National Convention
What was it like to travel to Troy University in Alabama and spend 5 days immersed in the Classics? Read about the trip, hear from some who went, and see how Colorado JCL ranks among a national audience.

Fall Forum
What is this? Where and when is it? Why should I go? Learn all that and more about this fun day.

10 Dumbest Deaths in Mythology
Heroes do not always make the best decisions. Here you can find the creme de la creme of dumb deaths.
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National Junior Classical League Convention was at Troy University, in Alabama, this summer. The Colorado Delegation had 10 students from around the state, and even beyond that (as Lone Pine Classical School is an online school which rallies in Colorado).

"At the NJCL convention, there really is something for everyone. If you love to test your knowledge of classics, NJCL offers academic tests every day of the convention on a variety of topics from classical art to Roman history to Greek grammar. You can take as many (or as few) of these tests as you’d like. If you’re more of the athletic type, there are swimming events to compete in, such as the 50-meter backstroke and the 100-meter freestyle, as well as track events with races ranging from distances of 100 meters to a mile run. Artists can also compete at nationals in graphic arts as well as performing arts; the national convention even offers an impromptu art contest.

"Even though competition at nationals is fierce, it’s not all work and no play. I can guarantee that some of your best summer memories will come from attending a national convention. The energetic atmosphere of a national convention is infectious; the excitement at general assemblies is incredible, and states put so much effort and enthusiasm into creating their costumes for each day’s theme. Each night there will be fun activities to participate in, some of which from this year included a lip-sync battle and, one of my personal favorite events, the Roman murder mystery game (partly because I ended up being the murderer at the end). The end of convention features a talent show with some of the most amazing singers, dancers, comedians, and other performers I’ve ever seen."

Leah Huzjak,
COJCL State Historian
If you are interested in going to National Convention next year, it is being held at Miami University Ohio in July of 2018. However, if you are unable to attend the convention, but would still like to help the Colorado Delegation, you can always participate in Pre-Convention Contests and help with the COJCL Service Project at Fall Forum. This year, COJCL is making classical cards for hospitalized children around Colorado. This is a wonderful opportunity to encourage local children in need and to help Colorado JCL by helping to earn national spirit points!

**Prizes**

| T-shirt Visual | 1<sup>st</sup> |
| T-shirt Use of Theme | 2<sup>nd</sup> |
| T-shirt Overall | 3<sup>rd</sup> |
| State Publications | 11<sup>th</sup> |
| Scrapbook | 3<sup>rd</sup> |
Fall Forum, a part of CU Boulder's Classics Day, is a fun filled day of learning about the classics. There are lectures from current students at CU and activities set up by Colorado JCL. Members are encouraged to go to show their latin abilities, as well as compete in Certamen and Olympika events. Schools may also display their standards and perform their cheers. There will also be a costume contest for attendees to participate in. The entire day is a wonderful time to learn more about Romans and Greeks, as well as an exciting way to spend time with friends from across the state. Free prizes for participating and winning activities include rubber ducks, t-shirts, pompoms, inflatable tubes, and beach balls, as well as candy!

During the day, you can learn about ancient life, have fun with your friends, or even share a special moment with a statue as former COJCL President, Mary-Claire Spurgin, did last year! You get to see the CU Boulder Campus, expand your knowledge of classics, and have a blast while doing so. We hope to see you there!
Schedule

9:15 - 10:00  Registration
10:00 - 10:30  Ovatio (Salutatia and Pompa)
10:30 - 12:00  Conventivula
   Life as a Gladiator
   Greek in a Day
   Write Like Achilles!
   Artifacts from the Ancient World
   Decipher a Roman Epitaph
   Anatomy of a Temple
   Let's Speak Latin!

12:00 - 1:00  Prandium (lunch)
   Costume Contest

1:00 - 3:00  COJCL Events
   Mini Olympika
   Service Project: Making Cards for Hostipalized Children
   Spoken Latin from Tim Smith
   Certamen
Ludi Augusti is an annual event held in January in both Northern and Southern Colorado. A school from Northern Colorado and a school from Southern Colorado are encouraged to host a classical event for the schools in their area. These events can include a multitude of different activities including, but not limited to, Certamen competitions, movie screenings, board games, athletic activities, or other things around the area. This event is an exciting way to spend time with your own JCL chapter as well as other chapters in your area.

Last year, Southern Colorado Ludi Augusti was held by The Classical Academy at a bowling alley. They had a toga bowling event for JCL schools in and around Colorado Springs. In the North, Liberty Common High School hosted. This event included a screening of the movie Hercules, pool noodle jousting, and board games.

Every school that is a part of JCL is encouraged either to plan a Ludi Augusti event or attend one in their area. This is an amazing opportunity to meet new members of JCL and include schools new to the JCL community. It also promotes JCL unity before State Convention a few months later in April. COJCL wants to make classics fun for everyone and Ludi Augusti is part of that. We hope that everyone can have fun at their area’s event!
Every year, Colorado JCL schools spend a night and two days at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes for State Convention. This trip includes classical activities and games for attendees. During the two days, students are encouraged to join games, participate in athletic competitions, show their academic prowess, showcase their acting ability, and expand their knowledge of the ancient world. This is also where COJCL State Officers are elected for the following year. Everyone is welcome to enter any activity they would like and are encouraged to be working on pre-convention competitions as soon and as often as they are able.

This is a wonderful time to interact with other JCL members from all over the state and to learn more about the ancient world. Everyone going to convention can expect to have a spectacular time in the mountains, to return with more friends than you started with, and to expand your knowledge of Latin and the Classics!

Pre-Convention Contests

One Entry Per Category Per School
essay writing, t-shirt design, board game design, poetry, program cover design, videography

Up to 5 Entries Per Student
map making, chart making, poster design, ink drawing, mosaic, pencil drawing, photography (traditional and computer-enhanced), jewelry, cartoon making, greeting card design, sculpture, pottery, charcoal drawing, small and large models, watercolor painting, oil and acrylic painting, decorative stitching, mixed media art, militaria, pastel drawing, doll making, textile creation
Anyone who studies mythology knows that heroes do not always make the most intelligent choices. Some of these bad ideas even lead to their death. Here you can find the 10 worst decisions of heroes that lead to death.

1. Acrisius
While imprisoning your daughter to keep her a virgin is normally a foolproof plan, it did not work out this time. Also, being on the lookout when there are people throwing discuses around you would probably be for the best.

2. Agamemnon
Generally, sacrificing your daughter to the gods is not the best way to make your wife happy, but coming home after 10 years with another woman is even worse. Its bad enough to drive a woman to murder her husband.

3. Phocus, son of Aeacus
While no one can do anything about who their parents are, most people do not get murdered by their own siblings for it. However, one can hope for their body not to be found by their father.

4. Jason
If your wife is crazy, it is best not to make her angry. Apparently Jason never knew that; he was forced to die lonely and unhappy due to his adultery. Another tip to living a long life is making sure your ship does not fall on you.

5. Diomedes of Thrace
Keeping man-eating horses was his first mistake. The second was letting them eat a friend of Hercules. These things together did not help him live a long life.

6. Talos
Even if you're a giant bronze automaton, you're not indestructible. Apparently you can still die from one single cut.

7. Aegeus
You can give your son very specific instructions, and still have him forget when it comes down to it. However, hurling yourself into the sea may be a tad overkill if your son disobeys.

8. Absyrtus
Medea's crazy antics did not only hurt Jason. Being her own brother does not even protect you from her murderous streak.

9. Pelias
Medea strikes again! Killing those who could take the throne from you can be helpful, but only if you are not killed by your own daughters.

10. Icarus
Fathers have no idea what they are talking about and worry too much. You should just disregard their warnings. Especially when they're world-famous inventors who just made artificial wings to get you out of prison.
Schools each show spirit in their own way. COJCL rewards those who have more spirit than others with a competition. Schools can earn Spirit Points for a variety of different activities and at State Convention, the school with the most Spirit Points in their league wins a duck trophy to keep with them until the next convention.

Spirit Points are given out for many reasons including writing poems and articles for the Torch, sending photos to the Editor and the Historian, competing and winning costume contests, winning academic and artistic competitions at Convention, and much more.

Unfortunately no schools have received any spirit points. The first opportunity is during Fall Forum based on the costume contest and based on number of attendees.
thanks for reading!