

# T A B U L A E

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS • THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA • FALL, 1999

## *Yielding Place To New*

The technological revolution has landed on my desk in Murphey 304, in the form of a large IBM computer. I call the creature E.T., which is short for *Equus Troianus*. I am not (don't get me wrong) ungrateful for the creature. It circulates news and notices efficiently, thus saving paper. With only a few clicks I can arrange meetings, locate books, bring back scholarly tidbits for my students - or vice versa. Already my braver colleagues have set up Web sites for their courses. What the human costs will be, remains to be seen, and we Virgilians incorrigibly tend to balance gain against loss; but our task is clear. We must do our best to ensure that the new efficiency serves, not obscures, the old humane purposes in which, through all these dizzying changes, we continue to believe. ("The old order changeth," as Tennyson's Arthur says, "yielding place to new.")

For UNC this is a time of uncertainty and transition. We are still shocked by Chancellor Michael Hooker's death from cancer. He fought the disease valiantly, as he fought to put UNC at the forefront of technological change, to make it the first among public universities. It seems only yesterday that he sat with Dean Risa Palm in our Common Room, listening encouragingly as we talked about our teaching and scholarship, about the exciting things happening in our field(s). So now we wait and wonder what the next Chancellor will be like, and the next Provost, and the post-millennial University.

In Murphey Hall, too, change is accelerating. Some people are retiring, others are coming in. I said, last April, "I want to honor Ed Brown in the next issue of TABULAE, before he retires"; but Ed, as we say in ancient Greek, escaped my notice anticipating me by planning to retire in June. Actually, he had dropped what should have been adequate hints in his usual polite, indirect, and allusive way - in the nuanced manner of his own beloved Hellenistic poets - but I had failed somehow to get the point. Maybe I didn't want to. Peter Smith will say more; and Ed himself will add, if you ask him, that he has absolutely no intention of abandoning Murphey Hall.

It was heartening to see all the bright faces, both old and new, at the first Department Meeting of 1999-2000. There was Nicola ("Nic") Terrenato, who started teaching last January and, within a few days, it seemed, made himself as much at home in Chapel Hill as he had been in Rome, or the Cecina Valley, or Durham in England. And now there is Sharon James, from Santa Cruz, Berkeley, and Bryn Mawr, whose interests run from "constructions of gender and genre" in Roman comedy and (especially) Roman elegy, through *The Divine Comedy*, to "Alcestis in Victorian England." This fall she is teaching "The Age of Augustus" to undergraduates and pushing her graduate students in Latin 112 to read more Latin poetry and prose, and faster, than they ever thought they would. We're thankful for the new faces (as well as the old) and the new energy.

In the administrative office, Kathy Sutton left us to work for the Arts and Sciences Foundation, but she hasn't stopped taking the occasional course in Murphey. We wish her the best of luck.



*Fall Picnic at Sara Mack's.  
How many faculty can you spot?*

The year 1998-99 was marked by the usual bright occasions - parties and picnics, visiting lecturers, graduation, and all - in addition to our Murphey Hall specialty, the everyday excitement of teaching and learning. A high moment was the International Colloquium on Rhetoric and Oratory in the Ancient World, in honor (naturally) of George Kennedy, on October 23 and 24. Distinguished visitors including A.D. Leeman



from Amsterdam and Michael Winterbottom from Oxford were joined by several of George's own former students, who do us proud: Andy Becker, Ed Carawan, Chris Craig, Jim May, Sheila Murnaghan, Mechtilde O'Mara, Terry Papillon. Even the distinguished honoree, who is known to dislike any fuss made about himself, must have been pleased.

A second International Colloquium, on "Sage and Emperor: Plutarch and Trajan," is being organized by Philip Stadter for June 24-27, 2000. It promises to be a grand scholarly feast, highly worth attending.

I am sorry to end on a sad note. Emeline Richardson, Professor of Classical Archaeology at UNC from 1967 to 1980, died on August 29, at the age of 89. The illness and fatigue of her last years cannot efface the memory of the Emmy we knew, the very professional expert on Etruscan bronzes (and so much else) who always remained, for all her frightening expertise, an unabashed enthusiast and most encouraging teacher. We remember, some of us, the great Toga Show. We remember Emmy striding down the corridor with at least one large Airedale in tow, and we remember the Roman Archaeology seminars in Murphey 106 whose intensity was relieved by that wonderful large picnic basket with hot tea and cookies. Our sympathy goes out to Larry (Professor Lawrence Richardson, Jr., now retired from Duke), who shared so many sites and discoveries, colleagues and friends with her, whether at Cosa and Pompeii, or at the American Academy in Rome, or just back here in Durham and Chapel Hill.

