



## A MESSAGE FROM KSKJ LIFE'S NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF ACTIVITIES: KSKJ LIFE NATIONAL AWARD RECIPIENTS



As a fraternal benefit society, the mission of KSKJ Life calls us to reach out to those in need through volunteerism and service. Each year, we recognize two deserving individuals who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to this mission.

to Jodi's charity of choice. Jodi has chosen Camp Anokijig in Plymouth, WI. Jodi explained why she chose this charity: "I went to Camp Anokijig in Plymouth, WI, as a young child and continued through the years as a summer counselor. My son, Anton, shared the same experience many years later, and we both believe that we would not be the people we are today without our experience at Camp Anokijig. There, we fell in love with nature, cultivated lifetime friendships and developed a sense of self."



*Jodi Wartenberg receives the KSKJ Life National Lodge Person of the Year Award from Lodge #2 President, Zach Pucel.*

We look forward to hearing all about Jodi's future endeavors, which we are sure will be just as successful! Congratulations, Jodi, and thank you for all you do for KSKJ Life!

*Continued on page 2*

KSKJ Life has chosen Jodi Wartenberg as its National Lodge Person of the Year. Jodi belongs to Joliet's St. Joseph Lodge #2. She served most recently as her lodge's Recording Secretary. She has a passion for bringing new ideas and projects to her lodge. Jodi initiated Lodge #2's relationship with Sunny Hill Nursing Home of Will County. In 2015, she brought the idea of having a Matching Funds event for this county-owned and operated facility to begin a Music and Memory Program. The lodge's relationship has continued with Sunny Hill as they helped plant their vegetable and flower gardens for a Join Hands Day project in 2016.

In 2016, Jodi presented the lodge with a second Matching Funds Event and recipient idea. She saw that Joliet's local historic theater, The Rialto Square Theatre, was struggling with finances and attempting to find firm footing. So, she brought the idea of teaming up with an established annual music festival in Joliet, Hopstring Fest, to raise money for the Rialto. With Jodi's leadership, Lodge #2 sold advanced tickets and beverages on the day of the event. Through this partnership, Jodi attracted younger adult members to volunteer. Two thousand dollars was raised, and the visibility of KSKJ Life was increased to a larger audience.

As part of her award, KSKJ Life will donate \$250

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This year's KSKJ Life Service Award winner is Donna Lou Lyle from St. Veronica, Lodge #115 in Kansas City. In addition to being a lodge officer, Donna Lou Lyle is very active in her community through her work in the local Pilot International Club. The Pilot Club is internationally known for giving back to the local community by influencing positive change, coming together in friendship, and giving people an outlet for service. Over the years, even when holding down a full time job, she held numerous board and officer positions within Pilot at both the local and district levels. In addition to all the community service projects she led and served on, Donna also worked on numerous Pilot committees and participated in various workshops.

KSKJ Life will donate \$250 on Donna's behalf to her charity of choice. Donna has chosen the Kansas City Hope Lodge for her charity. Kansas City Hope Lodge is part of the American Cancer Society. It provides free housing to cancer patients traveling to Kansas City for treatment. The staff and volunteers provide a home-like nurturing environment, so patients can get support from others going through similar experiences.

Congratulations, Donna Lou, on all of your amazing accomplishments and thank you for all of your service to KSKJ Life and your community!



*Donna Lou Lyle (center) receives her KSKJ Life Service Award from Lodge #115 Financial Secretary, Julie Schneller (left) and President, Charles Racki (right).*

**ANDREA OSTROWSKI**

*National Director of Activities*

## CHARITABLE GIVING AND PHILANTHROPY UPDATE

### LODGE #52

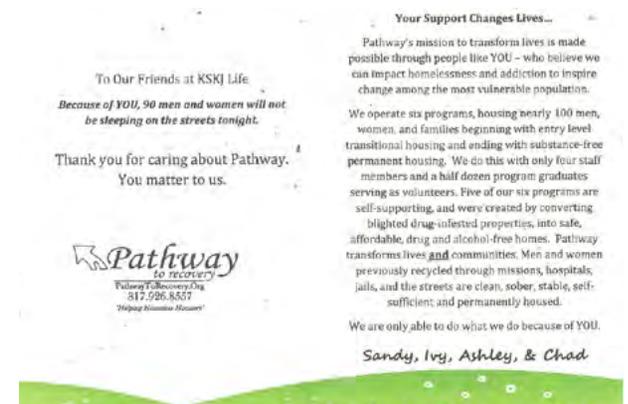
St. Aloysius Lodge #52 recently held a Matching Funds Event in conjunction with their Annual Sausage Feast. The beneficiary of the Matching Funds was Pathway to Recovery. Pathway provides transitional and permanent housing to homeless men and women.



*Members of Lodge #52 at the Annual St. Al's Sausage Feast.*



*Lodge #52 Matching Funds Check Presentation. (Clockwise starting with dog) Piper Piechocki, Kelli Piechocki, Ivy Hogue, Michael Piechocki, Terry Eads and Sandy Jeffers.*



*Thank you letter from Pathway to Recovery.*

### LODGE #59



Lodge #59 President Jennifer Menart presents a donation check to Quad Cities Food Shelf board member Rosemary Mattson at their meeting. The check got in just in time to be counted in March when donations are matched for Food Shelf month. Pictured are Rosemary Mattson, Ron Erjavec, Jennifer Menart, Connie Menart, Theresa LaVigne, Gloria Leseman, Tony Menart and Bob Mavec.

### 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

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

## CELEBRATING LODGE ANNIVERSARIES: LODGE #115

On March 24, 1907, St. Veronica's Lodge #110 was founded. And, on May 14, 1907, the lodge was admitted as part of KSKJ Life. Records indicate there were 22 charter members of this Kansas City, KS lodge.

St. Veronica lodge started like many of the other KSKJ Life local lodges with Slovenian immigrants leaving their villages in eastern Europe. Poverty, wars and the opportunity to better their future pushed many Slovenians to come to this country. These brave young people, knowing they may never see their families and friends again, made the voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to Ellis Island in New York. From there, they boarded trains and made their way to the Midwest.

It was the availability of work in the meat-packing industry and the mines that drew the immigrants to the neighborhood called the "Strawberry Patch" along the Kaw River bottoms in Kansas City. Even today, this community in Kansas City is still called Strawberry Hill, where the rich eastern European customs, heritage and beliefs still exist after all these years.

