



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD:

### A MEMORABLE DAY IN THE HISTORY OF KSKJ LIFE



The morning air was brisk, and it was overcast from the night's rain. It left us with pause that the day would be miserable—filled with humidity and persistent drizzle. But no, somehow through “divine intervention” the sun peaked out and the Joliet, IL weather cooperated to

officially dedicating our new facility. Following the blessing, dignitaries were introduced and comments were made regarding the arduous journey to acquire this new addition to the KSKJ Life Home Office campus, which is the fourth building in our 123-year history. The event concluded with the official ribbon cutting ceremony in front of the facility, and both the Financial and Fraternal Boards alternated cutting the ribbon. At the conclusion, attendees received a complementary commemorative glass.

make it a perfect day for this unforgettable KSKJ Life event.

The blessing and dedication of our newest building on the KSKJ Life campus was an exciting occasion to showcase our 123-year-old Fraternal Benefit society. The events started on the evening of Thursday, April 27 with KSKJ Life hosting the monthly Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce & Industry “Business After Hours” reception for the Joliet Business community. While KSKJ Life received the Chamber’s Financial Services award in 2014, this was an excellent opportunity to introduce the history and work of KSKJ Life to local business and industry leaders. The success of the event can be summarized by a remark from one business leader: “I have seen your building for years and had no idea what you were about. Finally, I now know what you do.”

Friday, April 28 was the official Building Dedication, Ribbon Cutting and Blessing of the building by our Spiritual Advisor. An overflowing crowd of Slovenian dignitaries from around the Chicago area, local Lodge Officers, current and past members of the Financial and Fraternal boards, the Home Office staff and numerous guests attended the event. Father Richard Gielow, accompanied by his brother priest, Father Bob Gielow, read a prayer of blessing before walking through the facility with Holy Water and



*KSKJ Life building at 2435 Glenwood Ave., Joliet, IL.*

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## A MEMORABLE DAY... (CONTINUED FROM PG 1)

Several individuals contributed their talents to make this event a success. The board wants to acknowledge the Home Office Executive team for leading the effort. Thanks to Lynn Schmitt for her outstanding supervision and coordination of the building renovation and Tony Mravle, Jr. for overseeing the project. A special thank you goes out to Lauren Baltz and April Sleyko for coordinating these dedication events and to Monique Perkovich for her assistance during the renovation.

We are also grateful for the outstanding service from all the local vendors. Some key people who helped us and provided extraordinary service were: John Kelly from Ideal Electric; Joe Mauer from Office Furniture Solutions; Jim "Smitty" Smith from Shabbona Valley Property Maintenance and crewman Rich Ledwa. Smitty was our strategic advisor and project manager for the building and property transition.

The regular meetings of the Financial and Fraternal Boards were scheduled to coincide with the Building Dedication and Ribbon Cutting, so the usual business of KSKJ Life was conducted in-between

all the events and photos.

Thanks again to everyone who made this event so special and helped add another page to our KSKJ Life history book! This new building will help us to continue serving our members for generations to come.

Fraternaly,

**RUDOLPH KRASOVEC**

*Chair of the Board*



*(Left to right) Former KSKJ Life CEO Robert Verbiscer, Chair of the Board Rudy Krasovec and current CEO Tony Mravle, Sr.*



*Ribbon Cutting with Financial and Fraternal Boards.*

*Rev. Richard Gielow, KSKJ Life Spiritual Advisor, formally blesses the building.*



### KSKJ VOICE

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

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This publication is also available electronically at [kskjlife.com](http://kskjlife.com).



### 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](http://KSKJLIFE.COM/GRANTS)**



# CELEBRATING LODGE ANNIVERSARIES: LODGE #171

St. Elizabeth Lodge #171 (Duluth, Minn.) was established on May 29, 1922 and accepted into the KSKJ on June 1, 1922. This Lodge had two formal organizers: Rev. Aloysius Pirnat and Frank Vesel. There were 11 Charter Members: Rev. Pirnat, Frank Bimpel, Victor Blazevic, Matt Belcic, Thomas Subic, Rudolph Gimpel, Mary Jancar, Josephine Blatnik, Anna Skulj, Lucille Jurkovich, Johanna Gimpel, and Agnes Skulj.

The First Officers were: Frank Gimpel, President; Frank Vesel, Financial Secretary; as well as Recording Secretary. Victor C. Blazevic, Treasurer and Lodge Representative; and Anton Cernich and Thomas Subic, Auditors. Frank Vesel, Secretary, became the Lodge's first delegate at the 1923 convention in Cleveland, OH.

The present-day activities include picnics, annual sleigh ride, bowling, bean bags, Singing Slovenes Ethnic and Cultural Entertainers, bus trips, a Christmas party for youth and adults, food and clothing drives, Minnesota Federation membership, Join Hands Day, and Matching Funds Projects.

Present Officers for 2017 include:

- President: Frank B. Bucar
- Vice-President: Mary Spehar White
- Secretary-Treasurer: Sharon Bucar
- Recording Secretary: Joe Jagunich
- Fraternal Activities Coordinator: Barb Larson



*Pictured with the Original Charter is Joe Jancar. Jancar's sister, Mary, was one of the original charter members in 1922. We have other current lodge members of St. Elizabeth's Lodge #171 who are related to the original members.*



*During our 95th Anniversary Celebration, which was held at Grandma's Restaurant in Canal Park in Duluth, Minnesota, an award was presented to Joe Jancar (holding certificate) for 15 years of service on the Membership Committee. Officers pictured with Joe are (left to right): Frank Bucar, Frank B. Bucar, Mary Spehar White, Barb Larson, Sharon Bucar, and Joe Jagunich.*

*Sharon Bucar*



*Picture of the Charter of Lodge #171 of St. Elizabeth Church and its original members.*

