

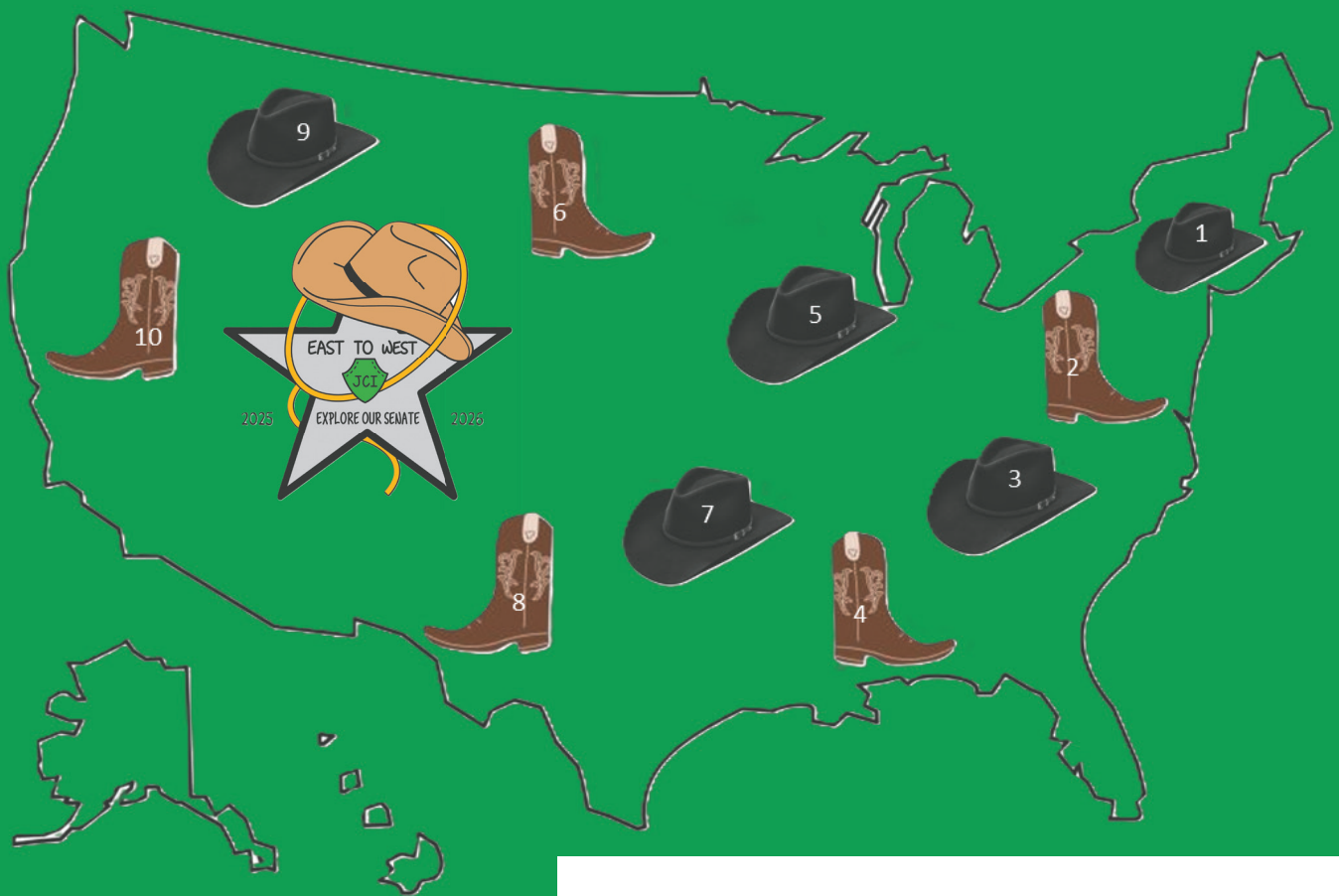
MENTORS

May 2026

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Volume 54, Issue 3

East to West Explore Our Senate



**2025-2026 U.S. JCI President
Bruce Sostak #52655**

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

East to West Explore Our Senate



BRUCE SOSTAK #52655

54thPresident@usjcisenate.org

East to West exploration of our Senate has been a great journey for all of us this year. I hope everyone has traveled outside of their boxes and made

new friends and reacquainted with old friends. I have enjoyed my travels to all the regions around the country, which have made me proud to be representing you as your president.

Thank you to the Florida JCI Senate for an impressive Winter Board Meeting in Melbourne last December. You and your committee did an impressive job, although you could have ordered some of Alaska's warm weather that weekend.

I am proud of all the program managers and committees for all their hard work this year. You have all accomplished more than I expected, and I appreciate every one of you.

Thank you all for your work in assisting the Jaycees during the year. We have accomplished a lot assisting them. Remember that our work in assisting them will continue in the future.

I would also like to thank our Executive Board for all their hard work in assisting you in accomplishing your goal this year. I am proud to have served with them throughout this year. They have made the organization proud of all their work.

Let's head to San Antonio and enjoy the year-end celebration of your accomplishment and prepare for next year. Chair Ron Holzer and his committee



have a wonderful time prepared for the week.

Finally, I would like to make a personal thank you to First Lady Denise for all your support this year. It was not the year we planned but your support was what I needed, and I thank you for that.

THE VIRGINIA JCI SENATE

Proudly Supports

Tom King #59642

for

US JCI Senate

Administrative Vice President

2026-2027



**The Virginia JCI Senate
proudly supports**



Jackie Julien #74251

**for Region III NVP
2026 - 2027**



**2025-2026
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SECRETARY	Dawna Norfleet #61999
CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD	Hal Williams #43912
LEGAL COUNSEL	John Badeen #73089

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Region III	Letha Grimes #63946
Region IV	Liz Young #47759
Region V	Monty Schroeder #62203
Region VI	Rose Steen #57178
Region VII	Dewayne Sumner #66239
Region VIII	Anita Cummings #69380
Region IX	Susan Manthey #68777
Region X	Steve Balint #43364

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Kelly Koch #69508	

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Bob Cairns #59815	Assistant Editor
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Christianna Gilliam #78844	Business Manager
Newton Standridge #29407	Publisher

MOVING? ADDRESS CHANGE?

Let us know in advance. Send us a recent magazine label and don't forget to include your new address and a list of all states where you are member.

Lisa Badger #67973
617 South 5th Ave E
Newton, IA 50208
Email: MIS@usjcisenate.org

Name _____
Senate # _____
Address _____
Email _____

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ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT

GARY DUELL #48384
AVP@usjcisenate.org

My dad, uncle and grandfather would be proud of our efforts. Historian Melissa Sleeth #69220 informed us that the St. Louis Historical Society of Missouri has checked in our viable archived materials. Several Senators had their hands in the success of this project.

One of the committees I worked closest with was Convention and Bid Review. Many thanks to members CJ Jordan #45857, Randy Sursa #49485, Scott Kingsley #67932 and Jeff Cardwell #54265. The committee should have two bids for consideration in San Antonio. Scheduled meetings after the annual meeting are:

- Fall BOD Meeting – Topeka, Kansas – Sept. 17 – 20, 2026
- Annual Meeting 2027 – Lancaster, Pennsylvania – June 20 – 27, 2027

The Viva San Antonio team is looking forward to hosting our year end celebration. Meeting Coordinator Ron Holzer #56549 and the entire Texas team are planning to give us a memorable experience in the Lone Star State. We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio, June 14 – 18, 2026.

It has been a privilege to be your administrative vice president and interact with the entire East to West Explore Our Senate team. Thank you for this opportunity. On behalf of Diane and myself, we appreciate the hospitality and friendship you provided us throughout this year. Bless you all.

T.I.E. Melbourne, FL 1/16/26

MaryAnn Hilleary	64615	IL
Jim France	44665	MD
Dana Hall	41552	ME
Kristen Johnson	72859	MO
Jon Bruner	58932	OH
Denise Lyons Conrad	53219	CA
Lori Palo	66475	GA+8
Delisa Anderson	54310	OK
Ron Stair	71373	KS
Carol Standridge	80700	IA
BJ Craft	45900	NC
Angie Jelinek	60570	ND
E.J. Miller	50983	WV
Tom King	55642	VA
Lisa Badger	67973	IA

We are nearing the time that the East to West Explore Our Senate year rides off into the sunset. A special thanks to President Bruce for fulfilling the office of president for 22 months, carrying not only his legacy but that of Pitt, as well.

It seems like we were just celebrating the Destination Legacy year in Northbrook. We now need to finish Exploring our Senate with a renewed determination. A big shout out to Chair Jim Warren and the Florida Senate for stepping up to host the Winter Board of Directors meeting in Melbourne, delivering a great time.

Your team of NVPs provided leadership to both their regions and the executive committee. It was exciting to attend many of their meetings and see them online, visiting their states and other regions. That leadership showed through as they supported our organization moving forward by approving the membership database solution that was recommended by the Membership Database Committee.

It was a pleasure to serve with your program managers and chairs as they promoted Senate initiatives and led their committees. Future Directions met monthly and have collaborated with the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Several proposals may be forthcoming to the Board of Directors, including those relating to bylaws. We continue to support the process of orienting, activating and retaining members. You may have noticed photographs of Senators and ducks visiting across the country. Jaycees have been recognized for their contributions to their chapters and states by being rewarded with Senatorships! First-timers were welcomed to our national meetings.

The Wreaths Across America team, led by Program Manager Angie Taylor #71600, set new heights in sponsorships and participation. Involvement with this program is a humbling experience.

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TREASURER

TOM KING #59642
Treasurer@usjcisenate.org

As we reach the end of our year of East to West Explore Our Senate, I would like to thank my fellow Executive Committee members for making the office of treasurer fun and rewarding. Thank you to President Bruce who has led us admirably.

It has been a pleasure to work with the Finance and Audit Committees this year. To Bruce's Buckaroos (our sweepstakes team): a special shoutout for not only achieving (and smashing) your fundraising goal, but working hard and stepping up to the challenge to create something to replace the Regions Party. The team has truly been a blast to work with.

A huge thank you to Lisa Badger, who during her first year as MIS director has taken the role to a whole new level! Her attention



to detail definitely makes my work much easier. Finally, to all the state treasurers, thank you for all your hard work in making sure your states are in a strong financial position. And, just as importantly, for turning in your dues in a timely (mostly!) fashion each quarter. Your job is certainly the toughest one and I thank you for your support this year. I wish you all the best in the future.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve you this year and I look forward to seeing everyone in San Antonio, Texas!



CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Hal Williams #43912
COB@usjcisenate.org

It is hard to believe that this year of East to West Explore Our Senate is already drawing to a close. This will be my final Mentors article as your chairman of the board, having served in that position for two years. I would like to thank President Bruce for the leadership he has shown over the past two years. It has been an unusual time for the U.S. JCI Senate, and President Bruce has shown great character and leadership during this time.

My final duties this year as your chairman of the board will be to oversee the elections for next year's national officers. I look forward to seeing everyone in San Antonio as we celebrate the end of Bruce's year and the beginning of a new year.

Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving you as a national officer over the past six years. It has been the experience of a lifetime! From East to West, I have Explored Our Senate!

P.I.E Melbourne, FL 1/16/26

Jimmy Lewis	78887	TX
Dan Moellerling	77898	MI
Michele Tarantino	63380	CT
Randy Sursa	49485	OK
Don Duffy	78415	FL
Alex "Hitman" Willis	34226	GA
Gene Shanks	68688	NC
Bonnie St. Jean	42864	NH
Cyndi Hall	48152	ME
Karen Gage	78980	VA
Brain Witte	68535	IA
Tanis Jimeno-Friedman	70297	AZ
Jeff Kozak	63411	PA
Jimmy Law	56787	SC
Craig Smith	65679	AL
Stevenson Van Derodan	81401	NJ
John Tyo	66381	NY
Emily Nock	77392	MD
Sally Traczuk	68943	PA



SECRETARY

**DAWNA NORFLEET
#61999**

Secretary@usjcisenate.org

Ruby Weymouth #67303 is always looking for pictures and information about your meetings, new senatorships, SOAR activities and Wreaths across America on our Senate's Facebook page. She has done a great job communicating the year through pictures and promoting our programs.

Our two awesome webmasters, Allison Geddes #74777 and Lowell Vahl #40315 have done a fantastic job keeping our website updated. Your continuous hard work does not go unnoticed. The website is full of current information concerning the U.S. JCI Senate. It is a great communication tool, and it stays updated for your use. They are also available if you have any questions or need assistance concerning websites.

It is time to submit your 2026-2027 officers for inclusion in next year's directory. If you have an update, please use the on-line form to update or send me an email. The current directory is available to any Senator electronically. Email me or subscribe on the web page if you need a copy.

Larry and I have enjoyed our travels this East to West Explore Our Senate year! The hospitality and making memories have been magnificent! We look forward to our upcoming trips.

This has been an exciting year in the communication area as we spent time keeping everyone informed! If you have any concerns or need assistance, please reach out to me. See you in San Antonio!

Communication Training Melbourne, FL 1/16/26

Catherine McManus	81988	FL
Lowell Vahl	40315	AZ
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL
Dana Hall	41552	ME
John Price	36383	WV
Ruby Weymouth	67303	OH+4
Joan Travis	76201	PA+5
Jaci Newmark	56368	FL
Kathy Pumphrey	57287	FL/MI
Nancy Cloud	52750	OK
Beth Muir	65479	PA/NY
Kim Bode	62467	NC/SC
Bill Potuchek	35278	CT
Dawna Norfleet	61999	TN
Angie Jelinek	60570	ND
Allison Geddes	74777	OH
Ron Stair	71373	KS

LEGAL COUNSEL

JOHN BADEEN #73089
LegalCounsel@usjcisenate.com



By the time this article reaches you, we will nearly be upon the end of our current terms of office.

I want to make sure everyone knows that it has been an honor and a pleasure to have served as your U.S. JCI Senate legal counsel for the 2025-2026 year. Hopefully, they'll let me stay on. But on a happy note, I am proud to announce that we have made it through the year without suit, attachment or lien (and I have no reason to suspect that will change between the writing of this article and its publication)! This time, I can take the credit for my own efforts in that regard, rather than being able to coast on my predecessor's achievements in continuing our streak for another year.

As your legal counsel, I have dispensed much advice to the national organization and many state organizations, a significant part of which was even sought out by others (contrasted with the usual meddling that lawyers often feel compelled to do). Remember, if you have issues within your state, whether related to compliance, bylaws or otherwise, I am a resource for you.

At times my advice may be "find an attorney licensed in your state," but at least I can help you narrow down the issues and how to approach a discussion with any potential attorney you may require.

As for what is currently in the works, the Bylaws Committee has been busy: giving the president options for regions struggling to find a national vice president, allowing for leaves of absence in the event of temporary illness, re-evaluating our accountability to JCI USA, taking a look at making service projects official, and cleaning up

the language on how and when Mentors is delivered. Some exciting stuff is coming in June (though I'm probably the only one excited about it, to be honest).

On a final important note, here is your annual reminder: have you made all of the filings required by your particular state's regulatory bodies? The last thing any state organization needs to deal with is to lose its non-profit incorporated status with its state over a simple form and tens of dollars. Also, are you up to snuff with the IRS? Tax filings can be of particular importance and can cause serious mischief. Too many failures to file the appropriate form 990 will result in losing your tax exempt status with the IRS. Once again, I urge each state Senate to double-check both its state incorporation status and whether it has filed the appropriate tax forms. This applies to the state organization, any life member fund that may be separately incorporated, any state foundation and any other separate but affiliated organization started by your state to serve your members.

ND JCI Senate Scholarship Judging Fargo, ND 1/24/26

Rose Steen	57178	SD/IA
Gary Steen	56503	SD/IA
Dennis Burdolski	68703	ND
Becky Burdolski	79553	ND
Angie Jelinek	60570	ND
Michelle Mosher	61744	ND
John Anderson	60163	ND
Stanley Hanson	43165	ND
Barry Medd	38410	ND
Karen Medd	Guest	ND

Vino Bellas & Fellas N. Myrtle Beach, SC 3/28/2026

Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3
Jaci Newmark	56368	FL
Keith Adams	FR105	FL
Lori Palo	66475	GA+7
Nick Woods	62735	NC
Rita Bowles	59336	SC
Karol Pittman	FR55	NC
Christianna Gilliam	78844	SC
Bob Allen	46058	MI+4
April Readett	76223	SC
Jimmy Maness	38844	NC
Jeff Williams	65414	NC
John Robinson	55768	FL/PA
Andy Childness	62743	NC/SC
Sue Hollingsworth	62238	SC
Kim Bode	62467	NC/SC
Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Pam Padgett	51341	NC/FL
Phillip Padgett	49363	NC
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4
Marty Calabro	26870	NV
Jan Smith	83256	AL

It has certainly been a memorable year serving as your secretary. I have truly enjoyed serving with my fellow Executive Committee members. We have established lasting friendships and memories while serving you.

A special thanks to Florida JCI Senate for a great Winter Board of Directors meeting in Melbourne. They truly are experts in putting on meetings.

With East to West Explore our Senate in mind, we have continued to focus on communication to each one of you, the Senators. We had a wonderful communication session in Melbourne with 17 attendees and information being shared to improve communications within their states and regions. Thank you to my awesome team for attending and participating in the session.

The Mentors team, consisting of Chief Editor Angie Jelinek #60570, Assistant Editors Bob Cairns #59815 and Dawne Sutherland #68900, Empty Chair Editor Mary Allred #46602, New Senators Editor, Melissa Sanny #66967, Business Manager Christianna Gilliam #78844, along with photographers Eldon Bowers #45999 and Marge Miller #52948, have worked hard this year, providing a nice professional product for us. Thank you for your hard work! Mentors can be requested as electronic by submitting an online form on the website. If you are not receiving your Mentors, reach out to MIS@usjcisenate.org.

E-News Editor Kim Bode #62467 has been doing a terrific job this year with our newsletter by making a few changes to make it easier to access items, as well as including more information for us. To receive the E-News, you can go to the Senate website and sign up to receive this semi-monthly electronic communication tool or email e-news@usjcisenate.org. It is the most current means of communicating upcoming events!

Social Media Program Manager



CONSTITUTION/BYLAWS
SCOTT BRYANT #67910
Bylaws@usjcsenate.org
scottvetboy@msn.com

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee has been kept very busy by President Bruce and the executive committee over the last several months.

Before summarizing our proposed changes, I want to acknowledge the loss of committee member Ray Gilbert who passed away in February.

Our committee will be putting forward several proposed bylaw

and policy changes to be voted on during the Board of Directors meeting in San Antonio. They are as follows:

- Granting the U.S. JCI Senate the ability to run its own projects and programs (currently the bylaws require JCI USA approval to do this)
- A process to address NVP vacancies
- A process to address temporary disability for elected officers
- A process to address the delivery of the Mentors

Many thanks to Legal Counsel John Badeen for working with the committee to bring these changes forward. We are also working with the Future Directions Committee to eventually present some ideas regarding region stability, which will help guarantee leadership and continuation of certain core regional activities. The proposed language will be sent to the membership by May for consideration as per the notice requirements in our bylaws. If you have any additional ideas or other areas of the bylaws that you believe should be reviewed, please let us know.

CHAPLAIN

PAUL MYERS #72173
Chaplain@usjcisenate.org



Finishing the Year With Faithfulness.

As the year draws to a close, it is natural to look back and consider what the past months have brought. Some seasons have been full of progress while others have required patience and endurance. The Old Testament often reminds us that the people of God moved through many kinds of seasons. There were times of victory, seasons of rebuilding, and long periods of waiting. Through each stage, the call remained the same. Stay faithful and continue the work that has been placed before you.

Finishing the year strong does not mean everything turned out exactly as planned. Many of the Old Testament stories show faithful people pressing forward

even when circumstances were difficult. Nehemiah continued rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem while facing opposition and discouragement. The prophets kept speaking truth even when it was not welcomed. Their example reminds us that strength at the end of a season comes from persistence and trust in God's guidance.

This is also the time of year when we recognize those who have served with dedication. If you know someone whose leadership and spiritual support have made a difference, please consider sending in your recommendations for Chaplain of the Year so they can be considered for our year end awards. Honoring those who have faithfully guided and encouraged others is one way we celebrate the strength of our community.

The Old Testament reminds us that every ending also points toward a new beginning. By finishing this year with commitment and gratitude, we prepare our hearts for the work that lies ahead.

Proposed Bylaw And Policy Changes

The following proposed bylaw changes will be presented to the Board of Directors at the meeting of the U.S. JCI Senate in San Antonio:

Article II – Non-Interference and Limitations

Running projects and programs
 Remove Sections 1, 2, 3, and 6.

Re-number remainder.

Add new Section 5:

During the Executive Committee held during the Winter Board Meeting, the Executive Committee shall approve any programs that are to be held the following year. For purposes of this Section, programs shall be any ongoing projects, series of projects, or partnerships of the U.S. JCI Senate that involve working with or supporting non-Jaycee organizations.

Article XIV – Vacancies

Addressing NVP Vacancies

Replace 1(c) with:

If the vacancy is for a National Vice President that was previously elected to that term, the presidents of the states of the affected region will select a successor within thirty (30) days. If the vacancy is for a National Vice President because no National Vice President was elected by that region, then the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, may appoint any individual member in good standing to serve in that office.

Addressing Temporary Disability

Add a new section 2:

A. In the event of disability or other matters rendering the

President temporarily unable to fulfill their duties of office, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, for a period of not more than sixty (60) days the Chairman of the Board shall fulfill the duties of President. After sixty (60) days, the office shall be declared vacant.

B. In the event of disability or other matters rendering any other officer temporarily unable to fulfill their duties of office, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, for a period of not more than sixty (60) days, the President may appoint a temporary officer to serve in that role. After sixty (60) days, that office shall be declared vacant.

Article XIX – Publications

Addressing Mentor method of delivery

Replace section 1 with:

The publication for the membership of affiliated SOMs shall be called the MENTORS. It shall be published and sent at least three (3) times per administrative year.

Policy Article VI – Mentors Magazine

Amend 3rd paragraph which reads:

Any Senator who is a member of the US JCI Senate is entitled to receive a Mentors magazine for each state organization they hold a membership. The Senator will be given an option to defer receipt of an additional magazine when they belong to more than one state organization.

Silver Foxes Region VII Mini National Pigeon Forge, TN 2/21/2026

Phyllis Bowers	51430	IA/TN
Randy Sursa	49485	OK
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4
Ron Kimmett	43520	OH
Steve Sutherland	27073	FL
Skip Hoelker	FR10	SD
Pat Hoelker	45893	IA
Eldon Bowers	51430	IA
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3
Lori Palo	66475	GA+7
David Teachout	68700	MO
Rob Wiley	56033	KS
Joe Sabella	26077	PA
Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Nancy Salopek	47610	PA
Thomas Michael	75612	GA+7
Robert Bryant	19194	TN
Wayne Kiefer	36498	IL
Earl Sawyer	28243	MO
Larry MacQuirter	67377	GA
Wayne Huelsmann	30592	IL
Monty Schroeder	62203	IL
Tom Hendrix	37317	MO+2
Jeff Cardwell	54265	TN

Iowa JCI Holiday Social Pella, IA 12/6/2025

Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei	44003	IA
Woody Sauerbrei	Fr #111	IA
Wayde Burkhart	63877	IA
Julie Burkhart	83793	IA
Dan Badger	67974	IA
Lisa Badger	67973	IA
Lynn Stoffregen	55876	IA
Jim Kirchhoff	Fr #119	IA
Brian Witte	68535	IA



**MENTORS DUE
 JUNE 29, 2026**

SOAR - It's All About Activation

The Jaycees are what got us to where we are today. Program Manager Melanie Cobel Paschal #70372 asked Senators to tell their "Jaycee Story" and she is excited to share those that were sent in. Thank you to everyone who shared their stories about their journey to the Jaycees and eventually to the Senate. These stories are all inspiring and reinforcing for me and I hope for everyone else who reads them why we became and stayed Jaycees. Being a Senator means making a lifelong commitment to an organization that has honored us for the service we have given the organization and communities the organization is a part of. I hope to hear more stories we can share and look forward to each and every one of them.

Melanie Coble Paschal, #70372 North Carolina JCI Senate. In 1998, I was an employee of Hospice of Greensboro in Greensboro North Carolina. Our executive director informed five employees who were under 40 that we were joining the Greensboro Jaycees because they were going to give us all the proceeds from their Nike Open Golf Tournament. I went to the obligatory meetings for about two years.

I played at being a Jaycee and didn't really get involved. That is until I agreed to attend the Iron Man Triathlon at Duke Cancer Center and that day, at the "encouragement" of our now-North Carolina Senate President Gene Shanks, agreed to chair or co-chair six projects that were happening between October and December of that year. I was excited to chair the projects, but probably would have continued to "play Jaycee" and not get involved if Gene hadn't asked me to get involved.

What I learned that day was that not only did the Jaycees need me but I needed the Jaycees as well.

Katy Lemmer #73037, Pennsylvania JCI Senate, relayed a story about her favorite York Jaycees Project – Feeding York.

As a new member of the York Jaycees in early 2004, my first project to volunteer with them was Feeding York. The York Jaycees would pick a weekend to shop to provide 500 hot meals and 500 bagged lunches for the clients. They had to borrow an industrial kitchen to cook and assemble the meals and then take them to three locations to serve the clients.

Two major things happened during this first volunteer experience I had that I KNEW I needed to continue with community service with the Jaycees:

1) EVERY struggling client we served that day said "Thank you" or "God bless." Seeing their smiles for a simple meal was amazing.

2) The major eye opener for me was as we were driving to our third and last location. A young girl of 8-10 years old ran after us for more than two blocks to our location. She was wearing a long-

sleeved burgundy velvet dress in 90-degree weather. It was probably three sizes too big and she was running so fast to not miss us. When we were set up and started serving the last of our prepared meals, she was first in line, out of breath, and so happy we had not run out of food during stops one and two because she had not eaten in two days and was so hungry. It was heartbreaking, but she had the sweetest smile and was so happy and thankful. She wanted to give us all hugs before she even ate.

That was the moment I knew I needed to belong to this organization to make me a better person and help others.

Jeff Kozak #63411, Pennsylvania JCI Senate President, I joined after a friend was talking about the Jaycees. We went to an event where they were riding donkeys playing basketball. So funny!

Then, helping with the haunted house, I was convinced this was for me. However, I came to learn my favorite project was our Christmas project. We would bring Santa and gifts to a home for mentally challenged adults and it meant so much to them. Very moving! When you feel it in your heart, it's special.

Terry Kolaz #68698 Illinois JCI Senator. My sister, Mindy Kolaz, asked me to join the Springfield Jaycee Women with her. So blessed that she did as it changed my life direction and purpose!

Clark Wilcox #79977, Georgia JCI Senator. My ex-brother-in-law was a Jaycee and asked me if I wanted to help with the haunted house. After that it was all history. I was 15 and was in the "Jay-teens". That was 32 years ago and here we are.

Janet Paccione #59585, South Carolina JCI Senator. My best friend invited me to come to a meeting. Having a good time, I joined about halfway through the meeting. At that point I was asked to be secretary (that is what I did for a living) and was given my first

project to chair (Angel Tree). That was back in 1987.

Thomas Smith #35187, Texas and Florida JCI Senates. It was January 1973, and I was home on leave from the Army. An old friend came by and asked if he could borrow \$20. Since I had known Dave Russo for a while, I knew he would pay me back. I handed him the \$20 and with that he said congratulations you're now a Jaycee.

What is a Jaycee? I asked him. He explained that they had put a live rooster in his yard, and he had to keep it until he signed up a new member. I explained to him that I was still in the Army and didn't have time to join. He informed me that the Jacksonville Jaycees were having a picnic at Memorial Park that Saturday and I would be sworn in. He wouldn't give me back my money, so I went and was sworn in to the Jacksonville, Florida Jaycees on Jan. 20, 1973.

In 1975 I helped charter the Arlington Area Jaycees, becoming its first president. In 1976 I moved to Texas and joined the Richardson Jaycees, where a few years later I became president. I went on to serve as District and Regional Director for the Texas Jaycees. I also won the Ben E. Wolfe award for outstanding Jaycee in Texas.

This was an honor in that the award was named after a deceased Richardson Jaycee. In 1983 I was honored with a JCI Senatorship, #35187, 10 years after I first joined. Now after over 52 years as a Jaycee, I wouldn't change a thing. Thank you, Dave, for conning me into joining!

Tina Lank #67684, Delaware JCI Senate. In October 1995, I learned my favorite hometown festival was run by the Barberton Jaycees ... the city's best kept secret. I was very shy back then but I couldn't wait to raise my hand to volunteer to help, after hearing that their four-day event raised \$40,000 to benefit their community. I joined the chapter that night and soon after was sworn in as community development vice president, which was just the beginning.

Diverse people, connections and relationships foster an environment where it's easy to be creative, take chances, learn and grow. It's very fun to lead when members work together for a cause. The greatest lesson I learned was that if you don't ask, you can't hear the word "yes" and in turn, you can't build the leaders that make the world a better place.

