



2011

## Classics Newsletter 2010

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the  
 department of  
**CLASSICS**  
 NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME XXI

FALL 2011

**MITROU** 2010

BY ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTELE

SECOND STUDY SEASON CONTINUES TO CONTRIBUTE FASCINATING GLIMPSES INTO THE SETTLEMENT'S HISTORY

After excavating for five summers (2004–08) at the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age site on the beautiful islet of Mitrou in Central Greece, we are now studying the finds for publication, as is required by Greek law. Our second study season was held from June 14 through August 28, 2010, under the direction of Eleni Zahou of the Greek Archaeological Service (www.mitrou.org) and me.



*A complete boar's tusk (LX784-094-015) from an Early Helladic III context; with a length of more than 4 inches, it is the largest of our collection. (A. Dembo Cirulis)*

The 2010 Mitrou team was made up of 42 people from 10 different countries (Greece, the USA, Canada, Ireland, Belgium, Denmark, Poland, the Czech Republic, Italy, and Australia) and representing 16 different institutions. Three UT students and two alumni participated in the research. Rachel Godkin (Classics/anthropology), assisted by Ben Johnson (College Scholars/Classics), supervised the sorting of the remains from water sieving and helped our lab manager with various tasks. Ben Johnson also continued his study of Early Helladic roof tiles. Rachel Vykukal, an MA student in Mediterranean archaeology at UT Knoxville, conducted her thesis research on the chronological and spatial distribution of purple-dye manufacture from Murex shells at Mitrou (see her article elsewhere in this newsletter). Arinn Cirulis (BA Classics/anthropology, now MA student at UBC Vancouver) continued her study of textile tools and did our object photography, while also providing much appreciated help in the lab. Nick Herrmann (PhD anthropology, now an assistant professor of anthropology at Mississippi State University) and three of his students continued the research of our human remains.

Tremendous progress was made in the cleaning and processing of excavation finds. All the pottery and animal bones, as well as most of the shells, have now been washed (some 100 crates), and most of the residue from water sieving has been sorted (close to 300 crates). In all, 506 new finds were inventoried, bringing the total to 5778; 511 objects were drawn, and 547 object photos were taken.

*Continued on page VI*

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

MITROU 2010: SECOND STUDY SEASON	I
FACULTY NOTES	I
BULLETIN BOARD	III
DAVID TANDY RETIRES	IV
FIELD TRIPS, AT HOME AND ABROAD	VIII
ALUMNI NEWS	X

**FACULTY NOTES**



**SALVADOR BARTERA** reports that “another wonderful year at UT Knoxville has gone by, teaching hundreds of talented students Latin and

Roman Civilization. Over the spring and summer of 2010, I had the pleasure of visiting Ireland for the first time. I gave a talk at Trinity College Dublin, then crossed the channel, visited Liverpool, and later gave a talk at King's College London. But I have also visited France and Italy, of course. In November, I had the pleasure of speaking at Latin Day on the history of the Latin language, which students seem to have enjoyed, and in January 2010, I attended the APA in San Antonio. I have also chaired an interesting session at the undergraduate conference at UT Knoxville on mysticism,

*Continued on page II*

heresy, and witchcraft. Two reviews of mine have appeared in *CJ* and *IJCT*, and two articles have been accepted for publication. The rest of the year was spent on my commentary on Tacitus, whenever I am not teaching, that is!”



**CHRISTOPHER CRAIG** had an exciting year working with terrific Latinists at all levels. These students are going to be successful at teaching, scholarship, or anything else they do. (They are also a ton of fun!)

Regarding his Cicero project, Chris published a related chapter in a book on ancient oratory in theory and practice that appeared from Cambridge last fall, published one book review, and gave Cicero papers at three meetings, most recently at the International Society for the History of Rhetoric meeting in Bologna in July. But his favorite of these meetings was the CAMWS, where he got to witness David Tandy’s suspenseful and inspiring presidential address. It was a tour de force. Chris’s most satisfying service this year was to complete his term as president of the Tennessee Foreign Language Teaching Association; he could not imagine a more congenial Tower of Babel. Back in the department, Chris succeeded David Tandy as head on August 1, and has been thinking a lot about Isaac Newton’s remark about standing on the shoulders of giants. He got that right. Chris feels fortunate to be in a department where every single one of his colleagues is a dedicated teacher, a thoughtful scholar, and good company besides. He counts his blessings often.



**KATHRYN DEBUSK** is the Classics Department’s ever-efficient administrative assistant.



**JOHN FRIEND** received his PhD from the University of Texas at Austin in August 2009. He enjoyed his first year in the department immensely and is looking forward to his new appointment as a permanent

member of the faculty. His varied teaching assignments for AY 2010–11 included Greek at all levels, classical civilization, and Greek and Roman archaeology. He found working with his students in all these courses both challenging and rewarding. In the fall he gave a presentation on hoplite warfare for the AIA/East Tennessee Society, and in the spring he delivered papers on the Lycurgan Nemesia and ephebic military training at the ASGLE and the CAMWS conferences respectively. He continues to prepare his manuscript, “The Athenian Ephebeia in the Fourth Century BC,” for publication. His research project for the summer was an article on the Spartan army in the Classical period.



During 2010–11 **GERALDINE GESELL**, professor emerita, continued to work on the publication of the Kavousi excavations and attend

conferences and meetings. She spent the spring of 2010 at the INSTAP Study Center for East Crete, where she continued her study of the goddess figures from the Kavousi shrine. After a summer at UT, she returned to Crete to complete the text of the animal figurine chapter in Kavousi IIC. Her offering, “The Snake Goddesses of the LMIIIB and C Periods,” in *Cretan Offerings: Studies in Honor of Peter Warren* was published in December. She attended the Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America in San Antonio, January 6–9, 2011, where she represented the University of Tennessee on the managing committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and served as chair of the financial committee of the INSTAP Study Center for East Crete. In March she made a two-week trip to Athens and Crete to finish the illustrations for the animal figurine chapter in Kavousi IIC.



