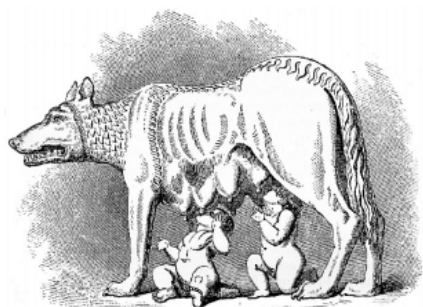




The CAV News

The Newsletter of the Classical Association of Virginia

VOLUME LXI No. 1

Fall 2026

President's Message!

Salvete, sodales!

I hope your summers have been restful and restorative! As we careen towards the beginning of another school year, I wanted to draw your attention to a few important events this Fall.

September 19: CAV Fall Meeting (University of Virginia)

As is CAV tradition, we will be holding our Fall meeting on the grounds of the University of Virginia. For the meeting, we have a tremendous lineup of exciting speakers:

Eva Carrera (James Madison University), *Nikki Carroll* (Collegiate School / Governor's Latin Academy), and *Stephan Hassam* (Randolph-Macon College). The registration site will be up on the CAV website in the next couple of weeks. So, be sure to register for what will be an awesome meeting!

October 3-4: FLAVA Fall Conference (J.R. Tucker High School, Richmond, Virginia)

This year's FLAVA Fall Conference will be held at J.R. Tucker High School in Richmond. There will be a number of excellent presentations from Latin teachers from across the Commonwealth so, be sure to come and support them! To register for the FLAVA Fall Conference, visit: <https://flava.regfox.com/2026-flava-fall-conference-participant-registration>

November 13: Virginia Undergraduate Research Symposium in Classics (Online)

This year marks the 13th Annual Virginia Undergraduate Research Symposium in Classics, an event that showcases the very best in undergraduate research being done in Classics throughout the Commonwealth. The event lasts from 2-5 pm, is free, and is open to the public. If you have students who would like to present research at the event, please contact me. Students who present are invited to attend the CAV Spring Meeting free of charge.

As you can see, with so many excellent programs, Classics is alive and well in the Commonwealth! I hope to see you at these programs and wish you all the best as the school year kicks off!

Curate ut valeatis!

Bart

CAV Silent Auction

Y'all are so great at gathering classical goodies you no longer want and donating them to the Spring CAV meeting's silent auction! You raised funds to help several of your own (Your Humble Editor included) pursue their classics activities, and I'm sure that you're already starting to set some aside for next year. Let's keep this wonderful redistribution of treasures and fundraising going strong. Read on for how to apply for the bountiful grants.

If you are planning to participate in any professional development or other activities that help you be a better teacher of the classics, the money we raise is meant to help you. We've got plenty so please don't be shy about applying for a grant at bit.ly/CAVGrant. Applications are due by April 30. If you have any questions, you can e-mail Amy Petersen at MagistraP@gmail.com.

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Announcements and Opportunities!

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!

Looking for a way to learn something new? Try this:

Through Randolph College, I offer ancient Greek online to students from high school age through retirement. You can start six times a year and you choose your own pace. The courses are mostly asynchronous, but with a great deal of individual feedback, and we plan the synchronous meetings around your schedule, including evening times. The next session begins August 27, 2026.

For more information, go to online.randolphcollege.edu/greek or email Amy R. Cohen at acohen@randolphcollege.edu. Please share with anyone who might be interested!

And from the Society of Classical Studies we have this opportunity:

Whether you're pro-, con-, or something else regarding the new Odyssey movie, this might be an opportunity to take advantage of as explained in the link to the "Odyssey Day" that SCS just announced.

<https://classicalstudies.org/outreach/letter-community-odyssey-day>

And if you're planning for next year (you know that you are) there's these:

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

NJCL at William & Mary July 2027

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Margaret Hicks

Margaret Hicks has served in various positions for our association, including President from 2012-2014. She received her B. A. in Classical Studies from William and Mary (1976) and took various post graduate classes for recertification at VCU, W&M, and UR.

Margaret taught Latin and American history at Loudoun Valley High School for two years where the future Attorney General Mark Herring was in her class. Her teaching career was mostly spent in Chesterfield County where she spent time at L.C. Bird High School, Thomas Dale High School, and Salem Middle. She retired from Bird where she taught only Latin for 33 years straight. In her early years at Bird, she taught Vince Gilligan, the future creator of "Breaking Bad," "Better Call Saul," and now "Pluribus." Margaret shared that Vince designed several Latin Club t-shirts and made decorations for a banquet.

