



A MESSAGE FROM THE KSKJ HOME OFFICE *THE POWER OF COMMUNITY*



There's a famous quote by social activist Howard Zinn that says, "Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world." As we come together each spring to "join hands", we are reminded of the importance of community and the significant impact

people, but of course it does not need to be limited to one day of the year. When Hurricane Harvey hit in Houston last year, we saw an unbelievably generous response from our members, who were eager to do anything they could to help those who had lost so much.



Lodge #171 shows us how they "join hands"

Continued on page 2

our actions can have as one unit working together. Join Hands Day originated in the fraternal world as a way for adults and youth to team up as volunteers and help make a difference in their communities through service projects. Many KSKJ Life lodges participated in a Join Hands activity of their own this spring, while others have planned charitable projects for later in the year. We've had the joy of seeing members spending time with their families, friends and neighbors while serving a greater purpose in their communities.

Volunteering is at the heart of who we are as a fraternal organization. Since 2010, our members have contributed over 86,000 volunteer hours to their local communities in a variety of ways, including serving at nursing homes, food pantries, homeless shelters, schools and churches—the list goes on and on. The many pictures from this year's Join Hands events show grandparents, children and grandchildren working side by side, bonding and smiling and exhibiting the purpose Join Hands Day intended.

Being part of a community teaches compassion and understanding, and usually accompanies a sense of purpose and belonging. Other benefits include strengthened social ties and improved self-esteem.

Joining hands each year brings out the best in

IN THIS ISSUE

MAKING A DIFFERENCE
Page 2

39TH KSKJ NATIONAL CONVENTION
Page 3

HONORING THE NATIONAL DAY AND
ARMED FORCES DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SLOVENIA
Page 6

MEMBER MEMORIAL
Page 7

LODGE NEWS
Page 8

#KSKJLIFE



FACEBOOK
KSKJ LIFE



TWITTER
@KSKJLIFE



INSTAGRAM
@KSKJLIFE

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

LODGE 257 MEMBER TAKES MISSION TRIP TO BRAZIL

Continued from page 1

As a goal for the rest of 2018, I challenge all to continue the mission of Join Hands Day. Explore other charitable opportunities in your town, or simply try to commit one small act of kindness every week. Mow a neighbor's lawn, pay for the coffee of the person behind you in line, call a loved one you may have not spoken to in a while. Small acts such as these, when multiplied by many, truly can transform the world!

KSKJ Life would like to thank all the lodges and members that coordinated and participated in Join Hands events in their communities this year. This wonderful pastime of philanthropy and volunteerism continues to unite our members and their local communities across the country. We hope to see the practice of joining hands continue throughout 2018 and beyond! To see pictures from Join Hands Month, visit our Facebook page, KSKJ Life.

Cathi Davis

Communications & Fraternal Coordinator



Thank you to the Bishop Baraga Society KSKJ Life Lodge #257 for their generous donation for my participation in a mission trip to Brazil during the 2018 spring break. I greatly appreciated this experience and the support that enabled me to partake in The St. Vincent College Campus Ministry program to help the poor and marginalized in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Traveling and working in Brazil was a life changing experience for which I'll always be grateful. Our small group was safely guided by Benedictine Monks João Marcos and Alexandre throughout the week. They were both extremely kind and friendly, which made us feel very welcomed. We plan to stay in contact with them for many years to come.

We visited the holy sites and saw the beauty of Brazil. Working with the children of Jundiá, bringing them gifts and playing with them was a wonderful life changing experience. I noticed that children laugh and play no matter how many material things they may have. We had the chance to feed monkeys, and experience a simple lifestyle filled with love and joy. Walking the streets of Sao Paulo humbled us as we experienced the urban sprawl and poverty. The people were happy, despite lacking in material goods we are accustomed to in the United States. We were constantly reminded of the beauty that surrounded us, and the gift we were given to see and experience a way of life so different from our own back home. Many of us feel more inspired to give back to those in the world who are less fortunate.



The visit to Brazil left our group with an immense feeling of gratitude for the kindness we experienced from the community. The students gave us the greatest gift of all that will always remain in our hearts, simply by sharing their richness of spirit.

Thomas Fitzsimmons
Member of Lodge #257

MATCHING FUNDS UPDATE

LODGE #59 HELPING THE EVELETH FIRE DEPARTMENT RELIEF ASSOCIATION



Lodge #59 recently held a Matching Funds event, a Duke Skorich Barbecue, with the Eveleth Fire Department. Tony Menart, Lodge #59 officer, presented the Matching Funds check to Kelly Klander, President of the Eveleth Fire Department Relief Association and Dan Krasky, Treasurer of the Eveleth Fire Department Relief Association.

Submitted by Rosemary Mattson
Communications & Voice Reporter, Lodge #59

LODGE #65 RAISING FUNDS FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION



A Matching Funds check was presented to Gena Orlando, from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. \$3,438 was raised at our Matching Funds 9 pin bowling tournament in memory of Chuck Mouradian and Debbie Nowak. It was held on April 21st.

Submitted by Andrea Ostrowski
National Activities Director, Lodge #65

39TH KSKJ LIFE NATIONAL CONVENTION

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



We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the National Convention & Young Adult Leadership Conference in August!

National Convention Bylaw Change Recommendations:
 If you would like to review the proposed Bylaw change recommendations for the National Convention, please visit our website at www.kskjlife.com/convention. If you need assistance accessing this document, please contact the home office at (844) 407-9242 or email fraternal@kskjlife.com.

