

Sortes ~ Winter 2015

December 1, 2015

Dear members of the Vergilian Society,

As I near the end of my second year as President of the Vergilian Society I reflect both on the challenges with which we have been confronted in the past year, and also on the progress and sense of cooperation that is evident in the work and contributions made by a number of people in the Society. I want to express my gratitude to members of the Board who have given freely and generously of their time; we are fortunate to have such committed officers, particularly at a somewhat challenging time.

At our 2014 Board meeting, the Treasurer reported a substantial operating loss. In my letter last year I accordingly began “I feel less cheerful about the current financial situation”, with details that justified that sense. I am pleased to report that there are grounds for mild optimism. Although we had to cancel and issue refunds for our scheduled tour to Tunisia, the tours we did mount did reasonably well, while the summer’s Symposium Cumanum on “Virgil and Roman Religion” was a great success intellectually, and also helped financially. At this year’s Board meeting the Treasurer noted modest yet real improvement in our financial situation:

The Society recorded a net operating loss of \$2,089 for the year, compared to the previous year’s net operating loss of \$23,513. The budget for the year had projected a net loss of \$43,725, so actual results were \$41,636 better than expected. A big factor in this improvement was the strong U.S. dollar.

We have also instituted changes that should allow us to carry out our programs at the Harry Wilks Study Center in the Villa. Mina Sgariglia agreed to a changed financial sharing plan between the Society and the Villa that will allow us to continue our programs there, and to continue this vital part of the Society’s activities. There is work to do, but I believe that we are on our way to securing the future health of the Society.

Steve Tuck has worked creatively and energetically to produce an exciting program of tours for next year (<http://www.vergiliansociety.org/tours/2016-2017-tours/>). And we have initiated a new fall Symposium Campanum, “on any aspect of the history, archaeology, art and architecture, and geology of Italy and Sicily from the remotest antiquity to the Renaissance.” The first of these, on “The Alternative Augustan Age” will take place next October. We are also working hard to increase occupancy in the Villa. We are already seeing progress here. Interested group leaders should contact Mina Sgariglia at minasgariglia@gmail.com. Finally, Christine Perkell continues to edit and oversee production of Vergilius, which goes from strength to strength and is clearly attracting submissions of the highest caliber.

In spite of all this progress, we need your help. I am writing now to ask for your financial support in our Annual Appeal. Your generous gift is critical to the continuation of the present programs and initiatives that you value. Please consider a donation to the Society. Taxdeductible contributions may be sent to the Secretary of the Society. Online donations can be made under “Special Contributions” on the Society’s website at <http://www.vergiliansociety.org/memberships-and-donations/>. Your annual gifts have a huge and direct impact on all the vital work of the Society, particularly in the funding of scholarships, upkeep of the Villa, publishing of Vergilius, strengthening the McKay Book Prize, and the Translation Prize and providing support of general operations. Please join me in donating what you can to ensure that our work continues. Thank you!

Richard F. Thomas
President, Vergilian Society
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Vergilian Society Scholarship Report
By David Bonagura

In the midst of my first year at a new high school school, with its exceptional students and intensive AP level Latin program, I knew I had to do something in the coming summer to elevate my level of teaching. As I came across the Vergilian Society's list of Summer 2015 tours, one title jumped at me immediately: Caesar and Vergil in Italy: A Study Tour for Teachers. I read the program description: classroom sessions tailored to the AP Exam, and tours of major archaeology sites in Rome and Campania, all tied to Vergil and Caesar. This seemed like exactly what I was looking for, but it would only be possible with a Society scholarship and with help from my school on the airfare. As if the Fates commanded it, both came through, and I headed off for Italy for my first time since I began teaching Latin twelve years ago.

I arrived on July 12 at the Center for Intercollegiate Studies on the Janiculum Hill. The other twelve Latin teachers all introduced themselves, who came from all over the country: California, Nevada, New Jersey, Arizona, New York, Indiana, New Hampshire. Our first session, an overview of the purpose and intricacies of the Latin AP Exam, was led by Amy Leonard, an experienced AP teacher from Georgia and an AP reader for several years. With that firsthand intimate knowledge, Amy deftly guided the opening day's discussion, along with seven more over the course of the 11 day program. Under her tutelage, we covered every aspect of the Exam and of the AP Latin Course—multiple choice questions, translations, short answers, the essay, preparing the syllabus, pacing the course—with thoroughness and zeal. Our thoughtful group was constantly asking questions and selflessly sharing best practices with each other. Amy created a "Dropbox" file through which she shared scores of electronic files for all of us to take home with us to our offices and classrooms.

The typical routine for the 11 day tour consisted of this two and half hour classroom session with Amy, then lunch, and then we went out into the ancient world under the leadership of our other co-director, Dr. Steve Tuck. To call Steve an encyclopedia of knowledge of all things Roman would not do justice to the incredible tour he led. He knew every site, every street, every monument, and every piece of art in a half dozen museums like he knew the back of his hand. From start to finish, he led a tour to remember.

We spent three days in Rome, beginning at the old Forum Boarum and the Theater of Marcellus, and we continued to the Capitoline, the Pantheon, the Palatine, the Roman Forum, and the triumphal procession route. Since Caesar and Vergil were the themes of the tour, we focused on the sites that dealt with them in some way. Amy and Steve put together a 300 page book with maps and readings from Caesar and Vergil that we read together at nearly every location. For example, we read Jupiter's promise to Venus about the future destiny of the Romans as we stood before the bronze Capitoline Wolf, and we read from the Gallic Wars as we stood by the Forum Iulium.

After traversing through blazing hot Rome without so much as a complaint, we then headed south to the Villa Vergiliana in Bacoli, where the beautiful views and the exceedingly generous Villa staff were our home and extended family for a week. From the Villa we hit so many of the great sites and museums in Campania: the brilliantly preserved coliseum in Puteoli, Lake Avernus and the Cave of the Sibyl, Pompeii, Herculaneum, Paestum, Baiae, Cumae, and the tomb of Vergil in Naples. As had been the routine in Rome, our visit to each site was infinitely enriched by Steve's knowledgeable commentary and by readings tailored to each site. To read Vergil's description of Aeneas' entrances into the Cave of the Sibyl and into the Underworld at those very spots, to read homages to Vergil in his own tomb, to read Caesar's description of Gallic funerals before the body casts in Pompeii—all these were terrific experiences that I will share with my students for years to come as we encounter these same passages in class.

I wish to thank the Vergilian Society for its generosity to me and, indirectly, to my students. There is no place like Rome—and Campania—and the Society knows better than anyone how to bring the ancient world to life.



Vergilian Society Trip Summer 2015

Our group met at the Hotel Monteverdi on June 26. We gathered to meet Dr. John Wonder and his wife Bridget. There were fourteen of us: a few undergraduates, some graduate students, some Latin teachers of various ages, and a retired couple. This group of Vergilian scholars turned out to be one of the most pleasant, mature, responsible groups with whom I have ever traveled.

Highlights of our trip included the sailing journeys to Capri and Ischia. On Capri we toured the villa of Tiberius on the cliff. Many of us marveled at the steep narrow ascent and wondered about the slaves who carried the necessary goods up the hill.

On Ischia we went to the museum and examined pottery from the Etruscan periods. It was very helpful to have toured the tombs of Tarquinia and then see museum exhibits to help develop our understanding. Touring the tombs of the Etruscans made the very early Roman occupiers seem very personal.

My favorite site of the whole tour, beside the boat trips, was the Ara Pacis museum. To see the whole altar restored in a safe, light place was a breathtaking experience. The facility was large, airconditioned, and accessible. Explanations of the sculptures and reliefs of the altar were easy to access. This museum remains a highlight of my tour which I would recommend to anyone traveling in Rome.

I am very grateful to the Vergilian Society for their financial support. I will redouble my efforts to inspire my students to continue their studies of the Classics.

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On July 12th thirteen Latin teachers (public, private, charter) from around the country met each other and their tour leaders, Amy Leonard, (Latin teacher and AP grader) and Dr. Stephen Tuck (Roman archaeologist and AP grader) at the Centro in Rome to start our study tour, "Caesar and Vergil in Italy: a Study Tour for Teachers."

It was clear that we were dealing with seasoned tour leaders when we were promised a coffee break at the local bar and then were presented with a neatly bound book of tour materials and a full Dropbox folder rather than a messy clutch of handouts. Our itinerary promised engaging discussions on topics and informative visits to locations and places dear to our Latin teaching hearts. The first session, fortified by the promised espresso break, revealed the invaluable component to this program: the chance to talk with fellow teachers about what we do and what we can do. The advice of my fellow teachers has always been my most important and helpful resource. Amy did a great job putting together the Dropbox as well as the classroom sessions. She clearly thought about what would be most beneficial for us and it showed in the reaction of the teachers to her sessions; we wanted more!

