Alae Mercurii Policy

The Alae Mercurii is the official publication of the Georgia Junior Classical League, made with the purpose of informing readers about past, present, and upcoming events throughout the chapters of the Georgia Junior Classical League. The statements, comments, and opinions found in the Alae Mercurii are those of the respective author and should not be considered to reflect the policy of the Georgia Junior Classical League, its officers, or the state committee.
President
Name: Jermaine Bryant
Grade: 12
School: Northview High School
Favorite Latin Quote: “Percussum et habe olim meminisse iuvat”
JCLove: “There is a cute state president.”
Why did you take Latin: Former NSCL Parliamentarian James Dow and Tony Qian convinced me.
Favorite Spirit Cheer: Obvisouly Jgalo- It’s the best.
If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, with whom would it be: Marcus Aurelius, his political savvy, military prowess, and philosopher’s heart would make for a very interesting dinner. I would love to pick his brain.

Vice President
Name: Sauri Sudhir
Grade: 12
School: Athens Academy
Favorite Latin Quote: “Cotidie damnatur qui semper timet”
JCLove: Umimmimmimmimmimmimm
Why did you take Latin: Well back in 7th grade, I had a choice between taking Spanish, French, and Latin. I absolutely hated Spanish at that point (I don’t really know why, maybe too much Zona (the Explorer) and thought. “Oh hey! You know there are all those gladiators and Roman armies and other cool Latin-y things. I’ll just go ahead and take Latin then.” Thus was one of the greatest turning points of my life.
Favorite Spirit Cheer: Please only take one shirt! “clap” (No pants!)
If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, with whom would it be: Putin. I had a dream I was in kindergarten with him and I told him I would rule the world.

Secretary/Hostess
Name: Ashley Choo-Hen
Grade: 11
School: Blessed Trinity Catholic High School
Favorite Latin Quote: “Hommes doum docent, discunt”
JCLove: “Haha of course! Vinu and I! (Nah I have a solid bae outside of Latin believe it or not).
If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, with whom would it be: Jesus because he’s the coolest of the cool and my school would love to hear about it!!

Parliamentarian
Name: Ishan Deulkar
Grade: 12
School: Northview High School
Favorite Latin Quote: “Quisquis quoque sit scies si quemadmodum laudet quemadmodum laudetur aspersa?”
JCLove: “Ha ha ha ha ha you all know... it’s CERTAMEN! Heh
Favorite Latin Quote: “Aequam memento rebus in arduis servare mentem”
Why did you take Latin: Former NJCL Parliamentarian James Dow and Tony Qian convinced me.
Favorite Spirit Cheer: PUT YOUR HANDS UP HIGH AND YOUR FEET DOWN LOW, AND THAT’S THE WAY WE JGALO!
If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, with whom would it be: Robin Williams

Editor
Name: Vinayak (Vinu) Eranezhath
Grade: 12
School: Northview High School
Favorite Latin Quote: “Ad astra per aspera”
JCLove: “I love people who can create and follow an elaborate plan and follow it ruthlessly, adapting to changing surroundings. So with that said, I choose Francis Underwood. Yes, he is not even a real person, but the guy epitomizes power.

Historian
Name: Tiffany Xu
Grade: 12
School: North Gwinnett High School
Favorite Latin Quote: “Cotidie damnatur qui semper timet”
JCLove: “Sorry, but I’m already taken.
Favorite Latin Quote: “Forsan et haec olim meminisse iuvabit”
If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, with whom would it be: Dan Quayle. I feel like we’d have a very engaging and intellectual conversation over potato salad. Yum.

Webmaster
Name: Teavy Manoharan
Grade: 12
School: North Gwinnett High School
Favorite Latin Quote: “Poste rursus invocare metum”
JCLove: “Whew brings back memories sharp as a knife I’d try to put it in words but I don’t think I’ll offi.
For all that emotional stress, it ain’t all right.
Looking up to the clouds, wondering whether it’s gonna rain tonight.
This rhyme has no purpose, but it is rather a device
For this last phrase: JCL is love, JCL isหล.
Why did you take Latin: I took Latin because I wanted to speak the language of the dead. You know, because it’s a dead language. Haha.
Favorite Spirit Cheer: Jgalo.
If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, with whom would it be: Putin.

