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On the Cover...

“Back to School” themed articles can be found throughout the October 2018 issue of the Journal.
Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone is enjoying the early portion of the Fall 2018 season.

Here in the Chicago area at the Home Office, we’re keeping busy with the wind-down from our 2018 CSA Convention and Get-Together. As I wrote about in last month’s article, they both were very successful events. Thank you again to everyone who made the voyage here, and thanks again to the volunteers who helped with the set up.

Also, as I wrote of, the delegates of the Convention approved fairly significant changes to our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, primarily in the improvement of our Governance standards. Those documents are now filed with the State of Illinois Department of Insurance for final approval. We’ll, of course, communicate to everyone when they’re approved.

In addition to the Convention wrap-up, a few of us recently returned from the 2018 American Fraternal Alliance Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Secretary Matt Koski and I attended as executives, while Paul Vavrasek and Tom Ledvina were CSA Board of Director representatives.

The Fraternal Alliance staff always does a great job in putting on these meetings, and this year was no different. In addition to general sessions on the business of the American Fraternal Alliance, we were able to hear a few keynote speakers, and all of us attended different breakout sessions to further enhance our knowledge in our industry.

The American Fraternal Alliance is a great resource for CSA, along with our peer Fraternal Societies. On top of the educational events, such as the Annual Meeting, one of the Alliance’s main goals is to continue to educate the powers that be in Washington, D.C., as well as at the State level, on all of the good works that we as Fraternals do, which is a LOT.

Over the next few months, I’ll be out and about attending some Lodge and District Council meetings throughout the land. This has kind of become my normal Fall travel “tour,” which is one of the many great things about my position. There’s nothing much better than meeting and (re)meeting our members in their local communities.

Once again, thank you for your support, and I look forward to passing along the CSA ‘news of the day’ in next month’s Journal.

Until then....

Fraternally,

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

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### 2018 CSA Fraternal Calendar

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<td>Home Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
<td>Deadline - CSA SERVES Matching Funds Requests</td>
<td>Home Office closed for Christmas Holiday</td>
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<td>February</td>
<td>Deadline - President Report forms for 2018 due in Home Office</td>
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***Deadline for Journal articles – 12th of every PRIOR month***
(i.e. February articles need to be submitted by January 12th)
Calendar of Events

Saturday, October 20, 2018
Night at the Hospoda
Hosted by Moravian Cultural Society at Sokol Spirit
3909 Prairie Ave., Brookfield, Illinois
Doors open at 4 p.m., Music by DJ Speedster
Seasonal Czech dinners, Czech beers, wine and spirits, available for purchase. For more information, call 630-325-3873 (after 6 p.m.) or email moravianculturalsociety@yahoo.com

Saturday, October 20, 2018
Virginia Czech and Slovak Folklife Festival
Prince George County Regional Heritage Center
6404 Courthouse Rd., Prince George, Virginia
11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission.
Food, dancing, games, exhibits, and music.
Call 804-863-0212 or email: pghistory@aol.com
www.princegeorgehistoricalsociety.org

Saturday, October 27, 2018
Czech Fall Festival
American-Czech Educational Center
4690 Lansdowne Ave., St. Louis, Missouri
Czech food, pastries, pivo, music, and more.
See Facebook page for details.

Sunday, November 4, 2018
82nd Annual Banquet with the First Czechoslovak Garden Club of America
Alpine Banquet House
11141 W. Roosevelt Rd., Westchester, Illinois
$30 to attend. Doors at 12:30 p.m., dinner at 1 p.m.
RSVP with Janice Sowinski by 10/1 at
708-484-8242 or firstczechgardenclub@yahoo.com.
www.firstczechgardenclub.com

Saturday, November 24, 2018
Christmas Around the World
Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago
5700 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois
11 a.m. – Program included with general admission to the museum.
The Czech tree will be on display until January 6.
Hosted by the Moravian Cultural Society –
www.moravianculturalsociety.org

Sunday, December 2, 2018
D.C. No. 12 Cultural Division Christmas Party
Crystal Sky Banquets
7941 47th St., McCook, Illinois
$25 to attend. Doors at noon, dinner at 1 p.m.
Short program TBA.
Raffle to be held and Cultural Division cookbooks for sale.
RSVP with your Lodge Secretary or call Caroline Johnston at
708-387-9423 for more information.
Hello all,

The month of October has a lot to offer us. The weather is starting to cool and the leaves are beginning to change. For many, we’ll begin stockpiling pumpkins and gourds while we prepare our Halloween costumes. What are you going as this year?

By this time, students have adjusted to their new school schedules and routines. I can’t believe it’s been five years since I graduated from college and nine years since I graduated from high school. Wow, time has really flown by! If you look in the pages ahead, you’ll see all of CSA’s new scholarship recipients. This year’s applications were exceptional, as per usual. Every year I continue to be amazed at how talented our young CSA members are. As these undergraduate students approach their final weeks of their first college semester, I’d like to offer some tips, tricks, and advice that I needed to hear while I was at school:

• Always attend class and always give your best effort, even if it’s a General Elective course that is unrelated to your major.
• If you have to choose between a double major and getting involved on campus, get involved. All the knowledge in the world won’t help you if you come out of college with no experience or professional relationships.
• ALWAYS back up your files. I had a laptop fail on me in the middle of a semester and needed to fork over hundreds of dollars and a lot of my time to fix the issue. It would also be a good idea to check your software and firewall. I advise changing your passwords from time to time, as well.
• Learn to complete both your taxes and your FAFSA yourself. ‘Future you’ will appreciate it.
• Make sure your bank has branches where both your college and family members are located. This is crucial during an emergency.
• Get a credit card... even if you’re advised not to. I can’t stress how important it is to have established credit upon college graduation. A card with a low limit is fine. Make monthly purchases on it, up to 20% of the card’s balance (but don’t abuse it).
• Adequate sleep > Caffeine. Your heart and skin will thank you.
• If an issue arises with a roommate – talk it out. Choose communication over confrontation.
• Check your grades... often! No matter how anxious it makes you.
• Communicate with your teachers. Open office hours are a godsend. Your professors and teaching assistants only want you to succeed, not fail. Trust me. Oh, and sit it in the front.
• Getting a tutor does not make you look unintelligent. Not getting one when you need help, does.
• Find out what resources your school offers (free tech support, health centers, seminars, etc.)
• Finally, at the end of the day, you’ll learn more from your failures than your successes – just don’t try to use this line during an argument with your parents (wink).

Consider that these next few years are going to be a journey where you truly learn about yourself. The purpose is to grow as a human being while discovering what you’re good at, what you like, and what you don’t like. Discover your “why”, and you’ll become happier and more passionate in life. It may be scary at times, especially if you’ve relocated to a big city. Heck, I left my hometown of less than 700 people to graduate on a field with over ten THOUSAND students alongside me. You can do this!

P.S. Go Bucks!

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

Read the Journal online at: www.csalife.com
Brothers and Sisters,

At this point, we are well into the new school year. This is a time that I, as a father of two teenage sons, look forward to with great anticipation. You may have guessed why already. It is the grocery bill, or more exactly, the relief from what seems like an ever-increasing rate of consumption during their summer break. While my sons are as different in their personalities as their 2:00 a.m. snacking habits – Ramen Noodles versus Beefaroni – so, too, is their outlook on the return to a school schedule. In our house, our eldest son is typically not excited about a new year of classroom work unless it has an immediate impact. Math, for example, is great fun, so long as he can return home that day and apply it to some wood or mechanical project he has in mind. In contrast, our younger son noticeably perks up, he begins planning meeting attendance at social clubs that he is active in and laments the lack of more robust business and economic theory courses.

CSA, too, is comprised of many individuals with a wide and varied list of interests. Many members are drawn to the structure and one-to-one social opportunities that a monthly lodge meeting offers. Of course, the refreshments post meeting are quite motivating to most, myself included. Another contingent prefers less structure, joining in only when an activity creates interest within – be it a festival, a volunteer opportunity, or a sporting event.

For one, Lodge Karel Jonas No. 279 near Vining, Iowa, has a particularly successful example of a unique local festival each winter that I, along with our reigning Miss CSA, attend. I encourage you to take a moment to go through the Calendar of Events in the upcoming Journal issues or follow us on Facebook.

