnificent. There was even an ongoing excavation of an ancient Roman amphitheater taking place just feet away from our cozy confines in the lovely villa! Our guides were full of knowledge and zeal. Moreover, I met some really amazing, cool Latin teachers on this trip, truly people with whom I will remain friends for life. I cannot thank the Vergilian Society enough for affording me this opportunity. It is one I will never forget, nor one for which I will ever cease to be grateful. I wholeheartedly recommend this program, and would love to partake of a similar program in the (hopefully near) future!

Roman Jordan: July 7-18, 2012

There were twenty participants on this program which explored primarily Jordan during the Roman period. Jordan has always been a bridge between sea and desert and East and West with its mesmerizing landscape of beauty and contrast: from the mountains around Amman to the Dead Sea below sea level, to the Wadi Rum desert. The highlight of the program was our day at Petra. After entering through the narrow pass, the ancient city gradually unfolded, revealing this mysterious Rose Red City with spectacular treasures, tombs carved from the living rock and surrounding the city below which is slowly being uncovered to reveal the ingenious nature of this desert city with water works of fountains, artificial waterfalls, and large pools of water.

Next in importance was our visit to Jerash, one of the Decapolis mentioned by Pliny. The Roman colonnaded streets led us past the remains of ancient shops to theaters and temples. We attended a program featuring Roman Legionaries, gladiators, and a chariot race in the Hippodrome. Of course, no visit to Jordan would be complete without a journey to the Dead Sea and to Mt. Nebo, where Moses reportedly looked into the Promised Land before dying. We visited the Wadi Rum desert where Lawrence of Arabia stayed and the movie was filmed. We sat in a Bedouin tent sipping tea as our guide told us about the desert. The program ultimately arrived in Aqaba on the Red Sea, where you can view four countries: Jordan, Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. This was a memorable journey through one of Rome's wealthy eastern provinces.

Directors: Phillip V Stanley, Professor Emeritus, and George Perko

Participants: Names of individuals: Page Warren, Kirsten Whitaker, Ken Davenport, Gerry Williams, Muriel Garcia, Susan Brockman, Rosina Khan, Leigh Gilman, Tracy Miller, Lee Behnke, Cheryl Ware, Mary Jo Behrensmeyer, Rebecca Mull, John Hiykel, Michael Behnke, Marianthe Colakis, Veronique and Anthony Whalen, Ed Lowry, Paula Chabot

Villa Repairs Continue!

Before



After



In the Footsteps of Poets and Painters, Proletarians and Princes:
Rediscovering the Bay of Naples in Greek and Roman Times -- July 2-14, 2012

July 2012 found Italy subject to repeated stresses from on-going financial crisis and the international economic climate, but for those of us fortunate enough to share in our Campanian grand tour based at the Villa Vergiliana at Cumae the climate was gentle (if a bit on the warm side) and ever inviting. After a hiatus of two summer seasons, we were happily back to the Phlegraean Fields and the greater Bay of Naples area with a hardy crew of intrepid travelers -- modest in numbers, but of bountiful energy, curiosity, and good cheer.

In our search after "Poets and Painters, Proletarians and Princes," we trudged and we climbed and we strolled, we boated and we bussed, we lounged about (but only a very little bit) and we swam -- and we all ended up much the richer for our adventures in Campania, both ancient and modern.

The wonders of the region are, of course, far too numerous to be grasped fully even in a two-week season of intense daily exploration. Highlights included the archaeological sites themselves, and many a museum, but also the marvels of Mother Nature -- some of them stark, eerie, even downright scary (the fumes and the stench of the Solfatara at Pozzuoli, or the slopes and lava flows along Vesuvius, the stillness of Avernus: volcanoes all!), but others of a breathtaking beauty, from the limestone cliffs and deep blue sea of Capri, to the almost Tuscan hillsides around Saepinum, to the balmy waves against Sperlonga's beach.

