



KSKJ VOICE

**EDUCATIONAL GRANT
WINNERS**

LODGE LEADERS

LODGE ANNIVERSARIES

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Photo: KSKJ Life members donated socks for the annual Supporting Soldiers Campaign.



Thank you to all those who helped us celebrate and commemorate our 125th Anniversary this year!

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

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CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL!



A MESSAGE FROM KSKJ LIFE'S CHAIR OF THE BOARD

"ARE WE THERE YET?"



How often on family journeys we have heard or maybe asked that question ourselves: Are we there yet?

I thought of this when thinking about the major change we are about to make with the KSKJ Life VOICE. Yes, we are there! For many months/years we have been moving slowly and methodically toward the future medium of communicating to our members. For nearly a hundred years it was our hard copy newspaper, the KSKJ GLASILO and the more recent English version, the VOICE that has been the main way we have been communicating with our members. Changes have been coming for many years to the newspaper industry worldwide. Internet and social media has changed the way we communicate, and the way people choose to receive their news. The world has been moving away from hard copy news and steadily moving to electronic media. And now, we at KSKJ Life are also there.

At our 2018 National Convention, we did a formal poll of the elected delegates representing our lodge membership from around the United States. Interestingly we found that less than half of the delegates regularly read the VOICE and sadly there was a significant number who said they never read it. WOW! We also found out the majority read it online. Several reasons were given for this response. By the time most receive the hard copy of the VOICE, the news is not current and somewhat out of date. At the local level, many lodges do a good job of keeping their members informed and so the VOICE is looked at more for national news and activities outside their areas.

The VOICE is not going away, but the way it will be received will change. Electronic media is here to stay and according to much of our membership, it's the way they choose to receive our KSKJ Life news. Surprisingly many members have already transitioned and receive the VOICE through email. If you haven't signed up, now is the time to get registered on our website www.kskjlife.com to ensure that you continue to receive monthly news and highlights from KSKJ Life. If you need help, contact your local lodge officers or the Home Office.

We are here to help you, and keeping you informed is one of our best services.

As we approach the Christmas season, it's easy to relate to another major change that technology has made in the way we live. As I think back to how we shopped years ago, I remember going downtown to all the stores to get Christmas gifts. Then one day, downtown was gone, and we had to shop at the malls. Over the years, we have all watched the malls slowly get empty and stores go away. This year, I started my Christmas shopping online and will soon be getting everything delivered to my front door. Technology has taken away the enjoyment of going to the stores and shopping, but it also has brought a nice convenience. Time is important and technology provides us with another way to have more time to do other things. But I still miss the old days!

At KSKJ Life, we are committed to keep our members informed with current information about our great organization. Annual reports and updates will continue to be provided periodically. One advantage to going online only with the VOICE will ensure that you are always receiving the most current information. We are also providing all lodges with the opportunity to send out regular newsletters to their local members. It's all about keeping up with the times and giving you our best services.

The holidays are soon upon us. As we celebrate the birth of Christ and the beginning of the New Year, KSKJ Life wishes to all our members and friends our very best for the season. KSKJ Life also is ending our 125th year of service and we are forever grateful to our founders and the many members who have made this possible.

Fraternally,

Rudy Krasovec
Chair of the Board

A MESSAGE FROM KSKJ LIFE'S CEO

A TIME FOR HOPE AND GRATITUDE



The holiday season is a natural time to be thankful. As busy as life can be, we traditionally make time to gather with loved ones to break bread, remember good times, and make efforts to help each other and our communities. As a member-owned financial services provider, we are grateful to our wide community of stakeholders - members, lodge officers, board members, sales agents, vendor partners, and home office employees - that live out our mission and continue to make KSKJ Life such a great organization to be a part of. Founded in 1894 to provide a benefit to the widows and orphans left behind from an untimely death, we can all be proud to carry on this tradition 125 years later. It is a tradition of service, empathy, and faith.

Celebrating Christmas is celebrating the hope and promise of Jesus, with hope in our collective future and a sense of purpose for how we live our lives today.

As we come to the end of our 125th anniversary year in particular, we have the opportunity to ask ourselves what the future holds for our organization.

Financially, we are strong and continue to grow. We work diligently to provide great financial products with excellent personalized service to take care of our members and agents when they need us most.

Fraternally, we continue to offer programs, activities and benefits that add value for our members and carry on traditions of fun, faith and service. In an ever-changing world, we will continue to work with our fraternal leaders to develop new ways to reach out and engage with our members across the country.

We regularly engage in strategic conversations to plan for the financial and fraternal developments that will build upon our strong history and provide for many more years of service for generations to come.

Many thanks to our sales agents and agency partners for helping our members purchase the right products for their families and for their ongoing service.

Many thanks to all of our fraternal leaders for organizing activities and living out our mission at the local level.

Many thanks to our Board of Directors for their strong support and leadership of our organization.

Many thanks to our home office staff and executive team for their incredible work ethic, teamwork, and high degree of service and care.

Many thanks to our members for believing in us and trusting us to support you when you need us.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and home office staff, best wishes and our prayers to everyone for a peaceful, joyful and hope-filled Christmas!

Fraternally,

Tony Mravle
KSKJ Life CEO

CELEBRATING LODGE ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to St. Mary's Lodge #79 in Waukegan, IL who is celebrating a milestone anniversary of 115 years this month!

This lodge was founded December 18, 1904 and accepted into the KSKJ the same day. The first officers were: John Jerina, president; Joseph Smole, vice president; Frank Kirn, financial secretary; Frank Suhadolnik, assistant secretary; Frank Merlak, treasurer; John Hladnik, lodge representative; Frank Grom, auditor; Lawrence Petrovcic, recording secretary; John Kolenc, insurance investigator; and Peter Kerzic, sergeant-at-arms.

115 Years after being founded, St. Mary #79 continues to thrive, serving its members and the community of Lake County, Illinois and beyond. Current membership as of fall 2019 is 790, which includes 49 youth members under the age of 16.

Present Day Activities include: Lodge breakfast at our Annual meeting where we honor our lodge 50-year members and our Lodge person of the year, recognize our Educational Grant recipients, and honor our lodge officers with significant anniversaries. We also host a Basketball Day, a no-tap Bowling night, a Matching Funds event, a Join Hands activity, a call to volunteer at the Midwest Veterans Closet, a Golf Outing, and a Christmas Carnival and Party.

In 2019, in recognition of the 125th Anniversary of KSKJ Life, and the 115th Anniversary of St. Mary #79, we held our first Slovenian Wine Tasting Event. The event featured four wines from different regions of Slovenia, and was enjoyed by those who attended. We hope to add this event to our lodge calendar for the future.

Another Anniversary celebration took place in June. For the 28th consecutive year our Golf Outing was held, with just under 100 golfers (mostly KSKJ members) participating. Joining us for the occasion was KSKJ Life Chairman of the Board Rudy Krasovec.

