During this year’s State Convention I was thinking two things – “I don’t want this to end” and “I can’t wait to hit Jason’s face with a pie.” This convention had many memorable occasions from the 60th Anniversary Dance to That’s Entertainment; everyone had something that they could remember as one of the most fun times of their lives. Certamen teams fell and rose, some orators roared while others mumbled, and some bubbled all C while other bubbled all B. We will never forget the events that occurred at State Convention this year. We made new friends and rekindled bonds with old ones. At this Convention, we proved to people that Latin is not only a language we learn to score higher on the SAT but also Latin is the language that connects all of us. Without Latin, I never would have met dozens of amazing people and the Overly Competitive Ludi people who make me laugh so much. I am truly thankful for all of the memories that Latin has given me. I never thought I would have the chance to pie someone or sell a human being, but Latin gave me that chance. Although State Convention is over, cherish your memories and a little bit of State Convention will always be with you.
Now some of you may think that the L in GJCL stands for League, but that’s not right. The L of the GJCL can mean many things. Perhaps for Latin, a word that makes sense because we do study the language, or maybe Lucky, because that’s how I felt after I place in an academic test. But neither of those answers are true. The true meaning of the L in GJCL is Love for the GJCL is, as our Great Supreme Leader Cameron Ward has stated, “Georgia Junior Classical Love.”

Many incidents of Georgia Junior Classical Love have occurred at National Convention and at our State Convention. Last year at National Convention, our former president Jason Choi and the former NJCL president Elliot Wilson had quite an interesting time during one of the dances. I never knew that guys could move their hips like that. Perhaps this year our current president Decker Onken will continue the tradition of GJC love with the current NJCL president Daniel Kim. Of course Decker will have to get over his first National Convention love – that girl who played on the intermediate Certamen team from Virginia.

We had some interesting GJC love in our state this year too. Former Parliamentarian James Dow went to prom with current Vice President Hali Mo after Hali asked (scared him into) him to go. I personally saw them at prom this year and I must say… I was a bit preoccupied with my date to see what they were doing but I’m sure it was scandalous. Current President Decker Onken had his fair share of GJC Love this year with both the current Parliamentarian Brendan Phillips and Bryan Horn, a student from Stratford Academy. Although these relationships were more one-sided than Apollo’s love relationships, Brendan and Bryan dealt with Decker’s rejections… rather badly actually. Brendan went to Jason for advice to deal with his rejection by Decker. Bryan wrote an email to Decker stating the feelings he had for Decker and how he can’t bear to continue this abusive relationship. Don’t worry Decker, even though you’ve lost some of your groupies now, I’m sure you’ll make some new ones in your term as President. If that doesn’t happen, at least you’ll have dancing with Daniel Kim to look forward to at National. Maybe Jason will even reunite with his National Convention crush, the really hot Asian girl from Virginia.

Now I know my fellow officers will be angry if I don’t talk about my incidents of GJC Love. Well, that’s too bad for them.

GJC Love takes many forms. The Love does not have to be romantic. It can be the love between friends as they skip along (please don’t do this) the tracks of Rock Eagle or maybe when they sing bad translations of popular songs in Latin. GJC Love is something that we all can share and cherish.
Eastside Latin by Grace Murphy

This school year, like many others, the Eastside Junior Classical League has been active throughout the school. The EJCL has participated in several annual events, along with new events for the club.

Members of the EJCL marched in the Annual Covington Christmas Parade on December 3. The parade went through the streets of downtown Covington, also going through the historic Covington Square. A truck pulled the Eastside chariot with some students riding in the bed, and others on foot. Some members passed candy out to children, while others shouted Latin chants.

The EJCL continued the Christmas festivities with a Saturnalia Party on December 16 at the chapter president’s house. All paid EJCL members were invited to this event. At the party, students played Just Dance 2, enjoyed food, and had a “white elephant” gift exchange. Mr. Adams, Latin teacher, even attended and brought his family.

In the following months, the EJCL hosted a Certamen tournament on February 25. Many students, parents, and siblings helped out to make it a success. Awards and trophies were given to top teams and book prizes were given to top individuals.

Members of all levels of the EJCL took the National Latin Exam on March 12, as well as other exams like the National Etymology and Medusa Myth Exam.

Over the weekend of April 20–22, the EJCL will be traveling to Rock Eagle to participate in the State Convention. Students will submit art, models, and cards, as well as performing oratory and taking exams. The weekend is the highlight of the year for this club, and is sure to not be missed.