## 2017 LODGE ANNIVERSARIES

| Lodge      | Age In 2017 | Founded    |
|------------|-------------|------------|
| Lodge #1   | 123 years   | 06.10.1894 |
| Lodge #2   | 123 years   | 04.02.1894 |
| Lodge #7   | 123 years   | 04.02.1894 |
| Lodge #20  | 122 years   | 02.13.1895 |
| Lodge #25  | 122 years   | 05.21.1895 |
| Lodge #29  | 121 years   | 04.02.1896 |
| Lodge #42  | 120 years   | 04.30.1897 |
| Lodge #44  | 120 years   | 08.22.1897 |
| Lodge #50  | 118 years   | 11.30.1899 |
| Lodge #52  | 117 years   | 05.06.1900 |
| Lodge #53  | 117 years   | 11.17.1900 |
| Lodge #59  | 115 years   | 03.04.1902 |
| Lodge #63  | 115 years   | 10.16.1902 |
| Lodge #65  | 114 years   | 01.19.1903 |
| Lodge #69  | 114 years   | 08.17.1903 |
| Lodge #79  | 113 years   | 12.18.1904 |
| Lodge #104 | 111 years   | 12.28.1906 |
| Lodge #108 | 110 years   | 02.14.1907 |
| Lodge #110 | 110 years   | 03.07.1907 |
| Lodge #115 | 110 years   | 05.14.1907 |
| Lodge #136 | 107 years   | 05.16.1910 |
| Lodge #143 | 106 years   | 07.18.1911 |
| Lodge #144 | 106 years   | 09.10.1911 |
| Lodge #146 | 105 years   | 04.01.1912 |
| Lodge #150 | 104 years   | 02.28.1913 |
| Lodge #153 | 103 years   | 05.02.1914 |
| Lodge #169 | 96 years    | 07.01.1921 |
| Lodge #170 | 95 years    | 04.14.1922 |
| Lodge #171 | 95 years    | 06.01.1922 |
| Lodge #196 | 92 years    | 08.01.1925 |
| Lodge #197 | 92 years    | 09.24.1925 |
| Lodge #219 | 90 years    | 03.08.1927 |
| Lodge #226 | 89 years    | 02.09.1928 |
| Lodge #236 | 87 years    | 06.02.1930 |
| Lodge #257 | 49 years    | 02.04.1968 |

### IN MEMORY OF

**Rev. Blasé Chemazar, OFM** - Chicago, IL - Lodge #1, St. Stephen Lodge #1, \$100

**Gene Klainsek** - Crest Hill, IL - Lodge #29 The Zak Family, \$25

**John Zupancic** - Brecksville, IL - Lodge #226 Ron & Ray Zak, \$100

## KSKJ LIFE ATHLETIC UPDATES

### ABC BOWLING & STUDENT ATHLETE AWARDS

Thank you to all who participated in the ABC Bowling Competition and the Student Athlete Awards. Winners have been selected and are being notified. Names will be posted on our website under Athletics, as well as in the July issue of The Voice.

### NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

A great time was had by all who attended the KSKJ Life National Bowling Tournament which took place April 22-23 in Waukegan, IL. Below are a few pictures from the weekend events. More pictures can be viewed online at [www.kskjlife.com/athletics](http://www.kskjlife.com/athletics).



*Bowlers from Cleveland, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Joliet, and Waukegan came out for the 46th Annual KSKJ Life National Bowling Tournament on April 22-23, 2017 in Waukegan.*



*Future bowlers from Cleveland, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Joliet, and Waukegan can't wait for the 66th Annual KSKJ Life National Bowling Tournament in 2037!*



*Let the good times...roll!*



*A few members of the Waukegan bowling committee: John Deram, MaryLou Stefanick and Hank Govekar.*



*Teams from Indianapolis and Waukegan.*

### NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Spring has finally arrived in Lake County, Illinois, which means golf season is officially here. On Sunday, June 25, KSKJ Life is hosting their fourth annual National Golf Tournament, which will be held at Bonnie Brook Golf Course in Waukegan, IL. Below are the details for the tournament, along with the team entry form.

We are asking our members, friends, lodges, and local businesses to consider supporting this event by sponsoring a hole. Please see the form for more information. All donations are 100 percent tax deductible. Can we count on you? We are limited to the first 35 groups to sign up.

Questions? Please contact John Deram at: [kskjwaukeganathletics@yahoo.com](mailto:kskjwaukeganathletics@yahoo.com). To register or to sponsor a hole, fill out the form on below.

*MaryLou Stefanick  
KSKJ Life National Director of Athletics*

### NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION SUNDAY - JUNE 25, 2017

Bonnie Brook Golf Course | Waukegan, IL

11:15 a.m. brunch followed by 1 p.m. shot gun start

The cost is \$65 per person / \$260.00 per team

- Price includes brunch, golf, cart, and more
- The tournament will be played as a 4-person scramble
- All skill levels are invited to participate

Team Member's (Please Print):

Captain: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration deadline is Wednesday, June 15, 2017. Send entries and check to:

John Deram - 15843 Aime Lane, Wadsworth, IL, 60083 (checks payable to Waukegan KSKJ)

We are limited to the first 35 teams, so please don't delay!

### SPONSOR A HOLE

**Yes, I would like to sponsor a hole at this year's National Golf Tournament.**

Name of hole sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

What would like your sign to say? (Complete only if you are a first-time sponsor):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Donation is \$50. Make checks payable to the "KSKJ Life Educational Grand Fund." Donations are 100% tax deductible.

**Check here if your donation is in memory of Thomas Deram.**

Send entry form and check to:

Vicotria Drinka - 2212 8th Parkway, Waukegan, IL 60085.

Don't delay - deadline is June 11, 2017.



## 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 2017

**Matthew R. Kochevar** – Lodge #143, Joliet, IL  
**Josephine Barc** – Lodge #1, Palatine, IL  
**Lillian J. Staut** – Lodge #65, New Berlin, WI  
**Frances Peto** – Lodge #110, Barberton, OH  
**Evelyn Trdina** – Lodge #50, Allison Park, PA  
**Gertrude M. Vesel** – Lodge #59, Virginia, MN  
**Bonnie L. Buit** – Lodge #20, Howard City, MI  
**Mildred Chase** – Lodge #42, Philadelphia, PA  
**Jay D. Crooks** – Lodge #623, Hopkinsville, KY  
**Naomi A. Trinko** – Lodge #1, Minneapolis, MN  
**Dora M. Killen** – Lodge #150, Lorain, OH  
**Thomas J. Weaver, Sr.** – Lodge #42, Lykens, PA  
**Juanita F. Lavelly** – Lodge #52, Vincennes, IN  
**Carolyn M. Slania** – Lodge #44, Santa Barbara, CA  
**Helen M. Davis** – Lodge #7, Pueblo, CO  
**Thomas Deram** – Lodge #79, Grayslake, IL  
**Dolores M. Michalek** – Lodge #2, Valdosta, GA  
**Leo Schuster** – Lodge #65, Hales Corners, WI  
**Marjorie A. White** – Lodge #42, Hanover, PA  
**Nancee R. Truelove** – Lodge #74, Vincennes, IN  
**Mary Kotnik** – Lodge #144, Sheboygan, WI  
**Marjorie E. Bergles** – Lodge #7, Pueblo, CO  
**Mildred H. Gingrich** – Lodge #50, Lebanon, PA  
**William M. Hunter** – Lodge #624, Jackson, MS  
**Manuelita P. Romero** – Lodge #59, St. Paul, MN  
**Ervin Yarkosky** – Lodge #153, Strabane, PA  
**Mary J. Kobrick** – Lodge #150, Northfield Center, OH  
**Ann L. Pizzo** – Lodge #65, S. Milwaukee, WI  
**Valeria T. Podplesky** – Lodge #153, Johnstown, PA  
**Jane A. Kleinow** – Lodge #144, Prairie Du Chien, WI  
**Evan Krammes** – Lodge #42, Dauphin, PA  
**Annita M. Willis** – Lodge #52, Fort Wayne, IN  
**Maurice J. Tinsley** – Lodge #7, Denver, CO  
**Dora Simenc** – Lodge #236, Millbrae, CA  
**Peter H. Golovich** – Lodge #50, Pittsburgh, PA  
**Nera Mcmanus** – Lodge #110, Massillon, OH  
**Orlinda L. Chudzinski** – Lodge #20, Prudenville, MI  
**Mary S. Lucas** – Lodge #52, Hobart, IN  
**Margaret A. Schulz** – Lodge #115, Hunter, KS  
**Milan Stefanciosa** – Lodge #52, Indianapolis, IN  
**John Barkovitch** – Lodge #50, Wildwood Crest, NJ

