

TABULAE

DEPT. OF CLASSICS • UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA • FALL, 1996

Tanti Auguri

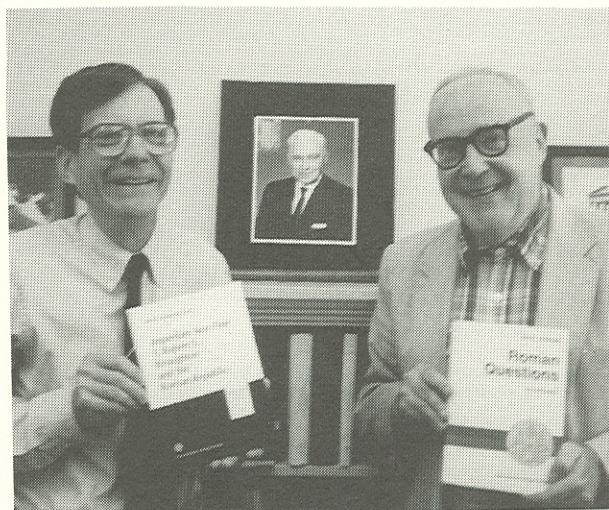
This has been a year of new and propitious beginnings for the Department. George Houston began his term as Chairman, and William Race arrived as the new Paddison Professor of Classics. We wish them both all good auguries. We also celebrate our other Paddison Professor, Jerzy Linderski, who is, among other accomplishments, an expert on augury itself.

In June, Kenneth Sams slipped off quietly to Gordion after completing his two *lustra* as Chairman. Three decades have passed so quickly under the magistracies of Kennedy, Stadter, and Sams -- not so quickly, perhaps, for those hard-working Chairs as they struggled with ever-increasing forms, pressures from South Building, all the imperious urgencies of a complex, often cumbersome State system. We are grateful for their hard work and for their unflagging support of our teaching and scholarship, often (in the post-Kennedy, post-expansionist years) in times of financial stringency, not to say crisis.

George Houston, who now wields the Marathonian scepter, is no stranger to the readers of TABULAE (which couldn't get on without him and, fortunately, hasn't had to try). He received a Bowman and Gordon Gray Professorship in the 1980's for distinguished teaching of undergraduates (one thinks especially of his longtime course in the Age of Augustus). Auspiciously, too, he has shown a consistent scholarly interest in how things were done, and who did them. Who were the Roman Imperial Administrative Personnel During the Principates of Vespasian And Titus (69-81)? That was his dissertation, under T.R.S. Broughton's magisterial direction. How were the Circus games managed? The libraries organized? What difficulties did Romans encounter because they had hours but no minutes? George has introduced a new course in Roman technology. He is just the person to tame the beastie today, to harness new skills, and new administrative requirements (in a matter of minutes? or nanoseconds?) to older needs both human and humane.

William Race, our new Paddison Professor, comes to us from Vanderbilt with a long record of distinguished teaching, scholarship, and service. His interests and knowledge range widely over Greek, Latin, and English literature, but his special loves are Homer and Pindar; his two volume Loeb edition of Pindar will appear next year, a mighty help and stimulus to classicists. Bill, we welcome you to UNC, and we look forward to picking your brains for many years to come!

Before turning to the *other* Paddison Professor, let me pause and give thanks for the George L. Paddison Endowment itself, which has brought such distinguished scholars and teachers, and such outstanding human beings, to UNC since 1958. Getty and Broughton, Young and Otis, Kennedy and Linderski: what a wonderful variety of personalities and scholarly gifts lies behind these names. For their learning, their passion, and their generosity, we are so very grateful.



George Houston (l) and Jerzy Linderski (r) hold copies of Professor Linderski's new books. The astute observer will notice Professor Broughton's portrait in the background and MRR in the bookcase.

