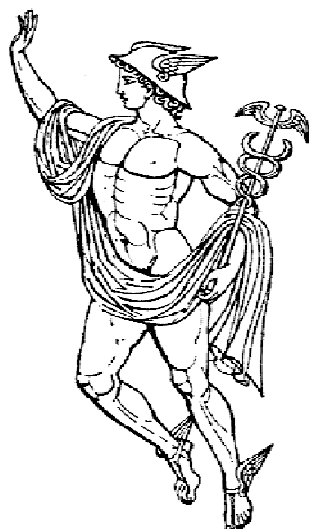


## Quid novi?

Salvate omnes! I hope this issue of the Alae Mercurii finds you doing well. There are many exciting things in store for you in this issue. You'll get to see what your fellow Latin students have been doing this summer, find out about the national convention and everything else your individual JCL chapters have been up to. You'll get to find out a little about your new state officers (as well as one of your new NATIONAL officers). There's also plenty in store for

those of you looking for the next big Latin happening around the



state, the of those being Fall Forum! The GJCL is always looking for more in-

volvement, so please if you're even the slightest bit interested in attending Fall Forum, running for an office, going to a certamen tournament, attending state or national convention, do it! For those of you newcomers, Fall Forum is a great place to start. If you're a more seasoned classical enthusiast, please send us any and all information about what your JCL is doing! We love hearing about all that the JCL contributes to your school and community. We hope you enjoy this year's first issue. See you all at Fall Forum!

## A Lovely Little Letter From the Editors

We are more than excited to be writing to you in this year's first issue! One thing you need to know is that there are two editors instead of one. Margaret DeGrace (last year's editor) and Emily Richter (last year's hostess) are your 2007-2008 editors! We hope that we can work together to keep you

well informed of the many things going on in GJCL chapters around the state. However, in order to do that we need your pictures, articles, stories, poems, whatever you want to send us! Email anything you want to appear in the Alae Mercurii to [editor@gjcl.org](mailto:editor@gjcl.org). Your contributions are a huge part of this newsletter, so the more of you that contribute the better the newsletter gets! We can't to

hear from you!

*Editors Emily Richter (left) and Margaret DeGrace (right) at Dollywood on the way to the 2007 National Convention*

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Be sure to check the website for Fall Forum information! Also, submit news for your school's chapter! <[www.gjcl.org](http://www.gjcl.org)>*



## Fall Forum 2007: A Sneak Peek

Fall Forum is the first chance in the school year to get your Latin fix. This year, Fall Forum is being held November 10, at Marist High School in Dunwoody. There are many new workshops that will help you get prepared for State Convention, as well as many that will enrich your Latin knowledge for Certamen, and of course, there will be the Certamen tournament. For those of you interested in running for Host/Hostess, things will be

just a little different this year. You will need to register online at [www.gjcl.org](http://www.gjcl.org). You will need to come prepared with a memorized speech and in Roman dress. There is an interview after you give your speech. The winner will be announced at the final general assembly, so you'll need to stay in your costume until then. The winners will receive a framed picture of themselves in their costume, a bouquet of beautiful flowers, and the office

of Host/ Hostess 2007-2008! Teachers need to register their students for Fall Forum online by October 26th. T-shirts will be for sale pre-ordered with your registration, we cannot guarantee there will be enough extras to sell at Fall Forum, so order online! Also, teachers if you have not re-registered for membership you can do that online as well, simply click on membership and then the link on the page. We can't wait to see you there!

## New State Officers 2007-2008

**GJCL Co-Chair Mr. Ward**  
Born: 1/22/75. Schools (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). 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. My cur-



rent project is a playhouse. Reading, just about anything. Making Aubrey's dolls talk.

**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. BA in Latin and Classics 1998. Goals: to be the



best mom I can be, to spend more time with my family. Hobbies: Gardening, X-Box (I am a total Halo Junkie and am counting the days till Halo 3 is released!), 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!

