



OJCL Torch

Latin Love: It's Contagious

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This past week, I've been procrastinating my spring break homework by doing Latin things, as I often do. After finishing the translation for the last 2 books of the Aeneid on the plane ride home, I realized that I had just completed the last Latin task of my high school career. Shutting out the man whose girth intruded into my seat on my right, and the girl with clearly intense fear of flight on my left, I began to look back on my time in the OJCL and reflect on what I've experienced. Here's what my mind settled on:

Anyone who has tried to explain the heart of Latin obsession to an unaffected friend knows the difficult nature of the task. One inevitably runs into the argument involving the "dead" nature of Latin and the supposed corollary that we shouldn't give it our attention.

Well, that's just fine if it's dead, my friends, because Latin is like a virus. Viruses are not alive, but ask anyone affected by one and they'll tell you that something doesn't



Just a few of the infected parties at this year's convention (Reilly Sullivan, Alex Patterson, Carolyn Boyce, Giana Dawood, and Anna Delamerced).

have to be alive to matter in your life. Like any good lysogenic virus, once you catch the Latin bug from someone, it's in your DNA forever. And it must be a resistant supervirus, because as Vergil once put it, the disease only worsens with treatment. I was exposed to Latin freshman year, and no matter how many times I sought to release all the pent up excitement each convention, Latin fever would only come back stronger each year. It all matches up! We classicists are united by

the bond of our common symptoms, proving that we truly have a symbiotic relationship with our syndromes. Because of our shared interests, I have developed friendships with people across the state and country, lived and learned with people I would not have even met otherwise, and generally became part of a community filled with support and encouragement.

We are part of a family with crazy tendencies that can have some crazy fun times. But we cannot (Cont. page 2)



The 2011-2012 OJCL Board spreads the love with a spontaneous dance break—just one symptom of loving the classics.

(Cont. from page 1) forget our debt to the symbiosis we share with Latin. As a virus, Latin cannot self-replicate; that is, it relies on us hosts to pass on the spirit of the classics. Although Latin controls us, we control its spread, and how its image evolves in the community. Latin is systemic within all of us, so we know its benefits. It is up to us to carry the torch of classical civilization to the public and to create the next generation of Latin hosts.

So keep studying and doing that service, OJCL, and keep spreading our virus in person, through the airwaves and in newsletters. Latin isn't alive, but it is growing within all of us, and it mandates that we grow our community. Who knows, maybe one happy day we will have a world completely populated by Latin zombies. What a wonderful apocalypse that would be.

Article by Tom Carroll

Don't forget to submit your article to the OJCL Torch! Just send it to editor@ojcl.org

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 by May 15. One lucky responder will be sent a \$5 gift card!

This Issue's Trivia Question:

What beloved dedicatee of Diana was shot across a river on a spear to avoid being killed?

Last Issue's Trivia Answer:

Eurylochus was the sleazy crew member of Odysseus.



“Hello” from New Officers!

President Heather Smith:

Salvete amici! If I were a kitchen utensil, I'd be a rubber spatula, because I like to spread the love. Likewise, I plan on spreading my love of the Classics throughout Ohio this year. I want to thank you all again for voting me OJCL president for the 2012-2013 term. Ever since my very first convention I have had a passion for not only the Classics, but the OJCL. From singing Backstreet Boys before testing to listening to all the scores of your tests and projects, you never cease to amaze me. I look forward to leading you all this year and can't wait to see you all again!



Heather poses with Cars character Lightning McQueen.

1st VP Nick Grewal:



Nick's cheesin' for the camera in this handsome pic.

Hello OJCL! You may remember me from this year's convention, but if not, I'm Nick Grewal, formerly the Central region Gubernator and presently your First Vice President. You guys are very, very lucky: this year is going to be a great year to be an OJCLer. The executive board has just appointed an awesome team of Gubernators, with whom I will be working closely to fulfill my goals for this office. Your Gubernators and I are going to keep you engaged throughout the year by making sure that get-togethers, service events, certamen meets, and combinations of these happen in abundance. We will also be contacting Latin teachers around the state that have yet to join the OJCL asking for their participation in our events. So, I ask but one thing of you: Attend these awesome events! And get excited for a wonderful year of the Ohio Junior Classical League. I hope to see you at Nationals!

