



# OJCL Torch

## How to Plan the Perfect MADD

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1. **Brainstorm** – Harness your brain power, and get your friends to help you. Sometimes the most creative MADDs are the most fun! Make sure there is a service agency or nonprofit who would be able to host a large and enthusiastic group of JCLers for each idea you come up with.
2. **Settle on an idea** – Choose one agency that particularly stands out to you. It could be one you've worked with before or not. Research the agency, and figure out the right person to contact.
3. **Call or email the agency representative to schedule a day** – Be flexible, some agencies are busier than others. Luckily, there are always three Saturdays on which MADD can happen. Figure out a mutually agreeable date and time, and don't forget to use your best friendly JCL manners!
4. **Make a flyer and instruction sheet** – Make sure your flyer is colorful, with the date, time, and agency's address and phone number front and center. Only the most important information belongs on the flyer; the rest of the space should be filled with fun shapes and pictures! The instruction sheet is where directions to the agency, and any special instructions (like things everyone needs to bring, or directions to dress a certain way) belong.
5. **Publicize, especially to all the lovely sponsors!** – Email the instruction sheet and flyer to a state chair, who will forward it to all the sponsors, who will tell their JCLers about the event. Also make sure to publicize the event to local news and media outlets, you never know who might want to report on it!
6. **Publicize some more, just in case people forgot** – Repeat step 5, maybe twice or three times.
7. **Have a successful and well-attended MADD!**

By Carolyn Boyce, SW Guber



*Kevin Boyce, Alex Marcellus, and Tino Delamerced help spread mulch at the Southwest Ohio Make a Difference Day.*

# The OSCL Speaks

Are you a senior? Have you ever wondered about joining the OSCL? Wonder no more!

Hey Seniors!

If you want to continue being involved with your favorite organization or give back to the wonderful SCLers and sponsors who have provided you with so much, join us! If you're at all interested in becoming an SCLer, please contact us via owl, Morse code, smoke signals, or, if you want to be incredibly lame, you can always email us, message us on Facebook, or come talk to us at convention. I promise you we're not as scary as we look!

-Elizabeth Chambers, OSCL Editor 2011-2012  
[iloverocknroll1029@gmail.com](mailto:iloverocknroll1029@gmail.com)



*This shirt's slogan, "SCL FTW," or "SCL for the win," describes the philosophy of the group well.*

## Trivia Corner!

Interested in some free Starbucks? Here's an easy way to satisfy the craving! Simply read this article's trivia question and send your answer (along with your address) to [editor@ojcl.org](mailto:editor@ojcl.org) by March 15. One lucky responder will be sent a \$5 gift card!

### This Issue's Trivia Question:

What companion of Odysseus wanted to abandon his shipmates on the island of Circe?



### Last Issue's Question:

What faithful friend of Aeneas was lost at sea in Juno's Book I fit of rage in Vergil's *Aeneid*?

**Answer:** Orontes

Congrats to last issue's winner, OJCL President Anna Delamerced!



# MADD Recaps

*Get the Skinny on Make a Difference Day Events across Ohio*

## Southwest Ohio

The afternoon of Saturday, October 29, 2011 was crisp and sunny- perfect for Latin students around southwest Ohio to come together to perform service for our community. Sixty people from eight different schools gathered at California Wood Nature Preserve in Anderson Township. There, Latin students went to work clearing trails and participating on “honeysuckle death squads.”

“You know it's going to be a tough day when it starts out with waivers,” one student commented. Gia, the naturalist on the preserve, began by showing the group what are the identifying features of honeysuckle, a non-native plant that has become invasive in this area, and by giving all present permission to “kill it and drag it off into the woods” on sight. Half of the students set to work searching out and uprooting all honeysuckle they could find, while the other half was assigned the job of clearing trails.

Gia led the crew to a trail that was identifiable as a trail only by the absence of trees. Leaves

covered the ground and no path was visible under it. Students raked the path clear of leaves in about ten minutes. Thinking this job was not as hard as Gia made it out to be, the students began to load up their wheelbarrows with mulch. However, the mulch had been rained on the previous day, and the path was steep enough that stairs were necessary at some places, and the labor rapidly became back-breaking.