Lacking skills, schooling and familiarity with the English language, immigrants worked long hours, six days a week, for as little as \$.10 an hour. Sunday was a day of rest to attend Church and spend time with family and friends. Religious faith was very important to these new settlers.

As time went on, these early arriving Slovenes wanted very much to establish their very own church. In 1907, with \$1,800 in hand, they started the process of establishing their own parish. The new parish came to be known as Holy Family Roman Catholic Church, and it still exists today.

For more than 100 years, Holy Family Church and St. Veronica lodge have always worked hand-in-hand to assist with the spiritual and financial needs of its members. Today, St. Veronica lodge has grown to more than 700 members with many of its members enjoying the financial products, the additional benefits, charitable works, volunteerism, and social activities offered through KSKJ Life.

It seems like just yesterday that our lodge celebrated our 100th anniversary.



*Pictures from Lodge #115's 100th anniversary in 2007.*

Many of us still remember the enjoyable time we had celebrating the lodge's 100-year anniversary over an entire weekend! Ten years later we continue to be excited about our lodge and KSKJ Life!

Our lodge is planning an event for late in the summer to celebrate this major milestone.

On behalf of our lodge officers and myself, we congratulate St. Veronica Lodge on its 110th anniversary, and we pray for the lodge to continue for many more years to come.

*Chuck Racki, President of St. Veronica Lodge*

### IN MEMORY OF

**Darlene Marquardt** - Joliet, IL - Lodge #2  
Friends of the Marquardt Family, \$20

**Katheryn Gross** - Gurnee, IL  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Grampovniik, \$20

**Tony Lesnak** - Green Oaks, IL - Lodge #53  
MaryLou Stefanick & Mary Chamernik, \$40

**Joseph Dolenc** - Eagan, MN - Lodge #196  
KSKJ Life Lodge #196

### 2017 LODGE ANNIVERSARIES

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

## KSKJ LIFE FRATERNAL UPDATES

### JOIN HANDS UPDATE

Join Hands Month is finally here! From placing American flags on veterans' graves in time for Memorial Day to cleaning bike paths at area parks, numerous KSKJ Life members will be participating in this worthwhile cause. They will be joining in a day of not only service and volunteerism, but camaraderie and friendship. There's still time to plan an event with your lodge! Gather up some friends and take part in this wonderful tradition.

### KSKJ LIFE NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT: SUNDAY, JUNE 25

Due to a scheduling conflict, the 2017 KSKJ Life Golf Tournament will be held on Sunday, June 25, (rather than Saturday, June 24) with the two Waukegan lodges serving as your host. The one-day tournament will again be played at the Bonnie Brook Golf Course in Waukegan, IL. The format will be a four-person scramble, and golfers of all levels are invited to join in the fun. More information will be available soon in The Voice, on the Athletics tab of KSKJ Life website and on our KSKJ Life Athletics/Activities Facebook page. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

### KSKJ LIFE CELEBRATES THE FEAST OF MARIA POMAGAJ

On Wednesday, May 24, 2017, the Joliet Lodges will have their annual Mass for the feast of Maria Pomagaj, Our Lady of Brezje, the patroness of Slovenia and KSKJ Life. The Mass will be at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Joliet, IL at 6:30 p.m. This Mass will be offered for all KSKJ Life members living and deceased. KSKJ Life Joliet Regional Director Mary Mihelich and Father David Stalzer at St. Joseph Church started this annual event in May 1996. It was offered for the deceased members of Joliet KSKJ Life lodges who died in the past year. Fathers David Stalzer and George Klepec concelebrated the first Mass. Some years, the Mass has been held at St. Mary's Slovenian Catholic Mission in Lemont, IL, as a joint regional event with the Chicago Region.

Maria Pomagaj is the Slovenian depiction of Mary, Help of Christians. This painting is located in St. Vitus Church in Brezje Slovenia. The church of St. Vitus was built in the 15th century. It was a popular pilgrimage site with a painting of Mary based on a

well-known version in Innsbruck, Austria. In 1800, a chapel featuring the Virgin Mary was added to the church. In 1814, painter Leopold Layer painted frescos and the Slovenian rendition of Mary Help of Christians. He did so to fulfill a promise he had made to the Virgin, when he petitioned her for aid when the French had imprisoned him. In 1863, the first known miracle attributed to Our Lady of Brezje occurred and many prayers began to be answered. This caused an increase in the popularity of Brezje as a pilgrimage site. In 1907, the bishop, with approval of Pope St. Pius X, crowned the Christ Child and Mary. In 1988, Pope St. John Paul II gave the church the title of Basilica and he visited Brezje in 1996.

At the 41st International Eucharistic Congress, the Coordinating Committee of Slovenian Participants passed this resolution, "Every year on the eve of the feast of Our Lady of Brezje, Our Patroness and Protector of Slovenian heritage, we light a candle and spend the evening in meditation. We reflect on the Christian values and traditions that guided our people through the centuries, that mold us today and through us the nation where we live." Our Mass is celebrated in the spirit of this resolution.

Bringing the Slovenian tradition to America, St. Joseph Church installed a chapel and painting of Maria Pomagaj. The chapel and painting were dedicated on February 6, 1906. Viennese artist Jozef Kastner painted this beautiful interpretation of Maria Pomagaj. Ivana Sustersic, the mother of the first pastor, bought the painting. It has remained an important part of the church since.

All Slovenians and friends are welcome to come and join the celebration as an important part of our heritage. After Mass we will have a social gathering behind the church in Ferdinand Hall.



