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PAMELA J. FRANCIS, EDITOR

SUSAN S. MACNIVEN, FOUNDING EDITOR

The President's Column

Donald Kacvinsky, President, ILDS
Elected June 2006

I have been a member of the International Lawrence Durrell Society since 1986, when my mentor, Mike Begnal, organized the OMG conference at Penn State. Mike asked me to read a paper I had written for his seminar on the twentieth century novel. It was the first paper I would deliver in front of an audience, and when Mike told me Lawrence Durrell might actually be sitting in the auditorium, my fear turned to absolute panic. But when I read my paper I saw him instead sitting quietly in the back of the room, his hands folded gently before him, an oversize yellow and blue scarf flung jauntily over his shoulder. Later, I worked up the courage to ask him to sign some copies of his books, and he was graciousness itself. He nodded, said that he had enjoyed the paper, and then I saw his eyes look past me and gaze fixedly at my girlfriend, Julia. The old panic returned, for I knew Larry Durrell!

I am happy to say, dear reader, that I married Julia; even Larry's charms couldn't separate us. But little did I know what impact that conference would have on my life and career. Now, some twenty years later, I speak to you as president of this society. I recall fondly the conferences attended and the people I have met over the years. I look forward to keeping our traditions and yet moving into the future with assurance and confidence.

Indeed these upcoming years are especially important for our society. Though it is hard to believe, *Justine* will turn 50 in 2007. While a little worn

around the edges, still she's aged well: *Justine* or the *Alexandria Quartet* is almost always included in lists of the 100 best books of the 20th century, and if one looks on Amazon.com, Durrell's series continues to attract new readers. In honor of this occasion, Charles Sligh has organized a panel for the Twentieth Century Literature Conference in Louisville during February. I urge all Durrellians who can to attend the conference, submit papers, or moderate sessions. On Saturday night, all Durrellians are invited to dinner, where we can celebrate in true Durrellian fashion with food, wine, and good conversation. Other events are planned, including a 50th anniversary edition in French, and, with any luck, an English and American one too.

OMG XIV, which took place this June in Victoria, is fast becoming a memory, but one I'm sure, we will all fondly recall. In 2008, we will meet in Paris, France for OMG XV. The conference will be hosted by the University of Paris X (Nanterre), which houses the Durrell library. Corinne Alexandre-Garner is the coordinator, and we have already been in contact to make this the best conference ever. If any member has suggestions or concerns about the conference, feel free to contact me or Corinne by email or snail mail. I will keep the society informed as we get closer to the conference date.

The first appointment I made as president was for Pamela Francis to assume the responsibility of editing our *Herald*. Pamela and I first met at OMG XII in Ottawa, finding common ground in that we both called Louisiana home. Pamela has recently moved to Texas and is pursuing a Ph.D. at Rice University. She succeeds Susan MacNiven,

whose name, as the founding editor, appears on the masthead. While no one can replace Susan, with her kind words and caring manner, I believe Susan would have been happy to see her duties pass into the capable hands of Pamela. I am grateful to have the opportunity to work with Pamela over the next two years, as I am with James Gifford, my vice-president, and Paul Lorenz, my secretary-treasurer. These people, along with the past presidents--Anne Zahlan, Anna Lillios, Ian MacNiven, James Nichols, Michael Cartwright, Nancy Lewis--and the at-large members Linda Stump-Rashidi and Charles Sligh are determined to steer a steady course for the future.

As I assumed the duties of president and addressed the letters I sent to each of you on the future of our society, I was struck by the incredible diversity of our members. From Canada to Key West, Los Angeles to Corfu, Egypt to Japan, academics and non-academics, this society is international in every sense of the word. Given our far-flung membership, the *Herald* is one of the best means for keeping informed on Society news. While the website provides us with a presence in cyberspace for official business, and the listserv provides a quick means to ask questions and debate issues, the *Herald* is a forum for the serious and not so serious, the glorious, the noteworthy, and the mundane. I hope it not only informs, but entertains, reminding us again why we share our love of reading Durrell's works, as well as strengthening the ties of friendship that make this society great.



A letter from the editor:

Greetings, Durrellians!

It is with great joy--and a bit of stage fright--that I welcome you to the "new" ILDS *Herald*. I use "new" only in the sense that we have a new masthead, a new editor, and a new commitment to the *Herald*; but in other matters I hope that you find this publication familiar and a well-established part of the lively, informed, and well, *fun*, organization that is the International Lawrence Durrell Society.

