



## THANKSGIVING REFLECTIONS



Dear Friends of KSKJ Life,

We are approaching one of the great days in our calendar year, that being Thanksgiving. It is not only a national holiday, it is a day of great religious significance. It began as three days of celebrating, but as the 90 Native Americans and 53 Pilgrims gathered, they

My prayer for all of you is that you continue to be the grateful faith-filled people you are. May this Thanksgiving Day be filled with joy, happiness and gratitude. Enjoy your day and as the famous writer of the Chicago Sun Times, Irv Kupcinet said, "An optimist is one who starts a new diet on Thanksgiving."

God Bless,

*Fr. Richard Gielow C.M.  
KSKJ Life Spiritual Advisor*



engaged in days of prayer thanking God for all His blessings.

We are privileged and honored to be able to do the same. I encourage each of us to spend some time in prayer on this day. There are many distractions, but the time for thanksgiving is so necessary. The great writer Erma Bombeck once said, "Thanksgiving Dinner takes 12 hours to prepare but only 12 minutes to consume, and half-times are 12 minutes. This is not coincidence."

In our Catholic tradition and practice, Eucharist is at the heart of our life. The word Eucharist comes from Greek and Latin and when translated means to "Give Thanks." Going to mass on this day would be an excellent way to thank God.

In the Gospel of Luke 17:12-19, there is the story of Jesus healing and curing 10 lepers, but only one came back to thank Him. Jesus asked, "Where are the other nine?" Let us always be the one who is filled with gratitude and never forgets to say "Thank You!"

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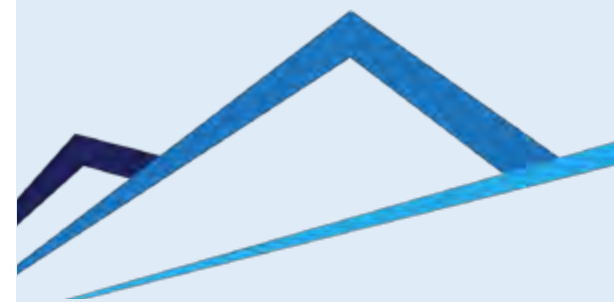
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## A MESSAGE FROM KSKJ LIFE'S CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Dear members,

Cyber security breaches are a serious threat, and one that we take very seriously at KSKJ Life. The highly publicized breach at Equifax is yet another reminder to all companies, especially those with private consumer information, to do everything we can to safeguard our members' data.

Industry-wide best practices for data security include:

- Keeping current with security patches and updates provided by software vendors
- Conducting regular end to end security threat assessments and penetration testing
- Implementation of regular employee awareness programs and security training

Know that we are already practicing these and other activities to maintain a safe and secure data sphere for all of our members and agents. We continue to regularly monitor the marketplace, as well as our internal processes and procedures, for improvements.

As always, thank you for allowing us to serve your financial needs and help you take care of your loved ones.

*Fraternally,  
Tony Mravle Jr  
Chief Information Officer*

## STEPPING UP UPDATE



Once again, KSKJ Life members across the country "stepped up" to this year's 45-day challenge of creating a better you. Bike rides, walks, runs, soccer games and baseball games were just a few of the many activities our members took part in. The KSKJ Life Home Office will be donating \$1 to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation for every registered participant and every shared activity. A final recap of the total donation and winners will be announced in December's issue of *The Voice*.



*Jayme McDougal from Lodge #52 in Indianapolis shows the peaceful scenery behind her on one of her "Stepping Up" walks.*



*Judy Derra and MaryLou Stefanick of St. Mary Lodge #79 in Waukegan venture out for their morning walk in Las Vegas. Not pictured is Deb Machack.*



*The Zabukovec sisters of Lodges #53 and #79 in Waukegan get their steps in while on vacation in Las Vegas. Leading the pack is Jamie, followed closely by Janice, Julie and Judy.*





## MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT

**November 4 and 5, 2017**

**You asked for it and we are bringing it back!**

Mario and Melissa Medved are coordinating the tournament again in Joliet, IL on Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Details and the entry form can be found on the website in the Athletics tab - [www.kskjlife.com/membership/athletics](http://www.kskjlife.com/membership/athletics).

We are trying something new this year to try and get everyone involved. We will have 2 categories this year COMPETITION and FRIENDLY bowling.

**Competitive bowling is \$75.00 per team**

**FRIENDLY Bowling is \$10.00 a person for 3 games- all are welcome to bowl.**

Please mark the entry form as "Friendly" so we can get an idea of how many people are bowling.

We will be having a 50/50 raffle with baskets for the raffle again. We know how everyone loves prizes.

BAND performing at Bases Loaded Bar & Grill at Town & Country Lanes from 5:00 pm – 8:00pm on Saturday night.



**ALLEY** Town & Country Lanes  
2231 W Jefferson St,  
Joliet, IL 60435

815-725-1231

**HOTEL** Best Western Joliet  
4380 Enterprise Drive  
Joliet, IL

815-730-7500

GROUP# KSKJ BOWLING LEAGUE



**Hope to see you all there!**



## KSKJ LIFE SERVICE AWARD

*Do you know a member who goes the "extra mile" when it comes to volunteering?*

If so, please consider nominating him/her for the 2017 KSKJ Life Service Award. KSKJ Life will begin accepting online nominations for this award beginning November 1 through December 31. Any KSKJ Life member (age 13 and older) who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to service and volunteerism in his/her community can be nominated. The person submitting the nomination must be a KSKJ Life member as well. The honoree will be chosen in January 2018 and KSKJ Life will make a \$250 donation to the charity of his/her choice. Visit [kskjlife.com](http://kskjlife.com) and select "2017 Service Award" under Membership to complete a nomination.



## HURRICANE RELIEF UPDATE

The generosity of KSKJ Life members and friends is ever-present as our hurricane relief donation total has surpassed \$11,000 (as of press time) and continues to grow! Final totals, including the matched amount from KSKJ Life, will be reported in December's issue of *The Voice*. Together we are making a difference for those who need our help. Thank you!

## SAVE THE DATE

The 2018 KSKJ Life National Bowling Tournament will take place **April 21 – 22** in Indianapolis, IN

## CELEBRATE SLOVENIAN-STYLE AT THE THANKSGIVING POLKA WEEKEND

North, south, east, west, Cleveland-Style Polka is best! Dance to the finest Cleveland-and Slovenian-Style performers at North America's renowned three-day polka-thon. The National Cleveland-Style Polka Hall of Fame and Museum presents the annual Thanksgiving Polka Weekend and the 30th Awards Show spectacular – all at the Cleveland Downtown Marriott Hotel, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 23, 24 and 25.

TV's Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchmen arrive from Iowa, the Singing Slovenes from Minnesota, Dick and Jack Tady from Pennsylvania, Joey Miskulin from Nashville, Fritz's Polka Band from New York and Walter Ostanek from Canada. Performers include last year's winning band, the Jeff Pecon Orchestra, and button-boxers of the year Kathy Hlad and the Fairport Jammers. Check the daily line-up for your favorites.

Twenty orchestras and entertainers are scheduled each day in three hotel locations. Polka personality Tony Petkovsek, who started the festival in 1963, gives the downbeat for the Friday evening button box jam with as many as fifty accordions.

Take a "Polka Road Trip" with the Polka Hall of Fame as it celebrates its 30th anniversary with a stage full of stars from across America's Polka Belt at the awards show spectacular in the Marriott Ballroom, Saturday, November 25, at 2 p.m. Tom

Mrocza directs the all-star stage orchestra as top talents share the spotlight with winners of this year's awards, celebrity presenters and polka-rific surprises. Father Frank Perkovich follows the festivities with his Polka mass at 4 p.m.

