

Alae Mercurii

ISSUE 03 / VOLUME 10

GJCL President
2015-2016

LETTERS

FROM THE OFFICERS

highlights & snapshots

GEORGIA JCL
BOARD MEETING

I-XIV-MMXVI

Winter Edition 2016

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GEORGIA JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

STATE DIRECTORY

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Secretary	Andrew Monden
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ALAE MERCURII POLICY

THE ALAE MERCURII IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GEORGIA JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE, MADE WITH THE PURPOSE OF INFORMING THE READERS ABOUT PAST, PRESENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE CHAPTERS OF THE GJCL. 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 GJCL, ITS OFFICERS, OR THE STATE COMMITTEE.

PREZ ET V

A Bittersweet Farewell

To be quite honest, I don't remember when Latin became a part of me. One day, I was breezing through the Latin 1; the next day, I'm applying to all my colleges as an intended Classics major. We all have our origin stories with the Classics. Some stem from the bland classroom made flavorful through the study of Ancient Greece and Rome, while others bloom in the effervescence of that one weekend in April, the Latin (Nerd) Convention.

I often struggle to articulate the importance of the GJCL, because there is no sole answer. When I recall that the GJCL has taught me to "yield not to misfortunes, but advance all the more boldly against them," it slips my mind that perhaps above all, "where there is unity, there is victory." The multifaceted nature of this organization, although inundating at times, allows anyone to find something unique and compelling that no other club offers.

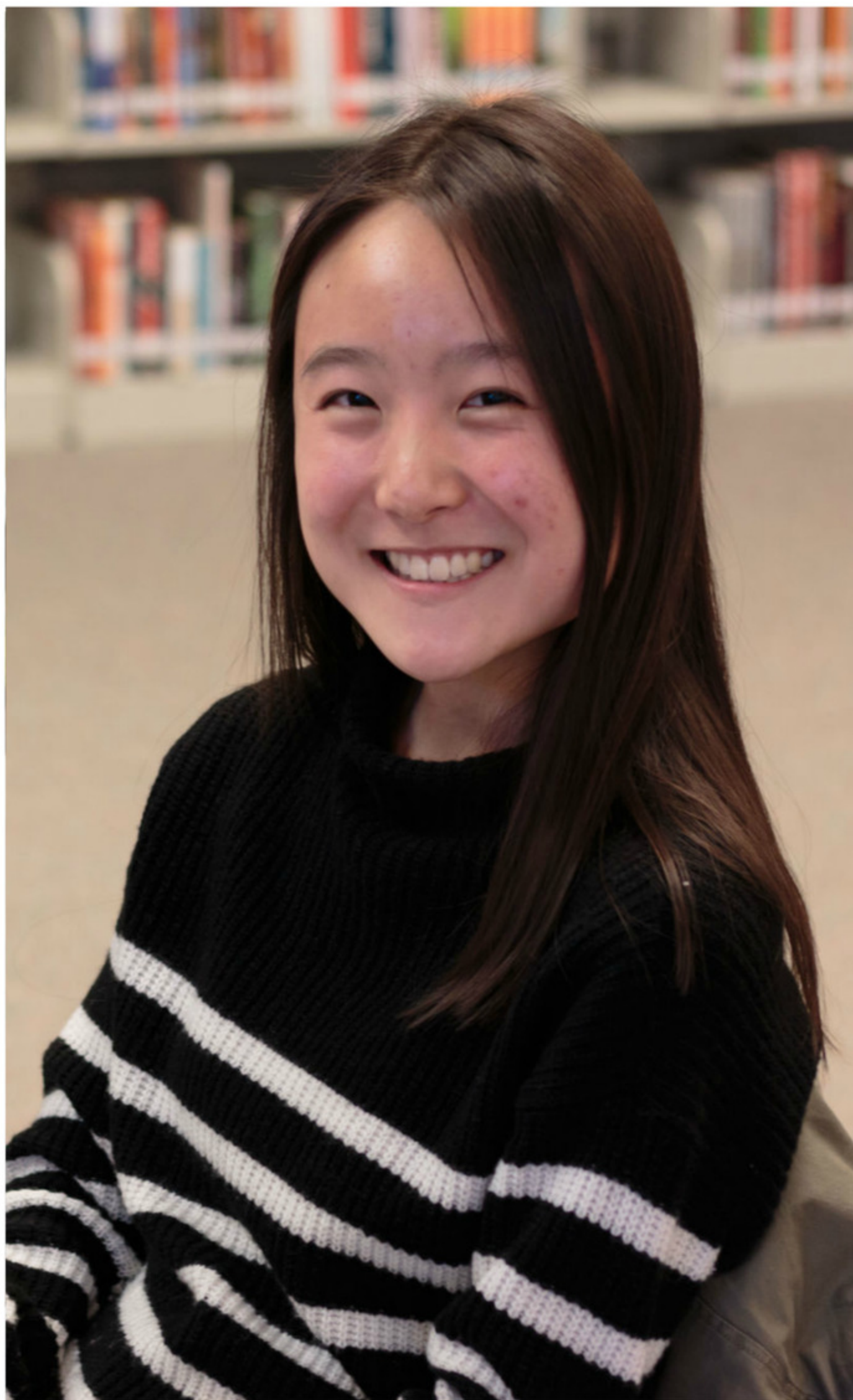
When you've been on the board since October of 2013, you definitely notice the changes in the officers' personalities, the board's work ethic, and the group dynamic as the new succeeds the old. What remains static, however, is the drive to benefit the Georgia Junior Classical League and to share the fruits of the organization with as many people as possible. This drive is definitely one of the most defining characteristics of the current board. You can talk to Dong Yoon about the success of Praetoria this year, to Chris about the huge changes to our Constitution, or even to Eric about a new contest designed to promote photography and publicity (although I don't know why anyone would want to talk to Eric).

And me? Well, you can talk to me about Fall Forum. Ever since Blessed Trinity hosted the GJCL's Fall Forum this past October, I have felt compelled to share the information I have acquired on how to plan a victorious Fall Forum. Therefore, it is my goal to publish to the entire NJCL a guide detailing the Fall Forum process before the end of my officer years. Thinking about my bittersweet graduation from this organization motivates me even more to leave something to benefit people, regardless of age, height, or language taken during high school, just as the GJCL has taught me to do.

E corde,
Ashley Choo-Hen



VICE PREZ



Small Beginnings

The beginnings of my JCL experience were not as glamorous as others' might have been. I remember walking into Latin for the first time and seeing over sixty students crowded in a small, cluttered room--I had to carefully step over limbs, backpacks, and instruments to get to my seat every day. Waking up to attend class also proved difficult, and the only thing that compelled me to attend class daily was imagining the disapproving look of my omniscient, omnipotent Latin teacher. I was a member of the GJCL in name only, and I didn't really know what that membership meant. I got a small taste at my first Fall Forum, but it was really state convention that made me realize what the GJCL was all about.

Whether you want to take academic tests, enter creative/graphic art contests, compete in ludi, or just have a good time, Latin convention has something for everyone. I had previously been unaware of the strong, lasting bonds that could be formed while sharing a love for Latin, and the Classics had never seemed so alive to me as at convention. Though I could talk forever about how great convention is, the only way to find out is to go! Even when high schoolers advertised how fun convention was to my eighth grade Latin I class, I could not believe something seemingly

so nerdy could be at all enjoyable. I could never have predicted that taking Latin and going to convention would open so many doors to improving leadership skills and forming friendships.

As vice-president, Praetoria has been my favorite endeavor thus far. Getting to know all the representatives was awesome, and working with Ashley is always delightful! Everyone actively listened to the informational presentations and fully engaged in brainstorming. I was impressed by many of the ideas and by the respectful environment the attendees maintained while discussing. Since Praetoria, I have been working on creating pre-made publicity forms that should make it easier to keep up with the publicity contest. I also hope to create a welcoming package of sorts to recruit schools with Latin programs into the GJCL, which would be sent out by the successive board. I hope that the current board's contributions will be felt long after we are gone.

Semper,
Dong Yoon Jang

SECRETARY

JCL Family

This year has been a crazy year to say the least. Not only have my obligations as a state officer increased from those of my previous position, but also my school's latin program went through a major change with the replacement of our old Latin teacher. Despite many skeptics, our JCL and our new teacher, Ms. Venn, have all become one endearingly dysfunctional family. This strange but amazing family of mine is why I fell in love with Latin. Because it is so rare that you find such a passionate group of people who share your love for something that many disregard. It was very easy for me to enjoy Latin as a subject, I mean what is there not to like about Roman history, culture, and language? But I never really fell in love with Latin until my little family of classicists formed.

