

The CAV News

The Newsletter of the Classical Association of Virginia

VOLUME LX No. 4

Summer 2026

CAV Message From Our New President!

Greetings Colleagues,

I hope these words find you all enjoying a restorative and restful Summer after the end of another school year!

It was a tremendous and humbling honor to have been passed the gavel of CAV at the Spring Meeting last month and to step into the Presidency of this group. Over the past few weeks, as I have begun to get my arms around the work to be done, I have been overcome by gratitude. Gratitude for Patrick Bradley, who has worked so tirelessly over the past two years to care for and to guide CAV and without whose mentorship and support I would be completely lost; gratitude for Amy Cohen, who served as President of CAV before Pat, in which role she did so much behind-the-scenes work on CAV documents and organization, and now has taken on the enormous job of interim Treasurer this year; and gratitude for all of y'all, the people who make CAV what it is and who continue to spread the word about Latin, Greek, and the ancient Mediterranean world with vigor and verve in your classrooms, communities, and beyond. It is truly an honor to support the already incredible work you have been doing.

As we all know, the state of study of Latin and Greek, and the Humanities, in general, faces challenges on all educational levels from primary school to the post-secondary level. Yet, we also know that the study of those topics remains as relevant and vital today as ever. In this time of rapid change and the increasingly challenging nature of AI, the ancient Mediterranean world continues to offer enduring insights into what it means

to be human, what it means to live together as humans in a diverse world, and how we can build a better world together in the present day.

The next two years – and beyond – will doubtlessly present us with more challenges, but also with opportunities to showcase our field and its relevance to today's world. So, I look forward to doing all I can to amplify the already incredible work you are doing across the Commonwealth and to live into CAV's motto to promote Classics in the Old Dominion – and beyond.

Ex animo-

Bart

CAV Fall Meeting 2026

Please mark your calendars for the fall CAV meeting to be held on Saturday, September 19, 2026 in the Gibson Room of Cocke Hall on the grounds of the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Recap of the Spring Meeting from Our New President

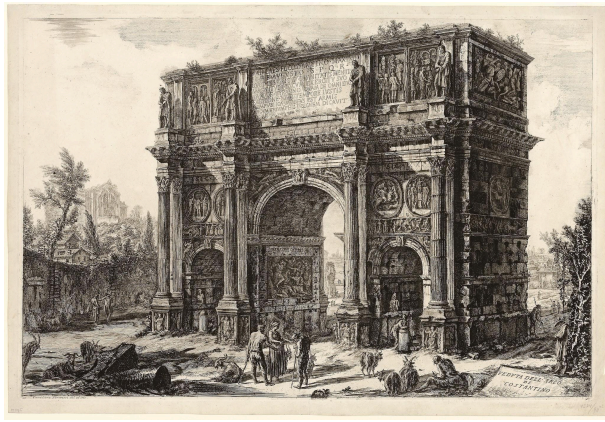
Last month, we were treated to a delightful Spring meeting on the campus of the College of William and Mary. The room was brimming with classicists from across the Commonwealth, all treated to a wonderful program and filled with optimism for the future of our field. So, special thanks to Vassiliki Panoussi and the Classics Department of the College of William and Mary for their tremendous hospitality.

In this newsletter, you will find results for the Latin Tournament, as well as the Classical and Latin Essay Contests in this newsletter. Kudos to all the students and their teachers – and special thanks to Lexi Harrell for her continued leadership of the Latin Tournament, as well as to Andy Becker, Tina Salowey, Lori Kissell, Donald Brewster, and Amy Peterson for their tireless efforts in promoting and organizing all of our contests, awards, scholarships, and grants. It takes a village to run an organization like CAV, and these folks are among the best at doing it!