Reserve today – The Marriott Hotel books up fast! Only \$105 for a single or double room per night, tax included and free attached indoor parking. Each Thursday ticket is \$15, \$20 on Friday, and \$10 on Saturday, including free indoor parking. 18 and under free! Awards Show tickets are \$25 each. Save with a Polka Combo Pass – all four events only \$60 per person. For hotel reservations, call Kollander Travel, (216) 692-1000. To order tickets, contact the Polka Hall of Fame, (216) 261-3263.

*Joe Valencic, President  
National Cleveland-Style Polka  
Hall of Fame & Museum*



*The Singing Slovenes from Minnesota.*

## SUPPORTING SOLDIERS 2017

This year's Supporting Soldiers Campaign will be "Snacks for Soldiers." In conjunction with upcoming lodge events and Christmas parties, we encourage lodges to participate in this mission to collect salty snacks, such as crackers, chips, sunflower seeds, beef jerky, nuts, etc. and card games, such as Uno and Skip-Bo for our soldiers.

In addition, any monetary donations will be matched per dollar (maximum \$100 per member) up to \$5,000 and given to this year's charitable organization, Support the Troops WI. Any donated funds can be mailed to the Home Office marked "Supporting Soldiers" and a one-time donation of the total collected funds will be delivered to Support the Troops.

Collected snacks and games can be shipped directly to the organization at: Support the Troops WI, 6087 Hwy 60, Hartford, WI 53027. If participating, Snacks for Soldiers/Charitable Giving Award Forms are due by no later than January 15, 2018 to the Home Office.

Supporting Soldiers promotional flyers and postcards for your shipped items can be found on our website under the Activities tab ([www.ksklife.com](http://www.ksklife.com)).



**SUPPORT THE TROOPS WI**

a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization

## IN MEMORY OF

**Irene Weate**- Chicago, IL  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Grampovnik- \$25.00



## KSKJ LIFE EDUCATIONAL GRANT

Thank you and congratulations to all of our member students who applied for the 2017-2018 KSKJ Life Educational Grant. We applaud you for your academic achievements and commitment to volunteerism and service. Winners will be notified in November, and a full list of recipients will be published in December's edition 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.

**Managing Editor:** Tony Mravle, Jr.

**Submission Deadline:** 2nd Friday of each month.

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

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# #KSKJLIFE



INSTAGRAM  
@KSKJLIFE

**[ksklife.com/voice](http://ksklife.com/voice)**

and fill out the required form by November 30, 2017.  
**Failure to respond will result in your name being removed from the mailing list.**



# THANK YOU LODGE OFFICERS!

With the Thanksgiving spirit in the air, it's the perfect time to recognize all of our lodge officers who help promote KSKJ Life's values in their local communities. We thank you for your commitment and service, and wish you a blessed Thanksgiving.

## LODGE 1



President - Dawn Zamora, Financial Secretary - Joanne Sierzega, Fraternal Activities Coord. - Patrick Sierzega, Treasurer - Joanne Sierzega, Recording Secretary - Dawn Zamora, Communications/Voice Reporter - Joanne Sierzega, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Thomas McNally.

## LODGE 2



President - Zachary Pucel, Vice President - John Churnovic, Financial Secretary - Lydia Marquardt, Fraternal Activities Coord. - Sylvia Churnovic, Recording Secretary - Julia Pucel, Auditor - Darrell Marquardt, Auditor - Kenneth Mihelich, Sergeant At Arms - Nick Pucel, Spiritual Director - Fr. Timothy Andres, Fraternal Give Reporter - Lydia Marquardt, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Lydia Marquardt

## LODGE 7



President - Rudolph Krasovec Jr., Vice President - Richard Zabukovic Jr., Financial Secretary - Daniel Golob, Fraternal Activities Coord. - Megan Gregorich, Treasurer - Eileen Krasovec-Perez, Recording Secretary - Judith Chandler, Auditor 1 - Lucille Zabukovic, Auditor 2 - Renee Zakavec, Auditor 3 - Joseph Zorc, Sergeant At Arms - Vincent Perez, Communications/Voice Reporter - Angela Perez, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Jeanette Jensen, Fraternal Give Reporter - Angela Perez, Fraternal Give Co-Reporter - Daniel Golob, Spiritual Director - Fr. Richard Gielow C.M.

## LODGE 25

President - Joseph Hocevar, Vice President - Brian Fabo, Financial Secretary - John Turek, Fraternal Activities Coord. - Richard Mott, Treasurer - Mary Kay Prawdzik, Auditor - John Prawdzik, Auditor - Martin Turek, Auditor - Ralph Prawdzik, Communications/Voice Reporter - Kathleen Prawdzik, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Joseph Hocevar.

## LODGE 29



President - Ken Velasquez, Vice President - Kathryn Lovati, Financial Secretary - Judith Corum, Fraternal Activities Coord. - Becky Velasquez, Treasurer - Judith Corum, Recording Secretary - Karen Colman, Auditor - Nicholas Vidmar, Auditor - Robert Zelinski, Auditor - Paul Boettcher, Communications/Voice Reporter - Karen Colman, Fraternal Give Reporter - Judith Corum, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Ken Velasquez, Lodge Membership Comm. Co-Chair - Kathryn Lovati, Sergeant At Arms - Louie Derlinga, Spiritual Advisor - Deacon Frank Juricic.

## LODGE 42



President - Jeffrey Dermes, Vice President - Alan Hoffman, Financial Secretary - Ronald Graves, Recording Secretary - Anne Hubler, Treasurer - Ronald Graves, Fraternal Activities Coord. - Robert Rafaj, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Anthony Flaynik.

## LODGE 44



President - George Bozzetti, Financial Secretary - Christopher Bozzetti, Recording Secretary - Robert Oberman, Treasurer - Mary Jane Strus, Fraternal Activities Coord. - James Rossi, Jr., Auditor - Janet Oberman, Communications/Voice Reporter - Angela Rossi, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Bertha Krcmaric.



# THANK YOU LODGE OFFICERS!



## LODGE 50



President - Robert J. Lokar, Jr., Vice President - Kristine Mikulan, Financial Secretary - Albert Suhadolnik, Jr., Recording Secretary - Mary Ellen Suhadolnik, Treasurer - Albert Suhadolnik, Jr., Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Ashley Mikulan, Auditor - Donald Mikulan, Auditor - Edward Hudak, Fraternal Give Reporter - Ashley Mikulan, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Margaret Sheaffer Mulkerrin.

## LODGE 52

President - Angie Cuson, Vice President - Jennifer Velikan, Financial Secretary - Michael Piechocki, Recording Secretary - Marcia Brack, Treasurer - Richard Brodnik, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Jaymie McDougal, Auditor - Elizabeth Walker, Auditor - Katherine Poole, Athletic Director - Edward Cottongim, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Michael Piechocki, Spiritual Advisor - Fr. Larry Janezic, OFM.

## LODGE 53



President - Thomas Koncan Jr, Financial Secretary- Victoria Drinka, Fraternal Activities Coordinator- Sue Dolence, Vice President - John Urh, Treasurer- Gail Pasiewicz, Recording Secretary- Dana Lainio, Auditor - Amber Bodame, Auditor - Raymond Dolence, Communications/Voice Reporter - Victoria Drinka, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Dana Lainio.