That afternoon, after a generous lunch, we took the 44 bus down the hill and into the city. It was here Steve revealed himself to be a personable, humorous, and thoroughly knowledgeable guide. There seemed to be nothing he did not know and no question he could not answer (I know. I asked a lot of questions). We started with Evander and Aeneas, walking by the temples of the Forum Boarium and the mystery of San Omobono. We read excerpts from Book VII, reliving the experience of Aeneas as Evander shows him the future of Rome. The afternoon ended in the cool confines of the Capitoline Museum. Augustus and Caesar eyed each other, the Gaul died, and we peered at the cup of Mythrades. Our day ended with a truly wonderful dinner near the Centro. We dined on an abundance of amatriciana, suppli, carbonara, tomatoes that tasted like something, and good bread.

The next day started with breakfast downstairs in the Centro dining room. They made scrambled eggs for the Americans. Our classroom session covered translation, a key component of the AP exam. I've already given students a mini-lesson based on that session (translate literally, students!). After lunch, we piled into minivans for an adventurous ride to the Campus Martius for a visit to the Ara Pacis, the Mausoleum of Augustus, and finally, the Pantheon. The convenience of the trip materials book revealed itself again and again as we could all easily find the page to read the Latin as we stood under the portrait of Augustus on the Ara Pacis or "glided" past his Mausoleum, as Anchises says the Tiber will.

Tuesday started early. We had no classroom session that day so we could tackle the Palatine, the Forum, Palazzo Massimo, and the Imperial Fora (phew!). The day was hot but we were game (and Steve knew all the water stops). We saw a column that marked the spot where Remus jumped over the walls of Romulus. We looked at the Danaids as we read in Vergil of their crimes inscribed on the baldrac of Pallas. We peeked into the Laci Curia and saw the Lacus Iuturnae. Steve pointed out a simple game board scratched into the steps of the Basilica Iulia and naturally we visited the site of Caesar's cremation. After lunch, we headed over to the blessedly calm and sparsely populated Palazzo Massimo. The Garden Villa of Livia alone is worth the price of admission. We returned to the Imperial Fora and Steve pointed out a suitably gory scene perfect for students on the Column of Trajan (soldiers are presenting Trajan with the heads of slain Dacian leaders).

The next day we left the Centro and headed south to our new home base at the Villa Vergiliana. Along the way, we stopped at Lavinium to visit the Tomb of Aeneas. We poured offerings for him. Then we stopped at Sperlonga to see the Grotto of Tiberius and read the scenes from the Aeneid depicted in the sculpture groups. I wish I could replicate for my students the opportunity to read selections of Vergil in situ (they must go on their own Vergilian tours!). Finally, we arrived at the villa and were warmly greeted by Mina and staff. How many places can boast an amphitheater in their backyard? Dinner that night confirmed that we would have a filling and enjoyable stay.

We resumed classroom sessions in the morning after a hearty breakfast (also with eggs). We practiced writing questions and built a database of our own to use during the school year. After lunch, we then headed out on one of the coolest ventures of the trip, to the entrance to the Underworld. I have already had the opportunity to tell my students that one can visit the entrance to the underworld in southern Italy (and that the entrance is owned by a local). Their minds were blown. The experience was suitably eerie. The heat of the day disappeared as we walked under a cover of foliage. It got cooler and cooler as we approached the entrance. Alas, we could not go in but feeling that cool rush of air was experience enough. I can't wait to read Book VI with my AP students after

this visit! The trip to Solfatara capped the day as we inhaled the sulfur and heard the hiss of steam just as Aeneas might have when he visited Lake Avernus.

Friday started with another classroom session. Like all the classroom sessions, this one was focused, and helpful. We discussed the importance of multiple-choice questions and how to help students succeed on this section of the AP exam. After lunch, we headed to Herculaneum, and Mt. Vesuvius, still active. The hike to the top was not easy (too much shifting gravel underfoot!) but well worth it for the views.

Saturday started early. We were skipping the classroom sessions in favor of a full day at Pompeii. Prior to this trip, I had had mixed feeling about Pompeii. I appreciated it for what it could tell us and our students about the Romans, but I had found the site difficult to visit in person. It's big, crowded, crumbling, and in the summer, hot, hot, hot! Steve, however, really made Pompeii come alive and I gained a new appreciation for this site. We saw evidence of the force of the pyroclastic flow in a roof tile, marveled over a swimming pool without any plumbing (imagine filling it every day!), learned about the mysteries of the triangular forum, rejoiced to see the House of Caecilius (a bonus for those of us teaching out of the Cambridge Latin series), and ended with a lively discussion of the famous friezes in the Villa of the Mysteries. Pompeii came back to life for me on that trip.

Sunday started with a daunting task: we had to answer an AP exam essay question! While I admit I balked at first, this one of the most helpful tasks of the workshop. It really put me in the mindset of my students as they approach this task. I struggled with how to teach the essay section last year. Amy's assignment of writing our own essay really helped me understand what the essay requires and now I can better help my students in the future. The afternoon tempted us with a beach visit. I must confess, we were a little distracted during our visits to Baiae and Misenum; we only had eyes and ears for the beach. The visit proved to be restorative and relaxing and a little harrowing (some of us swam out to a group and caves. We endured scrapes and cuts but they were worth it!).

Monday started with a topic near and dear to any Latin teacher's heart: vocabulary! We all deal with how to teach vocabulary and hold students accountable for maintaining a good Latin vocabulary. We shared many tips, resources, and strategies for vocabulary. The classroom sessions again proved to be incredibly helpful. In the afternoon we headed out to the National Archaeological Museum in Naples. Some rooms were closed, some were opened, some opened later, but we saw depictions of Gauls, the Villa of the Papyri bronzes, and saw how Vergil's Aeneid filtered down into wall paintings. I also reacquainted myself with one of my favorite myths to share with the students: the story of Achilles on the island of Skyros. After the museum and a long bus ride (Naples has more than one Parco Vergiliano!) we came to the Tomb of Vergil. We read Tennyson's poem (I fully intend to steal this after we finish reading the Aeneid in my AP class) and offered Vergil an offering in thanks for many things.

Tuesday saw us bereft of our beloved classroom sessions but eager for a visit to Paestum (and, I must admit, a long, air-conditioned bus ride). We walked among the massive temples and viewed things small (a perfume press) and large (political structures). I was glad to come to Paestum. Now I can help my students understand who had come to Italy hundreds of years before Vergil wrote the Aeneid. Steve was insistent on a gelato break and we happily took part. Then it was off to the museum to see how Greek culture mingled and mixed with Italic culture. We were given time for souvenir shopping and it was back on the air-conditioned bus for a nice ride back to the villa.

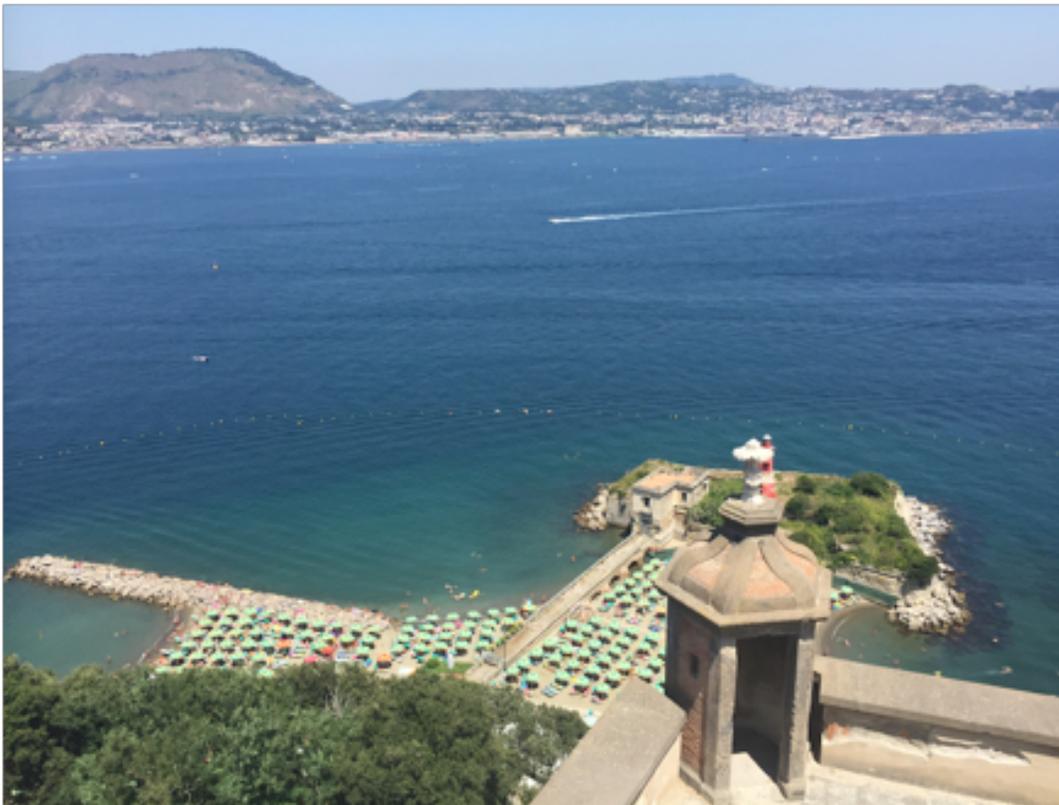
On Wednesday we started with our final classroom session. We all thanked Amy for running such helpful and informative sessions. In the afternoon, we climbed the acropolis of Cumae to visit the Temples of Apollo and Jupiter. We learned that Juno perhaps did have a legitimate complaint about the lack of suppliants since Apollo had claimed what had once been her temple and oracle. We ended with a visit to the grotto of the Sybil and read about Aeneas doing the same. It was a great way to end the trip and an experience I can duplicate in part with my students. Mournful, we headed back to the villa to start packing. Our study tour was over. We knew, however, that we would soon be able to relive our experiences again with our students.