The smaller book in the photograph is Imperium Sine Fine: T. Robert S. Broughton and the Roman Republic (Stuttgart 1996). Edited by Jerzy Linderski and dedicated to TRSB *animo grato*, it includes, with additions and expansions, papers given at our November 1994 memorial colloquium, "The Roman Republic: Politics and Prosopography." George Houston provides Fasti Broughtoniani in good, concise Roman style, as well as personal reminiscences of "this great and gentle man" from that first Cicero seminar on. Other essays, while noting the enduring importance of Broughton's work, pay it high tribute by carrying specific investigations further, with occasional disagreements or corrections, or by adding new ones that the master would have relished: as Chris Konrad (Jerzy's student) does in his paper, "Notes on Roman Also-Rans" (following Broughton's 1991 [!] monograph of a similar title); and as Jerzy does in his own paper, "Q. Scipio Imperator." I shall come shortly to Linderski the scholar; but for now, I want to note the deep, unassuming *pietas* of this volume, and also the sense of *societas* that its pages breathe, of achieved scholarly community: not least, on the second floor of Murphey Hall.

Jerzy Linderski

It is October, the birds are singing, and I am browsing through JL's Roman Questions (Stuttgart, 1995; the bigger book in the photo). Its 64 articles, reviews, and notes represent work of some thirty-five years, ranging from *Historia* and *Ius Publicum* to *Religio*, with many stops on the way. It begins with reflections on Mommsen and Syme, on the scholarship of law and the analysis of power politics. (Will some historian arise, one wonders, to combine the two?) I find and reread some favorite essays, like "Garden Parlors: Nobles and Birds" (1989), a charming, very informative account of the settings and personae of Cicero's dialogues, social distinctions and all; and "Cicero and Roman Divination" (1983), which has helped me understand Cicero's two minds as statesman and philosopher, the one including divination in his political system, the other rejecting it as *superstitio*. A final essay describes the central importance of *religio* in Livy's history -- a point strongly impressed on Jerzy's students over the years.

Let us follow the birds further into JL's monograph, The Augural Law (in *ANRW* 16.3: Berlin and New York, 1986). This is the central playground of his scholarly expertise. To laypeople, the subject seems quaint. Perhaps they have heard how, when the sacred chickens refused to eat, Claudius [P. Claudius Pulcher, consul of 249] said, "If they don't want to eat, then let them drink," and had them thrown into the sea -- and suffered a naval disaster in consequence [at Drepanum].

Sacred chickens sound like fun, together with their official keepers, the *pullarii*; but JL makes us realize, time and again, that Roman augury was a serious, complex, and highly developed *disciplina*, and one much involved in Roman history and politics, especially in the election and appointment of magistrates. JL points out that "a surprisingly great number of eminent scholars" go wrong about the details, terminology, and procedures of augury. Many examples of this scholarly *neglegentia* are cited, famous names and all. (A happy exception is Agnes Michels, whose help with the religious calendar, as in distinguishing *dies religiosi* from *dies vitiosi*, is gratefully acknowledged.) In the end, JL's greatest role model seems to be Varro, the Roman scholar and antiquarian who could write about such a "dry topic" as agriculture with "charm and laughter," and who (among the dedicatees of JL's Preface) "was possessed of erudition, curiosity, and wit." A combination that sounds strangely familiar.

When I last spoke with Jerzy about his life of scholarship, he spoke warmly of his early teachers and his early enthusiasms: for history, philology, and linguistics; for the meaning and the sheer power of words. Anyone setting out to write JL's intellectual biography would have to emphasize, first, his deep rootedness in the best European tradition of classical philology and history (and he will mention, with wonder and gratitude, how the work of collecting inscriptions continued in Berlin without a break from the Royal Prussian Academy onward, through so many world-shaking changes of name and regime); and then his experiences of trouble and change: the Communist oppression in Poland (which made university life untenable, not to say dangerous, for people of conscience), the self-chosen exile to America, and the happy sinking of roots in a new land -- at Princeton, at the University of Oregon, and (happily for us too) in Chapel Hill. If one great Linderskian theme is the centrality of law to the business of creating, defining, and maintaining a civilized society, another is the ultimate fragility of law and society, their vulnerability to the politics or accidents of power. JL's thoughts here are complex, like Varro's and Cicero's. His *pietas*, his appreciation of *societas*, is that of a skeptic and realist who will never take things for granted.

