



Iowa JCI Senate News

July 2025

Welcome!

Hello from central Iowa. My name is Brian Witte #68535. It's my honor and privilege to serve as the Iowa JCI Senate's 54th President.

I've always been the type of person who loves to jump in, help out, and make a difference. I found a place in the Jaycees in my hometown of Hampton, Iowa before moving to Cedar Falls and continuing my time as a member. As I got more involved with the Jaycees, I started appreciating the bigger picture, the network, the relationships, and the lasting impact of JCI and the JCI Senate.



Our Senate group stands out for its strong tradition of service, leadership, and helping others grow, and I'm excited to be part of that now and into the future. I'm here because I believe in what YOU do: supporting each other, welcoming new faces, and building something meaningful that lasts. I'm hoping to learn a ton, contribute where I can, and make some new friends along the way.

I work in the sign industry during the day but have been a traveling sports fan for decades. My theme this year is geared toward being fans of our JCI members. The question is how far will you go to help the Jaycees? Let's get out there and connect, mentor and impact our communities through JCI. This is our chance to step up and **"Go the Distance"**.

Our national organization has set forth a mission to increase our presence by engaging our JCI members and chapters. I look forward to helping JCI Iowa and our senate organizations become closer and work together to make our impact felt around the state. I hope you will join me in the travels and volunteering fun. You are needed and we are stronger together.

Thank you so much believing in me and trusting me to lead the Iowa JCI Senate in 2025-26. I'm really looking forward to what we can do together getting our social on. Let's all help JCI continue to be the best organization for young leaders in our world today. Here's to new adventures, lots of learning, and great memories ahead.

See you on the road soon and let's all get out there and **"Go the Distance"** together!

Brian Witte #68535
54th President – 2025-26

Meet the Iowa JCI Senate Secretary – Tracy Taylor #66603

Hello fellow Iowa JCI Senators! My name is Tracy Taylor and I'm excited to serve as your 2025-26 Iowa JCI Senate Secretary. I live in Chariton, IA with my wife Angie, Senate #71600 and 2019-20 Iowa JCI Senate President, and am Market President of Midwest Heritage Bank. As many of you may be aware, in 1991 I joined the Waverly (IA) Jaycees and eventually serviced as its State Director and President. In subsequent years, I served as a District Director, Regional Director, State Management VP, State Secretary/Treasurer, and the 74th Iowa Jaycee President in 2002. I look forward to serving as your secretary this year!

Treasurer's Report – Carol Standridge #80700

As most of you know I was re-elected treasurer for this upcoming year. Iowa finished up with a +2 for membership last year and we were involved in many areas, such as Wreaths Across America and food pantry drives. We had some fun socials and enjoyed just being together. Dan, Deb, Adrienne, Carol, Cheryl and Woody all received special awards in Northbrook celebrating the year that Iowa was a part of. A huge "Thank You" goes to Joanne Schwab for her leadership as President. Another huge "Thank You" goes out to Dan and Lisa Badger for all the work and travel they put in for Region VI last year.

Our next dues billing will be for September so letters will be going out around the 3rd week of July.

Iowa Social Program Manager- Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei #44003

I will again be serving as the social PM for Iowa. Please let me know if you have an idea for a social this year.

I will be hosting a Holiday social here in Pella so watch the Chaplain report and Facebook for further information as the date is set. We will also plan to get together to eat out on December 13th after the Wreaths Across America program in Adel at the Iowa Veteran's Cemetery.

Review Proposed Bylaw and Policy Changes for August Vote

Proposed changes to the Iowa JCI Senate Bylaws and Policies have been posted to the Iowa JCI Senate website at www.usjcisenate.org/iowa. Please review the posted proposed changes. **All Dues Paid Senators are eligible to vote during the Iowa JCI Senate Business meeting on August 23, 2025 during the JCI Iowa State Convention.**

To register for the JCI Iowa August meeting, visit <https://jciowa.org/conferences-%26-events>.

