



Journal

May 2024





**Bowl-O-Rama
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**Easter Bunny Brunch
Page 12**

On the Cover

The cover features the “Best of Contest” submission from this year’s Photo Contest. This picture was taken by Janet M. Hansen of Lodge Empire State No. 448. See page 19 for more winning entries.



**Czech Festival
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President's Piece

GTG - The Crown Jewel of Our Social Calendar

Brothers and Sisters,

Here we are. We've finally made it to springtime. There's a lot of things to look forward to, whether it's nice days outside, or CSA related events!

Here in the Home Office, things continue to keep us busy. Our Photo Contest and Bowl-O-Rama programs, two of the most popular programs that we have, just wrapped up for '24. We continue to accept applications for our CSA Annual Scholarship. And, of course, the Fraternal Department is also putting the final touches on the planning for the Get-Together events, such as our Miss National CSA Contest.

Additionally, the Get-Together Committee is working hard on additional final touches for the details of the Get-Together in Nashville, Tennessee, which will be held in early August. I highly encourage every one of you to make the trip to the Get-Together festivities. It's the crown jewel of our social calendar and is always fun. Thanks to all those who

are volunteering to help make the Get-Together happen. There's a lot of work that goes into setting up an event such as this, so thank you again.

From a Product standpoint, our Fixed Annuity has a first year interest rate of 5%. Our Life Insurance portfolio also is worth looking at if you're in the market. From smaller whole life policies to good-sized term policies, we have several options for you. If you have an interest in any of these options, your local CSA agent, or our Sales staff in the Home Office can assist you with your needs.

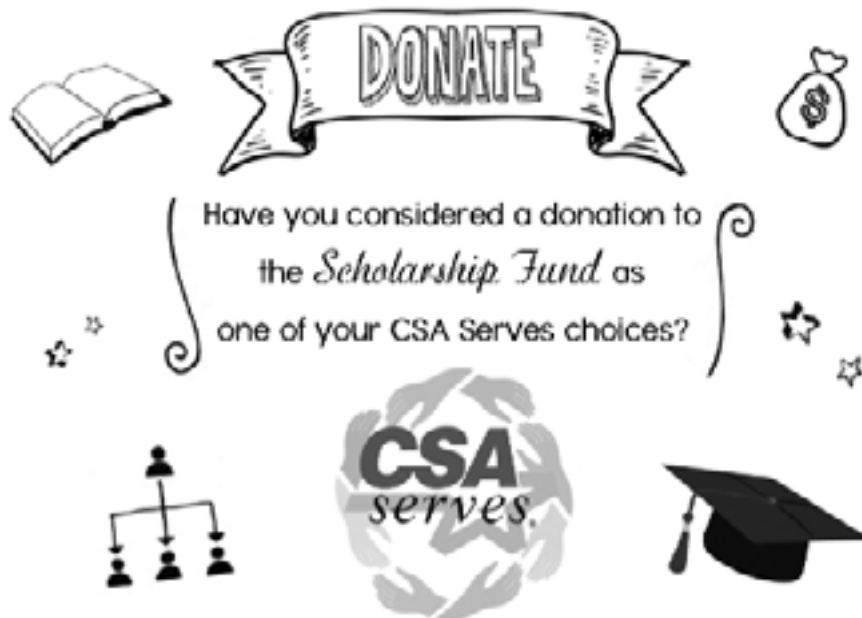
As always, thank you for your support over the years. We are here to assist the membership in any way that you need. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Until next month...

Fraternally,
John J. Kielczewski, CLU, FLMI
President/CEO
CSA Fraternal Life



John J. Kielczewski
President



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2-3, 2024

Economic Summit - Understanding the Past to Build the Future

A unique forum for delegations from the USA, Czech Republic, and Slovakia - building on the consequences of modern history related to the period of WWI, WWII, 1968, 1989 and the recent times, with the participation of Miloslav Stašek, Czech ambassador to the U.S., and Radovan Javorčík, Slovak ambassador to the U.S.

The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library

1400 Inspiration Place, SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

www.NCSML.org

May 27, 2024

Rededication Ceremony of World Wars I and II Memorial

as part of the cemetery's 2024 Memorial Day activities at 9 a.m.

Bohemian National Cemetery, 5255 N. Pulaski Road, Chicago.

Visit www.friendsofbnc.org for more information.

June 1, 2024

Miss CSA Application Deadline

Visit www.csalife.com for application form and details.

June 9, 2024

Lidice Commemoration

Program at 11 a.m.

Lidice Park, Crest Hill, Illinois

June 28, 2024

Fraternalist of the Year Application Deadline

Visit www.csalife.com for application form and details.

August 2 - 4, 2024

CSA Get-Together

Nashville, Tennessee

See page 8.



CSA Journal

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A Dynamic Magazine "Dedicated to Our Membership"

ÚŘEDNÍ ORGÁN JEDNOTY ČESKOSLOVENSKÝCH SPOLKŮ V AMERICE

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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*

Nick Kosmas, *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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Today's Fraternal

It Has Been Busy!

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters,
I hope you are ready for this busy issue. April was Bowl-O-Rama month. Thank you to the 43 bowlers who participated. I hope everyone had a good time.

The Photo Contest was a huge success. The judge had difficult decisions to make to pick a winner. As usual, we received some great pictures. This year, we had to pick winners from 290 pictures. I do not envy the judge's job. Remember, your lodge can earn up to four points for the LRP program if you submit photos.

Jessica Decker (Miss CSA 2023) and I visited St. Louis for their Festival. Thank you to Connie Wolf and Deborah Zeman for the invite. We met a lot of people and had a lot of fun. Jessica was treated to a meal that included duck. She loved it! She was happy to meet three former Miss CSA contestants. Thank you again for your hospitality.

Nick and I had the pleasure of attending the Officer Installation lunch for Lodge CH Harrison/Jan Hus/Garfield No. 378. Nick installed the officers for this lodge. Thank you for including us in this important event. We had a great time with your lodge.

And now on to continue planning the 170th Anniversary Get-Together. We have already started receiving registrations, ads, and raffles from lodges. Thank you for your early submissions. We are still looking for more Miss CSA contestants. If you have any ladies interested, please have them contact me.

**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

We are excited to get to Nashville and hope you are, too.

Finally, I hope all moms, grandmothers, great-grandmothers and all others have the best Mother's Day.

*Fraternally,
Kelly Deegan*

*Fraternal Programs Manager
Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409*



**Kelly Deegan
Fraternal Programs Manager**



Journal Themes for 2024

June - Bowling/Bowl-o-Rama
July/August - Jan Hus Day
September - Recap of Annual Get-Together
October - Independent Czech State Day
November - Honoring Those Who Have Served
December - Lodge Recognition Program
January 2025 - Day of the Establishment of the Slovak Republic

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

SPRING HAS FINALLY ARRIVED!

Greeting Brothers and Sisters,
We had our final snowstorm on April 3 (hopefully). The snow that we got melt-



Nick Kosmas
Secretary/Treasurer

ed by the end of the next day. It's beginning to warm up!

I hope you had the opportunity to see the solar eclipse on April 8. The temperature dropped a few degrees, and it got dark in Lombard. This is the second solar eclipse for Lisa and me. We were at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland for the 2017 solar eclipse. Both times it was amazing. Unfortunately, my pictures did not turn out that good. The next total solar eclipses to be visible in the continental U.S. are on August 23, 2044, and August 12, 2045.

If you were able to take pictures of the eclipse, please consider sending them in for the 2025 Photo Contest. Based on the Photo Contest submissions, photography is a very popular hobby among our members. We received almost 300 pictures for this

year's Photo Contest. CSA has a bunch of great photographers. I think photography is an easy hobby since most all of us carry a camera in our pocket or purse. My first Android phone, as well as my first iPhone, took better pictures than my digital camera.

Mother's Day is right around the corner on May 12. This year is the 110th anniversary of Mother's Day. On May 8, 1914, the U.S. Congress passed a law designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. Even though our mothers passed many years ago, Lisa and I have great memories of them.

We wish all the moms a great Mother's Day with their families.

Fraternally,
Nick V. Kosmas
Secretary / Treasurer

Memorial Day at Bohemian National Cemetery

Chicago's historic Bohemian National Cemetery has a long tradition of hosting Memorial Day celebrations to honor the men and women who have served in our country's military campaigns. One early Memorial Day event in 1927, attracted thousands of patriotic individuals and families who traveled from Czech neighborhoods throughout the Chicago area.