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### REGION 1

PENNSYLVANIA, CONNECTICUT & DC

### REGION 2

CLEVELAND AREA

### IN MEMORY

Condolences to the family and friends of Maria "Mara" Cerar Hull who passed away on April 26, 2017. Mara was the Slovenian Editor of the Glasilo for 15 years and also served as the Slovenian editor for the Slovenian American Times.

She was a noted author and member of St. Vitus Parish, KSKJ Life lodge #226 and Upokojenci Slovenska Pristava. Beloved wife of Gary. Loving mother of Anamaria Liston (Art) and Mark Hull (Debbie). Step-mother of Carla Peterson (Cliff). Cherished grandmother of Cristin, Ryan, Mikayla, Bethany, Dakota and Olivia; and great-grandmother of seven. Sister of Peter Cerar, Frank Cerar, Ivana Cerar and the late Helena Klesin, Josef Cerar and Franciska Cerar. Aunt and cousin to many.



Mara Hull.

### LODGE #169

CLEVELAND, OH

### LODGE UPDATE

St. Joseph Lodge #169 honored our 50-year members with a dinner at the Hansa Brewery restaurant on May 11. The only honoree present out of this year's small group was Lydia (Dolinar) Gadd.

Family, friends and members helped her celebrate at one of Cleveland's newest restaurants near the West Side Market. The menu of the German-themed, Slovenian-owned establishment includes specialties such as delicious schnitzels, sauerbraten and čevapčiči. Congratulations to all our 50-year members.

## Generate Genealogy Memories

Friday, June 23 – Sunday, June 25 • Cleveland, Ohio

Come meet fellow Slovenians from around the country! Our weekend conference will offer lectures and workshops on genealogy research, Slovenian art, culture and traditions, as well as opportunities to share your family's immigrant story with fellow Slovenian-Americans.

For a full schedule of the weekend's events go to [slovenianguenealogy.org](http://slovenianguenealogy.org).

Registration deadline is June 12



Slovenian  
Genealogy  
Society  
International, Inc.

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



*Officers and members of St. Joseph Lodge #169 help Lydia Gadd (seated, second from left, flanked by Anne Nemec, sister-in-law Chris Dolinar and mother, Pauline Dolinar) celebrate her 50 years as a KSKJ Life member.*

Forty-two Cleveland-area members made the bus trip to the National Bowling Tournament in Waukegan April 21-23; half were from Lodge #169. The weather was great, and both the trip and the tournament events were a blast. It was great reconnecting with our friends from lodges around KSKJ Life-land!

Our Join Hands Day event was rained out on May 6. We will notify members via newsletter if we can reschedule the project at the Slovenian Cultural Garden.

The June meeting will be Thursday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room at the Collinwood Slovenian Home on Holmes Avenue.

We wish a return to good health for all our members dealing with health issues, and a happy and safe summer to you all!

*John Nemec, Fraternal Activities Coordinator*

### LODGE #219

EUCLID, OH

#### LODGE UPDATE

KSKJ Life St. Christine Lodge #219 will hold a members' meeting on Sunday, June 11 at 1 p.m. at The Gateway Manor, 4 Gateway Drive in Euclid, OH. We will be formalizing plans for our annual members' Corporate Mass and Luncheon that will be held Sunday, September 10. Please read The Voice for more information.

There will not be any meetings held in July and August, so please plan to attend our June meeting. Refreshments will be served, and you can see if you

will be lucky and win a door prize.

At this time, we would like to thank all KSKJ Life members and guests who attended our 90th anniversary Open House. Good people, good food and good music (polkas, of course) made a good time for all. A special thank you to Activities Coordinator & Chairman Joanne Ash and the set-up and clean-up crew who made it possible for us to hold this event. God bless, and have a Happy Father's Day.



*Welcoming members and guests is Joanne Ash, Fraternal Activities Coordinator and Chairman for St. Christine Lodge #219's 90th anniversary Open House at Gateway Manor in Euclid, OH.*



*St. Christine Lodge #219 Officers ready to celebrate their 90th Anniversary are left to right: Roberta Underwood, Recording Sec., Mitzi Urbanic, VP, Joanne Ash, Fraternal Act. Coordinator, Loretta Brown, Pres., & Elizabeth Kusar, Financial Secretary, on Sunday, May 7 in Euclid, OH.*



*Our memorabilia table at the 90th anniversary Open House for St. Christine Lodge #219 was very interesting and provided much reminiscing.*

*Elizabeth Kusar*

### LODGE #226

CLEVELAND, OH

#### LODGE UPDATE

The trees are in full bloom; flowers are popping up to share their vibrant colors; and Cleveland's neighborhoods are filled with the sounds of birds chirping and children playing. How can you not love Cleveland in the spring? As far as I'm concerned, it's impossible! With spring also comes opportunities to reconnect with our communities and our heritage through KSKJ Life.

#### JOIN HANDS DAY

Christ the King Lodge #226 members came out in a small but mighty force on May 13 to give back to the Slovenian National Home (SNH) as part of the Join Hands program. Our crew of 18 made quick work of cleaning up the SNH courtyard and parking lot and had a fun time doing it.

A special thank you to the SNH staff for the delicious lunch after our morning of work.



