



Journal

July/August 2024





Hot Dog Sale to Benefit Tom's Turkeys Page 28



Bingo! Page 29

On the Cover

Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137 members participated in the Houby Days Parade in the Czech Village on May 18, 2024. See page 33 for details.



Operation Support Our Troops Page 25

In this issue...

- 3 President's Piece
- 4 Upcoming Events
- 5 Today's Fraternal
- 6 Message from the Secretary
- 7 Miss CSA
- 8 GTG
- 13 Jan Hus Day
- 14 Junior Bowl-O-Rama Scores
- 16 Fraternal Calendar
- 16 End of an Era
- 17 Museum Streaming Service
- 18 Memorial Day at BNC
- 19 Refer a Member Program
- 20 Lodge Happenings
- 27 Scholarship Donation Form
- 28 Scholarship Fund Report
- 30 In Memoriam
- 34 Just Kids

President's Piece

The 2024 Get-Together is Upon Us!

Brothers and Sisters,

Well, here we are. The calendar has turned to July, and that means that our Annual Get-Together isn't too far behind. This year, the 87th Annual Get-Together will be in Nashville, Tennessee on the weekend of August 2 – 4, 2024.

I know that the Get-Together committee has been working hard on planning out the events, which will begin with a registration and a hospitality reception, and conclude with a Sunday brunch. In between, we'll help with a volunteer event and go on a Riverboat outing, for those of you interested in that. On that Saturday, of course, we'll will enjoy a formal dinner and find out who our Fraternalist of the Year is, along with the crowning of our 2024 National Miss CSA.

This Get-Together will also mark the 12th anniversary of me having the honor of being your President. Being a part of our historic society is wonderful, and having the honor of being the President of CSA is truly humbling. As always, I appreciate the support that I've been given from our membership, so thank you. Here's to many more!

I wish everyone a happy and healthy summer and look forward to seeing many of you in a few weeks in the Music City.

Until next month...

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



**John J. Kielczewski
President**



UPCOMING EVENTS

August 2 - 4, 2024
CSA Get-Together
Nashville, Tennessee
See page 8.

October 15, 2024
Deadline for veteran's names to be submitted to *the Journal*.
Email names to csajournaleditor@gmail.com.



October 19 & 20, 2024
Penn/ Ohio Bowling Tournament
The Meadows Casino/Bowling Lanes, Pittsburgh Area
Watch for details.

December 8, 2024
Deadline for CSA Serves Matching Funds requests

January 31, 2025
Deadline for 2024 Lodge Recognition Program submissions



CSA Journal

Volume 137 No. 7 July/Aug. 2024



A Dynamic Magazine "Dedicated to Our Membership"

ÚŘEDNÍ ORGÁN JEDNOTY ČESKOSLOVENSKÝCH SPOLKŮ V AMERICĚ

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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

We Are Almost There...

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

We are almost there... The Get-Together Committee has been working hard to get everything together. This year's three Miss CSA contestants are Delaney Schretter of Lodge No. 378, Karly Ledvina of Lodge No. 279, and Cassidy Payer of Lodge No. 432. As usual, I don't envy the judges.

There is still time to submit your nomination for Fraternalist of the Year. The nomination form is on the website, or I can send you one. We are also still accepting Kropik Scholarship applications, which are also available on the CSA website.

The Bowl-O-Rama has been completed. Thank you to all who participated. We hope you had a fun time. Winners should have received their gift cards in the mail. See pages 14 and 15 for scores.

Thank you to everyone who donated pill bottles over this past year. We have a trip scheduled to Ohio, where they will be taken to Matthew 25 Ministries, an organization that recycles old pill bottles to help the environment, as well as assist developing countries with their medical needs.

To everyone who had the pleasure of experiencing the cicada invasion, I hope you enjoyed it. I will say it was an



Kelly Deegan
Fraternal Programs Manager

adventure I can do without. I don't think I will miss having them all over my shirt or in my hair. Although, watching people duck out of their way was pretty funny.

I hope everyone had a great Fourth of July. Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you in August.

Fraternally,
Kelly Deegan
Fraternal Programs Manager
Lodge DuPage Pioneers/Edison No. 409

Journal Themes for 2024

- 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

DONATE

Have you considered a donation to the *Scholarship Fund* as one of your CSA Serves choices?

CSA serves.

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
1.800.543.3272 x 4307

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

CICADAS, FOURTH OF JULY, GET-TOGETHER, OH MY!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I write this, the cicadas are still “singing”! They are deafening in some areas. Here at the Home Office getting in and out of the building has been an experience! The cicadas fly into you and land on you. They are big and ugly, but they are harmless! Out where we live, we have not heard as many.

The nesting mother geese were more threatening the last few weeks. One of the “moms” decided to lay her eggs (4) in one of the flower planters by the Home Office front door. Anytime someone walked by them, the geese honked and stuck out their tongues. Luckily, they have moved on. I wonder if they enjoy feasting on the cicadas?

As we move into July, our country is getting ready to celebrate the 248th anniversary of Independence Day. The 56 delegates to the Second Continental Congress represented the 13 colonies, 12 of which voted to approve the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

One of my favorite quotes about the Fourth of July was by John Adams. He

said, “The date will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.”

We love fireworks! One of my favorite firework shows was about 15 years ago. Our oldest was born on July 3 and wanted to see the fireworks on the lakefront in downtown Chicago. We took our sons and their friends to see the show. When the firework finale started, the military band performing started playing the “1812 Overture.” It was amazing!

The month of July has another special meaning for my family (besides our son’s birthday). On July 31, 1966, we arrived in the United States from Greece. My family immigrated to United States for a better life. Like my family, CSA was founded



Nick Kosmas
Secretary/Treasurer

by immigrants in search of a better life for their families. I believe that is what makes CSA so successful. A short six years later, on July 5, 1972, our family was naturalized as American citizens. After we were naturalized, the *Chicago Tribune* had a luncheon at the Tribune Tower. After the luncheon, they took a group picture in their courtyard and published the picture and the story in the July 6 newspaper. I have a PDF copy of the article and picture. I can’t share it with you here because it is copyrighted but if you see me at the upcoming Get-Together, ask and I’ll share it with you.

Lisa and I enjoyed attending Lodge No. 377 Woodrow Wilson’s pizza party. We would like to thank Cary and his lodge for a lovely afternoon and wonderful conversations.

I would like to thank Chuck Courtney of Lodge Anton J. Cermak No. 99 for inviting me to their June meeting. We had a good discussion on the financial state of CSA, as well as Fraternal programs.

A couple of weeks before the Nashville Get-Together, we will be in the Cleveland area for the DC No. 10 picnic and pin celebration. We would like to thank Diane DiBianca for the invitation.

