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On the Cover
Lodge Benjamin Franklin No. 2 delivers pop tabs to Ronald McDonald House. See details on page 28.
2023 Get-Together is Upon Us!

Well, here we are. The summer months are upon us, and you know what that means… Yes, once again it’s CSA Get-Together time! This year, the 86th Annual Get-Together will be in Denver, Colorado over the August 4-6 weekend.

I know that the Get-Together committee has been working hard on planning out the events, which begin with a registration and a hospitality reception, and conclude with a Sunday brunch. In between, we’ll have a couple of dinners, we’ll help with a volunteer event, and of course, we’ll find out who our Fraternalist of the Year is, along with the crowning of our 2023 National Miss CSA. There also will be an outing on Saturday afternoon where those who are interested can go to Central City and Blackhawk, two old mining towns a little ride away. There’s still time to register, so if you’re interested…do so now! The deadline has been extended through July 10! See page 9.

This Get-Together will also mark the 11th Anniversary of me having the honor of being your President. Being a part of our historic society is wonderful, and having the honor of being the President of CSA is truly humbling. As always, I appreciate the support that I’ve been given from our membership, so thank you. Here’s to many more!

I wish everyone a happy and healthy summer and look forward to seeing many of you in a few weeks in the Rocky Mountains!

Fraternally,
John J. Kielczewski, CLU, FLMI
President

John J. Kielczewski
President
Upcoming Events

August 4 - 6
REGISTER NOW! DEADLINE IS JULY 10!
86th CSA Annual Get-Together in Denver, Colorado

September 4
Home Office Closed for Labor Day

October 9
Home Office Closed for Indigenous Peoples’ (Columbus) Day

October 13
Deadline - Veterans Names/Articles for November Journal

November 23, 24
Home Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

December 1
Deadline - CSA Serves Matching Funds Request

December 25
Home Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

CSA MISSION STATEMENT
CSA Fraternal Life is a fraternal benefit Society that provides families with financial security while promoting community involvement with volunteerism.

CSA Leadership
National Officers
John J. Kielczewski, President
Matthew Koski, Secretary/Treasurer

National Directors
Tom Ledvina
Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota
Ken Dvorsky and Cary Mentzer
Northern Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin
Irma Farrell
California, Colorado, Kansas, and Texas
Diane DiBianca
Northern Ohio and Michigan
Connie Wolf
Missouri and Southern Illinois
Terry Placek
Southeastern Ohio and Western Pennsylvania
Carol Tranter
Florida, Maryland, Virginia, D.C., Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey
Paul Vavrasek
New York State and Connecticut

Home Office Hours
Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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Postmaster: send address changes to:
CSA Journal, P.O. Box 249, Lombard, IL 60148.
Today’s Fraternal

What’s Better Than a Family Picnic?

Greetings CSA Family,

We are right in the middle of summer and one month away from the Denver Get-Together. The Committee and the Home Office are busy with preparations. It is incredible how much work it takes to get the Get-Together up and going. We are busy advertising the trip, and I attended the District Council No. 12 meeting in June to encourage more members to attend.

Consider coming by train as you plan your travels to Denver in August. Nick Kosmas intends to take the train and would happily have you join him on his journey. Don’t hesitate to contact him at nkosmas@csalife.com. He will give you all the details.

Consider coming by train as you plan your travels to Denver in August. Nick Kosmas intends to take the train and would happily have you join him on his journey. Don’t hesitate to contact him at nkosmas@csalife.com. He will give you all the details.

As you register for the Get-Together (deadline extended through July 10), think about submitting an ad from you or your lodge for the Get-Together Ad Book. That deadline is also extended through July 10. It is always fun to see the ads and who sends them. Following are the sizes and cost for putting an ad in the book.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Page</td>
<td>5 ½ x 8 ½</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page</td>
<td>5 ½ x 4 ¼</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Fourth Page</td>
<td>5 ½ x 2 1/8</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Home Office wants to remind you that there is still time to nominate a Fraternalist of the Year. Take a moment and reflect on someone in your lodge who consistently goes above and beyond to keep the fraternal spirit alive for CSA. It is a great honor to be named the Fraternalist of the Year, and the winner’s picture is hung in a place of honor at the Home Office. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at kdeegan@csalife.com. Hurry! This deadline is also July 10!

This month’s Journal focuses on Family Fun. I can’t think of anything better than a family picnic. You can take your family out into the great outdoors and experience the great weather. A Fourth of July picnic would be lots of fun! I hope you are making the most out of your summer.

I hope to see all of you at the Get-Together next month. Remember, we will be crowning the next Miss CSA, naming the Fraternalist of the Year, and participating in a great service project.

See you in Denver,

Until next time,

Kelly Deegan
Fraternal Programs Manager
Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409

Please send lodge articles to:
csajournaleditor@gmail.com by the 12th of the month prior.
(You will receive a confirmation email.)

Please address all Fraternal inquiries to:
Kelly Deegan at kdeegan@csalife.com
1.800.543.3272 x 4307

Read the Journal online at: www.csalife.com
The full Board met in person for the May meeting.

Sales Manager Julie Souza reported that our actual sales for 2023 in both the life and annuity sales are above the projected goals for the year. The agents have been doing a good job in getting qualified members and it shows in their persistency. The results for two years is 95% and for five years it is 94%. Thank you for your efforts.

Fraternal Manager Kelly Deegan has been busy with all the Fraternal programs. There were 31 participating in the Bowl-O-Rama and all prizes have been sent to the participants. There are 15 applications for the CSA Scholarship and lodges and individuals continue to add to the fund. Don’t forget, these donations count toward your LRP goals. There were 286 photos submitted for the contest. Congratulations to the winners. Kelly is also working with the Committee for the upcoming Get-Together in Denver in August.

The Board meets with our vendors at least once a year. Steven Niedenberger with our auditors, the Hosack Group, met with us via Zoom to report on the audit of 2022 required by the State of Illinois. They “encountered no significant difficulties with management in performing and completing our audit”, and in the report letter stated that we have a clean audit - the highest level given. When questioned by a Board member regarding any changes needed, Mr. Niedenberger said management at CSA was great to work with and he would not make any changes.

The Audit Committee met with Trevor Rupe from Parkway Associates, our asset management company. He reported that our investments are all NAIC 1’s or 2’s and we are in a good position financially.

President Kielczewski reported that the guaranteed interest on our annuities as of January 2023 was 3%. Beginning May 2023, the reinsured annuities will be 4%.

Secretary/Treasurer Koski presented the Disaster Recovery testing results and CSA is prepared if any problems should occur.

The Board appreciates both Officers are keeping CSA financially sound and growing so that we are a viable Fraternal into the future.

The next Board meeting will be August 3, right before the Get-Together. If you have any concerns, please notify your Director.

Fraternally,
Irma Drahota Farrell
Chair
Message from the Secretary

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Happy Fourth of July! I hope everyone did enjoy their day and could enjoy time with family and friends, cooking out, and watching fireworks. The Fourth is always a good time to reflect on the bravery that the founders of the United States exhibited when writing the document that declared our independence from Britain. Many sacrifices were made for us to enjoy the freedoms we have today.

