



# CHEF'S CORNER

## SERVING UP FIVE STAR STATES



**May 2026**

**Chef Monte' Schroeder #62203**

**Issue 12**

### Monthly Newsletter

The first of April started heading to Peoria Illinois for the Illinois JCI Senate Meeting and election. Friday night started out with great hospitality, good food and lots of Ellis Island Fellowship. Saturday morning brought the IL JCI Senate meeting, there were 13 past Presidents in attendance, and we were graced with a visit from the 95<sup>th</sup> Illinois Jaycees State President Megan O'Brien. The IL Senate and the IL Jaycees have a very strong relationship thanks to the IL Senate Liaison Greg Hilleary #43305. Then elections were held and congratulations to Maureen Niedenthal #67669 being elected as President and to her Board they're "Lucky Ducks". We finished off the night by attending The Illinois Jaycee Charitable Foundation TOYP and Hall of Fame banquet. Dean Paulcheck #50582 was inducted into the Illinois Jaycees Hall of Fame, and we heard from four amazing young people and their impact upon their communities.

Chef Monte', Miss Sherrie and 5 Illinois JCI Senators flew out to Las Vegas for the Region X regional meeting. The fun all began when we picked up the rental SUV where 7 Senators piled in with 11 pieces of luggage and some ended up on laps. When we arrived at the hotel it looked like a bunch of clowns getting out of the car coming from Circus Circus. The two in the far back seat quickly learned to do the Hoochie Scootchie Shuffle. The first night the group went to Fremont Street where Chef Monte' #62203 and Wayne Huelsmann #30592 zip-lined underneath the canopy; not once but twice then off to dinner with some Illinois Senators that live in Las Vegas now. Day two our clown car driver and personal tour guide Denny Birt #37116 took the group to see the Las Vegas welcome sign for the group picture. Then off to the Flamingo Casino so everyone could Flamingo in honor of IL. Seante President Susie Colbert-Curtis #73137. The highlight of the day was going to the Sphere to see the Wizard of OZ, if you ever get to Vegas go to the Sphere, it is amazing then go for dinner to my favorite restaurant Ellis Island for some of the best fall off the bone ribs. Finished out the night with a ride on the High Roller Ferris Wheel to see all the beautiful sites of Las Vegas.

Day 3 the group took a ride up and down the strip seeing all the sites and a drive to see the mountains. Then onto the Region X welcome party at Palace Station Casino. There were representatives from 25 different states along with President Bruce Sostak #52655 and 6 out of 10 NVP's were in Las Vegas for the weekend. The group went to dinner at Bob Taylor's Original Ranch House restaurant. On our last day in Vegas the Region V group went to the Nevada JCI Senate meeting. There were lots of President Bruce green shirts in the room and after the meeting ended there was a green shirt picture taken. The Region V group hopped back into the clown car and headed to the Venetian Casino to see the beautiful setting of Rome. During the visit Senators Maureen Niedenthal #67669 and her hubby Mark Niedenthal #39701 took a ride in a gondola boat, no trip is complete without a boat ride. Then we went to the Bellagio Casino to watch the fountain show and toured the beautiful flower garden. Back to the hotel to get ready for the Region X regional meeting and banquet. Region X NVP Steve Balint #43364 lead the Meeting during the banquet. There were three long overdue Senatorships given out too three very

deserving gentlemen that lived their life around the Jaycees Creed and had a major impact on their community. Thank you to Region X NVP Steve Balint, his lovely wife Vickey and the Nevada JCI Senate, for a fantastic weekend in Las Vegas. I also would like to give a big THANK YOU to Denny & Jane Birt, Mark & Maureen Niedenthal, Wayne Huelsmann and my beautiful bride Sherrie for traveling to Las Vegas with me and I must THANK YOU again Denny Birt for driving us around and being our tour guide for the week. I'm looking forward to traveling to St Charles Missouri for their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and being able to visit Region VI and to be able to see my Region V family in Ohio finally for the second time this year for their meeting and banquet.

Chef Monte' Schroeder #62203  
Region V NVP  
Serving Up Five Star States

## Year End Memorial and Named Awards

**Region V Presidents I hope all of you have written your endorsement letters for the Name Award you have until the end of day to get them in.**

All Year-End named award endorsement letters are due **May 1, 2026**.

**Thomas E Humphrey Memorial Award** – Outstanding Senate State President

**Donald D. “Donnie” Alvis Memorial Award** – Outstanding Region Vice President

**Ira Moser Memorial Award** – Outstanding Ambassador / Nationally Elected Officer

**Ron Robinson Memorial Award** – Outstanding Appointed Officer

**Jim Calder Memorial Award** – Outstanding Senator

- Submit nominations for the Humphrey, Alvis, Moser, Robinson, and Calder to US JCI Senate President, Bruce Sostak at [54thpresident@usjcisenate.org](mailto:54thpresident@usjcisenate.org)

**Nolan Terrill Memorial Award** – Outstanding Newsletters and Communications

- Submit nominations to the US JCI Senate Secretary, Dawna Norfleet at [Secretary@usjcisenate.org](mailto:Secretary@usjcisenate.org)

**Tom Stone Memorial Award** – Outstanding State Treasurer

- Submit nominations to the US JCI Senate Treasurer, Tom King at [Treasurer@usjcisenate.org](mailto:Treasurer@usjcisenate.org)

**Tom Sellmer Memorial Award** – State Chaplain

**Walter Calhoun Award** – Regional Chaplain

- Submit nominations for the Sellmer and Calhoun awards to Chaplain Paul Myers at [Chaplain@usjcisenate.org](mailto:Chaplain@usjcisenate.org)

**Michael Bearon Memorial Award** - Outstanding Return the Favor Senator

- Submit nominations to Tracy Culler [returnthefavor@usjcisenate.org](mailto:returnthefavor@usjcisenate.org)



## 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](mailto: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 10<sup>th</sup> of the MONTH: I will send in the Region information to Chaplain Myers for the Monthly Eblast #1.

Every 18<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 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

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

Date	Event	Location
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 <sup>th</sup> 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
August 14-15, 2026	Indiana JCI Senate Meeting	Clarksville IN.

President and Chairman when you have upcoming meeting or special events, please email them to me at [monty62203@gmail.com](mailto: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':

### **Gooney Butter Cake**

Ingredients:

1 stick oleo or butter	8 oz cream cheese (softened)
1 egg slightly beaten	2 eggs
1 yellow cake mix	1 lb. confectioner's sugar

Melt butter and add (1) beaten egg. Stir in yellow cake mix and pat this mixture in the bottom of a greased and floured 9 x13 pan. Mix (2) eggs, cream cheese and powdered sugar and pour over first mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Cool and cut into squares to serve.

I love Pineapple and love this recipe, hope you do too.

### **Scalloped Pineapple**

Ingredients:

2 cans crushed pineapple, drained	½ c milk
2 cups sugar	3 eggs
4 cups soft breadcrumbs	1 stick butter

Combine all ingredients, pour into oblong baking dish and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