Speaking of Latin families, working with the current board has been amazing! So over all, life since Fall Forum has been great! Not only was a successful Fall Forum planned, but all of us on the board have grown very close since then—maybe too close. Now we are planning State Convention, and it is going to be a fun one if I do say so myself. As far as my duties go, I have reformatted the minutes so to make them even easier to read, and I, with the board, am planning the spirit contest! This year's prizes are going to be awe inspiring, that is for sure. Besides planning State Convention and putting out the minutes, I have been helping with making the transition to having a 2nd VP in the state of Georgia. This has been a super exciting process thanks to Chris's leadership as parliamentarian, and I cannot wait to see what this next year brings us with all of the changes.

Having the opportunity to work my way up from just a normal JCLer, to hostess, to secretary has been an amazing ride, and I cannot imagine my life without all that GJCL gives me. I think what I am looking forward to most this semester is State Convention (obviously). It has always been one of the highlights of my year and this year is no different. I am super confident that this year's convention will be just as amazing, if not more amazing, than the ones of past years. Although, it would be nice if it didn't rain this year...I cannot wait to see all of you, and I hope that you're all ready to be super spirited!!! Let the countdown to convention begin!



Love,
Casey Stachler

YET PARLI



Ambitious Romans

Friends, Romans, Countrymen, lend me your ears; I come to bury my humor (with bad puns), not to raise it.

We've accomplished quite a bit so far this year; I have no expectation of seeing this kind of momentum stop. We've successfully added the office of 2nd Vice-President in order to better manage our spirit and service projects, and we've also cemented Praetoria into our constitution so that we can ensure it happens every year. (Shout out to Saad Bashir for creating Praetoria!)

Our spectacular Vice-President, Dong Yoon Jang, ran Praetoria this year, and she gave me a short summary. I was astounded at how much tremendous leadership was displayed at Praetoria! As a result, I have no doubts that each office will be flooded with candidates this spring. Although **running** for office may cost you your **sole**, I can't wait to meet with each of the candidates and discuss their ideas. To make the process easier upon them, my major goal for this semester would be to make the elections process flawless and efficient.

Although many people would assume my love for the JCL emerged from watching Bryan Wu share intimate moments with his History Textbook or perhaps experiencing the legendary Thirst-Aid Bromance between Eric

and myself, it actually emerged after seeing the community engage with each other. During my first year of JCL I remember looking out at the crowd of Fall Forum and Convention and realizing everyone could fit in somewhere if not everywhere. Trivia whizzes whirred away at the Certamen machines; artists that rivaled Zeuxis sketched out Roman legends, and orators eloquently articulated various Latin passages. I remember watching Ashley winning Hostess and instantly was instantly enamored. Seeing all of this made me realize that no matter what your passion was, there was a way to express it through the JCL. I found that the passion exhibited by each JCLer for his or her own individual talent invigorated me, which then encouraged me to work on my own talents and express myself.

Bear with me; my heart is in Rock Eagle there with Convention, and I must pause a moment till I come back to it.

Best,
Chris ParliamenCherian

WEBMASTER

Pumped for State

As I drag myself through my last remaining semester of high school, there's really one thing that gives me something to look forward to: GJCL State Convention. The classics and the Junior Classical League have provided me with many of my most enriching academic experiences and lifelong memories. The GJCL has become a place to call home, and the friends I have made across the state are some of the most genuine, intriguing, and influential people. Finally, State Convention is easily an annual highlight. To be able to serve you all in my last year as a JCLer is both humbling and inspiring.

So far this year, I've been working on keeping our wonderful GJCL website freshly updated, easy to navigate, and useful for JCLers and sponsors alike. Whenever I get to add information about an exciting GJCL event or Certamen tournament, I am truly excited by the great activity we have in the state. Furthermore, I've been collaborating with my fellow officers to bring the website some new elements. For example, I've (unfortunately) worked with Historian Eric to revamp the Photo Hub section of the website, now featuring the new Photo of the Month contest. I also plan on working closely with Parliamencherian Chris to improve the election and candidacy process in the near future.

Anyhow, I apologize that this letter didn't end up as personable or entertaining as I originally intended it to be. Fortunately, State Convention will be just the opposite! I can assure you that fantastic and exciting things await you at Convention (e.g. cookies at the dance). I hope to see each and every one of you at Rock Eagle!

Gratias maximas,
Eujin Jang



ET HISTORIAN



The Nerd

I would like to say that I decided to take Latin because the language called to me or because I found beauty in this language spoken centuries before I was born, but I can't. I'm not ashamed to admit that the real reason I joined Latin was because I thought it'd be easier than Spanish. It was only when I joined JCL that I truly fell in love with Latin. I didn't fall in love with the grammar quizzes or Latin translation, but rather, with the ability of Latin to bring together a community of people who would otherwise never have met. I've met countless friends through the JCL, and looking back, I know for sure that my life wouldn't be the same if I had decided to take Spanish instead.

Although it may not seem like it from the outside, we officers have been busy this past semester. From planning meetings for state convention to running Fall Forum, we've had our work cut out for us. In particular as historian, I've been busy with the photo of the month contest, which I established this past year. This contest has been very successful so far and I've gotten many good submissions. Most importantly, the photo of the month contest has given me a glimpse into the activities of JCL chapters from around the state and I hope that I will be able to share

this glimpse with all JCL members in the future (although you can see winners on our Flickr page and on the website right now).

Hands down the most exciting event coming up this year is state convention and all the officers have been hard at work planning to make this a state convention worth remembering. I'll be there, taking videos and photos that will be used to remember convention and to promote the GJCL. If you see me at state convention, feel free to come up to me and say hi. I'll be the guy with the camera and the officer shirt taking photos of anything that moves.

E corde,
Eric Wang

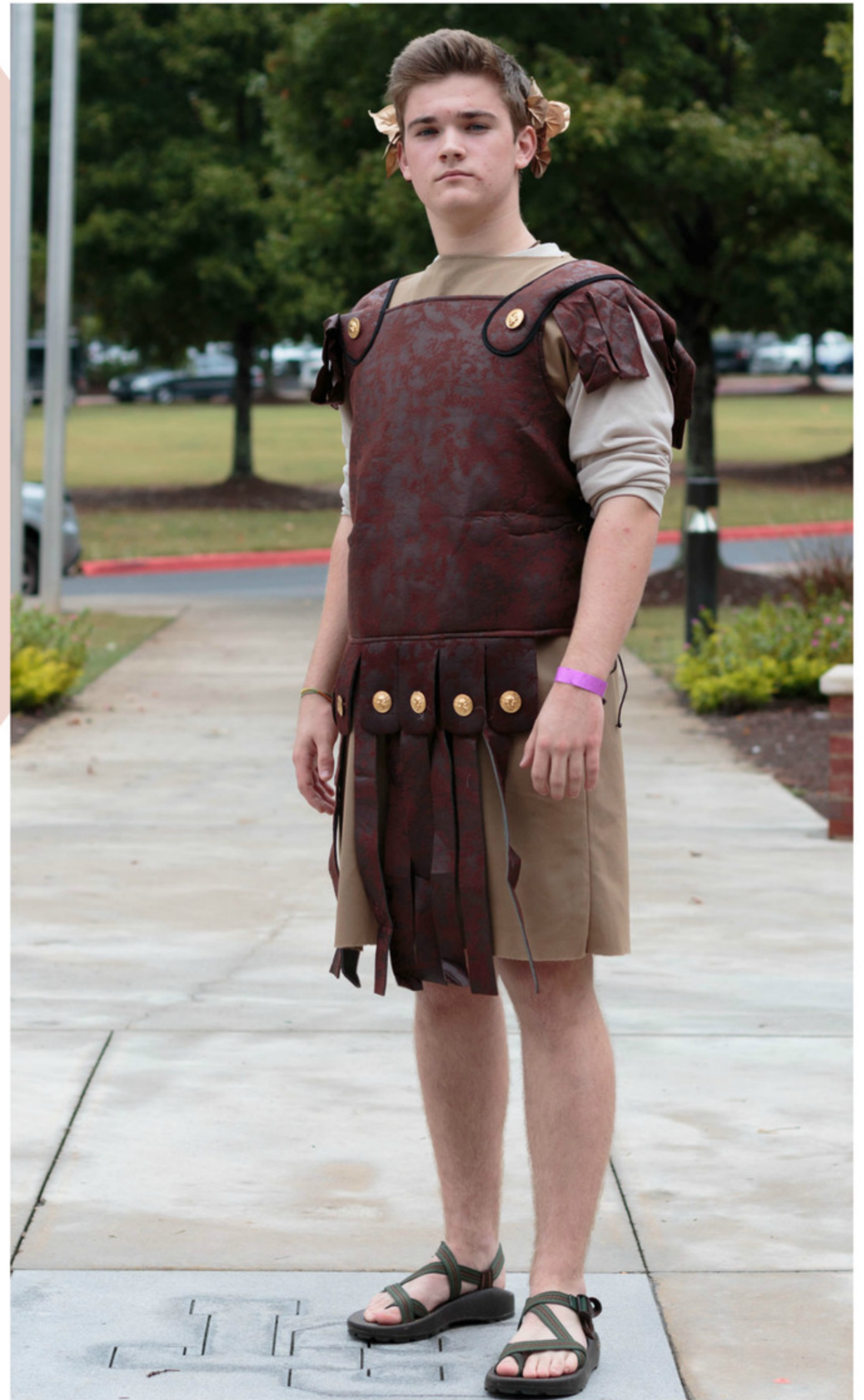
HOST ET

JCL Passion

My passion for Latin began almost as soon as I could coherently read. Roman mythology has been a love of mine since that point. Latin has its roots spread into almost every romance language there is. Isn't that an incredible thought? Even though I have loved Latin and its mythology for quite some time, I did not know about the JCL till recently. As soon as I did hear of it though, I knew I needed to be a part of this amazing group. So, with my passion for Latin I attended the 2015 GJCL Fall Forum. I arrived not just with a love for Latin but also a fierce competitive streak. Thus, I decided to run for the position of host. I didn't know a lot about how things worked in the GJCL but I knew it was something I wanted to try. When I went to the host competition, I had absolutely no idea what I was doing, but I showed up and was as welcome as I could have been. All the people I met at the Fall Forum instantly connected with me. Even though I had never met any of them before, we all bonded over Latin.

To sum things up, for any of you who have a combination of a love for Latin, mythology, or just a competitive streak, the JCL is the thing for you.

Peace,
Bryce Mathis



HOSTESS



Ambitious Romans

Deafening. I could not hear the person next to me, who was trying to explain to me the schedule of the next several days. It didn't really matter to me at the time, seeing as how my eyes were riveted on the massive horde of people waiting to file into the auditorium.

Togas. Team Shirts. Costumes. People were dressed in everything and anything, representing their schools with a pure, overjoyed pride. School banners were hoisted up bravely, and they rose above the heads of the crowd with growing shouts of enthusiasm. The competitive cheers of each opposing group of JCLers only seemed to bring the rival schools closer together. Friends hugged: some reuniting, some meeting for the very first time. One would be hard pressed to find this sort of experience anywhere else, this palpable spirit of fellowship, this visible spark of excitement.

But the really amazing thing was, the Georgia State Convention hadn't even started yet.

That's right. The first General Assembly was still in the near future, and all I could do was stare, slightly dumfounded, at this phenomenon, that somehow I made myself a part of.

Quite simply, this was how I fell in love with Latin. It is this simple motivation that

has pushed me to my limits, which has push my entire Chapter to its limits. This year, we are going in strong. In order to prep for State, we're assigning JCL officers to different study groups to help prepare for Academic Tests. I myself will also be presenting how to approach different Creative and Graphic Arts contests at State. A simple strategy, but one that we hope will work in the long run. I just can't wait to see the dumb founded expressions of those who are going to State for the first time- because even if State itself hasn't actually started yet, the love for Latin already has.

Sincerely,
Hannah Marier

EDITOR

Parting with GJCL

Ever since I took my first few steps into Latin I, I became fascinated by the variations in the language and the intricate history built into our curriculum. Four years later, having experienced the exuberance of JCL spirit and passion, I begin to look back on my journey, flipping through countless memories in order to analyze how I have changed as a person.

In my second term as Editor, I have witnessed the publication transform from Publisher to Pages to InDesign and finally to Joomag. By making the transition to Joomag, I aim to follow the precedent set by the national Torch. Furthermore, Joomag enables direct links and embedding Youtube videos, which makes it the most versatile publication software available. Furthermore, I regularly submit state update articles to the Torch to notify the National Editor of the GJCL's latest events.

The GJCL has flourished greatly in the past two years and hopes to become one of the most eminent state chapters. After all, with Certamen whizzes, Creative Arts champs, and Ludi fanatics, the GJCL is prepared to take on any challenge. In particular, with the dedication and investment of our Parliamentarian, we have finally created the 1st and 2nd VP positions, who will

each manage spirit and service respectively. With over twenty candidates applying for state officer positions last year, this year's slots will most certainly be highly contested as well.

I would like to thank each and every chapter that submitted their highlights to this edition. We are always looking to hear about your chapter's activities and how you are celebrating the classics. We welcome creative arts submissions as well, which is a fantastic opportunity to gain exposure for your classics-related work!

Creating the Alae is most certainly a time-consuming process, compiling dozens of submissions and constantly formatting and reformatting, but it's a labor of love for the JCL and I hope that the precedent of Joomag will continue to be utilized by the future generations of Editors.

Regards,
Grace Xu



CERTAMEN: GJCL COMMITMENT

Bryan Wu, Walton High School

For the verb facio, give the 3rd person, plural - " Buzz.

"Faciant," I answer confidently.

"I'm sorry. That's incorrect. We wanted the passive subjunctive, not the active subjunctive," says the moderator with a sympathetic tone. I had guessed the wrong voice – again.

That stupid 50-50, ruining my chances at winning. There goes the other team with a 50 point lead, I think in my head. Struggles like this don't occur for me once every tournament, but rather at every practice, every minute, filled with doubts and triumphs. Every minute of every round filled intense emotions of shame, glory, misery, and immeasurable pleasure. Every question is a constant contest to find that one sweet spot to buzz on before the other teams can buzz. Every tournament is an ultimate question of which Latin nerd will prove to be the epitome of speed and knowledge.

And yet in between all this chaos, Certamen brings a sense of simple joy from holding that clumsy stick in your hand and fiercely pressing on it as if your life depended it. While Certamen certainly does embody the fierce competitiveness that

the JCL embodies (if you don't believe me, you can find pictures of Certamenators holding the buzzer so tightly that either their hands or the buzzer turns purple), the once simple review game has become an opportunity for JCLers to simply have fun with their knowledge of Rome (cause what else is better than being laughed at for asserting that predicate nouns take the "nounative" case).

Win or lose, steamroll or edge out by a bitter 5 points,

CERTAMEN REPRESENTS THE COMMITMENT OF JCLers TO A CIVILIZATION THAT FELL OVER A MILLENNIA AGO

And it is this dedication that drives to haul myself out of bed into a chair with a room full of Latin geeks. Whether it's coming up on top of your most hated nemesis or winning a second place trophy that makes third place seem better, nothing can compare to the sheer joy of meeting up with a group of Latin students as passionate about a dead language as you are. Certamen truly would not be what it is today without the continual

support of JCLers who dedicate so much of their time for these monthly meetings and competitions.

And, Georgia hosts some of the best tournaments in the nation. Each tournament is known for something unique, but regardless, none of these tournaments would be possible without the continual support of each and every one of our sponsors of the JCL. Your sense of humor in writing questions never ceases to amaze us disciples, and your seemingly omniscient nature consistently overshadows even the largest textbooks.

So, if you have never been to a Certamen tournament, I suggest that you come for one of the greatest experiences that the JCL has experienced. Whether you crush the teams with a 200 point difference or lose so badly that even Sisyphus has to pity you, come for the sheer fun of experiencing Latin, hanging out with friends, and simply relaxing. You never know what you can find at Certamen tournament. It might be your future best friend, your salty teammate, or someone who pronounces "hic, haec, hic," "ic, aec, oc" like a dying frog.

2016 Proposed

Current

Section 4: There shall be no more local chapter, and each local chapter

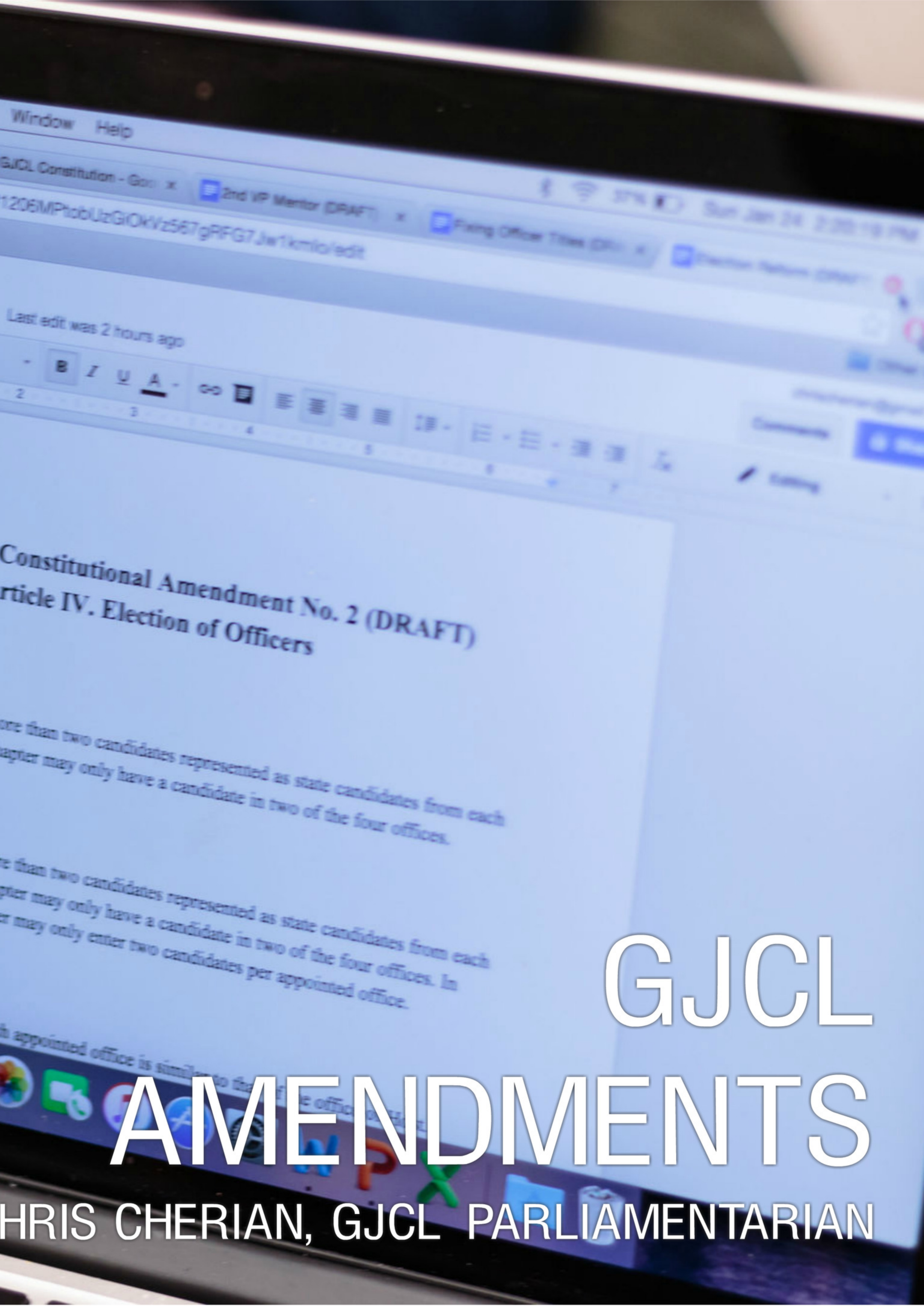
Proposed

Section 4: There shall be no more local chapter, and each local chapter in addition to this, each local chapter

Rational

This amendment provides that each





Constitutional Amendment No. 2 (DRAFT)

Article IV. Election of Officers

More than two candidates represented as state candidates from each chapter may only have a candidate in two of the four offices.

More than two candidates represented as state candidates from each chapter may only have a candidate in two of the four offices. In addition, a chapter may only enter two candidates per appointed office.

The appointed office is similar to the office of the...

GJCL

AMENDMENTS

CHRIS CHERIAN, GJCL PARLIAMENTARIAN

REVISING THE CONSTITUTION

Proposed Amendment #1

Replace all mentions of "Historian(s)", "Editor(s)", and "Webmaster(s)" with the phrases "Historian", "Editor", and "Webmaster" respectively.

Proposed Amendment #2

There shall be no more than two delegates represented as state candidates for elected office from each local chapter, and local chapters shall not submit more than one candidate for the same elected office. Additionally, local chapters shall not submit more than two candidates for each appointed office. A delegate shall not be a candidate for more than one office (appointed or elected).

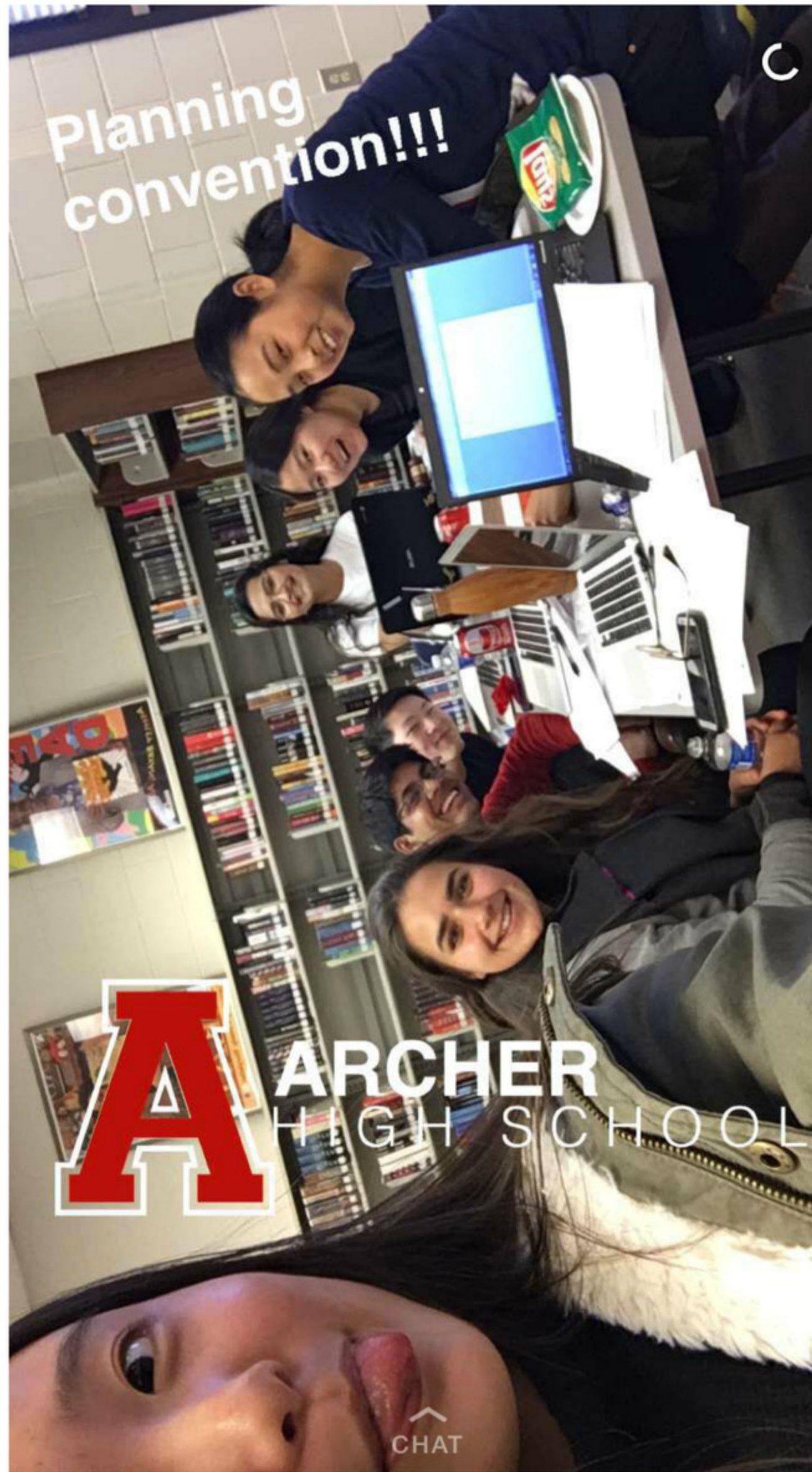
Proposed Amendment #3

The Programs Chair shall maintain and oversee all Service projects undertaken by the GJCL. The Programs Chair shall mentor the GJCL Second Vice-President.

Proposed Amendment #4

The Treasurer shall have the following responsibilities:

- 1.The Treasurer shall administer the scholarships of the Georgia Junior Classical League and shall resolve any questions regarding the operation of the scholarship.
- 2.The Treasurer shall be the source of information, application, and communication regarding the scholarships.
- 3.The Treasurer shall send out and receive applications for the scholarships, review such applications for the scholarships, and decide the recipients of the awards.
- 4.The Treasurer, in coordination with the State Chair, shall oversee the use of funds by the executive board.
- 5.The Treasurer shall mentor the GJCL Secretary.



CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

Submit your JCL chapter's activities!

NORTH COBB CHRISTIAN

Chas Savage

North Cobb Christian School's Latin students hosted gladiator fights to kick off one of the school's first pep rallies of the year. The gladiator fights were an appeal to the younger students who might look to take Latin when they begin high school. The competition was fierce. Latin students were pitted against "barbarians" (students who don't take Latin), in one-on-one sword fight battles. Siblings fought siblings. Teachers fought students.

Principals fought principals. The rules were you could hit your opponent anywhere but the head. When an arm or leg was hit you would lose that limb of your body. If the sword was in the hand of the limb you lost, then you must drop the sword and pick it up with the other hand, all while avoiding the opponent. Latin 1 students threw stuffed animals into the fights to simulate the wild beasts that often entered the ancient Roman gladiator fights. The

fate of the loser was decided by the audience. The crowd either spared the defeated by shouting "Mitte" (let 'em go), or they "killed" by shouting "iugula" (kill 'em). The middle school spectators were ruthless. Every time they shouted iugula without mercy. In the end, students all around the school formed an appreciation for Roman culture. Students were asking me, "Is that what you guys do in Latin class?" and I gladly responded with a yes.

CAMBRIDGE

Casey Stachler

Despite a major transition with the changing of our teacher, the Cambridge JCL is stronger than ever! Prior to the winter break our club celebrated Saturnalia with huge party where everyone exchanged gifts and bonded over food and games. Since returning for the second

semester, the Cambridge JCL leadership has been working hard at coaxing skeptical freshmen into coming to state convention, as well as designing t-shirts, and planning parties. We are beyond excited for State Convention, and we are already putting together some

rockin' cheers (watch out!). Our club has been participating in community service through our active role in the Ronald McDonald House, where we just submitted a huge winter donation!

1,4: Marist Mythapaloosa, 2: Chattahoochee Latin Culture Night, 3,6,10: North Cobb Christian Gladiator Fights, 5: North Gwinnett State Convention, 7, 9: Dacula Saturnalia, 8: Walton Rock Paper Scissors, 11: Walker Carnations Sale



BLESSED TRINITY

Upon the sunset of January 29th, the Blessed Trinity Latin Club kicked off the semester with a "Classic" event: Hercules and Hot Chocolate. With students of all ages and languages taken gathering to watch Disney's Hercules, the Latin room bubbled with energy, jazzy tunes, and hot water. Once the members of the club settled into their desks with a warm cup of hot chocolate, Ms. Freeman, sponsor of BTJCL, paused the movie -- gasp! -- and asked everyone to share their favorite Latin words. Among the many were *ululare*, *animadvertere*, and *susurrare*. Not one, not two, but three kinds of pizza decked the desks along the edge,

accompanied by freshman and vegan Jack Wagner who says:

"Herc and hot choc was a fun bonding experience. As we watched the movie, I felt a sense of familial comfort among my Classical peers. Announcing our favorite words in Latin, drinking hot chocolate, and eating pizza -- not me -- were tremendously enjoyable. Moreover, I was dubbed secretary of the Blessed Trinity Latin Club, a title one may never forget. I felt a tremendous surge of nostalgia run throughout my body as 'I Won't Say (I'm In Love)' soared through the room."

Despite the loose interpretation of the Classical myth, Hercules aroused

Ashley Choo-Hen

excitement when someone would remember a god, a labor, or a lyric. Senior and non-Latin taker Norman Francis also attended the event after rehearsal for the school musical and had a few words to say about the event:

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the Latin Club's annual Hercules and Hot Chocolate since I love Hercules, the food, and the company. Despite not being a member of the Latin Club, I have always been welcomed with open arms. I would rate 9/10, would do again."

We hope to see the rest of BTJCL for another screening of Hercules in the upcoming month. Next time, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson.

MARIST

This winter in Marist JCL has been the very opposite of stagnant. As Marist is a Catholic school, we take pride in our service opportunities and our constant drive for helping those in need. In particular, we just had our annual Mythopaloosa, which is a gathering of students who are eighth graders through fifth graders from the Lovett School, Path Academy, and the Reach For Excellence Program.

At this "gathering", students are immersed into the fantastical tales of Greek Mythology! They have an opportunity to play certamen, focusing solely on mythology. In addition, the Mythopaloosa helps prepare all of these eager students for the National Mythology Exam. This year, the theme is Jason and the Argonauts. In order to help learn more about Jason and his friends on the Argo, all

the students created a movie depicting the different scenes of the myth. They also looked over a website created by a Marist sophomore, Hannah Marier, which is focused on teaching students basic mythology and generally preparing them for the NME (National Mythology Exam). The looks of excitement that exploded on the faces of many of the Path Academy students when they got a

Hannah Marier

question correct made the long day worth it. Cinodose Yelma, or more commonly known as 'Cino', is a fifth grader at Path Academy. He proudly states that "my favorite god is Hermes!" right before he records a scripted radio station interview with the god of thieves and travelers himself. You could imagine his overwhelming enthusiasm when he found out he could play the role of his favorite god.

In the fall, Marist JCL put on a reenactment of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius which brought the entire campus into a Latin fever, even if they took French or German. Not long before that was the Readathon, where the all 12 books of the Aeneid were read none stop for the entire day in order to raise money for the Mythopaloosa, our previously mentioned service project. Not to forget the riveting experience of Saturnalia,

where the reawakening of the titan Saturn was reenacted in a live performance in front of candle bearing JCLers. Now, Marist JCL and Marist Latin Honor Society is partnering to help get ready for state...after all, there are speeches to memorize and small models to design. Not to mention studying for all those Academic tests! Marist JCL is ready to challenge GJCL State Convention 2016!

WALTON

The time had come. The annual Rock Paper Scissors tournament had arrived and the only thing higher than the nerves of the contestants were the stakes. The winner would win the ultimate prize: bragging rights. Winning, however, would not be easy. Sixteen people would enter the competition, but only one could be the winner. The rules were simple, outlined for us by our club president, Frank Burrows. The two opponents would sit across from each other. They would each throw their hands three times while chanting the age old chant of "rock, paper, scissors, shoot!" Then, on the final call, both parties would compare their signs, and whoever was the victor went forward to claim glory while the loser would be relegated to the annals of history.

"Allen Zhang and Bryan

Zhang!" shouted Frank. The first two warriors were called to battle. A nervous hush fell across the room.

"You may begin!" The battle commenced. The wits of each fighter raged against the other. A rock was thrown only to be faced with another rock, then a paper versus a paper. However, soon, blood was drawn. The rock of Allen crushed the weak scissors of Bryan. Immediately the room was filled with a hubbub. Would Allen win this round? No! For Bryan quickly retaliated with a paper of his own to wrap the sorry rock of Allen. It was all tied up. "Rock, paper, scissor, shoot!" Another round and this time Bryan came out on top. Bryan took a breather. He was confident, but over confidence is what killed the son of Daedalus. Another round, and this time Allen was victorious. The first

round was shaping up to be a real nail-biter. This was it: one last round. "Rock, paper, scissors, shoot!" Bryan tossed a rock out. And Allen? He threw a scissor! Bryan won the first round. However, things were far from done. The rest of the matches happened with many upsets. Freshmen were topping Seniors, Sophomores beating Juniors. It came down to the last two: Akshat and Lok. Sophomore against Freshman. Family versus Family. Student against Student. Man against Man.

Boom! It was over before we even knew it. The Freshman had beat Akshat in quick succession. 3-1 was the final score.

Lucas Kuan

DACULA

Hannah Links

Saturnalia

To celebrate the holiday season in true Roman style, our latin club's executive board decided to throw a little pre-finals Saturnalia party for all latin club members to attend. We decided that our peers could certainly use a little fun to ease the stress of the end of the semester, and thought, "What better time than Christmas time to spread a little cheer?"

The event was planned by our executive board during a morning meeting shortly after Thanksgiving, and was designed to be a potluck in which attendees could bring a food to share with others. We assigned salty foods to the freshmen, sweets to the sophomores, drinks to the juniors, and finally utensils, cups, napkins, etc. to the seniors. Several students brought tasty homemade goodies to eat, and it was loads of chaos and fun running around the school trying to find microwaves to heat them up. We decided that we would plan games to play, and also picked a movie for us to watch: "The Polar Express". After we had gone over all the details and assigned different jobs regarding preparations for the party, we also decided

it would be fun to play secret santa and purchase gifts in secret for another board member whom we chose at random to exchange at the Saturnalia party.

Soon the day of the party arrived, and the latin room was thoroughly decorated from top to bottom with Christmas tree lights and paper snow flakes. Right after school, students in their pajamas began arriving with food and gifts. Once all the names of attendees were recorded and each of the students filled their plates with goodies, the executive board members exchanged their gifts for secret santa. There was also a white elephant gift exchange, which all latin club members could participate in. A notable gift given by one of our board members, Emily Green, was an autographed photo of herself. Her own autograph, of course. These fun gift exchanges served as a fantastic way to get our latin club members more familiar with each other, and helped the board members in particular get to know a little bit more about their peers' lives outside of latin club.

Shortly after we completed the gift exchanges, the party

divided into two teams to participate in a Christmas carol game. Each team would have a chance to listen to a short clip of a random Christmas song, and they would be awarded a point if they could correctly name the song, and a second point requiring a little more involvement for singing the song. The fun Christmassy atmosphere, along with the stench of intense (but good-natured) competition filled the air and brought together the congregation of our beloved latin nerds all the more. Though they did not prove to "onesie" (you'll be able to tell who they are) proved they were certainly very Christmas carol savvy and won the game by a landslide. After the students had settled down, we ended the party with the movie "The Polar Express", which was surprisingly way more creepy than we remembered. Although the strangely lifelike animation style was a little unnerving, the movie served as a perfect end to a great party, which marks another Dacula Junior Classical League success.



NORTHVIEW

On January 16th, Northview hosted the 3rd annual Georgia-Florida invitational certamen tournament, which gathered teams from across the United States to compete in all three levels of certamen.

In all three divisions of competition, Georgia teams made appearances in the finals. At the Novice level, a strong St. Stephens' team from Bradenton, Florida won after competing against Webb Bridge Middle School. In the Intermediate division, the hosting Northview team won

in a close tie against a St. Stephens team.

"It boosted our morale from our loss at nationals this summer," Northview intermediate player Colin Lynch said.

The Advanced division finals saw representatives from three different states geared up for a tough match. Ultimately, the Boston Latin School, who beat the Walton School from Georgia, went on to win the tournament. The Oak Hall School from Florida were the third place team.

Tarun Ramesh

"It was a great competition with fantastic teams from across the United States," Advanced certamen player Richard Jeng said. "I hope next year Georgia can have a strong showing."

The tournament ran as smoothly as it had in previous years and for the first time, was finished before the scheduled end of competition. Next year, the invitational tournament will be held at the Oak Hall School in Gainesville, Florida.

WEBB BRIDGE

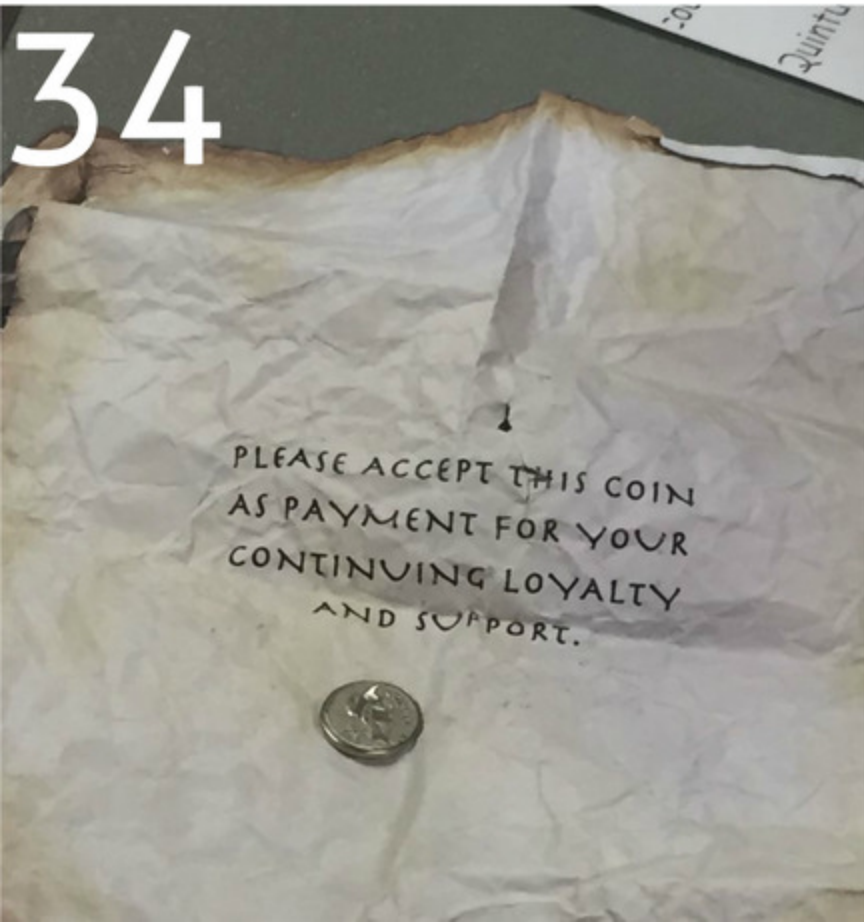
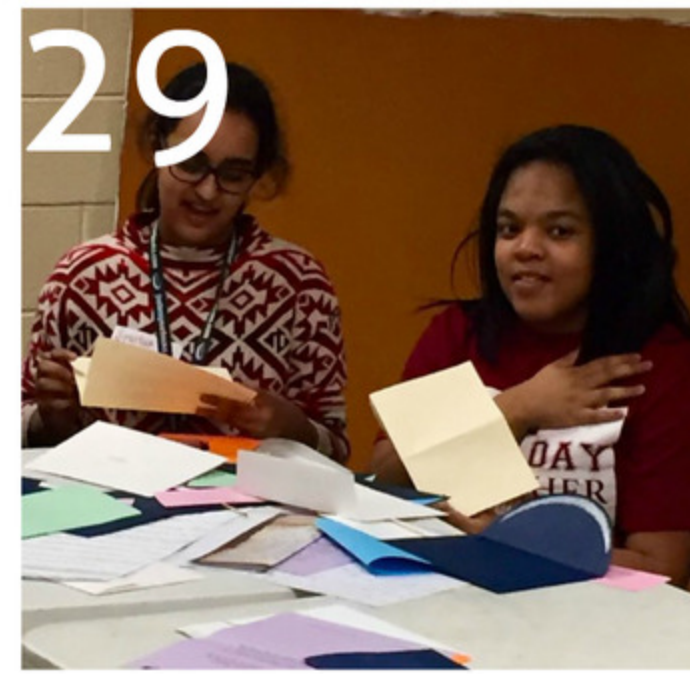
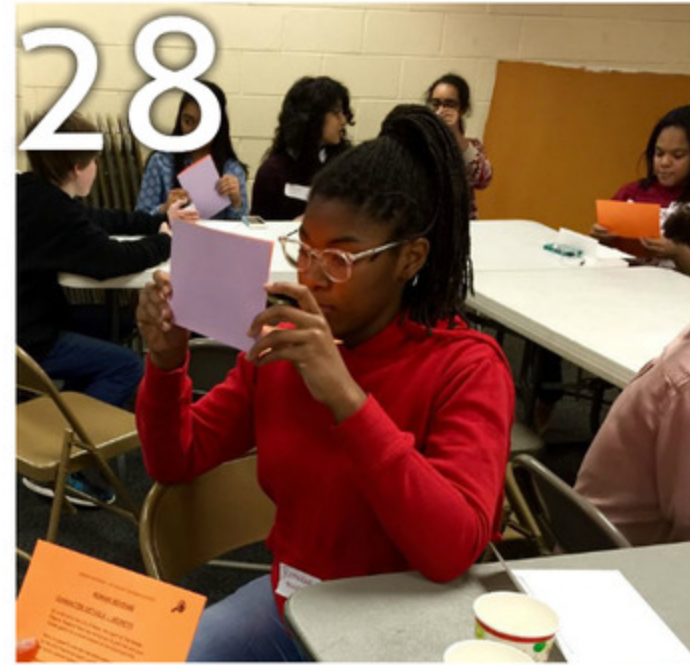
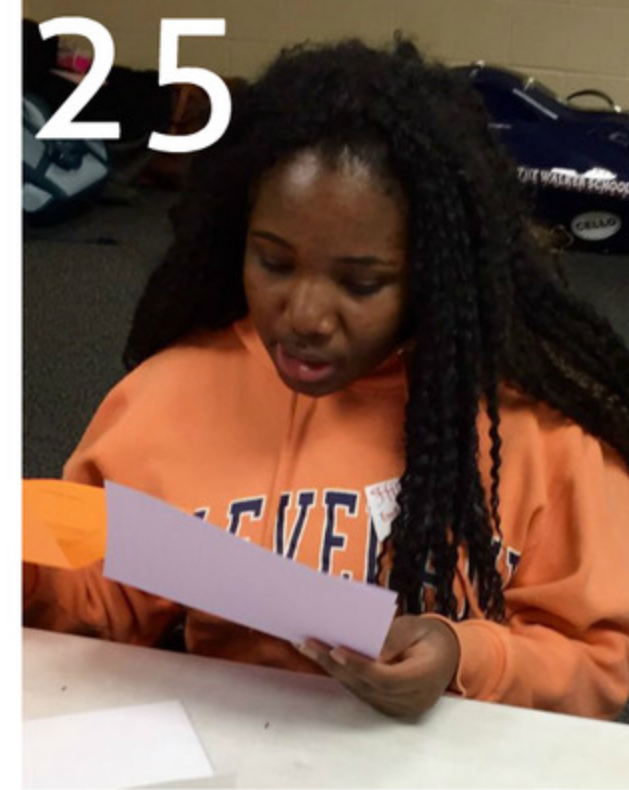
Salve! We are the Webb Bridge JCL, and here are the highlights of our club this year and information of what we do. Our kickoff meeting was based on history, as we alternate meetings based on the themes of Roman history, culture, and myth. The first meeting was themed on the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius at Pompeii and was full of interesting activities: a Coke and Mentos volcano eruption, a relay race through the city of Pompeii, and a cupcake station where you could decorate a cupcake with icing to look like a volcano. The October meeting was very successful, and was based

around one of our largest service projects. Many teachers at Webb Bridge were short on supplies, so the JCL wrote cards saying "Great Caesar's Ghost! It's scary how underappreciated you are!" and gave them Sharpies, Post-its, etc. We also ran a scavenger hunt where members would have to complete Latin related challenges to find clues to go to the next activity. There was also an obstacle course with "Medusa's Red Light Green Light" and many other activities. Soon after the October meeting we began to prepare for Fall Forum. Our members enjoyed Fall Forum a

Ethan Benn

lot, and we are proud to say that the artwork created by our member, Sophia Johnson, was chosen to be used as the artwork for Convention. Our next meeting is on January 29th, and it is sure to be great! JCL members will be making costumes to compete in the themes of history, culture, and myth, and so will the Trivirs, who will be judging the competition. Many members are very excited and have been hard at work making their costumes. We can't wait! You may know us as a fun-loving and dedicated club but have wondered about who we are. Well, we have our answer: we're the WBMS JCL!

23-24: Cambridge Saturnalia; 25, 28, 29, 34, 35: Walker Carnation Sale; 26, 27: North Cobb Gladiator Fight; 30: Woodstock Freshmen Recruitment 31: Webb Bridge Middle School; 32, 36: Chatahoochee Latin Culture Night;



WOODSTOCK

Nic Franco

The Woodstock High School JCL chapter prepared for the school's annual Electives' Fair in which upcoming freshmen students discover a variety of classes available to them throughout their high school careers. These students currently attend Freedom or Woodstock Middle School and will be attending Woodstock High this fall. Seeking to grow the Latin program, our chapter worked diligently to not only encourage new students to take Latin but also join our Latin Club. This was accomplished by the creation of trifold displays and an assortment of flyers which informed parents and students alike about the benefits of the Latin class and its club counterpart.

The officers of our JCL chapter met to plan and create

these displays. We also sought to share our excitement and passion and simultaneously did so as we conducted our meeting at our local coffee shop, Copper Coin, in downtown Woodstock. We were able to utilize the community room and even extend the friendly hand of JCL as another group asked to accompany us in the room we reserved.

After our productive meeting, the displays were printed and we were able to present our information to eager and curious students, some of whom had begun their Latin journey earlier that year as eighth graders at Freedom Middle School. This class has been a new addition to the Cherokee County School District and is successfully yielding results. As of now, the

Woodstock High School Latin Program has had over seventy freshmen register for Latin I and over sixty students register for Latin II. These numbers are very exciting for WHS as we have historically had a smaller Latin program than most other schools; even as we have seen the population of Latin-studying students increasing steadily in the past four years, the excitement for Latin as demonstrated by the current number of young registrants so early in the elective-choosing season is a very promising sign. Woodstock High School is very proud to share these results and celebrate future growth that is guaranteed by a few more weeks in the registration window!

WALKER

Randy Fields

SODĀLITĀS, The Winona Robuck Chapter of the Georgia Junior Classical League, kicked off the new year at its monthly Third Thursday chapter meeting. Its theme, Murder at the Domus Aurea, featured a classical whodunit at which a member of Nero's praetorian guard was ruthlessly slaughtered. Suspects included the emperor's cook, a renowned poet, and a virulent gladiator. Guests enjoyed a

repast of "stuff on a stick" including kebobs from a local Greek restaurant and skewered melon and grapes as they collaborated to solve the mystery. Former chapter cōnsul and current pontifex maximus, James Grindstaff, played the role of Nero and organized the guests to solve the crime. Current cōnsul, Zoey Brown, served as his trusted advisor. Most guests were convinced that Nero's

doctor was the culprit, but in the end they were shocked to discover that Iulius, an ambitious general, committed the dastardly deed.

This meeting also served as the start of Sodālitās' annual carnation sale. Led by quaestor, Hunter Nourzad, this philanthropic endeavor is working to support charity: water, a non-profit organization whose mission is to bring clean drinking water

drinking water to people in need. The fund-raiser encourages students to send flowers to each other on Valentine's Day. Red carnations express love; pink, friendship; and white, secret admiration. Furthermore, each flower will bear a corresponding message in Latin. Among the various quotations are: omnia vincit

amor; nōs et cēdāmus amōrī (in red); amīcitiāe nostrae memōriam spērō sempiternam fōre (in pink); oculīs nostrīs congressīs cor meum micat (in white). Each carnation sells for one dollar, all of the profits of which will go directly to charity: water. Zoey Brown, third-year Latin student and current cōnsul, selected this organization

from the host of many highly regarded non-profits featured on Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org) which rates the efficacy of charitable organizations. Sodālitas members will deliver the carnations on Friday, February 11th, just hours before they leave for Athens, Greece for a winterlude study tour.

CHATTAHOOCHEE

Eric Wang

To show that Latin was the best language in the school, the Chattahoochee JCL teamed up with the school's foreign language club to create a Latin Culture night to celebrate the upcoming Saturnalia. Excited to give the student body a new experience, the two brilliant clubs collaborated for weeks of preparation for not only to create an awesome experience but also an enlightening one. Taking the officers' previous involvements with state conventions and fall forums, the group decided to give everyone the full familiarity of a saturnalian festival. With dancing, cuisines, and culture in mind, cohorts were created to teach the Latin life to excited students who may have never known about the Latin life style. The students were only required to bring themselves and a gift to the event. The gift was for the famous White elephant gift exchange. In the past, there

was no "culture" night to give the school a chance to know real Latin, so this year, the JCL officers really strived to show their passion and persuade them that Latin is a great language and culture to learn.

On the fateful day as an entire hallway was filling with students, the centurions, Eric Wang, Nishant Sinha, and Daniel Li, did their last preparation for teaching their expert craft. Gathering to celebrate the Roman god, Saturn, each cohort rotated stations to learn Greek dancing, the Bullae, and Roman delicacies. Centurion Eric Wang was in charge for exercising the pupils on the empire's art in Greek dancing. To completely dance the entire musical track was the goal of each group, but the task seemed too difficult for most groups. With the arms locked with one another, only one group managed to finish the task at hand while the Spartan-like centurion worked

with each group meticulously. After the exhaustion, food was provided by several officers' led by Daniel. The feast garnered was perfect for the starving academics that had need for a large cuisine in them. Lastly, to digest their filled bellies, Nishant led students to learn and create the bullae roman citizens lived with since their birth. After all the great activities thought by the two clubs only one thing remained for the festival.

Before everyone had to leave for their own activities, Mrs. Walton led people in the White elephant gift exchange. Excited to gain something new of their own, everyone frantically exchanged gifts in cadence to the complicated story of Mrs. Right and Mr. Left (a white elephant gift exchange story). At the end of the day, some people were excited with their gifts and some were disappointed, but everyone agreed that the day was one to be remembered.

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Jaime Claymore

Fall Forum

Fall Forum is the first major state event chapters attend. As a result of the experience of upperclassmen and second time Fall Forum goers, freshmen and sophomores were encouraged to participate in sight Latin and other events so that they would be familiarized with the JCL environment. We had two members, one who attended Praetoria and used his gained knowledge to prepare for this competition, participate in the contest for host and hostess. To express this year's theme, members did their best to wear one of two shirts from previous years so that the chapter would be fashionably united and victorious.

Saturnalia

To celebrate the holidays Roman style, MVJCL announced its annual Saturnalia Dinner. In previous years JCLers gathered and dined at an Italian restaurant, but this Saturnalia was held at MVHS in the atrium. The gathering was an Italian potluck with appetizers, salads, entrees (mostly pasta), and desserts. Along with a dish JCLers needed to bring something extra. Each year it has been highly encouraged attendees bring canned food

or other food item(s) for a donation to the Lawrenceville Co-op. Thus MVJCL helps the city community while strengthening the club community, which is one purpose of the Saturnalia Dinner. MVJCL gathers to spend one more time together before finals, winter break, and the New Year. People with various JCL experience attend Saturnalia: from the first year freshmen to the four year state convention seniors as well as visiting alumni, who talked about college and their experiences with Latin and prove that JCL has made an impact on their lives. Why wouldn't you return to an event to remember all the wonderful times as a JCLer? On the classical side, the Roman festival of Saturnalia is explained to first time attendees. This Saturnalia had its dining tables decorated with miniature Christmas trees adorned with ornaments inspired by millefiori made by our latin tow classes.

Cookie Making Day

Over the winter break, the MVHS JCL Board gathered at our sponsor and Latin teacher's house for a cookie making session. Every member of the board attended this culinary convention. There are

twelve members of the MVJCL Board, but three freshmen are new to the JCL experience. They were added to help promote freshmen involvement in JCL and ensure the continuation of, and participation in, the board. To maintain the bonds of current members, but to more importantly incorporate the new and young members, this gathering was planned. For an activity we broke up into four groups and each made its own "gingerbread" (it was actually graham crackers). Our creations were then judged and given "awards" by our teacher. Each house came out with a very different and unique look.

Christmas Parade

The Mountain View JCL Board participated in the Mall of Georgia Christmas Parade in early December. We wanted to let the community know "lingua Latina vivit!" We pulled a near life size horse, inspired by the Trojan, and handed out candy. We did not want the fun to end after the parade, so we all went to see Mockingjay Part 2. This was our 1st event showing off this year's shirts, which represent this year's theme and have a pac man element.



Ours won most aesthetically pleasing!



PARKVIEW

During 8th Grade Recruitment Night, current Parkview Latin students spoke on behalf of the program to encourage rising freshmen to register for Latin I courses. NLHS members prepared a bulletin board with pictures of classical landmarks and fun JCL activities and also distributed promotional pamphlets to over a hundred eager students. In particular, students emphasized the benefits of joining JCL to participate in statewide conventions and a wide array

of competitions to celebrate the classics. Parkview JCL is also widely renowned for its gladiator fights at workshops and regularly hosts tournaments for students to participate in.

The Latin program at Parkview has grown tremendously over the past few years, starting as the smallest foreign language program and gradually growing to become the second largest program, currently serving over six hundred students.

Grace Xu

"At first, I enrolled in Latin because I was interested in learning more about Roman history and culture. But as the years went by, Latin became my favorite class, and I hope to continue to study Latin in college because my teachers have inspired me," remarks AP Latin student Nati Gebre. With four wonderful teachers and limitless opportunities, the program continues to flourish, as students actively learn spoken Latin and vocabulary words through fun classroom activities.

MILTON

On February 24th, the members of the Milton Junior Classical League met at the local bowling alley on an early release day for some bowling and laser tag. Festivities began at 2:00 and lasted for several hours. Shortly after the MJCL members entered, the bowling alley employees quickly, upon seeing an unchaperoned group of teenagers, shuffled the Latin club to the unoccupied side of the bowling alley, where fun (and some craziness) ensued. Most bowlers ended up hitting

a strike at some point during this madness, if only out of sheer luck (Latin students, by some strange coincidence, do not happen to be good bowlers). Pizza and soda was ordered, and soon enough, sugar took over, and the group moved to laser tag.

After about ten minutes of bothering many employees and being misdirected many times, the fifteen remaining MJCL members suited up for laser tag. Once at least ten minutes had been spent trying to put on vests, practicing

Cassandra Lund

with the laser tag guns, and ignoring the safety video, MJCL members were released into the laser tag room for the allotted time. The red team dominated early, taking control of the upper level, but the blue team surged back by ambushing team red, taking the upper level, before sniping and blocking the red team out for the rest of the time. The blue team ended up winning in a thrilling comeback performance, but everyone had a good time.

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2014 Boys Chariot race State Champions

2014 Spirit State Champions

2014 Latin Teachers of the Year Dr. Claymore!

2013 State Tug of War Champions

Dates

Costumes:

Visual Arts

Oration

Mosaic

4/17-4/19

Why do you Live Convention?

Imagery of:

FLORIDA STATE EXAM 3/25

FLAG CONTEST 3/28

Great to learn!

Look for '14

Keep for '14

44

WHAT'S YOUR SIGN?

PISCES - from the Latin FISH

SCORPIO - from the Latin SCORPION

LEO - from the Latin LION

GEMINI - from the Latin TWINS

CANCER - from the Latin CRAB

LIBRA - from the Latin BALANCE

VIRGO - from the Latin MAIDEN

AQUARIUS - from the Latin WATER BEARER

CAPRICORN - from the Latin HORNNED GOAT

SAGITTARIUS - from the Latin ARCHER

ARIES - from the Latin RAM

TAURUS - from the Latin BULL

45

NAME THESE PLACES

NAME THESE PEOPLE

NORTH GWINNETT

Lauren Johnson

Where to begin? From Latin nerd to Caesar freak, I've heard it all. The countless ridicule for taking a dead language has been omnipresent since the eighth grade. Why? What's the point? Where is this going to get you? By the end of sophomore year, I was beginning to believe the naysayers, until my scary Latin teacher somehow convinced me to go to this weird Latin gathering at Rock Eagle.

"5 minutes early is on time," Mr. Yaggy belts out across the parking lot one Friday morning. Book bags on our backs, sleeping bags under our arms, and eyebrows on fleek, the North Gwinnett chapter of the Junior Classical League was ready to make their journey to Latin convention.

As soon as we stepped out of the car, I knew I was going to like this place. The sun was shining down, the birds were chirping, and there was a strangely skinny boy walking down the street in a toga. I was uncertain of many things that day, but by the end, I was sure of three: (1) I was going to run a mile in a banana suit, (2)

Mr. Yaggy does have a heart, and (3) this is about to be one of the best weekends of my life. The first item on the agenda was Certamen. Oh lord. With powerhouses like Walton and Northview, I was losing my love for the sport. Then, with the help of team captain, Maggie Light, we made it to the final round, against Walton and Northview, no doubt.

We prepared ourselves for slaughter until the craziest thing happened.

I answered a question. I answered a question correctly. For someone who had answered a total of three toss-ups the entire year, I was exhilarated. I jumped out of my seat, people were clapping, and I found that love again.

It was Mr. Yaggy's last year with us at State Convention, so

I wanted to make sure it was great. I'm not especially athletic or academically gifted, so I took to one of our own traditions to leave my mark. Saturday night at chapter caucus, North has what we call "The Airing of Grievances". It is a set time where you can say anything you want to Mr. Yaggy without repercussions. It could be about anywhere from his haircut to his teaching styles. I don't want to bore you too much, but let's just say I brought the house down. I had our entire chapter laughing, including Mr. Yaggy. I've relived that night a hundred times. And it was in that moment, surrounded by people whom I thought to be strangers, that I realized what State Convention is all about. It's not about learning or earning awards (although those things are nice), it's about bringing together an awesome group of people for the love of classics. It's where I found my best friend, my best teacher, and most importantly: my best love.

CREATIVE CONTENT

STEF STUBBS: LATIN JOKES

Why did Persephone only eat six pomegranate seeds?
She had a hard time getting the fruit open!

What is Hestia's favorite Cardinal direction?
Vesta! (West-a)

What do you get when a fish and a bull have a baby?
A minnow-aur! (Minotaur)

Why was Hephaestus thrown off of Olympus?
Well, it was'nt because he was flamin' hot!

Why was the harvest goddess's chariot towed?
She forgot to pay de-meter! (the meter/ Demeter)

How come Actaeon found himself watching the goddess bathe?
She was rather Ar-te-mis!(hard to miss, 'ard to miss, Artemis)

What are Demeter's favorite types of books?
She likes books in a Ceres (soft "c", series)

Why does Victoria prefer Adidas?
She is offended by Nike!

What is Tyche's favorite type of fish?
She would do anything Fortuna!

What is Prometheus's least

favorite food?
Liver!

What is Cloacina's biggest pet peeve?
Clogged toilets! (Cloacina is the Roman sewer goddess.)

What does Ares think of Athena?
"She gets on Mi- nerva-s!" (My nerves)

Why can Pluto be so mean?
He has a bad case of the hades! (Hate-ies)

Why does everyone love the Skolependra?
It holds the Ke-to our hearts! (Keto, goddess of sea monsters.)

What are the grounds of the fish-horse college called?
The Hippocampus! (Fish-horse hybrids)

How does the ferryman of the dead contribute to global warming?
He always leaves his char-on (car on, Charon)

Why do all of the gods think that Zeus/Jove/Jupiter is really loud?
He has a thunderous voice!

Why should women not trust swans?
Just ask Leda! (Some myths say she was raped by Zeus when he was in the form of a

swan.)

What did the Titan say when he relinquished the sky?
At las! (at last, Atlas, he has an accent!)

Where are you most likely to find magical, fragrant Bulls?
Europa! (She was carried off by Zeus in a bull form)

What is Nephele's favorite curse word?
"Phrixus"! (Her son)

Why does Uranus have such a dirty mind?
I think you can guess!

What do you do when Minos's wife is angry?
The only thing you can do is try to Pasiphae her! (Pacify sort of sounds like Pasiphae)

How does Agamemnon's daughter feel about Aegistus?
She wants to Electra-cute him! (Electra is Agamemnon's surviving daughter. Aegistus is her mother's lover. He makes her life horrible.)

What does Cupid/Eros's wife say when she was joking?
"Ha ha, Psyche!"

What does the Hydra want to study when it grows up?
Hydra-ology! (Hydrology)

SUBMIT TO THE ALAE

EDITOR@GJCL.ORG

Take an active role in the GJCL by submitting to the Alae Mercurii, our statewide publication. We encourage all students and teachers to participate in both options.

1. Increase publicity for your local JCL chapter events

Requirements

Chapter Highlights

- ✓ 300-400 words long
- ✓ Include at least 2 photographs of the event
- ✓ Summaries of chapter preparations for convention, recaps of general member meetings, etc. are all welcome!

Specific Events and Projects

- ✓ 600-800 words
- ✓ Include at least 3 photographs of the event
- ✓ Summaries of special service projects, JCL socials, pizza parties, celebrations, ceremonies, etc. are all welcome!

2. Submit your creative content to earn recognition and exposure for your work

Requirements

Creative Content

- ✓ Must be related to the classics or JCL
- ✓ Must be school-appropriate content
- ✓ Drawings, photographs, poems, short stories (English or Latin), etc. are all welcome!