In many ways, it is only fitting that I was tapped for this responsibility. Previous editor Susan MacNiven, whose presence in the Society is sadly missed, was the very first Durrellian I ever met. A few weeks before the 2001 MLA held in New Orleans, she called to invite me, a new member (thanks to the website), to dinner with other members. I couldn't believe she had taken the time to do that! I drove down and participated in what was a true Heraldic dinner (as Ian MacNiven signed in my copy of his LD biography). Between Ann Zahlan and David, Ian and Susan, and all the others there, I knew I had found an intellectual home.

I've never been disappointed in this community, as each On Miracle Ground I've attended has provided that same sense of intellectual endeavor, with an appreciation of LD's sense of humor, and, might I add, *plonk*. In addition to Ottawa, Rhodes, and Victoria, a session at The Durrell School at Corfu has allowed me to get to know people from all over the world—in places all over the world! Just for an example: Vice-President Jamie Gifford and I have talked LD in two Canadian cities, one US city, and two Greek islands! And we'll do Durrell in Louisville in just a few months.

The Herald, I believe—and I believe is the feeling of most others--is meant to be a voice of exchange, not just academic, but community as well. This is the vehicle for news about LD *and* the people who read LD. So far, I see regular columns that cover

mentions of LD in other works or works on LD, but also on the works of others who have worked on LD (what a sentence! I need an editor!). We should have Durrellian moments throughout as well, and I encourage all of you to send me pictures and blurbs of past conferences or other events. We are very fortunate this issue to have Linda Rashidi's "memoir" of OMG on Rhodes. I can vouch for Linda's verisimilitude. That was one great OMG.

But then, so was Victoria, though I "worked" hard (can it be "work" if you're having fun?), in that every moment was spent either at the panels themselves or with Durrellians. As already mentioned, I was elected as an at-large member of the Board as well as appointed as editor of the *Herald*. I am honored to be handed these responsibilities, **and** I promise to give it my best. I cannot **emphasize** how much my vision for this newsletter is that it be a community voice, so please send me anything you think would be of interest to others here. I can always be reached at albigensian@hotmail.com. Again, I look forward to fulfilling this position in a way that reflects the spirit of the Society.

Sincerely, Pamela Francis



POSTCARDS OF THE NATIVE QUARTER AND THE PLACE
DES CONSULS, ALEXANDRIA

FROM THE TRAVELERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST ARCHIVE

[HTTP://TIMEA.RICE.EDU](http://timea.rice.edu)

From a Past President

Anne Zahlan

ILDS President 2000-2004

Twenty-six years after the 1980 founding of the Lawrence Durrell Society (in Houston) and the first conference (in New York), Durrellians gathered in British Columbia for On Miracle Ground XIV. Of those who had attended the first two Durrell conferences, Ray Morrison and Ed Hungerford were with us in Victoria, and we remembered many who were absent. Special sessions commemorated Carol Peirce and James Brigham, and a posthumous award to Jay Brigham was announced at the banquet. Happily, the talent, creativity, and spirit of Durrellians, so evident in the beginning, remain impressive and inspiring today. The Society has had a distinguished past and looks forward to a bright future.

Despite the uncertainties of literary reputation, Durrell's work has continued to inspire high-quality scholarship and criticism. Two substantial biographies of Durrell and a body of solid criticism have appeared in print over recent decades.

(cont'd next page)

In the last few years, major books on Durrell by Mike Diboll, Michael Haag, Anna Lillios, Ray Morrison, and Linda Rashidi have been published, and Richard Pine's *Mindscape* has been reissued; Haag's new biography of Durrell is under contract with Yale. *Deus Loci* NS9 came out this year, and another issue is in the works. Currently, the Society is in the process of finding a new editor and a new home for this journal that is so vital to Durrell studies. Additionally, the Society is working to improve communication among members and with interested others: the Web site is continually updated, the online discussion is lively, and, with this issue, the *Herald* resumes regular publication.

As the Durrell Society grew and developed, it became increasingly clear that its true nature was international. Lawrence Durrell is a world writer who lived in many countries and evoked the spirit of many places, and those who read and study his works come from all parts of the globe. In a world of division and misunderstanding, Durrellians transcend nationality and nationalism and see the world and each other from a grander and more generous perspective. It is my hope that those who determine the Society's future will maintain its intercultural character.

