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On the Cover
This month, we’re focusing on the importance of insects.
Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this article on March 17, we’re knee deep in the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. No doubt that when many of you read this sometime in the month of April, the news, the self-quarantining, and the self-isolation situation will have changed numerous times. Hopefully at that point, circumstances will have turned and the number of COVID-19 cases will be on the decline.

With that said, I do want to assure all members that your assets are safe with CSA Fraternal Life, whether it’s a life insurance policy or one of our annuities. Our fraternal offerings will remain and will continue to be excellent, albeit there may be some postponements of meetings and other fraternal items.

Beginning in mid-March and through at least mid-April, we have instituted a work-from-home program for our staff. Obviously, the timing of getting “back to normal” will be fluid, and if we need to extend that, we may. With today’s technology, we’ll be able to answer your calls, process any withdrawals and claims, accept and process new business, and do anything that we were able to do prior to the COVID-19 outbreak. No doubt, this will be more challenging to organize than it normally is when everybody is in one central location at our Home Office, but rest assured, we’re here for you.

Many times I’ve written about our wonderful history, now being more than 166 years old. Being founded prior to the Civil War, CSA Fraternal Life has seen many things come and go in America, from wars, to the Great Depression, to the recessions, to the stock market’s ebbs and flows, to interest rate swings. Well, here we go again, and we’re up for the task.

As always, if you have questions for me or for the staff, we’re here for you. Don’t hesitate to reach out. It’s always great to hear from you!

Be safe, stay healthy, and until next month...

Fraternally,

John J. Kielczewski, CLU, FLMI
President
CSA Fraternal Life

Do you know a CSA member who deserves recognition?

Are they active in the community?

Do they volunteer often or donate money to charitable organizations?

Send us their photo, a brief description of who they are and what they do, and we will publish them in the Journal.
Calendar of Events

Sunday, April 1–30, 2020
Junior Bowl-o-Rama Month
Various locations.
*Bowling alleys may be closed due to COVID-19.
Meet at your discretion.

Saturday, May 2, 2020
Join Hands Day
Various locations.
More details to come!

May 2 - May 3, 2020
72nd Annual National Bowling Congress Tournament
CANCELED

Friday, July 31 – Sunday, August 2, 2020
CSA 84th Annual Get-Together
Clearwater Beach, Florida
See pages 8-10.

*All Journal articles are due the 12th of the month prior to publication
(Ex: Articles for January would be due December 12.)
COVID-19 Cancelations and Updates

At the time of writing this article, we are in the midst of the COVID-19 outbreak. We’re working from home and staying away from public spaces. How have you been holding up? Personally, I don’t mind being at home a little more, but I have many loved ones who are getting a little stir-crazy. My best advice is to take this time to learn something new. What is something you’ve always wanted to teach yourself but never had the time—crocheting, painting, learning a new language, or maybe you’d like to rearrange the furniture and décor in your home? Now is your time!

The unfortunate part of “social distancing” is that now our bars, restaurants, theatres, and other sources of entertainment are closed. That means many events have been canceled. Unfortunately, this year we have made the hard decision to cancel the 73rd Annual Bowling Congress. Not only do we want to prevent the potential spread of disease to our members, but frankly, our bowling alley is closed! As for the Bowl-o-Rama, technically it is still on, but I know that many of our lodges nationwide will face the same fate—everything is closed. There will not be any penalties for canceling your Bowl-o-Rama dates.

We also made the decision to allow our lodges to skip one (1) meeting during the month of March, April, or May. This is not a mandatory initiative, and your allocation will not be affected. When it comes to the Lodge Recognition Program, for the Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum Star Awards, we expect lodges to conduct 6, 8, 9, or 10 meetings, respectively, within the year. If your lodge has already scheduled a meeting for March, April, or May but choose to cancel due to COVID-19, you do not have to make up this missed meeting to meet LRP requirements. This memo was sent to our Lodge Secretaries on March 16. Expect more updates in the future.

In this magazine issue, I wanted to focus on something a little different that we haven’t touched on before. So, we are talking all about insects and their importance to us. They may seem pesky, but insects are quite beneficial to our everyday lives. Turn the pages to learn more. Happy reading!

Bug Facts:
• Fruit flies were the first living creatures to be sent into space.
• Dragonflies have been on earth for 300 million years.
• Bees’ wings beat 190 times a second.
• Butterflies taste with their feet.
• Caterpillars have 12 eyes!
• A single honeybee colony can produce around 220 pounds of honey each year.
• An ant-eating assassin bug piles its victims onto its body to disguise itself from predators.
• Bulldog ants can leap seven times the length of their bodies.
• Mosquitos are attracted to our feet!
• Grasshoppers have special organs in their hind legs that store energy for jumping.
• A hornet’s favorite food is a bee.
• The red postman butterfly develops its own poison by eating toxic plants!
• A sea skater’s leg hair traps air, enabling it to float on water.
• Grasshoppers existed before dinosaurs.

“An insect is more complex than a star, and it is a far greater challenge to understand.”
—Martin Rees, cosmologist

Fraternally,
Amanda S. Lovell
Fraternal Director
alovell@csalife.com

Board Report
CSA Board Report - March 13, 2020

Due to concerns about the Coronavirus, the Board of Directors decided to meet via a conference call on Friday, March 13. As a result, no committee meetings were held.

Again, due to health concerns, it was decided to cancel the National Bowling Congress for this year. However, many youth who participate in the Bowl-o-Rama do so on an individual basis, so it was felt that the Bowl-o-Rama could continue.

It was also decided that we allow lodges to cancel one meeting this spring—March, April, or May—with no negative consequences to the Lodge Recognition Program (LRP). This should be noted on your LRP paperwork. Your Lodge Secretary received details on this in March.

Congratulations to all the lodges that participated in the 2019 Lodge Recognition Program. One Bronze, three Silver, five Gold, and twenty-one Platinum Star Awards were presented. It was exciting to see a new lodge participate in the program and receive the Gold Star Award. Congratulations to them on their first Lodge Recognition Award, as well as to all those who worked to make this a success.

A big thank you goes out to Brother Matt Koski and the Risk and Governance Committee for their work on updating our Disaster Recovery Plan. Not only is CSA Fraternal Life prepared for any disaster, but we are also prepared to run the office with a limited staff in the now-declared Pandemic Declaration. Many of the staff were supplied with laptop computers and phones so that they can work remotely. Testing of the system took place over the weekend of March 14. The officers and certain staff members will be in the office on a limited basis to receive the mail and handle all pressing items. Service to our members is still our highest priority.

Our investment advisor, Parkway Advisors, in conjunction with our officers, have all been doing a great job managing our portfolio. Even with the volatility in the markets and the bond yields being low, they were able to increase our net income by almost $95,000 while keeping our assets in secure investments.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 15–16. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact your Director.

Fraternally,
Irina Drahota Farrell
Chair

Message from the Secretary

Have you ever disturbed an Anthill?

Have you ever disturbed an anthill? It's amazing how they scurry around, working to restore the damage and return the colony to a state of normalcy. Though if you look closer, you will see a highly organized group where each individual knows their role in the chain. Some will advance out from the colony to defend it. Others will attend to larvae, and depending on the threat, begin to move them to a new nesting site. Each member of the colony has a preprogrammed goal, communicating not through the spoken word, but instead utilizing chemistry.

CSA is very similar to that ant colony. The Board and its committees work to represent the membership. The Officers and Home Office employees work together to ensure that your needs are taken care of and that the society remains vital and successful. The Lodges work to help each other and their communities through volunteer work.

