



# Nuntius

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## SALVETE

For the past three years, I have been privileged to serve as a national officer of Eta Sigma Phi. As treasurer for two consecutive years, I found it difficult to trade the books for the president's gavel. I had grown accustomed to seeing the books on my shelf. But the honor of serving as megas prytanis has been incomparable, and so, as spring approaches, and I prepare to be graduated, I also prepare to entrust that office to another. I hope to leave behind a feeling of optimism and enthusiasm for all who follow, and I intend to carry forward the values and experiences that I have acquired through my association with Eta Sigma Phi.

Members of this organization by their efforts to promote goodwill and friendship among students of Classics (a goal which binds us together), have enriched my life. I am confident that each of you will also profit from your experience as a member of Eta Sigma Phi. Through these experiences you will be able to enhance your lives and the lives of those around you. Thank you for giving me three memorable years; together, may we always be "lovers of wisdom and beauty."

Cum amore,

Eileen M. Torrence  
Megas Prytanis

## SUMMER IN ROME, 1984

by Margaret Worsham Musgrove

In the summer of 1984, I had the privilege of attending the summer session of the American Academy in Rome because of the Eta Sigma Phi Scholarship. This program, which in six weeks covers an incredible number of the major (and some of the minor) classical sites in and around Rome, helped me see Rome's history in its physical context and gave me some intriguing glimpses of how Romans must have lived.

One of the frustrating things about the literature and history of most eras is that we can see the lives only of the upper classes, for the most part. We never have much of the personal testimony of the ordinary people who worked every day and whose lives were too busy or too dirty to bother with poetry or formal philosophy. But occasionally, we can get a small clue to how an ordinary Roman must have lived and felt.

For me, this clue comes not from the great public monuments, which are elucidating and exhilarating, but whose sheer size and grandeur obscure our view of the common individual Roman. When I look at the Colosseum, I think of the magnitude of such an architectural undertaking, and of the Emperors connected with it, and of the tens of thousands of spectators. Certainly these thousands included the "ordinary" people, but the Colosseum does not really help me understand these people as Romans. Perhaps I associate them too much with modern football crowds, milling around similar huge structures. I know what ordinary people going to violent games are like, but what are Romans like?

One of the reasons for the popularity of Pompeii and for its usefulness to students of classical history is of course that Pompeii gives us the ancient inhabitants' physical environment almost intact. In a street in Pompeii, we do not have to "imagine away" any cars or bus-stops, as we must do in downtown Rome. We can get a unified picture of a large area where actual Romans lived and worked, not just a stone or two from the foundation of a temple, or a bit of Roman wall in the basement of a modern restaurant.



Professor Harry Evans discusses Roman domestic architecture outside the House of Diana, an *insula* in Ostia.

But there is a place which, even more than Pompeii, makes me feel the lives of real Romans. This place is Ostia, the port-town of Rome, to which our summer group made two visits. Ostia today is not so much intact as Pompeii, because Ostia was not buried under lightweight, preserving ash. But the excavated area of Ostia shows the plan of the city extremely well, preserves building and walls of surprising height, and, of course, still has those streets with their wheel-grooves and hitching-posts.

The buildings at Ostia include numerous baths, apartment houses, and warehouses. In buildings such as these I thought that I could see the ancient people best. I could see the warehouse offices of enterprising grain-merchants, who may have done well financially but who also worried about the day-to-day details of their business. I saw the offices of their accountants and stock-clerks. In the *insulae*, I saw apartments ranging from the medium-sized and comfortable, complete with garden in the courtyard, to the tiny and horribly dark rooms of the high-rise "House of Diana," which, someone remarked, bore an unfortunate resemblance to a large college dormitory. In another building in Ostia, I felt I could not only imagine the people there but that I could actually recognize them. This building was the *taberna* next to the House of Diana. This shop seems, by its floorplan and contents, to have been a back-street neighborhood bar and grill, just like the one we went to all the time in Rome in 1984.

The artwork found at Ostia is also interesting. At Pompeii, one sees shops and graffiti, but one primarily remembers the fancy houses and colorful paintings. Ostia had paintings and sculpture, but the most outstanding art form of Ostia is the black-and-white mosaic. These mosaics are everywhere, especially on the floors of baths and houses, and depict complex scenes with extraordinary artistic skill, but use only two colors. I like mosaic floors because they are both functional and decorative, and the two-color ones at Ostia seem especially to show the Roman combination of practicality and artistic imagination.

