Welcome to the 68th annual National Junior Classical League Convention! We are so excited to have you, and we hope you’ve enjoyed Day 1 of convention.

This year’s theme is “sibi quisque ruri metit,” or in English, “each harvests one’s own farm.” As Dr. Pendergraft mentioned in her wonderful remarks to the First general assembly, this proverb could very well be interpreted as exhortation towards self sufficiency. I (and Dr. Pendergraft) prefer to read it in a different way: as an encouragement to focus on what is within our power and to bring the fruits of our own labor together as a community, whatever those fruits may be.

I hope that this virtual national convention will prove a memorable one. I know that even given the virtual format, just getting to talk to and hang out with all you lovely JCLers is a highlight of my year. I can’t wait to see you at all this week’s events, and be sure to say hello to me at the mixers!

E corde,
Daniel Newgarden (he/him)
2020-2021 NJCL President”

Daniel has also been performing very “well” at his current “internship” with SCLawyers. Congratulations, Daniel!!

CALL SCLawyers TODAY!

(DCCI) CDLXXVIII-MCLXXVII

Write for the Ear!

Do you have funny ideas? Did something wild and wacky happen during a convention event? Write about it all for the enjoyment of the masses!

Email your submissions to editor@nscl.org with the subject line: “EAR SUBMISSION.” Don't forget to include your name, state, and ID!
BUY SCL MERCH!
If you’re looking for some sweet, sweet SCL swag, look no further than right here!

Get Your NSCL Festival T-Shirt TODAY!

FROM JAMIE DOYLE, NSCL PRESIDENT

From Jamie Doyle, NSCL President

Log No. 1226-19-78-0
Office of the NSCL President
7-25-2021

Begin transcript.

President’s log, July 25, 2021. It’s been a year since the very first virtual NJCL convention. I’m not sure where to start but it’s been a ride. It’s all starting again, the Zoom links, the Google docs, everything. It’s almost like the last year has passed in the blink of an eye.

There’s no doubt the year has been tough, but we’ve made it through successfully and are ready to commence with yet another virtual NJCL Convention. The SCLers have been hard at work prepping everything and it seems like everything is ready to go. We have put a lot of hard work into improving the virtual format the virtual format for this year and we’re excited to get going with the mission. Assuming everything goes to plan.

Hang on, what’s that noise? Hello? Who’s there?

End Transcript.

FROM ANN NGUYEN, NSCL EDITOR

From Ann Nguyen, NSCL Editor

Hello, friends!

Thank you so much for reading the Convention Ear. We’re working hard each day to bring quality content to y’all, and we hope you enjoy it as we embark on the virtual journey of NJCL convention.

I’m excited to see what wonderful stories and shared experiences this year will bring us — now that we’re semi-pros with one year of virtual convention already under many of our belts. I hope you all have a fantastic time, and if anything silly happens, you know who to call (well... email... but you get the point)!

Maximas gratias,
Ann Nguyen (she/her)
NSCL Editor

PERSONALS

It’s nice to know that WSOC team Gradarius Firmus Victoria would walk 500 years (er, miles) and 500 more just to be the team who got only 1 bonus question correct.

............... 

Hey “Marie” “Clare”... if that is your real name...

To Andrew Wang a special thanks to you for doing this convention (especially because I convinced you to register the literal night before). You were curious and bold enough as a first year JCLer to dive into this thing basically deciding five seconds*

*Editor’s note: We’re serious about that character count.

https://www.nscl.org
Certamen to be played at Tokyo 2020 Olympics

Editor’s note: publication of this article was delayed by a year.

The International Olympic Committee has announced that Certamen will be joining the 2020 Tokyo Olympics along with 3x3 basketball, karate, skateboarding, surfing, and sport climbing.

IOC spokesperson Tegan Jovanka (Australia) said: “We’re pleased to bring the buzzer-pushing excitement of Certamen to the Olympic audience. With foil, épée, and Certamen, the buzzer sport family is now complete. We can’t be more excited.”

However, Certamen events will not be held in Tokyo, nor even in Japan. Instead, they will be held at the University of Richmond from July 24-29. Liz Shaw (UK), chair of the IOC team events sub-committee, said: “Frankly, there isn’t a venue in Japan with enough Quiz Wizard II systems. The University of Richmond was the closest venue that we could find that could accommodate the sheer number of teams we have competing.” There are always some events outside of the host city. In 2012, the canoe sprint was hosted in Eton Dorney, not London. The University of Richmond, however, will be the farthest venue from the host city in the history of the modern Olympics.

Up to fifty-eight teams could qualify for Certamen. Forty-six have high enough scores to qualify already. The other twelve have raised challenges over their answers. Jennifer Luongo (TX) of the NJCL National committee, the governing body for Certamen, said, “We need to consult previous editions of Allen and Greenough’s New Latin Grammar to resolve the remaining challenges. These are stored in a secure location just north of Cincinnati, Ohio. Challenges this nuanced take a bit longer to resolve, but Olympic Certamen in 2020 will go on as scheduled.”

Members of the IOC were also overheard discussing the possibility of using Westhampton Lake for the sailing competitions.

In Meme- orium

We at the Ear have a strong connection with the stories and art that help us through each day, but with the pace of communication today, some of our most beloved are gone before they're fully able to shine. This year’s Ear is dedicated to the memes we’ve lost along the way. May their legacy impact future generations.

Our grumpy grandfather made a true fashion statement this January during the presidential inauguration. While his peers were dressed in their business best, Bernie showed up in a functional jacket and a pair of handmade mittens. Photographed while sitting down with a signature disgruntled look took the internet by storm. While this meme berned brightly, it too had to fade into obscurity.
In response to the recent...everything... citizens will be receiving financial assistance next month. Reporters at the Ear took to the streets of Via Romana in San Diego, Greece to get an idea of how people planned to use their 1200 drachma stimmy. Here are some responses:

“I need the latest iPhone. That way, I could take, like, so many more pictures of myself with all the latest filters.”
--- Narcissus (Local man)

“I was thinking about purchasing a Rome-tendo Switch with a copy of Rubicon Crossing, but now I want one of those limited offer, premium subscription to NJCL+. What a deal!”
--- Penelope (Small business owner)

“My son, Icarus, dreamed of growing wings and flying off into the sunset. So, I got the two of us plane tickets to Lafayette, LA. Hopefully, his smile won’t melt the wax in his wings when he finds out.”
--- Daedalus (Prominent inventor)

“Oh wow, well, there’s this awesome lion’s cape that I’ve wanted, but I could also go for the Belt of Hippolyta. But, maybe I should try that rose golden Apple watch people have been raving about... Or I could buy this old barn and literally flip it...”
--- Hercules (Professional handyman)

What would you buy with 1200 drachma?
Around 13:30 local time, we received reports of a noise complaint at the FargoDome. Children's voices were heard screaming about bananas with repeated chants of “V-Al V-A!”

Our agents arrived onsite at 14:00 hours reporting signs of mystical manipulation. Upon breaching the premises, purple and gold glitter was found plastered onto every square inch of the facility. Most disturbingly, several children were huddled in a corner, clutching buzzers and mumbling about Pompey and the dative case.

After securing the perimeter, we found one Daniel Newgarden standing atop the bleachers with streams of purple magic emanating from his hands. The suspect was shouting that “Convention must be returned to how it was before!” He claimed that in his desperation for an in-person convention he had “accidentally” created an alternate reality in the last location where this reality had existed. The suspect was neutralized and taken into custody. Investigation into his "Friendly Hand of JCL" continues.

The captive children were sent home at their parent’s expense, still clutching crumpled ribbons and broken spirit props. The containment team returned to headquarters at 18:27.

G.L.A.D.I.U.S.
Global Latin Alternate Dimensional Incidents Under Surveillance

The following letter was unexpectedly slipped under our door last night... Who is this mysterious Magistra Whistledown?!

Magistra Whistledown's
CONVENTION PAPERS

Dearest reader,

My name is Magistra Whistledown. You do not know me, and rest assured, you never shall. But be forewarned, dear reader, I certainly know you.

It has become my observation that Julianne Campbell of the Florida Advanced Certamen team has performed unexpectedly in Round 1 of Competitive Certamen. Similarly, Roger Mackendale of the Texas Advanced Certamen team displayed restraint during the round. Notably, both are scholars of history, and while Ms. Campbell and Mr. Mackendale refrained from buzzing, their team members picked up history questions left and right.

I am led to believe that Ms. Campbell and Mr. Mackendale are in kahoots, either explicitly or implicitly... I choose to believe that the integrity of The NJCL Competitive Certamen cannot be compromised. I therefore conclude that this circumstance is unintentional, and not a result of a lack of skill. Rather, I propose that the students are choosing not to answer the questions... in hope that the other will steal the points. This is sacrifice, this is love.

My heart swoons at the sight of young love at convention. And yet, my heart aches at their betrayal of their teams. Today I approach you with the most urgent of questions...

Are these lovers to blame?

Yours Truly,
Magistra Whistledown
Welcome to Ohio North Dakota Virginia.

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Stay Classy!!