The cemetery boasts a number of military monuments, including the Bohemian Civil War Veterans Monument, which was dedicated on May 29, 1892. Over 5,000 people turned out for the dedication, which was also the cemetery's first commemoration of Memorial Day - or Decoration Day, as it was then known.

In 1952, the Bohemian National Cemetery Association dedicated the World Wars I and II Memorial, which is located near the cemetery's main entrance. Designed by Czech architect Joseph R. Bednarik, the memorial was constructed of "delicate rose pink Crab Orchard stone," according to archival sources. Eight engraved stone panels depict in cartographic form the decisive battles and major victories of the United States in World Wars I and II. The panels surround an octagonal base topped with a 44-foot flagpole.

Unfortunately, decades of Chicago weather had resulted in serious deterioration of the memorial's foundation. The Bohemian National Cemetery Association and the Friends of BNC initiated a campaign to fund repairs that

would enable the memorial to stand proudly for generations to come.

Thanks to support from numerous organizations and individuals, including CSA members, as well as a grant from the Foreign Ministry of the Czech Republic, restoration of the memorial is near completion. All that remains is some repair work on the surrounding walkway and the final landscaping, which will be carried out this spring. This memorial, along with the cemetery's other war memorials and monuments, will help keep alive the memory of those who served to protect our freedom.

The boards of BNCA and Friends of BNC are planning a rededication of the World Wars I and II Memorial as part of the cemetery's 2024 Memorial Day activities, which will begin at 9 a.m. on May 27. The public is invited to attend. Bohemian National Cemetery is located at 5255 N. Pulaski Road in Chicago. Information is also available at www.friendsofbnc.org.

Chuck Michalek
Lodge Yankee Jungman No. 77

Wonderful, Whirlwind Trip!

Hello everyone,

Last weekend, I had the wonderful opportunity to travel to St. Louis, Missouri, for the Annual Czech Festival hosted at the American-Czech Educational Center. I arrived in St. Louis at about 8:30 p.m. the night before and had to catch a 3:00 p.m. flight out the next day, but I still had an incredible time despite it being a whirlwind trip. I got to see The Gateway Arch from the car on the way to the festival, and upon arrival I enjoyed looking at a wide selection of beautiful Czech and Czech-inspired artwork and ceramics. Admiring these objects is always one of my favorite things to do when I go to these types of events. I'll never get tired of how beautiful they are!

In addition to the art, I got to enjoy remarkable food, music, and conversation. In terms of food, in addition to delicious dumplings and sauerkraut, I got to try duck for the first time. I can't remember what my expectations were for it, but they were far too low. I daresay I have a new favorite meat! Furthermore, I must have mentioned a million times to people how good the duck was, and rightfully so in my opinion. My highest compliments to everyone working hard in the kitchen to serve so much delicious food!

Another highlight of the trip was getting to meet and chat with the current Miss Czech-Slovak Missouri Pageant Queen, Abigale Manners. After talking for a little while, we discovered that we had more than our Czech heritage and ties in common. Abby is currently a Wildlife Ecology and Conservation major, which is what my major was before I switched it to the very similar Applied Ecology and Environmental Science major for scheduling reasons my freshman year at Michigan Tech. We bonded over our mutual love of the outdoors, as well as what it's like working as Federal employees. She works for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and I work for the U.S. Forest Service. I joked that I've never met another ecologist who is also a Czech Pageant Queen in her free time, but in all seriousness, it was absolutely lovely to meet her.

I would like to thank all the CSA members I met from the St. Louis based lodges for their incredible kindness and hospitality. All the thoughtful touches, from a complementary delicious meal to a very sweet "welcome" sign at the door, made me feel right at home. I wish I could have stayed longer, but flights to and from the upper peninsula are hard to come by, and finals week is right around the corner. Nevertheless, I hope to see many of you again this August.

Back in Michigan, my classes for the semester wrapped up, and I finished on April 24. Now it's back to Minnesota for another season with the Forest Service. However, my fiancé,

Drew, is working back in his hometown of Cedarville, Michigan as an electrician for the summer. It will be tough going another couple of months without seeing him, but we're planning to reunite at the Get-Together in Nashville! He's never been on a plane before, but it should be amusing watching him try to fit his 6'4" self into an economy seat...

Anyway, now that the snow is finally starting to melt (hopefully for good this time) I feel it is safe to wish you all a happy Spring. Next month I look forward to telling you all about the beginning of my adventures in Minnesota.

*Fraternally,
Jessica Decker*





2024 CSA FRATERNAL LIFE
GET-TOGETHER
REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE FILL OUT AND POSTMARK BY JUNE 1ST, 2024 TO:

CSA Get-Together
c/o Kelly Deegan
2050 Finley Road, Suite 70
Lombard, IL 60148

PHONE: 800-543-3272 ext. 4314
EMAIL: kdeegan@csalife.com

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

CSA Fraternal Life
- OR -

Pay by Credit Card on www.csalife.com

Be sure to write "Get-Together Registration" in the notes on payment form

PLEASE PRINT BELOW:

*One form per guest

NAME (legal): _____ LODGE (if applicable): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

IS THIS YOUR FIRST CSA GET-TOGETHER?: _____

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

MEMBER (\$175): _____ GUEST (\$175): _____

YOUTH MEMBER OR GUEST UNDER 18 (\$140): _____ YOUTH AGE: _____

GENERAL JACKSON DAY TRIP (\$85): _____ AGES 4-11 (\$50): _____

TOTAL (\$): _____ **PAID:** _____ **CHECK OR ONLINE:** _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

HANDICAPPED: **YES** _____ **NO** _____ **DIETARY NEEDS:** _____

SATURDAY DINNER: **CHICKEN** _____ **BEEF** _____

TRANSPORTATION: **DRIVING** _____ **FLYING** _____

CHECK IN DAY: _____ NIGHTS STAYING: _____

District Council

Lodge Recognition Award Night

District Council No. 12, Northern Illinois Wisconsin and Indian – Eighteen members joined President Ken Dvorsky for Lodge Recognition Award Night at the Home Office on March 28. The meeting commenced with the Pledge and a moment of silence for deceased members.

Bro. Ken welcomed all in attendance. The first order of business was a brief report on this year's Get-Together in Nashville.

Members were polled on when to hold future D.C. No. 12 meetings. The consensus was four meetings a year, dates to be determined.

Ken then asked members about their lodge plans. A representative from lodges in attendance summarized their activities for 2024.

Pres. John Kielczewski explained new governmental regulations regarding reserves for insurance. Sec'y/Treas. Nick Kosmos advised an enhanced security system protecting the entrance to the Home Office and other necessary safeguards.

Platinum Awards were received by the following:

Lodge Brookfield No. 475 – Jerry and Kim Silhan, John Kielczewski, Nick Kosmos.

Lodge Sokol Pilsen No. 434 – Andy Bultas

Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409 – Linda Burton, Gerri Romanelli, Kelly Deegan

Lodge Harrison/Hus/Garfield No. 378 – Ken Dvorsky, Norma Kmet

Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377 – Jean Hemzacek, Cary Mentzer

Lodge Century of Progress/Bila Hora No. 231 – Ed Slavik, Dolores Klejko

Lodge Anton Cermak No. 99 – Chuck Courtney

Lodge Yankee Jungmann No. 77 – Cindy Bueneman, Mary Ellen Janda, Kathy Riha

Gold Award:

Lodge Lincoln No. 7 – No attendance

Mitch Jacobson is celebrating his 18th Anniversary as a CSA salesman. He has enjoyed the friendship and camaraderie of CSA Members and praised CSA values and commitment to their members and insureds.

Bro. Dvorsky thanked all for coming. The next D.C. No. 12 meeting will be in June, date to be announced.

The meeting was adjourned, and refreshments were served.