As I write this month on a rainy afternoon in March, CSA finds itself in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, I am pleased to report that CSA is open for business as usual. Although the majority of our employees are working from home, our phones are open for member needs, and checks are still flowing both in and out. A few of us remain in the office each day to support those working from home, and our Disaster Recovery and Pandemic Flu Plan is functioning well thus far. As I imagine you might be asking yourself, “the what plan”? Yes, CSA—along with most companies in the insurance space—maintains plans for events like this.

I often think about how long CSA has been a fraternal benefit society. We were established in 1854. Consider all of the world events that our society has weathered: the Civil War, numerous wars, the Great Depression, the Spanish Flu, and more! Like that disturbed anthill, we will weather through this hectic time in our history. Rest assured, the Board of Directors and the Home Office are here for you. If you have any concerns about your coverage, please feel to contact us.

Fraternally,
Matthew Koski
Executive Secretary/COO/CRO
Miss CSA

Happy Spring!

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather and April showers. I know I am! April is a beautiful month, with everything coming alive again.

This past month has been interesting, to say the least. Over spring break, I was shocked with the news that my university was moving to online classes for the remainder of the semester due to COVID-19. What a remarkable way to end my senior year. I can’t lie, I am devastated that I won’t be back in class with everyone ever again. I wanted so badly to finish out senior year the “right way.” Although this is not how I envisioned finishing nursing school, I believe this experience will propel me forward to finally becoming a nurse. In realizing that I have no control over this situation, I am able to see so clearly why I want to become a nurse. My drive to help those who need helping has never been stronger!

As of right now, Carlow University is still on track to have our nursing pinning ceremony and graduation remains scheduled. I am still able to complete my transitions and community clinical hours, but there are some restrictions I must follow. Overall, it’s about staying safe and remaining healthy during this outbreak.

Life has kind of been at a standstill, too. All sports seasons have been canceled or postponed, and I have nothing to watch on TV! All traveling has been postponed or canceled, as well. I was sad to find out that the Czech Festival in St. Louis, Missouri was canceled, but thank you to Lodge Washington No. 30 for thinking of me and inviting me! We would have had the best time together!

Happy Easter to you and your family! May you find the renewal of hope, health, and love during this Easter holiday!

Fraternally,

Sis. Hunter Rae Yurkovich
Lodge Groveton No. 4
84th CSA Get-Together
“Seeing Clearly in 2020!”
Clearwater Beach, FL
Registration Form

Please fill out and postmark by June 30, 2020 to:

CSA Lodge Slunce #374
Lake in the Forest
19175 SE 44th St.
Ocklawaha, FL 32179

Call or Text: 352-812-3532 (Bernie Bleiker)
Facebook: 2020 CSA Fraternal Life Get Together Clearwater Beach
Email: 2020CSAClearwaterBeach@gmail.com
Make all checks payable to: CSA Lodge Slunce #374

PLEASE PRINT BELOW (Duplicate as necessary)

NAME: ___________________________ LODGE (if applicable): ___________________________

ADDRESS: ___________________________

CITY, STATE, ZIP: ________________

PHONE: ___________________________ EMAIL: ___________________________

Is this your first CSA Get-Together? Yes or No

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY, THEN ADD YOUR TOTAL:

Registration (includes Friday and Saturday Dinners and Sunday Brunch)
Adult Delegate: __________ $125 Adult Guest: __________ $125
Youth Delegate or Guest (under 18): __________ ($100) Youth’s Age __________
If youth, would like an adult meal: __________ + $25

Please list any food allergies: __________________________

Trip to Clearwater Marine Aquarium (Entrance fee & Jolley Trolley Transportation) Friday, July 31:
Adult Trip (ages 12+) __________ $33.00 Senior (+60) __________ $31.00
Youth Trip (ages 3-12) __________ $28.00
Special Needs: (no stairs, wheelchair accessible, hearing or vision impaired) ________________

Will you be attending the Saturday morning service project? (More details to come)

Yes ______ No ______ Special needs: __________________________

Are you attending a banquet dinner only?

   Friday Night ______ $50.00
   Saturday Night ______ $50.00
   Sunday Brunch ______ $35.00

TOTAL: $ ______________
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings from sunny Florida! We hope that everyone has a copy of the 2020 CSA Get-Together registration packet. If you do not have one, please go to the CSA website at csalife.com. You will find a button on the right side of your screen, which will download the packet onto your computer or phone. You may also give us a call at 352-812-3532 and we will send you the information directly.

We are excited to hear that many members have begun to plan their trip already. The Holiday Inn & Suites at Clearwater Beach will honor our discounted rate of $149 for 3 days prior and 3 days after our Get-Together. They are also offering discounted rates for 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom suites. You can secure your hotel room(s) by contacting the Holiday Inn & Suites at 1-800-770-6461.

On the next page is a snapshot of the Get-Together weekend schedule. Below are some of our top picks of places to go and things to see so you can start to plan your trip to Clearwater Beach. We recommend you check out the St. Pete Clearwater visitor information website at visitstpeteclearwater.com. It is full of information!

Our top picks:
• Take a sightseeing, dinner, or dolphin exploration cruise.
• Check out Captain Memo’s Pirate Cruise, where you’ll ride on a pirate ship!
• Travel the “Gulp Coast” and visit some (or all) of the 35+ craft breweries in the area.
• Go deep-sea fishing.
• Visit the Dali Museum, with the largest collection of his work outside of Spain.
• Enjoy a day at the beach. Rent a cabana and remember: “leave only your footprints in the sand!”
• Visit Honeymoon Island State Park or Caladesi Island State Park with miles of uncrowded beaches.
• Rent a kayak and explore the Tampa Bay waters.
• Have dinner on the beach at one of Clearwater Beach’s best restaurants.

Warmest wishes,
2020 Get-Together Committee
Tentative Itinerary

**Thursday, July 30, 2020**
4pm  Hotel Check-In & Get-Together Registration  
Dinner  On your own. Enjoy what Clearwater Beach has to offer! Check out the 2020 Official Visitor’s Guide to Clearwater Beach enclosed in your registration packet for list of restaurants, breweries, and attractions.

**Friday, July 31, 2020**
Breakfast  On your own. List of coffee shops and restaurants in registration packet.  
9am-12pm  Group Trip to Clearwater Marine Aquarium  
12-4pm  Hospitality Suite, Snacks, and Cash Bar in Longboat Key Room  
5:30-6pm  Cash Bar in Duval Ballroom overlooking the Gulf (follow the signs)  
6:15pm  Sand Key Beach BBQ Buffet Dinner in Duval Ballroom  
Opening Remarks & Weekend Information  
Miss CSA Contest  
Dancing

**Saturday, August 1, 2020**
Breakfast  On your own. List of coffee shops and restaurants in registration packet.  
9:30am  Announcements, Roll Call, & Service Project with Clearwater Marine Aquarium  
“Sweet Dreams with Winter” in Duval Ballroom  
TBD  Lunch on your own and enjoy the afternoon.  
5-6pm  Cash Bar  
6:15pm  Plated Dinner (Prime Rib or Crab Crusted Salmon)  
Announcements & Crowning of Miss CSA  
Pictures & Dancing

**Sunday, August 2, 2020**
10am-12pm  Gulf Side Brunch & Program
With more than 1 million species, insects are the most diverse group of organisms on earth. This domination of the insect is not only in the case of numbers, but also, they include some of the most beautiful groups of creatures on the planet. These include butterflies, dragonflies, bees, beetles, and moths.