## LODGE 59



President - Jennifer Menart, Vice President - Ronald Erjavec, Financial Secretary - Connie Menart, Recording Secretary - Dawn Barchus, Treasurer - Theresa La Vigne, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Heidi Coldegelli, Auditor - Frank Erjavec, Auditor - Gloria Leseman, Auditor- Amy Brazerol, Sergeant At Arms - Robert Mavec, Communications & Voice Reporter - Rosemary Mattson, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair- Tony Menart, Fraternal Give Reporter - Amy Brazerol, Spiritual Advisor - Fr. Michael Geary.

## LODGE 63



President - James Marincic, Financial Secretary - Jean Marincic, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Brenna Marincic, Spiritual Director - Joseph Snyder, Recording Secretary - Brigid Farone, Auditor - Judith Sedmak, Auditor - Frank Sadar, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Deanne Short, Lodge Membership Comm. Co-Chair- Catherine Matonis, Youth Activities Communication- Sarah Kawczynski, Communications/ Voice Reporter- Jean Marincic, Fraternal Give Reporter- Jean Marincic.

## LODGE 65



President - Rudolph Pugel, Financial Secretary - Diane Mouradian, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Andrea Pugel - Ostrowski, Treasurer- Diane Mouradian, Vice President - Tom Gorenc, Recording Secretary - Agnes Lobacz, Auditor- Andrea Pugel - Ostrowski, Auditor- Pat Pugel, Athletic Activity Director - Jim Stoltmann, Sergeant At Arms- Steven Morzy, Fraternal Give Reporter - Andrea Pugel - Ostrowski, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Diane Mouradian.

## LODGE 69



President - Jennifer Wood, Financial Secretary - George Wood, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Joseph Aline, Vice President - Terry Aline, Treasurer - George Wood, Recording Secretary - Carolyn Wood, Auditor - Edward Wood, Auditor - Gerald Stinson, Sergeant At Arms- John Wood, Communications/ Voice Reporter - Carolyn Wood, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - George Wood.



# THANK YOU LODGE OFFICERS!

## LODGE 79



President - David Bradley, Vice President - Kathleen Govekar, Financial Secretary - MaryLou Stefanick, Recording Secretary - Victoria Hammergren, Treasurer - Henry Govekar, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - John Deram Jr., Auditor - Barbara Marolt, Auditor - Mary Ann Shinsky, Auditor - David Hammergren, Sergeant At Arms - Dennis Mivshek, Communications - John Deram Jr., Voice Reporter - MaryLou Stefanick, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - MaryLou Stefanick, Spiritual Advisor - Fr. James Merold, Fraternal Give Reporter - John Deram Jr.

## LODGE 104

President - Marian Pechek, Vice President - Agnes Glavich, Financial Secretary - Norma Becco, Recording Secretary - Norma Becco, Treasurer - Norma Becco, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Diane Slaten, Auditor - Nancy Wimber, Auditor - Susan Miketa, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Norma Becco.

## LODGE 108



President - Pauline Mihelich, Vice President - Charles Kramer, Financial Secretary - Alan Mihelich, Recording Secretary - Catherine Kramer, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Maryann McGinnis, Auditor - Judith Hann, Auditor - Mary Kay Demick, Auditor - Mary Lee Strahanoski, Sergeant At Arms - Helen Walsh, Communications - Pauline Mihelich, Voice Reporter - Catherine Kramer, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Mary Mihelich, Spiritual Advisor - Fr. Tim Andres, Fraternal Give Reporter - Alan Mihelich.

## LODGE 110



President - Peter Caperones, Financial Secretary - James Trenta, Recording Secretary - Constance Trenta, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Kelly Herold, Auditor - Cathy Herold, Auditor - Erin Farnsworth, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Michael Morgan.

## LODGE 115



President - Charles Racki, Vice President - Joanne Ohmes, Financial Secretary - Julie Schneller, Recording Secretary - Patricia Horton, Treasurer - Monica Racki, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Daniel Keller, Auditor - Cynthia Ohmes-Hanson, Auditor - Patrick Horton, Auditor - Juliana Stimach, Communications/Voice Reporter - Donna Lyle, Spiritual Advisor - Fr. Peter Jaramillo, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Theresa Wohletz.

## LODGE 136



President - Edward Bayuk, Vice President - Edward Perko, Financial Secretary - Lonna Rakovec, Recording Secretary - Gene Rakovec, Treasurer - Melinda Deavers, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Joanne Trunkel, Auditor - Jeremiah Rakovec, Auditor - Bethany Gosar, Auditor - Robert Trunkel, Communications/Voice Reporter - Lonna Rakovec, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Joanne Trunkel, Fraternal Give Reporter - Lonna Rakovec.

## LODGE 143

President - Tony Mravle Jr., Financial Secretary - April Sleyko, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Margaret Koncar, Auditor - John Koncar, Communications/Voice Reporter - Lauren Baltz, Communications/Social Media Officer - Julia Markun, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Lynn Schmitt, Lodge Membership Comm. Co-Chair - Margaret Koncar, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Annette Koncar.

## LODGE 144



President - Patricia Slapnick, Vice President - James Noordyk, Financial Secretary - Tammy Miller, Recording Secretary - Marian Burich, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Ken Miller, Auditor - Jeff Udovich, Auditor - Diane Udovich, Voice Reporter - Patricia Slapnick, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Patricia Slapnick.



# THANK YOU LODGE OFFICERS!

## LODGE 146



President - Michael Bodanza, Vice President - Lynne Powers, Financial Secretary - Josephine Kmet, Recording Secretary - Josephine Kmet, Treasurer - Josephine Kmet, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Christopher Kocin, Auditor - Edward Kmet, Auditor - Kelly Volckening, Sergeant At Arms - Chris Opalach, Communications/Voice Reporter - Josephine Kmet, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Mike Bodanza, Fraternal Give Reporter - Josephine Kmet, Spiritual Advisor - Theresa Kocin.

## LODGE 153



President - Frank Valencic, Vice President - Darryl Valencic, Financial Secretary - Beverly Rosselle, Recording Secretary - Darlene Marcischak, Treasurer - Joyce Iannarelli, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Michael Rosselle, Auditor - Marlene Tkach, Auditor - Marjorie Valencic, Auditor - Cheryl Vogrig, Communications/Voice Reporter - Beverly Rosselle, Fraternal Give Reporter - Joyce Iannarelli, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Darryl Valencic, Sergeant At Arms - Cheryl Vogrig, Spiritual Advisor - Rev. John J Batykefer.

## LODGE 170



President - Barbara Krampac, Vice President - Franciska Gorsic, Financial Secretary - Theresa Krampac, Recording Secretary - Nandy Puc, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Victoria Herold, Auditor - Ivanka Buh, Auditor - Milena Zerdin, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Victoria Herold.

## LODGE 150



President - Anthony Peskar, Vice President - Gregory Snyder, Financial Secretary - Elizabeth Ann Jones, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Victoria Javor, Treasurer - Elizabeth Ann Jones, Recording Secretary - Elaine Peskar, Auditor - Elaine Peskar, Auditor - Gregory Snyder, Auditor - Victoria Javor, Communications/Voice Reporter - Anthony Peskar, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Elaine Peskar, Fraternal Give Reporter - Elizabeth Ann Jones.

## LODGE 169



President - Philip Hrvatin, Vice President - Greg Clack, Financial Secretary - Martin Marsic, Recording Secretary - Martin Marsic, Treasurer - Catherine Clack, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - John Nemec, Auditor - John Hozjan, Auditor - Alex Clack, Auditor - Nicholas Marsic, Sergeant At Arms - Nicholas Marsic, Communications/Voice Reporter - John Nemec, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - John Nemec, Fraternal Give Reporter - John Nemec, Spiritual Advisor - Rev John Kumse.