Iowa Senate Picnic meeting – as viewed by the treasurer

As most all of you know the picnic meeting is hosted by our State Events Committee, however parts of it are important to our general budget. The income from the baskets auction is a very large part of our income for next year's budget, it gives us money to operate. So, I would urge everyone to participate. The theme for the baskets this year is "Beat the Heat". What do you like to do on these very hot and humid days? Puzzles, books, crafts, gardening, fishing, ballgames, traveling, flowers, baking, or golf – think of your favorite and make a basket for someone to buy.

We are also planning to try something new – and help the budget again. Our new chaplain for this upcoming year, Jason, would like to hold a memorial service, but the budget is tight, so we would like to help him out. We will have a chaplain's basket at the picnic for you to bring items to add to help his budget next year, specifically we are thinking of books of stamps, cards, copies of a poem, bible verse, or prayer special to you that you think others would find comforting. Just anything you can think of to help our chaplain. If this project proves helpful, we will look forward to continuing it next year.

—Carol Standridge #80700

Greetings Senators and friends from the Foundation for Iowa Jaycee Charities!

We wanted to take a few moments to bring you up to date on the activities of the Foundation for Iowa Jaycee Charities.

Over the years the Foundation has distributed nearly a quarter million dollars to Iowa communities for various projects! The quality of life for literally thousands of Iowa families has been improved with the Foundation's assistance on various projects. Communities such as Center Point, Stratford, Eagle Grove, Stanley, Cedar Rapids, Remsen, Primghar, Worth County, Des Moines and many more have received grant dollars used towards upgrading emergency medical service facilities, community centers, parks, and baseball fields to name a few.

How can you help the Foundation to continue to distribute funds across Iowa? The Foundation for Iowa Jaycee Charities relies primarily on donations from individuals and organizations as a method of raising funds. As a 501(c)(3) organization all donations are tax deductible and dollars raised go back into the Iowa communities in which we live and raise our families. Your generous contribution means a secure financial future for JCI Iowa, an organization which has bettered the lives of thousands of citizens and improved numerous communities for more than 100 years.

If you have any questions regarding the Foundation, please contact any member of our Board of Directors. They can be found on our website at www.jayceecharities.org. Download a grant application or learn how to become a foundation member or donor today.

Yours in Jaycees,

Brian Witte
Public Relations Director
Foundation for Iowa Jaycee Charities

Wreaths Across America

SAVE THE DATE: December 13th, 2025

Welcome to the “Go The Distance” 2025-2026 New Year. It is my pleasure to introduce to you this year’s National Wreaths Across America Team representing Iowa: Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei #44003, Chair for Regions V, VI, and VII and Angie Taylor #71600, National Chair.

What does it mean to sponsor a wreath? Sponsoring a veteran’s wreath is a personal gift of gratitude and remembrance for someone who served this country so that we can be free.

Your sponsorship supports the yearlong mission to remember the fallen, honor those who serve, and teach the next generation the value of freedom, while making new and existing free programs available to the masses. With each sponsorship made, a veteran’s wreath will be placed to honor an American hero at participating locations this year on National Wreaths Across America Day.

With each veteran’s wreath placed by a volunteer, they say the name of the veteran to ensure that the legacy of duty, service, and sacrifice is never forgotten.

I am excited to announce the senate will be participating in the following program: The "Sponsor a Wreath, Give \$5 Forward" program allows individuals to donate \$17 to sponsor a wreath for a veteran's grave, with \$5 of that donation being automatically allocated to sponsor an additional wreath for another veteran. This program, also known as the "\$5 Forward Plan", is a way to maximize the impact of each donation, ensuring more veterans are honored with a wreath.

Ways to sponsor online:

Group Page: www.wreathscrossamerica.org/FL1122

Group Plan: \$5 Forward

Group Id: FL1122

We encourage all U.S. JCI Senate members to connect with your local Jaycee chapters and invite them to get involved in supporting Wreaths Across America.

