

The Torch

April

Welcome Back!

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Opening Remarks

Salvete Omnes,

This year's National Convention theme, from the *Mostellaria* Plautus is, "*sibi quisque ruri metit*" ("*Each harvests one's own farm.*") 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 Herculean effort of the NDJCL Board. The officers have been hard at work during challenging times to get everything ready to ensure that this year's NDJCL Convention was able to happen. You will hear from many of the officers in this edition of *The Torch* regarding all of the fantastic events planned for our convention. This will be our first-ever hybrid convention and we will make the best of a difficult situation. We encourage you to attend this year's convention and to participate with an open mind. The enthusiasm of our dedicated JCL board and delegates will make this event memorable!

Spirit & Roll Call

By Adam Bitz

Because the State Convention is going to be a hybrid between in-person and online attendance, many aspects of State had to be changed or cut altogether. Unfortunately, there will be no spirit competition this year. We considered doing a video recording/submission but ultimately decided against it. On the other hand, we will be trying to do roll call semi-normally. Schools that attend in person will do their skit in person, and schools that are attending online will use zoom to stream theirs. The prizes we would normally give out for spirit will instead be given for roll call.

Colloquia

By Spring Ma

The word colloquia (colloquium) literally means “speaking together”. It can also be understood as a “conversation, or dialogue”. Every year, professors or people in the study of classics have been invited to join NDJCLers at State Convention, where they will give a 30 to 40 minute presentation regarding a certain aspect of Greek/Latin studies. Subjects range from Roman life, history, to Latin/Greek language, myth.

Now, it’s 2021, and you have probably guessed it, Colloquia will be different! This year, students from each school will stay at their own school for the entirety of the Convention. From their own schools, students will attend one Zoom meeting administered by the state board. Corresponding to the Zoom format, during Colloquia, you will see the speakers (Dr. Collins and Dr. Andreini) on Zoom video call. Although you won’t be able to see the professors in-person, the content they present will definitely be just as interesting! On Zoom, you also still have the opportunity to ask questions or interact in other ways with the speakers.

Service Project

By Laura Simmons

The service project for the 2021 ND State JCL Convention will be writing letters to those in need, such as those in nursing homes, a lonely family member, a veteran, or anyone else whom you think would benefit from a letter. Letters, especially handwritten ones, can be a great way to brighten someone's day. During these times, a little brightness can go a long way. Therefore, grab a card and your favorite pen, and get writing!

Graphic & Impromptu Arts

By Julia Ross

Submitting a graphic art piece is a great way to show off your skill and love for the Classics! There are many categories to choose from such as painting, drawing, jewelry making, and composing music. To enter, your piece must have a clear connection to Latin or the classics. You must submit a photo of your artwork to the State Convention page on the NDJCL website. During convention, there's also impromptu art. This year we will have it virtually using a painting app. The theme will be announced during state. I encourage everyone to either submit a graphic art piece or join in during the impromptu art. Not only will you have the chance to win an award, you will also have fun showing off your work!

Election Information

By Anika Arifin

The NDJCL State Convention is fast approaching and so are officer elections for next year's state board. You should highly consider running for office because as an officer you will be able to plan state convention, community projects, and different events. The positions you can apply for are as follows; President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Parliamentarian, Secretary, Historian, Editor, and Webmaster. If you would like to know more about the different obligations for each office then head over to the NDJCL constitution (Article IV) on the NDJCL website. A brief summary of the different positions;

- President: Preside over State Convention, manage board meetings, represent NDJCL at Nationals, etc.
- 1st VP: Manage committees, get publicity for JCL events, aid the president if needed, etc.
- 2nd VP: Manage spirit and volunteer/fundraising events.
- Parliamentarian: Amend and update the constitution, organize the process of running for state office.
- Secretary: Keep minutes at meetings, keep records, and handle NDJCL correspondence.
- Historian: Keep a scrapbook, take photos, etc.
- Editor: Send out and create the Torch Newsletter
- Webmaster: Maintain the NDJCL website

If you are considering to run for state office, here are the qualifications you need:

1. You must be taking Latin or have completed all Latin courses at your school to run
2. You also have to be able to serve the full term
3. You must have attended a State or National convention before (unless approved by the state board)
4. Talked to your chapter advisor about running
5. Make time to come to the board meetings and plan/attend the state convention

If you qualify please apply for state office! Please fill out the State Office Application Form which your advisors should have a link to. This is due on March 26th which is a Friday. Once this is done, you will have to give a roughly two-minute speech at the NDJCL convention about why you want to be and are a qualified individual to be a state officer. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 96179@fargoschools.org, and I hope that you consider applying for state office!

Testing Information

By Jaron Dufault

The NDJCL State Convention is one of the most fun events in the school year. You get to make new friendships, strengthen your already-existing friendships, and you get to do a ton of fun activities like impromptu art, certamen, and...testing!? Well, maybe it's not as fun as the other activities, but you can at least make it tolerable, if not a tiny bit enjoyable.

