Dear BCARF members.

We have just completed what I hope is our last year of activities influenced by the pandemic. As I write this letter, the Covid situation in Massachusetts and most of the US has improved dramatically, and the vaccines that have been widely distributed appear to be working even better than most

vaccines for airborne viruses. This should lead to a return-tonormal for BCARF this Fall. We have scheduled some terrific presentations on timely topics, the Book Club is looking forward to in-person meetings, and even the museum tours will hopefully be scheduled. We also plan to welcome three years of new retirees into the association at our annual banquet next May! That open bar, good food, and chance to catch up with old colleagues will be an important step in re-energizing the social part of our association.

In spite of the pandemic restrictions, we had a collection of very timely and well-attended Zoom presentations during academic year 2020-21. These included presentations on Covid, on the election (right after the Jan. 6 insurrection), and on policing (immediately following the Chauvin trial). We also recognize that members who were away for the winter or who have moved away from the Boston area were able to join us via

Zoom, which has us considering the possibility of some winter Zoom meetings going forward.

I was well supported by the activities of the 2020-21 Executive Committee, and look forward to next year's meetings. Elected o cers for 2021-22 are: Alec Pen Thmee 2sin htm Covame True Took

10

Wholiky RetirementB Grant

. . / 1 of 12

2020-2021

2 of 12 . . /

. . / 3 of 12

	 /	

consider the subject by geographic location. I thank warmly all those who came aboard. Since that time our research team has continued to advance our project described at http://censusofmoderngreekliterature.org. We are compiling a bibliography of all discoverable translations and studies relating to modern Greek literature that have been published in English. This year marks the 200th anniversary since the outbreak of Greece's War of Independence from the Ottoman Empire, and a presentation of the "Authors 19th-21st centuries" section of our "CENSUS" is expected as part of the national celebrations of "1821-2021." The spring of 2021 was marked for me by two unexpected events: Foremost, the announced retirement of our colleague Michael Connolly from the Department of Eastern, Slavic, and German Studies. We've all long seen Michael in action as a pillar of the FMRC, but besides receiving decades of technological advice from Michael, I had the added privilege of working in the early 1970s with - then "Prof. Connolly" - as his student in the Linguistics M.A. program. His teaching and mentorship prepared me for any and all rigors of subsequent studies, research, and teaching. Michael, I salute and thank you for your constant personal example of excellence in academic life at BC! The second recent event of note was a fire that swept through our apartment building in January, a sudden upheaval during the night with a disastrous aftermath (from smoke, soot, and water) for books and other cherished possessions. We are still living outside our home. I encourage reviewing in advance one's preparedness for such emergencies.

Not too much new to report. I'm still gardening (and losing the battle with the rabbits and chipmunks), riding, and helping with our younger son's now 18-month old twins. Of course, they are entirely mobile now and can climb anything, so just keeping track of them is a challenge. I'm hoping there will come a day when they want to sit and listen to a story! For many years, I have volunteered as a math tutor in the Newton elementary schools; I tried to do that remotely this year, but it was a less than successful experience. On a more positive note, we were happy to gather with extended family on a couple of occasions, outside, socially distanced, wearing masks – you know the routine. And once we were fully vaccinated, we ventured to Virginia to visit

6 of 12

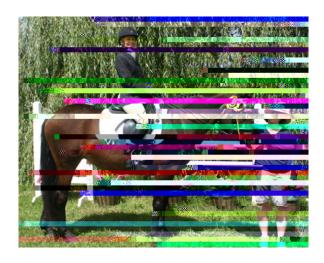
final book, Numbskull in the Theatre of Inquiry: Transforming Self, Friends, Organizations, and Social Science, which is part memoir and part introduction to a new paradigm for both social action and social science. After never before having raised a finger to market any of my books (you know, it seemed undignified), I will probably spend the rest of my life trying to find someone to read this one.