**THEODORA KOPESTONSKY** joined the department as a lecturer in August 2011. She earned her PhD in Classics with a specialization in Greek archaeology from the

State University of New York at Buffalo in 2009. Her current research focuses on the ancient city of Corinth, particularly a region just outside the western city walls called Kokkinovrysi (“red water”) after the spring located on the slopes. She is currently working on an article concerning the cult of the nymphs in Corinth and another on Greek votive practices. She is looking forward cochairing the colloquium she helped organize for the 2012 AIA meetings, “Silent Participants: Terracottas as Ritual Objects.” For the fall term, she is teaching several classes in Classics, including intermediate Latin, a survey of Graeco-Roman epic, and Greek prose.



**MAURA LAFFERTY** enjoyed a summer in Rome working on expanding her skills in medieval Latin paleography and diplomatics. The

highlights of the summer were a behind-the-scenes tour of the Vatican archives and visits to the Renaissance Bibliotheca Angelica. Her work in Rome is leading toward a short book on the rhetoric of the Latin page, on the ways in which medieval scribes presented Latin texts to their readers. She is continuing her work on the letters of Abelard and Heloise, and a chapter on Walter of Châtillon’s *Alexandreis* is about to appear in the *Brill Companion to Alexander the Great*.



**SUSAN MARTIN** has just completed her second year as provost and senior vice-chancellor for academic affairs at UTK. In this role,

she has been active in developing and finalizing the university’s strategic plan. Unfortunately, this leaves little time for activities in the Classics Department, although she was fortunate enough to work with two outstanding students on an independent study course on Roman law. For further information about her activities, please see the provost’s website at [www.provost.utk.edu](http://www.provost.utk.edu) and the newsletter at <http://provost.utk.edu/newsletter/newsletter-201101.html>.

## LATIN DAY <sup>XXIX</sup>

On November 9, 2010, our annual Latin Day drew an audience of secondary-school students and their teachers from across the state of Tennessee.

The star-studded lineup of the XXIXth Latin Day:

**DAVID TANDY**, professor of Classics: “The Discovery of the Bronze Age”

**ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTELE**, associate professor of Classics: “Did Atlantis Really Exist?”

**LYNN ROGERS**, independent scholar: “Arms and Armor of the Roman Army and Cavalry”

**MAURA LAFFERTY**, associate professor of Classics: “Abelard and Heloise”

**THOMAS HEFFERNAN**, professor of English: “The Amphitheatre and the Persecution of Roman North African Christians”

**ROBERT SKLENAR**, associate professor of Classics: “Famous First Words: *arma virumque cano*”

**SALVADOR BARTERA**, lecturer in Classics: “The History of Words: Latin Alive”

**CHRISTOPHER CRAIG**, professor of Classics: “Marriage or Death: Tough Choices in the Roman Classroom”

**THOMAS BURMAN**, professor of History: “How a Latin Priest Read His Arabic Qur-an”

**JOHN FRIEND**, lecturer in Classics: “Out on a Sunny Afternoon in Rome: Gladiators and Chariot Racing”

**ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND**, associate professor of Classics: “Death and Burial in the Roman World” David Tandy (Classics) “Yet More Adventures in Greek Mythology” ■



**ROBERT SKLENAR** was the recipient of a Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Award in 2010. In AY 2010–11, he fielded Classics 253, 251, 150, and 431, the last a challenging traversal of Book 1 of Caesar's *De Bello Gallico* and selections from Lucan with UTK's excellent advanced Latin students. On the research front, he published a review in *Gnomon* of Paul Roche's new commentary on Book 1 of Lucan's *Bellum Civile* and gave two conference papers, one on classical motifs in Czech Decadent poetry at the 2010 meeting of the CAMWS Southern Section in Richmond, Virginia, the other on Tibullus at the 2011 CAMWS meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan. An expanded version of the first paper is slated to appear in a special volume of *Classical Receptions Journal* devoted exclusively to the classical tradition in Eastern Europe. A further essay on Lucan is forthcoming in the *Brill Companion to Lucan*. He also continues to serve on the Faculty Senate and as the department's library representative.



**ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND** has spent AY 2010–11 teaching Latin, civilization, and gender, with the occasional Greek course thrown in. Last summer she worked on an article on the erotic poems in Book 3 of Horace's *Odes*, planning to have it sent out by the beginning of the current school year. Elizabeth continues to oversee advising of our wonderful majors and minors; she received the Chancellor's Advising Award last spring for her work.



**DAVID TANDY** completed his last year as head of department and retired after 34 years in the UT system. In 2010–11 he delivered invited papers to the town of Paros, Greece (on the fourth-century sculpture industry), and to the Research Seminar at Leeds University (on the politics of exile in archaic Greece); and he offered the presidential address to the Classical Association of the Middle West and South