2nd VP Alex Might:

Hey OJCL! I have been taking Latin for two years and have loved every second of it! The JCL community may be the biggest family I've ever been a part of, but it's a family nonetheless. I can't wait to have an awesome year with you guys and to build on the awesome things that have already been done by 2nd VPs in years past! The only things that come close to my love for Latin are singing, playing guitar, and playing piano.



Kitties are also up there on Alex's favorite things.

Officers' "Hello!" Ctd.



Tino likes Latin...too much?

Secretary Tino Delamerced:

Salvete! I'm Tino Delamerced, but most people call me General Maximus III. Secretary's definitely the coolest position, so you guys should try to run for it next year! To be honest, Latin is basically my life, and I love studying anything Classics-related, whether it's Greek mythology, Roman history, or the Latin language itself. I also need to mention that the JCL makes taking Latin even better. I've met and become friends with a myriad (look at that Greek derivative right there) of people involved in the JCL and have so much fun at local events like certamens and state and national conventions. I hope I'll see you at convention!

Parliamentarian Bobby McDonald:

Salvete omnes! I want to thank you for electing me to the 2012-2013 OJCL Parliamentarian position! I'm 16 years old, and I am a Junior at the Columbus Academy. I love the classics, especially Roman history and culture. I love convention more than anything, and my favorite memory from this past year's convention was the vicious battle between the Columbus Academy upper level certamen team and Westlake. We tied, if anyone was wondering the result. I am looking forward to this year, and I can't wait to spend it with you all! See you at nationals!



Bobby (left) and Tyler Heist at nationals! Feel the parliamentary power!



Muhammad gives the camera his signature half-growl, half-smile.

Treasurer Muhammad Patel:

Hey classy classicists! If I could adopt any exotic animal, I would adopt a panda, because pandas are incredibly adorable creatures, second only to former NJCL President Elliot Wilson. This year as your new OJCL Treasurer I hope to, with your assistance, of course, receive an award for spirit this year at nationals. It will take a lot of screaming and yelling, but I am quite confident that we can do it! So get ready, bring your screaming voices and most of all, get excited!

Officers' "Hello!" Ctd.

Historian Becky Steffen:

Greetings fellow JCLers! I'm so happy that I have been chosen as Historian for the 2012 - 2013 OJCL Executive board! All of you classicists are incredibly hilarious, and that is part of the reason I joined Latin. I love everything about this crazy language (most of the time...grammar is hard...). I do hope to make a exquisite scrapbook for the upcoming year. As for a fun fact, I really quite enjoy making cupcakes with brightly colored frosting, and then eating them!



Becky is contemplative.



Regina, enjoying spring for the short time it lasts in Ohio.

Torch Editor Regina Merrill:

Hello everyone! I'm Regina Merrill and I am the 2012-2013 Torch Editor. I love everything about the OJCL, the spirit, the community, and of course all the classy classicists! Besides Latin, I love singing, playing the piano, writing, and penguins. I mean, they waddle *and* are permanently in tuxedos. I'm so excited to be a part of this year's board, and can't wait to bring Latin news to the OJCL through the Torch and see everyone at Convention!

NW Gubernator Ryan Thaxton:

Hello everybody, my name is Ryan Thaxton and I am your Northwest Gubernator for 2012-13. When I first started Latin I didn't expect it to become so important in my life, but now I can't get enough of it! I have learned so much through Latin itself, and the OJCL has given me so many great experiences and has allowed me to meet many new friends. I'm excited to begin working with the rest of the executive board and I hope you are all as excited as I am for Wake Forest, and of course, the next state convention.



Ryan, with the lovely Tom Carroll in the background.

Officers' "Hello!" Ctd.



Bowties are awesome.

NE Gubernator Narayan Sundararajan:

Salvete OJCL!

I'm Narayan Sundararajan, but y'all can call me Nar-Nar (but really, any nickname suffices). I'm so excited to serve you as Northeast Gubernator! When I was introduced to Latin and OJCL, I was so amazed by the number of people who loved Latin as much as I do (on that day, I literally had a nerd spaz attack), and from then on I set out to give back to the organization that has kept the classics alive and given me so much. This year as Guber, I plan on bringing as many people as I can to experience the awesomeness of OJCL and also to make this year's MADD the best one ever! Nar-Nar Fun Fact: My favorite word? Blubber. Just say it. Bluuubbberrr. Valete!