Everyone finished the day exhausted, but with a feeling of accomplishment. Thanks to Latin students, the terrible reign of honeysuckle was minimized and part of a trail was mulched for winter. Though bumps and bruises were forming on most students, and one went home with a hole in her shoe and a bandaged toe, the day was a success. That old Latin phrase proves true once again: *labor omnia vincit*, “Work conquers all.”

-Kelly McBride



# MADD Recaps Ctd.

## Southeast/Central Ohio

I was very pleased with the way the southeast/central Make a Difference Day went—I think I speak for all the participants when I say that we felt a tangible sense of accomplishment at the completion of the service day. Latin students from our region met at Columbus Academy to work for Project Linus, a charitable group that produces blankets to donate to underprivileged children in local shelters and hospitals.

We accumulated massive amounts of fleece prior to the event, and during the event we measured, cut, and fringed the fleece to make blankets. The thing that really appeals to me about doing this kind of service work is that all of the blankets we made will be given to children in our area—the work gives me a real sense of community involvement.

I was very pleased with the attendance at our event. In addition to Columbus Academy students, Latin enthusiasts from Granville in addition to those from two new OJCL chapters, Wellington and Brookwood Community Learning Center, participated, meaning there were a full 30

students and quite a few sponsors sharing the work. I think this was an excellent first OJCL activity for students from the two new schools to engage in, and I want to take this space to welcome them into the JCL Family.

What excites me the most of all is the thought that this service work doesn't end with the 2011 MADD. I'm thrilled to add on further to the awesomeness that is the OJCL by hosting a service work event for Project Linus at February's convention. We've don't a lot of work on the blankets, but there are still some finishing touches that need to be made, and we're looking to involve the entire OJCL in helping with this project. More details to come at convention—can't wait to see you there!

To those sponsors and students who made this day a success: *Gratias Vobis Ago.*

See you at convention!

-SE/Central Guber Nick Grewal



*SE/Central Ohio students pose for a photo after a hard day's work.*

# MADD Recaps Ctd.

## Northwest Ohio

Salvete, Omnes!

I am your Northwest Gubernator, Charlie Baddour. I organized the northwest Make a Difference Day for October 29<sup>th</sup> and November 6<sup>th</sup>. We went to the Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland, an organization sponsored by the McDonald's company that provides food and shelter to people who are in poor conditions or who have families in the nearby hospitals of Metro Healthcare, University Hospital, and the Cleveland Clinic. At the House, we cooked and served breakfast for the people who live there, using supplies McDonalds donated to the House. After the breakfast, the workers at the House gave us a tour and shared much of the House's interesting history, not to mention the constant use the citizens of Cleveland give it.

I chose the Ronald McDonald House for MADD because it was not only close to many people in my region, but it also was a well known charity organization—one that is in constant need of help. If the House has no one to help make breakfast, lunch, and dinner, the guests eat a cold or reheated meal. When volunteers come in to help, they are able to sit back and enjoy the meal that is made.

The event was an extremely successful, because we had as many people as we could bring to the Ronald McDonald house! Everyone worked hard and enjoyed the time they spent volunteering. Going to the House ended up being an overall good MADD event, and I hope to go back and volunteer again soon!

-NW Guber Charlie Baddour



*The façade of the illustrious Cleveland Foodbank.*

## Northeast Ohio

Ten people from the Northeast region went to the Cleveland Foodbank for Make A Difference Day on October 29th. There they assisted in unpacking, checking, sorting, and labeling food to be distributed to various distribution centers across the Greater Cleveland area.

Our Make a Difference Day went very well. About half of our volunteers primarily assisted with unloading, and things ran very efficiently. Most importantly, everyone had some fun, especially with some of the items donated to the Food Bank—diapers, toys, and food that had expired over ten years ago, just to name a few.

I picked the Cleveland Food Bank for the NW MADD because it is a large supplier of food to dozens of places across the city, and helping out there could do a lot of good for the less fortunate citizens of Cleveland. I've also heard and seen things concerning the Food bank for several years, and it looked like an amazing place to volunteer. In the end, it was truly an exciting and rewarding Make a Difference Day, and I look forward to next year's event!