I know that trying something new can be uncomfortable or sometimes difficult. Take for instance the founders of CSA. They journeyed to an unfamiliar place, and after finding a need within their community, created a new society to help each other in times of need. Take some time this fall, and try something new. Attend that event that you have thought about, but did not know what it would be like. Volunteer your time. Attend your Lodge meetings and become involved. Maybe you want a bigger role in your Lodge? Running for an officer position might be a great way to have an impact.

Heather and I attended the BrewNost in Cedar Rapids, the 100th Anniversary Celebration for the Czech Republic in Chicago, Illinois, and the “Especially for You Race Against Breast Cancer Walk” in Cedar Rapids for our fourth year in a row. We always enjoy spending time with fellow CSA members at events. Please, should you see us, stop and say hello and let me know what’s been on your mind.

Fraternally,
Matthew A. Koski
Greetings fellow brothers and sisters,

As the end of September passed and October approached, I have to say it is one of my favorite months because of all the festivities that come with it. There’s pumpkin carving, fall weather, and most importantly: Halloween!

The beginning of this semester was definitely a hard transition due to being on vacation for so long. Perhaps my hardest class is Microbiology, the study of microorganisms. It is definitely my most time-consuming class, yet most interesting. Nonetheless, I’m off to a good start this year! I have to say though, I did not miss the late night studying or balancing work and school.

Perhaps my most enjoyable memory last month was attending the American Heart Association Walk in Oak Brook, Illinois on September 22. My father, Robert, received heart surgery last September and was eager to start this new Stone family tradition. He was in cardiac rehab for a couple months after his surgery and has been doing great ever since!

Nearly 5,000 participants had the opportunity to pay tribute to loved ones who have been affected by heart disease and strokes. The walk was three miles total. There were many companies that participated, setting up tents and giving out healthy snacks like fruit and water, as well as free shirts and goodie bags to the public. There were plenty of heart-healthy activities throughout the day. It was nice to see everyone paying tribute to their loved ones and working together for a good cause.

This month, I am very excited to attend the Czech and Slovak Folklife Festival in Prince George, Virginia. I have never visited Virginia before, so I’m excited to meet CSA members and guests, try new foods, and experience Czech traditions.

Best,
Sister Cassandra Stone
Miss National CSA 2018-2019
“October Beginnings” Occur at CSA, Too!

At this time, we begin to plan for the coming year. The Fraternal Committee of the Board of Directors will meet in November to discuss the CSA Serves program, Miss CSA Contest, Lodge Recognition Program, Photo Contest, Fraternalist of the Year, Junior Bowl-O-Rama, CSA Scholarship, and all of the other fraternal offerings and benefits. We will also review all forms that are sent to lodges each year for reporting purposes. The intent of these discussions is to determine if these programs can be improved and to assure we are planning and executing the necessary activities which define a fraternal society.

We will continue to discuss new ideas for fraternal offerings and events. Our ultimate goal is to keep lodges and members active, volunteering more of their time and dollars, having more fun through planned social affairs for both adults and youth, and recruiting new members. We’re always pursuing fresh themes and concepts to remain viable. Our activities and good works will assure our continuation, not only as America’s oldest fraternal benefit society, but maintain our non-profit status as well.

We welcome your ideas and comments. Remember, this is your fraternal society. Be part of the process.
Guláš a Houskové Knedlíky
(Goulash and Bread Dumplings)

Thank you to CSA member, Bro. Joseph Kocab, for the goulash recipe. The bread dumpling recipe is taken from the Czech American Cuisine cookbook from the Cultural Division of CSA District Council No. 12. Call Caroline Johnston at (708) 387-9423 to purchase one!

Goulash Ingredients:
- 2 lbs. of meat from the shoulder (beef preferred)
- 1 cup beef stock
- 1 large onion, minced
- 2 tablespoons butter, to taste
- salt, to taste
- 4 whole cloves
- 8 whole allspice
- 1 slice of lemon
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 2-3 tablespoons of ketchup (optional)
- 1 pinch of paprika (optional)

Goulash Instructions:
Cut the 2 lbs. of meat from the shoulder into small squares. Fry one large minced onion in two tablespoons of butter until golden brown. Add the meat, salt, 4 whole cloves, 8 whole allspice, 1 slice of lemon, 1 bay leaf, 2 tablespoons of vinegar, 1 tablespoon of sugar, and allow it to stew in 1 cup of beef stock. When the meat is tender, dust with a tablespoon of flour. If dry, add a little hot water, 2-3 tablespoons of ketchup, and 1 pinch of paprika. Allow this to stew a while longer, then serve.

Bread Dumpling Ingredients:
- 3-4 slices buttercrust bread, cubed
- 2 large eggs
- 3 teaspoons salt
- 1 cup milk
- 3 cups flour

Bread Dumpling Instructions:
Cube bread and dry in the oven. Beat eggs with salt. Let stand for 5 minutes. Then add milk and sifted flour. Beat with wooden spoon until bubbles form in dough. Fold in bread cubes. Dust the top of dough with flour and let stand 20-30 minutes. Form mix into 5 oblong-shaped dumplings and drop into rapidly boiling salted water. Cover and cook in slowly boiling water for 15 minutes. When done, lift out with slotted spoon. Cut into slices and serve immediately.
Twelve Tips for Back to School

1. Utilize more study spaces.

A well-stocked desk in a quiet place at home is key, but having a variety of study spaces is ideal. Coffee shops, libraries, parks, or even just moving to the kitchen table will give you a change of scenery, which can prompt your brain to retain information better. Consider an outside spot as well, such as a park, as daylight can improve learning abilities and health.

2. Track more than homework in your school planner.

Don’t let your calendar collect dust. Keeping a calendar helps you plan ahead, but you’ve got more going on than just homework assignments. Make sure you’re marking your extracurricular, work, and social commitments, also. Tests, band practice, away games, SAT dates, half-days, and holidays are just a few examples of reminders for your planner... or for your phone!

3. Start small.

If you’ve got a big assignment like a research paper, stay motivated by completing a piece of the project every few days. Try writing a paragraph or two each night. If you have a complex math assignment, complete five problems at a time, and then take a break and focus on another subject.

4. School supplies (alone) don’t make you organized.

Find a system that works for you and stick with it. Do you keep one big binder for all your classes with color-coded tabs? Or do you dedicate separate notebooks and folders for each subject? Keep the system simple because if it’s too fancy or complicated, you are less likely to keep it up every day.

5. Get into a routine.

When will you make the time to do your homework every day? Find the time of day that works best for you (this can change day-to-day, depending on your schedule), and make a plan to hit the books.

6. Create a distraction-free zone.

A study on workplace distractions found that it takes workers an average of 25 minutes to return to what they were working on pre-interruption. Try turning off your phone notifications or temporarily blocking your social media accounts on your computer so you can concentrate on the homework tasks at hand.
Twelve Tips for Back to School

7. Be realistic.

When you’re looking at the homework you have to get done, be realistic about how long things actually take. If you estimate that reading a history chapter will take an hour and writing a response will take another 30 minutes, this will help you plan how you spend your time. That way, you’re not cramming late into the night because you miscalculated how long your homework will take.

8. Use class time wisely.

Did your teacher finish lecturing, and you still have 10 minutes of class left? Use this time to ask your teacher questions about the current subject matter, or get started on another class’s homework assignment while it’s still fresh in your mind.

9. Read and edit your notes every night.

Fill in details that you may have missed during class, edit the parts that don’t make sense, and star or highlight the bits of information that you know are most important. Interacting with your notes will help you remember them. Looking over notes with a classmate can help you retain the information, too.

10. Study a little every day.

Cramming for a quiz might work in the short-term, but when it comes time for big exams like midterms and finals, you’ll be back at square one. You might remember the vocabulary list just long enough to ace the quiz, but continuing to review the terms over and over will help you remember them for the long haul.

11. Don’t let a bad grade keep you down.

A rough start to the semester doesn’t have to sink your GPA. Take proactive steps by checking your grades regularly online, communicating with the teacher, and getting a tutor if you need one.

12. Make a friend in every class.

Find a few people you can contact from each of your classes if you have a homework question or had to miss class (and do the same for them!). Then when it comes time to study for exams, you’ll already have a study group.


