



# KSKJ VOICE

**2019 STEPPING UP  
PROGRAM WINNERS**

**125TH ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATIONS**

**LIFE INSURANCE  
AWARENESS MONTH**

*Photo: Slovenska Mladinska Skupina Marela  
Slovenian Dance Troop performing at KSKJ  
Life's 125th Anniversary Celebration.*





CELEBRATING **125** YEARS **KSKJ LIFE**

Thank you to all those who attended our 125th Anniversary Celebration last month!

Look for a full recap in an upcoming issue of the Voice

#### KSKJ VOICE

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

The KSKJ Voice (ISSN 1524-4407) is published monthly by KSKJ Life, American Slovenian Catholic Union (2439 Glenwood Ave., Joliet, IL 60435). It is sent free of charge to KSKJ Life members and for \$20 a year to other subscribers. Periodicals postage paid in Joliet, IL and additional mailing offices.

Publisher: KSKJ Life  
Managing Editor: April Sleyko  
English articles for publication should be sent directly to [voice@kskjlife.com](mailto:voice@kskjlife.com).

Submission Deadline: 2nd Friday of each month.

This publication is also available electronically at

[kskjlife.com](http://kskjlife.com).  
KSKJ LIFE HOME OFFICE  
2439 GLENWOOD AVENUE  
JOLIET, IL 60435  
P: 1-800-843-5755  
E: [KSKJ@KSKJLIFE.COM](mailto:KSKJ@KSKJLIFE.COM)

VOLUME 129—NO.9 ISSN 1524-4407

#### IN THIS ISSUE

##### 125TH ANNIVERSARY QUIZ

Page 6

##### STEPPING UP & JOIN HANDS CONTEST WINNERS

Page 8

##### MATCHING FUNDS UPDATE

Page 9

##### LODGE NEWS

Page 12

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL!



KSKJ LIFE



@KSKJLIFE



@KSKJLIFE

## A MESSAGE FROM THE KSKJ LIFE HOME OFFICE

### SEPTEMBER: LIFE INSURANCE AWARENESS MONTH



Traditionally, September signifies the end of summer, the beginning of autumn, and the start of a new school year. It's also Life Insurance Awareness Month, which means it's a great time to review your current needs. Life Insurance Awareness Month (LIAM) is a national awareness campaign that the nonprofit organization Life Happens created and has coordinated for the past 15 years. It brings attention to the importance of life insurance. The theme for this year's campaign is "It's Not For You, It's For Them". If you don't have enough coverage, you can risk leaving your loved ones financially vulnerable in a worst-case scenario.

Life insurance is a terrific financial asset to have. It can cover bills and help pay off debt, pay for funeral costs, replace income in a household, serve as an inheritance for a loved one, fund education goals for a child, and so much more. All these things can be a huge financial, and therefore incredibly stressful, burden.

A high number of Americans unfortunately do not have adequate life insurance protection. According to the 2019 Insurance Barometer Study (Life Happens/LIMRA), only 57 percent of American households have life insurance – yet 40 percent of those without it say they would immediately struggle to pay living expenses if their primary wage earner died. The bottom line: many families either have no life insurance or not enough, leaving them one accident or terminal illness away from a financial catastrophe for their loved ones. A key advantage of having life insurance is to ensure that the people who depend on you will be okay with their ongoing and future financial needs if something happens to you.

When was the last time you did the math to make sure your loved ones would be financially sound? When was the last time you had your life insurance needs reviewed by a professional?

At KSKJ Life, we've offered peace of mind to members and helped protect their families for 125 years. We know that everyone's situation is different, so we've designed flexible, reliable products that can help support your life needs.

In honor of September being Life Insurance Awareness Month, here are a few of our various products we offer to support our members.

- **Whole Life Single Premium** – with one single payment, this version of whole life insurance provides the same life-long coverage for the policyholder as well as the guaranteed cash values and death benefits as other KSKJ Life whole life plans. However, it does not require monthly or yearly payments so you and your family can focus on other priorities.
- **10-Pay Life Insurance** – Not ready to make a large investment but want to be proactive about protecting your family? Consider 10-Pay whole life coverage, which provides the same lifelong security and benefits as all of our whole life plans but allows the policy holder to be paid in full within 10 years.
- **20-Pay Life Insurance** – Need more time? In addition to the 10-year payment option, we also provide a 20-year payment plan. This plan includes fixed premiums, guaranteed cash values and death benefits.
- **Term Life Insurance** – Our flexible term life policies cover the policyholder for either 10, 20 or 30 years. Face amount and premiums are flexible, allowing policyholders to customize a policy that's right for them. This policy is a great fit for individuals looking to protect their families over a specific period of time.

Regardless of which plan best fits your needs, having life insurance is an important asset to protect you and your family for the long term. Have questions or need help determining which policy is best for you? Contact your local KSKJ Life agent or the Home Office.

Call: 800-843-5755

Email: [sales@kskjlife.com](mailto:sales@kskjlife.com)

Visit: [kskjlife.com](http://kskjlife.com)

**Cathi Davis**

**Fraternal Communications Coordinator**

# PITTSBURGH LODGE #50 CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIVERSARY WITH A CHARITABLE PICNIC

Our annual Summer picnic was Lodge #50's way of celebrating KSKJ Life's 125 Anniversary Celebration. A few rounds of bingo, Can Jam, and Corn Hole rounded out the games played at our Luau themed picnic. Our catered meal from Scullio's 910 deli was delicious as always and the cupcakes and cookie cake hit the spot for dessert. We honored our 2019 Lodge Person of the Year, Bob Lokar (our lodge president) for all that he has done for us.

