



Illinois JCI Senate

E-Blast

July 15, 2026

Hello, fellow Senators & Friendship Recipients!

My name is Maureen K. Niedenthal #67669, and I am excited to be writing my 1st E-blast article as your 60th IL JCI Senate President! My husband, **Mark Niedenthal #39701**, and I met when I joined the Jaycees 26 years ago. On July 13, we will be celebrating our 13th wedding anniversary. Mark is a retired engineer, and I am a retired elementary school teacher. We spend much of our time traveling, and a majority of our trips are Senate functions!

I hit the ground running this month with the IL Jaycees! **IL JCI President Megan O'Brien** and **COB Lanna Bartko #83072** invited me to do the 4th of July Jaycee Tour with their team as well as **National JCI President Josh Hoveln** from Delaware! From July 2-5, I traveled just over 1,500 miles in the car, visited 7 different Jaycee chapters, met at least **39 Jaycees**, and saw **30 IL JCI Senators** who attended the projects to support their local Jaycees! I had an incredible time and feel fortunate that the Jaycees would want to hang out with someone nearly twice their age.

My biggest plans this summer are for the **IL JCI Senate Summer Picnic in Carlyle, IL, July 23-26**. Picnic chair **Vanessa Birchler #74431** and her committee have so many fun things planned! I'm just sure that we'll be **FLAMINGLING** and having fun!! **National JCI Senate President Gary Duell #48384** and **First Lady Diane Duell #74147** will be attending from Pennsylvania. Our **Region V NVP, Lori Tomlin #62797**, from Indiana, will also be with us. IF you haven't made plans to be there, please do so ASAP! I really would love it if you could attend.

I'm gearing up for the **Region V Summer/Fall Tour! July 10-12**, we will be in **Troy, MI**, to attend the **Michigan JCI Senate Year End Celebration** with outgoing President **Dan Moellering #77898** and incoming President **Chris Crawford #81702**.

July 17-19, we will be in **Kent, OH**, to attend the **Ohio JCI Senate Pig Roast** and visit with **Ohio Senate President Mitch Schoonover #59758**. **Aug. 14-16**, we have a short drive to **Clarksville, IN**, for the **Indiana Senate Summer Meeting**. Looking forward to spending time with **President John Pflug #83097** and the other Indiana Senators! **October 2-4**, we'll be heading down to **Bardstown, Kentucky** to enjoy their **Fall Frenzy**. **President Daryle Karnes #60611** and the **Kentucky Senate** have a fun weekend planned!

I am really lucky to be making these plans! This year, my theme is helping me embrace how lucky we are. We are the **Illinois Lucky Ducks: Supporting the Jaycees & Enjoying Senate Life**. I hope you'll join us at a meeting, during a Jaycee project, or at an upcoming social. Our ON-TO chair, **Susie Colbert-Curtis #73137**, is already doing a great job assembling a list of places to go with the Senate! You really should join us because we're going to have so much fun!!!!

Maureen K. Niedenthal #67669
2026-2027 IL JCI Senate President
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217-274-9858



Illinois JCI Senate
Maureen K. Niedenthal #67669
60th Illinois JCI President
Illinois Lucky Ducks
2026 - 2027





Upcoming JCI Illinois meetings/projects

07/17 to 18
Chatham Jaycees ~ Sweet Corn Festival

07/18 Chatham Jaycees ~ Sweet Corn Shuck n Run 5K

07/18 Illinois JCI Planning Board in Springfield

07/18 JCI C-U ~ Let's Get Social

07/18 Palatine Jaycees ~ Game Night

07/19 Palatine Jaycees ~ Productivity Posse

07/19 Palatine Jaycees ~ Softball

07/20 Palatine Jaycees ~ Book Club

07/21 to 23
Highland Jaycees ~ Cow Patty Bingo

07/25 Bloomington-Normal Jaycees at Pridefest

07/26 Palatine Jaycees ~ Productivity Posse

07/26 Palatine Jaycees ~ Softball

08/12 Palatine Jaycees ~ Community CPR Training

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

08/29 Central Region Regional

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

09/18 to 19
Collinsville Jaycees at Italian Fest

09/19 Chatham Jaycees ~ Oktoberfest

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





Flamingle at the Lake

Schedule of Events

Thursday

6:00 - 11:00 p.m. - Hospitality at Cabins

Friday

11:30 a.m. - Bus Departs for Blue Room

1:00 p.m. - Golf at Governor's Run

7:00 p.m. - Hospitality opens & dinner served

Fried Chicken and sides. Snacks and drinks provided all evening

7:00 p.m. - Evening Boat Ride departs

7:30 p.m. - Audit Committee Meeting

8:00 p.m. - Joint Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday

8:00 a.m. - Golf at Keyesport

9:00 a.m. - Dam Tour

9:00 a.m. - Bracelet Making with Sue

11:30 a.m. - Bar Burgers at Bretz Winery

1:30 p.m. - Memorial Service

Following Memorial Service - Meeting

5:00 p.m. - Hospitality Opens

6:00 p.m. - Dinner

7:00 p.m. - Evening boat ride departs

8:00 p.m. - Evening boat ride #2 departs

8:00 p.m. - A Night at the Flamingle Lounge!



