



The Convention Ear

58 (Y)Ears of Telling It Like It Isn't!

Monday, July 23, 2018

Volume LIX, Issue I

25 Hour Convention Coverage

From the Desk of the NJCL President

Dear JCLers,

Welcome to this year's National Convention in the Buckeye state at the first public ivy, Miami University. Ohio is the proud home of the JCL headquarters, and it is with great excitement that we return to this state and university, so important to our organization. Among other things, Ohio is home to the football Hall of Fame, Neil Armstrong, and the Cuyahoga River that famously caught fire in 1952. This Convention will be home to Ludi Hall of Famers, great figures from Roman and Greek history, and of course the flame of the JCL that will burn brightly over the next week.

As we enter this week, be prepared to leave your comfort zone for a moment, to try a new event, make new friends and, most of all, have the time of your lives. This week will go by incredibly quickly, so enjoy every second of it from testing and certamen, graphic arts and service, to Ludi and Olympika. The memories you make here will last long after returning home and will remind you for years to come of the power of the JCL to bring students and communities together.

To invoke the convention theme again, Cicero once said *Ego vos hortari tantum possum ut amicitiam omnibus rebus humanis anteponatis. I urge you as much as I am able to place friendship before all human issues. In the next week rekindle old friendships and create new ones as you make the most of Convention and take advantage of everything it has to offer.*

Ex animo,

Mark Bechthold

NJCL President 2017-2018

A Message from the SCL President

Salvete omnes!

My name is Jack Godar. I'm so happy to welcome you to beautiful Oxford, Ohio. The SCL is excited to lend its omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent and indispensable friendly hand (and the occasional iron fist) to ensure great Ludi games and That's Entertainment this year! Also, to you slashers out there, come to our mixer in Armstrong Pavilion C at 6:30 PM on Monday! You'll have a chance to meet SCLers, enjoy light refreshments, and play some ice-breaker games. Can't wait to see all of you, and don't be afraid to say hi!

Jack Godar

2017-2018 NSCL President

From the Desk of the NSCL Editor

Hello everyone!

I'm Laci Lisenby, and I am privileged enough to be this year's Editor of The Convention Ear. We at the *Ear* want to bring you the content that you want to see. Please feel free to email me any ideas that you have at editor@nscl.org The SCL will be working hard to ensure that Olympika and That's Entertainment run as smoothly as possible. I hope that you have a wonderful time at convention, and I look forward to meeting many of you!

Laci Lisenby

2017-2018 NSCL Editor

PERSONALS \$1

Write notes to your friends, teachers, or JCLoves! Submit your personals in the NJCL office. Write your message **legibly** on a slip of paper, put it in the provided envelope, and hand it to someone at the JCL desk. Space is limited, so please be brief. The Editor reserves the right to discard any inappropriate or illegible submissions.

WE WANT YOU!

Are you a 2018 high school graduate? Does the idea of being done with JCL make you cry? Do not despair! Join SCL! We can teach you how to be:

- **OMNISCIENT**
- **OMNIPOTENT**
- **OMNIPRESENT**
- **INDISPENSIBLE**

If this sounds like something you would enjoy (who am I kidding, of course it does), inquire about membership at the SCL registration table.

NJCL Officer End of Year Reports

Mark Bechtold, NJCL President

Salvete omnes,

It has been an incredible honor and privilege to represent such a diverse and vibrant community and to work alongside such incredible people, both officers and National Committee Members without whom this Convention would not be possible.

This past year has been an absolute whirlwind. It seems like only last week I was enjoying the 2017 Convention at Troy University, and yet here we are at Miami University about to, once again, have the time of our lives.

This past year I wrote the agendas and helped run Fall and Spring Planning Meetings, during which I led several meetings that covered a diverse range of issues from logistical considerations and scheduling to constitutional amendments and planning activities. These agendas were also a fun and productive time to check in with fellow officers as we planned such an exciting event.

During Spring Planning Meeting the officers helped put together the National Classics Week promotional video to the

Tim Han, NJCL 1st Vice-President

Nothing gold can stay. So the poet tells us, so we live it. My friends, it has been a very short year since we last gathered and in that time nature's first hue has faded, subsided down to leaf. Time flew too fleeting; I wish I had more with you in this JCL. Nevertheless, it has been a year worthy of memory.

We began the year at Fall Planning with big ideas and hopes for our terms. It was there that our board was first assembled in full and we had a grand time exploring ways to make this year's convention run as smoothly as possible. Additionally, I had the chance to meet the press team at Miami, and we were able to follow up later on when we released a press release packet to the local Oxford and Cincinnati media to promote the JCL.

After that initial meeting, we were able to work cohesively on bigger endeavors. Collin helped me create the National Classics Week Packet, an undertaking that took some time and effort, and I was able to put out the new Proclamation Acquisitions Packet in order to help JCLers and chapters across the country promote the classics by gaining municipal and state-level proclamations. After our board was able to so effectively utilize social media in the ramp-up to and during National Classics Week, we had an excellent time throughout it connecting

music of God's Plan and we performed the first official JCL live-stream. After the Spring Planning Meeting, I put together the form for the Featured Speakers who would speak at Convention, and helped in the selection process for the Packet Award.

In the past few months, I have finalized my Guide for Future Presidents, which compile advice based on my own experience as well as advice from other state presidents. The guide breaks down the role of President into three main components: namely, presiding over meetings, running a convention, and fostering a good board dynamic. With this guide I hope to ease the learning curve for future presidents.

In the next five days, I look forward to seeing the product of the officers' and National Committee's hard work, and most of all I look forward to seeing the hard work of all the delegates that make this Convention so much fun and so memorable. Thank you for one of the most challenging and yet most rewarding experiences in my life that I will always cherish.

Ex animo,
Mark Bechtold
2017-2018 NSCL President

with all of you as your promoted and celebrated the classics from coast to coast.

I was also able to work on other pet projects. One of the questions I receive most often is what we all - the national officers - do year-round, behind the scenes. I'll be honest, I had little idea of it myself before I ran. Therefore, I have been recording a series of podcasts with officers current and former in order to provide an idea of just what we do, and also have a little fun connecting with old friends. We hope to roll this out just after convention.

I was also able to keep up with the trends of former VP1's by reaching out to celebrities and persons of interest in the classical world to ask them to promote the classics via essays, short stories, etc. I hope that my successor can continue to reach out in this manner.

It has been a full and exciting year, but my most important memories were with you: attending state conventions, reaching out to and talking to JCLers, getting input and feedback on what we could do better, and discovering time and again the great reservoirs of love and talent that lie in this community. Thank you so much.

Tim Han
2017-2018 NJCL 1st VP

This year, registration for Creative Arts is done completely online. Creative Arts include Costumes, Dramatic Interpretation, Oratory (both Latin and English), Essay, and Sight Latin Reading. There is a specific form online for each category. A separate form must be filled out for each contest in which a student will participate. The deadline to submit these forms is 6:00 PM on the first day of Convention: Monday July 23 2018. You should have already received the forms in an email.

NJCL Officer End of Year Reports (continued from Page 2)

Collin Kane, 2nd Vice-President

Salvete omnes,

Welcome to Miami University! I couldn't be more excited for this next week and all the excitement, spirit, and lack of sleep it will have to offer. Despite the joy of convention finally arriving, it feels odd to be writing my end of year report at this time. This past year has flown by and I must express my gratitude for having had the opportunity to serve as your national second vice president the last 12 months.

I began this past year with the development of Spirit and Service focus projects for each month. These projects and their associated links were posted in the "JCL Spirit and Service!" Facebook group. Throughout the year I had the opportunity to review the month to month activities at the local level through the club of the month contest. Entries to the contest were submitted via google form and results and pictures were posted on the NJCL website as well as on the Facebook page.

In October, I travelled to the NJCL Fall planning meeting held here at Miami University. In Ohio, I planned out convention spirit and dance themes as well as selected the labors of Hercules as the theme for this year's National Classics Week. In addition,

I worked alongside the rest of the board and national committee to facilitate the specifics of this year's convention.

Over the following months I continued engaging with local chapters via club of the month and worked with NJCL first vice president, Tim Han, to develop this year's National Classics Week schedule and content. At the NJCL spring planning meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana, I worked with the board to create this year's promotional video and finalize this year's NCW packet. Leading up to national convention I've collected and reviewed this year's community spirit award submissions and worked to communicate this year's spirit themes and service project.

I hope you enjoy this year's 65th national convention and I personally look forward to meeting as many new faces as possible this week. Although our time here is limited, I truly wish that we may make the most of this shared experience, creating memories, forever lasting.

With JCLove,
Collin Kane
NJCL 2nd VP

The NJCL Office is located in Armstrong Room 1082

Lynn Ahrens, Communications Coordinator

First off, I wanted to thank you all and welcome you to my marvelous home state of Ohio. The NJCL is always busy, looking for ways to progress and innovate, and the 2017-2018 year was no exception. A special shoutout goes out to the webmasters, communications coordinators, and secretaries that I had the utmost pleasure of working with. I had an amazing time meeting you all through currency submissions, and I was so excited to see what updates you all made throughout the year to your awesome websites! My biggest project by far was the publication dedicated to the three offices, kind of a guide for newly elected officers. I was excited to receive submissions and tips from officers all over the country and was overwhelmed by your feedback and encouragement. I absolutely loved the monthly skype calls I had with several future webmasters and graphic designers with whom I dialogued about regarding coding, website design, and graphics in branding. I hope you learned a lot, and I definitely learned a lot from you. One of the highlights of my year was definitely being able to attend the Georgia Junior Classical League convention. It truly gave me the chance to wit-

ness on a larger scale the comradery and nation-wide friendship within the JCL. Interestingly enough, I met a Miami University Classics professor on my flight down to Atlanta who was sitting right next to me! You never know who you might meet and where, but I guarantee you that a friend of the Classics is a friend of the JCL. One thing to always remember is that the JCL keeps moving forward because of you. If you have a question, concern, or request, the national committee and board are both here to serve you and make your experience the best it can be. At both the spring and fall planning, I was ecstatic to discuss changes for the JCL that modernizes an organization so faithfully dependent on tradition and a classical past. This year, whether my duty was collecting the state chair and board information for every chapter, grading currency, evaluating website contest entries, publicizing contests and convention details, designing and editing a publication, or skyping with you, I had a blast being representing you and being a voice for you on this board. Thank you all, and have a wonderful convention!

Lynn Ahrens
2017-2018 NJCL Communications Coordinator

Sarah Lee, Parliamentarian

Salvete omnes!

The time passed very quickly, but I have enjoyed every minute of serving you as your NJCL Parliamentarian. I began in August by working with my mentor, Mr. Webb, to look for potential amendments to make to the Chapter Handbook, Constitution, and the Bylaws. We proposed 100 amendments to the Chapter Handbook, 9 amendments to the Constitution, and 3

amendments to the Bylaws, which I presented at the Fall Planning Meeting. The Chapter Handbook amendments passed, and the other amendments were approved to be presented at NJCL Convention. I can't wait to share these amendments with you! At this meeting, I also had the opportunity to connect with the other officers and see the behind-the-scenes process of planning national convention (and help, too!).

NJCL Officer End of Year Reports (continued from Page 3)

Sarah Lee, Parliamentarian

After Fall Planning Meeting, I worked on creating the 2018 edition of the *Campaign Corner*. This year, I collaborated extensively with the board, with each officer providing insight into their duties and sharing advice on their individual page in the Corner. We shared it all over social media, and it garnered over 450 views!

After Spring Planning Meeting, I focused all of my attention on recruiting candidates for this year's elections. I first reached out to state parliamentarians and state presidents, asking for names of individuals who might be interested in running for office. With this information, I began messaging those JCLers, along with other JCLers who wanted to run. I'm excited to announce that we have no states of emergency this year! Each

Ana Ohnersorgan, Historian

Salvete JCL,

I cannot believe that this crazy incredible year is already coming to a close. I have had a wonderful time being your NJCL Historian and it will be hard to say goodbye. Being a national officer is a lot of work, and all of the work that I did this year has been so rewarding. Due to the circumstances of my election, I had a fair amount of catch up to do in the fall. I immediately revived the Photo of the Month contest, and successfully ran that from September through May. I was thrilled to see the amount of participation in such a new contest, and I loved seeing the excitement for POTM grow over the year. I also spent a while establishing a list of as many State and Local Historians that I could find. I wanted to be able to easily communicate with them, and be a figure who people could come to for help. This led to me using the Facebook Historians Group much more than it had been used in the past. There I would post all POTM submissions, so that everyone had a chance to be showcased, as well as any JCL-related announcements. I also worked hard to connect to other Historians on a more personal level-- I created a Historians group

Jade Woods, Editor

Salvete amici,

Welcome home! I know you are all as thrilled as I am to be back at NJCL convention again. An incredible year has flown by since we were at Troy University, and I am so happy to share with you what I have accomplished since that time.

Since last summer, I have compiled and released four issues of the *Torch: U.S.*, and each issue has included features such as state updates, a podcast with interviews, and a new section called "The State Spotlight." I endeavored to make the *Torch: U.S.* as interactive and engaging as possible by including videos, audio content, external links, and content contributed by others. Each issue was shared on various social media platforms, and I am excited to see in what other ways the *Torch* will be shared in the future.

Beyond making the *Torch: U.S.*, I continued outreach to state and local editors. I communicated with editors on social media, especially the JCL Editors Facebook group, to which we were able to add quite a few more people. I also emailed state editors particularly to remind them of deadlines for submissions to the *Torch*.

office has 2 or more prefiled candidates. I've had the privilege to look over their campaigns for the past few months, and I am certain the JCL is in very good hands with next year's board. Be sure to come out to the Nominations Committee Meeting, Meet the Candidates, and Candidates' Open Forum to meet all of them and learn about their visions for the JCL! Your vote matters.

Again, I want to thank you all for this opportunity to serve as your NJCL Parliamentarian. You gave me the chance to grow, to learn, and to fulfill my dream of serving you. I hope you all have a great time in Miami!

With JCLove

Sarah Lee

2017-2018 NSCL Parliamentarian

chat, as well as hosted many video calls to walk Historians through the processes of participating in POTM, submitting content to the National Scrapbook, as well as creating their scrapbooks and videos. I feel as though these were a very positive thing, for they allowed questions to be answered, ideas to be shared, and fostered a strong sense of community. As spring came around, I worked very closely with my fellow officers to promote an awesome National Classics Week. Collin Kane and I worked very hard to create a promotional video for NCW, which was shared with the JCL community to build NCW excitement and participation. I also spent a lot of time this spring creating the National Scrapbook, which I sincerely hope you all enjoy. I loved seeing all of the great photos that were sent in and I am incredibly thankful for the hard work of my fellow Historians. And last but not certainly least, I worked with my incredible board to plan this year's National Convention at Miami University. We have some great things in store for you all, and I can't wait to see you all there.

Ana Ohnersorgen

2017-2018 JCL Historian

Outside of my duties as editor, I have communicated with the rest of the NJCL officers throughout the year. In person and through Google Hangouts, together we brainstormed for National Classics Week, planned aspects of this convention, and had a great time becoming better friends. At Spring Planning Meeting, we hosted a livestream on Facebook and filmed a promotional video for National Classics Week in the fabulous city of New Orleans.

In the past few weeks, I have had the pleasure of reviewing the entries for the Local and State Publications Contests, as well as the Social Media Contest. One of my goals for the year was to publicize these contests long before the deadline, and I was happy to receive interested responses from editors throughout the year. I was so impressed by the high caliber of each submission!

It has truly been an honor to serve as an NJCL officer, but I will save the nostalgia for later in the week. I cannot wait to meet as many of you as I can and share this week with you. Here's to a great convention!

Jade Woods

2017-2018 NJCL Editor