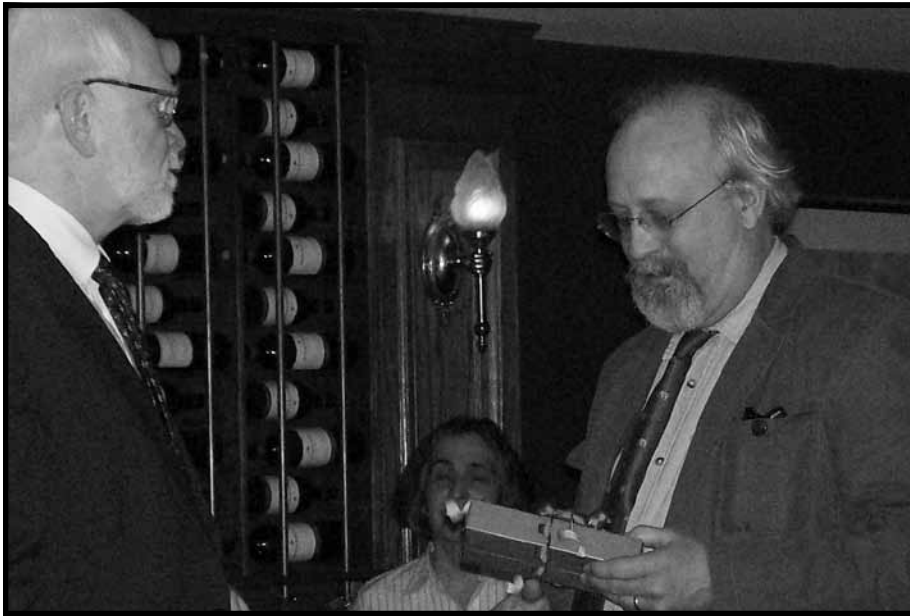
(on taxation in Classical Athens and its lessons for today). There appeared half a dozen articles for the *Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece and Rome*, ed. Michael Gagarin (Oxford), and for the *Homer Encyclopedia*, ed. Margalit Finkelberg (Blackwell). He has also been at work on his quarter share of the third edition of *Ancient Greece: A Political, Social and Cultural History* (Oxford), which will appear early in 2012. The longer-term projects on economy and democracy and on Sappho's Brothers continue. Since July 2011, he has been living in Otley, near Leeds, in West Yorkshire, UK, with his wife Johanna Stiebert (who is a lecturer in Hebrew Bible at Leeds University) and their little ones, Gustav, 5, and Aphra, 3. He leaves behind in charge of the country house in Knoxville grown children, Corinne and Peter.



**ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTELE** spent a sabbatical year working on her book manuscript about the medieval Utrecht ship type. She also continues to codirect the Mitrou Archaeological Project in Greece. Her team spent the summer of 2010 preparing the finds for publication (see article elsewhere in newsletter).

The Middle Bronze Age boat from Mitrou is gaining attention in the scholarly world. In January, Aleydis presented the boat at the 112th AIA meeting in San Antonio, and this led to an invitation to give a keynote lecture at an international Minoan archaeology conference in Heidelberg. She saw two articles appear in print this year: one on the international relations of the Minoan harbor of Kommos and one on the relationship between the Minoan palace of Phaistos and the Kamares Cave, a cult cave on Mount Ida in Crete.

Aleydis also had a banner year as secretary-treasurer of the AIA's East Tennessee Society, with visits by several prominent international speakers, as well as exciting talks by local scholars and promising young visitors (see list of lectures elsewhere in newsletter).



## RETIREMENT PARTY FOR DAVID TANDY

BY ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND AND CHRISTOPHER CRAIG  
 PHOTOS BY KATHRYN DEBUSK

**A**fter 31 years at UT Knoxville (following three years at UT Chattanooga), David Tandy has retired. We miss him already. At David's request, his retirement party was small and informal. Members of the department and other friends—about 40 people all told—met at the Copper Cellar restaurant to celebrate him with his favorite beverage. We sent David off with some frank praise, some not very solemn anecdotes, and even doggerel poetry, about the difference he has made in our lives, our department, and our university. (His pioneering taste in neckwear didn't escape notice, either.) After teaching two final courses during the first summer session, David boarded a plane for England, where he has joined wife, Johanna Stiebert, and their children, Gustav and Aphra. David's wit, intellectual prowess, and administrative savvy made him a central figure in doings about campus, as in McClung Tower. We wish him a relaxing and productive retirement while remaining keenly aware that our department will be the poorer for his absence. ■

### MITROU 2010, continued from page VII

photographer and continued her study of purple-dye production for publication. Nick Hermann and his students continued their analysis of human burials.

Our 2010 season was made possible by funding from the University of Tennessee (Classics Department, College of Arts and Sciences, and the Office of Research), the National Endowment for the Humanities (Grant No. RZ-50652), the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, the Greek Archaeological Service, the Cobb Institute of Mississippi State University, Colby College, and private donors. We are very grateful to all. We also thank Mrs. Maria Papakonstantinou, the head of the Archaeological Service at Lamia, and director Jack Davis and administrator Maria Pilali of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens for their invaluable help. ■



## REPORT FROM KAVOUSI

BY GERALDINE GESELL

**K***avousi IIB: The Vronda Settlement. Buildings on the Slopes and Periphery* is being copyedited at the INSTAP Academic Press and should be out in early 2012. *Kavousi IIC: The Vronda Settlement. Analysis* is nearly ready to be sent to the press. Four more volumes are in various stages of completion. ■

## VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT 2010-11

**T**hese are the distinguished AIA/East Tennessee Society lectures and visitors to the department:

**BARBARA HEATH**, UT Knoxville Department of Anthropology, "The Archaeology of Slavery at Thomas Jefferson's Plantations."

**JOHN P. OLESON**, University of Victoria, "*Harena sine calce* ('Sand without lime'): Building Disasters, Incompetent Architects, and Construction Fraud in Ancient Rome," AIA Norton lecturer and Haines-Morris Distinguished lecturer, UT Knoxville Department of Classics. Extra class lecture: "Herodotus, Aristotle, and Sounding Weights: The Deep Sea as a Frontier in the Classical World."

**DAISY THURKETTLE**, University of Leeds, "The Good, the Bad, and the Naughty: Seduction and Erotic Space in *Iliad* 14. 160-350."