CAV was excited to award a bevy of scholarships and awards at this meeting, recognizing the achievements of some incredible students and teachers from across the Commonwealth. *Stephanie Buckler* (Stafford High School) was awarded the Angela Lloyd Book Award, and *Dean Simpson* (University of Richmond) celebrated the conclusion of a tremendous collegiate teaching career with the Lurlene W. Todd Teacher of the Year Prize. *Reese Lai* (St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School) was the recipient of the Wayne Wray Student Scholarship, and *MacKenzie Sanford* (Flint Hill School) received the Jim Bigger Memorial Scholarship. Thanks to all who took the time to submit nominations! *Amy Peterson* announced the recipients of CAV Professional Development Grants, which were again supported by a generous silent auction.

This Spring meeting was also home to a number of excellent talks on a variety of topics. *Vassiliki Panoussi* (College of William and Mary) spoke to us about the variety of ways trophies are used in Vergil's *Aeneid* as a means of expressing and commemorating trauma. *Charlaine Lunsford* (Great Bridge High School) then took us on a tour of the state of Latin programs in the Tidewater/Hampton Roads area, providing an in-depth look at the health of the field in a vital area of the Commonwealth. Then, *Stephanie Buckler* (Stafford High School) walked us through specific and engaging ways in which to get students writing in Latin, regardless of their ability level.

We concluded this excellent Spring meeting with the traditional passing of the gavel from outgoing President, *Patrick Bradley* (Rockbridge County High School) to incoming President *Bartolo Natoli* (Randolph-Macon College). We owe a great deal of appreciation to Pat for his outstanding leadership over the last two years and look forward to where Bart will lead us in the next two. The first step in that journey will take place this Fall at our Annual Fall Meeting on the grounds of the University of Virginia on September 19. Hope to see y'all there!



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Looking for more places to get together? Try these!

ACL Institute 2026

June 28 - 30 Pre-institute: June 27 - 28
College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA
Registration for the 79th Institute is now open!
Didn't pre-register? There's also onsite daily registration!

It promises to be stellar with pre-institute tours and workshops as well as a full program of sessions.

See below for more information visit the American Classical League site.
Registration will be conducted through the "Sched" app via a link in your member profile

<https://www.aclclassics.org>

FLAVA future planning:

FLAVA Fall 2026 October 3-4, 2026 at J.R. Tucker High School, Henrico County, VA

FLAVA Fall 2027 October 7-9, 2027 Kalahari Resort, Spotsylvania, VA

NJCL Convention 2026

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, from July 21-26, 2026
Theme: Concordia parvae res crescunt
For more information, please visit njcl.org

Looking for someplace to practice your speaking? Check this out!

Please announce this summer's Rusticato Omnibus

<https://latin.org/wordpress/rusticatio-omnibus/>

and the Amy High Fellowship to attend same

<https://latin.org/wordpress/amy-high-fellowship/>

Announcements and Opportunities!

CAV Professional Development Grant

Thank you to all who participated in the silent auction at the spring meeting, raising \$267 for the Professional Development fund. This year the fund will be helping Lori Kissell fund her attendance at the ACL Institute at William and Mary. She will be presenting at the conference so if you will be in attendance, go check it out!

It is never too early to apply for a grant. If you are planning to participate in any professional development or other activities to help you be a better teacher of the classics, CAV can help you pay for it. We will give up to \$100 for local activities and up to \$300 for more adventurous endeavors. Just fill out the form at bit.ly//CAVGrant by April 30. If you have any questions, you can reach out to Amy Petersen at magistrap@gmail.com.

CAV TEACHER PLACEMENT SERVICE

Do you know of a Latin teaching position in your area? Or are you currently searching for a Latin teaching position? The CAV Placement Service offers a free program to bring together teachers seeking Latin positions in Virginia and schools in Virginia which are seeking Latin teachers. Schools send us listings of their positions, and we send these listings by e-mail to the teachers who have registered with the CAV Placement Service. We provide continuous updates from March until September. If you know of a position available, have the school principal or personnel office get in touch with the service. If you wish a position, send in your name and e-mail address. We ask schools and teachers to contact Jon D. Mikalson by e-mail at: jdm9x@virginia.edu. There are no charges for these services!

COULDN'T ATTEND? YOU CAN STILL SHARE INFO!

