THANKSGIVING REFLECTIONS

Dear Friends of KSKJ Life,

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

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

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

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

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

God Bless,

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

IN THIS ISSUE

STEPPING UP UPDATE
Page 2

KSKJ LIFE SERVICE AWARD
Page 3

THANK YOU LODGE OFFICERS
Page 6

LODGE NEWS
Page 11
Dear members,

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

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

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

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

Fraternally,
Tony Mravle Jr
Chief Information Officer

Once again, KSKJ Life members across the country “stepped up” to this year’s 45-day challenge of creating a better you. Bike rides, walks, runs, soccer games and baseball games were just a few of the many activities our members took part in. The KSKJ Life Home Office will be donating $1 to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation for every registered participant and every shared activity. A final recap of the total donation and winners will be announced in December’s issue of The Voice.
The generosity of KSKJ Life members and friends is ever-present as our hurricane relief donation total has surpassed $11,000 (as of press time) and continues to grow! Final totals, including the matched amount from KSKJ Life, will be reported in December’s issue of The Voice. Together we are making a difference for those who need our help. Thank you!

KSKJ LIFE SERVICE AWARD

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

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

HURRICANE RELIEF UPDATE

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

SAVE THE DATE
CELEBRATE SLOVENIAN-STYLE AT THE THANKSGIVING POLKA WEEKEND

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

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

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

Take a “Polka Road Trip” with the Polka Hall of Fame as it celebrates its 30th anniversary with a stage full of stars from across America’s Polka Belt at the awards show spectacular in the Marriott Ballroom, Saturday, November 25, at 2 p.m. Tom Mroczka directs the all-star stage orchestra as top talents share the spotlight with winners of this year’s awards, celebrity presenters and polka- rific surprises. Father Frank Perkovich follows the festivities with his Polka mass at 4 p.m.

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

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

The Singing Slovenes from Minnesota.

IN MEMORY OF

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

SUPPORTING SOLDIERS 2017

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

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

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

Supporting Soldiers promotional flyers and postcards for your shipped items can be found on our website under the Activities tab (www.kskjlife.com).

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

KSKJ LIFE EDUCATIONAL GRANT

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

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2017

Halsted G. Stewart- Lodge #65, Brookfield, WI
Alice Polen- Lodge #74, Decatur, IL
Robert J. Herrmann- Lodge #620, Phoenix, AZ
Virgil R. Fritz- Lodge #2, New Lenox, IL
Wanda J. Such- Lodge #2, Joliet, IL
Ann Masilelewicz- Lodge #1, Cicero, IL
Leslie T. Embry Sr.- Lodge #623, Beaver Dam, KY
Paul H. Gehman- Lodge #50, Quakertown, PA
Darlene P. Livingston- Lodge #20, Belding, MI
Roxie L. Giynn- Lodge #20, Cadillac, MI
Christopher Dekleva- Lodge #50, Pittsburgh, PA
Lena Lyons- Lodge #144, Milwaukee, WI
Donald R. Johnson- Lodge #150, Addison, MI
Robert L. Dawson- Lodge #1, Moline, IL
Clarence Moyer- Lodge #153, Birdsboro, PA
Hobart L. Strunk- Lodge #623, Stearns, KY
Ivana Cerar- Lodge #25, Cleveland, OH
Mary E. Malesic- Lodge #42, Bressler, PA
Junietta P. May- Lodge #50, Montoursville, PA
Alonzo M. Cady- Lodge #20, Battle Creek, MI
Dorothy A. Bradish- Lodge #104, Pueblo, CO
Joseph V. Strubel Jr.- Lodge #236, San Pablo, CA
Frances Ule- Lodge #150, Cleveland, OH
Dolores Plut- Lodge #29, Channahon, IL
Leonard E. Buser- Lodge #150, North Canton, OH
Patricia E. Matlick- Lodge #150, New Lenox, IL
Don G. Cary- Lodge #620, Sun City, AZ
Donald J. Smerdel- Lodge #153, Houston, PA
Frank Juhant- Lodge #624, Jackson, MS
Leonard Walker- Lodge #52, Evansville, IN
Stefani Strezishar- Lodge #59, Babbitt, MN
Omer L. Seibert- Lodge #52, Evansville, IN
Richard H. Baldwin- Lodge #25, Cedarville, OH
Rose P. Mikatch- Lodge #7, Pueblo, CO
John D. Soda- Lodge #69, Helena, MT
Stefani Strezishar- Lodge #59, Babbitt, MN
Omer L. Seibert- Lodge #52, Evansville, IN
Leonard Walker- Lodge #115, Wichita, KS
Mary Wallace- Lodge #624, Jackson, MS