*Hunter Zupancic (age 10) cleans up after a shrub trimming.*



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



*Our Join Hands Crew. Kneeling: James Patrick. First Row: Hunter Zupancic, Ray Zak, Ron Zak, Clara Abriani, Tim Klodnick, and Matt Zakelj. Back Row: Brian Paskey, Beth Paskey, Diane McCluskey, Bill Urban, Ray Yartz, Chuck Potenga, Tom Tegowski, Stan Zakelj, and Nick Zakelj. Not shown: Erika Kurbos and Tamara Zupancic.*



*Ray Zak and Ray Yartz pause in the courtyard for a photo op.*



*Tim Klodnick and James Patrick (age 12) team up to clean up leaves from the patio.*

### UPCOMING LODGE MEETINGS & EVENTS

Lodge Meeting - June 11 (Sunday): Our June Lodge meeting will be held at noon at SNH. If you've ever considered getting more involved with the lodge, we'd love to see you at our next meeting. Our lodge has approximately 1,200 members, and we are always looking to meet and engage with our members. At the June meeting, we'll begin brainstorming a way to celebrate our 90th year as a Lodge. It's a great time to get involved. (Kids are welcome at our lodge meetings, so don't let that be a reason to not attend!)

4-Lodge Annual Picnic & Lodge Meeting - July 9 (Sunday): Join Lodges #150, #146, #63 and #226 at noon for this annual family-fun event held at Odd Fellows Park. Games for all ages begin at 1:30 p.m., and Bossie's Best (ice cream) truck will roll in around 2 p.m. You don't want to miss the fun of door prizes, raffles and great food.

Please consider bringing a non-perishable donation for St. Malachi Center. (Donations will be collected at the check in table.) More details can be found under Region 3 news.

Lodge #226 will hold its July meeting at the picnic at 1:30 p.m. Scholarship applications for the Frank and Antonia Segal Scholarship Fund will be available at the meeting.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Joe Snyder, a longtime friend of Lodge #226, who is now in hospice care.

Do you love softball? Mark your calendar for the first Saturday in August for Lodge #150's Porky Pig Softball Tournament! Last year's champion team just happens to be from Lodge #226. Let's do it again this year! (More information about the tournament will be forthcoming.)

As always, I encourage you to reach out to me via email (include the words Lodge #226 in the subject line) if you have Lodge #226 news or photos to share. I am always looking for news to share on Facebook, too! My email is [tisinmentor@hotmail.com](mailto:tisinmentor@hotmail.com).

And finally, take a moment to like our Facebook page (KSKJ Cleveland Lodge #226). We often post photos and event updates there. It's a great way to stay connected with the lodge!

*Tamara Zupancic, Voice Reporter*

### REGION 3

CLEVELAND AREA

### REGIONAL UPDATE

The Cleveland 4-Lodge Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 9 at Oddfellows Farm in Glenwillow from noon until 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. 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 wonderful baskets to be won. Games will begin at 1:30 p.m. The KSKJ Life grill team will be back in action again and food will be 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 also welcome. 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 2. We need an accurate count to make sure that we have enough food and beverages for all. 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 [Peskar Elaine@juno.com](mailto:Peskar Elaine@juno.com)
- Lodge #226: Chuck Potenga 440-582-5169 or [cpotenga@wowway.com](mailto:cpotenga@wowway.com) or Tim Klodnick 440-526-6431 or [tklodnick@cox.net](mailto: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.

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### 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 toward the picnic area. The road will run parallel to the railroad tracks. There will be a KSKJ event sign posted at the entrance.

*Chuck Potenga*

### LODGE #146

CLEVELAND, OH

### LODGE UPDATE

The weekend after Easter was the National Bowling Tournament. From our lodge, Chris, Theresa and I attended. Lodge #63 took care of the bus arrangements and timing. They packed a great meal, had drinks and provided a great social time for the ride. Once we got there, my bowling did not go as good as I had hoped, but I had a fun time. Like many others, I have family near there and was able to meet up with them on Saturday night.

We also had our lodge meeting in April at Quaker Steak. We had found out at the previous meeting that they were not seating large parties in the bar area, which is where we usually meet. Moving forward, there will be a table reserved under "KSKJ." That way, you can find us.

We discussed summer activities at the meeting, such as our annual putt-putt night and a possible Rubber Duck (Akron) or Captains game (Lake County). Watch the next issue of The Voice for details. We also celebrated Theresa's birthday. Her husband Chris planned it all and managed to have a cake, too!



*Theresa Kocin (seated) celebrates her birthday with fellow lodge members.*

On June 23, we will have our annual putt-putt night. We will meet at Sweeties on Brookpark Road (near Ridge). Afterwards, we will have ice cream for everyone. New this year are the old-fashioned soda fountains. We will start about 6:15 p.m. Hope to see you there!

In July, we will again have our 4-Lodge Picnic. More details on page 7. In August, we hope to go to an Indians game. Tickets will be first come, first serve. 'Til next month!

*Josie Kmet, Recording Secretary*

### LODGE #150

CLEVELAND, OH

### MEETING DATES

Our next meeting is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. for Thursday, July 15 at Independence Branch of the Cuyahoga Public Library: 6361 Selig Dr, Independence, OH 44131. All Lodge #150 members are encouraged to attend this meeting. Just a reminder: In order to be eligible for consideration as a Lodge #150 delegate to the 2018 KSKJ National Convention, you must attend four Lodge #150 meetings during 2017.

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations St. Christine Lodge #219 as you celebrate your 90th anniversary! Elaine and Tony Peskar represented Lodge #150 at the 90th anniversary celebration. St. Christine lodge members were friendly and welcoming. We enjoyed meeting the lodge's members and renewing acquaintances with our long-time, dear friend Mary Cooke.

### 4- LODGE PICNIC

The annual 4-Lodge Picnic is scheduled for July 9. A more detailed picnic article is found on page 7 of The Voice.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Liz Jones, Lodge #150 Person of the Year for 2016! We are grateful that you stepped in as our Financial Secretary and for attending to our social media requirements.



*Tony Peskar presents the Lodge #150 Person of the Year Award to Liz Jones.*



*Lodge #150 members left to right Tony Peskar, Liz Jones, Luke Jones, Greg Snyder and Elaine Peskar*

### CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

Lodge #150 now has a new Facebook page to share lodge news, event calendar, photos and other information. Check us out at: [www.facebook.com/KSKJ150](http://www.facebook.com/KSKJ150). You do not have to be a Facebook



**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY  
TO OUR KSKJ LIFE  
DADS!**



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

member to view the page.

### LODGE EMAIL ADDRESS

The Lodge #150 email address for Financial Secretary Liz Jones is [kskjlife150@gmail.com](mailto:kskjlife150@gmail.com).

