



A MESSAGE FROM KSKJ LIFE'S MARKETING COORDINATOR

PAY IT FORWARD



Not too long ago, I was the recipient of a “pay it forward” act of kindness. I was in the drive-up lane of a local coffee shop, and as I pulled up to the window with my arm outstretched and payment in hand, the clerk smiled at me and said “There’s no charge... your order was just paid for

by the kind gentleman in the truck ahead of you.” Really? I’ve heard about these things happening, but I never thought I would be part of one of these “kindness chains.” Just as they say that “smiles are contagious,” so too, I believe, is kindness.

As I write this, there are several KSKJ Life lodges around the country taking part in various Join Hands events....cleaning the grounds around local schools and churches, visiting with residents at nursing homes, volunteering at food pantries...and this list goes on. My email inbox is filling up with photos from these events. The theme is consistent throughout all the pictures – joy. Whether they’re holding rakes and garbage bags in their hands or placing cans on food pantry shelves, the looks on these participants’ faces are that of pure joy – joy in knowing that they truly are making a difference.

It’s been said that charity begins at home. With KSKJ Life’s Join Hands initiative, members can volunteer on their own or gather a few friends together and pick a service project in their own community. Need some ideas for a project? The web-site communityservice.org offers numerous suggestions for different age groups:

Children – Children in small supervised groups can pull weeds, pick up litter and sweep sidewalks and pathways. Call local parks departments and ask

when clean up days are scheduled. Another idea is to allow your child(ren) to have a lemonade stand or bake sale. They can raise funds to help children in their community who need clothes or school supplies.

High School/College Students – Students can organize a car wash with all proceeds going to support a charity. Or they can organize a tree planting event as part of a beautification campaign.

Families – Families can sign up to assist in a soup kitchen/homeless shelter. Many have found this volunteer opportunity to be rewarding for all family members, especially if you have children who are in middle school or older.

Retirees/Seniors – Senior citizens are an important part of the volunteer community. There are plenty of ways for older volunteers to engage with kids and share joy with a younger generation. Some libraries allow volunteers to read at their scheduled

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#KSKJLIFE



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story times. You can also reach out to your local hospital to see how you can support young patients and their families. For those looking to connect with someone their own age, consider becoming a senior companion to help others.

Regardless of your age or circumstance, volunteering opportunities abound. The chances to make contributions to one other person or to an entire group are numerous. How will you "pay it forward?" Take part in our Join Hands campaign and share your efforts with us. Snap a photo of you and/or your group making a difference and email the photo to fraternal@kskjlife.com or share on social media using #kskjlife #joinhands2018. You will then be entered to win \$100 for your charity. 5 random winners will be announced July 6th. Photo shares or submissions are due by June 30, 2018. Charity receiving \$100 donation must be a 501(c)3 organization. Let's keep the kindness chain going!

Lauren Baltz

KSKJ Life Marketing Coordinator



Above: Mary Carmody dressed in traditional Slovenian attire at the 2018 Lodge #79 No-Tap Bowling Event with MaryLou Stefanick.

Right: Mary Carmody and MaryLou Stefanick help out at the 2017 National Golf Tournament, where KSKJ Life teamed up with Midwest Veterans Closet to collect clothing for local veterans.

COMING FULL CIRCLE

As the daughter of Slovenian immigrants, Mary Carmody always had a deep appreciation for her culture and a passion for helping others. After being processed at Ellis Island, Mary's parents eventually settled in a small community located an hour north of Chicago. "My mother, who escaped her war-torn country leaving all of her loved ones behind, joined KSKJ Life when I was child," Mary explained.

Although it was a tough time for immigrants and their families, one of Mary's favorite memories growing up was the KSKJ Life annual Christmas party.

"I'll never forget the charitable generosity of KSKJ during the Christmas holidays...children were encouraged to participate so KSKJ would be sure every child received a toy. And, we could choose from a table full of them."

True to form, children had to earn their toys by completing a chore or task. As a gifted singer, Mary's job was to sing 'Sveta noč' (Silent Night), a carol enjoyed by all who attended. "If it were not for KSKJ, most Slovenian children, including my brother and me, would not have received any presents," she went on to say. "The nuns would ask us after the holidays what gifts we received. It was embarrassing to say nothing, but if we lied we were punished. KSKJ gave dignity to us immigrants in a way that was very meaningful."

Mary grew up to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Administration/Healthcare Management from Concordia University in Wisconsin. Following a successful career as a photojournalist, Mary had her sights set on moving to Colorado and opening a traditional Slovenian potica shop.

In her spare time, Mary also served on the Lake County Council for Seniors, when late one night in 2013 she witnessed an elderly veteran walk several miles in the pouring rain to receive food from the organization.



"It was heartbreaking, seeing this poor man who had done so much for his country still having to work so hard to get by," expressed Mary.

That's when the Midwest Veterans Closet was born, a not-for-profit rapid response charity Mary founded that works to impact veterans lives by providing clothing, household items, shoes and boots, linens, and food from their Food and Nutrition Resource Center. Located in North Chicago, the nonprofit also provides housing and employment assistance as available. On certain days, veterans will line up for hours in anticipation of a mobile food pantry that rolls into Midwest Veterans Closet with free groceries for those who have served.

"It's sad that our military has to wait for food," said Mary. "We need to take care of them, the way that they take care and protect us through their years of service."

As a kid, Mary valued the practice that KSKJ Life allowed children to pick out their own Christmas toys, and carries on that sentiment by making sure that all those served by Midwest Veterans Closet are given the opportunity to pick out their own food.

"These vets, they would never ask for anything," said Mary. "Just like so many immigrants I knew growing up, all they know how to do was work hard."

Presently, Mary likes to give back to KSKJ Life by actively volunteering at various events, such as the 2017 National Golf Outing and Lodge #79's recent No-Tap Bowling Tournament / Fundraiser. "I've seen firsthand that KSKJ Life has been doing good things for a long time, and I love passing along the mission," Mary said. "It all comes full circle."

As for the potica shop, Mary was able to live that dream vicariously through her son, who resides in Evergreen, Colorado where he continues to uphold his Slovenian culture through his own potica bakery, called Rocky Mountain Potica.

Cathi Davis

Coordinator, Communication and Fraternal Services

39TH KSKJ LIFE NATIONAL CONVENTION

All information relating to the convention is available on our website including a viewable board application and guidelines. Please visit www.kskjlife.com/convention. For general questions, please call (844) 407-9242.