**The atlas moth** is the largest species of moth in the world. Fully grown, it has a wingspan up to 12 inches. This large moth is also one of the most beautiful moths in the world. They have a very attractive rusty-brown front-side and hind wings with purple, red, yellow and black outlines. Interestingly, the curved wingtips of the atlas moth have impressive markings and patterns that resemble a snakehead. They use it to defend the potential predators. Despite the largest species of moth in the world, this one doesn’t eat after hatching because they don’t have a mouth! So, how do they feed? Well, they live off of the energy reserves that they obtained as a caterpillar. This means that they do not live that long, generally only 5 to 7 days.

**Glasswinged butterflies** are named after their transparent wings. It’s a rare and beautiful feature among the family of butterflies. Rather than reflecting light, the wings of these butterflies allow for the light to pass through. This exotic butterfly lives in gardens and the warm, humid forests of Central America. The wingspan of glasswinged butterflies can reach 5.5 to 6 cm. The transparent wings make these butterflies very difficult to spot, and that’s exactly how they hide from predators. The borders of their wings have a dark brown color.

**The praying mantis** is named as such due to its long front legs that are usually held together in prayer position. There are about 1,800 known species of praying mantises in the world. This insect has a long neck and a triangular shaped head with large eyes. The flexible joints in the head also let praying mantises turn their heads 180 degrees. The green coloration helps them to blend in with the surroundings easily. It’s the mechanism they use against potential predators.

**The filbert weevil** is an attractive, but harmful, insect that is native to the western part of North America. It’s considered a pest, as it can cause serious damage to oak trees. Both larvae and the filbert weevil feed on the acorn of oak trees. These small insects have an attractive long snout, but it is tough to spot them. Because they are speckled brown, they remain hidden on oak trees.

**Ladybugs** are famed for their oval-shaped bodies with distinctive spots. They also are known as “lady beetles” and “ladybird beetles”. There are 5,000 different types of ladybugs in the world. Even though ladybugs come in various colors and patterns, an orange or red body with black spots is the most common. Their bright color is a warning to their predators. If threatened, these insects secrete a fluid from the joints in their legs which make them taste and smell unappealing. The ladybug is a farmer-friendly insect, because it mainly feeds on plant-eating insects.

**The Christmas beetle** is a brilliantly-colored beetle that is native to Australia. These beetles are named so because they are abundant in urban areas close to Christmastime. There are around 35 species of Christmas beetles in Australia. It’s a large insect with a maximum length of 20 mm. Just like the name, these beetles are famous for their bright colors. Most species can be found in green, golden, and brown colors.

Native to Southeast Asia forests, the **emerald swallowtail** is one of the most beautiful and colorful butterflies in the world. They also are known as an “emerald peacock” or “green banded peacock”. As the name suggests, the wings of these butterflies have stunning shades of emerald, dark green, turquoise, and black. The underside of

*Continued on page 12.*
emerald swallowtails is orange with blue-black spots. Their wings can reach up to 3.9 inches.

**Orchid bees** are one of the most colorful insects. There are 200 different species of these bees. They live in tropical and subtropical regions of South and Central America. This beautiful insect group can be seen in different shades including metallic blue, green, purple, gold, and bronze. There is a strong reason behind why orchid bees are named as such. They play a significant role in pollinating more than 700 species of orchids in the tropical region. Despite the small size, orchid bees are active fliers and go for long distances (up to 30 miles) in search of food. Aside from their brilliant colors, a long tongue is another highlighting feature of orchid bees. Their tongue can measure up to 1.6 inches in length, and it aids them in drinking nectar from deep flowers.

The beautiful **cecropia moth caterpillar** has a quirky, but cute, design. Upon hatching from its cocoon, it has a wingspan up to 6 inches, making it the largest moth of North America. Even though it is pretty in moth-form, it is not as impressive as the caterpillar. These larvae are mostly found on maple trees. Upon hatching, cecropia moth caterpillars have a black color. During the growth stage, you can see small projections on their body with tiny black, spiky hairs. These small projections have attractive colors including green, blue, yellow, and orange. A fully grown cecropia moth caterpillar can reach up to 4.5 inches in size.


Butterflies and bees, ants and beetles, cockroaches and flies—whether loved or feared, insects help us a great deal. Unfortunately, many insects around the world are in decline.

More than two dozen scientists from countries around the world are warning of a wave of insect extinctions and are urging swift steps to curb the crisis. Solutions are in sight! Scientists say that to save insects, we must give them the space they need to survive while faced with the threat of climate change. Livable, interconnected habitats that are flush with rich diversity of plant and animal life are in need.

Ensuring that insects have room to thrive means setting aside local habitats, which include parks, gardens, roadsides, and the edges of farm fields. It also entails protecting continent-scale migratory passages, like the corridor that monarch butterflies pass through from Minnesota to Mexico—a “butterfly highway”, if you will.

Not just any area will do, the researchers caution. Insects need quality space, too. The closer an area is to the condition it was during the pre-human age, the better. Spaces that are free from pollution and invasive species, with diverse plant life and a varied landscape, will best help insects. There needs to be enough room for the critters to find food, seek mates, and rest. "Part of being able to move around is to be able to 'dodge' natural enemies, from bats and birds, to other insects like predatory ladybugs and parasitic wasps," insect conservationist Michael Samways explained.

Our changing climate pushes many insects to evolve, move, or die—a dynamic that often puts them up against the extensive transformation that humans have produced on Earth’s surface. Habitat destruction worsens the threat by limiting insects’ ability to traverse the landscapes that separate them from more suitable surroundings. Scientists know what insects need to prevent extinction, but getting the public on board is a challenge.

To build that will and interest, scientists call for greater efforts to communicate the value of insects to society. For example, ecologist DeAnna Beasley has used cicadas—an insect that needs large, adjacent spaces to sustain big populations—in citizen science research. By doing so, they receive more data for science purposes while building more appreciation for insects among the public. In one project, students at Austrian schools successfully assessed the quality of space for butterflies, laying the groundwork for follow-up by trained scientists.

With many insects unnoticed or misunderstood, researchers also recommend the continued use of “insect icons” and “flagship species” to promote support for conservation. Highlighting the species that people know best is vital to getting the public engaged in conservation efforts. Though, well-known and “charismatic” insects are just a starting point. At the end of the day, people need to understand the consequences of not taking action, and scientists everywhere are working hard to give the public solutions to enact.

The Benefits of Insects to Humans

Pollination
The value of pollination of plants by insects is nearly incalculable. Honeybees are clearly among the most important of pollinators, and their efforts result in an estimated 80% of all pollination in the United States. Pollination by honeybees in the U.S. favorably affects some $20 billion dollars in crops per year, including fruits, vegetables, and nuts.

Food
Honey is certainly high on the list of products made by insects that may be consumed by humans. Some insects are eaten as novelties in the United States, but some other societies use beetle grubs and other insects commonly as food.

Silk
The recognition of silk as a valuable product dates back to China, arguably in the year 2640 B.C. Presently, China annually produces some 30,000 tons of raw silk, which accounts for 80% of the world’s supply. Most silk is produced from the cocoons of the silkworm, Bombyx mori.

Natural and Biological Control
The balance of nature depends on the activities of parasites and predators, the majority of which are species of insects. Researchers use this concept in biological control, and have been dramatically successful in many programs.