### SAVE THE DATES

JULY 9

4-Lodge Picnic

AUG 5

Porky Pig Softball Tournament & Pig Roast

AUG 19

Saint Lawrence Feast Day Mass & Dinner at Saint Mary's

*Tony & Elaine Peskar, Lodge #150 Voice Reporters*

## REGION 4

JOLIET AREA

### ILLINOIS FEDERATION

The next Illinois Federation meeting is July 16 starting between 1 - 1:30 p.m. in the Retreat House at St. Mary's in Lemont. SUA has their picnic that Sunday, so come early to enjoy refreshments.

### COMBINED JOLIET LODGES

Hello everyone! It's that time of year again—time for picnics, baseball, family get-togethers and graduation parties. I hope everyone's ready for it. I know that I'm not, as I'm still trying to catch up from April. So, on with the show, as they say.

On Tuesday, May 2 the Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges held their monthly meeting with members from St. Francis Lodge #29 and St. Genevieve Lodge #108 in attendance.

There is nothing new to report at this time under old business.

As for new business, the Splash Station Outing will be held on Sunday, July 23. It will be held 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For more information, see the KSKJ Life Facebook page or the Joliet Lodges Facebook page.

The winners of the "200" raffle for the month of May were Rob Darin and Bill Potochnic, Sr.

The next meeting of the Joliet Lodges will be held on Tuesday, June 6 at 7 p.m. at Town & Country Lanes. Hope to see you there!

*Pauline Mihelich, Recording Secretary/Reporter*

## LODGE #2

JOLIET, IL

### LODGE UPDATE

On May 12, members of St. Joseph Lodge #2 planted flowers and visited with residents of Sunny Hill Nursing Home in Joliet, IL, as part of their Join Hands Day project.



*The Join Hands Day crew. Front row: Lydia Marquardt, Jean Verbiscer, Jodi Wartenberg Back row: Darrell Marquardt, Darla Tomac, Lynn Miller, Gregg Vershay.*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Joseph Lodge #2 will hold its annual Steak Fry on Thursday, June 15 at 6 p.m. at St. Joseph's Park, Theodore and Raynor in Joliet. Cost for members is \$10, and \$15 for non-members. Free hot dogs will be available for children who prefer not to eat steak. Otherwise, the cost for children is same as adults for a steak dinner. Please RSVP by June 9 to Sylvia Churnovic at 815-353-1161. Please note that this will also be Lodge #2's next lodge meeting.

## LODGE #29

JOLIET, IL

### LODGE UPDATE

At our May 7 meeting, John Allen, a representative from JDRF, was our special guest. John spoke and informed us of some facts and figures of Type 1 Diabetes. Many of us know of someone who lives

with this disease, whether it be a family member or friend. A check from the 50/50 raffle and lodge match from our Holiday Party was presented to John for this very worthwhile cause.



*President Ken Velasquez (left) presenting a check to John Allen from JDRF.*

Please join us for the Lodge Steak Fry that will be held Friday, July 28 at 5 p.m. at St. Joe's Park. This is our big summer member event. The 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 for the coming school year. Our members have always been so generous in the past. A bean bag tournament will be held after dinner for anyone interested in playing – adult and kids alike.

Please contact Judy Corum at 815-725-3553 or [jmcorum@ameritech.net](mailto:jmcorum@ameritech.net) to sign up and prepay. Checks can be mailed to Judy at 117 N. Reed Street, Joliet, IL 60435.

Let's remember all fathers, step-fathers and grandfathers on their special day, June 18. We love you and thank you for your guidance through our lives.

*Karen (Ramsak) Colman, Reporter*

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### LODGE #108

JOLIET, IL

#### MATCHING FUNDS UPDATE

As their Matching Funds event, St. Genevieve Lodge #108 co-sponsored a fish fry along with St. Paul the Apostle Catholic School Athletic Association, which was held on Friday, April 7.

The event was held from 4 – 7 p.m. in the school's activity center at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic School. Proceeds from the fish fry benefited the Youth Sports Activities. More than \$2,000 was raised from the event.

I wish to thank Maryann McGinnis for coordinating this event. Also, a big thank you goes out to the youth for helping serve the dinners as well as clearing and setting the tables up. I also would like to thank Alan Mihelich for taking the photos, as well as all the cooks in the kitchen and everyone else who helped. But most of all, I would like to thank all the people who came out to eat. Without you, this fundraiser would not have been successful.



*It was a full house at the fish fry*



*Alan Mihelich, Financial Secretary, Pauline Mihelich, Lodge President and Maryann McGinnis, Fraternal Activities Coordinator.*



*Youth waiting for dinner orders to serve to the guests.*

*Pauline Mihelich, Lodge President*

### LODGE #143

JOLIET, IL

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 17

Join Hands Day Volunteer Day - Join us at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora from 2 - 4 p.m. to have fun and pack dry goods for children in need. There are only 25 spots open, so RSVP as soon as possible. Details can be found on our Facebook page. Not able to make it? No problem! Gather a group and volunteer at your local food pantry on any day in June and post photos to our Facebook page or share them on your social account using #KSKJLIFE. Together, we can make a difference! More details about FMSC can be found at [www.fmsc.org](http://www.fmsc.org). Aurora packing site is located at 555 Exchange Ct., Aurora, IL (West of Fox Valley Mall)

Calling all kids of Lodge #143 and their friends! Help raise money for our featured Join Hands Day charity, Feed My Starving Children, by having a lemonade stand (with or without treats and/or homemade craft items) or garage sales in your neighborhood. Be sure to capture some pictures of the young entrepreneurs and send them to [aprilsleyko@gmail.com](mailto:aprilsleyko@gmail.com). Collected donations can be sent to the KSKJ Life Home Office c/o April Sleyko, 2439 Glenwood Ave., Joliet, IL 60435. Any other questions, please contact April at 815-343-3236 or [aprilsleyko@gmail.com](mailto:aprilsleyko@gmail.com).

JULY 23

Our summer Member Social, hosted by Joliet Area Lodges, will be held at Splash Station in Joliet, IL,

from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. This is a FREE member event! We will be collecting school supplies to benefit Jump on the Bus Program through Morning Star Mission again this year. More details to be in future issues of The Voice.

#### MATCHING FUNDS

Lodge #143 supported Camp Kesem at Saint Louis University as part of a recent Matching Funds Event. Camp Kesem SLU's large fundraiser, "Make the Magic" was held on April 22 in St. Louis, MO. Lodge #143 member, Amy Koncar organized the event that welcomed 180 guests. Ray Koncar from Lodge #29 and Frank Koncar from Lodge #143 provided entertainment and shared polka music with all the guests. With the support of KSKJ Life Lodge #143, the event was a huge success and raised more than \$60,000. All the proceeds go directly to providing year-round support and a week-long summer camp to children affected by a parent's cancer at no cost to the families.



