

2021

TJCL TORCH

THE SHOW MUST GO ON



"THIS PICTURE IS FROM MID-STATE CONVENTION LAST YEAR. I'M SAD THERE'S NO MORE IN PERSON CONVENTIONS FOR Q WHILE, BUT THE JCLOVE IS STILL STRONG AND ALL THE EVENTS ARE STILL FUN. I CAN'T WAIT FOR ANOTHER YEAR IN JCL!"

-AUDREY DUNLAP, JUNIOR AT HUME FOGG

**MEET THE
OFFICERS**

**LIVE LAUGH
LUDI BY WJCL
EDITOR EMMA**

**SPIRIT IN 2020
BY HANNAH
DODSON**

**PHOTO OF THE
MONTH
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FROM THE EDITOR

Salvete omnes!

Mihi nomen est Andrea Florence! I am so excited to be your TJCL Torch editor this year! Publications this year are going to have to look different than they ever have before, but I hope they will still do previous years justice. Due to the pandemic, there have been far less opportunities for chapters to get together and have events, and thus, there is unfortunately less to report on in that aspect. However, that does not mean that the community is thriving any less this year than it ever has before. In a time where we could not physically be together, group chats, Zoom calls, and Among Us have given JCL delegates across the state (and even the nation) ways to connect in ways they never have before. There may not be parties and marching in togas together, this

year, but there is still plenty to cover. Thank you for trusting me to provide the same level of spirit and JCLove in this publication, and the one's thereafter, as there have been in times past.

Lastly, I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has submitted articles, photos, and memes. Without you all, this publication wouldn't be possible. If anyone reading this would like the opportunity to be featured in the upcoming Winter Torch publication, you can submit entries to the Photo of the Month contest, Meme of the Month contest, classically themed articles, and/or chapter updates to the email below. Thank you, and happy reading!

Sincerely,
Andrea Florence
2020-2021 TJCL Editor
torcheditor.tjcl@gmail.com

A LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Salvete omnes!

I'm Ann Wilson and I am thrilled to be serving you as TJCL President this year. I may not have been able to see your smiling faces in person during state or nationals this year, but I was so happy to see how many of you participated! Virtual state was an experiment and y'all really stepped up to the plate! We saw so much creativity and ingenuity from everything that was submitted. Then so many of you "came" to virtual NJCL! It was a pleasure to see you (and your pets) during fellowship every morning. Y'all participated in certamen (and did incredibly well might I add). I was so happy to see how involved you were in spirit and service. Overall, it has been quite the eventful season for the TJCL.

I know that currently the world is a very scary place, but I hope you have been able to find some solace here. I know I've been looking to my fellow JCLers more and more over the past few months. Through it all, I've always found a hand to hold within this wonderful community and I hope you have too. This year I really hope to focus on providing y'all with community. It is more vital than ever to form strong connections. It is also easier than ever to befriend people who live far away. I know that I have been able to befriend people from other parts of the state as well as JCLers from other states. There are so many other JCLers to connect with in Tennessee and around the country.

This year has been and is going to be a year of firsts. The possibility of in person events may be looking fairly grim, but don't get discouraged. We had a successful virtual state convention and national convention has given us even more ideas. We hope to make this year a success even if much of it is from the safety of our homes. Keep an eye out because we are certainly working hard to make events for you. Also keep an eye out for some new national events that you can participate in! Many states are currently opening their events to people from other states. That can be a great way to make new JCPals and keep your JCL spirit going all year round. I know this year is challenging, but we can get through it together. I have total faith in all of us

Much JCLove,

Ann Wilson
2020-2021 TJCL President
president.tjcl@gmail.com



O' Captain, My Captain!

"I met Ann at Nats 2019 in Fargo and we immediately knew we worked well together. Since getting to know her I learned how hard working and fabulous she is as a person. She always answers questions and will help in any way she can. She's truly an amazing president." -Hannah Dodson

"Ann is incredibly kind, and really passionate about what she does. She absolutely loves that she gets to serve as president this year, and we're all really thankful that she is. We love you Ann!"-Andrea Florence

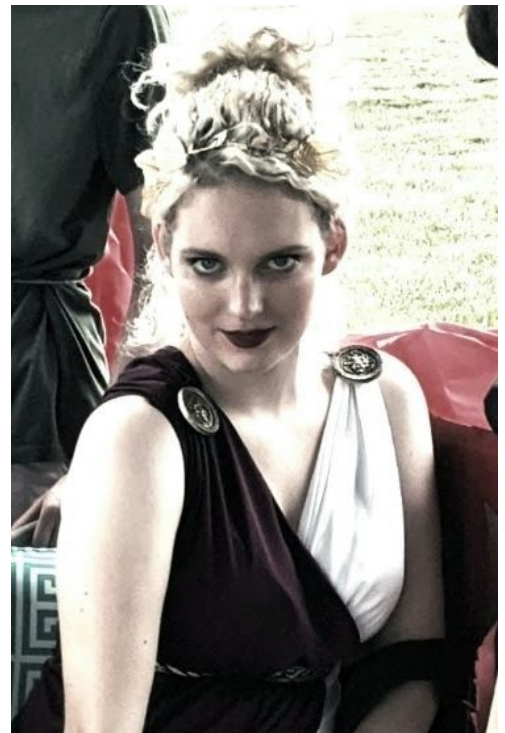
"Ann and I have been great friends ever since we met while campaigning at the 2019 TJCL Convention, and I have cherished every moment of our friendship. In these uncertain times, she has served as a role model of a President, leading the whole board to great success, while raising the outreach of the TJCL to the national level."-Saksham Saksena

OFFICER INTRODUCTIONS

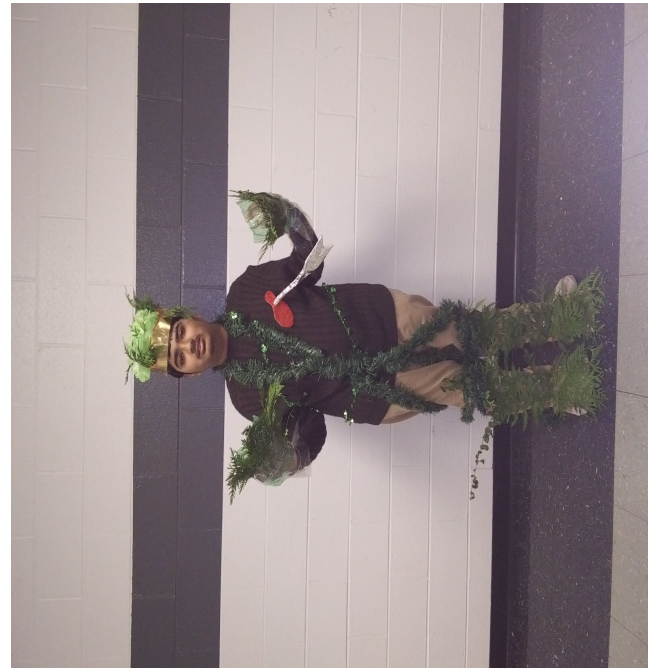


Salvete omnes! I'm Ann Wilson, your 2020-2021 TJCL President. I'm a Latin 4 student at St. Mary's School in Memphis. I'm so excited to be serving y'all this year! I was very happy to see many of y'all at virtual nats. Despite the strangeness of it all, I cannot wait to see what this year holds. Y'all have been very resilient so far, and I know that we'll see even more creativity and ingenuity from you. I can't wait to work with all of you!

Salvete, Omnes! I'm Hannah Dodson, a senior at Rossview High School and your 2020-2021 2nd VP. As evidenced in my campaign material, I live in a go big or flame out in a blaze of fire and fury intensity. Whether it be for JCL, drumset, or random cosplays, I eschew half-hearted efforts. If you watched That's Entertainment! or any of the Spirit compilations from this year's National's, you will have seen me playing my drumset, screaming my head off in an awkward backyard display for TJCL, and posing dramatically in an MCR-inspired toga made from a pile of discarded fabric. It should not be a surprise that my favorite character in ALL of Greek Mythology is Tiresias. He/She/They drank life to the proverbial "lees." Most of the official plans previously expressed during my campaign sadly were invalidated by the reality of Nationals being moved online; however, that did not stop TJCL from winning THIRD place in Spirit and Service for our bracket of states! Although Nats is over, I do not plan on stopping my work. I am currently creating a TJCL Spirit Leader's group chat and a How-To-Spirit Guide for State and National conventions. In order to really channel our JCLove, I also am working on ways to improve the Spirit competition this year, be it virtual or in person. Whether it be in real life or on-line, I can't wait to spend my penultimate JCL year with you all!



Salvete Omnes! I am Saksham Saksena, your 2020-21 TJCL 1st Vice President. I am a Senior at Houston High. I am taking AP Latin this year. I plan to organize service projects throughout the year for you all to participate in and send videos and other materials to teachers to help boost membership.



Hiya! I'm Isabel Sullivan. I am a Junior at Hume-Fogg, where I study AP Latin. I am an avid Certamen player, a Vergil enthusiast, and love the JCL with all of my heart. I enjoy reading poetry, especially the Romantic poets, but my favorite poet of all is A.E. Housman. In my free time, I enjoy baking and cooking, although with varying results... I chose to run for Parliamentarian because I enjoy making sure things go right, and I really wanted to give back and serve the organization that has so generously given me friends, awards, and fantastic memories.

Salvete omnes! I'm Andrea Florence, your TJCL Editor. I'm a senior in the AP Latin class at Hume Fogg Academic. My favorite thing to learn about in class is Roman mythology. In my free time, I enjoy baking, hiking, and tending to my family's farm in Kentucky over breaks and weekends. I plan to give you all multiple publications with fun things such Photo of the Month content and articles written by fellow JCL delegates.



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Salve, amici! I'm Willow Blythe, and I'm the TJCL Historian. My job is to create the scrapbook for this year, and I plan to build the most visually-appealing scrapbook possible that is inclusive of all chapters' achievements. I have a love for most things arts-and-crafts, including scrapbooking, and for making underwhelming, but the nonetheless creative, costumes for me and my plush turkey, Croissant.

Salvete! My name is Bethany Whitney, and I am your Communications Coordinator! I am a junior at Hume Fogg high school, where I have served as 2nd VP. I am so grateful to be able to serve on the state board this year! Some of my goals for office are to expand and beautify the website, increase delegate engagement with the website and with the Junior Classical League, and to serve the TJCL, its executive board, and delegates in any way possible.



Live, Laugh, Ludi: The Innovative Fashion Embodiment of Versatility and Comfort

By Emma Canga, WJCL Editor

Designed by the WJCL, Ludi merchandise has broadened its horizons in recent years, initially with the launch of the nationally available edition of the jersey (purple and white) and now with the online Ludi Store. Formerly solely a stand at Agora, Ludi merchandise has evolved to span both physical and virtual worlds. At first glance, one may mistake the Ludi Jersey for a mere “tank top” or the Ludi socks for simple “foot sheaths,” but their technical designs and structures reveal their more complicated and careful engineering.

The latest model of the Ludi Jersey effectively combines comfort, versatility, and style to cater to customers around the globe and to induce the unique Ludi experience. The main body is composed of a light and comfortable mesh designed to create an optimal environment for exercise and physical activity. Also visible is the utilisation of the innovative cooling technology “sans sleeves” which facilitates movement and enhances body temperature regulation through increased air exposure. In addition, the Ludi jersey exhibits reversibility, available in purple and white (sold nationally) and red and white (exclusively sold in Wisconsin, USA). The two-in-one benefit of this convenient feature appeals to consumer preferences by lessening color fashion limitations. The common use of white mesh in both the purple and red jerseys reduces light absorption so that users do not heat up additionally due to the absorption of sunlight. The colors purple and gold, displayed on the purple side of the purple and white Ludi Jersey, symbolize the JCL as does the bolded “LUDI LUDI LUDI” printed on the front. The use of capital letters illustrates the support and motivation experienced during a Ludi event. By simply looking at the strategic font, size, and capitalization, users and viewers will be able to enjoy the Ludi love from their own homes.

This past year, the Ludi brand expanded its name with the release of Ludi socks, now available in purple and gold (sold nationally) and red and white (exclusively sold in Wisconsin, USA). The socks, as do the jerseys, demonstrate the extraordinary comfort and versatility guaranteed with Ludi products. An insulating yet airy material forms the body of the sock, and the foot-like shape relieves the discomfort of inconvenient seams and fitting complications. Each sock is approximately 2 mm thick allowing for a slim, comfortable fit in various styles of shoes. If desired, the sock can be concealed under a pant leg or within a boot; its flexible material eases adjustments in all shoe environments. The tactical construction and composition of the Ludi socks enhance a variety of activities that include, but are not limited to, recreation, relaxation, work, and dining. The font and text techniques evident on the Ludi Jerseys are also incorporated into the socks’ outer design.

Continued

With only 7 clicks, you can purchase your very own Ludi apparel. Visit https://www.wjcl.org/store/p3/Ludi_Jersey.html or https://www.wjcl.org/store/p4/Ludi_Socks.html to locate the Ludi Jersey and socks respectively. It is as easy as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. The act of purchasing a jersey or the socks consumes less time than the reading of this article, so we at the WJCL encourage you to spare mere seconds of your time for a lifetime of enjoyment! We assure you that the marginal benefits will exceed the marginal costs; fifteen to twenty dollars are unaccountable amongst all the joy evident in Ludi merchandise recipients.

If you or any acquaintances have purchased Ludi merchandise, we are accepting photo submissions and reviews of the products year long. Participation will result in an appearance in the following edition of the WJCL Torch: WI!

By Emma Canga, WJCL Editor

About the Author

Hello! I'm Emma Canga, WJCL Editor, and I cannot express more how fun this position is. Being an editor is quite an independent job, but at the same time very communicative. While designing your own publications, you work with others to gather content and support from around the nation! Aside from JCL, I am a part of my school's Mock Trial team and softball team. Mock Trial requires a lot of work, as do most extracurriculars, but I really enjoy spending time with my teammates and working together on this year's criminal case. For those who may not know, Mock Trial is exactly what it sounds like: a mock trial. So schools around the nation prepare to face off, defense vs prosecution, at competitions: regionals, state, and nationals. On another note, I was never the sporty type, but softball encouraged me to incorporate exercise into my lifestyle. My skill developed a bit later, but our team bonded nearly immediately, girls from all grades and different interests. Coming into high school, I was already involved in JCL, but I had no idea there were so many of us on my Mock Trial and softball team!

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

AUGUST

"The spirited spider in the Purple and Gold of the JCL"

Submitted by Saksham Saksena,
Houston High School



NOVEMBER



"By collecting tuna cans, the JCL students of Houston High aimed to show gratitude this thanksgiving to our veterans. Pictured above is the 259 cans we collected. While turkey was enjoyed on Thanksgiving, the Memphis Veterans Administration Hospital allocated the collected tuna to make sure the veterans could enjoy tuna with turkey." Submitted by Hamin Jin, Houston High School

No submissions were made in the months of September or October.

Spirit 2020:

How to (Not) Win Friends and Influence People Over Zoom

In a normal NJCL year, Spirit definitely breaks any social distancing mandates: crowded stadiums, surround-sound screaming, the dissonance of synchronous off-beat clapping, and a collision course of inflatable JCL mascots. This year, Spirit's spirit seemed sedate: secluded submissions of chants turned soliloquy, glitchy tech delaying and distorting our backyard efforts, and no obvious technicolor spectacle naturally produced by grouping hordes of teens in a collective environment. At the crux of college application time, many cringe-worthy videos now litter the internet of myself and others JCLers proclaiming their off-beat love for Classics.

But that's not such a bad thing.

Spirit demands fully embracing those embarrassing moments. While most people assume 2nd VPs are just the cheerleaders of JCL, I disagree. Spirit, to me, is about projecting passion, not about precision cheers or movements. We VPs won't yell at you for getting the words wrong or clapping off time; we yell at you for not yelling. Spirit requires intensity. Most first time convention goers, for either Nationals or State, find themselves overwhelmed at Spirit. Here, surviving that overwhelming feeling fearing what is coming next and anticipating what is expected of you stands as a right of passage for attenders.

In failed zoom recordings or whispered cheers (whispered in hopes of not being judged too harshly by friends, family, or neighbors), 2020 revealed how dependent Spirit is on assaulting the senses. We 2nd VPs can't care about a critical audience. In order for Spirit to be spirited, we must magnify our exuberance, even when your mother mocks you from behind the camera because you're screaming on your back porch prancing like a "funky spidey."

While most JCLers only see the cheers or the coordinated attire, I see the work that goes into crafting those props, writing those cheers, making those shirts. As 2nd VP, I got a month to make a single prop for each of the day's themes (Roman shield and helmet, Tennessee-shaped sign, tin foil spiders and webs) and take a photo of each; write, learn and choreograph a single chant and record it; and design a State t-shirt and screenshot it. And while I may never know what it's like to be a 2nd VP in a normal time, I do know what it's like to be one when a pandemic requires our country to socially distance, channeling my intensity into each submission. I screamed an entire routine of chants, I wrote new cheers, I made five different versions of props just to experiment, I designed a unique t-shirt which sadly will never be printed, and I tried to force, I mean encourage, more TJCLers to do the same. Sadly, a 2nd VP cannot truly terrify members of their JCL into submitting for spirit through Zoom-- trust me, I tried.

And while I didn't get to feel the visceral thrill of leading the stadium screams or a summer full of making the same props 20 times, the work I did this summer proves that Spirit is more than just the product of screaming for ten minutes. At the end of the day, Spirit is improvisational art. If you just stop worrying about looking like a fool, have fun, and become a conduit for creativity, Spirit is one of the most rewarding competitions in JCL.

By Hannah Dodson





TJCL TORCH