October is National Tomato Month, as well as National Sun Dried Tomato Month, unless you’re in Florida – April is Fresh Florida Tomato Month – and unless your CSA President John Kielczewski’s wife Lynette, who is allergic. Sorry, Lynette!

Do you grow your own tomatoes? Many gardeners end up with dozens that they just don’t know what to do with. You hate to waste these beauties, but you can’t help wondering, “What the heck am I gonna do with all these tomatoes?” Never fear!

Read below for all the ways you can use your tomatoes.

1. **Eat them whole.**
Slice them up with a little salt and pepper and enjoy!

2. **Make fresh salsa.**
You can get creative. Some ideas include: fermented salsa, peach and tomato salsa, pico de gallo, grilled corn and tomato salsa, etc.

3. **Cook and can your salsa.**
Do you like your salsa all year round? Canning your own salsa is a great way to have quality salsa through the winter.

4. **Use them as a skin cleanser.**
The acids in tomato juice are great for softening and cleaning skin, while the lycopene helps eliminate free radicals.
   - For oily skin: mix equal parts fresh tomato juice and aloe vera juice.
   - For dry skin: use a ratio of 1 part tomato juice to 2 parts aloe vera juice.
Rub a tablespoon of this mixture onto your face and rinse with warm water.

5. **Sunburn relief.**
If your sunburn is recent and not blistering or peeling, rubbing a slice of tomato on it can lessen the redness. According to a study, eating tomatoes can increase your skin’s natural sun protection.

6. **Make your own pasta sauce.**
7. **Make tomato sandwiches.**
A few slices of tomatoes, two slices of bread, and a little mayonnaise... as easy as that! You can also add avocado (optional).

8. **Make tomato soup.**
Homemade tomato soup is full of lycopene, which has been shown to fight chronic diseases and increase the body’s natural sun protection.

9. **Make BLTs.**
Classic BLTs are great, but there are some really interesting ways of dressing them up. Consider adding avocado, cheese, fried egg, fresh greens, onion, or just turn your BLT into a BLT grilled cheese – and dip it in your homemade tomato soup!

10. **Make tomato juice.**
You can use tomato juice in soups, to add flavor to meat, to deodorize a refrigerator, or to make a Bloody Mary.

11. **Make tomato paste.**
Tomato paste is one of the best sources of lycopene around. It can be used in many dishes and freezes really well, making it an MVP of tomato products. Pro tip: freeze some tomato paste in ice cube trays or can it in extra-small canning jars.

12. **Make grilled bruschetta.**
Cut a crusty baguette into slices and toast them on the grill. Then brush with garlic butter or oil. Top with slices of tomato, fresh mozzarella, and balsamic vinaigrette, or get adventurous and experiment with additional toppings such as mushrooms, fresh chopped herbs, gorgonzola, zucchini, or prosciutto.
13. Make fried green tomatoes. Sometimes tomatoes fall off the vine, or a frost is expected before they ripen. What would you do with too many tomatoes when they’re not ripe besides fry them? Slice your green tomatoes, dip them in an egg bath, coat with batter of choice (cornmeal and flour), then fry the tomatoes in oil at 375° until golden and crispy.

14. Make homemade tomato ketchup. It’ll be free of high fructose corn syrup!

15. Make homemade spaghetti sauce.


17. Grill them. Start with firm tomatoes, slice them in half horizontally, brush with olive oil, grill until line marks form, flip, and repeat. Top with salt and enjoy!

18. Marinate them. Simply add halved cherry tomatoes, fresh herbs, salt, pepper, and garlic to a jar of olive oil and vinegar and let them sit for several hours or overnight.

19. Freeze them. Freezing raw tomatoes is a great way to preserve them if you are planning on using them for a sauce or stew later.

20. Can them. Whole, halved, or diced, canning is a great way to preserve tomatoes that doesn’t require electricity to keep (like freezing does).

21. Make stuffed tomatoes. Take sturdy tomatoes, slice them in half horizontally, and scoop out the inside. Fill with your choice of filling (bread crumbs, cheese, spinach, mushrooms, rice, and quinoa are some possibilities). Bake at 400° for 20-30 minutes.

22. Make tri-colored tomato salad. When you have a lot of different colored tomatoes, why not make a tri-colored tomato salad? Chop tomatoes into bite sized pieces and toss with fresh basil, mozzarella, olive oil, and balsamic vinegar.

23. Make sun dried tomatoes. Store-bought sun dried tomatoes at the grocery store are expensive. Sun dried tomatoes are great in pasta dishes, hummus, pesto, or omelets. Wash and halve sturdy tomatoes, and gently squeeze out the seeds. Place the tomatoes on a non-stick cookie sheet, and sprinkle with salt to taste. Bake at 200° until tomatoes take on a leathery texture. This could literally take all day; smaller pieces will require less oven time.

24. Incorporate tomatoes with fruit. Since technically tomatoes are a fruit, why not add them to your fruit salad?

25. Make shakshuka. Shakshuka is a dish of eggs poached in a sauce of tomatoes, chili peppers, and onions, commonly spiced with cumin, paprika and cayenne pepper. Although the dish has existed in Mediterranean and Middle Eastern regions, its more recent egg and vegetable-based form originated in Tunisia.

26. Make tomato basil garlic butter. What’s great about making flavored butter is that you can easily freeze it for another time. You can make large batches and have it available all winter.

27. Barter or sell them. If you have more tomatoes than you can eat, can, freeze, or dry, why not sell them at a farmer’s market or barter with a friend for something different?

28. Give them away. When all else fails and you still have too many tomatoes, give them away. It shouldn’t be too difficult to find someone willing to take extra tomatoes off your hands, and it will be a relief to know they aren’t going to waste. You may even be able to donate fresh tomatoes to a local food pantry.

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District Council

Enjoy Autumn

District Council No. 12 of Northern Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana – October is the tenth month of our calendar year. This means that 75 percent of 2018 is part of history. Even though our summer weather was hotter than usual, we enjoyed the picnics, vacation travel, family outings, visiting with friends, etc. Needless to say, the 82nd Annual Get-Together and the 41st Quadrennial Convention were a lot of fun and a very positive experience for our delegates. Once again, we congratulate President John Kielczewski; the supporting administrative officers; our two Board members for D.C. 12, Ken Dvorsky and newly elected Cary Mentzer; and all the other new and re-elected Board members. Keep up the fine work. We appreciate all that you do for our Society.

So many things happen in October. On October 1, we start with Simchat Torah, which honors the first five books of the Old Testament. World Teacher’s Day follows on October 5, Columbus Day is observed on October 8, Canadian Thanksgiving and Leif Ericson Day on October 9, United Nations Day on October 24, Nevada Statehood Day on October 26, and finally Halloween is on October 31. The beautiful fall colors usually reach their “peak” beauty during the middle part of this month. Why not go out and enjoy the cool weather and the gorgeous scenery?

Don’t forget that District Council usually conducts its monthly meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month – October 25, 2018. Meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room in the CSA Home Office. All CSA members and lodge officers are always welcome to attend.

Enjoy autumn and do all the things that you enjoy.

Fraternally,
Edward Slavik

Do You Work In - Or Are You Studying - A Skilled Trade?

Construction
Automotive
Electrical
Landscaping
Welding
Etc...

We want to hear from you!
Send us your story and experience.
Email Amanda at alovell@csalife.com.
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

CSA Fraternal Life

2050 Finley Rd. Ste. 70, P.O. Box 249, Lombard, IL 60148 · Phone: 630-472-0500 · Fax: 630-472-1100

www.csalife.com

Like us on Facebook
Sis. Marianna Schrack received the 2018 Best of Class Award of $4,000. She plans to double major in Social Work and International Business and minor in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). Her dream is to help victims of human trafficking and increase awareness of this global atrocity.