DO YOU WISH TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE VOICE?

Your name is currently on our mailing list to receive The Voice. If you wish to continue receiving the paper version of The Voice, please visit

kskjlife.com/voice

and fill out the required form by November 30, 2017. Failure to respond will result in your name being removed from the mailing list.
With the Thanksgiving spirit in the air, it’s the perfect time to recognize all of our lodge officers who help promote KSKJ Life’s values in their local communities. We thank you for your commitment and service, and wish you a blessed Thanksgiving.

LODGE 1


LODGE 2

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

LODGE 7


LODGE 25


LODGE 29


LODGE 42

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

LODGE 44

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

LODGE 50
President - Robert J. Lokar, Jr., Vice President - Kristine Mikulan, Financial Secretary - Albert Suhadolnik, Jr., Recording Secretary - Mary Ellen Suhadolnik, Treasurer - Albert Suhadolnik, Jr., Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Ashley Mikulan, Auditor - Donald Mikulan, Auditor - Edward Hudak, Fraternal Give Reporter - Ashley Mikulan, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Margaret Sheaffer Mulkerrin.

LODGE 52
President - Angie Cuson, Vice President - Jennifer Velikan, Financial Secretary - Michael Piechocki, Recording Secretary - Marcia Bracik, Treasurer - Richard Brodnik, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Jaymie McDougal, Auditor - Elizabeth Walker, Auditor - Katherine Poole, Athletic Director - Edward Cottongim, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Michael Piechocki, Spiritual Advisor - Fr. Larry Janezic, OFM.

LODGE 53
President - Thomas Koncan Jr, Financial Secretary- Victoria Drinka, Fraternal Activities Coordinator- Sue Dolence, Vice President - John Urh, Treasurer- Gail Pasiewicz, Recording Secretary- Dana Lainio, Auditor - Amber Bodame, Auditor - Raymond Dolence, Communications/Voice Reporter - Victoria Drinka, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Dana Lainio.

LODGE 59

LODGE 63

LODGE 65
President - Rudolph Pugel, Financial Secretary - Diane Mouradian, Fraternal Activities Coordinator - Andrea Pugel - Ostrowski, Treasurer- Diane Mouradian, Vice President - Tom Gorenc, Recording Secretary - Agnes Lobacz, Auditor- Andrea Pugel - Ostrowski, Auditor- Pat Pugel, Athletic Activity Director - Jim Stoltmann, Sergeant At Arms- Steven Morzy, Fraternals Give Reporter - Andrea Pugel - Ostrowski, Lodge Membership Comm. Chair - Diane Mouradian.

LODGE 69
THANK YOU LODGE OFFICERS!

LODGE 79


LODGE 104

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

LODGE 108


LODGE 110

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

LODGE 115

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

LODGE 116


LODGE 143


LODGE 144

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

LODGE 146


LODGE 150


LODGE 153


LODGE 159


LODGE 170

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

LODGE 171

THANK YOU LODGE OFFICERS!

LODGE 196


LODGE 197


LODGE 199


LODGE 219

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

LODGE 226

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

LODGE 236


LODGE 257


BE A PART OF 123 YEARS OF TRADITION!

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

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

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL!