I should add (to round out the picture) that Jerzy is fascinated by play and competition, that he watches World Cup soccer religiously, and that he is himself an intense player, a very dangerous competitor, in table tennis as in scholarship. "*Vincere aut mori* is his unspoken motto," writes a former student (who should know). "Don't let his kind demeanor fool you."

Former students pay tribute, too, to the fascination of Jerzy's classes on Roman law, Cicero, or Livy (not

forgetting that first shock when they realized that lectures and discussion would sometimes be conducted in Latin!). They praise his prodigious learning, his vast bibliographical knowledge. ("Going to Jerzy with a bibliographic question is like going to a fire hydrant for a drink.") What is a student's first, most typical impression of Jerzy? Opening a packet of books, and putting them away. ("People write too many books!") From suggested topics for study to term papers and publishable dissertations, Jerzy has inspired and guided his students. Indeed, long after the Ph.D. is completed, "he remains always the mentor, tirelessly giving advice, critiquing my work in progress, and presenting a model of what a classicist can be." As I read these comments, I can't help thinking, again, of the sacred chickens: not when they refused to eat, but when they ate so greedily that crumbs fell from their beaks. That was the best omen of all. It also suggests, *mutatis mutandis*, the honest passion of scholarship that we all, students and teachers alike (if we are lucky, and well cared for) continue to enjoy.

KJR

Variae Viae Reportant

We begin, this year, on a sad note. **Jane Parnell Romani** died in childbirth on September 12, 1996. Jane's husband, David, who is now a computing expert in Davis Library, and the baby, a daughter, Celia Hairston Romani, survive; David reports that Celia is doing just fine, thanks to help from Jane's mother and many others. David can be reached at 306 Old Fox Trail, Durham, NC 27713.

There are other new children. **Liz Forbis** and **Tad Mazurek** report the birth of Marek on January 25, 1996. **Peter Aicher** writes that "**Belinda** is expecting our third, for some reason." Apparently children are good for books: Peter's *Guide to the Aqueducts of Ancient Rome* was published in 1995, and Liz's *Municipal Virtues in the Roman Empire: The Evidence of Italian Honorary Inscriptions* just appeared this summer.

It appears, however, that books will appear even without children. (Maybe children without books, too.) **Chuck Platter** (now at Georgia), **Barbara Gold** (Hamilton), and Paul Allen Miller edited *Sex and Gender in the Middle Ages and Renaissance: The Latin Tradition*, and Chuck's *A Classical Foucault Reader* has been accepted for publication by Princeton. **Debbie Felton**, now in her second year at Ball State, has signed a contract with Texas to publish a revised version of her dissertation, on Roman haunted house stories.

Other strictly classical and professional news: **Jim Anderson** won one of two *General Sandy Beaver Distinguished Teaching Professorships* at Georgia, and reports that prestige and a stipend come with the award, but that "I have to go to photo opportunities and lunches with various University administrators, who scare me." During the summer of 1995, **Alain Gowing** directed an NEH Summer Seminar for School Teachers on "Cicero's Philosophical Works and the Crisis of the Roman Republic" at the University of Washington, and he also directed Washington's Spring seminar in Rome. **Linda Gigante** (Louisville) gave a paper, "Roman Commemorative Art: Portraits of Women with the Attributes of Venus," in September 1996 (see, we are kind of up to date) at the International Congress of the History of Art, in Amsterdam. **Mark Falcon** is teaching at Ragsdale High School in Greensboro. "I am the JV cheerleading coach [using routines taken from the Sali, we can only suppose], and help out with the school musicals and plays." Mark finds high school teaching discouraging: "The problems in high school are real societal ones, and there is a general feeling of rule-lessness and unconcern with academics."

This year's MIDAS award goes to **Phil Lockhart**, who writes, "In 1990 I retired from Dickinson after 27 years. This summer a loyal alumnus and his family endowed the Department of Classics with over a million dollars. This same family had already given an endowment for scholarships in the Classics. I'll always be grateful to Chapel Hill for making me into a professional classicist rather than a simple amateur." And the PRAECO award goes to **Rob Withers**, who left us a piece of paper with "I GOT A JOB" written in large shocking-pink letters. Rob's job is as Systems and Acquisitions Librarian at Western Maryland College, and that can serve as a segue into the various non-classical news we have from you.