Host
Name: Elton Lessner
Grade: 12
School: North Gwinnett High School
Favorite Latin Quote: “Ad astra per aspera”
JCLove: “Sorry, but I’m already taken.
Why did you take Latin: Spanish rejected me
Favorite Spirit Cheer: G-E-SOMETHING-A!
If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, with whom would it be: Augustus Caesar.
NATIONAL CONVENTION
2014

“Omnium enim rerum principia parva sunt”
Cicero, De Finibus Bonorum et Malorum, V. 58
VINAYAK ERANEZHATH, GJCL Editor
filled with marble buildings, brick paths, and a plethora of soaring trees, the beautiful campus of Emory University was inundated by students and teachers from across the United States and Canada on July 28, 2014. Over 1,800 Junior Classical Leaguers (JCLers), Senior Classical Leaguers (SCLers), teachers, and chaperones congregated at Emory for the 61st Annual National Junior Classical League (NJCL) Convention, the largest convention in recent history. For all that were there, they would form their best and greatest memories in those six days until August 2, 2014 rejoicing in that which they loved most—the classics.

July 27, 2014 was the beginning of convention for many Georgia JCLers. Waking up early for the day's action, many arrived at the Emory Campus starting at 9 a.m. to help out the state committee in arranging everything for the JCLers that would arrive from across the nation. Welcomed by the hospitality of the GJCL and Emory University, NJCLers started to fill the campus around 3 p.m., continuing late into that night and into early next morning. With each bus and car, more and more students filled the campus with bright smiles from seeing friends from different states across the nation who shared the same amount of love, enthusiasm, and passion for the classics. Events did not start until Monday afternoon, with the first General Assembly (GA) of convention in the Woodruff P.E. Center. Here, rows upon rows of seats were filled with students and teachers yelling, shouting, screaming, cheering, running, and dancing, filling the building with a noise that resonated through the campus. After the first GA, the students dispersed throughout the Emory campus and went about on doing their own activities, ranging from swimming to taking academic tests about Hellenic History, Latin Derivatives, or Ancient Geography. The festivity had begun and would not stop until the last couple of JCLers had left the campus six days later.

The second day of the NJCL Convention began early with Olympiade Track and Field and academic tests. Now this was Latin convention. The struggles of relinquishing one's bed that can be found daily during the school year were nonexistent for all JCLer as they were up early and participating in many events. The second GA was the first with a spirit theme—JCL and the Giant Peach—so when the time came, JCLers were scrambling about with their state t-shirts and props, yelling all of their state's cheers at the top of their lungs. The GA itself had many highlights, including the famous Roll Call, in which students highlight their state JCL in a forty-five second skit. Later in the day, those who were seeking a spot on the National Board began their campaigns and soon after others began round one of certamen. For many, this was the last tournament of

The day went on with its innumerable events and culminated with the nightly state fellowships, where all the students, teachers, and chaperones of each state gathered to discuss the days events and what the next couple would hold.

The third day was one that was busy for almost all JCLers. There were two rounds of certamen, multiple academic tests, the opportunity to meet the candidates running for national office. Perhaps the most noticed aspect of the day was the day's spirit theme—The Walking Dead Language. As each state proceeded to the third general assembly, students were in a mad rush to tear up their t-shirts and apply as much face paint as possible to resemble their zombie counterparts. At GA III, the candidates gave their speeches, full of eloquent ideas to ameliorate the JCL in ways that respected the office for which they were running. The day went by with more contests and colloquia. Soon it was night, and all JCLers had the dreaded realization that former 1st Vice President Peter Chung had given in his opening remarks—convention was half over.