**JOHN FRIEND**, UT Knoxville Department of Classics, "The Greek Hoplite from Marathon to Chaeronea."

**OLE CRUMLIN-PEDERSEN**, Viking Ship Museum, Denmark, "Crossing the Seas of the North, AD 800-1200." Haines-Morris Distinguished lecturer, UT Knoxville Department of Classics. Marco seminar: "Viking Ships in Their Historical Context: How Maritime Archaeology Contributes to Understanding Medieval Written Sources."

**JOSHUA TRAMPIER**, Oriental Institute, Chicago, AIA lecturer, "Spying on the Ancients: Remote Sensing and GIS in Archaeology."

**GREGOR KALAS**, UT School of Architecture, "Visualizing Statues in the Late Antique Roman Forum."

**EUGENE N. BORZA**, Penn State, "The Tombs of the Macedonian Kings: An Archaeological Puzzle," fourth Harry C. Rutledge Memorial Lecture in Archaeology. Extra class seminar: "Alexander the Great as King and Commander."

**MICHAL ARTZY**, University of Haifa, "Late Bronze Age Anchorages of the Carmel Coast, Israel, and their Mediterranean Trade Networks," Haines-Morris lecturer, UT Knoxville Department of Classics. Extra class seminar: "Excavations at the Ancient Greek Harbor of Limantepe/Clazomenai, Turkey."

**J. P. DESSEL**, UT Knoxville Department of History, "Recent Discoveries at Tell Tayinat: An Iron Age Kingdom in Southeast Turkey."

**TOM DILLEHAY**, Vanderbilt University, "The First Peopling of the Americas." Extra lecture: "Living Mounds: The Aesthetics and Spiritualism of Chilean Araucanian Landscapes." ■

## ETA SIGMA PHI

BY ELIZABETH SUTHERLAND

**A**t the spring 2011 Eta Sigma Phi banquet, we initiated **BRANDON HALL, KERRIE HOTZ, CHAUNTELE SCARLETT, ANNA SCHMIDT,** and **ALLEN WILSON** into Eta Sigma Phi. Membership is awarded for outstanding performance in Latin or Greek classes. **DR. JOHN FRIEND** was the banquet speaker and honorary initiate. The Senior Latin Prize, presented annually to the strongest graduating Latin student, went to **WILL LADNIER**; the Greek Prize went to **MARK HUGGINS**. Scholarships and other awards for the 2011-12 academic year were announced: **TYLER DENTON** received the Moser scholarship; **ELIZABETH CROSS** and **MARK HUGGINS** received full Haines-Morris scholarships; **RYAN VINSON** received a Rutledge award toward teacher training; **LEIGH ANN CUTSHAW, BETHANY GOOD, MEG GODDARD, ALLEN WILSON,** and **MATTHEW YLITALO** received Haines-Morris awards for the academic year. **TYLER DENTON** is the CAMWS scholar for 2011-12.

Members voted at the banquet on next year's officers. **ALEX MANGONE** will be president, **MEGAN GOODWIN** will be vice-president, and **MICHAEL BALL** will be secretary/treasurer.

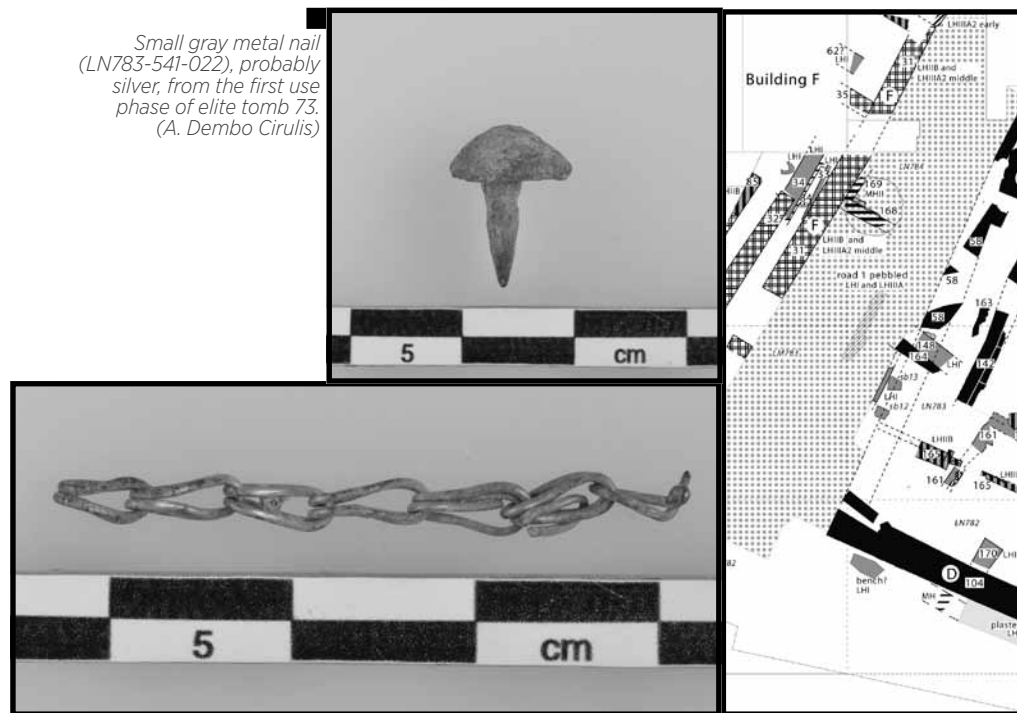
We had some exciting additional awards to announce this year. A number of our students took part in the 2011 Eta Sigma Phi Maurine Dallas Watkins Sight Translation Contests, and several of them placed! **MARK HUGGINS** won first place in Advanced Greek and an honorable mention in Koine Greek; **TYLER DENTON** won second place in Intermediate Greek; and **RYAN VINSON** received an honorable mention for Prose Composition. We are very proud of our outstanding language scholars. ■

# THE MITROU ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT

## MITROU, continued from page 1

Significant progress was also made in research. My own work included clarifying the stratigraphy of the various excavation areas. Together with architect Giuliana Bianco, I updated and corrected plan and section drawings of all trenches. Katerina Psimogiannou (University of Thessaloniki) began her study of the Neolithic pottery from Mitrou as part of her PhD dissertation. We previously had thought that we had very little Neolithic material, but Psimogiannou discovered that Neolithic occupation at Mitrou was as widespread as the Early and Middle Bronze Age occupation, extending at least over the entire northern half of the islet.

