

# Conventiculum Latinum Vasintoniense

Washington Spoken-Latin Seminar 2009

to be held on the campus of [Wenatchee Valley College](#)

Preparatory Sessions: June 30th and July 1st

Main Seminar: July 2nd through 8th

Principal moderators will be

■ [Stephen Berard](#), Ph.D., Professor of World Languages, Wenatchee Valley College

■ [James Dobreff](#), Ph.D, Research Fellow, Lund University, Sweden; Coordinator and editor of the first edition of Daniel Rolander's *Diarium Surinamense*.

**Other fluent Latin speakers and experienced moderators will be in attendance.**

This *Conventiculum Vasintoniense* will be an excellent opportunity for practicing speaking Latin. Most days we will take an excursion during which the participants, with the help of moderators, will not only chat among themselves in Latin but also describe in Latin everything they do and see. In the countryside and in parks we will discuss trees and plants, mountains and glaciers, rivers, animals, birds, insects, weather, and many other things. In town, our topics will be all things urban: the arts and entertainment, buildings and transportation, the harbor and ships, business, shopping, books, clothing, sports, etc. This seminar will be of special interest to those who enjoy the outdoors, sightseeing, etc. and who would like to improve their Latin skills "kinesthetically" in friendly conversation while engaging in a variety of activities in a multitude of contexts and settings.

## Who Should Attend the Seminar?

All Latin teachers at the elementary and secondary levels are invited, as well as college and university professors. We especially recommend this seminar to graduate students in Classics and related fields since, just as with any language, the ability to speak Latin immensely strengthens one's ability to read and write Latin well. Also, in order for spoken Latin to flourish, which is our common goal, it is especially necessary for future Latin instructors to see that our language is fully capable of serving as an instrument for daily life and for expressing all human concerns, even the most modern. We encourage those who already know the fundamentals of Latin grammar and can already read Latin quite well but who have never spoken Latin to attend the Conventiculum and have their first Latin conversations with us. Those who do not yet speak Latin should in no way feel intimidated at our seminars, since almost all of us have begun to speak Latin relatively recently and thus we all understand perfectly well the difficulty of getting started.

## The Preparatory Sessions

All those who would like to practice the general elements of conversational Latin are invited to arrive a few days before the beginning of the seminar and, on June 30th and July 1st, practice speaking Latin with Stephen Berard, James Dobreff, each other, and perhaps other moderators on a few more familiar topics, adding new and useful expressions to their vocabulary, getting used to speaking, and building up their confidence.

## Registering for the Seminar

In order to apply for an opening in the Washington Spoken-Latin Seminar, please send the application form to: Pam Kelley, Administrative Assistant, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Wenatchee Valley College, 1300 Fifth Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801 USA.

### **Accommodations, Food, Pricing, etc.**

All these details will be arranged through Wenatchee Valley College. Those staying in double rooms will each pay \$20 per day. Those wishing a single room will pay at a rate of \$40 per day. To make reservations, contact Mr. Kelly Ketcham at 509-682-6865, [kketcham@wvc.edu](mailto:kketcham@wvc.edu). Meals taken at the college will be about \$9 apiece. We encourage students to apply for scholarships at their home institution and elsewhere, although there may be some Seminar scholarship money that can be used not only for meals and housing but also for the costs of participating in excursions.