*Michael Vidmar*

## 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.

### MARCH & APRIL 2017

**Raymond Adamic** - Lodge #25, Willoughby Hills, OH

**Sophie Bonach** - Lodge #59, Eveleth, MN

**Edward Branch** - Lodge #29, O'Fallon, IL

**Mary Bratovich** - Lodge #300, Auburn, WA

**Dorothy Bucy** - Lodge #50, McKees Port, PA

**Helen L. Champa** - Lodge #59, Saint Cloud, MN

**Catherine J. Chimzar** - Lodge #59, Ely, MN

**Margaret L. Feldt** - Lodge #197, Hoyt Lakes, MN

**Robert S. Harper** - Lodge #63, Bucyrus, OH

**Elaine M. Harris** - Lodge #236, Perris, CA

**Lois Hennings** - Lodge #108, Joliet, IL

**Victoria Herrera** - Lodge #253, Highland, CA

**Robert E. Hochevar** - Lodge #2, League City, TX

**Mary Horvatic** - Lodge #50, Beaver, PA

**Vekoslava Krepfl** - Lodge #169, Colorado Springs, CO

**Anthony F. Lesnak** - Lodge #53, Green Oaks, IL

**Barbara Logan** - Lodge #622, Silvis, IL

**Larry Longenbach** - Lodge #50, North Hampton, PA

**Gerald E. Lucas** - Lodge #50, Camp Hill, PA

**Angela M. Majhanovich** - Lodge #300, Rock Springs, WY

**Ralph P. Manno** - Lodge #42, Mill Hall, PA

**Shirlene Mase** - Lodge #50, Derry, PA

**Roger C. Moll** - Lodge #171, Bovey, MN

**Henry F. Muren** - Lodge #110, Barberton, OH

**Dorothy J. Musil** - Lodge #115, Edson, KS

**John N. Pavlakovich** - Lodge #7, Denver, CO

**Ann Pluth** - Lodge #59, Chisholm, MN

**Mary Radovich** - Lodge #65, West Bend, WI

**Oscar R. Salaiz** - Lodge #143, Joliet, IL

**Clara Sever** - Lodge #42, Vandling, PA

**Frances Shabeck** - Lodge #110, Wadsworth, OH

**Donna Shircel** - Lodge #144, Sheboygan, WI

**Mary Simko** - Lodge #153, Canonsburg, PA

**Phyllis V. Skufca** - Lodge #150, Willowick, OH

**Alma L. Snell** - Lodge #20, Kalamazoo, MI

**Bernice Steinhauer** - Lodge #79, Lindenhurst, IL

**Dennis W. Vesper** - Lodge #59, Lakeland, MN

**Lee Whitby** - Lodge #1, Chicago, IL

**Rita Winebrenner** - Lodge #110, Wadsworth, OH

**Ralph Wolz** - Lodge #29, Port Charlotte, FL

**Doris J. York** - Lodge #623, Richmond, KY

**Marie Zalaznik** - Lodge #53, Shawano, WI

**Emil F. Zortz** - Lodge #65, West Allis, WI

## 2016 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Periods: Dec 31, 2016 & Dec 31, 2015

#### ASSETS

Bonds, Preferred Stocks, Common Stock and Other Assets	\$ 465,890,401	\$ 433,023,240
Properties Occupied by Society	\$ 1,191,487	\$ 273,394
Certificate Loans	\$ 1,697,329	\$ 1,477,681
Cash	\$ 9,181,536	\$ 19,855,762
Investment Income	\$ 7,185,255	\$ 6,742,564
<b>TOTAL ASSETS:</b>	<b>\$ 485,146,008</b>	<b>\$ 461,372,641</b>

#### LIABILITIES, SURPLUS

Reserves-Life, Accident & Health, Annuity	\$ 437,865,585	\$ 412,163,791
Deposit Contracts	\$ 22,676,832	\$ 26,266,849
Refunds Payable	\$ 378,650	\$ 362,647
Other Liabilities	\$ 2,788,847	\$ 2,596,687
Asset Valuation Reserve	\$ 2,773,212	\$ 2,305,013
Interest Maintenance Reserve	\$ 2,399,697	\$ 2,659,454
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES:</b>	<b>\$ 468,882,823</b>	<b>\$ 446,354,441</b>

#### SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

Premiums and Annuity Income	\$ 47,909,064	\$ 62,029,108
Supplementary Contract Considerations	\$ 2,254,534	\$ 3,302,603
Net Investment Income	\$ 24,197,498	\$ 22,437,366
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	\$ 318,586	\$ 385,179
Reinsurance Ceded Commissions	\$ 1,544,841	\$ 2,072,894
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 238,700	\$ 216,403
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$ 76,463,223</b>	<b>\$ 90,443,553</b>

#### EXPENSES

Certificate Benefits-Life, Accident & Health & Annuities	\$ 35,173,784	\$ 33,560,379
Increase in Reserves	\$ 25,701,793	\$ 43,312,417
General Expenses & Taxes, Licenses & Fees	\$ 6,488,649	\$ 5,569,734
Commissions & Expense Allowance	\$ 6,879,404	\$ 6,646,165
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$ 74,243,630</b>	<b>\$ 89,088,695</b>

#### NET INCOME

Net Gain Before Refunds to Members	\$ 2,219,593	\$ 1,354,858
Refunds to Members	\$ 405,266	\$ 392,702
Net Gain After Refunds to Members	\$ 1,814,327	\$ 962,156
Net Realized Gains/Losses	\$ (41,058)	\$ (78,324)
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME:</b>	<b>\$ 1,773,269</b>	<b>\$ 883,832</b>

#### SURPLUS

Prior Year Surplus:	\$ 15,018,200	\$ 14,220,290
Net Income	\$ 1,773,269	\$ 883,832
Change in Non-Admitted Assets	\$ (45,743)	\$ (60,545)
Change in Asset Valuation Reserve	\$ (468,199)	\$ (371,331)
Change in Lodge Investment Surplus	\$ (14,341)	\$ 345,959
Change in Other Post Retirement	\$ -	\$ -
Prior Period Adjustment	\$ -	\$ -
Change in Net Unrealized Gains/Losses	\$ -	\$ (7)
<b>TOTAL SURPLUS:</b>	<b>\$ 16,263,186</b>	<b>\$ 15,018,200</b>

## THREE QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN IT COMES TO LIFE INSURANCE

Your life insurance needs will ebb and flow throughout your lifetime. Buying a term policy early in your career or taking a basic employer-issued life insurance policy is a common course of action.

However, deciding how much and what type of life insurance you need at each stage of your life will serve you and your loved ones much better.

One simple thing to keep in mind throughout this process is that the more responsibility you have, the more life insurance you need. Here are a few questions to consider:

### 1. WHO DEPENDS ON ME?

Of course, if you have children, a term life insurance policy that is large enough to pay off your home and debts with some money left over to support your family while your spouse or partner grieves and recalibrates the new financial situation is the option that gives everyone peace of mind.

Many times, it's easy to overlook the other people who depend on you. The care of elderly parents or grandparents, siblings, or people in your family with special needs should also be considered carefully when deciding how much basic life insurance to buy. You can also get a working idea of how much you might need with our Life Insurance Needs Calculator (found on our blog: [www.kskjlife.com/blog](http://www.kskjlife.com/blog)).