Speaking of the Nashville Get-Together, the committee is putting the final plans together. Lisa and I are looking forward to seeing you there! It’s going to be a fun weekend!

Fraternally,
Nick V. Kosmas



Miss CSA

SPAM, Smokey, Shadowing, and So Much More!

Greetings everyone,

It seems like yesterday I was on the edge of my seat waiting for summer to come, but now that the Northwoods mosquito, tick, no-see-um, and biting fly season is in full swing, I'm beginning to rethink my seasonal preferences. Anyhow, life in Minnesota has continued to be wonderful.

An interesting thing that happened at work this past month was that we had an office-wide SPAM ham cookoff. Everyone brought in a dish that included the (sort of) meat product and then we all voted on our favorites. SPAM was, after all, originally developed in Minnesota. There were a wide variety of SPAM infused dishes including jerky, cupcakes, seaweed wraps, kabobs, chicken-fried-SPAM, pasta salad, and more. I got a little creative and brought in SPAM and cheese filled crepes. Believe or not, they actually were well received, and I went home that Wednesday with the third place title. Despite the silliness of the competition, I am still very proud of myself!

More recently, I got to help out with the U.S. Forest Service booth for Cook, Minnesota's Annual Timber Days Festival. It's your typical charming small town fair complete with a petting zoo, craft vendors, food trucks, and live music. Our booth consisted of a trivia wheel which people could spin and answer a forest-related question. For participating, they could pick out a Smokey Bear themed prize. This year is his 80th birthday, so we had lots of freebies to pass out. I may or may not have stashed a few away in my pockets.

Since Timber Days, I've gotten to shadow our district's contracting forester, which involved tagging along to my first inspection of an active logging site. I loved watching the loggers use their equipment to cut and stack the trees. It's amazing how advanced some of the machines are, being able to automatical-

ly cut trees into 8 foot logs before being hauled out. I will say though, walking over the slash was pretty slippery, especially in the rain. I felt like I needed spikes on my muck boots! It was really cool hearing about the ecological goals of the harvest, and how the logging will contribute to bettering the health of the forest. We even found a mother grouse who had made a nest for her chicks in the cleared area. Despite what the Lorax may tell you, cutting trees doesn't need to be a bad thing at all.

On the farm, six more baby goats have arrived and piglets are due any day now. One of the miniature horses, Dixie, is also due to foal at the end of the month. Needless to say, I've been getting my fill of baby animal snuggles. May, the goat, and three of her siblings have unfortunately gotten sick and have been on medication every day, but I'm praying they all recover and are able to be adopted out soon to a forever home. They've brought me so much joy and countless smiles the past couple of weeks, and I wish the best for them.

In other non-Minnesota news, I'm excited to be heading to Ohio for my home lodge, Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219's, Pin Party/Picnic. I'm looking forward to reconnecting with everyone and celebrating our longtime members!

An additional perk of the trip is that I'll be close enough to home to see my mom and sister for the first time in-person since Christmas break. There is also the probability we'll have enough time together to sneak in a visit to my future wedding ceremony venue or make a bridal dress appointment. With all the things that go into planning a wedding, the dress is most definitely what I've been looking forward to the most. Either way, I can't wait, and I'll be sure to tell you all about how it goes!

*Fraternally,
Jessica Decker*





Howdy, Brothers and Sisters!

For those who will be joining us at the Get-Together:

Below is a brief outline of the weekend's events - as you may notice, there are some changes from previous years. Friday will include registration for our guests, a cocktail hour in our hospitality suite, and we have rented a bus to take our guests to and from Broadway to enjoy a night out in Music City! Saturday will be more traditional, including our Service Project, an outing on the General Jackson, and our dinner with the much-anticipated Miss CSA contest. Sunday we will enjoy brunch and our Miss CSA 2023, Jessica Decker, will be presenting.

Friday

12:00 PM - Registration

3:00 PM - Hospitality Suite + Cocktail Hour

5:00 PM - Shuttle Bus to and from Broadway (Bus runs on the hour until 12:00 AM)

Saturday

9:00 AM - Service Project

12:00 PM - General Jackson Boat Show (Bus Departs at 10:15 AM)

6:00 PM - Formal Dinner + Miss CSA Contest

Sunday

10:00 AM - Brunch with Jessica Decker, Miss CSA 2023

Fraternally,

The Get-Together Committee





Service Project



Second Harvest Food Bank

This year we have partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee for our service project. We will be hosting a food drive to collect non-perishable goods for them. We ask that you bring something to provide and help pack up as many boxes as we can!

When?

Saturday, August 3, 2024

At 9 AM - drop off food in the lobby & take a picture in your blue CSA shirt!



SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Peanut Butter + Seed/Nut Butter

**Canned Chicken + Tuna
Soup, Stew + Chili**

Canned Low Sugar Fruits

Canned Low Salt Veggies

Rice + Pasta

Cereal + Oatmeal



Please avoid glass jars, expired items and perishable foods.





PLACES TO GO ON
Broadway

Honky Tonk Central

329 Broadway Street
Nashville, TN 37201

615-742-9095
www.honkeytonkcentral.com

Tootsies Orchid Lounge

422 Broadway Street
Nashville, TN 37203

615-726-0463
www.tootsies.net

Tin Roof

316 Broadway Street
Nashville, TN 37201

615-242-4446
www.tinroofbroadway.com

Nudie's Honky Tonk

409 Broadway Street
Nashville, TN 37203

615-942-6307
www.nudieshonkytonk.com

Robert's Western World

418 Broadway Street
Nashville, TN 37203

615-244-9552
www.robertswesternworld.com

Whiskey Bent Saloon

306 Broadway Street
Nashville, TN 37203

615-953-2245
www.whiskeybentsaloon.com





THINGS TO DO IN *Nashville*

Grand Ole Opry

600 Opry Mills Drive
Nashville, TN 37214

1-800-SEE-OPRY
www.opry.com

Country Music Hall of Fame

222 Rep. John Lewis Way S
Nashville, TN 37203

615-416-2001
www.countrymusichalloffame.org

Nashville Zoo at Grassmere

377 Nolensville Pike
Nashville, TN 37211

615-833-1534
www.nashvillezoo.org

Lane Motor Museum

702 Murfreesboro Pike
Nashville, TN 37210

615-742-7445
www.lanemotormuseum.org

Belle Meade Plantation

5025 Harding Pike
Nashville, TN 37205

615-356-0501
www.visitbellemeade.com

Centennial Park

2500 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37203

615-862.8400
www.nashville.gov





THINGS TO EAT IN *Nashville*

Mellow Mushroom

423 Broadway
Nashville, TN 37203

615-454-4990
www.mellowmushroom.com

The Stillery

113 2nd Ave N
Nashville, TN 37201

615-942-8080
www.thestillery.com

Redheaded Stranger

305 Arrington St
Nashville, TN 37207

615-544-8226
www.redheadedstrangertacos.com

Hattie B's Hot Chicken

112 19th Ave S
Nashville, TN 37203

615-802-5700
www.hattieb.com

Pelican & Pig

1010 Gallatin Ave
Nashville, TN 37206

615-730-6887
www.pelicanandpig.com

Butcher & Bee

902 Main St
Nashville, TN 37206

615-229-5019
www.butcherandbee.com



Jan Hus Day - July 6

Jan Hus, a predecessor of Martin Luther, was an early 15th century Czech theologian and scholar. After being ordained as a Catholic priest, Hus began to preach in Prague. He advocated for church reforms, such as using Czech as the liturgical language, aligning the church's practices with teachings contained in the Bible, limiting the power of the church to spiritual matters, and stopping the sale of indulgences.