Margaret had the privilege of teaching with some esteemed Latin teachers over the years that included Frances Slaughter Fisher, Carolyn Spencer, Donna Dollings, Nancy Stough, Beth Brodie Venn, Tonia Sanborn Anderson, Garland Slaughter Carr, and Emily Munro Scott.

Teaching was (is) in Margaret's blood as all four of her aunts and uncles in Washington State were teachers. Her father was a chemist who came east to work at Philip Morris during the Depression. Her mother grew up in Petersburg, and her mother had grown up in rural Dinwiddie County. Her grandmother and mother went on a trip to Europe in 1927 when Margaret's mother was fourteen, and she has heard about that trip all of her life including how they had to declare where their remains should go if their flight over the English Channel should go badly. Her first trip to Europe was right after her senior year in high school, and it had a huge impact on her.

Margaret grew up in Henrico County with two older brothers whom she says teased her as a child. Although painful then, she thinks it was useful for toughening her for the classroom. Her brothers also allowed her to play with them and their friends sometimes which taught her how to hold her own. She loved Girl Scouts with camping trips and badges. She, along with her friend, played guitars and sang songs with younger kids and in talent shows, and later Margaret was a camp counselor for a few years. She taught Bible school and was a helper at cotillion. She loved working with kids - older kids, but she did not like babysitting.

Margaret and her husband Tom have been married for 48 years, and they dated for 8 years before that. They met as camp counselors, and having green space around them has been a priority. They moved into their current house in 1980 and have enjoyed sharing the pond in the back yard with turtles, fish, ducks, herons and frogs. Her husband built a tall platform to create a water slide that led into the pond. It was popular with both their children and her Latin Club students who came over for initiation.

While Margaret was able to throw herself into all kinds of opportunities for teachers before her children came along, her priorities changed when they had a family. And yet, her husband recognized that her teaching was important to Margaret; so he stayed home with

the kids for many years as “Mister Mom” until summer when he went back to his job as an electrician. As the kids grew older, he became very sick with a debilitating genetic illness that kept him from working and doing things with the kids like Scouts and throwing the baseball. So Margaret then handled the activities. In 1993 Tom was told he only had about five years to live.

They never believed that. He was told to take up hobbies to keep him busy and get him up, so he started raising fish. Later it was Model T's. Medications and medical treatments have improved his health over the years. He's not in perfect health now, but he's able to do more than he could in his younger days.

After their children grew up and went to college, Margaret was able to participate in some archeological projects. For a few weeks during two summers she worked in Stabiae and Pompeii with the University of Maryland, and four years later she worked in Herculaneum on graffiti with Rebecca Benefiel from Washington and Lee University. One special fall she was able to organize an exchange program between Latin students from several Chesterfield County schools and Italian students from Pliny the Elder High School in Stabiae. During that time she also served as President Elect, President and Past President of CAV. Following her retirement from teaching, Margaret served as FLAVA treasurer for five years.

In the last few years, her daughter who is suffering with her own debilitating illness and Margaret's young granddaughter have come to live with Margaret and Tom. Margaret now drives an eight-year-old to her many activities: swimming, summer camp, softball, basketball, soccer, gymnastics.

They have four other grandchildren from six to eight years old, two of whom live in Arlington and two in New York City. Both families travel extensively in Europe, continuing the tradition of their great grandmother.

A favorite educational highlight involved winning a R.E.B. Award for Teacher Excellence in 1994 that resulted in travel to Italy in the summer of 1995 where she videotaped sites to share with other teachers. She enjoyed having a young colleague and her nephew with her on this adventure. Margaret states that the traveling, creating and researching gave her such a lift. It was exhilarating to learn about videography, to travel independently, and to help supplement her county's curriculum.

When asked about a favorite Roman or Greek author, Margaret said it was whomever she was teaching at the time. She enjoyed the research and study involved and loved increasing her own knowledge/interest and then sharing those things with students and colleagues. Perhaps her favorite overall was/is Vergil's Aeneid. Outside of classically related books, Margaret's favorite books are the Outlander series which she discovered during COVID. She maintains that she has to stay away from good fiction usually as she neglects her family duties when she is absorbed in a good novel.