We added a charitable collection to our picnic asking each person to bring \$10.00 worth of school supplies for The Education Partnership. Founded in 2008, The Education Partnership provides school supplies for students and their teachers in low-income schools in Southwestern Pennsylvania. The Education Partnership originally started out as the Pittsburgh Community Storehouse, which donated gifts-in-kind to economically disadvantaged communities and individuals in the area. In May 2011, the organization officially completed its pilot program and became Southwestern Pennsylvania's first teacher resource center distributing school and classroom supplies at no cost to students and teachers in need. The Education Partnership is more equipped to support the ever-changing needs of the 139 local schools they serve through their Teacher Resource Center, Adopt-a-School program and STEAM Lending Library. The Teacher Resource Center is basically a hands-on "store" where teachers can come in and shop for school supplies for their students for free.

Overall, we collected close to \$500.00 worth of school supplies (ranging from binders, notebooks, looseleaf, glue sticks, markers, crayons, glue bottles, erasers, first aid kits, rulers, pencils, pens, etc.) We gave an additional donation of \$420 (including the \$50 charitable gift). The \$420 will help 17 students with school supplies.

Lastly, the officers and members of Lodge 50 would like to extend another huge Thank You to April Sleyko from the Home Office for taking time away on a weekend where she could have spent it with her family to come hangout with us in Pittsburgh for a Lodge Picnic. Everyone enjoyed seeing a face to someone whom they've spoken to over the phone. We hope April enjoyed her time in Pittsburgh and hope that she'll come back and visit us again!

*Submitted by,  
Ashley Mikulan*



# CLEVELAND LODGE #150 HOSTS PORKY PIG SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT & BBQ

St. Anne's Lodge #150 would like to thank everyone who supported our 8th Annual Porky Pig Softball Tournament and BBQ Picnic. It was held on Saturday, August 3rd at James Day Park. The weather was beautiful for the five teams that participated in our tournament. After the games, members, players and guests enjoyed a barbeque picnic of pulled pork with all the fixings. A big thank you to Grill Master, David Javor, for the great job he did grilling the delicious Slovenian sausages, hot dogs and bologna. Lunch was followed with plenty of desserts and juicy watermelon. Besides softball, friends and families of all ages had fun playing corn hole, miniature golf, and gaga ball. It was a fantastic day!

Congratulations to Team Snyder - Blue who won the tournament beating last year's champions, Team Klodnick. The games were exciting and played with good sportsmanship.

We would like to extend a big thank you to Ron Zak and Tim Klodnick of Lodge #226 for all their help in coordinating and running the tournament for us. Great job!

*Submitted by,  
Elaine Peskar*



*The Grill Master, David Javor*



*2019 Porky Pig Championship Team Snyder - Blue!*



*Liz Jones smiles at the registration table*



*Lodge #150 Members Crew*



*Players get ready for the Championship game: Team Klodnick vs. Team Snyder - Blue*

## 125TH ANNIVERSARY QUIZ

Time to test your KSKJ Life knowledge! In honor of our 125th anniversary this year, we prepared some questions all about KSKJ Life. From history to fraternal programs to current events, see how much you know about KSKJ Life. Answer key can be found at the bottom of this page.

- 1: What does KSKJ stand for?
- 2: How many US states does KSKJ Life have members in?
- 3: What was The Voice originally called?
- 4: What year was the first home office building built?
- 5: Which 3 original lodges are still in existence today?
- 6: Besides life insurance and annuities, what other benefits does KSKJ Life offer?
- 7: Where was the 2018 National Convention held?
- 8: What National Program does KSKJ Life members participate in every spring (month of May)?
- 9: What National Program was introduced in 2015 to recognize members who volunteer in his or her community?
- 10: What 3 social media sites is KSKJ Life active on?
- 11: What is the purpose of our Supporting Soldiers Campaign?
- 12: What is the date Slovenia celebrates their Statehood Day?
- 13: On May 24th of each year we celebrate the feast of who?
- 14: What was one of the weekly challenges in this year's Stepping Up Program?
- 15: Who is KSKJ Life's National Spiritual Advisor?
- 16: What is the full date (day, month and year) of KSKJ Life's anniversary?
- 17: Who is the current CEO of KSKJ Life?
- 18: What biannual session that focuses on the personal and professional developments of younger adults will occur in Summer of 2020?
- 19: What were KSKJ Life's assets at the end of 2018?

Answer Key: 1) Kranjsko Slovenska Katoliška Jednota (Carniolian Slovenian Catholic Union, which was later changed to American Slovenian Catholic Union). 2) 50. 3) KSKJ Glasilo. 4) 1934. 5) St. Stephen's Lodge #1 in Chicago, IL; St. Joseph's Lodge #2 in Joliet, IL and St. Joseph's Lodge #7 in Pueblo, CO. 6) Perkspot, American Hearing, ScripSave and Educational Grant Program. 7) Rosemont (Chicago), IL. 8) Join Hands Day. 9) KSKJ Life National Service Award. 10) Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram. 11) To support a US military-based charity. 12) June 25. 13) Marija Pomagal. 14) Clean Up, Make it Grow, Get Active, Volunteer, Reading & Reflection, Random Act of Kindness, Review & Update important documents, Recycle, Healthy Food and Hydration. 15) Reverend Richard Gielow. 16) April 2, 1894. 17) Tony Mravle. 18) Young Adult Leadership Conference. 19) \$513 million.

## WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO MAKE SURE YOUR YOUNG FAMILY HAS A PLAN

It's never too early to make a plan that will secure your family's financial future. Why? Accidents happen all the time, and it's better to be prepared for life's curveballs than leave your family with financial risk and debts they're unable to cover without your income. That's where life insurance comes in—by paying premiums now, you're ensuring that your beneficiaries will receive the payouts they need to continue to pay for their expenses later.

An added benefit for young families looking to purchase life insurance is that as long as you always pay your premium on time, they never go up. You can pay for your policy over a 10 or 20-year period, making it manageable to protect your family. Or, if you're able to, you can do a single lump-sum premium payment. This way, without monthly or yearly payments, you and your young family can still have peace of mind while being able to focus on other priorities or activities you're passionate about.



Life insurance proceeds can finance future needs, like your children's education or spouse's retirement plans. This may feel like it's a million years away, but in reality, time flies by faster than you think and an accident could happen at any moment. Therefore, it's vital that you have a plan in place to cover these kinds of expenses, even at a young age.

Life insurance brings you stability and provides life-long protection, coverage flexibility, and valuable tax-free death benefits. Knowing that you have a plan in place will bring you confidence and give your loved ones comfort and security in changing, stressful circumstances.

Don't wait to purchase life insurance because you think you don't need coverage now—secure your loved ones' futures today! For guidance selecting the right coverage for you and other tools you can leverage to make a financial plan for your family, reach out to us at 1-800-THE-KSKJ.

### WHY DO WE CELEBRATE LABOR DAY?

Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions of American workers and is usually observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894 (the same year KSKJ Life was founded).

According to The History Channel, in the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to make a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages. People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and breaks.

As manufacturing increasingly supplanted agriculture, labor unions, grew more prominent and vocal. They began organizing strikes and rallies to protest poor conditions. On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade in U.S. history.

In the wake of this unrest and in an attempt to repair ties with American workers, Congress passed an act making Labor Day a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories. On June 28, 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed it into law. Labor Day now constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

### STEPPING UP WINNERS

A big congratulations to the winners of this year's Stepping Up Challenge, Rosemary Mattson from Eveleth, MN and Jodi Wartenberg from Joliet, IL! Rosemary and Jodi received a fabulous wellness package, which includes a Life Organizer (Essential record Keeper and Estate Planner), KSKJ Life tumbler and a \$25 gift card. In addition, KSKJ Life will make a donation of \$50 to a charity of their choice. Jodi chose to donate her funds to the Old Joliet Prison Project and Rosemary selected the Quad City Food Shelf.

Thank you to everyone for participating! It has been a great pleasure receiving your stories and hearing how our members



### JOIN HANDS PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Each Spring, KSKJ Life members across the nation "join hands" to make a difference in their communities through helpful projects that connect youths and adults. Congratulations to the winners selected in the Join Hands photo contest drawing! Each winner will receive \$125 for the charity of their choice. Thank you to everyone who shared their Join Hands projects to help your community!



Blessed Virgin Lodge #50  
Pittsburgh, PA



St. Genevieve Lodge #108  
Joliet, IL



St. Joseph Lodge #169  
Cleveland, OH



St. Elizabeth  
Lodge #171  
Duluth, MN



Blessed Virgin of Help  
Lodge #196  
Gilbert, MN

### MATCHING FUNDS UPDATE

PUEBLO, CO LODGES #7 & #104 AND WILLARD, WI LODGE #136 RECENTLY HELD SUCCESSFUL MATCHING FUNDS EVENTS



On April 27, 2019, St. Joseph's Lodge in collaboration with Immaculate Lodge #104 sponsored a Matching Funds event for St. Therese Catholic School in an effort to raise money towards the school's flexible outdoor seating. Following Sunday's mass on July 14th, KSKJ members from Lodge #7 and #104 presented Father Michael Chrisman, school board members and ACE members with a check for \$2,000 from KSKJ Life.

Submitted by,  
Angela Perez



Lonna Rakovec presents a Matching Funds check to Edward Bayuk.

Lodge #136's Matching Funds Event for the Willard Historical Secretary in Wisconsin was a huge success netting over \$2,500 for the upkeep of the Settler's Park in Willard. The park is a beautiful tribute to the Slovenians that settled in this area. We have a shelter made like a Slovenian Drying shed along with a rock wall and stones with the name of the 1st Settlers. Be sure to check it out if you are in the area.

The picture shows Edward J. Bayuk accepting the \$2,000 Matching Funds check from Financial Secretary Lonna Rakovec. Mr. Bayuk is not only a member of the Willard Historical Society but also President of our KSKJ Lodge #136.

