Salvete v’omnes!

This summer, our group of roughly 60 IJCLers took an Odyssey to Trinity University for NJCL Convention. After a chaotic experience at Midway Airport, our group landed in San Antonio, Texas for a humid tour of the River Walk and the Alamo. We were one of the first of 46 state delegations to arrive on campus. There were roughly 1,600 delegates in attendance from around the country. During the first GA, our very own state chair, Ms. Jordt, received the Silver Bowl Award in honor of her twentieth NJCL Convention.

As the week continued, IJCLers participated in Olympika Swimming, Track, Ludi Chess, Basketball, Ultimate Frisbee, Soccer, and Volleyball. We are incredibly proud of our certamen teams year after year, but their success at this convention was particularly noteworthy (see page 5). IL took home handfuls of ribbons from testing sessions, graphic arts, and creative arts. Sophia Furfine received second place for her dance performance in That’s Entertainment. IL also got second place in overall spirit for the week!

NJCL Convention 2016 will be at Indiana University. The theme is, “ubi concordia, ibi victoria,” meaning, “Where there is unity, there is victory.” We hope you’ll join us!

E corde,
Valerie Scimeca
IJCL President
Spirit and Service Update

Tu ne cede malis, sed contra audentior ito.
Yield not to misfortunes, but advance all the more boldly against them.

Salvete v’omnes!

It’s been a long time since NJCL ended, but I’m still in denial. Although I’m glad we’re no longer suffering in line at the Alamo, I really could use a good round of IL cheers to get me through the long and arduous school days. Speaking of cheers, I could not be more proud of the Illinois delegation for getting 2nd overall in spirit this year! Thank you all for being the cutest Ursa Majors around, waving those rad Instagram filters (go hug 1st VP Emily Tokarski and Secretary Lina Kapp next time you see them) even when your arms were tired, and enduring the Texas heat in togas and copious amounts of hair gel. I never thought I’d miss my spirit voice, but I do. I miss you all, too.

However, let us not yield to this great misfortune of being apart! Join us at Fall Festivus this year to catch up and partake in our usual IL shenanigans. Upcoming service events will be announced on our Facebook page, so make sure you’ve liked the Illinois Junior Classical League.

Stay hydrated,

Lina Wang
2nd Vice President

Lina dressed as Ursa Major sporting our spirit prize: fingerless gloves!
A Note About Elections

As many of you know, there is a brand new election process for this upcoming convention! To leave room for the other updates, I will briefly run down the new procedures. Feel free to contact me at parliamentarian@iljcl.org if you have any questions!

• In order to be elected, there will be an application process. This application is similar to applications in years past, but will include a writing portion more specific to the board position of interest.
• There will be a speech given to a modified nominations committee. There will NOT be any speeches given at GA.
• Unlike last year, there will be NO active campaigning and NO nominations committee or open forum. However, there will be some kind of “candidate's corner” at convention to meet all of the candidates.
• Finally, there is an interview with a panel of qualified individuals. This panel will consist of “3 current board members (who are not currently “running” for office), 2 of the 5 state chairs, 2 sponsors who are not chairs and do not have candidates running, 2 students from schools not represented by the board members on the panel, and 1 SCLer/former IJCL board member.” (Taken from the amendment, we need to make sure that is okay.)
• The panel will determine who is the most qualified candidate after hearing speeches, interviews, and reading applications. The panel may also refer a candidate to another position if they think the candidate is better fit for that position.
• There are a few changes in the holding of board positions: a school CAN hold the same elective position two years in succession, however no school can have more than two officers on the same board. All other qualifications remain the same.

Hopefully this helps clarify the election process for this year! Again, feel free to email me or refer to our constitution* (on our awesome new website) if you have questions.

Pax et gratias,
Charlie Young
Salvete, amici!
As the PCD and the Texas sunburns start to fade, a new gathering inches closer: Fall Festivus!
Festivus is a “mini-convention” of sorts, and to those of you well versed in the comedy world, Festivus takes on some striking similarities to the pseudo-holiday popularized by Seinfeld.
Instead of worshipping the “Festivus Pole,” JCLers are encouraged to worship the dead language of Latin. Common rituals include showcasing your knowledge in Open Certamen, testing the limits of your vocal cords in spirit, and trying to squeeze as many memes as possible into your school roll call.
The Airing of Grievances will also take place. On Seinfeld, this activity includes lashing out at the people around you, but here at the IJCL, we prefer to reach out to those around us instead. 2nd VP Lina Wang has a great service project up her sleeve, which will be announced shortly via our social media!
But perhaps the finest part of Festivus is the Feats of Strength. The infamous blend of certamen and ludi, known as certudi, will make an appearance at Festivus, providing JCLers with the opportunity to exercise both their minds and bodies. A team of victors will be crowned, and hilariousness will inevitably ensue.
Additionally, no Festivus would be complete without a feast, so make sure to bring $5 for lunch!
Last but not least, there will be Festivus Miracles. Perhaps your IL Board will embarrass themselves, the PCD may morph into PFD, or you might even meet your new best friend. The only way to find out is to attend!
Whether you’re a seasoned IJCLer or new to the JCL experience, we would like to welcome you to come enjoy Fall Festivus with us!
The date and location of Festivus are TBD, but Festivus will fall on a Saturday in Late September or early October! More Information will be posted as it comes out, so be sure to like our page on Facebook and check out our new website at iljcl.org!

LET’S RUMBLE, JCL!

Stay thirsty,
1st VP Emily Tokarski
Certamen Recap

After an epic summer of studying, practicing, and eating too much ice cream, the Illinois certamen teams arrived at NJCL ready to compete. Everyone had put in a great deal of time and effort - so much time, in fact, that the security guards at Northside may have begun to worry that we were all just going to start living there.

The preliminary rounds went very well for all three teams, with everyone advancing to semifinals. The lower team did exceptionally well in the preliminaries, and they were ranked first going into semis. Both the upper and novice teams narrowly missed qualifying for finals (for the novices, it was a matter of just one toss-up). The lower team, however, did make it as far as finals! It was a harrowing match, and although they came in second to the team from Florida, they still played with great skill, speed, and heart.

Here are the final results for each of the teams:

**Novice** (Kim Lu, Madeline Meade, Kristen Rigsby, and Ian Slaby): Fourth place overall

**Lower** (Samir Al-Ali, Jenny Lam, Andres Cook, and Atif Osmani): Second place overall

**Upper** (Devyn Rigsby, Marti Hale, Lina Kapp, and Cassandra Brown): Seventh place overall

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the dedication of the Illinois certamen coaches, Mr. Nifong, Ali Murray, Sam Saks-Fithian, Emily Driscoll, and David Jaffe. Other highly competitive states hire coaches for certamen, but ours (mostly SCLers) volunteer hours and hours of their time. We are forever grateful for their hard work, enthusiasm, and friendship.

Congratulations to all players and coaches!

Lina Kapp
Secretary
Ludi at NJCL

Ludi has always been a source of excitement for nearly everyone in our delegation. This year we were able to be successful and also allow nearly everyone who was interested in Ludi play. Even though we didn't do as well as we wanted to in Ludi volleyball, we made up for it by placing 2nd in Ludi Soccer! It was great to see everyone so enthusiastic and excited to play. Unfortunately, do to a rule change, not everyone could play Ultimate Frisbee, but those who couldn't still cheered us on. All in all, everyone had a great time and those of us coming back as JCLers are excited for next year!

-Cassandra Brown