**Marianna Schrack**  
Lodge Christa No. 479  
CSA Scholarship Top Winner  
*Roberts Wesleyan College*  
*Rochester, New York*  

**Stuart Brdicka**  
Lodge DuPage  
Pioneers/Edison No. 409  
*Ashland University*  
*Ashland, Ohio*  

**Lindsay Civin**  
Lodge Bellaire  
No. 310  
*The Ohio State University*  
*Columbus, Ohio*  

**Joseph Deditz**  
Lodge Anton J. Cermak  
No. 99  
*The University of Kansas*  
*Lawrence, Kansas*  

**Melissa Martinek**  
Lodge Golden Gate  
No. 252  
*University of Colorado*  
*Colorado Springs, Colorado*  

**Ivianna Martnishn**  
Lodge Blue Crystal  
No. 484  
*Indiana University of Pennsylvania*  
*Indiana, Pennsylvania*
Congratulations!

2018 Scholarship Recipients

Raymond Mentzer
Lodge Woodrow Wilson
No. 377
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, Wisconsin

Erin Murgas
Lodge Harrison/Hus/Garfield
No. 378
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, Illinois

Katherine Novak
Lodge Rovnost
No. 53
University of Wisconsin-Platteville
Platteville, Wisconsin

Florence Schreiner
Lodge Slunce
No. 374
Florida State University
Tallahassee, Florida

Daniel Sivak
Lodge Friendship
No. 66
University of Illinois Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Benjamin Smenda
Lodge Cleveland Chapter
No. 219
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio

Read the Journal online at: www.csalife.com
Meet the Member - Anne Farrar

Most of us recall having a teacher who stands out in our early childhood memories. One such teacher is our own Anne Farrar of Lodge Mile-Hi Czechs No. 432. On June 9, 2018, Anne hosted a kindergarten reunion at a lovely luncheon that was attended by a room full of former students, including a retired Lt. Colonel from the Air Force, former student teachers, retired teachers, and principals – some of whom are now grandparents. They reminisced and related stories of their first experiences in school. Anne had spent months gathering class photographs then listing each child’s name on the border so they could be easily identified when displayed around the reception room.

She began teaching in 1959 at the Cloverdale Cottages while the main school, Lasley Elementary, was being built. In 1968, my twin boys were about to enter kindergarten. Word had gotten around that Mrs. Farrar was the teacher every parent hoped to get for their child. We were told to get our request in early. We waited anxiously, and finally a few weeks before the start date, a list was posted on the classroom door. Our boys were on it! One of our boys was eager to start school, while his twin brother wasn’t so sure. The day came. They were dressed in their new clothes and shoes with big pencils and pads in hand. One ran up the walk to the door and motioned for his brother to hurry up. While lagging behind, he said, “I’ll go, but I ain’t gonna like it.”

Mrs. Farrar welcomed us into the sunny east-windowed classroom with colorful pictures hanging all around the room. A group of children huddled in the front corner, each wanting to pet Sweet Sue, a furry bunny rabbit. It wasn’t long before my hesitant boy hurried to see what they were up to. When I picked them up after school, they were both waving colorful pictures they had drawn wearing wide smiles. The hesitant one said, “I really like school better than I thought I would.”

That year is when Sweet Sue got married and had babies. One student asked, “Did a priest marry them?” If those walls could talk, they’d tell stories that would surely be best sellers. The little students learned responsibility by taking her home on weekends, feeding her, and cleaning her cage. In addition, there was Gertie, the guinea pig whose three babies were named Eeny, Meeny, and Moe.

Every holiday held special meaning, with festivals that invited parents. A memorable one was the Thanksgiving Pilgrim Feast. Anne went over and above to find ways to keep the children interested in coming to school and learning. During her 29 years of greeting first-time students, most likely she had many who were frightened of going to school, but she calmed their fears and made each one feel special. This teacher always had something creative for them to do to captivate their interest. After her years at Lasley Elementary, Mrs. Farrar continued to teach as a substitute for another 20 years. She loved what she did, and looked forward to going to work each day. She said, “I even got paid for what I loved to do – teach children.”

In addition to nurturing all the school children throughout the years, Anne was married to Russ Farrar and had two children of their own - Russel and Janet. Granddaughter Anna, a former contestant for Miss CSA, attended the reunion and spoke glowingly about times she spent with her grandmother when she was young. Through the years, Anne and Russ traveled extensively, having visited 101 countries and all the continents. That in itself is quite a feat.

Anne is a 64-year member of CSA’s Mile-High Czechs. Among the many offices she held was Vice President, along with being chosen Fraternalist of the Year.

So many of her students received a good foundation in her classroom, and have gone on to hold notable positions. One interesting note is that a former student became a principal and ended up being her boss at one of the schools where she subbed. Mrs. Farrar made each child feel special and they loved her for it.

We thank Anne for excelling as a teacher, as well as for all she has done for our Lodge.

Adella Schulz
Lodge Comings and Goings

Lodge Mile-Hi Czechs No. 432, Lakewood, Colorado — Our lodge’s comings and goings over the summer included our July luncheon in Arvada, which wasn’t as well-attended due to vacations and the heat!

My grandson, Pete Campe, and I (Pat Kenning) loved the two weeks we spent on the Douro River in Portugal on a Vantage Cruise. We learned a lot about all aspects of wine and enjoyed the friendly, clean country. It seems like the Portuguese like holidays – 30 national ones a year – and every city has its own famous battles and heroes that they commemorate. There’s great food, too.

That was in March. The month of May found Pat and her daughter, Sis. Mary Campe, on a long-planned Great Lakes cruise, again by Vantage. We flew to Toronto, a lovely city with the best food truck hot dogs I have ever had. Crossing south on Lake Ontario, we landed on the Canadian side of thundering Niagara Falls and made our way through the crowds to the misty, moisty boat ride at the bottom of the falls, with ponchos provided. We sailed on Lake Erie to Cleveland and the justifiably famous Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, where Mary bought a T-shirt listing all the Hall of Famers to date. She proudly wore it to our August lunch.

Sailing north on Lake Huron, we docked at an Indian village with colorful dancers and wilderness. We spent only 15 minutes on Lake Superior at Sault Ste. Marie and Maritime museums. Then we were off to the fabled Mackinaw Island and the horse drawn tours – no cars allowed! We enjoyed the most fabulous brunch at their famous hotel. Our last day at sea we spent cruising due-south on Lake Michigan to Chicago, where we spent two days touring and eating their famous deep dish pizza. These cruises are only from May to September, and we recommend them to all!

In August, I was a delegate to the CSA Quadrennial Convention in Countryside, Illinois, just south of Chicago. The humidity hit me like a soggy towel, but the hotel was air-conditioned. I came early for the annual Get-Together and the crowning of the new Miss National CSA. I enjoyed the food and friendly people, including 95 year-old Frank Zabransky, a WWII vet who entertained us with his piano skills. The Sunday program included an impassioned speech and PowerPoint presentation by Honor Flight Chicago – a national effort to fly WWII vets and now, Korean vets, to Washington D.C. to admire the monuments, enjoy their companions, and experience the adventure of a lifetime. It costs over $1,000 per vet to fly them on a chartered plane, so the speaker pleaded for donations. CSA provided a generous check, as did several others. Such a worthy cause!

At the Convention, business was efficiently conducted. I was on the Donations Committee, chaired by Adam. There were 22 requests for funds, such as repairing buildings, helping out a cultural dance group or school, etc. We had $5,000 to distribute, and I’m happy to say, each request received at least $100. It was a good experience.

Our annual Fall potluck at the lovely home and patio of author Adella Schulz was held on a hot Saturday afternoon in September. Good food and friendship was enjoyed by all after which Mary Campe led a fun trivia game, once again won by Irma and John Farrell. The business meeting included a touching article written by Adella and was published in the Pioneer newspaper regarding Anne Farrar and her 30 years of teaching kindergarten at the same school from 1967-97. Anne celebrated her 85th birthday in a unique way, by inviting hundreds of her former students – some of which she has kept in touch with and some she hasn’t seen in a while – to attend a reunion party at the Lakewood Elks Lodge. The event also made the first few pages of the Monday, July 2 issue of the Denver Post! Nearly a hundred people attended and brought memories and photos. The highlight was a quilt she had received. It was saved from her last class of kindergarteners. Daughter Janet and granddaughter Anna assisted along with Adella, whose twin boys had been in one of her classes. (See page 18.)

A note from Jack Strunc requesting book money for his senior year at Creighton University was granted in the amount of $250. His book fees are about $700, including the rental books from the internet. Times have changed!