Submitted by,  
Lonna Rakovec

**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.

**JULY & AUGUST 2019**

- Lodge #01 - Hunter T. Smith, West Chicago, IL
- Lodge #02 - Marilyn J. Petrovic, Joliet, IL
- Lodge #07 - Albert J. Petrick, Pueblo, CO
- Lodge #07 - Larry Tatinski, Pueblo, CO
- Lodge #20 - Mary R. Carter, Brownstown Twp., MI
- Lodge #20 - Doris Leverett, Ocala, FL
- Lodge #20 - Darlene Stumpf, Fennville, MI
- Lodge #25 - James A. Slapnik Jr., Willoughby, OH
- Lodge #25 - Edward A. Valyik, Euclid, OH
- Lodge #25 - Norbert Zak, Euclid, OH
- Lodge #29 - Joan A. Kerwin, Wheaton, IL
- Lodge #29 - Jack C. Schoonhoven, Freeport, IL
- Lodge #42 - Daniel R. Marion, Middletown, PA
- Lodge #42 - Julio R. Medina, Oviedo, FL
- Lodge #50 - Joseph Bucar, Pittsburgh, PA
- Lodge #50 - Barbara D. Donnelly, Wallingford, PA
- Lodge #50 - Thomas Kasunich, Somerset, PA
- Lodge #50 - Benjamin F. Keener Jr., Lebanon, PA
- Lodge #50 - Sandra L. Lynch, Perkiomenville, PA
- Lodge #50 - Peter J. Mihelic, Pittsburgh, PA
- Lodge #50 - John Poklembo, Latrobe, PA
- Lodge #52 - Clyde D. Lamb, Fairmount, IN
- Lodge #53 - Joyce M. Merek, Del Rio, TX
- Lodge #53 - Joseph A. Svete, Waukegan, IL
- Lodge #59 - Jonah N. Warner, Brooklyn Center, MN

- Lodge #63 - Frederic Colvin, Quaker City, OH
- Lodge #65 - Marie A. Krolnik, Kewaskum, WI
- Lodge #65 - James C. Murn, Dodgeville, WI
- Lodge #74 - Lyndia Y. Knapp, Raritan, IL
- Lodge #74 - Joyce M. Montgomery, Baton Rouge, LA
- Lodge #110 - Patricia A. Jursik, Norton, OH
- Lodge #148 - Stephen Bejek, Trumbull, CT
- Lodge #148 - Charles J. Vickers, Darien, CT
- Lodge #150 - Thomas A. Cigolle Sr., Salem, OH
- Lodge #153 - Joseph E. Ferlic Jr., Bridgeville, PA
- Lodge #153 - Robert J. Gladis, Johnstown, PA
- Lodge #153 - Aletta Markus, Ft. Washington, PA
- Lodge #169 - Idamae C. Derganc, Mentor, OH
- Lodge #169 - BVida Rupnik, Chesterland, OH
- Lodge #169 - Andrey S. Stanisa, Euclid, OH
- Lodge #219 - Porter Moore Jr., Akron, OH
- Lodge #226 - Lillian A. Hlabse, Chardon, OH
- Lodge #226 - Anthony L. Petkovsek, Cleveland, OH
- Lodge #236 - Ronald E. Kolari, Colton, CA
- Lodge #253 - Nellie A. Phillips, Cameron, WI
- Lodge #623 - Nerva L. Loveless, Salem, KY
- Lodge #623 - Everett E. Padgett, Owensboro, KY
- Lodge #623 - Gordon Wade, Sharpsburg, KY
- Lodge #624 - Robert W. Lott, Gulfport, MS
- Lodge #625 - Frank H. Wilson, Knoxville, TN

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Mary A. Senkinc Urbancic -  
Lodge #153**

Rod & Cathy Wilson - \$35.00  
Rebecca Coulter - \$50.00

**Rudolph Krasovec, Sr. -  
Lodge #7**

Jay & Virginia Parsons Family -  
\$100.00



**KSKJ LIFE  
EDUCATIONAL  
GRANT  
PROGRAM IS  
COMING THIS  
MONTH**

**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS  
SEPTEMBER 1 - 30!**

**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 AND APPLICATION AVAILABLE AT  
[KSKJLIFE.COM/GRANTS](http://KSKJLIFE.COM/GRANTS)

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### COLORADO

#### LODGE #7

PUEBLO, CO

#### LODGE NEWS

St. Joseph Lodge #7's annual Reverse Raffle held on May 3rd was successful once again as a capacity crowd 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.

St. Joseph's Lodge #7 held its Annual Golf Tournament at Hollydot Golf Course in Colorado City, Colorado on June 2nd. Participants were graciously blessed by a visit from National Board Member, MaryLou Stefanick, and KSKJ Life Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Richard Gielow, C.M., who celebrated mass for golfers before the tournament began. Those in attendance enjoyed a delightful lunch provided by Hollydot Golf Course and concluded with a drawing of various door prizes.

The tournament winners were:

- First Place – Mike D'Christina, Dave Styduhar, Mark Mutz, Eugene Stanko & Tammy Fesmire
- Second Place – P. Maroney, D. Maroney, G. Maroney, G. Wesfield & C. Maroney
- Third Place – D. Emery, J. Brown, J. Lany, N. Emery & J. Emery
- Fourth Place – C. Carter, D. Carter, D. Rasheld, D. Hyatt & J. Granato



*Pictured above is the first-place team at the annual golf tournament.*

Make sure to tell your kids and your grandkids that St. Joseph's Lodge #7 scholarship applications will be DUE September 30, 2019. Students must be a member of Lodge #7 and be enrolled in a parochial high school or an institution of higher learning. Students must send a letter requesting the college or high school scholarship. Be sure to INCLUDE in your letter how many Lodge #7 events you attended the previous year and information about support you and your family/household provided to KSKJ Lodge #7 the previous year. Along with the letter, students must send a copy of their upcoming class schedule and a copy of their transcript. If a member is requesting a scholarship for a second, third or fourth year, they must complete at least 5 hours of service to Lodge #7. These hours need to be verified in writing by a KSKJ Lodge #7 officer and sent alongside the other required documents in order for the application to be considered.

