



President Erin Taylor and Vice-President Sarah Moore pose for a picture on the left. On the right, Sally Cody accepts the MCA Award at the Fall Meeting at Colby.

# CLAMOR

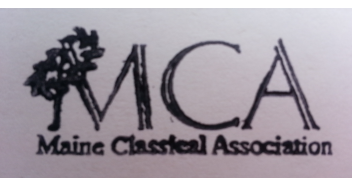
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## A Successful Fall Meeting

Susan Curry, Lois Hinckley, and Kate Sanborn gave talks at Colby in October

This fall's MCA meeting was held at Colby College. Susan Curry from the University of New Hampshire began the day with a discussion of the Romans' attempt to render in Latin the sounds of animals. Lois Hinckley, a favorite speaker at these occasions, interwove a discussion of how classicists speak about grammar with anecdotes of her own classical education. Finally, Kate Sanborn, currently a lecturer at the University of Southern Maine, discussed how the Homeric Hymns are particularly ripe for depiction in art because of their emphasis on sight, smell, and sound.



Sally Cody received the MCA award and gave a heartwarming acceptance speech, which she wrote down so that she could say everything she wanted to say and not go on too long! A delicious lunch was consumed and then an executive board meeting followed.



*Lois Hinckley gives a talk at the meeting.*

## Spring Meeting

The MCA Spring meeting will take place at Winthrop High School on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 am. The focus will be an update on how schools are coping with the work on standards and proficiency-based diplomas. Ben Johnson will also give a technology presentation.

## Read the Winning Essay from Maine!

Mount Olympus Police Department

**Police Reports/Arrest Record: Demeter, Goddess of the Harvest, a/k/a Ceres**  
**Submitted by Ares, ally of civil order and stern governor of the rebellious**

**A.D. IV Non. Sept.**

Today, Demeter, goddess of the harvest, completed a missing persons report for her only daughter, Persephone. She described Persephone as a beautiful young girl who loved to play with her cousins, Artemis and Athena. Demeter reported that Persephone had been picking flowers in a meadow when Demeter heard her scream. Demeter rushed to the meadow but couldn't find her daughter. I wondered if Persephone had staged the incident and run away. Demeter assured me that Persephone was completely obedient and would never run away. Before she left, Demeter vowed that she would travel the world day and night, never eating or sleeping, until she found her daughter.

**Prid. Non. Oct.**

Demeter was arrested today on a charge of transformation. She had been searching for her daughter when she stopped by a spring for a drink. A man named Ascaelabus started laughing at the sound of her gulping, and Demeter became angry at his rudeness and turned him into a lizard. Demeter defended herself by saying that goddesses were permitted to be cruel to anyone who failed to honor them properly. I agreed that this was a proper defense for a goddess, and I released her.

**A.D. III Kal. Nov.**

Demeter came in with a solid lead on her daughter's whereabouts. On her journey, Demeter met Hecate, goddess of the crossroads, who suggested that she speak to Helios, god of the sun. Hecate thought that since Helios had been riding his chariot through the



**Alex Frank, first place winner**

### CANE Essay Winners

The following students had the top scoring essays from Maine that were sent on for consideration in the Classical Association of New England's annual writing contest. The theme this year was **"After Adversity: Survival, Recovery and Renewal in the Ancient World."** Read the first place essay from Maine on the left.

First Place:

Alex Frank, Portland High School  
Teacher: Mrs. Michelle Tucci

Second Place:

Jada Choate, Winthrop High School  
Teacher: Mrs. Meg Cook

Third Place:

Andrew Nadeau, Thornton Academy  
Teacher: Mrs. Sally Cody



**The "despicable" MEJCL Officers**

## Maine JCL Update

The MEJCL's Fall Convention took place at Greely Middle School on Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. It was Greely's first time hosting a convention. The spirit theme was "Classic Animated Movies" and each school was assigned a movie. The officers themselves (see photo) were assigned "Despicable Me." Hampden Academy came out on top in the spirit competition, and Camden Hills took first place in Academic Sweeps. Teams from Camden Hills also took first place in Latin II and Advanced Certamen, with the team from Nokomis taking first in Latin I.



cont.

sky that day, he must have seen what happened to Persephone. Demeter tracked down Helios who told her that as Persephone picked a flower, the earth opened, and Hades reached up from the underworld and snatched Persephone. Hades dragged Persephone back to his kingdom where she became Hades' wife and queen of the Underworld. Helios also said that Zeus, Persephone's father, had agreed to the marriage and had given Hades permission to kidnap Persephone. I told Demeter that since Zeus gave permission to Hades to snatch and marry Persephone, I could not charge Hades with kidnapping. Demeter left extremely unhappy and I could do anything.

