ROME, 1979

Diane Fortenberry, a member of Lambda Chapter at the University of Mississippi, won the Eta Sigma Phi scholarship for the 1979 Summer Session at the American Academy in Rome. Diane found her summer in Rome useful, since she is now a graduate student in classical archaeology at the University of Cincinnati. What follows is Diane's account of her summer:

"The 1979 Summer Session of the American Academy at Rome was an incredible experience academically, socially, and gastronomically. The group of twenty-four classicists (and one land shark) had a first-hand view of the ancient Romans and the modern ones, heard lectures by eminent archaeologist Frank Brown (the Roman Forum) and Italian-cum-Frenchman Raoul (the necropolis excavations below St. Peter's), and became experts, before the six weeks were over, in identifying different types of tufa as well as varying grades of wine.

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ROME 1979

The program was organized chronologically, beginning with a study of the Bronze and early Iron Age in-habitants of Italy (two "tomb of Atys", surrounded by fields of watermelons!), and continuing through the Etruscans, the Republic, and the Empire. Our survey of Etrusia took us to the painted tombs at Caeurn (modern Cerveteri) and Tarquinii, and to the rarely-open Museum of Vulci, containing a collection of Etruscan and imported Greek artifacts enclosed in the most picturesque medieval castle in all Italy. And it was while climbing through the beautiful Al itin Hills in search of signs of earlier habitation that we happened upon "Ciceron's villa" at Tusculum and thought how superb it would be at the sight of that hang-glider landing in his fields.

From the Etruscans we tripped through the bloody years of Roman expansion, visiting Norba—a spec-tacular site atop towering cliffs—and Cassa, where a truly unique restoration attempt has been carried out in the form of an antiquarium whose walls and floors reproduce or indicate the lines of the destroyed Roman houses on top of which the museum is built. Because Casa was sacked in 70 B.C., the entire site dates to the Republican era, one of the few very few of remains of that period in Italy.

The Imperial Age has understandably left the most ex-tensive remains in and around Rome, and we studied these remains from all levels: we descended beneath the Rome-Ostia Metro to the Underground Basilica at Porta Maggiore and saw the walls shake with every passing train; then we climbed to the top of the Pantheon to peer through the oculus (where we were cheerfully told that to let anything drop through the floor would mean certain death to the unfortunate tourist below.

The 1979 session was the third and last directed by Professor George Houston of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who was assisted by James Anderson, also of Chapel Hill. Certainly, credit must go to Professor Houston for the six weeks of lectures on virtually every aspect of Roman history and archaeology, and to his persuasive abilities dealing with uncooperative guards, with surly bus drivers, and with various other crises. In addition, he structured the program so as to provide us with time to visit medieval, Renaissance, and modern Rome, to revisit sites and museums covered with the group, and to tour other cities such as Pompeii and Herculanum.

But even more, George deserves credit for making the summer program so much fun: for taking on the persona of Horace as he led us through that gentleman's Sabine villa and then initiating a water-fight at the spring above the farm, for climbing with us to the top of Trajan's Column (from which a couple of us threw flowers to the crowd below), and for continuing Raoul, the rubber land shark, as the official mascot of the 1979 Summer Session. The Summer Session of the American Academy was part of an unforgettable summer, one in which I learned more than I thought possible both inside and outside the classroom. My sincere thanks go to Eta Sigma Phi for making the experience possible, and to the Classics Department of the University of Mississippi for their encouragement and support.

NUNITUS

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The location of Eta Sigma Phi, National Honorary Classical Fraternity, Founded in 1914, Nationalized in 1924. Incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois, June 20, 1927.

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SALVETE OMNES:

I say it frequently, and you have probably read it in the Nunitus before, too: tradition is on our side. Recently some things have happened that have confirmed my belief that Eta Sigma Phi's traditions will continue to foster the study of the Classics.

Consider this year's National Convention. Eta Chapter has planned a meeting to rival in quality any of the great meetings of the past. Because we shall meet in Tallahassee, Florida, at the campus of Florida State University, many southern chapters will be able to send delegates this year. Our southern chapters over the past two years have led the way in renewal and reactivation, and so a convention at an attractive southern site could not come at a better time.