**President: Patrick Miller, Marist High School '08:** I enjoy JCL in all forms. I have been to State Convention three times and National Convention twice. I am an avid *Certamen* fan and diehard Socrates lover. When I am not in the Latin room, you can find me on the baseball or ultimate Frisbee field. Either

## Get to Know Your 2007-2008 GJCL Officers!

there, or picking roses and writing poetry. I also juggle and play the harmonica very poorly. I support Duke basketball all the way and the Tampa Bay Devil Rays occasionally. When I'm not busy, I eat and sleep like a normal person.

**Vice President: Sophia Kim, Northview High School '09:** We were unable to reach Sophia before our deadline, however she is a smart and interesting girl. She enjoys Latin immensely, winning many competitions at State and National Convention. She also enjoys long walks on the beach and puppies.

**Parliamentarian: Chip Davis, Northview High School '08:** We were unable to reach Chip before our deadline, however he is an avid Latin enthusiast. He is also an avid poker player, beating Mr. Ward hands down on the officer retreat in May. He also enjoys in the occasional parliamentary book.

**Secretary: Matt Hunt, Centennial High School '08:** My life in a paragraph: I was born in Decatur. I am blessed with a great family, a psychotic cat, and a wonderful girlfriend. I spend my time reading, studying, and listening to music (Radiohead, Bjork, Sunset Rubdown, Benoit Pioulard, The Arcade Fire, Devendra Banhart, Explosions in the Sky, etc.) My favorite movies at the moment would be Pan's Labyrinth, Vanilla Sky,

and Children of Men. Had I the opportunity to compose the perfect meal, it would consist of corned beef, edamame, and cabbage (cooked, preferably with the corned beef). I wanted to become a JCL officer because I felt that it would be a great opportunity for me to contribute to JCL. Of course, I am absolutely infatuated with Rome and its culture, and it is my desire to one day teach Latin. Before I discovered Latin, I wanted to be president.

**Co-Editor: Margaret De-Grace, Marist High School '08:** I was born in New Jersey, thus my inability to comprehend such things as "grits" and "soul food." I am a huge Jets, Mets, and Georgia Tech fan all the way because no one else is. I participate in every activity going – right now, that would be track simply to prove that 5'1" people actually can clear hurdles (at least some of the time). I love languages and am taking AP Latin and Spanish II at school, but am attempting to teach myself a few others. My main source of income is dog-sitting and I hope one day to add doctoring and/or teaching to that very short list, so that I can financially support my love for book-buying and soybean/vegetarian eating.

**Co-Editor: Emily Richter, Holy Innocents' Episcopal School '08:** I've always loved Latin ever since I was little, mainly because it runs in the family. My grandmother, aunt, and cousin are all Latin teachers.

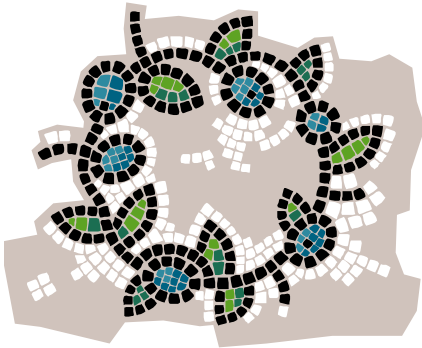
I'm pretty outgoing. I love hanging out with friends and just laughing in general. I'm a big UGA fan (GO DAWGS!) and hopefully that's where I'll end up, but we'll see. One piece of advice- "The Garden State" is the best movie ever and if you haven't seen it, you don't know what you're missing!

**Historian: Brooke Skelley, Davidson Fine Arts '08:** We were unable to read Brooke before our deadline, however she is a fun-loving girl who greatly enjoys scrapbooking. She, like Sophia, enjoys long walks on the beach, however she is more of a kitten lover than a puppy lover.

**Webmaster: Beth Caldwell, Davidson Fine Arts '08:** Beth was born on March 19, 1990 in the beautiful Augusta, Georgia. Though some speculate that she may have been delivered by a pterodactyl rather than a stork, her life has been fairly normal. She enjoys coffee ice cream, and has a hard time getting the sports pie piece in Trivial Pursuit. To the dismay of many, she has never seen the *Star Wars* series, but thanks to her fellow GHP Latin majors, she has become familiar with a few scenes, particularly the trash compactor. Beth, of course, aspires to understand quantum physics in the future, or perhaps archaeology. Nonetheless, the GJCL experience has enriched her total growth, and she can't wait until State Convention.