#### A.D. Prid Id. Dec.

Today a report was received from Demophon on Demeter. Demeter was to be arrested for child abuse on humans. After learning that Zeus had agreed to Persephone's marriage to Hades, Demeter became extremely depressed. She left Mount Olympus, stopped performing her divine duties, and returned to Eleusis. Disguised as an old woman, Demeter took a job as a nursemaid to Demophon the infant son of the city's ruler. Missing her own child, Demeter became very attached to Demophon and decided to make him immortal. Unfortunately, Demophon's mother came into the room as Demeter was holding the child's feet to the fire so that he could become immortal. Believing that Demeter was going to kill Demophon, she wants Demeter to be charged with child abuse. I told Demophon's mother what had happened to Ascaelabus, and everyone agreed that the charge would be dropped and a temple would be built in Demeter's honor. Although even with these dropped charges, Demeter claimed that Hades should be the one being charged with child abuse. Demeter has been a growing burden on the police force; we are tired of having to deal with her.

#### Ides Mai

After listening to numerous requests for food from mortals, I decided to find Demeter. She had retreated to her temple, depressed and grieving for her lost daughter. I was forced to bring her in to explain what being depressed had done to the world. The mortals cannot produce a harvest, and the winter is unending. Zeus sent his messengers to the station to apologize and to encourage Demeter to return to her duties. Despite the powerful forces that were against her, Demeter was adamant that she would not return until Persephone was rescued. Not wanting to be turned into a lizard, I released Demeter.

#### Kal Iun

Demeter and Persephone came into the station. She let me know that she had been reunited with Persephone for 6 months of the year. Demeter explained that Zeus saw the misery that mortals were facing. He sent Hermes to command Hades to release Persephone. Unfortunately

before Persephone was rescued, she ate some pomegranate seeds offered to her by Hades. Persephone will now have to return to the underworld for four months each year. Although happy that her daughter is back, Demeter wants Hades charged with distributing pomegranate seeds with intent of holding Demeter captive. I will need to look into this charge.

## Join FLAME!

The Foreign Language Association of Maine (FLAME) is the only statewide organization for teachers of modern and classical languages. Please consider joining FLAME! Go to <http://www.maineforeignlanguage.org> for more information.

Membership in FLAME entitles you to the following benefits!

1. *The Annual FLAME Conference*
2. *The Summer Institute*
3. *Lots of awards and scholarships for students, new teachers, and veteran teachers*
4. *The directory and newsletters full of resources*
5. *Regional modern and classical language teacher collaborative*
6. *Committees and networks covering many timely topics*
7. *Volunteer consultants to new teachers*
8. *Access to our Video Lending Library*
9. *Up-to-date informational emails with job postings, teacher tips, local events, etc.*
10. *A list-serve providing an opportunity for professional support and networking*
11. *Free membership for retirees who have been members for 10 consecutive years. If you would like to continue your membership in FLAME, please make sure to select your home address as your preferred address on your membership form. That way, the year following your retirement, you will receive a mailing from FLAME. If by any chance, you don't receive this mailing, you may download the membership form from the website.*

*Submitted by Mary Oches, MCA Representative to FLAME*



*Sally Cody and Beth Gwodwz have a discussion during a break at the Fall meeting.*

# MCA Executive Board

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## From the Editor

Submissions to the CLAMOR are always welcome. You can access this edition of the CLAMOR as well as past editions on the Maine Classical Association website, [maineclassics.org](http://maineclassics.org). If you would like to NOT receive editions of the CLAMOR through the mail, please email me at [sknowles@msad51.org](mailto:sknowles@msad51.org). Hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and high spirits!

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