

Alae Mercurii

Volume 3 Issue 1
September 2008

Quid Novi?

Salvete and welcome to this year's first issue of the *Alae Mercurii*, packed with information on the new state officers, National Convention, and Fall Forum. The national convention held from July 28th to August 2nd at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio was a humongous success, with lots of spirit, awards, and fun memories. For those who missed out, or just for those longing for another dose of JCL, Fall Forum is coming up fast. So make sure to get in those registrations and join in the fun at South Forsyth High School on November 8th.

In order to participate in this year's activities, teachers need to register with the Georgia Classical League and for Fall Forum online at the GJCL website.

Also please remember to send contributions to the *Alae Mercurii*. We love to hear about any happenings at local chapters, from that toga party to that afternoon spent helping the community. It is a great way to show your spirit and prove to everyone just how amazing your chapter is.

Inside This Issue:

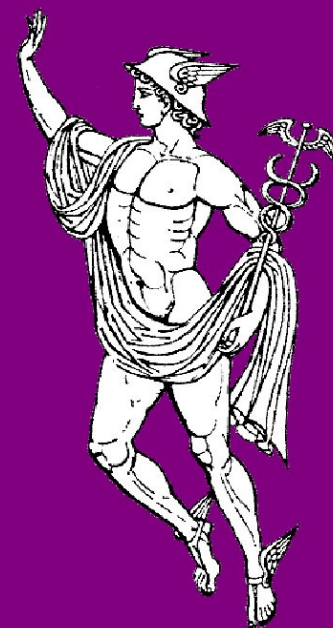
Quid Novi?	1
Meet the Officers	2-3
Nationals	4
Fall Forum	5
Officer Journals	5-6
Congrats	7

Letter from the Editor

With the new school year comes a new editor, and along with it, a new design for the *Alae Mercurii*. In an effort to save the trees, we have gone fully digital, adopting a new splash of color and a sans serif font to make it more pleasing for the eyes. A version to be printed is also available

I am more excited than ever to have this opportunity

to bring news to my fellow GJCLers, but I cannot do it without you. So once again I ask everyone to please send in those articles. Maybe your school had a Vergil read-a-thon, maybe you went to Rome this summer, or maybe you were just inspired by a Muse to write a short story. Whatever it is, send it along to editor@gjcl.org and let the word get out.



Meet the Officers

GJCL Co-chair Mr. Ward

Born: 1/22/75.

School mascots: Eastvalley Elementary Eagles, East Cobb Middle Rebels (now the Jr. Wildcats – I guess “rebels” offended some), Wheeler High School Wildcats, Boston College Eagles (again). Teaches at: Wheeler High School Ambitions: be a good teacher and a great father; get my taxes done before April 14th; remember birthdays; compete in an adventure race/kayak race; read Gibbon’s *Decline and Fall of Rome*.

Favorite movies: *Star Wars* IV-VI.

Favorite ice cream: Chocolate chip cookie dough.

Hobbies: Building stuff. Reading, just about anything. Making Aubrey’s dolls talk.

GJCL President Alyx Roseman

I have found JCL to be an incredibly rewarding experience. Some of the coolest, most fun, and most interesting people I've ever met came from Fall Forum, State Convention, or Nationals. I look forward to the challenges of this year and hope to see everyone at Fall Forum this year.

Some fun facts: I have my scuba diving certification, love

rock climbing, camping, and anything outdoors, I teach karate, I love sushi and pickles, I've attended (and enjoyed) DragonCon, I dress in costume to attend the Renaissance Fair :, I drive a Subaru Forester, and I love the Junior Classical League!

GJCL Co-chair Mrs. Faulkner

Born 8/1/74 at Northside Hospital in Atlanta and raised in Atlanta.

Schools: Dyer Elementary (Dragons) Benefield Elementary (Buccaneers), Snellville Middle School (Comets), South Gwinnett High School (Comets – not original), University of Georgia GO DAWGS SIC EM WOOF WOOF WOOF!

Married in 1995 to high school sweetheart, Mark. B.A. in Latin and Classics 1998. Goals: to be the best mom I can be, to spend more time with my family.

Hobbies: Gardening, Xbox, reading anything I can get my hands on, crocheting, sewing, and being active in my church.

Favorite food: chocolate. Favorite TV show: *Battlestar Galatica* and *Law and Order: SVU*.

Favorite vacation spot: Carthage: “I would love to go back there. I will one day!”