A breakthrough study was conducted by Chris Hale (Melbourne University), who began at Mitrou as a field school student back in 2008 and has been with us ever since. Chris focuses on the Middle Bronze Age pottery sequence of Mitrou as part of his PhD research. As anyone who has even a fleeting acquaintance with archaeology knows, pottery is a very important dating tool for archaeologists. The changes in the Middle Bronze Age pottery of Central Greece, however, were poorly known until now because of a lack of long stratigraphic sequences. At Mitrou we have found such a long sequence, including eight levels covering the entire Middle Bronze Age. Using these, Chris has been able to establish eight Middle Bronze Age (or Middle Helladic) pottery phases, linking them to the pottery sequence of Pefkakia, in Thessaly. He even discovered a new phase that was not identified at Pefkakia. His work is enormously important as it will finally allow archaeologists all over Central Greece to date their Middle



*Small gray metal nail (LN783-541-022), probably silver, from the first use phase of elite tomb 73. (A. Dembo Cirulis)*

*Gold bracelet (LN783-537-011), presumably from a second bracelet belonging to the second phase of elite tomb 73. (A. Dembo Cirulis)*

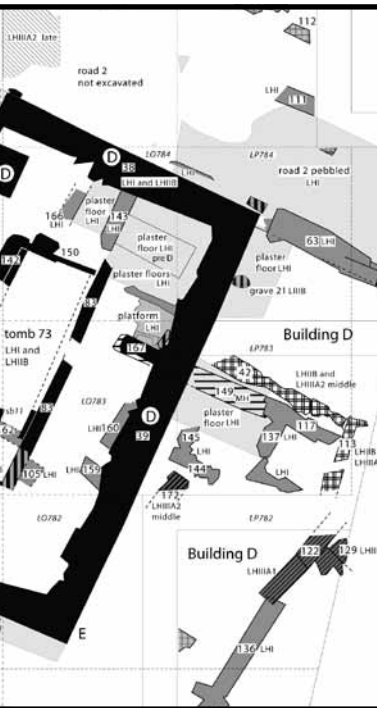
*Northeast excavation section D's complex containing the re-chamber tomb 73. (A. Dembo Cirulis)*

Bronze Age levels with great precision. Other pottery experts also continued their study of our ceramic chronology, as well as other aspects of our pottery.

The washing of our animal bones resulted in the identification of several more pieces of boar's tusks, including two from Road 1 outside of the early Late Bronze Age elite chamber tomb 73 that had been for use in a Mycenaean boar's tusk helmet. In all, we now have inventoried 23 complete or partial tusks from Bronze Age contexts, the earliest ones possibly dating to Early Helladic IIB (ca. 2400–2200 BCE). It is remarkable that a complete tusk from an Early Helladic III context is, with a length of 11 cm, also the largest of the collection. As a nice coincidence, two of our students who were hiking the beautiful Reveniko gorge south of Mitrou one Sunday morning saw a family of

wild boar drinking from the mountain stream. This reminded us that wild boar are not exotic animals in this part of Greece. We now imagine our elite warriors going out in the Reveniko gorge to hunt boar for their boar's tusk helmets. Whether they brought the carcasses back to Mitrou for heroic feasts should become clear next year, when our animal bones will be studied.

Since tiny objects, bones, and seeds are very difficult to detect during excavation, we always have been careful to sieve earth from all important contexts with a specially constructed water sieve. The sorting of the residue from water sieving has already given us important information. Several more luxury objects were found in 2010 that derive from elite chamber tomb 73, including a 3-cm-long fragment of a gold chain presumably belonging to a second bracelet (LN783-537-011),



Plan of Building D in the Late Bronze Age with Building D's rectangular funerary enclosure and elite tombs. (G. Bianco and A. Van de Moortel, 2010)



Clay pendant figurine (LR770-038-011) found in 2008 in the central-east excavation area of Mitrou, has now been identified as a Hellenistic or later Baubo figurine from Egypt or Asia Minor. (Rachel Vykukal)



Lithics specialist Iannis Manos demonstrating flint knapping at Mitrou in 2010.

a gold biconical bead, and a gold pinhead. Until now all finds of precious material had been dated to the last use phase of the tomb (Late Helladic IIB-Late Helladic IIIA:1). This year we discovered for the first time precious objects from the previous phase (Late Helladic I-Late Helladic IIB): a small gold nail (LN783-534-013); a small gray metal nail—possibly silver—and a tiny fragment of an amber bead. With these new finds we know that the deceased in this early phase had been given the same classes of goods as the later burials (boar's tusk helmets, arrowheads, clay vases, and jewelry).

