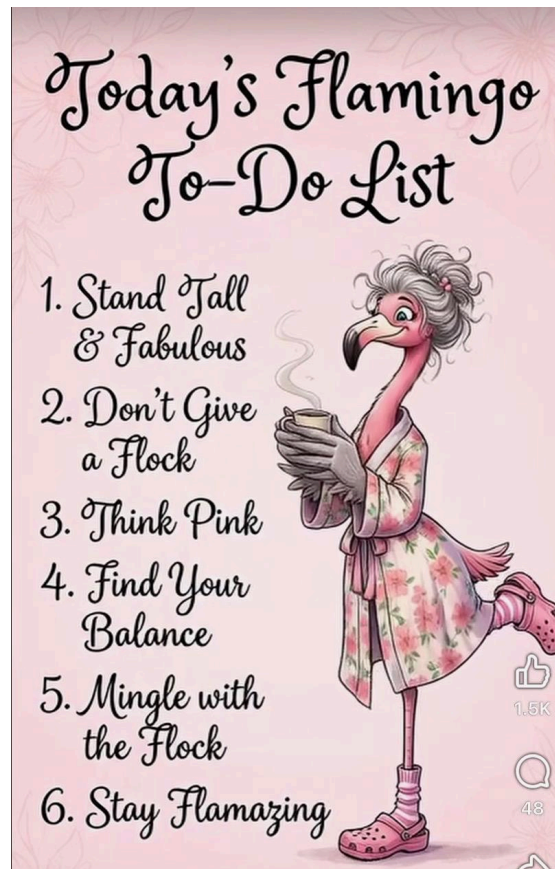




Illinois JCI Senate

E-Blast

May 1, 2026



Congratulations to **Terry Kolaz #68698** for being named one of two, "Senator of the Year Award" recipient from JCI USA while at the Missoula, MT Meeting. Terry received the **OUTSTANDING SENATOR MCCALL MEMORIAL AWARD 2025**. Great job Terry. What an example of giving back to our Jaycees.

As you are reading this eblast, First Gentleman Chris #35440 and I are in Topeka KS at Region 8 Spring Regional and Kansas JCI Senate 55th Reunion. I think the flock from Illinois will be thin, but Chris and I will Flamingle, Be Social and Have Fun. Happy Mother's Day to all the Mothers, Godmothers, Grandmothers, Aunties and Caregivers. Let's celebrate you.

May 15-16 many of the flock will be roosting in St. Charles, MO for Missouri's 50th Anniversary. Should be a flamazing celebration. Watch IL JCI Senate Facebook page for posts of funny moments and cherished time with fellow senators.

Let's Flamingle, Be Social, Have Fun
Susie Colbert-Curtis #73137
59th President IL JCI Senate



I had such a great time in East Peoria last month! It was great to see Senate and Jaycee friends, watch **Dean Paulcheck #50582** be inducted into the Hall of Fame, and be inspired by the newest class of TOYP inductees. I always come home so inspired and positive after such an uplifting weekend!

During the spring meeting, we also had elections for the Senate. I am so excited to be your next IL JCI Senate President! Thank you for your encouragement and support! Congrats to the newly elected officers for the 2026-2027 year:

Rod Holenstine #4607 - Administrative Vice President

Donna Ward # 53588 - Management Vice President

Marsha DeVore #67330 - Secretary

Mary Ann Hilleary #64615 - Treasurer

Susie Colbert-Curtis #73137 - Chairman of the Board

Fox Valley Region - OPEN

Chris Rick #78649 - North Region

Tony Symoniak #66367 - Northeast Region

Norm Hoffman #25676 - Northwest Region

Marilyn Burton #55106 - Prairieland Region

ROBBIE JOHNSON #62077 - South Central Region

Monty Schroder #62203 - Serve Region

We're getting our ducks in order and setting up our committees for next year. Please let me know if you want to be part of the team. It's going to be a fun year where we find ways to support the Jaycees, reach out to our Senate friends, and welcome new Senators into the fold. I'm truly lucky to be an Illinois Senator. I hope you feel that way too!

Maureen K. Niedenthal #67669

2025-2026 IL JCI Senate Administrative Vice President

2026-2027 IL JCI Senate President Elect

The Illinois JCI Senate will be hosting a poker fundraiser on Friday, May 29, 2026. The Illinois JCI Senate hosts four of these fundraisers each year and they are an important funding source for our organization. All help is definitely appreciated.

Volunteers for the Opening Shift and Middle Shift will be selling tournament entries during your shift while the Closing Shift will mostly be waiting for the tournaments to finish. We do not exchange chips for cash. If you would like more details on what volunteering entails, please contact Chris Rick by email to crick10101@aol.com or via phone at 847-533-0204.

The event will be held at Bridgeview Community Center at 7902 Oketo Avenue, Bridgeview, IL 60455 (near I-55 and I-294) from 2:00 PM until approximately 1:00 AM with an extra half hour before and after for setup/teardown.

Please review the available shifts and sign up for your favorite.
Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0449A4A622A6F94-62524045-poker#/>



Upcoming JCI Illinois meetings/projects

05/01-----Addieville Area ~ Fish Fry

05/02-----Bloomington-Normal ~ Kitten Yoga at 10:00 A.M.

05/02-----Menard County ~ Jeep Run at 11:00 A.M.

05/02-----Springfield ~ Milkweed Giveaway at 9:00 A.M.

05/02-----Steeleville ~ BBQ

05/06-----Bloomington-Normal ~ Membership Meeting at 7:00 P.M.