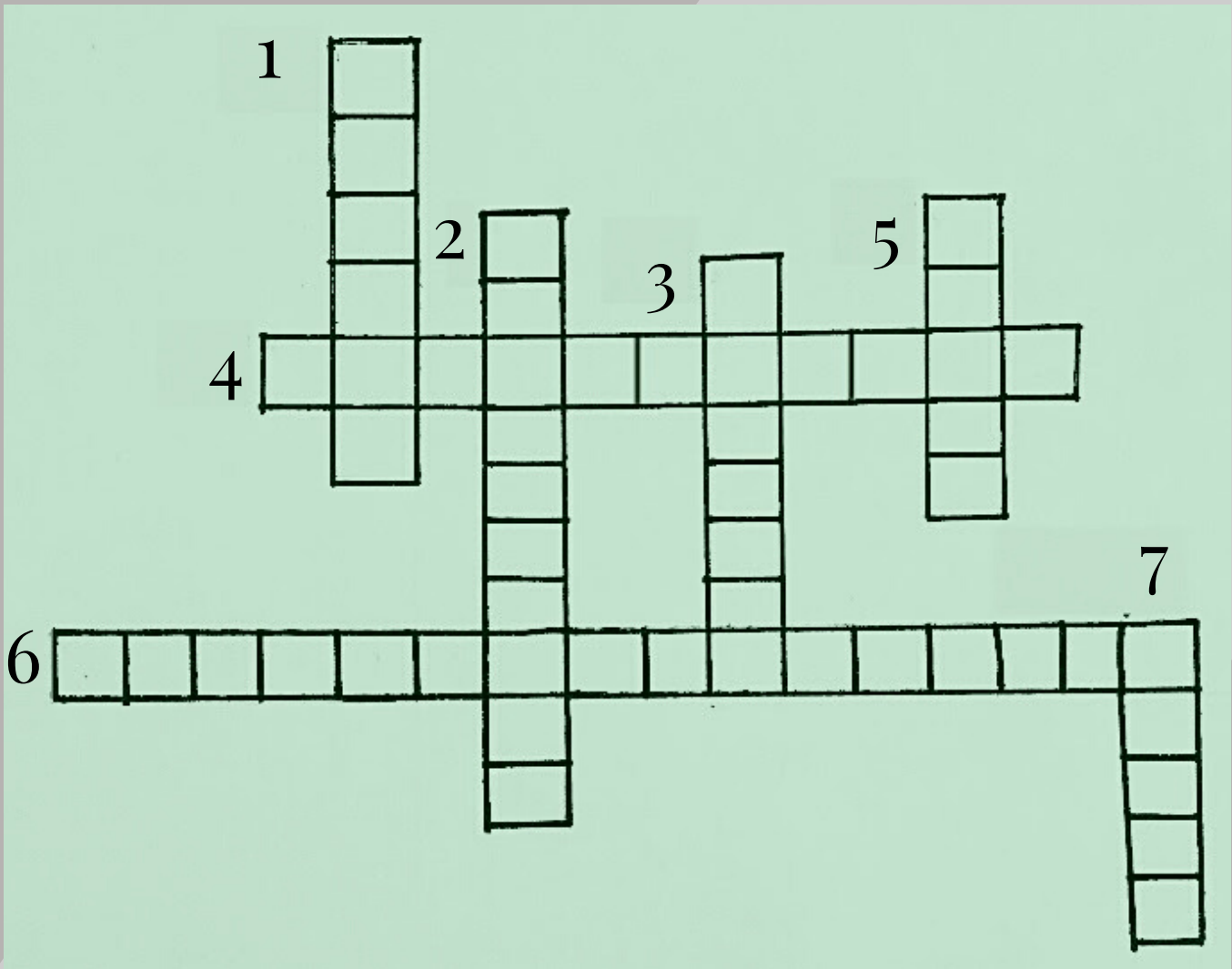
The easiest way to make your testing experience less of a burden is by picking the test subjects you enjoy the most. There are five tests available to take (Mythology, Grammar, Derivatives, History, and Roman Life & Customs), BUT you only have to take three. For me personally, since I read Percy Jackson and *mostly pay attention in class, I would pick the myth, grammar, and derivatives tests since those tests are tailored to my strengths. You might have different strengths than me, though. You could be a massive history buff and know about the million civil wars that happened over Rome's history. Or you could be fascinated by how the Romans lived and take the "Roman Life & Customs" test. Or, if you're a massive nerd (because of course you are, you're attending a Latin convention), you could take all of the tests. Just be smart about what test you're going to take.

As for the actual test taking process, it will be very similar for both the people in Mandan and on Zoom. Each test session is about 40 minutes long, where you will complete 1-3 tests, depending on how many you signed up for. All tests will be taken on Google Forms. All questions will be multiple choice. This means that even if you don't know the answer, you should guess anyways, since there's no penalty for getting a wrong answer rather than not answering the question. The highest scorers (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) will be given certificates and ribbons for their achievement(s). Other than that, there isn't really anything super specific about the tests you need to know, just general testing advice: don't cheat, stay focused, you've taken tests before. And one last piece of advice: you don't have to take these tests super seriously. These aren't going to affect your transcript. Don't get too nervous about it.

I hope these tips will make the testing at State a little less nerve-racking and a little easier. If you want a TL;DR, pick the easiest tests for you, and don't get too stressed about it.

Crossword

By Norah Johnston



Down:

- 1.If Virgil and Homer did dramatic interpretation at state they would want to compete in this category!
- 2.A carefully memorized section of interpreting material
- 3.The term for text in which one might interpret ~dramatically~
- 5.Shakespeare was NOT known for writing in this style
- 7.The way in which the interpreter presents

Across:

- 4.Latin to English, a task your magister might ask of you
- 6.The term commonly used for change of pitch or tone in ones voice

Closing Remarks

Thank you for electing me as the 2020-21 ND State JCL Editor. I've had a lot of fun writing, editing, and designing the Torch. Thanks so much for reading! Be sure to support your next editor by continuing to read and send in articles.

Laura Simmons

*thank
you*

Contact & Follow NDJCL!



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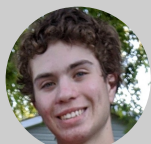
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