I must admit that another of the reasons I like Ostia is that tourists do not flock there, as they do to Pompeii. We had little interference in our visits to this town, which, I feel, gives an excellent view of the lives of Romans whom we cannot always see in our other sources.

I am extremely grateful to Eta Sigma Phi for awarding me this scholarship and giving me the opportunity to visit Italy in such a beneficial program. I also appreciate the diligent and learned leadership of last summer's director of the program, Professor Harry Evans. I highly recommend the Academy's summer session to other Classics students.

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# RES GESTAE



## Alpha Omega Louisiana State University

The Alpha Omega Chapter had at least one activity in each month of the spring semester. Early in February we held a formal, initiation banquet at Gino's Italian Restaurant. In early March we enjoyed a lecture by Professor Crump of LSU's Department of History.

In April, we saw a performance of the **Medea** on wide screen TV in the Union Building, and on May 3, we enjoyed the annual installation of officers and a crawfish boil at the Cotton Club Restaurant.

We have at LSU one of the largest undergraduate Latin programs in the country, and by moving the date of our initiation from late spring to February, we were able to initiate some fifty-two new members.



## Beta Alpha University of South Dakota

For the second year in a row we fielded a team in the campus Quiz Bowl competition, and we placed second (for the second time, too) in a field of thirty-two teams. John Thulin, our team's captain, was selected as a member of USD's all-star team which competed in regional contests in Iowa City.

In the winter, we traveled as a group to Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa, to see a spirited performance of the **Lysistrata** in their college Theatre. Professor Michael Davies, Professor and Mrs. Froberg, and members of our chapter enjoyed dinner at the Normandy Restaurant before the performance.

In April, Bryan Lipp, Martha Hastings, and Dick Inglett traveled by auto with Professor Froberg to the National Convention in Northfield, Minnesota. Bryan, who will be a graduate student in Classics at Columbia University in fall, 1985, received the tie clasp with Eta Sigma Phi insignia donated to the fraternity by Dr. Laurence Welch, a life member of Eta Sigma Phi and a member of the University of Pennsylvania's Omicron Chapter.



## Beta Beta Furman University

Our activities have been rather limited during the past two years. The chapter did have the distinct privilege of joining with Alpha Iota chapter of the University of South Carolina in installing the Epsilon Rho chapter at the College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina, on October 28, 1983. Other meetings have been on February 2, 1984, and February 12, 1985, to initiate new members. We plan at least one more meeting this year to elect officers for next year and to hear an account of Dr. Anne Leen's trip to see the Roman ruins in southern France during the summer of 1984.

## Beta Iota Wake Forest University

The Beta Iota Chapter of Eta Sigma Phi convened early in September to discuss plans for our annual Saturnalia celebration. The feast was held on November 13, 1984. After a delicious meal, the guests at Saturnalia were treated to a Latin version of Dicken's **A Christmas Carol**, complete with costumed ghosts! Members had a chance to have a dress rehearsal when we performed **A Christmas Carol** for a meeting of the Junior Classical League on November 9, 1984. Also at the festival we conducted our traditional toga contest, and we had some rather unusual and creative contestants!

On February 26, 1985, the Beta Iota chapter sponsored a lecture by Professor Robert Ulery entitled, "What Are They Doing in the Roman Forum?" Dr. Ulery presented slides from a recent trip to Rome in order to explain some of the restorations currently being conducted there.

Our last meeting of this school year was the occasion for initiating fifteen new members into our chapter. After the ceremony in David Chapel, we gathered at the home of Dr. Ulery for a picnic-style meal. The dinner was a great way for old members to become acquainted with the new members, and we are anticipating an even busier year in 1985-86!



## Beta Kappa College of Notre Dame of Maryland

Our chapter was occupied during the fall semester with planning and offering preliminary lectures in preparation for a study tour of Italy in January under the direction of our adviser, Sister Thérèse Marie Dougherty. The tour would visit Pompeii, Naples, Rome, and Florence. Our chapter provided three sessions that were beneficial both to the travelers and to those who were not able to participate in the trip. Fr. David Pietropaoli, who had spent a few years at the Gregorian University in Rome, spoke about the monuments of Rome and gave a good bit of advice on getting around in Rome today. Gladys Callahan, past president of the Maryland Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America and an honorary member of our chapter, gave an excellent illustrated talk on Florence and Renaissance art. Our own Sister Thérèse Marie took us by way of slides through the ancient city of Pompeii.