I would like to thank the Vergilian Society for not only supporting such a fantastic study tour but also for granting me a scholarship to cover the majority of the cost. Thanks to the Vergilian Society scholarship (and a travel grant from CAAS), I was able to purchase items (posters, books, sticker books, a lamp) for my classroom without worrying about additional expenses. I hope these items will help generate student excitement and interest.

st. I think they will especially like the stickers.

When I first learned about this trip I knew it would be a great experience. The combination of classroom sessions led by Amy Leonard with other Latin teachers and site visits led Dr. Stephen Tuck made for a truly engaging and beneficial experience. I hope this will come across to my students this year and beyond. I thank the Vergilian Society again for their generosity.

By Lucinda Jaffe



Caesar and Vergil in Italy: A Study Tour for Teachers

By Eleanor Stuart

I heard about the Vergilian Society tours through one of my former professors at UC Irvine. She inspired me to check it out, I saw the Caesar and Vergil tour and thought: what better way to do AP training than in Italy? It was every teacher's dream come true. I have been teaching the AP curriculum for 5 years and wanted to get more inspired, especially with the addition of the Caesar lines. This trip definitely helped out with that. Through the numerous site visits and our daily classroom sessions, I felt I started this school year in AP with a new vigor. I was eager to share what I did in Italy with my seniors this year.

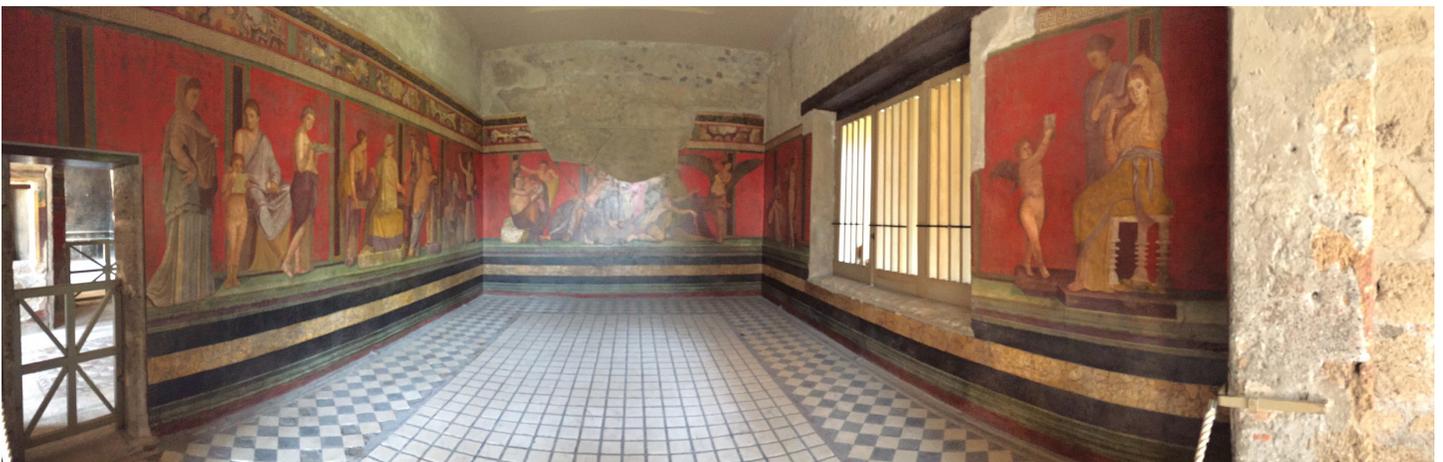
We started off in Rome, where we stayed at the Centro for 3 nights and 3 jam-packed days. Rome is always a wonderful experience. We visited the Capitoline Museum, the Forum Romanum, the Ara Pacis, the Pantheon and so much more. I had never been to the Palazzo Massimo and it did not disappoint. Steve's vast knowledge of the Classics was much appreciated as we walked all over the beautiful city.

From Rome, we ventured down south to the Bay of Naples to stay at the Villa Vergiliana for the rest of the tour. Amy was extremely helpful with her knowledge of the AP exam. And her class sessions were a wonderful opportunity for all of us to put our heads together and collaborate. Even though we all had varying backgrounds of AP experience, we all were able to take something away from the experience.

I enjoyed our Underworld day immensely; it was so hot it actually felt like we were in the underworld! Puteoli was a highlight that day. It has such a wonderfully preserved amphitheater that you could really get a sense of what it was like to go there and see a spectacle.

My ultimate highlight of the tour was visiting the Villa of Tiberius at Sperlonga. I had never been, and was looking forward to it the most. When we got there (despite the hot, still air) it did not disappoint! It was right on the sea and you can just get a sense for how lavish it was and what it would have been like to have dinner there. I would not let the heat get me down while we explored the interior of the grotto and the remnants of the villa. An added bonus, the museum at Sperlonga had great air conditioning!!

Despite it being the hottest on record in Italy in the past 200 years, we still had a wonderful time (after we realized that sweating profusely was not going away). We learned a lot and enjoyed each other's company. It was a wonderful group of travelers and I made some long-lasting friendships. We had some great times at the Villa, hanging out on the roof and reflecting on our days and experiences. I would do it again in a heartbeat.





I feel particularly lucky to have benefited from a VS scholarship this year since this is the first year that I have been eligible to apply. The scholarship opportunities for those of us in continuing lectureships are few and far between. I am so grateful to all on the board who voted to include continuing lecturers in the pool of scholarship applicants this year. I had not been to Italy in twenty years, and only before with a group of junior high students, rushing from entrance gate to entrance gate with barely a moment to take in the sights and snap a hurried photo. I could not have afforded this trip without your help.

This scholarship allowed me the incredible good fortune to truly absorb my surroundings and to delight in the details. The moments I treasure most were the little gems of insight from our most excellent guides, Steve Tuck and Amy Leonard, along with the literary connections which we celebrated by reading aloud along the way. Here are snapshots of a few of my favorite moments on a whirlwind tour:

Day 1: The Foundations of Rome

What amazed me most on this very first day of touring was that, without benefit of Steve's knowledge, the average tourist, even one with a background in Roman civilization, language, and literature, could easily walk right past the ruins of the oldest temples in Rome, a small cordoned off area, non-descript, not unlike a hundred others in Rome, but the sacred grounds of sixth century BC temples established at the time of the Etruscan kings. These earliest remains were so striking and memorable for me due to the fact that they were so unobtrusive in the scope of all that surrounded them. I knew right then and there that I was going to get a real insider's view of Rome. I was going to be privileged to see the sorts of things that the paid guides would simply wave their charges past without a second glance.

Day 2: The Ara Pacis

What fascinated me most today was learning about the process of excavating the Ara Pacis, an extraordinary and entirely innovative effort made in 1937 to extract the remaining pieces of the altar. By freezing the unstable ground beneath the Teatro Olimpica, the treasures were able to be unearthed while preventing the overlying structure from collapsing. Taking in the exquisite complexity of the Ara Pacis friezes, it boggles the mind how they were so beautifully preserved and unearthed under those conditions.

Day 3: Trajan's Column and the Imperial Fora

The most wonderful insight I took from today was when Amy Leonard invited us to view the Column of Trajan as a visual equivalent to the writings of Julius Caesar. Here before us, was a brilliant example of story-telling, the war and the subjugation of the Dacians winding around Trajan's column with imagery equally as rich and detailed as the unfolding of the war in *De Bello Gallico*.

At the imperial fora, my favorite insider detail was when Steve Tuck pointed out an otherwise unrecognizable game board, consisting of six little indentations carved into the steps of a basilica. The forum was for a moment reimagined, as I envisioned bored youths, dragged along for a day of errands, busying themselves with the momentary amusement of a quick game on the steps while their fathers dealt with business inside.