*Enjoying the "Make the Magic" event are (left to right) Ray Koncar, Annette Koncar, Amy Koncar, Renee Rozman, Kathy Koncar, Frank Koncar and Paul Rozman*

Stay Connected! "Like" our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/kskj143](http://www.facebook.com/kskj143).

### REGION 5

CHICAGO AND INDIANAPOLIS

### LODGE #1

CHICAGO, IL

#### LODGE UPDATE

KSKJ Life Lodge #1 is happy to welcome three new members to our lodge: Aiden and Ethan Schilling, who were born on June 4, 2015, and Hunter Ceska, who was born on July 2, 2016. We look forward to greeting them at lodge events and celebrating



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

Christmas-time with them at the party on Sunday, December 17 at the Slovenian Catholic Center in Lemont.



*Aiden and Ethan Schilling.*



*Hunter Ceska.*

Please mark your calendars: Our Youth/Family Summer Social will be held on Saturday, June 24. Information flyers will be mailed the week-end of May 27. Please plan to attend.

Lodge #1 would like to send condolences to the family and friends of Fr. Blasé Chemazar who passed away on April 12. Fr. Blasé was our Spiritual Advisor and was also chosen as our 2016 Lodge Person of the Year.



*Fr. Blasé Chemazar*

*Joanne Sierzega, Lodge Reporter*

### LODGE #44

S. CHICAGO, IL

Lodge #44 will be having our annual baseball outing this year on the South Side. Friday, July 14 will be 90s night when the Sox take on the Mariners. Pizza and chicken will be served at the American Legion, located at 10506 S Ewing Ave, Chicago, starting at 5:15 p.m. The bus will depart at 6 p.m. and first pitch is at 7:10 p.m. As with all Friday night games, we will enjoy the fireworks show after. Tickets are \$60 per person. If you would like to reserve your seat, please contact James Rossi, Jr. at 219-902-0230.

Our next meeting will take place at the Calumet Yacht Club, located 4025 E 102nd St, Chicago, IL, on August 6. Mark your calendars now! We will have a lot of planning and project finalization going on, so be sure to join us to have your opinions heard.

Speaking of marking your calendars, it is never too early to start getting your bocce team together. The tournament will be on September 17. Feel free to contact Jim Rossi, Jr. with your team reservation as soon as you know you can attend. Come and take on the reigning champion Dirty Birds for your chance to take home the Boccetti Cup! More details to follow.

### LODGE #52

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 3

**Canoe Trip:** Join us on the Blue River for canoeing fun. Please contact Jennifer Velikan at 317-636-0512 or [jvelikan@gmail.com](mailto:jvelikan@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending.

JUNE 10

**Slovenian Festival:** This event will be held at the Lion's Club Park located at 3201 N Tansel Rd in Clermont. Gates open at 10 a.m. Slovenian food and drinks for purchase beginning 1 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, kids 16 and under are free with an adult admission.

JUNE 24

**Balinca Tournament:** Tourney beginning at 9 a.m., Nash Picnic Grounds. Tickets are \$25 per two-man team, and the money goes toward prizes. Lunch will be provided. Contact Jennifer Velikan at 317-636-0512 or [jvelikan@gmail.com](mailto:jvelikan@gmail.com) for more information.

JULY 15

**Drive-In Night:** Tibbs Drive-In is hosting us for \$10 per person. You can see up to three first-run movies! Please plan to arrive early to ensure we can park together. Please contact Jennifer Velikan 317-636-0512 or [jvelikan@gmail.com](mailto:jvelikan@gmail.com) if you would like to attend. Jennifer can give you an idea of when to arrive and where to park.

JULY 29

**Pierogi Fest – Whiting, IN:** NEW EVENT! We will be taking a bus. The cost will be \$35 per person to attend the Fest. Reservations are required. Please contact Marcia Bracik at 317-501-5710 or [marcia660@aol.com](mailto:marcia660@aol.com) to reserve your spot!

AUG 12

**Indy Indians Game:** Join us Saturday, August 12 at Victory Field. Tickets for lodge members are \$5, and tickets for non-members are \$13. Please contact Jennifer Velikan at 317-636-0512 or [jvelikan@gmail.com](mailto:jvelikan@gmail.com) by August 4 if you would like to attend.

#### LODGE UPDATE

It's been another great month here in Indy. In May, we had our annual Communion Breakfast to honor all members and nonmembers alike. We attended

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

Mass at Sacred Heart together. Thanks to members of our local Slovenian Choir, and the Sacred Heart choir members, who sang Angelško Češčenje at the Mass. After Mass, we went to Madison Grill for breakfast. The Madison Grill is owned by lodge members Sonny and Toni Cobb. The food was delicious. We even had some non-members join us! I believe everyone in attendance ate more than enough this year. We had a good turnout, with everyone enjoying delicious food and socialization. A special thanks to Theresa Krampac, our regional director and her daughter who made the trip down to Indy to join us.



*Several members joined us for Mass and our Annual Communion Breakfast. A special thank you to Regional Director, Theresa Krampac, and her daughter, Barbara, who made the long drive to join us!*

We have several events coming up in June. On Saturday, June 3 we are taking a canoe trip on the Blue River. Please contact Jennifer Velikan at 317-636-0512 or [jvelikan@gmail.com](mailto:jvelikan@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending. This will be a short day trip.

The Slovenian Festival, sponsored by all Slovenian Organizations in Indy, will be on Saturday, June 10. This event will be held at the Lion's Club Park located at 3201 N Tansel Rd in Clermont, IN. Gates open at 10 a.m. Slovenian food and drinks will be available purchase beginning at 1 p.m. and the music will begin at 2 p.m. Admission will be \$5 for adults, and kids 16 and under are free with an adult admission.

Saturday, June 24 we will have our annual Balinca Tournament. The tourney will begin at 9 a.m. at the National Home Picnic Grounds. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Jennifer Velikan at 317-636-0512 or [jvelikan@gmail.com](mailto:jvelikan@gmail.com) for more information! The cost is \$20 for each two-person team and will go toward prizes.

St. Al's is taking a trip to the drive-in again this summer! On Saturday, July 15, join us for movies

under the stars. For the price of \$10 per person, you can see up to three first-run movies. Spider-Man and Wonder Woman should be out, so prepare for adventure! You are welcome to bring your own food and drinks, or you may purchase from their fabulous snack bar. Please plan to arrive early to ensure that we can park together. Please contact Jennifer Velikan at 317-636-0512 or [jvelikan@gmail.com](mailto:jvelikan@gmail.com) if you would like to attend. Jennifer can give you an idea of when to arrive and where to park.