It has been a restful year with daily walks around the quiet BC

. . / 7 of 12

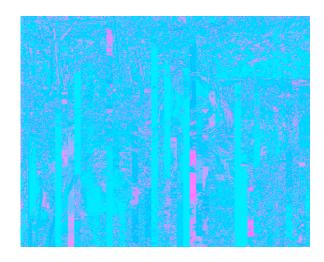
Members relied on a variety of strategies to stay sane during the long months of the pandemic. Mike Malec









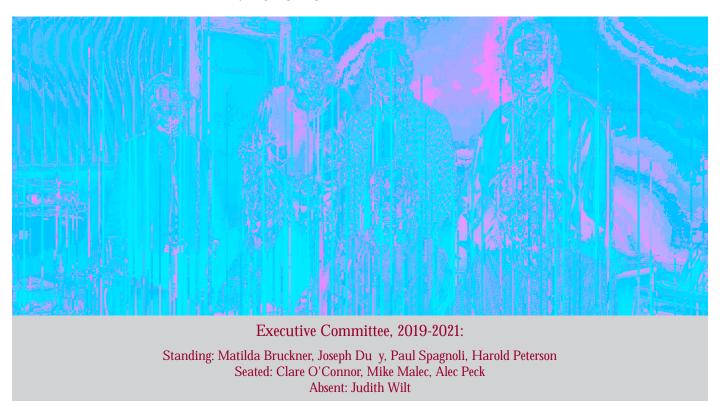


8 of 12

```
, Romance Languages and Literatures
, Philosophy
, Psychology
, Sociology
, Economics
, Sociology
, Fine Arts
, LSEHD
, Political Science
, S.J., Geology
, LSEHD
, International Programs
, CSOM
```

10 of 12

: 2020-2021



President: A

Vice-President:
Secretary.
Treasurer:
Member-at-Large:
Member-at-Large:

Jesuit Liaison:
Past President:

: Paul Spagnoli

Creative Services Manager: Gaurie Pandey Photography: Maria Brisk, Marjorie Sardella, and Paul Spagnoli

The BCARF Newsletter is published annually and is available (along with past issues) on the BCARF website. Notification of its publication will be sent to members via the listserv.

Website:

Book Club:

Program Meetings:

and

Seminars:

Nominating Committee:

Member List Manager:

Administrative Liaison:

Graphic Designer:

Center for Centers

Center for Centers

. . /

	 /	

RETIRED FACULTY NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT 2021

Editor's note: My last minute request for photos to fill up a blank page in the Newsletter generated far too much material to include (given our printing budget). I have put together this supplement so as to "publish" this additional material.

Paul Spagnoli

Two news entries received too late to include in the Newsletter:

Paul Davidovits, Chemistry

I recently published *Holocaust Memories: Annihilation and Survival in Slovakia* in Amsterdam Publishers' series of Holocaust survivor memoirs. I was born in 1935. My mother and I survived the Holocaust by using forged documents and moving rapidly from town to town when anyone became suspicious of our identities. By the time World War II ended, all of my paternal family and most of my maternal family had been killed, but my mother and I survived and emigrated to Toronto in 1949. When I inherited an album of family photographs from my mother I realized that I was the only person alive who recognized the people in the photos, uec7Dsvr3 (ive)-106hBy the hen

completing her tenure as Vice President of the Franklin Art Association, which involved her organizing and hosting a series of guest artist demonstrations for the Association's monthly Zoom meetings (now happily in-person). Though travel limitations have restricted her range of photographic subjects, Marjorie has used her extensive archives to produce her sixth photographic wall calendar, which she featured along with her prints, note cards and bookmarks at this month's 18th Annual Franklin Harvest Festival. **Dennis** continues to be in charge of the Association's social media presence (a job for which he is spectacularly unqualified) and presented a Zoom lecture on Science and Art at one of their monthly meetings. He has been invited to speak on "Catacombs to Cathedrals" to the Sisters of St. Chretienne in November and on "The Language of Byzantine and Russian Icons" at the Franklin Historical Museum in January. He also maintains his connection with the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, MA, and has completed a book on icons which is scheduled for publication next fall.