The tour itself proved to be different from what had been anticipated. The group became part of an historic event, the worst winter in Italy in almost 100 years, and many plans had to be changed because of snow. While there was some disappointment because of closings for snow, the group learned much about the coping power of twentieth-century Italy in addition to archaeological study.

We opened our spring semester with our annual fundraiser, selling Dottie Smith jewelry and accessories. Although this, too, was hampered by snow, we were able to call it a success.

Our annual Latin Day for high school students was held in April, with several schools from the Baltimore-Washington area competing. This year we added just for fun a contest entitled Rota Latinae, our Latin version of "Wheel of Fortune."

Six new members were inducted on March 18, but in May we said goodbye to six graduating seniors. The year ended with our annual covered-dish dinner, at which the graduates were presented with Eta Sigma Phi T-shirts purchased from Epsilon Omicron chapter.

Debbie Charvat  
Prytanis



### **Gamma Omicron Monmouth College**

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Gamma Omicron commemorated Vergil's birthday with an initiation ceremony on October 15, 1984. Scott H. Buhmann was initiated along with two honorary members, Skip Burhans and Thomas J. Sienkewicz. Mr. Burhans, the reference librarian at Monmouth College, was recognized for his life-long interest in the Classics. Dr. Sienkewicz, the new chairman of the Classics Department, is also faculty adviser to our chapter.

On October 20, 1984, Eta Sigma Phi and the Classics Department sponsored a Drama Symposium in conjunction with the College Theatre Production of Sophocles's *Antigone*. Speakers included Dr. Steve Fineberg from Knox College, Dr. James Daly from Loyola University, Miss Nancy Sultan from Northern Illinois University, and Monmouth's own Dr. Sienkewicz.

On December 5, 1984, the chapter helped the Classics Department present a public lecture by Rev. Raymond Schoder, S.J., of Loyola University. This illustrated lecture, "Pompeii and Its Art," began a drive to establish a chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America in western Illinois.

On December 19, 1984, the chapter celebrated Saturnalia at the home of Miss Bernice L. Fox, emeritus professor of Classics at Monmouth College and founder of Monmouth's chapter of Eta Sigma Phi in 1956. Miss Fox entertained members with a reading in Latin from the Christmas Story in the gospel of Luke, with a history of the Roman feast of Saturnalia, and with a slide show on Rome. Festivities were concluded with Miss Fox's traditional and delicious strawberries and ice cream.

The chapter began the new calendar year with a program sponsored together with Liedman Hall, where our prytanis, Kim Edwards, is a Resident Assistant. The program was presented by our honorary member, Skip Burhans, who gave an illustrated lecture entitled, "A Stone Age Excavation in Greece." Skip's interesting talk was based upon his summer of excavation at the Franchthi Cave in the Argolid, Greece.

On March 18, 1985, the chapter held its second initiation of the academic year. New initiates were: Deborah E. Howard, David E. Kittell, Melinda J. Heikes, James L. Parker, Paul D. Babcock, Rebecca M. Millikan, William C. Myers, and Karen J. Swank. At this meeting the chapter expressed its thanks to Kim Edwards, its outgoing prytanis, for keeping the chapter going almost single-handedly during the past year. The following new officers were elected at this meeting: Karen Swank, prytanis; Jim Parker, hyparchos; Dave Kittell, chrysothylax; and Debbie Howard, grammateus.

On April 17, 1985, the chapter held a public meeting at which Miss Fox presented an illustrated talk entitled, "Classical Mythology and Cartoons." All present enjoyed Miss Fox's humor and benefited from her learning.

On May 6, 1985, four members, Karen Swank, Debbie Howard, Jim Parker, and Dr. Sienkewicz traveled to Galesburg to establish a new chapter of Eta Sigma Phi at Knox College, where five charter members were inducted.

The chapter looks forward to celebrating its thirtieth anniversary during the next academic year.

### **Delta Upsilon Valparaiso University**

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Several members met early in September, 1984, with Professor Helms to plan activities for the academic year 1984-85. On November 22 several members helped in hosting the first high school Latin Day, in which more than 250 area high school students participated. On December 1 a delicious meal was enjoyed at the Greek Islands in Chicago to begin the Christmas festivities. On February 11, David Greene of the University of Chicago spoke on Herodotus. Professor Green arrived and left in a snowstorm, but in spite of this we had a record turnout.