*Fraternally,
Gerri Romanelli*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Happy Birthday to Our Youngest Member

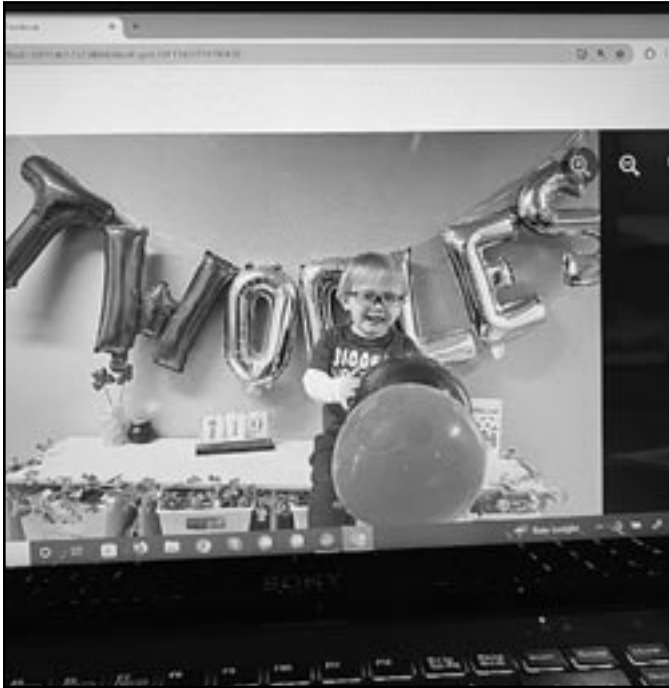
Lodge Sokol Pilsen No. 434, Oak Brook, Illinois – On March 17, 2024, Lodge Sokol Pilsen No. 434 held a small lodge meeting at Matthew Bultas' home. The lodge discussed some up and coming events such as the Get-Together being held in Nashville, Tennessee.

Matthew coaches the Riverside-Brookfield High School's Girls' Varsity and Junior Varsity LaCrosse teams. Some of the members were interested in seeing if they could see some of the home games when they were played at Riverside-

Brookfield High School. After going over a few more items, we adjourned.

We then proceeded to have a birthday party for our youngest member, Cooper Bultas. The party was very entertaining. Cooper enjoyed his many gifts. He really enjoyed the cake the most. Cooper was born on March 1, St. Joseph's Day, and he just turned two.

*Fraternaly,
Andy Bultas*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Platinum and the Polar Plunge

Lodge Yankee-Jungman No. 77, Lombard, Illinois – April has been a very cold and rainy month. The Magnolia tree blossoms have been hit with frost. Hopefully it will warm up soon so we can enjoy the outdoors.

Lodge member Tom Bueneman (pictured in the suit coat) participated in the 2024 Law Enforcement Torch Run Polar Plunge held in Oak Brook at the Bath and Tennis Club on Saturday, March 16. Participants collected pledges and donations which will support Illinois' Special Olympics athletes across the state by helping to provide them with life-changing programming. This includes year-round training and competition, personal development, and health education opportunities. Although this was his first year taking the plunge, Tom found it “refreshing” and plans to participate next year. Tom and the team represented the North Riverside Police Department.

Eunice Semple has been involved in organizing game days in the retirement community where she lives. Last month some players learned a new game, Skyjo. Eunice creates the fliers for their building's bi-monthly game event.

On Friday, March 29, Cindy Bueneman, Kathy Riha, and Mary Ellen Janda attended the District Council awards at the Home Office. Our lodge

has been receiving awards for the past 29 years. This year, we achieved the Platinum Award. Thanks to all our lodge members whose hard work helped us achieve this honor.

Our April meeting is back at the Home Office. We will have our Installation of Officers. Ken Dvorsky will perform the installation.

*Fraternally,
Mary Ellen Janda*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Annual Easter Bunny Brunch



Lodge Missouri No. 1, St. Louis, Missouri – Members of the District Council of Missouri and Southern Illinois hosted the Annual Bunny Brunch for the youngsters of CSA Fraternal Life, Gymnastic Association, Sokol, and the American-Czech Educational Center. We had a great turnout for the event and those in attendance enjoyed donuts and juice, a visit with the Easter Bunny, games, attendance prizes, an Easter Egg Hunt, and breaking a pinata. Thanks to all who participated and those who worked to make the event a success.



The Spring Czech Festival of the American-Czech Education Center was a great event, and many attended to make it a success. Special guests included the Consul General of the Czech Republic in Chicago, Jakub Utěšený, Miss National CSA, Jessica Decker, and the dancers of the United Moravian Societies. It was a great day full of great Czech food and drink, music, and dancing – an enjoyable time for all in attendance. Thanks to all the members and friends of the American-Czech Educational Center who made it a great day.

*Until next time,
Marla Breidenbach*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Busy Times!

Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219, Cleveland, Ohio – So many activities have happened since our last *Journal* article. First of all, the solar eclipse! I hope you all got to see it on April 8! It was a once in a lifetime experience. It was so very cool. The same day, our baseball team, the Guardians, had their home opener and won! It sure was an exciting day.

We had our meeting on April 9 with 13 members attending. It was a busy meeting.

First of all, past President Tony Genco installed three of our officers who were unable to be installed earlier. They were: Sue Garofalo, Vice President; Jan Russell, our half-time Secretary; and Elmer Soos, our Sentry/Guide.

A reminder that the Penn/Ohio State Bowling Tournament will be held on October 19 and 20 at the Meadows Casino/Bowling Alley in the Pittsburgh area. Applications will be sent out.

Also, our Pin Party will be held on June 22 at the DTJ facility at noon. Invitations for those completing their 50 and 75 years in CSA will be sent out in May. If you have been in CSA for 50 or 75 years, please contact someone in our lodge or the Home Office to make sure you receive your pin.

We received a nice thank you note from one of our charities, a women's shelter. They very much appreciate our donations.



The Sokol organization on Clark Avenue is having pork or chicken dinners for \$15.00 on May 22, June 26, September 25, and October 23. Call Don Kotlan at 216-228-0027 for reservations.

We are lining up some speakers to speak to our lodge. We had our own Sue Garofalo speak about her experience in the horrible tornadoes that ripped through Xenia and other counties and states when she was a sophomore in college.

Sue was even on local and national TV telling her story. Below are some links to view her story: www.cleveland19.com/2024/04/02/parma-survivor-remembers-super-outbreak-april-3-1974-tornadoes-that-killed-300-people-13-states-including-ohio/ And national news: www.foxweather.com/watch/play-70bc2e449001782

We are sure thankful that Sue survived and that she also saved the life of a girl who was in the house with her.

We have decided to put an ad in the



Get-Together program and will buy raffle tickets at a later date. We will also be putting together a raffle basket in July to have at the Get-Together. At least one person and maybe three more will be going from our lodge.

We sang "Happy Birthday" to Freddie Shima for her April 30 birthday. We played bingo with many winners (Marsha won 6 games!). Our 50/50 raffle was won by June Karecki and Elmer Soos. Joanie Sapp brought in a yummy cheesecake to share.

Last, but not least, our bowling season is over (so sad). It was such a fun season; we welcome any new bowlers in August. Included is a picture of the only CSA members who are left in our bowling league. We are just happy to have this league continue on from a Czech league to a "senior league".

Happy Spring, everyone! Stay healthy!

*Fraternally yours,
Judy (Sevcik) Genco
Scribe*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Another Platinum Year!

Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377, Brookfield, Illinois – We are so proud of our continued success in the Lodge Recognition Program, with another Platinum Award! We have achieved this award every year since that level was created, and this represents our 33rd award overall since the inception of the Recognition Program. Thanks to all members who participate in volun-



Joan with the Wisconsin Czech-Slovak Queen

teerism, social and community activities, creative endeavors – and more – for our lodge to earn this recognition.

Joan Cervenka, an active volunteer of our lodge despite some geographic distance from our home-base, shared with me a taste of “Czech Culture in Wisconsin.” Joan sent news and photos from the Spring Variety Show at the Česká Opera House in Haugen, Wisconsin. Miss Czech-Slovak



Accepting our LRP award for 2024

Wisconsin Queen 2023-2024, Trinity Pesko of Phillips, Wisconsin, was one of the show’s star performers. She took time so that Joan could share the moment as a photo. The Česká Opera House is a spectacular event venue: the stage curtain features the Prague Castle, while side stage and backdrop feature Czech village scenes – all painted in the 1930’s by Emil Piller of Weyerhaeuser, Wisconsin. Some photos from Joan could not be adequately reproduced here, but you can visit our lodge Facebook page to see them in their full-color glory (search facebook.com for CSA Lodge Woodrow Wilson).