I sincerely hope also that ILDS will build on its traditional association with the Bibliothèque Durrell at Nanterre, the Association Lawrence Durrell en Languedoc, the Durrell School of Corfu, the Centre for Durrell Studies in Kerala, and, more generally, that the society will continue to strengthen its world-wide character. When Durrellians next meet, it will be in Paris and for a conference jointly sponsored by ILDS and the University of Paris (X). The 2008 conference

will afford us ample opportunity to reaffirm our world-wide ties and renew our international perspective so as to assure a future in which those who come after will meet always on Miracle Ground.

ILDS Recognizes Anthea Morton- Saner's Retirement

Charles Sligh
Wake Forest University

On 18 July 2006 friends and colleagues gathered at the Garrick Club in London in order to celebrate Anthea Morton-Saner's retirement from the Curtis Brown Agency. As many in the ILDS already know, Anthea has long served as the literary agent representing the estates of Lawrence and Gerald Durrell. She counted Larry Durrell as a close friend during his lifetime, and her anecdotes always charm those fortunate enough to hear her as she recollects matters Durrellian.

The ILDS chose to recognize Anthea Morton-Saner's many years of assistance to Durrell scholarship by presenting her with a boxed pair of Waterford crystal red wine glasses designed by Paul Rocha. (The Society especially appreciates Michael Haag's help in selecting and delivering these glasses.) Following her retirement party, Anthea sent the following note of thanks to the ILDS:

I was very touched and honoured when Michael made the presentation of the lovely gift from the Society at my farewell drinks party. They are really beautiful and I can see myself sitting on the terrace, sipping cool white wine and reminiscing with friends about Larry. It is so kind of you all to think of me and, as you know, I hope to remain in touch with you all through either Michel or Ian. . . . and of course through *Deus Loci*. Who knows, now I am retired, I should have a lot more free time and one of these days I hope to attend another Conference.



MICHAEL HAAG PLANTS A BIG ONE ON ANTHEA AT HER RETIREMENT PARTY.

New and Noteworthy: LD in Print

The most recent issue of *A Café in Space: The Anais Nin Literary Journal* Vol. 3, 2005, features several essays on Durrell as well as by Durrellians. Richard Pine, Nabila Marzouk, and James Clawson have essays, while Jane Eblen Keller, Candace Fertile, and Pamela Francis review books related to LD.

Alert reader Brewster Chamberlin tells us: "You might want to check the not very flattering references to LD in Matthew Bernstein's biography of Walter Wanger (the original producer of the movie *Cleopatra*) in relation to LD's work on the script."

But on a more positive note, Brewster has also cited nine references to LD in poet Roger Green's *Hydra and the Bananas of Leonard Cohen. A Search for Serenity in the Sun* (2003). Even Amazon mentions the connection to LD, though they can't spell his name correctly; their description of the book says "Combining deprecating wit, unconventional style, and a decidedly playful mastery of the English language, *Hydra and the Bananas of Leonard Cohen* proves, once again, that (in the words of fellow poet Laurence Durrell) [sic], life is far too serious not to be taken lightly."

LD also made an appearance, though much briefer, in David Mitchell's very postmodern *Cloud Atlas*. On p. 163 we read: "We had the place to ourselves, while Mater and Pater were in Greece holidaying with Lawrence Durrell, if memory serves. ("Memory Serves." Duplicitous couplet...)"

While the majority of blogs are little more than print versions of bad talk radio, it is comforting to find the occasional intelligent posting. For book lovers, your editor recommends Patrick Kurp's *Anecdotal Evidence* (<http://evidenceanecdotal.blogspot.com/>). I first came across his blog because of a thoughtful review of Alike Barnstone's edition of *The Collected*

Poems of C.P. Cavafy (in the archives for August 2006). Patrick reads widely and carefully, and reading his blog is somewhat akin to discussing a good book with a friend (and a bottle of wine, of course...)

Durrellians in Print

Those who enjoyed Brewster Chamberlin's *A Piece of Paris: The Grand XIVth* will be happy to know that he's done it again with his *Mediterranean Sketches* (Vineyard Press, 2005). A collection of short stories, poems, letters and essays, the topics range far and wide "arching from a brief discourse on the ingredients for *salade nicoise*, several letters about travel to Alexandria (Egypt), the islands of Corfu and Rhodes (Greece) and the seaport of Sete, and an essay on the adventures of (and adventurous!) Durrell School of Corfu.