<p>August 7-9th</p>	<p>-Young Adult Leadership Conference – Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont, IL</p>
<p>August 9-11th</p>	<p>-KSKJ Life National Convention – Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont, IL</p>

A LOOK BACK.....THE 22ND KSKJ LIFE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The year was 1950... Harry S. Truman was president. Diner's Club issued the first credit cards. Tom Petty and Stevie Wonder were born, equipped to shape the future of American music. The average cost of a gallon of gas was 18 cents. It was also the year of the 22nd KSKJ Life National Convention which was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Forty-four honorary delegates attended this convention, all having attained and/or surpassed the quote of new insurance sales. The amount written was \$1,693,950. A plan was adopted for readjustment of the Sick Benefit Departments and to place it on a sound actuarial basis.

Medical benefits would be waived for applicants under 25 seeking no more than \$2,000 insurance without sick benefit. In view of the Korean conflict, the war clause was suspended. Also established at this time was the Scholarship Fund, which was to increase in popularity as time went on.



22nd General K.S.K.I. Convention, MILWAUKEE, Wisc. 1950

JOIN HANDS RECAP

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF LODGES THAT PARTICIPATED IN JOIN HANDS EVENTS DURING THE MONTHS OF APRIL, MAY AND JUNE. A HANDFUL OF OTHER LODGES HAVE PLANNED AN EVENT IN LATE SUMMER/EARLY FALL. WE WILL PUBLISH THESE EVENTS AFTER THEY OCCUR.

Lodge #1 – St. Stephen (Chicago, IL): Grounds clean-up at Mt. Assisi convent.

Lodge #2 - St. Joseph (Joliet, IL): Planting of the gardens at Sunny Hill Nursing Home.

Lodge #29 - St. Francis de Sales (Joliet, IL): Grounds clean up Mt. Assisi convent.

Lodge #50 – Blessed Virgin (Pittsburgh, PA) : Placing Flags on veterans' graves for Memorial Day at Allegheny Cemetery in Lawrenceville, PA.

Lodge #65 – St. John the Evangelist (Milwaukee, WI): Putting together care packages for residents of Franciscan Villa Nursing Home in South Milwaukee.

Lodge #69 - St. Joseph (Great Falls, MT): Cleaned gravesites in Mt. Olivet Cemetery and Calvary Cemetery.

Lodge #79 - St. Mary (Waukegan, IL): Landscaping/gardening with Midwest Veterans Closet.

Lodge #108 – St. Genevieve (Joliet, IL): A young member did the honors of hanging up the poppy wreath at St. Joseph's Cemetery on Memorial Day weekend, and placed 22 American flags in grotto area.

Lodge #136 – Mary of Perpetual Help (Willard, WI): Playing Bingo and other activities with the residents of the Neillsville Assisted Living Community.

Lodge #143 – St. John the Baptist (Joliet, IL): Packing food for underprivileged infants at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora, IL.

Lodge #144 - Sts. Cyril & Methodius (Sheboygan, WI): Cleaning up the grounds at Greendale Cemetery.

Lodge #146 – St. Joseph (Cleveland, OH): Spring cleaning at the Slovenian Home on E 80th in Cleveland.

Lodge #150 – St. Anne (Cleveland, OH): Fresh produce distribution at St. Mary's Church.

Lodge #153 – St. Jerome (Strabane, PA): Distribute food at the pantry with Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Church in Meadowlands, PA.

Lodge #169 - St. Joseph (Cleveland, OH): Cleaning up the grounds at the Slovenian Cultural Garden in Cleveland, OH.

Lodge #171 - St. Elizabeth (Duluth, MN): Cleaning up the grounds at Stowe Elementary School, Veteran's Memorial and St. Elizabeth Church.

Lodge #196 – Blessed Virgin of Help (Gilbert, MN): Stocking the shelves at the Quad City Food Shelf after unloading a food truck from the Duluth Food Bank.

Lodge #197 – St. Stephen (St. Cloud, MN): Serving meals at Place of Hope (Homeless Shelter and Drop In Center).

Lodge #219 – St. Christine (Euclid, OH): Spending time with the residents of a Slovenian Home in Euclid, OH.

Lodge #226 – Christ the King (Cleveland, OH): Landscaping and grounds cleanup at the American Slovenian National Home in Cleveland.



Lodge #1 & #29



Lodge #108



Lodge #171



Lodge #1 & #29



Lodge #136



Lodge #196



Lodge #2



Lodge #143



Lodge #219



Lodge #69



Lodge #144



Lodge #79



Lodge #169



Lodge #226

HONORING THE NATIONAL DAY AND ARMED FORCES DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

On Tuesday, June 19, 2018, the Ambassador of Slovenia to the U.S. Mr. Stanislav Vidovič and Military Attaché Colonel Ivo Mikuž hosted a reception to honor the National Day and Armed Forces Day of the Republic of Slovenia at the Embassy in Washington, D.C. the Ambassador gave recognition to all the Slovenes in the U.S. who actively assisted Slovenia on its route to independence as well as gave their unequivocal support to establishing relations between the two countries. KSKJ Life Chair of the Board Rudolph Krasovec, Jr., attended the event to show support for the special occasion.



Deputy Ambassador Vladimir Kolmanic and his wife, Vesna, pose with Rudolph Krasovec, Jr. at the Embassy in Washington, D.C..



Ambassador Stanislav Vidovic and Rudolph Krasovec, Jr. at the National Day and Armed Forces Day of the Republic of Slovenia in Washington, D.C..

KSKJ VOICE

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

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

Publisher: KSKJ Life

Managing Editor: April Sleyko

English articles for publication should be sent directly to voice@kskjlife.com.

Submission Deadline: 2nd Friday of each month.

To change address or name, or for matters concerning membership, please contact the KSKJ Life Home Office.

This publication is also available electronically at kskjlife.com.