There are several impactful ways to participate — including fundraising efforts, sponsoring wreaths through the corporate sponsorship program, and embracing the **Wreaths Across America Education Program**, which teaches K–12 students the importance of honoring our nation’s heroes.

Wreaths Across America (continued)

Together, we can educate the next generation and pay tribute to those who served by placing wreaths on veterans' graves across the country on **December 13, 2025**. Let's make a difference, one wreath, one lesson at a time.

We will continue to "Wear Red" on Friday's. Please submit to US JCI Senate Facebook Group and the US JCI Senate Wreaths Across America Facebook Group.

****When sponsoring a wreath BE SURE to select the cemetery of your choice. If you skip this part, Arlington National Cemetery will be the default location. IF you do NOT see a specific location, please reach out to me. We have until Oct. 31st to add a location to our group page.**

****If you want a wreath placed for a specific individual, please reach out to me.**

****If you prefer to call Wreaths Across America to sponsor a Wreath, please feel free to call me at 803-315-6976 for more information.**

****If you have another organization that you work with and want their wreath sponsorships to count toward the Senate numbers please reach out to me for more information.**

****Deadline to purchase Wreaths is NOVEMBER 28TH, 2025!!**

Please watch the US JCI Senate Facebook Page, US JCI Website and E-News to learn more about Wreaths Across America Organization and all the programs they do all year long. This is not "just" one day a year, but a mission and vision to remember "Some gave all, all gave some."

Let's Go the Distance together!!

Angie Taylor #71600 & Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei #44003

Contact:

Angie Taylor #71600, National Wreaths Across America Chair

Email: angiewedekind2010@gmail.com

Phone: 803-315-6976

Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei #44003, Chair for Regions V, VI, and VIII

Email: challison2001@yahoo.com

Phone: 319-231-3423

JCI Senate Wreaths Across America Email - WAA@usjcisenate.org



Join Us in Our Mission

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach

★ **December 13, 2025** ★

National Wreaths Across America Day



Help US JCI Senate honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a
Veteran's grave this December at
Arlington National Cemetery

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or
visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/FL1122



#KeepMovingForward

Donate to the Foundation for Iowa Jaycee Charities Today!

Over the years the Foundation has distributed over \$225,000 to Iowa communities for various projects! With Foundation assistance for various projects, the quality of life for literally thousands of Iowa families has been improved. Communities such as, Center Point, Stratford, Eagle Grove, Stanley, Cedar Rapids, Remsen, and Primghar have received grant dollars used towards upgrading Emergency Medical Service Facilities, community centers, parks, and baseball fields.

How can you help the Foundation to continue to distribute funds across Iowa? The Foundation for Iowa Jaycee Charities relies primarily on donations from individuals and organizations as a method of raising funds. Your generous contribution will allow us to continue to fund grants for projects across Iowa and sponsor and grow the scholarship awards to deserving high school seniors.

Yours in Jaycees,

Dan Badger

President, Foundation for Iowa Jaycee Charities

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Donation Amount _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$75 _____ \$100 Other \$ _____

Please Make Checks payable to:
Foundation for Iowa Jaycees Charities

Mail to: Foundation for Iowa Jaycees Charities
PO Box 622
Newton, Iowa 50208



Iowa JCI Senate
PO Box 622
Newton, Iowa 50208

Phone: 515-771-7285
Email: iowajcisenatenews@gmail.com

If you would like to receive the
newsletter via email please send
an email to:
iowajcisenatenews@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

July 11-13, 2025 - JCI Iowa Senate Picnic,
Jefferson, IA

Aug. 22-24, 2025 - JCI Iowa Fall All-State, Cedar
Falls, IA

Sept. 11-14, 2025 - US JCI Senate Fall Board
Meeting, Columbus, OH

Oct. 3-5, 2025 - Fall Region VI Meeting, Spicer,
MN

Jan. 15-18, 2025 - US JCI Senate Winter Board
Meeting, Melbourne, FL