One of my favorite experiences will always be one that Jeff Lank made happen in his year as National President. It was the 2010 World Congress I attended in Osaka, Japan as the U.S. Jaycees "First Lady." The warm welcome received from all the other first partners from around the globe, as well as the opportunity to be dressed in an authentic kimono, was truly amazing.

Each year, I return to my hometown of Barberton and visit "my tree" planted at Lake Anna Park in honor of 19 years of service to the Jaycees. I originally joined to be part of that special Cherry Blossom Festival, I stayed for the personal growth and friendships and I continue to enjoy the memories.

Mark Oller, #67105 Delaware JCI Senate. I joined the Wilmington Jaycees in July 1998 to meet people and help my community.

I greatly enjoyed the Wilmington Jaycees Christmas Parade where I was parade chair (with Larry Green as director) from 2001-2007. Then in 2008, I took over as the parade director and served in that role through the 2015 parade. I enjoyed this project because of the sheer size and impact it has on the local community. It brings people together from all walks of life to get ready for the holiday season. Children are able to perform their talents and of course, see Santa Claus. Letters are collected which are ultimately sent to area of children. Lastly, we try to generate economic activity in downtown Wilmington.

I learned that a small group of people can achieve great things when they work together.

I was inspired to remain a Jaycee due to the impact we had on the community (in my peak years of

SOAR – Lets Activate Our Senators

late 90s to early 2000s). After that, when our member ranks started to decline, I continued to stay involved to serve as a mentor to younger folks so they could experience the many benefits that I did in my younger days.

Alex Mili #75924, Delaware JCI Senate. I joined the Wilmington Jaycees in 2003 because I was a young professional at the beginning of my career and I wanted a social network outside of my professional network. Many friendships grew from there, as did many personal development and leadership opportunities outside of my professional circles, the sum of which entrenched my continued involvement with the Jaycees.

The project I enjoyed most was the Christmas parade, as it was the project that seemed to bring the community together most cohesively, likely because it is tied to the holiday spirit of the season but also because it brings the broadest range of community participants together.

The greatest lesson was the importance of preserving and passing on institutional knowledge while being open to new ideas.

I value friendships with likeminded people who were shaped by their Jaycee experience the way I was.

Jennifer Smith #63636, North Carolina JCI Senate. I joined the Greenville Jaycees in

September of 1996. It changed my life. I was newly divorced and trying to find a way to meet new friends. I had spent a year reading about the Jaycees in the local newspaper before mustering up enough courage to attend a meeting. During my first meeting of the Greenville Jaycees, the Membership Vice President asked for a volunteer to decorate for a membership social- a Halloween Party. The room went quiet until I raised my hand and said, "I can decorate." The room erupted in applause, and I was hooked.

I became the community development vice president of the Greenville Jaycees in 1997. I signed up for the next North Carolina Jaycee Convention. I went once and was hooked. I spent the rest of my years in the Greenville Jaycees, asking everyone I knew to go with me to all state events.

I strongly believe that the way to get people involved is to ask them. Ask for help with the simplest, easiest task or with the hard stuff. Bring new and different people into your core group. Let different people attend planning meetings, including them in text chains or email groups. Ask a different person to do even the simplest task. Encourage Jaycee chapters and individual Jaycees to reach out to new or different Senators.

How do you start? Let someone else decorate for your next event! That is all it may take!

Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei, #44003 Iowa JCI Senate. I had been invited several times to go to the local Jaycee-ette socials and join. I never did, although my husband was a Jaycee and was active. He went to the local meeting one night and they got him excited about the state meeting coming up the following week. Mike came home and said I should go to the social the next evening and pay my dues. He had registered us both for the state meeting. The rest is history!

I went to the state meeting and was impressed by the training and the banquet and awards; there was so much excitement that I came back and asked about setting up some individual development programs for the chapter.

The following year with the merger, I was elected as the regional director for Region M for the Iowa Jaycees.

The shopping tours that we held at Christmas for underprivileged children were my most memorable experiences. One Christmas, I took a 12-year-old girl shopping. She kept her coat on at the wrapping party even though the room was very warm. She told me that she didn't want to take it off as she was ashamed of her clothes. She had spent almost all the money that she was allotted on her family for Christmas presents, but she bought

one pair of jeans for herself, stating that she bought the jeans as she had never had any new clothes. That memory has always stayed with me. "Service to humanity is the best work of life."

Gene Shanks #68688, North Carolina JCI Senate. Several years after a bad experience with my first Jaycee chapter, my buddy Richard started talking to me about joining a different chapter. I agreed to try one meeting. When I got there, he introduced me to several people (all of whom were WAY too perky for me). They gave me a bunch of promotional info and I left.

About three weeks later we had one of those rare 14-inch snowfalls (the North Carolina Piedmont area doesn't get those very often). At the time I was living at the bottom of a very steep hill, so I was snowed in. I was bored and picked up a copy of The Projector magazine they gave me. I read it from cover to cover. The whole time I started thinking, "That looks fun." "I could see me doing that." And so on. I decided to give them a year to change my mind about the Jaycees.

Eleven years later, many local awards, several region awards, a few national awards (including the Wayne McCall), one international Area C award and two International World Congress awards, an induction into the Cardinal Corps, a Senatorship and an Ambassadorship and I'm still active.

Happy 80th Birthday

Steve Sutherland #27073
U.S. JCI Senate 40th President

May 30, 2026



1st Timers at Winter Board in Melbourne, FL

U.S. JCI Senate President Bruce Sostak #52655, Winner Emily Nock #77392 MO, Marybeth Kaczynski #67636 CT, Chase Fell #41010 GA, Bill Beck #45182 MN, 1st Timers PM Jess Kling #78271

Congratulations!

Lori Tomlin #62797

2026-27 Region V
Vice President
Indiana JCI Senate



*Your
Adventure
Awaits!*



Friendship Recipient at Winter Board in Melbourne, FL

U.S. JCI Senate President Bruce Sostak #52655, Region X NVP Steve Balint #43364, Friendship #127 Vicki Balint, Friendship PM Lloyd Mueller #57186

SOAR – Lets Activate Our Senators



Howdy Duck TX.

I joined the Jaycees when I was a tiny duckling growing up in the Jaycees. My parents were Jaycees so it was natural that I join. I had a great time in the Jaycees for a long time and I got my Senatorship lots of years ago but never really got involved in the Senate – you know life got in the way with job, family and community involvement. I learned a lot in the Jaycees and applied it in a lot of places but got lost from the Senate. Then a friend of mine said they were going on a great adventure to Dayton Ohio and I had to come with them. I said yes much like I did in the beginning to start my Jaycee career. I was having a great time in Dayton when I was

approached by another Texan. I didn't realize at the time that he was Roundup Bruce – the traveling version of our National President Bruce. He was great to hang out with. He got to take lots of pictures with other Senators and got to go to fun places. As we were hanging out Roundup Bruce invited me Lost Senator Howdy Duck. President Bruce decided it would be great fun to take me on the road with him as a travel companion since the President should not travel alone Round Up Bruce wants to make sure I get activated in the Senate. Hopefully we will keep one another out of trouble (though I am not holding my breath).

I can't wait to see all the Adventures that Roundup Bruce and I have while we Explore Our Senate-JCI from East to West (and North to South).

Region IV Fall Meeting Clemson, SC 10/25/2025

Chris Hardee	66036	NC	Misty West	53511	SC
Nick Woods	62735	NC	Kim Sligh	47766	SC
Gene Shanks	68688	NC	Charity Meeler	84345	SC
Melanie Paschal	70372	NC	Christianna Gilliam	78844	SC/GA
Mary Pruitt	77821	NC	Elizabeth Sautler	66673	SC
Crissie Lewis	72169	NC/FL	Allie Sears	83604	SC
Bill Craft	36216	NC	Andy Sears	84169	SC
BJ Craft	45900	NC	Don Duffy	78415	FL+2
Carol "CJ" Jordan	45857	NC	Irene Shanley	65316	FL/NC
Cheryl Carlson	70371	NC	Mark Brandel	49789	FL
Carolyn Carlson	Guest	NC	Cindy Brandel	54928	FL
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3	Bob Allen	46058	MI+4
Jeff Cardwell	54265	TN	Debra Jeanne Saunders	52883	FL
Nancy Cardwell	54264	TN	Keith Adams	FR105	FL
Larry MacQuirter	67377	GA	Jaci Newmark	56268	FL
Dee Stone	59531	FL	Melanie Fickas	77281	FL/NJ
CC Ackerman	62039	FL	Mel Fickas	28320	FL/NJ
Kim Bode	62467	NC/SC	Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL
Terry Jones	52694	NC/FL	Steve Sutherland	27073	FL
Pam Padgett	51341	NC	Randy Windham	58263	FL
Amy Kay Moore	78686	NC	Marsha Phillips	47528	FL
Tracy Culler	64534	NC	Marge Saunders	54671	FL
Suzanne Gill	67891	NC/SC	Rob Saunders	42680	FL
Angela Sweeney	69453	NC	Jim Warren	42572	FL
David Strickland	51452	NC/SC	Dolores Warren	Guest	FL
Angie Taylor	71600	SC/IA	Kathy "Kat" Collins	64926	FL/SC
Craig Smith	65679	AL	Bill Hossman	41293	FL+2
Terry Bennett	44805	NC/SC	Laura McDivitt	65755	SC+4
Gary Duell	48384	PA/VA	Wes Spurrier	63352	SC
Hal Williams	43912	FL/NC	Bianca Deal	71182	FL+3
Bruce Sostak	52655	TX+3	Lori Palo	66475	GA+6
Elizabeth Martin-Young	47759	SC+4	Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4

NEW SENATORS



Rachel Rezabek Biar #84794 Nebraska, was a fun and active Jaycee. She joined the Lincoln Jaycees in 1994. She immediately volunteered for committees and served on the board of directors.

Highlights – Chaired the 4th of July Celebration in Lincoln. Won State Speak-Up which sent her to the National Convention. Won State Write-Up and went to more National meetings. Additionally, she played a key role both in the State of

Nebraska and National OYF (Outstanding Young Farmers). Her Jaycee career has tied right in with her work life. She continues to be a leader and mentor to so many in her life.



Catie McNew #84881 Nebraska, has been heavily involved in the Jaycees since joining in 2017. In 2019, Catie attended her first National convention where she won first timers. Her prize for winning was a paid trip to Washington D.C and the first ever North American Academy.

She was North Platte Chapter President back to back in 2020 and 2021. She went on to be the Nebraska Jaycees 95th State

President where she served back to back 2022 and 2023. In 2024 Catie was elected as 1 of 6 National Vice Presidents in a contested elected. As NVP Catie worked with Montana, Colorado, Oregon, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Mexico, and North Dakota. For 2025 she was again the North Platte Chapter President.



Nick Shaul #84790 Iowa, joined the Jaycees in 2009 and was a member in Hampton, Ames, and Nevada, Iowa. He has enjoyed working on many projects.

He loved mentoring new members and sharing the importance of giving back to the community.

After aging out he has continued to support his local chapter of Nevada by volunteering whenever needed, offering support to local officers, being a sounding board for current and past members, and offering advice to anyone that will let him talk about how the Jaycees have impacted him and his life.



Lindsey Young #84882 Nebraska, joined the North Platte Jaycees after returning home from serving in the military and finishing college. She immersed herself in service by chairing blood drives, helping with Relay for Life, the Haunted House, Puttin' Crawl, and more.

In 2023, after being a member for 14 years, she was elected North Platte Jaycees chapter president and was in her element.

In 2024, midway through the year Lindsey stepped back into the role as Chapter president when the current president needed to step down. Lindsey played a key role on the committee for the 2026 Nebraska Jaycee and Senate meeting, which was a huge success



Andrew Jay #84687 Minnesota, has been very active in Jaycee projects and on the board. He has always been genuinely welcoming and approachable as he traveled Minnesota. He exhibits a deep understanding of the core principles of JCI.

NEW SENATORS



Jasmine Beard #84714 North Carolina, is from the Greensboro Jaycees. When she was a relatively new Jaycee she was appointed to a vacant board slot and next elected as the Executive VP.

When a current president had to step down, she assumed the role finished the year. They were thrilled with membership growth that year and elected her to be President the following year. She has continued to serve the chapter and expanded recruiting to local colleges and partnerships with community groups like Gate City 180 serving the homeless.



Elisabeth Rarivason Holden #84712 North Carolina, was a Winston-Salem Jaycee and later joining the Greensboro Jaycees. She enjoys chairing projects and her energy can be very infectious.

She joined the board and made a big impact in her board positions. When she became the president of the chapter it was a breath of fresh air for the chapter. She loves doing things with the North Carolina and US Jaycees. The Local Chapter is again involved with the Greensboro Holiday Parade.. Under her leadership they became the largest chapter in the state and hosted a State Convention.



Adam Little #84793 Pennsylvania, is a member of the Upper Adams Jaycees. He has been a part of this organization since childhood, growing up alongside its values, traditions, and mission.

Over the years, Adam has proven time and again that his commitment to JCI and to his community runs far deeper than a title or position. Adam participates in all activities including their annual fundraiser the National Apple Harvest Festival. When a wildfire began impacting the area. Without hesitation, he dropped everything he was doing and stepped in to help. When not busy with Jaycees, Adam is a heavy machine operator.



Brandon Hunter #84713 North Carolina, for over a dozen years he has held numerous positions in the chapter and offices on their board including treasurer, legal counsel, vice president and the first ever two-time president in the history of the chapter. It was in that role that Greensboro received the Best Chapter in North Carolina Award. He was successful in moving a well-known chapter fundraising project, the Taste of Carolina Wine Festival, to a new location which revived the project. Shifting the focus of much of the chapter programming back to community organizations, he led the effort to establish and endow a \$25,000 scholarship

project, the Taste of Carolina Wine Festival, to a new location which revived the project. Shifting the focus of much of the chapter programming back to community organizations, he led the effort to establish and endow a \$25,000 scholarship



Charlie Pitts #84834 Virginia, joined the Virginia Beach Jaycees in 2009 and has been a driving force ever since. Throughout his Jaycee journey, he has served as membership vice president, individual development vice president, and membership director.

His leadership of the East Coast Surfing Championship has been remarkable, serving twice as chair, as well as Operations Director, and twice as chair of the East Coast Surfing Championship Golf Tournament. Charlie was also instrumental in launching the Virginia Beach Jaycees Charities and has faithfully served on its board for years. Today, he continues that commitment as Treasurer.



Cindy Honickman #84715 North Carolina, joined the Raleigh Jaycees some 15 years ago. Serving the chapter in multiple project leadership roles and board roles culminating as the chapter president, they have focused on building people up, strengthening systems, and delivering outcomes that lasted well beyond their term of leadership. Not only is this leader a local and state award winning Jaycee in multiple chapters, but a famed National Armbruster Award recipient from JCI USA. However, her Jaycee commitment was not just in NC, but also in the St. Charles Jaycees in Missouri where, as the membership vice president.

chapters, but a famed National Armbruster Award recipient from JCI USA. However, her Jaycee commitment was not just in NC, but also in the St. Charles Jaycees in Missouri where, as the membership vice president.



Scott Ogden #84300 Missouri, received his Senatorship from the St. Charles chapter. Scott has served the Jaycees as local president as well as the Missouri Jaycees region 5 director, vice president, state president, chairman of the board and primary advisor. In 2024, he was recognized as a JCI USA Executive Committee Member of the Year for his service as membership development director.

Scott is known for his unwavering support, realistic guidance, and humor! Scott continues to pour into others through hands-on leadership and mentorship.



Anna Tyler #84672 Missouri, was recognized because of her commitment to the Jaycees since joining in 2014. She exemplifies everything our organization stands for: leadership, service, personal growth, perseverance and unwavering dedication to her chapter and community. Anna has served the Jaycees through several positions on the Jefferson City Chapter Board – director, membership, management Vice President, secretary for multiple years, many positions on the fair board and Chapter President in 2023 and then again in 2024.



Autumn Gentry #84722 North Carolina, is an exceptional leader whose hard work, dedication and unwavering commitment to the Jaycees is second to none. She has served in multiple positions at the local, state and national levels in the Jaycees. She has served as vice president of her local chapter and the NC Jaycees as well as the 90th president of the NC Jaycees.

She has a remarkable level of dedication and a deep belief in the mission of JCI enabling her to be able to have a meaningful impact on members and communities. Autumn supports promising new projects, and plays a vital role in recruitment.



David Vaughn #84444 Missouri, joined the Sikeston chapter in 1982. He served the chapter as individual development vice president in 1985. He chaired the chapter's largest project, the Sikeston Bootheel Rodeo, in 1993. He received the Jaycee of the Year in 1997 and the Rodeo Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004. David still participates in annual rodeo and other projects and is a welcome addition to the Missouri Senate.



U.S. JCI Senate President Bruce's Ranger pins recipients at Winter Board
FL JCI Senate President Don Duffy JR #78415, IL JCI Senate President Susie Colbert-Curtis #73137,
IL Joan Travis #76201, IA Newton Standridge #29407, NC BJ Kraft #45900, MO Foundation Treasurer Earl Sawyer
#28243, OK Ambassador to Canada Karen MacCannell #49497, U.S. JCI Senate President Bruce Sostak #52655,
Chief of Staff Logan Giesie #51120, CA JCI Senate President Beth Fujishige #69219,
ND Chief Mentors Editor Angie Jelinek #60570, AL JCI Senate President Craig Smith #65679



Treasurers Information Exchange at Winter Board

Front: Angie Jelinek ND #60570, U.S. JCI Senate President Bruce Sostak #52655, U.S. JCI Senate Treasurer Tom King #59642,
Lisa Badger IA #67973
Denise Lyons Conrad CA #53219, E.J. Miller WV #50983, Dana Hall ME #41552, MaryAnn Hilleary IL #64615, Jon Bruner OH
#58932, Jim France MD #44665, Lori Palo GA #66475, Ron Stair KS #71373, Delisa Anderson OK #54310,
Carol Standridge IA #80700, BJ Craft NC #45900, Larry Norfleet TN #60771



Communications Meeting at Winter Board

Front: Dawne Sutherland FL #58900, Kim Bode NC #62467, Ruby Weymouth OH #67303, U.S. JCI Senate Secretary
Dawna Norfleet #61999, U.S. JCI Senate President Bruce Sostak #52655, Allison Geddes OH #74777, Angie Jelinek ND #60570,
Lowell Vahl AZ #40315

Back: Catherine McManus FL #81988, Bill Potuchek CT #35278, John Price WV #36383, Dana Hall ME #41552,
Nancy Cloud OK #52750, Ron Stair KS #71373, Joan Travis PA #76201, Jaci Newmark FL #56368, Beth Muir PA #65479,
Kathy Pumphrey FL #57287

NEW SENATORS



Ashly Wilkinson #87492 Pennsylvania, has been an active and dedicated member of the Upper Adams, Pennsylvania Jaycees since the age of 18.

She has a passion for service, leadership, and the development of others. Of all the roles she has held, Ashly's heart truly lies in the work as vice president of Individual development. Outside of Jaycees, her passion for shaping future leaders is evident in her career as an educator. This dedication extends into her work through a program she runs called Sole Sisters, which supports young adolescent girls as they navigate life. She is a driving force behind the National Apple Harvest Festival annual fundraiser.



Chuck Rogers #84584 Vermont, joined the Tuckahoe, Virginia Jaycees in 1981. He chaired two of their most significant projects - the Haunted House and July 4th Celebration. He was an instrumental leader of one of the chapter's largest projects - Project W.A.R.M. which helped many Richmond residents heat their home all winter.

As a lawyer, he helped create their chapter's foundation so donations for community development projects could be made tax free; resulting in annual donations of over \$10,000 to fund the service projects. He served the Virginia Jaycees as state legal counsel and state parliamentarian.

Region IV Meeting 3/28/26 Calabash Beach Bash N. Myrtle Beach, SC

Lori Palo	66475	GA+7	Larry MacQuirter	67377	GA
Alex "Hitman" Willis	34236	GA	Jim Miller	34554	NJ/VA
Latasha Q	Guest	GA	Mary Pruitt	77821	CO/NC
Thomas Micheal	75612	GA	Jay Edmondson	41977	FL+2
Kathy Collins	64926	FL	Patsy Edmondson	FR03	FL
Liz Martin-Young	47759	SC	Mike Lynch	54465	SC+7
Bianca Deal	71182	FL+3	Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Keith Adams	FR105	FL	Carol "CJ" Jordan	45857	NC/FL
Jaci Newmark	56368	FL	Gene Shanks	68688	NC
Les Miller	45157	TN/WV	Amy Kay	78686	NC
Kathy Miller	74168	TN+2	Vann Sparrow	67885	NC
Lawrence Pittman	53932	NC+3	Suzanne Gill	67891	NC/SC
Karol Pittman	FR55	NC	Angela Sweeney	69453	NC
Marty Calabro	26870	NV	Anna Price	71390	NC
Sunny Riffle	50651	SC	Mark Brandel	49789	FL
Russ Gantt	39501	SC	Kay Elliott	61747	FL
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4	Chris Hardee	66036	NC
Gene Martin	30843	SC	Dawna Norfleet	61999	TN
Tom King	59642	VA	Larry Norfleet	60771	TN/KY
Kathleen King	68704	VA	Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3
Jacque Camlet	67098	VA	Matt "Keg" Readett	52988	SC
Letha Grimes	63946	MD	Laura McDivitt	65755	SC
Bill Hossman	41293	FL/IN	Taylor Brooks	84165	SC
Bonnie Blaisdell	69956	CT/NY	Lauren Folk	81935	SC
Nancy Gianetti	69463	CT	Melanie Paschel	70372	NC/SC

Illinois JCI Senate Fall GA/TOYP/HOF 10/4/2025

Melodie Ainslie	69200	IL	Terry Kolaz	68698	IL
Ray Ainslie	44136	IL	Ted Kuenzli	32166	IL
Denny Birt	37116	IL	Chuck McFarlin	47910	IL
Marilyn Burton	55106	IL	Lynne McGill	70364	IL
Susie Colbert-Curtis	73137	IL	Digger McGraugh	36156	IL
Kathy Crick	71017	IL	Jessi Neighbors	82669	IL
Chris Curtis	35440	IL	Mark Niedenthal	39701	IL
Kay DeGroot	73333	IL	Maureen Niedenthal	67669	IL
Judson DeVore	65005	IL	John "JDO" Olson	35308	IL
Marsha DeVore	67330	IL	Bill Patterson	47979	IL
Karen Helms	57838	IL	Stephanie Pittenger	59999	IL
Eric Hiatt	81434	IL	Chris Rick	78649	IL
Greg Hilleary	43305	IL	Monty Schroeder	62203	IL
MaryAnn Hilleary	64615	IL	Sherrie Schroeder	FS 52	IL
Norm Hoffman	25676	IL	Karen Voshel	62305	IL
Rod Hollenstine	46073	IL	Donna Ward	53588	IL
Roxy Hollenstine	78247	IL	Jack Ward	53585	IL
Wayne Huelsmann	30592	IL	Brian Ziegler	42479	IL
Wayne Kiefer	36498	IL	Joann Ziegler	81800	IL

Family History: Jaycees in the 1950's

Family history is amazing! My brother and I were sorting through some family records, and ran across some interesting information. Neither of us realized that our father's first job out of college involved Jaycees along with his job as a U.S. Chamber employee:

* My father Frank Faherty, age 28, moved with his new wife to St. Joseph, Missouri in June 1950. He was assigned there from Memphis as a salaried employee of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and his job was to run the St. Joseph chamber's office. The procedure in those days was that the employee also joined as a Jaycee chapter member, and automatically became the corporate secretary of both the local Jaycees and the Chamber- taking all board minutes and supervising the local newsletters, while planning the many projects. When you think about it, what a great way for the two organizations to work at achieving the same overall objectives, that is, improving their community, * (see picture to the right)

In 1955 the family relocated to Fort Worth, Texas. Our dad became a successful insurance salesman, was chair of the countywide March of Dimes and president of the local agents' organization. Sounds like a fellow schooled in the traditional Jaycee ways.

Submitted by:

KEVIN FAHERTY #42138

29th President, Texas JCI Senate



MEET THE GOOSE . . . Here is Frank Faherty, the Goose and Sam Magers on last election day. The boys worked in shifts but the Goose worked a full day. Jaycees also passed out two thousand handbills encouraging people to vote. It was good promotion and from all indications helped to "Get Out the Vote," according to John Redmond, Jaycee president.

U.S. JCI Senate Board Meeting January 17, 2026 Melbourne, FL

Lamar Smith	27217	AL	Alex "Hitman" Willis	34226	GA+3	Mary Sawyer	43930	MO	Nancy Cloud	52750	OK
Tooter Gray	58203	AL	Lori Palo	66475	GA+8	Randy Johnson	56636	MO	Delisa Anderson	54310	OK
Jen Smith	83256	AL	Cheryl Davis Sauerbrel	44003	IA	Susan Hatcher	58143	MO	Peggy Rider	58293	OK
Carla Bailey	62624	AL+4	Pat Hoelker	45893	IA	Michele Burnett-Emmerich	60635	MO	Charles Edwards	62936	OK
Jim Hampshire	38626	AZ	Eldon Bowers	45999	IA	Tonya Myers	66222	MO	Noel Sumpter	73189	OK
Lowell Vahl	40315	AZ	Phyllis Bowers	51430	IA	David Teachout	68700	MO	Gloria Albers	79536	OK
Jim Daugherty	51172	AZ/KY/AR	Lynn Stoffegen	55876	IA	Paul Myers	72173	MO	Joe Sabella	26077	PA
Janice Daugherty	65320	AZ/KY/AR	Lori Oakland	67100	IA	Kristen Johnson	72859	MO	Jay Glover	44309	PA
Pat Holbert	55454	AZ/MO	Lisa Badger	67973	IA	Emily Nock	77392	MO	Nancy Salopek	47610	PA
Dianne Von Borstel	55954	AZ/MO	Dan Badger	67974	IA	Kathy Teachout	FR 108	MO	Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Phil Friedman	61455	AZ/NE	Brain Witte	68535	IA	Donna DeLaney	55560	MO/IA/SD	Janet Kozak	61574	PA
Tanis Jimeno-Friedman	70297	AZ/NE	Woody Sauerbrel	FR 111	IA	Tom Hendrix	37317	MO/NE/IA	Jeff Kozak	63411	PA
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3	Jim Kirchhoff	FR 119	IA	Bill Craft	36216	NC	Amy L Newton	68529	PA
Margaret Souza	48490	CA	Carol Standridge	80700	IA	BJ Craft	45900	NC	LeAnn Glover	78714	PA
Denise Lyons Conrad	53219	CA	Newton Standridge	29407	IA/AR	Nick Woods	62735	NC	John Robinson	55768	PA/FL
Lynne Hanson	68753	CA	Angie Tayler	71600	IA/SC	Ray Culler	64452	NC	Beth Muir	65479	PA/NY
Joe A Souza	27511	CA/AZ	Stephanie Pittenger	59999	IL	Tracy Culler	64534	NC	Sally Traczuk	68943	PA/NY
Beth Fushighe	69219	CA/VA	Wayne Huelsmann	30592	IL	Amy Kay	78686	NC	Gary Duell	48384	PA/VA
Jeff Kass	32300	CT	Chris Curtis	35440	IL	Cheryl Carlson	70371	NC/AZ/FL	Katy Lemmer	73037	PA/VA
Bill Potuchek	35278	CT	Wayne Kiefer	36498	IL	Mary Pruitt	77821	NC/CO	Diane Duell	74147	PA/VA
Vin Lentini	47865	CT	Mark Niedenthal	39701	IL	Carol CJ Jordan	45857	NC/FL	Chris Travis	55435	PA+4
Fran Kass	60798	CT	MaryAnn Hileary	64615	IL	Marty Wase	53142	NC/FL	Joan Travis	76201	PA+5
Marybeth Kaczynslm	67636	CT	Maureen Niedenthal	67669	IL	Terry Jones	52694	NC/FL/OH	Toon Bauman	67855	Region 6
Eldine Potuchek	FR 32	CT	Susie Colbert-Curtis	73137	IL	Kim Bode	62467	NC/SC	John Dahl	42828	SD
Margarita Lentini	Guest	CT	Kay DeGroot	73333	IL	Andy Childness	62743	NC/SC	Marsha Dahl	47936	SD
Dak Blaisdell	Guest	CT	Maxine Cooper	68012	IL/MI	Suzanne Gill	67891	NC/SC	Julie Rieckman	60573	SD
Michele Tarantino	63380	CT/NY	Lori Tomlin	62797	IN	Melanie C Paschal	70372	NC/SC	Gary Steen	56503	SD/IA
Bonnie Blaisdell	69956	CT/NY	Mike Andrews	58312	IN/FL	Angie Jelinek	60570	ND	Rose Steen	57178	SD/IA
Ann Harrison	75822	DE	Linda Andrews	71434	IN/FL	Lloyd Mueller	57186	NE	Ken Fischer	43036	SD+8
Steve Sutherland	27073	FL	Rob Wiley	56033	KS	Dick St. Jean	38089	NH	Dawna Norfleet	61999	TN
Bill Hossman	41293	FL	Anita R. Cummings	69380	KS	Bonnie St. Jean	42864	NH	Larry Norfleet	60771	TN/KY/IL
Marsha Phillips	47528	FL	Ron Stair	71373	KS	Jim Miller	34554	NJ/VA	Bill Madding	28920	TX
Mike Phillips	50063	FL	Bradford Blain	39993	KY	Marty Calabro	11719	NV	Jumper	38376	TX
Marianne Romano	52885	FL	Charlie Welch	11719	MA/NH	Steve Balint	43364	NV	David Castle	49358	TX
Jaci Newmark	56368	FL	Mary Ann Johnston	65901	MA/NH/FL	John Tyo	66381	NY/PA/DE	Bruce Sostak	52655	TX
Andrew Moos	58261	FL	Colette Welch	69240	MA/NH/FL	Stephanie Kingsley	72949	NY/PA/WV	Ron Holzer	56549	TX
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL	Sam Young	37972	MD	Scott Kingsley	67932	NY+3	Nan Holzer	63882	TX
Dee Stone	59531	FL	Jim France	44665	MD	Bruce Geddes	35527	OH	Hilda Davis	71500	TX
Kay Elliott	61747	FL	Marilyn Young	45664	MD	Stu O'hara	39768	OH	Lorrie Castle	82617	TX
Caryn CC Ackerman	62039	FL	Tom Rohr	47918	MD	Ron Kimmet	43520	OH	Candy Madding	FR 58	TX
Amelia Harrison	62082	FL	Nancy Spicer	55108	MD	EJ Rice	47046	OH	Greg Peebles	56000	TX/OK
Kathy Collins	64926	FL	Letha Grimes	63946	MD	Jon Bruner	58932	OH	Leisa Peebles	56001	TX/OK
Cheryl Hyman	70371	FL	MaryAnn Rohr	65353	MD	Jenny Bruner	64688	OH	Anne Johnson	49625	VA
Catherine McManus	81988	FL	Jess Kling	78271	MD	Jean Geddes	68886	OH	Tom King	55642	VA
Keith Adams	FR 105	FL	Cheryl France	57391	MD	Sharon Rice	71524	OH	Sandy Barber	65607	VA
Thomas Johnson	FR 86	FL	Harry Kolodner	34400	MD/DE	Allison Geddes	74777	OH	Scott Bryant	67910	VA
Jim Warren	42572	FL/MD	Sandy Kolodner	52468	MD/DE	Sara Kimmet	77909	OH	Kathleen King	68704	VA
Irene Shanley	65316	FL/NC	Dana Hall	41552	ME	Shelley Knight-Bourn	81030	OH	Melissa Sleeth	69220	VA
Mel Fickas	28320	FL/NJ	Cyndi Hall	48152	ME	Susan Geddes	81581	OH	Vanessa Kinsley	70985	VA
Scott Link	51911	FL/NJ	Vette Sutton	69414	MI	Zach Bourn	83578	OH	Art Esenberg	26704	VA/FL
Melanie Fickas	77281	FL/NJ	Russ Cooper	4638	MI/IL	Kelly Koch	69508	OH/FL/NC	Kelly Gage	78980	VA/MD/IA
Michael Sawyer	36403	FL/OH	Bill Beck	45192	MN	Ruby Weymouth	67303	OH+4	John Price	36383	WV
Don Duffy	78415	FL/SC/OK	Randy Young	46420	MN	Paul Weymouth	69653	OH+4	Linda Miller	49755	WV
Denise Bauer	61276	GA	Marge Miller	52948	MN	Randy Sursa	49485	OK	E.J. Miller	50983	WV
Larry MacQuirter	67377	GA	Earl Sawyer	28243	MO	Karen MacCannell	49497	OK	Deb Price	71777	WV