Officers for our 115th Anniversary year are as follows: David Bradley, President – 14 years of service; MaryLou Stefanick, Secretary – 35 years of service; Lori Mivshek, Fraternal Activity Coordinator – 2 years of service; Kathy Govekar, Vice President – 19 years of service; Henry Govekar, Treasurer – 19 years of service; Victoria Hammergren, Recording Secretary – 14 years of service; Barbara Marolt and David Hammergren, Auditors – 25 & 7 years of service; Dennis Mivshek, Sergeant at Arms – 11 years of service; and Father James Merold, Spiritual Advisor – 17 years of service.



2019 Officers: front row: Secretary MaryLou Stefanick, Auditor Barbara Marolt, Recording Secretary Vickie Hammergren, Vice President Kathy Govekar, Fraternal Activity Coordinator Lori Mivshek. Back row: Auditor David Hammergren, Treasurer Hank Govekar, President Dave Bradley.

Not pictured: Sergeant at arms, Dennis Mivshek and Spiritual Advisor, Father James Merold.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

RUDY PUGEL IS THE PRESIDENT OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST LODGE #65 IN MILWAUKEE, WI. HE WAS RECENTLY HONORED BY STARS AND STRIPES HONOR FLIGHT.

Stars and Stripes Honor Flight honors WWII vets, Korean War veterans, Vietnam War veterans, and terminally ill veterans of any conflict on one day, all-expenses-paid trips to Washington, DC to see their memorials and experience a full day of honor and thanks. Rudy Pugel was invited and flew to Washington DC on September 28th. He was an E5 sergeant in the United States Marine Corps from 1965-1969 after enlisting right after graduating high school. He served 3 tours in Vietnam.

One of his favorite parts of the Stars & Stripes Honor Flight was the Mail Call on the flight back home. The Veterans were surprised with a big envelope of letters from family and friends thanking them for their service and telling them what they mean to them and America. His absolute favorite part was the Welcome Home Parade because when he returned home after the war initially, soldiers did not receive a warm welcome. These veterans finally received the welcome home they deserve!

"It was a very emotional, meaningful day that I'll never forget. I'm honored to have been a part of it." - Rudy Pugel.

Submitted by Andrea Ostrowski

Rudy's daughter and KSKJ Life Member Engagement Coordinator



The Welcome Home Parade cheered on Rudy and fellow flight members after the trip.



Rudy's family greeted him with a warm welcome back after returning from DC.



Rudy and other veterans salute in front of the Marine Corps War Memorial in Washington DC.



Rudy enjoyed reading thoughtful messages during the Mail Call on the plane ride.

PRAYING FOR PEACE AND UNITY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



BREAKING NEWS: A celebration of Peace and Unity is coming soon!!!

It seems that we need some unity and peace in our world.

Countries are fighting with each other; Republicans and Democrats can't get along; football fans are upset with their teams and yelling at everyone; angry young men are shooting innocent students; politicians are calling each other cruel and hurtful names. The peaceful HAND of forgiveness and acceptance seems to be hidden.....until the 25th of December. The Prince of Peace is coming and for a couple of days, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, we come together as ONE, centered and focused on Jesus.

I was recently in Taos, MO, just outside Jefferson City, MO conducting a parish mission. I mentioned that it is interesting that Christmas is Jesus' birthday, but WE get the gifts. I asked students how will Christmas be celebrated in Heaven, and Maggie a fifth grader said it will be a great celebration because we will bring the gifts to Jesus and the gifts are that we made it to heaven where Jesus wants us to be. That is our goal and gift.

May the Joy and Peace of Christmas be with you and your family for a long, long time... God Bless you at this special time.

Reverend Richard Gielow
KSKJ Life Spiritual Advisor

SUPPORTING SOLDIERS
SOCKS FOR SOLDIERS

Providing Support to Service Members and Veterans

Collecting UNWORN pairs of men's and women's white or black crew socks for Operation Care Package

Send socks or monetary donation to:
KSKJ Life, 2439 Glenwood Ave., Joliet, IL 60435

#SHOWUSYOURSOCKS

FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A PAIR OF COMMEMORATIVE KSKJ LIFE SOCKS!

Post a photo of your donations on your social media pages using the hashtags #ShowUsYourSocks and/or #KSKJLife and automatically be entered!

All donations must be received by 1.12.2020

ST. STEPHEN LODGE'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, October 20th was a wonderful day. Sixty-six members and guests celebrated the 1894 founding of KSKJ Life (American Slovenian Catholic Union) in conjunction with the admittance of St. Stephen Lodge #1 into KSKJ Life.

The day began with Mass at the Slovenian Catholic Center at 11:15am. The celebrant and homilist was Reverend Bradley Zamora, Spiritual Advisor to Lodge #1. Father Brad, a member of the lodge since birth, shared his childhood memories of lodge meetings and how each meeting began with prayer and then ending with prayers for deceased members. Father spoke of the importance of prayer in our lives, for ourselves, families and friends and to pray for another 125 years of KSKJ service and fraternalism. Thank you to Father Brad for preparing the special liturgy and choosing the moving hymns that were played by the pianist and flutist and sung by the cantor/vocalist. Thank you to these friends of Father Brad who made the liturgy one that will be long remembered.



Father Brad at the podium homily.

Dinner was delicious from soup to dessert. Thank you to Ljuba Novak and her kitchen crew, the youth volunteer servers, Tatiana Simrah and Nick Cufar and Cyndy Barkowski, who prepared the room so beautifully. The Center is a very nice place to celebrate a special occasion.

Thank you to Vida (Pozek) Chenier for the lovely table centerpieces and the large altar bouquet, donated in memory of her mother, Ljubica Pozek, who was also a KSKJ Life member.



The anniversary cake was as lovely as it was delicious.

After dinner, President of Lodge 1 Dawn Zamora thanked everyone for celebrating this important event with us and introduced the Sisters of Saint Francis of Christ the King, Tony Mravle, CEO of KSKJ Life, April Sleyko, VP of Marketing and Fraternal Services, Lauren Baltz, Marketing Coordinator, Julie Schneller, National Board of Directors of KSKJ Life (who traveled from Kansas), MaryLou Stefanick, National Board of Directors of KSKJ Life, Mike Vidmar, President of the Illinois Federation and former Board Member for 22 years, Sandy Vidmar, Treasurer of the Illinois Federation, Milena Zerdin, President of Lodge 170, and Theresa Krampac, Financial Secretary of Lodge 170.



Seated L-R: Lauren Baltz, April Sleyko, MaryLou Stefanick, Mary Chamernik. Standing L-R: Sandy Vidmar, Mike Vidmar, Tony Mravle, Julie Schneller.