KJR

### *Ed Brown Retires*

We suppose it had to come one day, but no one wanted to anticipate it, or to admit that it would actually, really happen. He himself, characteristically, avoided calling attention to it, and by continuing to work as hard as ever in our midst he has made it easy for us to stay 'in denial'. But after thirty-eight years in the Department, Ed Brown has retired from teaching. For him, of course, this is a respite absolutely earned; but how the rest of us can take up the slack is not so clear. He and Nickey will be able to travel to Greece in seasons more benign than high Summer, and he will have full time now to carry on his work on Linear A, on the names of the Greek gods, and on other things Hellenistic, and Didactic, and Onomastic.

Ed joined our Department after completing Ph.D. work at Princeton in 1961 (we're glad he avoided the temptations of Duke, where he had taught for two

years as an ABD). He'd gone to Princeton from Haverford, where, long before the college fostered such behavior, he had the initiative to major at Bryn Mawr in Classical Archaeology; so he was part of the migration from Bryn Mawr to Chapel Hill that later brought us Berthe Marti and Bob Broughton. His interest in archaeology took him to the American School in Athens after college, and then, in 1951, to work in the Athenian Agora in the very midst of the Heroic Age of that excavation.

But before he started graduate school Ed gave his full time for several years to another lifelong commitment, the Society of Friends. He worked as an intern for the American Friends Service Committee in Chicago and then returned to Greece, where in 1953 and '54 he helped the World Council of Churches assist some eleven thousand Greek refugees, victims of war and civil war, in their emigration to the United States. His devotion to the Friends Meeting in Chapel Hill and to the Carolina Friends School have been centerpieces in his life; the latter, a bold venture which he helped to guide, as a Director, for many years, served his sons Michael and Ben (Eagle Scouts, like their father) in their education. His many friends know well that a real Quaker's work for others also leads beyond the support of institutions, and where most of us would have tired in the never-ending, usually thankless, task of intervening to help less fortunate persons, including persons with whom it may not be fashionable at the moment to sympathize, Ed has not tired. He has done much to keep us all aware of larger problems, when we would find it easier to keep our eyes on the academic ground just before our feet.

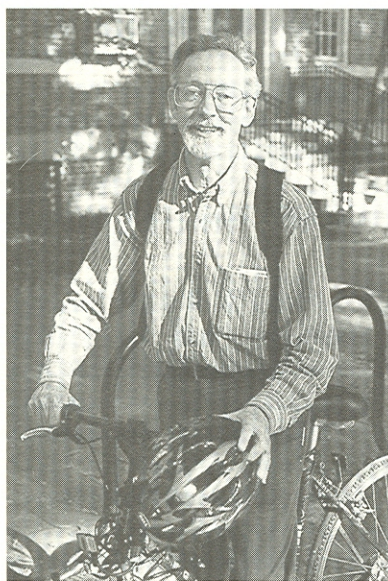
In Murphey Hall Ed has been central to our offerings of Greek studies, particularly Greek poetry, and especially his favourite fields of didactic and Hellenistic poetry. But any man who teaches and publishes in fields as (normally) disparate as Classical Archaeology, Latin epic poetry, and the Bronze-Age languages of the Aegean is clearly a man of exceptional range, and ability. His publications began in the early 60's with *Numeri Vergiliani*, in which he pursued the evidence of numerical structures and symmetries, as well as that for acrostic signatures, in the *Eclogues* and *Georgics*, investigating Vergil's probable inspiration by Aratus and Eratosthenes. Many scholars have found this book more persuasive than that of Ed's teacher at Princeton, George Duckworth, whose researches he was extending.