Hot Lips Hustlers (Apparently that’s the Walker School)

In September, the Walker Sodales ventured out to the Hot Lips Hustle. The Hot Hustle was begun by a formal Walker Latin student to provide surgery for people with cleft palates. Early one Saturday morning, we all went wearing our pink “Da Mihi Basia Mille” t-shirts, and handed out Chocolate Kisses in the church parking lot waiting for the race to start. We also had a pink sign, with the quote. When the race started, some Sodales were running, but a few of us stayed in the back with our sign. We had a lot of fun on that cool morning with other Walker students and our Latin friends. Some Latin students won awards, including our two teachers Mr. Fields and Mrs. Leonard.

We had a fun morning, and participating in the annual event will become a tradition for the Walker Sodalitas Latin Students.

At least he’s taller than Jason.
What Officers Talk About

April 23 at 10:32pm  •  Like

Jason Seung Jae Choi: I’m bringing an ingredient.. and people are hating

April 23 at 10:32pm  •  Like  •  3  •  1

Jeffrey Lin: I’m bringing whipped cream

April 23 at 10:33pm  •  Like  •  2

Jason Seung Jae Choi: ^dislike … like MAD

April 23 at 10:34pm  •  Like

Esther Trish Kim: if it was june right now, i would cry with happiness

April 23 at 10:34pm  •  Like  •  1

Jason Seung Jae Choi: i know that’s how good dog is. brings tears of joys apparently

April 23 at 10:35pm  •  Like

Esther Trish Kim: i told you to leaveeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee

April 23 at 10:35pm  •  Like

HoLim HighRolla Lee: JASON, STOP! HAHAHA so politically/culturally/whatever-d’y wrong………………

April 23 at 10:36pm  •  Like  •  1

Jason Seung Jae Choi: fine.. no dog.. cats?

April 23 at 10:36pm  •  Like  •  1

Jeffrey Lin: Yes, and the GJCL board is known for its political correctness.

April 23 at 10:36pm  •  Like  •  4

Esther Trish Kim: HAHAHAHAHA so true

April 23 at 10:37pm  •  Like

HoLim HighRolla Lee: no, we are not eating shannon’s cats

April 23 at 10:37pm  •  Like

Esther Trish Kim: shannon is gonna freak when she sees this
The David Academy

It’s hard to express what the Northview JCL does. Our entire bunch, our motley crew, is full of individuals who make our experiences and events charitable, enjoyable, and indescribable. At the head of our organization, is the energetic Neal David. Magister David, like our organization, is never still. He is always busy either teaching a class, from Latin one to AP, working with JCLers and Certamen, or beating, crucifying and drowning a derelict. His motto, rinse and repeat, works well with those afraid of getting wet, and subsequently, those who get in his way. His passion is the standard of our legion, and without him, we would be undoubtedly lost.

Family is the cornerstone of this operation. We build our bonds with the intention of crossing and sharing with our brothers, the deepest of connections. Near the end of last year, we had our own Latin Laser Tag Fest where a few of our group met up at Laser Quest, to fend against the barbaric hordes. We were allowed to choose names and shoot whomsoever we wanted. “Neal David” shot “Alan Farnsworth” four times in the front, twice on the gun, and 6 times in the back.

At Certamen Camp, our Princeps showed us why he his Imperator and not Dux. And at Toga Tailgate, our white togas ran red by the end of the day, stained by the blood of the vanquished hotdogs and Gallic fries. By the end our day of cheering, our Tyri knew our battle cries and our veterans rekindled their spirits. Pugnate! Sounded down the field as we cheered on our Titans.

Throughout the year, we have embarked upon a number of crusades to swell our ranks. This year we recruited just over 60 Latin I students, 37 of which are fresh 9th graders. This could not have been possible without the Public Relations genius of our Utkarsh Parval. His Ciceronian speech attracted both parents and students alike, enlightening the minds of crowd after crowd, transcending cultural differences with his spellbinding rhetoric.

Bowling is never easy, but it is a good chance to distract your enemy. While we artfully painted the picture of friendship, Walton had no idea what they had gotten into: an all-out war of attrition. Know thine enemy, and either return home with the bowling ball or above it. It’s not safe to hold a bowling ball over your head. Regardless, infiltration complete, friendship program installed, and poker face activating.

And as a final grace of the year, our Saturnalia Festival ended the fiscal quarter with a great time. Trolling found its way into White Elephant. Angela got her own jar of water, and _ Preston was the proud owner of a balloon. To top it all off, the night saw the feature debut of RJ (Anonymous). This skinny little boy found himself in a pair of leather tights, a bit too close for comfort. Video is obviously on youtube, just don’t click any of the related videos.