### 2. HOW MUCH INSURANCE CAN I AFFORD?

A term life insurance policy that covers the care of your loved ones in the event of your untimely death is an inexpensive option, especially if you are under 40 and in reasonably good health.

Whole life insurance is worth researching if you know you have a permanent need for life insurance, such as caring for a special needs child or sibling. It also makes sense if you'd like certain benefits beyond a guaranteed death benefit for your loved ones, like premiums that do not increase with age or changing health conditions, and a cash value that you can borrow against.

If you can afford the additional premium amount and expect your financial situation and income to remain stable long-term, whole life insurance policies offer living benefits that may outweigh the temporary pain of higher premiums.

### 3. HOW HEALTHY AM I?

People in great health who have only a little bit

of wiggle room in their monthly budget may want to consider a combination of term and whole life insurance coverage.

Your clean bill of health will keep premiums for both types of insurance lower than if you have major health issues. If you have a term life insurance policy but want more coverage, adding a whole life policy to the mix may be the ideal answer.

By adding a whole life policy with a cash-value element to your portfolio, you also open a world of options that could help add to your nest egg in retirement, start a business, or pursue a second career, among other benefits.

It is possible to have multiple policies and customize your life insurance to your changing wants and needs. Choosing a policy or combination of policies that gives you and your family the greatest potential benefit may seem tricky. So, simplifying the process by asking these three questions will set you on the right track.

For more information on KSKJ Life products, contact your local KSKJ Life Agent or visit [www.kskjlife.com](http://www.kskjlife.com).

*Courtesy of LifeHappens.org.*

**KSKJ LIFE WISHES ALL  
MOTHERS A BLESSED AND  
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**



## MEMBER BENEFITS HIGHLIGHT: PERKSPOT

Have you taken advantage of the PerkSpot Discount Program yet? As a member of KSKJ Life, you have access to thousands of online discounts including travel, retail, entertainment and more! In the month of March alone, it was estimated that KSKJ Life members saved over \$7,025 on purchases such as movie tickets, gym memberships, apparel, electronics, travel and much more.\* Visit [kskjlife.perkspot.com](http://kskjlife.perkspot.com) and start saving today!

Interested in other KSKJ Life member benefits? Below is a quick overview of the programs we offer to our members. Learn more by visiting our member benefits page: [www.kskjlife.com/benefits](http://www.kskjlife.com/benefits).

### AMERICAN HEARING BENEFITS

**What is it?** Discounts on hearing aids plus access to free hearing consultations.

### SCRIPTSAVE

**What is it?** Prescription savings program that provides the opportunity to save up to 80% on brand name and generic prescription medications

### EDUCATIONAL GRANT PROGRAM

**What is it?** One-time \$1,000 educational grant for all members who meet the requirements.

### BABY BENEFIT

**What is it?** Newborns of members (of at least one year) are automatically insured for \$1,000 from the seventh thru 60th day of birth. After 60th day, \$50 will be paid toward the first year's premium on certain plans.

### VOLUNTEER/SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AND SOCIAL/ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Visit our activities page and our athletics page for more information.

\*(Savings estimate provided by PerkSpot is based on a combination of users' actual PerkSpot activity, estimated conversion rates and industry average savings amounts.)



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<sup>2</sup>Advertised rate subject to change and reviewed quarterly.

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2017-5-V

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## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### REGION 1

PENNSYLVANIA, CONNECTICUT AND DC

### LODGE #42

STEELTON, PA

#### LODGE UPDATE

St. Aloysius Lodge #42 in Steelton, PA, held its Children's Easter Party on Saturday, April 8 at ABC East Bowling Center. It really was a beautiful day, and we had a nice turnout. There were five active members and four social members. There were also quite a few adults who came out to watch the children bowl. The children were able to order any food they wanted from the snack bar and we also treated the adults to pizza. The following photos were taken at the event.



I would like to thank Ron and Karen Graves for shopping for the Easter candy. Thank you also to Rob Rafaj for distributing the candy to the children. Pictures from the event will be posted in an upcoming issue of the Voice. Thanks to everyone who were there to support the children.

Our Lady of Brezje will be celebrated May 20 at Prince of Peace Church. Mass will be at 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served after Mass in the Prince of Peace Social Hall.

Our Flag Day Ceremony will be on June 17 at 3 p.m. at the lodge home. There will be a speaker and refreshments will be served after the ceremony in Lodge Home. Everyone is welcome. Come show your patriotism.

Hope everyone had a blessed and Happy Easter.

*Anne Hubler, Recording Secretary*

### LODGE #50

PITTSBURGH, PA

#### LODGE UPDATE

Happy Spring!

On Palm Sunday, we had a very nice, intimate brunch at North Park Lounge in McCandless. It was so nice to catch up with everyone and enjoy the nice spring weather.



*Lodge #50 Members enjoying the Palm Sunday Brunch.*

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 17 at 7 p.m. at Hampton Fields Village, a UPMC Senior Community Facility. Hampton Fields Village is located at 4880 Mt. Royal Blvd. Allison Park, PA 15101. There is parking located at both sides of the building. If you would like to be considered to be a delegate for the National Convention, which will be held August 9-11, 2018, in Chicago, IL, please

attend our meetings, as you need four meetings to qualify to be a delegate.

Starting Monday, May 22 through May 24, we will be partaking in our annual Join Hands Day by placing flags at the Veterans Graves at Allegheny Cemetery. We will meet at the Penn Avenue Entrance of the cemetery at 6 p.m. and then caravan to the Veterans section of the cemetery to place the flags. Please RSVP to Ashley at [kskjifelodge50@yahoo.com](mailto:kskjifelodge50@yahoo.com) if you plan on attending. We would just like to have a rough estimate of those from our lodge who would like to participate.

Our annual picnic will be Sunday, August 6 from 1 p.m. until dusk at the Middle Road Community Park. More details will follow in the upcoming articles, emails and the Facebook page.

As always, please keep an eye out for emails and updates on our Lodge #50 Facebook page. If you know someone who doesn't have computer access, please be so kind to pass along the word to him or her on what we are up to. If you have suggestions for an activity, please do not hesitate to reach out to Ashley Mikulan, our Fraternal Activities Coordinator. We love and welcome new ideas!