June 1st	-Deadline for Young Adult Leadership Application. Applications available online via convention tab or activities tab. -Deadline to submit advertisement for National Convention Book. (All proceeds go to Educational Grant Program.) Individuals may also purchase an ad. Please visit our Convention webpage listed above for more details.
June 10th	-Deadline to submit board application. To request application, please submit request via online. -Deadline to submit all other resolutions or proposed amendments to KSKJ Life Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation, which are <u>not</u> of actuarial nature. (Proposed changes must be received or postmarked by 6/10/18.)
August 7-9th	-Young Adult Leadership Conference – Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont, IL
August 9-11th	-KSKJ Life National Convention – Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont, IL

A LOOK BACK....THE 19TH KSKJ LIFE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The year was 1938...Franklin D. Roosevelt was president. Superman first appeared in DC Comics' Action Series issue #1. The average cost of a new house was \$3,900 and Orson Welles's radio adaption of The War of the Worlds was broadcast, causing mass panic in the eastern United States. It was also the year of the 19th KSKJ Life National Convention which was held in Eveleth, MN.

John Germ of Pueblo, CO was elected president and several important deliberations were brought to the delegates' attention: Increase of insurance limits was made available to members and extended to \$5,000 for certain ages. Term insurance for juveniles was extended

to age 18. KSKJ would pay mortuary assessments, operation benefits, permanent disability and administrative expenses for all members over 70 having Ordinary Life certificates.

By this time, the cornerstone of the new Home Office had been laid (July 3, 1938), and the membership of KSKJ totaled 35,419 (24,863 adults and 10,556 juveniles). In July of the next year, the move from the 1909 building to the North Chicago Street location was completed and the new Home Office building was dedicated.



MATCHING FUNDS UPDATE - LODGE #196 & HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Blessed Virgin of Help Lodge #196 held its first Matching Funds Event for 2018 on Thursday, February 1 partnering with the local area North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity Organization. We assisted them with their Gourmet Dinner fundraising event which was held at the Mt. Iron Community Center. Habitat for Humanity helps people in our area that are dealing with needed housing, by building homes for those in dire need. The event raised over \$19,000, minus expenses of \$3,200 for a total over \$16,000. Adding in our KSKJ Life match of \$2,000 brings the Grand Total approximately around \$18,000. It is safe to say that the Gourmet Dinner event with many local businesses attending was a huge success. Thank you to all the folks who came out and supported this very special event.

We presented the \$2,000 Matching Fund Check to Habitat for Humanity Representative Nathan Thompson at our regular lodge business meeting on May 1st. Thank you to lodge members Mary Ann Nanti and Karl Oberstar Jr. for all your time and help at this event. Thank you to all lodge members who came to support this event, and to the Habitat for Humanity organization (Susan Garrett), for asking us to assist them in this very special worthy cause.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Karl Oberstar Jr. (President of Lodge #196)*



Rocco Leoni, Yvonne Skrbec, Katherine Trampusch, Karl Oberstar Jr., Northern St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity Director Nathan Thompson, and Ashley Theien. Not Pictured: (Leo Skrbec on camera)

SPRING ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES WRAP UP

By MaryLou Stefanick

Three major events concluded this spring; and one more is quickly approaching. Here is a brief wrap up of each event.

NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

When I think of all of the KSKJ Life Bowling Tournaments I have participated in over the years, I always come out saying the same thing. Bowling is the reason I go, but it's the people I meet and visit with that keeps me coming back. This year the Tournament was hosted by St. Aloysius #52 of Indianapolis, who really rolled out the red carpet for their out of town guests. Teams from the Cleveland area, hometown Indianapolis, Joliet, Milwaukee, and Waukegan participated in the 47th annual KSKJ Life National Bowling Tournament, which officially began with the ceremonial first ball thrown by KSKJ Life CEO Tony Mravle, Jr.

Many thanks to Ed Cottongim and the committee of volunteers from St. Al's who went above and beyond in hosting this 3-day event. Team, Singles, and Doubles winners will be listed in the next issue of the Voice, as well as on the website. In April 2019, the tournament heads to Joliet, where we will gather not only to bowl, but also to celebrate our 125th anniversary. Let's make this one a tournament to remember! Details to follow.



ALTERNATIVE BOWLING COMPETITION (ABC)

The 6th annual ABC concluded in late April, with 30 of our youth members participating. The ABC, which ran from early December through late April, was open to all youth members under the age of 16 that bowled at least once during the 5 month timeframe. Random winners from both the "straight bowl" and the "bumper bowl" division were selected, and will receive a KSKJ Life Beach towel, just in time for the summer months. Thank you to all the members that participated, and looking forward to doing it again in December. Winners are as follows:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Malina Alijoski | Maija Bucar | Ari DeGrande | Sofia Riley-Schueneman |
| Mason Tokarz-Deram | Kinsley Knighton | Mason Kocman | Leighana Rakun |
| Kaeden Mavec | Grace Paskey | | |

Name	Lodge	High School	Year
Joe Humphrey	2	Joliet West	Freshman
Abigail Bartlett	25	Gilmour Academy	Junior
Shaun Mikulan	50	Hampton High	Junior
Payson Hacker	65	Maricopa High School	Sophmore
Emily Powers	108	Coal City High School	Junior
Benjamin Baltz	143	Joliet Central High School	Sophmore
Joseph T. Snyder, III	146	Otterbein University	Junior
Suntina Spehar	171	College of St. Benedict	Sophmore
Carson Klodnick	226	Brecksville Broadview Hts. High School	Freshman
Reagan Gallehue	603	Edon High School	Junior

STUDENT ATHLETE RECOGNITION AND AWARD PROGRAM

The Student Athlete program which began in 2008, has seen some changes over the years, but it continues to draw interest from our many (high school) young adult members from across the country. And as we conclude our 10th annual program, we again see that our members are committed to their studies while being active in a wide range of activities. Ten random winners were selected from the list, and each will receive a \$100.00 award from KSKJ Life. See winners in the table to the right. Winners photos can be found on our website's "Athletics" page.

NEXT UP – NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

If you have even a mild interest in the game of golf, you won't want to miss the 5th annual National Golf Tournament on Saturday, June 16. The one day tournament will be played at the Bonnie Brook Golf Course in Waukegan, IL, and the format will be a 4-person scramble. Note: each team can have up to two non-members on it. The tournament rules and entry form can be found on our website's "Athletics" page.

KSKJ LIFE RECIPE CORNER

With Father's Day just around the corner, why not fire up those grills and try some traditional Slovenian sausage known as Čevapčiči? Frank Bucar from St. Elizabeth's Lodge #171 in Duluth, MN was kind enough to share his recipe for all to enjoy.