Hus was a master, dean, and rector at the Charles University in Prague between 1409 and 1410. However, he opposed many aspects of the Catholic Church in Bohemia, such as its views on ecclesiology, simony, the Eucharist, and other theological topics.

Consequently, he was excommunicated from the Catholic Church in 1412 for insubordination. He was summoned to the ecclesiastical Council of Constance in 1414, where he was ordered to recant his teachings. Refusing to comply, Hus was burnt at the stake on July 6, 1415.

After Hus was executed, the followers of his religious teachings (known as Hussites) refused to elect another Catholic monarch and defeated five consecutive papal crusades between 1420 and 1431 in what became known as the Hussite

Wars. Both the Bohemian and the Moravian populations remained majority Hussite until the 1620s, when a Protestant defeat in the Battle of the White Mountain resulted in the Lands of the Bohemian Crown coming under Habsburg dominion for the next 300 years and being subject to immediate and forced conversion in an intense campaign of return to Catholicism.

Nearly six centuries later, in 1999, Pope John Paul II expressed “deep regret for the cruel death inflicted” on Hus and added “deep sorrow” for Hus’s death and praised his “moral courage.” Cardinal Miloslav Vlk of the Czech Republic was instrumental in crafting John Paul II’s statement. Members of the Moravian Church believe that it remains for God to judge those who were involved in the death of Hus.

Over the centuries, Jan Hus has become a powerful symbol of an independent Czech national identity.

<https://cz.usembassy.gov/holiday-calendar/jan-hus-day/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jan_Hus



Jan Hus at the Council of Constance. 19th-century painting by Karl Friedrich Lessing

2024 Junior Bowl-O-Rama Scores

BOY'S DIVISION AGE 5-7		DIVISION #2	
NAME	LODGE NAME & #	SCORE	PLACE
Leo Dillon	Prokop Velky #137	161	2nd Place
Pearson - guest of Leo Dillon	Prokop Velky #137	232	1st Place
BOY'S DIVISION AGE 8-11		DIVISION #2	
NAME	LODGE NAME & #	SCORE	PLACE
Caspian Dillon	Prokop Velky #137	170	
Layton Franks	Prokop Velky #137	150	
James Michalek	Yankee-Jungmann #077	276	2nd Place
Gavin Gray	Yankee-Jungmann #077	224	3rd Place
Nolan Daberkow	Mile-Hi Czechs #432	73	
Wyatt Forrester	Groveton #004	220	
Jacob Roosa	Groveton #004	101	
Jackson Roosa	Groveton #004	200	
Colby Breidenbach	Missouri #001	278	1st Place
Frank May	Brookfield #475	122	
Finn Michalek	Yankee-Jungmann #077	270	
BOY'S DIVISION AGE 12-14		DIVISION #3	
NAME	LODGE NAME & #	SCORE	PLACE
Connor Michalek	Yankee-Jungmann #077	322	2nd Place
Chase Michalek	Yankee-Jungmann #077	281	3rd Place
Reed Michalek	Yankee-Jungmann #077	349	1st Place
BOY'S DIVISION AGE 15-17		DIVISION #4	
NAME	LODGE NAME & #	SCORE	PLACE
Mason Varga	Laurel #452	220	
Ryan Goodwin	Laurel #452	264	
Colin Graveen	Yankee-Jungmann #077	377	2nd Place
Trevor Michalek	Yankee-Jungmann #077	248	
Christopher Ebright	Kruh Osvojenych Zen A Panu #121	294	
Skylar Ebright	Kruh Osvojenych Zen A Panu #121	464	1st Place
Tyler Sullivan	Woodrow Wilson #377	335	3rd Place

2024 Junior Bowl-O-Rama Scores

GIRL'S DIVISION AGE 5-7		DIVISION #1	
NAME	LODGE NAME & #	SCORE	PLACE
Kalani Michalek	Yankee-Jungmann #077	234	1st Place
Jourdyn Forrester	Groveton #004	232	2nd Place
GIRL'S DIVISION AGE 8-11		DIVISION #2	
NAME	LODGE NAME & #	SCORE	PLACE
Vanessa Graveen	Yankee-Jungmann #077	265	1st Place
Emily Michalek	Yankee-Jungmann #077	257	2nd Place
Kayleigh Daberkow	Mile-Hi Czechs #432	85	
Paisly Morgan	Prokop Velky #137	161	
Isabelle May	Brookfield #475	204	3rd Place
GIRL'S DIVISION AGE 12-14		DIVISION #3	
NAME	LODGE NAME & #	SCORE	PLACE
Shauna Smith	Groveton #004	308	1st Place
Madison Bichler	Groveton #004	174	3rd Place
Chloe Michalek	Yankee-Jungmann #077	206	2nd Place
Faylyn Franks	Prokop Velky #137	157	
GIRL'S DIVISION AGE 15-17		DIVISION #4	
NAME	LODGE NAME & #	SCORE	PLACE
Myah Morgan	Prokop Velky #137	183	1st Place



End of an Era: Czechoslovak American Congress to Dissolve

Dear friends of the Masaryk School,

After nearly 50 years of fostering collaboration among Czech and Slovak organizations in Chicago, the Czechoslovak American Congress dissolved at the end of June 2024. The decision, driven by the fulfillment of its purpose and changes in community dynamics, transfers all responsibilities related to cultural and educational initiatives to T. G. Masaryk Czech School. We will remember the CAC as the organizer of the Lidice Commemoration, the traditional summer picnic, and as an organization that provided a monthly calendar of community events.

We, at the Masaryk School, feel deeply honored to be entrusted with the legacy of the CAC, a rich and storied history that we are committed to continuing. I can't help but share my personal feelings, having served as the secretary for the CAC for six years. When I first started, I relied heavily on guidance for almost everything – from proper voting procedures to compiling minutes – and I received patient assistance from the board,

knowledge that I still rely on today. Additionally, spending time with compatriots who have served the community much longer than I have provided me with countless stories about the history of Czechs in Chicago and their organizations.