Day 4: Ancient Lavinium

This was one of the most treasured days on the tour for me. I loved that we arrived at what was essentially an overgrown field with an abundance of Queen Anne's lace and lizards. We had to swat flies and tame the tall weeds to make our way to the Heroon of Aeneas, a humble and sacred spot. Something about the relative desolation of the place was a fitting parallel to the solitary struggle of our hero in bringing his penates to the Lavinian shores and founding a new home.

We all struggled mightily with our flimsy Italian as the local superintendent, who knew very little English, unlocked the gate and guided us through the site. The Heroon was a peaceful spot, a beautiful setting to pour wine, recite some Vergil, and spend a quiet moment in recognition of Aeneas.

Day 5: The Underworld

Today we took in Lake Avernus and a little out-of-the-way area marked with a sign: "Grotto of the Sibyl". The caretaker of the property is a seventy-seven year old man with a dog who frequently naps at the gate, our modern day Charon and Cerberus. The old man had recently injured his leg, so we would have to make the trek through the overhanging trees and bushes to the locked door on our own. I will never forget the drone of flies buzzing thunderously as we approached the entrance to snap a few shadowy pictures.

Day 6: Herculaneum and the climb up Mt. Vesuvius

It was amazing to contemplate the fact that we were standing so far above the ancient port and that jackhammers had to chip away seventy feet of volcanic rock to unearth the six blocks of the city that we got to see. I was impressed with the way that the site was laid out, so that you could view the excavated sections of the ancient city set against the modern city above it. It is difficult not to be moved by the clear evidence of the disaster, the fragments of charred, petrified wood still intact and the skeletons still visible in the boathouses.

We discussed the differences between the speed of the destruction at Herculaneum and at Pompeii. Since it was the pyroclastic flow, rather than the noxious gasses, that caused the devastation at Herculaneum, its destruction was more immediate and airtight, allowing for the preservation of much more organic material, like the charred wood that we saw throughout the site.

The climb to the mouth of Mt. Vesuvius was an unforgettable hike. The one detail I will never forget is the feeling of the dust that stuck to our sweltering forms and filled my open-toed sandals.

Day 7: Pompeii

There were many little details that I relished at Pompeii:

- the umbrella pines, an eerie visual reminder of the plume of smoke that Pliny described rising from the volcano
- ancient graffiti scrawled on memorial stones at the Street of the Tombs, announcing upcoming gladiatorial games
- learning about Wilhelmina Jashemski and her pioneering work in garden archaeology, allowing for the discovery of ancient vine roots and the eventual modern production of wine on the ancient grounds
- the quadriporticus, where gladiatorial weaponry and graffiti were found, as well as remains of imprisoned gladiators in tiny cells that did not enable them to stand
- Eumachia's house with an inscription acknowledging her donations to the city, evidence that the social dynamic was changing in the Roman world, allowing for recognition of a female benefactor
- the lavish tomb of Ubricius Scaurus, which I adore simply because he had become an entrepreneurial giant from the manufacture of garum!

Day 8: Baiae and beach stop at Misenum

I never imagined I would be swimming in the same waters Pliny the Younger writes about when describing his uncle's demise during the 79 AD eruption of Vesuvius.

I did not even mind my scraped up toes, battle scars earned in swimming to the beautiful, rocky caves at the edge of the beach.

Day 9: Vergil's Tomb:

I loved the quiet peacefulness of the sanctuary to Vergil. I loved the gradual climb, decorated with a garden of trees, flowers, and bushes mentioned in his verses. It is fitting that his tomb is at the sight of a restorative bath and that it is perched with the finest overlook of the Bay of Naples. It meant a lot to me to write a few words and deposit them in the bronze vessel that we decorated with flowers and consecrated with wine. I was overwhelmed with gratitude that Steve and Amy chose to have us read the beautiful poem by Alfred Lord Tennyson which is posted by my office desk at Purdue, an encomium to Vergil:

I salute thee, Montovano, I that loved thee since my day began,
Wielder of the stateliest measure ever moulded by the lips of man.

Day 10: Greek Colonies, Paestum

I loved the fact that Paestum is a place where we can see the architectural evolution of the Greek temple, with temples of differing designs illustrating the effort on the part of the Greeks to determine its ideal aesthetic structure.

My favorite memories of this day were when Steve Tuck stopped abruptly and declared that we had just stepped on a roof brick, stamped from antiquity, imbedded in our path. Later, he picked up another ordinary looking piece of rock and told us that it was a piece of marble facing from one of the temples. I enjoyed wandering the grounds with someone having his keen archaeological eye.

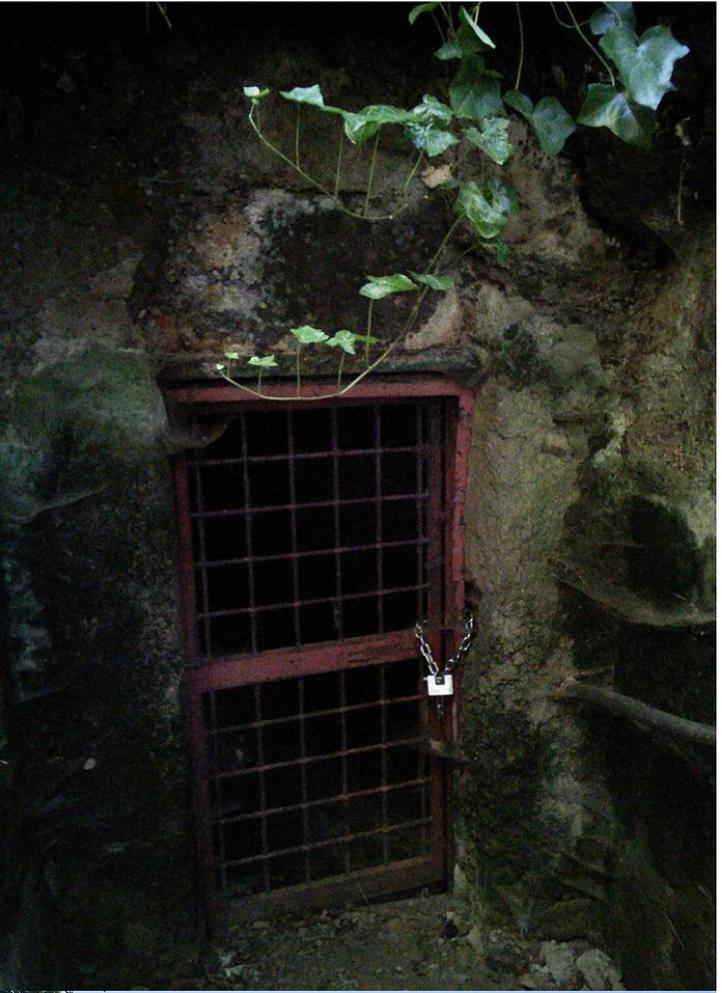
Day 11: Cumae and the Sibyl's Grotto:

With the site guards in deep conversation under the shade of an obscured tree, a few of us took a risk to experience the long trek down the dark approach to the Sibyl's quarters. In a stroke of eerie similarity, this access to the Sibyl buzzed thunderously with bees, just as the leafy-caved entrance at Lake Avernus had resounded with the hum of angry flies. Bees? Flies? Or the rumbling prophesies of a thousand tongues?

This trip was filled with hundreds of moments, large and small, that can only be experienced and enjoyed among colleagues. If there had been some way to pitch a small tent on the roof of the Villa Vergiliana, I would be quite content to remain there still, incessant rooster calls and lively late-night music notwithstanding. The location is absolutely heavenly.

Many of us will travel these roads again, most likely with students and with local guides paid to cover the same terrain three or four times a day. What made this trip singular and invaluable was the glorious luxury of being able to be on my own with colleagues who were kindred spirits, each one of us desiring to take as much from this experience as we possibly could. I am deeply indebted to the Vergilian Society for making this trip possible for me.





Patrick Neff

Since I first took Unit 1 of the Cambridge Latin Course into my hands as a fourteen-year-old, I've wanted to see Pompeii, to walk its streets, visit its temples and houses, and climb its volcano. Thanks to the Vergilian Society and its tour, Caesar and Vergil in Italy: a Study Tour for Teachers, I have been able to do so at last.

On this tour, the other participants and I traveled to many ancient Roman sites in Rome as well as in and around Naples, quite nearly following the advertisement in Mark Twain's *The Innocents Abroad*, complete with Vergil's tomb and an excursion to Paestum. Yet, we not only visited the common ancient sites of Rome and southern Italy, but also experienced them through the literature of the AP Latin curriculum. I shall never forget how, resting in the shade of the Cumaean Sybil's cave, we read aloud the Sybil's words from the *Aeneid*:

Tros Anchisiade, facilis descensus Averno:
noctes atque dies patet atri ianua Ditis;
sed revocare gradum superasque evadere ad auras,
hoc opus, hic labor est.

(*Aeneid* 6.126129)

Labor it is indeed, and now that I've been to Avernus and climbed down Cumaean caves and up Roman hills and even experienced the hell of Solfatara (no small feat for a redhead), I can speak of these things to my students from experience. Already in AP Latin, my photographs and experiences have enlightened our discussion of the triumphal procession route.