ČEVAPČIČI

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs. Ground Beef
- 2 lbs. Ground Pork
- 2 Eggs
- 2 tsp. Pepper
- 4 tsp. Salt
- 1 tsp. Cayenne (max)
- 2 Tbsp. Paprika
- 8 oz. Onion - finely chopped
- 2 tsp. Garlic Powder



Plate of traditional Čevapčiči from an outdoor restaurant in Slovenia.

Instructions:

Mix all ingredients and, if possible, let sit overnight in the refrigerator. Using a 4-Tbsp. sized ice cream scoop to measure, make oblong patties about 3" long and 1" in width (see photo). Grill. Makes about 30 čevapčiči. Serve with Kaiser/hard Rolls or Vienna bread and raw onions, Slovenian potato salad or Slovenian fried potatoes.

KSKJ LIFE WISHES ALL FATHERS A WONDERFUL FATHER'S DAY!



KSKJ VOICE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF KSKJ LIFE, AMERICAN SLOVENIAN CATHOLIC UNION, IN THE INTEREST OF ITS MEMBERS

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IN MEMORY OF

James (Jim) Stanczak - Lodge #79, Waukegan, IL
Mary Chamernik, \$25.00

James (Jim) Stanczak - Lodge #79, Waukegan, IL
MaryLou Stefanick, \$25.00

Theresa Kocin - Lodge #146, Mentor, OH
MaryLou Stefanick, \$25.00

James Buchar - Lodge #2, Joliet, IL
Thomas and Paula Narducci, \$50.00

James Buchar - Lodge #2, Joliet, IL
Peter and Roberta Dalton, \$100.00

FROM SHEBOYGAN TO FRANCE

LODGE #144 MEMBER TAKES PART IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The Sheboygan, WI area high schools are part of the Fellowship and Friendship Program with the high schools in Avignon, France. The program has the student staying in the host country for a period of approximately 2 weeks. In 2020 they will celebrate 20 years of having students from both countries spend time in each other's home country. With modern technology, Morgan Fenske, a Senior at Sheboygan North High School and a member of Lodge #144, and Tina Jouffret, a Senior at Rene Char High School in France, began communicating over a year ago. Finally, in September of 2017, they were united at North High School. It did not take the Fenske Family long to recognize Tina as she got off the bus that picked them up in Chicago. It was though they have been together all their lives.

I asked both girls if they would be willing to share their experiences as well as some interesting comparisons of their hometowns. Below are some of their comments

Student's Name: Tina Jouffret (France)

Host Family: Fenske Family, (Shannon, Julie, Paige, Morgan and Olivia – All Lodge #144 members)

What were some of your expectations before coming to the United States? I imagined American stereotypes (either at school or at home), big spaces...everything bigger and a more laid-back life.

How does Avignon compare to Sheboygan? Sheboygan is not a big town, just like Avignon, so it looks alike in that way. Maybe Avignon can offer more activities such as shopping and cultural places.

What are some of the differences at your High School compared to the High School in Sheboygan? The school life is very different from what we have in the French Schools. Indeed, it's not the same thinking - we have more homework in France, but the atmosphere is really better at Sheboygan North High.

Favorite American Food: Burgers

Least favorite American Food: Peanut Butter

What were some of the highlights during your stay in:

a) United States: In Chicago we had free time with our

friends and we also attended a Chicago Bulls game. **b) With the Fenske Family:** We went up north and made burgers and smores. We also rode four-wheelers

Were there any disappointments? None

Career goals: Work in business, luxury and marketing

Student Name: Morgan Fenske (United States)

Host Family: Jouffret Family (Jeff, Sophie and Sydney)

What were some of your expectations before going to France? My expectations of France were a lot like how it really is. I also expected there to be beautiful views and tourist places. I also expected there to be amazing food, which there was.

How does Sheboygan compare to Avignon? Avignon is pretty much the same size as Sheboygan. In that way, they are a lot alike. Avignon is what I might call "outdated" (rustic) looking.

What are some of the differences in your High School compared to the school in Avignon? My school is very colorful compared to Rene Char High School. They do not have any posters on their walls or any decorations at all. Their gym is a whole separate building that you have to walk outside to get to as well. It is maybe half the size of the gym at North.

Favorite French Food: My favorite French food was crepes. We had salty ones which included ham and cheese. And we had sweet ones with Nutella.

Least Favorite French Food: My least favorite was some of the pizza. They put olives on their pizza and they are very, very strong.

What were some of highlights during your stay in:

a) Avignon: Some of the highlights were seeing the different monuments and bridges. My favorite was the Pont Du Gard bridge and the Van Gogh's Hospital

b) With the Jouffret Family: We went to this beautiful shopping center where there was gorgeous art and little shops everywhere. We also went to little shopping malls which were also amazing.

Were there any disappointments? The only

disappointment was not being able to see Paris and travel. We had to travel nearly 2 days each way which was no fun! It took us 13 hours each way by bus to and from Munich, Germany because of an airport strike. This cut down on our time in Avignon and with the Jouffret family by almost 2 days.

Career Goals: I am undecided of my career goal, but possibly in the medical field.

By: Pat Slapnick

Lodge #144 President



Tina (left) and Morgan (right) take part in the American tradition of carving pumpkins.

MEMBER MEMORIAL

Our prayers go out to the families of our recently passed members. Claims have been paid and a donation to the KSKJ Life Educational Grant Fund has been made on behalf of each.