05/09-----Palatine ~ Bowling

05/19-----Menard County ~ PB&J Drive at 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

05/21 to 24

Bethalto County Fair Days

05/28-----Menard County ~ Quarterly Quarter Auction at 6:30 P.M.

05/29-----Collinsville ~ Ice Cream Social

05/30-----Illinois Jaycees Mental Health First Aid Training

05/30-----Steeleville ~ Scavenger Hunt

06/05 & 06/06

Collinsville ~ Big 6 Wheel at Horseradish Fest

06/07-----Alhambra ~ Poker Run Stop

06/12 to 14

Highland ~ Schweizer Fest

06/19 to 21

New Baden ~ June Jamboree

Upcoming JCI Illinois GA's

01/22 to 01/24/2027 ~ Winter GA ~ Champaign-Urbana

01/28 to 01/30/2028 ~ Winter GA ~ Champaign-Urbana

Camp New Hope Clean Up Day

The 2026 Camp New Hope Clean Up Day is May 9th. It will be from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm and lunch will be provided. Please contact the Camp to RSVP at (217) 895-2341. If you would like to bring along some items for the Camp, their wishlists can be found online at <https://campnewhopeillinois.org>. Do not forget that you can purchase these items on Amazon and have them shipped directly to the Camp AND purchase an Amazon gift card from RaiseRight to make that purchase.

Thank you!

Marsha DeVore

Camp New Hope Chair



I am pleased to announce that 2 of our 3 scholarship applicants that were forwarded to the US JCI Foundation for further consideration of an additional scholarship have been awarded a named scholarship and a vocational scholarship. They are:

Emma Johnson - Stacy-Kolaz Family Scholarship. Emma will be attending SIU-E for elementary education and she received an

is from Danville, Illinois.

Ella Acton - Vocational Scholarship. Ella will be attending Danville Community College for Speech and Language Pathology Assistant and she received an additional \$1,000 scholarship from the US JCI Foundation. Ella is from Rossville, Illinois.

Lori Suprenant

Summer Picnic - Flamingle at the Lake July 23-26 at Mariner's Village at Carlyle Lake

As the temps warm up, we get closer and closer to the Summer Picnic! The South by Southwest Region is excited to welcome Senators to celebrate a wonderful 2025/2026 year!

Hotel - Call Mariner's Village directly at 618-594-7666 and use code JCI to reserve your room. All of the cabins are spoken for.

Registration - Complete registration by filling out the [form](#). Full registration includes snacks on Friday night, Saturday dinner with legendary New Baden Jaycees pork steaks and drinks for the weekend. Bar Burgers will be held at Bretz's Winery and we will have the Sunset Bar/Patio.

The Extra's -- We have alot going on and we want to make sure we have enough space and supplies for everyone. We are asking you to complete [this form](#) if you plan to do any of the following:

- Friday - Golf at Bent Oak in Breese at 1:00 p.m.
- Friday - Watering hole bar crawl with bus transportation (\$25 per person) at 11:30 a.m. We will start with lunch at The Blue Room and then an afternoon of fun awaits!
- Friday - Boat Ride at 7:00 p.m. Doug Jansen will be providing a scenic tour of the lake on his pontoon boat
- Saturday - Golf at Governor's Run at 7:30 a.m. -- the plan is to be done in enough time that Bar Burgers can be enjoyed as well
- Saturday - Dam Tour -- tour the inside of the Carlyle Lake Dam - this does require extensive walking and climbing steps. I am still confirming exact time but will happen in the morning.
- Saturday - Bracelet Making class from 9am - 11am -- create

- Saturday - Boat Ride at 7:00 p.m. Doug Jansen will be providing a scenic tour of the lake on his pontoon boat

The [Facebook Event](#) is the best place to stay up to date with information as it becomes available!

Hope to see you while we Flamingle at the Lake!

Vanessa Birchler #74430

On-To

We hope that you can travel to some of these
Region V and National events.

2026 events

April 30 - May 3

Region VIII Spring Regional &
KS JCI Senate 55th Reunion, Topeka, KS

[Click here for Registration Form.](#)

May 9

Kentucky JCI Senate Year End Meeting, Bardstown, KY

May 15-17

Missouri JCI Senate Meeting / 50th Anniversary, St. Charles, MO

[Click here for information.](#)

May 16

Michigan JCI Senate Elections and Meeting, Lansing, MI

May 22-24

Ohio JCI Senate Year End Meeting, Cleveland, OH

June 14-18

US JCI Senate National Meeting, San Antonio, TX

July 10-12

Iowa Summer Picnic, Sioux City, IA

[Click here for Registration Form.](#)

July 10-12

Year End Celebration, Michigan

July 17-19

Ohio Pig Roast, Kent, OH

July 23-26

Illinois Picnic, Carlyle, IL

[Click here for Registration Form.](#)

September 17-20

US JCI Senate Fall Board Meeting, Topeka, KS

[Click here for Registration Form.](#)

October 2-4

Fall Frenzy, Bardstown, KY

[Click here for Registration Form.](#)

Chaplain Bev Olson #42473

Extended Family Update

None

Family Update

None

Directory Update:

New Senator

New Lifetime Member

None

Address Change

Gary #50654 & Sandy #78111 Waters
20815 West Torrey Pines Lane
Plainfield, IL 60544

Email Change

None

Phone Change

None

The spammers are going full force and using the board members information on the website. If you get an email asking for funds or help with gift cards, please look at the email address you are receiving it from. Please DON'T reply to those emails or text messages. Contact that person directly in a different email or text and just ask them.

[Illinois JCI Senate webpage](#)

E-Blast Reminder

Deadline is Noon on the 30th/31st & 14th.
Please send the information in Word.



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