Vino Bellas/Fellas Reception Pigeon Forge, TN 02/21/26

Lori Palo	66475	GA+7
Lisa Pickett	72247	GA+7
Karen Voshel	62305	IL
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL/AL
Lauren Folk	81935	SC
Maria Ferranti	56955	SC
Gail Little	FR97	GA
Mary Sawyer	43930	MO
Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Rob Wiley	56033	KS
Angie Taylor	71600	IA/SC
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ
Melanie Fickas	77281	FL/NJ
Vanessa Kinsley	70985	VA
Rhe Adams	75440	SC
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4
Jaci Newmark	56368	FL/LA
Keith Adams	FR105	FL
Jan Allen Smith	83256	AL

Vino Bellas & Fellas Clemson, SC 10/24/2025

Diane Duell	74147	PA/VA
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3
Cheryl Carlson	70371	NC+2
Carolyn Carlson	Guest	NC
Lori Palo	66475	GA+3
Jaci Newmark	56368	FL/LA
Keith Adams	FR105	FL
Pam Padgett	51341	NC/FL
Suzanne Gill	67891	NC/SC
Amy Moore	78686	NC
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL
Elizabeth Sautler	66673	SC
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4
Carla Bailey	62624	AL+4
Tooter Gray	58203	AL
Rita Bowles	59336	SC
Christianna Gilliam	78844	SC
BJ Craft	45900	NC

Vino Bellas & Fellas Reception Melbourne, FL 1/17/2026

Lori Palo	66475	GA+7	Mary Pruitt	77821	NC/SC
Lisa Pickett	72247	GA	Melanie Paschal	70372	NC/SC
Kelly Koch	69508	FL+2	Tooter Gray	58203	AL
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL/AL	Nick Woods	62735	NC
Nino Perko-Badeen	73043	MI	Carla Bailey	62624	AL+4
Cheryl France	57391	MD	Dee Stone	59531	FL
Dianne Von Borstel	55954	AZ/MO	Bianca Deal	71182	FL
Pat Holbert	55454	AZ/MO	Cheryl Carlson	70371	NC+2
BJ Craft	45900	NC	Rob Wiley	56033	KS
Tanis Friedman	70297	AZ/NE	Scott Link	51911	FL
Phil Friedman	61455	AZ/NE	Mary Anne Johnston	65901	MA+2
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ	Ruby Weymouth	67303	OH+5
Jan Smith	83256	AL	Diane Duell	74147	PA/VA
Emily Nock	77392	MD/IL	Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4
Caryn "CC" Ackerman	62039	FL	Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Marty Wase	53142	NC/FL	Vanessa Kinsley	70985	VA
Pam Wase		NC	Allison Geddes	74777	OH
Pam Padgett	51341	NC/SC	Kay Elliott	61747	FL
Suzanne Gill	67891	NC/CO	Amelia Harrison	62082	FL

U.S. JCI SENATE FOUNDATION

PLATINUM Level donor (\$5000)



L to R: Denise Bauer #61276 GA, Massachusetts JCI Senate Represented by Colette Welch #69240 MA

SILVER Level donor (\$1000)



L To R: Tom #47918 and MaryAnn Rohr #65353 MD, Dianne Von Borstel #55954 AZ

BRONZE Level donors (\$500)



Thomas Michael #76512 GA, Ray #64452 and Tracy #64534 Collier NC



*Congratulations
to the
2025-2026
U.S. JCI Senate
on a
Successful year!*



2025-26 Presidential Assistants

Seated: U.S. JCI Senate President Bruce Sostak #52655, 1st Lady Denise Bauer #61276
Standing: Greg Peebles #56000, Phyllis Bowers #51430, Chief of Staff Logan Giesie #51120, Teresa Beans #67173, Kay Elliot #61747, Becky Edwards #62937

**THE GA JCI SENATE
PROUDLY
SUPPORTS
ALEX "HITMAN" WILLIS**

#34236

FOR

**U.S. JCI SENATE
REGION IV**

**NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
2026-2027**



U.S. JCI SENATE FEATURE EVENTS



ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 14-18, 2026 San Antonio, TX

Howdy from San Antonio, We have been working on finishing touches for the US JCI Senate National Meeting. We are all very excited to host y'all and are hoping y'all have a very memorable time.

Don't forget to check out the tours we are offering in downtown San Antonio by downloading the QR code at txjcisenate.org.

Please put on your party attitude and be ready to meet and greet your fellow JCI Senators from across the US and abroad at the Welcome Party on Monday evening sponsored by the Sweepstakes Committee.

There will be a lot of fun and food in the hospitality room during the week with theme days. On Thursday it will be Viva San Antonio so if you like put on your favorite Mexican themed outfit. On Tuesday its college Spirit so

wear your favorite College Jersey. On Wednesday its Pirate day so you can plan on wearing your best pirate outfit and say AARRGG a lot. On Thursday after the banquet its Remember the Alamo so you can wear your best cowboy hat.

While you are here if you have any questions about what's going on here is your contact list:

Hotel and general conference – Ron Holzer #56549 and David Gilkeson #50809

Hospitality – John Wodarczyk #62078

Registration – Liesa Peebles #56001 and Greg Peebles #56000

Tours and Transportation – Dr June Stansky #55527

Looking forward to seeing you soon

Viva San Antonio

Ron Holzer #56549 2026 USJCI Senate National Meeting Chairman



FALL BOARD SEPTEMBER 17-20 Topeka, KS

All Aboard Fall Board 2026 in Topeka, Kansas is just a few months away. Plan your trip to attend the weekend of September 17th – 20th. All events will be at the main hotel Ramada by Wyndham 420 SE 6th Ave. The hotel is fully booked.

Due to mechanical issues beyond our control and the hotel, there is an overflow hotel that is being used for those needing to reserve lodging for the weekend. Capital Plaza Hotel Topeka 1717 SW Topeka Blvd is exactly 5 minutes and 15 seconds away from Ramada. Room rates will be the same as Ramada, \$119 plus the typical taxes and breakfast is included in the cost. To contact the hotel, please call 785-431-7200 and use the code "JCI". The Kansas JCI Senate Fall Board committee is in constant contact with Ramada and if the mechanical issues are resolved, those lodging in the overflow hotel will be contacted to get you reserved at the main hotel. Transportation is being provided between the hotels.

Arriving by Amtrak? The BNSF depot is just a stone thrown away from Ramada. Needing help getting your luggage to the hotel. Let us know when your ETA arrival is, and we will be there to welcome you to the capital of Kansas and get you squared away. You can text 785-331-7615 and Senate Porter Uncle Rob and crew will help.

Arriving by air? The two closest airfields are Kansas City, MO and Manhattan, KS. Both locations are approximately one hour away. Rental vehicles are available at each location. KCI has over 300 flights daily in and out of Kansas City.

Vendor Showcase Can't

showcase for the year-end convention, please contact me. The table cost is \$50, which goes to your account in the Foundation.

Thank you to President Bruce for offering me this opportunity and First Lady Denise, who is always a supporter of the showcase. East to West, we explored our Senate through the showcase.

Manhattan has several flights to and from Chicago and Dallas with connections across the country.

Arriving by vehicle? You can travel within 10 hours or less from Dallas, Chicago, Nashville, Indianapolis, Denver, Minneapolis, Louisville, Sioux Falls, Little Rock, Memphis. Plenty of travel stops along the way for refreshments and stretching the legs.

Topeka has numerous historic areas to visit while in town. NOTO Arts & Entertainment District, Brown vs Board of Education, Combat Air Museum, Kansas Museum of History, Kansas Children's Discovery Center, Topeka Zoo & Conservation Center and of course the Statehouse of Kansas. There will be a tour set up for the Capital.

Notable attractions in the region include the Prairie Band Casino & Resort and Firekeeper Golf Course located north of Topeka. To the east, visitors can explore the Kansas Territorial Capital, Lane Museum, and Constitution Hall State Historic Site in Lecompton. Holton offers the More than Lemons glassblowing shop north of Topeka, while Wamego features the Oz Museum, Oz Winery, and Columbian Theatre to the west. Each location is within a 40-minute reach or less.

Looking for a place to have your region dinner or lunch: Iron Rail Brewing, The Blind Tiger Brewery & Restaurant, The Wheel Barrel, Brass Rail Tavern which is the oldest bar in the capital of Kansas, The Celtic Fox Irish Pub and Restaurant, The Weather Room, The Knox Cocktail Lounge, Axe & Ale, The Tee Box, 785 Beer Company, Tailgaters Sports Pub & Grub and Jeremiah Bullfrogs Bar & Grill. To contact these locations, please go to their website for additional information.

More information to follow as we get closer to September.

Until then, see you down the tracks.

Rob Wiley # 56033
All Aboard Fall Board
2026 Chairman

VENDOR SHOWCASE



VENDOR SHOWCASE
JACI NEWMARK #56368
vendorshowcase@usjcisenate.org

What a great time we had in Melbourne! The vendor showcase had six tables and was open for two days. We all had a good time showing and selling our wares. Congratulations to Jimmy Law (South Carolina) and Amy Newton (Pennsylvania) on winning the Amazon gift cards each day.

In San Antonio, we are planning

an even bigger showcase, currently with eight tables. The showcase will be open for only one day, so please check the agenda and look for the showcase banner so you don't miss it. There will be one last Amazon gift card to be given away to anyone purchasing from a vendor.

This has been a great year and I have had so much enjoyment organizing the showcases. I want to thank all of my vendors: Marty Calabro (Nevada), Leitha Grimes (NVP III), Karen Gage (Virginia), Angie Taylor (Iowa), Gene Shanks (North Carolina), Lara Thom (New Jersey), Vanessa Kinsley (Virginia), Mary Ann Hilleary (Illinois) and Judy Parag (Delaware) for participating this year, bringing your different items and raising funds for the U.S. JCI Senate Foundation. If you would like to be included in the

US JCI Senate National Meeting

Viva San Antonio

Hosted by the Texas JCI Senate

June 14 – 18, 2026



Name _____ JCI Senate # _____ State Affiliation _____

Spouse/Guest _____ JCI Senate or Friendship # _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail address _____

Veteran ☐ Yes Under 55 ☐ Yes

Current Position(s) of Attendees for badge _____

Region banquet seating preference _____

Is this your first JCI Senate National Meeting? ☐ Yes Spouse/Guest ☐ Yes

Are you sharing a room? ☐ Yes. With whom? _____

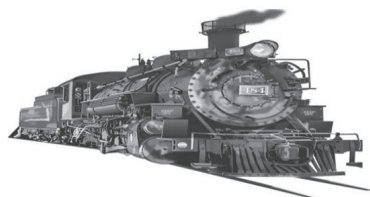
Item	Qty	Postmarked on or before 05/14/2026	Postmarked after 05/14/2026	On-site	Total
Full Registration		\$170.00	\$185.00	\$200.00	
Child Registration (Age 12 and under)		\$80.00	\$85.00	\$100.00	
Early Hospitality		\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	
Year End Awards Banquet Only		\$85.00	\$95.00	\$170.00	
Daily Hospitality Only		\$25.00		\$25.00	
Daily Off-site Fee		\$20.00		\$20.00	
Select Banquet Meal	☐ Beef ☐ Vegetarian	☐ Chicken ☐			
Banquet Meal – please list any dietary requirements					
	Grand Total				

If paying by check make check payable to: Texas JCI Senate (Do Not Send Cash) and mail registration form and payment to Leisa Peebles 3301 Fair Oak Dr, Rowlett TX 75089. No Refunds after 5/31/2026.

If you have questions on registration please contact Leisa Peebles at leisap@verizon.net

If you are paying by credit card please fill out form and click the SUBMIT button below and a invoice to pay by credit card will be emailed to you. Additional processing fee will be charged. No Refunds after 5/31/2026.

Hotel Information: Westin San Antonio North, 9821 Colonnade Blvd San Antonio TX 78230, Make your hotel reservations directly [Book Texas JCI Senate 2026](#) call 844-886-4304 and use code Texas JCI Senate 2026



ALL ABOARD!!

US JCI SENATE FALL BOARD 2026

Hosted by the Kansas JCI Senate
at
Ramada by Wyndham Downtown Hotel &
Convention
420 SE 6TH Ave, Topeka, Kansas



September 17-20, 2026

Name _____ JCI Senate # _____ State Affiliation _____
Spouse/Guest _____ JCI Senate or Friendship # _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Home phone _____ Cell phone _____
E-mail address _____
Veteran ☐ Yes ☐ No Under 55 ☐ Yes ☐ No
Current Position(s) of Attendees _____
Region banquet seating preference _____
Is this your first JCI Senate National Meeting? ☐ Yes ☐ No Spouse/Guest ☐ Yes ☐ No
Are you sharing a room? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes, with whom? _____

Item	Qty	Postmarked on or before 8/17/2026	Postmarked after 8/17/2026	On-site	Total
Full Registration includes breakfast buffet 4/room		\$95	\$110	\$125	
Child Registration (Age 12 and under)		\$40	\$55	\$60	
Early Hospitality on September 17		\$20	\$30	\$40	
Saturday Banquet Only		\$55	\$60	\$65	
Daily Hospitality Only		\$25	\$25	\$25	
Daily Off-site Fee (per person per day)		\$25	\$25	\$25	
Off-site Tours		TBA	TBA		
Banquet Meal will be buffet style					
Banquet Meal – please list any dietary requirements					
				Grand Total	

Make check payable to: **KSJCI Senate** (Do Not Send Cash)

Method of payment: Check # _____ Credit Card - A link to pay by CC will be sent to email upon receipt

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Mail registration form and payment to:

KSJCI Senate Inc: Convention 2026

C/O Rob Wiley #56033

1423 Tallgrass Circle, Eudora, KS 66025-9246

Email: rocknrob76@hotmail.com

H: 785-542-1958 C: 785-331-7615 Leave message / Text

Host Hotel Information: Make your hotel reservations directly at 785-234-5400 Group Rate Code: 091526KSJ Queens/Kings \$119 + Tax
Back Up Hotel Information: Make your reservation at this link: <http://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=5103073&hotelID=13576>

You may also call : (785) 431-7200 and use code "JCI" Room Rate is good 3 days before and after Cut-off date 8/20/2026 Ver: 1/15/2026

U.S. JCI SENATE FOUNDATION



PRESIDENT
WAYNE KIEFER #36498
wayne.kiefer@gmail.com

The Winter Board Meeting in Melbourne, Florida, as expected, was well attended, but unusually cool. Despite the coolness, we managed to get in a few rounds of golf.

As you read the latest Mentors, the Foundation will have announced our scholarship recipients for 2026. Our scholarship chairperson, Nancy Salopek and the selection committee have selected our one-year college recipients. Our named scholarship recipients will receive \$2,000 assistance and the remaining recipients will receive \$1,500 assistance. Our 10 trade school recipients will receive \$1,000 assistance. Congratula-

tions to all the selected recipients for 2026.

We now look forward to our annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas where we again will host the Hincker Open golf tournament. Foundation Day, including golf, will take place on Tuesday of convention week, so please plan accordingly. We hope once again to welcome more than 50 golfers and many sponsors to reach our goal of \$10,000 dollars at this year's Hincker Open. Golfer registrations and individual hole and cart sponsorship forms should be available on the website. Our golf chairman is Bill Patterson and our sponsorship chairperson is Karen Voshel.

Our annual auction will close out foundation day on Tuesday evening. Contact Julie Rieckman if you are bringing a new item to the auction. With a record number of registrations, we hope our golf and auction will also break records.

If not a member, please contact any trustee or region representative to join. It only takes \$150 to become a member and begin your ongoing support of the Foundation. Also remember to purchase your 500 Club tickets so you don't miss the first drawing in July. See all of you in San Antonio, Texas to congratulate President Bruce for an outstanding year as our president.



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
NANCY SALOPEK #47610
scholarship@usjcisenate.org

The 2026 U.S. JCI Senate Foundation scholarship recipients have been selected. We received applications from 48 states.

Each state was able to submit two academic applicants for judging on the national level. We have awarded 25 named scholarship grants at \$2,000 each and 25 grants at \$1,500. Additionally, every state was able to submit one application to receive one of ten national vocational scholarships of \$1,000.

The students who applied for our grants are outstanding academically, active in their schools and communities and have ambitious plans for their futures.

I would like to share part of a message we received from one of our 2025 scholarship recipients: "Your support has truly made a meaningful difference in my college experience and the opportunities I have been able to pursue." She highlighted her leadership, academic and campus accomplishments of her first semester, which have all contributed to her selection for a study abroad opportunity in May 2026. She closed by saying, "Your generosity continues to motivate me to work hard, serve others, and strive toward my long-term goals in international business and philanthropy."

The cost of schooling beyond high school is staggering. Your support of the Foundation and our scholarship program enable students to get one step closer to achieving their goals. Thank you for your continued support.



VICE PRESIDENT
JULIE RIECKMAN #60573
senaterieckman55@gmail.com

Fellow Foundation members, thank you so much for the effort in Florida! We were able to raise, between the auction and 500 Club tickets, \$18,000. Every bit helps with the scholarships and we appreciate it.

Our next stop for fundraising will be in San Antonio, Texas. There will be a live auction, a silent auction and the brown bag auction. We have some really special items for the live auction, keep your eyes on Facebook for pictures and updates.

If you are looking for 500 Club tickets all the Foundation board members have some to sell. They will be reaching out during the spring gatherings. This is a great raffle and we appreciate the support.

As we are approaching year end, it's time to see where you are with your account. Maybe an opportunity to move up in the levels. Have you thought of sponsoring a named scholarship? We would love to add your name to the list. Please think about it.

Please travel safe as you are very important to us. I look forward to seeing you in Texas!



LEGAL COUNSEL
EARL RICE #47046
earl@drllawllc.com

Under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, beginning in tax year 2026, taxpayers who do not itemize their deductions are allowed to claim a new above the line deduction for certain charitable gifts.

1. Deduction amount: Up to \$1,000 for single filers; up to \$2,000 for married filing jointly.

2. Type of contributions allowed: Must be cash donations; Must be made to qualifying public charities, such as the U.S. JCI Senate Foundation.

3. Designed to encourage charitable giving among the large majority of taxpayers who take the standard deduction, so it applies to all indi-

vidual taxpayers.

4. Effective date: This becomes permanent starting in 2026. It did not exist in 2025.

The best thing is the tax code: IRA owners and beneficiaries age 70½ and older may use their IRAs to donate money to one or more qualified charitable organizations without paying taxes on the distribution. It's a win for both the account owner and the charity.

IRA owners age 73 or older or beneficiaries who may be required to take Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) each year can decide to send those payments directly to their favorite qualified charitable organization. Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) allow taxpayers to receive a more generous tax benefit than is available for other deductible charitable contributions, thus perhaps enabling taxpayers to donate more to their favorite charity. Nothing is included in income.

QCDs are limited to an annual limit of \$108,000 for 2025, \$111,000 for 2026.

Married couples who file a joint income tax return may each make QCDs up to the limit.

There is a reduction in the amounts for QCDs used in prior tax years.

U.S. JCI SENATE FOUNDATION



HINCKER OPEN CHAIR
BILL PATTERSON #47979
pfcoachbill@aol.com

The U.S. JCI Senate Foundation's Hincker Golf Outing will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at Gateway Hills Golf Course. The course is part of Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio. We

will have a shotgun start at 8:00 am, cost will be \$90. Because this is a military facility and because of current events, access is closely monitored. When you fill out your registration you will need more information than normal. Please complete all information asked for by the base. **The registration forms must be in my hands by May 25, 2026.** Mail or email will work. There is a vetting process that can take up to two weeks. Your \$90 gets you 18 holes with cart, goody bag, numerous prize holes, lunch and prizes for all golfers. This is always a fun event that supports our scholarship fund. There will be a warm up outing on Sunday, June 14, for 16-20 golfers, in the early afternoon. If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience.

Bill Patterson 708-280-3497
pfcoachbill@aol.com



2026-2027 marks the U.S. JCI Senate 55th Anniversary

Watch for different opportunities throughout the year to learn more about our organization.

Plan to be in Lancaster, PA for the 55th Anniversary Celebration event as part of the 2027 U.S. JCI Senate Annual Meeting in June!

More details and fun will be on the way!

Pat Hoelker #45893 & John Robinson #55768 Co-chairs



HINCKER OPEN

"Assisting Education through Scholarships"



When: Tuesday, June 16, 2026 8:00 AM (Shotgun Start)
Where: Gateway Hills Golf Course
1800 Dimstead Place, San Antonio, TX 78236
Website: <https://www.jbsagolfs.com/gateway-hills/>
What: 4 Person Scramble
18 Holes of golf with cart
Golfers Goody Bag
Contests: Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive, and Long Putt, Lunch and Awards Program

\$90/golfer - \$360/team

Due Date: 5/25/2026

Name _____ Senate # _____
Address _____ City / State _____ Zip _____
Telephone # _____ E-mail _____
Driver License State/# _____ Date/Country of birth _____

NOTE: This is a military base. Each golfer will receive an e-mail with a control number for the base pass. You may pick up your pass at the Lackland AFB Luke Visitor Gate (off Highway 13) a few days before the tournament (suggested doing so as the visitors center gets busy at times). You may also have to present your vehicle registration and insurance. Due to on-going world events, contact the Visitor's Center at 210-671-6174 to verify if there are any changes to base pass requirements.

Foursome Names (NOTE: Each golfer must submit a registration form):

1) _____ 2) _____
3) _____ 4) _____

Make Checks Payable to: US JCI Senate Foundation
Questions and Registrations: Bill Patterson, #47979
210 Early Street
Park Forest, IL 60466
Cell: 708-280-3497
Email: pfcoachbill@aol.com

Updated: 16 Mar 2026



HINCKER OPEN

"Assisting Education through Scholarships"



US JCI Senate Foundation Golf Tournament June 2026 San Antonio, TX

Sponsorship Registration Form

The US JCI Senate Foundation Golf Tournament is an annual activity of the United States JCI Senate Foundation. Previously, it was known as the Hal Krekorian Memorial Golf Tournament chaired by the Michigan JCI Senate. Hal Krekorian is a past US JCI Senate President from Michigan. The purpose is to provide a social function that will raise income for the U.S. JCI Senate Foundation. The Foundation in turn, will use the proceeds in its mission of awarding college scholarships to deserving high school seniors throughout the country.

The majority of income for the tournament is raised through the use of sponsorships. Individuals or businesses are welcome to participate in the sponsorship program and all donations can be used as deductions for income tax purposes since the U.S. JCI Senate Foundation is a 501(c)(3) entity.

Schedule of Sponsorship Levels (Please circle level of donation):

Major Tournament Sponsor \$2000
Closest to the Pin/Long Drive Sponsor \$250
Tee/Green Sponsor \$150
Door Prize/ Cash Donation Sponsor \$100
Golf Cart Sponsor \$50
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Sponsor Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____
Email: _____

Please make checks payable to: US JCI Senate Foundation

Please mail to: Karen Kopp-Voshel
11630 Gracey-Herndon Rd.
Herndon, KY 42236
Cell 270-305-2348
E-mail: kvkopp@apex.net

Note: Non-monetary donations are NO LONGER creditable to your U.S. JCI Senate Foundation account. Donations may also be credited to Memorial Scholarships.