APRIL & MAY 2018

Lodge #1- Andrew J. Zumer, Park Ridge, IL

Lodge #1- Loren S. Wright, Lombard, IL

Lodge #1- Margaret F. Bogolin, Lisle, IL

Lodge #1 - Homer L. Vance, Rock Island, IL

Lodge #2- Lillian T. Cop, Joliet, IL

Lodge #2- Clarence J. Perona, Joliet, IL

Lodge #20- Barbara E. Jesson, Muskegon, MI

Lodge #20- Carol J. Kanouse, Ludington, MI

Lodge #25- Margaret M. Chernick, Cape Coral, FL

Lodge #25- Fr. Anthony Rebol, Cleveland, OH

Lodge #25- Mary M. Somrack, Euclid, OH

Lodge #29- William J. Starasinich, Joliet, IL

Lodge #42- Diane Griffy, Harrisburg, PA

Lodge #50- Charles Pugar, Pittsburgh, PA

Lodge #50- Pamela J. Patterson, Waynesboro, PA

Lodge #50- Francis J. Sudac, Pittsburgh, PA

Lodge #52- Charles G. Reel, Princeton, IN

Lodge #52- Marsha J. Turner, Bluffton, IN

Lodge #52- Peter Barbarich, Indianapolis, IN

Lodge #53- Joseph M. Hrutka, Silver Spring, MD

Lodge #59- Richard F. Debeltz, Hibbing, MN

Lodge #63- John Klinar, Lorain, OH

Lodge #65- Kou Yang, Milwaukee, WI

Lodge #74- Rosemary Sergo, McCook, IL

Lodge #74- Maryene Jenkins, Chicago, IL

Lodge #79- Oneatha S. Smith, Union Grove, WI

Lodge #108- Frederick W. Baker, Mineral, IL

Lodge #108- Andrew W. Moss, Rockford, IL

Lodge #115- Doang V. Nguyen, Wichita, KS

Lodge #115- Rebecca S. Newberry, Attica, KS

Lodge #144- Doloris A. Kuehne, Seymour, WI

Lodge #150- Gary M. Markovich, Poland, OH

Lodge #153- Carol M. Graham, Royersford, PA

Lodge #153- Elizabeth A. Strnisa, Canonsburg, PA

Lodge #169- Mary Magdeck, Wickliffe, OH

Lodge #169- Viktor Tominec, Richmond Heights, OH

Lodge #169- Katherine Jereb, Cleveland, OH

Lodge #170- Michael Pineiro, Chicago, IL

Lodge #226- Cynthia L. Sheese, Newark, OH

Lodge #226- Ruby E. Stiver, Toledo, OH

Lodge #616- Sue Vang, Eau Claire, WI

Lodge #622- John T. Kufner, Des Moines, IA

Lodge #623- Joseph M. Turns, Hopkinsville, KY

Lodge #623- Eugene T. Hayden, Owensboro, KY

Lodge #624- Ralph A. Ervin, Gulfport, MS

Lodge #625- Harrison J. Winstead, Sneedville, TN



COMING THIS SEPTEMBER: KSKJ LIFE EDUCATIONAL GRANT PROGRAM

WHO

- KSKJ Life members who attend an eligible high school or college and meet the requirements

WHY

- KSKJ Life supports young adult members as they pursue education

WHAT

- One-time \$1,000 education grant

HOW

- Applications can be submitted online between September 1 - 30. Eligibility details on the KSKJ Life website

DETAILS AT KSKJLIFE.COM/GRANTS

HAPPY STATEHOOD DAY!

**ON JUNE 25TH, SLOVENIANS
AROUND THE WORLD WILL BE
CELEBRATING STATEHOOD DAY.
THIS HOLIDAY COMMEMORATES
THE COUNTRY'S DECLARATION OF
INDEPENDENCE IN 1991.**



LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

REGION 1

PENNSYLVANIA, CONNECTICUT AND DC

LODGE #50

PITTSBURGH, PA

UPCOMING EVENTS

It's time to iron your Hawaiian shirt, dust off your coconut bra and make sure your grass skirts are freshly made because our annual picnic will be on Sunday, June 24 at the Middle Road Community Park from 1 p.m. to dusk. The picnic and dessert will be catered, so RSVPs are a must. Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, June 20 to Ashley at the kskjfelodge50@yahoo.com or to Al (412-487-2492) or Bob (724-443-6830). Looking forward to seeing everyone in their finest Luau Themed Attire!

Ashley E. Mikulan

NATIONAL SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations again to Lodge #50 member Michael Macchioni on receiving the 2017 KSKJ Life National Service Award. David Edwards, KSKJ Life Agent, presented Michael with his award on April 21st at the 4th Annual Spirit of Gemma fund-raiser and awards program. Michael founded the non-profit, Gemma's Angel's, in 2000 in honor of his mother.



KSKJ Life Agent David Edwards (left) presents Lodge #50 member Michael Macchioni with the KSKJ Life National Service Award

REGION 2

CLEVELAND AREA

LODGE # 169

CLEVELAND, OH

On Saturday, May 12, a group of our members met in downtown Cleveland to participate in the 30th-anniversary Run/Walk for Hunger, a 5K event sponsored by the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland. It turned out to be a very nice day as some of us ran while others walked the three-plus miles to raise funds for the largest emergency food distributor in Greater Cleveland.

Thanks to Lodge #169 Vice President Greg Clack for organizing our team. And kudos to Greg for finishing second in his age bracket. We plan to continue with such events at least once a year. Stay tuned!



St. Joseph #169 entered a team in the Run/Walk for Hunger sponsored by the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland. From left: Nick Marsic, Alex Clack, Brian Mezgec, Greg Clack, Vic Nemeec, Marty Marsic, Maria Marsic, Cathy Clack, Christine Nemeec, John Nemeec, Andreja Marsic.

Our bus trip to the National Bowling Tournament in Indianapolis April 20-22 was a great fraternal event. Our bowling results were mixed, but the good times and connecting with fellow KSKJers was nothing but positive.

The St. Joseph Lodge #169 team was proud to be joined by our new CEO Tony Mravle Jr., and we truly had a good time on the lanes that day! Thanks to the Indy crew who organized a smooth tournament and put on a couple of memorable socials at the

Slovenian Home.

Our next meeting will be on the first day of summer, June 21, at 6:30 p.m. at the Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave. All members welcome.

Best wishes to our students on finishing your school year and starting off your summer.

John Nemeec

LODGE #219

EUCLID, OH

"BINGO" was the magic word for the residents of the Slovenian Home on Neff Road in Euclid and members of KSKJ Life St. Christine Lodge #219. For our recent Join Hands project, we joined the volunteers at the home to assist the residents with a day of activities including playing Bingo. We had a chance to meet and talk with the residents. It was a lot of fun helping them place their bingo chips on the cards and calling out bingo. Mary Kay Bossard, the activity Director at Slovenian Home, stated that there is a need for volunteers at the home. Please contact her for more information. Our lodge is planning to attend another activities afternoon in the future.



Left to right: Mary Kay Bossard, Activity Director of Slovenian Home with lodge officers Mary Strbac, Elizabeth Kusar and Loretta Brown.

Please attend our next meeting, June 10th at 1 p.m. in Gateway Manor, Gateway Drive, Euclid. We will not be meeting in July or August. I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer.

