



CHEF'S CORNER

SERVING UP FIVE STAR STATES



March 2026

Chef Monte' Schroeder #62203

Issue 10

Monthly Newsletter

A word from Spring Fling 2026 Chairman Rod Hollenstine #46073 SPRING FLING 2026

Chief Monty would like to encourage everyone to attend his Spring Fling meeting 2026. The meeting will be held at the Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center located at 3280 Northfield Dr, Springfield, Illinois. The dates are March 26, 27, and 28th.

For your convenience there is a registration form located on the Region V JCI Senate website. The Conference Center's direct dial is (217) 523-7900. If calling the Hotel use the booking code Springfling 26. To avoid a late registration fee, please ensure you make the March 6th deadline. Checks are payable to the Illinois JCI Senate and registrations should be mailed to:

MaryAnn Hilleary #64615

Spring Fling 2026

3158 East Main St. Danville, IL 61832

Let's make this a great turnout for Chef Monty!

On the first weekend of February, we drove just up the road from home to Champaign IL. for the Illinois JCI Senate / Illinois Jaycees Meetings Friday night started off with some great hospitality. Bright and early Saturday morning the IL. Senate had their meeting and nomination for next year board, I had the honor to nominate Maureen Niedenthal #67669 for President of the IL. JCI Senate.

During the Jaycees luncheon Jesica Ann Dick was welcomed as the newest IL. JCI Senator #84681. After the IL. Senators come back from dinner we all joined in with the IL. Jaycees for their year-end banquet and awards and our very own IL. Senator Greg Hilleary #43305 the liaison to the IL. Jaycees was the MC for the night. The banquet was so inspiring, Lanna Bartko- 2025 Illinois Jaycees 94th State President and her team brought it like a Super Bowl game with a lot of year end awards and Bethanie Miller the National JCI President cheering them on. During the awards Grey Hilleary #43305 was honored with the Senator of the year award from President Lanna Batko. We got to see Megan O'Brien sworn in as the 2026 Illinois Jaycees 95th State President.

With over a month of traveling, Sherrie and I got to have a week to regroup before we headed out to the TN JCI Senate Mini -National and Region VII meeting in Pigeon Forge TN. This is the first time we had

the chance to attend. The theme for the weekend was Welcome to the 3-Ring Circus for the Friday night party. The 3-Ring Circus was in full force, Sherrie and I had to dress up for it and Sherrie went as a Fortune Teller and I was an old time Circus Peanut Vendor. Sherrie got first place for her costume and she was given a tiara and a sash with Circus Queen on it. During the weekend we went out on a tour through Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg and enjoyed spending time with the Region VII Senators The visit to Region VII will be one of my 4 out of region visits.

We finished out the month down in Indian Rock Beach Florida to spend time and relax with some of our Illinois senators and I am sending out the Chefs Courner from our hotel room this morning. Don't forget to do your MENTORS article for the year end issue and promote events from May to August. The DEADLINE is March 2, 2026, to get it in. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Fling meeting to recognize all the accomplishments of Region V, as we will be "SERVING UP FIVE STARS STATE"

Chef Monte' #62203

Region V NVP

Serving Up Five Star States

A word from Region V US JCI Senate Foundation Chair Roxy Hollenstine # 78247.
Spring Fling Auction to benefit Foundation Scholarships

The annual Foundation Auction will be held at the upcoming Spring Fling, March 27th-29th. Please be thinking about any items you could donate to the auction. Remember, the funds raised go directly to the Foundation's Scholarship program. This program helps outstanding students to further their education.

If you know you will be able to make a donation of an auction item(s), I would appreciate if you would drop me a quick email, hollenstine@comcast.net . Specifics of the donation are not needed, but I do want to be sure there are enough tables available and set up.

All your efforts are very appreciated.

Roxy Hollenstine#78247

March Dues

The Third Quarter was due February 28, 2026, for March. Presidents, make sure you are collaborating with your Treasurer to make sure any renewals and new members additions are sent to our Membership Information Services Manager Lisa Badger #67973 on the proper forms. Also, please make sure that the payment is sent to National Treasurer Tom King #59642 by February 28, 2026, deadline.