It's a bittersweet moment, marking the end of an era but also signaling a transition that we are proud to take on. I extend my gratitude to the board members, John Pritasil, Věra Wilt, Jean Mensik, and Adam Wilt, for their tireless behind-the-scenes efforts in ensuring that the significance of the Lidice tragedy has been understood and honored within our community.

Looking ahead, the Masaryk School would like to establish a small 'Lidice Subcommittee' of volunteers. Please let us know if you are willing to help care for the Lidice Park in Crest Hill, Illinois.

Klára Moldová

CSA Fraternal Life 2024 Fraternal Calendar

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.)

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Memorial Day at Bohemian National Cemetery



In observance of Memorial Day, our fraternal brothers and sisters gathered for a Memorial Day celebration at Bohemian National Cemetery. We started our morning with coffee, conversation, and kolacky at the Gatehouse. This was followed by a WWI/WWII Memorial Re-Dedication lead by Chuck Michalek of Friends of Bohemian National Cemetery. Next was a procession to the Columbarium lead by members of the U.S. Armed Forces and the Masaryk Czech School students. Here, we enjoyed a wonderful patriotic program honoring our veterans. The Masaryk students lead the Pledge of Allegiance and then we all sang the national anthems of the U.S.A., the Czech Republic, and Slovakia. It was a heartwarming experience.

The Masaryk students gave a great presentation of a poem titled, "Dekuji," by Karel Jan Kaylee. We all participated in the singing of the songs honoring our five Armed Forces: Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, and Marines. Jakub Uteseny, Counsel General of the Czech Republic, addressed the audience. Closing remarks were given by Bill Hudecek and Chuck Michalek, followed by retiring of the colors. It was a wonderful experience. Many photos were taken like the one above showing the Masaryk Czech School students with CSA Lodge No. 378 President Ken Dvorsky and Secretary Norma Kmet.

*Fraternally,
Norma Kmet*

Member Referral Program

Help us grow our society's membership. Your support allows us to continue offering our valuable fraternal benefits and programs.

Earn \$25

- Referral must be a new member.
- New Life and/or Annuity application must be approved and placed.
- Annual premium must be paid.
- Referral Coupon must accompany new member insurance application.

Earn \$10

- Referral must be a new member.
- New Life and/or Annuity application must be approved and placed.
- Referral Coupon must accompany new member insurance application.
- Can be paid monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually.

New Member Referral Coupon

Please mark the appropriate box above – \$25 or \$10 – and fully complete this coupon. Attach this sheet to the proposed applicant's insurance application.

Member Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____

Lodge: _____

Proposed Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____



2050 Finley Road Suite 70, P.O. Box 249, Lombard, IL 60148 · (800) LIFE – CSA

Limitations and restrictions apply. Program not available in all states.

NSAIP6672016_CSA

LODGE HAPPENINGS

Platinum Award Received

Lodge Paramount/Southgate No. 372, Maple Heights, Ohio – It was a perfect 70-degree day when our meeting was held on May 23 at the DTJ in Taborville, Ohio. Mary Ann Toncar, Kris and Bruce Marek, Diane DiBianca, Donna Stepka, Johnny Weiss, and I spruced up the DTJ for our Join Hands Day project. Mary Ann also swore in Diane as Treasurer for this year.

Diane, Mary Ann, and I visited Lodge Benjamin Franklin at their meeting on May 20 at Mama Romito's.

Diane gave them a big bag of pop tabs for their charity.

Our lodge received the LRP Platinum Award certificate and check. Thank you, Home Office. We are working our way to platinum again!

Congratulations to our lodge's Photo Contest winners: David DiBianca, First Place, Photographer's Choice and Honorable Mention, Nature; and Alexandria Rosa, Second Place, Youth.

The Casino Bus Trip at the Rivers Casino is on July 10 and the bus is full!

The 101st Cesky Den will be held at the DTJ, Ceska Sin, and Bohemian Halls on July 14. A \$5 donation includes bands playing all day.

The 90th Obzinky (Harvest Festival) will be held at the DTJ on August 11, \$5 donation. The parade starts at 2 p.m., with bands playing all day.

Congratulations to the 50/50 winners: Kris and Johnny, who won twice!

Thank you, Kris and Bruce, for our lovely lunch of burgers, tater salad, salad, chips, and ice cream bars.

Our next meetings for 2024 will be: July 25 (Bus Trip), 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

Memorials, Graduations, and Celebrations

Lodge Kruh Osvojenych Zen a Panu No. 121, Dillonvale, Ohio – We have a good bit to report this time, so let's get started. First, we participated once again in the Memorial Day celebrations at Dillonvale Knight Rider Park (where we assisted with Join Hands donations), West Elementary School, and the Dillonvale Presbyterian Church. Members gave manpower hours as they helped set up for the events, prepare food, decorate, and clean-up. We were grateful for the opportunities to honor all our military personnel and their sacrifices for our country. Thank you to all our members for supporting these events.

We recently donated volunteer hours to the Dillonvale Presbyterian Church for their annual clean-up day which was held in early June. Workers helped complete necessary tasks in the church sanctuary, social hall, kitchen, garage, and outside area. Monetary donations were made to the Dillonvale Emergency Squad and the Volunteer Fire Department. Members also donated food to a memorial for our departed member, Brad Kurtz. We would like to thank all Lodge No. 121 members who attended, along with Brother Director Terry Placek, his wife, Kathy Placek, and mother, Jean Placek, all from Lodge Groveton No. 4 in Pennsylvania.

We continue to transport each other to lodge meetings and activities. In May, the ladies were honored with a Mother's Day gift of bath and body goodies and a solar lantern. Last month, the men were given a Darden Restaurants gift card for Father's

Day.

We had two graduates to celebrate this spring. Skyler Ebright, son of Rusty Ebright and Paula Brown, graduated from Buckeye Local High School in Rayland, Ohio. He will be attending Bethany College (Go Bisons!) in the fall where he plans to play baseball and major in Sports Broadcasting/Communications. Skyler was honored with a graduation celebration in June with family and friends attending. Elijah Lovell, son of Gary and Wendy Lovell, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Ohio Northern University with a Bachelor's Degree in Integrated Health Sciences with minors in Chemistry and Public Health. Elijah is completing an internship at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore this summer and will return to campus in the fall to further complete requirements for his PharmD. Elijah was honored with a family dinner at Olde City

Prime Restaurant in Lima, Ohio. We join Skyler and Elijah's families in congratulating them on their accomplishments and wish each of them all the best in the next phase of their educational journey.

We hope all of you are having a happy, healthy, and fun summer. By the time you are reading this, it may be winding down. Try to enjoy every last minute! Remember to check on someone you love today.