It wasn't all sight seeing on this tour, however. Our mornings were spent studying the AP Latin exam and discussing strategies for student success. As a new teacher of AP Latin, I found this element of the tour invaluable.

I recommend the tour without hesitation to all Latin teachers, but especially those beginning AP programs.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Vergilian Society and all its members and officers for supporting tours and scholarships. Special thanks also to Amy Leonard and Steven Tuck for serving as directors of the tour.



Scholarship Recipient Report: Antha Whitehorn

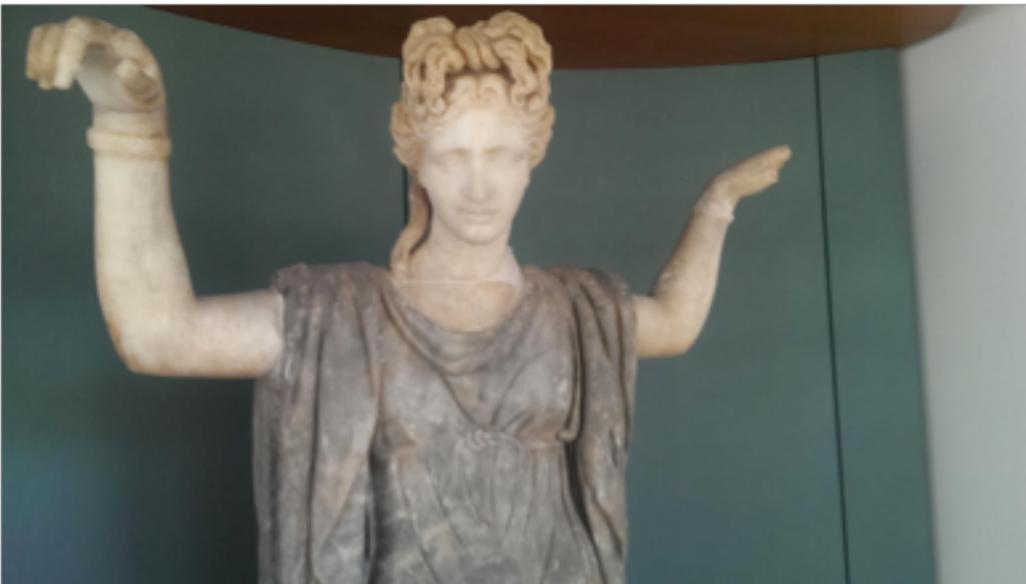
This July I had the privilege of taking part in the Vergilian Society's Caesar in Vergil in Italy tour, led by Amy Leonard and Steven Tuck. The tour, based first in Rome, then in Naples, offers AP Latin teachers a thorough and illuminating experience of the two authors, their works, and their homeland, as well as the opportunity to interact with and learn from other Latin teachers and enthusiasts. This was my first time to be in the company of so many such people, and it was a wholly fulfilling adventure.

Most mornings Amy led us in classroom sessions, during which we discussed the AP Latin exam in specific and Latin instruction in general. She and my fellow participants abounded with resources and strategies which I have already begun to implement in my classes with measurable success. It was invaluable to learn the stories and practices of other teachers, to share ideas and consult with them. Amy, a seasoned AP reader, was also immensely helpful in demystifying certain aspects of the exam to those of us with no "behind-the-scenes" involvement with the test. We left Italy not only with ideas, but even with physical copies of classroom activities and translation aides.

Our afternoon site visits were inspiring, informative, and — given the climate of Southern Italy in July — not a little character-building. Steve's vast knowledge and the meticulously chosen literary passages lent each site a wonderful vividness that would be impossible to duplicate on one's own. The varied backgrounds of the Vergilisti on the tour meant that everyone had the opportunity to contribute the discussions and possibly earn — *mirabile dictu* — a high-five from Steve. We took turns reading aloud, performed the occasional libation, and might have (potentially) climbed over a few barricades (it's hard to say; boundaries are so subjective). We consulted the Sibyl at Cumae and left notes and wildflowers at Vergil's Tomb. We trekked to the Underworld and breathed in deep at Solfatara (not recommended; it did not help my cough). After visiting Baeae we took a trip to the beach, where some of us swam out to a cave containing a tunnel which lead to a perfectly otherworldly cavern within.

For most of the twelve-day tour we stayed at the beautiful and impeccably run Villa Vergiliana, and it is difficult to imagine a better place to have based the trip. We spent our evenings there reading Latin on the patio, drinking negronis on the rooftop, and taking in the nearly nightly firework displays in the distance. The well-stocked library offered another cozy spot for translation and talking. We are indebted to the Sgariglia family for the delicious food and welcoming accommodations they provided without fail.

I am endlessly grateful to Steve and Amy for leading the tour and to the Vergilian Society, without whose generosity I would not have been able to participate. I am glad to know that future participants will likewise benefit from such an enriching, life-changing experience.





My Classics career started early on when I began taking Latin in 7th grade, granted I didn't have a choice based on the core curriculum at my middle school. But quickly after the days of "In pictura est puella," I began to appreciate the language for both its structure and inconsistencies. It wasn't until college that I delved into the archaeological and art historical perspectives of the Romans, which only furthered my admiration for their culture. My trip abroad on the "Caesar and Vergil in Italy: A Study Tour for Teachers" combined those two passions perfectly. Amy Leonard's engaging classroom sessions and aptly picked passages during site visits in conjunction with Steve Tuck's vast knowledge of the archaeological remains made the trip one that I will never forget.

My most memorable experience while in Rome was visiting the Ara Pacis. Currently housed in a mostly glass building, you can view this magnificent piece in natural light. Outside on the wall is engraved a copy of Augustus' Res Gestae which we stopped to read before entering. Augustus emphasized in his Res Gestae how he preferred peaceful resolutions throughout all the wars that he waged; the Ara Pacis was a physical manifestation of that desire for peace. As we stood before the altar we read aloud the a passage from book six of Virgil's Aeneid in which Anchises tells Aeneas "pacique imponere morem,/parcere subiectis et debellare superbos" (Aen.6.852-3). This hope "to impose a custom for peace,/to spare the defeated and to tame the proud" aligned with all of the representations on the Ara Pacis. I was amazed by how intricate the carving was, especially the detailing with the various vines and small animals in the lower panels. While it was easy to become focused on the intricacies of the altar, Steve and Amy made sure we took a step back and thought about it in the context of Augustus' larger scheme and reminded us of how it related to his other major works such as his Mausoleum and the Horologium. Being given this context both historically and textually made this particular site visit truly enjoyable.

While in Naples, I greatly enjoyed visiting Herculaneum. I had always learned more about Pompeii than Herculaneum and was amazed at the amount of preserved wall frescoes of various styles. I was particularly interested in the skeletons at the ship docks. Steve brought up that when Mount Vesuvius erupted, it caused a tsunami that drew the waters, and thus their ships, away. The idea of these individuals, slaves and freemen alike, being trapped with no way of escape was heartbreaking. After seeing Herculaneum, we went to Mount Vesuvius. The view from the top was the most stunning from the entire trip. I was able to look down into the bay while standing on the volcano that had caused so much destruction. And yet I was reminded that everything that is currently there is able to thrive because of that very eruption and the rich soil that it left behind. It was interesting to think about the contrast of the ancient death at Herculaneum with the modern life of Naples (a very lively life, I might add, from the parties we could hear near the villa!).

Overall, not only did I learn from Amy and Steve, but also from my fellow teachers on the trip. Everyone was so knowledgeable in various areas and I enjoyed getting to know them. At the end, I realized that I wished I could be a student in everyone's class!

By Tess Hilliard





Gazing out from the villa rooftop toward the beautiful island of Ischia, Italian music heard in the evening from a nearby venue, beautiful fuchsia colored flowers in the courtyard, friendly Anna and Simone serving at every meal, hostess Nina greeting everyone in our study groups, pasta, fresh garden vegetables, savory meats, and delicious desserts, undergraduates, grad students, and Latin teachers gathered for friendly conversation and workshops, informative and engaging talks by scholars at selected classical sites, making new friends, experiencing a once in a lifetime opportunity—these are some of my memories as I think of my two study tours at the Villa Vergiliana in Cumae, Italy this summer, June 26 to July 23, 2016. Both study tours included 4 days in Rome at the start of each tour. Truly a Latin teacher's dream come true!

It is with a deep sense of gratitude that I reflect upon my time at the Villa Vergiliana. This opportunity was made possible through a generous Vergilian Society scholarship and a Classical Association of New England Endowment scholarship. It was my good friend and colleague, Diane Green, a Latin teacher at Co-Brown Academy in Northwood, NH, who encouraged me to apply for these scholarships and the two study tours at the Villa Vergiliana. She had received the same scholarship aid and had attended the study tours in years past. This is significant because as the VS and CANE invest in helping teachers to attend the study tours, the attendees then encourage others to apply for scholarships and study tours. I have been encouraging my fellow colleagues in the NH Classical Association and CANE to apply for scholarships and experience the informative and inspirational study tours as I did.

