

MMX in Review

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Julia and the Marine Band

2010 began with Tom, Julia, and Victor traveling to San Diego for a Classics convention in Anaheim, where they were able to watch fireworks in Disneyland from their hotel rooms. Julia spent the spring semester in Washington, her second as a fellow at the Smithsonian. Anne and Richard visited her for Mother's Day weekend and enjoyed the museums and flowers. Tom didn't get there until July, but it was great to visit many of our old haunts again. Later in the summer Julia moved over to the National Park Service for a project on Ellis Island. In November she returned to D.C. to present the National Landmark Nomination for Congressional Cemetery, a historic cemetery on Capitol Hill, to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The application was successful, and Julia announced it at the annual John Phillips Sousa birthday celebration at the cemetery, where she appeared with the U.S. Marine Corps Band!

Both Julia and Victor spent most of the spring on the academic job market. In the end they both found employment, but not in the same place. Victor has a one-year sabbatical replacement at his alma mater, the University of Missouri in Columbia, while Julia has a tenure-track job at Auburn University in Montgomery, Alabama. It was very difficult for them to pack up their little house in Champaign and move their dogs and their things, mostly to Montgomery, in August. Tom and Anne visited Julia in Alabama in early October and were quite intrigued by Montgomery, where they saw many places associated with the Civil Rights Movement. Anne was very happy to see her cousin Debbie who traveled from Sylacauga to spend the day with them.

Tom, in fact, managed to visit both capitals of the Confederacy in the same month, because he had a meeting in Richmond later in October, where he also was pleased to see his old friend Robert Giovenco, to visit his family, and, especially, to meet his new grandson.

As usual, Tom has traveled a lot again this year. In March he traveled with a group of Monmouth College faculty to Scotland to tour campuses of the University of the Highlands and Islands, with which

Monmouth College is developing off-campus opportunities for its students. Then, in late May, he took a group of students to Turkey, which he hadn't visited for ten years. Besides Istanbul, Gallipoli, Troy, Pergamon and Ephesus, which he'd seen on his last trip, this time he also saw Assos, a magnificent site on the Aegean opposite the island of Lesbos. He highly recommends Assos.

In May we also celebrated Julia and Victor's graduations from the University of Illinois, where they both received Ph.D.'s in art history at the same ceremony. We were pleased that Tom's sister Toni and her daughter Christina were able to join us for the festivities. Victor's mother, aunt and sister were also there, but, unfortunately, not his father, who was diagnosed with liver cancer at the end of 2009 and spent six months in the hospital,



Tom and His Students
at Hagia Sophia in Istanbul



Two New Ph.D.'s: Julia and Victor!



Richard with Amber
(Marie's Dog)

mostly in Madison, Wisconsin, before he died in June. His illness and death were very difficult, especially as Julia and Victor were moving into their new lives as college professors.

Richard continues to thrive in law school. In October he received, from the Wisconsin Justinian Society of Lawyers (representing the Italian-American legal community), a scholarship designed for a law student of Italian descent at Marquette University. You can imagine the great amusement it gave all of us that a student by the name of Richard Sienkewicz received this scholarship. Of course, when he attended a banquet and accepted his scholarship, he did speak to the assembly in Italian to prove his authentic ethnic eligibility! He is already in third year and looking forward to graduation and joining the bar in May. He is now looking for employment to pay off all his student loans.



Proud New Parents

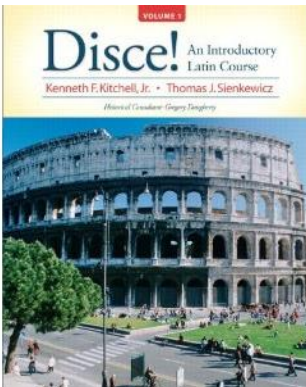


Anne on Mt. Battie
in Camden, Maine

All three children briefly joined Tom and Anne in Maine in July for a memorial service for Anne's mother, who died last fall. It was a comfort to have all the grandchildren together for the service in which they all participated. Tom and Anne were able to linger in Maine for their traditional two weeks at the cabin on Damariscotta Lake. As usual, they didn't roam much further than Waldoboro, where Anne spent a lot of time with her father, who is still doing well on his own, while Tom devoted most of his attention and energy towards proofs for *Disce!*, the elementary Latin book he has been working on for several years. Vol. 1 finally came out in October. Vol 2 is due out in January. Meanwhile, Tom is working with his co-author, Ken Kitchell, on a lot of the ancillary materials. On Veteran's Day Tom even traveled to Boston to participate in taping the audio track for the Latin narrative and vocabulary in the book. That was quite an interesting experience.



Proud New Grandparents



Our biggest news, however, is that we became grandparents on Nov. 27th, when Marie and her husband Kyle had a little girl, named Sylvia Marie Bond. The timing was perfect because all three grandparents were already with Marie and Kyle

for Thanksgiving. Little Sylvia is a precious little thing who has already managed to capture all our hearts. You can be sure to hear a lot more about her in future Christmas letters.



Sylvia Marie Bond

Our final piece of news is that Anne and Tom will be spending the spring semester in Florence, where Tom will be teaching for the Associated Colleges of the Midwest. This is the same program on which he taught in 1992. This return engagement will be quite different because we won't be traveling with three children and 13 suitcases, but we do hope that at least Julia, and, maybe Richard, will visit while we are there. Anne has arranged for a leave of absence from the Red Cross and is looking forward to renewing her acquaintance with Italian. Forza, Italia!



Anne Will Do Anything for the Red Cross, Even Wear a Football Jersey!