*Fondly,
Sister Wendy Kurtz Lovell*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

West Cook Garden for Nature

Lodge Century of Progress/Bila Hora No. 231, Cicero, Illinois – President Dolores Klejko opened the meeting at noon on May 8, 2024 at the T.G. Masaryk School. The Secretary, Ed Slavik, proceeded to read the minutes of the last meeting. He then continued with a report of the communications received. Our lodge agreed to make a donation to the T.G. Masaryk School with a 50 percent match donation from CSA Serves.

Ronald McDonald House announced its new additional location in Park Ridge, Illinois and requested a donation. Lodge members tabled the request to be reconsidered later. It was reported that there was a District Council No. 12 meeting on June 27, 2024 and that any meetings of the Cultural Division are unknown. Cash donations to the food pantry were made by Maryann Slavik as well donations made by three members of the Burbank “Seniors on the Go.” A hardy thank you is sent to them.

The 82nd yearly Lidice memorial commemoration of the massacre was held on Sunday, June 9, 2024 at the Lidice Memorial Park in Crest Hill, Illinois. Members were invited to participate. Members Dolores Klejko, Ed

Slavik, and Nita Natkowski attended. The Czech School took the responsibility for the programming. Also, there was a memorial service during the Memorial Day weekend to re-dedicate the flag pole at the Bohemian National Cemetery.

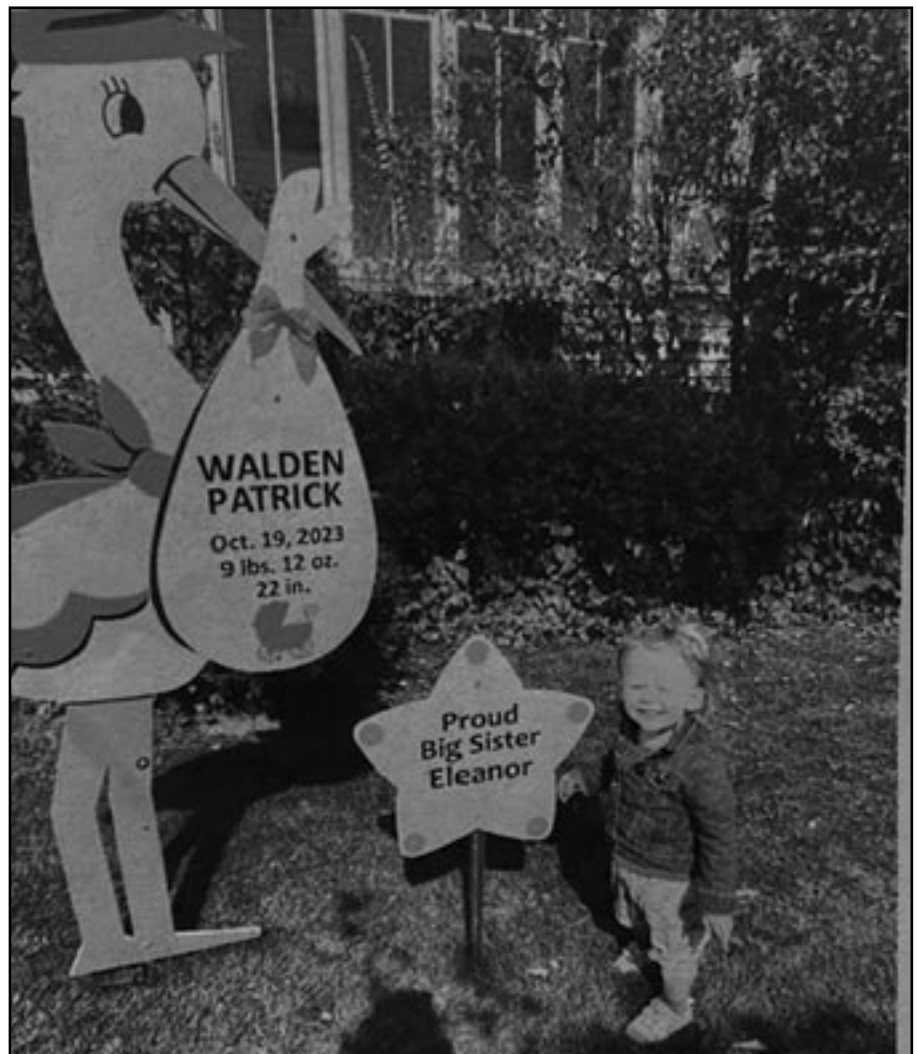
Wild Ones West Cook has selected the T.G. Masaryk School to receive a grant for its efforts to begin a project “West Cook Garden for Nature” for the purpose of renovating the garden in the yard. Bakery sales and other fundraising efforts are also yielding results. Speaking of bakery sales, a Hands-On Baking Class was scheduled for April 13, 2024, but the day before it was discovered that the summer flood had destroyed the oven, so there were some quick kitchen upgrades happening just

in time for some delicious baking the next day.

Our Treasurer Roberta Kulik’s granddaughter, Shannon Bogdan Riley, and husband Morgan Riley, welcomed son Walden Patrick Riley last fall. Also on hand was Walden’s sister Eleanor Maeve. Walden is Roberta’s seventh great grandchild.

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

*Fraternally yours,
Elaine Tejcek*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Remembering Memorial Day and Lidice

Lodge Yankee-Jungmann No. 77, Lombard, Illinois – Our lodge received news that two of our members were awarded CSA Scholarships. Troy Graveen was awarded a \$1,000.00 Scholarship and Jacob Balitewicz received a \$1,500.00 Scholarship.

We had several of our members attend the Memorial Day Service at the Bohemian National Cemetery and the Lidice Memorial Service in Crest Hill. Thanks to Cindy Bueneman who sent us the following report on each and photos.

Memorial Day Services were held at the Bohemian National Cemetery on May 27. Chuck Michalek made a presentation for the re-dedication of the WWI and WWII monument. This memorial is dedicated to the men and

women who served in both wars with specific mention of the Czechoslovak Legionnaires who fought for the establishment of Czechoslovakia in WWI. The monument features an octagonal base with limestone panels which feature maps and details of the major campaigns of the two wars. The interior of the monument's base was beginning to deteriorate, threatening the limestone panels. Restoration from the inside out will ensure that the monument will be around for generations to come.

The Lidice Memorial Service in Crest Hill was held on Sunday, June 9. Lodge members attended the memorial service commemorating the anniversary of the June 10, 1942 massacre of men, women, and children of the town of

Lidice, Czechoslovakia. Nazis destroyed the village entirely leaving nothing but rubble as reprisal for the attack on and subsequent death of Reinhard Heidrich, Hitler's Reich Protector. Although there was no proof that Lidice took part in the attack, the village and its people bore Hitler's wrath. The death of its people and destruction of the town could not erase the memory of Lidice or the unspeakable evil they encountered. Today Lidice lives on. More than ever, what is happening around the globe is a stark reminder that what happened in Lidice should never happen again. T. G. Masaryk Czech School and students, United Moravian Singers, Czech American Congress, American Sokol Guard, Deputy Consul of Czech Republic to Chicago, and the mayor and alderman of Crest Hill participated in the memorial program.