-NE Guber AJ Yule

# A Troy High Halloween

**One group of OJCLers says “Thanks!” to the school’s staff by painting pumpkins as a gift.**



**Above:** these students prepare to appreciate their teachers by painting Halloween-themed (and classical-themed!) pumpkins.

For the past few years, the Troy High School Latin Club has painted pumpkins as an annual activity. At this wonderful get-together, students eat food and drink sparkling cider as they and their friends have a good time, talking and painting their pumpkins. After the pumpkins are completed, they are distributed throughout the school to the teachers and secretaries as a thanks for all of their hard work. Who wouldn’t want these amazing gourds as a gift?

By Mike Gegel



**Above:** these OJCLers show their Latin spirit with a Medusa pumpkin—and she looks angry! **Above Right:** two Troy High School students display their completed pumpkin with pride.



Troy is located near cities like Dayton and Springfield on the Great Miami River.

# Tuesdays with Larry

Tuesday is one of my favorite days of the week. At 3:15 pm, while school has ended for nearly everyone else, I get to attend the last class of the day: Latin! A fellow Latin aficionado and I are able to dive into the wonderful world of the Classics with the venerable, JCL-celebrity-like teacher Mr. Dean. When he has bus/carline duty, his daughter Julia always agrees to play a mythology board game involving Latin derivatives and vocab-

ulary (perhaps we have a Classicist in the making already!).

We have recently concluded our studies on Aulus Cornelius Celsus, a pretty smart Roman encyclopedist who is known for his opus on the medicine of his day, *De Medicina*. After translating its introduction, I've gained a greater understanding on what the profession meant and still means today: it is first and foremost a vocation that serves the people and seeks to heal

the sick. Celsus may have lived around 25 BC, but he was one smart dude.

During this time, I've also brushed up on those pesky subjunctives and tricky conditionals; learned about Church hymns written by the poet Fortunatus; and took several field trips to ancient Rome (via a map hanging on the classroom wall...). I've come to appreciate Latin and the ancient world even more.

By Anna Delamerced



**Mr. Dean readies for a Certamen match with his (less enthused) teammates.**

# OJCL Spotlight: Summit

## *The Lee Retirement Home*

In light of the approaching Halloween holiday, about fifteen middle and upper school students volunteered at a Nightmare Night activity put on by a local retirement home, Marjorie P. Lee. Everyone, including the working adults, dressed up in rather creative and even funny costumes; a few memorable ones included Rachel Argo's Cruella de Vil outfit, Sam Wiser wearing a chicken suit, and Waleed Amir's Hawaiian look, which even included a grass skirt!

During the two and a half hour event, students participated in a variety of activities, such as helping to organize magic shows and guiding anxious trick-or-treaters to the residents' apartments. Many of the night's most memorable moments came from watching toddlers step



*Sam 'Chicken Man' Wiser is ready to entertain.*



*A football player trick-or-treats with a resident.*

off of the elevator in absolutely adorable outfits. One little boy ran down the hallway in search of candy wearing a Nemo suit, and a little girl in a Tyrannosaurus Rex costume even impressed us with her knowledge of dinosaurs when she said her second favorite kind was a Brachiosaurus. In a group of older boys, we overheard one boy explaining to his mother that candy was a necessity for the human species to thrive – if only that was true!

Overall, the service event at Marjorie P. Lee was an extremely successful and fun activity for the students, residents, and children and a great way to get into the Halloween spirit.

By Natalie Whitsett

# Summit Spotlight Ctd.

## *Summit Certamen Competition*

About 120 Latin students competed at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Latin Competition (Certamen) this past Saturday, October 29, 9 am – 12 noon. 19 Latin teachers served as the moderators and judges for the competition. 15 schools from the Cincinnati area participated: Summit, Indian Hill, Wyoming, Lakota East & West, McAuley, Seven Hills, Sycamore, Mariemont, Walnut Hills, Moeller, St. Xavier, Ursuline, Turpin, and Nagel.

