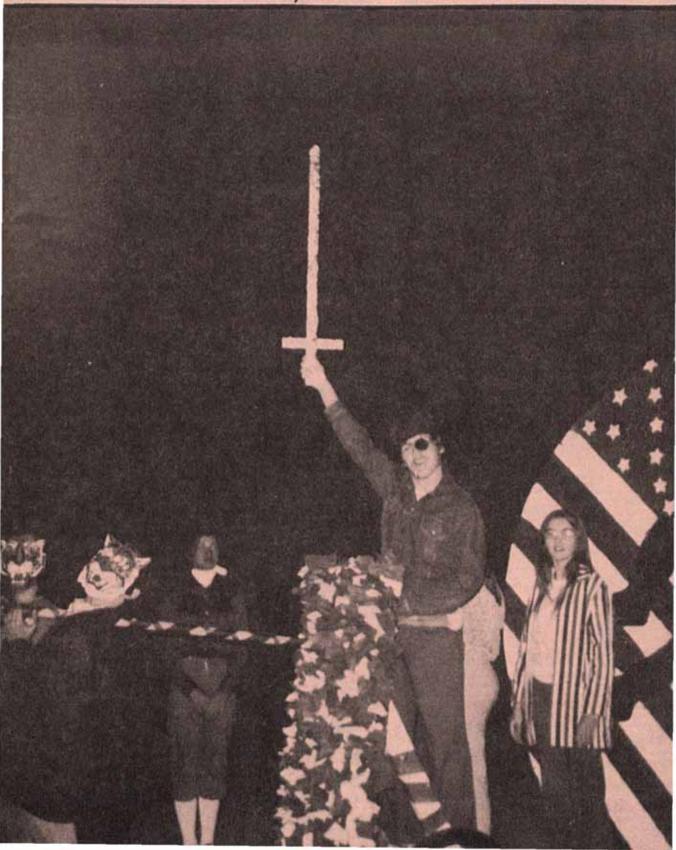
Newsletter

VOL. II, No. 2

Pompeiiana. Inc.

October, 1975



POMPEIIANA, INC.

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PUBLICATION DATES: The tenth of October, December, February, April, June and August.

COVER PICTURE: Mt. Vernon H.S. Latin students join in their school's Homecoming Parade by displaying their chariot built for their forthcoming participation in the Indiana Bicentennial Chariathon for Latin.

Pompeiianae Praefectus Salutem Dicit Litterarum Classicarum Studiosis!

Membership in Pompeiiana, Inc. now extends into 38 states and four countries, and we are well on our way to realizing our goal of 1,000 members for the '75-'76 school year.

As part of its ongoing effort to promote Classical Studies, Pompeiiana recently conducted a survey among the principals of 44 secondary schools in the Indianapolis area. While a full analysis of this survey will appear in the December Newsletter, I would like to point out two interesting results at this time:

I) 84% of the principals replying indicated their interest in the development of new and innovative approaches to the whole study area of Classical Studies, and II) 71% replied that they would favor the introduction into their curricula of a new elective course entitled "Identifiable Greek and Roman Influences in Contemporary America" if tested materials were made available by Pompeiiana. Initial steps have already been taken to evaluate and implement these and other positive suggestions made on this survey.

Keeping Classical Studies before the public eye, Pompeiiana participated in the Penrod Art and Cultural Fair held this fall in Indianapolis. At this fair over 10,000 members of the Indianapolis community had access to the Pompeiiana display and promotional materials.



To start the building fund for the reconstruction of the Pompeiian house of M. Loreius Tiburtinus, Pompeiiana is sponsoring an Indiana Bicentennial Chariathon for Latin to be held on Saturday, November 8, on the War Memorial Plaza in Indianapolis. Out of state teachers wishing to sponsor similar chariathons should write for details.

Dr. Bartz, Foreign Language Consultant for the State of Indiana has notified Pompeiiana that during the '74-'75 school year 7,084 students were studying Latin in public senior high schools throughout the state: Latin I= 4,247; Latin II=2,276; Advanced Latin Classes=561.

What's Your Question?

- Q. "I read somewhere about a private school offering high school courses in ancient history and mythology. Why on earth would anyone be interested in taking such impractical subjects in this day and age?" -- T.L., Tulsa, Okla.
- A. Because education was never intended to be purely "practical." It is meant to make people learned, and that term includes a knowledge for the sake of culture and appreciation and enjoyment. In fact, a pretty good case can be built on the premise that without familiarity with mythology and ancient history you're nothing but a clod.

For instance, when someone accuses you of opening Pandora's box, do you know what he's talking about? When you're between Scylla and Charybdis, are you in luck or in big trouble? When you do a favor for a friend and he accuses you of just tossing a sop to Cerberus, what is he saying?

Maybe you've recently acquired the Golden Touch or cut the Gordian Knot or put on the Shirt of Nessus.

No matter. I'm sure you get the idea. Without a working knowledge of these cornerstones in the vast superstructure of Western civilization, one is simply not yet quite civilized.