I want to wish everyone a great summer! Enjoy it, it flies by so fast!

*Fraternally,
Mary Ellen Janda*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

School Supplies and Clothing Collection



Lodge Cleveland Chapter No. 219, Cleveland, Ohio – Our June 11 meeting was held at the Long Horn Restaurant and 13 members attended. We always meet at a restaurant in June to celebrate Mother’s and Father’s Day.

It was a short meeting, talking about our Pin Party and the Get-Together. Four people from our lodge are going to the Get-Together.

At our July meeting, we will be assembling a basket for the Get-Together and at our August meeting we will be bringing in school supplies, new clothing, etc. for the Providence House.

In September, we will have a speaker from Journey, a women’s shelter.

We received the three “Thank a Driver” gift cards from the Home Office, which will be handed out to deserving drivers.

We sang a rousing “Happy Birthday” to June Karecki for her June birthday. Jan Russell provided yummy cupcakes for dessert. Thank you, Jan.

After our delicious lunches, we said our goodbyes, until we see each other at the Pin Party. We hope to see many people there.

*Fraternally yours,
Judy (Sevcik) Genco*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Operation Support Our Troops

Lodge Lincoln No. 7, Berwyn, Illinois

– On May 11, 2024, lodge members volunteered at Operation Support Our Troops America in Lisle, Illinois. We spent the morning hours sorting items in the warehouse and packaging snacks to fill their Comfort and Care Packages to be shipped to our active-duty service members around the world. Their mission is to support the morale and well-being of American forces by providing comfort, resources, and education to them and their families both while they

are deployed in harm's way and after their return.

On Memorial Day, Adam and Vera Wilt and John Pritasil were in attendance at The Bohemian National Cemetery for their Annual Memorial Day Service. The U.S. Armed Forces led the Color Guard procession, and the students of T.G. Masaryk Czech School recited poems and presented the Pledge of Allegiance. Our fallen heroes were honored at the beautifully restored World War I and II Memorial at the

cemetery. These brave individuals paid the ultimate price so that all people around the world can live free and in peace.

The June meeting was a steak cook-out at Adam Wilt's house.

We wish you safe travels as you head to Nashville, Tennessee for the CSA Get-Together!

*Fraternally,
Pat Smolucha
s.smolucha@sbcglobal.net*



LODGE HAPPENINGS

“Do You Have to Wear that Hat?”

Lodge Benjamin Franklin No. 02, Seven Hills, Ohio – In the 1986 film “Peggy Sue Got Married,” Peggy Sue attended a class reunion and was elected class queen. Overwhelmed, she fainted, hit her head, and awoke as a high school senior 25 years earlier. She spent several days in this strange world. While visiting her grandparents, she attended a meeting at her grandfather’s lodge. They were supposedly founded by time

travelers and would perform a ritual to transport her forward – back to 1985. As the members dressed in their full lodge regalia, our protagonist asked Grandpa, “do you have to wear that hat?” He snapped back, “it wouldn’t be a lodge without hats!”

Ge, maybe that’s what Lodge Franklin needs! Not a head-piece festooned with Christmas ornaments and garland, but a nice ball cap that would help instill pride in the lodge. Voila, we ordered some nice black caps with red lettering. They look snazzy!

President Scott Krecow welcomed to the May meeting the emissaries from District Council No. 10 and Paramount/Southgate: Diane DiBianca, Annette Reichman, and Mary Ann Toncar. They took the floor and spoke of this year’s Penn/Ohio Bowling Tournament at The Meadows Casino/Bowling Lanes on October 19 and 20, 2024 in the Pittsburgh area. Diane stated the CSA Get-Together will be hosted in Nashville, Tennessee the weekend of August 2 – 4, 2024, and Cleveland will likely be the host city in 2025. She encouraged involvement by all the area lodges.

Much thanks to Vicki Zidlicky and Mike Cernosky for the pop tap donation. I noticed Diane performed a disappearing act after she saw the tabs. Like a magician, she reappeared with two bags of the collectibles, weighing in at about ten pounds. Thank so much, that’s a big help for us!

This month’s other attending guests were Jon and Dom Amaddio. Dom celebrated his May 20th birthday with us. Jimmy Zidlicky’s birthday was the following day and Vicki Zidlicky was born on May 22nd. Happy birthday one and all!

*Fraternal regards,
Jeff Zidlicky*



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 _____

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“ Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. —Nelson Mandela ”



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LODGE HAPPENINGS

Annual Hot Dog Sale to Benefit Tom's Turkeys

Lodge Christa No. 479, North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania – Greetings and happy Spring from Lodge Christa. We have been busy getting ready for our annual lodge picnic as well as the Get-Together at which we will have several delegates.

Recently, we held our annual hot dog sale which benefits Tom's Turkeys, a nonprofit organization which helps needy families in our community throughout the year through food pantries and gift cards to local grocery stores, amongst other ways.

*Fraternally,
Jeremy Olwell*



From the left: John Micklow, Nathan Micklow, and Jeremy Olwell



Lodge members Kylie McFeely, Morgan Alcorn, Kevin McFeely, Harper McFeely, and Sydney McFeely

Scholarship Fund Report

May 10 - June 10, 2024

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

Anonymous
Chuck Courtney, Lodge Anton Cermak No. 99

IN MEMORY OF WAYNE WOLF, LODGE WOODROW WILSON NO. 377

John and Nancy Carmel

Total Donations

\$1375.00

LODGE HAPPENINGS

Bingo - from Italy to Pittsburgh

Lodge Washington No. 30, St. Louis, Missouri – Did you know that Bingo comes from a game of chance played in Italy by about 1530? By the 18th century, the game had made its way to Germany, and then to France, where “Le Lotto,” using cards with five squares each in rows of nine, became popular. In the early 1920s, a man in Pittsburgh standardized the game, copyrighted it, and published a rule book in 1933.

Why the history lesson? Just as an intro to a fun night lodge members had playing Bingo recently at a local American Legion Post in St. Louis. We were surrounded by some hard-core Bingo players who carried a rainbow of ink daubers, making sure they were color-coordinated with each game’s cards. We had a great time enjoying snacks, rooting for each other, and applauding the winners – including me! Many thanks to the lodge for covering

some of the cost – we plan to do this more often!

