

Alae Mercurii

Volume 3 Issue 2
January 2009

Quid Novi?

Salvete and welcome back to *Alae Mercurii* with this year's second issue. We return with more news, more introductions, and more entertaining tidbits. The highlight since the last issue has been Fall Forum at South Forsyth High School on November 8th. This great success was followed by some intense buzzing at the November Certamen tournament, as well as a multitude of various holiday parties held

by various schools in order to celebrate Roman culture, bond, and just have fun.

Once again, I ask to kindly remember to send contributions to the *Alae Mercurii*. We love to hear about any happenings at local chapters, and know you like the attention. And if poetry or short stories are more of your style, feel free to send those in too. The magical method of submission? An email to editor@gjcl.org.

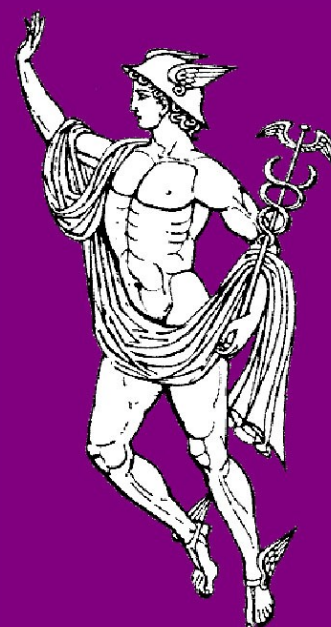
Letter from the Editor

Here we are, at yet another issue. This school year is going by faster than I can keep up with, and I am sure I am not alone in that viewpoint. So I thought I would take a moment to remind everyone to make the best of this year. Get involved. Too often people stick just to the demands of the teacher, but one can go so much further. Study

whatever interests you, just for the fun of it, or organize a social event with your JCL chapter to strengthen friendships. Remember, state convention will be here in a flash. Be prepared. Do all those things you promised yourself you would. Build that chariot. Learn that oratory. Run for office. I promise you, you won't regret it.

Inside This Issue:

Quid Novi?	1
Letter from the Editor	1
Fall Forum	2
Host/Hostess	3
Certamen	4
Parties Anyone?	4
No More AP Latin Lit	5
Just for Fun	5



Fall Forum

On Saturday, the 8th of November South Forsyth High School hosted this year's Fall Forum. Thanks to the efforts of the officers, South Forsyth High School, and many wonderful volunteers, the event ran smoothly as students got their first dose of the JCL for the year. Compared to previous years, a greater variety of workshops was held.

Some favorites included:

- Star Lab, hosted by Dr. Katoula
- Millefiori Bowls, hosted by Mrs. Hwangbo and Ms. Bouis
- Greek Dancing, hosted by Mrs. Venn
- Medicine in the Ancient World, hosted by Ms. Smith
- Roman Wedding, hosted by Ms. Mellor
- Dress like a Roman Solider, hosted by Yueron Yuon
- Roman Cuisine, hosted by Mrs. Murphy
- Impromptu Art, hosted by Laura Briscoe

Olympika was another popular event, which included a collection of sports such as dashes, tug-a-war, and, of course, the ever-popular Ultimate Frisbee tournament.

As always, Certamen was a highlight. The intense competition gave way to the following results:

Novice

1st: Pace Academy

Lower:

3rd: West Forsyth with 40 points

2nd: Northview with 75 points

1st: Walton with 80 points

Upper:

3rd: Walton with 60 points

2nd: Eastside with 75 points

1st: Northview with 85 points

Congrats on winning the struggle!

Pentatalon Results:

3rd: Jowanna Malone

2nd: Kenny Puk

1st: Leaha Wynn

Congrats on a job well done!

Special thanks to Dreamy Gelato, located off exit 14 on 400, for their free gelato. It was delicious!

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

The new Host/Hostess

Fall Forum also brought us a new host and hostess: Ashton Moss from The Marist School and Caroline Massaro from The Galloway School. The host and hostess are traditionally chosen by judges at Fall Forum following an interview and speech by the candidates in full Roman attire. For those wondering exactly what these two people do, they are the ones who pack those goody bags and welcome everyone to state convention, among other duties, which during some years include mass-pencil sharpening.