United States JCI Senate Foundation A 501 (c) (3) Non Profit Charitable Organization  U. S. Senate Foundation 747 Oak Hall Lane Ballwin, MO 63021 636-861-1547 www.usjcisenatefoundation.org	Membership Submission Name: (Ms. Mrs. Mr.) _____ JCI Senate No. (if Applicable) _____ Address: _____ City, State, ZIP: _____ Phone Number: () _____ E-mail Address: _____ My Membership will be paid as follows: _____ Enclosed is my full payment (\$150.00 min.) _____ Enclosed is my first payment (\$50.00) I will pay the balance in annual payments _____ Contact me about planned giving opportunities. Make check payable to: U.S. JCI Senate Foundation Please mail this form and check to: Treasurer: U.S. JCI Senate Foundation 747 Oak Hall Lane Ballwin, MO 63021
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2026 U.S. JCI Senate Foundation Scholarship Recipients



ANIYAH BAKER

Alabama
Vocational Award
Attending Lincoln College Of
Technology
Major - Electrical Systems
Technology



ADITYA YADAV

Arizona
Attending Georgia Institute of
Technology
Major – Aerospace
Engineering



IMAAAN CHAUDHRI

Arizona
Attending University of
Arizona
Major – Physiology with
Emphasis in Medical Science



LILLY JACKSON

Arkansas
Attending Tulane University
Major – Political Science



ANNALIA HENDERSON

California
Harry & Sandy Kolodner
Scholarship
Attending California Institute
of Technology
Major – Environmental
Engineering



ELISE CHEN

California
Attending University of
Pennsylvania
Major – Neuroscience



MATTEA SIVESS

Colorado
Donnie Yandle Memorial
Scholarship
Attending Biola University
Major – Nursing



AIDAN MULCAHEY

Connecticut
Attending Undecided
Major – Computer
Engineering



EDEN REJU

Delaware
Attending University of
Delaware
Major – Pre Veterinary
Medicine



ISABELLA MEKULSKI

Delaware
Attending McDaniel College
Major – Biology



RIO LARSON

Idaho
Virginia C Smith Memorial
Scholarship
Attending Blise St University
Major – Biology



EMMA JOHNSON

Illinois
Stacy-Kolaz Family
Scholarship
Attending University of
Southern Illinois
Major – Elementary Education

2026 U.S. JCI Senate Foundation Scholarship Recipients



ELLA ACTON

Illinois
Vocational Award
Attending Danville Area
Community College
Major – Speech & Language
Pathology Assistant



LAKAN JERKE

Indiana
Attending University of
Evansville
Major – Biology / Pre Med



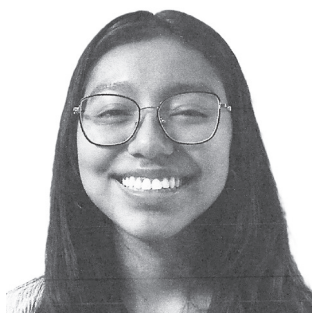
JACOB GARRINGER

Indiana
Doug Meyers Scholarship
Attending Indiana Wesleyan
University
Major – Theology/Philosophy
& High School Education



EDITH DAWSON

Iowa
Norman L Sanders Memorial
Scholarship
Attending University of Notre
Dame
Major – Economics



**AZUCENA BARTOLON
CINTO**

Iowa
Vocational Award
Attending Iowa Western
Community College
Major – Dental Hygiene



INDYA CARPER

Louisiana
Attending Loyola University at
New Orleans
Major – Political Science



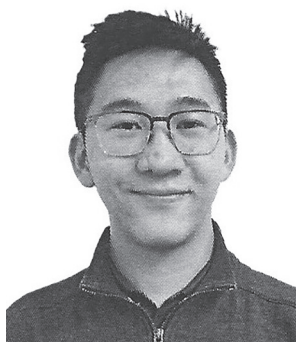
PRANEEL PANDIT

Maryland
Michigan JCI Senate
Scholarship
Attending University of
Pittsburgh
Major – Neuroscience



MISCHA DESAI

Maryland
Beth Fujishige Scholarship
Attending McDaniel College
Major – Physics / Engineering



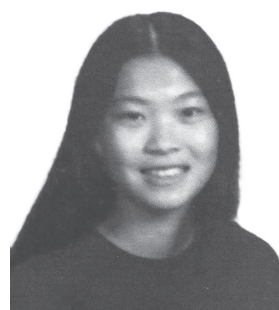
RYAN YU

Massachusetts
U.S. JCI Senate Scholarship
Attending Princeton University
Major – Mechanical
Engineering & Public Policy



VICTORIA GBADMOSI

Massachusetts
John & Marsha Dahl
Scholarship
Attending Johns Hopkins
University
Major – Biology



BRIANNA ZHANG

Michigan
Attending Harvard College
Major – Molecular & Cellular
Biology & Government



CHARLISA PENZAK

Michigan
Attending Princeton University
Major – Public & International
Affairs

2026 U.S. JCI Senate Foundation Scholarship Recipients



LANGSTON RICHTER

Minnesota
Ronald E. Robinson Memorial
Scholarship
Attending Cornell University
Major – Economics



LIV VAN KOOI

Minnesota
Gary Richey Memorial
Scholarship
Attending University of MN
Major – Animal Science &
Agriculture Education



ADDISON ANDERSON

Minnesota
Vocational Award
Attending Atelier Academy of
Beauty
Major – Cosmetology



WILL PARKER

Mississippi
Attending Mississippi State
University
Major – Building Construction
Science



AMELIA BRANGLE

Missouri
Marilyn Krekorian-Cooper
Scholarship
Attending University of
Tennessee
Major – Nursing



TEAGUE THOMPSON

Montana
Attending Montana State
University Bozeman
Major – Data Science /
Computer Science



KENDALL CLAUSEN

Montana
Vocational Award
Attending Montana State Uni-
versity Billings
Major – Radiological
Technician



KATHRYN VAN SKIVER

Nebraska
Kenneth James Memorial
Scholarship
Attending University of
St Mary
Major – Secondary Education



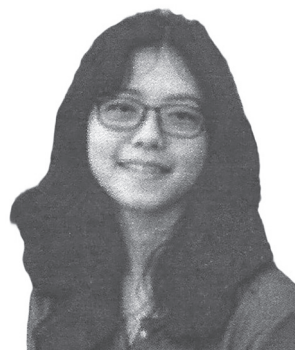
BRODY DIEFENBAUGH

Nebraska
Attending Wayne State
College
Major – Secondary Education



LAUREL MOORE

Nebraska
Vocational Award
Attending NE College of Tech-
nical Agriculture
Major – Animal Science



AMY LIN

New Jersey
Hal Krekorian Memorial
Scholarship
Attending Princeton University
Major – Public Policy



JONATHAN JI

New Jersey
Suzie Irvine Memorial
Scholarship
Attending Cornell University
Major – Computer Science &
Linguistics

2026 U.S. JCI Senate Foundation Scholarship Recipients



JACOB KOWALEWSKI
New York
Attending University of Buffalo
Major – Civil Engineering



ALLESSANDRO BRINDISI
New York
Bill Robertson Memorial
Scholarship
Attending Brown University
Major – Economics &
Sociology



ALEXANDRA KETTERER
North Dakota
Vocational Award
Attending Salon Professional
Academy
Major – Cosmetology



BENNETT GRAFF
North Dakota
Tom Hendrix Scholarship
Attending University of
Alabama
Major – Engineering



ERIKA LITTLEFIELD
North Dakota
Stephen, Judy & Joe Sabella
Scholarship
Attending University of North
Dakota
Major -- Communication &
Journalism



MARY MOON
Ohio
Pat Robinson Memorial
Scholarship
Attending Miami University
Major – Finance



LEXI MANN
Oklahoma
Rieckman Family Scholarship
Attending Oklahoma St
University Stillwater
Major – Secondary Education
& Mathematics



LUKE MARSHALL FRIESEN
Oklahoma
Attending University of
Oklahoma Norman
Major – Biomedical
Engineering



ROY JONES
Oregon
Attending Eastern Oregon
University
Major – Computer Science



ALANA HATCH
Oregon
Vocational Award
Attending Universal Technical
Institute Orlando
Major – Auto/Diesel & EV
Mechanics



TAYLOR WATTS
Pennsylvania
Gary Pittenger Memorial
Scholarship
Attending Mount Aloysius
Major – Ultrasonography



**AMBUJAM KARUNA
LOHMANN**
Rhode Island
Attending Johns Hopkins
University
Major – Neuroscience

2026 U.S. JCI Senate Foundation Scholarship Recipients



CLARE TITUS
Rhode Island
Attending Cornell University
Major – Biological Sciences



ELIZABETH MARKOWITZ
South Carolina
Travis Boatright Memorial
Scholarship
Attending Dartmouth College
Major – Environmental Studies



ABIGAIL AXTELL
South Dakota
Vocational Award
Attending Stewart School
Sioux Falls
Major – Cosmetology



REAGEN VICARS
Texas
Attending Hillsdale College
Major – Philosophy & Pre Law



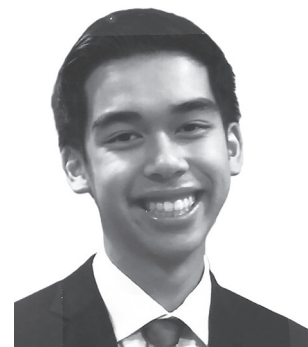
CADYN JARVIS
Vermont
Attending University of
Connecticut
Major – Nursing



HUNTER GUTHRIE
Virginia
Attending Brown University
Providence
Major – Environmental
Studies



CALEB CASSELL
Virginia
Vocational Award
Attending Guilford Technical
Community College
Major – Automotive
Technology



MARTIN TANG
Virginia
Russ & Marilyn Cooper
Scholarship
Attending George Mason
University
Major – Business Accounting



LANDON LESTER
West Virginia
Attending West Virginia
University
Major – Biology / Pre Med



PARKER BILLER
West Virginia
Attending Syracuse University
Major – Journalism



LONDON MCKENZIE
Wisconsin
Attending Undecided
Major – Acting / Musical
Theatre



DYLAN WAGNER
Wyoming
Elizabeth & Dan Benka
Memorial Scholarship
Attending University of
Wyoming Laramie
Major – Finance / Construction
Management

REGION I

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

Region I NVP

BONNIE BLAISDELL #69956

Region-I-NVP@usjcisenate.org

blaisboj@aol.com

"REGION I IS AWESOME "



As I sit here trying to put my thoughts into words, I can hardly believe this year is already coming to an end. It feels like just a few short weeks ago I was elected Region I National Vice President in Morrisville, Vermont. What an incredible journey it has been.

I have truly enjoyed traveling near and far — east to west, north to south — meeting new friends and strengthening the bonds that make our organization so special. From Northbrook, Illinois, to Columbus, Ohio; from Melbourne, Florida, to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; from Jamestown, New York, and soon to San Antonio, Texas for the year-end celebration — each stop has been filled with laughter, fellowship, and unforgettable memories. I am especially looking forward to the Welcome Celebration and honoring so many deserving members during

the awards ceremony.

I am deeply proud to have served alongside an outstanding group of Region I presidents, my fellow NVPs, and an incredibly supportive Executive Committee. Your dedication, encouragement, and friendship have meant more than I can say.

It has also been such a joy traveling throughout my Region I states for picnics, meetings, and socials. Seeing the enthusiasm and commitment in every corner of our region reminds me why I loved serving in this role.

Connecticut will proudly host the Region I Caucus in Manchester, May 15-17th featuring our always-fun "Jeans and Bling" award ceremony. And I know Vermont will do a fantastic job hosting Region I Fall Frolic 2026 in Colchester, October 29th through November 1st. I have no doubt it will be a wonderful event filled with fellowship and celebration.

This year has been one of gratitude, growth, and great friendships. Thank you all for making it so meaningful.



MICHELE TARANTINO

#63380

**PRESIDENT
CONNECTICUT**

CTpresident@usjcisenate.org
chelot@yahoo.com

As I write my final Mentors article as president of the Connecticut JCI Senate, I can't help but reflect on what a truly wonderful year this has been. We have accomplished so much together, and I am incredibly proud of the energy, commitment, and spirit our membership has shown. This year has been filled with moments that reminded me why the Senate continues to thrive.

I am especially looking forward to hosting the upcoming Spring Caucus and our "Jeans and Bling" Awards event—two celebrations that will highlight not only our achievements, but the friendships and camaraderie that make our organization special. Working alongside my

Board of Directors has been a joy, and together we are putting great effort into ensuring a smooth transition as I work to find my successor for the coming year.

This season also marks a personal milestone. Last March, I underwent major surgery—my first time staying overnight in a hospital and experiencing such a lengthy recovery. As I reflect on how far I've come in just one year, I'm deeply grateful for my Senate family. Your support, encouragement, and kindness made all the difference. Today, with renewed energy and a much-improved quality of life, I am thrilled to be able to participate fully once again.

Many of our Senators are navigating transitions of their own—selling homes, retiring, recovering from surgeries, changing careers, or heading south for warmer weather. Through it all, our Jaycee roots continue to give us strength and resilience. It has been a pleasure working with the Connecticut Jaycees at their fundraisers, and a heartfelt thank you goes to the Southington Jaycees for your generous donation from the fried dough booth proceeds. We truly make a great team.

Congratulations to my fellow presidents on an outstanding year. Here's to the belief that the 3rd Time's a Charm—and to all the success that lies ahead for the Connecticut JCI Senate!

Maine JCI Senate Holiday-Meeting Augusta, ME 12/13/2025

President Irene Single	49260	ME
Merrill Pottle	42312	ME
Joy Pottle	FR59	ME
Dick Darling	40167	ME
Laurette Darling	FR81	ME
Dana Hall	41552	ME
Rick James	43089	ME
Joyce St Pierre	44818	ME
Mike Pierre	FR100	ME
Cyndi Hall	48152	ME
Pat Gammon	49280	ME
Holly Boom	59489	ME
Dawn Crabtree	63305	ME
Arnold Stinson	66364	ME
Bob Gammon	80701	ME
Tom Cannon	81766	ME

Region I Meeting Destin, FL 1/12/2026

Jeff Kass	32300	CT
Fran Kass	60798	CT
Dick St. Jean	38089	NH
Bonnie St. Jean	42864	NH
Dana Hall	41552	ME
Cyndi Hall	48152	ME
Jane Chadderdon	71648	VT



ELIZABETH McINNIS #54219

PRESIDENT

MASSACHUSETTS

MApresident@usjcisenate.org
emcinnis@me.com

As I sit down to write this article for Mentors, my last as Massachusetts JCI Senate president, I am reflecting on the last two years. I am not a Massachusetts awarded

Senator, I received my Senatorship in California thirty years ago and served as CA Senate president several years ago. When I moved to Massachusetts, I connected with the Senate organization here. I was honored to be asked to be president two years ago. It has been a valuable two years. My two goals as president were to recognize some overlooked Senators and to host Fall Frolic successfully. We have awarded long overdue Senatorships to three women who were previously recognized with Friendship awards. Last October, we hosted Fall Frolic. Fall Frolic is great fun but requires a lot of planning and many volunteers. Marilyn Lariviere and I co-chaired and had tremendous support from the other Senators and Friends. The event was successful, with lots of positive feedback. We

even managed to make a little money to support our future scholarship program.

The Massachusetts Senate scholarship program works with the national program, but we typically select more than the two (plus vocational) scholars that we can submit to national. This year, the trend of receiving applications from increasingly accomplished candidates continued. We submitted the two academic and one vocational winner to national. In addition, scholarship money was awarded to the three and to an additional vocational winner. Marilyn Lariviere and Martha Fraser have run the scholarship program for several years, and we are indebted to them for its continued success.

It has been fun and I have made a lot of new friends. Thank you for the opportunity and support.



BONNIE ST. JEAN #42864
PRESIDENT
NEW HAMPSHIRE
NHpresident@usjcisenate.org
bigstjean@gmail.com

Special thanks to Wreaths Across America Chair Mary Plante #42855 along with Jerry Plante #36401, Wayne MacDonald #36519, and Mark Reisman #39926 for placing wreaths at Old Fort Cemetery in Concord. Dick #38089 and I were also honored to participate at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell.

The U.S. JCI Senate Winter Con-

vention in Melbourne was another great success. The Florida JCI Senate did an excellent job hosting the event, and it was a pleasure to see so many Senate friends in the Florida heat!!! We are also delighted to welcome Jaci Newmark #56368 to the New Hampshire JCI Senate. While she lives in Florida, she is a regular attendee at our Fall Frolic.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Scholarship Chairperson Michelle Launsby #80754 for her dedicated work on our program, and to Janelle Bowden #64074 for her assistance with the judging process.

Upcoming events include a Board meeting and a social via Zoom. We also look forward to the Region I Caucus this May in Manchester, Connecticut, and our Annual Meeting in June once our snowbirds have returned. In preparation for the Annual Meeting, heads up on the ice breaker.

Save the date: Aug 2, New Hampshire Summer Social - Steak or Lobster — American Legion in Londonderry, New Hampshire.

Narragansett High School. She will attend Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, where she will major in microbiology. Many outstanding Rhode Island students have won U.S. JCI Senate Foundation scholarships over the years and we wish Clare and Ambujam the best of luck this year.

VP/Treasurer Dave Roderick and I will be attending the Region I Spring Caucus May 15-17 in Manchester, Connecticut where we will participate in the election of a new Region I Vice President.

We are planning our spring 2026 Rhode Island JCI Senate luncheon meeting. The details are still being confirmed at this time.



KATHRYN COLLINS #51469
CHAIRMAN OF THE
BOARD
RHODE ISLAND
kathryncoll@gmail.com

The Rhode Island JCI Senate submitted two student candidates to the U.S. JCI Senate Scholarship Program for 2026. Our Scholarship Chair Andy Riley #25521 and his fellow judges VP/Treasurer Dave Roderick #21608 and Ron Grandchamp #16201 selected two candidates for national judging.

Clare Titus of West Greenwich, RI is a senior at Exeter-West Greenwich High School. Clare was accepted by Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, where she will major in biological sciences.

Anbujam Lohmann of Narragansett, Rhode Island is a senior at



ROBERT KING #36581
PRESIDENT VERMONT
VTpresident@usjcisenate.org
Robertking1947@gmail.com

We, like the rest of our New England community, are experiencing a real winter — brisk, windy, lots of snow and cold temperatures have brought memories of good old-fashioned winter, one like we all grew up with!

The Vermont JCI Senate scholarship committee recently completed our scholarship judging whereby we selected four Vermont JCI Scholarship winners. Two were based on academics and one is for a technical

school and one on a need basis. Vermont has increased its scholarship award to \$750.00 as we aim to encourage more applicants to apply. Every applicant demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and a strong commitment to serving humanity as a whole. The Vermont Senate is extremely proud to continue this worthy enterprise and to recognize the high quality of students that continue to apply for this assistance. We also are most grateful to those Vermont Senators who have wholeheartedly supported our 200 Club. These Senators have not only purchased 200 Club tickets but have also donated back winnings. In addition, many have written additional checks to support our efforts to provide scholarships for deserving young Vermont students.

The Vermont Senate will hold its annual meeting in the Central Vermont area on May 2nd, time and location TBD.

Our annual picnic will be held on Aug 1 in Randolph, Vermont at the Rotary Shelter. More information will be forthcoming as the date approaches.



IRENE SINGLE #49260
PRESIDENT MAINE
MEpresident@usjcisenate.org
irene@irrigateme.com

Maine awarded three scholarships to very deserving students in January. We celebrated Maine Maple weekend in March with a visit to three maple sugar sites purchasing all things maple such

as syrups, donuts, whoopie pies and popcorn followed by a delightful lunch hosted by the Cannons. Our year end meeting and social is set for June 6 at the Gammons' home in Belgrade. Several of us attended an enjoyable spring caucus hosted by Connecticut. We are planning a luncheon and meeting to be held in August in mid — to northern Maine with date and location to be announced.

Our prayers and condolences go to the families of three of our Senators who passed away in January and February. We have held many fun events and look forward to holding fun and interesting fundraisers for Maine veterans throughout the year. I'm so pleased with our dedicated Senators who have accomplished so much this year. My board has been exemplary and all the Senators who have chaired projects and/or supported them have made my year easier. Working together we made a great team. We look forward to archiving more of the Jaycees material through the Maine State Library to capture the history of our former Maine chapters. May we continue "Celebrating Each Other's Achievements."

WVJCI Senate-FEB Meeting
New Martinsville, WV
2/28/2026

E.J. Miller	50983	WV
Linda Miller	49755	WV
Chris Hufford	63736	WV
Caitlyn Hufford	GUEST	WV
Scooter Sharp	57425	WV
Cindy Sharp	81901	WV
Randy Willhoite	47435	WV
Tracy Brooke	69455	WV
Gary Brooke	58420	WV
Rick Rutter	53977	WV
Ruth Hopkins	79632	WV
Eurika Ellison	80798	WV
Sherry Dugan	54475	WV

Noah Webster Tour and Taste of
India Fall Social
West Hartford, Connecticut
9/27/2025

Bonnie Blaisdell	69956	CT
Dale Blaisdell	Guest	CT
Sue Zetoff	61461	CT
Karen Thomson	52424	CT
Jeff Kass	32300	CT
Fran Kass	60798	CT
Linda Gorzelany	47996	CT
Ed Gorzelany	65808	CT
Michele Tarantino	63380	CT

REGION II

Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania



Region II NVP
ANN HARRISON #75822
 Region-II-NVP@usjcisenate.org
 ann.harrison58@comcast.net
"UNLIMITED"

My year has been truly UNLIMITED. The opportunities to travel to my four terrific states multiple times gave me time to meet new folks, encourage others to travel to MAI (Mid-Atlantic Institute) for our joint Region II/III meeting, socialize to my heart's content, and just have FUN with everyone.

My travels to other regions have been a blast! Thanks to NVPs Bonnie Blaisdell of Region I, Monty Schroeder of Region V, Rose Steen of Region VI, DeWayne Sumner & team of Region VII and Anita Cummings of Region VIII, for making me feel welcome at their meetings. Special thanks to NVP Letha Grimes of Region III for being my partner-in-crime for MAI and more. You all ROCK!!!

I would be remiss if I did not thank my Region reps – Lara Thom for Wreaths Across America, Bob McDonald as newsletter editor and Joan Travis as chaplain. You all

did fabulous jobs for me.

DELAWARE JCI Senate, you all got me to this point, and I thank you for your unending support throughout. Presidents Paul Betts of Delaware, Stevenson van Derodard of New Jersey, John Tyo of New York, and Jeff Kozak of Pennsylvania – I thank you for your camaraderie, leadership and flexibility.

Elections will be held/completed in May. Pennsylvania's end of year meeting is May 1-3 in Quakertown. New Jersey is in May on a date TBD and Delaware is May 12 in Dover. New York is looking at the weekend of June 5-7. Each of our states will be represented in San Antonio for National. Then in July, there will be a meeting and social in Delaware and a possible baseball game in Pennsylvania. August brings a Pennsylvania meeting the first weekend of the month, a central New York meeting date TBD, another Delaware social TBD and meeting August 11. Sometime in July or August there will be a Region II/III social in Pennsylvania.

It has been a fantastic ride!! See you in San Antonio.



JEFF KOZAK #63411
PRESIDENT
PENNSYLVANIA
 PApresident@usjcisenate.org
 jdcabinetmaker@aol.com

Our winter meeting was a huge success with three Senators attending that have not been active for a while, including Karen Ward #63165, Robert Lease #23593 and JCI Senator #10071 Jim White! Jim had the lowest Senate number that weekend! It was all very exciting.

The Red Hats had a great fundraiser with a session of archery that many participated in. Way to go! It was a lot of fun. Even our NVP Ann joined us as it was her official visit to Pennsylvania. She's a pretty good shot! Their projects support our scholarships.

Happy to announce our officers for 2026-2027 are:

President Beth Newill #60235
 VP Beth Muir #65479

Treasurer Russ Lang #69509
 Secretary Donna Hurd #68302

On February 21, many Pennsylvania and Maryland Senators visited the Hanover Jaycees to support their Shrimp Feed project, a great event. We all had a lot of fun and shrimp! We also visited the Upper Adams Jaycee Installation & Awards banquet and presented two new Senatorships to Ashly Wilkinson #87492 and Adam Little #87493! Congratulations!

Many attended MAI in New York. Our next event in Pennsylvania will be our Year End Meeting, Banquet and Installation. If you would like to visit us, the information is included below.

Pennsylvania JCI Senate May 2026 Meeting & Banquet was held May 1 - May 3, 2026, at the Spring Hill Suites by Marriott located at 1930 John Fries Hwy, Quakertown, Pennsylvania.

The year end Awards & Installation Banquet was held at John's Plain & Fancy Diner nearby on Saturday at 6:00 pm. Everyone had a terrific time. I want to thank my team for a fantastic year!

Fly PA Fly



PAUL BETTS #44675
PRESIDENT
DELAWARE
 DEpresident@usjcisenate.org
 d4KKsa@gmail.com

I hope everyone has survived this past winter and are looking forward to a fabulous spring. The Delaware Senate was able to hold our winter social after being canceled for the past two years

because of storms. We had a great turnout of 34 people including a few Senators from Pennsylvania.

Under the leadership of Randy Manship #61952, we received 19 scholarship applications but only 10 met the requirement for judging. With six Senators and four hours of reading, two were picked to send to national judging.

The Delaware Senators have a few activities coming our way - MAI 2026 - Region II and III in Jamestown, NY, attending a local play of Cheaper by the Dozen, planning our election in May, DFRC Blue/Gold football game where we man a concessions booth, a day at Boondocks for seafood, and our off month social/dinners.

As always, if you're in the area, give us a call. We will be glad to meet up with you.



JOHN TYO #66381
PRESIDENT NEW YORK
 NYpresident@usjcisenate.org
 thefirstjolt@yahoo.com

Well, it's been a fun year so far, with all of the traveling and catching up with friends. Michelle Loveria has been doing a fantastic job on membership. She has improved our renewal rates and reactivated members that have been dropped in the past.

MAI was a great success! There were about 150 Senators and guests in attendance. We had tours of the

Lucille Ball & Desi Arnaz Center, the National Comedy Center, two wineries did tastings, karaoke by Senator Mark Napierkowski #75023 and a band. There were also many other attractions in the area like breweries and distilleries. a casino and museums. Thanks to Rox Astry #57298 for chairing MAI 2026.

New York's year end meeting was well attended. We elected a new President and Board of Directors. I look forward to working with everyone.

Thanks to the Texas JCI Senate for hosting the Annual Board of Directors meeting!



MENTORS DUE
JUNE 29, 2026



STEVENSON VAN DERODAN #81401
PRESIDENT NEW JERSEY
NJpresident@usjcisenate.org
Stevenson.derodan@gmail.com

Our banner theme for the year, "Fueling the Future: One Flame at a T.I.M.E.," reminds us that the strength of the New Jersey JCI Senate lies not only in its proud history, but also in the collective energy, dedication and vision of its members. The future of our organization is built through the actions we take today — strengthening fellowship, serving our communities and preserving the legacy entrusted to us.

This year has brought encouraging momentum, particularly in membership growth. Growth is more than numbers; it reflects the strengthening of a network united by purpose.

From May through September, our Senators also facilitated educational Zoom sessions, social

meetups, a visit to Jersey City Mayor Steven Fulop with a proclamation for International Human Duties Day and several community events. These engagements allowed members to exchange ideas, strengthen relationships, and support initiatives that contribute to both personal growth and community impact.

This year also offered opportunities to connect beyond our borders: a visit to Pennsylvania in July, participation in the Region II-III social in Maryland and attending the national meeting in Northbrook, Illinois this past June were unforgettable experiences. These adventures strengthened our bonds with fellow Senators across the country and reminded us that the JCI Senate spirit knows no boundaries.

Another milestone came in September, when we celebrated the 50th

anniversary of Camp New Jersey. For five decades, this remarkable program has stood as a symbol of compassion, dedication and service. Its continued success reflects the

tireless efforts of Senators and volunteers who ensure that Camp New Jersey remains a beacon of hope and joy.

Shoutout to our executive team: Stevenson Van Derodan #81041, Lee Clemente #76565,

Barabara Hepburn #81625 and Ria Serrano #76566 plus staff, program managers and advisors for making things happen!