He turned then to other subjects, indeed to a striking variety of other subjects, but always to problems, mysteries which had puzzled his predecessors and resisted solution. The characteristic of his approach has been



to combine an expertise in archaeology, with its far-flung bibliography in numerous modern languages, with a thorough command of the best and the latest work in the study of the relevant ancient languages - Greek, Latin, Hittite, Luvian. Thus he could range from the iconography of the Portland Vase to, for example, the origins of the divine name 'Pan'. The combination of his curiosity and of his ability to bridge areas of scholarship usually separated from one another has so far led him to a series of studies of puzzling Greek words and names and also to problems arising at the intersection of poetry and astronomy in both Greek and Latin.

Most recently he has given much attention to a long-standing interest in helping to resolve the problems posed by the Cretan Bronze-Age documents in Linear A. Over the past decade he has written a series of articles which have perceptibly broadened our knowledge of the Linear-A sign-system and have added original and suggestive argument to the case for Luvian as the



*Ed Brown and his trusty bicycle.*

language of the Linear-A documents. We single out in particular his essay of four years ago on "The Linear A Signary: Tokens of Luvian Dialect in Bronze Age Crete" (*Minos*, vol. 27).

Ed has been both Hermes and Mentor (and for that matter Ino and Alkinoos and Nestor as well) to many of our most outstanding students, both undergraduate and graduate. One of them remembers that "Ed Brown was the proximal cause of my majoring in Classics," because he took the time to counsel him about learning Greek: the best way to prepare for any specialized interest in Greek texts, including the New Testament,

was to "get broad exposure to Greek literature in all its plenitude. I'm sure it was far more elegantly put than that, but that was the gist of it. The next thing I knew, I was in graduate school, reading Hesiod." Another who wrote a Senior Honors essay with him and then continued as his student to an M.A. recalls that "he managed to instill in me a deeper love for both languages and a respect for the accessible scholar that I will always treasure. He asked me to form opinions and then respected them. He always treated me as a whole person, even when I was too broken to see that possibility. I realize that after teaching Latin, and sometimes Greek, for some twenty-odd years to high school students, my best moments have been those when I have seen myself most like Ed, and my best classes have been those in which I saw eager students make that long reach Ed always encouraged me to make."

At the end of students' training, the job-search as one completes a Ph.D., Ed has been the readiest of guides and supports to all the Department's graduates. As one former student, now professor, puts it, although "he never taught me in a class, he's done more than anyone else to help me in my career." A former Director of Graduate Studies insists that Ed was the faculty member who responded more quickly and willingly than any other in helping our recent doctoral students find positions.

One former student remembers Ed's seminars as the highlights of her graduate education: "I was in both the Sophocles and the Hellenistic lit. seminar; for both classes he invited us to dinner (more than once) and each of us had been assigned another's paper to critique. Under his supervision, these evenings offered not an opportunity for demonstrating our proficiency at the expense of our classmates' morale, but an early experience in collaborative and collegial sharing of ideas and reactions." Faculty colleagues will confess that they have had the same experience: Ed has never demonstrated proficiency at the expense of others' morale (though he could have done so easily, had he wanted to) but has instead led us by example in the collegial sharing of ideas and research.

Another former graduate student will never forget Ed's characterization of the first line of the *Theogony* ("hobnailed hexameters that sound like a steam locomotive starting up") or the advice he received when he confessed he didn't think he knew enough historical linguistics for the dissertation-research he was starting out on: "Then you'll have to gather it like Johnson's lace," Ed told him. [Samuel Johnson, as all but ELB may need to be reminded, remarked that a knowledge of Greek was like lace, for "every man gets as much



of it as he can.”] All his students remember his patience with them, his respect for their ideas, and his formidable command of the scholarship on whatever topic arose between them. But even more than that they remember his commitment to the human experience focussed for us by the Greek poets. “Even when he was speaking about the smallest linguistic detail in Luvian, about the etymology of Sappho’s name, or the identification of a mythological figure on a vase, I never doubted that humanity was what mattered to Ed Brown. I hope something of that has rubbed off on me.”

So we have mixed feelings. We’re sorry that he will not be shouldering the large share of the Department’s teaching that he has done since any of us can remember. And faculty members will miss his wise and humane advice in Department meetings – and the wry, self-deprecating humour with which it has been offered, and which set an invaluable example. But he deserves a respite; and he makes it much easier for us to contemplate the future of the Department by appearing as regularly as ever in his second-floor office. He will continue to be for all of us an irreplaceable scholarly resource and an irreplaceable friend. He is an example to us (we wish we could follow it better) of gentle determination, of tactful honesty, and of patient optimism. His former students will remember, and his colleagues hope long to profit from, that inimitable sense of humour in which youthful irreverence is impossibly, but somehow inextricably, blended with the most mature humility and understanding.