GJCL Hostess Caroline Massaro

Born on December 31st, I recently celebrated my sixteenth birthday. I've been taking Latin since I was twelve years old, and I don't plan on stopping anytime soon. My favorite thing about the language is the beautiful hexameters that poetry follows; Elegiac Couplet is my favorite. After the school day is over and I've translated all my Vergil lines, I like to relax by reading a book- Jodi Picoult is my favorite author- or listening to some music, like that of The Spill Canvas, my favorite band. When I leave high school, I hope to attend college to become a doctor and participate actively in the SCL.

GJCL Host Ashton Moss

I was born on May 16, 1992 in Atlanta, GA and have lived here ever since. I love the University of Notre Dame which is a hard thing to admit to these days with our football team getting torn apart every weekend. I started taking Latin in 9th grade because my dad warned me against Spanish. However, it has grown into a love affair that I do not plan on parting with anytime soon. I love playing Certamen and like reading anything said or written by Cicero. I play golf and try to get out onto the golf course whenever possible. It provides me a haven where I can clear my head and reflect on my day. I am a very serious Madden 09 gamer, love playing fantasy sports, and probably watch Sportscenter a little too much. I am very active in my church's Life Teen program and love being able to hold a leadership position where I can guide and lead others. I look forward to helping the other GJCL officers make this the best year yet.

If you're interested in trying out for the position next year, remember the following requirements:

- Not a senior
- Memorized Speech
- In costume
- Ready for interview

Certamen Update

Everyone loves Certamen! It's that buzzer game where teams compete to answer questions on everything from grammar to mythology to culture. Skills required: Fast reflexes and a strong memory.

For those who haven't picked up the rules, the game is played on teams of four, with three teams to a round. Teams are divided into three levels: novice, lower, and upper.

Each round consists of 20 toss up questions. Anyone can buzz in and try to answer these questions, but if a team member answers wrong, the entire team is banned from the question. 10 points are awarded for answering the toss up correctly, as well as two bonus questions, worth 5 points apiece. The team can work together to answer the bonuses, but time is limited.

The last tournament was held at Collins Hill High School on November 22. Participation was great, and the competition, tough, so congrats to all the teams that walked out victorious.

Coming Tournaments:

- Marist Certamen: February 2009
 - March Certamen: To be announced
 - Rock Eagle: Certamen at State Convention
- Get practicing!

Parties Anyone?

We've just passed the holiday season, but hopefully everyone had a blast and took the opportunity to bond within their chapter. Many schools, such as Parkview High School and Northview High School had Saturnalia parties. Some schools wear togas. Some play Roman games. And some sit by a fireplace and make smores. Whatever the chapter does, laughs are sure to be plentiful and friendships are sure to strengthen. And if your chapter didn't do anything this year, make sure to correct this oversight next year. In the meantime, check out other Roman festivals; their calendar was filled with them. Just please keep your sacrifices to a minimum.

On a side note: Remember to send in your pictures to Laura and your articles, poems, and short stories to Olga. We need them!

No More AP Latin Lit :(

It's the end of the world as we know it. Well, maybe not the world, but something close to it. This is the last year the AP Latin Literature exam is being offered. For many students, this means that they will miss out on the entertaining poetry of Catullus and exposure to the famous works of Ovid, Horace, or Cicero. Don't fret too much. At least Vergil will continue to stick around, but due to financial reasons College Board has decided to cancel four of its least popular exams. Alas, Latin Literature fell into that boat, along with Italian, French literature and computer science AB. To those ready to take some action: Sign petitions. Raise money. Good luck. And to those who have missed out: I'm sorry, and sincerely hope you still have the chance to take a similar course at some point in your life, or study it on your own. It's worth the effort.

Just for Fun

Sudoku. Roman Style. Fill in the numbers I-IX without repeating in each small box, row, or column.

				IX	III			V
					V	I	VI	IX
			VI	II				IV
						VI		III
		II	IV		VIII	VII		
VIII		VII						
I				V	VI			
IX	III	VI	II					
II			III	I				