

The

Convention Ear

An Official Publication of the Senior Classical League



Sunday, July 21, MMXXIV

Volume LXIV, Issue I

Knoxville, Tennessee

A Letter from Krish Sharma, NJCL President

Salvete omnes!

My name is Krish Sharma, and it has been my pleasure to serve you this past year as NJCL President and welcome you to the 71st Convention at UT-Knoxville. The NJCL officers have been planning since last fall for this convention and cannot wait for the amazing week that lies ahead.

From ludi to testing and from dazzling artwork to stunning certain buzzes, convention will be sure to create memories and friendships that last a lifetime, just as it has for me and others in years past. As a graduated senior attending my last convention as a student, my advice is to take advantage of every opportunity, every sport, every colloquia that convention has to offer. Enjoy walking on the beautiful UT-Knoxville campus (but be prepared for the heat).

Meet new people, try new food in the luxurious dining hall, and create everlasting memories during fellowship every night. That being said, I look forward to meeting you all. Please stop me at any time to say hi or ask any questions.

Valete!

Krish Sharma
NJCL President

A Letter from Maxine Mandt, NSCL Editor

Salvete, amici!

As a JCLer, I kept EVERYTHING from convention. I'm serious. I have my old nametags, schedules, trinkets, and, of course, old *Convention Ears*. I pinned them all to my bedroom walls with clear thumbtacks and scotch tape. I hoped I could one day contribute to these publications and be cemented into JCL posterity.

Last month, when visiting my parents in Arizona, I came across cardboard boxes filled to the brim with all of my old JCL keepsakes. I found FJCL schedules, a certificate for placing 8th on Greek Derivatives ½ (pro tip: pick the words that look the coolest), and a bunch of creased and crumpled *Convention Ears*. I skimmed through weather reports from Troy (did anyone turn into a flaming skeleton that week?), Fab Five advice from Miami, swarms of bee puns from Fargo, two volumes of *Convention E-ars*, SCLepphants from Louisiana (wow, who wrote that one? Spoiler: me. It was me.), and all of our Barbie images from Emory. Now, as NSCL Editor, it is my turn to lead the creation of this time-honored tradition.

This year has been nothing short of a dream come true. I can never thank the JCL and the SCL enough for these last eight years, and now for the privilege to have served as a national officer this year. Whether it's your first, sixth, or fifteenth year attending, I urge you to take risks. You never know how far you are able to go and how much you are able to achieve unless you try.

From the bottom of my heart and on behalf of the SCL, welcome to convention! I hope that you enjoy these *Convention Ears* as much as I and the rest of Team Editor enjoy putting them together.

SinCereLy,
Maxine Mandt

A Letter from Amanda Roessler, NSCL President

Salvete, amiCi!

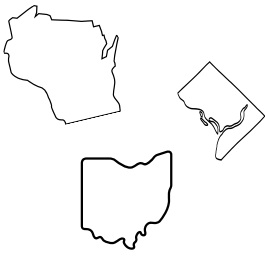
Let me be the first SCLer to welcome you back to national convention! Senior Classical League memberS are here from across the country to help make your Convention experience as memorabLe as possible. SCLers organize eventS and aCtivities like Ludi and olympika, the mystery teSt, the daily *Convention Ear*, and the taLent show (*That's Entertainment*).

*Seniors or students that just graduated from high SchooL this year are known as "Slashers" (jcl/SCL) and can participate in some SpeCiaL SCL activities as early aS our mixer at 7pm today!!!

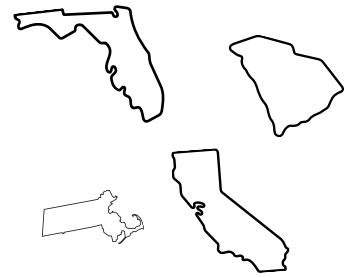
CoLlege or poSt-high sChool Life in general may be the end of your jcl days, but your SCL days are juSt beginning! (you don't have to major in CLassics to join the SCL, however some senSe of humor may be somewhat benefiCiaL...)

Send in any questions or Concerns you may have to president@nsl.org and foLlow us on instagram @nationalscl!

SinCereLy,
Amanda Roessler
NSCL President



NJCL Officer Reports



Krish Sharma, NJCL President

Salvete, omnes!

It has been my pleasure to serve as NJCL President this past year. From Fall Planning Meeting to now gearing up for the national convention, I have enjoyed every moment and am ready to make this convention memorable. Here is a quick recap of what I have accomplished this year.

- Prepared agendas for meetings throughout the year (shoutout to the rest of the officers for making these meetings so seamless and easy)
- Spearheaded Fall Planning Meeting and used Parli Pro for the first time
- Worked with Mrs. Bouis to nail down the convention schedule and other details regarding convention
- Met with state presidents to discuss how to be a good president and any issues within state delegations

- Successfully planned and ran the first ever Convocatio, which was a game night hosted through Zoom
- Helped with running various events like Classicalia and National Classics Week activities (shoutout Sophie and Natalie)
- Prepared and ran Spring Planning Meeting in San Antonio
- Created a Conventional Wisdom Packet for first-time attendees
- Acted in a National Classics Week skit (go check it out!)
- Met with various committees and people to discuss the future of the NJCL and various ways we can improve the organization
- Reached out to speakers for the GAs at nationals
- Chose winners for some of the NJCL's scholarships

- Worked on filling out my sections of the Podium Book
- Wrote my remarks for national convention
- Am ready to have a great memorable convention this summer!

Once again, I would like to thank everyone who has helped me this year. It has truly been amazing. I am so excited to meet everyone and am thrilled to welcome you all to the NJCL's 71st Annual Convention!

Krish Sharma
NJCL President

Sophie Hietfield, NJCL First Vice President

Salvete, omnes!

This year has passed almost unfathomably quickly, and I can't believe it's nearly the end of my term. I could not be more grateful for the JCL and all the wonderful people in it—especially my unrelentingly amazing board.

During my term, I've worked on several projects aimed at increasing engagement with the JCL throughout the year, not just at convention. In September, I began creating activity packets, which can be used by local chapters as quick and easy meeting ideas. Later in the fall, I worked with the rest of the board on Convocatio, and an Alaska JCL chapter was started!

In February, I hosted Classicalia, and we heard from several speakers on the topic of gender and sexuality in the ancient world. Our keynote speaker gave us an intriguing look into women in mythology, and our student speakers taught us about everything from beans and festivals to the forgotten women of antiquity. Outside of the talks, we played games like myth-themed gartic phone, and getting to know you all personally during them was one of the highlights of my year.

National Classics Week let us celebrate Rome's founding while learning about the stories behind its first monarchs. In Certamen, I'm a historian at heart, and that may have shown through a bit in my choice of theme, but I hope you all enjoyed my fun facts and historical tidbits (and the board's totally-completely-historically-accurate-we-promise skit) as much as I did.

Serving as your First Vice President has been an incredible experience and honor, and I could not imagine a better end to my JCL journey. Although I'm sad that this convention will be my last as a JCLer, I am so excited for the next week, and I hope you all are too!

Avete Atque Valete,
Sophie Hietfield
NJCL First Vice President

Natalie Allen, NJCL Second Vice President

Salvete! I could not be more excited for convention this year! Whether this is your first convention or this is far from your first rodeo, I hope you have an incredible week! One of my favorite memories from convention is competing in Spirit at my first in person convention.

On the first day, I, along with my state, completely lost myself in Spirit. To our surprise we got first place, which is something I will never forget! But even more importantly, I'll never forget how much fun we had. It's safe to say we didn't always win, but we lost ourselves in the process of it all! I want to encourage everyone to make the most of your time here. This is where you could meet the people who could become your new best friends, or where you could make memories to last a lifetime.

At convention, I always have so much fun that before I know it, the week is over and I'm on my way back to Ohio. There's only so much you can do in a week, and it goes by so fast. For me, the worst part about convention is always leaving. But, this year is a little different.

Because I am a senior this year, this is my last convention as a JCLer. So, saying goodbye this year is going to be so much harder. I've always hated saying goodbye, because it means something that has brought me joy has now ended. But, I'm glad that I've had something that's hard to say goodbye to.

So take advantage of this week. Try something new, put yourself out there, pack your schedule. I'm so thankful I've made the most out of the conventions I've attended. So I can't encourage you enough: make this place somewhere that is hard to say goodbye to and lose yourself in the process.

Lilia AitSahlia, NJCL Communications Coordinator

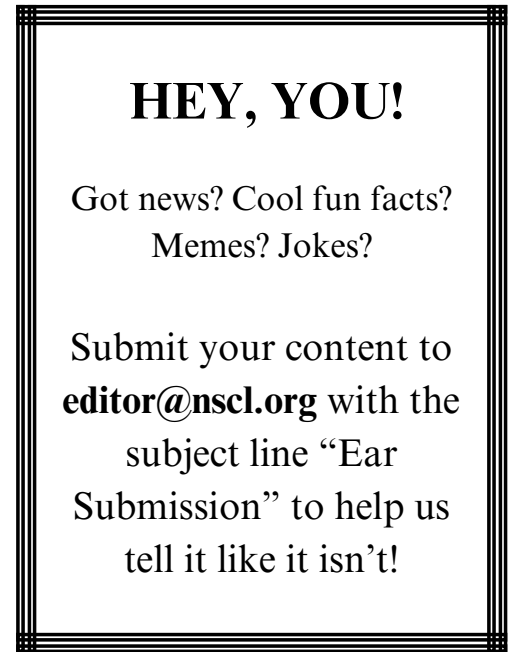
Salvete, amici!

As Communications Coordinator, I truly did focus on the “communication” aspect of my office. First off, I revamped the website calendar, transforming it from a list to a detailed grid that included more events, such as ancient Roman festivals, and highlighted contest deadlines. In addition, I created a GroupMe for state Secretaries and Webmasters to increase communication throughout the year. There, I publicized events and held Zooms, including a Minute-Taking Presentation (which I later hosted for all JCLers). I also planned the Zoom Games for Convocatio alongside Krish and hosted another Game Night later in the year.

I continued the CoCo’s Bi-Monthly Newsletters, publishing six regular editions and two Special Editions. I also created a Newsletter Tab on the website for easier subscription access. To promote easy access to information, I used infographics in these newsletters, the Torch, and the NJCL Instagram. So that future CoCos can easily sort their documents and view previous years, I organized the CoCo Google Drive.

Lastly, I fulfilled my constitutional duties, taking and editing minutes at all NJCL meetings and judging the Website Contest. I had a great time not only completing all my professional duties, but also getting to do the silly tasks – like creating the TE skit and acting as Ancus Marcius in the NCW Promo Video! I’m so grateful you all gave me the opportunity to better the JCL and have these wonderful experiences. Enjoy Convention! I can’t wait to meet you all!

Lilia AitSahlia
NJCL Communications Coordinator



Alden Okoh-Aduako, NJCL Parliamentarian

Salvete, JCLores!

Yes, time has flown by that fast, and no, I have no idea why. Convention has begun, and I hope you’re as ready for the week’s events as I am!

This past year of JCL has been a blast, and this past year of being your Parliamentarian has been more exciting — yes, being a Parliamentarian can be exciting — than I ever could have imagined. Here’s some of what I’ve done during my time as Parli.

During my term, I’ve been reaching out to and keeping in touch with State JCL Parliamentarians. I’ve used email and GroupMe to keep tabs on State activities, share important announcements, and to answer any questions that Parlis have. Throughout the year, I’ve been holding virtual Parli meetings for Parliamentarians to share what’s going on in their JCLs, receive updates on my progress, and ask questions.

At the Fall and Spring Planning Meetings, I discussed amendments with the rest of the Board. This year, we have three amendments to the NJCL Constitution, all of which will be presented at the Amendments Committee meeting on Wednesday. Come early 2024, I created and released the 2024 Campaign Corner. I aimed to make this year’s edition more readable, so I used larger text and spaced out content across more pages. I also added a new section — Let’s Make Media! — to help out candidates with making campaign materials.

But perhaps the biggest project of my term has been the Constitutional Column, a publication to explain the NJCL’s governing documents and help JCLers make their own. In total, I made three issues: the first and second covering the Constitution, the third covering the Bylaws. Additionally, I made a guide to parliamentary procedure to help State and local boards use Robert’s Rules of Order in their meetings, and I’ve collected up-to-date versions of State JCL constitutions for the NJCL website. All of these can be found on the newly renovated Constitutions & Documents page of the site.

And last but not least, there’s the most exciting part: the election! This year, we have an amazing slate of nominees who will be running for NJCL office at this very Convention. The election starts later this week, so make sure to mark some election events on your schedule!

Now, if you’ll excuse me, I need to go back to being in denial about my term coming to an end. If you see me or any of my fellow officers, make sure to say hi.

Valete!
Alden Okoh-Aduako
NJCL Parliamentarian

Trisha Iyer, NJCL Historian

Salvete all,

Wow, I can’t believe it’s already the 2024 convention! Last year at Emory is still fresh in my mind—probably because I’ve designed a whole recap spread in this year’s NJCL scrapbook—and I am thrilled to see you all this year.

Serving as your 2023-2024 Historian has been so incredible and fun and rewarding; I feel that I’ve gotten to know the whole community a bit better through seeing your smiling faces in scrapbook photos and Photo of the Month contest submissions (you can now find the submission form link at tinyurl.com/jclpotm! Note that down!). As I have compiled this scrapbook, I have worked to include accessible elements, such as easy to read fonts and clearly contrasting color schemes, to make for a viewing experience that is easier on all eyes. In the hopes that I can pass on the tradition of accessibility to other scrapbooks, I compiled a short guide on ADA-compliant graphic design for my fellow historians, which I shared in our GroupMe (email me to join!) along with other “How to Histo” resources on navigating Joomqg, planning a scrapbook, scrapbooking on a budget, and more. I hope the “How to Histo” library I’ve started will expand and continue to demystify this office for more people.

On a lighter note, I also brought the tradition of yearbook signings to this scrapbook, creating a form for people to write notes to JCL friends. Thank you to everyone who submitted! I think adding these notes to the scrapbook will bring a special dash of JCLove to its pages. I’ve also had the pleasure of helping plan and produce two videos at our Officer Fall and Spring Planning Meetings—the FPM officer vlog and a National Classics Week promo video, respectively (your new favorite reality show will be “Keeping Up with the Kings”). And I’ve also designed a sweatshirt for the board, so if you see me or my fellow officers in a purple sweatshirt, please come say hi!

E corde,
Trisha Iyer
NJCL Historian

Jenny Chen, NJCL Editor

Salvete amici,

Tempus fugit! It just feels like yesterday when I was standing on top of the GA stage giving my campaign speech, but here we are at the culmination of my term — National Convention, but this time in Tennessee.

This year, I started my time as Editor off by publishing the Fall Torch with the guidance of both my predecessor, Monet, and my mentor, Mr. Turner. Thank you to you two for all the support and showing me the ropes of Team Editor. The rest of the year, I published the Winter, Spring, and Summer Torches as well, which you can now read from the NJCL website!

Between these quarterly publications, I also ventured out twice to the NJCL Board's Fall Planning Meeting in Knoxville and then Spring Planning Meeting in San Antonio. I also had an amazing time connecting with all of y'all this past January during Convocatio — especially when I got to showcase my 10/10 skribble.io skills.

If it's your first National Convention: welcome, get ready for the best week of your life. If you're a seasoned pro: orange you excited for yet another amazing week? Being an NJCL officer has been one of the best experiences in my life, and I wouldn't trade anything for.

Ab imo pectore,
Jenny

Make It Personal!

Got something to say? Send it our way!

Visit the Ear office hours this week to submit your personals for \$1 (what a steal)!



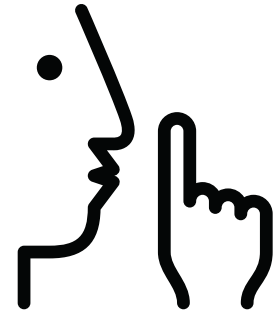
BUY SCL!!!

NOW ONLY ~~\$35~~
\$20

THIS COULD BE YOU!

Come by our booth and visit Noah "The Man With the Cheese"* Abuhajir this week and give us your money!!

*This is funny because he is from Wisconsin and the NSCL Treasurer



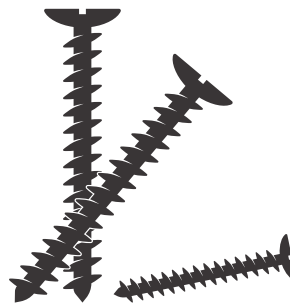
Don't talk during testing!

Work on your mewing streak (testmaxxing)

How to Upgrade Your Dorm!



**Galvanized
Square Steel**



**Screws
Borrowed
From Aunt**



**Eco-Friendly
Wood
Veneers**