Elizabeth Kusar

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

LODGE #226

CLEVELAND, OH

LODGE UPDATE

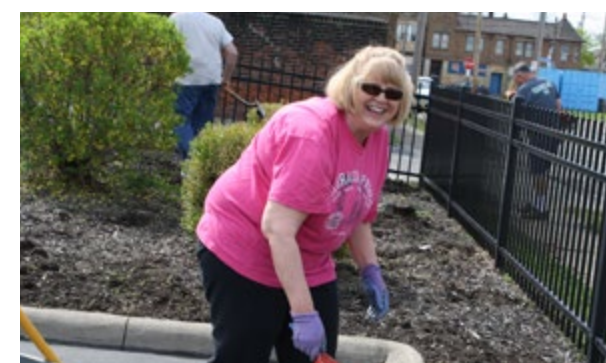
It was a beautiful Saturday in May when we held our Join Hands Day! Lodge #226 once again offered repair and clean-up services to the American Slovenian Home on St. Clair Ave. Many thanks to the following volunteers: Erika Kurbos, Ray Yartz, Bill Urban, Tamara Zupancic, Hunter Zupancic, Clara Adrian, Lois Zakelj, Stan Zakelj, Jack Zakelj, Tony Zekelj, Chuck Potenga, Nancy Potenga, Tim Klodnick, Ron Zak, and Ray Zak.



Ray Zak



Tim Klodnick



Nancy Potenga



Tamara Zupancic and Gerri Hopkins

Once the chores were completed, the Slovenian National Home provided us all with a delicious lunch!

Our May lodge meeting was held immediately after lunch during which we established the date for our September combined lodge meeting/youth balinca tournament. The date will be September 9 at 12 p.m. More information will be coming, but if you think you might have children interested, please email or text David Sanders at djsand@outlook.com or 440-382-8361.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday - June 3 - 12 p.m. Lodge Meeting (Slovenian National Home)

Sunday - July 8 - 4-Lodge Picnic at Odd Fellows Park. Join Lodges #150, #146, #63, and #226 for this annual family-fun event, great time for all ages!

Sunday, Sept 9 - Lodge Meeting and Youth Balinca Tournament (Slovenian National Home)

Sunday, Oct. 28 - Clambake at The NASH.

GOLF OUTING

Please join us for the 8th Annual Christ the King – Dave Koprowski Memorial Golf Outing.

When: Sunday, July 22

Where: St. Bernard Golf Course 5364 W. Streetsboro Rd. (Rt 303) Richfield, OH.

Time: 10:00 a.m. (NO shotgun start) 2 - man scramble

KSKJ members rate is \$60. Non-member rate is \$80. Price includes 18 holes of golf, riding cart, lunch at the turn, beverages, longest drive, closest to the pin shots and longest putt. There will be door prizes and Class A, B, and C and Guest division champions. We will also have Blind Bogey. A delicious steak dinner will be served at the golf course.

Rules: Men -70 and older tee off from gold tees. All women tee off from red tees. Double Bogey is the maximum score on any hole. Any foresome that has 3 or 4 women can play a four person scramble and their score will count as a two-some.

Please contact Ron Zak at (216) 215-2163. Or send checks payable to Ron Zak at 2628 Barnsley Way, Broadview Hts., Ohio 4414. Entries must be in by Saturday, July 7. Reserve your spot today! There is a maximum of 40 golfers.

Submitted by Tamara Zupancic

REGION 3

CLEVELAND AREA

REGIONAL NEWS

FOUR LODGE PICNIC

The Cleveland 4-Lodge Picnic is free* to Lodges 63, 146, 150, & 226 members and families. Non member guests are \$5.00 per person. *Alcoholic beverages are an additional cost.

Door Prizes
Chinese Raffle Baskets
Family Fun Games
Bounce House
Bossie's Best Ice Cream

Cleveland 4-Lodge Family Picnic
Sunday July 8 - 12:00 to 6:00 pm • Oddfellows Farm in Glenwillow

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

The Cleveland Four Lodge Picnic will be held on Sunday July 8 at Oddfellows Farm in Glenwillow from 12 - 6 p.m. Directions to Oddfellows are at the bottom of the article. The picnic is open to the members of Lodges #63, 146, 150, 226 and their families as well as any other KSKJ Life members that would like to join us. You are welcome to bring a non-member guest at a cost of \$5 per person. As always, food and non- alcoholic beverages will be free. When you arrive, sign in at the check in table and receive a ticket for door prizes. The check in table will also be the place to buy tickets for the Chinese raffle baskets. There are always some wonderful baskets to be won. Games will begin at 1:30 p.m. The KSKJ Life grill team will be back in action again with food being served from 2 - 3:30 p.m. Bossie's Best will be back again with soft serve ice cream cones and sundaes at no cost. We are still looking for more workers to help. If you can help out let the contact person from your lodge know. We would like to see some of the scholarship winners from the lodges there to help out.

We will be collecting non-perishable goods for St. Malachi Center. They do a wonderful job helping those in need in the Cleveland area. Donations will be collected at the check in table. Some of the items on their wish list include tissues, styrofoam plates, napkins, paper towels, trash bags, liquid soap, laundry and dishwashing detergent, toilet paper, gallon Ziploc bags, grocery store gift cards, applesauce, canned vegetables, canned soup, jams, cake mixes, canned chicken, vegetable oil, fruit juices, instant rice, pancake mix and syrup, coffee, boxed potatoes, deodorants, Chapsticks, and travel size lotions. Cash donations are welcome also. If everyone brings something, we can help a lot of people in need.

If you are planning on attending, let the contact person from your lodge know before Sunday, July 1. We need an accurate count to make sure that we have enough food and beverages for all. We do not want to disappoint anyone. These are the people to inform if you will be attending and if you can help out:

Lodge #63: Jeanne Marincic 440-526-8658

Lodge #146: Josie Kmet 216-267-4866

Lodge #150: Elaine Peskar 440-503-8312 or at Peskarelaine@juno.com

Lodge #226: Chuck Potenga 440-582-5169 or [cspotenga@wowway.com](mailto:cpotenga@wowway.com) or Tim Klodnick 440-526-6431 or tklodnick@cox.net

The free picnic is made possible by the proceeds from the 50-50 raffle tickets that will be sold at the picnic. You can purchase them at the check in table. Without the 50-50 raffle this picnic would not be possible.

DIRECTIONS TO ODDFELLOWS FARM:

Take I-271 from either the north or south to I-422 east toward Warren. Take 422 and get off at the Harper Rd./Cochrane Rd. exit. Go right toward Glenwillow. Continue on Cochrane Rd. for three miles until you reach Austin Powder Rd. Take a right on Austin Powder Rd. As soon as you cross over the railroad tracks on Austin Powder Rd. there will be a road on the right that leads back towards the picnic area. The road will run parallel to the railroad tracks. There will be a KSKJ Life event sign posted at the entrance.