Mary Lou Bennington’s travel plans are on hold for right now.

Irma Farrell’s Musicians of St. Clare Choir will be touring Europe in October, including Venice, Rome, Florence, and Assisi.

It was good to see Adeline Stafford, 92, and Barbara Tobiska, 95, present.

Next month we look forward to seeing Irma Wolf, a quilter who will show us her heritage quilt.

Yes, lately we’ve had hail ruin many gardens, and even a tornado, but where else would you rather live than colorful Colorado?

Fraternally,
Sis. Pat Kenning
Ready for Fall
Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 77, North Riverside, Illinois – Summer is finally coming to an end. The 24 days of 90 degree weather, humidity, and little rain made it hard to get out and enjoy it. No matter the weather, everyone enjoys a picnic. Many of our members attended the Bohemian National Cemetery and Czech American Congress picnics.

I am ready for the cool, crisp weather of Fall. Don’t forget that on Halloween, children will be out Trick or Treating. Please watch for them crossing the streets.

I wanted to mention a few more things. Our Lodge participated in the Get-Together. Cindy Bueneman and I had a great time meeting and registering the guests. Cindy and I donated two gifts each for the Saturday night raffle.

Eight members from our Lodge attended the banquet on Saturday night.

All of us had a great time with conversation and food.

Our Lodge was represented by Josephine Budilovsky in the Miss CSA Contest. She has a great personality and we wish her all the best in the future. We hope she can visit our Lodge.

Don’t forget, November is election of officers. Any member interested in any of these positions should attend the meeting.

Fraternally,
Mary Ellen Janda

Thank You!
Lodge Groveton No. 4, McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania – On behalf of Lodge Groveton No. 4, we would like to give a special thank you to the wonderful lodge members of the Windy City who were responsible for hosting an unforgettable Get-Together. Lodge Groveton was fortunate enough to have nine members attend the Get-Together this year and each one had an awesome time. From the thoughtful Service Project, the Navy Pier boat ride, and the festivities of Friday and Saturday evenings, it made for a memorable weekend. It was great seeing members from around the country and catching up with old friends.

Lodge Groveton looks forward to recouping from a fun weekend in Countryside, Illinois, and continuing into the final part of the year with some exciting projects, Lodge excursions, and the upcoming holiday parties. Please check our Facebook page, Lodge Groveton, to take a glimpse of previous events and keep an eye open for pictures from our upcoming activities as well. Friend request the Lodge, like it, and reach out to talk to members you may not see that often except around Get-Together time. We look forward to hearing from our fellow Brothers and Sisters.

Fraternally,
Gary Forrester
Lodge Happenings

Great Time at the Ballpark

Lodge Washington No. 30, St. Louis, Missouri – What a great time at the ballpark! Members and a few friends attended a River City Rascals baseball game in August. Some of us had never attended a minor league game, and we really enjoyed the whole atmosphere of being so close to the action in such a friendly setting – and the home team won! Many thanks to the Lodge for organizing the outing. We hope to do it again next year, now that we all know where the stadium is!

Being Fraternalist of the Year has a few perks – and one of them is the chance to hand over the donation check personally to the charity of choice. That’s what Jenny Zeman did at the Animal Protective Association. She presented the $100 from the Home Office and visited with an especially active little hound mix named Buddy. In addition to facilitating pet adoptions, the APA has a great program called PetReach, a therapeutic animal visitation program, and Jenny decided this was the perfect place for the donation. Thank you to the Fraternal Department for making this possible.

Mark your calendars for the Lodge Christmas Party on Sunday, December 9. We’ll have our gift exchange, our charitable collection to benefit the Veterans Food Pantry at Jefferson Barracks, a visit from Santa, and our election of officers for the coming year. Invitations will go out in November with all the details.

And as always, look for local activities and news on our Facebook pages … American-Czech Educational Center and CSA Fraternal Life – District Council No. 13.

Fraternally,
Deborah Zeman

Top right - Lodge members enjoying a night at the ballpark
Bottom right - Jenny Zeman visits with Buddy at the Animal Protective Association.

Jean Warning is Turning 90!

Jean Warning, member of Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409, will be 90 years old on November 30. In honor of her big day, her children hosted a summer birthday party on July 15 at her son’s beautiful barn, Southern Charm Venue in Frankfort. Since Jean’s favorite character, Mickey Mouse, will also celebrate his 90th birthday this year, he made a special appearance. Plus, there was a Mickey bouncy house for all her great-grandchildren!

Fraternally,
Nancy Warning Osborne

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Election of Officers

Lodge Century of Progress/Bila Hora No. 231, Cicero, Illinois – We will hold our Election of Officers for the year of 2019 at our November 14 lodge meeting at T.G. Masaryk Czech School located at 5701 W. 22nd Place, Cicero, Illinois. The meeting will begin at 12:15 in the afternoon.

The boat trip that was held at the Get-Together was very enjoyable for me. I had not been on a boat trip on the Chicago River for many years. I was amazed seeing so many new buildings that Downtown Chicago now has. We went through the Chicago Harbor Lock before going to Lake Michigan, and had to wait while the water level adjusted to equal the Lake Michigan water level. While sailing on Lake Michigan, we enjoyed seeing the Chicago skyline, the Chicago Harbor Lighthouse, the water taxis, and various other sailboats and motor boats. All in all, this was a very enjoyable boat trip.

The Hospitality Room on August 3 had two Šunky piggy banks. One was the traditional Šunky and the other was a special one just for this time only. It was a plush, large white piggy bank donated by Maryann Slavik. This one was raffled off. One happy little girl won it and she was seen carrying it around all day.

Congratulations to John Kielczewski who was elected President of CSA Fraternal Life. This is now the last time the Convention will elect the CSA President. From now on, all presidents will be appointed by the Board of Directors. Congratulations to Kenneth Dvorsky and Cary Mentzer of Region E who will represent us on the Board of Directors.

Fraternally,
Loretta Paulus

Potluck Planned for November

Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137, Cedar Rapids, Iowa – Our lodge met on September 5 at Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church with 29 members enjoying a great potluck.

Upcoming events will be the boat trip and lunch on the Mississippi River with Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchmen playing during the whole trip on September 12.

The Especially for You Breast Cancer Walk and Run will be on October 7. Marj Nejdl recorded names of the members who will be participating in this event.

Lodge Prokop Velky will be sponsoring a Christmas Party for a care center where one of our lodge members resides. Members are to start bringing bottles of shampoo and body wash to our meetings so we can prepare gift bags for over 80 residents at the care center. We will also need cookies for the gift containers, closer to the date of the event.

Plans are being made for the youth Christmas party at the Bender Pool. The dates for both events will be mentioned at the next meeting.

We are collecting money for the Veteran’s Pantry at the Veterans Affairs building. Lodge Prokop Velky will buy the groceries and toiletries that are needed for the vets. Our lodge would like to thank CSA Fraternal Life for the annual allotment check that we received. This will be very useful for many upcoming projects in the future.

We were very pleased to hear that CSA will again sponsor the polka band, Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchmen, next year during the Cedar Rapids Freedom Festival on July 1, 2019. So many people, including many of our members, enjoyed the music this past July. Lodge Prokop Velky will also sponsor this great band.

Our lodge would like to sponsor a veteran who would like to go on a military Honor Flight in the future. More details are needed and will be brought up at the next meeting. We already have at least one member who is interested in going.

The attendance award for this month was won by Don Hamous, who will give his winnings to the Cedar Rapids Sokol group and the Boy Scouts. Thank you, Don.

Our next meeting will be on November 7 at 6:00 p.m. We will have a potluck at Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church. On December 5, we will have our lodge’s Christmas Party. Details are TBA. We welcome all to come and enjoy the CSA hospitality at our meetings.

May we enjoy wonderful fall weather as we look forward to the holiday season.

Fraternally yours,
Barbara Edmunds

Welcome Fall!
Lodge Golden Gate No. 252, San Jose, California – More than 80 people crowded into the Adobe Lodge on the campus of Santa Clara University to attend a luncheon honoring Carol and Walt Strach’s 50 years of wedded bliss. The party was organized and hosted by their four adult children: Patricia, Katherine, Walter, and Karen.