## LODGE 171



President - Frank Bucar, Vice President - Mary White, Financial Secretary - Sharon Bucar, Recording Secretary - Joseph Jagunich, Treasurer - Sharon Bucar, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Barbara Ann Larson, Auditor - Mark Spehar, Auditor - Jennifer Spehar, Communications/Voice Reporter - Sharon Bucar, Sergeant At Arms - Frank Bucar, Jr., Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Joseph Janchar, Lodge Membership Comm. Co-Chair - James Pogorelc, Fraternal Give Reporter - Joseph Jagunich.



# THANK YOU LODGE OFFICERS!



## LODGE 196



President - Karl Oberstar, Jr., Vice President - Leopold Skrbec, Financial Secretary - Yvonne Skrbec, Recording Secretary - Karl Oberstar, Jr., Treasurer - Yvonne Skrbec, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Ashley Theien, Auditor - Rocco Leoni, Auditor - Marianne Nanti, Auditor - Richard Roach, Sergeant At Arms - Leopolda Schutte, Communications/Voice Reporter - Karl Oberstar, Jr., Fraternal Give Reporter - Karl Oberstar, Jr., Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Katherine Trampusch, Spiritual Advisor - Fr. Mike.

## LODGE 197



President - Margaret Pryately, Vice President - Joanna Pucel, Financial Secretary - James Bisek, Recording Secretary - Michael Retka, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Alice Supan, Auditor - Eugene Retka, Auditor - Larry Feldt, Auditor - Benedict Supan, Communications/Voice Reporter - James Bernard, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Carol Hlebain, Spiritual Director - Fr Robert Harren.

## LODGE 219



President - Loretta Brown, Vice President - Mary Urbanic, Financial Secretary - Elizabeth Kusar, Recording Secretary - Roberta Underwood, Treasurer - Elizabeth Kusar, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Joanne Ash, Auditor - Mary Cooke, Auditor - Mary Urbanic, Auditor - Loretta Brown, Sergeant At Arms - Mary Cooke, Voice Reporter - Elizabeth Kusar, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Joanne Ash, Fraternal Give Reporter - Loretta Brown, Spiritual Advisor - Fr John Betters.

## LODGE 226



President - Raymond Zak, Vice President - Charles Potenga, Financial Secretary - Erika Kurboš, Recording Secretary - Diane McClusky, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Ronald Zak, Auditor - Ed Klodnick, Auditor - Carmen Frederico, Auditor - William Urban, Sergeant At Arms - Raymond Yartz, Communications Officer - Randy Zak, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Tim Klodnick, Voice Reporter - Tamara Zupancic, Youth Activities Chair - Beth Ann Hlabse-Paskey, Youth Activities Co-Chair - Tamara Zupancic, Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Joseph Boznar.

## LODGE 236



President - Franci Pecavar, Financial Secretary - Mary Lehane, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Jozica Plut, Auditor - John Pecavar, Auditor - Helena Pechaver Starc, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Diana Gremett, Communications/Voice Reporter - Diana Gremett, Spiritual Advisor - Katica Pecavar.

## LODGE 257

President - Christopher Bohince, Vice President - Peter Mejac, Financial Secretary - Sarah Mejac, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Anne Zorc, Auditor - Louis Kastelic, Auditor - Nika Kovacic, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Marie Mejac, Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Raymond Wadas.

## BE A PART OF 123 YEARS OF TRADITION!

KSKJ Life was founded to protect members and support communities. Give back to your local lodge and help support your KSKJ Life through becoming a lodge officer. Elections will take place over the coming weeks, so learn how to get involved today!

**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL LODGE OR THE HOME OFFICE AT 1-800-THE-KSKJ OR KSKJLIFE.COM.**

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL!

From lodge news to athletic activities and Home Office initiatives, we're continuously posting updates relevant to you and our KSKJ Life community.

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



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### REGION 1

PENNSYLVANIA, CONNECTICUT AND D.C.

### REGIONAL NEWS

#### SLOVENIAN EXHIBIT

The exhibit, "Farmers Miners and Refugees: Slovenian Immigration in Minnesota Since 1855" opened conjointly with the fourth Scientific and Educational Showcase at the Embassy of Slovenia in Washington D.C. on October 12. The exhibit was followed by a bountiful reception of Slovenian food and drink. The marbled hall and spotlights highlighted the colors of the banners. The crowd of 90 attendees included Consul General Andrej Rode who was present at the original opening in St. Cloud, Minnesota in October 2016.

The travelling exhibit chronicles immigration from Slovenia to central and northern Minnesota and also highlights the statewide refugee immigration after World War II. It was made possible through private donations and sponsors, including KSKJ Life and Slovenian Union of America. The exhibit will be in New York City at St. Cyril Church (62 St. Mark's Place) from December to January 5, 2018.



(Left to right) Lodge #257 member Bernadette Fitzsimmons, Lodge #197 President Marge Pryately and Lodge #257 President Christopher Bohince



Consul Andrej Rode from Cleveland (left) speaks to Marge Pryately about the exhibit.

### LODGE #42

STEELTON, PA

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 2, 2017 – Children's Christmas Party. We will have a trolley ride through "Sweet Lights" at 5:45 p.m. at Hershey Park. Please meet in front of Chocolate World around 4 p.m. Children must be accompanied by an active member adult. If interested, please call Anne Hubler at (717) 756-4889. The cut-off date will be November 28, 2017. Invitations will be sent out to active members.

December 19, 2017 – St. Aloysius Lodge #42 nomination and election of officers will take place during the lodge meeting at 6 p.m.

The St. Aloysius Lodge #42/Club Christmas party will be held in January. Date to be determined.

*Submitted by,  
Anne Hubler*

### LODGE #50

PITTSBURGH, PA

#### LODGE UPDATE

Get ready to dust those bowling balls and shoes off for a fun afternoon of bowling! On Sunday December 10 from 12-3 p.m. we will be having our annual Christmas Party and Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest at Zone 28 Bowling in Harmerville, PA. This year, instead of collecting for a children's organization, we are going to be having a collection for our elderly in a local retirement home. The items collected will be put into gift bags and then delivered to them, as sometimes they aren't visited during the holidays. Please keep an eye out in your email and on our Facebook page for donation items that will be preferred. Please RSVP no later than Sunday, December 3 for the Christmas Party to either Ashley (kskjlifelodge50@yahoo.com), Al Suhadolnik (412) 487-2492 or Bob Lokar (724) 443-6830.

Wishing everyone a thankful and blessed Thanksgiving!

*Ashley Mikulan  
Fraternal Activities Coordinator*

### REGION 2

CLEVELAND AREA

### REGIONAL NEWS

#### KSKJ SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR OHIO LODGES

KSKJ Life is proud to announce a benefit for its Ohio regional members, The Ohio Lodges Scholarship Program. The scholarships are available for the 2017-2018 school year. Members from the following lodges are eligible to apply for these scholarships: Lodges #25, #63, #110, #146, #150, #169, #219 and #226. Through the generous donations from two foundations to the KSKJ Life Scholarship Fund, funds are available to continue the scholarship program.

Thanks to a generous donation of \$3,000 from the Frances and Jane S. Lausche Foundation, they will offer three scholarships in the following categories for full-time students: \$1,000 for one student who is currently attending a private tuition-paying high school; \$1,000 for one student who is currently attending an accredited college or university; and \$1,000 for one student who is currently attending an accredited graduate school. The applicant must be a member of KSKJ Life for at least two years at time of application, November 30. KSKJ Life can cancel this program if funding is not available in the future.