Conferences and CFPs

The Twentieth Century Literature and Culture Conference will be held at its regular venue, the University of Louisville, from Feb. 22-24, 2007. Durrellians are a regular presence at the conference and this year there will be two Durrell panels. See you there! http://www.louisville.edu/a-s/cml/xxconf/call_for_papers.html

The 11th International D.H. Lawrence Conference, 'Return to Eastwood', August 16-21, 2007, Nottingham University and Eastwood Hall, Nottinghamshire, UK. <http://www.dh-lawrence.org.uk/dh-lawrence-conference.html>

Ends and Beginnings, 22nd Ezra Pound Conference, Venice, Italy, June 26-29, 2007, Prof. John Gery, International Ezra Pound Meeting, Department of English, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA 70148-2315 USA. E-mail: <jgery@uno.edu>.

Modernist Studies Association 9th Annual Conference, November 1-4, 2007, Long Beach, CA. <http://www.usc.edu/schools/college/conferences/msa9/> Editor's note: The theme for this conference is "Geographies of Visual and Literary Culture", which seems to be an open invitation to Durrellians. While the conference discourages single-author panels, it would be good press for ILDS to have a strong contingent at the conference.

"Greenland on the Danube", Graham Greene's Vienna Revisited, May 25-27, 2007. <http://www.angelfire.com/journal/qgbtps/LatestNews.htmVi>

International Conference on Narrative

March 15-18, 2007, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, USA (Conference to be held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel). Conference Web Site: <http://narrative.georgetown.edu/conference2007/07>

Modern Greek Studies Symposium.

October 18-20, 2007. Omni Hotel, New Haven, CN. Deadline for individual abstracts: 30 December 2006. Deadline for panel proposals: 15 January 2007. Check the MGSA web site for updated information: <http://www.humanities.uci.edu/classics/MGSA/mgsa20.html>

9th Annual Conference of the Space Between Society: Literature and Culture, 1914-1945.

7-10 June 2007. Annapolis, MD. 300 world abstracts sent to David Boxwell (boxwell@usna.edu) by December 15, 2006. For information about the Society, <http://www.precursors.org>



IAN, DAVID, AND PAUL
VILLA GLEOBULUS
RHODES 2004

FROM PROSPERO'S CELL.....

"...LANDSCAPE AS A FORM OF
METAPHYSICS..."

Edited from a press release dated
23 September 2006:

The Durrell School of Corfu is pleased to announce its participation in the naming of the Corfu Bosketto as "Bosketto Durrell" and the unveiling of a plaque commemorating the brothers Lawrence Durrell and Gerald Durrell. The plaque celebrates the fact that Lawrence Durrell and Gerald Durrell were "writers and Philhellenes", and that they lived in Corfu 1935-1939.

Their books--and, in the case of *My Family and Other Animals* which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2006, two films of the book, contributed significantly to the worldwide reputation of the island of Corfu and to the development of the Corfiot tourist industry.

The Bosketto ('garden') in the heart of Corfu Town, has been a recreational space for Corfiots for many years. Speaking at the ceremony on Sunday 24 September, when the plaque was unveiled by the Mayor of Corfu, Mr. Giannis Trepklis, the Academic Director of the Durrell School of Corfu, Richard Pine said,

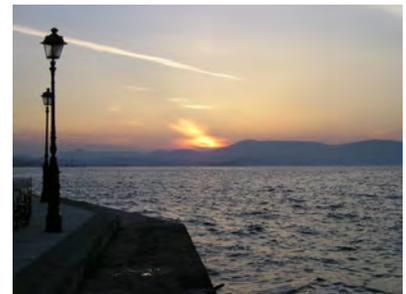
"The five years that the Durrells spent in Corfu was a period of personal growth for both of them.

Lawrence was 23 years old, and these were his formative years as a writer. On the first page of his book about Corfu, Prospero's Cell, he wrote: 'Greece offers you the discovery of yourself', and in Greece – Corfu in particular – he found his true voice as a writer. Greece continued to provide him with his inner strength as an artist throughout his life.

"Gerald was only 10 years old when he came to Corfu, and as a child his eyes were opened to the secrets and beauties of the natural world, not least under the guidance of his teacher, Doctor Theodore Stephanides, who himself deserves to be commemorated in the streets of Corfu Town."