Rachel Vykukal's MA thesis research focused on the production of purple dye from Murex shells at Mitrou. This is the famous and much valued "royal purple" known from the Near East, where texts tell us that purple vestments were so

costly that only royalty could afford to wear them. It is now known that purple dye was produced in the Aegean already by the 18th century BCE, some 300 years before it was attested in the Near East. Vykukal's distribution study of purple-dye manufacture at Mitrou shows that it was closely associated with the rise of the elite in the Late Helladic I and II phases, and it may have been produced in sufficient quantities to be traded in the East in exchange for copper and tin—metals needed to produce bronze weapons and tools. This is an important finding as it suggests that purple-dye production was one of the economic foundations of Mitrou's elite power.

Kerill O'Neill completed his catalog of about 125 clay figurines, nearly all of Late Bronze Age IIIA and B date. They include well-known types of human and animal figurines, group figurines, and furniture. Late

Helladic IIB types of the 13th century BCE are remarkably rare, and this agrees with the rarity of contemporary architecture in the excavated parts of the site. O'Neill also was able to identify the mysterious clay pendant figurine LR770-038-011 from the central-east area of the site as a Baubo figurine. It cannot be earlier than Hellenistic and may well be an import from Egypt or Asia Minor. Our new lithics specialist, Iannis Manos (11th Ephorate of Chalkida) began his study of our stone tools and gave a much-appreciated demonstration of stone-tool manufacture.

We were again warmly received by the people of Tragana, especially our cook, Stavroula, Kyriakou and town president, Argyris Alexiou. In summer 2011, we had another study season at Mitrou. Rachel Vykukal returned as our

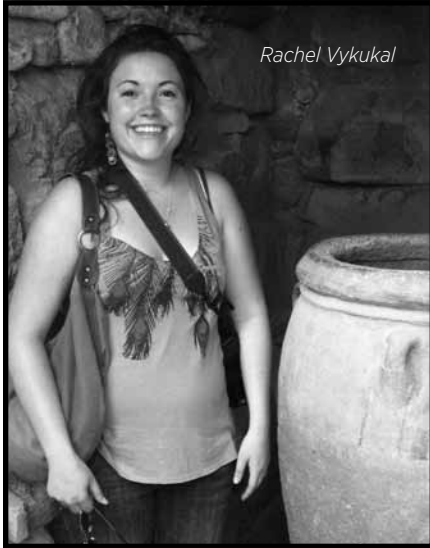
*Continued on page IV*



# GREECE & MINOAN CRETE AS EXPERIENCED BY RACHEL VYKUKAL

BY RACHEL VYKUKAL

In summer 2010, as a recipient of the Haines-Morris Travel Scholarship, I was given the opportunity to travel to Greece for a six-week stay. I had planned originally



to spend only a month in Greece at the lab of the Mitrou Archaeological Project, where I would be collecting data for my master's thesis. In the previous spring, however, I had studied Aegean prehistory independently with Dr. Aleydis Van de Moortel. She and I met every Wednesday one-on-one to discuss the important prehistoric sites of the Aegean. A few weeks in, I became very interested in visiting these sites in person. I began to see visiting these sites as a rite of passage that I, like all Mediterranean archaeologists, must perform. With the generous support of the Haines-Morris Travel Scholarship, I was able to spend two weeks on Crete doing just that, as well as a full month of research in Tragana, the location of the Mitrou archaeological site. On June 14, I set out on what would prove to be a remarkable six weeks.

The first two weeks of my trip were spent exploring Minoan Crete, site by site, as so many archaeologists and lovers of the Minoan culture have done before me. I was lucky to have my parents accompany

me on this leg of the trip. We took the ferry from the port of Pireaus in Athens to Herakleion, Crete. Our first destinations were the Herakleion Museum and Knossos. Although the museum had been undergoing a major renovation for a few years and had only one room open to the public, the items displayed there were some of the most famous Minoan artifacts. I was thrilled to see many of them and works of art I had studied with Dr. Van de Moortel, such as the gold bee pendant from a tomb called Chrysolakkos in northern Crete, the Phaistos disk, and the "Toreador Fresco" from Knossos. We then headed straight for Knossos, the best known of all the Minoan palaces. I had wanted to visit Knossos since I first learned of it, and it certainly lived up to my expectations. I thoroughly enjoyed wandering through the palatial ruins and picking out the architectural features of a Minoan palace.

There were so many sites to visit and so little time. We decided first to head eastward and after a dizzying ride out of the busy streets of Herakleion, we were soon winding through the stunning Cretan countryside. We drove until we reached the beautiful, remote area where the modern town of Palaikastro is located and where we ended up spending a few days. We visited the archaeological site of Palaikastro, a Minoan town, and relaxed on a

nearby isolated beach before heading back toward central Crete. On the way, we saw the Minoan town of Gournia. The town sits on a small hill beside the main road. Even from the roadside, it was possible to discern its structures. We then went to Malia, one of the smaller Minoan palaces. I was particularly interested in visiting Quartier Mu, an elite complex in which production areas were found, as well as an altar. After a brief conversation with the guard, we learned how to reach Chrysolakkos and drove up the deserted slope to the fenced-in tomb. Although we could not get in without special permission, we were able to glimpse parts of the "pit of gold."

Our next destination was the south-central region of Crete. On the way, we visited the Diktaean cave, where according to myth, Zeus was born. It is located in the mountains overlooking the lush Lashithi Plain. Deep in the belly of the earth, it was easy to see why the ancient Greeks could believe a god was born in this sacred place. We then went to another Minoan palace named Phaistos, the site at which the famous and still-undeciphered clay disk was excavated. Although this was one of the smaller Minoan palaces, it turned out to be one of my favorite sites. As a lesser-known site, it was not overrun with people as many other sites are in the summer, so we could actually get good feel for the layout of



## FIELD TRIP TO THE NASHVILLE PARTHENON

BY ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTELE

the palace and get close enough to glimpse bits of in situ wall painting here and there. When we were leaving the site, I happened to see a small blue sign pointing toward Kamilari. My parents and I followed the sign and then trekked through an olive grove to the unique tholos tomb with an attached processing area for the dead. We then zigzagged through western Crete, which is generally more green and less populated than eastern Crete. We headed to the extreme southwest corner of Crete to stay at the pink sand beach of Elaphonisi, then traveled to the quaint nearby town of Paleochora. We spent our last night in Rethymnon, which lies halfway between Chania and Herakleion. We ended our visit of Crete by taking an overnight ferry back to Athens.