KSKJ Life has also received a one-time donation from the Nielsen Foundation. A number of scholarships will be awarded by KSKJ Life to full-time students who are currently attending an accredited college or university. The applicant must be a member of KSKJ Life for at least two years at time of application, November 30. KSKJ Life can cancel this program if funding is not available in the future.

The Nielsen Foundation is designed to stimulate academic or artistic excellence by awarding scholarships to talented applicants who wish to pursue endeavors that further develop their talent. American students of Slovenian descent are eligible to receive these scholarships.

Students can request an application, as well as

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

the rules and guidelines for The Ohio Lodges Scholarship Program, by sending a letter requesting the information (and which scholarship you are applying for) to the following address:

Mr. Joseph V. Hocevar  
KSKJ Region 2 Director  
6114 Lausche Ave., Suite 207  
Cleveland, Ohio 44103-1594

The deadline date for completed applications is November 30, 2017.

*Fraternally yours,  
Joseph V. Hocevar*

*Chairman, The Ohio Lodges Scholarship Program*

### LODGE #25

CLEVELAND, OH

#### LODGE UPDATE

Greetings... just a brief note on our next meeting, which will be held in the Slovenian room at the Village on November 12 at 11:30 a.m. We ask that our members try to attend as we will be planning for our Annual Meeting, which will be held on Sunday, December at 1 p.m. The Christmas party will follow the Annual Meeting at approximately 2 p.m. We need some input for new activities. We encourage our younger members to attend and become a part of our nearly 125-year-old lodge.

*John C. Turek  
Secretary*

#### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

St. Vitus KSKJ Lodge #25 is sponsoring a scholarship program this year for its lodge members. The lodge received donations to offer one or more scholarships for full-time students who are attending a tuition-paying high school or college for the 2017-2018 school year. The applicant must be a member of KSKJ Life for at least two years at time of application (November 30). The lodge can cancel this scholarship program if funding is not available in the future. All students can request an application for the St. Vitus KSKJ

Life Scholarship Program by sending a letter to the following address:

Mr. Joseph V. Hocevar  
KSKJ Region 2 Director  
6114 Lausche Ave., Suite 207  
Cleveland, Ohio 44103-1594

The deadline for completed applications is November 30, 2017.

*Fraternally yours,  
Joseph V. Hocevar*

*Chairman, Scholarship Program*

### LODGE #169

CLEVELAND, OH

#### LODGE UPDATE

The St. Joseph Lodge #169 Christmas party will be on Sunday, December 10, starting at 3 p.m. at St. Mary's (Collinwood) parish hall. All members are invited.

Our men's bowling league is in full swing, with six teams competing every Friday night at Wickliffe Lanes. Many of us are already looking forward to the National Bowling Tournament in Indianapolis next April 21-22.

Our next lodge meeting will be Thursday, November 16, at 6:30 p.m. at the Collinwood Slovenian Home on Holmes Avenue.

I look forward to seeing many of you at St. Mary's Thanksgiving festival on Sunday, November 19.

*John Nemec  
Fraternal Activities Coordinator*

### LODGE #219

EUCLID, OH

#### LODGE UPDATE

Lodge #219 will again participate in the KSKJ Life Supporting Soldiers Christmas project, gathering salty snacks like peanuts, beef jerky, chips, sunflower seeds and also playing cards and card games like Uno. Please bring any of these items or a monetary donation to the Sunday, November 12 membership meeting at 1 p.m. at Gateway Manor Community

Room in Euclid, Ohio. Refreshments will be served. Try your luck at a door prize. The collected items will be sent to Support the Troops WI, 6087 Highway 60, Hartford, Wisconsin 53027.

Our Christmas Party will be held Sunday, December 10 in the atrium at The Villa Croatia Restaurant Lakeshore Blvd. Eastlake. We will meet at noon for election of officers and a short business meeting. The luncheon will be served at 1 p.m. Reservations for our Christmas Lunch must be made by December 3. They are \$5 per member and 1 guest. Send to Joanne Ash at 7709 Joseph St. Kirtland, Ohio 44094.

*Elizabeth Kusar*

### LODGE #226

CLEVELAND, OH

#### LODGE UPDATE

The Slovenian National Home on Saint Claire Avenue in Cleveland has long opened its doors for Christ the King Lodge #226 to hold its monthly meetings and this October was no exception. As a small way of giving back to this century-old institution, KSKJ Life Lodge #226 purchased 20 tickets for a matching funds event to help with roof repairs to the Home.

Our most recent lodge meeting was held on Sunday, October 8 with the usual suspects present. (If you're intrigued by who those folks might be, consider joining us at our next meeting.) A special thank you to Clara Abriani for always bringing a dessert to share. Even those of us trying to watch our calories can't resist Clara's treats.



*Members of Lodge #226 listen to the officers as they conduct their recent meeting.*



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



*Members sign in for the monthly meeting*

During the meeting we discussed our upcoming Christ the King Sunday Celebration Luncheon on November 26, where we will honor our 50-year members. This year, our 50-year member is George Voinovich, Jr. (formerly of Our Lady of Fatima Lodge #255). Stan Kuhar, our lodge's nominee for the KSKJ Life Lodge Person of the Year Award, will also be honored. Rounding out Christ the King Sunday, we'll celebrate our lodge's 90th anniversary. Please call before November 20 with your reservation to: Ron Zak (216-215-2163), Erika Kurbos (216-383-1212) or Tim Klodnick (440-526-6431)

Our Activities Committee, aka Chuck Potenga, is looking for new events to engage members. Chuck would like your feedback. We are looking to charter a boat on September 8, 2018 to island hop from Cleveland to Kelley's Island to Put-in-Bay and back to Cleveland. In order to make the event a success, we need approximately 150 people to commit. If this sounds like an event you would enjoy, please let us know. Contact any of the officers or leave a comment on Facebook if interested.

### CONDOLENCES

Our lodge sends prayers to the family of Robert McDonough who passed away on October 9, 2017. He will be missed.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Christ the King Sunday:** All lodge members and their families are cordially invited to attend mass as a group on Christ the King Sunday, November 26. We will attend the 10:30 a.m. mass at St. Vitus Church (6019 Lausche Ave.), celebrating all living and deceased members of our lodge. Following the mass, join us at St. Vitus Auditorium (6111 Lausche Ave.) for a home-cooked lunch. We will honor our 50-year members and celebrate our 90th anniversary as a lodge. Our lodge extends an invitation all area lodges, including

Lodges #25, #63, #146, #150, and #219, to join us in the celebration. Due to the preparation involved and to assist the cook in planning, please call with your reservation before November 20 to: Ron Zak (216-215-2163), Erika Kurbos (216-383-1212) or Tim Klodnick (440-526-6431).

**Annual Children's Christmas Party:** Join us for our annual Children's Christmas Party on Sunday, December 3 at noon in the lower hall of the Slovenian National Home. Celebrate the holiday season with crafts, games, refreshments, singing and even a chance to tell Santa Claus what is on your Christmas list! A formal information will all the details will be mailed to all youth members in the near future. We are in need of teen volunteers to help man the stations. So even if you are past the age of sitting on Santa's knee, we hope those looking for service hours will consider helping us with the event. If you have any questions, please email either Beth Paskey (bpaskey@ameritech.net) or Tamara Zupancic (tisinmentor@hotmail.com).

If you are a member of Christ the King Lodge #226--or the former Lodge #255 Our Lady of Fatima--we invite you to come and participate in our lodge events. Up next is Christ the King Sunday, November 26, where we will celebrate our Lodge's 90th anniversary!

### LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

To keep up with Lodge #226 news in between editions of KSKJ Voice, like our Facebook page: facebook.com/kskjcleveland226 or search for "KSKJ Cleveland Lodge #226". We publish event info, share KSKJ Life updates, post pictures and engage with members. Help us reach our goal of 100 likes! You don't have to be a member of Lodge #226 to like our page, it's open to all!

