

# ΦΑΘ NEWS

FEBRUARY 2022



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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When he introduced the word—and the entire concept of—‘history’ in the opening lines of his great work, Herodotus insisted that the purpose of history was to ensure that ‘great and wonderful deeds’ ‘not be without glory’. And that is also the purpose of this column: to celebrate the marvelous deeds of Wendy Tunstall Werner, our former Interim Executive Director and Office Manager, the latter for an astounding 22 years. Wendy has announced her retirement, after a brilliant career in service to Phi Alpha Theta, and please join me in thanking her for that service. We can assure her that her good works will continue to reverberate, in generations of young people touched by her compassion, encouragement, and painstaking attention to detail.

Wendy joined Phi Alpha Theta in 2000, when her husband, Executive Director Jack Tunstall, moved the national office from Pennsylvania to Florida. At that point, she had already done tremendous work in a variety of capacities, including teaching German language at the university level and working as a translator for a company based in Germany. Wendy continues to work as a consultant on the books of her husband, an eminent scholar of the Austro-Hungarian military before and during WWI. (Be sure to check out his latest, *The Austro-Hungarian Army and the First World War*, Cambridge University Press, 2021, which will be reviewed in *The Historian* very shortly.)

Jack and Wendy built back Phi Alpha Theta at a time when it desperately needed leadership, and Wendy did it again at a similar moment in 2019, when she took over as Executive Director. I first met her when I became Book Review Editor for *The Historian* in 2018, and I cannot speak more highly of her precision in financial record-keeping, her determination to support my operation, and her support to my student employees. She weathered the tremendous challenges posed by Covid as Interim Executive Director, and she has been instrumental in teaching me how to navigate all the complexities of this job since I became Executive Director last September.



But the place where I saw Wendy's full talents and deep knowledge of the organization was at the Biennial Meeting in San Antonio in January 2020, just before the pandemic set in. Although everything in the 'before times' may seem hazy and glorious to us now, my memories of Wendy's work at that event are crystal-clear. I saw her make a potentially-overwhelming number of last-minute decisions, always with students' best interests uppermost in her mind. In spite of the daunting logistics inherent to directing a large-scale conference, she took the time to reassure nervous student presenters and still managed to conduct the organization's financial operations behind the scenes in a thoroughly competent manner.

I cannot imagine a better combination of skills than those she brought to this job, and I wish I possessed a fraction of them myself. She is looking forward to spending more time with her grandchildren, but I hope we can steal her away from her family from time to time to help right the ship when I go off-course. And I am certain that our hundreds of chapters, and thousands of initiates over all these decades, will realize just how lucky we were to be led by her. Prost, Prost, Prost, unsere Heldin!

Jonathan S. Perry



# SEE YOU IN *Albuquerque!*

Join us in Albuquerque, New Mexico  
from January 4-7, 2023 at the Hyatt  
Regency Albuquerque for the

## *Biennial Convention!*

Room Rate: \$150 + tax  
Stay tuned for more details to come



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# CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

*Virginia Wesleyan University*

The Omega-Pi chapter hosted their Fall initiation at the historic (c. 1890s) Hunter House in Norfolk, VA. During the ceremony, Dr. Clay Drees "dubs" each new initiate into PAT with a sword!



## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP  
GORDON MORRIS BAKKEN SCHOLARSHIP  
GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP  
DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP

*Due March 1, 2022*

FACULTY ADVISOR RESEARCH GRANT  
NASH HISTORY JOURNAL PRIZE  
PAT PAPER PRIZE AWARDS  
BEST CHAPTER AWARDS  
BOOK AWARDS

*Due July 1, 2022*

# BEST CHAPTER AWARDS

## *are back!*

After 2 years, we are excited to bring back the Best Chapter Awards! We can't wait to see what your chapter has doing around campus and in the community.

Discover this award on [phiaalphatheta.org/best-chapter/](http://phiaalphatheta.org/best-chapter/) and apply by July 1, 2022!

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## **REGIONAL CONFERENCES**

ALABAMA - Samford University - February 19

ARKANSAS - Harding University - April 2

CALIFORNIA SOUTH - Chapman University - April 16

CAROLINAS - Belmont Abbey College - March 5

DAKOTA - University of South Dakota - February 24

FLORIDA - Stetson University - March 19

HAWAII - University of Hawaii - Manoa - April 8-9

ILLINOIS - Olivet Nazarene University - March 25-26

MID-ATLANTIC - Catholic University of America - March 26

NEW ENGLAND - Keene State College - TBD

NORTHWEST - Western Washington University - April 3-4

PA EAST - Mansfield University - April 30

PA WEST - Thiel College - April 2

TEXAS NORTH/CENTRAL - Midwestern State University - TBD

TEXAS WEST - Texas State University - San Marcos - April 23

UTAH - Weber State University - March 26

VIRGINIA - Chowan University - March 26

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