At Carol’s request, they agreed to forgo dancing and a polka band. Instead Patricia narrated a slide show of Carol and Walt’s marriage that brought out many smiles and some laughter. When asked what advice they had for a long and happy marriage, Walt was quoted as saying, “You can be right or married, and I haven’t been right in 50 years.”

Fraternally,
Jim Martinek

Meet the Member - Stephanie Kenyon

Lodge Golden Gate No. 252, San Jose, California – This past summer I had the privilege of traveling throughout Europe for 2 ½ weeks with my mom and my cousin, lodge member Sheree Martinek. During our 18 days abroad, we visited five countries and seven cities!

The city I was most excited to visit was Prague. While in Prague, we were fortunate to reunite with a longtime family friend from the Czech Republic named Marketa. She took us to the top of the Zizkov Tower, standing 709 feet above ground where we were able to see the entire city. We walked across the Charles Bridge, viewed several churches, and most importantly, we ate a lot of delicious Czech food. The pork, dumplings, and sauerkraut (vptrový, knedlíky, and zelí) was outstanding, as was the apple strudel (jablečný závin).

One of the most unique experiences was traveling about 35 minutes out of the city to the Sedlec Ossuary. The ossuary is estimated to contain the skeletons of over 70,000 bodies, whose bones have, in many cases, been artistically arranged to form decorations and furnishings for the chapel. Never in my life did I think I would see something as spooky as that.

I feel very fortunate to have had the experience to travel the world and see the Czech Republic, the country my family descended from.

Stephanie Kenyon

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.
Lodge Happenings

Trip Planned

Lodge Anton J. Cermak No. 99, Brookfield, Illinois – Our September meeting saw the return of our Sentry, Bro. Paul Kaderabek. Personally, I talked about my adventures hiking the Appalachian Trail in Hot Springs, North Carolina and whitewater rafting down the French Broad River, which is one of the oldest rivers in America. The lodge discussed plans for a trip to the Morton Arboretum in late September to see the trolls prowling the park.

Lodge Anton J. Cermak meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. at Tony’s Restaurant in Brookfield, Illinois. New faces and ideas are always welcomed.

Fraternally,
Charles Courtney

Annual Meeting

Lodge Virginia No. 230, Colonial Heights, Virginia – Our lodge will hold our 2018 Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 10 at 1 p.m. at the Colonial Italian Restaurant on 2510 Boulevard in Colonial Heights. We will hold our Election of Officers, and we look forward to seeing many of our members there.

For more information, contact our Secretary/Treasurer Mary Zahradka at 804-732-8463.

Fraternally,
Janet Zahradka Reiner

Elections, Awards, Congrats, and Thanks!

Lodge Kruh Osvojenech Zen A Panu No. 121, Dillonvale, Ohio – Our lodge would like to invite and encourage all of our members to attend the annual Election of Officers Meeting, which will take place Sunday, November 11 at the Dillonvale Presbyterian Church Social Hall at 2 p.m. District Council No. 9 delegates will also hold their Election of Officers Meeting at the church at 12:30 prior to the Lodge No. 121 meeting. Please come out to support your lodge and exercise your right to vote on the leadership of our organization. We need you!

We are excited to announce that three of our youth members recently competed at the Jefferson County Fair with 4-H animal projects. Sis. Bailey Ebright, a member of Warren Ridge Wranglers 4-H Club, won both first and fourth place ribbons for her rabbit, “Ace.” Bro. Christopher Ebright, also from the Warren Ridge Wranglers, was awarded three individual 1st place ribbons and a recognition plaque for his cow, “Rodeo.” Bro. Skyler Ebright, a member of The Country Shamrocks 4-H Club, showed his market hog, “Chubs,” and won recognition for his pygmy goats including: four 1st place ribbons, two 2nd place ribbons, and two Grand Championship ribbons. We would like to congratulate all of you for your hard work and dedication in caring for your animals and completing your projects.

We all join your families in saying, “We’re so proud of you!”

We would like to congratulate a very well-deserving member, Sis. Hunter Yurkovich, from Lodge Groveton No. 4, for receiving the Kropik Scholarship. What a great accomplishment for you, Hunter! We hope that you have a great school year!

My family would like to say a big hello to Sis. Anne Marie Antos of the Chicago area. Thank you so much for the care packages you presented us with at the recent Get-Together in Countryside. Your thoughtfulness and fraternal kindness was greatly appreciated and we really enjoyed our time with you!

Thoughts and prayers go out to all of the recent victims of Hurricane Florence. Our hearts were heavy as we viewed the mass destruction on our televisions, computers, and cell phones. You will be on our minds in the days to come.

“Every day is a new beginning. Stay away from what might have been and look at what can be.”
—Marsha Petrie Sue, Author

Hoping your Autumn is awesome!

Fraternally,
Sis. Wendy Kurtz Lovell

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Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372, Bedford, Ohio – There were eight members present at our August meeting.

Mary Ann Toncar, Jan Dembowski, Diane DiBianca, Donna Tesmer, and Johnny Weiss had a great time at the Get-Together. All said, the food was very good and even though it was hot, Jan said the one-hour Wendell’s architectural tour of Chicago skyscrapers and Lake Michigan ride was interesting and fun. Both Mary Ann and Johnny won very nice baskets of goodies. Mary Ann was the unofficial photographer of the group.

The Lodge and Lodge members donated items, money and time (sorting and packing bags) to the Get-Together Service Project: BEDS PLUS.

Diane showed us a picture of her golf cart that she and her family decorated for the Obzinky Parade in Taborville, Ohio. Then, she went over the LRP. We are well on our way to Platinum!

We sang “Happy Birthday” to Virg Dvorak, who is ?? years young!

Next meetings: October 25 and November 15, at the Maple Heights Senior Center (again, for $1.50 you can also have a nice lunch). On December 15, the Lodge Christmas Party will be held at noon at Spennatos in Northfield.

Come to a meeting; reconnect/connect with your Lodge members!

My daughter Michelle, son-in-law Michael, and I were in Maui, Hawaii to celebrate my daughter Donna and husband Henry Tamashiro’s 25th anniversary. The celebration at Mamas Fish House and weather were both perfect.

Fraternally,
Annette Reichman
Blazing End to Summer

Lodge Queensdale No. 422, Woodside, New York – After a blazing end to our summer in New York, our members look forward to a new school year and the crisp days of fall.

Lodge Queensdale’s annual Election of Officers and Convention Delegates will be held on November 5, 2018 at noon at St. Jacobus Evangelical Lutheran Church in Woodside, New York. The District Council No. 2 meeting will immediately follow.

Fraternally yours,
Joanne Murnane
murnaneny@verizon.net
516-775-2504

Watering Hole Under New Management

Lodge Benjamin Franklin No. 02, Seven Hills, Ohio – On a warm evening in early August, I was shocked to receive a text message that our meeting location and favorite lodge watering hole is under new management. Immediately, calls were made and big Jim Zidlicky volunteered to chair an investigation committee along with Ken Burdzinski, Mike Cernosky and myself. We met at the Inn Between within the hour. It was true; Manny had sold the business after 35 years. Jim introduced us to one of the new proprietors and explained to her about Lodge Franklin and its mission statement. The new ownership will be more than happy to accommodate us and chalked up our next three meetings in the schedule book. Franklin meetings are generally held on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Inn Between, 8684 Ridge Road, North Royalton, Ohio. October’s quorum will take place on the 22nd and the all important elections of officers meeting will be November 19. Please plan to attend!

Just to clear the air, the fact that this investigation was so hastily assembled on my August 7 birthday, with Mike Cernosky celebrating his the following day, was strictly coincidental.

Fraternal regards,
Jeff Zidlicky
LodgeFranklinScribe@gmail.com

Tigers vs. Sox

Lodge Pingree No. 366, Dearborn Heights, Michigan – Hello, Brothers and Sisters. After attending the CSA Get-Together and Quadrennial Convention, I am pleased to announce that all Constitution, By-Laws, and financial proposals were approved and passed. These amendments were listed in previous Journals.

The fraternalism, dinners, meetings, and seeing old friends were excellent opportunities. We all had a great afternoon on a boat tour on the Chicago River and on Lake Michigan. It was 97° and sunny, especially for us on the upper, uncovered deck of the boat! All in all, it was an amazing week!