## Don't Forget!

- Register your school for membership before November 16th and you pay no chapter dues! After that the regular dues apply.
- State Convention will be held April 20th-22nd at Rock Eagle.
- National Convention will be held at Miami University of Ohio July 28th-August 2nd 2008.



Junior Classical  
League

# National Convention 2007

The National convention this year was one of the best for Georgia ever! Held at the University of Tennessee during the last week of August, the 114 GJCL delegates boarded our two charter buses for the journey to Knoxville. Taking a break at Dollywood to enjoy the three roller coasters and endless redneck fun, we finally arrived at UT. The GJCL made a strong showing in many events, winning first in both Ultimate Frisbee (second year in a row!) and Ludi Soccer. In academic



*The spice girls and their adoring fans outside of General Assembly*

events most of our delegates placed and some even ranked in overall points. In the end Georgia got second in our division for overall spirit, using our Spice Girls reunion tour theme to secure our success. But the most exciting news that came out of this year's convention is the election of Grace Jeong as NJCL President! Grace on Fire (to those of us lucky enough to know her) campaigned hard and won over the NJCL delegates. The theme Grace picked for

next year is "Non nobis solum nati sumus" – we are not born for ourselves alone. We are all looking forward to next year at Miami University! Congrats Grace!! Sadly convention did have to end, but everyone came home with many new friends, many new inside jokes, and many amazing Latin memories!

## Community Service Spotlight

If your school's JCL has any similar community service projects, please let us know about it! Send it to [editor@gjcl.org](mailto:editor@gjcl.org) and keep up the good work!



Visit us at  
[www.gjcl.org](http://www.gjcl.org)

## How Did Your School “Seize the Day” Last



### The Titan View

**Northview's** Junior Classical League, having reached an historic 150 members, has been busy promoting Roman and Classical culture. It is the home of the statewide president Grace Jeong, Northview also hosted Fall Forum Nov. 11. This mini-convention allowed 750 Latin students from across Georgia to spend a day attending fun and educational workshops and participating in oratorical, academic and athletic competition. Everyone had a fantastic time. Catapults were shot, speeches recited, workshops attended, togas worn, and a Greek feast (skillfully prepared by that friend of the Classics, Principal Zervakos) delightfully consumed.

A highlight is always Certamen, a Latin-based quiz game, where Northview's own Novice and Lower teams placed first. The winning teams consisted of Paul Ahn, Garrett Potts, Parth Sehgl, and Elizabeth Penland in the novice level and Ramu Annamalai, Sophi Kim, Ashish Narasimham, and Olga Newman in the lower level. Continuing congratulating words belong to Certamen teams participating at the Marist tournament on February 17. The Lower team, consisting of Ramu Annamalai, Anh Dang, and Ashish Narasimham placed third, while the Novice team, consisting of Paul Ahn, Arum Kumar, David Kim, and Tony Lee, won first.

The **Collins Hill High School** JCL Chapter has continuously “seized the day” during the year 2006-2007. The Latin Eagles have taken it upon themselves to help build up the club up the club by organizing fun activities. They have also focused on not only giving back to the school, but rather giving back to the whole community through community service projects. Some of the events the club has sponsored are Mt. Vesuvius party, a murder mystery party, field days, “Journey Through the Underworld,” game days, as well as many other events that enabled the club to bond as a whole. The club also sponsored community service events, such as cleaning up the local park, in order to have fun as well as do their part in making the community and school a cleaner and better place for everyone. Collins Hill has also been an active in the GJCL by attending the Fall Forum, and has been an active participant in certamen this year. By enabling the CHHS JCL chapter to grow through the fun activities, giving back to the community, and by being more active with other local chapters, Collins Hill has not just seized the day but rather the whole year.