## REGION 3

CLEVELAND, OHIO

## LODGE #150

CLEVELAND, OH

### MEETING DATES

Our November meeting is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1 at Independence Branch of the Cuyahoga Public Library, 6361 Selig

Dr., Independence, OH 44131. Nominations for 2018 officers are due at the November meeting. All Lodge #150 members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

The December meeting will be held on Sunday, December 3 at noon at Slovenian National Home #2 (NASH), 3563 East 80th Street, Cleveland, OH 44105. During the December meeting we will hold the election of officers for 2018. We are in need of additional officers and committee members. All Lodge #150 members are encouraged to attend these meetings.

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual Children's Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 3, at the Slovenian National Home E. 80th ST. (NASH), from 1 to 4p.m. Please RSVP to either Liz Jones at kskjlife150@gmail.com or Elaine Peskar at (440) 243-0312.

### OUR TOWN AND ALL-AROUND TOWN BOOKS FUNDRAISER

Lodge #150 will sell Our Town and All-Around Town Books again this year. Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit Lodge #150 youth programs and development. The cost of the books will remain the same as last year at \$28. To order books and/or request additional information, contact Tony Peskar: tonypeskar@juno.com or (440) 915-8312.

### CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

Lodge #150 has a 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 member to view the page.

### LODGE E-MAIL ADDRESS

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

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



*The Poor Man's Raffle table from our recent Matching Funds event for St. Vincent de Paul Society. Left to right: Vicki, Joanne and David Javor.*

We wish you a blessed Thanksgiving. We all have a great deal to be thankful for.

*Lodge #150 Voice Reporters  
Tony & Elaine Peskar*

### REGION 4

JOLIET AREA

### REGIONAL NEWS

#### COMBINED JOLIET LODGES

On Tuesday, October 3, the combined Joliet Lodges held their monthly meeting with members from Lodge #29, Lodge #108 and Lodge #143 in attendance for the meeting.

As for new business, Mike Vidmar announced that the next Illinois Federation meeting will be held on Friday, November 17 at 7 p.m., in Lemont at the Slovenian Cultural Center. He also mentioned that the drawing for the annual scholarship fund raffle would be held at the meeting.

And speaking of raffles, the winners of the October "200" raffle are as follows – St. Genevieve Lodge #108 and Tomas Villarreal. Congratulations. As long as I'm on this subject, raffle tickets for 2018 raffle have been printed and distributed to the lodges. The drawing will be held at the January 2018 meeting.

Nomination and election of officers for 2018 will be held at the December meeting.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, it's a sure sign that Christmas will soon be upon us. With this in mind, plans for the Joliet Lodges Kids Christmas

Party have been discussed and it's decided that the event will be held on Saturday, December 2 at Haunted Trails from 9:30 a.m. to about 1 p.m. Postcards will be sent with more information about the party. Or, if you are tech savvy, visit the Joliet Lodges Facebook page.

The next meeting of the combined Joliet Lodges will be on Tuesday, November 7 at 7 p.m. at T&C Lanes. Hope to see you there.

Before I sign off – on behalf of all the officers of the combined Joliet Lodges, we wish you and your family a happy Thanksgiving.

*Pauline Mihelich  
Recording Secretary/Reporter  
Joliet K.S.K.J. Lodges*

#### IL FEDERATION OF KSKJ LIFE LODGES

The next meeting of the IL Federation of KSKJ Life Lodges will be Friday, November 17 at 7 p.m. in the small hall at the Slovenian Catholic Center in Lemont. All KSKJ Life members are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. We will also have our annual raffle for our student grant fund that evening. Lodges can return sold tickets before the meeting by mail or bring them to the meeting.

*Mike Vidmar  
IL Federation*

### LODGE #2

JOLIET, IL

St Joseph Lodge #2 participated in the Will County Walk to End Alzheimer's on October 8 at Rock Run Creek in Joliet. 21 members participated and, so far, we have raised over \$2,800—exceeding our goal of \$2,000. Donations are being accepted until December 31, 2017. You can donate to our team at <http://act.alz.org>. Choose "Find a Walk Near You." Click "Find a Team" and enter "KSKJ" to find Lodge #2.



*Lodge #2 members at the Alzheimer's Walk*

The next lodge meeting will be November 2, 2017 at St. Joe's Park Legion Room at 6 p.m. Pizza and refreshments will be provided.

### LODGE #29

JOLIET, IL

October 1 dawned as a beautiful fall Sunday. It was also the day for our Matching Funds at the JDRF Walk at Moraine Valley Community College. Over \$260,000 was raised from the various teams participating to fund research and find a cure for Type 1 diabetes. Our volunteer duties included parking cars, but a couple of our youth members also worked in the food tent. Approximately 18 of our members participated as KSKJ Life Team 29 and represented Cameron Velasquez who was diagnosed in 2014. The teams were able to introduce themselves and tell their T1D stories. We were so glad to volunteer for this very worthwhile cause.



*Becky Velasquez and Kathy Lovati directing traffic.*



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



*Team KSKJ #29 Captain Ken Velasquez, Cameron Velasquez and Judy Corum presenting our team.*



*Left to right: Krista and Katie Starasinich serving snacks with a smile.*



*Lodge #29 members at the Matching Funds JDRF Walk*



*The Velasquez kids taking a ride in the golf cart. Left to right: Hailey, Cameron and Logan.*

The next meeting and election of officers for 2018 will be on Sunday, December 3, 1 p.m. at St. Joe's Park.

Save the date for our Holiday Party on Sunday, January 7, 2018, at 176 West Banquet Facility, 1100 NE Frontage Road in Joliet beginning at noon with cocktails. We will have a meeting at 12:30 p.m. followed by buffet at 1 p.m. The cost for members is \$15, guest tickets cost \$20 and kids under 3 are free. Please RSVP and make arrangements to prepay to Judy Corum at 815-725-3553 or [jmcorum@ameritech.net](mailto:jmcorum@ameritech.net) by December 20.

The holidays are fast approaching. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!

*Karen (Ramsak) Colman  
Reporter*

### LODGE #108

JOLIET, IL

#### LODGE UPDATE

Hello everyone! Looks like summer has passed us by. Fall will soon be upon us. Anyway, I hope that everyone enjoyed their summer break. So, on to the business at hand.

St. Genevieve Lodge #108 held their monthly meeting on Sunday, October 1 at 1 p.m. in the Ferdinand Hall. A luncheon followed the meeting.

At the October meeting, we honored our 2017 Lodge Leaders (Mary Mihelich – 45 years, Mary Kay Demick – 25 years of service and Maryann McGinnis – 5 years of service). Congratulations and thank you for your services. We also honored our Lodge Person of the Year, Maryann McGinnis.

Congratulations to Chuck Kramer and Maryann McGinnis. They were the winners of the 50/50 raffle.

#### LODGE PERSON OF THE YEAR

At our April 2 meeting, the officers and members of St. Genevieve Lodge #108 unanimously nominated Maryann McGinnis as the Lodge Person of the Year for 2017, and she was honored on Sunday, October 1 with a small gathering of her friends in attendance. Maryann is also one of the three lodge leaders who were also honored.

Maryann McGinnis is currently our Fraternal Activities Director and has held this position for the last five years. She assumed this position soon after her mother (who also held this position) passed away.

Maryann is also an officer with the Joliet Lodges, KSKJ Life. She holds the position of 2nd Auditor.

