

## AN INTRODUCTION

Through vision and concentrated effort, the Mediterranean Society of America was launched in 1968 by a small, but enthusiastic group of citizens in Richmond, Virginia. Though the Society has been led by individuals possessing a specialized knowledge of the Mediterranean lands, its strength has always remained its lay membership. In this respect, the organization is probably unique in its field. The current Board of Directors consists of representatives of various professions and areas of the business world, as well as a number of secondary-school and university teachers.

Since its inception, the Society has sponsored numerous summer seminars to various countries of the Mediterranean. Lectures at regular meetings and cultural presentations have attempted to bring the flavor of the Mediterranean World to our side of the Atlantic. Trips to museums and other places of interest in this country have proved to be successful and rewarding. In addition, a periodic Newsletter has conveyed the spirit of the Society to many homes and libraries.

Now in the forty-first year of its existence, the Mediterranean Society is more vibrant and active than ever. The coming year promises a varied and attractive program which includes a seminar in Spain and two short domestic excursions, a social event featuring Mediterranean cuisine, and lectures by visiting scholars who are experts on the Mediterranean area. All the functions of the Society are meant to further awareness of that region of the world which gave birth to our western culture.

*The Mediterranean Society of America  
"Friends Traveling Together"*

## PURPOSE

An organization chartered by the Virginia State Corporation Commission, the Society, as stated in its By-laws, endeavors "to promote, encourage, and develop a better understanding of and appreciation for the history and culture of Western Civilization." It does not exist for or seek profit.

## MEMBERSHIP

Any person interested in the objectives of the Society is invited to join. An annual dues payment of \$40 or more entitles a person to be listed as a Contributing Member. A payment of \$25 entitles an individual to all benefits of the Society. A Family or Couple membership of \$35 and Student membership of \$5 are also available.

*The Mediterranean Society of America is planning a varied program of activities for 2008-09. If you are a member, please renew your membership now and help us build our membership this year by telling others about the Society. For further information you or any prospective member may call me at 804-358-2640. And be sure to check out the website at:*

**[www.mediterranean-society.org](http://www.mediterranean-society.org)**

*We look forward to an exciting year and hope you will enjoy the various lectures, excursions, social events, and the seminar in Spain.*

*Sincerely,*

*Julia Proctor  
Chairwoman  
Program Committee*

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## BENEFITS

- \* Presentations and lectures with form and content based on the cultural and humanistic values of the Mediterranean tradition.
  - \* Excursions to museums and other points of interest conducted by scholars and specialists in the field.
  - \* An opportunity to see and study European masterpieces of art, historical locales, and contemporary culture in Seminars abroad.
  - \* Social events emphasizing Mediterranean culture as a living force, such as the Mid-Winter Dinner featuring Mediterranean cuisine.
  - \* Association with people who share an interest in Mediterranean culture in an atmosphere both intellectual and social.
  - \* Liaison with other organizations of similar character and purpose.
  - \* A Newsletter to keep members informed.
  - \* Community involvement with local Classics teachers and students.
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<b>Calendar of Events 2008-09</b>
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*Regular meetings are held in Jepson Hall 118 on the campus of the University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia, at 3 p.m.*

### 2008

**Sunday, September 7, 3-5 p.m.** Reception for current and prospective members, the Deanery, University of Richmond.

**Sunday, September 28.** Illustrated lecture on “Catalonia and Northern Spain” by Elizabeth Frances Jones of Christopher Newport University.

**Saturday, October 18.** Fall Excursion: City Point (Hopewell) and the American Civil War Center at Tredegar.

**Sunday, November 9.** Annual Election, and illustrated lecture on “Poseidon is Visiting the Ethiopians, Most Distant Of Men” by Elizabeth Fisher of Randolph-Macon College.

**Saturday, December 6, 6 p.m.** Mid-Winter Reception and Dinner at the 2300 Club in Richmond.

### 2009

**Sunday, February 8.** Illustrated lecture on “Classic(al) Covers from *The New Yorker*” by Daniel McCaffrey of Randolph-Macon College.

**Sunday, March 22.** Illustrated Lecture on “The Classical Side of Tennessee Williams” by Janice Siegel of Hampden-Sydney College.

**Saturday, March 28.** Excursion to the Chrysler Museum and the Mariners’ Museum.

**May.** Seminar in Catalonia in Spain.

*Members are notified of changes in this schedule and usually separate notices are sent for individual events.*