I attended two study tours in a row: Romans, Etruscans, and Ancient Greeks: Exploring Antiquities from Tuscany to Campania with leader John Wonder for the first tour, and then Caesar and Vergil in Italy: A Study Tour for Teachers with Steve Tuck and Amy Leonard as leaders for the second tour. While at the Villa, it was a privilege to meet Richard Thomas, president of the Vergilian Society and also other members of the VS board. It was such a highlight daily to be with people who love classical antiquities, Latin and Greek, travel in Italy, and people! I was among several Latin teachers who enjoyed the ambience and hospitality of the Villa and were inspired to bring back to their students what they had experienced in their time in Italy. The study tours definitely provide enrichment for any educator involved in teaching Latin. I am so much richer in my appreciation of what I teach at Spaulding High School in Rochester, NH. I am now able to teach Latin I-IV with a more visual sense of the subject matter because I have been to the sites associated with classical history. Although I had spent time in Italy as a tourist before this summer, the study tours provided a more in-depth experience of the famous sites connected to teaching Latin. I was able to learn from scholars who gave talks at multiple places in Rome, Pompeii, Herculaneum, Cumae, Tarquinia, Capri, Ischia, Capua, Sperlonga, Paestum, and Naples. I was able to learn from other Latin teachers about ways to teach Vergil and Caesar in my classes.

As I teach my classes this year, I will be sharing my experiences and showing my photos to enrich my classes. As we study Vergil's Aeneid in Latin II and IV, I am able to share photos of Lavinium, tomb of Aeneas, Vergil's tomb, the cave of the Sibyl, and the entrance to the underworld at Cumae. When we study the emperors in II, I can share photos of the sites associated with several emperors such as the villas of Tiberius at Capri and Sperlonga, the palace of Augustus on the Palatine Hill, the Ara Pacis, Trajan's Forum, and Trajan's Column, the column of Marcus Aurelius, equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, the Colosseum (Vespasian and Titus), Arch of Titus, Arch of Septimius Severus, and the Arch of Constantine. When I teach Julius Caesar, I have photos of the Forum of Julius Caesar and photos of places connected to his death. Steve Tuck encouraged all of us to use Trajan's Column to help our students appreciate the aspects of Caesar's Gallic Wars—so many aspects of war visually depicted in that column! A great idea! When I teach Pliny in Latin IV, I plan to draw upon my photos and experiences of Vesuvius, Misenum, and Stabiae. In visiting several amphitheatres in addition to the Colosseum and hearing about the lives of the gladiators, I was inspired to share with my students my photos and insights gained from our site talks. All Latin students love hearing about gladiators! Pompeii is very much a topic of interest to students and I was able to have two all-day visits there with both John Wonder and then Steve Tuck. Both so informative! And we actually visited an archeological dig in progress there at the Villa of Mysteries!

Although I had been to Italy before, I had never been with fellow Latin teachers and scholarly lecturers for guides. And I had never stayed at a place so beautiful, charming, and friendly as the Villa Vergiliana. In each study tour, we became a family of friends who cared about each other. I'm sure that I will stay in touch with many whom I met this summer, especially my two roommates. There is no substitute for foreign travel when it

comes to really appreciating a teacher's subject area. The travel to significant sites fuels the passion for what we teach. We are able then to share so much more with our students and fellow educators. It is so wonderful that both the Vergilian Society and CANE choose to invest scholarship aid in the lives of teachers of the classics.

In closing, I will quote Christa McAuliffe who died in the NASA Challenger tragedy in 1986. She was from Concord, NH where I live and I had the privilege of meeting her when I student taught in Latin at Concord High School. She said, "I touch the future; I teach." In a very real sense, both the Vergilian Society and the Classical Association of New England are touching the future because they are investing in Latin teachers like me who daily "touch the future" as they teach; Latin teachers are in the position of igniting a spark of interest in classical languages, literature, and history. I am very grateful to VS and CANE for investing in my life and giving me the opportunity of a lifetime. *Semper gratias vobis agam.*

Susan Zoller, Latin teacher, Spaulding High School, Rochester NH



Italiam fato profugus: my travel and study experience in Italy.

Iván Salgado García, Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Mexico City

Due to a scholarship from the Vergilian Society I had the chance to participate in the study tour for teachers Caesar and Vergil in Italy, under the direction of prof. Steve Tuck and Amy Leonard. During this trip we visited a lot of places of interest in Italy, and, the most important part for me, I learnt a lot about Latin teaching in the USA.

How did I get there?

I have a BA in Classics by the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), where I have taught Latin Phraseology and Literature, I also teach Greek and Latin Etymologies in a prestigious high school in Mexico City and Historical Linguistics at the Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia (ENAH). My interest in classical studies has been alive for more than 10 years, and when I read somewhere in the internet about the Vergilian Society, I immediately became a member. I read the information about the study tours and I sent my application for a scholarship. Months later I received the confirmation and started to plan everything for the trip.

By the time the trip was about to start, I was in a research stay at Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM), so it was easier to travel to Rome and start the tour.

Day 1: Arriving to the ICCS

When I arrived early in the morning to the ICCS, prof. Steve welcomed me and told me everything necessary for my stay in the Centro, I was very pleased by the warm welcome and words from the professor and the staff. An hour or less later the first classroom sesión was about to start, and it was amazing! It was the first time for me to be part of a lesson completely taught in English, and I was trying to do my best. The fear for failure was somewhat removed by the excitement of being there, in a class about Latin. I was amazed by the group composition: people of all ages, from different cities in the USA, from different school systems.

That day was also the first trip to the city, I remembered when I visited Rome 7 years ago, and many places were known to me, but many others were completely new. However, even if the places were known, I never had the experience of visiting those sites reading their Latin descriptions or texts regarding their functions or important events in Roman history. Of course, as expected, everybody was in the line to take a selfie with Cicero in the Capitoline Museum.

Days 2 & 3: Classroom work and Imperial Rome

By this moment of the course, I lost all fear of my English performance and I started to become more participative in the classroom session. We had a teamwork assignment and I had the chance to know which methods were used by Latin teachers, and which were the most common problems they found due to the interference of English in Latin learning.

These two days were the most exhausting in terms of sightseeing, but it was worth the walking (under Italian summer). We visited many places, the Pantheon, Imperial fora and the Palatine Museum, among others. I took a picture of a relaxing moment at Largo di Torre Argentina, where are the remainings of the place where it is said that Caesar was killed. Now almost a “cat sanctuary” for tourists.

Day 4: Hidden and forgotten places

There are, I guess in every country, hidden and forgotten places only connoisseurs and locals know, and I am completely sure by now that Steve is one of the firsts. After departing from the ICCS, we moved to the so called Aeneas tomb, a place you need special permission to enter, and we got it.

We read a few passages about Aeneas arrival to Italy, and then we moved to Pomezia, a medieval city surrounded by an ancient wall, which made it impossible for the bus to enter, so we entered by foot and had lunch. There in Pomezia is the Archaeological Museum of Lavinium, where I saw one of the most beautiful pieces I have ever seen: the so called Minerva Tritonia.

The last part of the trip was the villa of Tiberius at Sperlonga, where some of the biggest statuary groups from ancient Rome were recovered, and are now exhibited in the villa's museum.

Finally we arrived to the Villa Vergiliana, where Mina and the staff welcomed us very warmly.

Day 5: Underworld

I visited Naples Bay seven years ago, just for a couple days, but, again, everything becomes remastered

and improves under Steve's assistance and guide. The reading of passages from Lucretius about the Lake Avernus was one of the most goosebumping experiences I ever had.

It was very sad that the entrance to the Sybil grotto was closed that day, however, some sensation of mystery goes out from the fences that close it.

Finally, I felt nostalgic when we arrived to Puteoli, since there was one of my excursions when I studied abroad in Italy 7 years ago, and I found an old picture to contrast it with the new one my friend Thaddeus Lisowski took for me, I tried to look for the same column, but I think it works...:

Days 6 & 7: What nature covered for us to uncover

As we did for Rome on days 2 and 3, these were the rush days in Naples Bay: Herculaneum, Mount Vesuvius and Pompey, and it was worth.

The first day we visited Herculaneum, one of the best preserved cities of Antiquity, very near from the so called Villa of the Papyri. As Steve pointed out, it is very difficult to understand when the sites will be open or closed, and unfortunately that exact day the villa was closed, but the visit to Herculaneum was still so long and it was just a minor loss. I think the most impressive thing to see in Herculaneum are the little stores at the harbor, where people refuged themselves to be safe from the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, however, they just found a place for (almost) eternal rest.

I would be difficult to describe everything we saw in those places, but our bigger goal was, undoubtedly, to reach to top of Mount Vesuvius, we did it and it was absolutely worth the sweating.