In July, we are offering a new event. The Pierogi Festival takes place in Whiting, IN, on Saturday, July 29. We will be taking a bus, and the cost is \$35 per person to attend the Fest. Reservations are required. Please contact Marcia Bracik at 317-501-5710 or [marcia660@aol.com](mailto:marcia660@aol.com) to reserve your spot.

We will attend an Indianapolis Indians game again this year. Join us Saturday, August 12 at Victory Field. Tickets for lodge members are \$5, and tickets for non-members are \$13. Please contact Jennifer Velikan at 317-636-0512 or [jvelikan@gmail.com](mailto:jvelikan@gmail.com) by August 4 if you would like to attend. Our Indians will take on the Buffalo Bisons. This is DC Superhero Night, featuring Batman & Robin. The first 2,500 fans will receive a superhero cape and your Tribe will be wearing themed jerseys.

Be sure to check our website, [www.stals52.com](http://www.stals52.com), for our complete calendar of events and photos of past activities. You may also check the Calendar of Events section in this paper for contact information. Are you on Facebook? Make sure to like St. Aloysius, [www.facebook.com/pages/KSKJ](http://www.facebook.com/pages/KSKJ). Nasvidenje!

*Jennifer Velikan*

### REGION 6

NE ILLINOIS & WISCONSIN

### LODGE #65

MILWAUKEE, WI

#### LODGE UPDATE

If you missed the Charles Mouradian/Debbie Nowak 9-Pin Tap Tournament, you missed a fun-filled event! As you know, this was our Matching Funds event, and it was a successful one. Proceeds went

to the Suicide Awareness Organization and to our own Educational Grant Program. Many thanks to the Mouradian Family and to the many donors and to the bowlers who filled all of the lanes. There were even around 300 games rolled by Jim Berg and John Mather. Top bowlers were Cyndie Zduckiewicz and John Mather. Coincidentally, Craig Frohna and Jim Berg each bowled 277.

Our Join Hands activity this year was filling Jared Boxers. We then delivered them to Milwaukee Children's Hospital. These are plastic shoe boxes filled with activities and toys for children to enjoy while undergoing treatments at the hospital. We focused on children between the ages of 2-4 and 4-8. On hand to fill and decorate these boxes were members attending our meeting that evening and several children: Liam and Brayden Kerber, Reese Sebastian, Joe, Callie and Will Morzy, and Jameson Stoltmann. Our goal was to fill 20 boxes, but there were so many items donated that more boxes had to be purchased and filled. Andrea Ostrowski, Director of Youth and Adult Activities, took on this task. Many thanks to all who brought items, to all who helped with tasks of filling and decorating them, to Agnes Lobacz, Tom Gorenc, and Mici Bregant for bringing refreshments, to all who brought items, and especially to Andrea Ostrowski for organizing this Join Hands Day.

Sincere condolences are extended to the family of Rose Pugel Zuponic. She lived her 97 years as a devoted mother to Rudy (Pat) Pugel, grandmother to six grandchildren, and great grandmother to nine great grandchildren. She loved her Slovenian Heritage and was very proud of it. Rest in Peace, Rose.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 7 in the rectory meeting room of St. John the Evangelist Church at 6:30 p.m. We'd love to see you.

Enjoy the rest of spring. Greetings to all of our sick and shut ins.

### LODGE #79

WAUKEGAN, IL

#### LODGE UPDATE

On Saturday, April 8 members of St. Mary Lodge



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

#79 of Waukegan rolled up their sleeves to help out at Bernie's Book Bank in Lake Bluff. This year, we were assigned the task of selecting six different books for middle school children, carefully placing them in a bag, and then packaging the bags in totes. When our shift was over, more than 3,200 books were handled by the volunteers of Lodge #79.



*Our Join Hands group.*



*David Hambergren, Dave Bradley and Vickie Hambergren sorting through books.*

### LODGE #136

WILLARD, WI

#### LODGE UPDATE

Lodge #136 is pleased to announce that our Matching Funds Event #1 was a huge success. The Sweet Adelines brought in a profit of \$1,340. The evening was very enjoyable and memorable with barbershop music and oldies. Thank you to all that helped and all that attended.

Our next Matching Funds is a Bazaar Dinner at Holy Family Church in Willard on Sunday, August 27. We will start with 9:30 a.m. Mass at Holy Family Church. Holy Family PCCW, along with our lodge, will provide you with a buffet-style dinner in the Parish Center. The meal includes Chicken & Ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, coleslaw, dinner rolls, cheese curds, corn and all kinds of deserts including potica. The cost is \$10 for adults and for takeout, \$5

for children ages 6-10, and children 5 and under are free. In the Willard Community Building, there will be produce and baked goods for sale, religious items, bucket raffles, crafts and children's games. Music will be provided by Mary Ann Lesar starting at 11:30 a.m. There is a rummage sale on Saturday, August 26 from 8 a.m. to noon and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Holy Family Shelter. Please come and join us for a fun-filled day.

We have chosen Gene Rakovec as our Lodge Person of the Year for 2017. Gene is our lodge's Recording Secretary and has been a lifelong member of our lodge. He has in the past been President, Vice President and First Auditor. The Celebration will be in September along with our 50-year members. We will have all the details in the July issue of The Voice.

Hope you all have a joyous and safe summer.

*Lonna Rakovec, Financial Secretary*

### LODGE #144

SHEBOYGAN, WS

#### LODGE UPDATE

I would like to express deepest sympathies to the families of Mary Kotnik and LeRoy Williams who recently passed. Mary sang for many years on the Parish choir. Her daughter has been a choir member also for several months. LeRoy's son-in-law, Mike Tevsh, was the lodge secretary / treasurer for many years.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Flyers have already been sent regarding our August 20 Annual Fellowship Dinner. It will once again be held at the Knights of Columbus Center. Dinner will be at 1 p.m. We will be honoring our 50-year members, along with giving financial aid to qualified students attending college / university or technical schools. Please take note at the August 10 deadline for reservations and payment. We need to give the caterer the number that will be attending. Please join us for a great meal and fellowship.

I hope you have a nice summer.

*Pat Slapnick, President & Reporter*

### REGION 7

MINNESOTA & MICHIGAN

### LODGE #171

DULUTH, MN

#### JOIN HANDS DAY

We had a great turn out for this years' Join Hands Day on Saturday, May 6. Both adults and youth members participated and worked together cleaning up the grounds at Stowe Elementary School and St. Elizabeth Church. Much was achieved during this event.