Photos Taken by Members during the Pandemic:

Jenny Baglivo, Mathematics:

I took many, many walks to keep sane during the pandemic, including to the deCordova Museum and adjacent grounds last fall. Enclosed is a picture from a visit there.



Maria Brisk LSEHD:

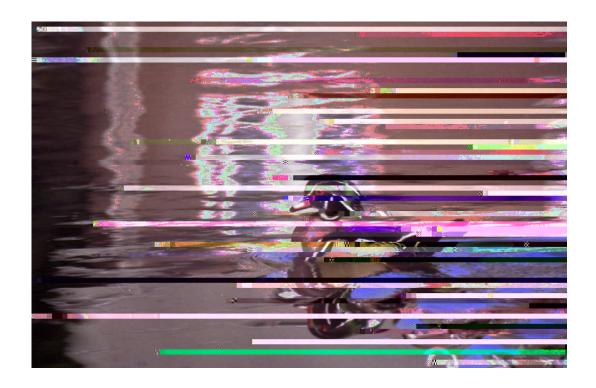
This is from a

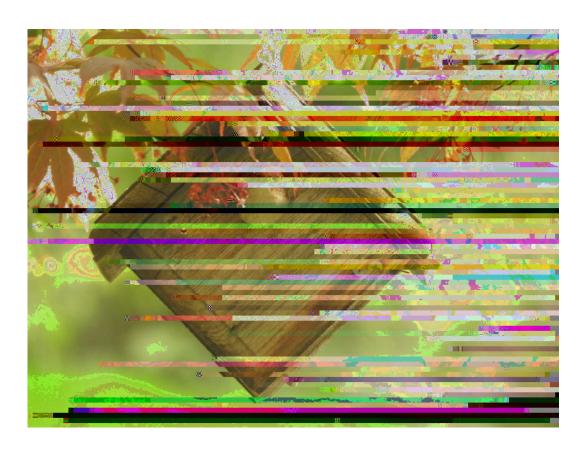
Mike Malec, Sociology:

Four of my bird-watching photos: a Baltimore Oriole with two chicks, a Great Blue Heron, and a Wood Duck, all caught at the Newton Cemetery and Arboretum, and a Wren peeking out of a bird house in my own yard.









Alec Peck, LSEHD:

These two photos come from my "Breathe" retreat, sponsored by the BC Intersections project. The project was open to retired faculty and 6 of us took advantage of it in December 2020. I went to the deCordova Sculpture Park to take photos for a day of escape from COVID.

Dennis and Marjorie Sardella, Chemistry and Presidential Scholars Program:

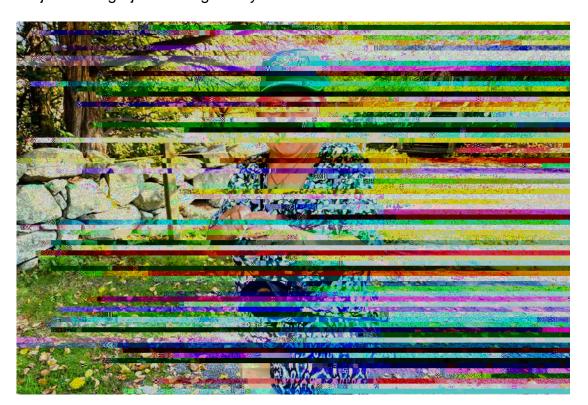
A screen shot taken by Marjorie during Deborah Levenson-Estrada's seminar in September:



One of the Sardella gardens:



Marjorie during a jaunt through Stony Brook Reservation:

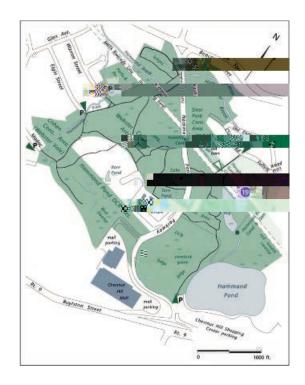


Paul Spagnoli, History:

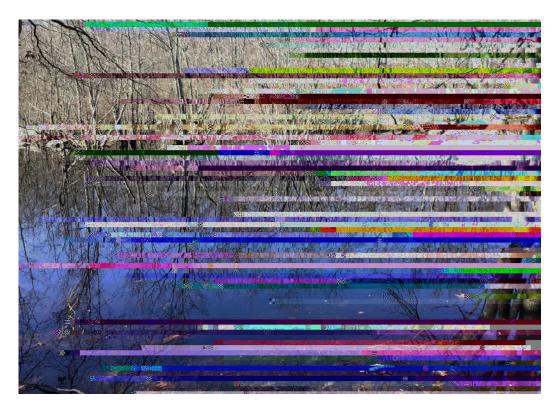
Probably my most important strategy to stay sane during the pandemic was to walk ... and walk ... and walk some more. A neighbor recently pointed out to me that a Google Maps street view caught me forging down our block one morning last November. Fortunately Google blurred my face in case I was living under a secret identity.



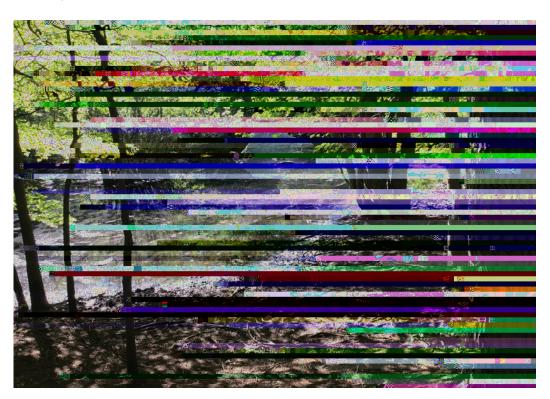
I did a lot of my pandemic walking in the conservation area running along both sides of the Green Line and Hammond Pond Parkway in Chestnut Hill, some of which is the famous "Webster Woods" purchased by BC from the Temple Mishkan Tefila and then taken by the City of Newton in an eminent domain acquisition. There is a vernal pool called Bare Pond in the Woods just a few hundred yards from the BCARF office. and one of my pandemic projects was to document the pond's evolution over time as I walked through the woods. Massachusetts state law, vernal pools are temporary bodies of fresh water that normally fill up during the rains and snows of fall, winter, and early spring, then dry up as spring gives way to summer.



Bare Pond, March 16, 2020:



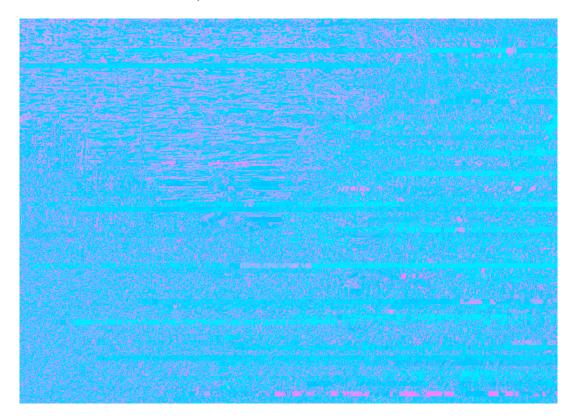
June 16, 2020:



Retired Faculty Newsletter Supplement (2021)	10
Bare Pond, June 26, 2020:	
But in the very wet year 2021 the pond never dried up at all.	Here it is on September 3:

Rachel Spector, Nursing:

I enjoyed walking and nature photography during the pandemic. Here is a swan in her Hammond Pond nest on May 2, 2020:



Two weeks later, her eggs had hatched:



And a few days later the whole family was off for a swim across the Pond. It was amazing to watch the evolution over time:



Judith Wilt, English:

A photo taken with Paul Lewis and Jim and Beth Wallace at my 80th birthday party in September 2021:

