

#### **Spring is Here:**

A quick overview of a few plants in Roman mythology.

#### Statewide:

News from across the state with articles from local JCL editors!

## **Upcoming Events:**

State Convention
explained by State
Board members!
Informational Poster
about the National
JCL Convention
included.

#### PLANTS IN MYTHOLOGY

Plants are ever present in Greek and Roman mythology. They have interesting origin stories and often symbolize a once living creature. In light of the coming spring, let's explore a variety of plants and their connection to mythology.

**Anemone**: Created through the death of Adonis, a handsome youth that Venus loved. After he was killed by a boar, the anemone was born, created through his spilled blood by Venus in remembrance of him.

**The Grapevine**: Created through the death of a satyr, a childhood friend of Bacchus. Bacchus transformed his body into a grapevine and created wine out of its fruits.

**Laurel**: Created through the transformation of Daphne, a nymph. Cursed by Cupid's arrows, Daphne ran from Apollo's love and transformed into a laurel tree to escape him.

**Mint**: Created through the death of a nymph Minthe. Loved by Hades, she claimed to be superior to Persephone and was crushed upon the ground into a mint plant.

Narcissus: Created through the death of the handsome youth Narcissus. Cursed to fall in love with his own reflection, he gazed into the water until he wasted away.



## Mandan:

By: Jonathan LaFleur

Mandan Latin Club is awesome! It's a place for a bunch of people that love Latin to get to hang out and have some fun. Some of the events we do includes toga bowling, a board game night, movie night, and my personal favorite the mini JCL convention. Usually at the mini convention we will either make aqueducts or chariot race and it's a great way for people to see what a convention is like on a smaller scale. Another thing that is a highlight for me is the Halloween costume contest. People always come up with really creative costumes and it's a lot of fun to see what people come up with.

Latin club is great at giving you get the opportunity to hang out with people you wouldn't normally interact with and make a lot of new friends. It's a chance for freshman to get to know some upperclassmen and get to know people outside of your grade. I know for me I came into high school not sure what foreign language I wanted to take. My brother convinced me to try Latin and though the Latin club it quickly has become a passion of mine. This story isn't special to me. Many people have come to love Latin through Latin club and NDJCL.





By: Jack Anderson

Davies:

On December 5th DSJCL hosted an annual Saturnalia party. We watched the Grinch and ate holiday treats. We made tie blankets for those in need to try to help our community. The blankets were brought to the YMCA.



Photo Credit: Sydney Carrell

The State Board

## The State Convention: State Chair Letter

Discipuli,

This year's National Convention theme, from Sallust's Bellum Catilinae is, "Omnes...summa ope niti decet, ne vitam silentio transeant." ("It benefits all to strive with greatest effort, lest they pass their lives in silence.")

As this year's State Chairs, we would like to take a moment on behalf of all the Latin teachers in North Dakota to commend the great effort of the NDJCL Board. The officers have been hard at work setting things in place to ensure this year's NDJCL Convention does not pass in silence. You will hear from many of the officers in this edition of The Torch regarding specific events planned for the state convention at Fargo North High School on March 13 and 14. We encourage you to attend and participate with great effort in this year's convention.

Videbimus te mox.

Magister Cahoon et Magister Kraft 2019-2020 NDJCL State Chair and Co-Chair

## Philip Dowdell - Parliamentarian

## The State Convention: RUNNING FOR OFFICE

Hey all NDJCLers, the State Convention is coming up, and with that comes State Officer elections. Being a state officer is a very cool thing, you get to help lead JCL on a larger scale, you plan the State Convention, and more! If you're like me, you'll be happy to help make an event that you know will make so many fellow JCL members excited and happy. There are eight JCL offices: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Parliamentarian, Secretary, Historian, Editor, and Webmaster. A complete list of their duties can be found in the Constitution page of the NDJCL website (Article IV), but a short description is as follows. President: Preside over State Convention, manage board meetings, represent NDJCL at Nationals, etc. 1st VP: Manage committees, get publicity for JCL events, etc. 2nd VP: Manage spirit and volunteer/fundraising events. Parliamentarian: Know the constitution, organize the process of running for state office. (Wow that's what I'm doing right now! Nice). Secretary: Keep minutes at meetings, keep records, and handle NDJCL correspondence. Historian: Keep a scrapbook, take photos, etc. Editor: You control the Torch, manage it wisely. Webmaster: You control the NDICL website.

Now that you all know what the officers do, I bet you're just so excited to become an officer, and in that interest, you want to know what the rules of running for state officers are! You're in luck, I'll tell you them right now. First: Eligibility. You must be taking Latin (or completed all Latin courses at your school), be able to serve the full term (duh), have attended a State or National convention before (unless approved by the state board), have consent of your chapter advisor, and have time to come to the board meetings and plan/attend the state convention.

If you fit those qualifications, and want to run for state office (I'd recommend it, it's a very good thing to do), you should fill out the State Office Application Form which your advisors should have a link to. This is due before the State Convention, so please have your form filled out by March 6th. Once this is done, be ready to give a roughly two minute speech at the NDJCL convention about why you want to be and are a good person to be a state officer. And through that simple process, YOU could be one of the next state officers! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 92920@fargoschools.org, and I hope to see your application soon.

#### Kim Kadrmas- State Historian



Colloquias are one of the many fun events at State Convention!

Odyssey is one of the many topics the lectures could be about

Latin is not the only thing though, there is also usually one about National Convention and/or about life after high school

Learning new things is what colloquias are here for

Only go to ones who you find interesting- they're not fun unless you enjoy the topic!

Questions are encouraged after the presentation!

Understand that colloquias are actually very interesting and fun

Instruments can sometimes be involved (A few years ago a guy performed the Odyssey with his guitar)

A little more smart is how you'll feel after going to a colloquia!

Mason Taragos - President

## The State Convention: TESTING/CERTAMEN

Ah yes, everyone's favorite part of the State Convention, testing. I'm sure all of you reading this understand the general idea of a test, and also have been forced by your teachers to take one or more tests at past state conventions, but I'll go through it nonetheless. Each year there are five tests different subjects: Mythology, Grammar, Roman Life and Customs, Derivatives, and Roman History. The tests are taken online through Google Forms so bring a computer or phone! Although some of those topics seem more appealing than others, I strongly encourage you to take them all. Not only is there no loss, but you have the chance to win medals and overall Sweepstakes points which feel especially rewarding on tests you thought you did poorly on. Strangely, I actually enjoy the grammar test the most, call me crazy. The thing to prepare for, especially for those in lower levels of Latin, is the difficulty of some of the tests. All Latin levels take the exact same tests in each category, meaning a Latin 4 student will take the same test as a Latin Intro student. However, the catch is you will only be compared to those in your level of Latin when deciding your placement on each test, so five first place (second place, third place, etc.) awards will be given out for each level of Latin. The tests don't take an overly long time and give good feedback on Latin aspects you are good at, and others you are not. Take all of them just to be safe.

This game tests your Latin knowledge and speed all in one. Three teams of up to four members listen as the reader asks a question, and as soon as a person thinks they know the answer, they may press their buzzer. After a buzzer is pressed the speaker will stop reading the question and the person will have a short time to think to themselves (cannot confer with the team) and answer the question. Each team only gets one guess from any team member, and if they answer it wrong the question will move to the next person who buzzed. After answering a question correct a team will be awarded ten points and will get the chance to answer two bonus questions each worth five points. The team with the most points at the end wins. Now that you know the basics of the academic competitions at state, sign up for them all and enjoy!

#### Erica Flores - Secretary

## The State Convention: GRAPHIC ARTS

The graphic arts competitions at State NDJCL are a continuation of a long tradition of placing importance on artwork! As explained by Khan Academy, Roman art, like NDJCL art, was diverse: they had mosaics, paintings, sculptures and many other kinds or art involved in life, which date as far back as 509 B.C.E. In 2020 C.E., there are also many types of art that is put into competition at our state convention, some the same (like drawing and painting, handicrafts, and map making), and some different (like photography). One marked difference between ancient Roman and modern North Dakotan art is that not much is known about the individual artists behind their aesthetic and architectural artworks, while state NDJCL gives credit to the winners of our arts contests. Not only can competitors pride themselves on a job well done, but they gain points for their schools at the state-wide competition!

There's a history of making and enjoying art that spans across all of time and most cultures, and the arts competition at State is another extension of this concept! Rome and Latin offer amazing inspirations that you can take from myths, architecture, government, food, basically anything! Just make sure to pray to the muses first so that your passion and talent can shine through.

Jennifer Chao - Editor

## The State Convention: DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION

While Latin is now generally thought of as a written language and not a spoken one, Dramatic Interpretation is an event that will keep your pronunciation skills sharp and showcase your theatrical prowess! Competitors will present a short monologue in Latin. A script will be provided and can be used during the contest. Points will be given based upon pronunciation, delivery, and emotion. Dramatic Interpretation may cover a variety of topics but all are sure to be dramatic!

Theater was an important part of Roman culture. Historically, it was used as a way to express political beliefs and also as a form of entertainment. It was split into two major categories: comedy and tragedy. According to Wikipedia, it began some time around the 4th century B.C. after Rome transitioned from a monarchy to a republic. It was later refined with the addition of Greek influence.

## Anika Arifin- Webmaster

# The State Convention: FOOD & FUN

Testing, graphic arts, and dramatic interpretation are all wonderful events, but nothing is more fabulous than food and fun. Not only does food and fun bring people together but it is also apart of the underlying community of JCL. JCL provides space for people from different schools, backgrounds, and places to interact. Downtime in between events allows you to meet new people and have fun!

#### Day 1:

After registration, you may be extraordinarily hungry. Don't worry, JCL has various options to decimate your hunger. We offer you wonderful options of pizza for dinner! While your chowing down on your pizza sit down and have a conversation, you never know who you'll connect with!

Another great social activity is Ludi! Ludi is where you can participate in sports at state. Whether you're into dodgeball or board games, Ludi gives you a place to talk to others but also blossoms friendly competition. Teamwork between sides leads to fun all around for everyone!

#### Day 2:

When you wake up from yesterday's lovely first day of state JCL, you maybe famished. No problem, once you get to North High, there will be an assortment of different breakfast items for you to dine on.

While you carry through the day's activities, lunch time will be around the corner. Nibble on our assortment of sandwiches that will be provided to you. This presents you a wonderful time to socialize!

At the end of the day, we hope you have a wonderful time at State! Hopefully you are able to meet new people, eat delicious food, and overall just have a grand time!

## Austin Nelson - 1st VP

## The State Convention: SERVICE PROJECT & PENNY WARS

The State Convention is approaching quite quickly. One major event at the State Convention is the service project of the convention as well as the "Penny Wars" between the state officers. These two events are part of the service aspect of the convention and it is much more fun if people participate.

The service project of the State is able to involve everyone attending the convention. The two service projects we will be tackling this year are tie blanket making and writing letters to men snd women who are serving or have served in the military. This would involve many people and it is also a good time for delegates from all schools and chapters to meet and interact. It is the goal that many people attending intermingle and the service project can provide for an opportunity of this intermingling. When attending state, know that service projects can be fun!

"Penny Wars" is a competition between state officers that involves delegates. Each state officer will pick a charity, and delegates are free to donate to one of the state officers. These donations can either be coin money or bills. Coins are beneficial in the "Penny Wars" but bills put negative effects on the officer. When points are tallied (amount of coin money v. amount of bills) the loser has to get pied in the face at the end of the state convention.



## 67<sup>th</sup> Annual National Junior Classical League Convention

July 24-29, 2020 | University of Richmond, Richmond, VA

### Omnes...summa ope niti decet, ne vitam silentio transeant. Sallust, Bellum Catilinae 1.1

"It befits all to strive with greatest effort, lest they pass their lives in silence."

Costume Contest Characters

Male: Polyphemus Female: Cumaean Sibyl

Couples: Pygmalion and Galatea or Deucalion and Pyrrha

Spirit Themes Sat: Clamate!

Sun: VA! VA! State T-shirt Day

Mon: Purple Rain and Golden Slumbers

Tues: Arachne's Web

Dance Themes

Sat: Charlotte's Web

Sun: Summer's Spiders and Skeletons

Tues: Passing of the (Olympic) Torch

Agenda and Convention events

Jocelyn Robertson, NJCL President

president@njcl.org

Elizabeth Bouis, Convention Advisor

convention@njcl.org

University and Local Matters

All three Convention co-chairs can be reached at njcl2020ur@gmail.com.

- Debbie Brooks
- · Donna Dollings
- Sue Roberston

Registration Opens March 1, 2020 Cost

\$545 if paid by May 1 \$595 if paid by June 1