Venl Vidi Vici. This famous Latin quote was spoken by Julius Caesar in 47 BC. It means “I came, I saw, I conquered,” and that is exactly what Blessed Trinity High School’s Latin program has done. Blessed Trinity Catholic High School is a newer establishment that offers three foreign languages: French, Spanish, and Latin. In recent years, the Latin department has grown exponentially. There are two teachers, Mrs. Decamp and Ms. Freedman, and now three sections of Latin. The prodigious growth for a language thought to be “dead” is mostly because of my grade, the freshmen class of 2012. Because of this massive growth, I interviewed two freshmen at Blessed Trinity named Will Hennessey and Cara Sullivan. Will’s thoughts on BT’s expansion of the Latin program are that “... the language makes you smarter. In English, I know the meaning of the words before they are even defined because of the Latin roots.” Will also said that “I enjoy Roman history, so that part of the class is interesting.” Cara Sullivan believes that the increase of popularity in the Latin language is because of standardized testing. “The SATs have a vocabulary portion and I think people take Latin to help them prepare for that.”
The Next Generation

Now that the GJCL has decided the majority of the next officers, the current generation of officers must clear the way for the new generation. Decker Onken, the former webmaster, will replace Jason Choi as President and the person who dances with the NJCL President during National Convention. Jason will be attending Princeton University after ITT Tech, his dream school, denied him. Hali Mo will replace Esther Kim as Vice President to continue the Walton dynasty of VPs. Esther Kim will be following Jason to Princeton because he has no friends. Peggy Xu will replace HoLim Lee as the Secretary. HoLim will be attending the University of Swag. Brendan Phillips will replace James Dow as the Parliamentarian. James will be attending Northview High School (sucks to be in high school). Angela Lin will be replacing Shannon Zhu as the Historian, and I hope that Angela knows that if the law wanted you to drive 55 mph when the speed limit is 45 mph, the speed limit would be 55 mph. Shannon Zhu will be attending Taggart’s Driving School. Yash Chandramouli will replace Decker Onken as the Webmaster. Yash also needs to get a last name I can pronounce. Patricia Lin will be replacing me as Editor. No, I am not related to Patricia (Jeremy Lin’s my cousin though… somewhere down the family tree), but she is the twin sister of Angela. I will be attending the University of Linsanity. Now that Brendan’s gone, Sam Lowry can be hostess. Congratulations.

Linsanity Swaggin Rice Bros Tebowing

As the officers of the GJCL, we must uphold ourselves to a higher standard and ensure that we do not offend anyone with our speech or actions. Yeah, we kind of forgot about that during the officer’s skit during That’s Entertainment. Jason was a Vietnamese Rice farmer, HoLim was a Swag Asian, James was a Lax Bro, I was Jeremy Lin, Esther was a vicious demon child, Sam and Brendan were… Sam and Brendan, and Decker was a tool or Tim Tebow, either one works. I would first like to apologize if the other officers offended anyone during the skit. Now if I offended anyone, deal with it. The GJCLers saw a different side of the officers during the skit (Well except for Sam, Brendan, and Esther, they usually act like that.). Jason showed his cunning and inability to pronounce his “L” during his plan to poison people with rice. James showed his violent side when he hit Esther in the head even though he was supposed to miss on purpose. Shame on you James. HoLim… well HoLim actually acts like that too although she doesn’t wear that blueberry jumpsuit as much as she should. I showed my playmaking skills as Jeremy Lin. I have always won basketball games when I play my friends, probably because they’re all as tall as Jason. Decker put the team on his back to win the Hunger Ludi. He was the only person on his team though so I’m not sure how much weight he had to carry. Oh yeah, Shannon did a good job not laughing when she said that Jason was from District Sex. We hope you all enjoyed the Officer’s Skit, or at least thought it was better than whatever last year’s officers did.
And Now...

State Convention is over but that doesn’t mean that there isn’t anything coming up for the GJCL! This year’s National Latin Convention will be held at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina from July 26-31. Packet request forms are now available on the GJCL website in the National Convention section. Space are limited so sign-up now to ensure that you can go to the most exciting Latin Event in America! National Convention is like State Convention with more people, more fun, and actual food! Actual, edible food!!! A National Convention presentation will be shown during one of the General Assemblies during State Convention so if you’re not convinced by then, don’t worry, we’ll find other ways to convince you to go. Bus information and costs will be available soon so check the GJCL website often for any updates!

Get Involved!

Do you go toga bowling? Does your school have a toga Tuesday? Do you have any pictures, videos, or articles about your school’s JCL? Do you spread an appreciation for the classics or the knowledge that people still actually study Latin around your community? Then send all your photos, videos, and articles of your school’s JCL events to both editor@gjcl.org and historian@gjcl.org.