We are one month away from our Get-Together in Denver. The Get-Together Committee met regularly throughout the past year to ensure that we will have another great CSA event. As usual, you can count on great accommodations, tasty food, and a fun time. If you haven’t registered, please do so now. The deadline has been extended through July 10. Please see page 9. There is so much to do in Denver and the surrounding area. It would be an excellent place to start or end a family vacation. Colorado is a great place for outdoor adventure. You will not be disappointed if you have never experienced the Rocky Mountains. They are truly majestic.

We will have the traditional Hospitality Suite, where we will visit with our fellow CSA members. Don’t forget the Sunky! Who doesn’t like taking a shot for a Get-Together pin? Also, the service project will help women and children in need. The group enjoys coming together to help others and getting a photo to commemorate our good deed. Take a moment to look at the plans to learn more about this year’s service project.

As usual, we will have the Miss CSA contest and the revealing of the Fraternalist of the Year in a ballroom with amazing views of the Denver skyline. The skyline will be a great backdrop for pictures of your family and friends.

Take a moment and think about traveling to Denver via train. Nick Kosmas is planning to experience going cross country via the train and would love to talk to you about how to set up the reservations. For more information, contact Nick at: nkosmas@csalife.com.

Enjoy your July, and I hope to see you in Denver.

Fraternally,
Matthew Koski
Executive Secretary/Treasurer/COO/CRO

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CSA 2022 Financial Results

csalife.com/aboutcsa/csafinancialconditions

All members are encouraged to review the updated financial conditions and contact the Home Office with questions.
Miss CSA

It Was an Honor to Represent You

Greetings everyone,

Here we are with my last article as Miss CSA. It’s been an amazing year for me, full of so many opportunities and new experiences. I’ve gotten to travel all over the place, meet so many special people, start at a new school, start a new sport, and the list just keeps going. It’s also been an amazing year for our organization. Lodges all over the country have hosted successful events, connected people in numerous ways, taken on new service initiatives, and have worked to continue to preserve many important traditions. It’s been so amazing to see everyone’s efforts.

Speaking of service work, I wanted to tell you all about my recent service learning trip to Alaska. As I mentioned in an earlier article, CSA was very generous and helped finance part of the service portion of the trip for me. While there, that money helped me and my team of 16 be able to work at numerous homeless shelters, the Food Bank of Alaska, soup kitchens, recycling centers, and community gardens which grow a lot of food to feed the homeless population.

Homelessness is a large problem in the city of Anchorage. I knew that prior to going there, but it’s completely different when you see it first-hand. While there, my team learned that this is a very complex situation, as there isn’t just one singular cause, but many. Everyone has a story. Likewise, there isn’t just one singular solution. That’s why it’s important to try and help in any way we can because even the smallest act of service can make all the difference in someone’s life. It may not be world changing, but it could be life changing. I realized that there was nothing I could do in just my two-and-a-half weeks in Alaska that was going to have any significant, large-scale impact but when I handed a woman a cup of soup and she started crying because of how happy she was to have something warm to eat, that’s when I realized the work we did was important and it mattered. So, that was a big learning experience for me in that regard. The smallest act can make all the difference in someone’s day.

Aside from our service work, our group got to spend time sightseeing in Anchorage. We visited Earthquake Park where you can see the Sleeping Lady Mountain off in the distance. We hiked Flat-Top Mountain and ate pizza at the Moose’s Tooth which is ranked #3 in the country. Then, we traveled south to a town called Seward where we went on a 6-hour boat ride. That was one of my favorite parts of the trip. We saw humpback whales, mountain goats, sea lions, otters, and seals. After that, we drove north to another small town called Palmer and then drove north again to Denali, where we went on a 7-hour bus tour of Denali National Park. We saw caribou, dall sheep, a porcupine, bald and golden eagles, and of course, lots of moose! During our drives, we would often stop at scenic lookouts or take short hikes. We also saw three glaciers while there. Some of my friends went swimming in the water but I decided to stay on the shore in my winter coat, haha. Another really cool part was when two other team members and I hiked up part of a closed off road to get to an abandoned gold mining town. The snow was piled five feet high, but we were able to walk on top of it and climb to see the town. We were the only ones there and got some amazing pictures. Overall, it was a once-in-a-lifetime trip and I loved every second of it. I’d like to go back someday and explore more. Maybe I will!

As I prepare to go to Colorado for the annual Get-Together, I must say that writing my last article is bittersweet. I have really enjoyed my time as Miss CSA and am so very grateful to have gotten this amazing opportunity. I hope to see some of you at the Get-Together and, if not, in the near future. I am excited to see who will take the crown this year in the pageant and participate from a slightly different vantage point. As always, I wish you all well and thank you again for your warmth and kindness this past year. Words can’t express my gratitude to all of you. This is a very special community and it was an honor to be able to represent you.

Sincerely,
Miss CSA 2022-2023,
Aubrey Suttelle
2023 CSA Get-Together
Registration Form

Please fill out and postmark by JULY 10, 2023 to:

CSA Get-Together
C/o Susan Skrabanek
P.O. Box 517
Caldwell, TX 77836

Phone: (979) 272-3440 (office)
(979)820-2218 (cell)

Email: spjst@aol.com

Adult Delegate/Guest - $140
Youth Delegate or Guest - $100
Central City/Blackhawk Casino Trip - $40 (includes $30 casino play)

Make all checks payable to: CSA
Or pay by credit card @ csalife.com (choose epay) (fees applied)
Be sure to document Get Together Registration in notes on payment form

Please print below (one form per person)

NAME __________________________ LODGE (if applicable) _______

ADDRESS _______________________________________________________

CITY, STATE, ZIP ________________________________________________

PHONE ______________________ EMAIL ____________________________

Is this your first CSA Get-Together? ______

Check all that apply:

Delegate: ____ ($140) Guest: ______ ($140)
Youth Delegate or Guest (under 18): ______ ($100) YOUTH’S AGE ______

Central City/Blackhawk Casino Trip ______ $40

TOTAL: $_________ PAID _______ CHECK _______ ONLINE

Please indicate if you have any special dietary needs. ________________________________

Are you: Driving ________ Flying ________ Train ______

***Make all checks payable to: CSA Fraternal Life***
Family Fun

Three Tips for Creating a Summer of Unplugged Fun

Between school, work, and entertainment, there are times when screens can seem like a pervasive part of modern life. For all the positive aspects of technology, there can also be a desire for children to have stretches of unplugged learning and participate in educational activities that do not require a screen.

Why Unplugged Learning Matters

“Unplugged learning is important to balance the screen time children may experience with other forms of learning; to promote physical activities, social interaction, and creativity; and develop the essential skills that bolster them throughout their exploration and growth as individuals,” said Rurik Nackerud from KinderCare’s education team.

Summer can be an ideal time to focus on unplugged learning as it often brings a break from the traditional academic year and activities.

Tips for Creating Unplugged Fun as a Family

1. Get Outdoors.
Make time as a family to get outside and explore, even if it’s simply a walk around the block after dinner. Help children notice the little things like a bug on the sidewalk or the way the sun filters through tree leaves to make patterns on the ground. Ask them about the things they see and give your children the space to ask questions and work together to find the answers. This helps teach children collaborative learning skills: asking questions, sharing ideas, and working together to reach an answer.