In May 2026, Jackie Arthur-Montaigne organized a small conference in Washington, D.C. uniting several academic classicists with leaders in the K-12 classical education movement. As many Virginia educators may already know, “classical schools” are a growing movement in private education (both secular and Christian) and charter schools. The goal of this conference was to better understand the rapid growth of the classical education model across the US and to discuss some challenges of how we teach the ancient world and ancient languages, especially during a period of significant cultural and political polarization. If you have any interest in the result of this conference and/or perspectives you'd like to share as an educator of any level or subject, please contact me at JAMontagne@virginia.edu

CAV Member Spotlight: Elza C. Tiner **Professor of Latin at the University of Lynchburg**

Dr. Tiner is a long-time CAV member who has given over 65 presentations during her career. Her last CAV presentation was “Performing Latin: The Dialogue as Dramatic Form,” in the spring of 2023. Elza received her B.A., English (Hons.) at Seton Hall University in 1979; her M.A., Medieval Studies at the Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto in 1980; and her Ph.D., Medieval Studies at the Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto in 1987. Her graduate studies focused on Latin rhetoric and its influence on Middle English drama. For her Licentiate, she completed a survey of Latin rhetoric and grammar texts that were available in the city of York prior to 1500: “Evidence for the Study of Rhetoric in the City of York to 1500.”

Dr. Tiner's teaching positions have included New Your Institute of Technology, Harvard University, and Lynchburg College, which is now the University of Lynchburg. She has spent 37 years at Lynchburg, and during that time she has taught English, Latin, and built the General Education Program Latin sequence, Elementary I-Intermediate II plus Elementary Latin with Medical Terminology, an online course.

Her family background originates in the British Isles on her father's side, and in Italy on her mother's side. Her maternal grandparents helped to care for her while her father, Dr. Jack D. Tiner, was completing post-doctoral research in microbiology at Rutgers University and her mother, Marie Tiner, was taking graduate courses in physical chemistry there and later at Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. Her father went on to a career in microbiology research and veterinary pathology, eventually working at the pharmaceutical company American Cyanamid, now part of Pfizer. Her mother worked briefly in laboratories but eventually studied art, becoming a renowned artist whose

works are now part of the permanent collection at the Daura Museum, University of Lynchburg. Her parents inspired her to love learning and to work hard at her studies. When Elza was a university student, she hoped to study medicine, but she states that she was far stronger with language than in a lab. However, science has remained a major part of her life. She is married to Dr. Harold Butner, who teaches Physics and Astronomy at James Madison University. They have many discussions about teaching and learning, and the history of astronomy.

In eighth grade, at Gordon Jr. High School in Washington, D.C., Elza was asked if she would like to take Latin. That opened a door to lifelong learning for her. Mrs. Virginia Clapper was her amazing teacher, whose instruction led her to fall in love with Latin and to continue through tenth grade. Then her family moved to New York City where her high school did not offer Latin, so it was not until nearly completing her studies as an English major at Seton Hall University that she was encouraged to apply for graduate work in medieval studies and was admitted to the University of Toronto, Centre for Medieval Studies, and Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies on a full scholarship. Finally she was free to study more Latin (to pass their M.A. and Ph.D. examinations), and to take Latin paleography and diplomatics in Fr. Leonard Boyle's courses. She elected to research how Latin was taught in medieval schools, to find out how methods of composing developed, especially in the area of performance texts. To do this, she needed to study carefully not only medieval authors, but also classical texts, including Aristotle's *Rhetoric*, the *Rhetorica ad Herennium*, and Cicero's *De inventione*, *De oratore*, and *Topica*, among others.

Her love of medicine has not gone away. Lately, Elza has been working on the influence of Latin medical terms in present-day anatomy as part of a course that she teaches, Elementary Latin I with Medical Terminology. This has led to her joy of reading authors such as Celsus, *De medicina*, Galen's *Method of Medicine*, and especially, her favorite, Pliny the Elder, *Historia naturalis*, who has a wealth of information about the natural world as understood in the first century CE. Elza does enjoy Latin poetry: Catullus, Ovid, and Vergil, and also the plays of Plautus and Terence, but the connections to medicine have led to a direct application to an original teaching project, where she is trying to build past-present bridges for her students. (Students often want the shortest way to a job, for example, memorizing anatomical terminology, but Elza wants them to see where the terminology originated; the terms give windows into Greco-Roman culture.)