IN MEMORY OF

James Gillespie -
Waukegan, IL
Robert & Francine
Grampovnik, \$25.00

Jennie Kogovsek -
Mentor, OH
Marie Pancar,
\$20.00

James Buchar -
Joliet, IL
• Patricia Buchar,
\$150.00
• Rudy & Sue
Mihelich, \$30.00
• Robert & Betty
Hoerner, \$20.00
• Margaret
Norcross,
\$25.00

James Buchar -
Joliet, IL (Cont'd.)
• Gregg Vershay &
Jodi Wartenberg,
\$25.00
• Rita Fordonski,
\$25.00
• Robert & Janice
Pullman, \$25.00
• Charles & Paula
Harris, \$25.00
• Anthony &
Madeline
Golobitsh,
\$100.00
• Paul Francisco,
\$200.00
Kevin Buchar,
\$200.00

**KSKJ WISHES
EVERYONE A SAFE
AND HAPPY JULY
4TH!**



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.

MAY & JUNE 2018

Lodge # 020 - Michael D. Merritt (Wyoming, MI)

Lodge # 020 - Barbara Dailey (Shelby Township, MI)

Lodge # 002 - Ronald H. Lindsay (Shorewood, IL)

Lodge # 050 - Julian B. McDuffie (Glenolden, PA)

Lodge # 621 - Max K. Horrocks (Houston, TX)

Lodge # 146 - Anthony J. Pristas (Northfield Ctr., OH)

Lodge # 115 - Frances L. Adney (Overland Park, KS)

Lodge # 197 - Bernice C. Karasch (Sauk Centre, MN)

Lodge # 196 - Dianne C. Bertelsen (North St. Paul, MN)

Lodge # 104 - John J. Foden (Lakewood, CO)

Lodge # 079 - James P. Stanczak (Waukegan, IL)

Lodge # 253 - Audrey M. Beringer (San Bernadino, CA)

Lodge # 020 - Barry L. Hawkins (Britton, MI)

Lodge # 104 - Marjorie L. Huffman (Jay, OK)

Lodge # 624 - Patsy Bean (Jackson, MS)

Lodge # 616 - Bee Thao (Eau Claire, WI)

Lodge # 226 - Ivanka Vidmar (Cleveland, OH)

Lodge # 148 - Marie Komjathy (Fairfield, CT)

Lodge # 025 - Matt Vugrinec (Willoughby Hills, OH)

Lodge # 050 - Robert W. Spohn (Lancaster, PA)

Lodge # 074 - Delmar L. Shelton (Effingham, IL)

Lodge # 020 - Carmel R. Lagace (Fowlerville, MI)

Lodge # 236 - John H. Rankin (Imperial Beach, CA)

Lodge # 069 - Nick J. Kriskovich (Anaconda, MT)

Lodge # 104 - Linda Secora (Pueblo, CO)

Lodge # 069 - Charles Smith (Rio Rancho, NM)

Lodge # 104 - Margaret W. Rotondo (Pueblo, CO)

Lodge # 029 - Mary F. Lojeski (Joliet, IL)

Lodge # 170 - Anna W. Petrich (Ames, IA)

Lodge # 169 - Frank Tercek (Mentor, OH)

Lodge # 148 - John Jemapete (Pinellas Park, FL)

Lodge # 153 - Mary L. Cadez (Strabane, PA)

Lodge # 042 - Barbara A. Slesser (Manchester, PA)

Lodge # 236 - Franci Pecavar (San Francisco, CA)

Lodge # 065 - Raymond Freiberg (West Allis, WI)

Lodge # 059 - Rita Takavitz (Ely, MN)

Lodge # 300 - Victoria Callas, (Rock Springs, WY)



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

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

REGION 1

PENNSYLVANIA, CONNECTICUT AND
DC

LODGE #42

STEELTON, PA

St. Aloysius Lodge 42 Steelton celebrated our Lady of Brezje on May 19, 2018 in the Prince of Peace Church. All deceased members of 2017 and 2018 were remembered at mass.

Refreshments were served after mass in the Prince of Peace social hall. Tina Muza did a great job catering finger sandwiches, all kinds of side dishes, cakes and fruit. Thank you, Tina, for a job well done.

I want to thank Rick Vukmanic for setting up flowers around pictures of our Lady of Brezje. Thank you so much for taking care of things for St. Aloysius Lodge 42.

Our Flag Day ceremony was held on June 16, 2018 at the Lodge home. This is something that we do every year. I apologize for not posting this sooner.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

*Submitted by Anne Hubler
Recording Secretary*

REGION 2

CLEVELAND AREA

REGIONAL NEWS

ST VITUS PARISH SUMMER PICNIC

All KSKJ Life members are cordially invited to attend and celebrate the annual St. Vitus Parish summer picnic on Sunday, July 15, 2018 at Slovenska Pristava, a recreational facility located in Harpersfield, Ohio. Best of all: there is no admission or parking charge. Mass will be at noon in

the main pavilion. Dinner will served immediately after Mass, consisting of roasted chicken and/or roast beef with all the trimmings. The cost is \$15 per adult and \$10 per child under 12 years old. Freshly homemade baked items will also be for sale, including the delicious krofe! Entertainment will begin with the fine sounds of the Jeff Pecon Orchestra with Joey Miskulin, and continue with the classy sounds of Cleveland Swing Band, a full 13-piece orchestra with singer. Members of KRES Folklore Dance Group will stroll the grounds, proudly acknowledging the 125th Year Anniversary Observance of the founding of St. Vitus Parish (1893-2018). Corn-hole and volleyball tournaments are also being planned.