2. Read Together.
This could mean going to the library to check out new books or exploring your family’s bookshelves for old favorites. Snuggle up together for family story time. If children are old enough to read on their own, invite them to read to you or their younger siblings. Talk about the story or even act out favorite parts to help your children actively participate in story time, which may help them better understand the story’s concepts.

3. Encourage Creative Thinking.
Help children expand their ability to think creatively by working together to make a craft or project. For example, the next time a delivery box arrives at your home, encourage your children to turn it into something new using craft supplies on hand. A blanket could turn a box into a table for a pretend restaurant while some tape or glue could transform it into a rocket ship or train. When everyone’s done creating and playing, the box can be broken down for recycling. This activity can help children literally think outside of the box and apply their own unique ideas and creativity to create something new.

For more tips to encourage unplugged learning this summer, visit kindercare.com.
Family Fun

Move All Summer Long

Five Activities to Keep Children Active

Everybody, no matter their age, can benefit from daily physical activity. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), young children should be physically active throughout the day for growth and development. Despite the common misconception that children are in perpetual motion, the CDC reminds caregivers to encourage children to be active when they play.

“Physical activity is important because it is critical in assisting with gross motor development and helps support development in other areas,” said Khy Sline from KinderCare Learning Center’s education team. “Children thrive when we give them the tools to use their bodies and muscles in new ways and make mind-body connections.”

Consider these five activities to encourage children to get moving.

**Blow bubbles.**
Appealing to children from infancy on up, seeing bubbles floating around can encourage babies to reach out and try to grab them, building arm strength and coordination. Toddlers and older children can run around the patio or lawn chasing bubbles and watching them pop.

**Build a tunnel.**
Whether indoors or out, made from furniture covered with sheets or cardboard boxes, tunnels encourage children to move over, under, around and through, which helps them explore new ways of moving while also building coordination and balance.

**Play hide and seek.**
As they dash around trying to find the perfect hiding spot, children build spatial awareness, their understanding of where their bodies are in relation to other people and objects.

**Play red light, green light.**
This classic game helps children build coordination – connecting the verbal instruction with the physical movement – while also teaching them impulse control, an essential executive function skill. Be sure to get creative with instructions and add variations like tip-toeing, crawling, hopping, and more.

**Walk the line.**
Draw a line on the ground using chalk outdoors or painter’s tape indoors and encourage your children to walk along the line. This activity helps children improve balance and coordination. Get creative and add in a challenge by drawing a wavy or zig-zag line. Once your children get the hang of following the line, ask them to think of other ways to travel along that space, such as hopping on one foot or skipping.

*For more ideas to encourage physical activity among children, visit kindercare.com.*
Family vacations are a great way to bond and take a step back from the hectic schedules that accompany everyday life, but sometimes time or money (or both) make planning an elaborate trip a non-starter.

However, a staycation – a vacation you take right in your hometown (or nearby) – can be much less expensive and fit into nearly any amount of available time with the added bonus of skipping out on potentially stressful travel.

Consider these staycation ideas to take advantage of your local area’s attractions and prove you don’t have to go far to spend quality time together.

Visit local landmarks.
Just because it’s not a traditional vacation doesn’t mean you can’t pretend to be tourists. Start by visiting the places you recommend to friends and family from out of town or pick up a city guidebook to uncover hidden spots you may not even know exist. Make a plan to seek out historic sites, visit local landmarks like museums or try an out-of-the-way restaurant (or two) you’ve never eaten at before.

Camp out in the backyard.
Camping doesn’t have to be done far from home. In fact, it can be done right in your own backyard. Pitch a tent to sleep under the stars and plan a night full of traditional camping activities like roasting s’mores, telling spooky stories by flashlight, and trying to identify stars and constellations.

Set up a picnic in the park.
Pack a basket with sandwiches, fruit and other treats, and head to the park. You can enjoy a casual meal then take advantage of the open space for a family walk or game of tag before retreating to the playground to let the little ones expel any leftover energy.

Have a home spa day.
If you’re looking for some relaxation but don’t want to splurge on the full spa treatment, plan an at-home oasis instead. Light some candles, run a bubble bath, and break out the facial masks and fingernail polish.

Visit an amusement park.
No matter where you live, there’s probably an amusement or water park within driving distance. A quick online search before you arrive can help prepare a strategy for hitting the most popular thrill rides and waterslides while skipping those that may not provide quite the same entertainment value.

Find more tips and tricks for enjoying family time together at eLivingtoday.com.
Some of the fondest childhood memories for many people include practicing sports, game days, and teammates turned friends. Parents hoping to provide their children with similar experiences can look to organized youth sports as a perfect outlet for expending some energy all while learning valuable life lessons like teamwork, goal-setting, humbly celebrating victories, and bouncing back from defeat.

In fact, sports can provide a multitude of benefits for young athletes. From improving physical health to gaining valuable social and leadership skills, team-oriented activities give kids a way to explore their own interests and have a little fun.

Put your future all-stars on a path to success with these tips for youth sports parents.

Encourage Kids to Try Multiple Sports
If your little ones are first-time athletes, signing up for multiple sports exposes them to a variety of options. They can navigate their own interests and discover their unique talents through each sport’s different challenges. For example, some require more endurance, like soccer and basketball, while others call on coordination and balance, such as dance or baseball. Once they’ve experienced a few activities, allowing them to choose which sports to continue participating in provides a sense of independence.

Outfit Athletes with the Proper Gear
Each sport and activity comes with equipment requirements, ranging from simple (a ball and a net) to complex (helmets, pads, bases, and more). Proper footwear is a must, whether it’s cleats for outdoor events or shoes with ankle support for a sport like basketball. Remember, safety comes first, which is why your children may need helmets, shin guards, knee pads, or other protective equipment. Be sure to talk to coaches or league coordinators about what equipment is provided and what you may need to purchase (or borrow).

Familiarize Yourself with the Sports
While you don’t need to be a hall of fame coach to enjoy your kids’ events, understanding the rules and regulations can help you be a more informed parent. Plus, it shows your little athletes you’re taking an interest in their activities when you can discuss the game together. If you’re able, one of the best ways to learn is to attend a local professional, semi-professional, college or even high school game with your children so everyone can get in on the fun together.

Make Postgame Cleanup a Breeze
Many people don’t know sweat can lead to bacteria, which secrete acids with a distinct, stinky odor. Just think about all the bacteria living in a gym bag after your children’s big games. Behind a team of bacteria-fighting scientists, Lysol Labs is hitting the road to visit youth sporting events.