Chuck Potenga

LODGE #146

CLEVELAND, OH

LODGE UPDATE

On April 27, we had our usual Meet and Greet at Quaker Steak. We had a spirited group there, with many ideas on future events.

Our next meeting will be June 8. One of our younger members would like us to try a service event. She will be gathering details and ideas as we try to incorporate a service component for the late summer/early fall. As usual, the meeting will be at Quaker Steak and Lube on Canal Road and will begin at 6 p.m.

July 8 is the annual 4-lodge picnic at Odd Fellows. See the "Region 3 – Regional News" in this paper for more details.

On July 13, we are planning a baseball game with the Akron Rubber Ducks. Call me (Josie) at (216) 267-4866 if you are interested in attending. This will be a free event for KSKJ Life members and will include fireworks. The games are usually very entertaining,

and the area around there has many places to eat (as well as the concession stand). The game starts at 7:05 p.m. and is against Birmingham. Join us as we watch the future stars of the Cleveland Indians!

In August, we have the Young Adult Leadership Conference and KSKJ Life National Convention to look forward to.

Congratulations to all our graduates.

*Josie Kmet
Secretary/Treasurer
Lodge #146*

LODGE #150

CLEVELAND, OH

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Our next Lodge #150 meeting will be held on Monday, June 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at Olympia Sweet Treats & Grill, 11606 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio. Please join us.

Our July meeting will be held at the Four Lodge Picnic on Sunday, July 8 at Oddfellows Farm.

LODGE UPDATE

At our April meeting, Elaine Peskar was nominated and voted in as our new Lodge #150 President. She will fill the position held by Tony Peskar who passed away in March.

Liz Jones, Greg Snyder and Elaine Peskar have been elected as our delegates to the 39th KSKJ Life National Convention. 80th for spring cleaning. Give me a call at 216-267-4866 for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 8 - Four Lodge Picnic at Oddfellows Farm

August 4 - Annual Porky Pig Softball Tournament and Pig Roast at James Day Park

LODGE EMAIL ADDRESS

The Lodge #150 email address for Financial Secretary, Liz Jones is kskjlife150@gmail.com.

*Elaine Peskar
President/Recording Secretary*

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

REGION 4

JOLIET AREA

REGIONAL NEWS

COMBINED JOLIET KSKJ LODGES

On Tuesday, May 1 the Combined Joliet Lodges held their monthly meeting with 10 members in attendance.

The winners of the Youth & Sports Fund Raffle for the month of May are as follows: Dave & Marty McGinnis and St. Genevieve Lodge #108. Congratulations to all.

A total of 87 KSKJ Life members (43 Kids and 44 Adults) and 1 guest were in attendance for the Easter Egg-Hunt that was held on Saturday, April 7. The winners of the adult prizes were Nicole Domain and Brittany Churnovic. The winners of the kid's prizes were Hunter Olson and Alexis Churnovic. Congratulations to all. Although it was on the chilly side for the outing, the little ones had a great time looking for Easter eggs. Doughnuts, juice and milk were available afterwards.

Reminder: The Splash Station outing will be held on Sunday, July 22. Hours are 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Check-in is at 6 p.m. Postcards will be sent out prior to the event.

The Joliet Lodges kids' Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 1. More information will be available as we get closer to that date.

Members of Lodge #29 will have their annual steak fry on July 27th and a Halloween Party will be held in October – date to be determined.

Members of Lodge #108 met on May 20th at St. Joseph Cemetery for their Join Hands Day Project. They placed a Poppy Wreath at the Grotto and 22 American flags in the Grotto area as well. Also, a mass for all living and deceased members of Lodge #108 will be held on Sunday, June 10 at 11:30 a.m. Following the mass, a social hour will be held in Ferdinand Hall.

The next meeting of the Joliet Lodges will be held on Tuesday, June 5 at 7 p.m. at Town & Country Lanes. Hope to see you there.

*Pauline Mihelich
Recording Secretary/Reporter
Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges*

LODGE #2

JOLIET, IL

LODGE UPDATE

St. Joseph Society KSKJ Life Lodge #2 participated in Join Hands Day on May 7, 2018 at Sunny Hill Nursing Home. We had eight lodge members help plant flowers on the grounds on a beautiful spring day. It turned out looking great.



Members of Lodge 2 are all smiles as they get ready to plant some flowers at Sunny Hill Nursing Home

Our Annual Steak Fry will be on June 7, 2018 at St. Joseph Park Gym in Joliet at 5:30 p.m. There will be steak, rolls, potatoes, pasta salad, regular salad and beverages. Please bring your favorite dessert to share. We will also have a short lodge meeting. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. There will be free hot dogs for the kids, otherwise the cost is the same as adults. RSVP to Diana at (815) 557-7325.

LODGE #29

JOLIET, IL

A summer evening and a cookout – It's the Annual Lodge Steak Fry to be held Friday, July 27, 5 p.m. at St. Joe's Park. Dinner includes a grill your own steak, baked potato, coleslaw, corn on the cob, dessert and beverage. The cost is \$10 per member and \$15 per non-member guest. Free hotdogs will be available for kids who choose not to purchase a steak. A reminder that desserts are always appreciated for the sweets table. We will also be collecting school supplies to be donated to the area's needy children. A bean bag tournament will be held after dinner for anyone interested in playing.

Please contact Judy Corum by July 13th at (815) 725-3553 or jmcorum@ameritech.net to sign up and prepay. Checks payable to St. Francis #29 KSKJ Life can be mailed to Judy at 117 N. Reed Street, Joliet IL 60435.

Wishing all our Dads a wonderful Father's Day on June 17!

*Karen (Ramsak) Colman
Reporter*

LODGE #143

JOLIET, IL

JOIN HANDS EVENT

St. John the Baptist Lodge #143 will hold its Join Hands Day event on Wednesday, June 6 at 6 p.m. at the Feed My Starving Children location in Aurora, IL. Address is 555 Exchange Ct, Aurora. We have reserved one group which allows for 20 people maximum. If interested, you will need to register as soon as possible. Children 5 years and older can participate. To register, please visit: volunteer.fmcs.org/register (Group name: KSKJ Life).

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to Lodge #143 member Daniel Markun who was awarded the William B. Orenic Outstanding Contribution Award at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, IL on May 2nd. This award is given to an individual who has made outstanding contributions in support of the Conceptual Framework of the College of Education at the University of St. Francis. Well done, Daniel!