SW Gubernator Lauren Salem:

Hi! I'm Lauren, your Southwest Guber, and number one on my bucket list is to cuddle with a panda cub, and my goal in life is to be the voice of a Disney princess. Panda cubs are adorable, but my love for the OJCL and all its members definitely tops them. As your 2012-2013 Southwest Gubernator I can't wait to plan all sorts of fantastic shenanigans for you guys! The OJCL has always been a place of warmth and fun for me and I hope my love for it translates through to all of you. I can't wait to get started and see all your shining faces again!



Not a panda, but close enough...right?



Will, presumably on a boat?

SE/Central Gubernator Will Emery:

My name is Will Emery and I am proud to be representing the Central District as Gubernator. As a freshman at Granville High School, I have attended one OJCL convention and found that the people are great and the organization is excellent. I look forward to spreading the word about the Junior Classical League and developing our community service projects. One fun fact about me is while in Florida, I met both the president and owner of Lego.

Franklin Pierce HS: An Ode

Ever wondered about the darker side of the OJCL? Ever wondered what OJCL officers do while you're sleeping? Here's your answer to both! This article was written by the officers for this year's Convention Ear about fictional OJCL chapter Franklin F. Pierce High School.

New chapter Franklin F. Pierce High School (you may not have heard about it, it's kind of underground) is definitely set to win this year's OJCL Convention in terms of overall points, per capita points, and Certamination. This new school, with 24.7 (including tax) delegates and 2 sponsors and chaperones, is making waves (or fluctus undae) at the Ramada Plaza hotel in Columbus (from the Latin word "Columba" meaning dove?) during this year's Convention. FFP is very active in the service sphere as well, with several projects devoted to helping individuals affected by Tom Carroll Disease (Optimus Panis Syndrome) and severe Sinisteria (left-handedness).

Although unknown to most of the Convention world, FFP is set to dominate because of their intense studying regimen. Students are fitted with experimental electrodes, and whenever they get a question wrong, 10,000 volts of alternating current are sent coursing their veins. As a result, students have learned to remember everything—or else. This training regimen borrows heavily from the method used by Larry Dean to train Ohio Certamen players, and it has proven to be highly effective and only mentally scarring in 64% of cases.

Were you aware that the great, great, great-grandfather of Abderus was Uranus? FFP knows this. Were you aware that the meaning of life is now 57, when accounting for inflation? FFP figured this out long ago.

For those of you that don't know, FFP is in Chillicothe, otherwise known as the chili con carne capitol of the upper Midwest. If you want to try some, then feel free to stop by room 586 and simply knock the beat to "Bad Boys" on the door and they will open it! Mmm.

Due to the potentially dangerous inner-city location of FFP, many of the delegates wear ten-



Chillicothe: actually a real historical place in Ohio.

nis racket cases on their heads for protection. This is not for physical protection, but rather is an identifier to their membership in "the racketeers," which has an entirely different, non-JCL meaning to inner city Chillichothites.

An unknown hobby of the FFPers is hoarding of the Peruvian River Goat, which is sacred to Uranus. The river goat has dwelled in the mountains of Chillicothe for over one month. Before that, they were inhabitants of the Izreelyneedzslep mountains until the Chillicothe residents claimed them as their own. The blood of the goat is used for the fuel of the FFP generators to conduct electricity for the alternating currents of voltage. I am tired.

Love,
Your officers at 4:41 am. #Pleaseletmesleep.

Old Officers Say Vale

Your Beloved Officers Say Their Final Farewells

President Anna Delamerced

Dear OJCL Family,

Thank you for all the memories. From massive toga parties to late night pizza sessions to dancing to “Single Ladies” on stage, these past several years have been amazing. Because of all of you, I’ve been changed for the better. I’d like to leave you with a quote, something a good friend of mine once told me: “What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from” (T.S. Eliot). Keep in touch! If you’re ever in the New England area, contact me!

Love,
Anna



Anna hanging out at Brown—
Class of 2016, leggooo!



Maddie poses with Cincinnati's
Romulus and Remus statue! Latin!

2nd VP Maddie Briner

Dearest OJCL,

This is not my final farewell. I'm going to come back for future conventions as a SCL-er, and even after that as a Latin teacher! Although I haven't picked a college yet, my major has been set in stone since the 7th grade! My undying passion for this language is due to each and every JCL-er ever. I love that I can go to any convention and feel like I belong because I know that we all have the same love for this dead language, and I know that love will continue long past my time. Keep the torch burning, OJCL!