PMS

### *Variae Viae Reportant*

We begin this year in the land of Boreas. **Roy Rowe** (BA ‘68) is Assistant Superintendent of the Lake and Peninsula School District in King Salmon, Alaska: he helps ride herd on 570 students in 15 small villages with K-12 schools, all Alaska natives. Not quite so far north is **Barbara Gold** (PhD ‘75), who is now Associate Dean of Faculty at Hamilton College (in New York State) and “so old that I have a son who graduated from UNC a few years back.” She hastens to assure us that she still has, despite age and deanship, “a life of the mind:” she has recently published on Juvenal and Propertius and Hrotswitha. **Kelly Spradley** (BA ‘98) spent last year in northern England, at the University of Durham, but by February was thinking about shifting to Southampton, where she could work on a dissertation on Roman

Britain under the direction of Martin Millett. **Peter Aicher** (PhD ‘86), who dwells in Maine with wife **Belinda**, is working on several projects, among them (1) a guidebook to Rome, largely through the eyes of ancient writers, more or less *à la* Dudley’s *Urbs Roma*, and (2) a study of Mussolini’s Foro Italico. Peter writes that there is a long Latin inscription under Mussolini’s obelisk (which is marked simply MUS-SOLINI DUX), and that “it is begging for a classicist to take a look at it.” **Robin Lorsch** (PhD ‘93) reports, “I’m still happily ensconced in Denmark with Christian and the 80 cows. I’ve recently received a three-year stipendiat from the Carlsberg Fund, which will support me... while I write a book on the Vestal Virgins. In other words, life is good on this side of the ocean.”

**Ashley Earnhardt** (BA ‘93) works for SmithKline Beecham. She spent four years in California, developing a taste for sushi, but last April she moved to Philadelphia, where she bought a house in center city and was, when last heard from, *deeply* involved in renovation work. (Maybe we should put her to work on Murphey Hall.) Another renovator is **Peggy Fuller** (BA ‘87), who practices law for the New Orleans Legal Assistance Corporation and with her husband bought a house built in the 1850’s. She reports that **Dennis Looney**, an honorary classicist, is now teaching at Pittsburgh (along with **Mark Possanza**, PhD ‘87).

The 1999 DAEDALUS AWARD goes to **Amanda Giannini Watlington** (PhD ‘73), who worked for many years in marketing and publishing, then in 1993 returned to teaching. She now teaches at Terra Community College in Ohio, has designed two distance-learning courses, designed and built numerous web sites, and in 1997 published a book, *Contract Engineering: How to Start and Build a Career*. She and her husband Mal (also a UNC alum, but not in Classics) maintain two homes, one in Maumee, Ohio, and the other in Boston. **Debbie Whitney** (MA ‘94) started a new job, with the Economics Department at Harvard, in the summer of 1998, but we have no more recent news.

**Ed Carawan’s** (PhD ‘80) book, *Rhetoric and the Law of Draco*, was published last year (1998) by Oxford University Press. **Martin Kilmer** (PhD ‘75) is collaborating with Robert Develin on a book about the social history of archaic Athens, and spent a leave semester photographing edible wild plants of Newfoundland for a book, *Feeding the Vikings*, which he co-wrote with a botanist friend. Martin, though younger than most of us here in Chapel Hill, has two (count ‘em)



great-granddaughters. Write him for details! (I can give you his email address.) **Wright Doyle** (PhD '75) continues to travel to Taiwan most years and sometimes, while there, teaches New Testament exegesis to students at his old seminary. **Jim Abbot** (PhD '97) taught at Agnes Scott College last year and much enjoyed the experience. His sons are now 8 (that's Thomas) and 3 (Andrew). **Chris Konrad** (PhD '85) has been chosen to edit a new on-line version of TRS Broughton's *Magistrates*. It will provide a corrected text (typos and the like), then edited entries based on post-Broughton discoveries, with the original Broughton text just a click away, and finally full citations of the passages cited in the references, with the references clickable.