Congratulations again to Lodge #1's very own Dakota "Kody" Zamora for being selected as the 2017 National Lodge Person of the Year. His fellow officers and members officially presented him with his award this past month.



Dakota Zamora is presented with his National Lodge Person of the Year award certificate.



Daniel Markun

REGION 5

CHICAGO & INDIANAPOLIS AREA

LODGE #1

CHICAGO, IL

MATCHING FUNDS

Save the Date: Sunday, September 9, 2018. A Matching Funds Event will be held at the Slovenian Catholic Center for the benefit of St. Mary's Friary Retreat House in Lemont. More details to follow.

JOIN HANDS DAY

Members from Lodge #1 and Lodge #29 (Joliet), Joined Hands on Saturday, May 12 to clean up the grounds at Mr. Assisi Convent in Lemont.

REGION 6

NE ILLINOIS & WISCONSIN

LODGE #65

MILWAUKEE, WI

LODGE UPDATE

The Charlie Mouradian/Debbie Nowak Memorial Tournament, held on April 22, was a huge success. All lanes at New Berlin Ale House were filled. 140 bowlers participated. Both bowlers and spectators had a great time. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and our Educational Grant Fund will benefit from this well planned and executed event.

The KSKJ Life National Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, June 16, 2018, at the Bonnie Brook Golf Course in Waukegan, Illinois. If you are interested in attending this event, please call Jim Stoltmann at 262-641-6304 as soon as possible since entries are limited.

Members who participated in the National Bowling Tournament in Indianapolis in April had a fun time. Thank you to our hosts and friends from Indiana.

Please join us at the June 6th lodge meeting. We will be preparing gifts of donated items for the residents and patients at Franciscan Villa in South Milwaukee. This is our lodge Join Hands Day project and many HANDS are needed. Suggested items to be donated include: small packets of Kleenex, lotions, large print puzzles, and greeting or note cards.

Congratulations to our lodge leaders who celebrate a milestone anniversary this year. They are: Jim Stoltmann, 20 years of service, Rudy Pugel 5 years of service, and Andrea Ostrowski, 5 years of service. Please know that we are grateful for your work.

To all of our sick and shut-ins, we send our best wishes.

Mici Bregant

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

REGION 7

MINNESOTA AND MICHIGAN

REGIONAL NEWS

MINNESOTA FEDERATION

Take Me Out to the Ballgame! Please join us on July 15th at 1 p.m. as we watch the Duluth Huskies take on the Bismark Larks. Cost for KSKJ Life Members is FREE (non-members are \$12 each). Includes: 1) Reserved Grandstand admission to the game. 2) Tailgate party starting at 1 p.m. and 3) Fellowship and fun with other KSKJ Life members! Please RSVP to Sharon Bucar by Monday, July 9 at (218) 626-1928.

LODGE #59

EVELETH, MN

LODGE UPDATE

Eveleth Lodge #59 joined with the Eveleth Knights of Columbus to prepare and serve a pancake breakfast for both Eveleth and Gilbert parishes after the masses on April 15th. We also prepared and served a hamburger feed for the last night of religious education at Resurrection Church serving the kids, parents, teachers and members of the parishes that attend Fr. Garry's Wednesday night talks. That was held on April 18th.



Ron Erjavec and Bob Mavec, members of both the Knights of Columbus and KSKJ Life, in the kitchen.



Fr. Garry (right) eats burgers with the children.



Guests fill their plates with some delicious home-made sweets as well as the perfectly-cooked burgers.

On May 5th, our lodge helped with the Cinco de Mayo celebration/fundraiser for Marquette School at Holy Spirit Church in Virginia. Earlier that same day we helped the Eveleth Fire Department with a BBQ sale during the Eveleth City Wide Rummage Sales.



Rosemary Mattson and Heidi and Lily Coldagelli folding napkins for the Cinco de Mayo celebration.



The Fire Department crew with members of KSKJ Life ready to open the BBQ tent



Yum! That's delicious BBQ!

Rosemary Mattson

LODGE #171

DULUTH, MN

UPCOMING EVENT

Please join us for St. Elizabeth's Lodge #171 Bean Bag Tournament and Polka Party on Thursday, June 28 at 5 p.m. The location for this event will be Chambers Grove. Please bring a potluck dish to share. The lodge will provide coney dogs and beverages. Please RSVP by Monday, June 25 to bucarf@gmail.com. This fun event will take place rain or shine!

JOIN HANDS DAY

It was a beautiful day for our Join Hands event which took place on May 6! Members of Lodge #171 cleaned up the grounds at Stowe Elementary School, St. Elizabeth's Church and the Veteran's Memorial. See photos on the next page.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



One of the youngest members of KSKJ Lodge #171, 2-year-old Allison Owen, joining with young and old (er) members with the clean up.



A team effort for Join Hands Day

LODGE UPDATE

Our lodge recently honored two lodge officers as Lodge Leaders: Sharon Bucar for 40 years and Mary Spehar White for 20 years. We also honored one of our members, Jim Pogorelec, with the 50-year member award. Congratulations!



Accepting awards from left to right: Sharon Bucar, Lodge Leader Award for 40 years; Jim Pogorelec, 50-Year Member Award; and Mary Spehar White, Lodge Leader Award for 20 year

LODGE #196

LODGE UPDATE

Lodge #196 held its 2018 Join Hands Event on April 12th. The first part was having some of the lodge members go down to the local Quad City Food Shelf and help unload a delivery truck from the Duluth Food Bank. Then the task of assisting other volunteers in stocking the shelves with these food items was the next thing needed to do. Another part of our Join Hands Day will be to help Lodge member Yvonne Skrbec plant our St. Joseph's Catholic Church flower beds when the weather permits. Thank you to all Lodge members for helping in this year's Lodge Join Hands Day.



L-R: Le Schutte, Katherine Trampusch, and Yvonne Skrbec (not pictured.....Bob Finc and Karl Oberstar Jr. on camera)

Karl Oberstar, Jr.
President

REGION 8

COLORADO, MONTANA, KANSAS, CALIFORNIA

LODGE #7

PUEBLO, CO

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 3rd

St. Joseph Lodge #7 will be holding the annual Golf Scramble at Hollydot Golf Course on June 3rd beginning at 8 a.m. Check-in begins at 7 a.m. An entry fee of \$90 will include green fees, golf cart, prizes, lunch refreshments, and a good time!