*Ashley Mikulan*

### REGION 2

CLEVELAND AREA

#### PALM SUNDAY BENEFIT DINNER

Through combined efforts, volunteers enabled 500 sit-down and take-out dinners to be served on April 9 at the annual Palm Sunday benefit dinner in St. Vitus Auditorium. This dinner was made possible from volunteers from the following groups: St. Vitus and Divine Word Parishes, St. Vitus Altar Society, St. Vitus Holy Name Society, St. Vitus Lodge #25, Christ The King Lodge #226, the local Catholic high schools and Joseph House of Cleveland Inc. It was an exceptionally sunny and pleasant spring day. The dinners were sold out by 12:15 p.m. Of the 500 dinners, 191 were take-out and 309 were sit-down.

The dinner consisted of roasted chicken or roast beef, Slovenian style homemade soup and all the trimmings. There were many friendly conversations as well as prompt and warm service provided by the many volunteers. The annual Palm Sunday benefit

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

dinner has been occurring for 50 years. It was initiated by St. Vitus Mothers' Club in the 1960s. St. Vitus is observing its 124th year as a parish in 2017.



*Left to right: Mary Lunder (KSKJ Life member), Mary Ann Domanko, (KSKJ Life member), Suzi Thur, Betty Svekric and Maria Lees. These volunteers helped to serve 309 sit-down dinners and 191 take-out dinners.*



*Joseph V Hocevar from St Vitus Lodge #25 lodge (left) manning the treasury table with Greg Plassard.*



*The venue was full for the Palm Sunday Dinner.*

Net donations from this event will be used for continued support of Joseph House of Cleveland Inc., with net funds raised in excess of \$10,000 to be used to expand the current clothing distribution

area of JHCI. This was a KSKJ Life Matching Funds event, meaning that the two local KSKJ Life lodges involved in this event, St. Vitus Lodge #25 and Christ the King Lodge #226, will each be permitted to have a maximum of \$1,000 donated by the KSKJ Life Home Office. Beneficiaries are JHCI and Catholic Charities Migration & Refugee Services.

A special note of thanks to head cook, Linda Plecnik, who took the time to order, prepare and perform many countless tasks for this benefit dinner. Thank you to parishioners and organizations who participated in this endeavor, including volunteers from St. Vitus, Divine Word, St. Vitus Altar Society, KSKJ Life lodge members and students from various local Catholic high schools.

Approximately 75 people volunteered at this event. No task was too small nor too large to be attended to. There was great support from both participating lodges, namely St Vitus Lodge #25 and Christ The King Lodge #226, under the leadership of Joseph V. Hocevar, John Turek, Erika Kurbos, Ron and Ray Zak and family members.

We were glad that KSKJ Life members, such as Ann Zitko, Mary Ann Domanko, Mary Lunder, Marge Kuhar, Melissa, Amanda and Tony Zakelj, stepped forward to help at this event. A thank you to Michelle O'Donnell, director of JHCI, for elegantly explaining the work of JHCI at this event. Thank you to all who attended and supported this dinner. It was our privilege to serve you. Thank you to KSKJ Life Voice for announcing, promoting and supporting this event.

As a matter of record, \$15,100 in net funding has been raised with \$10,000 distributed to JHCI as of this writing. An audit of revenue and expenses will be performed to conclude this wonderful community endeavor.

*Stane Kuhar*

### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

"Nurse of the year." Denise DiMare informed her mother in the fourth grade that she wanted to be a nurse and never veered far from that cherished dream. Last month, this Richmond Heights resident and KSKJ Life member was nationally recognized by her peers as Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse of the Year. The award was shared at the annual assembly of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine and Hospice

and Palliative Nurses Association with a field of competition of more than 16,000 hospices and palliative care nurses currently practicing in the U.S.



*KSKJ Life member Denise DiMare.*

DiMare oversees 60 clinical care professionals on the referral, assessment and liaison teams at Hospice of the Western Reserve. "To be a caregiver, to support and to relieve pain and suffering; those are the reasons I decided to pursue nursing as a career," she stated. "We need to continue to be innovative to remove barriers and increase access to quality end-of-life care for everyone."

DiMare championed the extension of hospice services to non-cancer patients by participating in a national program for patients with advanced cardiopulmonary disease. She helped develop a new program using volunteers to call on the patients over weekends to ensure symptoms were well-managed. The program continues and has proven effective in preventing re-hospitalizations.

DiMare earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Ursuline College in 1980 and became Certified in Hospice and Palliative Nursing in 2012.

She is the daughter of Tony and Dolores Mihelich, KSKJ Life members.

*Phil Hrvatin*

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### OHIO FEDERATION UPDATE

On Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at 7 p.m., all are invited to meet at the Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine on Chardon Road in Euclid, OH, for our annual May devotions in honor of our Lady of Brezje, Patroness of Slovenia. May 24 is the actual feast day of Mary, Our Lady Help of Christians, long observed by Slovenian people here and abroad. The annual observance sponsored by the Ohio Federation of KSKJ Life Lodges came about at the 1976 International Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia, PA, where the Slovenian participants resolved to celebrate the feast day of Marija Pomagaj with a prayer service.

The prayer service will include the recitation of the Rosary at 7 p.m. followed by a Mass, homily, the singing of the Slovenian Litanies to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Benediction.

Please reserve this evening for this devotion to Mary, Our Lady Help of Christians.

*Joseph V. Hocevar*

### LODGE #226

CLEVELAND, OH

### LODGE UPDATE

It is my hope that all Lodge #226 members had a wonderful Easter holiday and are renewed with the positive energy that comes with the Lenten season. I know I am renewed, as spending the holidays with my family is always a good time!

Following are some of our lodge members enjoying our last lodge meeting held at The NASH on East 80th. After having a delicious supper of fried fish, cabbage and noodles (or Slovenian potatoes), it's no wonder that The NASH made [Cleveland.com](http://Cleveland.com)'s list of 10 best Fish Frys.



*Lodge members enjoying the lodge meeting that was held at the NASH on East 80th.*

Have some photos of lodge events? Consider sharing on our Facebook Page (KSKJ Cleveland Lodge #226).

### JOIN HANDS DAY

Lodge #226 will be working at the American Slovenian Home on St. Clair Ave. on May 6 for KSKJ Life's Join Hands Day. We will gather at 9 a.m. and will work until a little after 11 a.m. (Please note: this is a change from 10 a.m., which was posted in last month's Voice.) Bring your garden gloves and wear old clothes as we will be weeding and planting, cleaning and painting. If you are in a lodge that does not have plans for that day, consider coming out to join hands with us.