As the end of convention neared, the importance of certain contests—e.g. certamen—increased. Early on Thursday morning were the “win-or-go-home” semi-finals held at White Hall. Each room was packed with delegates from each state supporting their team. Later was a state caucus, in which each state deliberated on which candidate to choose and whether or not to pass the new proposed amendments to the NJCL constitution. With voting over, each delegate proceeded to the fourth GA in his most sporty attire for the day's spirit theme—Race Atalanta for the Purple and Gold. At GA IV, the election results were announced, and the 2014-2015 NJCL Officers were: President Ruiqi He from Texas, 1st Vice President Maya Nandakumar from California, 2nd Vice President Narayan Sundararaman from Ohio, Communications Coordinator Aiysha Quereshi from Wisconsin, Parliamentary Ashley Blazek from North Dakota, Historian Sarah Christian from Louisiana, and Editor Amol Punjabi from Massachusetts. After this GA, almost all delegates, teachers, and sponsors gathered at the Woodruff P.E. Center for an outstanding show of That's Entertainment. It was the most artistic way to end such an elegant day.

Finally came the dreaded day: the last day of convention. The tears started early for many. But for those who were in the certamen finals, the tears had to be held back. After three exciting final rounds with the cream-of-the-crop certaminatores, a winner emerged at each level—Florida at the Novice, Georgia at the Intermediate, and Massachusetts at the Advanced. Then for the final spirit competition—Timeless Cola Classics—of the week, everyone marched toga-clad into the Woodruff P.E. Center for one last time, chanting their state cheers as loud as possible to win the spirit prizes. At the final GA, the 2013-2014 officers gave their tearful farewell speeches and officially inducted the new officers into office. At night, it was time for the final dance: the final event of the 2014 NJCL Convention, where all students gathered to let out all of their emotions by dancing and singing. That night, JCLers shared with their new and old friends the memories formed that week that would last a lifetime. By noon Saturday morning, the Emory Campus was deserted. All that were left were memories.

“It’s awesome to meet other people who share the same amount of love, enthusiasm, and passion that I have for the Classics. I love that we’re all like one big family.”

-Sophia Sbiti
The Duluth High JCL has been working to make our meetings more fun and interactive for our members rather than just spitting out information to them in preparation for large state-wide events. We have been actively working on having a fun activity for our meetings each month. This past week Magistra Patrick taught us about labyrinths from around the world and how to construct them to help us relax when we are too stressed in class. To tie in to our in-class work, we divided our chapter into three teams and gave each a roll of masking tape and ten minutes, challenging them to create the most intricate labyrinth possible. Our chapter got really involved with the game, with each group taking an entirely different direction. We had a traditional labyrinth like many from ancient mosaics complete with a Minotaur. Another group did a semi-traditional activity that had our entire congregation impressed! This activity was our most popular yet and is setting a good pattern for the rest of our year! If you have a moment in during one of your meetings I would recommend trying it out! It is easy and fun activity as well as a great way to practice team building! So have fun with it!

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Northview High School JCL

LIHENG SONG, NHS JCL Contributor

This past July, a record number of over fifty Northview students and almost two hundred GJCLers convened at the exquisite campus of Emory University to meet and compete with their fellow classmates. The fun started the day before convention, when our dedicated students suffered through blazing heat to pack-age welcome bags to make sure every JCLer would have a great time. Then, five amazing days of energetic spirit, engaging fellow-shipships, welcoming camaraderie, and the most intense games of Malta raised this convention experience to one of the best. Of course, no National Convention would be complete without the friendly competition of academic tests, creative and graphic arts, and Olympika. And let’s not forget the omnipresent voice of the test proctor, constantly reminding us the difference between a watch and a cellphone. This year’s convention was Northview’s most successful, with twenty-three students earning top five, and Jasmin Gao, Alice Lin, Raahul Acharya, Vinu Eranezhath, Yash Chandramouli, and Amanda Liew taking home national first places. Furthermore, Northview High School won third in the publicity contest. Adding to these successes, the Georgia Intermediate Certamen team of Vinu Eranezhath (captain), Raahul Acharya (Northview), Bryan Wu (Walton), and Daniel Xu (Northview), for the first time in forty years, brought home a shiny first place trophy. Again—let me reiterate—this is the first time in 40 years we have won a national certamen championship. These certaminatores who have worked so hard these past years deserve a huge round of applause. Oh yeah, and GJCL editor Vinu was named MVP for the second year in a row.