The members due for February by state are as follows:

	Base	Due in March
Illinois	698	187
Indiana	227	34
Kentucky	85	15
Michigan	445	141
Ohio	329	80

Region V Total – 1,784 457

US JCI Senate Total – 7,777 1,837

President Sweepstakes

Presidents, we really need to push sweepstakes tickets at your meetings and unique events by selling tickets at \$10.00 each or six for \$50.00. State and Regions are encouraged to hold ticket sales by collecting \$5.00 from each member in attendance and drawing the appropriate number of tickets that will equal the six tickets for \$50.00.

Region V Fundraiser

Region V is raffling a 6-day stay at the Island Seas Resort in Freeport, Bahamas. Tickets cost \$10.00 each or six for \$50.00. States should sell tickets at their meetings. Sell tickets to anyone interested, including family, friends, and coworkers. If you would like to help sell tickets our fundraising chairperson is Greg Hilleary #43305. You can contact him at Greg.hilleary@gmail.com or call him at 217-497-2957. Greg or I will have extra tickets with us at your meeting. This fundraiser helps offset the expenses for the Chaplin and NVP expenses throughout the Senate year. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Sweepstakes Celebration Party in San Antonio TX.

Chaplain

Just a reminder:

Every 10th of the MONTH: I will send in the Region information to Chaplain Myers for the Monthly Eblast #1.

Every 18th of the MONTH: I will send in the Region information to Chaplain Myers for the Monthly Eblast #2.

This does not mean you cannot send me information at other times of the month. I will just keep it and send those two dates, so if received late, it will get in the next issue. I will also post on the Region FB Page.

So, this can be done without back and forth for details, please remember:

- 1) Senator / Friends Name and Number.
- 2) Spouse (if any).
- 3) Office held this year (if you know).
- 4) Address for cards to be sent and to whom (if death).
- 5) Email address for well wishes, etc.
- 6) Any other information you feel is necessary.

If you do not have some of this information, please get it from your Chapter President or Secretary before sending. If there is no one to send cards to, just let me know, so I do not bug you 😊 PLEASE do not assume I will see it on your Facebook page. I may glance through some of the pages, but I do not always catch everything. If you have any concerns or need more information from me, please contact me.

Also, please remember to check with me when you have something going on in your State,
Serving the Lord's Word,

Debbie Mogdis, 62260
Region V Chaplain
(2431) 329-0969

CHAPLAIN NOTES

2025-2026

While Serving Up Five Star States, we will Go Beyond

Our local Community and Friendships Entwined as we

Love the American Ride and Flamingle, Be Social, Have Fun and, as always, Do not Stop Believing in

Service to Humanity as the BEST WORK OF LIFE!

Region V Website

Webmaster Reese Malott has updated the Region V website. Feel free to check it out at www.regv.usjcisenate.org , Make sure that a copy of your newsletter, photos and registration forms are sent electronically to Reese at rmalott69@gmail.com when available. Also make sure that all your state events are listed on the US JCI Senate website calendar and that your registration forms are available as well. This information can be sent to the National Webmaster at webmaster@usjcisenate.org .

Return The Favor

President Bruce Sostak #52655 is teaming up with the US Jaycees to create a stronger relationship between the Senate and the Jaycees. He is encouraging all states to produce a plan to support their Jaycees chapters within their state. Send your Return the Favor paperwork into program manager Tracy Culler #64534 at ReturnTheFavor@usjcisenate.org

Senate Outreach Activation Retention (S.O.A.R.)

S.O.A.R. aims to boost the engagement, activation, and retention of US JCI Senate members. One of the best ways to get involved in S.O.A.R. is to wear blue on Monday for the first responders and wear red on Fridays to support the men and women deployed here and beyond. Make sure to take flat Bruce with on some of your adventures. Be sure to send your pictures into program manager Melanie Paschal #70372 at SOAR@usjcisenats.org as you travel around with President Bruce Roundup paddle and Howdy Duck.

US JCI Senate President Visitation Form

If you would like for President Bruce to visit your state for an event, you will need to send his Chief of Staff (Logan Giesie #51120 at COS@usjcisenate.org) a President Visitation Form. The form can be found on the US JCI Senate webpage under Quick Links under Presidential Visitations/Other Presidential Matters, Presidential. Make sure to get the form sent in as early as possible so that President Bruce can add it to his calendar.