Scholarship applications can be sent to Danny Golob or Rudy Krasovec or an electronic copy can be sent to lodge7kskj@gmail.com.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 9 – Monthly Local Lodge Meeting in St. Joseph's Hall at 6:30PM.
- November 17 – Beat the Minnesota Vikings Fundraiser

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### ILLINOIS

#### JOLIET COMBINED LODGES

JOLIET, IL

#### LODGE UPDATE

Happy Labor Day my friends. I hope that everyone had survived the heat this past summer, as well as the rain. Enough about the weather, on to a few topics of importance.

On Sunday, July 28th, the combined Joliet KSKJ Lodges sponsored a family outing entitled "Summer Splash & Pizza Bash" at the Tomahawk Aquatic Center in Channahon, Illinois. It was finally a sunny and hot day to have the event. All members that were in attendance enjoyed themselves very much. They were a splishin' and a splashin' in the water. And for those who were hungry, pizza was served along with either water or soda to drink. A great mix of youth members, adult members and guests attended the event.

St. Joseph's Lodge #7 is hosting its Broncos "Beat the Vikings" Raffle on Sunday, November 17, 2019 at St. Joseph's Hall on 917 East "B" Street, where everyone is welcome to come watch the game and enjoy delicious Klobasi sandwiches. In conjunction with the fundraiser, Lodge #7 will also be celebrating the 125th KSKJ Life anniversary as well. Raffle tickets will be \$30 and will feature two \$1,000 prizes, one \$500 prize and five \$100 prizes. In addition, there will be a raffle drawing for various gift baskets donated by members within the lodge. The drawing will be at halftime, and the WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN. Tickets are available by contacting Danny Golob at (719) 250-9805. Come help us celebrate 125 years!



*Members of KSKJ at the check presentation for the Matching Funds with members of the Pueblo Children's Chorale.*

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

*Submitted by,  
Angela Perez, Correspondent*



*Everyone, but especially the kids, had a great time playing around in the pool!*

# LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



*KSKJ Life members enjoying a nice pizza break.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Moving along, as a reminder, the next combined Joliet KSKJ Lodges meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 3rd at 7:00pm at T&C Lanes. Hope to see you there.

Since there is no further news to report, I'll sign off for now.

*Submitted by,  
Pauline Mihelich  
Recording Secretary/Reporter  
Joliet KSKJ Lodges*

## LODGE #1

CHICAGO, IL

### JOIN HANDS PROJECT

In May and July it was necessary to cancel our planned Join Hands events because of heavy rains and extreme heat conditions. But on August 3rd, members of the lodge participated in the Sisters of St. Francis of Christ The King 150th Anniversary Liturgy & Picnic at Mt. Assisi Hill in Lemont. St. Stephen Lodge 1 members were on the clean-up committee. Thank you to the volunteers and special thanks to Don G. Sierzega for helping to take down the many tent/canopies and for the home baked dessert.



*Don and Joanne Sierzega were among other KSKJ Life members who participated in the Sisters of St. Francis of Christ The King 150th Anniversary Liturgy & Picnic.*

*Submitted by,  
Joanne Sierzega, Lodge Reporter*

# LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

## LODGE #29

JOLIET, IL

### LODGE STEAK FRY

Many thanks to all for helping out in any way at the Lodge Steak Fry held on July 26. Your names are too numerous to mention but know the officers always appreciate you. A total of 108 members/guests enjoyed their steak with trimmings on a beautiful summer evening. Tony Darin was the lucky winner of the 50/50 raffle held that night (I think Grandpa bought the lucky ticket for him). He told me he will keep a 20 and a 5 and put the rest of the 20's in the bank for when he gets older. So wise for just 7 years old. Debbie Zelinski was surprised to find that she was named as our Lodge Person of the Year for 2019 and presented with an award and gift. Congratulations Debbie! We were very happy to award officer years of service certificates to Kathy Lovati for 15 years and Nick Vidmar for 5 years.



*Donation of School Supplies L-R: GACS rep, Ken & Becky Velasquez, Karen Colman*

An overflowing table of school supplies and a check for \$110.00 was donated to Guardian Angel Community Services in Joliet who are always so very appreciative of our efforts. Please know that your donations will be spread over 3 programs containing children. Thank you

to all who donated and to Hailey Vicic who takes her job very seriously organizing our table of supplies.



*Lucky winner Tony Darin with sister Naomi*



*Hardworking kitchen crew L-R: Ken Velasquez, Debbie Zelinski, Paul Boettcher, Bob Vicich, Doug McKanna, Kathy Lovati, Joyce Vicich*

Happy end of Summer on Labor Day and the beginning of Fall on September 23!

*Karen (Ramsak) Colman  
Voice Reporter*



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### LODGE #44

S. CHICAGO, IL

#### BASEBALL OUTING

At the end of July, KSKJ Lodge 44 had a great night at the ballgame. Unfortunately, even with free baseball, the White Sox fell to the Mets.



The White Sox scoreboard welcomed KSKJ Lodge #44 and James Rossi during the game.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

As a reminder, our next meeting will be September 14th. It will be held at noon at Jovial Club, 5022, 9615 S Commercial Ave, Chicago, IL 60617. Join us for food, conversation and planning.

The annual Bocce tournament will be September 28th (please note the change of date) at O'Hara's Tavern, 3541 E 106th St, Chicago, IL 60617. There are a few slots left for teams so get yours together and Contact George Bozzetti (708-334-5434) or James Rossi Jr (219-902-0230) to secure your spot. Registration will start at 10:30. Doughnuts and coffee will be provided. First roll will be at 11 am. Lunch will also be provided after the new champion is crowned. Price for the tournament is \$25 per person or \$12 if you are coming to spectate and enjoy lunch.