Mary Rutherford is now Mary A. Wolff. She is the account manager and senior copy editor with an advertising agency in High Point. She is worried about the prospect of renovations to Murphey: "I am sentimental about that dusty old building, and my concern is that if it gets updated too much, it will not seem an appropriate place for Classics studies." Rest easy, Mary; a lot of us feel the same way, although it was a delight this August to move from dial to touch-tone phones. **Nicole Pediaditakis** lives in Durham and is a research chemist at BioAnalytika Labs, Inc., in Research Triangle Park. She has one son, Igor, who is six. **Liza Reynolds** is now in her third year of law school at the University of Texas, and she was planning to work, during the summer of 1996, at the Federal Public Defender's office in Houston and a law firm in Washington, D.C. "Latin," writes Liza, "has come in handy in law school, although the pronunciation here is...unorthodox." **Don Guiney**

wouldn't write us himself, but happily Susan did: "Don and I and our two sons are living in London, where Don runs the London office of an American law firm and I have been writing fiction. I've completed my first novel, which we are looking to place." **Tamara Burkett** is in Market Research with Glaxo Wellcome in Research Triangle Park, and claims that, "I have absolutely nothing interesting for you to put in *Tabulae*. When I'm not working, I'm travelling and reading." Don't be silly, Tamara. It's **ALL** interesting. That's what keeps us going. See you all next year, same time, same place; and keep that news coming in, please.

GWH

Remaking Murphey Hall

Plans are in the works for extensive renovations to Murphey Hall. The current plan is for the Department to move to Howell Hall in the summer of 1999 and camp out there for a year or eighteen months while Murphey is renovated. The principal goals of the renovation will be to redo the heating system, provide central air-conditioning, wire the building for the computer age, remove all asbestos, upgrade some of the classrooms, and, if any money is left, paint and provide new furniture. We will all be stunned if the big lecture hall, Murphey 111, turns out to be neither too hot nor too cold, but just right. The Department then will move back to the new building more or less at the time of the new millennium. Wish us luck.

GWH

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Address Correction Requested

COMING EVENTS IN CLASSICS AT CHAPEL HILL

Saturday, March 22, 1997. In conjunction with two live performances of Aristophanes' *Birds* by the Aquila Theatre Group, the graduate students of the Department have organized the Sixth Annual Graduate Colloquium: "SKENE PAS HO BIOS. Theatre in the Ancient World." This colloquium is intended to encompass a broad range of topics on Greek and Roman drama, music, and poetry: literary criticism, aspects of performance, the archaeology of the ancient theater, art history and iconography, the history of drama, religion and drama, and the role of the dramatic arts in society. Topics related to Aristophanes and/or the *Birds* are particularly welcome. Scholars at the graduate and post-doctoral level are invited to submit original research for the colloquium. Abstracts, which should not include the presenter's name, should be 200 to 500 words long and double-spaced, and presentations should average between 15 and 20 minutes in length. Abstracts must be postmarked no later than January 6, 1996. Please send all abstracts or requests for further information to:

Christine Clarkson
Graduate Colloquium Committee
Department of Classics, CB 3145
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3145

or via email to: clarkson@email.unc.edu

Friday and Saturday, March 21 and 22, 1997: Aristophanes' *Birds*. For further information regarding the performances of the *Birds*, including ticket prices and group rates, contact the Department at 919-962-7191, or write the Chairman of the Department (address below).

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HAVE YOU MOVED? Please send us your new address:

Name:

Street address:

City, state, zip:

CAN WE REACH YOU BY EMAIL? If so, please give us your email address:

WHAT'S HAPPENING? If you have news, including news of others, and if it's news that would not give offense, please send it to: George Houston, Dept. of Classics CB 3145, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3145. (Actually, you can even send offensive news, but we may not print it. Then again, we probably will.)

Yes! I have news! My Name:
My news:

My degree and year:

NOTE: If you would like, just post us via email: gwhousto@email.unc.edu.