

PAWS ROMANA

Issue II

Spring 2016

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A BLSJCL PUBLICATION

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Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

This February and March, BLSJCLers have participated in a wide variety of events, from Certamen competitions to Fancy Fantasy Ball. BLSJCL was particularly busy in early February, hosting their annual BLS Certamen and Lupercalia. This issue covers all these events, along with a report from Praetoria, an event hosted by the MassJCL to help guide and teach delegates from many chapters. Finally, there is a description of some interesting myths, favorites of a fellow BLSJCLer. We hope that you will enjoy this final issue of the 2015-2016 *Paws Romana!*

-e corde,

Peter Wang, 2015-2016 Publications Editor, and the 2015-2016 Publications Committee

Committee Members:

Christy Jestin
 Jairam Rao
 Nick Weiske
 Greta Gaffin
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 Ting Wei Li

Title Cred: BLSJCL Historians

MASSJCL PRAETORIA



I arrived at Holy Cross College on a chilly day having no idea what to expect out of MassJCL's first annual Praetoria. I was excited as usual to meet those from all over the state, as JCL events usually bring, and I walked into the building to meet around 20 JCLers I have never met before. We started out getting to know each other and each other's backgrounds in JCL as we played a few icebreakers. Linda and Allyson spearheaded the event and we were all given very professional binders with loads of advice and information about everything JCL. The day consisted of meeting in our small legions of about seven JCLers and a board member (where we got awesome t-shirts!), playing games, and learning all there is to know about every major aspect of running a club. From fundraising to spirit and publicity, all were covered in depth so that every school attending had a complete guide of how-to-JCL. We also had a fantastic catered lunch and got to talk to more personally with those from other chapters over our three course meal. The board not only did a great job of explaining the ins and outs of various contests but also shared great ideas, making us all feel like we were getting an inside view on the best ways to make a scrapbook and create an event. When leaving Holy Cross I felt like I had gotten a stronger grasp on being a better leader and an idea generator in JCL, while making a few new friends along the way.

-Kayla Riker, (II)



Cred: Allyson Ping

BLSJCL LUPERCALIA

BLSJCL hosted its second annual Lupercalia Fest this year. It was two hours in the dining hall of classically-inspired fun. While it lacked the excellent stickers of last year, it was still a good time. It was a fairly even mix of both members of BLSJCL and non-members, which is always a nice surprise.

Similar to last year, there were different stations set up. If you completed the station, you got stamps. They could be turned for prizes, such as food and BLSJCL merchandise. One station that was new this year was Impromptu Art. The theme was to create a superhero using a character from Greco-Roman mythology. While I found trying to glue down pipe cleaners difficult, it was still a good addition to the festival.

There was also a change in the manner in which the trivia contest was held. Last year, it was solely classical trivia, and it was non-competitive. This year, it was done certamen-style, so you not only had to know the information, but know it more quickly than everyone else at the table. Other trivia, such as Harry Potter questions, were also added to the mix. While I liked the inclusion of non-classical trivia, I can see why a true JCL purist might have been annoyed.

All in all, the Lupercalia fest this year was a success. I will probably miss it next year, as I am a senior, but perhaps I will have to make a special trip home to attend it.

-Greta Gaffin, (I)



FANCY FANTASY BALL

As **five** four young British boys once said "And we danced all night, to the best song ever." A variation of this phrase was uttered to many a friend and family member on March 6th 2016, the day after the MassJCL Fancy Fantasy Ball at The Boston Common Hotel and Conference Center. Boasting its usual spread of cheese platters and pizzas, great music, and an enthusiastic group of JCLers with smiles on their faces and a spring in their "two-step", the Semi-formal was overall this year, a complete success. In terms of the events of the night, after watching some extremely talented JCLers share with us their many talents, the members of the MassJCL proceeded to (in the most appropriate, and vertical sense possible) "drop it like it's caldus". With some amazing dance moves, a fantastic DJ, and a photo booth with some very "fancy" mustache and sunglass props, the Fancy Fantasy Ball was a night to remember. In fact the excitement, and the amount of "fire lyrics and rhymes" that were being thrown around upstairs even caught the attention of the hotel fire alarm. The MassJCL that night, was in effect, too hot to handle. As the night came to a close, the historians placing their lense caps back on their cameras, and students removing their heels to walk down to the lobby of the hotel to say their goodbyes, it seemed everyone was in agreement - this year's MassJCL semi formal was simply wonderful.

-Will Burnett, (II)

Cred: BLSJCL Historians

On February 16, dozens of teams flocked from all over Massachusetts to participate in the 2016 BLS Certamen Tournament. The tournament itself was none other than a success. Of course with its new movie out, Star Wars had to be the theme! The tournament itself consisted of three preliminary rounds of twelve questions each, with some related to Star Wars. After the three prelims, the finals for each division took place. The three finalists were the top scorers in their division during the prelims. The final round consisted of 20 nail biting tossups that would decide the fate of the teams. A main event other than the certamen itself was the humongous raffle. The winner won a BB-8 drone along with other Star Wars merchandise. Everyone was willing to break open their wallets to get a chance at winning this wonderful prize! Now on to how the tournament went. I was a member of the BLS superteam in the novice division. Why do I call it a superteam? That's because we literally had 12 members on our one certamen team! We were only allowed one team in order to fit the bracket for the amount of teams that participated. Unfortunately, BLS teams in the intermediate and advanced teams did not participate because they wrote the questions! After an intense competition, our novice team came out with first place. To add to the excitement, the winner of the amazing raffle was none other than Luc Azar-Tanguay, a BLS certamen team member! Overall the 2016 BLS Certamen Tournament was well organized, fun, and a great experience for all the teams that competed. I can't wait for next year!

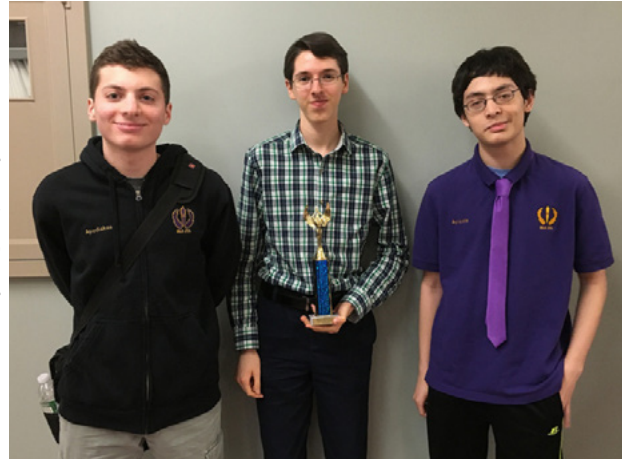
-Charles Ma, (V)

BLS CERTAMEN

Cred: Magistra Moguel

SCL CERTAMEN

BLS Certamen teams at all levels showed yet another amazing performance on Saturday, March 5th at this year's annual Senior Classical League Certamen Tournament at Boston University. In novice, two BLS teams placed 1st and 3rd, the intermediate teams placed first and second, and our advanced teams placed first and second place as well. I played on the second place team in the advanced level along with Jonathan Yuan, Ting Wei Li, and Anna Aldins. My overall experience was a positive one, and even though we didn't win first place, it was still satisfying to see another team from the same school win the tournament. However, not everyone's day went as smoothly. Dalena Nguyen, a competitor from rival school Boston Latin Academy says that she was a little bit disappointed at not being able to make finals after playing as a solo team and against both Boston Latin School teams, which ended in her not getting as many points in the preliminary rounds as she could have gotten against easier competition. This is a great example of how certamen is something that requires not only skill, but also a great amount of luck as well. However, even though Dalena didn't make it to the final round, she was still happy for us and didn't have hard feelings toward the BLS teams. All in all, SCL Certamen was a fun competition and I would recommend attending to anyone, whether you are a certamen veteran or a newbie. Hope to see you there next year!



-Ina Beinborn, (III)



Novice Winners



Intermediate Winners

Cred:Magistra Moguel



My favorite myth... That's hard to decide, especially considering I've studied them since I was a sixie. So, I will tell my own story just like Demodocus, the blind bard of the Phaeacians in The Odyssey. He tells about the affair of Aphrodite and Ares, in the same way that all of the ancient stories were told and passed down by bards like Homer. The stories would be woven together, each story line connecting together.

A love story that I have always liked was told by Ovid; Glaucus, a fisherman turned into a sea god when he tasted the grass that made the fish he caught jump back into the sea, accidentally turned his love Scylla into the same dog-headed monster that Odysseus faced. One more love story from Ovid, which I love because of his poetic and lyrical take on the irony of the story: Acis and Galatea were young lovers, distanced only because the cyclops Polyphemus (yes, again from The Odyssey) loved Galatea, and would not take no for an answer. However, despite Ovid leaving the end of the myth up to his reader's imagination, I like to think that the nymph and the youth-turned-river ended their stories together, like Hero and Leander. They were two lovers who lived on opposing sides of the Hellespont, and each night Leander would swim the 4 miles across the straight to meet with Hero. One night, however, he drowned in a storm, and when Hero found his body, she committed suicide. This time a Roman tale, Cupid and Psyche were married, but to prove her worth to her mother-in-law Venus, Psyche completed a list of seemingly impossible tasks. However, many accounts give Cupid as one of the primordial deities emerged from Chaos, the ultimate proof of order coming from confusion.

-Anna B. Aldins

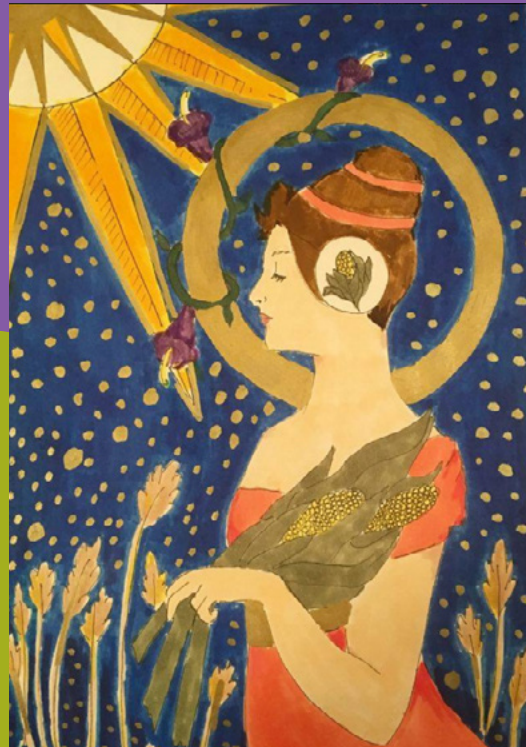
FAVORITE MYTHS

Cred: Google Images

ART SHOWCASE



Anna Aldins, (III)

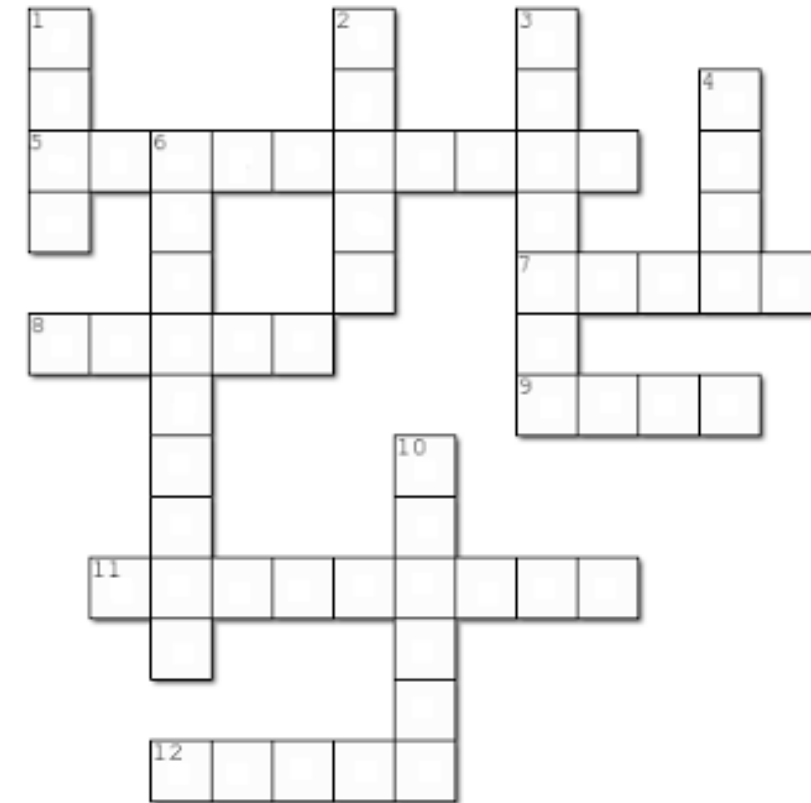


Will Burnett, (II)



Lily Yang, (IV)

CROSSWORD



Created with TheTeachersCorner.net [Crossword Maker](#)

Across

- 5. Traitor to both sides during the Peloponnesian war
- 7. Number of syllables in a dactyl
- 8. Month States starts in this year
- 9. Without this crossword, you'd be sad
- 11. Leader of the Amazons
- 12. Town of Ovid's birth

Down

- 1. Mythical hero and cleaning product
- 2. Your soul, in the vocative
- 3. Father of the last Western Roman Emperor
- 4. First word of our state motto
- 6. Whirlpool/monster of Odyssey fame
- 10. Hodie volo, cras _____

UPCOMING EVENTS

- MAJCL State Convention

4/29-5/1



- NJCL Convention at Indiana U

7/25-7/30