Read the Journal online at: www.csalife.com
### 2023 Bowl-O-Rama Scores

#### Boy's Division #1, Ages 5-7
- **Jackson Roosa**
  - Lodge Groveton No. 004
  - Score: 279
- **Colby Breidenbach**
  - Lodge Missouri No. 1
  - Score: 256
- **James Michalek**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 077
  - Score: 245
- **Jacob Roosa**
  - Lodge Groveton No. 004
  - Score: 179
- **Nolan Daberkow**
  - Lodge Mile-Hi Czechs No. 432
  - Score: 136

#### Boy's Division #2, Ages 8-11
- **Chase Michalek**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 077
  - Score: 286
- **Finn Michalek**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 077
  - Score: 240
- **Edward Rypka**
  - Lodge Minnesota No. 210
  - Score: 233
- **Reed Michalek**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 077
  - Score: 232
- **Gavin Gray**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 077
  - Score: 231
- **Elijah Macht**
  - Lodge Laurel No. 452
  - Score: 221
- **Wyatt Forrester**
  - Lodge Groveton No. 004
  - Score: 213

#### Boy's Division #3, Ages 12-14
- **Karel Kuttler**
  - Lodge Brookfield No. 475
  - Score: 368
- **Colin Graveen**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 077
  - Score: 294
- **Mason Varga**
  - Lodge Laurel No. 452
  - Score: 227

#### Boy's Division #4, Ages 15-17
- **Troy Graveen**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 77
  - Score: 378
- **Skyler Ebright**
  - Lodge Kruh No. 121
  - Score: 373
- **Ryan J. Goodwin**
  - Lodge Laurel No. 452
  - Score: 266
- **Christopher Ebright**
  - Lodge Kruh No. 121
  - Score: 214

#### Girl's Division #1, Ages 5-7
- **Jourdyn Forrester**
  - Lodge Groveton No. 004
  - Score: 211
- **Kalani Michalek**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 77
  - Score: 142

#### Girl's Division #2, Ages 8-11
- **Hazel Hugley**
  - Lodge Minnesota No. 210
  - Score: 299
- **Vanessa Graveen**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 077
  - Score: 282
- **Morgan Hugley**
  - Lodge Minnesota No. 210
  - Score: 269
- **Grace Macht**
  - Lodge Laurel No. 452
  - Score: 249
- **Emily Michalek**
  - Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 077
  - Score: 223
- **Georgene Rypka**
  - Lodge Minnesota No. 210
  - Score: 205
- **Veronica Rypka**
  - Lodge Minnesota No. 210
  - Score: 175
- **Madison Bichler**
  - Lodge Groveton No. 004
  - Score: 159
- **Kayleigh Daberkow**
  - Lodge Mile-Hi Czechs No. 432
  - Score: 153

#### Girl's Division #3, Ages 12-14
- **Shauna Smith**
  - Lodge Groveton No. 4
  - Score: 234

#### Girl's Division #4, Ages 15 - 17
- **Jadalyn Dawn Hanson**
  - Lodge DuPage Pioneers No. 409
  - Score: 309
- **Cheyanne Smith**
  - Lodge Groveton No. 004
  - Score: 263
- **Ashley Goodwin**
  - Lodge Laurel No. 452
  - Score: 262
- **Annabella Ryals**
  - Lodge Washington No. 30
  - Score: 258
Travel the “Good Old” Way to the GTG

District Council No. 12 of Northern Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana – Our District Council No. 12 delegates met on May 25 on a cool springtime evening. Fourteen delegates and guests were present. We discussed plans for the 86th annual Get-Together in Denver. The delegates who will represent our council are Ken Dvorsky and Helen Gaydusek. Several of our CSA members plan to take the “good old” way of traveling. The scenic train will leave the Naperville station on Thursday, August 3 at 4:00 p.m., and travel time is approximately 17 hours.

We spent an hour or two reviewing the various items associated with the Get-Together, our ad in the booklet, raffle tickets, service project donations, the Miss CSA contest, and the dinner program. It adds up to a wonderful, fun trip for all.

Our June council meeting was held at the McCook restaurant on June 22.

Fraternally,
Ed Slavik,
Vice President
District Council No. 12
Lodge Happenings

Lodge Groveton No. 4, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania – Hello, Brothers and Sisters.

We hope everyone is enjoying their summer! Our June meeting involved yummy food and a special guest! Lodge members enjoyed a BBQ dinner with ribs, corn, and macaroni salad. Yum! We are also happy to share that Lodge Groveton will have a Miss CSA Contestant this year! Members were able to meet and chat with Eva Tokar at the meeting. We are so excited to cheer you on, Eva!

Several lodge members will be heading to Denver, Colorado for the 2023 Get-Together weekend. We look forward to everything Region H has prepared for us. We especially look forward to the Miss CSA contest, as well as our own expeditions to the Rocky Mountains, and more! We hope to see many CSA members in attendance!

Lodge Groveton meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Groveton Fire Hall. Members are encouraged to come a little early to enjoy the food and refreshments at every meeting. There is also an attendance raffle with a monetary prize! If anyone is interested in more information, please contact Terry Placek at: tfpplace@verizon.net.

As a reminder, there will be no August meeting due to the Get-Together. See you in September!

Fraternally,
Sis. Hunter Rae Yurkovich
Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372, Maple Heights, Ohio – It was a brisk, breezy 48 degrees starting the day at the DTJ in Taborville, Ohio on May 25, 2023. We discussed this year’s Christmas/Pin Party. Members had checked prices of places; my how prices have gone up! Diane will bring up the info at the next District meeting on July 21, which is the picnic.

Diane congratulated everyone who sent in photos to the Journal. We had some winners in our lodge! The Bus Trip sold out, and we had to change the date (bus company issue) to June 28. She also updated us on our LRP progress. We are doing well and should get the Platinum Award again. Our charity donations from the Bus Trip profits will be The Travis Mills Foundation and a woman’s domestic violence charity. Lodge members will also collect trial size items for the CSA Service Project. We are also donating $100 to the CSA Scholarship Fund.

Kris and Bruce brought in two pictures of the delegates to the 24th CSA Convention on August 14-18, 1950, that were found in a mailing tube sent on September 12, 1950.

This year is the 75th anniversary of the DTJ and they are hosting Cesky Den (100th Anniversary) on July 9 starting 11 a.m., and 89th Dozinky (Harvest Festival) on August 13 starting at 11 a.m. For more DTJ happenings, go to: http://www.dtjtaborville.com/events.htm

Thank you to Kris and Bruce for the hot dogs, tater salad, macaroni salad, cole slaw, assorted chips, cherry and cheese Danish, and mini cupcakes. All was tasty.

After we ate, we did our Join Hands Day by sprucing up the DTJ. We cleaned the inside and flowers were planted out front.

Congrats to the 50/50 winners: Mary Ann and Bruce.

Our next meetings will be on: July 27 (District Picnic), August 24, September 28, October 26, November 16, and December (TBA). Come to a meeting, reconnect with friends, and have a tasty snack. We would love to see you!

Fraternally,
Annette Reichman
Busy Month of May

Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137, Cedar Rapids, Iowa – We had a busy month of May. First, we started with our Join Hands Day on May 4. The volunteers worked hard at the Czech National Cemetery raking leaves, picking up sticks, and cleaning the columbarium and office. Thank you, members and volunteers, who helped out.

Next up was a meeting of the members who are attending the Get-Together in Colorado. We worked out the details of driving, hotels, and such for the ride there. Thanks to Peg Zach for the lunch provided. We are looking forward to the sites that Colorado offers.