Also speaking were Penelope Durrell, daughter of Lawrence Durrell, Dr. Lee Durrell (widow of Gerald Durrell) and Dr. Spiros Giourgias, who originally proposed the commemorative plaque and worked in association with the Durrell School of Corfu for its realisation.

The Durrell School marked the occasion with a seminar led by Dr. David Bellamy OBE on the theme Tradition and Change in Rural Society. The seminar featured lectures by Bellamy on "Following in the Footsteps of Gerald Durrell" and on the Corfiot olive-oil industry, by Dr. Lee Durrell on the breeding of endangered species, and by Dr. Kara Vaneck, on the Sylva Project for the protection of the Skyros Ponies. It also included a visit to the Sylva Project directed by honorary patron of the Durrell School, Sylvia Demetriadis Steen, and a botanical tour of the village of Perithia by Bellamy. Bellamy's lecture on Gerald Durrell inaugurated the DSC Library and Study Centre which opened to the public in October.



SUNSET AT THE FALIRAKI
CORFU



DEDICATION OF PLAQUE HONORING
THE DURRELL BROTHERS, CORFU TOWN,
23 SEPTEMBER 2006

THE DURRELL SCHOOL OF CORFU

FOR THE ADVENTUROUS
AND ENQUIRING MIND

[HTTP://WWW.DURRELL-
SCHOOL-CORFU.ORG/](http://www.durrell-school-corfu.org/)

The Durrell School of Corfu offers a variety of activities, ranging from a series of three week-long seminars in May, June and September on specific subjects (e.g., the 2005 topics included “madness and creativity” and “borders and borderlands”) to excursions that explore the rich cultural history of the Mediterranean basin. Field classes include excursions to Butrint (Albania), Old Perithia (Corfu), Lia (mainland Greece) and Kalami (Corfu) as well as walking tours of historic Corfu Town and its colonial architecture.

Past sessions have featured such internationally known scholars as David Bellamy, Gayatri Spivak, and Terry Eagleton, and have covered areas of interest that range from Greek cookery to translation theory.

In 2007, the School will host international

seminars on the topics of “The Literature of War” and “The Writer’s Reputation: Gender, Time, Geography”. Brief descriptions are posted below; please see the website for more information.

Call for Papers:

The Durrell School of Corfu will host an international seminar on ‘**THE LITERATURE OF WAR**’ at its Library and Study Centre, **20-25 May 2007**. The Moderators for the seminar will be Eve Patten (Trinity College, Dublin) and Robert Stone (author of *Dog Soldiers* [1974], *Damascus Gate* [1998] etc.). We invite submissions on aspects of literature and film relating to war.



GAYATRI SPIVAK, 2004



THE WHITE HOUSE
AT KALAMI

THE WRITER’S REPUTATION: GENDER, TIME, GEOGRAPHY (3-8 June 2007)

The Durrell School of Corfu will host an international seminar on ‘The Writer’s Reputation: Gender, Time, Geography’ at its Library and Study Centre, 3-8 June 2007. The seminar will be moderated by Aaron Jaffe (University of Louisville, author of *Modernism and the Culture of Celebrity*) and Harish Trivedi (University of Delhi, author of *Colonial Transactions: English Literature and India*).



TWO OF THE MORE
ENTERTAINING
REASONS TO ATTEND
DSC: DINNER AT THE
TAVERNA IN PERITHIA,
AND A SHOW BY DAVID
BELLAMY!

Reflections on a Week with a Marine Venus

Linda Rashidi

I know why I became a Durrellian every time I become a part of (if only briefly) a place where Larry lived and thrived. Like Durrell, I am energized by absorbing myself in a Mediterranean culture, its people and its spirit. And the OMG XIII (that wonderful number!) week on Rhodes was no exception. The energy, both our own and that of the place (or perhaps they are one and the same?), has followed me home, and so as I write these reflections on the marine venus that is Rhodes and our dip into its sun and warmth, images flick across my mental landscape: the perfect olive, a first ouzo, the soft evening air in an outdoor amphitheater, the peace of walking the narrow cobbled streets late at night in absolute security and oneness with the locals, the delight of finding yet another marvelous small Greek restaurant tucked away in some square or around a bend in an alley, football mania, the smell of the Aegean from the bank of windows in my tiny room #13 that Constance Rivemale has christened Mountolive. I have long had my own personal love affair with 'medinas', but sharing the constant meanderings of this old town with like-minded folk was a special treat.