Encouraging, too, is the excellent response that Laura Hackbarth's question-naire has received from delinquent or dormant chapters. A return to traditional basic education on many campuses and a new interest in Honorary Fraternities have meant a fresh, new interest in Eta Sigma Phi. The Alpha Omega Chapter at Louisiana State University will be reactivated this spring. Sigma Chapter at Miami of Ohio, Gamma Lambda Chapter at Saint Mary's College, Gamma Xi Chapter at Howard University, and Delta Omicron Chapter at Texas Tech University will renew their charters shortly. We have also received one petition for a charter for a new chapter. Renewal is a tradition that strengthens the Fraternity.

The tradition of awarding Eta Sigma Phi medals continues, too. Last spring we received by phone an order for medals from someone who was retiring from teaching Latin at the end of the year. Imagine my pleasure when this particular teacher told me that she had been the recipient of an Eta Sigma Phi medal forty years ago when she had been a high school student. She had treasured that medal all of her adult life. I realized that many of this year's recipients of medals may themselves, one day, be awarding medals, too.

All of you can enjoy those vital traditions which give us strength and continuity. Does your chapter observe any long-time traditions? Write to the National Office if you have some; we are always pleased to hear from you.

I am looking forward to being with many of you soon in Tallahassee. Have a safe trip.

Brent M. Froberg

Executive Secretary

An Alumnus Writes

This past autumn, a letter from Milton Salasky, M.D., of Norfolk, Virginia, came to the National Office. Dr. Salasky had used the "Hot Line" of his local newspaper to reestablish contact with the National Office. When we answered his letter, we asked him whether his work in Classics had helped him in his pro-fession. Here is what he wrote:

"When I was a student at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia, 1927-1931 (B.A., Degree), I took two years of classical Greek and one year of Latin (Ovid)—this was after four years of high school Latin. Did my work in the Classics help me in any special way? Emphatically yes! Because my pre-medical education was classics-oriented rather than science-weighted, I found myself in some respect perhaps a bit more "rounded" than many of my colleagues whose pre-medical education was a concentration in the sciences. I believe that the American Medical Association now favors a more broadly based pre-medical education with less emphasis on science, although, of course, certain minimum requirements of the latter must be met. And if I were devising a curriculum I would have it so. Thus you can see why after some time I am proud that I was inducted into Eta Sigma Phi at the College of William and Mary in 1929 (approximately May 1st)."
Acrocorinth only to scramble into its cisterns just to “see what they’re like”; experiencing the serene beauty of Epidaurus where the very air was healing; appreciating firsthand the commanding presence of the temple of Poseidon at Sounion and the fragile splendor of Aegina’s temple of Aphaia. There were also simple pleasures such as swimming in the hidden bay of Perachora; sharing lunch with a young Israeli couple in a cool postcard gate near the top of Mistra; savoring a cup of cafe metzo at the Omorfo after dinner in Loring Hall; taking a short cut through Michael Gardens not to go to the Acropolis and stopping to feed the swans on the way; reading uninterrupted for hours in the library; finding a taverna with really good kalamari.

And yet beyond all these, there was Delphi. From the moment the road curved away to give us our first glimpse of Mount Parnassos, I felt as if I had come home. So many of the essential elements of Greek civilization are gathered there that it was impossible to experience fully everything in three short days. The first afternoon’s tour of the museum only whet the appetite; such a rich collection deserved detailed examination. It would have been so easy to spend hours with the Charioteer alone. But time passed quickly, and the second morning found us working our way through the upper site as members of the group gave reports on the treasuries of Sicyon and Athens, the temple of Apollo, the theatre, and the stadium. Each presentation took us higher up the mountainside, until the summit of the “gleaming hills” seemed only a few yards away. Eventually we descended to the road, only to hear one middle-aged female tourist say to another, “So this is Delphi! Where did Apollo live?”

After a break for lunch under the trees, we quenched our thirst at the Castalian spring. Even though Byron scorned the Spring’s reputed powers and complained of its taste, I found the water quite good. We went on to the sanctuary of Athena Pronaia, which served as the entrance to the Sacred Way. Unfortunately, little is left of her temple but the foundation. The most impressive structure by far is the Tholos, whose three remaining columns stand linked and mute against the sky, while scholars debate the building’s purpose.

