

A publication of the New Mexico Junior Classical League

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It Grows as it Goes

The New Mexico Junior Classical League is growing! We have new members and new chapters. With the addition of the Desert Springs Chapter in Las Cruces, NMJCL is becoming a *real* statewide organization. We have decided to celebrate—and just because it's practical—by bringing the state newsletter out of a 45 year sleep. Yes, the last newsletter of record was in 1970.

That beauty was mimeographed (look it up) and snail mailed out to all the chapters and members. The title of the newsletter has always been *Crescit*; taken from the New Mexico state motto: *Crescit Eundo*—It Grows as It Goes. *Crescere* means to grow, increase, spring up, thrive or flourish. This is our hope for the NMJCL—that we increase and flourish as we continue to

promote classical studies and languages in New Mexico. With that said, if you would like to see us revive the newsletter with a new title, please submit your ideas to Erika Lines, Editor by January 7, 2015. Erika will present it to the officers at one of the state meetings in early 2015 and a final decision will be announced at the convention.

Email:
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Take Note

CELEBRATING SATURN

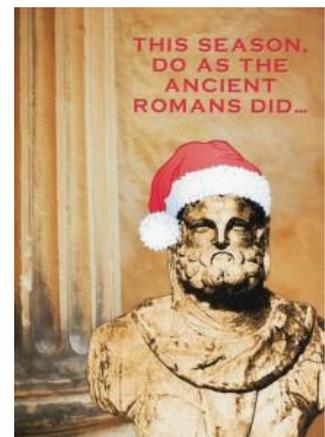
NMJCL is celebrating the Ancient Roman holiday of Saturnalia. The event will be held on December 19 from 4-8 p.m. at the Bosque School. To celebrate, there will be games, food, and age appropriate debauchery. Of course no party is complete without a white elephant gift exchange. Just run on down to the market place and buy a cheap gift from the dollar store. As an alternative you could make your mom really happy and

clean your room. Find something you don't want anymore, wrap it up, and call it a gift. After all, one man's trash is another man's treasure. Of course there will be a feast worthy of the gods. NMJCL will provide grilled meat. Each chapter is asked to provide some side dishes. Costumes are welcomed and encouraged. Please come and celebrate this event with us. Keep reading the newsletter to learn more about Saturnalia.

DECEMBER 19, 2014

4 – 8 pm

BOSQUE SCHOOL



*THIS IS YOUR
NEWSLETTER*

Unlimited time is a playground for unlimited creativity. Unfortunately, I don't have unlimited time, ergo I don't have unlimited creativity. I do have a lot of friends that I'd like to keep but if I keep asking them to submit articles to the newsletter, they might become scarce. (Of course, no friends would mean more time....but, I digress). If any of you readers of CRESCIT have any suggestions for the newsletter and would like to submit something, I will not say nay. Please email your poems, modern myths, puzzles, artwork...just about anything Roman or Greek that the muses have inspired...and we will publish it here.

*Email Erika Lines
something.tardis.blue@gmail.com.*

Thank You!

The Editor

THIS IS SPARTA!

The NMJCL state convention will be here before you know it! March 14, 2015...not quite the Ides of March...but beware nonetheless. We are excited to be returning to Bosque School in 2015. The theme of our 2015 convention is SPARTA. Your state officers have been working non-stop to make it the best convention ever. The costume contest is back

this year. In keeping with the theme, think bravery, simplicity, something that can be expressed in few words. SPARTA. All of the exciting events you have come to love—Ludi, Colloquia, Dramatic Interpretations and Modern Myths-- will return with a little twist here and there. Of course we couldn't have a convention without Certamen. This year it promises to be the

highlight of the day. Your convention packets will be out by early February but it's never too early to start getting ready!



CLIO'S COLUMN

Being the Muse of History, I saw it only fitting that I speak of the history of Saturnalia. Saturnalia was the festival meant to honor the god Saturn, also called Cronos, in his Greek form. It was held on the 17th through the 23rd of December. Saturnalia was celebrated with sacrifices, a public banquet, gift-giving, parties, and an exchange of roles. This is where a master would

exchange roles with the slaves. They would be treated to a lavish feast while their masters would wait on them. There was also an election of a King of Saturnalia. He served as the master of ceremonies and He could order anyone to do anything. One recorded King was a young man named Nero, who would eventually become Emperor. The

king's job was to create a chaotic and absurd world (which you think would have been a clue about how he would run the empire). This served as a symbol of the end of the chaotic, old year and the rise of a new year. Happy Saturnalia to you all, and may this new year be even better than the last.



MUSE-ings

DIANA

Diana, deae liberos,
Ambulat silvam altam,
Oppugnat aquilarum
argentum
Aeterna feminae stellam.
Diana fortis dea,
Lux lunae. '



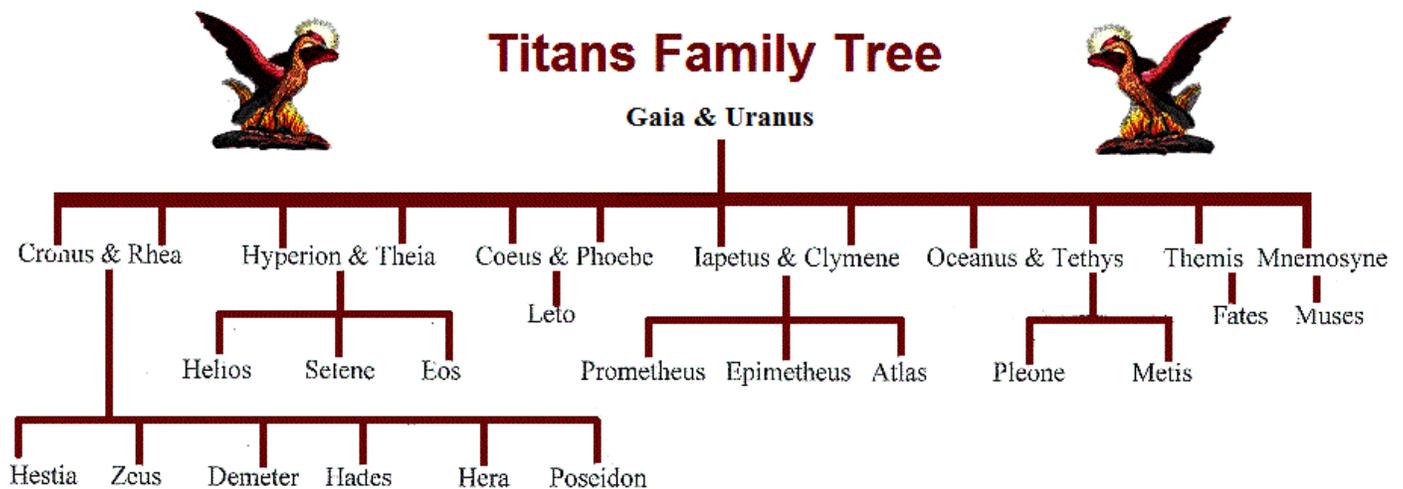
*You should reach the limits
of virtue, before you cross
the border of death. '*
*'How glorious fall the
valiant, sword in hand, in
front of battle for their
native land!'*

~Spartan Poet, Tyrtaeus~

I am the muse of songs to the gods, as such I know quite a bit about them. So, in keeping with the fact that it will soon be Saturnalia, I deemed it best to tell of Saturn's rise to power.

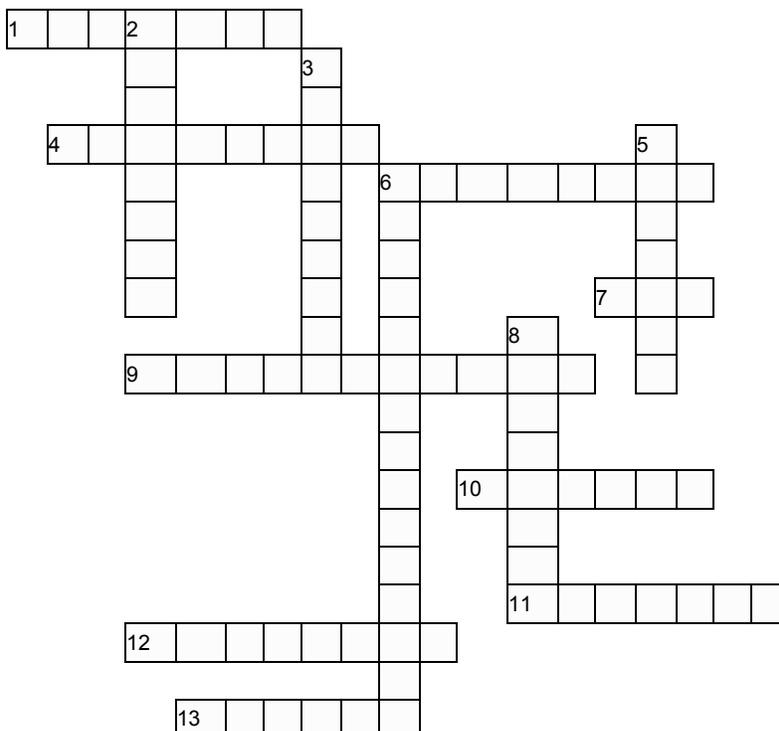
At the beginning of the world, there were two gods--Uranus and Gaia. Uranus was the sky and Gaia was the earth. They were married, and, like all newlyweds were happy when their first set of children were born. Unlike practically all married couples, there were twelve babies in the first set. These were the Titans. As if that weren't interesting enough, along came some triplets--they were the Cyclops. Uranus (along with most of us who dared not mention it) thought they were exceedingly ugly so he threw them into Tartarus. Gaia, ever the mom, was very upset at Uranus. Eventually she must have forgiven him because it wasn't long before the next set of triplets arrived. Unfortunately, they each had 50 ugly faces and One Hundred Hands. These little guys were name the Hundred-Handed Ones. It wasn't long before they came face to face to face....with the

Tartarus, as well. By this time Gaia was finished with Uranus. She was tired of giving birth to his children only to have them destroyed by their father. She decided to take the matter up with the Titans. Her plan was simple--the Titan who killed Uranus first would become ruler of the universe. The girls and one of the boys just couldn't get behind their mother's plan so they immediately, but respectfully backed out. Well, every family has the precocious one and this family was no different. One of the boys-- Saturn--stepped up to take on the challenge. His charisma convinced four of his brothers to jump on the bandwagon and help him out. Warning: If you are faint of heart, stop reading now....okay, you've been warned. Once Saturn and his siblings caught their father, the brothers held their father down by the limbs while Saturn chopped him up using the scythe his mother had given him. Sure enough, Saturn became king of the universe and, to show his gratitude, each of his brothers was given a compass point of their very own in which to rule. Eventually, they were overthrown, but that's a different story.



CHALLENGE MINERVA

Care to match your wits against mine, mortal? Very well then. Complete this puzzle, and I will be merciful should you succeed. You will not get turned into a spider, I promise.



Across

1. The Roman god of wine
4. The Carthaginian general who invaded Rome
6. The Roman god of the Doors of Death
7. The singular imperative form of the Latin verb meaning: to make
9. The Romans' personal name for the Mediterranean Sea
10. The Roman poet who wrote the "Aeneid"
11. The 3rd principal part of the Latin verb meaning: to hope
12. The genitive singular of the 3rd declension Latin noun meaning: river
13. The 4th declension Latin noun meaning: expression

Down

2. The daughter of Scipio Africanus who was also called the "Mother of the Gracchi"
3. The name given to a Roman child when they were nine days old
5. The Roman goddess of the harvest
6. The 3rd king of Rome
8. The 1st/2nd declension Latin adjective meaning: unsophisticated