Aesthetics
Insects are well known in various areas of arts and can be pleasant to the senses. Butterflies are certainly one of the most appealing creatures in nature, with their vibrant colors and patterns. Insects have been used by many societies throughout history, but are not just limited to colorful or large butterflies and beetles. Native Americans in the United States used parts of insects in a manner similar to feathers in their crafts. Brightly-colored wing covers of certain beetles are used for earrings by Jivaro Indians of Ecuador. The Egyptians chose a scarab beetle as a symbol of their sun god. Bees were depicted on ancient Greek coins. Most branches of art have exhibited insects in some form, including a great selection of worldwide postage stamps.

Products
• Lac is a product from Lac Scale insects, Laccifer lacca, and most of it is produced in India, from where the world receives some 40 million pounds annually. Lac is an important ingredient of many items, including floor polishes, shoe polishes, insulators, various sealants, printing inks, and varnish.
• Britain alone imports 1 million pounds of beeswax, which can be used as a base for ointments, polishes, and candle making. Forty percent of all beeswax is used in cosmetic manufacturing for lotions, creams, and lipsticks.
• Many species of scale insects provide dyes that are used in many products, including cosmetics and for coloring cakes, medicines, and beverages. Cochineal is a bright red pigment that is gained from the bodies of a scale insect, Coccus cacti, which lives on cactus plants. Certain synthetic colors were competitors during the first decade of the 20th century, but then they were found to be carcinogenic. Thus, the natural dyes from insects again flourished.
Tannin is a dye that is gained from insect galls and is used in the tanning of hides and in the production of permanent durable inks. There are other galls that produce dyes.

**Genetics**
The fruit fly, *Drosophila melanogaster*, has been extensively studied for over a century as a model organism for genetic investigations. It also has many characteristics which make it an ideal organism for the study of animal development and behavior, neurobiology, and human genetic diseases and conditions. What makes it such a good model? Well, they’re more like us than you think! To benefit medical studies, a good model organism needs to share, on the molecular level, many similar features and pathways with humans. It turns out that approximately 60% of a group of readily identified genes that are mutated, amplified, or deleted in a diverse set of human diseases have a counterpart in fruit flies. Studying these genes lets scientists bypass some of the ethical issues of biomedical research involving human subjects. Fruit flies are easy to keep and to work with. They have many practical features that allow scientists to carry out research with ease: a short life cycle, ease of culture and maintenance, a low number of chromosomes, a small genome size (in terms of base pairs), and giant salivary gland (polytene) chromosomes.

**Dermestids for Cleaning Skeletons**
Carpet beetles, which are part of the Dermestidae family, are small insects that will feed on almost anything organic, including cereals, carpets, and dried insects in collections. Museum technicians take advantage of this fact, and utilize established colonies of dermestids to clean skeletons of mammals.


The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library’s first-ever digital speech competition is underway, with the winning student receiving a $750 scholarship to the college or university of their choosing.

Sponsored by the Aegon Transamerica Foundation, the 2020 Velvet Voices of Freedom competition honors Václav Havel—a civil activist of international stature and author of plays, poetry, and essays that continue to inspire millions. Havel served as the last president of Czechoslovakia from 1989 until the country’s dissolution in 1992, having led the people through the Velvet Revolution, which peacefully overthrew communism. His leadership continued during the Velvet Divorce, which saw the country’s peaceful separation into the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Havel was the first President of the Czech Republic, serving from 1993 to 2003.

Velvet Voices of Freedom honors Havel by celebrating the power of human compassion expressed through speech and literature to transform the world. This year, applicants must use excerpts from the play “R.U.R.”, a quintessential piece of literature by Karel Čapek, in their video.

Čapek was a Czech writer, playwright, and critic who supported free expression and opposed the rise of fascism and communism. R.U.R., which stands for Rossum’s Universal Robots, celebrates 100 years of publication in 2020. NCSML will honor this milestone with the exhibition, “A Century of Robots,” in May.

To enter, participants must record their performance. Videos cannot exceed 15 minutes in length. Copies of Čapek’s play are available to peruse at the Skala Bartizal Library for students who do not want to purchase their own. Entrants should upload their videos to YouTube with the hashtag #VelvetVoicesNCSML and email the link to Sarah Henderson, NCSML’s K-12 Learning Specialist, at: shenderson@ncsml.org by April 30.

The winner will be announced in May.

Velvet Voices of Freedom is open to any high school junior or senior in the United States. Students do not need to be of Czech or Slovak descent to enter.

Fraternally,
Meredith Hines-Dochterman
Director of Marketing and Communications
NCSML
Watch your money grow.

7-year GOLD Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity
3.5%
Initial Guaranteed First-Year Interest Rate

5-year SILVER Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity
2.5%
Initial Guaranteed First-Year Interest Rate

Both available from April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020.

Plan Features:

- Principal is guaranteed 100%
- No annual administrative or other maintenance fees
- Eligible on all annuity products and plan types
- Tax deferred accumulation
- CSA does not penalize for withdrawals

1Surrender charge ends after 7 years. 2Rate is guaranteed for 1 full year from annuity contract date. Initial contributions must be $1,000 or more. In succeeding years, rates may change but will never be below the 2% guaranteed in the contract. 3Annuity application and initial deposit must be received between April 1, 2020 and June 30, 2020. 4Subject to contractual guidelines. 5Under current IRS regulation. Neither CSA nor its agents provide tax, legal, or accounting advice. Consult a tax, legal, or accounting professional with your specific situation. 6Within each contractual year, you may withdraw up to 10% of accumulation value. Early withdrawals may be subject to IRS penalty. Product not available in all states.
Lodge Happenings

District Council No. 12 of Northern Illinois, Wisconsin, & Indiana – Now that the cold, brutal days of winter are in our rearview mirrors, we can look forward to the warm, sunny days of spring. April showers and May flowers are beckoning. April is a wonderful, lively month! The grass is green again, flowers are blooming, colorful migratory birds are appearing again, and baby animals are making daily appearances. Best of all, America’s National Pastime (baseball) is gearing up for a long, exciting season. Go Sox and Go Cubs!

There are many religious days in April. Palm Sunday is on April 5, Passover starts on April 9, Good Friday is on April 10, Easter Sunday is on April 12, and Ramadan begins at sundown on April 23. We also have Earth Day on April 22—time to plant trees and flowers!

Our meetings on February 27 and March 26 were held at the Bohemian Crystal Restaurant in Westmont, Illinois. It was great to see Chuck Courtney from Lodge Anton J. Cermak No. 99 and Nick Kosmas from Lodge Betsy Ross No. 151. Nick is also the IT Director at the CSA Home Office. It was nice seeing many other new delegates and old friends attend these meetings, too. A $300 scholarship donation was made in loving memory of Charles Valestin and Jerry Gaydusek, who were two of our hardworking CSA members. May the perpetual light shine brightly upon them!

Looking ahead to the month of May, we will be holding our annual Join Hands Day activity at the Bohemian National Cemetery on May 9. Come early! We meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Gate House. Dress in appropriate working clothes and bring gloves. We will tidy up the grounds, clean up inside the Columbarium and Gate House, and pick up tree branches, etc. Now is a good time for our lodges to start thinking about and planning for the 84th Get-Together in Clearwater Beach, Florida. August is coming quickly!

Due to COVID-19, it has been decided to cancel our local Bowl-o-Rama (originally scheduled for April 19). Another event to note is Memorial Day on Monday, May 25 at the Bohemian National Cemetery (TBD). I hope to see all of our lodges represented at this special remembrance for our military heroes. District Council No. 12 will host the Lodge Recognition Award ceremony in the coming weeks. A speaker from each award-winning lodge should be ready to tell us all about their accomplishments. Date TBD and lodges will be notified.