The spring initiation of new members was held on April 14, 1985, at the Villa Helmsiana.

On April 15, in conjunction with the new Valparaiso chapter of the American Institute of Archaeology, Dr. John Pedley, of the Kelsey Museum of Ancient and Medieval Archaeology of the University of Michigan, presented a lecture on excavations at Paestum in southern Italy.

On Thursday, April 18, members of Eta Sigma Phi traveled to the national convention at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

On April 26, 27, and 28, members of Delta Upsilon participated in the Total Latin Immersion program at St. Maur's Monastery in Indianapolis. Special wines were imported from Italy to provide authentic flavor, and all participants were required to dress in Roman garb.

On Wednesday, May 1, a trip to Terre Haute, Indiana, was made to see a production of *Oedipus Rex* performed at Indiana State University.

On May 5, the Greek 20 and Latin 20 classes had their annual bacchanalia at the Villa of the Mysteries (Helms House). At this time we said farewell to four of our graduating seniors.

John Helms, Adviser



### **Epsilon Epsilon Rockford College**

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Epsilon Epsilon Chapter members participated, as usual, in the lectures of the Rockford Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. On October 17, Dr. Ann Steiner of Franklin and Marshall College spoke on "A Hero Comes of Age," based on the myths of Heracles. Dr. Daniel Taylor, adviser to Alpha Omicron Chapter of Lawrence University, delighted his audience with "Olympia and the Olympic Games," on November 7. On February 27, Dr. Josiah Ober from Montana State University spoke on "Greek Military Architecture," while on March 13, Dr. Jean-Pierre Sodini of the Sorbonne University spoke on "Dead Cities of Northern Syria." An intriguing lecture was "Ancient Egyptian Technology," by Mr. William Hyzer of Janesville, Wisconsin, an engineer, who spoke at our meeting on March 27, 1985.

In early December, Latin students sang carols at the annual wassail hour, sponsored by the Student Services Office. In March, chapter members attended a faculty seminar on the Etruscans by Professor Raymond, L. Den Adel, chapter adviser. On April 1, six people were initiated into the chapter, including Dr. Walter Whipple, Music Department Chairman, as an honorary member. Membership certificates were again awarded at the honors day ceremonies in late April.

Sandra Benedix  
Prytanis

## A PERSONAL NOTE

Although I never studied with Miss Ewing in the classroom, I did take many lessons from her in living. I first met her after I had received a scholarship established in her honor, but I had known of her from the time I was a child. My father had been a student of Miss Ewing's during the 1930s, and he always spoke of her with great admiration and affection. When I came to know her myself, I completely understood my father's sentiments. She became for me a model of integrity and virtue.

I shall never forget a visit I made to her after learning of her illness. Miss Ewing cheered me rather than allowing me to give her sympathy. She was accepting and unquestioning, but most of all, she was thankful for the full life she had led--a life which, she told me, had been enhanced by Classics.

Miss Ewing's influence upon my family and upon countless others has been long-standing and deep-felt. I am sure that it will never end.

Eileen M. Torrence  
Indiana State University

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### GERTRUDE N. EWING: 1902-1984

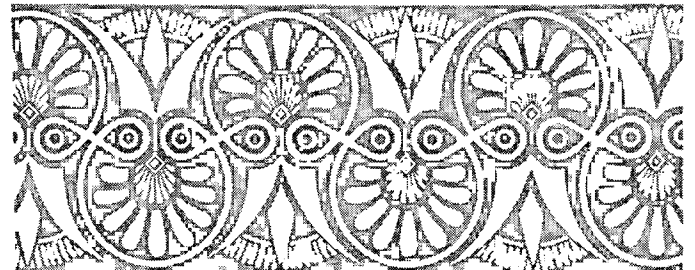
Gertrude Ewing, the founder of Gamma Alpha Chapter died on March 30, 1984. Gertrude served Eta Sigma Phi for many years and in many ways, notably as a member of the Board of Trustees and of the Scholarship Committee.