Pennsylvania JCI Senate President Jeff Kozak #63411 accepts 3rd place Sweepstakes for the 2nd quarter from Gloria Albers #79536 and U.S. JCI Senate President Bruce Sostak #52655

Region II NVP Ann Harrison #75822 accepts 3rd place Wreaths Across America purchases from U.S. JCI Senate President Bruce Sostak #52655 and Angie Taylor #71600



**Pennsylvania JCI Senate
 February Meeting
 York, PA
 2/7/2026**

Jeff Kozak	63411	PA
Janet Kozak	61574	PA
Beth Newill	60235	PA
Beth Muir	65479	PA
Krista Muir	73181	PA
Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Kim Melachrinous	66672	PA
Nancy Salopek	47610	PA
Lloyd Lingle	59827	PA
Ann Harrison	75822	DE/PA
Gary Duell	48384	PA/VA
Diane Duell	74147	PA/VA
Nicole Dapp	74656	PA/VA
Amy Newton	68529	PA
Bill Kramer	65433	PA
Briyell Schriver	Guest	PA
	National Director	
Rob Mawson	FR#118	PA
Jean Mawson	66086	PA
Brad Cox	62525	PA
Connie Cox	78090	PA
Sheryl Zagar	77791	PA
Michele Umberger	79560	PA
Greg Umberger	79559	PA
Donna Hurd	68302	PA
Harry Hurd	67250	PA
Russell Lang	69509	PA
George R Fields	46096	PA+2
Pat Fields	FR#85	PA
Julia Livingston	73032	PA
Kim Leese	78302	PA
Deb Baber	75950	PA
Matt Boyer	76878	PA
Katy Lemmer	73037	PA/VA
Mike Traczuk	52181	PA
Sally Traczuk	68943	PA
Lois Martin	68841	PA
Bob Lease	23593	PA
Joe Sabella	26077	PA

**Pennsylvania JCI Senate
 November Meeting
 Shillington, PA
 11/8/2025**

Beth Newill	60235	PA
Julia Livingston	73032	PA
George R Fields	46096	PA+2
Pat Fields	FR#85	PA
Sheila Evans	68301	PA
Amy Newton	68529	PA
Bill Kramer	65433	PA
Kim Melachrinous	66672	PA
Joe Sabella	26077	PA
Nancy Salopek	47610	PA
Connie Cox	57090	PA
Rob Mawson	FR#118	PA
Jean Mawson	66086	PA
Sheryl Zagar	77791	PA
Beverly Lettich	54958	PA
John Lettich	42708	PA
Russell Lang	69509	PA
Lois Martin	68841	PA
Ann Harrison	75822	DE/PA
Lloyd Lingle	59827	PA
Nicole Dapp	74656	PA/VA
Michele Umberger	79560	PA
Greg Umberger	79559	PA
Deb Baber	75950	PA
Janet Kozak	61574	PA
Jeff Kozak	63411	PA
Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Mike Traczuk	52181	PA
Sally Traczuk	68943	PA
Brad Cox	62525	PA
Connie Cox	78090	PA
Matt Boyer	76878	PA
Donna Hurd	68302	PA

**WV JCI Senate
 55TH Anniversary
 Tradephia, WV
 11/9/2025**

E. J. Miller	50983	WV
Linda Miller	49755	WV
Rick Rutter	53977	WV
Angie Taylor	71600	IA/SC
Gary Brooke	58420	WV
Tracy Brooke	69445	WV
Cori Erbacher	68752	WV
Craig Erbacher	75678	WV
Bob Joseph	30851	WV
Vanessa Kinsley	70985	VA/WV
Karen Gage	78980	VA+2
Letha Grimes	63946	MD
Sherry Dugan	55475	WV
Scott Kingsley	67932	WV+3
Scott Sharp	57425	WV
Cindy Sharp	81892	WV
Chris Hufford	63736	WV
Randy Willhoite	47435	WV
John Price	36383	WV
Deb Price	71777	WV
Gary Duell	48384	PA/VA
Diane Duell	74147	PA/VA
Mitch Schoonover	59758	OH
Karen Schoonover	57305	OH
Larry Norfleet	60771	TN
Dawn Norfleet	61999	TN
Greg Peoples	56000	TX
President Bruce Sostak	52655	TX
Ruby Weymouth	67303	OH+3
Paul Weymouth	69653	OH+3

**VA JCI Senate Winter Meeting
 Richmond, VA
 2/28/2026**

Donna Yenney	64283	VA
Art Esenberg	26704	VA/FL
Lee Walker	72135	VA
Karen Gage	78980	VA+2
Bruce Sostak	52655	TX
Letha Grimes	63946	MD
James Nefflen	18012	VA
Jennifer Rebby	75071	VA
Ruth Ann Bates	81563	VA
Anne Johnson	49625	VA
Ariel Jones	65423	VA
Jacque Camlet	67098	VA
Jeff Bobich	72309	VA
Kay Faries	70346	VA
Debbie Agee	69687	VA
Jeff Stout	64285	VA
Sherry King	67690	VA
Kathleen King	68704	VA
Tom King	59642	VA
Kathy Lemmer	73037	VA/PA
Laura Murphy	78824	VA
Ron Sleeth	79099	VA
Melissa Sleeth	69220	VA
Cathy Ralston	79504	VA
Troy Anderson	67985	VA
Peggy McHugh	62466	VA
Gerry Roth	55317	VA
Gary Duell	48384	PA/VA
Diane Duell	74147	PA/VA
Jackie Julien	74251	VA
Lisa Smith	72136	VA
John Mosesso	71551	VA
John Robinson	55768	PA/FL
Sam Young	37972	MD/VA
Marilyn Young	45664	MD
Bill Duncan	81565	VA
Linda Carter	81781	VA
Kenny Loyal	63734	VA
Sean Murphy	77721	VA
Sharon Sobel	80710	VA
Tom Cramer	61957	VA+2
Hope Ellison	71378	VA
Lin Martin	73612	VA

REGION III

Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia



Region III NVP
LETHA GRIMES #63946
 Region-III-NVP@usjcisenate.org
 lethalfish@myactv.net
 "GET HOOKED"

new Senators. Please continue to reach out to non-active members and invite them to an upcoming event and get them "Hooked" on Region III.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve Region III and value the support I received throughout the year. I am looking forward to seeing you in San Antonio, TX. Best wishes to Jackie Julien #74251 for a successful year ahead.

As the Senate year draws to a close, I would like to reflect on my experiences and progress of the past year. When I began my year as Region III NVP, my goals included traditional responsibilities such as attending BOD meetings, visiting assigned states, and submitting articles on time, etc. More importantly, I hoped to travel more, meet new Senators, and connect with old friends. I am pleased to say I have met these goals, with more opportunities still ahead.

It has been a privilege working with the Region III Presidents Emily Nock #77392, Karen Gage #78980, and Gary Brooke #58420. From a West Virginia 55th Anniversary Celebration, Maryland Speakeasy Party, to a Virginia Martini Mix-off, and all kinds of fun in between, I appreciate your continued support and welcoming hospitality during my visits. This year also provided the opportunity to travel East to West experiencing many events for the first time including Fall Frolic (Region I), Pennsylvania Apple Harvest Festival (Region II), Calabash (Region IV) and believe it or not, my first time in Las Vegas (Region X). The memories made during my travels and bonding with fellow NVPs will be something I will not forget.

Thank you, Region III Chaplain, Peggy McHugh #62466 for keeping us posted on member life events this year. Thanks to New York JCI Senate for hosting a great MAI meeting in Jamestown. Region II NVP, Ann Harrison #75822, and I had a blast working together this year and bring part of MAI.

Region III continues to prove strong commitment to JCI USA by helping with projects, meetings and attending fundraising events to continue member engagement to strengthen our organization. To date, our region has welcomed ten



EMILY NOCK #77392
PRESIDENT MARYLAND
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 enock@nockinsurance.com

Although I was unable to attend this year's annual Bull & Oyster Roast, I am thrilled to share that it was a tremendous success and an unforgettable day for everyone in attendance. Reports from the event highlight the incredible energy, camaraderie, and spirit that make our Senate family so special.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Chair Pam Cotter, #43030, who once again ensured the event was in capable hands. Her leadership, organization, and enthusiasm helped create an outstanding experience for all who participated. We were also honored to welcome many out of town guests, including our National President Bruce Sostak, #52655, whose presence made the day even more memorable.

In recognition of our nation's 250th birthday, we continue to celebrate the 250 Shines Program. This initiative encourages all members to challenge themselves by incorporating the number 250



GARY BROOKE #58420
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WEST VIRGINIA
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It was a long, cold, snowy Winter, but Spring is finally here!

We had a great event in November. Our 55th anniversary celebration was a huge success thanks to Chairperson Cori Erbacher. Dirty Santa was a hit on Friday night. Yours truly played Santa during the event, but a far cry from what the traditional Santa looked or acted like. President Bruce spoke at our banquet on Saturday night, and a Senatorship was presented. Keeping with nontraditional, I wore

into an activity that supports health, well-being, or community service. Whether it's walking 250 miles, donating \$250 to charity, or volunteering 250 hours, the possibilities are endless. I can't wait to see the creative and impactful ways our members continue to shine!

Looking ahead, we are excited for our May meeting and elections as we prepare to set the course for another successful year. After an amazing experience in Melbourne for Winter Board, I am already counting the days until we gather again in San Antonio for the Year End Convention. The connections, learning, and memories made at these national gatherings always strengthen our passion for service and friendship.

Before we close out the year, we also have a few more socials planned—and if there's one thing Maryland does well, it's bringing people together. I look forward to spending more time with everyone as we continue celebrating the spirit of our Senate family. Maryland is truly the state where "Friendship Shines."

a green tux jacket to go along with our Emerald anniversary theme. John Price gave a very informative key note address.

We traveled to Ohio in January to help with their scholarship Judging. Ohio had many great applications this year.

Our February meeting was postponed because of the snowstorms coming in. On February 28, we finally had our meeting. We elected our new officers for next year. My successor, Scooter Sharp, will make a great president. We also voted on the place where we plan to have MAI 2027. This event will once again demonstrate that West Virginia has a great reputation for hospitality.

West Virginia had several members attend MAI 2026, hosted by the New York Senate, in Jamestown. We were treated to great hospitality, with plenty of things to do. Thank you chairperson Eurika Ellison for the fine presentation and for getting our bid for MAI 2027 approved.

After two years as president. I am looking forward to a strong finish at the National Convention in Texas.

VA JCI Senate Fall Meeting / Holiday Meeting Richmond, VA 12/6/2025

Melissa Sleeth	69220	VA
Ron Sleeth	79099	VA
Peggy McHugh	62466	VA
John Mosesso	71551	VA
Cathy Ralston	79504	VA
Sharon Sobel	80710	VA
Anne Johnson	49625	VA
Troy Anderson	67985	VA
Frances Daniel	56016	VA
Eileen Dumansky	81131	VA
Sean Murphy	77721	VA
Kay Faries	70346	VA
Art Esenberg	26704	VA/FL
Donna Yennay	64283	VA
Bill Duncan	81565	VA
Karen Gage	78980	VA/MD/PA
Gerry Sproles & Son	14886	VA
Jim Miller	34554	VA/NJ
Mary Pruitt	77821	NC/CO/SC
Jeff Stout	64285	VA
Jennifer Rebby	75071	VA
Angie Taylor	71600	IA/SC
Tom Cramer	61957	VA/NC/KY
Jackie Julien	74251	VA
Letha Grimes	63946	MD
Ariel Jones	65423	VA
Jacque Camlet	67098	VA
Debbie Agee	69687	VA
Linda Carter	81781	VA
Nancy Gianetti	69463	CT
Laura Murphy	78824	VA
Tim Eckert	80709	VA
Christ Williamson	57020	VA
Tom King	59642	VA
Kathleen King	68704	VA



KAREN GAGE #78980
PRESIDENT VIRGINIA
VApresident@usjcsenate.org
Jckad37@gmail.com

As this DAISY year of Delightful Adventures in the Senate comes to a close, my heart is overflowing with gratitude. This year was about us — a garden of leaders rooted in service, blooming in fellowship, and thriving because of shared purpose. We welcomed distinguished guests, honored our history, created new traditions, and maybe even stirred up a little "mayhem" along the way. Through every delightful adventure, the constant thread was connection.

GA JCI Senate 50th Celebration
Atlanta, GA
8/9/2025

Jaci Newmark	56368	FL
Keith Adams	FR 105	FL
Kay Elliott	61747	FL
Jimmy Law	56787	SC
Paula Law	47531	FL/SC
Karen Thomason	52424	CT
Christianna Gilliam	78844	SC/GA
Clark Wilcox	79977	GA/SC
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	FL+4
Steve Sutherland	27073	FL
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL
Brian Pike	49234	AL
Craig Smith	65679	AL
Mark Brandel	49789	FL
Bruce Sostak	52655	TX+3
Larry Graham	60619	AL+3
Johnny R Swank	44479	GA+2
Rich Little	42307	GA
Gail Little	FR 97	GA
Don Coffey	52537	GA
Carla Bailey	62624	AL+4
Larry MacQuirter	67377	GA+4
Lawrence Pittman	53932	NC+2
Karol Pittman	FR 55	NC
Cheryl Hyman	53544	FL
Bill Hossman	41293	FL/IN
Hal Williams	43912	FL/NC
Gary Duell	48384	PA
Lori Palo	66475	GA
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+2
Don Duffy	78415	FL/SC
Randy Windham	58263	FL
Amelia Harrison	62082	FL
Connie Cromer	64089	GA
Kyler Miller	Guest	GA
Chris Hardee	66036	NC
Thomas Michael	75612	GA
Alex "Hitman" Willis	34236	GA
Denise Bauer	61276	GA
Lisa Pickett	72247	GA

To our incredible state leadership — thank you for your steady hands, your willingness to step up, and your unwavering support. Your partnership made every adventure possible.

Our Winter Meeting in Virginia Beach was a highlight, where we crowned a new Martini Mix-Off Champion: the "Martini Miners," Tom Cramer #61957 and John Mosesso #71551, who not only crafted a winning cocktail but delivered a hilarious history of the martini that kept us all laughing. MAI, hosted by the New York Senate, was equally memorable — thank you to everyone who made it such a special gathering.

We also said goodbye to cherished Senators this year. Most personally, I felt the loss of Gerry Sproles #14886, whose support of the DAISY program meant more to me than words can express.

Serving as Virginia's 53rd President has been a profound honor. I am deeply grateful to my three extraordinary advisors — Ariel Jones #65423, Anne Johnson #49625, and Sheri Polychrones #78710 — for their wisdom, encouragement, experience, and unwavering belief in me.

Congratulations to our next State President, Jacque Camlet #67098. As one delightful adventure concludes, another begins.

The DAISY may be symbolic, but the impact is real.

With gratitude, pride, and one very full heart... thank you for the most delightful adventure of all.

MD Fall Meeting
Ocean City, MD
11/1/2025

Emily Nock	77392	MD/IL
Greg Leverton	62762	MD/VA
Chuck Waters	80800	MD
Sandy Kolodner	52468	MD/DE
Harry Kolodner	34400	MD
Calvin Baerveldt	36419	MD/DE
Ann Harrison	75822	DE/MD
Michele Waters	83600	MD
Marilyn Young	45664	MD
Sam Young	37972	MD
Judy Nuessle	62267	MD/DE
Gail Spence	49687	MD
Sue Woelpper	65352	MD/DE
Laura Jones	67320	MD
Barbara Ransom	44119	MD
Larry Bohn	37024	MD
Ronnie Bohn	66024	MD
Letha Grimes	63946	MD
John Cotter	41511	MD
Pam Cotter	43030	MD
Melanie Smith	66822	MD
David Smith	66821	MD
Dave Peterson	50748	MD
Ann Marie Peterson	65317	MD
Linwood Row	73490	MD
Sharon Row	75525	MD
Joshua Wallace	78666	MD

13th Annual NEFLA
Snowbird Social
North Port, Florida
1/21/2026

Dick St. Jean	38089	NH
Bonnie St. Jean	42804	NH
Jeff Kass	32300	CT
Fran Kass	60798	CT
Dana Hall	41552	ME
Cyndi Hall	48152	ME
Bill Potuchek	35278	CT
Elaine Potuchek	FR #032	CT
John Souza	16202	MA
Par Souza	FR #039	MA
Charlie Welch	11719	MA/NH
Colette Welch	69240	MA+2
Mary Anne Johnston	65901	MA+2
Charlie Dick	39434	RI/CT
Bonnie Blaisdell	69956	CT/NY
Dale Blaisdell	Guest	CT
Ted Volante	43335	MA
Barb Volante	Guest	MA
Vin Lentini	47865	CT
Paul J. Carney	10861	MA
Shirley Courtneet	Guest	MA
David Habershaw	17879	RI/MA
Pat Habershaw	FR #106	RI/MA
Roger Chauvin	28619	RI
Tom Jablonowski	54450	CT
Val Jablonowski	57292	CT
Tom Coderi	50000	RI
John Abbott	31124	ME
Jack Paquale	32806	CT
Sue Pasquale	FR #017	CT

SC Winter Meeting
Newberry, SC
2/7/2026

Jimmy Law	56787	SC
Paula Law	47531	SC
Lauren Folk	81935	SC
Christianna Gilliam	78844	SC
Sunny P. Riffle	50651	SC
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC
David M. Griffin	54882	SC
Sue Hollingsworth	62238	SC
Hal Bowles	61849	SC
Rita Bowles	59336	SC
Rhe Adams	75440	SC
Harry Shuler	Guest	SC
Linda Bratton	64512	SC
Charity Meeler	84345	SC
Taylor Brooks	84165	SC
Elizabeth Sautler	66673	SC
Michelle "Q" Kramer	75439	SC

Vino Bellas/Fellas Reception
Pigeon Forge, TN
02/21/26

Lori Palo	66475	GA+7
Lisa Pickett	72247	GA+7
Karen Voshel	62305	IL
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL/AL
Lauren Folk	81935	SC
Maria Ferranti	56955	SC
Gail Little	FR97	GA
Mary Sawyer	43930	MO
Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Rob Wiley	56033	KS
Angie Taylor	71600	IA/SC
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ
Melanie Fickas	77281	FL/NJ
Vanessa Kinsley	70985	VA
Rhe Adams	75440	SC
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4
Jaci Newmark	56368	FL/LA
Keith Adams	FR105	FL
Jan Allen Smith	83256	AL

Silver Foxes
Melbourne, FL
1/16/2026

Lloyd Mueller	57186	NE
Ron Kimmet	43520	OH
Thomas Michael	75612	GA
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC
Jimmy Law	56787	SC
Bob McDonald	58286	PA
Pat Hoelker	45892	IA
Lori Palo	66475	GA
Alex "Hitman" Willis	34236	GA
Dana Hall	41552	ME
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3
Jeff Cardwell	54265	TN+2
Eldon Bowers	45999	IA
Marty Wase	53142	NC/FL
Nick Woods	62735	NC
Ron Stair	71373	KS
Marsha Dahl	47936	SD+4
John Dahl	42828	SD+4
Noel Sumpter	73189	OK
Randy Sursa	49485	OK
Gary Steen	56503	SD+4
Woody Sauerbrei	FR#111	IA
Jim Kirchoff	FR#119	IA
Bill Beck	45182	MN
Joe A. Souza	27511	CA
David Teachout	68700	MO
Brian Witte	68535	IA
Rob Wiley	56033	KS

NC JCI SENATE HOLIDAY PARTY
Asheboro, NC
11/22/2025

Nick Woods	62735	NC
Terry Bennett	44805	NC/SC
Elizabeth Martin-Young	47759	SC
Ellen Williamson	60880	NC
Cheryl Carlson	70371	NC/AZ/FL
Carolyn Carlson	Guest	NC
Amy Kay Moore	78686	NC
Randy Young	46420	MN
Jennifer Smith	63636	NC
Carol "CJ" Jordan	45857	NC
James Rupard	41615	NC/FL
Teressa Jernigan	Guest	NC
Phillip Padgett	49363	NC
Pam Padgett	51341	NC
Marty Wase	53142	NC/FL
Pam Wase	FR 89	NC
Jimmy Maness	38844	NC
Jeff Williams	65414	NC
Kim Bode	62467	NC
Terry Jones	52694	NC
Karen Womble Wallace	54316	NC
Bill Craft	36216	NC
Scott Alexander	67113	NC
Yvette Spears	83688	NC
Suzanne Gill	67891	NC/SC
Gene Shanks	68688	NC
Karen Womble Wallace	54316	NC
Andy Childress	62743	NC/SC
Cheryl Jones	56007	NC
Chris Hardee	66036	NC
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC + 4
BJ Craft	45900	NC

GA JCI Senate Winter Board Meeting
Forsyth, GA
2/7/2026

Lori Palo	66475	GA
Clark Wilcox	79977	GA
Alex "Hitman" Willis	34236	GA
Latsha Q - First Lady	Guest	GA
Thomas Michael	75612	GA
Larry MacQuirter	67377	GA
Lisa Pickett	72247	GA
Stacy Smith	83067	GA
Craig Smith	65679	GA
Debby Smith	65680	GA

REGION IV

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina



**Region IV NVP
ELIZABETH "LIZ"
YOUNG #47759**

**Region-IV-NVP@usjcisenate.org
scgal1996@yahoo.com
"WHERE FRIENDSHIPS
LEAD AND SUCCESS
FOLLOWS"**

In Region IV we have witnessed where exceptional leadership drives positive change. Our leaders inspire, guide, and empower those around them, creating measurable positive outcomes in community impact, attendance at meetings and membership. All five states increased their membership base. Two of our states (North and South Carolina) grew each quarter.

As this is my final article, I would be remiss if I didn't recognize my incredible team. I appreciate and value each of you. To my five presidents, you are "Simply the Best." It has been such an honor to work alongside you and your teams and to create so many meaningful memories together. Let me offer a few heartfelt words to express my gratitude and admiration:

Alabama and President Craig 'Digger' Smith's leadership created impact as a powerful force for positive change, bringing together experienced leaders dedicated to strengthening community relationships. His dedication and vision have not only strengthened the organization but have inspired the community to come together on numerous occasions. Their Senate organization leadership generated increased income, revitalized and activated membership and transformed meetings into engaging and enjoyable experiences. President Digger created meaningful, lasting impact that has elevated the organization and community it serves — leaving a legacy of growth, activation and enthusiasm.

Florida and President Don Duffy have proven their dedication to being a steadfast champion for veterans, consistently advocating for programs and initiatives that honor those who have sacrificed for our country. His passion for giving back is matched only by his innovative leadership. The commit-

ment of the Florida JCI Senate's priority community projects and commitment to Wheelchairs 4 Kids, Givearuck, Ann's Angels, Wreaths Across America, etc. continues to make lasting impacts.

Georgia continues to thrive under the consistent leadership of President Alex 'Hitman' Willis, whose commitment to the JCI organization is evident through his support of projects and efforts to strengthen their relationship. The Georgia JCI Senate proudly celebrated a major milestone of 50 years of dedicated service. Most importantly, this year has been focused on preparing a unified team that will carry the momentum into the next year with strength, vision and collaboration.

North Carolina and President Gene Shanks have remained actively engaged throughout the year, working closely with JCI North Carolina to strengthen partnerships. Their signature support projects continue to thrive. Among their standout successes is one of the most successful golf tournaments, the Jim Ollis/Bobby Saunders Memorial Golf Tournament, which provides funding for many community projects. Under the steady and determined leadership of President Gene, North Carolina JCI Senate continues to lead the way.

South Carolina and President Jimmy Law can be described as quiet, modest leaders who often create the most meaningful and lasting impacts (hosting the best Region IV Meeting, supporting Jaycee Camp Hope, Wreaths Across America, camping, etc.). These leaders work steadily behind the scenes, building relationships, supporting members and guiding initiatives with humility and purpose. Through thoughtful actions, they create powerful ripple effects that positively shape the community and its membership.



**ALEX "HITMAN" WILLIS
#34236**

**PRESIDENT GEORGIA
GApresident@usjcisenate.org
Alexanderwillis09@gmail.com**

The Georgia JCI Senate had their Winter meeting in Forsyth, Georgia on February 6 - 8. Candidates for officers for the upcoming year were announced. The Georgia JCI Senate voted to have for their NVP candidate to be Alexander "Alex Hitman" Willis. We visited the Alabama JCI Senate the last weekend of January 30 through February 1 in Leeds, Alabama. The year end meeting will be held in Jekyll Island, Georgia, May 14 - 17. The host hotel is the Villa By The Sea. The Georgia JCI Senate will have a house on the island. Anyone interested in joining us, please contact President Alex Willis by email. It was great to see everyone at the Calabash in North Myrtle Beach and at the year-end convention in San Antonio, Texas.



**Larry #60771 and U.S. JCI
Senate Secretary Dawna
Norfleet #61999 with Alabama
JCI Senate President Craig
Smith #6569**



**JIMMY LAW #56787
PRESIDENT**

**SOUTH CAROLINA
SCpresident@usjcisenate.org
Jimmylaw56787@gmail.com**

I am amazed how fast this year seems to have passed by. South Carolina held our year end celebration on Saturday, May 2nd at the West Family Lakehouse. We reflected on all the things we had accomplished during this year. Our Senate has had membership growth, working with the South Carolina Jaycees and supporting Camp Hope. We would not have had a successful year without the hard work of my officers and members. A hardy thank you to all my members.

As I pass the gavel over to Christianna Gilliam, I wish her and her board the best of luck next year. I know that they will continue to build on the success we have had over the past couple of years.

I would also like to thank Liz Martin-Young, Region IV VP for all her support this year. It has been a rewarding year.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in San Antonio.

South Carolina Continues to Soar

Alabama JCI Senate Fall Meeting Guntersville, AL 9/20/2025

Craig Smith	65679	AL
Elizabeth Martin-Young	47759	SC
Steve Sutherland	27073	FL
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL
Ken Davis	49452	AL
Carla Bailey	62624	AL+4
Mike Gary	55051	AL
Tooter Gary	58203	AL
Lamar Smith	27217	AL
Jan Smith	83256	AL
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4
Grady Rhinehart	37189	AL
Steve Reavs	49233	AL
Kenny Thompson	45933	AL
Larry J Graham	60619	AL



GENE SHANKS #68688
PRESIDENT
NORTH CAROLINA
NCpresident@usjcisenate.org
odysseygene@gmail.com

It's hard to believe that our Senate terms are almost over. But when I look back I'm even more amazed at what we've been able to accomplish.

We made some much-needed revisions to our bylaws which will have a lasting impact on years to come (or at least until someone wants to change them). We attended the Region IV Calabash Bash where we had another successful Ollis/Sanders Memorial Golf

Tournament. The funds from this project will be distributed among North Carolina's priority projects, two scholarships and a couple of other charities.

We were asked by the North Carolina Jaycees to help with extending a chapter in Rural Hall, North Carolina. This process began in May at an event called Rural Fest and has continued from there. We were also asked to help save the High Point, North Carolina chapter and have been working with the North Carolina Jaycees closely on that project. Our four regions have continued to organize social opportunities for our membership, which has created a new enthusiasm about the Senate which has helped in our membership goals.

To finish our year, we sent a delegation to both Tennessee and San Antonio, Texas for the Year-End meeting. All who attended had a great time. The 2026-2027 Team takes over in July and I look forward to seeing how they continue the success we've had during the 2025-2026 year.



DON DUFFY, JR. #78415
PRESIDENT FLORIDA
FLpresident@usjcisenate.org
56presfljcisenate@gmail.com

It is my pleasure to report that the Florida JCI Senate has been active and productive throughout the entire year.

We have raised both funds and manpower in support of the Ann's Angels Adaptive Waterskiing Foundation for both the kids of Wheelchairs 4 Kids and their Veteran waterskiing program. In addition, we continue to raise money and volunteer to support Do You Give a Ruck, a local veteran assistance organization, furthering its mission of service and community impact.

We remain committed to growing our organization by producing new Senators who will help us advance our annual goals and continue our legacy of service.

This year, Florida proudly sold 347 wreaths in support of Wreaths

Across America. Across the state, we served eight cemeteries and had 40 individuals involved. We also continued our strong support of Wheelchairs 4 Kids, by raising money and volunteering at adaptive waterskiing, Camp Twin Lakes, Trunk or Treat, Wheels and Waves Prom, and Snow skiing in Colorado. We also actively raise funds for our own Florida JCI Senate Foundation.

Our Third Quarter Meeting was a tremendous success, held aboard the MSC Seashore, on a cruise to the Bahamas. We were honored to host Senators from across the country, including North Carolina, South Carolina, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and Ohio. A great time was had by all, and the fellowship and camaraderie were outstanding.

I believe we successfully checked all the boxes this year and made a meaningful impact through our service efforts.

Our Year End Meeting will be held in May in Melbourne, Florida, where we will proudly welcome our new President and Executive Board. I am confident that their leadership will have just as much, if not a greater impact in the coming year.

Thank you to my Board of Directors for all their support this year. It has truly been an honor to serve the Florida JCI Senate and the United States JCI Senate this year.

God bless, and as always, it is "An Honor To Serve."

NC JCI Senate Meeting
W-S Marriott,
Winston-Salem, NC
2/7/2026

Gene Shanks	68688	NC
Mary Pruitt	77821	NC/CO
Denise Gold	83692	NC
David Strickland	51452	NC/SC
Terry Bennett	44805	NC/SC
Jennifer Salmon	71393	NC
Amy Kay	78686	NC
Benton Langfitt	69450	NC
Tim Greene	67114	NC
Lynne Purvis	81538	NC
Bill Craft	36216	NC
BJ Craft	45900	NC
Jimmy Maness	38844	NC
Erica Hughes	Guest	NC
Pamela Young-Jacobs	Guest	NC
Erskine Blount	40749	NC
Phillip Padgett	49363	NC
Pam Padgett	51341	NC
Cheryl Jones	56007	NC
Marty Wase	53142	NC
Lawrence Pittman	53932	NC+3
Karen Womble Wallace	54316	NC
Crissie Lewis	72169	NC/FL
James Rupard	41615	NC/FL
Cheryl Carlson	70371	NC
Carol "CJ" Jordan	45857	NC/FL
Elizabeth Pfrogner	67191	NC
Mike Harris	24801	NC
MaryLou Harris	45860	NC
Donnie Solomon	45153	NC
John Price	36383	NC
Andy Childress	62743	NC
Tracy Culler	64534	NC
Ray Culler	64452	NC
Jessica Jenkins	81505	NC
Jennifer Smith	63636	NC
Vann Sparrow	67885	NC
Suzanne Gill	67891	NC/SC
Melanie C Paschal	70372	NC/SC

FL JCI Senate 2nd Quarter
Business Meeting
Tampa, Florida

Michael Sawyer	36403	FL/OH
Bruce Sostak	52655	TX+4
Mike Andrews	58312	FL/IN
Ken Clements	45944	FL
Linda Andrews	71434	FL/IN
Catherine McManus	81988	FL
Kelly Koch	69505	FL
Tom Johnson	FR86	FL
Randy Windham	58463	FL
Mariea Kuntz	62122	FL
Lori Palo	66475	GA/FL
Stacy Mahar	81584	FL
Andrew Moos	58261	FL
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL
Steve Sutherland	27073	FL
Jim Warren	42572	FL
Lamar Smith	27217	AL
Jan Smith	83256	AL
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3
Jim Parker	49597	FL/LA
Amelia Harrison	62082	FL
Mike Phillips	50063	FL/NC
Jeff Pumphrey	82273	FL
Marsha Phillips	47528	FL
Kathy Pumphrey	Guest	FL
Hal Williams	43912	FL/NC
Irene Shanley	68316	FL/NC
Kay Elliot	61747	FL
Jay Edmonson	41979	FL+2
Madeline Robinson	50844	FL
Don Duffy JR.	78415	FL/NC
Bill Orr	38326	FL
Janet Orr	FR#016	FL
Kathy Collins	64926	FL
Mark Brandel	49789	FL
Cindy Brandel	54928	FL
Stacy Link	46617	FL
Scott Link	51311	FL
Dee Stone	59531	FL
Carlyn "CC" Ackerman	62093	FL
Bianca Deal	71182	FL
Mel Fickas	28320	FL/NJ
Melanie Fickas	77281	FL/NJ
Debra Saunders	52883	FL



CRAIG SMITH #55999
PRESIDENT ALABAMA
ALpresident@usjcisenate.org
Craigsmith1370@gmail.com

The end of another year is upon us and what a great one it has been. The Alabama JCI Senate has done many great things this year that I am proud to have been a part of. I said we were going to try some new things and bring

back some old, and that we did.