Dawn thanked the committee for setting up the banners and display tables, Tom McNally for formatting the remembrance booklets for the printing company and Patrick Sierzega for taking all the photographs that day.

Vince Rigler is the Lodge Person of the Year for Lodge 1 in 2019. He was not able to attend the anniversary event, so the award will be presented to him at the annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 15th. Congratulations to our 50 Year members: Sandra Barron, William Barron and Harry Bogolin. They were unable to attend the event, so their award certificates were mailed to them directly.

KSKJ Life CEO Tony Mravle presented the Lodge Leader Award to Dawn Zamora, for her 20 years of service as a dedicated lodge officer.



Dawn Zamora being presented the 20 Year Lodge Leader Award from Tony Mravle.

The winners of the 125th Anniversary Raffle were Tom McNally, Keith Luzar, Jennie Kovacic and David Kozek. They each received an award of \$125. The centerpieces were also raffled at each table. Guests got to enjoy the display of memorabilia and old pictures from 1894 to the present, as a special reminder of where KSKJ Life has been over the course of time.



Table of historical memorabilia.

*Joanne Sierzega
Chairperson – 125th Anniversary Event*

ASEF JUNIOR FELLOWS 2020 VISITING SLOVENIA

ASEF (American Slovenian Education Foundation) Fellowships strengthen research, study and enable students of Slovenian heritage and those who have an interest in study in Slovenia, to visit Slovenia.

ASEF Junior Fellowship - visiting Slovenia program is a one-year program, which enables students of Slovenian heritage to do a 10-week work/research visit at Slovene universities, companies and research institutes in the area of their field of expertise. Additionally, during the visit, fellows engage in activities organized by ASEF Society of Fellows, including research projects and collaborations with other Fellows, participation at the events organized by ASEF, leadership, and career development workshops, and attend regular public lectures and other events organized by ASEF.

Spend a productive summer in the country of your heritage!

Applications and more information can be found at www.asef.net/visiting-slovenia/

The deadline for submitting all application materials is February 1, 2020.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE KSKJ LIFE 2019-2020 EDUCATIONAL GRANT!

COLLEGE RECIPIENTS



Abigail Bartlett
Lodge 25



Alec Karlen
Lodge 171



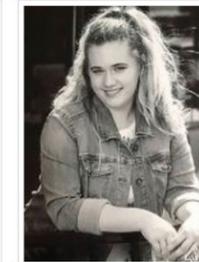
Alexander Marolt
Lodge 79



Alyssa Vargo
Lodge 50



Brianne Norrell
Lodge 59



Catherine Farnsworth
Lodge 110



Emily Powers
Lodge 108



Emily Vargo
Lodge 50



Emma Doglio
Lodge 108



Emma Upchurch
Lodge 625



Erin Bishop
Lodge 143



Evan Krueger
Lodge 226



Gianna Marino
Lodge 7



Grace Puc
Lodge 170



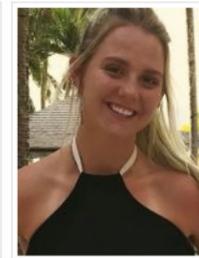
Hannah Hudson
Lodge 171



Hayley Velasquez
Lodge 29



Isaac Spehar
Lodge 171



Isabelle Kocman
Lodge 7



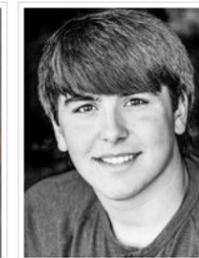
Jacob Manning
Lodge 50



Jake Grdadolnik
Lodge 169



Jamie Janczak
Lodge 29



Jaren Maki
Lodge 69



Zora Mihelich
Lodge 2



Jordan Runyan
Lodge 61



Kaitlyn Jackley
Lodge 52



Kara Kovach
Lodge 150



Katelyn Einloth
Lodge 63



Katherine Paiser
Lodge 79



Kevin Buh
Lodge 170



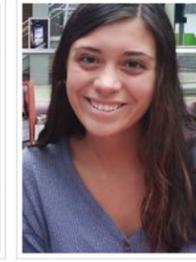
Mia Krevh
Lodge 169



Rachel Krevh
Lodge 169



Kyle Janczak
Lodge 29



Lauren Cueller
Lodge 29



Lindsey Thomas
Lodge 153



Luke Farnsworth
Lodge 110



Luke Starasinich
Lodge 29



Lydia Bednarczyk
Lodge 42



Mackenna Upchurch
Lodge 625



Mackenzie Sraj
Lodge 29



Madeline Wohletz
Lodge 115



Maria Fiorta
Lodge 226



Mark Celestina
Lodge 169



Mark Hedrick
Lodge 7



Mark Nauertz
Lodge 136



Martin Chrisman Jr.
Lodge 7



Matthew Jesik
Lodge 7



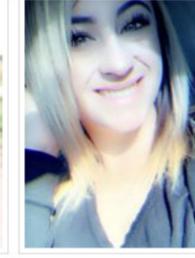
Matthew Stankewicz
Lodge 25



Matthew Trizna
Lodge 108



Maya Stupica
Lodge 169



Mia Jesik
Lodge 7



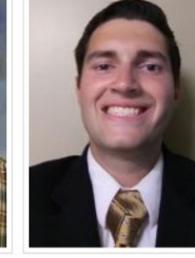
Michael Hozian
Lodge 170



Michael Lah
Lodge 59



Nathan Bilski
Lodge 226



Nicholas Colonna
Lodge 29



Olivia Wroblewski
Lodge 170



Olivia Karlen
Lodge 171



Patrick Hamilton
Lodge 2



Rachel Randolph
Lodge 110



Reagan Gallehue
Lodge 603



Rebecca Kosir
Lodge 25

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR EDUCATIONAL GRANT WINNERS!



Ryan Vicic Lodge 29 Shaun Mikulan Lodge 50 Sophia Valentine Lodge 7 Sophie Krzysciak Lodge 108 Stephanie Bellis Lodge 29 Sydney Halstead Lodge 65



Sydney Trathen Lodge 169 Tara Devine Lodge 115 Thomas Kmet Lodge 146 Tommy Kilway Lodge 110 Bryce Wainio Lodge 196 Zachary Dominelli Lodge 29

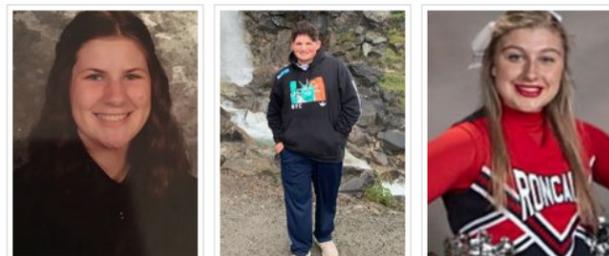


Zachary Pogorelec Lodge 171 Nicholas Zakelj Lodge 226 Zoe Zamora Lodge 1

HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS



Mattie Bishop Lodge 143 Samuel Hart Lodge 115 Raymond Mathez Lodge 53 Margaret McGrath Lodge 2 Mary Grace McGrath Lodge 2



Claire Morgan Lodge 110 Ryan Turek Lodge 25 Hannah Pierce Lodge 52

CONGRATULATIONS 2019 KSKJ LIFE LODGE LEADERS

56 KSKJ Life Lodge Officers were recognized as Lodge Leaders in 2019. Officers receive this recognition after serving consecutively in 5-year increments. Thank you, leaders, for your continued dedication and service to KSKJ Life!

