

Illinois JCI Senate E-Blast & Family Update -- July 1, 2026

From: Illinois JCI Senate (iljcisenate@28813247.mailchimpapp.com)

To: rayainslie@frontiernet.net

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Illinois JCI Senate

E-Blast Family Update

July 1, 2026

IL JCI President Megan O'Brien and **COB Lanna Bartko #83072** invited me to join the IL Jaycees as they tour the state during the July holiday events this upcoming weekend. We'll be picking up **US JCI National President Josh Hovel** from the airport and meeting up with other IL JCI staff. If you are near any of these events, please stop by and meet the local Jaycee leaders. This would be a great time to show our support. I'm including a list of the events that I'll be at in case you want to lend a hand. On Sunday afternoon, I'll be with the group taking President Josh Hovel back to the airport. Some of President Megan's team will join Valmeyer Jaycees at

their Parade later on Sunday.

Thursday, July 2

Sterling Rock Falls - Fireworks

Friday, July 3

Hoopeston - Red, White, & Boom - Morning Events

Peoria - Firecracker 500 - Packet Pick-up & Fireworks

Saturday, July 4

Palatine - Hometown Fest Parade

Chatham - Freedom Fest

Alhambra - Fireworks

Sunday, July 5

Springfield - Breakfast & Pollinator Garden

Please join us along the way if you're able. I hope that we, as a Senate group, can show up for the Jaycees. If you attend a project, please introduce yourself to the group as a local Senator. **Get your picture taken with the Jaycees!** In some cases, they might invite you to join them in working on the project. You can also reach out ahead of time and offer to work at the project. Anyone attending a Jaycee project and getting their picture taken with the Jaycees will receive a **quacking-good prize** in the near future! Please send the picture (proof) to me. I'm really honored that the Jaycees asked me to join in on their fun! Maybe **you** can say a special prayer that I can keep up with the IL Jaycees and we all stay safe as we travel our state.

Maureen K. Niedenthal #67669

2026-2027 IL JCI Senate President

niedmoe22@gmail.com

217-274-9858



Illinois JCI

Holiday Tour

Let's support the
Jaycees!

Join us at a project near you!

Thurs., July 2

STERLING
ROCK FALLS

Fireworks 7:30 - 10
400 West First Street
Sterling Rock Falls, IL

Fri., July 3

HOOPESTON

Red, White, BOOM
McFerren Park
10 am - noon

PEORIA

Firecracker 500
Packet pick-up 3:30 - 5:30
Fireworks 7:30 - 10

Sat., July 4

PALATINE

Palatine Parade 10 - 2

CHATHAM

Freedom Fest 5 - 6

ALHAMBRA

Fireworks 7-10

Sun., July 5

SPRINGFIELD

Breakfast &
Pollinator Garden 9 - noon
Parade 1-2

VALMEYER

Mon., July 6

HOME

Laundry, Sleep,
Download Pictures
Get ready for Michigan Summer Meeting



I want to thank this wonderful organization for the love and support you showed Chris and me during his open-heart bypass (3) procedure. Everything went well, and he is now home recovering. So far, so good with me as his nurse, lol. He still has pain between his shoulder blades, but otherwise, it is remarkable how well he is doing. He gets stronger every day, and the cards, calls, texts, and prayers were exactly what we needed. Thank You.

I can't wait to celebrate with you our year end at Carlyle Lake. Vanessa and her team have planned a wonderful time, and I hope you can join us. Let's Flamingle at the Lake.

Have a safe and happy 4th of July, Happy Birthday America.

Let's Flamingle. Be Social, Have Fun
Susie Colbert-Curtis #73137
2026-2027 Chairman of the Board Illinois JCI Senate



Upcoming JCI Illinois meetings/projects

07/01 to 05

Palatine Jaycees ~ Hometown Festival 2026

07/02 Addieville Jaycees ~ General Membership Meeting (1st Thursday each month)