Day 8: litora

We went to visit one of the best preserved balnea from antiquity, those of Baia. After this visit, we decided to take a bath ourselves at the beach near Misenum, where we had a little time for relax before the next two rush days: Naples Archaeological Museum, Tomb of Vergil and Paestum.

Day 9: arma virumque canimus

I can for sure affirm that this day was something like the climax of our trip: you can't visit your favorite ancient author very often, and when you do that, you feel very happy, and nostalgic, and you get a lot of feelings you can't handle. I wrote a little poem (more precisely, I tried to compose a cento) for Vergil, and I left it with some flowers inside the tomb. At the moment I was ashamed to read it, but now I want to share it with all of you:

Mexiceo visum venimus, tua dicta legentes
Tityre, te, et fletus, produxit frigida lingua.
nos multas per gentes multa per aequora vectos,
partim animo circum maria omnia corpore partim
advenisse vides pauca haec tibi dona ferentes.
grates tibi agimus dignas, divine poeta,
nulla dies unquam memori te exstinguat aevo.

Day 10: Paestum

This was the third time I visited Paestum, and I started to feel that this trip was more like a Ringkomposition, that I was going to find something valuable or great at the end of this tour. Then I said "Ivan, please, stop wondering", and then a drop of melted ice cream fell in my shirt, exactly as it happened the first and second time I visited this place! I found myself in deep thoughts, and the visit to the Museum of Paestum was like a cherry on top of the cake: Steve's explanations about the meaning of the paintings, and the ancient conception of the underworld were amazing, specially the little talk given about the tomb of the tuffatore.

Day 11: The Sybil at Cumae

By the end of the trip, I was absolutely sure I was going to find something interesting or meaningful, and the visit to the Sybil grotto of Cumae was the perfect landscape for this. After wandering at the site for hours, I was asking myself where to find the answers to the questions the trip posed to me.

I stood in front of one of the grotto's entrances, took a picture and opened my Aeneid in a random page, where I found the following text: *ite domum saturae, venit Hesperus, ite capellae.* Then I realized, in words of Vergil, that this trip was more than just a trip, was like a nourishing meal in all senses: teaching, learning, sightseeing and reflexing. Thanks to all the Vergilian Society members who made this possible. *valet omnes.*



ROMANS, ETRUSCANS AND ANCIENT GREEKS: EXPLORING ANTIQUITIES FROM TUSCANY TO CAMPANIA -- JUNE 28 - JULY 10

The participants' enthusiasm, our convivial conversations, sumptuous Villa meals, captivating museums and fascinating sites: These all created a memorable and exciting adventure in Italy. Our program focused on Roman, Greek and Etruscan antiquities in Rome, Etruria and Campania. Most of the participants were Classical scholars (instructors or students), and all had a desire for adventure and fun.

The first three days of our tour were devoted to sites in the Eternal City while staying at the Hotel Monteverde & Austria. The magnificent assemblage of Etruscan artifacts housed in the elegant Villa Giulia inaugurated our program. After a museum tour, we walked through the streets of Rome to see the Ara Pacis, its museum, Augustus' Mausoleum, the Column of Marcus Aurelius and the Republican temples at Largo Argentina. The second day found us examining the Roman Forum, the Palatine and Imperial Fora on a particularly warm day. The late afternoon was devoted to the relative cool of the attractive Capitoline Museum with its sculptural reliefs, statues and other Roman artifacts. On our third day, after an investigation of the imposing Baths of Caracalla, we caught a bus and made our way to the fascinating catacombs of San Callisto, returning to the Forum in time for our appointment in the Colosseum.

The next morning, *di buon'ora*, we boarded our air-conditioned Pullman and traveled to the land of the Etruscans. The charming, medieval town of Tarquinia was our first stop where we lunched and visited the museum. A tour of the Etruscan tombs followed, as we examined elaborately painted tomb walls with scenes of banquets, the Etruscan underworld and Etruscan life. On the outskirts of Cerveteri, we made our way through the mysterious tumuli of the Banditaccia cemetery - tombs with stone beds and multiple rooms. From Cerveteri we journeyed south to Campania and the Villa Vergiliana, arriving for dinner.

The historic Villa Vergiliana, at Cuma, was the headquarters for our stay in the Bay of Naples area, and our escapades for the next nine days took us to numerous areas of interest from Capua to the north, Paestum to the south and the islands of the bay. Both Pompeii and Herculaneum provided a fascinating survey of ancient Roman towns. Memorable sites at Pompeii included the forum, basilica, theaters, amphitheater, the House of the Faun, the Villa of Mysteries, a brothel and the Stabian baths. At Herculaneum we toured the cobbled streets and visiting excellently preserved houses and structures such as the three elegant baths (with apodyteria, caldaria, frigidaria and tepidaria). At Pompeii we also visited my colleague's site (Dr. Anderson from San Francisco State University) located between the Herculaneum Gate and the Villa of Mysteries. Our trips down to Oplontis and Stabiae provided wonderful examples of stylish villas built by the wealthy - villas with stunning and well preserved examples of 2nd, 3rd and 4th style murals.

Our exploration of Paestum offered a chance to examine a city that combines remains from the Greeks, Lucanians and Romans. Paestum boasts (among other monuments) some of the best-preserved Greek temples, a Roman forum, houses and a small amphitheater. In the museum are superb examples of Lucanian tomb paintings and the famous murals from the Greek Tomb of the Diver, decorated with symposium scenes.

Our boat trips over the sparkling Bay of Naples took us to the islands of Ischia and Capri. On Ischia, a verdant isle identified by some ancients as the land of Circe, we visited the archaeological museum at Lacco Ameno (on the site of one of earliest Greek settlements in Italy) as well as the picturesque town of Sant'Angelo. On Capri, after taking the tram up to the main town filled with outdoor cafes, restaurants and boutiques, we walked the lovely lanes lined with elegant villas and stunning views to the Villa Jovis. There by sheer cliffs overlooking the bay we toured Tiberius' villa. The afternoon found us at outdoor cafes and swimming in the island waters.

The expedition into the Campanian countryside included Santa Maria Capua Vetere and the Romanesque church of Sant'Angelo in Formis. The unique 11th century Norman church was built on the remains of a Roman temple to Diana. Inside animated wall paintings illustrate various New and Old Testament episodes, including a large mural of the Last Judgment. Our visit to Santa Maria Capua Vetere took in the large and well-preserved Roman amphitheater, the mithraeum (with wall paintings that included Mithras killing the bull) and the museum of Etruscan, Campanian and Roman antiquities.

The town of Pozzuoli near Cuma was once the bustling Roman port of Puteoli. It was from Pozzuoli's

busy port amid fishing boats that our ferry to Ischia departed. On our return to Pozzuoli, we visited an excellent example of a macellum or Roman market with a striking shrine to Serapis. Further up from the harbor lies an exceptional Roman amphitheater built during the Flavian dynasty. Our visit to this site provided an opportunity to study a Roman amphitheater, including the substructures and their functions. Down the coast from Pozzuoli lies Baia, location of magnificent Roman baths. Our visit to the terraced archaeological park at Baia (with views of the coastline) provided an opportunity to visit a huge imperial complex that included the dramatic “Temple of Mercury”, a large bath partly full of water and viewed in ethereal light filtering through its oculus. Two volcanoes were also on our itinerary. Our climb up Mt. Vesuvius offered excellent views of the craters and the surrounding area while our trek inside the Solfatara volcanic crater took us past steaming jets of sulfurous vapors, boiling mud and fumarole.

We traveled to Miseno on our penultimate day and visited the Piscina Mirabile, a vast Augustan reservoir with vaulted ceilings and pillars that form a cathedral-like interior 15 meters high. A lovely beach at Miseno was the next destination where we enjoyed the warm waters and sunny coast. Our last morning found us visiting the fascinating Greek and Roman site of Cumae. This excursion included the oracular cave of the Sibyl, temples, fortifications and panoramic views of the islands, coastline and the surrounding countryside - including the Arco Felice through which our bus had often passed. That afternoon we packed our bags and headed to Naples for the large National Archaeological Museum of Naples. An examination of the museum’s paintings, sculptures, mosaics and other works of art concluded our program, after which we boarded our bus for Rome and one last night in the Eternal City.

Director: John Wonder

Participants: Clyde Austin, Walt Austin, Alyssa Cady, Sarah Crosley, Alicia Dixon, Sarah Mabie, Andrea MacIsaac, Tina Moller, Kevin Peters, Stephanie Quinn, Rian Sirkus, Brigid Wonder, Susan Zoller

Election results

Congratulations to Christine Percell, continuing Editor of *Vergilius*, and both John F. Miller and Kurt Muller, incoming Trustees.

Symposium Campanum 2017 Call for proposals—deadline extended

The Vergilian Society is soliciting proposals for the Second Annual Symposium Campanum, to take place at the Villa Vergiliana in Cuma in mid-October, 2017. We will consider proposals on any aspect of the history, archaeology, art and architecture, and geology of Italy and Sicily from the remotest antiquity to the Renaissance.