LODGE #	LODGE LEADER	YEARS	LODGE #	LODGE LEADER	YEARS
1	Dawn Zamora	20	69	Edward Wood	15
2	Ken Michelich	5	79	MaryLou Stefanick	35
2	Fr. Timothy Andres	15	79	David Hammergren	5
7	Richard Zabukovic Jr	10	104	Norma Becco	30
7	Jeanette Jensen	5	110	Michael Morgan	10
7	Judith Chandler	10	115	Charles Racki	20
7	Joseph Zorc	10	115	Cynthia Hanson	10
25	John Turek	45	136	Lonna Rakovec	25
25	Brian Fabo	20	136	Joanne Trunkel	25
25	Martin Turek	20	136	Melinda Deavers	15
29	Kathy Lovati	15	143	John Koncar	5
29	Nicholas Vidmar	5	144	Patricia Slapnick	30
44	Robert Oberman	40	146	Michael Bodanza	15
50	Mary Ellen Suhadolnik	40	146	Kelly Volckening	15
52	Angie Cuson	20	150	Gregory Snyder	20
52	Michael Piechocki	10	153	Beverly Rosselle	15
52	Marcia Bracik	25	153	Marjorie Valencic	5
52	Richard Brodnik	20	169	Philip Hrvatin	25
52	Elizabeth Walker	10	169	John Nemecek	20
53	John Urh	25	169	Rev John Kumse	25
53	Dana Lainio	10	171	Mark Spehar	15
53	Amber Bodame	10	196	Yvonne Skrbec	10
59	Theresa La Vigne	20	196	Leopold Schutte	10
59	Dawn Barchus	15	197	Margaret Pryately	15
63	Brenna Marincic	10	197	Michael Retka	5
63	Sarah Kawczynski	5	226	Ronald Zak	25
65	Diane Mouradian	25	226	Charles Potenga	20
65	Thomas Gorenc	15	257	Sarah Mejac	10

The Season of Saving!

Savings are in the air this holiday season. Don't forget to check out your **KSKJ Life Discount Program** for exclusive deals on delicious holiday treats, decorations, and gifts for your loved ones!



ksklife.perkspot.com

CHANGES TO THE KSKJ VOICE PUBLICATION

Beginning in 2020, The Voice publication is intended to transition into a bi-annual, high-level national news publication. The traditional Lodge News section will no longer be included in this publication as lodges continue to expand local communication utilizing different mediums for events and meetings. Lodge meeting and event details, as well as other lodge news, will come directly from the local lodge to ensure timely and accurate information, although lodge and member highlights will still be a part of the 2020 publication.

The home office will distribute a monthly e-newsletter and will continue to publish local lodge events on our website as well as on the Activities page on Facebook (@kskjactivities).

To receive the monthly e-newsletter, please contact the fraternal department at fraternal@ksklife.com or submit your request on our website. (Note: must have valid email address).

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.

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2019

- Lodge #20 - David R. Schuler, Evart, MI
- Lodge #20 - Kathy A. Schwab, Ironwood, MI
- Lodge #25 - Joseph Bolta, Cleveland, OH
- Lodge #25 - James D. Montgomery, Salem, OH
- Lodge #29 - Frank J. Lojeski, Joliet, IL
- Lodge #42 - Sharon L. Cassell, Stewartstown, PA
- Lodge #42 - Kristy D. Feather, Hummelstown, PA
- Lodge #42 - Bobby J. Garrett, Philadelphia, PA
- Lodge #42 - Walter J. Johnson, Philadelphia, PA
- Lodge #50 - Roger V. Lewis, Irwin, PA
- Lodge #52 - Cynthia A. Brown, Gary, IN
- Lodge #52 - Carole D. Koziattek, Hammond, IN
- Lodge #52 - Jane A. Laibe, Evansville, IN
- Lodge #52 - Mark T. Majors Jr., Evansville, IN
- Lodge #52 - Gregory J. Piechocki, South Bend, IN
- Lodge #53 - Robert M. Susman, Waukegan, IL
- Lodge #53 - Leroy Witte, Lansing, IL
- Lodge #59 - Randy Stavenes, Thief River Falls, MN
- Lodge #63 - Keith W. Jordan, Bucyrus, OH
- Lodge #63 - Frank N. Sadar, Independence, OH
- Lodge #63 - Raymond J. Zabak, Garfield Heights, OH
- Lodge #65 - Joseph Pirc, Milwaukee, WI
- Lodge #74 - Charles F. Kulavic, Springfield, IL
- Lodge #79 - Agnes Dolinar, Waukegan, IL
- Lodge #79 - Jeffrey J. Monroe, Burlington, WI
- Lodge #79 - Virginia M. Nedelka, Grayslake, IL
- Lodge #108 - Mark R. Ambrose, Los Angeles, CA
- Lodge #110 - Lowell T. Paxton, Somerset, OH
- Lodge #115 - Dean A. Dawson, Wamego, KS
- Lodge #143 - Willard E. Magosky Jr., Joliet, IL
- Lodge #144 - Mary G. Bartzen, Sheboygan Falls, WI
- Lodge #144 - Marilyn J. Lehan, Pleasant Prairie, WI
- Lodge #146 - Margaret U. Prebe, Parma, OH
- Lodge #150 - Rebecca A. Bruner, Hubbard, OH
- Lodge #150 - William F. Hall, Sandusky, OH
- Lodge #150 - Sophie Hrovat, Danville, KY
- Lodge #150 - Donna J. Supan, Medina, OH
- Lodge #150 - Paul J. Supan Sr., Medina, OH
- Lodge #153 - Catherine Barone, Pottsville, PA
- Lodge #170 - Rosalind Cigan, Chicago, IL
- Lodge #170 - Billy H. Reynolds, Chicago, IL
- Lodge #197 - Marie M. Moyer, Watkins, MN
- Lodge #300 - Josephine Murn, Mineola, NY
- Lodge #620 - Sandra A. Johnson, Mesa, AZ
- Lodge #620 - Josie M. Holland, Chandler, AZ
- Lodge #624 - Glenn D. Wilson, Port Gibson, MS
- Lodge #625 - Louis J. Murphy, Athens, TN

IN MEMORY

Leona Remsgar - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Grampovnik - \$25.00

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

ILLINOIS

LODGE #2

JOLIET, IL

LODGE UPDATE

Several members of Lodge #2 met on November 3rd for a meeting/pizza party at St. Joe's Park.