Here’s hoping that we’ll see you at our Spring pizza gathering, tentatively planned for Saturday, June 1. Please reach out to let me know you’re interested – and/or check our Facebook page – so that we can be sure to get the late-breaking details to you when available.

Fraternally,

*Jean Hemzáček Laukant
hemzacek.j@gmail.com*

Bus Trip Moved to June 12

Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372, Maple Heights, Ohio – It was a crisp, 35-degree day at the DTJ in Taborville, Ohio where our meeting was held on March 28. We had seven members: Mary Ann Toncar, Kris and Bruce Marak, Donna Stepka, Johnny Weiss, Jan Dembowski, and me.

Diane found out that the Rivers Casino now only takes busses on the

second Wednesday of the month. The Casino Bus Trip date is now June 12 and the cost is \$45, with the casino giving \$20 back for gambling. Money will need to be in by the May 23 meeting.

Reminder, June 22 will be the District Picnic/Pin Party for 2023 and 2024 Pin recipients. If you think you might be eligible for either the 75 Year Pin (1948/49) or the 50 Year Pin (1973/74), please check your policies and contact Diane at (216) 392-9074.



On March 23, some of our members joined up with the DTJ to make a lot of Easter bread!

Congratulations to the 50/50 winners: Bruce, Johnny, and Kris.

Kris was the snack person this month. Her theme was the Guardians Home Opener: Hot dogs, potato salad, baked beans, chips, and, for dessert, cupcakes. Mary Ann also brought Pistachio Whip, chocolate covered Oreos, and truffles. Everything was delicious!

Our next meetings for 2024 will be: May 23 (Join Hands Day), June 22 (District Pin Picnic), June 12 (Bus Trip), June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24, November 21, and December 19. Come to a meeting, have a tasty snack, and reconnect with friends. We would love to see you!

Fraternally,

Annette Reichman

LODGE HAPPENINGS

Highlights from the Czech Festival

Lodge Washington No. 30, St. Louis, Missouri – April 6 was a beautiful day in St. Louis for the Czech Festival at our American-Czech Center, and lots of Lodge Washington members were on hand as bartenders, cooks, servers, and booth workers. The food was excellent, the music was terrific, the beer was cold, and the big crowd enjoyed all we had to offer, from the pastry to the raffles, deli, and Czech items for sale.

We were excited to welcome some very special guests to the event. Miss CSA Jessica Decker was able to join us for a few hours, meeting lots of local members and helping promote CSA at the information table with Kelly Deegan. She also had a nice conversation with Miss Czech-Slovak Missouri Abigail Manners, and I imagine they compared notes on being “royalty.” Jessica is a very delightful young lady and an excellent representative of our society! Former Miss National CSA Kary Kaczmarek also stopped by to enjoy the fun, and we were happy to see her as well.

Czech Consul General Jakub Utěšený attended, marking his first visit to the St. Louis area. He spent a lot of time talking with just about everyone, learning more about our Czech community and its history. He also had a pleasant surprise – at one point he turned

around and saw his cousin, whose wife is from St. Louis. They haven’t seen each other for a year and a half and neither had any idea the other would be there. Small world! Honorary Consul Sharon Valašek was also there with her husband Gary. Sharon is very supportive of our events, and we always welcome her attendance.

There was a new band providing some of the music this year. Brasshaufen features ten members, nine of whom are brass musicians, and they were really well received by the crowd. They were followed by our own St. Louis Express, led by Joe Polach, bringing more people out to the dance floor, with some members of Brasshaufen staying to polka the afternoon away.

And the highlight of the event was having dance groups Omladina and Moravske Kolo from the United Moravian Societies perform for our



The crowd enjoyed the music, food, and other activities.

guests. After their bus had a flat tire on the way, they arrived safely and put on exciting and lively performances to the delight of everyone there. We really appreciate their appearance, and we also thank all of their family and friends who made the trip with them. Great to see all of you!

Many, many thanks to all our own members of CSA and Sokol, who put in hours too numerous to count in order to make this a success. And if you’re keeping track, next year’s Festival will be on Saturday, April 26!

*Fraternally,
Deborah Zeman*



Miss CSA Jessica Decker attended the Festival and met Miss Czech-Slovak Missouri Abigail Manners.



Dancers from Omladina of the United Moravian Societies entertained the crowd.



Czech Consul General Jakub Utěšený visited St. Louis for the first time.

LODGE HAPPENINGS

April Showers Bring What?

Lodge Kruh Osvojenych Zen a Panu No. 121, Dillonvale, Ohio – Remember the old saying, “April showers bring May flowers?” Well, in the Ohio Valley, our recent April showers brought much more. Early in April (around the second day of the month), Mother Nature decided to bless us with extended periods of heavy rain, thunder, lightening, hail, graupel, etc. The Ohio River flooded and left many of our local creeks and streams flowing out of their banks. This resulted in many road closures and school closings. That first week of April was a long one, to say the least. By now, most families and businesses that were affected are back in order. Thankfully, most of our members were spared any significant damage other than some basement water.

We also enjoyed some excitement in our area with the recent solar eclipse on April 8. While most of our members were not in a “direct path” of the eclipse, we still got a pretty good show. Brother Elijah Lovell probably enjoyed the best view sitting on the patio at his apartment in Ada, Ohio. Pictured



here with his viewing glasses on, he even experienced the darkness with the drop in temperature you all may have heard about in the news. Many students in the area were gifted with a day off from school to enjoy the rare event! (Lucky!)

Our March 10 meeting was well attended thanks to our Bowl-O-Rama. We met at the bowling alley while our young members bowled. We will be reporting on the event in next month's *Journal* in keeping with the theme for the month of June. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to District Council No. 9 of Southeastern Ohio for their generous donation toward the event.

We were delighted to receive notice of receiving the Platinum designation of the Lodge Recognition Program Award again this year. Members have worked diligently to complete volunteer hours, attend lodge meetings, support community events, and uphold CSA traditions, customs, and rituals to meet the criteria for the award. We are thankful to the Home Office for offering the chance to earn the awards as the extra money allows our group to extend our charitable work further and enjoy some special celebrations that may not be possible otherwise. You can see our Sister Secretary, Mariann Ebright, pictured holding our award.

We had three members participate in the CSA's Annual Photo Contest. We are thankful for their participation. It is a joy to see the pictures submitted by the contestants each year. We truly have some talent out there!

At our March meeting, we agreed to take out an ad in the Get-Together Souvenir Program Book as well as purchase raffle tickets. We also donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee which was chosen as the charitable project of the GTG to be held in August in Nashville.



Looking ahead, we will be participating in the Join Hands Day celebration this year and the Thank-A-Driver Program. Our group will be finalizing plans at our next meeting. We will post updates in an upcoming issue of *the Journal*.

Members, Jack and Bonnie Snider, were happy to report to the group that they recently enjoyed a nice visit with their grandson, Sam, and his friend Taylor. They stayed for a few days enjoying grandma's delicious cooking and grandpa's adventurous stories. It's always fun for both generations to get together! Likewise, Chuck and Mariann Ebright have been busy supporting fundraisers for their grandson Skyler. Sky's baseball team and cooking class have both been busy raising money for their spring activities. Baseball season has already begun and his cooking class will attend a cooking competition in Florida later in April. Gary and Wendy Lovell are trying to keep up with the activities of their son, Elijah. Elijah recently spent his spring break at Tybee Island, Georgia with some friends from Ohio Northern University. You can see the five pharmacy students pictured together. Jacob, Mikayla, Keegan, Emily, and Elijah will all graduate with their bachelor's degrees in the middle of May. They will return to campus next year for coursework and will be on rotations the following year before graduating with PharmD degrees in May of 2026.

As for the showers in the month of April, we can only say, “You never know what we're going to get!” This year, the April showers of 2024 brought floods, a solar eclipse, and yes...maybe even some May flowers. When it rains, it pours! Mother Nature has kept us on our toes. Be good to her!

Remember to check on someone you love today.

