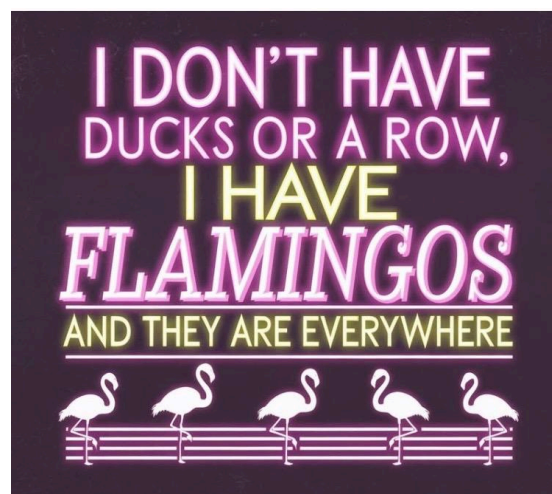




Illinois JCI Senate

**E-Blast
Family Update**

May 15, 2026



Greetings, what a wonderful time Chris and I had in Topeka, KS celebrating Kansas Senate 55th Anniversary. They had a good turnout from Region 8. While in Kansas, we went to the Wizard of Oz Museum in Wamego, KS. Pretty cool, lots of artifacts to look at and the movie was playing, it was well done.

Missouri has set the date for the MO/IL JCI Wine Trip 2026, October 23-24, 2026. More details to follow, stay tuned.

As you are reading this E-Blast several of us are flocking to St. Charles, MO to help MO JCI Senate celebrate their 50th Anniversary.

I want to thank Kathy Crick #71017 and other senators for all the leg work to update the directory. The new directory will be available at the senate picnic. If your information is not current, please email Kathy at ckricker14@sbcglobal.net with your added information. Maybe you no longer have a home phone, only a cell phone or you have retired and now use a home email.

Many thanks to Maureen #67669 and Mark #39701 Niedenthal and Marsha #67330 and Judson #65005 DeVore for volunteering at Camp New Hope for Clean Up Day.

A special shout out to Kay DeGroot #73333 for the typing of the updated By-Laws and Policy documents in a PDF format that includes the changes approved at the April meeting.

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



Trophy room was packed! You couldn't see the floor when we started.

Join the 2026-2027 Team!

We are looking for people to help with a few spots.

Please reach out if you can assist with:

Camp New Hope

Hospitality (we need another team member)

Silent Auction (assist)

Website (assist)

Return the Favor (easy to do from home on phone and/or computer)

If you're not sure but willing to help, please let me know. I'd be

happy to talk to you about what the job entails. I'd be lucky to have you working with us!

Maureen K. Niedenthal #67669

2025-2026 IL JCI Senate Administrative Vice President

2026-2027 IL JCI Senate President Elect

niedmoe22@gmail.com

217-274-9858

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

- 05/15-----Palatine ~ Blockbuster Brigade to see Devil Wears Prada 2
- 05/17-----Palatine ~ Productivity Posse and Softball
- 05/19-----Menard County ~ PB&J Drive at 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.
- 05/21 to 24
Bethalto Country Fair Days
- 05/24-----Bloomington Normal ~ Book Club
- 05/24-----Palatine ~ Productivity Posse
- 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-----Palatine ~ Humors of Whiskey tour
- 05/30-----Steeleville ~ Scavenger Hunt
- 05/31-----Palatine ~ Par from Perfect Golf Basics and Practine
- 05/31-----Palatine ~ Productivity Posse and Softball
- 06/05 & 06/06
Collinsville ~ Big 6 Wheel at Horseradish Fest
- 06/06-----Menard County ~ Movie Night
- 06/07-----Alhambra ~ Poker Run Stop
- 06/07-----Palatine ~ Softball / Pride Parade / Productivity Posse
- 06/10-----Palatine ~ CPR and AED training
- 06/11-----Champaign/Urbana ~ Coffee Social
- 06/12 to 14
Highland ~ Schweizer Fest
- 06/13-----Menard County ~ Music Trivia
- 06/13-----Palatine ~ Bowling / Farmers Market Booth
- 06/14-----Palatine ~ Productivity Posse and Softball
- 06/19 to 21
New Baden ~ June Jamboree

Upcoming JCI Illinois GA's

- 10/16 to 10/18/2026 ~ Fall GA & Annual Meeting ~ Springfield
[Click here for information about the Fall GA!](#)
- 01/22 to 01/24/2027 ~ Winter GA ~ Champaign-Urbana
- 01/28 to 01/30/2028 ~ Winter GA ~ Champaign-Urbana



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 aking 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 your own bracelet(s) with a variety of stones and styles available. Price will vary from \$10 - \$35 depending on item
- 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

Birdies for Charity

Happy Spring!!!! It is that time of year to start turning our attention to warmer weather activities. With this in mind, it is once again time to think about Birdies for Charity. This will again be held in conjunction with the John Deere Classic Tournament from July 1st to 5th, 2026. A pledge form is attached to this article.