Father Tim Andres was honored for 15 years of service to KSKJ Life as Spiritual Director of our lodge.

Pictured with Fr. Tim are Richard Churnovic, Jr., former president of Lodge #2 and Daniel Mihelich, current president of Lodge #2.



The next meeting will be held on Dec. 1. at 1:00 at St. Joe's Park. Food will be served, and the election of officers will take place. Our new officers will be installed at the January 5th meeting.

Submitted by
Lynn Miller

LODGE #29

JOLIET, IL

LODGE HALLOWEEN PARTY

At the Lodge Halloween Party on October 26 the kids were in costume, played games and had lunch. Dave's Reptile Show was our entertainment for the afternoon and what a hit that was. We got to see, touch and learn about snakes, a lizard, iguana, tortoise, frog and alligator. So nice to see young and old alike really enjoying the party.



Just a Princess kind of day!



Emilia Gegenheimer contemplating her first ever Bozo Buckets.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS



Cameron Velasquez sporting his pet alligator.

Wishing a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year to all members.

Karen (Ramsak) Colman
Reporter

LODGE #44

S. CHICAGO, IL

IN MEMORY

As this year comes to an end, this is a great time to reflect on the year. There were some great get togethers, eventful meetings and works of service. With every year, there are marriages, births, and the inevitable deaths. In July, I was saddened to report that former president of Lodge 44, John Strus passed in May. It is with a heavy heart to report on September 24th, his beloved wife of 65 years and former lodge treasurer, Mary Jane also passed. Mary Jane was an incredible woman to serve with. She was a woman of strength, smarts, service and loyalty. She was always on top of her game and the first one to go to with questions about the lodge or life in general. The board would like to thank Mary Jane for her years of service and friendship. Thank you to her family for sharing her with us for so many years. She will be greatly missed.



All of our kids with huge albino snake - ewww!

UPCOMING HOLIDAY PARTY

Our Holiday Party is planned for Sunday, January 5, 2020, at 176 West Banquet Facility on the Frontage Road in Joliet beginning at noon with cocktails. Meeting at 12:30 followed by buffet at 1:00 p.m. The cost for members is \$15, guests \$20, children aged 4-12 \$5 and under 3 are free. RSVP and make arrangements to prepay to Judy Corum at 815-725-3553 or jmcorum@ameritech.net by December 27.

This is my last article to be published in The Voice. Beginning in 2020 The Voice will be published twice a year. Be patient as we all go through this process. We hope to communicate via the internet, Facebook and newsletter to get the word out regarding our meetings and events in 2020.



Mary Jane and John Strus.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Annual Christmas party will be on December 7th at 4 pm. It will again be held at the Calumet Yacht Club, 4025 E 102nd St, Chicago, IL 60617. Please RSVP to George (708-334-5434) or myself (219-718-7599) if you will be attending as well as any children and their gender and ages. We want to be sure there is enough food and that we pass along to Santa to see if he can stop by! There will also be games, music and dancing. We will hold out meeting before the event at 2:30. Join us as we hold elections and start planning for 2020.

There may still be tickets available for the White Christmas outing at the Munster Performing Arts on December 14th for the 3 pm show. Please contact George if you are interested.

Submitted by Angela Rossi

LODGE #53

WAUKEGAN, IL

LODGE UPDATE

Hard to believe - 2019 is wrapping up to make way for a new year. Our final event of the year will be our Lodge Christmas Carnival hosted with St. Mary's on Sunday, December 8th from 11 AM to 1 PM. Our "annual" lodge officer election meeting will take place that same morning at 8:30 AM. We will see a change of the guard in some board roles and we hope to induct a new face or two on January 12th of 2020. Join us to start the new year as we reach out to our members through different venues. Our goal is to keep in touch, keep you informed and engage more members in volunteering and fraternalism.

LODGE OFFICER RECOGNITION

We want to acknowledge Sue Dolence for her 27 years serving as a board member. Sue has served our lodge since 1993 beginning as the Athletic Coordinator, following up with four years as the recording secretary and finishing her service as the Fraternal Activities Coordinator. She has attended several conventions as

a lodge delegate and spent countless hours over the years dedicated to our organization.

She will not be a stranger as she mentors her successor. Once a KSKJ'er...always there for KSKJ. Thank you, Sue, for your service!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Annual Lodge Christmas Carnival Party- December 8th – 11 AM – 1 PM at Bertrand Lanes
- Installation Meeting- January 12, 2020 – 9:15 AM at Bertrand Lanes

In keeping with the spirit of the Christmas season.....

Merry Christmas -Believe! Happy New Year - Peace!

Submitted by Victoria Drinka

LODGE #108

JOLIET, IL

LODGE UPDATE

Happy Holidays everyone!

On Saturday, December 14th, 2019 – a few members of St. Genevieve Lodge #108 will be out at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery to help place holiday wreaths at the gravesites of our fallen veterans. It is a beautiful scene after all the wreaths are put up. It seems so peaceful out there and you get lost in your thoughts. At least that's how I feel when I'm out there.

As for the lodges' upcoming events, here is our Calendar of Events for 2020. I encourage you to clip it and put it up on your refrigerator so you don't miss an upcoming lodge event! As a reminder, local Lodge news will no longer be printed in the Voice starting after the New Year. Lodges will communicate directly to its local members with any upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January - 2020: No Meeting
- February 2, 2020: 1:00 Meeting – Ferdinand Hall
- February 9, 2020: Ice Skating & Pizza Party at Inwood Ice Arena
- March 1, 2020: 1:00 Meeting – Ferdinand Hall
- April - 2020: No Meeting
- May - 2020: Join Hands Day Event to be scheduled
- June 7, 2020: 1:00 Meeting – Ferdinand Hall
- July - 2020: No Meeting
- August - 2020: No Meeting
- September 6, 2020: 1:00 Meeting – Ferdinand Hall
- October 4, 2020: 1:00 Meeting – Ferdinand Hall
- November 1, 2020: 1:00 Meeting – Ferdinand Hall
- Pizza to be served
- December 6, 2020: Lodge Christmas Party – Al's Steakhouse. Nomination & Election of Officers for 2021. Installation of Officers and 50-Year Members Honored.
- Other events that the lodge will be involved in are Matching Fund fundraiser, Wreaths across America, Kids Easter Egg-Hunt, Kids Christmas Party & a family outing to a water park.

NOTE: ALL MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO BE CHANGED.

I would like to thank you all for reading the various articles that have been submitted to the Voice all these years. I bid you adieu. Take care and I'll see you around.