*All best wishes,
Sister Wendy Kurtz Lovell*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

In the Spring We'll Sing and Go a 'Travelin'

Lodge Mile High Czechs, No. 432, Lakewood, Colorado – Lodge Mile High Czechs celebrated togetherness, marriage, and April by singing “Happy Anniversary” to lodge members Dot and Ron Fox, married 67 years on April 13, 2024! President Irma Farrell announced that the lodge received the Platinum Award, adding cash to our coffers. Our youth took a trip to the bowling alley to participate in CSA’s Bowl-O-Rama.

Remembering last year’s wonderful Get-Together in the Mile High City of Denver, members pictured themselves in Nashville, August 2-4. Our lodge will pay the registration fee so we can arrive to the Friday afternoon hospitality suite at the Sheraton Music City Nashville (just \$159 per night). CSA is hiring a bus for travel to and from Broadway Friday night. Once on Broadway, we can do a little honkey-tonking, take in a show at the Grand Ole Opry, or go to the Country Music Hall of Fame, Lane Motor Museum, or the zoo. On Saturday, we’ll wear our blue tee-shirts for a service project benefiting Second Harvest Food Bank. At 10:15 a.m., if wanted to, we could board the bus and head to the General Jackson showboat (\$85), to get a lunch and show while “rollin’ down the river.” We will return for the formal dinner that Saturday night. Sister Jessica Decker will complete her reign as Miss CSA, and a new queen will be chosen. We pictured ourselves saying a fond farewell after the Sunday brunch. Our lodge voted to buy an ad for the program. We pondered who we could nominate for the Fraternalist of the Year.

But we weren’t done traveling yet! We hung on to our armchairs as our far-flung and international traveler, Sister Janet Farrar, presented a program containing her travels to some countries in the Balkans in June of 2018. She visited Albania, Kosovo, and Macedonia. She noted that the Romans and the Byzantines occupied the land earlier, and that there are many sites from those times. Traveler Farrar pointed out that religion is a significant element of cul-

ture there. Religion is practiced by people who espouse Catholic, Protestant, Eastern Orthodox, and Sufi Islam faiths. To that effect, members of our lodge saw images of the tomb of St. Stephen, a statue of Mother Teresa, a site of St. Sophia, the church of Cleon, sacred pools, the church of St. John, the church of St. Clement, and a Holocaust muse-

um, among other things.

Because we ate lunch together, we enjoyed each other’s company, our repast, our imaginary and armchair tours, all gathered together as we were in the meeting space of St. Bernadette.

Fraternally,

Sandra Maresh Doe



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Bowl-O-Rama

Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137 Cedar Rapids, Iowa – CSA Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137 held its Bowl-O-Rama for our young members and their friends. The kids had a blast. It’s amazing how the little ones could bowl. A special thanks to Sister Dorothy Ditch for arranging this for the members.

We are all looking forward to the spring flowers and the green grass and budding trees. Happy Spring!

*Fraternally Yours,
Rai Ann Stratton*



CSA Fraternal Life 2024 Fraternal Calendar

May	4	Join Hands Day	
	27	Home Office closed for Memorial Day	
	31	Deadline - Bowl-o-Rama Scores	
June	11	Deadline - Miss CSA Application and Photos	
	11	Deadline - Fraternalist of the Year Nomination Application	
July	2	Deadline - Kropik Scholarship Application	
	2	Deadline - Recipient Information Form for CSA Scholarship	
	4/5	Home Office closed for 4th of July	
August	2-4	87th Annual Get-Together in Nashville TN	
September	2	Home Office closed for Labor Day	
October	14	Home Office closed for Indigenous Peoples' (Columbus) Day	
	15	Deadline - Veterans Names/Articles for November Journal	
November	23,24	Home Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday	
December	2	Deadline - CSA Serves Matching Funds Requests	
	25	Home Office closed for Christmas Holiday	
2025	January	1	Home Office closed for New Year's Day
		31	Deadline - 2024 Lodge Recognition Program submissions
	February	1	Deadline - 2024 President's Report forms due in Home Office

*** Deadline for Journal articles - 13th of every PRIOR month ***
(for example: your article for February should be submitted by January 13, etc.)

Best of Contest
Janet M. Hansen
Lodge Empire State No. 448



PHOTO CONTEST 2024

Thanks to Our Judge

Haley Delgado, an artist from Illinois, again served as judge of our Photo Contest. Ms. Delgado holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Studio Art from Western Illinois University. There, she practiced various art mediums, including drawing, painting, and printing.

She works at the School of Expressive Arts and Learning in Yorkville, Illinois, with children with social-emotional needs.

Ms. Delgado enjoys expressing her creativity through art

and design and spending time with her family and friends.

We appreciate her time and effort in judging the CSA Photo Contest!

See Complete List of Entrants on Page 20.

Thanks to All Members Who Entered the Photo Contest This Year!

PHOTO CONTEST ENTRANTS 2024

Kevin Breidenbach, Lodge No. 1
Marla Breidenbach, Lodge No. 1
Ryan Breidenbach, Lodge No. 1
Frank Castulik, Lodge No. 1
Donna Courte, Lodge No. 1
Kurtis Russell, Lodge No. 1
Carla Strnad, Lodge No. 1
Connie Wolf, Lodge No. 1
Mike Wolf, Lodge No. 1

Terilyn Bichler, Lodge No. 4
Kathy Kasten, Lodge No. 4
Terry Placek, Lodge No. 4
Patricia Yurkovich, Lodge No. 4

Elaine Kamykowski, Lodge No. 7
Laura Lynch, Lodge No. 7
Frances Riopell, Lodge No. 7
Robert Valenta, Lodge No. 7

Karen Ditz, Lodge No. 30
Deborah Zeman, Lodge No. 30

Georgette Huben, Lodge No. 66

Toni Anne Calek, Lodge No. 77
Alice Dory, Lodge No. 77
Mary Ellen Janda, Lodge No. 77
Margaret Jansinski, Lodge No. 77
Eunice Semple, Lodge No. 77

Scott Cramer, Lodge No. 99

Elijah Lovell, Lodge No. 121
Gary Lovell, Lodge No. 121
Wendy Lovell, Lodge No. 121
Bonnie Snider, Lodge No. 121

Kate Pruemer, Lodge No. 157

Rebecca Schneider, Lodge No. 170

Joanne Guevara, Lodge No. 210
Jacqueline Jeffrey, Lodge No. 210
Audrey Schroht, Lodge No. 210

Laurie Hoppe-Ringer, Lodge No. 211
Alex Matejka, Lodge No. 211

Kristen Armbruster, Lodge No. 219
Janet Frantz, Lodge No. 219

Anthony Genco, Lodge No. 219
Laura Landfield, Lodge No. 219
Jan Russell, Lodge No. 219
Winifred Shima, Lodge No. 219

Brian Pavuk, Lodge No. 231

Patricia Miller, Lodge No. 252
Walt Strach, Lodge No. 252

Gary Skrabanek, Lodge No. 277
Susan Skrabanek, Lodge No. 277

Stacey Kolars, Lodge No. 279

David DiBianca, Lodge No. 372
Diane DiBianca, Lodge No. 372
Connie Ou, Lodge No. 372
Annette Reichman, Lodge No. 372
Alexandria Rosa, Lodge No. 372
Jennifer Rosa, Lodge No. 372
Mary Ann Toncar, Lodge No. 372
Michelle Walette, Lodge No. 372
John Weiss, Lodge No. 372

Joan Cervenka, Lodge No. 377
Ronald Faltynek, Lodge No. 377
Nancy Hamrin, Lodge No. 377
Beth Hemzacek, Lodge No. 377
Jean Hemzacek, Lodge No. 377
Anna Ramirez, Lodge No. 377

Renee Capponi, Lodge No. 378
Kyle Dvorsky, Lodge No. 378
Michael Dvorsky, Lodge No. 378
Pam Dvorsky, Lodge No. 378
Janet M. Fricano, Lodge No. 378

Charles Kassly, Lodge No. 404
Jenny Kassly, Lodge No. 404
Peter Kassly, Lodge No. 404
Elizabeth (Libby) Rich,
Lodge No. 404
Scott Rich, Lodge No. 404

Teresa Butcher, Lodge No. 408

Alexis Antos, Lodge No. 409
Linda Burton, Lodge No. 409
Kellie Ferg, Lodge No. 409
Francesca Mahmoud, Lodge No. 409

Sofia Mahmoud, Lodge No. 409
Michele Murray, Lodge No. 409
Sebastian Salkaukas, Lodge No. 409
Agnes Zabik, Lodge No. 409