Fraternally,
Edward Slavik

April Showers and May Flowers Are Beckoning

District Council

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Fraternally,
Edward Slavik

Lodge Missouri No. 1, St. Louis, Missouri – We recently held our annual Installation of Officers with the other lodges in our district. Lodge Missouri No. 1 members present were pleased to hear that we had once again achieved the Platinum Award in the Annual Lodge Recognition Program. A memorial was held for our members who had passed away in 2019 and the District Council made a donation in their memory to the CSA Scholarship Fund. Sister Mary Ann Sulz received an award for her many years of service as a Booth Captain for the American-Czech Educational Center and their Czech School Board for their annual Homecomings and Czech Festivals.

After many years of collecting prizes, preparing games, organizing workers and making sure there were plenty of winners, she is passing the reigns on to another. We thank her for many, many years of service.

Our lodge held their annual Used Book Sale on March 1. Many books were sold to avid readers looking for something new to read.

The Czech Festival at the American-Czech Educational Center that was scheduled for March 28 was canceled due to COVID-19. We have also decided to cancel our District Council's Annual Bunny Brunch. We remain diligent and are doing our part to prevent the spread of the virus. Best wishes to all!

Until next time,
Marla Breidenbach
Lodge Missouri No. 1
Seeing the World

Lodge Mile-Hi Czechs No. 432, Lakewood, Colorado — Well, as I write this article, it is 70° today, but who knows about tomorrow! Our March meeting featured intrepid traveler and hiker, Janet Farrar. She continues to see the world on foot! At our meeting, she gave a very informative PowerPoint presentation on Ethiopia. It was one of the first Christian countries in 400 A.D., and later it became a democracy. For years they also had a Christian radio station in that part of the world. Fascinating!

She shared with us the rest of her schedule for the year as follows: possibly Japan in April (unless COVID-19 cancels it), Germany in May, a Norwegian hike in July, a 185-mile bike ride in Maryland this fall, and finally, Morocco in November. Whew! Put her on your prayer list. Janet is one of our “younger” members in their 60s. Our other “young” (mid-60s) member prefers indoor trips and shopping. Our longtime active CSA member Sonny Wolf attended the massive miniature railroad exhibit in Denver.

I hope and pray by the time you read this, the COVID-19 panic will be almost gone.

Until next month,
Pat Kenning
Scholarship Fund Donation Form

With the price of higher education rapidly increasing, scholarships continue to be an important fraternal benefit. The CSA Scholarship Fund assists young adults, not only with their education, but with their professional goals. We appreciate your generous donations and your continued support!

Fill and send this form with donation. Please make checks payable to CSA Fraternal Life Scholarship Fund.

Enclosed is my donation of $ ____________

☐ For the general Scholarship Fund or  ☐ In Memory of _______________________________

Send acknowledgement of contribution to _______________________________

Address _______________________________

City __________________ State ________ Zip ________

Donor’s Name _______________________________

Address _______________________________

City __________________ State ________ Zip ________

We were delighted to donate $5,000 from our t-shirt and mug sales to the CSA Scholarship Fund!

— the 83rd Annual CSA Get-Together Committee
IN MEMORY OF MEMBERS WHO PASSED AWAY IN 2019
District Council No. 13

IN MEMORY OF JEFFREY NEKOLNY
Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409
John & Joann Nekolny

IN MEMORY OF TWO ACTIVE DELEGATES
CHARLES VALESTIN AND JERRY GAYDUSEK
District Council No. 12, Region E

IN MEMORY OF CAMILLE SHIMA
Dolores Clark

IN MEMORY OF JERRY GAYDUSEK
Jean M. Warning
Helen Gaydusek

IN HONOR OF ALL OUR FELLOW CSA BROTHERS AND SISTERS
Lodge Kruh Osvojených Žen a Pánů No. 121

TO CONTINUE CSA’S TRADITION OF ASSISTING YOUNG MEMBERS IN PURSUING THEIR HIGHER EDUCATION
In memory of Henry C. Houkal

TOTAL DONATIONS $2,012.59
Lodge Happenings

Spring Forward in Good Health!

Anna presents: “Anna in Europe!”
Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377, Lombard, Illinois – Our March meeting’s highlight was Anna Ramirez and her travelogue presentation, where she talked about her six-country tour she took last autumn. We were delighted to see images of her trip that included Germany, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. Her personal reflections about each place and about the people and sights along the journey gave us all a “virtual holiday” that was lovely!

In last month’s article, I mentioned about some upcoming plans, as well as notes about this year’s meeting schedule. If you need a refresher, refer to that article or give me a call. Other “social gathering” meetings are on the calendar, with opportunities to share food and friendship with lodge members. These include our planned “indoor picnic” (June), our “treat testing” competition in the fall, and end-of-year holiday potluck (December). Mark your calendars now, or check in with me as things develop or possibly change!

We hope you will be able to join us, but I am also sending a wish that everyone stays healthy during this difficult and frightening time of an international pandemic. Be sure to follow guidance from the CDC, and limit your exposure to large groups of people. While we are a small group when we gather, we will also understand the need for caution under these circumstances. Please keep us posted as to how you are doing.

All my best,
Jean Hemzáček Laukant
hemzacek.j@gmail.com
630-915-9745

Determing Organizations to Support
Lodge Sokol Plzen No. 434, Oak Brook, Illinois – President Andrew Bultas held a short lodge meeting on February 21 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Sheila Kraft’s home in Elmhurst, Illinois. The reason being that we wanted to combine the meeting with a birthday party for Sheila. This was not just a regular birthday party but Sheila’s 50th birthday. The majority of the lodge members are Sheila’s family, such as children, nieces, nephews, and brother, so it seemed more than logical to do it.

A short meeting was held prior to the party. A discussion was had regarding what programs the lodge should pursue for this coming year. It was agreed to continue to support T.G. Masaryk Czech School, the programs for the blind children, and other organizations. We will check out new ones to see how their programs work. President Andy Bultas recommended that we gather all the information we can on different 501(c)(3) organizations and determine which ones we might want to support. The meeting was then adjourned and the party began.

Until next month,
Andy Bultas
Lodge Happenings

Think Spring!

Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137, Cedar Rapids, Iowa – Our lodge held our March meeting on Wednesday, March 4. We had our soup and dessert contest. There were a lot of great submissions. Our winners were Susan Mihal-Melvin with her “$100 Chili” and Loretta Ledvina with her delicious cream puffs. Thanks to all who brought their favorite recipes for all to share.

Don’t forget to sign up for our spring outing on April 30 to see the musical “Riverdance” at the Paramount Theater. We’d love to see you!

Fraternally,
Rai Ann Stratton

Valentine’s Day Meeting

Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 77, North Riverside, Illinois – Our February meeting was held on Valentine’s Day. Kathy Riha made heart magnets for everyone. Members brought goodies that included cheese, meat, and fruit to share with members. We enjoyed the evening visiting and eating.

Charles Janda and Margaret Jasinski did the audit for our Lodge.

We had the honor of Ken Dvorsky, National Director from District Council No. 12, install our 2020 officers. Thank you, Ken.

One of our members, Raymond Riha, has 75 years with CSA. Ken Dvorsky made the presentation of the 75 Year Pin and I had the honor to pin it on my brother.

A thank you to Lodge Harrison/ Hus/Garfield and the T.G. Masaryk School for their huge bag of pop tabs.

We received quite a few thank yous for our Valentines: “Thank you for the money, it’s definitely a good Valentine’s treat. Hope to see you at a meeting soon,” Teagon and Morgan Michalek.