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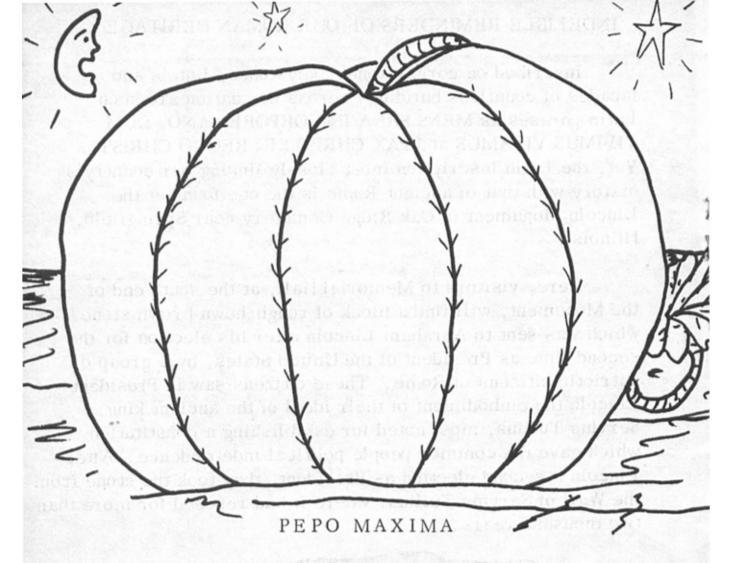
INDELIBLE REMINDERS OF OUR ROMAN HERITAGE

Inscribed on cornerstones, keystones, lintels and facades of countless buildings across our nation are such Latin phrases as MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO, DUM VIVIMUS VIVAMUS and PAX CHRISTI IN REGNO CHRISTI. Yet, the Latin inscription most closely linking our country's history with that of ancient Rome is the one found at the Lincoln Monument in Oak Ridge Cemetery near Springfield, Illinois.

Here, visitors to Memorial Hall, at the south end of the Monument, will find a block of rough-hewn brown stone which was sent to Abraham Lincoln after his election for the second time as President of the United States, by a group of patriotic citizens of Rome. These citizens saw in President Lincoln the embodiment of their ideal of the ancient king, Servius Tullius, most noted for establishing a constitution which gave the common people political independence. After Lincoln's second election as President, they took the stone from the Wall of Servius Tullius, where it had reposed for more than two thousand years.



"TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN, PRESIDENT FOR THE SECOND TIME OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC, CITIZENS OF ROME PRESENT THIS STONE, FROM THE WALL OF SERVIUS TUL-LIUS, BY WHICH THE MEMORY OF EACH OF THESE ASSERT-ORS OF LIBERTY MAY BE ASSOCIATED. 1865."



Olim in agro prope Romam crescebat quaedam Pepo. Omnes aliae pepones ei inrisit quod obesa erat. Semper dicebant, "Pepo, tam obesa es ut nemo te umquam carpiat. In hoc agro putescat."

Pepo autem se non vexabat nam credebat se aliquando futuram esse egregiam. Per aestatem Pepo obesior crescebat, et quando October fuit, pueri puellaeque venerunt ut pepones carperent. Nemo autem eorum Peponem obesam carpsit quod nimis gravis fuit.

Pridie Kalendas Novembris Pepo sola in agro remanebat. Frigidum erat et Pepo erat misera. Etiamnunc autem Pepo credebat se futuram esse egregiam. Nocte obscurissimā Pepo audivit pueri puellaeque voces. Puella dicebat, "Line, tam stultus es! Ista Pepo Maxima hīc non erit. In reipsa non exstat sed solā in mente tuā. Ego domum reverto!"

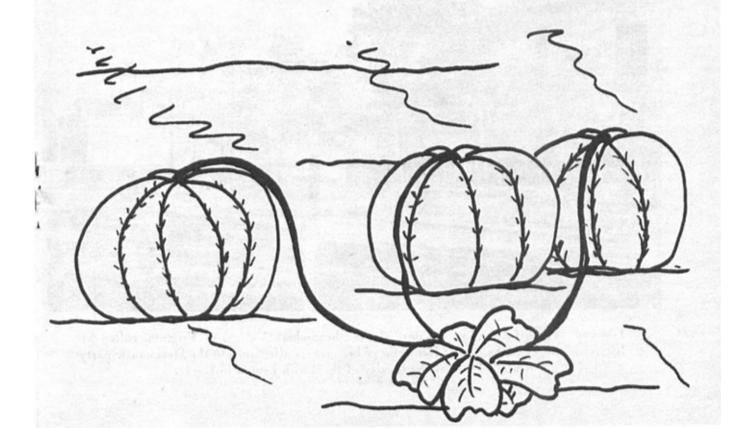
"Remane, Lucia," puer respondit. "Hoc anno Pepo Maxima hic erit! Cognosco! Mi crede, cognosco!"

Puella suspiravit et abivit .