Thank you to everyone that supported our reverse drawing. We were able to raise almost \$1000 for The Hope Lodge and for our lost Senators fund. We included that in our Roaring 20's party, which was a great success. In March we attended our Region IV Meeting at the Calabash in Myrtle Beach. It was an exciting time to come together and celebrate all of our accomplishments. We will end our year with our Year-End Meeting in Oxford, Alabama with the Bama Brigade by giving out scholarships to graduating seniors.

I would like to thank everyone that came and visited Alabama this year. Your support meant a great deal to us. We look to finish the year at growth to spring board us into another successful year. I look forward to seeing everyone in San Antonio. Play to Win!

REGION V

Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio



Region V NVP
MONTY SCHROEDER #62203
 Region-V-NVP@usjcisenate.org
 monty62203@gmail.com
"SERVING UP FIVE STAR STATES"

Region V started out strongly for the second half of the Senate year. All five states traveled with Chef Monte' #62203 to National and Region V state meetings. Even though it was very cold and snowy, Region V came out in full force to travel to Melbourne, Florida for the Winter Board meeting. Congratulations to Illinois President Susie Colbert – Curtis #73137 on receiving one of President Bruce Sostak #52655 Ranger Badge pins and for the second time in a row, Region V and Illinois were recognized for first place for SOAR.

The snow and cold did not stop Region V from traveling to Michigan for the Snowball Soiree even though Chef Monte' and Miss Sherrie FR#52 was snowed in for one more day before heading home then off to the Indiana / Kentucky joint meeting, then onto the Illinois JCI Senate / Illinois Jaycees meeting where we welcomed the newest Illinois JCI Senator Jessica Ann Dick #84681. We then celebrated the accomplishments and recognized the outstanding President of Region V at the Region V Spring Fling meeting in Springfield, Illinois.

One of President Bruce's objectives for the NVP is to travel outside of their region. My goal was to visit 4 other regions so far, I have visited Region III for the West Virginia steak fry, Region VII for the Mini National Convention in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, Region X for their annual region meeting in Las Vegas Nevada. and I will visit Region VI for the Missouri JCI Senate 50th Anniversary in St. Charles, Missouri.

I would like to thank my five-star chefs and their outstanding sous-chef for an incredible year. We built remarkable friendships and demonstrated strong leadership that will inspire future members of the Jaycees. I am so proud of

all your accomplishment, and it has been an honor serving as your executive chef of Region V.

- Indiana JCI Senate year end meeting was April 17-19 in French Lick, Indiana.

- Ohio JCI Senate year end meeting May 22-24 in Cleveland, Ohio.

- Illinois JCI Senate summer picnic / year end meeting July 23-26 in Carlyle, Illinois.

- Michigan JCI Senate year end meeting July 25 in Troy, Michigan.

The Region V Chefs will "Foster friendship among Senators with supporting the Jaycee movement." As we travel East to West Explore Our Senate.



SHELLEY BATES #78813
PRESIDENT INDIANA
 INpresident@usjcisenate.org
 gymbratshelbell@hotmail.com

Hello from Chef Shelley! I can't believe my tenure as President of Indiana JCI Senate is almost over. I'm looking forward to attending my first Spring Fling in Illinois. Anything I missed my first year as President I am trying hard not to miss this year.

We served up 5-star fun April 17-19 in beautiful French Lick. There was plenty of great food, sightseeing, and camaraderie. There was a couple of museums, a train tour, a water park, winery, and Wilster Ranch drive through safari.

Please lift Steve Lythgoe #83681 in your prayers as he continues to struggle with health issues.

I still love this American Ride!



SUSIE COLBERT-CURTIS #73137
PRESIDENT ILLINOIS
 ILpresident@usjcisenate.org
 Susiejci73137@gmail.com

What an incredible year! I am grateful to Illinois for trusting me as their 59th president. I would like to start by thanking my travel companions, my flock. This year, Illinois visited every state in Region V, made a visit to Region VI, VII, VIII and making a memorable impression at each national meeting.

We've supported the Jaycees, participated in Wreaths Across America, Return The Favor, SOAR (Senate Outreach Activation Retention), and raised funds to benefit Camp New Hope and all while flamingling, being social and having fun.

Let us flock together to San Antonio, Texas for our year end convention and congratulate each other on a job well done.

I invite everyone to join us for our Summer Picnic at Lake Carlyle, Illinois: "Let's Flamingle at the Lake," from July 23-26. Come out to southern Illinois and enjoy bar burgers, golf, boat rides, wineries, antiquing, and plenty of good times. Hope to see y'all there.

Let's Flamingle. Be Social. Have Fun.



JeNIE ALTMAN #56150
PRESIDENT KENTUCKY
 KYpresident@usjcisenate.org
 galtman@windstream.net

We've had enough rain and snow this year and I'm ready for some sunshine! I hope all of you are well and ready to enjoy better weather, too.

Our first outing for the new year was the joint Indiana-Kentucky Senate meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. We had a smaller turnout because of the weather but it was great fun. After that, we traveled to Pigeon Forge in February for mini-nationals, and then to Illinois for Region V Spring Fling in March. Gerald and I have had a blast and visited with many friends we haven't seen in a while. Not sure where the road will take us next.

Our election meeting is May 9th in Bardstown, Kentucky. We would love you to come join us in Kentucky. We have been working on reactivating some of our older Senators and, while we haven't had the results we had hoped for, we have had more interest than usual. Some are supposed to be attending our May meeting. That's an on-going goal for our Kentucky Senate group (as it is for all of us)!

THANK YOU goes to my board of directors for their hard work this year: VP – Daryle Karnes #60611; Secretary – Donna Roope-Cassell #68681; Treasurer – Jim Dulin #54018, and COB – Brad Blain #39993.

See you in our travels!
 Don't Stop Believing,



Left: Past 1st Lady Stephanie Pittenger #59999 escorted to the Winter board banquet by Chairman of the Board Hal Williams #43912



JANICE CARINO #72307
PRESIDENT OHIO
OHpresident@usjcisenate.org
jaycafe@breezelineohio.net

Our Senate is a wonderful Community, and our Friendships keep us Entwined and moving forward together. This year is flying by and will soon come to an end, but I have truly enjoyed every opportunity it has allowed me on my Senate journey.

We had a fantastic time throughout all the winter and spring events in Ohio and our neighboring states, including our own Region V Spring Fling. The fellowship and shared experiences continue to make our Senate family so special.

The Ohio JCI Senate is now preparing for our year-end meeting, May 22–24, 2026, at the Holiday Inn in Independence, Ohio. This location holds a fantastic history in Jaycee lore, and I am hopeful this gathering will be remembered as one of those great moments. From there, we will travel on to San Antonio to celebrate with Senators from across the country at the US JCI National Convention as we mark the end of this year and the beginning of the next.

After that, Ohio turns its focus to our annual Pig Roast, July 17-19, 2026, in Kent, Ohio. It is a fun-filled tradition where we reunite with friends from near and far. This year, you can look forward to a Christmas in July theme along with many exciting additions. We hope to see everyone there!

As this year comes to a close, I look forward to continuing my journey around the state, visiting our Senate friends and highlighting what makes each of your communities so special. You can stay up to date with the Ohio JCI Senate CAFE by visiting our Facebook page, Ohio JCI Senate, or our website at ohiocjisenate.org.

Thank you for being part of this incredible journey.



DAN MOELLERING #77898
PRESIDENT MICHIGAN
MIpresident@usjcisenate.org
dmmoelle@gmail.com

Spring is a season of renewal time when the world shakes off the chill of winter to embrace fresh growth and new possibilities. As the landscape transforms, it serves as a perfect reminder of our collective mission to Go Beyond. This theme is more than just a phrase; it is a call to push past our boundaries, plant new seeds of leadership, and elevate the impact we have on our communities.

In Michigan, that spirit of growth is driving us toward a strong finish. We are hard at work cultivating the projects and relationships that define our organization. Please mark your calendars for July 11th, as we celebrate Michigan's Year-End. It will be a momentous occasion to reflect on our achievements and celebrate the dedication of our members before we look toward the future.

While we remain focused on finishing the year strongly at home, we are eager to carry that energy to the national stage. I look forward to reconnecting with everyone in Texas to share our successes and continue our journey together.

Ohio January Meeting
1/31/2026

Shelly Knight-Bourn	81030	OH
Zach Bourn	83578	OH
Keith Steiner	36446	OH
Bruce Geddes	35527	OH
Jean Geddes	68886	OH
Ruby Weymouth	67303	OH
Paul Weymouth	69653	OH
Ron Kimmet	43520	OH
Sara Kimmet	77909	OH
Tammy Snapp	79574	OH/KY
EJ Rice	47046	OH
Sharon Rice	71524	OH
Amanda Turner	65313	OH
Jon Bruner	58932	OH
Jenny Bruner	64688	OH
Karen Schoonever	57305	OH
Mitch Schoonover	59758	OH
Tracy Brooke	69445	WV/OH
Gary Brooke	58420	WV/OH
Dave Conklin	54029	OH
Robin Bethel	78837	OH

KY JCI Fall Frenzy
11/1/2025

Jim Dulin	54018	KY
Tracy Luttmann	54773	IN
Jerry Luttmann	46155	IN
Mark Niedenthal	39701	IL
Maureen Niedenthal	67669	IL
Monty Schroeder	62203	IL
Sherrie Schroeder	FR52	IL
EJ Rice	47046	OH
Sharon Rice	71524	OH
John Olson	35308	IL
Bev Olson	42473	IL
Karen Schoonover	57305	OH
Mitch Schoonover	59758	OH
Maria Ferranti	56955	SC
Tammy Sapp	47022	IN
Bradford Blain	39993	KY
Will Chester	63037	KY
Sarah Chester	FR74	KY
Eulaine Goodpastor	54384	KY
Donna Cassell	68681	KY
Margi Hall	Guest	KY
Sherry Jones	66316	IN
Doyle Jones	FR83	IN
Jenie Altman	56150	KY
Duane Plapp	63498	KY
Lorinda Plapp		KY
Owen Meador	60900	IN
Judy Meador	FR12	IN
Norm Hoffman	25676	IL
Susie Colbert Curtis	Guest	IL
Chris Curtis	73137	IL
Janice Carino	35446	OH
Jeff Carino	72307	OH
Larry Norfleet	60771	TN
Dawna Norfleet	61999	TN
Ron Kimmet	43520	OH
Sarah Kimmet	77909	OH
Ruby A Weymouth	67303	OH
Paul H Weymouth	69653	OH
Jay Laslie	52921	KY
Bill Patterson	55768	IL
Allison Geddes	74777	OH
Gary Duell	48384	PA
Diane Duell	74147	PA
Greg Hilleary	64615	IL
Mary Ann Hilleary	43305	IL
David Hussung	41391	IN
John Kelley	52591	KY
Kathy Kelley	FR65	KY
Tom Cramer	61957	KY
Joanie Cramer	65355	KY
Jim Daughterty	51172	AR
Janie Daughterty	65320	AR
Daryle Karnes	60611	KY
Kim Hubble	67821	MI
Shelly Bates	78821	IN
Bruce Sostak	52655	TX
Reese Malott	63926	IN

Ohio November Meeting
11/15/2025

Tammy Snapp	79574	OH/KY
Susan Geddes	81581	OH
Bruce Geddes	35527	OH
Jean Geddes	68886	OH
Ron Kimmet	43520	OH
Allison Geddes	74777	OH
Pam Bozica	80289	OH
Jane Hider	47491	OH
Charlie Eberhardt	54887	OH
Jon Bruner	58932	OH
Jenny Bruner	64688	OH
Amanda Turner	65313	OH
Karen Schoonever	57305	OH
Dave Conklin	54029	OH
Keith Steiner	36446	OH
Ruby Weymouth	67303	OH
Paul Weymouth	69653	OH
Shelly Knight-Bourn	81030	OH
Stu O'Hara	39768	OH

Illinois JCI Senate Annual Picnic
7/26/2025

Melodie Ainslie	69200	IL
Ray Ainslie	44136	IL
Donna Baker	67041	IL
Terry Barker	40979	IL
Denny Birt	37116	IL
Phyllis Bowers	51430	IA/IL
Jon Bruner	58932	OH
Jenny Bruner	64688	OH
Marilyn Burton	55106	IL
Jon Carls	54041	IL
Noah Christian	Guest	OH
Susie Colbert-Curtis	73137	IL
Maxine Cooper	68012	IL/MI
Russ Cooper	4638	MI/IL
Chris Curtis	35440	IL
Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei	44003	IA
Kay DeGroot	73333	IL
Judson DeVore	65005	IL
Marsha DeVore	67330	IL
Pat Eimer	56785	IL
Susan Hatcher	58143	MO
Karen Helms	57838	IL
Tom Hendrix	37317	MO
Eric Hiatt	81434	IL
Greg Hilleary	43305	IL
MaryAnn Hilleary	64615	IL
Kim Hubbell	68729	MI
Wayne Huelsmann	30592	IL
Steve Kesegi	53934	IL
Margie Kiefer	FR 29	IL
Wayne Kiefer	36498	IL
Ron Kimmet	43520	OH
Sara Kimmet	77909	OH
Jim Kirchhoff	FR 119	IA
Ted Kuenzi	32166	IL
Sid LeGrand	46004	IL
Chuck McFarlin	47910	IL
Lynne McGill	70364	IL
Digger McGraugh	36156	IL
Deb Mogdis	62260	MI
Paul Myers	72173	MO
Tonya Myers	66222	MO
Jessi Neighbors	82669	IL
Mark Niedenthal	39701	IL
Maureen Niedenthal	67669	IL
Dawna Norfleet	61999	TN/KY
Larry Norfleet	60771	TN/IL
Bev Olson	42473	IL
John Olson	35308	IL
Bill Patterson	47979	IL
Stephanie Pittenger	59999	IL
Scott Rayho	67912	IL
Chris Rick	78649	IL
Woody Sauerbrei	FR 111	IA
Monty Schroeder	62203	IL
Sherrie Schroeder	FR 52	IL
Amy Smith	83300	IL
Bruce Sostak	52655	TX +3
Christopher Stierwalt	52938	IL
Larry D. Stierwalt	22131	IL
Lynn Stoffregen	55876	IA
Lori Tomlin	62797	IN/IL
Chris Travis	55435	IL
Joan Travis	76201	IL
Amanda Turner	65613	OH
Mel Urbanowicz	55459	IL
Karen Voshel	62305	IL
Paul Weymouth	69653	OH/IL
Ruby Weymouth	67303	OH/IL
Jane Wiley	49250	IL
Brian Witte	68535	IA
Peg Witte	Guest	IA



REGION VI

Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin



**Region VI NVP
ROSE STEEN #57178**

**Region-VI-NVP@usjcisenate.org
roseteen2011@hotmail.com**

**"CRUISING THRU
REGION VI"**



Region VI continues to race along as we are Cruising into the last stretch of the 2025-2026 JCI Senate year!!

This year has been filled with state visits to meetings and events, attending Jaycee conventions, celebrating accomplishments and projects as well as attending US JCI Senate Board meetings.

Thank you to everyone for the hospitality shown to Gary and me throughout the year!!

A special thank you to each of the state presidents in Region VI! I have enjoyed Cruising through the Region, meeting with long-term friends as well as making new ones! There are not enough 'thank-you's' to show how much you are appreciated.

Thank you to the Scholarship Program Managers and judges for the hard work judging and submitting scholarship information within your state for local and national scholarships. The Senate organization continues to support the educational and career paths of the youth within our communities.

States will soon be conducting elections and welcoming in new officers to set the course for the upcoming Senate year. Good luck to each of you as we continue the priorities of the Senate organization.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Region VI Spring meeting held in Yankton, South Dakota in April! This meeting was a great time for fellowship and friendships AND we saw the election of our next Region VI NVP!!

As the year winds down, I look forward to seeing many of you at the U.S. JCI Senate National Convention in San Antonio, Texas. Let's show Region VI excitement as we celebrate the best of the best!!

I am looking forward to seeing you down the road!

**Caring
Resourceful
Understanding
Inspiring
Self-motivated
Imaginative
Nurturing**



**BRIAN WITTE #68535
PRESIDENT IOWA**

**IApresident@usjcisenate.org
Wittejc@gmail.com**

It is hard to believe our Senate year is almost done. We have had an amazing year of helping JCI with projects and enjoying fellowship and fun times along the way and the volunteer season is kicking into high gear very soon.

We awarded some incredible students with scholarships and enjoyed a fun winter meeting with JCI Iowa in Bettendorf in February. We also added a new Senator to our family, Nick Shaull #84790 from Nevada, Iowa.

We made a road trip in April to Yankton, South Dakota while Cruisin Thru Region VI with NVP Rose Steen #57178 for our spring region meeting.

Our Iowa spring social on May

8 during Tulip Time will be at the home of Cheryl Davis-Sauerbrei #44003 and Woody Sauerbrei FR. #111 in Pella, Iowa. This social and overall event is not one to be missed. The great people and history of the Tulip Time event in Pella are incredible. Get more information at www.iajcisenate.org.

We extend congratulations to President Kami Harsel #77656 and the Missouri JCI Senate on their 50th Anniversary. We share in their milestone and wish them many more years of mentoring JCI in their state and beyond. See you in St. Charles.

We will be helping Primghar at their figure eight races as well as the Ames on the Half Shell concerts this summer. Great chapter projects making even greater things possible in our communities.

Our Iowa group will be in San Antonio for national convention to celebrate a great 2025-26 with President Bruce Sostak #52655 and his team.

Let me just say what a pleasure and honor it has been to represent my state and our Senate members as state president. It has been a challenging and humbling but amazing experience I would not trade for anything. Our work is never done but we make a difference together every day. I know you will all join me on the road to "Go the Distance" for JCI.

February as well. South Dakota had 44 applicants this year with two college/university winners and one vocational school/community college winner being forwarded on to national judging. Plans are being made for the Annual Meeting and election of officers for the 2026-2027 South Dakota Senate year.

South Dakota was proud to host the Region VI Spring meeting. Congrats to NVP Rose Steen (one of South Dakota's own) on her successful year as NVP. We were honored to host the Regional meeting in her home state!!!

The Senate year has gone by very quickly – we look forward to wrapping up the year over the next few months with Senators attending upcoming National meetings, representing South Dakota and Region VI. Meeting with friends is always good for the soul!

Celebrating the Senate....Past, Present and Future



**CHAD ALBERS #68747
PRESIDENT
SOUTH DAKOTA**

**SDpresident@usjcisenate.org
albersc@msn.com**

All is going well in South Dakota as we move into the springtime months!

South Dakota had a great turn out at our Winter Meeting in Yankton, South Dakota in February. Scholarship judging was completed in

Nebraska JCI Senate Winter Meeting December 2025

Dale TenEyck	57237	NE
Rose Steen	57178	SD
Gary Steen	56503	SD
Lynette Prouty	72296	NE
Lauran Liesemeyer	80644	NE
Gene Stoddard	64044	NE
Lori Anderson-Stowe	69223	NE
Bob Kuhns	66092	NE
Deb Ventris	64035	NE
Ruben Ventris	64569	NE
Rick Spearow	61859	NE
Llyod Mueller	57186	NE
Bruce Sostak	52655	TX
Phyllis Bowers	51430	IA
Patrick Shuster	42614	NE
Sharon Rowan	52711	NE
Susan Nagle	51114	NE
Mike Nagle	44377	NE
Tom Powell	55812	NE
Toon Bauman	67855	MN
Codie Wilson	82284	NE
Marlin Sanny	13962	NE

Minnesota JCI Senate Meeting 2026

Don Heinonen	62610	MN
Char Blashill	68880	MN
Brian Levenduski	80227	MN
Brian Klouse	76425	MN
Amie Klouse	76847	MN
PJ Zimmerman	81431	MN
Stephanie Zimmerman	81432	MN
Nancy Stredde	63623	MN
Ketti Green	68281	MN
Drew Kothenbeutel	81433	MN
Tracey Beigert	76076	MN
Mark Ewert	52153	MN
Mike Liaby	40511	MN
Juanita Beauchamp	74247	MN
Russel Beauchamp	74887	MN
Bill Beck	45182	MN
Randy Young	46420	MN
Pete Colorich	80224	MN
Gwen Labovitch	80218	MN
Lindsay Case	82578	MN
Jeri Limke	72128	MN
Susan Adams-Eriksen	65312	MN
Marge Miller	52948	MN
John Sprole	35504	MN
Toon Bauman	67855	MN



GENEVA BROOMFIELD
ARMBRUST #72535
PRESIDENT NEBRASKA
NEpresident@usjcisenate.org
Gbroom91@hotmail.com

I hope that you have had an incredible 2025-2026 year..

In December we were fortunate enough to have President Bruce and NVP Rose in attendance for our meeting/holiday party. It was a well-attended meeting and lots of fun with our gift exchange and trivia game. We were involved with Wreaths Across America this month as well. I just wish that my father's grave had been an option.

Our March 13 - 14 weekend meeting was held in conjunction with the Nebraska Jaycees. This was something that had not taken place for a decade. I am very excited and can't wait to report how it went.

Our Annual Meeting/Elections will take place on Saturday June 6th in Nebraska City. We would love for you to attend if possible.

Until next time fellow Senators, be safe and have a fabulous time.

**Missouri JCI Senate
 Board Meeting Year End
 Old Kinderhook
 Osage Beach, MO 1/17/2026**

Stacy Rawls	63600	MO
Ernie Lea	60650	MO
Kristie Lea	62494	MO
Jason Pounds	83333	MO
Jeff McClanahan	82858	MO
Missy Wilson	67918	MO
John Thurman	67002	MO
James Danley	68600	MO/SC
Dewayne Cartee	62218	MO
Barb Pellikaan	57247	MO
Mike Sommer	62337	MO
James Rothweiler	65300	MO
Deb Rothweiler	49595	MO
Kevin Holiday	74826	MO
Cal Crader	82300	MO
Barry Johnson	80200	MO
Richard Angerer	56845	MO
Julie Morff	71917	MO
Jason Morff	73983	MO
Jim Pendleton Jr	40286	MO
Jessica Stratton	80300	MO
Brigitte Silver Olson	66162	MO
Laurel Cagle	67946	MO



KAMI HARSEL #77656
PRESIDENT MISSOURI
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Ckhar997@gmail.com

Somehow we are close to the end of the Presidential year of 2025-2026! I guess time does really fly when you have fun! First off, I am very excited to say that the Missouri JCI Senate will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary May 15-16 in St. Charles. We will have our year end and election meeting on May 16th at 9:00am and then in the evening we will have our BIG 50-year celebration! It will be a great time and we hope that many of our fellow U.S. JCI Senators will join us to celebrate 50 years.

The Missouri Senate stays busy throughout the summer months by helping many Jaycee chapters at their events. July brings the Cole

**Iowa JCI Senate Winter Meeting
 2/7/2026**

Mary Kirchner	83831	IA
Dianne Casto	43283	IA
John Prins	79782	IA
Nancy Carlisle	47897	IA
Larry Schlapkohl	32716	IA
Janet Schlapkohl	Fr. 11	IA
Carol Standridge	80700	IA
Newton Standridge	29407	IA
Dan Badger	67974	IA
Lisa Badger	67973	IA
John Kostachek	50797	IA
Pam Robinson	61888	IA
Lori Oakland	67100	IA
Phyllis Bowers	51430	IA
Eldon Bowers	45999	IA
Angie Taylor	71600	IA/SC
Pat Hoelker	45893	IA
Julie Burkhart	83973	IA
Wayde Burkhart	63877	IA
Cindy Kuhn	55735	IA
Woody Sauerbrei	Fr.111	IA
Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei	44003	IA
Deb A. Puls	55516	IA
Dr. Tom Molstad	63304	IA
Brian Witte	68535	IA
Skip Hoelker	Fr. 10	IA
Gar y Steen	56503	SD/IA
Tracy Taylor	66603	IA
Rose Steen	57178	SD/IA
Louie Allers	45976	IA
Joanne Schwab	71117	IA
Jason Hancock	75970	IA
Justin Rickman	81537	IA
Cindy Hanssen	53030	IA
Bob Hanssen	58336	IA
Juliana Durie	80217	MN
John Parsons	74674	IA

County Fair in Jefferson City and you can find many Senators working at the food booth there. August is a very busy but fun month with the Sikeston Jaycees Bootheel Rodeo August 5-8. This event takes the hard work of many Senators, from not only Missouri but all over the Region as well as the U.S. It is a week of hard work but fun times! August also brings the Missouri Jaycees Access Day at the Missouri State Fair and this year the date is August 21 in Sedalia, Missouri. Access Day's purpose to give individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities the opportunity to attend a day at the state fair. It is a project that makes a huge impact on participants, Jaycees and Senators. We will also have our first Senate meeting of the year 2026-2027. We welcome any fellow Senator to come visit us in Missouri at any time. Missouri is the Show Me State so we love to show off the great things that members of the Missouri JCI Senate do and the projects that we help with!

**Missouri JCI Senate Board MTG
 Springfield, MO 8/16/2025**

Dawna Norfleet	61999	TN
Larry Norfleet	60771	TN/KY
Gordon Elliott	21787	MO
Jessica Stratton	80300	MO
Tonya Myers	66222	MO
Kami Harsel	7756	MO
Stacey Rawls	63600	MO
Jim Pendleton Jr	40286	MO
Becky Horton	Guest	MO
Dave DeLaney	41203	MO
Donna DeLaney	55560	MO
Earl Sawyer	28243	MO
Mary Sawyer	43930	MO
Susan Hatcher	58143	MO
Randy Johnson	56636	MO
Kristen Johnson	72859	MO
Trisha O'Cheltree	72882	MO
Chris Harsel	75944	MO
John Thurman	67002	MO
Michele Burnett-Emerich	60635	MO
Dewayne Cartee	62218	MO
Jerry Thompson	56957	MO
Lorrie Thompson	69333	MO
Kevin Linear	64545	MO
Tom Hendrix	37317	MO
David Teachout	68700	MO
Barry Johnson	80200	MO
Ed Hart	28991	MO
Mary Hart	59553	MO

**Nebraska Senate Meeting
 3/14/2026**

Rose Steen	57172	SD/IA
Gary Steen	56503	SD/IA
Dan Badger	67974	IA/MIS
Lisa Badger	67973	IA/JCI
Deb Cunningham	64041	NE
Sharon Rowan	52711	NE
Daryl Steinman	59574	NE
Laura Steinman	55902	NE
Rick Spearow	61859	NE
Rob Kuhns	66092	NE
Lori Anderson-Stowe	69223	NE
Marlin Sanny	13967	NE
Dale TenEyck	57237	NE/IA



JASON ROSENAU #76858
PRESIDENT WISCONSIN
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jroosenau@gmail.com

As Senators we get to Continue the Journey as lifelong members of the Jaycees. Our passion for impacting the community, desire to develop others, and need for deep connections doesn't fade. As a result, we are fortunate to be able to continue to support our Jaycee chapters, encourage members to step up and lead, provide guidance and support when it's requested, and make time to socialize and have fun. We may age and slow down, but the heart of a Jaycee remains strong.

As we enter spring it is time to reflect on accomplishments and think about how else you can Continue the Journey as a JCI Senator. Have you taken the time to attend a Jaycee chapter event or meeting? Have you attended a State, Regional or National Senate event? Have you nominated someone for a Senatorship? Are you stepping up to lead in your State Senate?

I am proud that many of our Wisconsin Senators can answer "yes" to those questions. I am honored to have served as the 2025-2026 Wisconsin President and I look forward to the opportunity to Continue the Journey for years to come.

**Region IV Christmas Social
 Warner Robins, GA 12/6/25**

Lori Palo	66475	GA+7
Dale Henslee-Smith	55917	SC+4
Sunny Riffle	50651	SC
Clark Wilcox	79977	GA/SC
Alex "Hitman" Willis	34236	GA
Latasha Q First Lady	Guest	GA
Howard Moss	80975	GA
Linda Moss	Guest	GA
Thomas Michael	75612	GA
Larry MacQuirter	67377	GA
Larry Norfleet	60771	TN/KY
Dawna Norfleet	61999	TN
Elizabeth Martin-Young	47759	NC
Melanie C Paschal	70372	NC/SC
Gene Shanks	68688	NC/SC/AL
Don Coffey	52537	GA

REGION VII

Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee



Region VII NVP
DEWAYNE SUMNER #66239
 Region-VII-NVP@usjcisenate.org
 dsm2061@bellsouth.net
"BE THE SPARK THAT IGNITES THE FLAME!"