On August 15, Lodge Pingree bought 15 tickets for the Detroit Tigers vs. the Chicago White Sox. The lodge used eight of the tickets and donated seven to the Garden City Fire Department. Three lodge members attended: Marie Palmer, Jerry Vimr, and Jeff Teichman. We had beautiful weather and saw a good game.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 10 at the Sokol Cultural Center at 12:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Fraternally yours,
Jeff Teichman
Lodge Happenings

Wonderful Recap of GTG and Convention

Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409, Lombard, Illinois – Lodge members were active participants at CSA’s Annual Get-Together and Quadrennial Convention held the first weekend in August at the Holiday Inn Express (William Tell) Hotel in Countryside, Illinois. President and Treasurer, Jerry and Helen Gaydusek, Vice President Lyn Burton and husband Dale, Annmarie Antos, Karole Gaydusek, Phil Arnone, and CSA Executive Secretary/COO/CRO Matt Koski and wife Heather enjoyed all the activities and events planned by the GTG Committee.

The Get-Together featured a delicious potluck of Czech goodies and treats in the popular Hospitality Suite. Thanks to Marco Malusa, great-nephew of CSA member Andy Bultas, for designing the whimsical pin featuring the “Šunky” enjoying a Chicago favorite – Deep Dish Pizza! Thanks to Helen, Jerry, Lyn, and Dale for coordinating the raffle during Hospitality and at the basket raffle. Lyn Burton and Gerri Romanelli and Helen and Jerry donated two beautiful baskets for the Saturday night raffle. They were pleased so many raffle tickets filled their basket bags!

Members supported their favorite candidate for Miss National CSA and a District Council No. 12 member was crowned Miss CSA for 2018-19. Congratulations to Cassandra Stone of Lodge Brookfield No. 475; may she have an enjoyable and successful reign as Miss CSA for the coming year.

At Sunday Brunch, Mary Pettinato, CEO and Co-Founder of Honor Flight Chicago, and daughter of a WWII veteran, gave a heartwarming talk on the success of the program as well as the experiences of the vets who were honored. As many of the WWII vets have completed the trip, Korean and Vietnam vets are now starting to participate. Mary, a seasoned volunteer, started her career of good works as a Candy Stripper when she was 14! Recently, she was elected to the Board of the National Honor Flight Network.

Jerry, Lyn, and Dale represented our lodge as delegates to the Quadrennial Convention. Secretary/COO Matt Koski spoke before the assembly and did a wonderful job highlighting CSA successes over the past four years while recognizing those who helped make it so. The Convention was completed in near record time with the Constitution edited and shortened to resemble those of other fraternal organizations. All delegates took their job seriously and were conscientious in their committee work, floor suggestions, and recommendations. They are to be commended for their commitment to the future longevity of CSA Fraternal Life.

The Convention Delegates and the Society owe a big round of thanks and gratitude to Helen Gaydusek. Helen was responsible for all the mailings prior to the Convention: forms, publications, advice on travel and per diems, etc. She, along with HR Director Roberta Jarosik, Director Ken Dvorsky, and Jerry Gaydusek manned the Convention Office to assure Officers and Delegates had the tools needed to complete their tasks. Thank you, Helen, Rob, Ken, and Jerry! We couldn’t have done it without you!

September treats were in honor of Sandy and Jim Gaydusek’s 18th wedding anniversary, Jim’s birthday, and Jadalyn’s 13th birthday. Time sure does fly! Included in the birthday wishes, as everyone sang “Happy Birthday,” was Dr. Nicholas Antos and Fraternal Director Amanda Lovell, two other September babies.

Our September 17 meeting included much talk of the Get-Together and Convention.

Our October meeting will feature guest speakers Lyn and Dale Burton recounting their trip out West to see the Grand Tetons in honor of Dale’s 70th birthday. Gorgeous photos are sure to be part of their presentation.

On November 12, we will hold our election of officers. Our meetings are held at the CSA Home Office at 6:00 p.m. For information, call President Jerry at 630-739-5598. Please join us!

Fraternally,
Gerri Romanelli
Donation for Providence House

Lodge Happenings

Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219, Cleveland, Ohio – Fall weather is coming soon! We have had so many hot days here in Cleveland; the cooler weather will be such a relief! We had 13 members at our September meeting. So glad Norma Rosoletti and Dolores Clark were able to join us.

We held a Memorial Service for our deceased member, Marlette Heryak. She was a wonderful member who loved to cook and enjoy life. Money was donated to CSA’s Scholarship Fund in her memory.

We received a notice from the Home Office that our member, Benjamin Smenda, received his scholarship money. Good luck in college, Benjamin!

Our yummy lunch was provided by Carol Cirillo and Norma Rosoletti. Thank you, ladies! It was also Norma’s birthday this month – she is a young 98 years young and spry as ever. She was provided with a rousing chorus of “Happy Birthday”.

The Crockpot Cook-off fundraiser was held on Saturday, October 6 at the Ceska Sin facility. There were side boards, Chinese raffle, an ugly sweater contest, trivia contest, music, and lots of fun. This was sponsored by CSA Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219 and the Sokol Ceska Sin.

Our bowling league has begun. We have 24 bowlers and eight teams of three. As usual, we have a great time bowling and are always looking for new bowlers. So if you and two of your friends would like to bowl, please call Tony Genco at 440-886-2420. We bowl at 10 a.m. every Wednesday morning at Yorktown Lanes in Parma Heights.

We will be having the 58th Ohio/Penn Bowling Tournament on October 13 and 14 at the Seven Hills Bowling Lanes in Seven Hills, Ohio. Hopefully, you have received the information already.

On Saturday, October 27, 2018, Sokol Greater Cleveland Czech Cultural Center on 3939 Broadway Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio will be holding a Centennial Celebration Festival. There will be exhibits, dance groups, ethnic foods and beer, etc. It will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission and parking are provided.

This month, our members brought in school supplies, clothing, etc. to donate to the Providence House. Thank you, members! Donations to the Ronald McDonald House and to DTJ Taborville will be sent.

Jan Russell and Tony Genco won our 50/50 raffle this month. Congrats!

Our next meeting will be held on the Cuyahoga County Scenic Railroad at 11:50 a.m. on October 9. Please join us for a fun train ride. Call Tony Genco at 440-886-2420 for more information.

Fraternally yours,
Judy (Sevcik) Genco

Donations for the Providence House
Lodge Happenings

Back to Business

Lodge Rovnost No. 53, Cicero, Illinois – This has been a busy summer, with many things to do. First was the Czech American Congress Picnic where Ken Johnston and I were selling D.C. 12 Cultural Division cookbooks, with the help of CSA President John Kielczewski. Joyce Nemec was working at the bakery booth.

Then came the Convention, where Marvin Lanzel and I were Delegates. Prior to that, I was enjoying the Get-Together with friends from other lodges. On that Saturday, I went on the boat trip with many of them. Over the Get-Together weekend, we all enjoyed delicious meals during the various banquets.

Next, we held a lodge picnic at the Lanzel’s in August. We had the opportunity of visiting with their daughter, son-in-law, and meeting the new grandson, who were visiting from Germany.

Now that fall is upon us, things should settle down and we can get back to business.

Fraternally,
Caroline Johnston

Scholarship Fund Report

August 10, 2018 - September 10, 2018

IN MEMORY OF STANLEY DITCH
Kenneth Dvorasky
Jean Placek
Helen & Jerry Gaydusek

IN MEMORY OF CARL DROPKA
Helen & Jerry Gaydusek

IN MEMORY OF ROSE PRITASIL
Family of Rose Pritasil and her many friends

IN MEMORY OF OUR DECEASED MEMBERS
Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372

IN MEMORY OF FRANK J. ALBRECHT, JR.
Peter F. Albrecht

IN MEMORY OF JOHN P. ZIMNY
Lodge Brookfield No. 475

TOTAL DONATIONS $545.00

The charitable organizations that your lodge donates to or volunteers with can receive a matching donation, too!

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Mamma Mia, We Had So Much Fun!