The kitchen will be open until 8:00 pm, serving food dishes such as hamburgers, hot dogs, french fries, and more. Refreshments will be available throughout the entire afternoon. After dinner, an open pit will have a specialty dish, Slovenian style "cevapci-ci." A fine variety of wines and beer will be available at the refreshment stand, and refreshments for those under the age of 21 will also be available. Other activities include open swimming (nominal fee for non-members of Slovenska Pristava), children's interactive games, and a Chinese craft raffle. Come and enjoy a fun-filled family day on July 15, 2018 at Pristava with good food, music, and company. Directions to Slovenska Pristava: Take I-90 East to the Geneva Exit (Route #534). Take Route 534 south to South River Road, about two miles. Turn right on South River Road. Take South River Road approximately one mile to Brandt Road. Turn right at Brandt Road. SP is about ½ mile down. Call the parish house at (216) 361-1444 for more information.

Prepared by S. Kuhar

LODGE # 169

CLEVELAND, OH

LODGE UPDATE

On Saturday, May 26th, some of our members met at the Slovenian Cultural Garden for our Join Hands Day project. We spent the morning with brooms, shovels, picks, rakes, and clippers

sprucing up the upper area. There is always plenty of work to be done there. It is now looking much better as the fountain has been fixed.

We honored our 50-year members on May 31st with a dinner at Dubrovnik Gardens in Eastlake. The honorees who attended were: Robert Anderson, Nada and William Manieri, Victor Nemeč, and Mary Ann Vogel. It was a wonderful evening, with over 20 members in attendance enjoying the good food and each other's company. Congratulations to all the honorees!

Our first Matching Funds event of 2018 will be the Catholic Mission Aid (MZA) picnic at Slovenska Pristava on July 22nd, along with St. Anne's #150. Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Joseph Boznar at 12:30 pm, followed by a delicious dinner prepared by Julie Zalar and other volunteers (\$15 for adults, \$8 for children). We'll have a bake sale and more food available into the early evening. The pool will be open, and the Veseli Godci will entertain with dance music from about 3:00-7:00 pm. There is no admission fee.

Proceeds will go to support Slovenian missionaries around the world who are dedicating their lives to helping the poor. Come out and support the cause! Bakery donations will be welcome, as will help in the kitchen and bar. See you on July 22nd!

We have no meeting scheduled in July. Enjoy the summer!

John Nemeč

LODGE #219

EUCLID, OH

LODGE UPDATE

Summer is finally here and St. Christine Lodge #219 members are working on a second Join Hands project: a clothing drive, which will run

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

through the summer and end with our September 9th meeting. We decided to hold an annual drive after seeing firsthand the need for it and the joy it brings to those in need. Roberta Underwood will serve as the chairperson of this project.



St. Christine KSKJ Life Lodge #219 members Anna Marie Konte, Helen Troha, and friend Erika Salvucci display clothing they collected for a clothing drive. The drive will continue until September 9th.

Our Communion Mass and Luncheon in honor of our 50 Year members and Lodge Leaders was successful.



Members John Sr. and Kathleen Jurcago were presented with their son's 50th year membership certificate.

Barbra Tekavec and John Jurcago were our 50 Year members. Mitiz Urbanic served for 20 years and Loretta Brown served for 5 years as Lodge

Officers. Each received certificates and a gift from the home office.



Members celebrating with a wonderful meal at the Lodge #219 awards luncheon.

Elizabeth Kusar, Volunteer Person of 2017, was presented with a certificate and a monetary gift from President Loretta Brown on behalf of Lodge #219 for the extra work she has done to advance the lodge. Elizabeth is our Fraternal Secretary/Treasurer and the Voice news reporter.

Elizabeth Kusar

REGION 3

CLEVELAND AREA

LODGE #146

CLEVELAND, OH

LODGE UPDATE

On June 8th we held our usual Meet and Greet at Quaker Steak. We had a spirited group there, with a lot of catching up between members. Clara and Frank Hrovat were there, and we want to wish them a happy anniversary. As of July 5th, they will have been married for 66 years! Still together and happy, too.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our next meeting will be September 7th. One of our younger members recommended we try a service event. She will be gathering details and ideas as we try to incorporate a service component for the late summer/early fall. As usual, the meeting will be at Quaker Steak and Lube on Canal Road and will begin at 6:00 pm.

July 8th will be the 4-lodge picnic at Odd Fellows Farm. More details to come. I don't have much information as to the 50/50 tickets, but I'm pretty sure the format will remain the same. Bossie's Ice Cream will be there, which I always consider to be the highlight of the day!

On July 13th we are planning a baseball game with the Akron Rubber Ducks. Call Josie Kmet at (216) 267-4866 if you are interested in attending. This will be a free event for KSKJ Life members and will include fireworks. The games are very entertaining, and the surrounding area has many places to eat (including the concession stand). The game starts at 7:05 pm and is against Birmingham. Join us as we watch the future stars of the Cleveland Indians!

In August, we have the Young Adult Leadership Conference and KSKJ Life National Convention to look forward to. Our lodge is sending three delegates: Chris Kocin, Chris Opalach and Josie Kmet. We look forward to seeing our many friends throughout the various other lodges.

On September 7th, we will have another Meet and Greet at Quaker Steak and Lube. The meeting will begin at 6:15 pm. Quaker Steak is on Canal Road in Valley View.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES



Congratulations Andrew Kmet, who graduated from the Academy of St. Bartholomew and plans to attend St. Ignatius.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

Congratulations to all our graduates. The Kmet family shared a photo of their graduate, Andrew Kmet, who graduated from the Academy of St. Bartholomew and plans to attend St. Ignatius.

Josie Kmet
Secretary/Treasurer
Lodge #146

LODGE #150

CLEVELAND, OH

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, July 8th at the Four Lodge Picnic at Odd Fellows Farm.

Our August meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 1st at 6:30pm at Jones Day Park in Parma. Refreshments will be served.

UPCOMING EVENT

The Cleveland Four Lodge Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 8th from noon to 6pm at Odd Fellows Farm. The picnic is open to all members and their families. If you are planning to attend or need further information, please contact Elaine Peskar at 440-503-8312 or kskjlife150@gmail.com.