Michael Albrecht, Lodge No. 422
Leanne Martin, Lodge No. 422
Joanne Murnane, Lodge No. 422
Georgiana Rebhahn, Lodge No. 422
Johanna Vonachen, Lodge No. 422

Jennifer Daberkow, Lodge No. 432
Beth Egan, Lodge No. 432
Irma Farrell, Lodge No. 432
Janet Farrar, Lodge No. 432
Maryellen Vialpando, Lodge No. 432

Marcia Bjorvand, Lodge No. 448
Janet M. Hansen, Lodge No. 448
Dean Vavrsek, Lodge No. 448
Lee Vavrsek, Lodge No. 448
Paul Vavrsek, Lodge No. 448

Jill Goodwin, Lodge No. 452
Margaret Varga, Lodge No. 452
Agnes Zabik, Lodge No. 452

Melody Kwan, Lodge No. 459

Elaine Donoghue, Lodge No. 469

Joyce Nemecek, Lodge No. 475
Mary Spano, Lodge No. 475

Editor's Note:

CSA Fraternal Life regrets to inform members that not all names of all Photo Contest Entrants were published in the print version of this issue. We apologize for the error and will include this entire list of entrants in the June Journal so that all members who participated can be duly recognized and appreciated.

Thank you for your understanding and please watch for the June issue.

PHOTO CONTEST FIRST PLACE WINNERS 2024



1st Place - People
Peter Kassly
Lodge Estlian No. 404



1st Place - Nature
Kyle Dvorsky
Lodge Harrison/Hus/
Garfield No. 378

PHOTO CONTEST FIRST PLACE WINNERS 2024



1st place - Animals
Winifred Shima
Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219

1st Place - Photographer's Choice
David DiBianca
Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372



1st Place - Youth
Alexis Antos
Lodge Dupage Pioneers/ Edison
No. 409



PHOTO CONTEST SECOND PLACE WINNERS 2024



2nd Place - People
Michele Murray
Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison
No. 409



2nd Place - Nature
Kellie Ferg
Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409

PHOTO CONTEST SECOND PLACE WINNERS 2024



2nd Place - Youth
Alexandria Rosa
Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372



2nd Place - Animals
Robert Valenta
Lodge Lincoln No. 007



2nd Place -
Photographer's Choice
Jan Russell
Lodge Cleveland
Chapter No. 219

PHOTO CONTEST THIRD PLACE WINNERS 2024



3rd Place - People
Stacy Kolars
Lodge Karel Jonas No. 279



3rd Place - Nature
Gary Skrabanek
Lodge Svelto No. 277

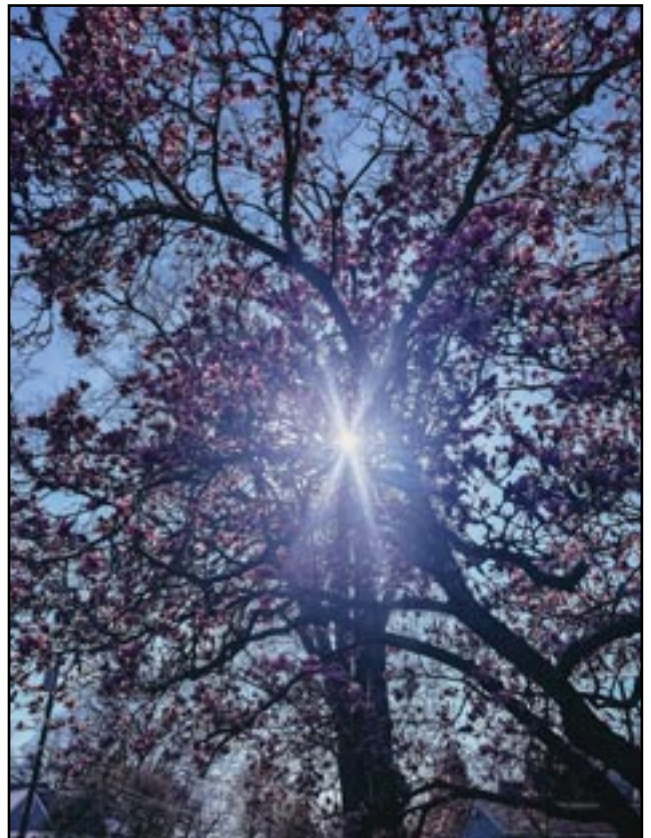
PHOTO CONTEST THIRD PLACE WINNERS 2024



3rd Place - Animals
Pam Dvorsky
Lodge Harrison/Jan Hus/Garfield No. 378



3rd Place - Photographer's Choice
Kristen Armbruster
Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219



3rd Place - Youth
Isabelle May
Lodge Brookfield No. 475

PHOTO CONTEST HONORABLE MENTION 2024



Honorable Mention - People
Joan Cervenka
Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377



Honorable Mention -
Photographer's Choice
Lean Martin
Lodge Queensdale No. 422



Honorable Mention - Nature
David DiBianca
Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372



Honorable
Mention - Youth
Frankie May
Lodge Brookfield
No. 475



Honorable Mention - Animals
Sebastian Salkaukas
Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison
No. 409

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 ”



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CSA FRATERNAL LIFE



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Save the Date - Fall Festival is October 8

Lodge Brookfield No. 475, Brookfield, Illinois – Earlier this year, we held an Installation of Officers ceremony for 2024 conducted by District No. 12 Director Kenneth Dvorsky. For all our activities and events last year, we were honored with a Platinum Award in the CSA Lodge Recognition Program. No doubt this will greatly encourage us to continue the same pace in the current year.

We discussed the upcoming Get-Together in Nashville and our plans to support the service project. Our annual garage sale will be held sometime in September and suitable donations are appreciated.

Lodge Brookfield's popular Fall Festival is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8 at noon at the CSA Home Office. Activities, games, refreshments, and fun will be provided. Please notify Lodge President Barbara Deig in advance if you are planning to attend. Members of all other lodges are invited.

Normally, our meetings are scheduled on the second Tuesday of the month at noon at the CSA Home Office in Lombard, Illinois but occasionally this schedule may vary. As always, members and guests are welcome to attend.

*Fraternally,
Kimberly Silhan*



Scholarship Fund Report

March 10 - April 10, 2024

TO CONTINUE CSA'S TRADITION OF ASSISTING OUR YOUNG MEMBERS IN PURSUING THEIR EDUCATION

Lodge Svelto No. 277

IN MEMORY OF PAST MEMBERS OF LODGE CLEVELAND CHAPTER NO. 219

Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219

TO CONTINUE CZECH HERITAGE

Holecek Charitable Foundation

IN HONOR OF ALL 2024 GRADUATES FROM LODGE NO. 121

Lodge Kruh Osvojenych-Zen A Panu

IN MEMORY OF DECEASED MEMBERS OF LODGE EMPIRE STATE NO. 448

Tina Vogler

IN MEMORY OF KATHRYN ALLEN

Lodge Brookfield No. 475

Total Donations

\$1865.00

LODGE HAPPENINGS

Events for 2024 Finalized - Mark Your Calendar!

Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison, No. 409, Lombard, Illinois – Our April 8 meeting was attended by eight members and guest Ken Dvorsky, D.C. No. 12 President. President Linda Burton opened our meeting with the Pledge. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted.

Bro. Dvorsky reported on the D.C. No. 12 Lodge Recognition Award night where eight district lodges accepted a Platinum Award. President Linda displayed our Platinum Certificate and read the letter of congratulations from Fraternal Manager, Kelly Deegan. Bro. Dvorsky also announced the next D.C. No. 12 meeting will be the fourth Thursday in June at 6:30 p.m. at the Home Office.

Bro. Ken advised that the Lidice Commemoration would take place on June 9 in Crest Hill. The staff at Masaryk School will be hosting this event.

Members decided to purchase a half page ad for the Get-Together Program Book and tickets for the GTG Raffle. Ken reminded the lodge about the GTG Service Project aiding the Middle Tennessee Second Harvest Food Bank. Members voted on a donation to be given for this effort.