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

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

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

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

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

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

LODGE UPDATE

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

Wishing everyone a thankful and blessed Thanksgiving!

Ashley Mikulan
Fraternal Activities Coordinator

KSKJ SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR OHIO LODGES

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

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

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

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

Students can request an application, as well as
LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

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

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

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

Fraternally yours,  
Joseph V. Hocevar  
Chairman, Scholarship Program

LODGE #25  
CLEVELAND, OH

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

John C. Turek  
Secretary

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

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

The deadline for completed applications is November 30, 2017.

Fraternally yours,  
Joseph V. Hocevar  
Chairman, The Ohio Lodges Scholarship Program

LODGE #169  
CLEVELAND, OH

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

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

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

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

John Nemec  
Fraternal Activities Coordinator

LODGE #219  
EUCLID, OH

LODGE UPDATE  
Lodge #219 will again participate in the KSKJ Life Supporting Soldiers Christmas project, gathering salty snacks like peanuts, beef jerky, chips, sunflower seeds and also playing cards and card games like Uno. Please bring any of these items or a monetary donation to the Sunday, November 12 membership meeting at 1 p.m. at Gateway Manor Community Room in Euclid, Ohio. Refreshments will be served. Try your luck at a door prize. The collected items will be sent to Support the Troops WI, 6087 Highway 60, Hartford, Wisconsin 53027.

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

Elizabeth Kusar

LODGE #226  
CLEVELAND, OH

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

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

Members of Lodge #226 listen to the officers as they conduct their recent meeting.
LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

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

Our Activities Committee, aka Chuck Potenga, is looking for new events to engage members. Chuck would like your feedback. We need approximately 150 people to commit. If this sounds like an event you would enjoy, please let us know. Contact any of the officers or leave a comment on Facebook if interested.

CONDOLENCES

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christ the King Sunday: All lodge members and their families are cordially invited to attend mass as a group on Christ the King Sunday, November 26. We will attend the 10:30 a.m. mass at St. Vitus Church (6019 Lausche Ave.), celebrating all living and deceased members of our lodge. Following the mass, join us at St. Vitus Auditorium (6111 Lausche Ave.) for a home-cooked lunch. We will honor our 50-year members and celebrate our 90th anniversary as a lodge. Our lodge extends an invitation all area lodges, including Lodges #25, #63, #146, #150, and #219, to join us in the celebration. Due to the preparation involved and to assist the cook in planning, please call with your reservation before November 20 to: Ron Zak (216-215-2163), Erika Kurkos (216-383-1212) or Tim Klodnick (440-526-6431).

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

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

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

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

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual Children’s Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 3, at the Slovenian National Home E. 80th ST. (NASH), from 1 to 4p.m. Please RSVP to either Liz Jones at kskjlfe150@gmail.com or Elaine Peskar at (440) 243-0312.

OUR TOWN AND ALL-AROUND TOWN BOOKS FUNDRAISER

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

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

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

LODGE E-MAIL ADDRESS

The Lodge #150 email address for Financial Secretary, Liz Jones is: kskjlfe150@gmail.com
LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

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

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

Lodge #150 Voice Reporters
Tony & Elaine Peskar

REGION 4
JOLIET AREA

REGIONAL NEWS

COMBINED JOLIET LODGES

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

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

Mike Vidmar
IL Federation

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

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

IL FEDERATION OF KSKJ LIFE LODGES

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

Lodge #2 members at the Alzheimer’s Walk
The next lodge meeting will be November 2, 2017 at St. Joe’s Park Legion Room at 6 p.m. Pizza and refreshments will be provided.

LODGE #29
JOLIET, IL

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

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

Maryann is also an officer with the Joliet Lodges, KSKJ Life. She holds the position of 2nd Auditor. Most recently, Maryann McGinnis spearheaded our Matching Funds event this year and did an excellent job. She also helped coordinate the lodge’s ice skating & pizza party for the youth. When it comes to volunteering, Maryann is always available to volunteer her services for many of our lodge’s activities. She has helped with most of our events, such as our lodge picnic, lodge Christmas party, previous Matching Fund projects, Join Hands Day projects, ice skating & pizza party, as well as our lodge meetings.

