



Iowa JCI Senate News

August 2025

What a start to the new Senate year!

We have already welcomed 3 new senators over the 4th of July and Senate Picnic weekends. Les Sulgrove #83850, Mary Kirchner #83831, and Julie Burkhart #83793 are all great people. We celebrate their accomplishments from their time as Jaycees and look forward to them continuing their community impact as members of the JCI Senate.



We have some travel planned over the next few months. We already had members in Ohio for the pig roast and Illinois for their senate picnic. Our annual social at the Taylors' in Chariton, Iowa is the first weekend in August and we'll be taking a group to Sikeston, Missouri for the Jaycees Bootheel Rodeo the weekend of August 6-9. We're just getting started as after Labor Day, we have trips to the Fall BOD meeting in Columbus, Ohio and the Region VI meeting in Spicer, Minnesota. Come along for the ride. You won't regret it.

We have a lot of work to do and we need your help to do it. Our focus this year is helping JCI and we have some opportunities coming up for you. Our state meeting over the weekend of August 22-24 will be a great time to meet some JCI members as well as welcome some national guests in Cedar Falls. I hope you can join us. We have some fundraisers planned and maybe even some volunteer opportunities.

Let's all reach out to someone. Knock on an old Jaycee friend's door. Ask 'em how they're doing. Bring them along to the meeting in August. Join a social. Help a friend reconnect today.

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

Treasurer's Report – Carol Standridge #80700

Letters for annual dues members have gone out, because of the Labor Day holiday the dues billings are due on the 29th of August this year. I had two members that paid in advance, THANK YOU! We have some new life members and four working on the payment plan, THANK YOU to them also.

We have recently discovered a bag of Lifetime name badgers that we presumed had been passed out, but obviously they weren't (No, it wasn't in Newt's office). So I have name badges for Joe Baitinger #302, Scott Christopher #303, Kim Loy #305, Noah Jackson #304, Pam Robinson #307, Jim Farrier #308, Lisa Ellis #331, Dallas Russell #333, and Sue Snyder Thomas #269. I will have them with me at the JCI meeting in Cedar Falls, please come claim yours. If someone can pick it up for you also, please let me know who it will be. I wish I could mail them out to you but my budget for the year has already been spent on stamps. I will bring them to each of our meetings.

We are also looking for addresses for the following Iowa Senators:

#38455 Louie Burkhart, #29213 John H. Davis, #39817 Mike Dill, #35992 Roger Fry, #54329 Dahrl Hull, #24816 G. Richard Johnson, #62926 Jeff Jones, #20373 James A. Lane, #3501 L.R. Dick Larkin, 17414 Steven F. McPherran, #23234 Michael Miller, #41209 J. Mark Nieman, #45187 James M. Pickard, #22919 Warren Shank, #13348 Elwin Sievers, #24582 Mark Vandurny, #39776 Mike R. Young. If you can help with this, please let me know.

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the picnic auction and bought the tickets!!! We had a great auction, a huge help for the budget! Results in Cedar Falls.

All money raised for the National programs was sent out to the appropriate chairmen or organization, again, results in Cedar Falls.

Meet Your New JCI Iowa Senate Chaplain - John Parsons

I am John Parsons and I will serve as the Iowa JCI Senate Chaplain in the 2025-26 year. Brief background on me, I served 18 years in the Jaycees with 12 years on boards including 3 different years as a chapter president. In my professional life, I recruit, teach, and develop sports officials and currently coach baseball at Nevada High School. As your chaplain, I will keep everyone updated on events and important dates (birthdays, anniversaries, etc) for our members including ones who need prayers, support and comfort as they battle some of life's challenges. In my weekly updates, I will provide a mixture of relevant scripture as well as words/quotes of inspiration and anecdotes that puts things in perspective. I also plan to have a memorial service for all deceased Senators during my time in the position at some point (either a convention or summer picnic). It's always good to remember our fallen friends and colleagues! Reach out to me at iowasenatechaplain@gmail.com if you would like to see anything in the weekly chaplain report or have any suggestions. God bless one and all!

John Parsons
JCI Senator #74674
2025-26 Iowa JCI Senate Chaplain
~Mark 3:25

Iowa Social Program Manager- Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei #44003

The Iowa JCI Senate will again be holding several social events to bring gatherings of Senators closer to more Senator's homes and at a variety of times, that more Senators will get involved with the Iowa JCI Senate. If you have any ideas for a social in your area and want to host a social, I will be glad to assist you. Just contact me with your idea.

Angie and Tracy Taylor will be hosting a fall grill-out social event in Chariton next weekend, August 2nd-3rd. Check the flier attached to the newsletter for additional information. Wayde Burkhart is also working on another social at the Flat Tire Bar and Grill later this fall. Plus, I will again be hosting a Holiday social at my home in Pella on Saturday, December 6th thru Sunday am breakfast. Watch the Senate Chaplain Report and upcoming Newsletters for fliers on these upcoming events. In addition, The Wreaths Across American program in Adel at the Iowa Veterans' Cemetery will be on December 13th.