Margaret loves to travel and the memories of trips with students, friends, and family are some of her happiest. She has enjoyed sewing over her lifetime, making her own prom dress in high school, a child's Halloween costume, a quilt, curtains and slipcovers. In addition to these hobbies and interests, the Nature Camp Foundation is special to her and her husband

because they met at Nature Camp and were counselors together. They love helping to strengthen camp for others to enjoy it as they did.

When asked if she would do anything differently if she could start her career over again, Margaret wished that she had had the energy and time to earn a Master's degree, but she never had any desire to move up the professional ladder and out of the classroom. Margaret needed her summers to recover from the school year. She enjoyed learning new things that were applicable to her situation, but after college she was exhausted and ready to be away from academia. She loved the independence of exploring topics of her own choosing. In addition, she would make sleep more of a priority during the school week as she tended to stay up too late at night because she needed the quiet time to herself. The other thing she would do is get supportive shoes with good insoles starting on day 1!

As for advice for a young person who wants to teach Latin, Greek, or the classics, Margaret recommends attending conferences, meetings, and seminars in all of the wonderful organizations available to teachers today. She said that she gained a wealth of information, and even if she did not use the exact ideas, the stimulation fostered her own creativity, and the different teaching approaches were instructive to her own teaching career. Secondly, travel to Italy and Greece, preferably with a reputable educational organization such as the Vergilian Society. Margaret went on one of their tours in college, and it gave her a wonderful background for the rest of her career. Also, "embrace the terrifying." When asked to speak before a group or participate in a special project that puts you out of your comfort zone, do it. You will grow from the experience.

Submitted by Sue Robertson, CAV Historian



For Your Students:

CAV STUDENT AWARDS

The Classical Association of Virginia is pleased to offer TWO SCHOLARSHIPS for Latin students.

The **Wayne Wray Student Scholarship** is awarded thanks to an ongoing generous gift from Wayne W. Wray. This \$500.00 scholarship will be awarded to the student who most exemplifies a love of and the promotion of the classics. The Wayne Wray Scholarship will be awarded to a student who is passionate about Latin and has demonstrated enthusiasm on every level: in their daily classroom work, participation in club activities, and promotion of Latin within their school and/or community. While participation in CAV (and other) contests is preferred, the primary focus of this scholarship remains the student's ability to "spread the word" about classics and encourage others to study Latin.

The Jim Bigger Memorial Scholarship, funded by donations from CAV members, is given to honor the memory of long-time Virginia teacher and CAV member Jim Bigger. This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a deserving senior who excels academically and who intends to continue their study of Latin and/or Greek in college.

Any CAV member may nominate any student who is taking or has completed four or more years of Latin and/or Greek. There may be more than one nominee per school. These scholarships are not based on financial need and are not renewable. Students and teachers do not need to indicate which award they are applying to – the selection committee will determine the two awards from all applicants. Send the teacher's nominating letter, the student's letter explaining his or her relationship with Latin and worthiness for either scholarship, and a list of honors and awards the student has earned to Donald Brewster at donald_brewster@woodberry.org.

The **deadline for submission is April 1, 2027.**

BOOK and PUBLICATIONS CORNER:

Hey Y'all,

We've got three new books coming out from some 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.

Andrew Beer adds this: He has finished a book, which may be of interest to CAV members and their students:

<https://www.cuapress.org/9780813241180/st-augustines-confessions-in-latin-books-i-iv/>

Louis Ferro shares this welcome news - I've just published my first textbook which includes the text ("Cicero: *In Catilinam*, Livy: *Ab Urbe Condita*, Vergil: *Aeneid*, Ovid: *Remedia Amoris: An IB Companion Reader*") covers the IB prescribed core texts for the 2028-2030 curriculum refresh. The textbook provides room for interlinear annotations and notes, as well as running vocabulary in the margin to assist with translation. While it's directed at IB SL and HL classes, it could be used for any advanced Latin class looking to differentiate the usual readings. Here is [a link to the Amazon listing](#).

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.

No way we could omit the NLE, could we?

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- 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

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FOR REGISTRATION AND
INFORMATION

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

WWW.NLE.ORG

NLE@UMW.EDU



Looking for a way to acknowledge the awesomeness of your 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

NOMINATIONS FOR: THE ANGELA P. LLOYD BOOK AWARD AND THE LURLENE W. TODD TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

In order to streamline the process and encourage more nominations for these two awards, the nomination processes are being combined into one! Both awards are open through April 7, 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.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/j8U8RpCGXx1tPaAz5>

Jun 28 - 3C





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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