Our third day was devoted to the two churches of Hosios Loukas, some distance from Delphi proper, but somehow connected. This, too, is an important aspect of Greek life and, though not strictly classical, one which should not be ignored. It was impossible to look at the gleaming mosaics within and the lacy brickwork without but not see echoes of the temples only a few miles away in Delphi.

The session continued, of course, for another fourteen days. It was an awe-inspiring and beautiful, somewhat haunting, all of great interest. And yet, there will always be Delphi, and I must return.”

**Our Newest Chapter**

Epsilon Kappa Chapter at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, is Eta Sigma Phi’s newest chapter. Professor Raymond Don Adel, one of Eta Sigma Phi’s Trustees, visited the BYU campus in January, 1979, to deliver a series of lectures. He inspired the large number of Classics students at Brigham Young to petition the National Organization for a charter and for admission to the Fraternity as Epsilon Kappa Chapter.

While the Fraternity reviewed BYU’s petition, eleven undergraduate students and two graduate students formed a Classics Society and selected officers. In March, they sponsored Dr. Arthur H. King who lectured on the importance of the Classics in the study of modern literature.

In May, Eta Sigma Phi granted a charter to Brigham Young University, and the new chapter initiated thirteen members, on September 27, 1979. Twenty-one new initiates became active members, and Epsilon Kappa had a total of thirty-four members. In October, the chapter sponsored a lecture given by Dr. Douglas Phillips on pre-classical Greek architecture. Epsilon Kappa is planning further activities and anticipates more growth. Eta Sigma Phi is pleased to have such a large, energetic chapter in the west.

**Contributions Increase**

During the year that has passed since we last published a list of Eta Sigma Phi’s contributors, the size of the list has doubled, and chapters and individuals gave a total of $775.20. Financially, these are difficult times; yet, Eta Sigma Phi’s donors continue to make our prospects bright. The Fraternity is deeply grateful to all of you who make our Scholarship Program successful:

- Beta Kappa, College of Notre Dame of Maryland
- Beta Upsilon, Marshall University
- Gamma Alpha, Indiana State University
- Gamma Iota, Wabash College
- Gammas Omicron, Monmouth College
- Professor Grace L. Bessie, Beta Alpha (University of South Dakota)
- Professor Brent M. Froberg, Beta Alpha (University of South Dakota)
- Ruth (Mrs. Lawrence) Froberg, Theta (Indiana University)
- Professor Louise Hoy, Beta Upsilon (Marshall University)
- Estella Kyne, Epsilon University of Iowa
- Dr. Charles G. Lattimer, Alpha Pi (Gettysburg College)
- Professor Ruth Longacre, Gamma Theta (Georgetown College)
The names of the winners of theEta Sigma Phi translation contests will be revealed at the banquet and the winners of the summer scholarships will also be announced. A convivium and entertainment will follow the banquet.

Saturday morning is the time for a business meeting and the election of officers for 1980-81. When the meeting is over, Eta Chapter has invited those who can stay to take an excursion down the St. Mark’s River to the Gulf. This excursion will give members of Hyperborean chapters a welcome head start on summer and a great chance to enjoy the wonderful Florida sun and beaches. Eta Chapter wants as many as possible to come; anyone who may not have received an invitation or who may need additional information should write to: Michael Painter, Classics Department, The Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, 32306.

The second program will present a new method of teaching Latin developed by FSU’s Professor Walter Forehand with the assistance of Mary Haskins, a graduate student in Classics. The new method is a variation of the Russia or Dartmouth method which was first used to teach modern foreign languages at Dartmouth University. The program has proved effective in teaching Latin to first-year students at Florida State, and the large numbers of students who go on to second-year Latin or enroll in Greek attest to the program’s success. Several students who began the program have already “recycled” and have become tutors in drill sessions for first-year students.