Most recently, Maryann McGinnis spearheaded our Matching Funds event this year and did an excellent job. She also helped coordinate the lodge's ice skating & pizza party for the youth. When it comes to volunteering, Maryann is always available to volunteer her services for many of our lodge's activities. She has helped with most of our events, such as our lodge picnic, lodge Christmas party, previous Matching Fund projects, Join Hands Day projects, ice skating & pizza party, as well as our lodge meetings.

Outside of the KSKJ Life family, Maryann makes it her mission to decorate the altar at St. Joseph Church with the flowers on a regular basis. Along with her daughter Katie and her son Jack, there is no task that Maryann cannot do. Her mother (Virginia Papesch, now deceased) decorated the church too.

Besides decorating the altar at St. Joseph Church with flowers, she also helps at Joliet Catholic Academy as a nurse. Maryann's full-time job is a nurse at Edward Hospital. She is one busy lady!

Maryann does her best when it comes to referring new members as well as encouraging other members to participate and volunteer. She never complains about working with both younger or older members. She just does her job.

Maryann McGinnis has been a valuable asset to St. Genevieve Lodge #108. She is always available to help whenever necessary - from planning our events to volunteering her services to make sure those events are successful and worthwhile.

*See photo of Maryann on the following page.*

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



Maryann McGinnis



Maryann McGinnis (left) speaks to a few Lodge #108 members at a recent meeting.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 5 – Lodge Meeting, 1 p.m., Ferdinand Hall. Pizza will be served.

Sunday, December 3 – Annual Lodge Christmas party, 1 to 4 p.m., Al's Steakhouse. Cost is \$15 per person.

Nomination and Election of Officers for 2018 will be held at our annual lodge meeting on Sunday, December 3.

Also, we will honor our 50-Year members: Karen T. Bossinger, Madeline F. Golobitsh and Patricia A Martinez at our Christmas party.

Well, that's it for now. Have a happy Thanksgiving.

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

### LODGE #143

JOLIET, IL

#### UPCOMING MEETING

November 30 at 7 p.m. Location TBD. Election of officers will take place at this meeting.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2 – Joliet Area Lodges Christmas Party (Haunted Trails, Joliet)

December 17 – Caroling and Coffee at Our Lady of Angels Home (Joliet)

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

### REGION 5

CHICAGO AND INDIANAPOLIS

### REGIONAL NEWS

#### MATCHING FUNDS

St. Stephen Lodge #1 and St. Anne Lodge #170 recently held a Matching Funds Dinner and raffle for All in for Ethan, Inc. The dinner was very well attended - about 140 in all. Thank you to each and every one of you who attended the dinner, purchased raffle tickets, brought baked goods for the bake sale or purchased those baked goods to eat. Thank you also to the setup and clean-up volunteers, the kitchen crew, dishwashers and the table and buffet servers.

The raffle prize winners were: First prize, ticket #944, \$200- Zvanka Zizek; Second prize, ticket #52, \$100 Slovenian Union of America; Third prize, ticket #396, \$50- Lorraine Mladic; Fourth prize, ticket #945, \$50- Ed Kovac; Ignatz Restaurant certificate, ticket #316- Joann Jawor; Target gift card, Ignac and Marija Glavac.

It takes so many people working together to have a successful fundraiser. Our gratitude to all, whatever your part. Because of your generosity, All In For Ethan, Inc. will receive \$4,211, which includes the \$2,000 matched from the KSKJ Life Home Office (\$1,000 from Lodge #1 and \$1,000 from Lodge #2).

Thank you to Zvanka Zizek and Slovenian Union of America for donating their winnings back to All In For Ethan, Inc.

*Sincerely,  
Matching Funds Committee*



KSKJ Members of Lodges #1 and #170 with Ethan (center).

#### SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Fr. Metod Ogorevc from the Slovenian Cultural Center in Lemont, Illinois recently celebrated his Silver Jubilee of Ordination. The celebration on September 24, 2017 was attended by numerous members of KSKJ Life, including Tony Mravle, Jr., KSKJ Life CIO; Mike Vidmar, National Board Member; and Theresa Krampac, Fraternal Committee Member.



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



*Family and friends gather for Fr. Metod's Jubilee Celebration.*



*Fr. Metod Ogorevc*

### LODGE #1

CHICAGO, IL

#### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Lodge #1 member Rose Ceferin and her husband Victor, of Mesa, Arizona, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 26, 2017 at a party thrown by their children (who are also members of Lodge #1) and their spouses, Rose Marie Kallevig and Jeremy, Raymond and Kathy Ceferin, Mike and Gaby Ceferin. Rose and Victor also have four grandchildren, Ellianna, Alex, Nico and Eva. The party was held at the Crystal Bohemian Restaurant. Rose and Victor enjoyed a cruise to Nassau and CocoCay Island.



*Rose and Victor Ceferin*

### LODGE #44

S. CHICAGO, IL

#### LODGE UPDATE

Join Lodge #44 for our annual Christmas Party. This year, it will be held again at the Hammond Marina. Stop in on December 2 for some food and dancing. We will have a short meeting before the festivities to recap the year and start to plan for 2018, which will include elections. Come make your voice heard with nominations and voting. Also, come with any ideas you want to see our Lodge take part of this coming year. We will celebrate our 50 Year Members and Person of the Year this evening as well. We hope to see everyone there. For any questions or to RSVP, contact George Bozetti at (708)334-5434.

### REGION 6

NE ILLINOIS AND WISCONSIN

### LODGE #65

MILWAUKEE, WI

Fall is here and we had a beautiful sunny and warm day for the Ed Bregant Memorial Golf Outing. Many thanks to those who participated and brought prizes, which were plentiful. Thanks to Jim Stoltmann who made all the arrangements. The day would have been Ed's 94th birthday so to commemorate the day, Paul and Kathy Bregant brought a birthday

cake, which everyone enjoyed.

It was great to see Bob Verbiscer and his wife Jean who made the outing a part of their mini tour around Wisconsin.

At our last meeting, we had the honor of awarding six educational grants to members from our lodge going to various colleges. It was amazing as we listened to each of them relate their experiences in college and work, as well as their goals and dreams. Each one of them wants to make the world better. Hannah Braun, Jake Halstead, Jack Mouradian, Makayla Mouradian, Josef Nelson, and Cole Sebastian received grants. Many thanks to Agnes Lobacz, chair and Jan Gehm our Educational Grant Committee. Thanks to Tom Gorenc, Agnes Lobacz, Pat Pugel, Steve Morzy and Mici Bregant for the special treats.



*Left to Right - Mici Bregant (Educational Grant Committee) Hannah Braun (Mother of) Makayla Mouradian (Mother of) Jacob Halstead (Mother of) Cole Sebastian Aggie Lobacz (Educational Grant Committee) Jack Mouradian Josef Nelson (not pictured)*

It would really be nice if some of our former graduates who have received an educational grant from our lodge or a National Scholarship let us know what they're doing now and how these programs have helped them. We are interested! You can email me at edmar915@aol.com or drop me a note, Mary Bregant, 3550 S. Rivershire Dr., Apt 1., Greenfield, WI, 53228. I look forward to hearing from you.

We'd like to fill up the meeting room at St. John's on the first Wednesday of the month, and you can help by attending our monthly meetings. Our next meeting is November 1, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Don't forget to get your flu shots. Greetings to all of our sick and shut ins.

*Mici Bregant*

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### LODGE #136

WILLARD, WI

#### LODGE UPDATE

Greetings from Willard! Mary of Perpetual Help Lodge #136 has been quite busy this fall. First, we had our second Matching Funds Event, the Bazaar at Holy Family Church, which was sponsored by Lodge #136 and Holy Family PCCW. It was quite successful netting over \$7,000.