Vale,
Maddie

Parliamentarian Tom Carroll

Well OJCL, it's been a wonderful four years. I met too many awesome people to talk about here, but I want to thank everyone who contributes to our beloved organization. I will soon move on to Rice University to major in (Deo volente!) classical studies and biochemistry, where I'll be helping with various Latin events like their annual Owl Certamen (if anyone would like to visit Rice or compete, Facebook me!). Of course, I'll always love the OJCL, and you'll still see me around at conventions as part of the indispensable SCL. Remember to keep the spirit of our last convention alive; become the next leaders to carry the Torch of the classics in our world! Keep it classy, guys.

Imo de pectore,
Tom Carroll



The wild Tom Carroll in his natural habitat.

Old Officers Say Vale

Your Beloved Officers Say Their Final Farewells

NE Guber

Charlie Baddour

Sadly, I must bid goodbye to all of you, the OJCL. I loved holding my officer position, for the simple fact that it meant helping the Classics grow. I loved the JCL because it was like a family, and it was made of my other love, Latin. While I am not continuing my state positions, I will hopefully be on my local board, further serving the JCL. Thank you, and I shall see you all at Nationals and many state conventions to come!

Valete My Friends,
Charlie



Charlie and his dog, Snickers, pierce souls with their eyes.



Like a true Roman, Susan is greatly fond of arches!

Torch Editor

Susan Wallace

My Beloved OJCL,

Oh, how I hate to say goodbye to you! The OJCL has been a constant source of joy and inspiration for me throughout the last five years, and even as I leave Ohio to attend Saint Louis University, I feel confident that I will take the friendly hand of the JCL with me! It has been a true delight serving as the *Torch* editor, and I would encourage every Latin student to run for a position; the OJCL officers are truly the classiest of classicists. I will really miss the JCL and particularly you people; may the fates bring us together again some day!

Cum Amore,
Susan "Licentia" Wallace

Secretary

Elizabeth Boor

Dearest OJCLers,

I can't believe that it's time for me to say my final goodbye. It has been a truly wonderful experience getting to know you all over the past several years and an honor to be elected secretary. I strongly encourage you to run for office, I promise that you won't regret it. It's a fantastic learning experience and you will meet some truly wonderful people (I know that I have!). Also... please, please, please go to nationals! I'd love to have another chance to see your lovely faces.

Valete Omnes,
Elizabeth Boor



Elizabeth poses with the one and only Roman Forum!

Old Officers Say Vale

Your Beloved Officers Say Their Final Farewells

Historian

Maggie Gray

Hello OJCL!

My name is Maggie Gray, and this past year I served as your Historian. While it is sad to see this year pass, I am also very excited for this upcoming school term. I will be a senior at Madeira High School and will continue to participate in all of the activities that the OJCL has to offer. I will be the drum captain in the band, as well as being on Madeira's varsity tennis team and serving as the National Honor Society President. This year I also plan to apply and (hopefully!) get accepted into college. I look forward to another great year in the Ohio Junior Classical League!

Yours,
Maggie Gray



Maggie is very excited about Marching Band!



Green plaid and a yellow tie: outfit of champions.

1st VP

Mark Samaan

Χαίρέ!

This is Mark Samaan, your 2011-2012 OJCL 1st Vice President. It's been a short year; I can't believe how quickly everything went by! Over the past year, I directed MADDs all over the state and help coordinate events with SW Guber Carolyn Boyce here in the SW Ohio region. Also, two new schools came to the State Convention this year; new members are always welcome! I hope to see all of you this summer at Nationals at Wake Forest University!

Love,
Mark Samaan

SW Guber

Carolyn Boyce

Salvete amici,

Although my term as Southwest Gubernator is sadly over, I am so happy for all the great memories I have made over the past year with the OJCL. My experience with this organization has been everything I wanted it to be and more, and that is thanks to many people, including my teachers, my parents, and of course all of you! Next year I plan to continue my study of the classics at New York University. But first, I can't wait to have a blast at Wake Forest this summer! No matter where I am or where I end up, I will always be a proud alumna of the OJCL.

Ex animo,
Carolyn Boyce



Carolyn poses with a column. Romans like columns too!

National Convention

Thinking about attending Nats? Here's all you need to know.

Date: Thursday, July 26—Tuesday, July 31

Place: Wake Forest University,
Winston-Salem, NC

Cost: \$475 before May 1—\$525 After May 1

Fact: National Convention will be the best week of your life. Don't miss out on this awesome opportunity!