Each proposal should be prepared by the person who is intending to direct the symposium, or by the lead person if co-directors are envisioned. The successful director will have logistical assistance from the Vergilian Society’s Italian staff and from the executive committee; a set of guidelines is available to assist in planning.

Proposals should be 250-300 words in length, giving a brief rationale for the theme, some thoughts on what kinds of subjects are likely to be treated, and the names of several scholars who have worked on this theme and might be approached to participate. As international meetings, our symposia attract participants from all over the world, but since the Vergilian Society is an Italian-American cultural association, we are especially interested in seeing solid participation from scholars in these two countries.

Proposals should be submitted electronically by February 15, 2016 to the president of the Vergilian Society, Richard Thomas, at rthomas@fas.harvard.edu

The Alternative Augustan Age
First Symposium Campanum
Villa Vergiliana, Cuma, Italy
13-16 October 2016

In his essay on provincial perspectives in the Cambridge Companion to the Age of Augustus, Greg Woolf asked 'how we might write the history differently if we did not start from Rome and the first emperor'. He proceeds to look at the geopolitical trends that were in place and continued, despite the chaos and upheavals at the center. It is harder to do when one considers contexts where Augustus' 'vultus adfulsit populo' (Horace Odes 4.5) with most intensity, but this does not mean we should not try. How did aristocrats define themselves in the post-civil war era? How did families celebrate their own histories? How did law develop? Can we isolate the contributions of individuals to the history of their times despite the domination of the *lux Augusti* over our sources and the subsequent historical record?

This conference, the first in the new Symposium Campanum series, will provide the opportunity to explore the Augustan Age with the focus off Augustus. We welcome papers on such topics as:

- the aspirations and achievements of important individuals such as Plancus, Livia, or Maecenas and also of larger groups such as equestrians or freed slaves
- ways in which writers of law, distributors of land, authors of history, biography, and scholarship and others looked backwards as well as forwards and sideways for inspiration
- dynamics of change in the city of Rome and Italy underway before the advent of Augustus that contributed to the making of the principate

Abstracts should be 500 words maximum, for 30-minute papers to be delivered in English. The deadline for submission is 1 March 2016. Abstracts and also any questions on the conference should be sent to the two organizers, Kathryn Welch, University of Sydney (kathryn.welch@sydney.edu.au) and Josiah Osgood, Georgetown University (jo39@georgetown.edu).

Caesar and Vergil in Italy: A Study Tour for Teachers Report

July 12 – July 23, 2015

Directors: Amy Leonard, MA, Grady High School; Steven Tuck, PhD, Miami University

Leading this study tour/workshop for the fourth time was a wonderful reminder of the interest, enthusiasm, and ability of Latin teachers exemplified by those who joined us this year. Between the classroom sessions, site and museum visits, on site readings, and after dinner reading group, we were constantly impressed and humbled by the intensity of this group, especially during what was one of the hottest summers on record for Italy.

Our program started in Rome where we enjoyed the Intercollegiate Center as our headquarters and benefitted from the library, classroom space, courtyard, and delightful meals as well as its location in an authentic neighborhood removed from the tourist centers of the city. From there we spent three days beginning our work on the AP syllabus and experiencing the Rome of Caesar and Vergil. The first afternoon was spent exploring the Rome of Aeneas from the Tiber to the Capitoline Hill, including its amazing museum, the oldest public museum in the world. Our visit culminated with a stop at the Dying Gaul statue and a complementary reading from Caesar's *de bello Gallico*. The second day featured an afternoon in the Campus Martius. We started with a lunch at Al Gran Sasso trattoria near the Piazza del Popolo and then examined the end of the Republic and beginning of the Empire from the Augustan building program in the northern Campus Martius to the Largo Argentina temples and Theater of Pompey in the south, each stop accompanied by explanatory remarks and readings from our major authors, and broken by a critical gelato stop and the feeding of a number of stray cats. Our third and final day in Rome took us on an ambitious tour of sites from the Palatine Hill through the Forum to the Palazzo Massimo branch of the national archaeological museum to the Imperial Fora and the Column of Trajan. This

final site served as a fascinating discussion point for how the reliefs on the column serve to illustrate numerous scenes of military struggle and conquest in Caesar's commentarii.

The next day we departed Rome for the Harry Wilks Study Center at the Villa Vergiliana, our headquarters for the remainder of the study tour. On the way south in our chartered bus we stopped at the site and museum of Lavinium including the tomb of Aeneas himself where we poured libations to his spirit much to the delight of our generous site guide Prof. Graziani. Our second stop at the imperial villa at Sperlonga included many on site readings from Vergil while admiring the villa's colossal sculptures, not to mention the lucky bathers on the local beach. Our arrival at the Villa Vergiliana commenced with a warm welcome from the center's director, Antimina Sgariglia, and a drinks reception as we settled into our new space in anticipation of the first of many sumptuous meals from Biagio and the villa staff.

Our first full day in Campania saw a successful morning discussion of AP scoring of translations and essays in the villa salon followed afternoon of site visits to lake Avernus. We glimpsed into the cave and imagined Aeneas and the Sibyl plunging into the darkness. Our next stop was Solfatara where we explored the (fragrant!) volcanic history of the region and its associations with the underworld. To the delight of the participants we were joined by Vergilian Society President, Richard Thomas, who read with us and shared stories with the group as well. (Richard turned out to be the former advisor of one our participants, Thaddeus.) That theme of the volcanic developed the next afternoon (while the southern heat intensified!) as we toured Herculaneum from the top of the volcanic material down to the ancient streets and shoreline. The afternoon concluded with a hike up Vesuvius and the source of the destruction and preservation of the ancient cities. The group seemed to enjoy the experience of the hike, the panoramic views, and the relative coolness of the mountain in contrast to the oppressive heat and humidity of Herculaneum.

The next day provided our first full-day excursion away from the villa: Pompeii, where we were fortunate to view a special exhibit of the casts of bodies discovered in the excavations and to view the recently reopened and restored murals at the Villa of the Mysteries. We returned to Latin pedagogy in the villa salon the next morning followed by some short visits to nearby sites at Baiae where some impromptu exploration of the underpinnings of the bath complex (thanks, Patrick!) occurred and finished the afternoon at the beach at Misenum in view of the headland and where a number of the group explored the underwater ancient remains at its base, and returned with the cuts on their feet and legs to prove their adventurous spirit! The following afternoon was spent in Naples. Our first stop was the National Archaeological Museum, one of the largest and most important archaeological museums in the world. A highlight was our visit to the Villa of Papyri material. The villa, owned by Caesar's father in law, provided the largest sculptural group ever recovered from one building in the ancient world. There never seems to be enough time for everyone to explore all that they want to see at this museum, all of this despite the lack of air circulation and oppressive heat. Our Neapolitan adventure culminated (quite literally, when you take into account all the stairs!) with a pilgrimage to the Tomb of Vergil, where we followed in the footsteps of visitors dating back to Silius Italicus, read excerpts from Suetonius and Lord Byron, drank a toast, and left personal encomia to the bard of Parthenope in the tripod at the tomb.

Evenings at the villa were spent recovering from the heat of the day, convivial dining, Latin readings in the salon, roof-top ukulele serenades from participant/muse Antha and spectacular views of the bay. Our group grew closer as we endured each days' physical and mental trials followed by the joys of each reflective evening.

The final full-day trip was to Paestum where we saw some of the best-preserved Greek temples in the world and reflected on the power of Hera. We also explored the tomb of the founder of the Greek colony, drawing comparisons to the heroon of Aeneas visited earlier in our tour. Of special note were the marvelous Greek and Lucanian tomb paintings which gave us a chance to discuss displays of ancient virtus and beliefs of life after death. In between we explored some award-winning gelato at the Bar Museo, where we enjoyed a well-deserved break in the shade. Our final day in Campania culminated with a visit to the site of Cumae, especially the Temple of Apollo

and the Grotto of the Sibyl, each punctuated by readings from the ancient sources, some from our reader and others from the plaques on site. Alas, the grotto itself was cordoned off due to threat of collapse of the structure. But this didn't keep several of our fearless participants from crossing the barricade to experience the cave's one hundred mouths and sonorous echoes. Our farewell dinner at the villa was made more special, and – if possible – more poignant by the kind words and homemade limoncello shared by Mina. Our departure the next morning took us to Rome where we made our final goodbyes and all went our separate ways to return home or to further travel.

2015 Caesar and Vergil in Italy Participant List

Steven L. Tuck, Amy K. Leonard, David Bonagura, Sarah Ellery, Tom Garvey, Tess Hilliard, Lucinda Jaffe, Syd Lindblom, Thaddeus Lisowski, Liz Mercier, Patrick Neff, Ivan Salgado Garcia, Eleanor Stuart, Antha Whitehorn, Susan Zoller



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