**Don Wade** (PhD '69) retired from Kent State in 1994, moved to Virginia, and has been teaching Latin and Greek in the public schools of Norfolk for the past five years. **Anne Roberts** (MA '94) has been teaching Latin, Greek, and poetry "in private (posh) high schools and junior highs," and is now teaching Latin and English to seventh- and eighth-grade boys. "Imagine!" she exclaims. **Mark Falcon** (MA '90), having taught Latin for five years at Ragsdale HS in Greensboro, now teaches tennis and runs a tennis facility but says he still has time to "read a little Horace (*Odes*), sometimes." **Jon Solomon** (PhD '80), who teaches at Arizona, has been leading a fight against a proposed state law that would "prohibit instructors from requiring students to purchase obscene materials." "I teach courses on Greek myth-ology, which can tackle pretty racy stuff sometimes," Jon points out. At last word, the law was not faring well.

**Chris Brunelle** (PhD '97) and **Serena Zabin** (MA '73) were married last June. Chris is teaching at Vanderbilt this year. **Jamie Ellis** (BA '76) came back for a visit in October, on the way to Ocracoke for her father's eightieth birthday. She is based in Los Angeles, where she works as a script supervisor on films. "I'm the person who checks to make sure that, if a man enters a room holding a hat in his left hand in one shot, he is still holding the hat in his left hand in the next shot," says Jamie. She reports that George Clooney is a very nice guy, but not all stars are. **Bob Sutton** (PhD '81) ordinarily teaches in Indianapolis, but spent May 1998 at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes in Paris. "My duties were to deliver two two-hour seminars in French," reports Bob; "somehow I was able to read translations of my papers so that they could understand them, though my French conversation was disrupted by Greek words I scattered randomly here and there." Following his stint in Paris, Bob headed on to Athens to do a session of the School's summer program. Rumors of a Chapel Hill mafia have received some support lately. Volume 211 of the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, on Ancient Roman Writers, edited by **Ward Briggs** (PhD '74), has contributions by **Jim May** (PhD '77), **Harry Evans** (PhD '72), **Tim Moore** (PhD '86), **Chris Craig** (PhD '79), **Stephen Newmyer** (PhD '76), **Hans-Friedrich Mueller** (PhD '94), and **Peter Aicher** (PhD '86). Also **Kenneth Reckford**. And **Ward Briggs**. *Gaudeamus igitur*.

GWH

TABULAE  
Department of Classics  
CB #3145, Murphey Hall  
The University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3145

Addressee

Address Correction Requested



## COMING EVENTS IN CLASSICS AT CHAPEL HILL

**SAGE AND EMPEROR: PLUTARCH AND TRAJAN.** An international conference exploring the interaction of Plutarch and other Greek intellectuals with the emperor and the ruling elite of the Roman Empire. Papers in the areas of Literature, History, Art, Architecture, and Philosophy. Sponsored by the Department of Classics of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with the support of the Departments of Art, History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies. June 24-27, 2000. Some thirty scholars from North America and Europe have so far indicated that they will be giving papers. For further information, including instructions on the submission of abstracts, see [www.classics.unc.edu/Plutarch](http://www.classics.unc.edu/Plutarch).

**THE ANIMAL IN THE ANCIENT WORLD** will be the topic of the UNC/Duke Graduate Colloquium on Saturday, March 25, 2000. Keynote speaker will be Christopher McDonough (PhD '97 and now at Boston College). We invite the submission of abstracts from all disciplines for papers dealing with real live animals, animals in literature, depictions of animals, animals as symbol and metaphor, or any other aspect of animals or the animal in the Greek and Roman worlds. Interested? For further information, please contact Keyne Cheshire or Mark Mash at [kac6599@email.unc.edu](mailto:kac6599@email.unc.edu) and [mmash@email.unc.edu](mailto:mmash@email.unc.edu) respectively.

**Planning a visit?** If you plan a visit to Chapel Hill, we'd love to see you, so please let the chairman know: George Houston, [gwhousto@email.unc.edu](mailto:gwhousto@email.unc.edu); or you might want to get a list of the lectures we are sponsoring this year. For that, contact the Department office at 919-962-7191.

\* \* \* \* \*

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, 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 or [gwhousto@email.unc.edu](mailto:gwhousto@email.unc.edu). (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 degree and year:

My news: