Hello LJCL Webmasters!

This is Joseph Sotile, the LJCL Technology Coordinator. I would like to take this opportunity to explain my dreams for all of the chapters in Louisiana and in the surrounding states. My dream is for all of you to have functional, beautiful websites that house information such as registration, event dates, links, and pictures pertaining to your clubs and LJCL. As Technology Coordinators/Communication Coordinators/Webmasters/whatever, it would be amazing if every club could get a website up and running and submit it to LJCL and NJCL for grading. Here is the most important thing: it doesn't have to cost money! There are a ton of sites (blogspot, wix, weebly, yola, and many others) that have the potential to create fantastic and practical sites. If your club already has a site, you can use that and just revitalize it! It may take some time to get used to how to work all of the controls, but, with Google, anything is possible. I would also like to encourage all of you to talk to your club sponsors or school administrators for a club social media account. I think that those are fantastic ways to promote enthusiasm and share the classics.

Again, I highly encourage all of you to create websites and ask about social networking. Websites can be easy points at state and national conventions, so they are worth some time investment. And who knows, you might learn something along the way.

Yours in LJCL,
Joseph Sotile
2015-2016 LJCL Technology Coordinator
technologycoor@gmail.com

P.S. If you would like me to look over any of your sites before the official grading takes place, I think that that is completely legal. Just ask! If you have any other questions about the process, websites, Currency points, or LJCL in general, please feel free to contact me.

The following is regarding that LJCL Website Contest:

This rubric is an adaptation for the one that National Junior Classical League will be using to judge your site. I, the LJCL Technology Coordinator, have changed a few bits of information based on what I think is more important, but much of it remains the same. Please look over what NJCL will use if you decide to submit yours to Nationals for judging. I highly suggest submitting your website to NJCL after submitting your website to LJCL. That is found here: http://www.njcl.org/pages/njcl-website-contest

Even though there are a few differences, the key points listed below will ensure that you create the best product possible. Please consider submitting your website to the LJCL Website Contest and to the NJCL Website Contest. For LJCL submission of your website, please refer to the information below. For NJCL submission, please refer to http://www.njcl.org/pages/njcl-website-contest

LJCL Website Submission:

Within Sunday, February 21 and Wednesday, March 2, 2016 please submit your website for grading. Include in your email:

- The name of your local chapter
- The URL of your website
- The webmaster and his/her email address

These categories are limited to official sites of chapters in good standing; therefore, each chapter is held to at most one entry. Web sites must have been developed by LJCL member(s) in good standing; however, sites may contain materials developed by previous webmasters who are no longer LJCL members.

1. **Currency of information.** To keep members informed and engaged, a web site should be frequently updated to cover recent events and provide information on upcoming activities. Each entry to the contest will be eligible to earn ten (10) points per month (from November through February) for a total of 40 points.

    A webmaster may enter the Website Contest without entering currency updates. However, if a webmaster DOES wish to earn currency points (which they should… easy points), they should email the LJCL Technology Coordinator* at technologycoor@gmail.com at the end of any month in which there are updates to the site. The email should include a list of links, pictures/screenshots, or other descriptions pointing to the areas of the site that have been updated or added during the previous month. To be considered for the ten points, the email must be sent to the LJCL Technology Coordinator by the individual chapter before the month is

over. For example, to be considered for ten points for February, the email must be sent before March 1.

*THIS IS BEING DONE IN PREPERATION FOR SENDING YOUR WEBSITE TO NATIONALS. WHEN SENDING ME THE INFORMATION, YOU MAY SEND THE SAME INFORMATION TO THE NJCL CO.CO.. IF YOU DO DECIDE TO SUBMIT YOUR WEBSITE TO LJCL OR TO NJCL, MAKE SURE YOU DO THIS. THEY ARE EASY POINTS THAT ARE UNFORTUNATELY COMMONLY OVERLOOKED.

NOTE: OUR POINTS STOP AFTER FEBRUARY BECAUSE OUR CONVENTION IS IN MARCH. THE NJCL CURRENCY POINTS CONTINUE FROM NOVEMBER THROUGH APRIL. ALSO, THE SUBMISSION FOR THEIR WEBSITE IS LATER SO DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR WEBSITE TO NATIONALS WHEN YOU SUBMIT YOURS TO LJCL.

2. **Site design and execution.** The second facet of will involve an in-depth examination of the site against various judging criteria as provided in the rubric below.

Currency of Information (First facet of grading)	40
Detailed Coverage of Chapter Activities	**Points**
Effective description your chapter and chapter events	20
Effective photos (includes caption)	10
Navigation of Photos	10
Content	**Points**
Calendar/List of Events	5
Inclusion of forms and other information facilitating and encouraging participation in chapter activities	5
Links to related external JCL and classical sites	5
Spelling and grammar	5
Officer info	10
Chapter Minutes	5
Archives (e.g. past officers, newsletters, etc.)	5
Awards that your chapter won	5
Design	**Points**
Creativity	5

Effectiveness of design	5
Home page	10
Quality of content and writing	10
Ease & intuitiveness of navigation	15
Uniformity of site's design	10
Technical Execution	**Points**
Correctness of implementation (no broken links, no JavaScript errors, etc.)	15
Attention to page load time	5
Screen size independence**	10

**The site should display comfortably and be navigated easily on most screens, including widescreen computers, tablets and phones without excessive shrinking or stretching of elements.

Remember that the NJCL rubric is slightly different than mine so look over that one as well.

Again, PLEASE email me if you need anything. This is not a big formal thing… We're all friends here and I just want the best possible product.

Bye for now,
Joseph Sotile
2015-2016 LJCL Technology Coordinator
technologycoor@gmail.com