Hey, teens! Volunteering to help looks great on those applications for the National, Ohio Federation, and lodge scholarships and grants. Once the chores are done, lunch will be provided by the Slovenian National Home. The May lodge meeting will be held immediately after lunch.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Our June lodge meeting will be held June 11 at noon (Slovenian National Home). If you've ever considered getting more involved with the lodge, we'd love to see you at our next meeting. We are always looking for more participation from our members—including teen members—so consider attending the June meeting.

The 4-Lodge Annual Picnic will take place on July 9 at 1:30 p.m. (approximate time) at Oddfellows Park. This family-fun event is a great time for all ages! We will be holding a quick lodge meeting at 1:30 p.m. and hope to see as many members there as possible.

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

*Tamara Zupancic, Voice Reporter*

### REGION 3

CLEVELAND AREA

### LODGE #63

CLEVELAND, OH

### LODGE UPDATE

The weather has finally taken a turn for the warmer, and it's time to get out and celebrate. St. Lawrence Lodge #63 will be hosting our 50-Year Member Brunch Sunday, May 21 at Sterle's Country House. All are welcome to join us. Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 17 to Jean at 440-781-3075 text or call.

It's baseball time! "Go Tribe!" We will have a family event with the Cleveland Indians Saturday, June 24 at 4:10 p.m. Tribe vs. Twins. The cost is \$8 for KSKJ Life members and \$15 for non-members. We have secured 30 tickets, so get your order in early because they are going quick.

Don't forget to join us for the Annual 4-Lodge Picnic (more details to follow). It's always a great time.

We want to thank everyone who joined us on the bus for the National Bowling tournament in Waukegan. You can all attest there is nothing like a tournament bus trip.

Congratulations to all First Communicants, newly confirmed and graduates of all ages: May God Bless you in all you do.

*z najboljšimi željami (Best Wishes)*

*Jean Marincic*

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

### LODGE #146

CLEVELAND, OH

#### LODGE UPDATE

The Indians have started their season. And, hold on to your hats everyone, the weather is supposed to be fitting for baseball. Let's hope that the season brings all of us smiles and enjoyment.

We had our 50-Year member dinner with Lodge #150. A nice-sized group came for our late lunch. Santo's Restaurant did not disappoint. The food was good and the company was great! We had our Italian fare, enjoyed fellowship and toasted our long-time members. All had a great time.

*Josie Kmet, Recording Secretary*

### LODGE #150

CLEVELAND, OH

#### LODGE UPDATE

The following photos are from our recent 50-Year Member event.



*Joanne Javor, David Javor, Jr., Vicki Javor, David Javor Sr. and guest.*



*Lodge #150 members left to right: Michael Lowe, Linda and Rick Smigla, Rita Lowe and Sean Lowe.*



*Vicki Javor accepts the 50-Year Member Award for Diane Debelak.*

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Our next meeting is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. for Tuesday, May 2 at Brecksville Branch of the Cuyahoga Public Library, 9089 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, OH. All Lodge #150 members are encouraged to attend this meeting

#### JOIN HANDS DAY MAY 13 AT THE NASH

Join Hands Day at the NASH (Slovenian National Home E 80th) is scheduled for Saturday, May 13 at 10 a.m. Please contact Tony Peskar if you wish to participate.

#### CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

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

#### LODGE EMAIL ADDRESS

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

#### SAVE THE DATES

MAY 13

Join Hands Day NASH

MAY 14

Mother's Day Mass/Brunch at the NASH E. 80th

AUG 5

Porky Pig Softball Tournament & Pig Roast

AUG 19

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

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

### REGION 4

JOLIET AREA

#### COMBINED JOLIET LODGES

Now that Easter has passed us by, it's time for all those cookouts and picnics. On Tuesday, April 4, the combined Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges held their monthly meeting with 11 members in attendance.

Congratulations go out to the following people: St. Genevieve Lodge #108 and Michael Vidmar. They were the lucky winners of the "200" raffle for the month of April.

On Saturday, March 18, members of the Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges along with members from the Slovenian Union of America had met at St. Joseph Church to pray the Rosary for an hour. I wish to thank Mike Vidmar for leading us, once again, in saying the Rosary. As always, the cheat sheets helped a lot.

Mike Vidmar reported that on Tuesday, May 24 there will be a Mass honoring Maria Pomagaj. The Mass will be held at 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church. Following the Mass, a social gathering will be held in Ferdinand Hall. All are welcomed to attend.

On Sunday, July 23, members of KSKJ Life are welcomed to join us at Splash Station for a fun-filled event from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information on this event, check out the Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges Facebook page.

The next meeting of the combined Joliet KSKJ Life Lodges will be held on Tuesday, May 2 at 7 p.m. at T&C Lanes. Hope to see you there.

*Pauline Mihelich, Recording Secretary/Reporter*

### LODGE #2

JOLIET, IL

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 12

Join Hands Day at Sunny Hill Nursing Home 421 Doris Ave., Joliet. We will meet in the courtyard at 9 a.m.

JUNE 15

Steak Fry

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

SEPT 16  
Matching Funds – Mexican Dinner/Polka Fest

OCT 8  
Adult Night Out-Wine/Cheese

NOV 2  
Pizza Party

DEC 3  
Christmas Party/Election of Officers

### LODGE UPDATE

St. Joseph's Lodge #2 Jodi Wartenberg was presented the National Lodge Person of the Year award by lodge President Zachary Pucel on Sunday April 9. The members of Lodge #2 are grateful for all Jodi does for their lodge.

Lodge #2 held their annual Spring Brunch on March 19 at Merichka's in Joliet where they honored 50-Year Members Jason Richards, Nancy Chadwick, Laura Smith and Roberta Veatch.

### LODGE #29

JOLIET, IL

### LODGE UPDATE

Not much on the home front for news this month. Just a couple of reminders:

The Joliet combined KSKJ Life Lodges are celebrating the Feast of Maria Pomagaj at St. Joseph Church on May 24 with Mass at 6:30 p.m. and refreshments to follow.

Please come on out for our next meeting on Sunday, May 7, 11:30 a.m. at St. Joe's Park.

May is the month for celebrating all mothers. "To the world you are a Mother, but to your family you are the World."