We plan to get together to eat out after laying the wreaths on the graves and are hoping to get some JCI Iowa members to participate with us laying wreaths and going out to eat. I hope to see you at some of the upcoming events!!

Review Proposed Bylaw and Policy Changes for August 23 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 JCI Senators! Get Ready to Have Some Fun in Cedar Falls!

There are several ways to help in Cedar Falls:

- 1. We will be working at the Habitat for Humanity store** called "Restore" for a couple of hours. Saturday morning Aug. 23rd starting @ 9am { Time is subject to change} I will need a head count for this by Aug.15,2025
- 2. Collecting Food for Cedar Valley Food Pantry** - canned food, packaged food, and boxed food
- 3. House of Hope-Battered Women's Shelter.** Paper towels, toilet paper, body wash, shampoo, laundry detergent, toothbrushes, toothpaste, feminine products, plastic bags- snack, sandwich, quart, & gallon size. \$10 gas cards & Quarters so they can do their laundry at the laundromat.

Anything you can donate would be greatly appreciated and you will be helping 3 great causes.

Community Director
Gina Williams #82879

Meet our new JCI Iowa Senators!!

Les Sulgrove #83850

Les was a charter member of the South Des Moines, IA Jaycees in 1983. He held many offices in the chapter - President, V-President, PR Director, Chairman of the Board and project chairman of many local projects. He was also responsible for recruiting and activating many local members. Les served as a District Director and Program Manager for the Iowa Jaycees. Les was awarded an Iowa Governorship #151 sponsored by the South Des Moines Jaycee Chapter.

Mary Kirchner #83831

Mary was a member of the Tama-Toledo, Iowa Jaycee-Ettes, Jaycee Women and Jaycees. She held many offices including President, Vice-President, Secretary, State Director and other local, regional and state offices. As a Jaycee Woman she was honored as Patsy Dunham recipient #122. In 1986, Mary and her family were named the Family Life Award winner for the state of Iowa and in 2020, Mary received JCI Senate Friendship Award #103. Her husband Richard Kirchner passed 1996, she continued to be involved in Jaycees and Senate.

Julie Burkhart #83793

Julie was a member of the Boone, North Park and Des Moines, IA Jaycees. Julie often worked behind the scenes on local and state projects. She & her husband provided sound and music for state Jaycee events. Julie and Wayne were awarded the Walton Award at National Convention for the best State Onto Chairman for National Convention. Julie worked with and ran Kids College at State meetings.

Wreaths Across America
Cheryl Davis Sauerbrei #44003
WAA@usjcsenate.org

SAVE THE DATE: December 13th, 2025

Welcome to the "Go The Distance" 2025-2026 New Year. I am the Iowa JCI Senate PM for Wreaths Across America as well as the Region VI PM and the US JCI Senate

Co-ordinator for Regions V, VI and VII. Angie Taylor #71600 is the National Wreaths Across America PM for the US JCI Senate.

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 is placed to honor an American hero at participating locations this year on National Wreaths Across America Day. If you don't specify a cemetery when you purchase a wreath, it will be placed at Arlington National Cemetery. However, you can choose where you want your wreaths laid which include the Iowa Veteran's Cemetery in Adel where most of the Iowa JCI Senators will be laying wreaths this year. In addition, you can purchase another wreath to be sent to you

so that you can lay it on the grave of a veteran loved one that isn't buried in a cemetery involved in the WAA program. (There will be an additional fee for delivery to you.)

With each veteran's wreath placed by a volunteer, the veteran's name is said along with thanking them for their service to ensure that the legacy of duty, service, and sacrifice is never forgotten.

This year the US JCI Senate will be participating in the "Sponsor a Wreath, Give \$5 Forward" program which 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. I provided root beer Schnapp's ice cream floats at the Iowa JCI Senate picnic in July as the Iowa PM. The donations made for the floats, purchased 5 wreaths for Adel as well as \$25 forward for an additional 1 ½ wreaths. Thank you to all the Senators that donated at the picnic to help raise funds thru the floats! The US JCI Senate has a goal of purchasing at least 1000 wreaths this

year. As of July 22nd, 119.3 wreaths have been credited to the US JCI Senate.

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. If you are a schoolteacher, scout leader, etc, go to the Wreaths Across America web site and find the K-12th grade lesson plans.

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 and one lesson at a time. I hope to see you in Adel on the 13th!

We will continue to “Wear Red” on Friday’s to “Remember Everyone Deployed” which is part of the WAA program. Please submit your picture wearing RED to the Iowa JCI Senate and

the Region VI Facebook pages. I will be taking a group picture on Friday evenings whenever we have an event showing the Iowa JCI Senate members wearing RED and remembering our deployed veterans.

****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 that you desire, please reach out to Angie as up until Oct. 31st we can add a location to our group page, if someone will co-ordinate for that cemetery program.**

*If you prefer to call Wreaths Across America to sponsor a Wreath, feel free to call Angie 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 or Angie as there is a form to allow this.**

****Deadline to purchase Wreaths is NOVEMBER 28TH, 2025 so they can arrive in time!!**

Please watch the US JCI Senate Facebook Page and the 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!



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

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