Region VII would like to thank all the Senators who traveled to Region VII for the Mini National! Lora and the committee did a fantastic job and it looks like everyone had a good time! I want to thank Teresa, Dawna, Newton and all the others who helped take care of making sure that my duties were handled! I'm blessed with lots of great friends who are always there to help when I'm down.

A few things going on in our states but I would be remised if I didn't say a few words about my friend and a great Senator who was taken way too soon: Ray Gilbert of Arkansas. If you never had the opportunity to meet Ray you truly missed meeting a man who personified the lines of our Creed. Ray was the face of the Arkansas JCI Senate and because of him the Senate has gotten stronger. But he was more than just that he was a proud father and a great friend to all who knew him. You will truly be missed my dear friend, rest easy and know you made a huge difference in our world!

ference in our world!

President Toni of Tennessee held a great meeting in Pigeon Forge in conjunction with the Senate. Congratulations to incoming Tennessee JCI president Ryan Myers and incoming Tennessee JCI Senate President Krista Myers, I can't wait to see all the great things you both will do.

Arkansas has been dealing with their loss and have elected a new secretary who I know will do a great job and will help President Mike make Arkansas stronger.

President Mary is constantly keeping Louisiana moving and will continue to work on activating more Senators.

President Steve and the Mississippi Senate continue to support the Mississippi Jaycees and continue to work with their governors organization to foster friendships and family.

Lastly, I want to congratulate incoming Region VII NVP Lora Lawton! I have worked with Lora for many years and consider her a dear friend and know that she will do an outstanding job leading us!

Till I see you again, remember to Be the Spark! Love to all!

Spark That Ignites The Flame", these words are now circling around in my head. Arkansas just lost one of the true sparks that kept our flame burning, Ray Gilbert #45438. He held so many "jobs" in the Arkansas JCI Senate, keeping us informed and up to date,

WE have a lot of work to do now. We are looking at holding a meeting on May 9 to look at having socials around the state to meet and visit, making some new goals. We elected Marina Brooks #54268 to fill Ray's term as Sec/Treas. We also have some Senators who would like to help start some JCI chapters in Arkansas. We are looking to get better organized and move forward. We hope to see you all in San Antonio National Meeting, June 14-19.



STEVE RUTLAND #46771
PRESIDENT MISSISSIPPI
 MSPresident@usjcisenate.org

Hello fellow Senators! Hope you are enjoying this beautiful spring weather. Just a quick briefing to let you know what's happening in the great state of Mississippi, also known as the "Birthplace of America's Music". The JCI Mississippi Jaycees are committed to serving their communities well and continue old traditions while also trying new projects. Below are just a few projects they are involved in:

- The Hattiesburg Jaycees held a very successful 75th Annual Hattiesburg Jaycee Christmas Parade on December 10th. It is such a joy to see our community show up for this fun event year after year.
- On March 8th, the Petal Jaycees hosted a prom closet. After gathering donations of formal dresses, suits, and prom attire, Jaycees members organized and priced the clothing \$10 - \$20 to give local high school students in the surrounding areas an opportunity to purchase affordable formal wear without breaking the bank.
- The state held their End of Year

Celebration on March 28th at 6pm at Poppa's Original Wharf Seafood in Hattiesburg. We joined our fellow Jaycees and family members to celebrate another great year of leadership, service, and community impact.

• They are already gearing up for the 6th Annual Taste of the South Food Truck Festival to be held in Hattiesburg on Saturday, October 3rd. This local economic development project gets bigger and better every year. They will begin working on the 4th Annual Veterans Day Chili Cook-Off in Petal soon. It takes a lot of behind-the-scenes work to host these annual events every year, and they're grateful for community partners that help make it possible.

• Mississippi sent three delegates to the JCI USA Year-End Convention in Missoula, Montana this April.

We will be having a joint Mississippi JCI Senate/Governors meeting on Saturday, May 30th, 2026, at Cypress Point Resort located at 874 Holly Bush Rd, Brandon, MS 39047 (everyone will be responsible for their own meal). Our meeting will begin at 11:45am and will end around 1pm. I also look forward to seeing everyone June 14th-18th at the U.S. JCI Senate National Meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

Iowa JCI Senate Scholarship Judging 2/1/2026

Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei	44003	IA
Woody Sauerbrei	Fr. 111	IA
Lori Oakland	67100	IA
Carol Standridge	80700	IA
Newton Standridge	29407	IA
Wayde Burkhart	63877	IA
Julie Burkhart	83793	IA
Pat Hoelker	45893	IA
Paul Jahnke	37617	IA
John Parsons	74674	IA
Skip Hoelker	Fr. 10	IA
Jason Hancock	75970	IA
Brian Witte	68535	IA

Vino Bellas & Fellas Polar Express Mtg Tampa, FL 11/15/2025

Kay Elliott	61747	FL
Dawne Sutherland	68900	FL
Madeline Robinson	50844	FL
Bianca Deal	71182	FL
Lori Palo	66475	GA+7
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3
Jan Smith	83256	AL
Emily Harrow	68739	FL
Kelly Koch	69508	FL/NC/OH
Don Duffy	78415	FL/SC/OK
Marica Kuntz	62122	FL
Melanie Fickas	77281	FL/NJ
Caryn "CC" Ackerman	62039	FL
Dee Stone	59531	FL
Stacy Link	64477	FL
Amelia Harrison	62082	FL

Minnesota Senate Summer Meeting 7/19/2025

Amie Klouse	76847	MN
Brian Klouse	76425	MN
Susan Adams-Erksen	65312	MN
Bill Berk	45182	MN
PJ Zimmerman	81431	MN
Stephanie Zimmerman	81432	MN
Brian Levendrik	80227	MN
Toon Bauman	67855	MN
Juanita Beauchamp	74247	MN
Russel Beauchamp	74887	MN
Nancy Stribble	63623	MN
Lori Matthys	64933	MN
Randy Young	46420	MN



MIKE BERG #49435
PRESIDENT ARKANSAS
 Mike@mikegergco.com

The Region VII theme this year from our National VP Dewayne Sumner #66239 has been "Be The

REGION VIII

Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas



Region VIII NVP
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 arecec@hotmail.com
**"SERVICE TO
 HUMANITY, YESTERDAY,
 TODAY AND
 TOMORROW"**

Wow, how the time flies. The year is over halfway through. I feel like time is flying fast. We still have a lot to do to Explore the Senate East to West. I have been traveling a bit. I want to thank the Senators in Melbourne, Florida for an outstanding Winter Board meeting. It went smoothly and was so much fun. I can honestly say I had the best stuffed flounder in my life at the most interestingly named restaurant, Squid Lips.

I am sure there has been a lot of judging going on ... of scholarships that is. I know Kansas did their part. I visited Oklahoma and they let me observe their judging process to see another state's perspective. When I went to Texas I was also allowed to help them in their scholarship judging process.

I picked up some tips from both states that I will implement for Kansas next year.

As of the writing of this article, my next trip is something I have wanted to do for years but never had the chance until now. I am going to Sweetwater, Texas to the Jaycee Rattlesnake Roundup. In April I will have traveled to Las Vegas to the Region X meeting. A lot of Regions held their meetings around this time but I hope you chose to come to Kansas. Region VIII's regional meeting was in Topeka, Kansas April 30 - May 3rd. The Kansas Senate also celebrated their 55th anniversary that weekend. But if you didn't come to Kansas I hope you traveled somewhere East to West and did your part in Exploring the Senate!!!



RANDY SURSA #49485
PRESIDENT OKLAHOMA
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 randysursa@aol.com

What a year we have had in Oklahoma! Various activities every month and we included all areas of the state.

We submitted two fantastic young people to receive our scholarships and had a great auction at our membership meeting. We traveled out of our region to Pigeon Forge for a great time as we ventured into the Smoky Mountains. We released our inner child and went to the Sooner Arcade and the adjacent Glow Golf in Sooner Mall.

A group trekked to Las Vegas for Region X and held our Annual Meeting and elections in May. June will take us to Tulsa for the Glenn Cole Memorial Picnic to end our year. Thank you to my Board of Directors for their support and help in promoting our events all year.



CHUCK REILLY #45217
PRESIDENT COLORADO
 COpresident@usjcisenate.org
 reils75@yahoo.com

As usual we have things that occurred which were really good.

Our Christmas party this year was great with 21 attendees including Region VIII NVP Anita Cummings. A welcome dinner was held for her the night before and the next day she was given a tour of the foothills around Denver. That evening was the Christmas Party of which was a great time with some very interesting White Elephant gifts! Many thanks to Stacia Delany for hosting and all that helped and or contributed.

Our scholarships were reviewed and submitted thanks to Dale Hill, our coordinator, and thanks to all those who judged or who helped out on what was a nice Sunday afternoon.

A new Arvada JC chapter is in the process of starting and currently they have seven members with a short-term goal of working their way to doubling in size. We wish them the best and have let them know if they need help from the Colorado JCI Senate to contact us.

Finally, we are working on having get togethers across the state and hope to have some specifics for you in short order. As we get details to our upcoming events, we will get the word out to everyone.

Take Care

P.I.E Columbus, OH 9/12/2025

Jimmy Lewis	78887	TX	Stevenson Van Derodar	81401	NJ
Dan Moellering	77898	MI	John Tyo	66381	NY
Michele Tarantino	63380	CT	Sally Traczuk	68943	PA
Randy Sursa	49485	OK	Beth Fujishige	69209	CA
Don Duffy	78415	FL	Jason Rosenau	76858	WI
Alex "Hitman" Willis	34226	GA	Gary Brooke	58420	WV
Gene Shanks	68688	NC	Kami Harsell	77656	MO
Bonnie St. Jean	42864	NH	Elizabeth McInnis	54219	MA
Karen Gage	78980	VA	JeNie Altman	56150	KY
Brain Witte	68535	IA	Susie Colbert-Curtis	73137	IL
Tanis Jimeno-Friedman	70297	AZ	Janice Carino	72307	OH
Jeff Kozak	63411	PA	Anita Cummings	69380	KS
Craig Smith	65679	AL			

California Northern Holiday Party Concord, CA 1/31/2026

Greg Conrad	48695	CA
Judy Keating	67403	CA
Beth Fujishige	69219	CA/VA
Mandi Pike	64700	CA
Joe A Souza	27511	CA
Margaret Souza	48490	CA
Dallas Russell	36413	CA
Denise LyonsConrad	53219	CA
Katina Repp	64726	CA
Lynne Hansen	68753	CA
Elaine Ullensvang	Guest	
Doug Meyers	21511	CA
Pam Martin	Guest	
Leslee Montgomery	Guest	
Chuck Collins	51032	CA
Helen Collins	Guest	
Kim Russell	Guest	
Ken Barrow	60501	CA
Bonnie Sue Barrow	60502	CA
Bob Rudolph	32778	CA

ELECTRONIC MENTORS IS AVAILABLE

You can now receive your Mentors magazine electronically. If you wish to eliminate your paper copy and replace it with an electronic copy, go to the U.S. JCI Senate website and click on "Electronic Mentors". Simply complete the form and submit it to make this change. Any questions can be directed to Lisa Badger MIS@usjcisenate.org

REGION X

Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah



Region X NVP
STEVE BALINT #43364
 Region-X-NVP@usjcisenate.org
 steelerpilot@gmail.com
"LEADERSHIP THRU FELLOWSHIP"

Reflection, the final chapter. Well, here we are again and at the end of the trail for our 2025-2026 JCI Senate year. When I went thru the nomination and election process to become Region X NVP, I was given a lot of information to process in preparation for this year, however, no one told me how quickly time would pass.

It has been a tremendous year in re-connecting with friends of the past and welcoming our next wave of leaders. Our national meetings have been an incredible opportunity to remind us of what really matters. That "Service to Humanity is the Best Work of Life" line is a great one to start with. Approaching those new interactions while practicing "Leadership Thru Fellowship" has brought this journey full circle.

By the time this issue comes out, we will have had our Region X Conference in Las Vegas. Nevada JCI Senate has not hosted an event of this magnitude in many years and this was a major goal and focus of ours to bring a national event to Las Vegas. The response has been overwhelming and we can't thank you enough for spending time with us and perhaps living out

that bucket list item of visiting Las Vegas. We knew as a region we would have many success stories to share and Thank You doesn't seem to be enough to show the gratitude to Arizona President Tanis #70297, California President Beth #69219, Hawaii President Yvette #68707 and Nevada President Jeff #33414. These Senators are absolute cornerstones in their States and none of this would have been possible without them.

Every organization relies on growth to keep that engine running and the question must always be, did we leave it a little bit better after our time was up? We're very fortunate in our organization that the politics give us the opportunity to continue the works of previous years leaders and not reinventing the wheel. Passing the torch can be bittersweet and Vickey and I are forever grateful to have served as Region X NVP and First Lady. It was an absolute thrill to have had Vickey recognized as Friendship Recipient #127. Thank you all for congratulating her to the ranks.

Finally, never stop reflecting, even if just for a moment, on the role we all play in the success of the United States JCI Senate. We all have a story to tell and a goal to achieve and as we say goodbye, we will always practice "Leadership Thru Fellowship."

At the 46th annual Hawai'i JCI Senate & Alumni Recognition Banquet on March 7, 2026, the power of Jaycee mentorship was on full display. Jaycee Alumni, JCI Senators, U.S. JCI Ambassadors and friends gathered to celebrate leaders who embody the Jaycee Creed and continue to serve long after active membership years.

Celebrating with us were guests from the California JCI Senate including President Beth Fujishige, and the Nevada JCI Senate including Region X National Vice President Steve Balint. The banquet program honored U.S. JCI



BETH FUJISHIGE #69219
PRESIDENT CALIFORNIA
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What an exciting 61st year! We finished the year at growth welcoming eight new Senators. Congratulations to Senator of the Year Phil Arce #82668 for his outstanding efforts as Senate Liaison in shepherding all the new Senator nominations. The Executive team stepped up this year to fill in when I got sick in November and missed our November meeting. Special thanks to Katrina Repp, Dallas Russell, Denise Lyons-Conrad, Sonia Rodriguez Flores, Lynne Hansen, Joey Levy, Greg Conrad, Henrik Helgesen, Joe Souza, Doug Meyers and Judy Keating. Whether it was offering support and advice, the team always had my back. Thank you, thank you!

During the year we travelled throughout the state including stops in Crescent City, Santa Maria, Burbank, Concord, Santa Clarita, Pasadena and Anaheim. We visited each of our sister states in our Region X to support their major gatherings (Nevada Days, Arizona Holiday weekend and Hawaii JCI Senate & Alumni Dinner). Califor-

Ambassador Eric Barsatan and JCI Senator #47896 Mislyn Alen-sonorin, whose journeys began in the Jaycees and grew into lifelong commitments to leadership, philanthropy, and community impact. Their stories reflect what Jaycees do best—develop leaders who serve beyond titles and beyond time.

A part of the same weekend included our mainland visitors experiencing several "firsts" including "hot pot dining" at Shabuya, tasting island-style tacos with "chili peppa watah" at Highway Inn, group karaoke at Toma's Karaoke, playing kōnane an ancient Hawaiian

nia JCI Senators went international travelling South of the Border to the JCI National Convention in Quetaro, Mexico, Area C Conference and to JCI World Congress in Tunisia.

We made homeless kits for those in need in our communities because we still BELIEVE.... Senators continued to support high school scholarships locally under the leadership of Mary Allesandra-Cook #52897. Under Mary's leadership, from outreach to application, from review to award, the process has undergone a complete overhaul and the results are impressive.

A great time was had by all at our year-end meeting in Anaheim. We did all of the business of the organization (awards and elections) and then we headed to Disneyland to celebrate and spend a super-fun day together complete with parade and fireworks.

The year went by so fast. It was an honor to serve as your President of the California JCI Senate. Congratulations and best wishes to Dallas Russell #36413 as he assumes the helm next year.

Continue to keep the spirit of Adventures Alive!

2nd Quarter Board of Directors Meeting Arizona 11/16/2024

Lowell Vahl	40315	AZ
Debbie Vahl	FR#42	AZ
Mike Schmitt	39725	AZ
Sherrie Jones	78417	AZ
Teddy Clarke	37167	AZ
Dianne von Borstel	55954	AZ
Debbie Brandt	67298	AZ
Don Hebert	31182	AZ/MI
Cathy O'Hara	FR#77	AZ
Art Shane	27322	AZ
Jim Hampshire	28626	AZ
Lynne Minick	76965	AZ
Phil Friedman	70297	AZ/NE
Tanis Friedman	61455	AZ/NE
Cindy Naylor	62479	AZ

two-player strategy board game often called "Hawaiian Checkers," and learning about Hawaii's rich local culture and history (from my personal storytelling in the car.)

The real legacy of a Jaycee isn't the office you held... it's the leaders you inspired after you left the room.

Join us at our next annual event - the Shriner's Children's Hospital Toy Drive and Luncheon on December 6, 2026.

Aloha!



YVETTE LEE NAKASHIMA
 #68707
CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD, HAWAII
 Hjcypresident2011@gmail.com
 Page 37



TANIS JIMENO-FRIEDMAN
#70297
PRESIDENT ARIZONA
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First and foremost, I would like to say a huge congratulations to Carolyn Smith #64564 for announcing her candidacy to be our next U. S. JCI Senate secretary for the 2026-2027 year. She deserves it.

It's been a busy year for the Arizona JCI Senate and we're not done yet! February 7, 2026, our 3rd Quarter meeting was hosted by Mike Schmitt #39725 in toasty

Ahwatukee, Arizona. Thank you to everyone who attended

In April 2026, the Arizona JCI Senate cleaned up Rio Salado Parkway in Tempe, Arizona for our Annual Adopt-A-Street. Thank you, Art Shane #27322 and Cathy O'Hara FR#77 for setting this up.

April 4, 2026, Mike Schmitt #39725 chaired the Ahwatukee Easter Parade. Thank you to a great contingent from the Senate for volunteering!

April 16 - 19, 2026, was the Region X Year End Meeting in Las Vegas. We always enjoy visiting Vegas and it was so much more fun with our Senate family.

May 9, 2026, will be our Year End/Elections in Prescott/Prescott Valley, Arizona.

December 18 - 20, 2026, will be Arizona's Annual Holiday Social which will coincide with Wreaths Across America. The hotel will be the Sonesta Inn, Tempe, Arizona.

Thank you to everyone for your support. I could not have done this without you!



JEFF MARGOLIN #33414
PRESIDENT NEVADA
NVpresident@usjcisenate.org
jeffmargolin@cox.net

The Nevada JCI Senate along with our outgoing Region X NVP Steve Balint #43364 hosted the Region X meeting April 16-18 in Las Vegas. The meeting took place at the Palace Station Hotel and Casino. We had representation from Minnesota, Illinois, Virginia, Tennessee, North Dakota, Nebraska, North Carolina, Washington, South Carolina, Alaska,

and Oklahoma as well as from our own region.

President Bruce Sostak #52655 and several members of the Executive Committee including six National Vice Presidents made the trip. Nevada held their own annual meeting and elections at the Saturday breakfast. Nevada presented two Senatorships. This was a great time to mingle with Senators from all over the country and spending a weekend in Las Vegas.

2nd Quarter Meeting – AZ JCI Senate Phoenix, AZ 11/9/2025

Jim Hampshire	38626	AZ
Tanis Jimeno-Friedman 70297		AZ/NE
Phil Friedman	61455	AZ/NE
Deborah Brandt	67298	AZ
Mike Schmitt	39725	AZ
Pat Holbert	55454	AZ
Dianne Von Borstel	55954	AZ
Lowell Vahl	40315	AZ
Debbie Vahl	FR#42	AZ
Jim Naylor	69266	AZ
Cindy Naylor	62479	AZ
Carolyn Smith	64564	AZ+3
Kris Fletcher	65619	AZ

California February Meeting Santa Clarita 2/7/2026

Beth Fujishige	69219	CA/VA
Sonia Flores	60276	CA
Lynne Hansen	68753	CA

Illinois JCI Senate Illinois/Missouri Wine Crawl 10/17/2025

Melodie Ainslie	69200	IL
Ray Ainslie	44136	IL
Mike Birchler	79421	IL
Vanessa Birchler	74430	IL
Marilyn Burton	55106	IL
Susie Colbert-Curtis	73137	IL
Maxine Cooper	68012	IL / MI
Russ Cooper	4638	MI / IL
Chris Curtis	35440	IL
Greg Hilleary	43305	IL
MaryAnn Hilleary	64615	IL
Roxy Hollenstine	78247	IL
Rod Hollenstine	46073	IL
Wayne Huelsman	30592	IL
Kristen Johnson	72859	MO
Randy Johnson	56636	MO
Jason Morff	73983	MO
Julie Morff	71917	MO
Mark Niedenthal	39701	IL
Maureen Niedenthal	67669	IL
Bev Olson	42473	IL
JDO	35308	IL
Bill Patterson	47979	IL
Terry Rowland	67113	MO
Earl Sawyer	28243	MO
Mary Sawyer	43930	MO
Monty Schroeder	62203	IL
Sherrie Schroeder	FR 52	IL
Lea Ann Smith	59833	MO
Bernard Thompson	52497	MO
Lori Tomlin	62797	IN / IL
Karen Voshel	62305	IL
Donna Ward	53588	IL
Jack Ward	53585	IL
Miriam Wetter	67070	MO

Program Managers & Committee Chairs Reports



PRESIDENTIAL SWEEPSTAKES
KRISTEN JOHNSON #72859
sweepstakes@usjcisenate.org

Bruce's Buckaroo Bandits would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the entire Senate for your incredible support of the 2025–2026 U.S. JCI Senate Presidential Sweepstakes program! Because of your enthusiasm and generosity, we not only reached our budget goal—we're continuing to build momentum as we work to raise additional funds and secure exciting prize donations for a fantastic drawing.

As Sweepstakes Chair, I want to give a special shout-out to my amazing team. Their dedication and hard work made this year



a true success, and they're still going strong to ensure everyone has an unforgettable experience in San Antonio. Please join me in thanking:

Assistant Chair: Nancy Gianetti
Ticket Chair: Larry MacQuirter
Prize Chairs: Cindy Brandel, Lori Oakland, and Gloria Albers
Party Chair: Katy Lemmer

Bruce's Buckaroo Bandits also extend sincere appreciation to President Bruce Sostak and Treasurer Tom King for their constant guidance and support throughout the year.

We are especially excited about this year's brand-new Welcome Party in San Antonio! We can't wait to see our "Boot Scootin' Senate Family" dancing the night away and celebrating East to West Explore Our Senate as we commemorate an outstanding year together.

As I wrap up my year as chairman—and my two years of service on the Sweepstakes Committee—I do so with pride, gratitude, and a whole lot of joy.

And finally... President Bruce Sostak, we hope we made you proud!

In Jaycee Spirit,
Bruce's Buckaroo Bandits

sweepspay@usjcisenate.org

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Program Managers & Committee Chairs Reports



E-NEWS
KIM BODE #62467
e-news@usjcisenate.org

Communication is the key! What is going on, where and when? The E-News provides the best and most up-to-date communication for Senators. E-News is distributed via email twice a month on the 1st and 15th from U.S. JCI Senate e-news@usjcisenate.org.

The E-News contains articles from our U.S. JCI Senate team as well as a calendar of Senate events across the U.S. When available, links to a website or Facebook page will be hyperlinked on the event name in the calendar section. These links will be bold, under-

lined and in green text. Links to registration forms for national, state and regional events are available near the bottom.

The E-News also contains a chaplain's article that contains items from the chaplains of each state and region. This report is a great way to keep up with important events in Senate friends' lives.

Click on the E-News subscription link on the landing page of the U.S. JCI Senate website. As a precaution, if you unsubscribe, you can be added back to the subscriber list once. Also, we use the same system to email out the electronic mentors. So, if you unsubscribe from one, you are unsubscribed from both. If you only want to be removed from one list and not both, please send an email with your request to e-news@usjcisenate.org and I will manage your subscriptions instead. Also send an email with any changes to your email address.

I hope you enjoy the E-News!



MENTORS ASSISTANT EDITOR (New Senators)
MELISSA SANNY #66967
mentors@usjcisenate.org

In December, the Nebraska Senate had a Holiday Party and we were joined by President Bruce Sostak #52655. It was a fun time with the meeting, dinner and the opening of presents.

I was fortunate to attend the Jaycee/JCI Senate Meeting and Banquet on March 14, 2026, where Nebraska welcomed three new senators.

I want to thank President Bruce Sostak #52655 for asking me to serve on the Mentors Team!



MENTORS CHIEF EDITOR
ANGIE JELINEK #60570
mentors@usjcisenate.org

Wow another year has come and gone. Thank you to everyone who submitted articles, photos, and ads for every issue of the East to West Explore Our Senate year. Thank you to President Bruce for letting me continue on as Chief Editor.

All Senators need to give a big thank you to the crew: Editor Bob Cairns #59815, Editor Dawne Sutherland #68900, Empty Chair Editor Mary Allred #46602, and New Senators Editor Melissa Sanny #66967. Without their hard work the issues would never get completed.

Another member of the crew, Business Manager Christianna Gilliam #78844 has done a great job collecting the ads and money. She is going on to big better things by being South Carolina's president



MENTORS ASSISTANT EDITOR
DAWNE SUTHERLAND #68900
mentors@usjcisenate.org

The East to West Explore Our Senate year is coming to an end very soon. We are all eagerly awaiting our year end celebration in San Antonio.

Congratulations to all the accomplishments that were made this year. Thank you President Bruce and Mentors Editor Angie for allowing me to be part of the Mentors staff once again. I looked forward to reviewing articles from the executive committee, the NVPs, the program managers, our foundation and all the state presidents throughout the year.

I feel like I have had a trip across our country as I read all your articles. Continue to enjoy the Senate as you share your experiences through Mentors.



MENTORS ASSISTANT EDITOR (Empty Chairs)
MARY ALLRED #46602
mentors@usjcisenate.org

I would like to say thank you to President Bruce Sostak #52655, for allowing me to serve on the Mentors staff as your Empty Chairs Program Manager for the East to West Explore Our Senate year. It is always an honor to learn more about our active Senators, who have left us too soon. It is amazing to see all their accomplishments during their lives here on earth.

Thank you for all your submissions to the Mentors this year. Keep it up. Remember to send in a picture with your submissions about the members.

Thank you to Angie Jelinek, #60570 for all you do to get the Mentors ready to print. I know your job is very important by making sure we all take care of our areas for the magazine.

Remember your next deadline is June 29, 2026.



next year. Can't forget Newton Standridge #29407 for all his knowledge as publisher.

I would like to offer a new activity for all you who are musical. Every year for the past six years on Memorial Day at 3 p.m. local time trumpeters play taps to honor our

military. See the above information if you would like to participate. Fleet Farm is a corporate sponsor who does a special program at 3 p.m. at their locations. Thank you all again for the support.

DEADLINE for the next issue is JUNE 29, 2026

MENTORS, Volume 54, Issue 3, May 2026



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Program Managers & Committee Chairs Reports



SOCIAL MEDIA
RUBY WEYMOUTH #67303
SocialMedia@usjcisenate.org
Pictures@usjcisenate.org

It seems that time flies by faster as we get older. The traveling from East to West was exciting experiencing the Senate. It was fun getting pictures and taking pictures at different events throughout the regions. Thank you to everyone for allowing me to be a photo stalker at these Senate meetings so it could be shared on social media. I want to thank those individuals who continue to share informa-

tion from their regions on the U.S. JCI Senate Facebook page. Many have expressed joy being able to see what goes on in other regions. Thank you to those members who shared their pictures from events attended or hosted. The pictures shared for Wreaths Across America received numerous likes by Senate members across the U.S. and internationally. The pics shared from those traveling with Howdy Duck and round up Bruce were popular as well. Please continue to share your information and pictures with the social media program.

As a quick reminder I want to encourage you to have strong passwords when you create them and make sure your friends list is set to private. This will help to prevent cloning your profile which we know as hacking. Don't forget you can also find pictures on the U.S. JCI Senate web page. Thank you to President Bruce and the communications team for the support this year as I served as the social media program manager. See you in Texas.



**SENATE OUTREACH
ACTIVATION RETENTION
(S.O.A.R.)**
MELANIE COBLE
PASCHAL #70372
Soar@usjcisenate.org
Pictures@usjcisenate.org
NewMember@usjcisenate.org

Round-up Bruce, "The Clubs" and Howdy Duck have visited lots of Senate events and Jaycee chapters this year. It is great to see so many Senate states focusing on outreach, activation and retention by planning awesome activities. Senate organizations are living the creed - visiting, returning the favor by helping Jaycee chapters local and the national organization, having fun socials and other activities for Senators and their families and making an impact, East to West.

During this year, Roundup Bruce (or Real Bruce), "The Clubs" and

Howdy have gone to some great places including Mothman Museum, Vulture Festival, Big Foot Festival, July 4 and apple festivals, rodeos, state capitals, giant noodles, wineries, breweries, colleges, camps, conventions, hanging with Santa, beaches, mountains and restaurants; international places - Mexico, Philippines, Canada, West Indies, Tunisia and Antigua, while also traveling all over the country.