Outside of the KSKJ Life family, Maryann makes it her mission to decorate the altar at St. Joseph Church with the flowers on a regular basis. Along with her daughter Katie and her son Jack, there is no task that Maryann cannot do. Her mother (Virginia Papesh, now deceased) decorated the church too. Besides decorating the altar at St. Joseph Church with flowers, she also helps at Joliet Catholic Academy as a nurse. Maryann’s full-time job is a nurse at Edward Hospital. She is one busy lady!

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

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

See photo of Maryann on the following page.
Thank you to Zvanka Zizek and Slovenian Union of America for donating their winnings back to All In For Ethan, Inc.

Sincerely,
Matching Funds Committee

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

LODGE #143

JOLIET, IL

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

UPCOMING EVENTS
December 2 – Joliet Area Lodges Christmas Party (Haunted Trails, Joliet)
December 17 – Caroling and Coffee at Our Lady of Angels Home (Joliet)

Stay Connected! “Like” our Facebook page! www.facebook.com/kskj143

REGION 5

CHICAGO AND INDIANAPOLIS

REGIONAL NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

Fr. Metod Ogorevc

LODGE #1
CHICAGO, IL

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

Rose and Victor Ceferin

LODGE #44
S. CHICAGO, IL

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

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

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

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

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

Mici Bregant

REGION 6
NE ILLINOIS AND WISCONSIN

LODGE #65
MILWAUKEE, WI

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

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

At our last meeting, we had the honor of awarding six educational grants to members from our lodge going to various colleges. It was amazing as we listened to each of them relate their experiences in college and work, as well as their goals and dreams. Each one of them wants to make the world better.

Hannah Braun, Jake Halstead, Jack Mouradian, Makayla Mouradian, Josef Nelson, and Cole Sebastian received grants. Many thanks to Agnes Lobacz, chair and Jan Gehm our Educational Grant Committee. Thanks to Tom Gorenc, Agnes Lobacz, Pat Pugel, Steve Morzy and Mici Bregant for the special treats.
LODGE UPDATE
Greetings from Willard! Mary of Perpetual Help Lodge #136 has been quite busy this fall. First, we had our second Matching Funds Event, the Bazaar at Holy Family Church, which was sponsored by Lodge #136 and Holy Family PCCW. It was quite successful netting over $7,000.

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

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

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

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

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

Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,
Financial Secretary-Lonna Rakovec

REGION 7
MINNESOTA AND MICHIGAN

LODGE #171
DULUTH, MN

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

MATCHING FUNDS
St. Elizabeth Lodge recently held a Matching Funds event in conjunction with "Ethnic Days, Music from the Alps to the Adriatic." This project was a huge success with over 350 people in attendance. This event went from from an idea into reality because of KSKJ Lodge #171 members Frank Bucar and new member, Frannie, "Teta Franska," Morris. People attending the event came from as far away as the Twin Cities, the Iron Range and Wisconsin. Guests
were entertained by the host, “Singing Slovenes” from Duluth, the “Sam Miletich Tamburica Ensemble” from Grand Rapids and the Twin Cities, Serbian Kolo Dancers, and the “Slovenian Sensation” button box, Kašper Krek—direct from Slovenia.

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

**LODGE #196**

**GILBERT, MN**

Dear Fellow KSKJ Members:

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Karl Oberstar Jr. (President of Lodge #196)

President of Lodge #196 Karl Oberstar Jr. (left) presents a check to JoAnne Coombe from the St. Louis Historical Society. Also pictured is an additional representative from the St. Louis Historical Society and members of the Singing Slovenes including Sharon Bucar (with 3 grandchildren), Mark Spehar, Leslie Bucar, Frank Bucar and Mary White.
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2017-11-F5-V