### The Augusta Chronicle

#### Student of the Year

**Elizabeth Grace Caldwell**, a Latin student at John S. Davidson Fine Arts School, has been selected by the Foreign Language Alliance for International Rapport as the 2007 FLAIR Student of the Year.



## AN ODYSSEY OF TWO LATIN CONSULS

BY YU-JIN LEE

With scholars from AP Latin, Latin III, AP European History, AP Art History, and the World Literature classes, two Latin consuls from the Walton Junior Classical League boarded the fateful plane, ready for our journey from Avignon to Rome. Counting down to the last minute, our class (see the picture of us at the Colosseum!) could not wait until we could board the *TGV*—for those of you who don't know, it's a bullet train traveling up to 200 mph! I personally think the gods were jealous of our excitement and instigated a chain of foreboding events that led to our over-the-board, ridiculous delays. Eleven scholars were handed “seat requests” to New York, including the two consuls. These scholars endured a lot—believe me when I say a LOT, because I do mean it. We totally could understand Remus' ominous thoughts of the seven vultures when he heard that Romulus saw twice as many!

Here's a brief recap about our delays:

- ✦ Seat requests from NY to Paris
- ✦ Holding pattern in NC
- ✦ Refuel at Norfolk, VA—seriously, come on, they ran out of fuel...
- ✦ Missed flight to Paris by 10 min
- ✦ Next available flight, the NEXT day



2 seat requests from NY to Paris the next day

Anyway, after our delays, we arrived in Avignon and greeted the equally depressed rest of our group—it had been raining the entire time we were in New York. Like Fabius Maximus, the Cunctator, and his intended delays, the unintentionally “delayed group” felt slightly better when we saw the sun peeking out.

Visiting the Pope's palace, gazing at the massive Pont Du Gard, wandering around the small town of Arles, exploring the nice beaches in Nice, thus ended our journey through France. Traveling along the Mediterranean coast, we traveled through Pisa and arrived at my most anticipated destination: Florence.

With the appealing straw market and the street vendors calling out “Ciao bella” and “You my wife, YES!” I was naturally attracted to the city of Florence—more so of the former, than of the latter. Trusting us to be prudent scholars, our teachers gave us 6 hours of free time to explore Florence. With the two Latin consuls leading a small flank, we power-walked to Pitti Palace, ate pizza (I can't even count how many times we had pizza), climbed on top of the Duomo (the view was breathtaking as well as the actual climb), tiptoed inside the Church of Santa Croche, and savored the melting gelato.

The day before Good Friday, we finally arrived in Rome, our final destination. Two treasured memories come to mind with the mention of Rome. Our first night in Rome, we decided to walk to Trevi Fountain and the Pantheon. We parted our separate ways with four legions and meet up at the Pantheon. Some desired to see St. Peter's Basilica while others wished to come back to Rome, thus throwing a trip's worth into the fountain. Riding the very sketchy Metro to the Spanish Steps ("Spanish steps? Spanish steps? Spanish steps?"—it's a funny little story dear to WJCLers, ask if you dare), we walked and walked and met up at the Pantheon. With gelato replenishing our energy, the entire army of Walton scholars started heading back to the hotel. The Metro had closed, Nyx had encroached upon us, and we had the right headings but were also terribly lost. Walking and walking and walking and walking, I had to keep saying right, left, right left, left, right, left, right to avoid falling from exhaustion, except I didn't. The map with its wrong scales finally brought us to the hotel and we trudged back to our rooms, some even daring to take the cramped elevator, sketchier than the Metro. Thus ended a mini-exploration of Rome.

*we faced our extraordinary situation and barely escaped...*



Our last night in Rome, the other consul led an expedition for the renowned gelato store. I led Rachel and Trish on a small walk through Piazza Navona. Three men with string dangling around their necks came up to Trish, the naïve one, to hold out her pinky. Of course, being the naïve one, she did. With peer pressure, Rachel and I followed suit. A truly unforgettable event needs to involve a life threatening experience. And so, we faced our extraordinary situation and barely escaped violation by sprinting away.