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

It is hard to believe we are just weeks away from the Illinois JCI Senate Summer Picnic at Carlyle Lake! The committee is excited to be welcoming you back to beautiful Southern Illinois!

Please be sure you are following the event on Facebook as that is where any updates between now and the Picnic will be posted (Event Link: <https://www.facebook.com/share/18zQnVyJst/>)

The schedule for the weekend is above the article (subject to change).

GOLF

Friday at 1:00 p.m. at Governor's Run - just down road from hotel. There are currently 6 spots open.

Saturday at 8:00 a.m. at Keyesport - We will play 9 holes and currently 4 spots open. Will be done golfing before bar burgers. If you wish to attend bar burgers please be sure to let Chair Vanessa know.

Extras

If you plan to attend the dam tour, bracelet making, boat ride or the bus trip please complete this form so we can include you in the totals. (Form Link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfAugQd74i2u7cle5dE5cFbVSQJQ8brwXinOZLi1661aPlHvA/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=103416546433354873107>)

Bus Outing - if you haven't paid for bus with your registration please bring cash to pay - \$25/person

Dam Tour - There is a tour every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. so group going will join in with public.

Registration

Thank you to all who have registered so far! If your check has not cleared the bank please contact me ASAP as that means your registration is lost in the USPS abyss.

If you are planning to attend and have not sent in your form yet please email to me so I can include you in food counts.

Additionally, if you are planning to attend for only part of the weekend and not partaking in meals you will need to pay a reduced registration fee to cover your drinks. We have to purchase those per drink from the hotel and need to cover those expenses. If you plan to attend and partake in drinks/snacks the daily registration will be \$25.00 and payable when you arrive. Thank you understanding!

Contact

If you have any changes, questions or concerns please email me at ybirchler09@gmail.com or text me at 618-698-6907. I am a working gal so this the best way to contact me so I can get back to you as work allows or in the evening



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

The Illinois JCI Senate will be hosting a poker fundraiser on Friday, August 7, 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 Crowne Plaza Chicago SW - Burr Ridge by IHG at 300 S Frontage Road, Burr Ridge, IL 60527 (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/10C0449A4A622A6F94-64702354-poker>



GET YOUR LUCKY

IL SENATE LOTTO TICKETS!



DONATION OF
\$5.00 FOR ONE
 OR
\$50.00 FOR 10

TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING THE SUMMER TOUR FOR REGION 5.

venmo Venmo applies* @IllinoisJCISenate *Fees will apply for Venmo and PayPal	PayPal PayPal applies* ILJCISenateTreasurer@gmail.com *Fees will apply for Venmo and PayPal	zelle Send money with Zelle* NO FEES for sending by Zelle! ILLINOIS JCI SENATE iljcisenate treasurer@gmail.com zelle	MAIL A CHECK  Make checks payable to IL JCI Senate Lynne McGill 1209 W. 83rd Ct., Merrillville, IN 46410 708-691-0934 or lynnemcgill1@gmail.com
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Thank you for supporting the

ILLINOIS JCI SENATE!

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...

Let us get our ducks in a row and toddle ourselves to these meetings and social events.

2026 events

July 17-19

Ohio Pig Roast, Kent, OH

[Click here for Registration Form.](#)

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.](#)

October 16-18 ~ 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

None

Prayer Request

Deb Carls, wife of IL JCI Senator Jon Carls #39289, was recently diagnosed with lesions on her brain, and at least two confirmed by a neurologist as tumors. She has battled various cancers and related health issues for 45 years. Deb has decided not to pursue treatment and has chosen Carle Hospice for support and care. Deb is at home with her family. Jon shares that the Senators' prayers would be a blessing. Cards of comfort can be sent to

Deb Carls
1817 Whitetail
Pekin, IL 61554

Update on **Jane Wiley #49250**. She has four broken ribs, fluid in her lungs and shortness of breath. Get well cards can be sent to

Jane Wiley
18502 Fawn Run Lane
Houston, TX 77084.

Please keep Senator **Lynne McGill #70364** in your thoughts and prayers as she continues to recover from surgery.
Get well cards can be sent to

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Lynne McGill
1209 W. 83rd Court
Merrillville, IN 46410

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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ILLINOIS JCI SENATE

jcisenatetreasurer@gmail.com



zelle

The code for Zelle



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The code for Venmo



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.

Illinois JCI Senate webpage

E-Blast Reminder

Deadline is Noon on the last day of the
month & 14th.
Please send the information in Word.



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