Interested? For more information contact Dan Golob at (719) 561-1641 or Bill Kocman at (719) 545-2478.

June 11th

Monthly Local Lodge Meeting at St. Joseph's Hall at 6:30 p.m.

LODGE UPDATE

St. Joseph Lodge #7's annual Reverse Raffle held on May 4th was successful once again! A crowd filled to capacity enjoyed a Collette's chicken fried steak meal and the chance to win some money. The remaining five sharing the winner spot and splitting \$3,500 were: Ellen Mahoney, Mike and Joanne Gregorich, Nick and Alice Denardo, Ron McCulloch, and Tony Martellaro. Additionally, winners of the two side boards, each having split \$500, were: Ann Marie Borcic, Hermelinda Vigil, Phil Maroney, Janice Mehle, Anton Koman, Marylou Keister, Loretta Opferman, and St. Joseph's Lodge #7.

Follow us on Facebook (@stjosephslodge7) and stay up-to-date on all Lodge #7's events happening throughout the year!

LODGE #69

BELT, MT

JOIN HANDS DAY

St. Joseph Lodge #69 cleaned the gravesites of 24 deceased members, as well as an additional 30 gravesites of relatives and friends, as their main Join Hands Day Project on May 12th. After completing this project, the group gathered for a well-deserved brunch! Prior to this project, lodge members also cleaned 4 miles of road ditches leading into the community of Belt, MT.



Members and officers of Lodge 69 participating in Join Hands Day.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

LODGE #236

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

IN MEMORY

Franci Pecavar was born to Josef and Marija Pecavar on November 7, 1935, in the small Slovenian village of Stanska Vas. He was one of nine brothers: older brothers Joze, Albin, Tone, Mirko, Ivan, Stane and younger twins, Peter and Pavle. After only obtaining a 4th grade education, Franci worked primarily on the family farm, caring for the animals and working the fields. At the age of 21, he escaped his communist, ravaged homeland in search of a better life. After several attempts at leaving, he eventually was able to travel under the cover of night, making his way through Italy in order to reach Paris. He was faced with cold winter weather upon arrival. After spending the first few nights sleeping on the streets, he and a friend realized they could escape the extreme cold by sleeping in the back of big empty garbage trucks. Thankfully, he received help from the American Red Cross during this time. After finding work through their assistance, things began looking up. In March of 1958, his friend Ivan came to him in search of help. Ivan's sister had a young friend that recently arrived from Slovenia and needed to be registered at the American Red Cross. That young lady's name was Katica Nemanic, and once Franci met her, they instantly fell in love. After a short courtship, Franci and Katica were married on November 9, 1958. They would spend the next three years working together in the Citroen car factory.

On March 23, 1961, Franci left Paris and arrived in San Francisco. Armed with a 7-month pregnant wife, his sister-in law, \$51 dollars in his pocket, and determination and a dream, he began his new life in America. Frank Jr. was born in July of that same year. His daughter Mary arrived in August of 1964, and son Joe came later in May of 1974. Many years later, he was blessed to be grandfather to Jessica, Izzy and JT. Franci Pecavar would eventually be the epitome of the American dream.

Franci worked many odd jobs when first beginning his life in San Francisco. His first big job was working at steel factory in the industrial part of city, however, the job was inconsistent with constant layoffs. At this point, he thought about becoming a carpenter. He talked to a good friend, Joe Bajuk, who was already

working in the trade and got him one of his first jobs in the field. A few years later, he realized he wanted to go out on his own, and became a general building contractor who built many homes in San Francisco and the greater Bay Area. He was a 30-year member of the Carpenters Union, Local 217.

In addition to being a hard-working husband and always providing for his family, Franci was a dedicated friend and a cornerstone member of the Slovenian community. He was a 50+ year member of KSKJ, frequently serving as an officer in any capacity that was needed. He did not stop with KSKJ; Franci participated in every other lodge at the Slovenian Hall, including serving on the Hall's Board of Directors. So many of his Saturdays were spent at the hall, setting up, cleaning up, tending bar, barbecuing steaks, pigs, and lambs, dancing, making blood sausage, competing in wine competitions (and winning!) at the Grape Festivals, and spending quality time with his friends.

While he was dedicated to having fun, he was also a devoted and faithful man. Sunday mornings were reserved for mass at Church of the Nativity, where he and his family would receive all their sacraments.

On Sundays after church during football season, he loved to watch the 49ers. During baseball season, he watched the Giants on TV every night. One of his favorite hobbies was playing bocce ball and going on tournaments to Reno with his friends. During his remaining free time, you could find Franci in his beloved Sonoma. When in Sonoma, he loved to make wine and whiskey. Franci and Katica have entertained at their summer veselica's for decades. Everyone was invited and welcome: traveling relatives and friends from Slovenia (and all other parts of the world), priests, bishops, dignitaries, old friends, and new friends. Franci really didn't care much about materialistic things—what he cared about was bringing people together through sharing food, drinks, and laughter. He truly lived for those moments and making sure others had a good time.

Franci's infectious smile, generous friendship, loving heart, and twinkling eyes will be missed by all those who knew him well, and even though those who met him only once experienced his warm inviting presence. We celebrate the true measure of the man he was, and pray that his life, so successfully and well-lived, serves as an example for all of us as we go forward without him. To us, he was our hero.

Words cannot express how much he will be missed.



Franci Pecavar

OTHER NEWS & NOTES

SEND IN YOUR LODGE UPDATE

Remember to send in all lodge news and events to voice@ksklife.com by the second Friday of each month. Additionally, feel free to submit feature articles of interest for consideration.





You've Got A Whole Lot To Love

Meet Thomas & Billy Founder

For Billy, his dad is his hero. And to Thomas, his son is the perfect sidekick. Their weekends are packed with baseball games, snow cones and outdoor adventures. And while Billy's having the time of this life, Dad's able to sit back and enjoy these precious moments because he has a Whole Life policy from KSKJ Life. He knows he'll be ready for whatever life throws at them, because he has coverage through a company he can trust.

Thomas was able to purchase a \$10,000 whole life policy from KSKJ Life for only \$199/year.¹

Learn more about how KSKJ Life can help protect your family.

1-800-THE-KSKJ | kskjlife.com

KSKJ Life, American Slovenian Catholic Union, is an Illinois fraternal benefit society located at 2439 Glenwood Ave., Joliet, IL 60435.

¹ Based on \$10,000 coverage, non-tobacco smoking, 40-year-old male with annual premium of \$199/year. Subject to underwriting. WL 06.2018 V