*Matching Funds Bazaar Dinner, with Lodge member Joanne Trunkel standing.*



*Matching Funds Bazaar Rummage Sale.*

Our next event was the "Lodge Person of the Year," which was presented to our recording secretary Gene Rakovec. Gene always lends a helping hand and has a smile on his face. At the same time we celebrated our Lodge Leaders: Auditor -Robert Trunkel, Recording Secretary- Gene Rakovec and Vice President- Edward Perko.



*President Bayuk presenting the Lodge Person of the Year Award to Gene Rakovec*



*Our Lodge Leaders from left to right: Robert Trunkel, Gene Rakovec and Edward Perko.*

We finished October with a Bake Sale on the 28th.

Our Annual Meeting is December 10 at 10:30 a.m. at the Parish Center at Holy Family Church Willard. There will be election of officers at this time. If you are interested in holding any office, please attend. Our meetings are usually on the second Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Family. As an officer, you are expected to make it to the meetings every month, although we do realize that is not always possible.

The next big event is our Christmas Party on December 10, which starts with a potluck lunch at noon. After lunch there will be children's games and sing-alongs—and Santa will hand out packages. Door prizes will also be given out. Please come and join the fun.

Also this year, we will collecting non-perishable food items, starting on December 10 at the annual meeting and Christmas Party. The items will be matched at a local business and then taken to the Greenwood Food Pantry. This donation could mean the difference between a needy family having a Christmas meal or not. Let us help the less fortunate of our area, as there is great need. Let us give with the Christmas Spirit: God intended all of us to share.

Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

*Sincerely,*

*Financial Secretary-Lonna Rakovec*

### LODGE #144

SHEBOYGAN, WI

#### CHARITABLE GIVING

In conjunction with the recent Lodge #144 Annual Dinner, member Paige Fenske held a 50/50 raffle.

Project Angel Hugs was chosen to receive the proceeds from the raffle. This organization is dedicated to ministering to the emotional needs of children touched by cancer. After the event, many people who were unable to attend the dinner wanted to support Paige's efforts. A total of \$550 was collected, plus the Charitable Giving Award from the Home Office of \$50. On behalf of KSKJ Life, a total of \$600 was donated to this wonderful charity.



*Paige Fenske (right) presents a check to Chari Perl, director of Project Angel Hugs.*

### REGION 7

MINNESOTA AND MICHIGAN

### LODGE #171

DULUTH, MN

#### UPCOMING EVENT

Saturday, December 2--Annual Christmas Party for adults and youth at St. Elizabeth's Church Hall at 5:30 p.m. It will be a potluck. Please bring canned goods for the Food Shelf and warm clothing (hats, mittens, jackets, scarves) for "Families In Need" Project. Please RSVP to Barb Larson at (715) 398-5693 if you plan on bringing youth members.

#### MATCHING FUNDS

St. Elizabeth Lodge recently held a Matching Funds event in conjunction with "Ethnic Days, Music from the Alps to the Adriatic." This project was a huge success with over 350 people in attendance. This event went from from an idea into reality because of KSKJ Lodge #171 members Frank Bucar and new member, Frannie, "Teta Franska," Morris. People attending the event came from as far away as the Twin Cities, the Iron Range and Wisconsin. Guests



## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

were entertained by the host, "Singing Slovenes" from Duluth, the "Sam Miletich Tamburica Ensemble" from Grand Rapids and the Twin Cities, Serbian Kolo Dancers, and the "Slovenian Sensation" button box, Kašper Krek—direct from Slovenia.



*Guests enjoy the music at the "Ethnic Days"*



*The youngest members of the Singing Slovenes take the stage for a song.*

### LODGE #196

GILBERT, MN

Dear Fellow KSKJ Members:

Lodge #196 has been very busy this latter part of 2017. We are making plans for another Matching Funds Event for this year or early next year. We are also making plans for our youth and adult annual Christmas Party. We decided to hold this on Sunday, December 10 beginning at noon. We ask that any lodge members interested in attending contact a lodge officer or call Karl Oberstar at 404-1010 by December 3. We will also be holding a short business meeting during the annual Christmas Party, in which we will conduct elections of new officers for 2018. It is our hope we have a good turnout for our year-ending Christmas Party.

We also received a \$500 Cultural Grant from the Home Office and presented it to St. Louis County Historical Society. The Historical Society has

been very proactive in their efforts to preserve the numerous ethnic cultures we have in our county. It is very important that many future generations have access to information of "how" and "why." So many different ethnic cultures emigrated from other countries to St. Louis County. On September 30 an event named "Families in Flight: The Journey of Slovenian Children to Minnesota after World War II" took place in Gary New Duluth. Joe Valencic of Cleveland was the MC for this event where four presenters told the group in attendance (around 200 people) about their experience living as a child in the internment camps of Austria and the journey to a new/better life here in America. One of the presenters was KSKJ Life St. Elizabeth Lodge member Frank Bucar. Frank had a very interesting story to tell that was very well received by the audience. Thank you Frank for sharing. Other presenters were Miro Medved, Frank Medved, John Zakelj, Theresa Mihelich Meinhardt, and Adrej and Monika Rode (on Skype from Argentina). Also, for our entertainment we had the privilege of listening to the music of the "Singing Slovenes" of Duluth, managed by Frank Bucar. Below is a picture of members of the Singing Slovenes and St. Elizabeth Lodge #171 with Region 7 Director Sharon Bucar. In the picture, the \$500 Cultural Grant Check from KSKJ Life is presented to JoAnne Coombe, Executive Director, St. Louis County Historical Society. We all had a very interesting and enjoyable afternoon.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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



*President of Lodge #196 Karl Oberstar Jr. (left) presents a check to JoAnne Coombe from the St. Louis Historical Society. Also pictured is an additional representative from the St. Louis Historical Society and members of the Singing Slovenes including Sharon Bucar (with 3 grandchildren), Mark Spehar, Leslie Bucar, Frank Bucar and Mary White.*

### REGION 8

COLORADO, KANSAS, MONTANA, CALIFORNIA

### LODGE #7

PUEBLO, CO

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

November 5— Beat the Eagles Raffle at St. Joseph's Hall at 11 a.m.)

November 20— Monthly Local Lodge Meeting in St. Joseph's Hall at 7 p.m.

December 11— St. Joseph's Lodge #7 Annual Meeting

December 17— Annual Children's Christmas Party

#### NEWS

On September 21, 2017, St. Joseph's Lodge, in collaboration with Immaculate Conception Lodge #104, sponsored a matching funds event for John Neumann Catholic School. The event, known as "Panther Roundup," was a kickoff to the new school year and family, friends and alumni were invited to attend. Attendees enjoyed a wide array of entertainment in addition to klobasi sandwiches, donated by St. Joseph's Lodge #7, and other delicious foods. Also, both lodges were greeted by a visit with Jeff Carlson, the newest sales agent for KSKJ Life, who attended the event as well.

St. Joseph's Lodge #7 participated in Pueblo Diversified Industries' (PDI) 9th Annual Harvest Walk and Sollie Raso Memorial on Saturday, October 2, 2017 as a silver sponsor. The money raised through this event provides individuals served by PDI with personalized and unrestricted experiences, enabling them to connect with their community with activities that fit their interest and needs.

St. Joseph's Lodge #7 is hosting its Broncos "Beat the Eagles" Raffle on Sunday, November 5, 2017 at St. Joseph's Hall on 917 East "B" Street, where everyone is welcome to come watch the game and enjoy delicious Klobasi sandwiches. 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.





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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.

2017-11-F5-V

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