Co-sponsoring with St. Joseph Lodge #169, St. Anne's Lodge #150 will be participating in a Matching Funds Picnic on Sunday, July 22nd at Slovenska Pristava in Harpersfield, Ohio. This event will benefit the Catholic Mission Aid - MZA. For additional information, please contact Elaine Peskar #150 or John Nemeec #169.

St. Anne's Lodge #150 is sponsoring its 7th Annual Porky Pig Softball Tournament & Pig Roast on Saturday, August 4th, 2018. The event will be held at the James Day Park (Nike Site Park). The park is located at 11828 Pleasant Valley Road, Parma, Ohio.

Registration starts at 8am, games at 9am, and the pig roast at noon (food and beverages provided).

- Team registration \$10

- KSKJ Life members (players & guests) FREE

- Non-members (players & guests) \$10, ages 10 & under are \$5.

Attendees are encouraged to register in advance by July 28th to guarantee a ticket. Limited tickets will be available at the door on a first come first serve basis.

To register a team or receive more information, please contact Elaine Peskar at 440-503-8312 or kskjlife150@gmail.com. This is a rain or shine event. You do not have to play softball to enjoy the tasty pig roast. Just come and have fun.

LODGE EMAIL ADDRESS

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

Submitted by,

Elaine Peskar

President/Recording Secretary

REGION 4

JOLIET AREA

REGIONAL NEWS



JOIN US AT SPLASH STATION
SUNDAY, JULY 22 | 6:30-8:30PM | 2780 CHANNAHON RD, JOLIET, IL

Celebrate summer with KSKJ Life at Splash Station Waterpark on Sunday, July 22 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. This is a free event for all KSKJ Life members. Guests are \$5. Concession stand will be available for the purchase of snacks.

In lieu of the free admission fee, KSKJ Life will be collecting the items below for more than 325 students in need this upcoming school year.

- USB/Flash Drive
- Headphones
- TI-30 Calculators
- Kleenex
- Copy Paper
- 4x6 Index Cards
- College ruled - 1 Subject Spiral Notebooks
- Large Back Packs
- Girls Pants - Sizes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 18
- Boy Pants - Sizes 4, 5, 6, 7, 16, 18
- Girl Tops - Sizes 5 & 12
- Boy Tops - Sizes 7, 12, 16, 18
- Size 32 Waist Mens Black School Uniform Pants
- Size 32 Waist Mens Pants
- All Sizes Girls & Ladies Undies (excluding Girls size 6)
- All Sizes Boys Undies
- Women's Gym Shoes - Sizes 8 & 9.5

HOSTED BY KSKJ LIFE JOLIET AREA LODGES

The supplies collected benefit the Jump on the Bus Program through Morning Star Mission.

Questions? Please contact Lacey Petrella-Zitko at 815.274.3759 or Jolietlodges@gmail.com

For more information, please visit jolietplashstation.com/ste

WE CONNECT FOR LIFE | 1-800-THE-KSKJ | KSKJLIFE.COM

REGIONAL NEWS

KSKJ LIFE JOLIET LODGES UPDATE

Hello everyone! The Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges will be on hiatus for the months of July and August to enjoy the summer. So, without further ado, here is a recap of what happened at the June meeting.

On Tuesday, June 5th the Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges held their monthly meeting with ten members in attendance.

The Youth/Sports Fund Raffle was held. The June winners were: St. Genevieve Lodge #108 and Candy Wrobel. The July winners were: Nicholas Vidmar and St. Genevieve Lodge #108. The August winners were: St. John the Baptist Lodge #143 and Johnny DARTH. Congratulations to all of you!

As for new business, the Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges sponsored a hole at the National Golf Outing held in Waukegan, Illinois on Saturday, June 16, 2018.

For those that are interested, the Illinois Federation of KSKJ Life Lodges will hold their meeting on Sunday, July 15th between 1:00 pm and 1:30 pm in the Retreat House in Lemont. Please be advised that the meeting is being held on the same day as the SUA's picnic.

The next Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 4th at 7:00 pm at T&C Lanes. Hope to see you there.

Since there is no further news to report, I'll sign off for now. Have a safe July 4th and I'll see you all in September.

Pauline Mihelich
Recording Secretary/Reporter
Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges

LODGE #2

JOLIET, IL

LODGE UPDATE

St. Joseph Society Lodge #2 held its annual steak fry at St Joseph's Park on June 7th. It was well attended and enjoyed by everyone. A special thanks to Diana Tyda for coordinating and preparing for the

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

event! Please be on the lookout for more information on our Wine and Cheese Tasting event in September and our Matching Funds event in October. Details for the event will be coming soon.

LODGE #29

JOLIET, IL

UPCOMING EVENT

A summer evening and a cookout—it's time for the Annual Lodge Steak Fry which will be held Friday, July 27, 5:00 pm. at St. Joe's Park. Dinner includes a grill-your-own-steak, baked potato, coleslaw, corn on the cob, dessert, and beverage. The cost is \$10.00 per member and \$15.00 per non-member guest. Free hotdogs will be available for kids who choose not to purchase a steak. A reminder that desserts are always appreciated for the sweets table. We will also be collecting school supplies to be donated to the area's needy children. A bean bag tournament will be held after dinner for anyone interested in playing.

CONTACT JUDY CORUM BY JULY 13th at (815) 725-3553 or jmcorum@ameritech.net to sign up and prepay. Checks payable to St. Francis #29 KSKJ can be mailed to Judy at 117 N. Reed Street, Joliet IL 60435

*Karen (Ramsak) Coleman
Reporter*

LODGE # 108

JOLIET, IL

LODGE UPDATE

Hello everyone! Below is an update on what our lodge has been doing.