In addition to classical related books, Elza absolutely loves anime! Her husband introduced her to it, and together they have watched several series, including *The Apothecary Diaries* and *Journey's End*; she hopes they will restart soon, currently on production hiatus! She also has been reading the light novels on which the *Apothecary Diaries* anime are based, but in her opinion, the anime is far superior to the texts.

Dr. Tiner is also currently reading Claire Egan, *Performing Libel in the Provinces: Community Conflict in Early Modern England* (Oxford University Press, 2025). This book explains the intersection between libel (or defamation) and dramatic performance in the seventeenth century, but it also applies to earlier practices, where members of a community would use performance (song, play, verses) to attack someone with whom they had a disagreement, often leading to a court case brought by the satirized. This is

exactly what Elza found in a mock case of libel among the works of Thomas Chaundler, his play, *Libellus de laudibus duarum civitatum*. She wrote an article on this play suggesting that it follows the stages of an ecclesiastical trial, and could have been held in the ecclesiastical court at Wells Cathedral in Somerset, England.

She also is excited about an upcoming conference, which she has learned will have a virtual option! It may help to answer her questions as to how theater was part of medicine in the Greco-Roman tradition. It may be of interest to others in CAV:

Performing Healing. Ritual, Gesture, and Therapy in the Ancient World

- 15-16 January, 2027
- National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens
- Abstract Submission deadline: September 30, 2026
- Organizing committee: Luigi Lafasciano, Christy Constantakopoulou, Nikolaos Papazarkadas (Institute of Historical Studies / National Hellenic Research Foundation)

Before going to university, Elza was training for a career in ballet. This interest has remained with her, even after the years of study from age 8-21 (at schools in Washington, D.C., and New York, where she held scholarships at the Joffrey and Martha Graham Schools during grades 11 and 12.). In order to pursue a career in dance, she did not go straight to university, but continued to take classes in New York after graduating from George Washington High School in 1969. Eventually, it became apparent to her that she should go to university as she was not getting a job in ballet; so she enrolled at Seton Hall University after one semester at New York University and several night classes at Hunter and Baruch Colleges. Elza still loves ballet and watch videos of current soloists in major companies.

She also enjoys yoga, jewelry making, and taking walks. Elza also likes helping at the university enrollment division, with marketing, planning, and outreach. This is more volunteer work than a job. She loves socializing with people and getting students and everyone else to share their stories. She also loves trying to solve problems that most people, like students, assume have no solutions.

Her church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Lynchburg, is an example of a group that she loves to support. Her Christian faith is central to her life and healing. She has had several serious medical problems, and has one right now that faith will get her through.

When asked if there were anything that she would attempt to do differently in her career, Dr. Tiner says that she wishes she had taken Greek earlier in life. She took Greek online with Prof. Amy Cohen at Randolph College in the summers of 2022-24 and highly recommends it. She would definitely start that as early as possible as memorization goes much faster when one is younger.

Her advice for a young person who wants to teach Latin, Greek, or the classics is:

1. Ignore comments about useless occupations.
2. Study Latin, Greek, and the classics.

3. Encourage your friends to study Latin, Greek, and the classics.



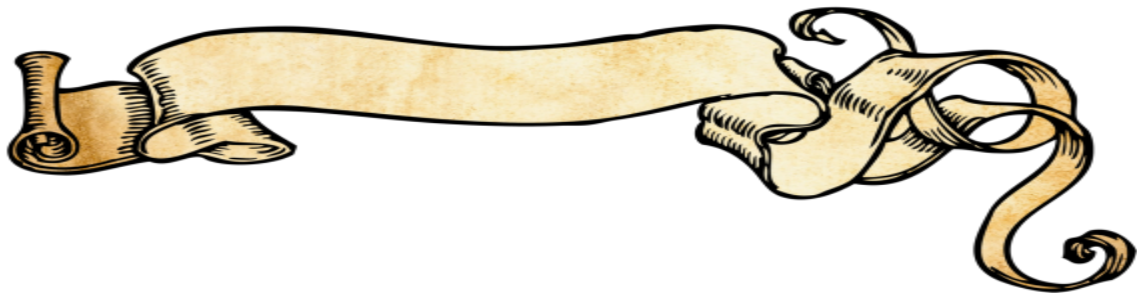
BOOK and PUBLICATIONS CORNER:

Hey Y'all,

We've got a new book coming out from one of our own! If you have publications that you'd like publicized, send them to the CAV Newsletter editor and you, too, could be featured here!

Jackie Arthur-Montagne has her first book coming out next month. It's called *Fiction and Education in the Roman World: The Cultivation of the Reader* and is published by Cambridge University Press (link [here](#)). It will probably appeal to people who are interested in Greek literature, ancient education, and especially the ancient novel.

And an article! "The Rhetoric of Desperation: Fables in Classical Greek Oratory." It assesses how common it was for pleaders and orators in Classical Greece to use fables in ancient speeches, and why fables were often associated with death penalty cases. It should be forthcoming in the 2026 issue of the *Journal of Hellenic Studies* any day now, fully open access.



We interrupt the Colleagues portion with an announcement for our students:

NATIONAL LATIN EXAM

since 1977

- More than 100,000 registered students in 2026
- 40-question multiple choice exam
- Grammar, reading comprehension, mythology, derivatives, literature, Roman life, history & oral Latin
- Gold and silver medals
- Opportunities for Scholarships
- \$8 per US student, \$10 per foreign student
 - See NLE registration page for shipping costs.
 - For orders outside North America: Students must take the ONLINE exam.
- Registration for the paper exam ends January 29; registration for the online exam ends February 20
- Testing window: March 1st to March 19th

NLE 2027

sponsored by the american classical league / national junior classical league

FOR REGISTRATION AND
INFORMATION

NATIONAL LATIN EXAM
UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON
1301 COLLEGE AVENUE
FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22401

WWW.NLE.ORG

NLE@UMW.EDU



**We now return you to the regularly scheduled colleagues portion:
Looking for a way to acknowledge your exemplary CAV colleagues?
Check this out!**

Fill out a nomination, or send me an e-mail explaining why you think a colleague is outstanding and deserves either the **Angela P. Lloyd Book Award** or the **Lurlene W. Todd Teacher of the Year Award** fulvia52bce@gmail.com

In order to streamline the process and encourage more nominations for these two awards, the nomination processes are being combined into one! Both awards accept nominations year round and if you've missed the April 7, 2026 cut off for 2026, go ahead and send one now for 2027!

The Angela P. Lloyd Book Award goes to a colleague who is:

- A high school or middle school teacher in Virginia (public or private) who is also a member of the Classical Association of Virginia
- Demonstrating commitment to teaching

- Demonstrating excellence in teaching
- Participating in CAV meetings or have students who participate in CAV contests

The Lurlene Todd Teacher of the Year Award goes to a colleague who is an outstanding teacher of Classics, Latin, Greek, or Archaeology in Virginia at any instructional level.

Any person may submit a name for consideration *for either award* by completing [Nomination Form](#) which includes a space for comments and recommendations. This includes a colleague, supervisor, student (current or former), parent of a student (current or former), or a member of the general community who appreciates the work of a CAV member. If you prefer to send a letter of recommendation, please limit your comments to one page if possible; do not exceed two pages.

AND LAST OF ALL:

CAV News submissions for issues to be published on Aug 15, Nov 1, Apr 1, June 15 –

Please send newsletter items to fulvia52bce@gmail.com for the newsletter editor.

Please notify us directly when your email address changes!

Send changes to: CAVClassics@gmail.com

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