Submitted by Pauline Mihelich

Lodge President

St. Genevieve Lodge #108

LODGE #143

JOLIET, IL

LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY

Save the date! The Lodge 143 Annual Christmas Party and Member recognition event is scheduled for Sunday, January 5, 2020 at Crest Hill Lanes (905 Theodore St., Crest Hill) from 11am to 1pm. Join us for bowling, pizza, friendship and fun!! All ages welcome! Open bowling (includes shoe rental), pizza and soda included. This is a free event for members. Cost for non-members is \$5. We will be collecting items for the Supporting Soldiers Campaign at our party (see information below).

SUPPORTING SOLDIERS CAMPAIGN

Please consider donating to this year's National Supporting Soldiers Campaign – Socks for Soldiers - where we will be collecting unworn pairs of men's and women's white or black crew socks. The organization Operation Care Package will provide the socks to military troops who are deployed in remote areas where they don't have access to basic supplies. Monetary donations will be accepted as well.

A blessed and Merry Christmas to all of our members!

Submitted by Lauren Baltz

INDIANA

LODGE #52

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

LODGE UPDATE

Hello Indianapolis! Cooler weather is moving in and winter is upon us! In October we had our annual Halloween party at the Slovenian National Home! Prizes were given to best costumes. All kids in attendance did a great job smashing the pinata open for candy!

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

Thanks to everyone who made the event possible, from food to crafts to games! Marcia again made a delicious chili for our annual chili fest. It was super windy this year, so we stayed inside the Nash where it was toasty and warm! The secret ingredient proved to be squash, congrats to Tommy Komlanc who guessed it!

UPCOMING EVENTS

In normal KSKJ fashion, we will welcome winter with our annual Christmas parties! Our Children's Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 7. Please stay tuned to Facebook and our website for exact location and time!

The Adult Christmas Party will be on Sunday, December 8 from 11:30am-12:30pm. This will be our year end meeting ONLY, as the Slovenian Women's Union is hosting lunch at the Iron Skilled at 1pm. If you would like to attend lunch afterwards, please RSVP to Phyllis Fon [317-373-6655; phylliswu5@aol.com].

January is approaching, and so is our Annual Sausage Feast. Again, please stay tuned to our website and Facebook for the exact date! This event always offers your choice of locally made fresh or smoked sausage, or award-winning Azman's blood sausage (shipped from Cleveland) complete with ethnic Slovenian sides (sauerkraut, potatoes, bread)! We are again asking for attendees to bring a dessert to share. Beverages will be available for purchase.

As usual, be sure to like St. Aloysius on Facebook, www.facebook.com/pages/KSKJ.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

7 – ST. ALOYSIUS #52, INDIANAPOLIS, IND. Join us for our Children's Christmas Party, location is to be determined. Please stay tuned to Facebook and our website for more information.

8 – ST. ALOYSIUS #52, INDIANAPOLIS, IND. Our Annual Adult Christmas Party and Annual Meeting will be at the Slovenian National Home at 11:30am. This will be our year end meeting ONLY, as the Slovenian Women's Union is hosting lunch at the Iron Skilled at 1pm. If you would like to attend lunch afterwards, please RSVP to Phyllis Fon [317-373-6655; phylliswu5@aol.com].

We are collecting food for the needy at our meeting; please bring a non-perishable food item(s) to donate.

January

25 – ST. ALOYSIUS #52, INDIANAPOLIS, IND. Mark your calendars now for the Annual Sausage Feast! This is one of our largest events of the year, you do NOT want to miss! Please stay tuned to our website and Facebook for details!

*Nasvidenje!
Jennifer Velikan*

MINNESOTA

LODGE #59

EVELETH, MN

UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS

Eveleth - Lodge #59 will have their annual meeting and election of officers on December 1, after 8:30 a.m. Mass at Resurrection Church Hall. The Christmas Party will be on December 15, at 1 p.m. also in the church hall. The Christmas Party will again feature prize drawings, Bingo, Santa Claus and pizza!

Lodge #59 will again sponsor a Giving Tree with tags for recipients. The Giving Tree will be placed in the back of Resurrection Church on the First Sunday of Advent, December 1st.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Eveleth KSKJ Lodge #59 served a pancake and sausage breakfast Sunday, Nov. 3rd, at Resurrection's Holy Family Hall. The proceeds will go to fund our many charitable projects.

Submitted by Rosemary Mattson

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

OHIO

OHIO AREA NEWS

OHIO

KSKJ SCHOLARSHIP GRANT 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 current school year 2019-2020. Members from the following lodges are eligible to apply for these scholarships: lodge numbers 25, 63, 110, 146, 150, 169, 219 and 226. Through the generous donation from a foundation to the KSKJ Life Scholarship Fund, funds are available to continue the scholarship program.

KSKJ Life has received a one-time donation from the Nielsen Foundation. A number of scholarships will be awarded by the 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, December 31. 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 and the rules and guidelines for The Ohio Lodges Scholarship Program by sending me a letter requesting the information and which scholarship you are applying for to the following address:

Mr. Joseph V. Hocevar
Ohio Federation of KSKJ Lodges President
6114 Lausche Ave., Suite 207
Cleveland, Ohio 44103-1594

The deadline date for completed applications is January 31, 2020.



A full house for the pancake breakfast hosted by Lodge 59.



Ron Erjavec and Jen Menart flip the flapjacks!



Amy Brazzerol, Ryna Erjavec, and Barb Mavec set the tables.



Kids line up at the kitchen counter for pancakes!

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

Fraternally yours,

Joseph V. Hocevar

Chairman, The Ohio Lodges Scholarship Program

LODGE #25

CLEVELAND, OH

ST. VITUS KSKJ LODGE #25 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

St. Vitus KSKJ Lodge #25 is sponsoring a scholarship program this year for its lodge members. The lodge received some donations to offer one or more scholarships for full-time students that are attending a tuition paying high school or a college for the current school year 2019-2020. The applicant must be a member of KSKJ Life for at least two years at time of application, December 31. 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

St. Vitus KSKJ Scholarship Program

6114 Lausche Ave., Apt. #207

Cleveland, Ohio 44103-1594

The deadline date for completed applications is January 31, 2020.

Fraternally yours,

Joseph V. Hocevar

Chairman, Scholarship Program

LODGE 25 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Just a brief note for our annual meeting and Christmas

party, which will take place on December 8th. The meeting will start at 1:00pm and the party will follow, approximately 2:00pm.

Also, please make a note for our annual dinner honoring our 50-year members. This will take place on March 8th after the 10:30am Mass; dinner will start approximately 12:00pm (noon). Please give a call to myself (John Turek) and let me know how many you have attending. Deadline for reservations is March 2nd as we need this count for the cook. RSVP number is 216-531-0230.

Submitted by John C. Turek, Financial Secretary

ST VITUS KSKJ LODGE #25—125 IN 2020!