US JCI Senate E-News

The E-News is a twice-monthly communication tool for the Senate. It comes out the 1st and 15th of each month and includes information from the National President as well as other National Officers. It also includes information on upcoming events, including registration forms, National Chaplain reports and much more. If you have not subscribed to the E-News, you can do this by going on the US JCI Senate home page and clicking on the Publications/News to Subscription.

Officer Training/Website

Please make sure you go on to the US JCI Senate webpage and click on training. Here you will find information on training for you as a state president. You will also find information on training for your state treasurer and training for all the recent programs that National has this year. Become familiar with the US JCI Senate website as well as our Region V website as they are a fantastic resource for everything you will need for your year.

Mentors Sponsorship

Each state is encouraged to pass a Mentor's Sponsor Sheet attached to a large envelope at each of your meetings and activities. Send a check; payable to the US JCI Senate, for the amount collected along with the sponsor sheet to US JCI Senate Mentors Business Manager – Christianna Gilliam #78844, 111 Titus Rd., Whitmire, SC 29178.

Friendship Award

Do not forget to be giving some thought to who you feel is a good nominee from your state to be considered for this award. Get your nomination to me by May 1st for recognition at the National Convention Meeting.

The US JCI Senate Friendship Award is presented to a non- Senate spouse (wife or husband) of a Senator who has been a Senator for at least five years that has contributed to his/her state, region, or national organization, but is not eligible for a Senatorship. Each state can submit one nomination per year. All nominations must be submitted to me. I can recommend a maximum of two nominees from Region V. There can only be ONE Friendship Award winner from each region per year. If any of you have a nomination for this award that you want considered, I must have your nomination on the proper form found on the US JCI Senate or Region V website by following deadlines ; August 1 (For recognition at the Fall Board Meeting), December 1 (For recognition at the Winter Board Meeting), or May 1 (For recognition at the National Convention). This will enable me to consider our strongest nominees and have them submitted by my deadline.

Calendar of Event-Here are upcoming events & activities.

Date

Event

Location

March 2, 2026	Deadline for submitting Year End Mentor Article	
March 27-29, 2026	Region V Spring Fling	Springfield, IL
April 10-12, 26	Illinois JCI Senate w/ Jaycees TOYP	Peoria, IL
April 16-19, 26	Region X Annual Meeting	Las Vegas, NV
May 9, 2026	Kentucky JCI Senate Year End Meeting	Bardstown, KY
May 15-17, 2026	MO. JCI Senate Meeting / 50 th Anniversary	St Charles, MO
May 22-24, 2026	Ohio JCI Senate Year End Meeting	Cleveland, OH
June 1, 2026	Membership Dues Kit Deadline for June	
June 14-18, 2026	US JCI Senate National Meeting	San Antonio, TX
July 24-26, 2026	Illinois JCI Senate Summer Picnic	Carlyle IL.
July 25, 2026	Michigan JCI Senate Year Meeting	Troy, MI

President and Chairman when you have upcoming meeting or special events, please email them to me at monty62203@gmail.com so I can get them on the calendar. Thanks, Chef Monte'

Each month I am going to provide you with one or two of my favorite recipes for the season.

From the kitchen of Chef Monte':

Tropical Cheese Ball

Ingredients:

- 1¼ cups almonds, sliced and toasted
- 2 - 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- ¾ cup coconut, unsweetened, toasted
- ½ cup Robert Rothschild Farm Pineapple Coconut Mango Tequila Sauce or you can substitute ½ cup sweet & sour sauce if not available.
- If you like a little more pineapple, you can add ½ cup well drained crushed pineapple.

1. In a mixing bowl, combine 1 cup sliced toasted almonds, ½ cup toasted coconut, cream cheese and Pineapple Coconut Mango Tequila Sauce. Place mixture on a serving plate and sprinkle with remaining coconut and almonds. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Serve chilled with your favorite crackers.

** To toast almonds and coconut, preheat oven to 325 degrees. In separate baking sheets

spread almonds and coconuts in a single layer and place in oven for ten minutes and then turn them over and put them in oven for another 5 minutes or until golden brown.

Hope you and your family will try them. Enjoy!