These two weeks were a real tour-de-force of Minoan archaeology for me: visiting the sites in person was an entirely different learning experience from learning in the classroom.

We stayed a day in Athens to visit the new Acropolis Museum. I was impressed by how well the museum displayed the finds from the Parthenon. After my parents left for the United States, I headed to Tragana, the location of the Bronze Age site of Mitrou. I spent the remaining four weeks researching for my master's thesis. The project involved studying purple-dye manufacture and its relation to the rising elite of the settlement by analyzing *Murex* shell remains. In antiquity, the hypobranchial glands from *Murex trunculus* and *Bolinus brandaris* species of marine mollusks were removed and boiled in a lengthy process to produce one of the most famous and sought-after dyes in antiquity—royal purple.

These few weeks were instrumental in helping me earn my MA. Not only did I analyze many kilograms of shell remains, I also had

Last April 17, Aleydis Van de Moortel led an enthusiastic group of Saturday day-trippers composed of Greek archaeology students (Classics/Anthropology 443) and AIA members to Nashville to see the “Heroes” exhibit at the Frist Museum and visit the Parthenon. While prom preparations at the Parthenon were gearing up, our students deftly and professionally measured the architectural refinements of the building. They discovered that, as in the ancient Parthenon, the floor and steps of the Nashville Parthenon curve upward toward the center. They also reported that the corner columns of the Nashville Parthenon are seven inches bigger than the other columns, more than in the Athens Parthenon. Through these imperceptible optical refinements the architects sought to make the Parthenon look lighter, taller, and more substantial.



Our visitors to the Nashville Parthenon were (top, left to right) Rod Stevens, Josh Edwards, and Jay Aikens; (middle) Aleydis Van de Moortel, Jade Hestand, and Brandy Armstrong; and (bottom) Christian Donaldson, Chauntele Scarlett, Alesha Marcum-Heiman, guest Mason Sims, and Ashley Danzey. (E. Evans)

a career-affirming “aha moment.” I spent the first few days developing the methodology for the study and corresponding with other shell specialists who studied *Murex*. After a few days of becoming comfortable with the material, I plowed ahead with the project. Nearly two weeks into data collection, it suddenly hit me—I realized that for the first time that I was actually conducting my own research. The material I was studying had never been thoroughly studied by anyone else. My research could possibly contribute to Aegean scholarship. I was able to complete my research in the four-week span and even managed to squeeze in a few weekend field trips with the Mitrou team—a trip to the

Peloponnese to visit the Mycenae Museum and Franchthi Cave; a trip to Gla, a Mycenaean fortified hilltop site in the Kopaic Basin; and a trip to the town of Orchomenos, where a large tholos tomb called “the Treasury of Minyas” still exists.

The generous support of the Haines-Morris donors allowed me to undertake this memorable and productive trip. I am certain that the Haines-Morris Travel Fund will continue to help students in the UT Knoxville Classics Department perform their own rites of passage, be it visiting the great archaeological sites of the Mediterranean or conducting research. In my case, I was lucky to be able to do both. ■

**MEAGAN AYER** called with the happy news that she is close to finishing her PhD in Classics at SUNY Buffalo. She specializes in ancient history with a dissertation on refugees in Classical and Hellenistic Greece. Meagan has presented papers at CAMWS and at the First Annual Anthropology Graduate Student Association Interdisciplinary Symposium at Buffalo. In the spring of 2011 she was accepted as a graduate student associate of the new Institute for Hellenistic Studies, based at the University of Waterloo in Ontario. She is also spreading her wings in the classroom, teaching courses on mythology, world civilization, and medical terminology in various institutions in the Buffalo area. She sends us her best wishes, and we wish her all the best in her future job searches.

**KATE SEAT** is the new Latin and French instructor at North Cobb Christian School in Atlanta. She will be teaching three levels of Latin and a middle-school introductory French class.

**LIZZI KERSEY**, who graduated in 2007, is building up the Latin program at Karns High School in Knoxville; she plans to make it the best program in Knox County. She is also responsible for the etymology and mythology courses.

**SANDY HUGHES**, class of '05, is teaching Latin at Bearden High School in Knoxville and working on an MA at the University of Georgia during the summer.

**HOBART AKIN** is currently working for Tennessee State Parks as a park ranger at Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park in Manchester. His wife, Megan, and he are currently enjoying the endeavor that parenthood is as they work to raise their two little girls, Lucy, 3, and Olive, 9 months. He further reports, "I still look at Horace from time to time and contemplate my own *locus amoenus* as I work among the waterfalls and forests that surround my little park out here in Middle Tennessee. I also still enjoy the distinction of being the only park ranger in the state with a degree in Latin."

**TIMOTHY SCRIPA** is working toward a master's in clinical counseling at Radford University. He is proud to announce that his daughter, Anna Catherine, was born on April 21, so she shares a birthday with Rome! He is, however, directing all credit toward his wife, Allison.

**COREY DEUSO** is currently enrolled at Lincoln Memorial University's DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine.

**MICKEY LANGLAIS** is currently in a doctoral program at the University of Texas—Austin studying human ecology, focusing on adolescent romantic relationships and relationship deterioration. "I miss you guys," he reports, "(and your interesting hats/ties that you used to wear to class) . . . Dr. Tandy's phallic fixations . . . Dr. Sutherland's intrigue with Buffy the vampire slayer . . . and everyone else!"