Sis. Linda announced the Friends of Bohemian National Tour of the Civil War, WWI and WWII Monuments. On May 27, there will be a formal dedication of the refurbished WWI and WWII monuments. The cost of the improvements was funded by donations through the work of Friends and generosity of the government of the Czech Republic. After the dedication, there will be a program in the Columbarium followed by refreshments in the Gate House.

Members then discussed activities for 2024 and finalized dates:

Mothers' and Fathers' Day Combination Dinner at McCook Inn on May 22 at 3 p.m. An abbreviated meeting will take place before dinner.

Picnic at Patriots Park on Wednesday,

June 26 at noon. This will be a potluck lunch and meeting.

Game Event at the Home Office on September 9 at lunch time. We hope other lodges will attend.

Chili Contest on October 14 at the Home Office at 11:00. Other lodges are welcome to submit chili for the contest and prizes!

Christmas Lunch on December 9 at 11:30 at Del Rhea's Chicken Basket. We look forward to enjoying Bingo with Annmarie Antos and a few other games.

Lisa Cassai and Helene Schaefer, our Delegates to Tabor Hills, reported on their Spring Financial Meeting and Annual Luncheon. Tabor Hills is financially stable and looking to increase

their population. New signage at the entrance will stress that Tabor Hills is a campus that offers independent living and various levels of care. Lisa and Helene enjoyed a lunch and entertainment.

Jim and Judy Wozniak reported on their trip to Indianapolis to view the eclipse. They were lucky to view the event in the comfort of a relative's backyard. They donned their glasses and experienced totality and the full wonder of the eclipse. Other members viewed partial sightings which were still pretty awesome!

We closed our meeting with a birthday song to Helene and played Lisa's Quarter Game. Linda brought carrot cake which we all enjoyed.

*Fraternally,
Gerri Romanelli*



In Memoriam

Claim	Name	Lodge	Location	Date of Death	Age
55563	Slesinger, Robert J.	002	N/A	03/26/2018	95
55564	Hughes, Helen M.	004	PITTSBURGH, PA	02/07/2024	92
55577	Humbert, Marie	004	FREEDOM, PA	02/28/2024	99
55568	Walker, Debra	091	CHICAGO, IL	02/15/2024	64
55560	Davis, Joyce A.	137	CEDAR RAPIDS, IA	09/22/2023	79
55550	Belina, David C.	210	OWATONNA, MN	01/09/2013	84
55588	Kubat, Stuart V.	210	CLARKS GROVE, MN	10/31/2023	67
55571	Best Jr., John	211	VENICE, FL	03/18/2024	92
55589	Hornacek, Janet A.	214	TRAVERSE CITY, MI	10/20/2023	92
55570	Goldney, Johanna	219	TWINSBURG, OH	05/26/2018	94
55573	Span IV, John W.	219	LOMBOC, CA	04/22/2020	61
55591	Gould, Patricia	219	CHAGRIN FALLS, OH	03/13/2024	82
55551	Freiberg, Robert	231	KALISPELL, MT	02/02/2024	85
55554	Valent, Anton	231	CLARENDON HILLS, IL	02/13/2024	91
55586	Helfand, Richard A.	231	CHICAGO, IL	02/29/2024	77
55566	Matusik, Mary	251	BRIDGEPORT, OH	03/17/2024	86
55572	Phillips, Thomas	302	CHICAGO, IL	03/07/2024	87
55575	Brown Sr., Eric B.	302	CHICAGO, IL	02/10/2024	61
55590	Richmond, Carol A.	310	CADIZ, OH	03/08/2024	67
55565	Kominek, Ann J.	366	IDA, MI	07/01/2023	89
55562	Knight, Garlene F.	388	CEDAR RAPIDS, IA	09/04/2023	87
55580	Crawford, Joyce	388	CEDAR RAPIDS, IA	06/19/2014	89
55585	Pavelka, Anton V.	392	ELGIN, IL	11/26/2023	77
55549	Hope, Patricia A.	408	CANADIAN LAKES, MI	06/10/2023	77
55552	Brdicka, Michael G.	409	NAPERVILLE, IL	04/16/2023	34
55561	Kalcic, James	409	CAROL STREAM, IL	10/02/2023	64
55576	Dann, Joann	411	SWARTZ, MI	03/19/2024	85
55553	Clevenger, Gary	419	SOUTH BEND, IN	01/25/2024	85
55559	Papineau, Terrin L.	419	NAPLES, FL	06/08/2023	73
55574	McCaul, Henrietta	419	BERWYN, IL	12/05/2023	94
55587	Pollydore, Adamay	422	BROOKLYN, NY	03/15/2024	70
55569	Mast, Gavin C.	428	MIDDLE RIVER, MD	08/19/2023	18
55556	Van Hoesen III, Raymond	450	SCHENECTADY, NY	09/30/2022	76
55555	Janecek, Jason	452	HADDAM, CT	05/15/2023	49
55557	Martin, James P.	463	MIAMI GARDENS, FL	02/13/2024	81
55578	Humbert, Marie M.	479	FREEDOM, PA	02/28/2024	99
55581	Boor, James M.	479	COLUMBIA CROSS ROADS, PA	02/29/2024	93
55548	Barco, Johnathan S.	481	PLAINFIELD, NJ	02/01/2024	64
55558	Grossman, Lynn I.	481	TOM'S RIVER, NJ	02/23/2024	75
55582	Hayes, Rose	481	NEWARK, NJ	01/23/2024	90



In Memoriam

On March 31, 2024 (Easter Sunday), the Pauga and Bultas family got together to hold a memorial for the Papuga's daughter **Amanda Papuga** and the Bultas' daughter **Kristen Richert**. This was conducted on FaceTime on the phone.



Candy Papuga related how Amanda was a great basketball player who won many awards plus a full scholarship to the University of Miami. She further stated that she was taken away too soon as there were many more things that she could have accomplished. She further related that she was a very caring person



and was helpful to many people and causes.

Andy Bultas related that Kristen was a good mother who raised her children to make sure they worked toward getting a good education and to participate in sports. All three of her children are going to college. Two of them, her daughter and one son, were hockey players. Both were on traveling teams and both were very good, especially her daughter. She had been a nurse before her marriage and for some years after. She was a very caring person, and she helped many people. She, too, was taken away too soon.

The memorial ended with all persons there saying a prayer for both Amanda and Kristen. Present at this memorial were members of Lodge Sokol Pilsen No. 434: Candy and Stan Papuga and Andy, Matt, Christina, Michael, and Cooper Bultas.

*Fraternally,
Andy Bultas*

Bill Zelenka, longtime member of CSA Lodge No. 459 died this year at 99 years old. His one wish was to vote in this year's election. He did not quite make it. Bill served as president of our lodge for many years and attended many Get-Togethers. He was also a dedicated member of Sokol Los Angeles and the American Sokol Organization.

Bill was born on November 16, 1924 in Cleveland, Ohio to Czech parents Alois and Marie Zelenka. He was born as the fifth of seven children. His was a large family, and both of his parents spoke Czech, as did Bill in his early childhood. Bill grew up in Cleveland, where he attended John Adams High School and Fenn College. In 1940, when he was 16 years old, Bill joined the Czechoslovak Society of America.

At 18 years old, Bill joined the US Army, in which he served from 1943 to 1946, earning a Bronze Star. Following his military service, he worked both as a draftsman and designer before marrying Natalie in 1952. After moving to Santa Monica, California, he attended California State University and began a career as an engineer. He worked at Lockheed Aircraft for about 35 years, among other places.

Bill and Natalie had three children Barry, Anita, and Robert. He was predeceased by his daughter Anita and wife Natalie. May he rest in peace, he will be missed.

A full obituary can be found at:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/5845f227901/a873f9cd-9bdc-4fbf-bf75-596c02fb42cb.pdf>

*Fraternally,
Katherine Hanken*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Happy Retirement, Tammy

Lodge Groveton No. 4, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania – Our last meeting was held on Wednesday, April 3, at Groveton Fire Hall. There were 18 members in attendance. Members enjoyed Italian sausages and pierogies for dinner.

We reviewed the 2024 GTG packet from the Home Office. Our lodge agreed to purchase raffle tickets and a quarter page ad in the souvenir program book. We also decided to donate \$75 to the Service Project. Members will use the money to purchase some of the most needed items listed in the packet. CSA's goal is to fill eight boxes to donate to the Second Harvest Food Bank, so we hope our contribution will help meet or exceed that goal! It looks like our lodge will have

great representation in Nashville. We hope to see many familiar (and maybe some new) faces there!