Most sites that we visited were familiar, though some offered a new twist, reflecting recent progress in excavation and, often, preservation. Our very first morning at Cumae showed us one such sign. In the topmost temple of the acropolis ("Jupiter's," subsequently transformed into a church) we found a vigorous team of half a dozen young archaeologists (from Naples' "Federico II" University), both professionals and their students, making soundings and carefully recording the results in an effort to arrive at a more refined stratigraphic history of the building than has been available before now. One of their number was even designated as an on-the-spot "liaison to the public," and offered in English a clear introduction to the temple site as a whole, as well as to their current work. We were suitably impressed, and well informed, by this innovation. And at Pompeii, we were happy to revisit the provocative and amusing erotic frescoes in the "Suburban Baths" (part of the site's more recent excavation history) -- and to note that careful preservation efforts there seem to be holding up well over these past several years (which cannot be said for all such monuments either at Pompeii or elsewhere). At the possibly "Imperial" villa of "Oplontis" (at Torre Annunziata), we noted yet further careful efforts at keeping intact and on vivid display the eye-popping frescoes revealed over recent decades, as well as the expansive architecture of the building as a whole, and the distinctive evidence of its original garden plantings. (If the family of a Roman "Prince" [Nero remains a good guess] may have been in possession of the villa here, then we may note the presence too, in the modern town, of a remarkably hospitable "Proletarian": a good-humored local bar lady who made a gift to us of the "world's largest lemon" -- or was it, in fact, a citron?)

Also at Pompeii, we were accorded our now traditional special permissions to visit houses closed to the general public, thanks to the graciousness of the Naples/Pompeii Antiquities Department. And so we were able to marvel at the "high-rise" residential block of Marcus Fabius Rufus; the "megalographia" of nearly life-size animal frescoes in the garden of the House of Marcus Lucretius Fronto that took us on a virtual African safari (as well as the series of exquisitely preserved miniature paintings in the same house, like the famous one of Venus and Mars); and the magnificent columned atrium of the House of the Silver Wedding that lent such luster to the image of the gentry who resided here.

At the tail-end of our wanderings, the immense water cistern known as the "Piscina Mirabile" (which served the needs of the Roman naval headquarters stationed at Misenum) also showed painstaking efforts to keep the archaeological treasures of the region sound and stable: in the heat of the day, workmen labored atop its roof with shovels and cement -- and threatened at first "no entry" for us, until gentle persuasion prevailed, and we descended into the depths of this "underground basilica" (as Naples archaeologist Amedeo Maiuri once dubbed it). Yet another happy result of cleaning and preservation programs is the Arch of Trajan at Benevento, where the relief sculptures that celebrate the emperor's multiple virtues and cover entirely the structure's inner and outer faces, refurbished not many years ago, remain still vividly legible, even in the blazing sunshine of a Sunday at high noon. (Of course, the emperor had to compete for our Vergilian companions' attention, on the

Sunday of our visit, with several wedding celebrations being performed in various churches of Benevento's main street.)

Other sites too deserve at least brief mention here, whether they attracted our admiration for their scale, their refined decoration, the extent to which they are preserved, the ingenuity with which they were built (or their building materials were devised, or quarried and hauled to the site) -- or any and all of these together. Taken as a whole, these places enhanced our appreciation for the innumerable persons of ancient Campania, drawn from the most varied ethnic and national backgrounds and every degree of social, political, and economic status, who lived and labored and fought; who sang on stage and bathed and entertained themselves; and of course who died deaths that were heroic or shabby or merely non-descript, whether among throngs of others or in quiet solitude. Thus we greeted the Roman settlers at Saepinum of the Augustan age -- and their Samnite predecessors at this site of age-old transhumance for the cattle and sheep of central Apennine Italy. (New to us at Saepinum was the very small but well designed antiquarium devoted to Roman artillery, with reconstructions of a catapult among other attractions.) And we envied for a moment the more prosperous residents of Herculaneum, who jostled one another for prime real estate at the southern edge of town to enjoy the best panoramic views out over the sea.