Once again this year in the program is that penny pledged per birdie will no longer be accepted and donors can only choose to make a flat donation that will be payable at the time the pledge is made. There are a couple ways to make a pledge this year. You can print out the pledge card, fill it out and attach a check made payable to "Birdies for Charity" and mail to Wayne Huelsmann #30592, 411 Thouvenot Lane, New Baden, Il. 62265. The other way would be to fill out the pledge form, scan it and email back to me at wayne.huelsmann@charter.net and make your payment by



venmo

Scan to open Venmo and pay

to @IllinoisJCISenate or paypal to

iljcisenatetreasurer@gmail.com



Send money with Zelle®

Scan in your banking app to pay.

ILLINOIS JCI SENATE

iljcisenatetreasurer@gmail.com



Zelle

or Zelle to

iljcisenatetreasurer@gmail.com

. Please include the

word Birdies on the description line.

I need to have the pledge cards sent in by July 1, 2026 in order to get the guesses entered into the contest. Please have all pledge cards to me by June 25th. Your donation is 100% tax deductible. If anyone has any questions, you can reach me at 618-540-9166.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Wayne Huelsmann #30592

On-To

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

2026 events

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

[Click here for Registration Form.](#)

July 10-12

Year End Celebration, Michigan

Fri., July 10 - Detroit Lions Game at Comerica Park \$39 tickets - June
9th cutoff to order
Email President-Elect Chris Crawford
at crawfordchristopher06@gmail.com

Sat., July 11 - HUB Stadium for Axe Throwing & Fowling (Michigan
sport of bowling with a football).

July 10-12
Iowa Summer Picnic, Sioux City, IA
[Click here for Registration Form.](#)

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



Rhonda A. Brandes #46049 passed away March 19, 2026 at the age of 72. Notes of sympathy may be sent to her husband Jim at 26 River Bluff Rd, Elgin, IL 60120.

[Click here for her obituary.](#)



David Brown #36443 passed away March 20, 2026 at the age of 75. Notes of sympathy may be sent to his wife Marlene at 2814 Township Rd 2812, Loudonville, OH 44842.

[Click here for his obituary.](#)



Jesse Goswick #47541 passed away March 12, 2024 at the age of 73. Notes of sympathy may be sent to his wife Debbie at 2024 29th St, Rock Island, IL 61201.

[Click here for his obituary.](#)

Prayer Request

Chris Curtis #35440 is having a heart catheterization on Wednesday May 20th. Prayers and good thoughts are welcome.

Lynne McGill #70364 is having intestinal surgery May 27th. Prayers are welcomed.

Directory Update:

New Senator

None

New Lifetime Member

None

Address Change

Robert Braasch #20661, 3405 South Browns Lake Drive,
Burlington, WI 53105

Jason Detmer #77863, 16432 Highline Road,
Carlyle, IL 62231

Tina McDonald #69405, 226 West South Street,
Woodstock, IL 60098

Email Change

Dave Agee #49924 ~ dave.agee@att.net

Barbara Bellm #57335 ~ jbellm91@gmail.com

John Bohm #44439 ~ jh_bohm@yahoo.com

Rob Bowmn #55915 ~ hizzoner0105@gmail.com

Joey Bridges #72607 ~ jbridges@madisontelco.com

John Coonen #64413 ~ jc@uscommunity.net

Adam Garrison #75987 ~ agarrison25@gmail.com

Sandi Harpstrite #65882 ~ sharpstrite19@gmail.com

Steve Harre #46322 ~ harredairygrain@gmail.com

Norman Jones #30588 ~ aklimey71@yahoo.com

Alan Kirk #65862 ~ alankirk@me.com

Ken Koehler #29173 ~ chairman29173@gmail.com

Tom Pollmann #39694 ~ tompollmannTP@gmail.com

Carl Rehmer #28476 ~ remerca@gmail.com

Julie Rhodes #71396 ~ julie.rhodes23@icloud.com

Matt Riechmann #68976 ~ redriechmann@hotmail.com
Sara Schwantz #65361 ~ sistersara44@yahoo.com
Bill Ware #61019 ~ bware529@gmail.com
Jim Wilson #41236 ~ denise.wilson42560@gmail.com

Phone Change

Barbara Bellm #57335 ~ 618-960-9853
Dave Chapman #45773 ~ 731-333-9525
Norman Jones #30588 ~ 541-264-8105
Rich Ludwig #45159 ~ 847-207-5065
Matt Riechmann #68976 ~ 618-314-6876

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.



Our mailing address is:

Illinois JCI Senate
PO Box 2222
Springfield, IL 62705

[Add us to your address book](#)

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You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