*Karen (Ramsak) Colman, Reporter*

### LODGE #108

JOLIET, IL

### LODGE UPDATE

Hello, everyone. Well, "spring has sprung" so they say. However, summer is just around the corner, and it's time for baseball, picnics, parties and vacations for some people.

At our Lodge #108 April meeting, it was announced that Maryann McGinnis was chosen as our Lodge Person of the Year. She will be honored at our November meeting. Watch the Voice for further details.

Congratulations go out to Judy Thiesen. She was the winner of the attendance award. And congratulations also go out to Mary Mihelich. She was the 50/50 raffle winner.

On Saturday, May 20, St. Genevieve Lodge #108 will hold their "Join Hands Day" project. This year, members of our lodge will meet at 11 a.m. to place flags and a poppy wreath in the Grotto (St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery). Hopefully it will be a beautiful day for it.

A Mass for all the living and deceased members of St. Genevieve Lodge #108 will be held at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Saturday, June 3. After the Mass, there will be a social hour in Ferdinand Hall. Sandwiches, desert and refreshments will be provided.

As for our next meeting, it will be held on Sunday, June 4, at 1 p.m. in Ferdinand Hall. So, mark your calendars and enjoy the summer.

*Pauline Mihelich, Lodge President*

### LODGE #143

JOLIET, IL

### UPCOMING MEETING

Please plan on joining us at our next Lodge #143 meeting that will take place on May 11 at 7 p.m. at Troy Shorewood Library. We will be meeting in room B (basement). If you are unable to physically attend the meeting, you may join us via conference call by calling 641-715-0671 and enter access code 912758.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

May – Calling all kids of Lodge #143 and their friends! Help raise money for our featured Join Hands Day charity, Feed My Starving Children, by having a lemonade stand (with or without treats and/or homemade items) or garage sales in your neighborhood. More information will be emailed

and on our Facebook page soon. For any other questions, please contact April at 815-343-3236 or [apriksleyko@gmail.com](mailto:apriksleyko@gmail.com).

JUNE 17

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

JULY 23

Summer Member Social hosted by Joliet Area Lodges at Splash Station, Joliet, IL, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This is a free member event! We will be collecting school supplies to benefit Jump on the Bus Program through Morning Star Mission again this year. More details to be in future issues of the Voice.

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

### REGION 5

CHICAGO AND INDIANAPOLIS

### REGION 6

NE ILLINOIS & WISCONSIN

### LODGE #65

MILWAUKEE, WI

### LODGE UPDATE

I hope everyone had a very nice Easter.

Many of our KSKJ Life members participated in making butare at Triglav Park in preparation for the Palm Sunday procession into church for the blessing of palms and butare. Those who didn't have a Slovenian Costume sported red carnations to showcase our Slovenian Heritage. Many thanks

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

to Helen Frohna who organized the procession into church and for helping us make butare.



*Making butare.*



*Palm Sunday procession.*

We will have our Join Hands Day Project at our regularly scheduled meeting on May 3. Our project this year will be filling Jared Boxes and your help is needed, young and old alike. Jared Boxes will be delivered to chronically ill children at Children's Hospital. We are centering on children between the ages of 2-4 and 4-8. We are in need of things like coloring books, crayons, balls, paint sets, soft animal toys, cars, etc. Won't you help us? Please bring them to our meeting on May 3, at St. John's Rectory Meeting Room at 6:30 p.m. Please enter on the north side of the building.

Members of St. John's who will be attending college in the fall will benefit by the Charles Mouradian/Debbie Nowak Memorial 9-Pin Tap Bowling Tournament. This event was held at the New Berlin Ale House on April 30. All proceeds will go to our own scholarship fund and to Suicide Awareness.

Enjoy the spring time and greetings to all of our sick and shut-ins. Nasvidenje!

*Mici Bregant*

### LODGE #136

WILLARD, WI

#### LODGE UPDATE

Greetings from Willard.

Mary of Perpetual Help Lodge #136 will be having their May meeting on May 5 at 5 p.m. in the Holy Family Parish Center. This will be accompanied by a bake sale before and after the 4 p.m. Mass. We are asking that members contribute a baked good of your choosing. We always like to have poticas and strudels on hand, so stop in and get your dessert.

Our Join Hands Day project this year will be helping clean up the Settlers Park in Willard. At the time of print, we did not have the exact date set. Please check our web page or Facebook for the update on the date and time. We can use all the hands we can get. It is a beautiful park that honors our Slovenian Settlers.

Our Hunting and Fishing Jamboree was a great success. Our first place winner for our buck category was Jeff Trunkel with an 8pt 12 3/4" inside spread; second place winner was Bernard Artac with an 8pt with 10 1/2" inside spread; third was taken by Ed Bayuk with a spike. No does were registered this year.

Ed Perko took first place in both the Turkey (20lb) and the Beaver (50lb) categories. On to the fish: Fletcher Trunkel was first place in the Northern-38", Bass 20" and 16 1/4" Walleye categories.

Eden Trunkel was first place for her 6 1/2" Bluegill, and last but not least was their grandfather Robert Trunkel taking first with his 12 1/2" Crappie. Members, please remember to register your game for 2017 by calling Bob Trunkel at 715-267-7264 or email at [jobob@tds.net](mailto:jobob@tds.net). You could be the big winner at the jamboree held in March 2018.

By the time you read this we will have already concluded our first Matching Funds Event. The Sweet Adelines and our lodge co-sponsored a musical evening with the Sweet Adelines and other local barber-shop groups. Thank you to all who attended.

*Lonna Rakovec, Financial Secretary*

### REGION 7

MINNESOTA & MICHIGAN

### LODGE #171

DULUTH, MN

#### LODGE UPDATE

A meeting and dinner of the Minnesota Federation of KSKJ Life Lodges was held on Sunday, April 2 and was hosted by St. Elizabeth's Lodge #171 in Duluth, MN. It was a very special occasion as we had new members in attendance, and it was the beginning of a series of events that are being planned for 2017 to help celebrate our 95th anniversary. A special dinner is being held for our lodge members on Tuesday evening, May 2, at Grandma's Restaurant in Canal Park in Duluth, MN, on the shores of Lake Superior. Mid-summer will bring our lodge members and their families together for a baseball outing with the Duluth Huskies Baseball Team at Wade Stadium. This annual event has become a summer tradition for families to enjoy the fellowship and fraternalism of our lodges. A very competitive beanbag tournament and picnic is being planned for late summer or early fall.