On Friday, April 20th, members from St. Genevieve Lodge #108 along with members from the St. Joseph Catholic league gathered together for a spaghetti dinner fundraiser to benefit the St. Joseph Church Organ Restoration Fund. The total amount raised from this event is \$4,803.00!

I want to thank all who had brought baked goods for the bake sale that was held. I also would like to

thank all the cooks in the kitchen who prepared the spaghetti dinner. Most of all, I wish to thank all of you who came out to support this event.

Winners of the apple strudels were as follows: Joseph Cimfe, Sefcik, and Char Stefanich. Also, the winner of the split the pot was B. Stewart. Congratulations to all the winners.

On Saturday, May 12th after the 4:00 pm mass, Alan Mihelich, Financial Secretary, presented Fr. Tim Andres with the Matching Funds check of \$2,000.00 for the organ restoration fund.

On Sunday, May 20th, members of St. Genevieve Lodge #108 gathered together at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery to hang a poppy wreath to honor all past, present, and future veterans in their memory, as well as placing 22 American flags in the Grotto area.

Although it started out as a rainy and gloomy day, it turned out to be a sunny afternoon. I wish to thank all the members who came out and helped with this event. A big "THANK YOU" goes out to Rick Cabay for the use of the ladder so that we could hang the wreath.



John (Jack) McGinnis, one of our youth members, did the honors of hanging up the Poppy Wreath this year.



The Grotto area at St. Joseph Cemetery after all the flags were placed and the Poppy Wreath was put up.

Moving along, on Sunday, June 10th, a mass was said to honor all living and deceased members of St. Genevieve Lodge #108. After the 11:30 am mass, a social gathering was held in Ferdinand Hall. Sandwiches, chips, soda, water and coffee were served.

Members, please be aware that there will be no meetings held in July, August, or September. We will be on hiatus until then and resume our meetings in October. So, enjoy the summer. As for our next meeting, it will not be held until Sunday, October 1st, at 1:00 pm in Ferdinand Hall. We will have pizza available after the meeting.

That's it for now. Take care and have a safe July 4th!

Pauline Mihelich - Lodge President

LODGE #143

JOLIET, IL

JOIN HANDS DAY

A total of 14 Lodge #143 members and friends "joined hands" on June 6th to pack food at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora, IL. Working with other groups that evening, a total of 104 boxes of baby food were packed, which amounts to 44,928 servings for underprivileged infants. What an impact! Thank you to Lodge #143 member Lauren Rainey for coordinating this worthwhile event.

UPCOMING EVENT

July 22: Joliet Lodges Splash Station Event: 6:30-

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

8:30 pm (check-in at 6:00 pm).

Lauren Baltz, Lodge #143 Voice Reporter

REGION 5

CHICAGO & INDIANAPOLIS AREA

LODGE #44

S. CHICAGO, IL

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our last meeting at the Calumet Yacht Club had a great turn out. We enjoyed beautiful weather and company. A lot more events are in the works. The next event will be our annual bocce tournament on August 26th at Club 81. Get your team together and reserve your spot with Jim Rossi Jr. at (219) 902-0230. Our next meeting will be held before the tournament.

Our baseball outing this year will be on Monday, September 3rd. We will be taking a bus trip to watch the Cubs take on the Milwaukee Brewers. More information to come, but mark your calendars. Tickets are limited. If you are interested in securing your ticket, contact Jim Rossi Jr.

Be sure to come out to our next meeting. Members and nonmembers are welcome.

If you cannot make the meeting and still want to share your thoughts, questions, or suggestions, you may reach out to George Bozetti at (708) 334-5434 or myself at (219) 718-7599 and we will be sure to share them.

We hope to see you there!

*Best Regards,
Angela Rossi*

REGION 6

NE ILLINOIS & WISCONSIN

LODGE #65

MILWAUKEE, WI

LODGE UPDATE

Our June meeting was very well attended as we joined hands together to assemble packages for the residents and patients at Franciscan Villa.



Putting together care packages for the residents of Franciscan Villa Nursing Home in South Milwaukee. L-R: back: Callie Morzy, Reece Sebastian, Joe Morzy. Front: Brayden & Liam Kerber.

It would be nice if we could get this many people regularly at our meetings! Several of our youngsters were also on hand to make short work of this task, namely Joe and Callie Morzy, Reese Sebastian, Liam and Brayden Kerber, and Vinny Pugel. Many thanks to Agnes Lobacz, Tom Gorenc, and Steve Morzy for the delicious treats.

We were very privileged to have Gina Orland from the American Federation of Suicide Prevention in attendance. Gina accepted a check from the Charlie Mouradian/Debbie Nowak 9 Pin Tap Tournament from the Mouradian Family. Gina was very appreciative and talked about the work this foundation is doing and some of the events coming up.

Applications for St. John's Educational Grant are now available. All current college students and those entering college in the fall are eligible to apply. Please call Agnes Lobacz at (414) 321-9779 for your application. Applications must be returned and post parked by August 31, 2018.

Congratulations to the following students: Hannah Braun graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison on May 12, 2018 and Jack Mouradian graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater on May 20, 2018. Best wishes are extended to them and best of luck in their careers.

Congratulations are also extended to Tanner Sebastian who graduated from Greendale High

School. Tanner will attend the University of Wisconsin in Whitewater in the fall. Best wishes, Tanner.

Congratulations to Payson Hacker who was one of the athletes, picked randomly, to receive a \$100.00 check from KSKJ Life's Student Athlete Recognition & Awards Program. Payson is sophomore at Maricopa High School in Arizona.

Until next time, greetings to all our sick and shut-ins.

Mici Bregant

LODGE #79

WAUKEGAN, IL

JOIN HANDS DAY

While many folks played instrumental roles in establishing national Flag Day, Midwest Veterans Closet recognizes and thanks St. Mary's KSKJ Life Slovenian members for sprucing up the area.