It goes without saying that these five days of conven- tion were some of Northview’s most memorable and successful, filled with fond memories and unforgettable victories. Through-out the years, we’ve grown from being a tiny twenty-student chapter to a nationally recognized one; as Vergil says, yielding not to misfortunes but rising all the more strongly against them. Our chapter got really involved with the game, with each group taking an entirely different direction. We had a traditional labyrinth like many from ancient mosaics complete with a Minotaur. Another group did a semi-traditional activity that had our entire congregation impressed! This activity was our most popular yet and is setting a good pattern for the rest of our year! If you have a moment in during one of your meetings I would recommend trying it out! It is easy and fun activity as well as a great way to practice team building! So have fun with it!

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Kennesaw Mountain High School JCL

ROBERT MOSS, KMHS JCL Contributor

This year, Kennesaw Mountain High School sent five delegates to the JCL National Convention at Emory University. Our school was in charge of the dances put on at the convention this year. We started by, at the beginning of summer, meeting to discuss what exactly we would do. Ideas for dance themes were thrown around and loved by all members of the Kennesaw Mountain chapter. We were ready to really begin planning this dance. That is, until we got an e-mail with the chosen topics for the dances. We looked them over and quickly had to change our thought process. With a slight transition, though, in thought process, we were really ready to take on the dances. Meetings were held every two weeks to discuss the dance process, the budget, the decorations, and the events that would transpire. When the convention arrived and it came time for Kennesaw to really begin setting up for the dances, the school worked vigorously to complete the task at hand. The first night, we scrambled and ran about trying to place statues and hanging the letters R-O-A-M above the crowd showed up. The second night, we did our best to pile several colors of balloons together into giant milkshakes. They seemed to not want to stand, but we did our very best through the night to keep them up, and in the end, it worked for the better. The third night, the zombie apoca-lypse night, one of our delegates called upon his friends to perform a ghastly makeover underneath the caution tape and barbed wire. A few black tablecloths and a lantern later, we had our very own ghouls to tie the scene together. On the fourth night, we all gathered in the gym to watch That’s Entertainment. We laughed, cried, and loved with the best of them as act after act performed for the roaring crowd. On the fifth and final night, we called in the former team members to discuss the dance process, the budget, the decorations, and the events that would transpire. 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AWARDS

Mentioned are those who received a top-10 award at the 2014 NJCL Convention.

OVERALL AWARDS:
INTERMEDIATE CERTAMEN 1st PLACE; PUBLICITY NUMBER OF ENTRIES 1st PLACE; PUBLICITY PERCENT OF CHAPTERS 4th PLACE, CREATIVE ARTS 5th PLACE; LUDI VOLLEYBALL 4th PLACE; LUDI BASKETBALL 5th PLACE.

ALAFRAGA HIGH SCHOOL:
Publicity Photo 12 3rd Place, Traditional Photo 12 6th Place.

ARBER HIGH SCHOOL:
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ATLANTA’S Girls’ School:
Alae Mercurii | 13

CUMBERLIDGE HIGH SCHOOL:
Alae Mercurii | 14

GEORGIA’S Girls’ School:
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GASTONIA HIGH SCHOOL:
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GEORGIA’S High School:
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GEORGIA’S High School:
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GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL:
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ILHAM HIGH SCHOOL:
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KICKAPOO HIGH SCHOOL:
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MOUNTAIN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL:
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NORTH GUARDIAN HIGH SCHOOL:
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RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL:
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WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL:
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Enjoyed this edition of the Alae Mercurii? The Fall Forum Edition will be coming out in the next couple of weeks! If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, or would like to contribute to the Alae Mercurii, contact Vinayak Eranezhath, GJCL Editor, at editor@gjcl.org for information. 

Maximas Gratias!