Before the conference, I found myself explaining a Durrell gathering to the uninitiated as a combination of intellectual engagement and Durrell lovefest; and On Miracle Ground XIII was definitely both. Put any two Durrellians together for more than two minutes and the talk will almost immediately ground itself in ideas, provocative challenges, and playful insights. Even before the opening session, I found myself in deep conversation about not only Durrell, but also Groddeck, Nietzsche, Buddhism, and Greek mythology. I've decided that Durrell conferences don't have beginnings and endings—or even distinct happenings—they are comprised of some mysterious flow.

So arriving at the University of the Aegean on Monday morning had the feeling of a continuation—I was already engaged.



It was particularly appropriate that the first session was moderated by Paul Lorenz, whose quiet efficiency behind the scenes was only evident in the results. And it was equally appropriate that Carol Peirce's spirit of presence was on stage, even if she couldn't be with us in person. We seemed to have been on 'relative' time on this first day, but "the beautiful dragon lady", Jane Keller, took things in hand on Tuesday and kept our rambling tendencies in check. There was always that tug between lingering outside in the sun sipping a frappé and taking in the next intriguing panel.

While images merge together into "the week on Rhodes", there are glitters of delight that stand out. What a treat to have both Penelope Durrell-Hope and Eve Durrell actively participate with us; both not only appeared, as it were, but were gracious in their giving. I feel privileged to have been given a 'sneak preview' of Penelope's documentary film "Postcard from Soroni." When we traveled to Soroni the following day, both the presentday festival of the film and Larry's description of that of over fifty years ago were brought to life. That Thursday-morning Panel was definitely a sensory overload of memories. Eve's tender reminiscences, under Ian MacNiven's gentle probing, of the time she and Larry spent on Rhodes moved me in a way that mere memories cannot. Spyro Katexis had a quite different, though equally intimate in its own

way, impression of the young Durrell. And all of this was topped off by the childhood memories and home films of Zoë Woolrych York.

As I remember from Corfu, David Roessel (with lots of help from wife Pamela Beatrice) was putting his Greek (and running shoes—or was that Ian's shoes?) to good use. Monday night's panoply of events, one after the other, played off of the day's fine papers. We began at the recently renovated Villa Cleobolus; it was with a tinge of regret that I traded in the villa and surrounding garden of my mind's eye for this sparkling new version, so lovingly restored by Rhodes' International Writers and Translators Center. And what a fine reception they gave us. Reluctantly we left the gardens and trekked the few blocks to the Contemporary Art Museum where we were rewarded by a lively and moving performance of Greek songs based on Greek poetry translated by Edmund Keeley. Later, sitting in the amphitheater in the back garden, the reality of being on Rhodes sunk in as we were so graciously welcomed in both Greek and English, followed by Edmund Keeley's reflections and 'conversation' with Ian, David, and Pamela. After, I walked back home along the harbour, stopping for some coffee and sweets at the Turkish coffeehouse.

David's persistence and Greek acumen also brought another rare treat: a private tour of the Archeological Museum with Mr. Papandreidou, where we not only got to gaze to our heart's content at the Marine Venus with her jujube face, but also saw the model for the Aphrodite that graces the conference posters and program—and much more, of course.

Thursday was, indeed, a day to remember—and not just for its necessitation of transversing those cobbled streets numerous times to and from the university! Paul and Constance had arranged a terrific banquet for us: platter after platter of every known—and unknown—variety of seafood arriving in a steady stream, each more exotic than the last; our

own private garden with wisteria dropping from overhead and the smell of jasmine permeating the air; the powerful voice of the blind folk singer, Ka Katholika, and her group of equally powerful musicians.

The long day ending—or not—with the surprise win of ‘our team’ in sudden death overtime in the semi-finals of the Euro Cup, the world exploding into joyous cacophony and sweeping us up into its swirl. Who could not be rooting for this team? I walked back to the Hotel Andreas through a medina filled with uncontrollable, but not out of control, exuberance: fireworks shooting into the night sky over the harbour, dogs barking from rooftops, grown men dancing in the streets and spontaneously hugging neighbors and passersby.

Most of us did get up the next morning for our final session, a wide-ranging discussion bouncing off the recently published *Lawrence Durrell and the Greek World* edited by Anna Lillios. This final session reminded me why the ILDS thrives and will continue to thrive: everyone had a chance to field views, to challenge received notions, to probe as well as delight in Durrell the man and the writing. I remember this from my first Durrell conference in Alexandria, the respectful but critical exploration of stances, points of view, and pointed questions.