Happy Flag Day!

We did projects such as: pulling weeds, digging and sawing up stubborn roots, planting flowers, mulching, watering, and placing flags in the 'front yard' and around the signage board.



Working Together

Together, we are proud to serve those who served and currently serve today.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

Submitted by MaryLou Stefanick

LODGE #136

WILLARD, WI

JOIN HANDS DAY

Greetings from Willard: Mary of Perpetual Help Lodge #136 held their Join Hands Day on May 20, 2018 at the Neillsville Assisted Living Community. We played Bingo with the residents, and enjoyed much laughter and comradery along with serious competition between the residents.



KSKJ Life Member Donna Handke and Lodge Officers Jeremiah Rakovec, Lonna Rakovec, and Gene Rakovec played Bingo with the residents of the Neillsville Assisted Living Community for Join Hands Month.

The residents enjoyed the prizes of lotions, shower gels, shampoos, candy, and cookies. Only one male resident named Hap joined us among the many female residents. He was quite the competitor, winning more than anyone else! After Bingo was done, we enjoyed cookies and juice. Some liked just sitting and talking with us the most, as they receive few visitors. If you ever get the chance to visit people in assisted living or nursing homes, please do it—you will leave with a smile on your face and joy in your heart.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Our delegates attending the National Convention, held August 9-11th in Chicago, are Gene Rakovec and Lonna Rakovec. Since they will return Saturday evening the 11th, they will be at our August 12th meeting. They will share with us the happenings of the Convention at that time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our September meeting will be held at 10:30 am on the 9th. Following a potluck lunch, we will celebrate our Lodge Person of the Year and 50-year members. Melinda Deavers is our Lodge Person of the Year. Please come and celebrate with us.

Our October meeting will be on Saturday the 13th at 3:00 pm. In October we will hopefully be co-sponsoring two Matching Funds Events. This year, KSKJ Life will match up to \$2,000 for each event. We should have both posted in the August issue of The Voice. On October 27th we will also hold a bake sale at Holy Family Church before and after 4:00 pm mass. Come and get your baked goods for Halloween or Thanksgiving. There will be poticas and strudels alongside the regular baked goods.

Have a wonderful summer and safe travels.

*Submitted by Lonna Rakovec,
Financial Secretary and Voice Reporter*

LODGE #144

SHEBOYGAN, WI

LODGE UPDATE

Our Join Hands Day was held on May 12th. Lodge members were out at the cemetery before 9:00 am to get the area looking nice for Memorial Day. Even with a small number of workers, we were able to get the job completed. Thank you to those that helped make this day a success. Our May meeting was followed with a lunch.

UPCOMING EVENT

By now, you should have received the information for our Annual Dinner and Fellowship event being held on August 19th. The dinner will be at 1:00 pm with a cash bar beginning at 12:30 pm. At this time, we will honor our 50 year members and present the Financial Grants to the students. This year we have five students that have sent in their applications. As in the past, we ask that the student be present for the dinner in order to accept the Grant. If they live outside a 100 mile radius, they must send in a letter stating the school they will be attending and their

career goals. We would like to see more people attend.

*Pat Slapnick
President & Reporter*

REGION 7

MINNESOTA AND MICHIGAN

LODGE #59

EVELETH, MN

CHARITABLE GIVING AWARD

Eveleth KSKJ Lodge #59 received a \$50 Charitable Giving Award from the Home Office. We were awarded this for helping with the hamburger feed for the last night of Religious Education for this school year. Rosemary Mattson from the lodge presented the check to Pam Rapacz and Father Michael Garry.



Rosemary Mattson presents a check to Pam Rapacz and Father Michael Garry.

OUR LADY OF BREZJE

Our lodge also put up the display for Marija Pomagaj accompanied by a vase of carnations on May 24th, located by the statue of Mary in Resurrection Church.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



Marija Pomagaj on display.

An article on the significance of this feast day for the Slovenian community was in the Church bulletin also.

*Rosemary Mattson
Communications and Voice Reporter*

LODGE #171

DULUTH, MN



St. Elizabeth Lodge #171 "Person of the Year" Patricia Ibriks and her family, during a dinner held in her honor at the Blackwoods Restaurant in Duluth, MN.

REGION 8

COLORADO, MONTANA, KANSAS, CALIFORNIA

LODGE #7

PUEBLO, CO

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 13th: Monthly Local Lodge Meeting in St. Joseph's Hall at 7:00 pm.

*No monthly meeting will be held in July.

LODGE UPDATE

The Annual Bob Rawlings Memorial Paper Cup International Tennis Tournament was held in Pueblo, CO over the Memorial Day weekend. Two tennis players from Slovenia came to Colorado and represented the country well.



Slovenian Tennis players pose with the trophies they won. From left to right: Fritz Anzlovcar, Gasper Okroznic, Kaja Rajh, Will Golob and Shirley Anzlovcar

Kaja Rajh and Gasper Okroznic. Rajh won her second consecutive Women's Open Singles title having participated in the US at previous events. She won her way to the finals where she defeated the player from Chihuahua, Mexico to claim the coveted title. The Men's Open single was won by a player from Russia.

Gasper Okroznic struggled early, but was able to finish Second in Men's doubles. Altitude and heat took its toll on all the international players. Okroznic and Kaja Rajh also took First in Mixed doubles



Kaja Rajh won the Women's Open Singles Finals in 2018. Pictured from left to right: Rudy Krasovec, Fritz Anzlovcar, Kaja Rajh, Will Golob, Danny Golob and Dan Centa.

A Fundraiser honoring the Slovenian Tennis players was held prior to the tournament at St. Joseph's

KSKJ Hall. The Pueblo Sister City commission sponsored the event. The delegation of Fritz Anzlovcar, Danny Golob, John Krall, Dan Centa and Wes Ursick represent Pueblo Slovenians on the Commission.