Submitted by,  
Angela Rossi

### LODGE #108

JOLIET, IL

#### LODGE UPDATES

Hello everyone. Summer has finally passed us by. School is back in session. And it's Labor Day. Where did the months go? Well, on to some lodge news.

As a reminder, our next regular monthly meeting will be on Sunday, October 6th at 1:00pm in Ferdinand Hall. Pizza will be served after the meeting. Our next regular meeting will be on Sunday, November 3rd. Then on Sunday, December 1st, we will hold our annual Christmas party at Al's Steakhouse from 1:00pm to 3:30pm. Cost to members is \$10.00 and \$15.00 for guests. We will honor our 50-year members. Also, we will have nominations and election of officers for 2020.

And, since I'm on the subject of nominations and election of officers, we will be creating a new officer position called Membership Communication Officer. What this position will entail is the use of a computer to access the internet, Facebook, Twitter, the new lodge officer portal and other apps if need be to help with lodge reporting and communicating with the lodge members. So, if there is any young person (member) willing to accept this endeavor, please let us know.

Well, that's it for now. Until we meet again.

Pauline Mihelich – Lodge President  
St. Genevieve Lodge #108, KSKJ Life

### LODGE #143

JOLIET, IL

#### MATCHING FUNDS UPDATE

Members from Lodge #143 volunteered their time on Saturday, August 3rd at the 8th annual Mammo-Palooza fundraising event in Joliet, IL. This was also a KSKJ Life

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### MINNESOTA

#### LODGE #59

EVELETH, MN

#### MINNESOTA FEDERATION MEETING

Eveleth Sts. Cyril and Methodius Lodge #59 will be hosting the Quarterly Minnesota Federation Dinner Meeting on October 13th at 1 p.m. at Resurrection church hall. All KSKJ members are invited! Call your reservations in to Connie Menart at 218-744-2145 a week ahead of time. The cost for the dinner is \$10. The meeting will follow the dinner. If a lodge can't attend, it would be appreciated if you send your report to me at rosiemattson@gmail.com.

Thanks!

Rosemary Mattson, Federation Secretary

### LODGE #171

DULUTH, MN

#### LODGE PERSON OF THE YEAR

St. Elizabeth Lodge #171 recently held our Lodge Person of the Year Dinner in Duluth, MN.



Members of St. Elizabeth's Lodge #171 and Mary Beth Strand's family pose for a picture as she is honored for "Person of the Year"

Matching Funds event. Mammo-Palooza is a benefit event to support Mammo Strong Inc., which provides charitable support to help children and their families in the areas of health, education and amateur sports in memory of Mathew "MAMMO" Mammosser, who was a classmate of some of our lodge members.



Pictured is Annette Koncar, Lodge #143 Treasurer.



Mammo Strong, Inc. raises funds in memory of Mathew "Mammo" Mammosser (pictured on sign).

The event was a great success with net profits reaching over \$12,000. KSKJ Life's matching funds of \$2,000 will put the grand total over \$14,000!

Thank you to all who volunteered their time for this great cause!

Submitted by,  
Lauren Baltz

# LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

## PIZZA TRAIN

St. Elizabeth Lodge #171 also held a Pizza Train ride this summer, which was a part of our ongoing 125th Anniversary Celebration. A great time was had by all.



Youth Members bonding on the Pizza Train.



Adult Members bonding on the Pizza Train.

Frank Bucar

Lodge #171 Fraternal Activities Coordinator

## LODGE #197

ST. CLOUD, MN

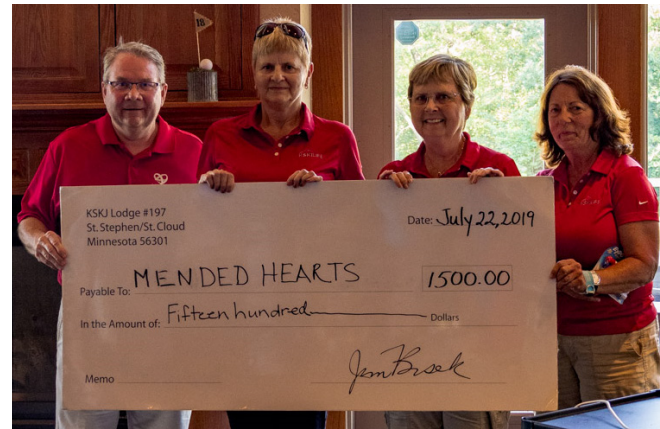
## MATCHING FUNDS GOLF TOURNAMENT

St. Stephen Lodge #197 recently partnered with Mended Hearts, a national and community-based non-profit organization that has been offering the gift of hope to

heart disease patients, their families and caregivers, for a Matching Funds event. As a hole sponsor8th for the Annual Stearns Bank Mended Hearts Golf Tournament held on Monday, July 22, 2019 at Blackberry Ridge, Sartell, Minnesota, funds will be dedicated to the purchase of an AED.



John Pucel, Joanna Pucel, Jim Bisek, Mike Retka, Carol Hlebain, Marge Pryately at sponsored hole #10.



Check presentation for Mended Hearts.



John and Elaine Ohmann from Cold Spring, MN. John was raised in St Stephen, MN, a traditionally Slovenian village.

# LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

## OHIO

### CLEVELAND AREA NEWS

CLEVELAND, OH

## REPORT TO THE BROADER COMMUNITY

St. Vitus Food Bank served 1,334 people in 2018. Of this number, 605 were children. There were 21,164 pounds of food distributed, providing an equivalent of 17,637 meals with a wholesale value equal to \$33,519. Parishioners and friends of St. Vitus Parish donated \$6,212.89 to the parish food bank for 2018, the last complete full year for these statistics.

The parish hot meal program, initiated in 2010 in conjunction with St. Paschal Baylon Helping hands Ministry, provided on average 50-to-55 hot meals once a month. After reviewing the amount of meals being served the past eight years, with a slow but steady decline, it was mutually decided that SPBHMM could better serve an area or institution where there is a greater need for a hot meal.

A new clothing distribution, located at 6108 St. Clair Avenue, and under the direction of Joseph House of Cleveland, Inc., was completely remodeled so that this corporal work of mercy was able to be expanded. This former apparel, furniture, and TV service retail store front, now serves not only any immigrant coming to northeast Ohio but also local residents living in and around the St. Clair Avenue neighborhood. The clothing distribution work is handled on Wednesday and Friday each week but with an appointment. The remodeling cost was \$50,000, not including \$15,000 in donated labor or materials. The majority of funds for the remodeling work were raised through the efforts of St. Vitus and Divine Word Parishes Parish as well as providing a number of volunteers. In addition, students from St. Edward High School provided 30-to-40 students and adult moderators for this task. KSKJ Home Office and local lodges Christ The King #226 and St. Vitus #25 also had Matching Funds events to support this work. St. Vitus parishioners involved in these corporal works of mercy include: Matthew Dolinar, Michael Dolinar, Tom Filipovic, Nick Filipovic, Don Kern,

Mirko Kristanc, Francisek Kuhar\*, Stane Kuhar\*, Josie Manfreda\*, Joe Maxse, Joe Rozman, Dale & Maryann Scafe-Zadell, Matt Stankewicz\* and friend, and Betty Svekric.

\*denotes member of KSKJ.

Submitted by Stane Kuhar

## LODGE #146

CLEVELAND, OH

## LODGE UPDATE

The summer is rapidly disappearing. The hot and steamy weather comes and goes (thank goodness). For many of us, students (elementary or college) are returning to their schools. This can be trying times as people try to re-adjust their lives around the new schedules, which may be different from last year. New activities can also through wrenches into the schedules. Let's try to keep these families in our prayers that everyone will have a little more patience and understanding during this start of the school year.

Our Cleveland Indians and Cleveland Browns have also put some excitement in our lives. The Indians have come back from 11 games back at the start of June to now being tied for first place. And, for the first time in recent memory, the Browns went into the pre-season without a battle for quarterback. Such an interesting start to fall.

## LODGE EVENTS

After a summer off, we will have our first meeting on at Quaker Steak and Lube on Canal Road. This meeting will be at 6:30 pm on August 30th. We will discuss our fall favorite - the hay ride. We have gone to Wooster the last two years, and will see about trying another place. This will be in September (date to be determined).

We had one lodge member join Greg from Lodge #150 in the Velosano bike ride around Progressive. Robert Snyder joined his uncle Greg on this ride. There were several other non-members who were with Greg on this ride.

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



Greg and Robert Snyder with the Chic-Fil-A mascot at VeloSano.

The first item is a fundraising bike ride with Lodge #150 on July 20th. The high light of the ride is the change to ride the outfield track at Progressive Field. The mascot for Chic-Fil-A was also there to cheer on the riders.

We will have a meet and greet at Quaker Steak and Lube on Friday, August 30th. Quaker Steak and Lube is located on Canal Road in Valley View, OH.

Our annual Christmas party will be December 1. We have received a confirmation from Santa that he has carved out time to come listen to the children. It will be at the Slovenian Home on E. 80th.

### LODGE NEWSLETTER

The final note of business is that we will be starting a lodge newsletter. This will come out quarterly. This will be send via email. The first issue will be coming out this fall. If you do not see it, please contact me at in4mativ1@hotmail.com and I will be sure to add you to the mailing list.

See you around!

*Josie Kmet*  
Secretary

### LODGE #150

CLEVELAND, OH

#### LODGE UPDATE

Now that summer is over and fall is upon us, we still have plenty of time to enjoy the beautiful weather with our family and friends.

St. Anne's Lodge #150 would like to thank everyone who supported our 8th Annual Porky Pig Softball Tournament and BBQ Picnic. See our full writeup in the features of this issue.

The VeloSano Bike Ride held in July to benefit Cleveland Clinic Cancer Research was a huge success. Thank you to Greg Snyder and his riders for participating (riding 10 miles) and representing KSKJ Life. It was a Matching Funds Event for Lodges #150 and #146.

#### LODGE UPDATE

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- **September 21 - St. Marys Church Clambake** (Holmes Avenue)
- **October 27 - The Nash Clambake/Browns Tailgate** (Slovenian National Home, East 80th)
- **November 16 - The Nash 100th Anniversary Dinner/ Dance**
- **November 24 - St. Marys Church Fall Festival and Noon Polka Mass**
- **December 1 - KSKJ Lodges 150, 146 and 63 Children's Christmas Party at The Nash**

For more information, please contact Elaine Peskar at 440-503-8312 or kskjlife150@gmail.com.