She had studied at Indiana State Teachers College, Indiana University, College of William and Mary, and the Vergilian School. In 1969 she retired as Professor of Latin from Indiana State University where she had taught for thirty-eight years, but this retirement was to be only from her teaching duties as she remained active and interested in the field until her death. She had a deep love for Classics which was surpassed only by that for her students--a feeling which was returned by all. In 1982 many of her former students returned to campus, supposedly to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Gamma Alpha, but really to see Gertrude. This affection for her was also felt by today's students, who had never had her for a teacher, but came to know her through her continued interest and involvement with the Latin program. So often did these students visit or phone her or invite her to their functions.

In her last days she remarked to a student that she was happy with her life and had lived it according to **De Senectute**.

Her Ovatio from the Classical Association of the Middle West and South named her **magistra magistrorum**, and the Latin teachers indebted to her are countless. Her influence will still be felt as future students are aided by the Gertrude Ewing Latin Scholarship, established and supported by this great lady's former students.

James O. Loyd  
Indiana State University



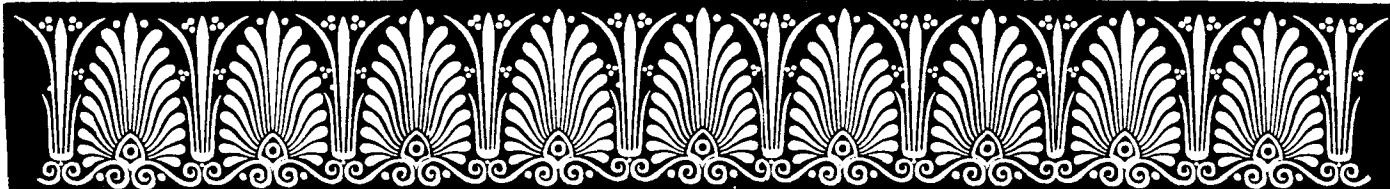
### CHARLOTTE'S WEB IN LATIN

Miss Bernice L. Fox, professor emeritus at Monmouth College in Illinois and an honorary member of the Board of Trustees of Eta Sigma Phi, has just completed translating into Latin E.B. White's delightful little book, **Charlotte's Web**. Harper and Row have refused her permission to submit this book to a publisher because they think that they may some day (but not now) want to publish a translation of their own, and they want no other version on the market. However, Mr. White himself has given permission for Miss Fox to have not more than one hundred copies printed privately. She is making this book, **Tela Charlottae**, available to members of Eta Sigma Phi, so long as the supply lasts. The printing cost her considerably more than the selling price, but she is selling them for \$9.95 a copy, plus \$1.05 each for postage. Please send orders with checks to: Miss Bernice L. Fox, 1025 Cramer Court, Monmouth, Illinois 61462.

## ANNUAL REPORT

### ETA SIGMA PHI MEDAL FUND

Cash on hand, January 1, 1984	\$389.21	Cash on hand, December 31, 1984	188.39
RECEIPTS:		Value of CD 9536 on December 31, 1984	589.46
Sale of large silver (1) @ \$13.00	13.00	Value of CD 180349 on December 31, 1984	166.50
Sale of small silver (11) @ \$7.50	82.50	Value of CD 180241 on December 31, 1984	690.07
Sale of small bronze (17) @ \$4.00	68.00	Total cash	\$1634.42
Interest	6.89	INVENTORY:	
Postage and handling	8.00	10 large silver medals @ \$13.00	130.00
Total receipts	\$178.39	172 small silver medals @ \$7.50	1290.00
DISBURSEMENTS:		143 small bronze medals @ \$4.00	572.00
To CD 180241	379.21	Total value of medals	\$1992.00
Total disbursements	\$379.21	TOTAL VALUE (money and medals)	\$3626.42



### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND, 1984

Chapters and members contributed a total of \$440.00 to the Endowment Fund in 1984. Eta Sigma Phi is grateful to all of those members whose contributions help to sustain our scholarship program. Life memberships (which include a lifetime subscription to the **Nuntius**) are available for a \$50.00 contribution to the Endowment Fund.

Beta Kappa Chapter, College of Notre Dame of Maryland  
Gamma Omicron Chapter, Monmouth College

Professor Theodore F. Bedrick, Gamma Iota Chapter, Wabash College  
Professor Brent Froberg, Beta Alpha Chapter, University of South Dakota  
Professor John Rexine, Delta Zeta Chapter, Colgate University

During 1984, Professor John Rexine became a Life Member of Eta Sigma Phi.