St. Vitus KSKJ Lodge #25 will mark in 2020 a unique milestone as it will observe the 125th Year Anniversary of its founding. But this story is a bit more unique and longer than its 125th Year Anniversary in 2020. "Drustvo sv. Vida, st 25, K.S.K. J." as it is known in the Slovenian language, had its original founding in 1890 under the name of "Marijan spolek. These two words translated mean "Marian Society." Truth be told, it is more of a Slovak phrase than Slovenian. In addition, Marijin Spolek was the first recognized Slovenian organization in Greater Cleveland, established primarily as an insurance entity for Slovenians to provide support in times of sickness, death and also burial(s). It was open however only for men aged 17-to-45 years old. The reason it was an independent society at that point in time was that there was no KSKJ or other such national type organization for the many scattered and developing Slovenian communities across the USA; and that represented its core values: support for the Catholic Church and faith, as well as Slovenian culture and heritage in all its many dimensions.

The trickle of Slovenian immigrants coming to the USA in the 1860s and 1870s became a tidal wave in the 1880s through the early 1900s. The majority of Slovenian immigrants then arriving in America came more for economic reasons rather than any other reason: Slovenia at that time was a "province" under the then Austro-Hungarian Empire in Europe than a country or nation and primarily an agrarian society with limited opportunity.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

Marijin Spolek remained its name until the establishment of St. Vitus Parish, Cleveland, Ohio in Aug 1893; and thereafter, this society was renamed "St. Vitus Society." On Sept. 14, 1894 this new society became incorporated through members Joze Strnisa, Anton Klinc, Mihael Mahnic and Florian Pajlek. Its location was on Lake Street in Cleveland.

When KSKJ was established in 1894, members of St. Vitus Society discussed becoming a part of the national KSKJ so that on May 31, 1895 St. Vitus Society submitted an official request to become part of KSKJ; and thus was established "St. Vitus KSKJ Lodge #25."

From this humble start, 75 members soon joined St. Vitus Lodge #25. By May 1930, St. Vitus Lodge #25 had 603 adult and 166 "youth" members. Also in 1930 St Vitus Lodge #25 provided \$1,200.00 toward the construction of the "new" St. Vitus Church, a 110 foot high 4twin bell tower structure in a Byzantine Lombard design. I note this amount as this was in the years of the Great Depression in the USA.

As of November 2019, St. Vitus Lodge #25 has 1,438 members, a remarkable feat considering 125 years in existence when many similar fraternal benefit society lodges in the USA have gone out of existence. St. Vitus Lodge #25 has performed many thousands of hours of volunteer or community service work such as decorating cemeteries of fallen or deceased US Veterans, participating in numerous benefit dinners to support individuals afflicted with cystic fibrosis, children with A-T disease, children with autism, support for Fisher House (housing of families at no cost while US Veterans receive treatment at a local VA hospital), support for an orphanage in Mexico, and many worthwhile and good charitable causes in northeast Ohio; and around the USA. Congratulations to the officers and members of St. Vitus KSKJ Lodge #25; and many more years of good friendship and service to the local and broader American Slovenian communities in the USA.

Note: On Palm Sunday April 5, 2020, St Vitus Lodge #25 will again participate in a charitable endeavor with the parish food pantry and bank along with Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Euclid, Ohio, as designated charities for the proceeds from this annual event, promoting both corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

Lourdes Shrine, Euclid, Ohio, as designated charities for the proceeds from this annual event, promoting both corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

Prepared by: S. Kuhar

LODGE #63

CLEVELAND, OH

UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS AND NEWS

Our November meeting will be a conference call on Monday, November 25th at 700pm. The call-in number and access code are as follows: 1-605-472-5422 access code 749363. We look forward to seeing and hearing you at these meetings.

Our Annual Meeting (12:00pm) and Children's Christmas Party (1:00pm-3:00pm) will be Sunday December 1, 2019. All are invited to attend the party from 1:00-3:00pm at Slovenian Home and East 80th Lanes (3563 East 80th Street, Cleveland 44105). Please RSVP by November 25 to Jean. Call or text 440-781-3075 so we can plan food and beverages accordingly.

We will be starting a bi-monthly Lodge Newsletter in 2020; please forward your email address to kskjst.lawrence63@gmail if you would like to receive the newsletter and by which means you would like to receive – electronically (email) or post (US postal service). Thanks in advance.

We will be hosting an afternoon with the Cleveland Monsters Hockey - Saturday, February 1st puck drop at 1:00pm. Tickets are \$10.00 for KSKJ members and \$15.00 for non members. Please let me know if you are interested.

The officers of lodge #63 would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Vesel Božič

Jean Marincic

440-781-3075

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

LODGE #146

CLEVELAND, OH

LODGE UPDATES

The cooler fall weather has arrived in Cleveland. The leaves are falling off the trees and getting raked and piled by the tree lawns. We did see some nice color but unfortunately it was also very windy so it was short lived. Halloween was a big disappointment due to the drizzle and wind that day.

Our lodge had for the first time in recent memory managed to match \$4,000 in fund raising for local worthy causes. We raised about \$1600 for St Mary's parish, \$900 for the St Barnabas El Salvador Mission and the remainder went to Velosano.

That says a lot about our organization! In all of these we were successful not just with members from our lodge, but members of other lodges joined us in doing the behind the scenes work and publicity. They helped get the word out and bring the people together to raise the money! This is what makes us stronger. Working together.



Jacqueline and Josette Snyder all smiles by the welcome table.



Joseph Snyder baking for the bake sale.



Josette Snyder putting the finishing touches in preparation for the bake sale.

Our next meeting has been changed to November 22nd at Quaker Steak & Lube on Canal Road in Valleyview. We will be discussing our election of officers and the Christmas party that will be held on December 1st.

Also next year we will have our quarterly newsletter coming out. If you did not get the fall one, please contact me at in4mativ1@hotmail.com.

Everyone have a safe Christmas season.

Josie Kmet

Recording secretary

Josie Kmet

Recording Secretary

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

LODGE #150

CLEVELAND, OH

THREE LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY

St. Anne's Lodge #150 would like to wish everyone Christmas Blessings and a very Healthy and Happy New Year.

Our Annual Three Lodge Christmas Party had another great turnout. The children had so much fun eating, bowling and visiting with Santa. Thank you to everyone for their help. It was a fun event bringing together the members and guests of Lodges #150, #46 and #63.

We would especially like to thank those who brought Socks for Soldiers or gave a monetary donation. The Supporting Soldiers Campaign provides support to Service Members and Veterans. You still have time to donate through January 12, 2020. Monetary donations will be matched per dollar (maximum \$100 per member) up to \$5,000.

Lodge #150 is still selling the Our Town and All Around dining coupon books as our fundraiser. They are only \$28 and would make great Christmas gifts. Please contact Elaine Peskar for details.

