

FLORIDA JCI SENATE CHAMBERS

VOL 56 | ISSUE 1



PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING



Hey Y'all,

Can you believe the 1st Quarter is almost over? It's been a busy one! We had another **fantastic day** at the Wheelchairs 4 Kids waterskiing event—always a highlight! The **membership mass mailout** has gone out and responses are already rolling in. A **big thank you** to everyone who has sent in their dues and updated membership forms.

Registrations for the **1st Quarter Meeting** are coming in hot, too!

By the time you read this, I'll have attended the **Bama Bash**. President Digger Smith is a great addition to the Region IV leadership team. In August, I'll be heading to Atlanta for the **Georgia JCI Senate's 50th Anniversary**—President Alex "Hitman" Willis is a force to be reckoned with! After that, we'll be back with **Wheelchairs 4 Kids at Camp Twin Lakes**—I can't wait! It's always such a meaningful experience.

We'll wrap up August with our **1st Quarter Meeting in Kissimmee**, and the theme is **M*A*S*H 4077th**, in honor of our veterans. If you're planning to dress up, be sure to bring your costume for **Saturday dinner and the after-party!**

I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone soon! **Huge thanks** to the Board for all the hard work you've already put in this year. It's truly appreciated!

An Honor to Serve,

Don Duffy #78415

56th President, Florida JCI Senate

Joke of the Day: You know I mean business when I use the shopping cart at the liquor store.

PRESIDENT

Don Duffy #78415
56presfljcisenate@gmail.com

MANAGEMENT VP

Amelia Harrison #62082
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ADMINISTRATION VP

Lynn Whalen #44712
gmalynn53@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Debra Saunders #52883
debjaycee@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Kathy Pumphrey #57287
kpumphre1@gmail.com

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Michael Sawyer #36403
mikesf3@gmail.com



KLINGERS, HAWKEYES, HOT LIPS, FATHER MULCAHYS, COLONEL POTTERS, WINCHESTERS, & MORE NEEDED!

You are hereby deployed to a weekend of fun, fellowship, and a little friendly competition M*A*S*H 4077th style.

August 22nd-24th

Holiday Inn SW Orlando
5711 W Irlo Bronson Memorial, Kissimmee | 407-396-4222

**FROM THE SWAMP TO THE SHAKER: WHO'S THE TOP
DOC OF THE MARTINI? MARTINI MIX OFF, OPERATIONS,
TRIVIA, GAMES, AND MORE!**



ADMIN VP'S LOG

Hello Everyone,

I'm so excited for the year ahead—we've got lots of FUN planned! We're kicking things off with our MAS*H-themed weekend, happening August 22–23. Did you know the MASH* TV series had 251 episodes? Let's channel that same energy for our event!

Saturday Highlights:

- Martini Contest: Want in on the action? Contact John Robinson at john3607@ptd.net for all the details.
- Lunch: Enjoy Sloppy Joes and salad prepared by our very own Cook Maria Meesit.
- Want to serve in the MAS*H Unit? Reach out to Andrew Moos at jcmoosman@gmail.com to join the team.
- Special dietary needs or want to donate? Contact Marianne Romano at busterm1@bellsouth.net.
- Banquet Dinner: Hosted by the hotel, followed by more Unit FUN—games for all, and even an Operating Room experience!
 - Want to play? Contact Janet Orr at janetaorr@gmail.com.

I can't wait to see **Hot Lips, Klinger, Father Mulcahy**, and the whole Unit in action Saturday night!

Come join the fun with **Your Administrative Team!**

Lynn Whalen #44712
Admin VP 25–26



SAVE THE DATE

Nov. 14–16: Polar Express
Feb. 19–22: Beach Boys Cruise
May 15–17: Year-End Celebration
at the Kentucky Derby

TREASURER'S REPORT

Hello Fellow Senators and Friends,

First and foremost, thank you to everyone who received the annual letter, noticed I'm the new Treasurer, and reached out with congratulations — I truly appreciate it!

I'm having a blast opening all the envelopes with dues payments enclosed — it feels like Christmas! I even had to dig out an old letter opener after a few too many paper cuts!

If you'd like to save on postage, feel free to scan your forms and email them to me, along with a Zelle payment. Once you try Zelle, you may never go back to PayPal — no fees, completely secure, and instant gratification! (Just a heads-up: it may not work with some credit unions.)

I'm happy to walk anyone through how to use Zelle the next time we see each other. Until then, thank you so much for sending in your annual dues!



Warmly,
Debra Jeanne #52883
Treasurer 25–26

SECRETARY'S STATEMENT

Hello Fellow Senators,

I'm honored to serve as your Secretary this year!

In this role, I take roll call at meetings, record and distribute meeting minutes, prepare sign-in sheets, and support both our incredible Communications Team and our dedicated Chaplain.

The Communications Team often works behind the scenes — and they are truly amazing.

First, we have our Social Media Chair and Chamber Editor, Mindy Gallagher #79578. Mindy creates our FL

Chambers, manages The Blast, and oversees all our social media platforms, including our Facebook page and website. She also goes above and beyond her role by offering social media guidance and tech support to me and other members of the executive team.