Lodge R.T. Crane Jr. No. 7, North Riverside, Illinois – “Mamma Mia!” we had so much fun at the ABBA tribute concert at Cantigny Park in August. It was a nice afternoon of music and nature spent together. We really enjoyed ourselves in August when we joined Lodge Sionilli at Skadarliya for their dinner meeting. We enjoyed various Serbian grilled meats, salads, and beverages. The company was great as well. What a fun group to meet with! Many of us also attended the Oktoberfest held at Sokol Spirit in September. Prost!

On October 24, we will hold our meeting at the North Riverside Library. We plan to make tie blankets to donate to a nearby retirement home.

At our meeting on November 28, also at the library, we will hold our 2nd annual soup competition. These are two meetings you will not want to miss out on! We invite all members and visiting lodges to join us for these fun events.

Please contact our secretary Vera Wilt (verawilt@aol.com) for more information!

Fraternally,
Alix Wilt

Tim Receives Ranger Tab

Lodge Sionilli No. 170, Brookfield, Illinois – Fall is here! We are looking forward to some exciting activities in the next few months. On October 20, we will meet up at the Moravian Cultural Society’s Hospoda held at Sokol Spirit. We encourage all to join us for some Czech food, beverages, and music! We are also excited to volunteer at Operation Support Our Troops America to help stuff stockings to be sent to soldiers overseas during the holiday season. Please contact our Secretary, Vera Wilt (verawilt@aol.com), if you would like to join us for this volunteer event.

Speaking of our troops, our member Tim Drahokoupil received his Ranger Tab on November 10, 2016. Ranger school is one of the toughest training courses in the US Army designed to prepare a soldier for combat. Soon after, he received his Airborne jump wings, Air Assault wings, and Expert Infantry Badge. On October 2, 2017, Tim was sworn in as 1st Lieutenant. He is currently stationed at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky with the 101st ABN DIV, active duty infantry. Tim was a past recipient of the Kropik Scholarship. Thank you for your service, Tim!

Fraternally,
Alix Wilt
Lodge Happenings

Reflections of Summer in Autumn Light

Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377, Lombard, Illinois – My apologies for our “missing” article in last month’s Journal: the deadline came at a chaotic time for me, and I just didn’t make it. So we have news to catch up on! First, we had a great day for our Lodge Recognition picnic, and it was terrific to see everyone who came out for this event. Tasty food, good company, and a challenging manual-dexterity competition involving stacks of plastic cups – the fun ended faster than you could say, “Blue Cup”! Thanks to Anna Ramirez for planning this light entertainment and for donating a prize to the winner!

Happy birthday to Laddie Vanek, who commemorated a big 88 in August. Laddie’s family, including the light of his life, Lorraine, their daughters and grandchildren all gathered for a celebration in Oak Brook. Best wishes for the coming year, Laddie!

Please mark your calendars for upcoming events: it would light up our world to have you join us for these special activities! Craft night has become an annual tradition for our lodge: this year at our November monthly meeting. Products of our crafting are used to light up the holidays for others, by donating the items to an assisted-living care facility. That November meeting will be a busy one: it includes elections for officers, as well as our annual toy drive. Your generous donations of toys, games, books, and other items make the holidays a bit brighter for youth members – infants through teens – of struggling families in our community. The early collection this year is to meet an early December deadline for drop-off, so please come to meeting and support this effort! December’s meeting is our annual holiday potluck – you don’t want to miss this highlight of the year! Main dish will be provided; please bring a side or dessert to share. Let me know if you need a ride to any of our first-Friday-of-the-month meetings – we can provide a driver to pick you up.

Fraternally, Jean Hemzáček Laukant
hemzacek.j@gmail.com
630-279-7894

Attend Our Annual Meeting

Lodge Harrison/Hus/Garfield No. 378, Cicero, Illinois – At our September meeting, we discussed the busy first week in August with the Get-Together and Convention. The lodge received a thank you from Erin Murgas, our contestant in the Miss CSA Contest who thanked us for the support. You were great, Erin. We enjoyed the weekend meeting you and your family. Good luck at Eastern Illinois University, as that’s where I attended many years ago.

I had received a thank you from our delegates Mike and Pam who were here for the Get-Together and Convention. In general, our lodge members who attended gave a really nice description of their involvement and what they thought of the events. Members talked about the Czech food at the Hospitality Suite, the boat trip, and especially the Honor Flight Chicago presentation.

At our October meeting, we discussed where our donations will go in 2018. Continue to bring us your ideas.

We wish our member, Collette Clayton, and her family the best on their relocation and new grandchild. Emil, Gladys, and Christine are headed for their annual fall trip to the Smokey Mountains. We can’t wait to hear the stories.

Our annual meeting will be held on November 5 at the T.G. Masaryk Czech School in Cicero. Your attendance is needed!

Until next month,
Kenneth Dvorsky
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In Memoriam

Bro. Stanley “Stan” Edward Ditch of Ely, Iowa passed away peacefully in his home on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at the age of 83 years old.

Stan was born September 8, 1934 in Cedar Rapids, the son of Francis and Mary (Snobl) Ditch. He graduated from Cedar Rapids McKinley High and later attended Kirkwood College. Stan proudly served his country in the United States Army. Stan was united in marriage to Dorothy Polehna on November 19, 1960 in Cedar Rapids. He farmed most of his life in the Cedar Rapids and Ely areas. Stan loved hunting, fishing, taking trips to Minnesota, playing cards, occasionally visiting the casino, and, most of all, spending time with his family.

Stan was a long-time member of Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137 and a past Lodge President for many years. Stan and wife Dorothy spent many hours promoting CSA Fraternal Life.

Stan is survived by his wife, three children, nine grandchildren, two brothers, two sisters-in-law, and his nieces and nephews who will miss him greatly. Stan was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Leonard Ditch and Arnold Ditch; his sister, Mary (Dave) Shakespeare; and sister-in-law, Donna Ditch.

Carl M. Dropka, member of Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377, passed suddenly on August 16. Carl leaves behind his loving wife of 39 years, Milissa “Missy” Dropka (nee Mentzer), devoted son, Mike and his fiancée Christiana Gentry, mother Dorothy Dropka, mother-in-law Mil Mentzer, brother-in-law Cary Mentzer, and nephew Ray Mentzer—a family of active Lodge Woodrow Wilson members. Carl, a lifelong resident of the Village of North Riverside, Illinois, was fiercely and justifiably proud of his 34-year employment in the North Riverside Fire Department. One of the first hires in the newly full-time FD, Carl rose through the ranks of Lieutenant and then Deputy Chief. Carl retired in 2011, continuing to enjoy his pride and love of this country and of all aspects of military history, in which he was truly knowledgeable. Although Carl was a man of few words, Lodge members are grateful to have been enriched by his memorable presentations on various aspects of the weaponry, history, and battle sites of the Civil War, in which Carl’s passion found a voice. Our thoughts are with Carl’s family — our dear, dear friends — at this difficult time.

Sis. Mildred “Babe” Rak was a lifelong member of Lodge Missouri No. 1 and passed away on August 14, 2018 at 90 years old. She is preceded in death by husband Henry “Hank” Rak. She is survived by daughters Connie (Mike) Wolf and Terri (Paul Nienhaus); her grandchildren, Kimberly (Jeremy) Macan, Alex Wolf, and Brian, Jason, and Kayla Nienhaus; as well as great-granddaughter, Olivia Brink.

Babe was a lifelong member of CSA Fraternal Life, attending events and volunteering over the years. She was also a lifelong member of Sokol, the American-Czech Educational Center, and was a founding member of the ACEC Quilters.

We will miss her happy personality and infectious laughter. Our thoughts are with her family.
Kids' Corner

Find 9 differences!

The right answer -
GARDEN
JUICE
KETCHUP
PASTE
PLANT
SALAD
SALSA
SANDWICH
SAUCE
SHAKSHUKA
SLICE
SOUP

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Czech to English
říjen.............................................................October (ři-jen)
škola.............................................................school (ško-la)
knih.............................................................book (kni-ha)
studovat......................................to study/learn (stu-do-vat)
učit.............................................................to teach (u-čit)
tužka.............................................................pencil (tuž-ka)
učitel..................................................male teacher (u-či-tel)
učitelka......................................female teacher (u-či-tel-ka)
poslouchat...............................to listen/obey (pos-lou-chat)
slovník.................................................dictionary (slov-ník)
“Volunteering... it’s what we do!”