The traditional banquet for Friday night promises to have a “twist”: it will be a costume affair, Roman or Greek, and Professors Nancy de Graumond and John Reich, both of whom have given a graduate seminar in Ancient Foods, will direct the preparation of the evening’s haute cuisine. The featured banquet speaker will be Professor William W. de Graumond, a long-time friend and member of Eta Sigma Phi, who has chosen the topic, “The Meaning of the Aeneid.” Professor de Graumond, when he was a member of Alpha Omega Chapter at Louisiana State University, was one of the first two winners of an Eta Sigma Phi Summer Scholarship and spent the summer of 1961 at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens. Recently, too, Professor de Graumond has been an advisor on the Eta Sigma Phi’s Board of Trustees; he has long been Eta Chapter’s adviser.
The following amendment will be submitted to the Fifty-Second National Convention in Tallahassee for a second reading and possible adoption. Chapters and delegates should consider this proposal carefully:

Proposed Amendment:
Article XI
Section 6. National affiliation shall be granted for any person who petitions for affiliation on a chapterless basis if he has shown exceptional interest in classical studies, and if the following conditions have been met:

(a) The petition must have been approved and presented at the National Convention with the recommendation of the Executive Council.
(b) The recommendation must have been approved by the National Convention.
(c) The current dues (as are charged to active members) shall be paid after affiliate status has been granted.

1. National affiliates may attend all meetings and enjoy all privileges thereof except that of voting.

Section 7. National honorary affiliation shall be granted to any persons whom the Executive Council and National Convention deem worthy of membership.

(a) Candidates for national honorary affiliate membership shall be recommended to the Executive Council by any active member or sponsor.
(b) Each candidate must be recommended by the Executive Council for approval by vote.
(c) There shall be no dues requirements.

1. National honorary affiliates may enjoy all privileges thereof except that of voting.

ANNUAL REPORT
ETA SIGMA PHI MEDAL FUND

Cash on hand, January 1, 1979 $1343.54

RECEIPTS:

- Sale of large silver (4) @ $12.00 48.00
- Sale of small silver (30) @ $5.00 150.00
- Sale of small bronze (28) @ $4.00 112.00
- Transfer from savings 1115.50
- Interest 49.84
- Postage and handling 11.50

Total receipts $1486.84

DISBURSEMENTS:

- Purchase of 250 small bronze medals and handling from Medallic Art Company 955.50
- Purchase of 250 small silver medals and handling from Medallic Art Company 1860.50

Total disbursements $2816.00

Cash on hand, December 31, 1979 $14.38

INVENTORY:

- 27 large silver medals @ $13.00 351.00
- 251 small silver medals @ $7.50 1882.50
- 248 small bronze medals @ $4.00 992.00

Total value in medals $3225.50

TOTAL VALUE (money and medals) $3239.88

Latin — Continued From Page 7

He started teaching Latin at Ellsworth High School in South Windsor. In 1943 he moved to Bristol and taught at the Freshman Building and later the Senior Building. When Bristol Eastern opened in 1959 John Reardon was there to make the move. He has been there ever since.

For years Latin students of Mr. Reardon gained national recognition by placing high in the National Latinum Auxilium Tests. Reardon recalls with pride that two of these students won the National Award twice, and three students scored 115 out of a possible 120 points. Unfortunately for a proud John Reardon, the tests were discontinued in 1974.

Latin — Continued From Page 7

Students vary little over the years according to Reardon. "I find them serious, with a direction, and most of all very hard to leave for good." Mr. Reardon takes great care to illustrate the graces of a supposedly "dead" language. My love of this language which, for me, started at Bristol Eastern, reached a new peak this past summer when I toured Italy and Greece.

In Bristol, if Mr. John Reardon Sr. has his way, Latin will never die.

Editor's Note:
James Koerner was a student of Mr. John Reardon for four years at Bristol Eastern, Bristol, Connecticut. He is presently a senior at Valparaiso University getting majors in Latin and in mechanical engineering.

Each time that I return home I make it a point to stop in and greet my in- trepid mentor. I feel certain that he will teach as long as he possibly can. His plays on words, his jokes, and his astounding assortment of stories which he told in class are permanent memories. His stories have not changed; only the faces of the students who absorb them change.