Next up was our spring trip to Circa 21 in Rock Island, Illinois. We loaded up on the bus to attend the dinner theater to see their production of “Mamma Mia.” I have to say it was one of the best shows I’ve attended there. It is amazing the local talent that is in the Quad Cities. Everyone had a great time and raved what a great show it was.

Then on to Memorial Day 2023. Many of the members of Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137 helped to put up the flags at the Czech National Cemetery. Thanks for the help. Many members attended the Memorial Day Service for the cemetery. The local Czech singers sang the National Anthem accompanied by the accordion players. The Czech princes and princesses presented the wreaths and Pledge of Allegiance. The director of the Czech Museum was the speaker and reflected on some Czech history. I would like to thank Brosh Chapel and The Advacentre for the use of their facilities; A.J., the Master of Ceremonies; Matt Linn (facility); Jean Vogt; and the committee that organized this service. Last, but not least, thanks to the veterans who served and sacrificed for our freedom.

Hope to see everyone at the Get-Together.

Fraternally,
Rai Ann Stratton
Lodge Happenings

Goat Yoga

Lodge Betsy Ross No. 151, Cicero, Illinois – We are already halfway through the year and one month away from the annual Get-Together! Time indeed flies as you get older.

Four of our lodge members plan on attending the Get-Together in Denver next month. Since it is summer and the theme of the Journal is Family Fun, we thought we would explore fun things that you can do as a family at the Get-Together. So right up front, you can take the train from Chicago into Denver. What a great way to see the country! There is Dinosaur Ridge, where you can touch the bones of the Allosaurus and Stegosaurus, or go to Hammond’s Candies for a free tour of the candy company that has been part of Denver since 1920. You can also visit Meow Wolf Denver. This art museum is different because you not only look at the art; you immerse yourself in the art. Finally, if you crave outdoor fun, look at Confluence Park. You can watch kayak chutes and wade in the South Platte River’s shallows.

Speaking of fun, lodge members Nancy and Darci Reagan have been on the move. First, they went to Virginia to attend Nancy’s grandson’s graduation. Then they had a fun trip to do goat yoga. The goats love sitting on your mat as you do yoga moves because they get treats for being good companions.

Lodge members Anna Trush and Matt and Heather Koski attended the annual Lidice Memorial Service on June 11 in Crest Hill, Illinois. This annual commemoration of the destruction of Lidice is always moving and reminds everyone how sacred life is.

We hope to see everyone at the Get-Together!

Fraternally,
Heather Koski

Getting Ready for the Get-Together...

Denim and Diamonds!

Denim and Diamonds will be our Friday night theme at the Denver Get-Together. What does that mean, you ask? You can wear your best jeans, gemstone jewelry, sequins, and cocktail attire simultaneously. It means dressing up while still being comfortable. Gents, wear your most excellent jeans with a nice dress shirt and jacket. Ladies, wear a lovely dress with your jean jacket and sparkly jewelry. Don’t miss your chance to dazzle all the CSA members with glitz and sparkle. Let’s have fun with this theme!
Lodge Happenings

Interesting Archives

Lodge Washington No. 30, St. Louis, Missouri – Summer is here, and our lodge activities are still going strong.

At our last meeting, we decided on the recipients of this year’s CSA Serves program – it’s the Veterans Community Project, otherwise known in St. Louis as the Veterans Tiny House Project. The VCP is building a specialized community of 50 tiny homes on a 4-acre property that will include an outreach center and walk-in support services for any vet in the area. The houses may be small, but they include new furniture, appliances, housewares, bedding, and personal items. The goal is to assist homeless vets with securing permanent housing and transitioning to a new life.

We’ll be providing some beverages to the work crews this summer, and when the Outreach Center is up and running, we’ll look into more opportunities for volunteering. And as always, we’ll hold our Bake Sale in November to raise funds for this worthy cause. All our members are welcome to donate their baking specialties. I’ll put a reminder in our ACEC newsletter.

The archives crew at the Center (Mary Ann Sulz, Marcella Milcic, and I) are still sorting, identifying, and making lists of our extensive collection so that we can eventually catalogue everything. We’ve been at this for several years, and we keep discovering interesting pieces of info about the legacy of the St. Louis Czech community. For most important occasions and celebrations within CSPS/CSA, the Society of Taborites, and Sokol St. Louis, there was usually a program book (pamatnik), including this one pictured from the 18th Convention of CSPS and Golden Jubilee of Lodge Washington. Those books included ads from the local businesses, and there were a lot! Mary Ann is compiling a list of them, and so far, it includes more than 150, ranging from butcher shops, bakeries, tailors, and greengrocers, to taverns, cigar stores, and shoe repair shops. Some of the owners and proprietors were the grandparents and great-grandparents of members who are still active at our Center and at St. John Nepomuk. We also noticed that during the height of Prohibition, there were several ads for beverage parlors, which was apparently a way to promote your tavern without mentioning alcohol. How resourceful! And what a wonderful history we have as Czechs in St. Louis!

Hope all the delegates and guests at the Get-Together in Denver have a great time!

Fraternally,
Deborah Zeman

![Image of program book](image-url)
Memories Shared; Memories Created

Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377, Brookfield, Illinois – Our June meeting was a joyful, in-person gathering at McCook Restaurant – “The Last of the Bohemians.” The afternoon was filled with good food and shared stories about various groups of friends throughout our lives and our lodge, in large part courtesy of Bob Hosa’s excellent memory about days (and members) past. Maybe someday we’ll get Bob to write a book about “The History of (CSA & Sokol) Subcultures,” as he dubbed it – what fun that would be to read!

Adding to members’ travel adventures as reported last month, Cary Mentzer went ‘road-tripping’ to visit his son Ray in Front Royal, Virginia. The two of them enjoyed hiking in Shenandoah National Park and visiting some of the many monuments in Washington, D.C. We’re happy to report that Ray so far has had a great experience as a Field Technician with the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, and has made the most of his time in that area. On Cary’s return trip to Chicago, he took time to visit the emotionally-powerful Flight 93 National Memorial in Stoystown, Pennsylvania. Added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2002 and dedicated as a National Memorial on September 10, 2011, this ‘common field one day, a field of honor forever’ honors the passengers and crew of that flight for their brave and selfless actions in thwarting an attack on the U.S. Capitol on September 11, 2001.

Cary can tell you more about his travels if you join us for our annual Lodge Recognition Picnic in August! Plans are coming together for either August 13 or August 20 (to be determined soon), and I hope to see you there. Please call or email me for details, if you need a ride, or just to let us know you’re coming. All the best until then.

Fraternally yours,
Jean Hemzáček Laukant
hemzacek.ji@gmail.com
630-915-9745
Lodge Happenings

Won’t You Join Us?

Lodge Pingree No. 366, Dearborn Heights, Michigan – Greetings, Sisters and Brothers. Happy Summer wishes to you all. I’m writing these notes with news of upcoming events, past things that have happened, and once more, an urgent plea for the honor of your participation in our lodge functions.