Have a question or comment? Feel free to contact the officers at:

president@gjcl.org
vicepresident@gjcl.org
parliamentarian@gjcl.org
secretary@gjcl.org,
historian@gjcl.org
editor@gjcl.org
webmaster@gjcl.org

We're always willing to listen

Meet More Officers

GJCL President

Leaha Wynn

Leaha comes to us from New Jersey. She must visit often as she has memorized every inch of road between here and there. Her favorite color is purple, and her organizational skills and enthusiasm surpass the average by the height of Mt. Olympus. She, obviously, loves Latin, though also admits to a love of math. She enjoys singing, dancing, and acting and always, always has a song playing in her head. Feel free to just ask her on what song her mental soundtrack is.

GJCL

Parliamentarian

Kenny Puk

Born on July 2, 1990, I hail from Hong Kong, East LA, and now East Cobb. I'm a Tech fan for better or for worse. I've enjoyed Certamen since Latin I and have been looking for a quick buzz-in since. I take those tests at convention seriously even the Greek ones. Outside the lines of Catullus, Ovid, or Vergil, I enjoy kicking it in the pool and scrambling in the field for anything that flies through the air. I play a mean game of Mine-sweeper, watch Stargate avidly, and love leading my church's youth group. I've enjoyed being a state officer

and encourage anyone interested to ask about running.

GJCL Secretary

Jamie Lowe

Jamie grew up in Augusta, Ga and goes to Davidson Fine Arts. She has a blood brother, a half brother, and three step siblings. She has studied violin and music for 9 years, and likes photography, working with ceramics, teaching kids, and hubbabubba bubble gum. She's done three performances with her creative writing department, and finds people interesting Jamie drives an oxidized blue 1989 Volvo 240 DL, which she bought on her own and which refuses to drive up extremely steep hills.

GJCL Webmaster

Josh Brown

I am right-handed and I go to Parkview. I have been to two fall forums and three state conventions. I am an officer for my local JCL chapter. I have been designing websites forever. Well, not really, but for a long time at least. I run cross-country, read manga, watch anime, torrent everything, hunt deer, play DDR and FPS, and generally try to stay out of trouble.

And More Officers

GJCL Historian

Laura Briscoe

I was born in Covington, GA, where I have spent the past 17 years and some odd months. Most of those years have been spent in such varied activities as 4-H, band, Girl Scouts, various service organizations, and of course JCL. I'm currently in Latin V and about to go into AP Vergil. I love to read, especially Ovid and Flannery O'Connor. I want to attend the University of Georgia to major in Latin and then go on to teach Latin at some high school, preferably in Georgia and preferably not too far away from Covington. I have never been outside of the country, but this summer I'll be spending some time in London, Italy, and France, where I hope I see Johnny Depp strutting around some-

where. Outside of JCL, I spend most of my time working, going to football games, playing the piano, and watching terribly dishy Lifetime movies.

GJCL Editor Olga

Neyman

I was born and raised in Georgia, and currently attend Northview High School. My interests tend to fall into two halves. One side of me possesses the soul of a linguist, dedicated not only to Latin but French and Polish as well; the other side adores the sciences and calculus. In my free time I practice Kung Fu and Tai Chi and attempt to create pretty pictures using Persistence of Vision Ray-tracer (POV-Ray). Whenever I get the chance, I also love ballroom dancing and writing.

Remember to send in your pictures. Laura needs them!

On that same note, Olga needs your articles, poems, and short stories.

National Convention

National Convention was held July 28th to August 2nd at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. The Georgia delegation met up a day early and drove up together. Like every year, the week was filled with spirit and competitions, but for the first time, Georgia had an official sponsor: Coca Cola. The

company donated boxes and boxes of merchandise, including shirts and hats, giving Georgia a new unified theme. For other spirit days, Georgia dressed up as green aliens with the officers as "Men in Black" and wore togas. For details on the events of Nationals, check out the officer journals.

Fall Forum 2008

This year Fall Forum will be held Saturday November 8th at South Forsyth High School. Come prepared for some intense Certamen matches, entertaining workshops, and free gelato. Yes, free. Dreamy Gelato, located off exit 14 on 400, has generously offered to serve free gelato at Fall Forum. They will also be selling chocolates with the GJCL logo, coffee, and other goodies. More importantly, all proceeds, every single penny of them, will go to a scholarship fund for the GJCL. There will also be voting for an amendment to the Constitution. To have voting rights, schools must be

registered with GJCL at Fall Forum at the latest. All in all, it will be a day of great fun, so, teachers, be sure to register your students. Students, be sure to come.

Also anyone interest-ed in running for host/ hostess, take note. You must register ahead of time. You must be prepared with a memorized speech and for an interview. You must be in costume. And you must *not* be a senior. The terms of the host and hostess run for a full year, thus until the next Fall Forum. Promising you will go to college in Georgia and come back the next year will not work.

Register Online!

Free Gelato!
Eugapae!

