

THE STATESMAN

Volume 8 Issue 6 June 2004

Announcements:

Don't miss the most anticipated GWC Seminar ever, **Core and Love of Learning** by Oliver and Rachel DeMille. This seminar promises to revolutionize the way you apply the Thomas Jefferson Education principles. [Click here for more details.](#)

Any veteran or their dependants, who qualifies for the G.I. Bill, may now apply their veteran's benefits toward tuition at GWC.

The George Wythe College Alumni Association now officially organized, is hosting **The First Annual Alumni and Friends Gala in conjunction with Commencement Exercises October 14th and 15th in Cedar City, Utah.**

Seminars:

- June 17-18 [Core & Love of Learning](#)
- June 14-26 [Youth for America \(Sessions 1-4\)](#)
- June 25-26 [Scholar Phase: An In-Depth GWC Seminar](#)
- June 28-30 [Summer Seminar: Shakespeare](#)
- August 17-18 [Summer Seminar: Shakespeare](#)
- August 2-28 [Summer Seminar: The Great Political Thinkers](#)
- September 1 [School Starts On-Campus](#)

For a Face to Face with Greatness seminar in your area, [click here.](#)

In Defense of Farmers

By Danielle Beck

On [Page 3](#)

For more newsletters, [click here.](#)

Hebrew

The Language of Liberty

By Oliver DeMille

I was seated at an airport cafeteria in the Eastern United States when I was first asked the question. Although it's been almost ten years since then, I can still remember it well. I was waiting to meet with a world-renowned scholar, and I was excited to tell him about the founding of George Wythe College just a few years prior. I had seen the scholar's resume—he was educated at the Ivy League and Oxford, had taught at the leading schools during a distinguished career, and he had a list of publications several arms long. I was excited to meet him, but a bit apprehensive about telling him I had founded a Great Books college. After all, he was the epitome of the type of scholar George Wythe College was designed to educate.

I'm glad I knew the answer to the question, because it was one of the first he asked. "What is the central language of George Wythe College?" Real scholars of educational history will often ask this, since the answer tells them what your school is all about.

If you answer "Latin," they know that the school was founded to promote Western Civilization as the focal point of an education—such a school will stress the Roman and Medieval readings. The scholar knows that the focus of such a school is to train professionals and business leaders. If you say "Greek," the scholar knows that the school was founded on the Greek classics, with the focus on training scholars, academics, clergy, philosophers and other "thinkers." If you say, "we teach many languages at our university

or college,” the scholar knows that the school is a modern teach-whatever-sells school, which scholars of education often call “Behemeth University” (meaning that the school doesn’t necessarily stand for something specific, but offers lots of majors in many disciplines).

If you say “Hebrew,” which is what I said, the scholar knows you are either a Jewish Yeshiva school or an American school in the tradition of the American Founding Fathers. Upon finding out that I wasn’t Jewish, the scholar sat back in his chair and started rubbing his chin. “This is most interesting, most interesting,” he kept repeating. And to one who knows the history, it truly is “most interesting.” A love for Hebrew swept the American Colonies before, during and after the Revolutionary War, because Hebrew was considered the language of liberty. Hebrew was required at nearly all the Ivy League schools in colonial times. Their goal was to train clergy and statesmen, and that meant the Bible. In fact, until 1817 the annual commencement address at Harvard was delivered in Hebrew. Hebrew was required for all freshmen at Yale, and several early leaders proposed that Hebrew be adopted as the official U.S. language instead of English.

Why? Because all education is based around a central book, a core classic from which all others flow—whichever book the scholars of that tradition deem the most important, the deepest and purest source of truth. The “Latin” schools consider the philosophers of the middle ages (Plutarch, Augustine, Aquinas, Dante, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Descartes, etc.) as the collective library or bible of great works. The “Greek” school considers Homer, Sophocles, Euripides, Herodotus, Thucydides, Plato and Aristotle as the gospels—the accepted Canon, the real fountain of knowledge. And since the originals are in Greek, you can’t be truly educated unless you speak Greek.

“Behemoth University” (which includes the majority of colleges and universities today) speaks the pivotal language of Employment—all the majors in all the departments promote this language. (It is a curious side note that the word “behemeth” is the Hebrew word for “beasts”. I am not sure how this applies.) The colonial Ivy League schools were founded on Hebrew, because The Law, or Torah, is the basis of free government, economy, politics, law and in short

liberty. As the generation of the American Founding Fathers understood it, liberty flows from the principles of the Bible—so a nation of freedom will be rooted in the legal, political, economic and governmental principles taught in it. Which helps explain the early Founding American generation penchant for the Hebrew language.

To sum it up: Latin is the language of the professions such as modern law and medicine, Greek of academia and the clergy, Employment is the language of the modern university system and indeed most of the nation at large, and Hebrew is the language of liberty and freedom.

So if anyone ever asks what George Wythe College’s central ancient language is, you’ll know two things: 1) you are talking to a very erudite person, and 2) the answer is “Hebrew,” the language of liberty—free government, law, politics, communities and economics. This is not to say that other languages aren’t studied at GWC—they are—but rather that the central language of liberty is consistent with the aim of the school to “build statesmen” who “inspire greatness in others and move the cause of liberty.”

Back to the airport restaurant: The knowing smile on the prestigious scholar’s face across the table told me I’d found a new friend. “Hebrew,” he said as he nodded. “Building statesmen . . .” he mused. “Well, it’s about time . . .”

For more newsletters, [click here](#).

In Defense of Farmers

By Danielle Beck

On [Next Page](#)

In Defense of Farmers

By Danielle Beck

In Defense of Farmers,
Whose rough, worn hands till the earth like molten spikes
spurring new growth.

(tiny sprouts peek above the dirt with strength and greenness anew)

Whose reverence
for all the sweet emerald life
Provides bounty to fulfill living needs.

(Long thin shoots begin to grow, bringing pleasure bright as spring)

Whose wandering eye
dreams gold cascades into being
And honors black dirt for its worth.

(Leaves and Buds begin to branch bringing evidence of labor to come)

With honor they toil despite
fickle seasons, insects, and frost.
They wake with the day and respect well the beast
With whom they partner in work.

(The mature vegetation, now the color of Autumn, showing well what has been
sought)

The serene solitude of work they seek,
where ideas of glory hinder not purpose,
Speaks billows of nature's content.

(A breathless pause, a refreshing view, of glimmering crescent waves)

For in defense of farmers,
Who with work, care, and love,
Give a portion of their souls to the earth
For the benefit of all.

(a grateful sigh is heard as the harvest is complete)