Marie Palmer and I have plans on attending the Get-Together in Denver the first weekend in August. These occurrences are always a blast! It is a great opportunity to reacquaint ourselves with other members who we don’t see often enough! It also gives us the chance to see places we haven’t been to before. I wish more of our lodge members could attend.

Lodge Pingree has tickets for the 13th Annual Detroit Tiger Game. The date is September 13, 2023. It is a night game against the Cincinnati Reds, starting at 6:40 p.m. The ticket price is $25.00 each, and for lodge members, $15.00 each. Come and join us for a pleasant evening! Contact me for more details at 734-751-8013.

Larry Cibulka, Sales Executive for a large corporation, knows the importance of perseverance and determination taught by his parents, Jane and Frank (now deceased). It’s those values that have landed him many sales contracts (and rewards), some big fish, and helped him strengthen his lungs. It was necessary to persevere with breathing exercises and other outdoor exercises so he could enjoy the cold Michigan winters with wife Cate and occasionally Katie, granddaughter of Rose Burns (now deceased). He also walked the beach in Florida with Cate and then returned to sign more contracts. He is strong and able to face whatever the future holds.

Lastly, I again am urging the honor of your presence at our meetings that happen the third Saturday of the month after we assist at the Food Pantry. The Pantry is at H.I.S. Church Anglican, on 6 Mile Rd., West of Farmington Rd., Livonia. We start at 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., with the meeting immediately after. The meetings only last about 45 minutes, so it’s not a long, drawn out affair!

Fraternally yours,
Jeff Teichman
Lodge Happenings

Join Hands Day, Graduates, Special Awards

Lodge Laurel No. 452, Ashford, Connecticut – Lodge members joined hands with the Windham/Tolland 4-H Camp and Eversource employees on May 24. Eversource is our local electric company. Eversource employees put in a volunteer work day at the camp doing tree cutting, with the help of Tennett Tree Cutting Service, landscaping, cleanup, painting, and repairing. Lodge members helped with refreshments for the workers by baking cookies, brownies, muffins, and banana bread, and by providing beverages for the workers’ snacks and luncheon.

Our young members have been studying and working hard. We have three who have graduated and several have earned various awards. Jonathan Varga, a 2019 CSA scholarship winner, graduated from the University of Connecticut with a double degree in Management and Engineering for Manufacturing (MEM). Jonathan will be working at an area manufacturing company. At UCONN’s School of Engineering Senior Design Day, Jonathan’s three-person team placed second. Their project was to design an Ergonomic Assembly Work Station for Prysmian Group. I was surprised at the number of projects at this showing. Gampel Arena was filled with rows and rows of tables with senior projects.

Brock Goodwin graduated from Amity High School in Woodbridge, Connecticut. He will be attending Springfield College in the Fall. Brock was an Honor Roll student and selected to attend Unified Leadership Summit. He also was a great sportsman, playing football and baseball, being a two-year varsity letter winner in baseball. He pitched two no-hit and four shut-out games in 2023, leading all pitcher statistics and making him the #1 pitcher for Amity this year. He was selected by SCC (Southern CT Conference) as league Player of the Month and as all-league First Team. He was also selected by Gametime CT as Player of the Week. Brock received the Amity Male Sportsmanship Award and the Stella Scarvales Memorial Scholarship.

Ashley Goodwin graduated from Simsbury High School. She will attend Penn State University in the Fall. She was a four-year Honor Roll student, receiving a Simsbury Scholar Award twice. Ashley participated in a variety of sports including diving, cross country, and pole vaulting. She holds her school’s six dive and 11 dive records. She was the runner-up Class L Champion in pole vaulting for 2023 and was a pole vault open qualifier for both her Junior and Senior years.

Mason Varga, who has just completed his Sophomore year at Windham Regional Technical High School, was recently inducted into the National Honor Society. Also, at a recent Boy Scout Court of Honor, Mason received 11 merit badges and his Life Scout Rank.

Congratulations to all these students. We wish them the very best as they continue on their journeys in life.

Fraternally,
Marion Varga

Read the Journal online at: www.csalife.com
Event Update

Lodge Century of Progress/Bila Hora, No. 231, Cicero, Illinois – We have gone through the most beautiful weather. I have been taking an art class in Door County, Wisconsin over the Memorial Day weekend for 27 years and this was the most beautiful weather ever. Unfortunately, now we’re in a drought. In any event, I now have a mission to report on our meeting held on May 10, 2023.

The meeting opened at 12:15 p.m. Both the Minutes and Treasurer’s Report were accepted. We continued with discussion around the 86th CSA Get-Together in Denver, Colorado. We voted to purchase two raffle cards and a ½ page in the ad booklet. We also voted to contribute to the CSA Scholarship Fund and sent several bags of groceries plus a cash donation to St. Bart’s Holy Guardian Angel Food Pantry.

Ken Dvorsky informed us of the arrangements to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of former Chicago mayor, Anton Cermak. The celebration was held on May 6 at the Bohemian National Cemetery when the T.G. Masaryk School children presented a short bilingual program about Mayor Cermak.

I received an email reminder from the T.G. Masaryk School that the Chicago Symphony Orchestra issued a 20 percent off promo code for the community to enjoy the performances led by world famous conductor Jakub Hrusa, June 8-10, 2023. He performed the Mahler Symphony No. 9 at the Chicago Symphony Center.

I also received an email from the school regarding a program commemorating Lidice. Concluding the 2022-2023 school year, the school presented a lecture by historian Gabriela Havlujova on June 7, 2023 entitled “Lidice – A Living Memory of Tragedy and Hope.”

Our meetings take place on the second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 p.m. We invite our members to join us and welcome their input. Please join us at the T.G. Masaryk School, 5701 W. 22nd Place, Cicero, Illinois. For more information, contact Ed Slavik at 708-423-5267.

Fraternally,
Elaine Tejcek

It’s Not Too Late:
Nominate Your Fraternalist of the Year

Who do you think is the one person in your lodge who has given the most of their time, talent, and skill to make your lodge activities – CSA SERVES, Join Hands Day, and social affairs – a great success from 2022 to 2023?

Who is that one member you can always count on to go the distance and never lets you down?

You know that person, and that’s the one you should be nominating!

If one of your members has been nominated in the past but has not won, don’t hesitate to nominate them again!*

THE DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED:

The application – including a recent photo of the nominee – should be submitted to the Home Office and postmarked no later than JULY 10.

If in attendance, this award will be presented to the winner at this year’s Get-Together at the Saturday evening banquet.

Our Fraternalist of the Year receives a plaque and is given the opportunity to have CSA make a $100.00 donation in their name to their favorite charitable organization!

In addition, the winner’s Get-Together accommodations (two night stay) and Saturday night banquet ticket will be paid for by CSA!

Visit CSAlife.com for details.
Lodge Happenings

Celebrating Cermak

Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 77, Lombard, Illinois – We had our annual card making class in May. Once again, Nancy Pohanka was our teacher and provided all of the materials for us. Each person made a variety of cards; birthday, anniversary, get well, etc. Our special guest, Kelly Deegan, and her two daughters, also enjoyed making cards with us. Thanks again to Nancy and her card making.