Running for
Host/Hostess?
Read carefully!

Officer Journals

Ever wonder what it's like to go to Nationals? Well, throughout National Convention, the attending officers were asked to keep journals to give everyone a taste. The following are excerpts from said journals.

"IT all started on Sunday. We set off from Georgia bound to Oxford, Ohio for a week of expectations, competitions, spirit, and new acquaintances all hanging in the air; experiences just waiting to be

had. The bus ride – so long and tedious, filled with conversations of randomness to fill any chance of awkward silence, but suddenly, the bus slowed down more and more until it was shown that we were – wait! This wasn't a hotel. It was a – an adult entertainment shop!?! Who would've thought! The engine apparently over-heated and about five cars sadly were forced to turn around in the parking lot of said center because it was closed.

Why yes, this is what certain officers were doing instead of partying that last night...

More Officer Journals

"The second half of the day is filled with hanging out with new found friends, a little surprise at the mostly 80s-themed dance, and fun making our own mock dance outside the guys dorm. The next day equals more tests and more fun, but most notably, a great and familial fellow-ship. We are all starting to feel like a family. We support each other and we had our first spirit day."

"Green body paint soon sparkled on all, including my finger, which I chose to dedicate to the painting cause. Ironically the paint took all day of washing to get off - LOL. Chorus rehearsal filled some spare hours and then karaoke filled the night. Matt singing numerous times (at least 5) (and not always on key- just kidding) made the night so entertaining."

"After pizza, soda, and fellowship, sleep seems to be the enemy, as I want to elongate and stretch the little bit of time I have left. But everybody points back to that first one, in which I just hung out with friends outside of McCracken for a while, old and new. How I will miss nationals!"

"By now I should have, in theory, known what to expect. This was my third national convention, my third time cheering like mad for spirit, my third getting headaches over tests. But aside from general similarities each convention is a new adventure, a completely different experience from the one before it, and is always full of the unexpected."

"Right from this first day the bombardment of tests began. For many they were a wonderful opportunity to practice proper Christmas treeing technique, but evening entertainment loosened the stress. The choice fell between splashing about in a 17ft deep pool and a dance patrolled by an overly zealous army of chaperons. Somehow we ended up at a makeshift party in front of the guys' dorms."

"Friday came all too quickly. Another award ceremony (which most slept through), then the final general assembly, and technically it was over, but not quietly. For the first time in years Georgia burst out with G-E-ORGI-A!"

Congratulations

The following amazing people placed at Nationals. This is a feat a good deal more impressive than at State, so lets give them all a warm congratulations for a job well done.



Georgia: 2nd Membership

-Laura Briscoe – 5th Reading Comp: Prose
-Brittany Clark – 5th Textiles
-Yuval Dekel – 4th Latin Lit, 5th Mottoes
-Colin Green-Barrera – 3rd 50-yard Butterfly/ 4th 50-yd Breaststroke
-Julia Huth – 5th Myth, 5th Impro. Art
-Grace Jeong – 1st Impro. Art
-Heather Jeong – 3rd Black Pencil/ 4th Modern Myth
-Skye Jones – 3rd Trad. Photo
-Kihee Kim – 1st in Watercolor
-Vikas Kottamasu – 3rd Latin Oratory
-Arun Kumar – 1st Latin Oratory
-Don Lee- 4th in 200 Meter
-Tony Lee – 5th Reading Comp/5th in Dramatic Interp.
-Jamie Lowe- 4th Digital Scrapbook State
-Caroline Massaro – 4th Mosaics
-Olga Neyman – 4th Roman Life/ 1st Jewelry/2nd Maps/2nd Small Models /3rd

Mosaics/5th Dolls
-Jinny Park – 2nd in Chalk/Pastel/ 4th in Maps/ 2nd in 100 Meter Track
-Kenny Puk – 2nd in Academic Heptathlon/ 5th in 50-yd Butterfly
-Alyx Roseman – 4th Sculpture
-Daniel Schwartz – 3rd Marathon
-Parth Sehgal – 5th Latin Oratory
-Sloane Smith – 4th 800 Meter Track
-Zan Syed – 3rd 400 Meter Track/ 5th 100 Meter Track/ 5th 800 Meter Track
-Lee Vian – 1st Latin Derivatives/ 1st in Latin Vocab/ 2nd in Latin Grammar
-Lena White – 1st in 800 Meter Track
-Leaha Wynn – 5th Reading Comp. Prose/ 1st Sight Latin Poetry/3rd Slogan/ 4th Modern Myth/8th Overall Creative Arts
-Spencer Zaghikian – 4th in Discus /5th in 400 Meter Track

I sincerely apologize for any mistakes, including typos, left off names, etc. that may exist on this list.