*Our Join Hands group with all the bags of trash that was cleared from the grounds. There were quite a few surprises in those bags this year!*

#### SLOVENIAN EXHIBIT

Members of Lodge #171 recently attended the opening reception of the Slovenian Immigrant Impact on Minnesota traveling exhibit. This was sponsored by the St. Louis County Historical Society at the "Depot" in Duluth. Entertainment was provided by the Singing Slovenes for this reception.



*Sharon Bucar, Dr. Marge Pryately and Leslie Bucar. Marge was the individual responsible for putting this wonderful exhibit together.*



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



Welcome new members of Lodge #171: (left to right) Lynn Stoyanoff holding Allison (16 months old), Fran Morris and Joe Ibriks.



Singing Slovenes ready to kick off the 2017 season with their mascot, "Joško", providing inspiration.

### LODGE #197

ST. CLOUD, MN

#### MATCHING FUNDS

Members of Lodge #197 participated in the Options for Women March in Sauk Centre, MN on May 13. About 75 people gathered for a downtown march followed by hot dogs with sauerkraut. Live music was provided before and after the march. The amount collected has not yet been announced. This was a Matching Funds event for KSKJ Life's St Stephen Lodge #197. The funds raised will go toward items for new mothers and their babies.



Catherine Feldt smiles for life.



Larry Feldt and KSKJ Life Lodge #197 member



Lodge #197 participants in Options for Women March on Sat., May 13: (left) Marge Pryately, Karen Retka, Mike Retka (right) Larry Feldt, Catherine Feldt.



At the Options for Women March in Sauk Centre, MN: Larry Feldt, Kate Kerin, Colleen Cianflone, Mary Reuter and Mike Retka in back.

### REGION 8

COLORADO, KANSAS, MONTANA & CALIFORNIA

### LODGE #7

PUEBLO, CO

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 4

Our Golf Tournament at Hollydot Golf Course will be held June 4. Check in begins at 7 a.m. with the tournament to start at 8 a.m. If you are interested in playing in the tournament, please contact Danny Golob for further information and how to register.

#### LODGE UPDATE

St. Joseph Lodge #7's annual Reverse Raffle held on May 5 was successful once again. Attendees 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 Jr & Lena Martinez, Darlene Morris, Bob Nicholson, Jillian Parsons and Olivia Parsons.



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



A photograph of the current St. Joseph's Lodge #7 officers taken at the Palm Sunday Breakfast. Those pictured (left to right): Back row- Angela Perez, Richard Zabukovic Jr., Megan Gregorich, Jonathan Jesik, Rudy Krasovec, Joe Zorc, Judy Chandler, Vince Perez, Renee Zakavec, Danny Golob, Eileen Perez. Front row – Jeanette Jensen, Lucille Jesik, Bernice Krasovec, Lucille Zabukovic, and Josephine Martellaro.

### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The following article was written by Lodge #7 member Jonathan Jesik for the Diocese of Pueblo website. Jonathan is very active in his lodge and attended the KSKJ Life Young Adult Leadership Conference that took place in Wisconsin Dells in July 2016:

*"We are the pro-life generation!" I heard this along with thousands of Hail Marys at the March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 27. According to some media outlets there were over 500,000 participants during this year's March for Life.*

*The March for Life festivities started with a protest and prayer in front of Planned Parenthood on January 26. Prominent pro-life priests were there speaking and leading the faithful in peaceful protest and prayer. Later in the day, an evening Mass was held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the pro-life movement. As I stepped into the basilica, I witnessed a packed church filled with primarily young adults, so much so that I wasn't able to walk through the aisles or the narthex. My heart was instantly filled with love for the new evangelization and joy from seeing so many young people of our Church standing for what we believe and know to be right and true.*

*The next day, January 27, was the actual march. The day started with Mass, and much of the faithful processed to the National Mall, which was the*

*beginning of the march. A rally for life was held where we had distinguished speakers including newly-sworn in Vice President Mike Pence. The speakers thanked us for not only being pro-life, but for being involved in the pro-life movement and encouraged us to continue our great work and to grow our passion for life.*

*At the National Mall during the rally the crowd, most of whom were Catholic, were singing praise and worship songs. Vice President Pence joined in, as well. I was excited and thankful for Pence's witness in this administration against abortion and euthanasia.*

*As the pro-lifers marched, the city was filled with thousands of people praying the rosary. I saw many priests and nuns leading us in this fight for life. Everyone was joyous. Our souls were filled with gladness. Christian joy was the spotlight and everyone was feeding off of it.*

*We were marching for the sanctity of life. We were marching for those who cannot march. We were marching for those who cannot speak. We were marching for mercy. We were marching for what is just. We were marching for goodness. And, it was simply done out of love for God, and out of love for our brothers and sisters who weren't able.*

*This is the new evangelization! Let us draw ever more closely to God. Let us hear and seek him more. And, let us stand up and fight for what we believe and know to be true and good, even if persecution comes. For we are the light of the world, and our light cannot and will not be extinguished.*

*Jonathan Jesik*

### IN MEMORY

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family and friends of former US Congressman and Honorary Slovenian Counsel Ray Kogovsek who passed away on April 30, 2017. Ray was a member of KSKJ Life Lodge #7 and spoke at both the Colorado Springs and Pueblo KSKJ Life National conventions.

*Angela Perez*

## LODGE #104

PUEBLO, CO

### LODGE UPDATE

Members of Immaculate Conception Lodge #104

recently participated in Join Hands Day. Board Member Julie Schneller from Lodge #115 was able to join us on her recent visit to Pueblo.



Lodge #104 members were joined by Julie Schneller (center), Board member and Lodge #115 Financial Secretary, for their Join Hands Day project.

## LODGE #115

KANSAS, KS

### JOIN HANDS DAY

Members of St. Veronica Lodge #115 participated in Join Hands Day on May 13. The group cleaned up the grounds around Holy Family Church.



Lodge #115 Join Hands Day group.

## OTHER NEWS & NOTES

### SEND IN YOUR LODGE UPDATE

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.

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL!

Join the conversation with other members on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by using the hashtag #kskjlife.





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**Not FDIC insured.** Not available in all states. Early withdrawals, and those made prior to age 59 1/2, may be subject to IRS penalty. We are not tax advisors – please contact a tax professional. KSKJ Life, American Slovenian Catholic Union, is an Illinois fraternal benefit society located at 2439 Glenwood Ave., Joliet, IL 60435.

2017-06-F1-V

1-800-THE-KSKJ | kskjlife.com