Then we left for a final excursion: to Kamiros, Filerimos, the shrine of Saint Soulis at Soroni, and the castle at Monolithos. I suppose most tourists confine themselves to the coast, the beaches, and Rhodes Town, but the interior is equally mesmerizing. The day before, Michael Diboll came roaring into the university courtyard on a very powerful motorcycle, his face aglow. Before his helmet was even off, he began to wax ecstatic about his ride over the mountains, around curve after curve, and through the pine woods, the scent, the wind, the freedom. On Friday, though from the more mundane window of a bus, the rest of us felt some of that magic of being in the mountains and lingering in the scent of pine. The views were

worth the numerous climbs up steep and rocky paths. We ate fish in a taverna by the sea; some of us took a final opportunity to swim in the Aegean.

And like the beginning, the ending was a gradual affair. I boarded a catamaran on Saturday to accompany Faith Warn back to her Greek island of sponge divers and the mysterious kouros of Kalymnos. For the next two days, one-by-one and two-by-two, we peeled off for home or other distant locales until by Monday morning, I was the lone fellow Durrellian left at the Hotel Andreas, and Constance was now off to the airport to pick up new guests. The town erupted again on Sunday night as Greece beat all odds and won the Euro Cup; as I watched the fireworks from my bed in #13, I felt the spirit of this place and wondered what Larry would have thought of football mania.



IN RHODES THE DAYS
DROP AS SOFTLY AS
FRUIT FROM TREES...



Notes on Contributors:

Dr. Linda S. Rashidi:

Linda was awarded a J. William Fulbright Senior Scholar Grant to lecture in linguistics at St. Kliment Ohridski Sofia University, Bulgaria. She is there now, teaching two MA courses, one course on Discourse Analysis and the other a course that teaches MA students how to write their MA thesis. In addition, she may supervise MA theses. A recent note from Linda says that she has already made contacts with some of her colleagues, and presented a paper on her Durrell work at the annual conference of the Bulgarian American and British Studies Society in Plovdiv in late October. So she is bringing Durrell to Bulgaria!. She notes that she checked the holdings of the Department's library and came up with only one Durrell holding, Fraser's book. Have no fear: she plans to remedy that situation immediately!

Mr. Charles Sligh

Charles is currently serving as Visiting Instructor of Victoria Literature at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC. Charles is a regular presenter at OMG and has organized several Durrell sessions at the Twentieth Century Literature Conference in Louisville. Charles is ABD at University of Virginia, and hopes to complete his dissertation next year.

Dr. Brewster Chamberlin

Brewster's CV is extensive, as he has been involved in numerous aspects of academia for some time. In addition to teaching at the University of Maryland, the Johns Hopkins University's School for Advanced International Studies, and the Technical University in Berlin, he has also served in a senior position at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Brewster is a member of the Board of Directors for the Durrell School of Corfu. His books *Paris Now and Then* and *Mediterranean Sketches* were published in 2002 and 2005 respectively.

THE HERALD NEEDS YOU!!!

The spring issue of *The Herald* will feature our most recent On Miracle Ground, held this summer in Victoria, British Columbia. Please send me (Pamela) any photos, comments, or observations you may have or have made about our time together in the Northwest. I am especially interested in reviews of the panels. And of course, it's always fun to find out who met who (I met Ray Morrison for the first time--I'm a big fan of his book--and I FINALLY got to meet Grove Koger, who I hope will contribute some of his bibliographic investigations to these pages). But of course, it was also really great to see old friends, even "new" old friends, such as James Clawson, who informs me that if we want to mooch off of him on any trips to Edinburgh, we'd better do it soon, as he is approaching his final months of graduate school there. As always, it was great to see the Hungerfords (who I got to visit with a couple of years



JUST ONE OF THE FINE
EXAMPLES OF COBBLE-
STONE DESIGNS ON THE
STREETS OF RHODES

ago on my own turf, when they toured Bayou Country), and well, I could go on, but I think I'll save it for the next issue! Don't be afraid to send just "news"--or "gossip!" either--it's always fun to hear what Durrellians are up to. I look forward to starting on the new issue, but I must confess, as soon as I send this off to Paul, I'm heading out to my patio with a BIG glass of plonk and a vampire novel, to give the brain a quick rest...before starting all my term papers...See you in February!



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