Each school was invited to bring up to two teams per level (I, II, and Upper) with up to four players per team. There were three rounds of competition for all teams, and then the top three teams from each level participated in the Finals. Prizes — trophies, ribbons, and candy — were awarded to the top three teams.

A big thanks to the parents who brought in refreshments for the players — every scrap of food was eaten, every bottle of liquid was drained — and to the Summit Latin students who helped in the rooms by running the buzzer machines and keeping score. As my daughter Julia (who also helped out in her role as an indentured servant) likes to say, 'You guys rock!'

There were three Summit teams in Level One. Amalia Nichifor and Eliot Schiaparelli volunteered to play as a fill-in team, since 17 teams were registered and the total needs to be a multiple of three. The two seventh graders had fun and answered some ques-



*Another Summit team takes a break from the competition to pose for a photo.*

tions, and it was great for them to see some playing time. Seventh grade boys Nicholas Smith, Tullus Dean, and Christopher Samaan also had a solid showing, with a high of 80 points in one round. The veteran eighth grade team — Dustin Argo, Dylan Chambers, and Alexis Hogya — had three good rounds in the preliminary, for a total of 330, but the Indian Hill team, which had posted a whopping 515 points in the prelims, was 'on its game,' and they won the firstst place trophies. The trio of eighth graders earned third place ribbons and some tasty chocolate.

The Level Two team split in half to make the total a multiple of three. The ninth grade girls Abbey Taylor and Inessa Chandra gained some great experience in their first Certamen without the rest of the team. The ninth grade boys, Kevin Boyce and Jesse Campbell, dominated the prelims and rolled to an easy victory in the Finals. Each received his own 'Veni Vidi Vici' 1st place trophy.

The Upper Level team - Tino Delamerced, Chris Lee, and Alex Marcellus - started out the year strong with a victory in their home certamen. They were the 1st place seed heading into the Finals, and they held on to win by 30 points to earn the winning trophies.



*Kevin Boyce and Jesse Campbell pose with their trophies.*

**By Summit Teacher Larry Dean**

# Summit Spotlight Ctd.

**The Legend Speaks! Latin extraordinaire Tino Delamerced tells all about Certamen's history, strategy, and other benefits.**

In 1971, Tony Ruffia, a teacher in Richmond, Virginia, invented what some are now calling “a game greater than Angry Birds.” In 1972, the nationally acclaimed teacher Susan Schearer introduced this game at the national convention. Better than the Superbowl, better than the World Series, better than curling championships. What’s that game, you may ask? Certamen!

It is literally translated as “struggle”, and it certainly is, especially at the state and national levels. Students enthusiastic about Latin all over the nation spend countless hours studying mythology, grammar, Roman history, literature, and culture. The game requires knowledge of infinitesimal details like who is Augustus’s uncle’s daughter’s husband or what the word “quousque” (no, that’s not a typo) means. Anyone who watches the game, even teachers and professors, is amazed by how much these players know.

Certamen in Ohio is one of the most competitive in the nation. At state convention, you can always expect a tight match. Last year in the Level 2 finals, McAuley, Mariemont, and Summit were only 5 points away from each other going into the last question, meaning that the final question determined who won the match. As a matter of fact, certamen matches are also entertaining. I fondly remember one match in which a certain player answered “Pupienus” (pronounced “poo-pea-AY-nous”) as a joke for a history question and actually got it right.

So this is what I want you to do. Study Latin; go to a local certamen; and win. At state convention: stop that game of ninja; put down that guitar; and get your fundus (bottom) to a certamen match. Watching people play certamen is like watching “Inception” except you understand what’s going on.



*Summit Upper Level Team (left to right) Alex Marcellus, Tino Delamerced, and Chris Lee with their most recent trophies.*

Playing certamen is a dream within a dream. Within a dream. Another bonus: if you play certamen, then you can be my friend.

Advice for players? Overall, watch out for Shaker Heights, McAuley, Summit, and Indian Hill. Each of these schools has had experience at national convention and has won a state championship before. More advice? Just ask the moon dolphins.

By Tino Delamerced

**Want your club in the spotlight?**  
Tell us what you're doing! Send articles to [editor@ojcl.org](mailto:editor@ojcl.org) and show the OJCL just how cool your school is.