*A meeting of the Minnesota Federation of KSKJ Life Lodges kicks off the 95th anniversary celebration of St. Elizabeth's Lodge #171.*

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



*St. Elizabeth's Lodge #171 celebrates its 95th Anniversary*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, May 2: St. Elizabeth's Lodge #171 95th anniversary celebration at Grandma's Restaurant in Canal Park at 5:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Sharon Bucar at 218-626-1928.

Saturday, May 6: "Join Hands Day" sponsored by St. Elizabeth's Lodge #171. Members will meet at Stowe Elementary School at 9 a.m. on May 6 to clean grounds and will continue the cleaning of grounds at St. Elizabeth Church. For more information, please contact Sharon Bucar at 218-626-1928.

Friday, July 28: "Take me out to the Ballgame!" The Minnesota Federation will sponsor a day at the Ballpark with the Duluth Huskies baseball team on Friday, July 28 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Sharon Bucar at 218-626-1928.

### LODGE #197

ST. CLOUD, MN

### LODGE UPDATE

KSKJ Life St. Stephen's Lodge #197 is sponsoring a trip to the Minnesota Twins on Tuesday, June 13. The Twins will be playing the Seattle Mariners. Game time is 7:10 p.m. The bus will leave from the St. Stephen's Church, St. Stephen, MN at 4:30 p.m. (loading starts at 4:15 p.m.) We will also stop for a pick-up at Shopko East in St. Cloud, MN at 5 p.m. Leave the driving and parking to us!

Cost for the game (including the bus) is: \$35 for adults ages 18 and older and \$15 for youth (up to

age 18). Fifty tickets have been reserved. They will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Please reserve tickets by contacting Alice Supan in St. Stephen at 320-251-0281; Michael Retka in Little Falls at 320-232-5898; or Jim Bisek in St. Cloud at 320-260-4000. Seats are in the grandstand, Section 239, Rows 5-8. Soda, water and snacks will be provided on the bus. Feel free to invite your friends. Members of KSKJ Life St. Stephen Lodge #197 will receive a \$5 discount off the ticket price.

For additional information or to reserve your tickets, contact Jim Bisek at 320-260-4000 or email [jimb@BlueChipInsuranceServices.com](mailto:jimb@BlueChipInsuranceServices.com); Alice Supan at 320-251-0281; or Michael Retka at 320-232-5898.

### REGION 8

COLORADO, KANSAS, MONTANA & CALIFORNIA

### LODGE #7

PUEBLO, CO

### UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 5

Annual Reverse Raffle, 6 p.m. at St. Joseph's Hall

JUNE 4

Golf Tournament at Hollydot Golf Course

### LODGE UPDATE

Members of KSKJ Life St. Joseph's Lodge #7 recently participated in Pueblo Catholic Charities "HIPPY" (Home Instruction Parenting Program for Young adults) event on April 8. At the event, attendees were able to purchase a klobasi sandwich and sweet strudel for \$6. Along with the delicious food, people were able to purchase raffle tickets for the various gift baskets donated by members within the Pueblo community. Those who brought children reading books and diapers were also entered into a drawing for tickets for an upcoming Rockies baseball game. Thank you to those who came and supported the event.



*Members of KSKJ Life in attendance at the Pueblo Catholic Charities "HIPPY" event. Those pictured (left to right): Danny Golob, Lisa Golob, Vince Perez, Eileen Perez, Bernice Krasovec and Will Golob.*

St. Joseph's Lodge #7 held its Palm Sunday Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt on April 9. Those in attendance enjoyed a breakfast consisting of klobasi, ham and eggs served with sweet potica. A raffle of gifts donated by various members was drawn following breakfast. At the Easter Egg Hunt, the children were greeted by the Easter Bunny and enjoyed an "Egg Toss" activity lead by Megan Gregorich. From there, the kids enjoyed themselves by hunting for candy and sitting down for pictures with the Easter Bunny.



*Members of KSKJ Life preparing the food for the Palm Sunday Breakfast. Those pictured (left to right): Judy Chandler, Debbie Carleo, Marie Antrium, Joyce Kocman, Kathy Vanlandingham, Shelby Breece, Lisa Bottini, Mary Jo Mooring, Jeanette Jensen and Judy Wodishek.*

## LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



*A group picture of the children and the Easter Bunny at the Easter Egg Hunt on April 9.*



*Children participating in the "Egg Toss" activity prior to the hunt*

We would like to thank all those who were involved in the preparation/set up for the Palm Sunday Breakfast and the Easter Egg Hunt.

*Angela Perez*

### LODGE #236

GREAT FALLS, MT

#### LODGE UPDATE

The Palm Sunday Brunch is a wonderful fraternal tradition that began after members celebrated Mass together at the Church of Nativity. Mass was said in Slovenian and we processed into church with blessed olive branches and butare.

Following the brunch, we had a raffle of which the grand prize of 2 San Francisco Giants tickets went to Frank Junkar. What a lucky guy! Thank you to all members who worked as a great team for another fun celebration. The leftover food from the brunch was donated to a local homeless shelter.



*Lodge #236 members and sisters Andrea Jaksa and Jozica Plut.*



*Martin Junkar, Joe Fir and Joseph Gremett enjoying the Brunch.*



*The leftover food that was donated to a local homeless shelter.*

Please mark Saturday, July 15 on your calendar for our BBQ. If you are visiting the San Francisco Bay Area, please join us!

Happy Mother's Day to all of our wonderful Moms!

*Diana Fir Gremett*

### OTHER NEWS & NOTES

#### SEND IN YOUR LODGE UPDATE

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

#### SPRING CLEANING TIP!

Spring is the perfect time to review your policy information. Have you recently moved? Are you newly married? Do you need to update your beneficiary information?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, contact us today at (800) 843-5755 so that we may update our records with your current information.

#### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL!

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



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# VETERANS, PAST AND PRESENT: WE SALUTE YOU.

This Memorial Day, KSKJ Life would like to acknowledge all our service men and women for their self-sacrificing courage and dedication to our country's freedom.  
Thank you for your service.

KSKJ Life has proudly supported veterans since 1894.

KSKJ Life, American Slovenian Catholic Union, is an Illinois fraternal benefit society located at 2439 Glenwood Ave., Joliet, IL 60435. 2017-05-V



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