Congratulations to Olivia Marie Korpecki, who graduated from St. Louis University on May 18 from the Valentine School of Nursing with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Olivia has been working at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis in the Cardiac Thoracic Intensive Care Unit. She has accepted a nursing position in the same intensive care unit. Her proud parents are Bill and Jean Korpecki.

Here’s hoping it’s a great Get-Together!

*Fraternally,
Deborah Zeman*



In Memoriam

Claim	Name	Lodge	Location	Date of Death	Age
55636	Hahn, Joseph J.	007	MESA, AZ	05/02/2024	98
55643	Reynolds, Karen E.	030	BATESVILLE, AR	06/23/2023	77
55626	Kurtz, Bradford J.	121	DILLONVALE, OH	04/29/2024	56
55630	Pownes, Glaydell	211	BURLINGTON, NJ	04/25/2024	90
55633	Leffe, Sheree D.	251	WHEELING, WV	03/26/2024	77
55625	Michalek, Joseph S.	252	SANTA ROSA, CA	03/28/2024	86
55637	Benda Sr., William	310	BELLAIRE, OH	08/21/2023	86
55638	Topper, Martin D.	377	FALLS CHURCH, VA	08/01/2023	77
55639	Dolansky, Ann E.	404	BELLEVILLE, IL	04/15/2024	84
55647	Simonovic, Charles	408	BATTLE CREEK, MI	04/23/2001	95
55652	Courchene, Ruth	409	LAS VEGAS, NV	03/09/2024	98
55648	McNamara, Raymond E.	419	PALOS HEIGHTS, IL	05/17/2024	89
55634	Harasta, Mary K.	450	ENDICOTT, NY	04/15/2024	93
55649	Mack, Lydia	463	ORLANDO, FL	06/13/2023	94
55629	Pawlik, John J.	469	ROCKVILLE, MD	04/24/2018	96
55640	Hunter, Clara A.	469	BALDWIN, NY	04/17/2024	93
55650	Sniadecky, Emily P.	469	POALI, PA	05/16/2024	90
55645	Criner, Jane L.	479	MYRTLE BEACH, SC	04/04/2024	94
55646	Cier, Stephen	481	BROWNS MILLS, NJ	05/19/2024	82
55628	White, Ernest A.	484	CHESAPEAKE, VA	04/19/2024	91
55631	Bolmarcich III, Nicholas	484	MEBANE, NC	02/10/2024	61
55641	Downes, Edward T.	484	LAUREL, DE	05/10/2024	81
55642	Bock, Alan R.	484	HORSHAM, PA	07/01/2023	78



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Pizza, a Picnic, and All That Buzz

Lodge Woodrow Wilson No. 377, Brookfield, Illinois – Food, photos, and friendship are a winning combination! Our pizza luncheon was a huge success, with 11 members in attendance. We were delighted to also welcome Nick and Lisa Kosmas, from Lodge Betsy Ross, for an opportunity to get to know them and enjoy their company. This fun afternoon included a chance to view some “found” photo albums of past lodge gatherings and events, and sharing those memories of beloved members who are no longer with us made this a truly special day.

Another chance to share food and friendship is coming up soon: our Lodge Recognition picnic is in August, after the CSA Get-Together. Details are not yet finalized, but we will email or phone to let you know, and I hope you will join us! We will definitely share the details on our lodge Facebook page soon: you can watch there or let me know (see below!) that you’re interested. We’d love to see you in person at that event.

In the Chicago region, we’ve been enjoying “cicada-palooza” – emergence of the 17-year periodical cicadas. Well, at least some of us have been enjoying it: I am one of those who find these creatures absolutely fascinating! I know that not everyone is thrilled with their appearance and their sheer abundance, but I’m such a science-nerd that I can’t get enough. They’ll be gone soon enough (probably by the time you read this) and as their constant, deafening buzzing subsides, other summer pleasures will fill our days. In case you’re not familiar with these periodical cicadas, I’ve measured the noise near my home at 92 decibels!

Here’s wishing all of you the simple and special pleasures of summer, and please stay in touch to let us know what’s new with you.

Fraternally,
Jean Hemzáček Laukant
hemzacek.j@gmail.com
630-915-9745



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Active Youth Members!

Lodge Groveton No. 4, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania – Hello, Brothers and Sisters. Lodge Groveton’s June meeting involved delicious stuffed cabbage made by Jean Placek, and several topics of discussion. Our lodge wants to congratulate Jonah Chaillou and Eva Tokar on receiving CSA scholarships for the

2023-2024 academic year! We are proud of your academic achievements and wish you both success in your future endeavors. Also, we had six youth members participate in the Bowl-O-Rama, and we congratulate them on their efforts!

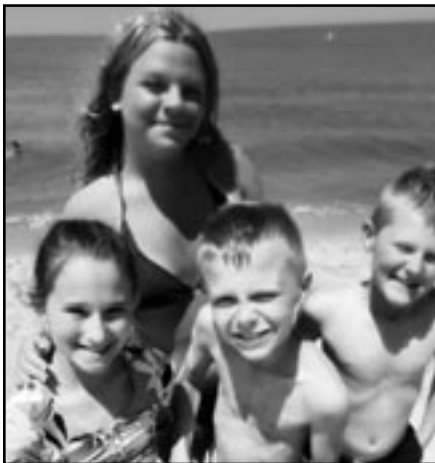
Some of our youth members had a busy, but fun summer kick off! Madison Bichler was awarded May’s Student of the Month at her middle school. Bentley and Braxton Yurkovich started summer off by visiting Kennywood for the first time! They loved “Thomas Town,” but they loved their ice cream cone from the Golden Nugget even more!

Jourdyn Forrester finished her Spring season of softball, and she will participate in an instructional softball camp this summer. She will also keep busy with cheerleading and voice lessons! We have the next Taylor Swift in the making! Her brother, Wyatt Forrester, will

attend soccer camp this summer. Cheyanne Smith, Shauna Smith, Jacob Roosa, and Jackson Roosa will be hitting the beach throughout the summer. All these kiddos have a jam-packed, fun summer ahead!

Many of our lodge members will be going to Nashville, Tennessee for the 2024 Get-Together weekend. We look forward to everything the GTG Committee has prepared for us! Lodge Groveton meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Groveton Fire Hall. Please contact Terry Placek with any questions about the meetings, and please reach out to me at hyurkovich@verizon.net if you’d like to have an event or achievement mentioned in our *Journal* article. As a reminder, there will be no August meeting. See you in September!

Fraternally,
Sis. Hunter Rae Yurkovich



LODGE HAPPENINGS

Parade Festivities!