Still other special places: On our very first day of travels, at Terracina, we shivered at the memory of "primitive" Volscians warring nearby against the Romans (and we forecast similar struggles for Greeks and Romans against other Apennine "barbarians": Samnites and Lucanians deeper inland and further to the south). We moved among the proud citizens of Greek colonial Poseidonia (Roman Paestum) who called attention to themselves with their proud series of Doric temples, of colossal size and striking architectural refinement -- and also among their Lucanian and Roman successors (who continued to prize the temples, even as the Romans at least apparently obliterated architectural signs of the prior Greek way of "doing politics"). We conjured up the gladiators and spectators and slaves (and oh so many doomed exotic beasts) who filled the amphitheaters at Pozzuoli (Roman Puteoli) and Capua with their taunts and their cheers -- and their blood, sweat, and tears. (And surely like some of those Puteolans, we gnashed our teeth a bit -- in our case, at finding the "no entry" sign posted at the local arena: "lack of security personnel.") We mourned the victims of Vesuvius as we tracked up to the volcano's summit and then read aloud Pliny's eyewitness account of the deadly eruption. We savored tales of Emperor Tiberius' naughtiness on the isle of Capri, and of his self-indulgence at Sperlonga -- and relished too the story of Nero doing in his poor mom Agrippina off (and then on!) the very shores of Baiae. Very near to Baiae we were happy to visit the museum in the Castello di Bacoli, even as we were disappointed to find off-limits its original, ingeniously designed exhibitions of the Augustales sanctuary at Misenum and of the luxurious Baian Nymphaeum (with its Odyssean Cyclops sculptures, recovered from beneath the waters stretching out from the local harbor). In compensation, we enjoyed the superb displays devoted, first, to the last two decades worth of stunning archaeological finds from Pozzuoli's Rione Terra; and second, to the incomparably rich history of Cumae itself, from its very foundation, up into the medieval period. And needless to say, on what was a brilliantly sun-filled, blue-sky, final full day of our program, we luxuriated in the sweeping panoramic views from the Castle's upper terraces out over all the promontory of Misenum, as well as the entirety of Naples Bay itself: a fitting visual review of nearly all our previous two weeks' itinerary. It is understatement to say that our encounters with the ancients and the places where they lived were not only very numerous, but very memorable.

But we should not neglect our other encounters too -- with both the early modern and the contemporary denizens of Naples and its region. We enjoyed a splendid day in the Big City itself, where we visited first the "greatest archaeological museum" in the world (the National Museum of Archaeology) with its treasures of every kind -- above all, the monumental series of frescoes from the sites of Pompeii, Herculaneum, Stabiae, and their neighbors, and the truly stupendous statuary brought from the Farnese holdings in Rome (where much of it had once decorated the huge interior spaces of the Baths of Caracalla). We wandered then very pleasantly through the heart of town, through the Prince of Naples Gallery, into Piazza Dante with its book and music stalls, to Piazza Bellini (to salute remnants of the city's Greek fortification wall scratched with many a mason's mark, and the historic Conservatory of Music, where the courtyard is dominated by the giant statue of a brooding Beethoven). And then a minor but welcome lunchtime novelty: Instead of our customary in-Naples "Villa picnic bag," we treated ourselves to a pizza lunch at "Sorbillo's" in the Via dei Tribunali -- or rather, at one of the three Sorbillo's

there, all lined up side-by-side with one another, and each vying jealously for the trade of passers-by in what we soon learned is an instance of aggressive, none-too-friendly, none-too-polite, all-in-the-family competitiveness; it turns out that the founder (Luigi, 1935) had twenty-one children, and they nearly all stayed in the pizza business, with their own offspring and other kin. (We ate at Via dei Tribunali, #38 -- but # 32 and #35 are also options: buon appetito!) After lunch we visited also the San Severo Chapel, and the churches of Santa Chiara and the Gesù Nuovo, our visits punctuated by pauses for shopping and excellent ice cream at the “Gay-Odin” shop.

Other charms of the more recent past included two of the several palaces to which monarchs (especially Charles III) of the Neapolitan line of the Bourbon royal family treated themselves: the great Reggia at Caserta (one of the very largest buildings in all Europe, containing over a thousand rooms), with its gardens spreading over hundreds of acres; and the Capodimonte Palace, set in its majestic public park just beyond the center of Naples, which houses a rich collection of medieval, Renaissance, and later paintings from Italy and all of Europe (by masters like Raphael, Titian, and Caravaggio).

