

The Latin Club

Tallahassee Classical Conversations

We hope all the Latin Club members are enjoying a wonderful second semester!

Dear Latin Club,

You have no idea how glad I am to have been able to serve a Latin Club which has such great talent as ours does! At the Forum this year, CC placed second in Olympika and our level one Certamen placed third! On top of that, half of our twenty-seven Latin Club students placed in one area or another, some of them placing in more than one subject. I would like to thank especially, our level two Certamen, who boldly went into competition and even won some toss ups leading them to win a round! Let's not forget why we do what we do, the name that we bear, and the CC message on our shirts, *Declarare Deum*.

Sola Deo Gloria!

Vester Servus Latinus Coetus dux,

Chris Barnard, Latin Club President

Upcoming Events:

Next Latin Club Meeting – Feb. 18th

National Latin Exam – March 11th

Spring Fundraiser – March 11th

State Latin Forum – April 3rd – 5th

Latin Banquet – April, exact date
TBA

Important Announcement:

Please begin preparing for the National Latin Exam (NLE) which is now only a month away! Please visit the NLE website: <http://www.nle.org>. For more information and study helps, read Caleb's mythology article and Sophie's NLE article on page 3.

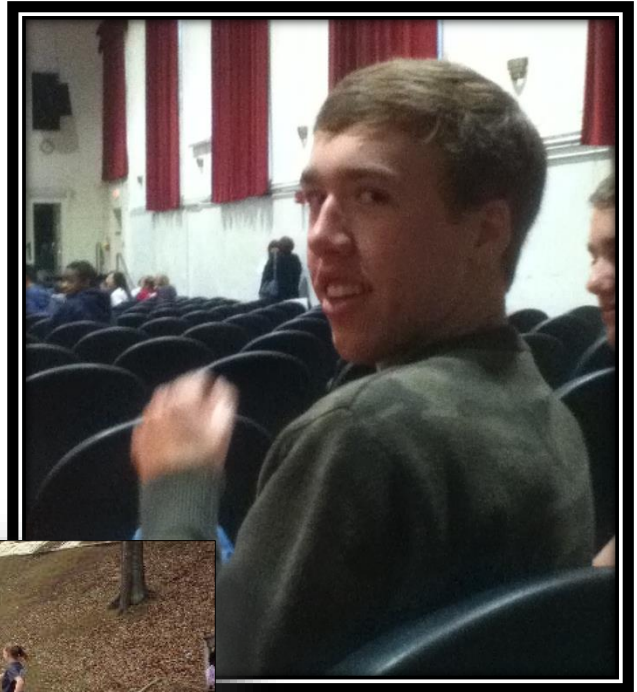
Congratulations to all who participated in the Latin Forum!



**Great
job!**



A few photos from the Regional Forum to enjoy...



On the Study of Mythology...

Recently, it has been noted, more people have been signing up for mythology tests, or running into questions based on mythological facts during tests. To help those unfortunate ones who know nothing or very little about mythology, I have written this article, with my most helpful suggestions. To facilitate learning these stories (for most mythology is story-based), I have broken down study into a few simple steps. Step 1. Read. This is, quite honestly, the only important step one really must do. In light of this, I will be focusing on it. If one reads enough mythology, one will be able to manage the tests easily enough. To aid in reading, here are a few of the best books on the topic. Anything by **Roger Lancelyn Green**. He really is the best author on the topic, head and shoulders above anyone else. If one is a visual person, though, **D'Aulaire's books on Greek or Roman myths** have tolerable illustrations, albeit with rather simplified retellings. There are, of course, other good sources, including the original texts, but those cover broad bases, and one of the two should appeal to everyone. Another important thing to note about mythology is that there is always another version. The stories have been copied and retold so many times, no one agrees completely on all the points. So, the more differing versions read, the better. So, I'll end here, with the reminder to simply read, especially in preparation for the upcoming National Latin Exam.

May your studies provide illumination into the rich field of mythology.

-Caleb Stephens, Official Secretariat of the Latin Club

A Word about the NLE...

With the National Latin Exam only a month away, I thought now would be an appropriate time to write something on this subject. First of all, I would really like to emphasize the importance and benefits of taking the National Latin Exams that were administered from previous years. In doing so, you will be able to familiarize yourself with the general structure of the exam and see what kind questions are asked, as well as find out your strengths and weaknesses in the different sections. To access the exams, visit the "Previous Exams" page on the NLE website, or go to this link: <http://www.nle.org/exams.html#previousexam>. I recommend that you print out all of the exams that pertain to your level, from 1999-2013. Take these, and then compare your answers to the answer key that is provided with each exam. If you are unsure what level you will be taking this year, feel free to email me. Additionally, this year, I have found the *Memoria Press Guide to the National Latin Exam* to have some valuable information concerning the NLE. Having a study guide is, of course, not mandatory, but I think it can certainly enrich your NLE-focused study time! The study guide that I have aforementioned provides lists of vocabulary words to know, important Latin

sayings, basic Mythology information, Roman history and geography (including maps of the ancient world), as well as conjugations and declensions. If you have any questions regarding this particular study guide and/or how you can order it, please email me! I would, however, like to reiterate that above all, the thing I found key to studying for the NLE last year definitely was taking all of the previous NLEs that corresponded to the level I was taking that year. After I had taken each one, I would go back and check my answers, sometimes writing the question and right answer on a notecard. Then, once I found my weak areas, I specifically worked on those, looking up extra things, and drilling myself on the information.

I hope these few study tips prove to be useful as you endeavor to prepare for the NLE!

- Sophie Silver, Vice President of the Latin Club

The Red Elephant Fundraiser...



Food, Fellowship, Fundraising!

*Tuesday, 11th March
ALL day!*

"If more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world."
~J. R. R. Tolkien

Come to Red Elephant Tuesday, March 11th, for food and cheer! (And earn us a little gold while you're at it. ;) Mention the CC Latin Club and a portion of your bill goes towards our organization. This event is occurring all day at both Red Elephant locations in Tallahassee. So come to eat and fellowship with other CCers before spring break starts! Don't forget to tell your family and friends to come out and support us!

Just mention Classical Conversations Latin Club!

-Elizabeth Lehman, Treasurer of the Latin Club

Latin Club Member's Contribution...

We are excited to announce a special section which will be featured in the future monthly Latin Club newsletters: a Latin Club Member article. We welcome your own writing! If you would like to write about something Latin-related, please email it to Sophie at sophiesilver@gmail.com with "For the LC Newsletter" in the subject line.

Your article must meet the following requirements:



1. It does not exceed 150 words.
2. It focuses on a Latin-related topic (The topics within may be anything – from the history of a Latin word to how the Romans used a certain tool/recipe to a short biography of an important figure in Roman history.)
3. It conveys interesting, practical, funny, or educational information.
4. It contains only accurate information!

Note: while we anticipate minimal need of grammatical correction, etc., you must be willing to allow us to make any necessary corrections before including it in the newsletter☺.

Latin Mottos/Sayings Contest!

Do you have a favorite Latin saying that inspires you?

To participate in this contest, email to Sophie Silver at sophiesilver@gmail.com your favorite Latin saying/motto and why you really like it. The Latin Club Officers will vote on the best saying/motto and reasons that go with it. The winner's favorite motto and reasons why it is his/her favorite will be included in the next Latin Club Newsletter!!

Note: The deadline for entering is February 28th.