



CHEF'S CORNER

SERVING UP FIVE STAR STATES



April 2026

Chef Monte' Schroeder #62203

Issue 11

Monthly Newsletter

The first of March started out very quietly, which was a good thing it gave me time to prepare for Spring Fling. All I can say about that is WOW and I mean WOW Spring Fling chairman Rod Holenstine #78247 and his committee Donna Baker #67041 along with Robbie Johnston #51099 ran Spring Fling like a well-oiled machine. The hospitality was amazing, the food was delicious and the presentation went above Chef Monte's expectations. Everyone enjoyed Thursday and Friday night's hospitality and friendship. Saturday morning brought a beautiful Memorial Service with each Top Chef honoring their member(s) that passed this year by reading their names and a bell was ring. There were two beautiful songs, Wildflowers by Tom Petty and In My Life by The Beatles, sung by the incredibly talented Jocelyn Moellering #77899 with her beautiful voice.

Region V Chaplain Deb Mogdis #62260 did a reading of The Best Is Yet To Come, you may ask? A woman met with her Pastor to prepare for her funeral the woman in the story told her Pastor that she wanted a fork to be placed in her right hand when she died. When asked why, she told the Pastor: 'I remember when the main course was being cleared from the table, someone at the table would always say, **'Keep your Fork.'** It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was yet to come. Something wonderful and Sweet! I want to have a fork in my hand at my funeral, so when people ask, "What's with the Fork," You and my Family can tell them, **Keep Your Fork, the Best is Yet to come.** Chaplain Deb gave everyone in attendance a fork because **THE BEST IS YET TO COME.**

After the Memorial Service, the business meeting started, there was ninety-seven in attendance from all over Region V states with thirteen past Region V NVP's and many President Bruces green shirts team in attendance. We also had the pleasure of hosting the lovely Region II NVP Ann Harrison #75822 and US JCI Senate Administrative Vice President Gary Duell #48384 and his wife Diane #74147. Ladies and Gentlemen please give a big Thank You to the 54th US JCI Senate President Bruce Sostak #52655 for visiting Region V. After lots of reports and candidate announcements, President Bruce give out his traveling gifts to Donna Baker #67041 and to Robbie Johnston #51099, he also recognized the 95th Illinois Jaycees President Megan O'Brien with one of his leadership lapel pins, also receiving a pin was chaplain Deb Mogdis #62260 and Rianna Hollenstine.

Master of Ceremony Stu O'Hara #39768 started out by putting on a Chef Hat and got the banquet started after all the beginning formalities and Jocelyn Moellering #77899 song an inspiring National Anthem. It was time to watch the year end video put together by Michigan President Dan Moellering #77898 and then a delicious meal was served. After the meal Stu started it off by holding up a basting brush and saying, "it's always good to be basted before getting roasted." Stu begins roasting Chef Monte' for the next several minutes all in fun and if I say so myself it was very funny. It was time to get down to business Chef Monte' gave out his year-end gifts to his Presidents and thanked them for an excellent year and to keep going strong for the next three months. My impressive Presidents recognized me with a

Region V Jacket and President Dan Moellering #77898 made me an impressive wood sign that said Schroeder Family Camp and a Santa workshop sign. It was then time to recognize the outstanding President of the year the Terry "Stump" Laster Memorial Award, this year's winner is Illinois President Susie Colbert-Curtis #73137. Congratulations Susie, well deserved. President Bruce had an extensive list of high performers to pick from submitted by the NVP and the five presidents, he narrowed it down to two to receive the Ranger Badge Pins. First was Ohio President Janice Carino #72307 even though he still had not forgiven her for having to kiss that pig head at the pig roast. The second one went to Bill Patterson #47979, Bill is one of those Senators that is always in the background to step up to do whatever it takes to get the job done and has hosted many golf outings for the Illinois Senate, Region V and the US JCI Senate and have played many rounds of golf with President Bruce; both of them are very deserving of the Ranger Badge Pin.

The evening ended with closing remarks from NVP Chef Monte' and incoming 2026-2027 Region V NVP Lori Tomlin #62797 with Ohio President Janice Carion leading us in the Jaycees Creed with lots of group pictures.

Chef Monte' Schroeder #62203

Region V NVP

Serving Up Five Star States

June Dues

The Fourth Quarter is due no later than May 26, 2026, for June. 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 May 26, 2026, deadline.

The members due for June by state are as follows:

	Base	Due in March
Illinois	698	180
Indiana	227	70
Kentucky	85	11
Michigan	445	131
Ohio	329	91
Region V Total –	1,784	483
US JCI Senate Total –	7,777	1,784

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.

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
April 10-12, 26	Illinois JCI Senate w/ Jaycees TOYP	Peoria, IL
April 16-19, 26	Region X Annual Meeting	Las Vegas, NV
May 1, 2026	Year-End Awards submissions Deadline	To Executive Board
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
May 26, 2026	Membership Dues Kit Deadline for June	To Lisa & Tom
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':

Strawberries are in season First Lady Sherrie thinks this is a "fabulous" salad.

Strawberry Spinach Salad

It takes about 10 minutes to put together, and it serves four

Ingredients:

2 tablespoons sesame seeds	1 tablespoon minced onion
1 tablespoon poppy seeds	10 ounces fresh spinach
½ cup white sugar	rinsed, dried and torn into bite
½ cup olive oil	- size pieces
¼ cup distilled white vinegar	1-quart strawberries – cleaned,
¼ teaspoon paprika	hulled and sliced
¼ teaspoon Worcestershire	¼ cups almonds, blanched
sauce	and slivered.

Directions:

1. In a medium bowl, whisk together the sesame seeds, poppy seeds, sugar

olive oil, vinegar, paprika, Worcestershire sauce, and onion. Cover and chill for one hour.

2. In a large bowl, combine spinach, strawberries, and almonds. Pour dressing.

over salad, and toss. Refrigerate 10 to 15 minutes before serving.

Hope you and your family will try them. Enjoy!