Lodge Prokop Velky No. 137, Cedar Rapids, Iowa – Lodge members participated in the Houby Days Parade in the Czech Village on May 18, 2024. We had a lot of members riding on the CSA float and many of the kids handed out plenty of candy to the parade goers. It was one of the biggest parades, with more than 40 entries, and a larger crowd lining the streets than I've seen in the past few years. Thankfully, the weather cooperated. The lodge would like to thank member Judy Vondracek for all her hard work in putting the float together.

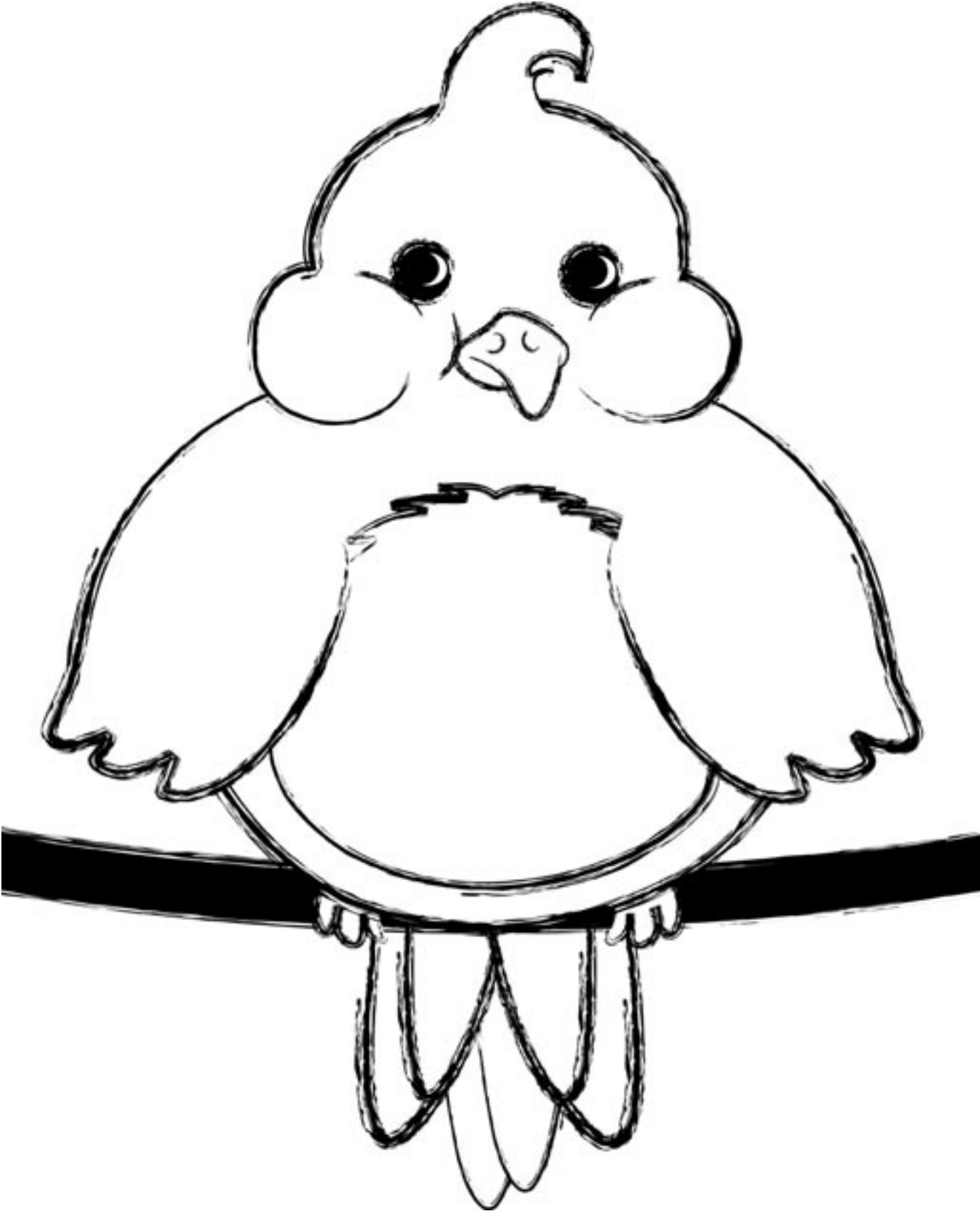
Next, we moved on to members and volunteers getting the Czech National Cemetery ready for Memorial Day. We put

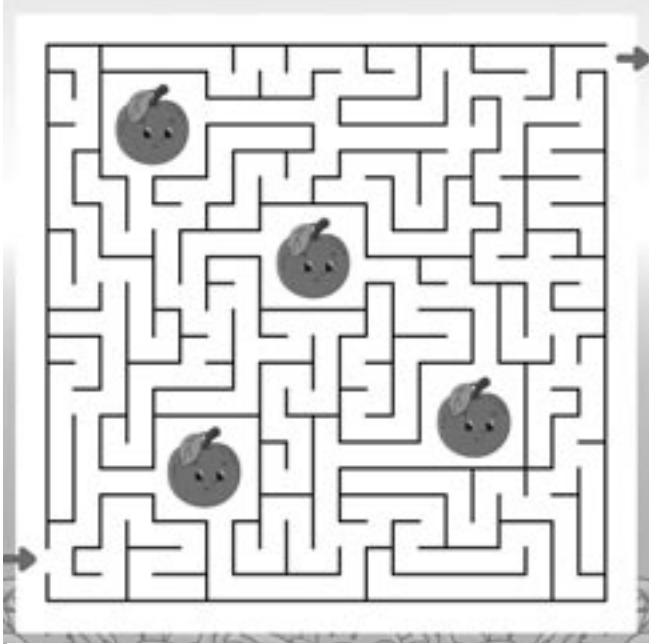
the flags up that lined the streets. Thanks to all who have served for the “Land of the Free.”

I hope that everyone is surviving all the bad weather happening across the country. The storms are getting more intense every year. Thankfully, our local area has escaped the worst so far.

*Fraternally yours,
Rai Ann Stratton*







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

Czech to English

Červenec/Srpen.....July/August (Čer-ve-nec/Sr-pen)

87 výroční setkání je letos.....87th annual Get-Together

(87 vý-roč-ní set-ká-ní je le-tos)

Bude nová Miss ČSA.....there will be a new Miss CSA

(bu-de nov-á Miss ČSA)

Creepy Crawlies

U H R O B U V R H P E P Q E X S E E O S I G H W S
 Q Y F A A D A F R S U U W A E B R K J A Y X X J L
 E R L S T P D N Y M P V B U U I A G O I R N T R R
 E N Z L X Y T B T T L B Y T G O O Y R T E M S A T
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ANT
 FLIES
 LADYBUG

DRAGONFLY
 BEE
 SPIDER

MOSQUITO
 GRASSHOPPER
 ROACH

BETLE
 FIREFLIES
 BUTTERFLY



Let's Get-Together!
Page 8