On Saturday, May 6, Chuck Michalek, Ken Dvorsky, Cindy Bueneman, and many others from the Czech community gathered at Bohemian National Cemetery at the Cermak family mausoleum, to honor the late Anton Cermak, former Mayor of Chicago, born May 9, 1873. Mr. Cermak’s grandson, Anton Cermak Kerner, students from T.G. Masaryk School, Friends of BNC, Czech Counsel General, and a representative from Kladno, where the former mayor was born, all provided interesting historical information and insight into the life of Anton Cermak for the large group in attendance. The Cermak family mausoleum was open for visitors and had photos of interest on display. After the presentation of a very large paper mache birthday cake, flanked by balloons indicating his 150th birthday, guests proceeded to the Columbarium for more speeches, presentations by the Czech students, and music performed by Czech/Canadian folk singer, Lenka Lichtenberg. Following the festivities, the memorial ended at the Gatehouse where guests mingled and enjoyed Czech pastries and chlebíčky.

Thanks to several of our members for submitting photos for the CSA Photo Contest. Congratulations to Alice Dory on winning 3rd Place in the Animal Division.

We hope everyone has a Happy 4th of July and a great summer!

Fraternally,
Mary Ellen Janda

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

Post-Covid Pull Tab Palooza

Lodge Benjamin Franklin No. 02, Seven Hills, Ohio - On a beautiful spring day of April 21, 2023, the Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland opened its doors for the first full post-Covid Pull Tab Palooza.

Leading off the festivities was Oscar Gonzalez of the Cleveland Guardians, who made the first deposit of pull tabs. The Guardians are encouraging fans to save the tabs and bring them along to the games at Progressive Field for collection throughout the season!

Music, games, crafts, pet therapy dogs, and special guests including Cleveland Ghostbusters, Star Wars 501st Legion, superheroes, and other characters kept participants entertained throughout the day. Refreshments were also served.

An email from RMH stated 5,775 lbs. were donated for a total of $3,465.00. This equates to nearly six million tabs. My wife Nancy and I had the privilege of attending and donating 35.5 pounds on behalf of the lodge. Mary Ellen and Ken Burdzinski gave a last-minute call and said they had seven pounds in waiting, which gave us a new lodge record. Much thanks to all our members and friends who amass this collection all year long. Keep up the great work!

Fraternal Regards,
Jeff Zidlicky
Lodge Happenings

Honoring Those Who Served

Lodge Kruh Osvojenych Zen a Panu No. 121 – Greetings and all best wishes from Lodge No. 121! We hope that by the time you are reading this article, you are “knee-deep” in all things summer and fun! As promised in last month’s article, you can see pictures of the recent Memorial Day celebrations we participated in and allocated money toward as part of our Join Hands Day Project for 2023. We hope you enjoy viewing them.

Celebrations we attended included: the service at Dillonvale Presbyterian Church which included members of American Legion Post #529 and its auxiliary unit followed by a luncheon in their honor, the service at Dillonvale’s Knight Rider Park led by McCook Post #529 officers and members, and the program at West Elementary led by Adena’s American Legion Post #525 and school personnel. We are truly grateful to all the men and women who served our country. Without them, we wouldn’t have the privilege of celebrating freely—if even at all. Thank you for your service!

Our group met in June at Bubba’s Burghers at The Highlands in Triadelphia, West Virginia. We were pleasantly surprised when the waitress seated us in the “party room” since it was not being used that day. It was the first time our group met at that venue, and we all agreed that we would like to meet there again! The food was good, we enjoyed each other’s company, and the privacy that the “party room” provided was a great bonus during our business meeting.

We received thank-you cards from our local legion and their auxiliary unit for the Join Hands Day donations we sent them. They were also grateful for the help given by our members. We voted to participate in the Thank-A-Driver Program once again this year. Look for more information on our participation in a future Journal.

We were all in favor of sending a monetary gift to Miss CSA, Sister Aubrey Suttelle, who is a member of Lodge No. 121. We hope it can help with her upcoming trip to the August Get-Together in Denver, Colorado. We are so proud of Aubrey and are grateful to her for representing CSA in such a positive, enthusiastic way this past year! We hope to see her in the future!

We would also like to recognize our member and recent high school graduate, Jaelee Thompson, who received a CSA Scholarship this year. Jaelee graduated from Buckeye Local High School and will be attending Robert Morris College in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the fall. Congratulations on your scholarship and best wishes to you, Jaelee!

We honored our male members for Father’s Day with a goodie bag and gift card. We also celebrated Mother’s Day for our female members with each one receiving a hanging basket of ferns. All members enjoyed their gifts!

In closing, we would like to wish all of you continued summer fun! By the time you are reading this, our kiddos may be gearing up for back to school. Is it that time already? Remember to check on someone you love today.

Smiles,
Sister Wendy Kurtz Lovell
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 ____________

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. —Nelson Mandela

www.csalife.com

2050 Finley Rd. Ste. 70, P.O. Box 249, Lombard, IL 60148 • Phone: 630-472-0500 • Fax: 630-472-1100
Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409, Lombard, Illinois – President Linda Burton called our June meeting to order with the Pledge. In addition to members, we welcomed District Council No. 12 President, Ken Dvorsky.

After minutes were read and approved, Sis. Gerri reported on the latest Exchange Register Report.

Sis. Linda reported the lodge has paid for a full-page ad in the Get-Together Program Book and will participate in the raffle.

Bro. Dvorsky reported on the annual Memorial of Lidice in Crest Hill, Illinois. Earlier that week at the Masaryk School, a historian from Prague talked about survivors and the fact that Lidice has been rebuilt. The Memorial program on Sunday, June 11, usually held at the outdoor monument, was moved indoors due to rain. Songs were performed by a Moravian group and children from the Masaryk School read heartbreaking letters written by displaced children of Lidice to their parents whom they would never again see.

Among dignitaries in attendance were a State Senator, Czech General Counsel in Chicago, and the Chief Executive Officer of the Czech Museum in Cedar Rapids. Bro. Ken’s report was assisted by Sis. Helene’s attendance experience and photos of the event.

Bro. Ken gave an interesting summary of the events in Lidice during WWII and answered questions from members.

He then talked about Operation Anthropoid, a covert operation by the Czech resistance during World War II, to assassinate Reinhard Heydrich, a German Commander governing Bohemia and Moravia. The assassination was carried out successfully by the two members of the Czech resistance in May of 1942. Heydrich was wounded and eventually died of his wounds two months later. In retribution, Nazis ordered the total destruction of Lidice, execution of men and church officials, the deportation of children to be placed in German families, and an estimated execution of over 5,000 Czechs.

Sis. Lisa reported plans to visit Cedar Rapids and asked about the Czech Museum. Members Linda and Dale Burton, Gerri Romanelli, and Ken Dvorsky told of their visits to the Museum and recommended exhibits, restaurants, and other Czech attractions in the area. Lisa also reported on her first Tabor Hills Delegate Meeting. She felt the Quarterly Review of Finances was informative and positive. She then met with staff and residents to become more familiar with the various levels of care offered by the facility. Lisa was impressed with the care and professionalism of Tabor Hills and is looking forward to her further involvement.

