The Oxfordian is an annual journal dedicated to publishing scholarship and informed opinion relating to the authorship and production of important literary works in Early Modern English. It is a publication of the Shakespeare Oxford Fellowship.

Writers interested in being published in The Oxfordian should review our publication guidelines at the Shakespeare Oxford Fellowship website:

http://shakespeareoxfordfellowship.org/the-oxfordian/

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Back issues of The Oxfordian may be obtained by writing to newsletter@shakespeareoxfordfellowship.org

Cover Photograph: Janice Jackson

The front cover is an interior view of the balcony at the restored Globe Theatre in London (circa 2013).
Acknowledgments

This volume of The Oxfordian owes its existence to the continuous support of the journal’s editorial board, which has reviewed submitted articles, advised the editor, and provided much supplementary support and enthusiasm.

Bob Meyers    Don Rubin    Lynne Kositsky
Tom Regnier    Ron Hess    Richard Waugaman
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Proofreading: Jim Boyd, Ramon Jiménez, Rick Waugaman, Janice Jackson, Michael Kositsky.


The editor thanks everyone listed above for their ongoing support. Additionally he thanks the contributors to this journal, and its readers, without whom it would not thrive.
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[In] Verona, our bus stopped briefly near Porta Palio to allow us to see Romeo’s sycamore grove. I asked our Italian guide – just to be sure – if those trees . . . through the bus windows were the famous sycamore trees. She answered bluntly: “No, those are plane trees. Sycamores are a different species.” Once I recovered from my surprise, I started thinking . . . Are there really two different tree species, each with its own unique name? Or is there only one species of tree, but with two different names, depending on the region or the era? . . . To get to the root of this problem, we first had to get to the leaves. . . . Little did I know how far this modest inquiry would lead.
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