On April 20, Lodge Groveton participated in Robinson Township's Clean-Up Day as part of Join Hand's Day. Look out for next month's *Journal* to see details and photos of the event. Another event to think about is the Penn-Ohio Bowling Tournament. You may enter as single, double, or as a team. We encourage those who are available to join us on October 19 and 20 at the Meadows Racetrack and Casino located in Washington, Pennsylvania.

Congratulations to Tammy Lewicki on her retirement after 32 years of hard work and dedication! Tammy and family met up for happy hour to celebrate this milestone! Happy retirement, Tammy! We hope you enjoy your travels and get to spend more time with your grandkids and granddogs!

Our lodge meets on the first Wednesday of the month at Groveton Fire Hall at 7 p.m. There will be food and refreshments so please arrive a little early to enjoy what is available! In addition, there is an attendance raffle with a monetary prize. We hope to see you at a meeting!

Fraternally,

Sis. Hunter Rae Yurkovich



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Donations to Salvation Army Friends of the Czech Republic

Lodge Century of Progress/Bila Hora No. 231, Cicero, Illinois – Our lodge meeting was held on March 13, 2024. The usual formalities included acceptance of the Secretary's minutes and the Treasurer's report with no objections. We were informed that the Bohemian National Cemetery is planning a Memorial Day program including the dedication of the WWII Memorial. We were also reminded of the deadline for entry in the CSA Photo Contest.

Members began to discuss the upcoming 87th Annual CSA Get-Together to be held August 2-4, 2024 in Nashville, Tennessee. We talked about the many ways our lodge can contribute to the success of the event and agreed to continue the conversation at our next meeting.

Speaking of contributions, lodge members voted donations be made to the Salvation Army and to the Friends of the Czech Republic. And, we received a thank-you note for a donation made to Honor Flight activities.

Our lodge meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the T.G. Masaryk School at 5701 W. 22nd Place, Cicero, Illinois. We invite our members to join us and welcome their input. For more information, contact Ed Slavik at 708-423-5267.

*Fraternally,
Elaine Tejcek*

Fraternal Well Wishes

Dolores Clark
Lodge Cleveland Chapter
No. 219



Officers Installed at Spring Lunch

Lodge Harrison/Hus/Garfield No. 378, Cicero, Illinois – This spring has been one surprise after another - rain, snow, wind, hail, then sun appeared.

In March, District Council No. 12 held a meeting to present lodges with their 2023 LRP award. Norma Kmet joined me in accepting our Platinum Award.

At our April 1 Spring Lunch, we were honored to have CSA Secretary/Treasurer Nick Kosmas and Kelly Deegan, Fraternal Program Manager, perform the Installation of Officers. Thank you, Nick and Kelly.

We discussed the 2024 GTG and will place a half page ad.

Our members Mike and Pam

Dvorsky have been busy volunteering on orienteering meets in Southern Maryland. Keith Dvorsky traveled to Indiana to see the eclipse, what stories he should have.

Join us for meetings the first Monday at noon at T.G. Masaryk Czech School.

*Fraternally,
Ken Dvorsky*



Happy Mother's Day



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

* Creepy Crawlies *

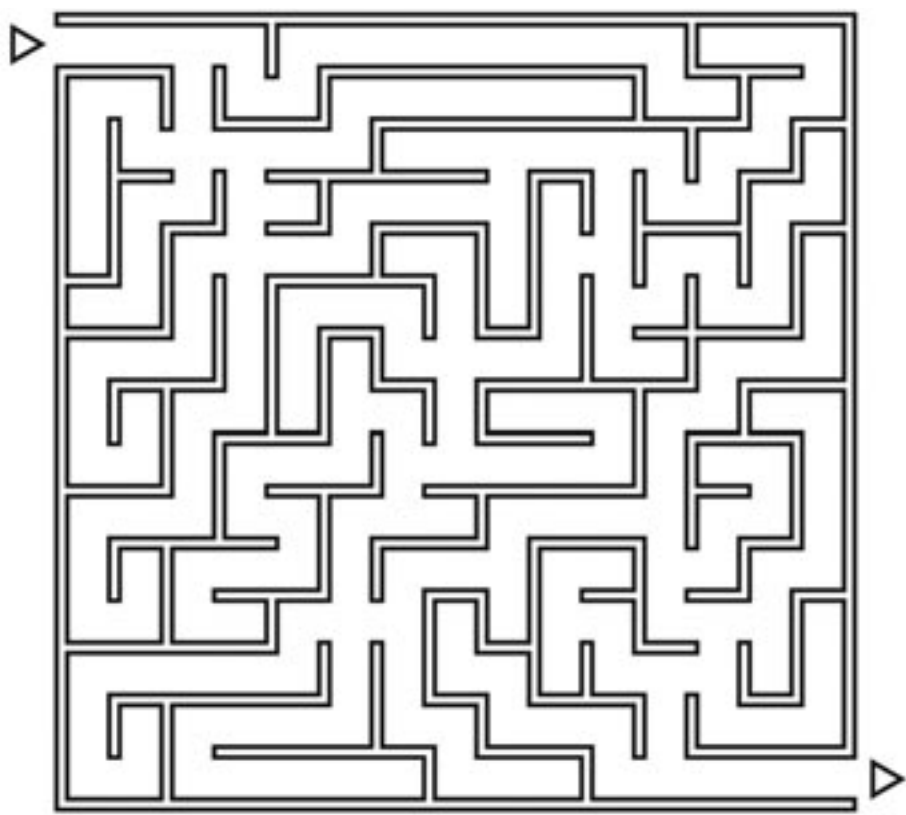
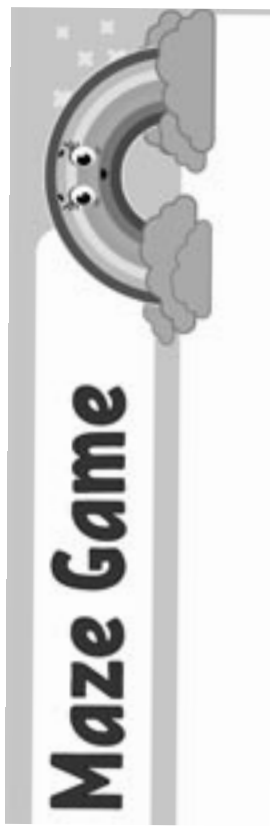


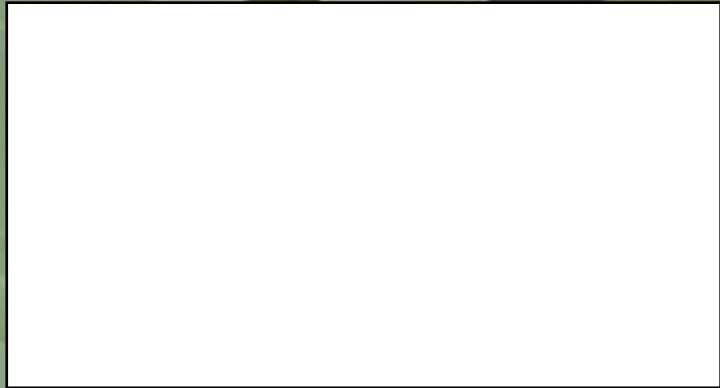
WORD LIST

ANT	BEE	ROACH
FLIES	SPIDER	BEETLE
LADYBUG	MOSQUITO	FIREFLIES
DRAGONFLY	GRASSHOPPER	BUTTERFLY

Czech to English

- Květen.....May (Kvě-ten)
- Fotografická soutěž.....photo contest (fo-to-graf-ic-ká sou-těž)
- Kategorie lidí.....people category (kat-e-gor-ie li-dí)
- Kategorie příroda.....nature category (ka-te-go-rie pří-ro-da)
- Nejlepší soutěž.....best of contest (nej-lep-ší ze sou-tě-že)
- Výběr fotografů.....photographers choice (vý-bě fo-to-graf-ů)
- Zvířata.....animals (zví-řa-ta)
- Čestné uznání.....honorable mention (čest-né-uz-ná-ní)





**Miss CSA Contest 2024
Nashville, Tennessee**

Visit csalife.com for details.

Apply by June 1!