The journey finally came to an end at the Leonardo Da Vinci airport in Rome when we waved our goodbyes and again separated into our legions to meet back in Atlanta. It was indeed an odyssey with all sorts of delays, mishaps, adventures, and most importantly, memories.

Of course, we cannot end our journey with an entirely happy ending—two seat requests reappeared and everyone groaned.

### The Two Latin Consuls



## Students Journey Back to Classical Times

Sometimes, sitting in the classroom in the same desk day after day, listening to the teacher lecture for 47 minutes, and then memorizing the information for the test at the end of the week just isn't enough for the student. That routine can be particularly challenging when the subject matter being taught occurred 2000 years ago. Teaching and studying ancient history is a difficult task: it is difficult for the teacher to get students to appreciate it; it is difficult for students to integrate it into their lives. Despite the fact that the Greco-Roman culture and languages are caked "dead," these very cultures have helped influence and shape our present day society. Our students needed to see that these "things of the past" are, in fact, quite relevant. And that is exactly what we wanted to achieve by pulling the students out of their desks, and setting out for Nashville.

*Students Journey Back to  
Classical Times*

This past March, students from Ancient/ Medieval History and the students taking Latin joined together to journey six hours to Nashville, specifically Vanderbilt University, to observe an exact replica of the Parthanon.

The Parthanon, built in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, stands atop the Acropolis of Athens, Greece and served the proud citizens as a temple to the goddess Athena, the protector of the city. It is considered one of the world's greatest cultural monuments, serving as the quintessential representative of the classical world, from everyday politics and religion, to the most refined architecture and aesthetics. The students followed a guided tour inside, where a docent explained the history and mythology behind the Parthenon, and where the students viewed replicas of pediments, friezes and statues from that century.

To wind down the long day of traveling and site seeing, the group then headed to downtown Nashville to dine at the oh-so popular Hard Rock Café. After fifteen-dollar burgers and driving an entire staff crazy, the students were allowed free time to mosey around the downtown area, visiting local "honky-tonks" and souvenir shops.

In order to get the most out of the trip, the next day's return included a visit to the Chattanooga Aquarium. What student wouldn't want to gaze at transparent and fluorescent jellyfish, or be surrounded by fifteen-foot sharks? The students wandered the newly-renovated aquarium, visiting the multi-layered, two-building attraction, making sure to drop by both the salt water and the fresh water buildings. Oh yes, and we can't forget the jaunt around the enchanting butterfly house, which several students commented was their favorite part of the aquarium. Once the student had their fill of fish, we were homeward bound.

After enduring a ride back that seemed never ending, the bus pulled into Aquinas late that Saturday evening. Although it was a lot of work, lots of travel and little sleep, it was well needed and well worth it. Third year Latin student Dylan Friedman commented on the Parthenon, "it offered insight into a culture that is commonly forgotten, and put complicated subjects into context." Although the students expressed keen interest in a field trip to visit the "real" Parthenon in Athens, Greece, plans for the next local historical and linguistic excursion are underway.

Catullus 42  
By Robert Powers  
*Norcross HS*

Hendecasyllables: come to me! All of you,  
Together at once in the strongest surge.  
This vile woman thinks *Catullus* a joke,  
And refuses the return of his notes.  
Do you believe that? Let's make chase,  
Wear her down so, until she must return them!

You ask who she is? Why, she's right there,  
That one walking like a man  
With the stomach-churning laugh  
And the mouth of a Gallic beast.

Circle around her, demand what is ours:  
"Shameful tart, return the writing tablets,  
Give them- tart, shameful- return the writing tablets!"  
She cares about a cent: Oh, what filth!  
[Here insert whatever your favorite name

For women found in alleyways at midnight.]

But, no, this is far from over. Let's press,  
And flood those saucy cheeks a shameful crimson.  
Scream again, at the top of your lungs:  
"Shameful tart, return the writing tablets,  
Give them-tart, shameful- return the writing tablets!"

What?  
Nothing?  
We'll have to examine our game plan.  
Maybe, perhaps...

*Oh maiden, you,  
Virtuous and Virginal,  
Return the writing tablets.*