*Submitted by,*  
*Elaine Peskar*

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### LODGE #169

CLEVELAND, OH

#### SUCCESSFUL MATCHING FUNDS EVENT

We helped the Collinwood Slovenian home celebrate its 100th anniversary on Sunday, August 11, by making it a KSKJ Life Matching Funds event. The lower hall was filled with people who heard a bit about the Home's history from longtime Councilman Mike Polensek and others. Yours truly got to address the audience on the integral part St. Joseph #169 has played in that history. In its extended heyday, CSH used to have parades and other major events featuring the St. Joseph #169 marching band and the young lady Cadets (some of whom were present that day, ranging in age from 49 to 80-something). We also had on display legacy cadet and band uniforms, next to our KSKJ banner.

We enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by Joe Tavcar, won some nice items in the Chinese raffle, and listened to the music of Patty C. and the Guys to round out a great afternoon.

Our lodge meetings continue to be held at the Home. May the hall continue its history for years to come.



*John Pucel, Joanna Pucel, Jim Bisek, Mike Retka, Carol Hlebain, Marge Pryately at sponsored hole #10.*

#### BACK TO SCHOOL; SCHOLARSHIPS

Best wishes to all our students returning to school. High-school and college students, if you haven't done so in a previous year, remember to apply for a KSKJ Life Educational Grant during the month of September (go to kskjlife.com). Our lodge is in the process of awarding 12 scholarships to our members as well.

I hope you all enjoy the last of the summer; stay safe! The next lodge meeting is at 6:30 PM on Thursday, September 15 at the Collinwood Slovenian Home on Holmes Avenue.

*Submitted by,*  
*John Nemeec*

### LODGE #219

EUCLID, OH

#### LODGE EVENTS

Hope to see all KSKJ Lodge 219 members on Sunday, September 8th at 1:00pm for our business meeting in the Community Room at Gateway Manor, Euclid, Ohio. We will be planning our fall events and could use your suggestions regarding Volunteer of the year, our next charity project, election of officers, and our Christmas party. It will not be all work and no fun - we have our door prizes and a light luncheon will be served.

Our celebration of KSKJ 125th anniversary and Lodge 219 50-year members mass and dinner was well attended by both members and guests.

There will be no meeting in October so please read the Voice for updated information on the November 10th meeting which will be held in the Community Room at Gateway Manor, Euclid, Ohio at 1:00pm as well as information about our Christmas project.

Blessings to all.

*Elizabeth Kusar*

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### LODGE #153

STRABANE, PA

#### 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

St. Jerome Lodge #153 Strabane, PA held a celebration dance this summer in honor of KSKJ Life's 125th anniversary. Below are some photos of the event, which was held at the lodge hall in Strabane.



### WISCONSIN

#### LODGE #136

WILLARD, WI

#### SUCCESSFUL MATCHING FUNDS EVENT

Greetings from Willard:

Mary of Perpetual Help #136 will be having their Lodge Person of the Year and Honor Our Lodge Officers on Sept. 8, 2019 at Holy Family's Parish Center. We will start with a potluck lunch at noon with our lodge providing the meat, bread and beverages. We will be honoring Jeremiah Rakovec as our Lodge Person of the Year and our Lodge Officers President Edward J. Bayuk, V.P. Joanne Trunkel, Financial Secretary Lonna Rakovec, Treasurer Melinda Deavers, Activities Director Bethany Gosar, Recording Secretary Gene Rakovec, Auditors: Jeremiah Rakovec, Robert Trunkel and Edward Perko.

Our Matching Funds Event for the Willard Historical Secretary was a huge success netting over \$2,500 for the upkeep of the Settler's Park in Willard. View the full details in the Matching Funds update.

We hope you have a happy and safe Labor Day.

*Lonna Rakovec  
Financial Secretary of Lodge #136*

### OTHER NEWS & NOTES

#### SEND IN YOUR LODGE UPDATES

Remember to send in all lodge news and events to [voice@kskjlife.com](mailto:voice@kskjlife.com) by the second Friday of each month. Additionally, feel free to submit feature articles of interest for consideration.



## Protecting My Family Financially Means Everything to Me

I've had a lot of different jobs, from actress to author to clothing designer, but **there's one that's more important than all the others: being a mom.** It's the most difficult and rewarding job I've ever had. It's also a big responsibility.

I'm teaching my daughters to be strong and independent, so they can successfully navigate their own life journey. **And I'm protecting their future by having life insurance.**

I got life insurance before I was married, because I knew I wanted children someday. This isn't anything I was taught growing up. **It's a lesson I learned on my own and want to share with you.** Getting life insurance might feel scary or like it's something that other people do, but once you get it, it's done. And it's something most people can afford.

**Protecting my family financially means everything to me. That's why I have life insurance, and you should, too.**



Brooke Shields is the national spokesperson for Life Insurance Awareness Month 2019, and her services were retained by Life Happens. She does not endorse any insurance company, product or advisor. Life Happens does not endorse any insurance company, product or advisor. © Life Happens 2019. All rights reserved.

**KSKJ LIFE HOME OFFICE**

2439 Glenwood Avenue

Joliet, IL 60435



**Back to School! Time to  
evaluate your coverage.**

**KSKJ Life can help - contact us today!**

**1-800-843-5755 | [kskj@kskjlife.com](mailto:kskj@kskjlife.com)**

**Life Insurance      Annuities**

KSKJ Life is an Illinois fraternal benefit society located at 2439 Glenwood Ave., Joliet, IL 60435. V.09.2019