

# CLAMOR

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MAINE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION

SPRING EDITION 2018



## BARBARA WEIDEN BOYD HONORED AT MEETING

WEIDEN BOYD RECEIVES THE MCA AWARD

At MCA's Fall Meeting at Bates in October, Seth Knowles presented the MCA Award to Barbara Weiden Boyd, Henry Winkley Professor of Latin and Greek at Bowdoin College.

Barbara received her PhD from the University of Michigan in 1980 and has taught at Bowdoin College since that time. She has mentored many students who have gone on to become high school Latin teachers, including Seth Knowles, who presented her the award. She also taught a class through USM for teachers in Maine aspiring to receive their Masters degrees.

Barbara has spoken several times at MCA meetings over the years, as well as facilitated meetings held at Bowdoin College. MCA honors contributions to the organization annually at their Fall Meeting.

## MCA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2017-2018

### President

Katie Collins  
Gardiner Area High School  
[kacollins@msad11.org](mailto:kacollins@msad11.org)

### Vice-President

Ross Shaler  
Winthrop High School  
[rshaler@winthropschools.org](mailto:rshaler@winthropschools.org)

### Treasurer

Meg Cook  
[megcook5186@gmail.com](mailto:megcook5186@gmail.com)

### Secretary and CANE Representative

Heidi Paulding  
Fryeburg Academy  
[hpaulding@fryeburgacademy.org](mailto:hpaulding@fryeburgacademy.org)

### FLAME Representative

Kate Sanborn Perry  
Falmouth High School  
[katherine.sanborn@falmouthschools.org](mailto:katherine.sanborn@falmouthschools.org)

### CLAMOR Editor

Seth Knowles  
Greely High School  
[sknowles@msad51.org](mailto:sknowles@msad51.org)

### Technology Coordinator

Benjamin Johnson  
Hampden Academy  
[bjohnson@rsu22.us](mailto:bjohnson@rsu22.us)

## ESSAYS FROM MAINE

EXCERPTS OF THE TOP THREE ESSAYS FROM MAINE SENT TO THE NEW ENGLAND CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL WRITING CONTEST

Students were asked to compose a writing based on a quote from Lucretius and how he might respond to a recent report from NASA about three planets 39 light years away that may contain life.

**First Place, Henry Sylvester, Thornton Academy  
Teacher: Sally Cody**

Lucretius wrote the *De Rerum Natura II* some two thousand years ago. How could a theory so ancient be so pertinent? In his statement “necesse est confiteare esse alios aliis terrarum in partibus orbis et varias hominum gentis et saecula ferarum” he roughly says, “we need to admit that there others in some parts of the world and universe.” Two thousand years ago people were still pondering the same ideas or theories we debate over today. With space ever expanding, it would be ignorant not to think that life could exist in our ever-expansive universe. Though now we think that life existing elsewhere is not that far of a stretch, it was very radical for the time. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD an astronomer and mathematician by the name of Ptolemy had the idea that the earth stay motionless while the universe revolves around it. Their two ideas were drastically different. With different theories making an appearance Lucretius’s was put on the back burner, so to speak. Additionally, with the dark ages, many ideas were cast out or forgotten.

**Second Place, Jackson Fuller, Thornton Academy  
Teacher: Sally Cody**

Why won’t you people see, there’s much more to the universe  
Life forms and other planets in our grasp.  
Go ahead and keep praying to your gods and get nowhere  
We have potential for great discoveries if only you would care.  
The universe in a history book ready to be written and we have the pen.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD NOTES

### BUSINESS FROM JANUARY BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board met on January 20<sup>th</sup> in Augusta. The Spring Meeting was discussed, and a schedule and speakers was decided upon.

### TREASURER’S REPORT

Balance (10/21/17)

**\$5089.63**

Income (10/21/17 - 4/27/18)

|              |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Dues         | 330.00 |
| Donations    | 305.00 |
| Meeting Fees | 290.00 |
| Dividends    | 2.32   |

**Total \$927.32**

Expenses (10/21/17 - 4/27/18)

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| Postage       | 46.46  |
| Meeting Costs | 250.11 |

**Total \$296.57**

Balance (4/27/18)

|          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| Savings  | \$4509.10 |
| Checking | \$1211.28 |

**Total \$5720.38**

### Third Place, Hannah Faucher, Thornton Academy Teacher: Sally Cody

It is this wish, this hope, this prayer that Lucretius committed to paper in *De Rerum Natura*, though he states it as if it were already a known fact that there is life not from this world. At the time this was mere speculation, not fact, but it was still necessary for Lucretius to believe utterly that there were others in other parts of the world and universe, for the only alternative to this belief would be to submit to the creeping fear within all of us that we are, in fact, alone in this impossibly, unfathomably large universe. Of course, with NASA's recent discovery of several exoplanets with the qualities to support life, this fear has been pushed back a little bit farther, and Lucretius's speculation is a little bit closer to actual fact. Were the man himself here to hear the news, he would probably react like the rest of us—outwardly nonchalant, but inwardly giddy with the joyous, scientifically inexplicable relief of the knowledge that there could truly be something beyond the stars.



Laurie O'Higgins (left), professor of Classical and Medieval Studies at Bates, and Michael Lurie (right), professor of Classics at Dartmouth, spoke at the Fall Meeting. Higgins spoke about the *Odyssey's* "unfaithful" maidservants, and Lurie spoke on Pessimism, Nietzsche, and the Greeks.

## SAVE THE DATE!

### CONFERENCES

*American Classical League Institute*  
University of Montana, Missoula,  
Montana

Pre-Institute Sessions **June 27 and 28**  
Institute Sessions **June 28, 29 and 30**

*CANE Summer Institute*  
Brown University, Providence, Rhode  
Island, **July 9-14**

*FLAME Summer Institute*  
To be announced; check for updates  
at [www.maineforeignlanguage.org](http://www.maineforeignlanguage.org)

### JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

*Spring MEJCL Convention*—**May 23 and 24**, Camp Mechuwana, Winthrop.  
Registration due to Ben Johnson by  
**May 16**.

*National JCL Convention*—**July 23-28**,  
Miami University, Oxford, Ohio  
Registration closes **May 1**.