Future lodge plans were discussed with the result being a hiatus for July and August with a return to the Home Office for our meeting on September 11 at 11 a.m.

We wished a Happy Birthday to Dale Burton and a Happy 47th Anniversary to Linda and Dale Burton.

Fraternally,
Gerri Romanelli
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In Memoriam

Peter Lewis Campe, a true “Colorado Native,” passed away on May 10, 2023. Born on April 1, 1978 at Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center in Aurora, Colorado, he spent his life in Littleton, Colorado. Growing up, his mom took him on day trips all over Colorado, and over time, his grandparents and mom took him to visit many National Parks and other places, too.

He graduated from Littleton High School in 1996 and attended Arapahoe Community College and CSU.

He loved all kinds of sports, especially playing golf at most of the Denver-Metro area courses. During this time, he worked at Centennial Golf Course, giving kids golf lessons and helping out in the Pro Shop. His first love was travel. From his first trip to Disneyland, Marine Land, and Knott's Berry Farm, at age 5 to his last trip to Mexico, mostly traveling with his grandma, he was very proud that he had been to all seven continents.

His second love was being a chef. From being a cook at Jose’s Restaurant in Littleton, to being a “true chef” for 10 years at Broken Tee Golf Course. He never had any professional training.

He was a good lunch/dinner companion, always taking his mom out for lunch on her birthday.

He was a long time member of Lodge Mile Hi No. 432, participating in events as a child throughout his life.

He leaves behind his grandma, Pat Kenning, and mom, Mary Campe, both Lodge Mile Hi No. 432 members, aunts and uncles, cousins and numerous friends.

Any donations can be made to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 6322 S. Lakeview, Littleton, CO 80120 for their mission program for the El Tranador School in El Salvador.

Vladimir “Laddie” Vanek, age 92, member of Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377, passed away peacefully on May 14. We share in the sorrow of his beloved wife of 54 years, Lorraine, his daughters Valerie Schoenberg, Vicky (Patrick) McManus, and Leane (the late Ron) Jones, and his cherished grandchildren: Gabriela Schoenberg, Kylie McManus, Fiona McManus, Hilary Jones, and Richard Jones. Laddie’s good humor, mischievous spirit, and his overall kind and thoughtful heart are held dear by all who knew him.

Laddie was an Army Korean War Veteran and participated in the 100th Chicago Honor Flight in May 2022. He was a past board member for a number of community organizations, and cared deeply about his community as well as family and friends. Sokol friends will recognize Laddie as a member of Sokol Town of Lake, sharing many fun memories of camp days and camp reunions in Willow Springs, Illinois. Laddie and several of his close buddies from early Sokol days are affectionately remembered as ‘The Terrible 6’ – the stories of which remain legendary.

We already miss you so much, Laddie; we were blessed to have you as part of our lodge family and of our close circle of friends.
**Lodge Happenings**

**Planning Halloween/Oktoberfest Party**

**Lodge Brookfield No. 475, Brookfield, Illinois** – Lodge Brookfield is planning a Halloween/Oktoberfest party for its October meeting. All lodges are welcome. Details to follow.

*Fraternally,*
*Kimberly Silhan*

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**Enjoyable Events**

**Lodge Sokol Plsen No. 434, Oak Brook, Illinois** – On June 4, 2023, the lodge had a short telephone conference meeting. This was to discuss the coming Get-Together conference in Denver. Candy is making all the arrangements for the conference.

The early part of the year was very active for the lodge members. We celebrated the lodge’s Vice President’s 85th birthday. Then we celebrated Mother’s Day. Finally, we celebrated our member Mary Lou Jaros’ 30th wedding anniversary. All the events were enjoyable.

*Andy Bultas*

---

Andy Bultas with (from left to right) daughters Diane Yochem, Karen Ryba, and Sheila Kraft at a Mother’s Day Party held at Sheila’s home.

Mary Lou Jaros and her husband Greg at their 30 year Anniversary Party.

Vice President Frank Francis’ 85th Birthday.
Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219, Cleveland, Ohio – This month’s meeting was held at the Longhorn Restaurant to celebrate Mother’s and Father’s Days. We had 13 members present and District Director Diane DiBianca attended this luncheon meeting.

Diane discussed whether we are having a Pin Party this year. She has gathered prices from different venues and the prices are outrageous. It was decided to not have the Pin Party this year and to have it next year at the District Picnic Party next July. Those who would have received their 50 and 75 Year Pins this year will receive them next year.

We have received a thank-you letter from the women’s shelter that we had donated money to. We also received a letter from Home Office that they, too, had sent money to the same women’s shelter. Thank you, Home Office.

Jan Russell, Secretary, went over the LRP and stated that we are in good shape. Freddie will ask her brother to do a presentation for our lodge in the near future.

Jan handed out the three “Thank a Driver” cards to Marsha, Sue, and herself. Marsha already gave her card away (see photo). Jan also sent in the advertisement from our lodge to the Get-Together’s program and sent in money and tickets for the raffle tickets.

Our Sport’s meeting will be on July 3 at 10 a.m. at the Parma Snow Library to discuss possible Bowling Tournament in October.

Sue Garofalo’s daughter, who is a member, is back to work. Good to hear, Meredith!

Our July meeting will be at the DTJ facility on July 27. We will meet at 11 a.m., followed by the District Picnic. Our August meeting will be on August 8 at 10:30 at the Parma Heights Library, Meeting Room C. At this meeting, we will be putting together raffle baskets for DTJ functions. Freddie Shima will be providing the contents. Thank you, Freddie!

At the August meeting, we would like everyone to bring back packs, school supplies, etc. to give to the Providence House.

We sang “Happy Birthday” to our June birthday girls, June Karecki and Jan Russell. Jan provided some yummy cupcakes for dessert. Thanks, Jan!

Fraternally yours,
Judy (Sevcik) Genco
Just Kids

Help the Mushroom Find Its Way
Family Fun

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Just Kids

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

Červenec/Srpen .......................... July/August (Červ-ve-nec/Sr-pen)
Cvičení je pro vás dobré ........................ exercise is good for you
( cví-čení je do-b-ré pro vás)
Čerstvý vzduch vám pomůž citať se energi-čtěji .............. fresh air helps
you feel more energetic  (čerst-vý vzduch vám po-můž-že ci-tit se
en-er-gič-tě-jí)
Hrajte si s dětmi na schovávaou ......................... play hide and
seek with your children  ( hraj-te si s dět-mi na scho-vá-van-ou)
Podporovat kreativní myšlení ...................... encourage creative thinking
(pod-po-ro-vat kre-a-tiv-ní myš-len-í)
86 výroční setkání je letos v Denveru ............. 86th annual Get-Together
is in Denver this year  (86 vý-ro-ční set-ká-ní je le-tos v Den-ver-u)
Bude nová Miss ČSA ........................ there will be a new Miss CSA
(bu-de nov-á Miss ČSA)
Někteří členové pojedou do Denveru vlakem ........... some members
will travel to Denver by train  (něk-te-ří člen-o-vé poj-ed-ou do
Den-ver-u vlak-em)

Color the Watermelon
GTG Deadline
Extended:

Join us in Denver!

See page 9...