“Thank you for the $5.00, that was very kind of you,” Ben Kuznier. “Thank you for your Valentine. I always appreciate them, as they make Valentine’s Day special. I’m a senior at Fenwick High School and have been busy with school work, scholarship applications and rehearsals for our Spring musical, ‘Shrek,’” Grace Vamucka. She is excited to graduate this year and move on to a new chapter in her life. Benny and Frankie Saballus said, “Thank you for the Valentine card and treats. We will be playing soccer and football.”

Fraternally,
Mary Ellen Janda

Benny and Frankie Saballus
Lodge Happenings

Surprises

Lodge Century of Progress/Bila Hora No. 231, Cicero, Illinois – Our lodge met on February 12 at the T.G. Masaryk Czech School in Cicero. The Secretary read the minutes and the correspondence, which included information on CSA Serves; Fraternalist of the Year; and the Lodge Recognition Program paperwork. The Treasurer’s Report was also accepted.

As we mentioned in a previous article, on January 8, lodge member Dolores Klejko celebrated a birthday. What she didn’t know was that her sister, Marianne Slavik, was coming in from Puerto Rico to help Dolores celebrate the day. Needless to say, Dolores was really surprised! Marianne then left on January 16, and arrived in Union City, New Jersey where she planned to visit her granddaughter for a few days and then fly back to Puerto Rico from there. You remember Marianne, we have written about her in previous articles. In 2018 in particular, she was the subject of several articles relating to Hurricane Katrina in Puerto Rico.

On January 18, Ed Slavik, Dolores’ brother, picked her up and drove to the restaurant they had previously agreed upon for the evening. The weather on this day was a typical January day—cold, wet, icy, and slippery. In the meantime, Dolores’ family had planned a surprise birthday party at that restaurant. Unsuspecting, Dolores walked in to see her entire family there. She was speechless! Unfortunately, upon leaving the restaurant, when reaching the car, Ed slipped on the icy surface and hurt his leg. It felt serious.

Marianne, now in Union City, New Jersey, was notified. Instead of continuing her trip to Puerto Rico, she turned around and returned to Burbank. She stayed with Ed and assisted with shuttling him back and forth to the hospital, among other things. Ed is home now and continues with his therapy. A big thanks goes out to Marianne for all of her help!

Fraternally,
Elaine Tejcek
Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409, Lombard, Illinois – President Lyn Burton called our meeting to order, followed by the Pledge and password. We welcomed Director Ken Dvorsky, Fraternal Director Amanda Lovell, and Caroline Johnston and Joyce Nemec of Lodge Rovnost. Caroline and Joyce are also members of the Cultural Division of D.C. No. 12. Our first order of business was the reading of the minutes followed by correspondence. We received a sweet letter from the mom of two youth members (grandsons of member Jean Warning) thanking us for their annual Valentine’s Day gift. The boys were giving careful consideration on how to best spend their dollars. We enjoyed hearing from them!

We were pleased to see Karen and Amanda Smith participate in our first annual Bake-Off. Karen and Amanda are the daughter and granddaughter of John and Joann Nekolny. Karen is a Dr. of Clinical Psychology who works with elderly patients in a nursing home. Amanda is a freshman at Marquette University majoring in Speech Pathology. The Nekolny’s grandson Jackson will be competing in State Finals for wrestling. At 188 pounds, 14 year-old Jack wrestles in the heavy-weight division through the Batavia Wrestling Club. We wish him and his team the best of luck!

Helen gave her Treasurer’s Report and members approved paying the incurred bills. Ken gave a report on D.C. No. 12’s last meeting, where officers were installed by CSA’s Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Matt Koski. Donations were made to the CSA Scholarship Fund in memory of Charlie Valentin and Jerry Gaydusek. Ken welcomed new delegates, Lyn and Dale Burton of our lodge and Nick Kosmas from Lodge Betsy Ross No. 151. Ken also reported on a lecture given by a woman who discussed, among other things, the Czech community in Cuba, which was a surprise to all of us.

Lyn then read a schedule of activities for the coming months. Suggestions included a visit to the T.G. Masaryk Czech School, an outing to Morton Arboretum, and a family picnic. Decisions and dates will be finalized soon. A discussion followed regarding the change to our meeting time to late afternoon. The subject was tabled for a future meeting. Our final order of business was an approved donation to the CSA Home Office for the use of the Heritage Room for our meetings. Thank you, CSA! Our last order of business was wishing a very Happy Birthday to Jim Wozniak.

The meeting was adjourned and our Bake-Off began. Delicious entries were provided by Helen and Karole Gaydusek, Lyn and Dale Burton, Judy Wozniak, Karen Smith, Annmarie Antos, Helene Schaefer, and Gerri Romanelli. After careful tasting and voting, Helen’s wonderful strudel was voted the winner. Thanks to CSA Accountant Tom Hummel for tallying the votes and announcing the winner, and thank you Fraternal Director Amanda Lovell for providing the ice cream. Our monthly raffle followed, and members carried desserts home to enjoy.

Fraternally,
Gerri Romanelli
Lodge Happenings

“Fun Day”

Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219, Cleveland, Ohio – We hope everyone is staying healthy! What a worrisome time we’re having lately. The recommendation given out to avoid this virus is to frequently wash your hands while singing “Happy Birthday.” We hope this virus burns itself out soon.

We had 12 members attend our March 10 meeting. Remember, we always have a great time at our meetings, visiting with each other, eating our lunches together (remember, we bring our own), eating yummy desserts (brought by Tony Genco this month), having a 50/50 raffle (June and Carol won this month), and playing bingo. So please plan on attending. It’s the second Tuesday of every month at 10:30 a.m., weather permitting.

We celebrated Tony Genco’s birthday by giving him a rousing song of “Happy Birthday.” Tony’s birthday was March 12.

We received several thank you letters from the Home Office for our lodge’s donation to the Scholarship Fund, our donation to our other charity and a nice thank you note and picture of us attending another lodge’s meeting.

Our bowling season is winding down. Our last day of bowling is April 15 and our “Fun Day” of bowling is April 22. We will be having our banquet at the bowling alley on April 30. We’ve had a great season with lots of fun. At our weekly lunch after bowling, we went to a nice Mexican restaurant where Tony got to wear the “traditional” Mexican hat and have “Happy Birthday” sung to him in Spanish. The bowling group also sang the English version to him – lucky guy!

Remember the pork or chicken dinners are May 27, June 24, September 23 and October 28. Please call Don Kotlan at 216-228-0027 for reservations.

Happy Easter to all. Stay safe and healthy.

Fraternally yours,

Judy (Sevcik) Genco

It Was Love at First Sight

Lodge Golden Gate No. 252, San Jose, California – August 3, 1957 was a significant day for me. Not only did I celebrate my 21st birthday, but I also proposed to Carol while on our first date. Carol thought I was joking, however, little did she know I was very serious. My honey, Carol, spoke Czech and could cook one outstanding pork, dumpling, and sauerkraut dinner! What more could a guy like me ask for? When Carol told her mother that I had proposed on our first date, they both had a good laugh. Her mother asked if I had been drinking.

On Christmas Eve 1959, I surprised my honey with a dozen long-stemmed red roses. Enclosed in the roses was a brightly shining diamond engagement ring. Ten months later on October 17, 1959 at Holy Trinity Church in Chicago’s Pilsen neighborhood, we were married.

Here we are, 60 amazing years later, happily married in California with five children and many grandchildren and greatgrandchildren. We celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary in Budapest, our 50th wedding anniversary in the Czech Republic, and our 60th wedding anniversary on the sandy beaches of Maui.

The years have gone by so quickly, but we’ve enjoyed every bit!

Fraternally,

James F. Martinek
Lodge Happenings

Meet the Member - Freddie Shima

Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219, Cleveland, Ohio - Member Freddie Shima is involved and active in many areas of volunteering. Besides being a wonderful and generous member of our Lodge, she is very active in the DTJ family, donating gift baskets and time. She is also busy as a docent at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Last, but not least, Freddie has been part of the Ski Patrol at Boston Mills/Brandywine ski resorts.

Recently, Freddie and members of the Ski Patrol hosted the athletes of the Ohio Special Olympics. They have hosted this for 45 years. The athletes compete in many of the similar events that non-disabled Olympians compete in (every 4 years). The athletes do downhill, slalom, and combined events with both the Special athlete competing and coaching in combined times. The Boston Mills, Brandywine, and Alpine Valley Ski Patrols provide hill safety and first aid, and they host a crew in the kitchen to prepare a lunch for all of those participating in the two or three-day events. Some years, the athletes go on to compete in the National games. Many of the athletes have been competing for years and they have graduated to more difficult terrain at the ski area. It is a great event and there are also many volunteers who help with race timing, starting, and just cheering on the teams as they compete in the various events. The games are opened with the lighting of the cauldron by skiing the torch down the main hill and the athletes take the Olympic oath, too. On the last day of the events, most of the medals are presented and the cauldron is extinguished.

Thank you, Freddie, for all that you do. We are so proud of you.

Fraternally,
Judy Genco

Freddie Shima at the Olympic cauldron flame.

Freddie with a Gold Medalist winner and Boston Mills/Brandywine Club Director.

Many of the Ski Patrol members around the cauldron

Read the Journal online at: www.csalife.com
Lodge Happenings

The Good Guys Have Done it Again!

Lodge Benjamin Franklin No. 02, Seven Hills, Ohio – As we finally put the gray and chilly doldrums of a northern Ohio winter behind us, it’s a pleasure to report that our lodge had its full complement of 2020 meetings. All of the officers have assumed their former positions for yet another year. Leading the cast is President Scott Krecow, Secretary Vicki Zidlicky, Treasurer Ken Burdzinski, and I continue as VP and Scribe. Dave Kus remains as Sentry, as does Jimmy Zidlicky in the Guide post.

Our Treasurer was quick with the numbers as the Audit Committee of Mike Cernosky and Jimmy Zidlicky declared the books to be in good order during their January review. It was unanimously decided to suspend our small refreshment stipend for attending members and use it to increase our charitable contributions.

It was previously reported that our lodge bowling team is usually slow out of the blocks and should pick it up during the winter months. Well, the Good Guys have done it again! The Parma Builders League at Seven Hills Lanes split their season into thirds with a wild card team at the finish for the playoffs. Team Franklin took command and captured the second third, assuring a roll off spot in April. All this was done without our high power anchorman, Danny Krecow, whom is on maternity leave. Belated congratulations to Terri and Dan on the birth of Owen Daniel on October 9, 2019. Baby Owen checked in at 8 pounds 13 ounces. This team should be phenomenal when Danny returns to his former position and with a young upcoming bowler waiting in the wings!

The legendary Dave Kus, well known for his grand entrances and stand up comedy, kept up his tradition this winter. Dave was sporting a new headdress at a recent meeting. One couldn’t be sure if he returned from a Siberian sabbatical, or had gotten the hat from a protagonist in a James Bond movie. Brother Kus does profess to be a 007 trivia expert. He must know more trivia than movies though, as he enters radio contests regularly and won tickets for a craft beer convention, Cavs game, and motorcycle expo. Dave offered them to anyone at the meeting. It was a good month for you Dave, thanks for your generosity!

Hope all our members and friends enjoyed a happy and blessed Easter!

Fraternal regards,
Jeff Zidlicky
lodgefranklinscribe@gmail.com
Lodge Kruh Osvojnych Zen A Panu No. 121, Dillonvale, Ohio – Our lodge members met on March 8 at Eat ‘N Park Restaurant for our monthly meeting. While many members dined at the brunch buffet, others enjoyed some special orders and appetizers, too. During the business portion of our gathering, we finalized plans for the upcoming Bowl-o-Rama, approved our GTG program ad and purchase of raffle tickets, and heard thank-you letters from some of the recipients of our recent CSA Serves donations. It was honestly a “March Marathon” meeting, as we met for almost three hours! Now that’s real harmony and fraternity, friends!

Now, flash forward to present day…

At the time I wrote this article, I had just finished assisting my principal, secretary, and some of my partner teachers in passing out three weeks of prepared schoolwork, along with bagged lunches to families who showed up at our school to get the needed items for a three-week shutdown. Yes, that’s correct—the “three-week shutdown” ordered by Governor De Wine of Ohio for all Ohio schools, effective March 16 due to the Coronavirus COVID-19. Wow! In an instant, our lives and lifestyles took a drastic change in direction. Up until this point, most of us realized that the news wasn’t good, but I don’t think any of us could foresee what truly was to come.

Stories of toilet paper, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes flying off the department store shelves headlined the news reports. Shortages of COVID-19 test kits, stranded travelers and cruise ship patrons, and truck drivers struggling to keep up with the demands of consumers all kept us glued to our televisions, along with a plummeting stock market. As of today, probably like you, I’m not sure what to think. This is uncharted territory for all of us; that is certain.

There have been many disappointments, too. Most of us have experienced deep sadness over special events having been canceled—most of them with rescheduling not even in the foreseeable future. With a future graduating high school senior in my home, it’s hit us especially hard. I have realized a few things, though. In this crazy world we live in—all the hustle, bustle, etc.—our minds are constantly racing. We are always running from one activity to the next, overbooked and overworked. Maybe, just maybe, we have been given a blessing in that we are now being made to settle down, observe some quiet time, and just be with our families. Yes, we actually have to be together now.

By the time you read this, we may possibly have even more sanctions. At this time in Ohio, all restaurants and bars are now closed. Some restaurants may still offer drive-through or pick up service. We are limited to gatherings of 10 or less people with a 6-foot distance between us according to the CDC.

Shouldn’t we take advantage of this time and spend it bonding with the family that we live with? If you ask me, I think we could find a silver lining in that we have been given an awesome gift in the middle of all this chaos. Through it all, we may finally be able to see that the most beautiful gift we have is in the company and companionship of family and friends. They have always been there. Perhaps, now, we can really see each other!

Our lodge members wish you, more than anything, good health! We pray for your safety and hope that in the uncertainty of the days to come, you can count on the love and support of family and friends. More than ever, we need to be present for each other. Check on someone you love today.

Fraternally,

Sis. Wendy Kurtz Lovell

Read the Journal online at: www.csalife.com
Lodge Groveton No. 4, McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania – Hello once again, fellow CSA members. Lodge Groveton No. 4 here again, hoping everyone is staying safe and healthy during these trying times. With so much uncertainty and negativity going on in the world today, it is difficult to find positive aspects to hold on to. Fortunately, we here at Lodge Groveton have a few “little” things to keep our outlook positive. Our lodge is experiencing a Youth Movement, with some new youth members joining us in our already crowded lodge.

We would like to welcome Jacob and Jackson Roosa to our family. Jacob and Jackson are 4-year-old twin boys who love going to Lowes with daddy and helping him with home improvements. Proud parents JR and former Miss CSA Contestant Krystle Roosa liken Jackson and Jacob to the famous television stars of “Property Brothers”, Jonathan and Drew. The Roosa Family currently lives in Delaware but makes frequent trips to Pennsylvania to visit proud grandparents Mickey and Tammy Lewicki, also current members of CSA Lodge Groveton. Lodge Groveton would like to welcome Jacob and Jackson aboard, ensuring that our lodge will be well represented for years to come.

Continuing with the youth of Lodge Groveton, we would like to wish a very Happy 2nd Birthday to Jourdyn Forrester. Jourdyn is the daughter of former Miss CSA Contest Dana and her husband Gary Forrester. Jourdyn is an “active” member of our group, frequenting most lodge meetings, lodge activities, and providing an extra bit of energy and cuteness that is much needed during these times. Here is to many happy birthdays, Jourdyn.

Sadly, not everything going on with our lodge is as happy and positive as Jourdyn, Jacob, and Jackson. Lodge Groveton, as well as every other CSA member and their families, are dealing with the seriousness of the COVID-19 virus making its way through our country. We are urging all members and loved ones to stay inside, stay safe, and stay healthy during these difficult times. If any member needs anything, feel free to reach out to us at Lodge Groveton, whether it be on our Facebook page or through a phone call and we will do our best to assist in any way we can. Many of our upcoming events, meetings, and activities have been canceled for the safety and well being of our members. As in everything, this will pass, and it will make us stronger as a society. Until then, the prayers of Lodge Groveton are with you.

Until next time, stay safe CSA members.

Fraternally yours,
Bro. Gary Forrester
## 2020 CSA Fraternal Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Home Office closed for New Year’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>CSA Scholarship Application Available (website)</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td><strong>Deadline - 2019 Lodge Recognition Program submissions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Deadline - 2019 President Report forms due in Home Office</strong></td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Home Office closed for President’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>20</td>
<td><strong>Deadline - Bowl-o-Rama Entries</strong></td>
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<td>20</td>
<td><strong>Deadline - Photo Contest Entries</strong></td>
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<td>20</td>
<td><strong>Deadline - CSA Scholarship Applications and Transcripts</strong></td>
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<td>31</td>
<td><strong>Deadline - Lodge Financial &amp; Election forms due in Home Office</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>1-30</td>
<td>Jr. Bowl-o-Rama Month</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Miss CSA Application available (website)</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - Bowl-o-Rama Scores</strong></td>
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<td>June</td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - Miss CSA Application</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - Fraternalist of the Year Nomination Application</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - Miss CSA Photos for Application</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - Kropik Scholarship Application</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - Recipient Information Form for CSA Scholarship</strong></td>
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<td>84th Annual Get-Together in Clearwater Beach, FL</td>
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<td>October</td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - Veterans Names/Articles for November Journal</strong></td>
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<td>December</td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - CSA SERVES Matching Funds Requests</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - 2020 Lodge Recognition Program submissions</strong></td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td><strong>Deadline - 2020 President Report forms due in Home Office</strong></td>
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***Deadline for Journal articles - 12th of every PRIOR month***

(for example: your article for January should be submitted by December 12, etc.)
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</table>

Doris Kopac (nee Woelfert) passed away on March 9, 2020 at age 90. She was a lifetime member of Lodge Missouri No. 1. Doris was the beloved wife of the late Jerome Kopac. She was the loving mother of Richard (Maryjane), Donald (Gerianne), Thomas (Terri), Gary (Darlene) Kopac, Sharon (Gregory) Viele, and Linda (David) Spellmeyer. She was a dear grandmother and great-grandmother.

Doris was a long time and faithful member of Lodge Missouri No. 1, attending meetings and participating in activities. Doris was also a longtime member of Sokol St. Louis and a longtime delegate to the American-Czech Educational Center's Board of Directors working to support our Czech community. She was a member of the ACEC Quilters Club meeting weekly (until health no longer allowed) making quilts for raffles and sales with all proceeds supporting the American-Czech Educational Center. Doris loved her family and friends from the Czech Hall. She was a cherished member of all organizations and will be missed.
Annual Spring Luncheon

Lodge Harrison Hus Garfield No. 378, Cicero, Illinois – On a nice March day, our lodge met for our annual spring luncheon and Installation of Officers at the Czech Plaza Restaurant in Berwyn, Illinois. We were honored to have CSA Executive Secretary/Treasurer Matthew Koski install our officers. This leisurely afternoon allowed for a Q&A between Matt and our members. This was a very productive meeting, where many questions regarding our insurance products and annuities were answered. Members were satisfied to hear that CSA is doing well and continues to provide service to membership.

I was honored to present a 50-Year Pin to Bill Kostecki, an original Lodge Harrison member who has been loyal in his support. Bill was our third Honor Flight participant. He told us that he remembers when the Degree Staff would install and march, and he was the designated tape operator.

Also attending was Charles Valestin Jr., who learned a lot about the lodge that his parents were so involved with. We received information on the 2020 Get-Together this summer, which will be held in Clearwater Beach, Florida. We also discussed this year’s Lodge Recognition Program.

Thank-you cards were received from the Wildman and Harner families for the Christmas donation.

On March 4, CSA Fraternal Life celebrated our 166th birthday. Congratulations to us!

Members who traveled recently were Mike and Pam Dvorsky in Salt Lake City for a major genealogy conference, as well as Keith Dvorsky who went dogsledding in Canada.

Please note that May 4 is our next lodge meeting at T.G. Masaryk Czech School at noon, and May 9 is Join Hands Day at Bohemian National Cemetery at 9:00 a.m.

Fraternally,
Ken Dvorsky
Just Kids

FIND 6 DIFFERENCES

Happy Easter!
It's a Bug's Life

B T J C V Z Q D S K P D C S F
R E P P O H S S A R G A D P L
J H D S P V M G R N T C V I Y
C E C B A W R P U E Y P U D L
Y O A A U W K E R A L R G E H
B D B H O G R P N E F Q K R S
U E T M W R I T D R B N K E
I O E P R L K E F B E F H A H
M S R C L K P C E J T S F L F
M H N A L I U E O V T W Y D T
I S R K T X T W U C U J Q W A
O X S N F L G Z G O B R S G N
X O E M E B N C R I C K E T G
B C H V V P P N Y S F G R U B
E B M L Y N A Q E L I A N S O

ANT
BED BUG
BEE
BEETLE
BUTTERFLY
CATERPILLAR
CENTIPEDE
COCKROACH
CRICKET
FLY
GNAT
GRASSHOPPER
GRUB
MOTH
SNAIL
SPIDER
WASP

Send Just Kids your stories, riddles, etc.
Mail: Just Kids, c/o the CSA Journal,
P.O. Box 249, Lombard, IL 60148
Email to: CSAJournalEditor@gmail.com

Czech to English

duben.............................................................April (du-ben)
hmyz............................................................insects (hmyz)
včely..............................................................bees (vo-sa)
oplyt...........................to pollinate (o-pyl-it)
květiny kvetou...................the flowers are blooming
.................................................................(kvě-tny kvetou)
úl.................................................................hive (úl)
sarance..........................grasshopper (sa-ran-ce)
kudlanka nábožná...praying mantis (kud-lan-ka ná-bož-ná)
roj hmyzu........................swarm of insects (roj hmy-zu)
komár.................................mosquito (ko-már)
brouk..................................................beetle (brouk)

Like us on Facebook
Would you like the chance to win $2,000?

The Miss national CSA contest

Clearwater Beach, Florida
Taking place: July 31 - Aug 2

Application Deadline: June 12th
Contact Amanda at alovell@csalife.com for more information.