But easily the most special “modern charm” of all is the Villa Vergiliana itself -- and above all, its resident Sgariglia-Pesce family (Maria Pesce and her husband Biagio Sgariglia, their daughter Mina, with others in their family and several staff members), who for a full half century now have presided expertly and with loving care over all aspects of the Villa’s life, from maintenance of its structure and decor and furnishings, to the uniquely warm hospitality that we have long cherished simply as “life at the Villa.” Happy topical news at the Villa during our “Poets and Painters” season included the presence for several days of Vergilian Society President Craig Kallendorf, whose companionship at several of our meals was much appreciated by us all. Long needed major structural reinforcement work on the building has continued to proceed apace since early springtime of 2012, and the results are looking altogether impressive, with the roof and rear facade now complete, as well as installation of some exterior lighting. This milestone in the Vergilian Society’s relationship with the Villa has been made possible through the generosity of Mr. Harry Wilks, a self-made Ohio attorney with a remarkable sense of enlightened philanthropic dedication. To all these persons, and to our devoted band of ten high-spirited, warm-hearted “Poets and Painters...” comrades, we are very grateful for enabling us to enjoy so thoroughly this latest round of archaeological -- and human -- discovery along the Bay of Naples.

Directors: Ann O. Koloski-Ostrow and Steven E. Ostrow

Participants: Mary M. Coughlan, Gina DePaoli, Deena B. Horowitz, Ryan Johnson, Morgan Manley, Christine Mirabito, Nancy Picardi, Mary Quirk, Nancy Ridill, Cynthia L. Yee



Vergilian Turkey Trip

June 28 - July 13, 2013

Directors: Andrew L. Goldman and Amy E. Goldman

We will visit sites linked to major and minor gods and mythological characters, discussing both the physical remains at the sites and the literary texts that inform our understanding of their associated myths and rituals. Participants will begin the journey in the city of Antalya on the southern Turkish coast, with visits to nearby Perge and the Antalya Museum. After excursions to Olympos, the mysterious flames of the Chimera and the sanctuary of Leto near Xanthos, the group will then continue on to Fethiye to enjoy a day touring the Lycian coast by boat. Turning inland, we will then visit Hierapolis, Aphrodisias, and Nysa. The tour will then head southwards to ancient Halicarnassus and embark on a ferry trip to Knidos. We will then spend several days visiting major sites along the western coast of Turkey, including Didyma, Priene, Ephesus, Claros, Pergamum, Assos, Tenedos, and Alexander Troas. After a day exploring ancient Troy and discussing the events of the Homeric conflict, the group will cross the Hellespont via ferry and proceed to Istanbul. The trip will end with a day in modern Istanbul, where we will tour the major ancient monuments, visit the famous Archaeology Museum, and get a taste of modern Turkish life.

Price: \$2,575; Single supplement: \$425

The Italy of Caesar and Vergil: A Workshop for Teachers

July 2-13, 2013

Directors: Anne Haeckl and Amy Leonard

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, Herculaneum and Vesuvius.

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, 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

Sign up at <http://www.vergil.clarku.edu/cumae.htm>

Vergilian Society - Societas Vergiliana -- Annual Membership Renewal
October 1, 2012 - September 30, 2013

Your Vergilian Society Membership includes: Vergilius; the Sortes Vergiliana (delivered electronically unless otherwise specified); opportunity to stay at the Villa as a Visiting Scholar or Vergilian Society Fellow; support for the Harry Wilks Study Center at 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 _____ High School Exchange student \$50 _____
New Member \$30 _____ Student \$18 _____
Retired \$35 _____ Institutional** \$150 _____
Regular \$45 _____
Regular, requiring overseas mailing (outside U.S.) \$50 _____
Regular, three year option \$125 _____ (this allows you to sign up as a Regular Member for 3 years at a time)
Supporting \$60 _____ Supporting, three year option \$170 _____
Contributing \$110 _____ Contributing, three year option \$330 _____
Life \$750 _____ Life Benefactor* \$1500 _____

* 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 Schearer.

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 (email) address
Check the appropriate box below
() College/University () K-12
() Retired () Student () Other _____

Thank you so very much for your love of Vergil, of the Villa Vergiliana, and your on-going support of the Vergilian Society.

The Vergilian Society E-mail: vergsoc@yahoo.com

Keely Lake

101 N. University Ave.
Beaver Dam, WI 53916