To be successful, plan diverse activities - meetings, socials at unique places, road trips to new places involving those Senators you haven't seen in a while. Send out announcements and invitations in multiple ways - word of mouth, social media, cards, letters, phone calls and email - to invite them to the events. Make people feel wanted and welcome. Including them in what is going on accomplishes this.

I appreciate everyone sending their pictures. Keep them coming. Special awards will be given at the year-end meeting, recognizing all the hard work states and NVPs have put into this program by visiting, reactivating members, giving lost Senatorships, returning the Favor, having a mentor program or senate orientation program and sharing their Jaycee story.

Email me at SOAR@usjcisenate.org, text me at 336-317-8013 or send any pictures or questions you have in Messenger.



WEBMASTERS
ALLISON GEDDES #74777
LOWELL VAHL #40315
webmaster@usjcisenate.org

It's hard to believe another Senate year is coming to a close. The East to West Explore the Senate Year has been a busy one. Many of you will be submitting directory updates with the changes for next year. I encourage you to get them in as soon as elections have been finalized. This will give us time to ensure we can get them into the format needed to distribute.

Don't forget as you are setting your calendar for next year and planning projects to include an email to the webmaster with a copy of the registration so we can put

them on the national calendar and post your registration. We will also send a link for your registration to be included in the E-news. If you would like a link sent back to you to place on your state page, let us know in the submission email and we will get it taken care of. Feel free to reach out at any time for assistance with either the national webpage or your local page. Can't wait to see everyone in San Antonio to celebrate President Bruce and the awesome The East to West Explore our Senate Year.



FIRST TIMERS
JESS KLING #78271
FirstTimers@usjcisenate.org

It has been a fun year of interacting with our first timers and welcoming our class of freshman Senators. We had a strong com-

petition within our first-timers group at the winter board meeting in Melbourne and I can't wait to see what the first-timers group in San Antonio brings!

Thank you to those who have started sending in the information for their new Senators, enabling us to reach out with a letter from President Bruce. Our hope is they will become our next group of first timers! It has been an honor to serve in this role and it has been a lot of fun. I would like to thank President Bruce for entrusting me with this role and providing me with the opportunity to find new ways to have fun at our meetings. I look forward to seeing all of you in San Antonio and in adding even more faces to our freshman and first timer yearbooks!

Program Managers & Committee Chairs Reports



FINANCE COMMITTEE
SUSAN HATCHER #58143
FinanceCom@usjcisenate.org

This article closes out my responsibilities as an officer and as Finance Committee chairman. It has been my pleasure to serve in the various leadership positions of the U.S. JCI Senate. Special thanks to the Finance Committee that served the organization during the year 2025-2026:

Chairman of the Board
Hal Williams #43912
Legal Counsel
John Badeen #73089
State President
Susie Colbert-Curtis
#73137 (Illinois)



MEMBERSHIP
LISA BADGER #67973
MIS@usjcisenate.org

Thank you to all of the state treasurers who attended the TIE meeting in Melbourne. It was great to be able to visit with so many of you.

Special thanks to East to West Explore Our Senate treasurers for submitting their March dues kits in a timely manner. June dues kits were sent out April 1 and are due June 1. This is a tight turn around to the U.S. JCI Senate meeting in San Antonio, June 14-19. Any early reports would be greatly appreciated!

The membership results for

Future Directions Member
Jennifer Ray #68957

The U.S. JCI Senate continues to be stable financially with income greater than expenses. While the membership has declined in the past two years, the membership's support of the sweepstakes fundraiser provides the monies to support the expenses of the organization. Our U.S. JCI Senate entity was established as an 501c4 organization and, while donations from persons are not tax deductible, there remain additional requirements not only for tax filings, but also expenses – for example entertainment and gifts are not allowable expenses. It is important for future officers and appointees to not only know the bylaws and policies of our organization (and ensure they are properly updated) but also to understand the requirements as a Section 501c4 entity.

If you have any questions about the finances, do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the committee! Travel safely as you Explore our Senate!

March are:

- 65 drops and 62 adds for a net change of -3 for the quarter.
- Four regions grew with Region IV (+5), Regions II and VII each (+4) and Region VIII (+2)
- Eleven states grew – the top three being New York and North Carolina (+5) and Tennessee (+4).

The membership results, year-to-date:

- 287 drops and 222 adds for a net change of -65.
- Three regions grew, including Region IV (+22), Region II (+12) and Region IV (+1)
- Twelve states are at growth, the top 3 being North Carolina (+10), New York (+9) and South Carolina (+8)

As of March 1, the U.S. JCI Senate membership is 7,712.

2,339 members are due June 1. The complete membership results by state/region for the quarter can be viewed on the U.S. JCI Senate website.

If you need an address change or wish to request a change to an electronic version of the Mentors, request changes through the U.S. JCI Senate website or by contacting me directly at mis@usjcisenate.org.

If you have any membership questions, please feel free to reach out to me.



RETURN THE FAVOR
TRACY CULLER #64534
ReturnTheFavor@usjcisenate.org

When I think back to my first Jaycee experience, as I'm sure most of you feel, it held a special place in my heart. I first visited the Sanford Jaycees (North Carolina) back in October 1995. After joining them and helping with projects, I finally ran my first project, an Easter egg hunt. I actually had to do part of it from a hospital bed, but was able to complete it in person. I was so thrilled and filled with joy watching the kids running around having a wonderful time!

From then on, I was fired up, excited, had the Jaycee heart, mind

and desire to put others first, and help wherever and whenever I could. To this day, I still get re-invigorated every time I go to a state, regional or national event. The fellowship, comradery, support and sense of belonging to one of the greatest organizations in the world keeps pushing me forward in helping our fellow Jaycees.

I would like for you to look back, remember your experience and why you became a Jaycee. Then, I want to challenge you to reach out to your local or state Jaycee organization and see what's going on, and what you can do to help them. As you all know, our U.S. Jaycees are dwindling dangerously low; some states don't even have chapters anymore.

This year, President Bruce has put an emphasis on starting a new Jaycee chapter, and I am happy to say a few new chapters were started. But please don't stop there. Continue to add chapters each year. I thank each of you for stepping up, returning the favor, and supporting our Jaycees. Please continue to be the light our Jaycees need to help bolster and lead them to do wonderful things, small or large, to help others.



MENTORS DUE JUNE 29, 2026



**PRESIDENT INFORMATION
EXCHANGE (PIE)**
SALLY TRACZUK #68943
PIE@usjcisenate.org

I couldn't be more proud of our U.S. JCI Senate state presidents this year! They have led their states with dedication, compassion and plenty of fun along the way. Through the Presidential Information Exchange, we've created lasting friendships and

shared unforgettable experiences.

Our theme this year is "pi" — the Greek letter symbolizing infinite possibilities! Like a sorority or fraternity, PIE is a supportive, close-knit group of leaders who share a common purpose and encourage one another's success. We initiated many members at training in Northbrook, connected regularly via Zoom, and met in person in Columbus during the Fall Board Meeting and in Melbourne at the Winter Board Meeting. We'll gather one final time in San Antonio at the year-end convention.

Between meetings, we stay connected through a private Facebook page and virtual gatherings. PIE is open to all 2025–26 state presidents and provides a welcoming space to celebrate victories, work through challenges and enjoy the year together.

Please reach out if I can be of help as you wrap up this East to West year.

Program Managers & Committee Chairs Reports



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
ANGIE TAYLOR #71600
WAA@usjcisenate.org

It has truly been an honor to serve as the U.S. JCI Senate national program manager for Wreaths Across America during the 2025–2026 program year.

First and foremost, I extend my sincere thanks to President Bruce for entrusting me with the responsibility of leading this national program.

I am also incredibly grateful for the committee members who served alongside me — Mary Pruitt #778521, Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei #44003 and Leisa Peebles #56001. Their leadership, guidance and commitment were instrumental in the success of this year's program.

Most importantly, I thank the Senators across the country who helped carry out the mission of Wreaths Across America: Remember • Honor • Teach.

Together, you made an incredible impact.

Final National Results

On March 12, 2026, Wreaths Across America provided the final adjusted numbers for this year's campaign.

The U.S. JCI Senate sponsored a grand total of 2,077 wreaths, earning a national ranking of #135 among participating organizations.

This accomplishment truly reflects the dedication of Senators from East to West who worked tirelessly to ensure our veterans are never forgotten.

Program goals and participation

At the beginning of the year, we set a goal of involving 40 states in wreath sponsorship efforts. I am proud to report that we exceeded that goal with participation from 45 of 47 states.

Through Senate sponsorships and participation, more than 250 cemeteries across the country were

represented.

Top States in Wreath Sponsorship: First place Alabama (353 wreaths). Second place Florida (345.38 wreaths). Third place Missouri (156.52 wreaths).

Top Regions in Wreath Sponsorship: First place Region IV (925.88 wreaths), Second place — Region VI (311.36 wreaths), Third place Region II (211.9 wreaths).

National Wreaths Across America Day will take place on Dec. 19, 2026. The theme will be "Remember Me." Supporters can continue to sponsor wreaths through the U.S. JCI Senate group code FL1122.



FUTURE DIRECTIONS
DAVE TEACHOUT #68700
FuturDirections@usjcisenate.org
dteachout@charter.net

I want to start by thanking the other members of the Future Directions Committee for their hard work this past year: Richard St. Jean from Region I, Jeff Kozak from Region II, Jennifer Ray from Region III, Larry Graham from Region IV, Karen Voshel from Region V, Joe Collins from Region VII, Adebayo Bahorun from Region VIII, Angie Stanchfield from Region IX and Tanis Friedman from Region X.

We have had an active year discussing everything from dues to membership databases. President Bruce asked us to look at ways to fill vacancies in offices in the future — things that are not clearly spelled out in our by-laws. There may be some talk about these ideas during the year-end meeting.

I would like to welcome the new members of this committee coming on next year from the even-numbered regions and wish the whole committee the best of luck in the coming year. It has been an honor to have served as the chairman for the Future Directions Committee this past year.



PROTOCOL OFFICER
DeLISA ANDERSON #54310
Protocol@usjcisenate.org

Protocol Posse is rounding up the Senate year! It does go by fast and traveling from East to West Explore Our Senate sure made it fun!

Thanks to all of you promoting proper protocol to President Bruce and national guests. Thank you for all the support and encouragement. I have enjoyed being your protocol officer. Looking forward to seeing you all in San Antonio. Look for my protocol posse — Lay of the Land in the E-News and let us continue to promote proper protocol!

THE EMPTY CHAIR



Frank 'Bernie' Bernard Kirsch, #11503, Virginia, passed away on March 23, 2026, at the age of 87. He graduated from Cradock High School and Old Dominion University. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve. His career spanned education, public service and entrepreneurship.

Bernie was very active in the Portsmouth Jaycees, serving as chapter president. He was named Outstanding Local President out of 169 chapters in 1970. He served 20 years as president of the Fort Story Security Association.

Bernie is survived by his wife Donna, three daughters, four grandchildren, one sister and one brother.



Stephen Landers, #50036, Georgia, passed away on March 25, 2026, at the age of 74. He was an insurance adjuster by day and spent many afternoons and evenings on the ballfield as a baseball and softball umpire staying close to the sport he loved. He had a great love for music, especially the band Alabama.

Stephen was dedicated to serving his community, giving more than 50 years of his time and energy through his involvement with the Jaycees and EMA.

Stephen is survived by one daughter, one son, four grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, four grand dogs and two grand cats.



Steve Henderson, #38308, Kentucky, passed away on October 27, 2025, at the age of 73. He graduated from Bowling Green High School and Bowling Green Vo Tech in Auto mechanics. He

worked as service manager for the Bale Tire and Kentucky Tire Exchange. He moved into sales and service at Green Page Automotive.

Steve was highly devoted to serving the city of Bowling Green as a lifelong member of the Bowling Green/Warren County Jaycees, Kentucky Fair and Horseshows Ambassador. He truly devoted time and effort to helping the community when possible.

Steve is survived by his son, Stephen Andrew.

THE EMPTY CHAIR



Mary Lou Sanny, FR #1, Nebraska, passed away on March 1, 2026, at the age of 85. Mary Lou married Marlin Sanny #13967 in 1961. She was a school teacher in both Iowa and Nebraska.

She and Marlin traveled the country for many years, meeting up with good friends in the Jaycees and the JCI Senate. She was the first person to be awarded the Friendship Award from the U.S. JCI Senate.

Mary Lou is survived by her husband, Marlin Sanny #139967, daughter Melissa Sanny #66967 one son and four grandchildren.



Donna Sievers, #84280, Iowa, passed away on February 27, 2026, at the age of 80. She graduated from Pekin High School. Her family opened Caughlan Implement on the town square. Music was one of her great passions. She played several instruments and was known for her beautiful singing voice.

Donna and her husband, Garry, were involved in the Richland Jaycees and the Iowa Jaycees. They traveled across the country, with their children, to attend conferences, creating memories and friendships.

Donna is survived by her husband, Garry, one daughter, one son, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



Robert 'Bob' Green, #44661, Nebraska, passed away on December 10, 2025, at the age of 68. He graduated from Plattview Jr. Sr. High School and the University of Nebraska with a dual degree in general agriculture and in agronomy crop science.

Bob was the founder and first member of the Springfield Jaycees. He served as president, district and regional director. He served as Community Development Vice President for the Nebraska Jaycees.

Bob, along with his wife, Amy #64731, founded and ran the annual Springfield at Heart Community Dinner for over 25 years. They were recognized by the Springfield Community with the Heart Leadership Award.



Bonnie Marie Schmitt, FR #112, Arizona, passed away December 9, 2025, at the age of 79. She graduated from East High School, the University of Wisconsin Green Bay and the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. She worked as a trust investment officer at Kellogg Citizen National Bank and Northern Trust Bank.

Bonnie was president of the Ahwatukee Jaycette Service Club. She assisted her husband, Michael, Senator #39725, putting on 33 Ahwatukee Easter Parades, traveling to all 50 states and 42 foreign countries.

Bonnie is survived by her husband, Michael and two brothers.



R.J. Montgomery, #18569, Texas, passed away on March 4, 2026

R.J. was Texas Senate President in 1978-79, the first ever to be named #1 State President by the U.S. JCI Senate. He was Chairman of the Texas Jaycee Foundation and was our Texas Senate Historian.

In past years R.J. was elected Region VIII NVP twice and was the National Ambassador to Mexico for four of both years.

He was a proud veteran of both the US Army and the US Navy and Retired as a Mapmaker for Houston Lighting and Power. He is survived by a daughter and granddaughter.



Hugh Lawrence 'Larry' Dawson, #55622, Illinois, passed away on November 15, 2025, at the age of 65.

Larry was active in the Jaycees and served as the 68th President of the Ohio Jaycees. His leadership, service and unwavering dedication helped shape our organization and strengthen the impact we make across Ohio.

Larry is survived by one daughter, two sons, 12 grandchildren, one sister and one brother.



Darell Eugene Rolan, #44081, West Virginia, passed away on February 8, 2026. When his health allowed him, he loved to participate in competitions at the gun range. He particularly enjoyed the comradery with friends at the gun range, even if he wasn't competing.

Darell was a member of the Bluefield Jaycees. He served as the 16th president of the West Virginia JCI Senate.

Darell is survived by his wife, Grace, one son and one brother.



Donald 'Donnie' Maine II, #60938, Illinois, passed away on October 24, 2025, at the age of 54. He graduated from Highland High School and SWIC with HVAC Certification. He was employed by the Madison County Housing Authority.

Donnie was an active member of the Alhambra Jaycees and served as local chapter president. He served as president of the Alhambra Fire Department. He enjoyed going to auctions and showing his tractor at shows. He collected farming tools, woodworking tools, engines of sorts, and other things he didn't need.

Donnie is survived by his wife, Marsha, two daughters, and two brothers.



Chuck Davis, #8015, California, passed away February 2, 2026. He had been battling many different illnesses.

Chuck served as the California Jaycees district 17 governor. He served as the 18th president of the California JCI Senate.

Chuck is survived by his daughter, Cindy.



**MENTORS DUE
JUNE 29, 2026**

THE EMPTY CHAIR



Edward Seipp, #30420, Illinois, passed away on December 10, 2025, at the age of 76. He earned multiple bachelor's and master's degrees during his lifetime. His first career was at AAA Auto Club of Missouri, retiring as Director of Insurance Administration. In his second retirement, he became a CPA and joined Illinois State University as an accounting professor.

Ed was unable to sit still and found immense satisfaction in staying busy. He loved watching the University of Illinois basketball. He was a sucker for Girl Scout thin mints and dill pickle peanuts. He loved being called Grandpa Pickle.

Ed is survived by his two sons, two grandsons and two brothers.



Mark Grayson Oleson, #36811, Texas, passed away on December 30, 2025, at the age of 70. He retired as a night vision goggle engineer after 47 years. He loved his Dallas Cowboys, Texas Rangers and singing karaoke.

Mark proudly served his community as a member of the Garland Jaycees. He held several offices, including president. He held the office of area vice president for the Texas Jaycees. He dedicated his time to events like Garland Jaycee Jubilee, Labor Day Parade and holiday baskets.

Mark is survived by his wife, Delia, three daughters, five grandchildren, one sister and two brothers.



Roger Myron Van Sickle, #21527, Ohio, passed away on October 24, 2025, at the age of 81. He graduated from Elm Valley High School. He attended Otterbein University and the Institute of Banking. He was a former sergeant in the Ohio National Guard. He worked for the Delaware County Bank.

Roger was an active member of the Ohio Jaycees, Pioneer of Delaware County and member of the AmVets Post. He was honored as a Kentucky Colonel for his selfless dedication throughout his life.

Roger is survived by his wife, Shirley, two sons and three grandsons.



Richard Cretin, #38364, Arizona, passed away on March 18, 2026, at the age of 77. He graduated from Wellsburg High School. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Army, where he served in the motor pool. He worked as an automotive technician, earning the respect of colleagues and friends.

Richard was an active and highly respected member of the Iowa and Arizona chapters of the Jaycees. He served as president of the Carroll, Iowa Jaycees.

Richard is survived by his wife, Beth, two sons, two granddaughters, one bonus granddaughter, one sister and four brothers.



Gerald 'Jerry' Engle Arters, Sr., #10878, Pennsylvania, passed away on February 27, 2026, at the age of 86. He graduated from Media High School and Dickenson College. He started his career at Arters Brothers, Inc. At a young age, working with his father and uncle to learn the building trade from the bottom up.

Jerry was deeply involved with the Jaycees, serving as regional vice president and national director. He was instrumental in growing the Brandywine Youth Club.

Jerry is survived by one daughter, one son, five grandchildren, one great-grandchild, two sisters and two brothers.



Barry Kennedy, #22705, Nebraska, passed away on October 18, 2025, at the age of 79.

In the early 1970's while living in Syracuse, a good friend literally tricked Barry into joining the Jaycees. He took the creed to heart, and over the next 12 years served as President of the Syracuse Jaycees, the Nebraska Jaycees, the U.S. Jaycees, and Jaycees International (JCI). This progression gave Barry and Diane the opportunity to make lifelong friends throughout the world, traveling to all 50 states and 66 foreign countries.

Barry is survived by his wife, Diane, one daughter, one son and five grandsons.



William 'Bill' Gertz, #28910, Arizona, passed away on October 4, 2025, at the age of 75. He graduated from Tempe High School and the Arizona State University. He dedicated 42 years of his career to Arizona State University, where he was a valued member of the community. He served his country as a U.S. Navy Veteran.

Bill had a deep love for the outdoors and a passion for anything related to history. He enjoyed riding his Audi bike for the Tour de Cure to support diabetes research.

Bill is survived by his two brothers.



Deborah Henning, #44873, Kansas, passed away on February 24, 2026, at the age of 69. She graduated from Carlsbad, California High School. She owned and operated a daycare in Lawrence for nearly 20 years. She loved to travel, with Hawaii being her favorite destination.

Deborah served her community by holding multiple offices in both the Lawrence Jaycees and the Kansas Jaycees. She was the first woman president.

Deborah is survived by one daughter, one son, three grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, one sister and one brother.



Richard Stause, #38295, Pennsylvania, passed away February 8, 2025.

Richard was a member of the Pennsylvania Jaycees.

Richard is survived by his wife, Elaine.



Laureen Connor, #64922, Florida, passed away on December 4, 2025, after a lengthy illness. Please keep her friends in your thoughts and prayers.

THE EMPTY CHAIR



Karen Cave, #52860, New York, passed away on December 3, 2025, at the age of 68. She graduated from Cassadaga Valley Central School and then continued her education at JCC. She was employed at Cassadaga Elementary School as a cafeteria monitor, Henry's Tavern as a bartender and many others.

Karen joined the Cassadaga Area Jaycees serving as chapter and district president. They joined the Jaycees and she served as president of the Cassadaga Jaycees. She loved to camp at the Stockton Firemen's Ground.

Karen is survived by her husband, Tim, two sons, two grandchildren, one sister and one brother



J. Bruce Hoffmann, #31993, Florida, passed away on November 19, 2025, at the age of 78. He graduated from Miami Jackson Senior High School and the University of Florida. He began his legal career specializing in Construction related commercial litigation and probate litigation.

Bruce was well known for his civic service as a charter member of the Coconut Grove Jaycees, serving on the Junior Orange Bowl Committee and serving as a dedicated member of Leadership Miami. He served as volunteer leader for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts.

Bruce is survived by his wife, Marion, one son and one granddaughter.



Ray Gilbert, #45438, Arkansas, passed away on February 20, 2026, at the age of 72. He graduated from DeWitt High School. He enjoyed selling cars and never met a stranger. He had a gift for conversation and loved connecting with the people wherever he went.

Ray was an active member of the Pine Bluff Jaycees. He dedicated time to his community over the years. He was an active member of Stuttgart Kiwanis. He especially loved shooting fireworks, firing up the grill for family gatherings, camping and cheering on the Arkansas Razorbacks.

Ray is survived by two daughters, four grandchildren, one brother and his longtime partner, Jan.



Russell Allen Gray, #76798, North Carolina, passed away on November 23, 2025, at the age of 73. He graduated from Randleman High School and UNCG with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology. He worked for Moses Cone briefly, then bought the family business, Sophia Sewing. He was a photographer, traveling on the east coast for Glamour Photos.

Russell was a member of the Greensboro Jaycees. He was actively working on projects in all areas. Junior Miss, he served as chairman and a judge throughout the years.

Russell is survived by his wife, Janet, two children like his own, six grandchildren and one sister.



Durward 'Dude' Ellis, #8100, Vermont, passed away on March 10, 2025, at the age of 91. He graduated from St. J. Academy and American International College. He worked for Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company. He then joined his parents at Ellis Paint and Wallpaper.

Durward was an active member of the Vermont Jaycees serving as state president. The idea involved the Jaycees in cleaning up litter on Vermont roads. Thus, was born Green Up Day.

Durward is survived by his wife, Kay, one daughter, one son, two Chinese sons, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



James Hedlund, #16042, Illinois, passed away May 28, 2025, at the age of 87. He resided in Rockford, Illinois until age 65, then moved to Florida. He began his life work as an airport firefighter, an EMT and a police officer. He retired from United Technologies.

James was a successful entrepreneur owning Uncle Sam's Tavern in Rockford, which was awarded recognition as The Best Tavern in the U.S.A. in 1976. He owned a coach travel business with trips arranged all over the U.S. He was a proud member of the Jaycees.

James is survived by his wife Karen, four sons, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



David Hoyt, Jr., #29156, Colorado, passed away October 2, 2025, at the age of 82. He was the owner of several businesses, including a funeral escort business, security company and a Schwinn bicycle shop.

David loved reading about western and military history.

David is survived by his wife, Sue, one daughter, one son, two stepsons, six grandchildren and one brother.



Gerald 'Gerry' Sproles, #14886, Virginia, passed away January 11, 2026, at the age of 92. He was a U. S. Navy veteran. He actively participated and volunteered in numerous veteran and community



William J. 'Bill' Gibson, Sr., #19961, Maine, passed away on January 3, 2026, at the age of 87. He graduated from Calais High School. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He sold insurance for Metropolitan Life for 34 years.

Bill loved to go dancing and bowling with his wife, Barbara. He was always hosting friends and family with lots of laughing, singing, guitars, and he kept the beat on his 'Spoons'.

Bill was an active member of the Jaycees. He belonged to the Woodland Spednic Club, Calais Masonic Lodge and a lifelong Anah Shriner.

Bill is survived by his two daughters, two sons and eight grandchildren.



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groups throughout his lifetime. He made friends along the way.

Gerry is survived by two daughters, two sons, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, two sisters and one brother.

THE EMPTY CHAIR



William 'Bill' Crowley, #29897, Maine, passed away on December 21, 2025, at the age of 81. He served his country in the United States Navy, stationed in San Diego, and proudly served during the Vietnam War.

Bill was an avid ham radio enthusiast, finding joy in connecting with others across the airwaves. He loved the open road, enjoying motorcycle rides and the camaraderie that came with them. Some of his fondest memories were made camping the Seven Gulpers, a group that embodied the friendship and adventure he treasured.

Bill is survived by his wife, Diana, one daughter, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Frank Fortin, #38095, Massachusetts, passed away on January 6, 2018, at the age of 69. He graduated from Fitchburg High School and the Worcester Industrial Technical Institute. He served in the U.S. Navy, as a ship fitter and ship fireman. He served on the USS Little Rock. He continued his education at Central New England College, earning an applied Technology associate's degree.

Frank worked for many different employers, including the most recent L. S. Starrett Company. He loved to go motorcycling with his wife by his side on his beloved 2000 Yamaha trike.

Frank is survived by his wife, Becky and three brothers.



Terrence 'Terry' McCabe, Sr., #9786, Maine, passed away on February 13, 2026, at the age of 90. He graduated from Cony High School. He attended the University of Maine. During his college years, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Following his military service, he returned to the University of Maine to continue his studies. Terry taught at Milo and Hallowell High School. He worked with the Job Corps for Women.

Terry was involved the Jaycees and the American Legion Post 6.

Terry is survived by his wife, Lorraine, one daughter, three sons, three stepchildren, two adopted daughters, one granddaughter and five step grandchildren



Donald Lee Rich, #9779, Maine, passed away August 17, 2025, at the age of 90. He worked in his father's business, Rich's Home Restaurant, where he learned the value of hard work. He founded the Don Rich Oil Company. He developed Don Rich Plaza, providing space for small businesses and helping North Windham flourish.

Don was a charter member of the Windham Jaycees and was a long-time member of the Board of Directors for Opportunity Farm for Boys. He was known for his kindness, integrity, and unwavering devotion to his family.

Don is survived by his wife, Janet, four sons, eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.



Virgil Fowles, Jr., #11293, Maine, passed away on October 2, 2024, at the age of 88. He owned Fowles's store and served as a dedicated postal worker. He served in the Coast Guard. He loved music and enjoyed dancing, antique hunting, swimming and spending time with friends.

Virgil was president of the Jaycee organization and was always involved in the Broiler Festival and holiday parades. He was very civic minded and volunteered in numerous community activities.

Virgil is survived by his partner, Fisher, one son, one grandson, one step grandson and two brothers.



Jeff 'Nemo' Adrian, #58236, Tennessee, passed away on September 2, 2025, at the age of 66. He worked for Pinnacle Bank. He lived a life full of music, laughter, and friendship. He never met a stranger and had a way of making everyone feel like family. His heart was tied to the mountains of East Tennessee, the serenity of nature and the salty air of the beach.

Jeff was an active member of the Murfreesboro Jaycees and the Tennessee Jaycees. He served both in many areas of the organization.

Jeff is survived by his mother, Sue, one daughter, two sons, two grandchildren and two sisters.



Thomas Lee McCauley, #51013, Texas, passed away on January 5, 2026, at the age of 67. He devoted 42 years of service to Southwest Airlines. His dedication and work ethic were deeply valued. He served on the SWA presidents council for two years. He was instrumental in being a link between onsite employees and operations.

Thomas was an active member of the Garland Jaycees and served the Texas Jaycees in multiple leadership roles. He volunteered with the Ronald McDonald House, reflecting his generous spirit and compassion for families in need.

Thomas is survived by his wife, Sharon and one sister.



Paul DeBarr, #41216, West Virginia, passed away on April 3, 2026, at the age of 73. He graduated from Lewis County High School. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. He worked for several different car dealerships as the finance manager. He had a strong work ethic, determination and natural ability as a salesman.

Paul was an active member of the Jaycees, where he served as West Virginia state president. He loved riding his Harley-Davidson, competing in the mud bogs, camping and fishing.

Paul is survived by his wife Annette, two daughters, one son, seven grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, one sister and two brothers.



Roger 'David' Beard, #13378, Ohio, passed away on February

10, 2026, at the age of 82. He was the owner of Beard Farms, Inc.

David was a charter member of the Enon Jaycees. He held local, state and national offices. He was a charter member of the Enon Historical Society. He was one of the original members of the Enon Emergency Squad.

David is survived by his wife, Bonnie, three daughters, one son, nine grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one sister.

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December 2025.....September 22, 2025 -- Winter Edition

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CIRCULATION

Approximately 8,000

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