The election of officers for 2020 was held at our December 1st meeting. The slate of new officers will be presented in January. Congratulations to all.

Submitted by Elaine Peskar

LODGE #219

EUCLID, OH

ANNUAL LODGE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Election of officers meeting and annual Christmas Luncheon Party for Lodge 219 members will be held

on Sunday, December 8 at 12:30 p.m. in Vittorio's Restaurant, 29664 Euclid Ave in Wickliffe, Ohio. Those planning to attend must make reservations by December 3rd. Cost is \$5.00 per member and one guest. Contact Joanne Ash at 440.256.1141 or send check to Joanne at 7709 Joseph Street, Kirtland, Ohio. Please bring wrapped gifts for our raffle!

We will be participating in the Christmas project, SOCKS for the soldiers and homeless; please bring them for men and women, or give a monetary donation, which we will use to purchase socks for you. These socks will be given to homeless shelters in our area.

Please come to our first meeting of the 2020 year, Sunday, January 12 at 1:00 p.m. in Gateway Manor, Gateway Drive in Euclid, Ohio.

May you all have a Blessed Merry Christmas.

Submitted by Elizabeth Kusar

LODGE #226

CLEVELAND, OH

YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Lodge 226 is seeking an enthusiastic individual to serve as Co-Chair for our Youth Activities Committee! Do you enjoy planning events? Love being around kids? Well, then... this is the committee for you! "But... I'm too busy," you say. The commitment is this: 1) planning the Youth Members Christmas party and 2) planning the activities portion of the 4-Lodge picnic. "That's it?" That's it!

If you are interested, please reach out to Tamara Zupancic at 440-488-2904 to learn more.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December Lodge Meeting and the election of officers - Sunday, Dec. 2 - 10:00 AM (Slovenian National Home Lower Hall)

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

- Children's Christmas Party - Sunday, Dec. 1 - 12:00 PM (Slovenian National Home Lower Hall) Celebrate the holiday season with crafts, games, refreshments, singing and even a chance to tell Santa Claus what is on your Christmas list! If you have any questions, please email either Beth Paskey (bpaskey@ameritech.net) or Tamara Zupancic (tisinmentor@hotmail.com) or at 440-488-2904.
- January Lodge Meeting & Adult New Year's Party - Sunday, Jan. 5 - 12:00 PM (Slovenian National Home). Please bring a dish or dessert to share.
- March Lodge Meeting & Fish Fry - Date TBD (The Nash)
- Palm Sunday Benefit - Sunday, Apr. 5 - 10:30 AM (St. Vitus Church & Auditorium) - Join us for mass at St. Vitus Church followed by the Palm Sunday Benefit in the St. Vitus Auditorium
- Join Hands Day - Saturday May 2 - 10:00 AM (Slovenian National Home). Please NOTE: This is a SATURDAY. Come out for a rewarding day of yard work and building maintenance as we spruce up the Slovenian National Home. This is a great opportunity for youth members to earn service hours.
- Dave Koprowski Memorial Golf Outing - Saturday July 18 - 10:00 AM (St. Bernard Golf Club)
- Captains Minor League Baseball Game - August - Date TBD

WE ARE SOCIAL

Are you active on Facebook? So is Lodge 226! Follow KSKJ Lodge 226 (@kskjcleveand226) to receive lodge updates and see photos of our events. It's a great way to stay connected with the lodge.

I encourage all members to reach out to me via email (include the words: Lodge 226 in the subject line) if you have any news or photos to share. My email is tisinmentor@hotmail.com.

Submitted by Tamara Zupancic

PENNSYLVANIA LODGE #153

STRABANE, PA

MATCHING FUNDS UPDATE

On August 4, 2019 we held a Matching Fund event for the Slovene Radio Program at the Shriners Pavillion in Cheswick, Pa. The event was a huge success with many people attending from the Pittsburgh area and many people from out of state also.

We were able to present a check in the amount of \$2,000 to the Board of Directors at their annual meeting on October 13, 2019.



Lodge 153 presents Matching Funds check to Slovene Radio Program.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

We will hold our annual Adult - Children's Christmas Party at our lodge home at the corner of Alexander Avenue and Chartiers Street in Strabane on Sunday, December 8, 2019 from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Cost is \$10.00 for non-members; Cost is \$5.00 for MEMBERS.

We will again be collecting canned foods or any type of non-perishable item or paper products as we will once again hold the food drive. All items will be delivered to the Canonsburg/Houston Food Pantry serving Strabane, Houston, and Canonsburg areas.

LOCAL LODGE NEWS & EVENTS

Also, this holiday season, KSKJ Life lodges will be collecting socks and snacks for care packages to be sent to deployed soldiers. Monetary donations will also be graciously accepted.

We will have food, door prizes, 50-50 raffle and entertainment by Frank and Darryl Valencic and Santa Claus will definitely attend. Looking forward to seeing you at the Christmas Party!

Holiday greetings to all of our sick and shut-in members and their families. Vesele Bozic Praznike!

*Beverly J. Pleskovich Rosselle
Financial Secretary*

WISCONSIN LODGE #136

WILLARD, WI

CHRISTMAS PARTY AND ANNUAL MEETING

Mary of Perpetual Help #136 will be having their Annual meeting on Dec 8th along with our election of officers. After a potluck lunch we will be having our Christmas party along with games, singing and Santa will arrive.

Submitted by Lonna Rakovec



Lodge 136 President Edward Bayuk recently presented a 50 year member award to Valentine Gosar.



Lodge 136 Leaders Joanne Trunkel, Lonna Rakovec and Melinda Deavers receiving their awards.



Lodge 136 officers L-R: sitting Pres. Edward Bayuk, Gene Rakovec-Rec Sec., Lonna Rakovec-Fin. Sec., In back: Edward Perko-Auditor, Jeremiah Rakovec-Auditor, Melinda Deavers-Treasurer, Bethany Gosar-Activity Director, Robert Trunkel-Auditor, Joanne Trunkel-VP

COLORADO LODGE #7

PUEBLO, CO

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 1 – Ugly Sweater Cookie Exchange at St. Joseph's Hall at 1:00PM
- December 15 – Annual Meeting/Annual Children's Christmas Party at St. Joseph's Hall. Annual Meetings to begin at 11:00AM. The Children's Christmas Party will begin at 2:00PM.

Submitted by Angie Perez

KSKJ LIFE HOME OFFICE

2439 Glenwood Avenue

Joliet, IL 60435



Merry Christmas

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

Protecting our members and their families is at the heart of what we do. Celebrate this holiday season knowing you're backed by an organization you can trust. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from KSKJ Life.

1-800-843-5755

| www.kskjlife.com

KSKJ Life is an Illinois fraternal benefit society located at 2439 Glenwood Ave., Joliet, IL 60435. V.12.2019