07/02 Sterling Rock Falls Jaycees ~ Fireworks Show

07/02 to 05

Valmeyer Jaycees ~ Mid Summer Celebration

07/03 Hoopeston Jaycees ~ Red, White and Boom

07/04 Alhambra Jaycees ~ Fireworks

07/04 Chatham Jaycees ~ Firework Fest

07/04 Peoria Jaycees ~ Firecracker 5K

07/04 Steeleville Jaycees ~ Poker Stand

07/05 Palatine Jaycees ~ Productivity Posse
07/05 Springfield Jaycees 4th of July Weekend Breakfast and Pollinator Garden
07/08 Addieville Jaycees ~ Beer Stand at Washington County Fair
07/08 Highland Jaycees ~ General Membership Meeting (2nd Wednesday each month)
07/09 Collinsville Jaycees ~ General Membership Meeting (2nd Thursday each month)
07/11 Bloomington Normal Jaycees ~ Volunteer Day
07/11 Champaign Urbana Jaycees ~ Coffee Meetup
07/12 Palatine Jaycees ~ Productivity Posse
07/12 Palatine Jaycees ~ Softball
07/17 to 18
Chatham Jaycees ~ Sweet Corn Festival
07/18 Chatham Jaycees ~ Sweet Corn Shuck n Run 5K
07/19 Palatine Jaycees ~ Productivity Posse
07/19 Palatine Jaycees ~ Softball
07/21 to 23
Highland Jaycees ~ Cow Patty Bingo
07/26 Palatine Jaycees ~ Productivity Posse
07/26 Palatine Jaycees ~ Softball
08/15 New Baden Jaycees ~ Side by Side Poker Run
08/23 to 25
Highland Jaycees ~ Cooking at Kirkenfest
08/27 Menard County ~ Quarterly Quarter Auction
08/28 Collinsville Jaycees ~ Theater Night
08/29 Steeleville Jaycees ~ BBQ Fundraiser
09/03 to 07
Hoopeston Jaycees ~ 82nd Annual Sweet Corn Festival
09/04 to 07
Naperville Jaycees ~ Last Fling
09/09 to 13
JCI USA Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach, Virginia

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 Flamingo at the Lake!

Vanessa Birchler #74430

2026 Illinois Senate Picnic Golf

Golf on Friday afternoon will be played at Governor's Run Golf Course in Carlyle approximately 1 mile from the hotel we are staying at. We have tee times starting at 1:00 p.m.

Golf on Saturday morning will be a little bit different this year. We will be playing at Keyesport Golf Course starting at 8:00 a.m. We will only be playing 9 holes on Saturday morning, and we will be meeting up with the Bar Burger Crew at Bretz Winery.

The cost for golf on Friday is \$34.00 with a cart for seniors. The cost on Saturday is \$22.00 with a cart for seniors. Fees will be paid at the golf course.

To ensure that we have enough tee times scheduled, I will need to know if you are interested in playing golf on Friday or Saturday or both. You can send me an e-mail at wayne.huelsmann@charter.net or a text or phone call to 618-540-9166. I will need to know by July 15th.

Thank you in advance.
Wayne Huelsmann #30592

MO/IL Wine Tour October 23-24, 2026

This year, Jason Morff #73983 and Julie Morff #71917 of the Missouri JCI Senate will be organizing the wine tour. They are looking

at having it in Columbia, MO, and Osage Beach, MO. The group will rent a bus so none of us has to drive. Right now, we need commitments from people so we can secure the bus. The cost is \$100/person and will be prepaid so we can secure the transportation. Please let Maureen Niedenthal know if you want to attend.

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

2026 events

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.](#)

August 14-16
Indiana Summer Meeting, Clarksville, IN
[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.](#)

10/16 to 10/18/2026 ~ Fall GA & Annual Meeting ~ Springfield
[Click here for information about the Fall GA!](#)

2025-2026 Chaplain Bev Olson #42473

Extended Family Update

None

Family Update

We recently learned of the passing of these Senators:

Kenneth Bunce #40190

March 28, 2024

[Click here for his obituary.](#)

Walter Myalls #14603

September 24, 2024

[Click here for his obituary.](#)

Tony Altieri #17883

June 28, 2025

[Click here for his obituary.](#)

Prayer Request

Chris Curtis #35440 is at home recovering from open heart surgery,
and is doing well! Get well cards can be sent to Chris at
1 Pinehurst Court, Columbia, IL 62236.

Directory Update:

New Senator

None

New Lifetime Member

None

Address Change

Email Change

Phone Change



Treasurer Notes
MaryAnn Hilleary #64615

The Illinois JCI Senate will accept cash and good checks, but will also accept payments through Zelle, Venmo and PayPal.

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The code for PayPal

The following is the fee table, which will be charged to process payments through these codes \$10.00 to \$20.00 = \$1.00; \$20.01 to \$35.00 = \$2.00; \$35.01 to \$95.00 = \$3.00; \$95.01 to \$200.00 = \$5.00. Make sure you write in the memo line what you are paying for and email me at maryannh63@yahoo.com that you sent a payment, so I know to be looking for it. The above fee will be charged for payments for Hospitality, Membership, purchasing chances in Lotto/Illinois Basketball Squares/March Madness, and purchasing Gift Cards. If you are making a donation for Birdies for Charity or to the Illinois JCI Senate, there will be no fee charged to you, but you may increase your donation amount to help cover the fees the Illinois JCI Senate will be charged.

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.

E-Blast Reminder

Deadline is Noon on the last day of the
month & 14th.

Please send the information in Word.



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