More Info: www.njcl.org

National Convention: the pinnacle of every year. At my first nationals, I was just appointed NE gubernator and scared out of my mind. What would it be like? Like OJCL, but bigger? Would I struggle to make friends? I mean, jeez, the only people I knew were those from Shaker and a handful of other OJCLers. Once I sat in that first General Assembly, it all came together. I was screaming my head off in spirit, racking my brain for the answers for the Hep-tathlon, and of course, playing ninja. The making friends was not a problem, because everyone was so incredibly friendly. It also didn't hurt that I had a "Free Hugs" shirt. I had the best week of my life that week, and the year after topped that. This year, when I attend the new best week of my life, I invite you all to join me in screaming, thinking, and playing. Not only will you be having the experience of a lifetime, you'll challenge yourself with tests, projects, and ludi. Venite ad Conventionem. You'll have a blast!

Invitation by Heather Smith



The sunny campus of Wake Forest University. In the words of Liz Lemon, "I want to go to there!"

OJCL Convention Results

How You Fared at Convention This Year

Overall Club Sweepstakes

1. Summit Country Day
2. Shaker Heights HS
3. Madeira HS
4. Indian Hill
5. West Geauga HS
6. McAuley HS
7. Wyoming HS/MS
8. Seven Hills
9. Westlake HS
10. Lakota West HS
11. Sycamore
12. Columbus Academy
13. Walnut Hills
14. Medina HS
15. St. Edward HS

Graphic Arts Overall:

1. Tino Delamerced, Summit
2. Austin Webb, Medina
3. Drew Galletta, Lakota West
4. Maddie Briner, Wyoming
5. Bette Hopkin, Madeira
6. Emily Haussler, Summit
7. Elisa Stanis, Summit
8. Nisha Shabbir, Summit
8. Kelly McBride, Summit
10. Grace Jacobsen, McAuley

Creative Arts Overall:

1. Emily Haussler, Summit
2. Susan Wallace, Madeira
3. Andrew Zhang, Columbus Academy
4. Tom Carroll, Westlake
5. Burke Evans, Madeira
5. Evan Doran, Mariemont
7. Nick Kumar, Sycamore
7. Hannah Barrett, Shaker Heights
9. Alexander Marcellus, Summit
9. Alex Baggott, Seven Hills

Individual Overall:

1. Tino Delamerced, Summit
2. Tom Carroll, Westlake
3. Sameer Apte, Shaker Heights
4. Emily Haussler, Summit
5. Terry Conlon, Shaker Heights
6. Ben Robertson, Shaker Heights
7. Adam Sichel, Indian Hill
8. Kelly McBride, Summit
8. Chris Baggott, Seven Hills
8. Alex Baggott, Seven Hills
11. Claire Romaine, Seven Hills
11. Kathleen Heinbach, Indian Hill
13. Ezra Zigmond, Shaker Heights
14. Narayan Sundararajan, Shaker Heights
14. Maddie Briner, Wyoming

Academic Per Capita

1. West Geauga HS—23.68
2. Shaker Heights HS
3. Seven Hills
4. Summit Country Day
5. St. Edward HS
6. Westlake HS
7. Indian Hill
8. Walnut Hills
9. McAuley HS
10. Lakota East HS
11. Columbus Academy
12. Lakota West HS
13. Turpin HS
14. Sycamore
15. Madeira HS

Overall Club Sweepstakes

1. Summit Country Day
2. Shaker Heights HS
3. Madeira HS
4. Indian Hill
5. West Geauga HS
6. McAuley HS
7. Wyoming HS/MS
8. Seven Hills
9. Westlake HS
10. Lakota West HS
11. Sycamore
12. Columbus Academy
13. Walnut Hills
14. Medina HS
15. St. Edward HS

Academic Individual Overall:

1. Sameer Apte, Shaker Heights
2. Terry Conlon, Shaker Heights
3. Adam Sichel, Indian Hill
4. Ben Robertson, Shaker Heights
4. Tom Carroll, Westlake
6. Stephanie Striegel, West Geauga
6. Kathleen Heinbach, Indian Hill
8. Ezra Zigmond, Shaker Heights
9. Claire Romaine, Seven Hills
10. Tino Delamerced, Summit



Congratulations to all convention participants! It was a wonderful weekend!