Puer autem non abivit, sed pergebat ambulare ad locum in quo Pepo erat. Repentino puer vidit Peponem. et paulo tempore tacente dixit. "O Pepo Maxima! Hic es! Cognovi! Cognovi te venturam esse! O Pepo Maxima, te amo!" Puer procucurrit et Peponem amplexans dixit. "Tibi credo, O Pepo Maxima, et huc redibo omni anno ut te revisam!"

Hac sola nocte et puer et Pepo laeti erant. Nam tametsi puer in hunc agrum quotannis rediit, numquam Peponem Maximam iterum vidit.

Nos autem cognoscimus veritatem --Pepo Maxima vera est, et si satis credimus, fortasse iterum veniet.



TWO CLASSICISTS BICENTENNIAL STYLE

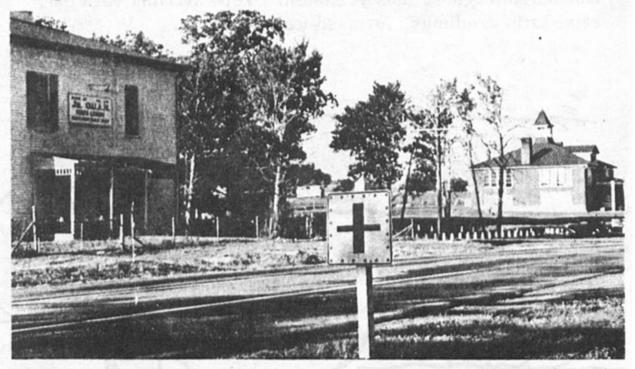
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Thomas Jefferson and Paul Revere

As we take a fresh look at the founding fathers of our country, it is interesting to look also at the ideological influences and traditions that formed the background for the decisions they were making 200 years ago.

We may need to remind ourselves that such learned men as Thomas Jefferson and Paul Revere who were in the foreground of the American Revolution were well inbued with Classical Studies and that in their search through the past for precedents and inspiration they gained new respect for two of the primary ancestors of Western Civilization, ancient Greece and Rome.

Thomas Jefferson is perhaps the more obvious classicist when one considers his formal education, the classical design of Monticello and his hand in bringing to the Virginia countryside such classical allusions as Tenth Legion, Virginia.



Town of "Tenth Legion" in the part of the Shenandoah Valley, in Virginia, called by Jefferson "the Tenth Legion of Democracy" because its allegiance to the Democratic party reminded him of the loyalty of the Tenth Legion to Caesar

Yet Paul Revere, living in the shadow of his silversmithing and equitation, was also a student of the Classics in his own right. The following print from a copper plate of his, recently reprinted in the September issue of Hoosier Schoolmaster, indicates a definite familiarity with classical allusions and even some research on his part.



In the print Revere pictures the colonial bird being let out of its cage by a seated Minerva/Athena who has used a victory garland to replace her war bonnet which now rests on the point

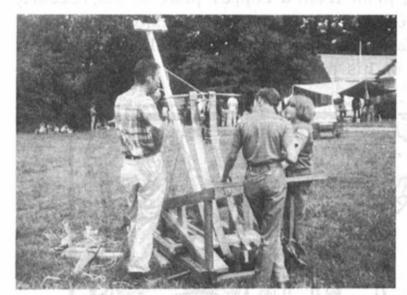
of her spear. In designing the print, Revere seems to have researched both the general composition of the picture and the pose of the figure from the ancient carving of Roma Aeterna in the Villa Albani in Rome.

These classical traditions, so much a part of Americans in 1776, well deserve this fresh look by Americans in 1976, for it is only by understanding the influences that guided the thought of our



founding fathers that we will begin to understand the kind of country they were striving to establish 200 years ago.

ESTO PARATUS!



Spring steel powered brick thrower entered in district-wide Cub Scout event held last summer at Camp Belzer in Indianapolis.

In their pledge to be prepared for anything, Cub Scouts in the North East District of the Boy Scouts of America have taken to catapulting of late to see for themselves just what the intrigue of the project is, and to see if they couldn't perhaps beat Latin students at their own game by substituting spring steel and surgical rubber cord for the more traditional power sources of twisted rope, bent wood and the counterweight. Sharing the humility of the first years of Latin student catapulting, Cub Scout catapulting still struggles to exceed a projectile range of 100 feet.

Cub Scout built brick throwing machine powered by surgical rubber cord.



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NEW

FROM POMPEIIANA

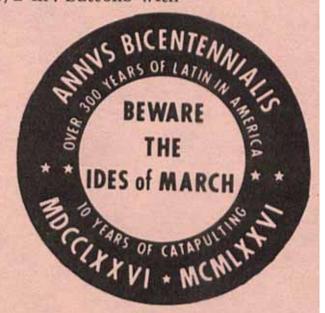
ROMAN COSTUMES AND CUSTOMS . . .

A new free-loan presentation containing a 25 min. cassette tape with audible signals and 98 color slides which portray eyerything from male and female hair styles to bizarre religious rites. Now available to adult members for one week's use.

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