

OJCL Torch

Edited by Dustin Argo

HAVING YOUR DAD AS A LATIN TEACHER: THE STRUGGLE IS REAL!

By Tullus Dean, Parliamentarian

Only a few people in the JCL can understand the struggle of having a Latin teacher as a parent, so it's a little hard to explain. Several of you are probably saying "I wonder what that's like? My parent has some other normal job." So let me try to explain.

Have you ever had your friends over to your house, and had your parents get out the family scrap books? If you have I would imagine you felt embarrassed. This same feeling happens to me whenever a classically historical event reminds my father of me during class and he just has to tell the story to the whole class! [aliquo]



Tullus with his Dad, Mr. Dean

Here's another example: It's seven in the morning, and I'm on my way to school. I'm tired and irritated that I have to be at school so early to make up work for other classes because of Convention. My dad turns and starts talking to me about how dirty my room is, how my grades are slipping, and how he is annoyed that he has to drive me to school at seven in the morning. Soon, an argument develops. In this situation you probably would only have to put up with it for a few minutes, and you could run out of the car to get to class. But here's my struggle: my first bell is Latin. And now I have to put up with the awkwardness of my dad calling on me after an argument. He asked for the third person singular, imperfect indicative of amare, and I grudgingly replied "amabat."

There are so many more examples of this struggle, but maybe my sister can talk about it when she becomes an officer.

Keeping it *Classy* in College

By Lindsey Dierig, Treasurer

Miami University

Located in Oxford, Ohio, Miami is one of the few schools in the nation that offers the major of Classical Humanities along with Latin Teacher Education and Classics. In-state tuition is around **\$11,270** per year.

Oberlin College

Just outside of Columbus, Oberlin is a small school which offers many opportunities to travel abroad. Oberlin has unique degree options in Greek and Latin literature along with Classics, setting it apart from other Ohio schools. In-state tuition is around **\$44,512**.

University of Cincinnati

Located in the center of Cincinnati, UC has one of the largest Classics libraries in the United States and has one of the most active archeological programs in the world. UC also has one of the most active Classics Clubs in the state. In-state tuition averages around **\$9,124** a year.



Ohio Wesleyan University

Located in Delaware, Ohio, Ohio Wesleyan is a small private school which offers specialized degrees for Classic by itself, or combined with Greek or Latin. Instate tuition averages around **\$38,890** per year.

Xavier University

Located in Cincinnati, Xavier is a Catholic college which offers a host of opportunities for studying abroad in Greece. In-state tuition for Xavier is around **\$31,140**.

Ohio State University

Located in Columbus, Ohio, Ohio State is one of the largest colleges in the United States and has one of the largest OSCL Chapters. They offer majors both the Classics and Modern Greek. In-state tuition is around **\$9,168** per year.

Harvard University
\$37,576



Yale University
\$42,300



Princeton University
\$38,650



Columbia University
\$45,028



Stanford University
\$41,250



Gladiators! Roman Celebrities?

By Adelaide Tsueda, Summit Country Day

I recently read an article about a gladiator mosaic found just outside a Roman Villa that had belonged to Emperor Commodus (b. 161 - d. 192). Most likely, because of where it's located, this mosaic was of a star in the gladiator world — someone highly admired by Commodus, who reigned with his father, Marcus Aurelius, for three years and for another 12 on his own. To be honest, the art is not that fantastic. I mean, it might win some points at convention, but it's really only considered notable because it doesn't depict a mythological image, but a perfectly valid image of an actual, impressive soldier: he's down on one knee (doing an early version of the "Tebow"!) and holding a trident. It's inscribed "Montanus," which historians believe is the gladiator's name. Since his name is included, it's deduced that this individual must have been quite special! I found the entire article very interesting because you easily see the parallels between these gladiators and modern-day sports stars. The mural is an early piece of fan art like, for example, a football fan who hangs a poster of a favorite player (let's say, Joe Montana?) on a "man cave" wall. If Commodus were alive today, he'd probably be collecting Montanus's team jerseys! It's a very interesting perspective....



Gladiator Mosaic

Southwest Ohio Service Recap

By Sara Zandvakili, Southwest Gubernator

This past fall, the OJCL made a great impact through several service events. Not only did many southwest Ohio Latin students attend the Make a Difference Day, but many also participated in other events and small projects. At the Summit Country Day Certamen, students created over 100 Halloween-themed cards between rounds which surely brightened the day of many hospitalized children. The next weekend, more than 40 students combined forces to participate in the "Out of the Darkness" walk at Sawyer Point for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. As a group, the OJCL raised \$1000, doubling our goal of \$500. Of course, to end autumn the OJCL way, Cincinnati Latin students, equipped with their shovels and clippers, got to work exterminating honeysuckle and mulching a trail at the California Woods Nature Preserve on Make a Difference Day. Many people also came to McCauley's "Togathalon" which was very successful. The amount of effort OJCLers brought forth to serve their community and help others this year was astonishing and will only continue to grow. A round of applause to Latin students for giving back so much this year!

Introducing the House Cup

by Jason Long , Madeira



Madeira High school Emblem

Last year the Madeira Junior Classical League was named the largest Latin club in the state of Ohio. Although the delegation is already composed of very spirited members, the Senatus (Local club leadership) decided that we would try to add more enthusiasm and participation to our club events. How might we do this with 120 members? Our aediles, Ben Elsbrock and Michael Shull, came up with a great way to excite the Madeira JCL for a new year of events with the House Cup.

The House Cup is a system in which all five levels of Latin, and former Latin students, who we call the amici, are competing for a prize: a food party provided by the Senatus, and the privilege of getting the first servings of food at all club events (the most important reward, of course). Levels are rewarded points for attendance at events, bringing a number of cans in during the Canned Food Drive, winning games we play at our events, having a winning team in the Turkey Bowl (a Certamen competition near Thanksgiving), participating in Certamen, attending convention, and contributing to group projects. Members will soon also be rewarded for their points in the Olympics, which will take place later this spring. Levels, however, can also lose their points for misbehavior or not participating in the Club Project.

The standings are updated on the bulletin board in the Latin room for everyone to see! AP Latin V, with the most creative house name APLATypus, is currently in the lead with 724 points (they will most likely be the winners). This system has proven to be successful in increasing attendance; the Senatus hopes that it remains this way and keeps a friendly competition between the Latin levels for many more years to come.



Ra'ad Dawod

OJCL Convention

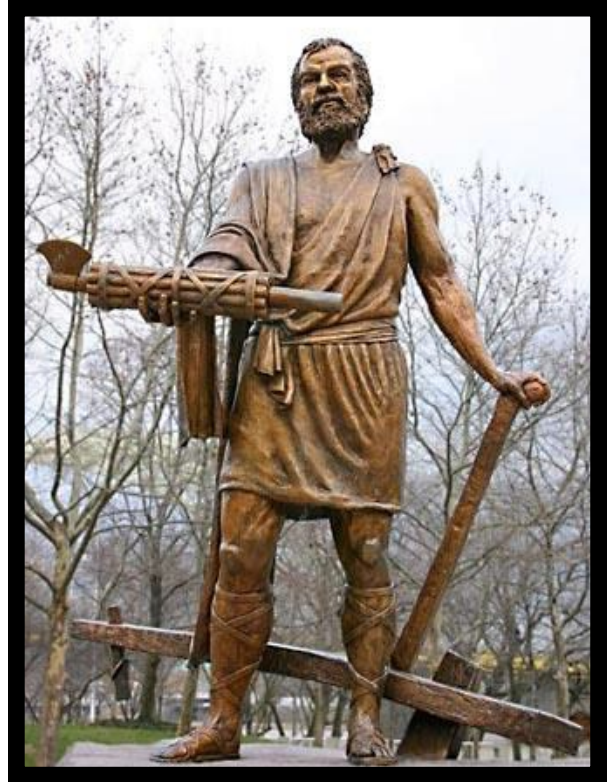
By Ra'ad Dawod, 1st Vice President

Ahhh, do you hear that ? It sounds like a bunch of JCLers screaming and yelling! I've heard of this event, but not sure what it is exactly.... Oh wait that's right ! It's the Ohio Junior Classical League state convention! It is approaching us rapidly, and there is so much to look forward to! I advise all of you to be on the lookout for a great time at convention. I hope to see as many of you as possible there! It will be fun, and you will never forget it.

Latin in Cincinnati

by Jennifer Fohl, McCauley High School

Latin is everywhere, but it is especially abundant in McCauley's home city, Cincinnati! You don't have to look any further than the name! This character-filled city is named after Lucius Quinctius Cincinnatus, a Roman farmer and military leader. He became a dictator of Rome and led the Roman army against the Aequi, (enemies of Rome), defeating them in an incredibly fast manner. After 16 days as dictator of Rome, he honorably resigned and happily returned to his farm. What a great man to have as our city's namesake! This statue of Cincinnatus is located at Sawyer Point. We have all heard of the Italian fascist, Benito Mussolini, but many of you don't know of his ties to Cincinnati. He admired Cincinnatus and his wonderful leadership, and he even saw himself as the



A Statue of Cincinnatus in Cincinnati



Another Statue in Cincinnati of Romulus and Remus

“new Cincinnatus,” although they obviously acted differently in terms of being dictators. In hopes of achieving harmony with as many places around the world as possible, he sent a gift to our city in hopes of connecting us in his “new Rome,” a bronze statue of Lupa nursing Romulus and Remus, the founders of Rome. This statue, a replica of the famous “Capitoline Wolf” in Rome, still stands in Eden Park.

HOW TO SUCCEED AT CONVENTION

(A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE)

By Hannah Barrett, Historian

Is it your first time attending OJCL Convention? Are you ready to enter the competitive arena of the JCL? If so, you're in the right place! But don't be shocked: studying endlessly into the darkest hours of night is not the only way to succeed at convention! In truth, the most successful JCL competitors know their strengths and just how to use them.

Step 1: Browse the list of OJCL Contests. You've got your Academic Tests, Graphic Arts, and Creative Arts. What are you good at? What are you passionate about? Which contest seems right for you?

Step 2: Once you've decided which contests you'd like to enter, make a list and start to plan! Just what mythological scene will be the object of your ink drawing? Which books and old tests can you use to prepare for testing sessions? How will you craft your Apollo and Daphne monologue?

Step 3: Consider your list. The most competitive contests might not be worth your while if your end goal is a pile of ribbons and a trophy. If you want to consolidate your list of possible entries, try looking into less competitive contests. ****NOTE:** Traditional and Computer-Enhanced Photography are easily the most competitive categories in Graphic Arts. Try something like ceramics or textiles if you want to make a splash in the Graphic Arts contests!

Step 4: Now that you've made your list of contest entries, pick another contest! Which contest have you always wanted to try? Maybe pick a contest that no one at your school has ever competed in before! If you're an avid test taker, maybe try a graphic arts project, as well!

Step 5: Ask other members of your club for advice. If you're entering a contest for the first time, you might want some guidance from a fellow JCLer who has competed before. They might have a few ideas for that monologue of yours, as well.

Step 6: Start creating! Start studying! You can never begin preparation too soon. Remember, convention is just around the corner in March!

Step 7: Be confident in your entries. You might not be the strongest test taker or painter, but hard work always pays off. If you own that Dramatic Interpretation, the judges will definitely notice! Small schools can be just as competitive as large schools! Everyone has a chance at OJCL Convention. That's what makes it so wonderful.

The “Real” Convention Packing List

By Tim Goldenberg, Central Gubernator

As you all know, Convention is just around the corner! The panic that you haven't hit your quota of projects yet is just starting to set in. However, what can create even more panic is not being adequately prepared for Latin Convention and all of its sleepless revelry. Keep reading for your quintessential list of Latin Convention items, foods, and other various necessities:

- MREs – They will taste gourmet when you think about sack lunches.
- A SuperWhoLock Reference Guide to figure out what the thousands of campaign posters and dozens of General Assembly speeches are talking about.
- A Sleeping Bag, for when your roommates point you to the very appealing floor.
- Your 3DS. Get those friend codes!
- Business Cards, because it's never too early to network.
- Caffeinated beverages, because “sleep, what sleep?”
- At least 2-3 Textbooks on assorted subjects, so you can tell yourself you'll actually study for stuff at Convention, even though you know you won't.
- Safety Pins. Although we in the JCL enjoy and appreciate Roman Traditions, we try to avoid emulating their customs regarding public undress.
- A professional looking legal pad for your OJCL President Will Emery cosplay.
- Money, whether it be for the vending machines, or for the Donation Jugs.
- An acoustic instrument with which to make everybody your fan.

Now that you've read this list, you're ready to jump into the world of Latin Convention, JCLer! Your very own JCL Convention Adventure is about to unfold. A world of dreams and adventures with Latin awaits. Let's go!



Spirit at OJCL Convention

How to Make the Most of Your OJCL Experience

(That One Unnecessarily Serious Article in the Torch)

By Will Emery, President

I have reached my Marcus Aurelius days in the OJCL. After four years, I'm mostly obsolete, probably a little senile, and driven by a strange compulsion to impart my wisdom upon the next generation; wisdom I never really seem to apply myself. So I will use this last Torch article, which you can read to address a few of the big ideas for getting the most out of your time in "the League." And, because this is the Era of BuzzFeed, I will do so in the form of a listicle.

Foster Brotherhood

Beyond the endless fun of tests, Certamen, and Ludi, the OJCL is a great way to meet new people. All you have to do is extend the friendly hand of the JCL, whether it be at Convention, at a MADD, or at a local Certamen. I think it's a little presumptuous to say that the friendships you make here will last a lifetime, but the ones I've made haven't failed me yet.

Carpe Every Diem

One of the great aspects of the OJCL is that it offers so many opportunities. However, one of the greatest challenges is that it is entirely up to you to seek them out. Most importantly, attend the events. After all, 80 percent of life is just showing up. Whether your goal is to accumulate service hours, anecdotes for your college essays, or even just one of our Treasurer's brownies, what you put into this organization is what you get back.

Give Back

As I've looked back on my time in high school, many of my best experiences have been through community service, particularly the projects offered by the OJCL. Through everything from Project Linus to the Make a Difference Day activities, I have found that in the endless quest for ways to spend our time, nothing beats giving back.

Thank you everyone, and see all of you in a few weeks.

Ave atque vale

Running for Office

By Will Beatrez, NW Gubernator



*Mohammad Patel, former OJCL Treasurer,
giving a speech*

With state convention approaching in the next couple months, several candidates who pre-filed for an elected office by the deadline will be preparing for a thrilling experience: running for an OJCL office. Elections are an integral part of any convention, and are a process that continues throughout the entire weekend. Here are just a few reasons to get to know these fabulous candidates (who will be named on March 13th at about 11:30 PM):

Reason #1: Help out the OJCL!

These future officers will be able to fulfill their constitutional duties to an even greater extent with each new delegate they meet. In this sense, you are doing your duty by making yourself known to those who will be yielding power. At the foundation of the OJCL electoral process is the interaction between the governing officers and the people. Every delegate's voice deserves to be heard: *Senatus Populusque Romanus!*

Reason #2: Help out your school!

Each school (a.k.a. "chapter") is allowed to cast two ballots for each of the six elected offices, provided two of its students act as voting delegates and attend both Nominations Committee ("NomCom") Friday night and "Meet the Candidates" Saturday night. Even if you're not one of your chapter's voting delegates, however, you will have the power to help your school make an informed decision on whom to vote for, which occurs on Saturday night.

Reason #3: They're working hard!

Running for office is extremely nerve-wracking and has the potential to be a life-changing experience. These candidates will be giving it their best, so please make sure to say hi and get to know them.

Reason #4: It's convention!

At convention, the general rule of thumb is that you're allowed to get to know anybody. There are tons of interesting people at convention, and only twelve or less will be candidates. There'll be plenty of interesting people, regardless of whether or not they are running for office. OJCL convention is all about meeting students from all over the great state of Ohio.

If you know anybody who is interested in becoming part of the OJCL Executive Board (and who has not already applied for an elected office), there are six more appointed offices in addition to the elected ones! Feel free to contact your OJCL Parliamentarian Tullus Dean for further info on applying for these appointments, which are determined in the weeks after convention.

Shaker Abroad

By Blake Himes, Shaker Heights High School

During spring break 2k14, the Shaker Latin (and Greek I guess) Club took a trip to Greece. We had a great time, visiting many classical sites, such as Athens (there was a protest; we almost joined), Olympia and Delphi. It was a great bonding experience, and really helped increase the strength of our friendships. Naturally, many inside jokes were formed, not to mention Ben Robertson's seemingly never-ending puns and other word play.

And what would a Latin-inspired trip be without Certamen? I would estimate that we played at least two thousand questions, most read by the legend Brian Johnson. On the many days of long bus rides throughout the Greek countryside we just about depleted every Certamen question to ever have existed. Sam and Ben also astutely provided the mythological backgrounds for the places we visited, and impressed many on the bus.

The highlight (for many) of the trip was the island cruise on the final day of our week-or-so long stay. We set out from the port of Athens (Piraeus) and visited three beautiful islands – Aegina, Hydra, and Poros

– with short dockings on each. There were many dolphin sightings, and... “interesting” music on the way back... I won't talk about that. But let's just say there were some French students also on the cruise who got a little touchy-feely... Our sponsors were not amused.

We are all very grateful for this wonderful experience, and would love to thank Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Coffey, and everyone who made the trip possible. We had a great time and wish this could happen every spring break. Luckily for us (at least those of us who will still be around) there will be a similar trip come Spring 2017 – this time to ROME! We are looking forward to visiting the places our lives already revolve around, and gaining a deeper understanding of the Classics.



A group of Shaker Students in Rome

Things Roman Emperors Did That Would Be Weird If You Did Them

By Katerina Packis, 2nd Vice President

1. Make your horse a senator, have a marble stable made, and invite people to have dinner with the horse

(Caligula)

2. Have a month named after yourself

(Caesar)

3. Play the fiddle while you watch your city burn (only a legend but still weird)

(Nero)



Augustus Caesar

4. Dress up as Hercules while in combat as well as in your spare time

(Commodus)

5. Be killed while peeing on the side of the road

(Caracalla)

6. Roam your house at night and scream at the sun and moon

(Caligula)

7. Re-found a city and name it after yourself

(Commodus)

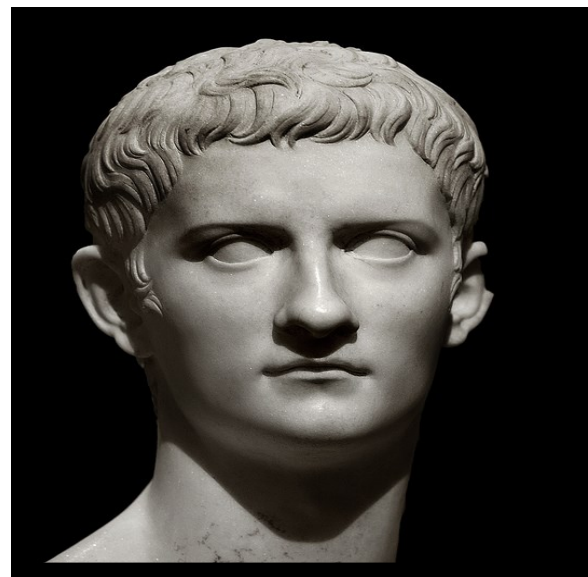
8. Rule a city you've never been to

(Maximinus Thrax)

9. Name your pet rooster Rome and mourn when you're told that "Rome has perished," but only until you find out that it was only the city of Rome,

thank goodness

(Honorius)



Caligula

10. Declare war on Neptune and have your soldiers stab the sea with their swords

(Caligula)

Bonanza

By Allison Kao,
Northeast Gubernator

bo·nan·za
bə'nanzə/
Noun

1. a large amount of something valuable
2. a large amount of **Latin students**

Last Thanksgiving break, while you were sleeping on a plane flight to your grandmother's house or preparing the dinner table for your uncle's arrival, members of the Shaker Latin Club gathered at their own Thanksgiving celebration, one dedicated to bonding and goodwill. At their first ever "Bonanza," Shaker Classics students kicked off the start of the holiday vacation with food, Certamen, and community service. The event, held at the house of Shaker Latin Club consul Ben Robertson, was comprised of twenty-nine students from both the middle and high school Latin programs. After enjoying a hearty Thanksgiving potluck, students went straight to work, writing letters to be sent to US soldiers. After two hours, they made a total of sixty-three greeting cards, all of which were sent to Operation Gratitude, an organization that sends care packages to the US military. Ultimately, it was a fun and gratifying event for all. By emphasizing the bonding aspect, the experience was not only about helping the community, but also sharing our common passion for the Classics with peers among different grade levels.

Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful for our families. That day, we were being thankful for our family, our familia linguae latinae.



Thanksgiving!

How to get your club members to attend your Latin-sponsored events

By Tullus Dean, Parliamentarian

As an officer of a local Latin club, I understand how hard it can be to get your members to attend your events, whether they be service or a fun-filled Latin outing. Here are some tips to help make the experience for your club members more enjoyable!

Plan events that a busy student would want to attend - sometimes, the events that officers plan are not worth the time of an active high school student. Instead, reach out to club members and ask them what would be fun for them; consider taking a survey to see when is the best time to plan these activities.

Multiple events in one weekend - a fun, Latin filled weekend is the perfect opportunity to generate numbers for the club. By pairing up events like service and toga bowling on the same day or consecutive days, it is more incentive for members to attend at least one or more events that weekend.

Incentive - bringing baked goods or providing a free round of Latin laser tag will be just one more reason for your club members to attend.



Thanks for Reading