A Fundraiser Dinner held at St. Joseph KSKJ Hall, honoring the Slovenian Tennis players sponsored by the Pueblo Sister Cities Commission.

It was an exceptionally well-attended event. The Button Box Boys (John Skull and Gary Kleinheim) entertained as the doors opened. Fr. Michael Chrisman did the blessing before dinner and said the prayer in Slovenian. The Beer Barrel catered the very traditional Slovenian meal and the Tamburitza's performed during dinner. Dan Centa and Wes Ursick served as the MC's.

Following dinner, the Slovenian tennis players did a presentation about the Republic of Slovenia and then John Krall conducted a live auction for some fantastic items. One of the top auction items was a gift basket from Slovenia that featured a hand painted beehive door.

Fritz and Shirley Anzlovcar, who are individual sponsors, provided housing for the players and did a great job of organizing the event. Lisa, Danny and Will Golob were the official hosts for Lodge #7.

Overall, a good time was had by all. Fritz said that this was the largest group of folks to ever attend this annual fundraising event, which always includes several state and local elected officials.



The Pueblo Tamburitzans entertaining at the fundraiser.

The Paper Cup International Tennis Tournament is held each year in Pueblo on Memorial Day weekend. Over the past 39-year history, it has featured some exceptional players from Slovenia, Mexico, Italy, Sicily, China, Russia, Latin America and various other countries.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

St. Joseph's Lodge #7 held its Annual Golf Tournament at Hollydot Golf Course in Colorado City, Colorado on June 3rd. While the weather throughout the day remained cloudy and chilly, participants were graciously blessed by a visit from National Director of Athletics, MaryLou Stefanick, and CEO, Tony Mravle Jr. Those in attendance enjoyed a delightful lunch provided by Hollydot Golf Course and concluded with a drawing of various door prizes.

The tournament winners were:

First Place: Scott Pando, Jeff Wilson, Richie Barnett, and Alan Garst



The first-place team at the annual golf tournament.

Second Place: Phil Maroney, Gary Maroney, Geri Westphil, Courtney Maroney, and Dan Maroney



The second-place team at the annual golf tournament.

Third Place: Harvey Koshak, Sandi Cox-Koshak, Jim Jennings, Ken Koshak, and Tory Koshak

Fourth Place: Matt Glowezewski, Rich Golob, Mary Beth Glowezewski, Ben Bogenschuetz, and Ron Golob

*Submitted by
Angela Perez, Correspondent
Rudy Krasovec*

LODGE #236

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

St. Francis member Viktoria (Viki) Plut graduated from Carlmont High School in Belmont, CA with honors in French language. She is also a California Scholarship Federation Lifetime member. Viki will be continuing her education at San Diego State University, majoring in Public Administration with a focus on law enforcement. She recently completed Junior Police Academy and is currently volunteering as a Police Explorer at a local police station for law enforcement.



She enjoys various volunteer opportunities, and has participated in the Alzheimer's walk, candy distribution at Halloween crawls, food distribution for underprivileged families, and gift wrapping during the holidays. This summer she will be working at the Belmont Parks and Recreation summer camp as a camp counselor.

Viki enjoys spending time with her friends at the movies and local eateries and adventuring in new places. She has traveled to Slovenia, and spent a summer in Italy mentoring two children in English skills while helping at a camp on Monte Lussari. Last spring, she spent an emotive week in the Deep South, learning about the Civil Rights Movement.

As a Saint Francis member, Viki loves helping organize and facilitate the annual celebrations at her lodge, such as the Palm Sunday Brunch. She loves being part of the Slovenian cultural community. Later this summer, she will participate in the Young Adult Leadership Conference. She is grateful for the opportunity to learn more about KSKJ Life, meet other young fraternal members and make new friends!

Congratulations to you, Viki! We are so very proud of your accomplishments and continued fraternalism.

All the best in your future endeavors!

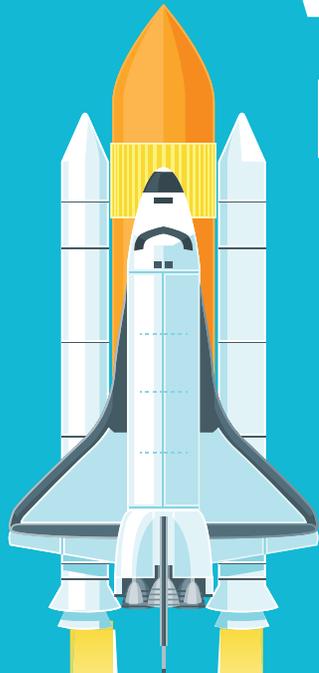
Submitted by Diana Fir Gremett

OTHER NEWS & UPDATES

SEND IN YOUR LODGE UPDATE

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

SOAR TO A HIGHER RATE WITH KSKJ LIFE'S 5-YEAR ROCKET ANNUITY¹



UP TO
3.45%
APY²

- Up to 5% free withdrawal after first year
- Nursing home waiver available
- RMD friendly

FEATURES:

- Guaranteed fixed interest rate for 5 years
- Available ages 0-90
- \$5,000 minimum deposit / \$500,000 maximum deposit (per person, per calendar year – single premium deposit only)

Contact your agent or call 855-332-8809 today!

1. A 5-year single deposit deferred contract with a guaranteed interest rate for five (5) years; after which the current renewal rate will apply. After 1st year, the owner may withdraw up to 5% of the accumulated value each contract year, while surrender charges may apply for annual withdrawals beyond this amount for the first 5 years of this contract. RMDs will be permitted. Deposit limits exist.
2. Advertised rate available for a limited time only and subject to change. 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. 2018.06.RA.V



KSKJLIFE.COM | 800.THE.KSKJ