**JENNY BLEDSOE**, a 2011 graduate of the University of Tennessee with majors in religious studies and English literature and minors in Latin and history, now resides in Somerville, Massachusetts. She will begin her master's degree in theological studies with a focus on medieval religion, literature, and culture at Harvard Divinity School in August 2011.

**DREW MOORE**, class of '97, completed a year of teaching English composition and literature to West Point plebes and returned to the classics classroom at Brooklyn College last summer. He then took some time off from teaching to complete his English translation of the New York City prison letters of St. John de Crèvecoeur, as well as a couple of documentary film shorts.

**LOGAN DYER** will be opening a law practice in Knoxville in the near future; his website is [www.logandyer.com](http://www.logandyer.com).

Dr. Gesell reports that recently she was happily surprised to meet again her first student assistant for the Classics Department slide collection, now **DR.**

**RANDOLPH LOWRY**, the head physician at the NHC Farragut rehab center.

**ALEXANDER MANGONE** has started radiation treatment and returns to UT Knoxville in the fall to finish his undergraduate degree. He will start his education degree in the summer of 2012. The entire department is delighted beyond words that his recovery is progressing so well, and we all look forward to welcoming him as a member of the profession.

**ADRIENNE MALCOLM WEBSTER** runs her own accounting business; her husband, Charles Stanton Webster, is a chef and manager for Nama Sushi Bar and Cru Wine Bistro. Their daughter, Sophia Estelle Webster, was born July 22, 2010—by far their most exciting news! They have also bought a historic house in Fort Sanders.

**CASEY WOOLF** has been accepted to Harvard Divinity School with a tuition waiver and fellowship.

**KATIE WOOTEN** reports, "I have been blessed with the opportunity to do my student teaching at Chicago's Foreman High School, which is 92 percent low income and 80 percent Hispanic, 19 percent African American, and 1 percent Asian/white. It is truly where I want to be! I also established the first Latin club in the school (and I am certain it is the first Latin club in any Chicago public school in this particular area). I have imparted as much as I could possibly remember from my wonderful times in your classes. Both of those Latin students that you see in the pictures were offered aid to National-Louis University, the school in which I am getting my master's, as a result of a representative coming out to observe and do an interview with me about this club. I am overwhelmed at how wonderful this experience is and I owe a special thanks to you and the other Classics teachers at UT. You all have been a star in my life and I am sharing your brightness here in Chicago."

**H. CURTIS BOWER III** reports, "This year at Episcopal School of Knoxville I have enjoyed the ability to finally do what I have been wanting to ever since I discovered my love for Latin: teach the subject. At first, I didn't think that teaching middle school would really stick and that I would simply move on to another school after this where I would be able to teach grades nine through twelve. However, I have fallen in love with the school community and the student body itself. After such comments such as 'Mr. Bower cannot help you with your gastric distress,' I have discovered that middle school students can be just as bright and challenging as high school students. The students have shown me that they can love Latin and the classical world just as much as I do (as well as hate it to the same extent) and that they desire to continue to further their education of the classical world." Next year he will have a full class load and teach the entire sixth and seventh grades at ESK.

**HOWARD HERRELL** has been assistant professor in the Department of OB/GYN at Quillen College of Medicine, East Tennessee State University, for four years now. He is in charge of the students' clinical rotations in OB/GYN and has delivered more than a thousand babies. He has won a number of teaching awards and a national award for his website, which teaches fetal monitoring interpretation. He and his wife, Amy, now have five children—Ursula, Sophia, Ulrich, Angus, and Molly. "I still get carded when

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1101 MCCLUNG TOWER  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37996-0413  
PHONE 865-974-5383  
FAX 865-974-7173  
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supervisor at Knox County Schools, retired in June. Those who have seen her this summer tell us that her smile is even bigger, if that's possible. Congrats, Sharon! You have truly earned your wooden sword.

The third annual Tennessee Foreign Language Teaching Association Regional

Workshop at the end of March featured a keynote by our own **ABBY BRADDOCK**, now

the Latin teacher at Houston High School in Shelby County. Abby then went back-to-back with **BRAD CRATTIE**, the Latin franchise at Knox County's West High School, to create a superb program for all of us.

We have successfully petitioned both Abby and Brad to reprise their performances at the TFLTA annual meeting. Chris Craig and Betsy Sutherland look forward to learning even more from Abby about technology in the Latin classroom and from Brad about conducting an entire class in conversational Latin. (We're not afraid!)

Finally, the entire department is pleased to congratulate two recently married couples: **JULIA WALL** and **ASHLEY PARROTT** and Dennis Vann

in May, and **ASHLEY PARROTT** and Dennis Vann were married in Knoxville in July. ■

I try to buy a drink," he adds, "and I have over a thousand Latin or Greek books in my book collection and sometimes get a chance to read some of them when I'm not at the hospital."

**CHABLI BALCOM** has just finished her MSED and her Latin certification, and is off to teach in Arizona. We wish her a great first step in our common vocation, and hope she comes back to Knoxville often.

**CHARLOTTE GOSS**, one of the founding mothers of the UT Latin Day in 1981, has left to our students an opulent gift—her files of materials from more than thirty years of Latin teaching. While Charlotte's true legacy is in the lives of hundreds and hundreds of her students, we could not think of a more touching and useful gift.

**MARISSA WILSON**, who put her Latin major to good use by taking a job with the federal government, has sent her back to school to do graduate work in political science with an emphasis on comparative government. We could not be more proud of her.

**SHARON FISCHBACH**, our fellow Latin teacher and longtime world language

*Alumni News, continued from page X*