Irene Shanley #65316 is our Roster Keeper. With members constantly joining, moving, or updating their contact info, Irene somehow keeps everything organized. She's also responsible for distributing the Chambers, The Blast, and other communications.

Brenda Swank #67214 is our Chaplain — and I honestly wonder if she ever sleeps! Nearly every day, she shares birthday wishes or prayer concerns on our Facebook page. She carries the Florida Senate membership in her heart and prayers.

I came across this description and adapted it for our Senate because I think it perfectly captures why you're reading the Chambers today: "What is the purpose of our Chambers? It serves to inform, educate, entertain, and engage with the Senate. It is a voice for the Florida Senate itself, promoting our culture, activities, and purpose."

Thank you for being part of this vibrant community!

Warm Regards,
Kathy Pumphrey #57287
Secretary 25-26



COB CORRESPONDENCE

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work — Thank You!

Thank you all for your support and teamwork during the fourth quarter — Florida's membership grew by one! A special shoutout to Jim Warren #42572 for his outstanding efforts in recruiting new members. Well done!

The year-end convention was a highlight, especially with the Godfather theme — it was absolutely fantastic,

and I had a blast! Huge thanks to Cindy Brandel #54928 and Debra Jeanne Saunders #52883 for bringing the weekend theme party to life. I especially loved the parting gifts — a horse's head, a Godfather plaque, and a red Past President plaque. What a memorable send-off! I wrapped up my year by attending the Region 13 social, which was a great time. My final act as President was representing Florida at North Carolina's 50th Anniversary celebration. We had nine Florida Senators in attendance, plus Hal Williams, who served as the MC. It was a wonderful weekend.

News from Northbrook, IL — Annual Convention Highlights:

Kathy Collins #64926 was recognized as one of the top five state chaplains.

Duffy #78415 was honored as one of the top state treasurers.

Congratulations to both of them! While I was disappointed that our Communications Team didn't receive national recognition, I want to say — in my heart, they did an outstanding job. I spoke with the National Secretary, who shared that the decision was incredibly difficult. Although we did nothing wrong, it came down to selecting the final four states.

Now, my time is up — and it's time to embrace our new President's theme: "An Honor to Serve."

In Senate Friendship,
Mike Sawyer #36403
Chairman of the Board 25-26



Hello Fellow Senators,

Join us for the next Region 8 meeting on Sunday, July 27 at 2:30 PM at:

Sushi Yama

10017 East Adams Drive, Tampa0

<http://www.SushiYamaTampa.com>

Enjoy all-you-can-eat for just \$21.95!

In addition to great food and conversation, we'll be voting on a tentative calendar of events for Region 8. If you're unable to attend but have ideas to share, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at 352-397-8846 or via email at jci51911@netscape.net.

Special thanks to Andrew Moose #58261 for the restaurant recommendation!

Looking forward to seeing you there,

Scott Link #51911

Region 8 Director 25-26

WHAT'S GREAT IN 8



Scott Link
#51911

FROM THE DESK OF REGION 12

Fellow Senators,

We're excited to kick off a great year in Region 12 with two exciting events in the first quarter.

Sunday, July 27, 2025 – Pinball Social at Silverball Retro Arcade, Delray Beach – 1:00 PM Join us for our legendary Pinball Social at Silverball Retro Arcade. For just \$20 per person, enjoy unlimited access to more than 150 vintage and modern arcade games. It's a great opportunity to reconnect, have fun, and maybe even win big in our rumored 50/50 raffle.

Saturday, August 2, 2025 – Back to School Shopping Spree with JCI Hollywood

We're proud to partner with JCI Hollywood for their annual Back to School Shopping Spree. This impactful event helps local children start the school year strong by providing essential supplies and clothing. Whether you volunteer your time or make a donation, your support makes a difference. Keep an eye out for the Facebook invite with more details.

Be sure to follow the JCI Senators of South Florida Facebook page for updates and more upcoming events.

Let's make it a memorable year in Region 12!



Stacy Mahar
#57287

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JCI FL SENATE FOUNDATION BRIEFING



Congratulations to President Don Duffy and his team!

The upcoming year promises to be a fun-filled and exciting time for the Florida JCI Senate.

We're kicking things off at our August meeting with a MAS*H-themed tribute. On Saturday night, following dinner, the Foundation will host a Martini Mix-Off. Bring your best concoction, we'll provide the sample glasses! Voting will be done by placing money in the box in front of your favorite martini. All proceeds will go toward the Cecil Deal Memorial Scholarship.

On Saturday evening, the Foundation will also hold a Silent Auction. Please bring your donated items and give them to John Robinson or me. Remember, you'll receive credit for any item that sells for \$25.00 or more. Your support helps our scholarship fund grow, and your generosity is truly appreciated.

We're proud to share that the Foundation has awarded nine scholarships for 2025. All recipients have been notified and have confirmed their respective schools. A heartfelt thank you to all Foundation members—your continued support makes this possible.

Trustees: Our board meeting will be held on Friday at 5:00 PM. The location will be announced in the weekend agenda.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Kissimmee!

Warm regards,
Kay Elliott #61747
President, Florida JCI Senate Foundation



EDITOR'S CORNER

Hello Fellow Senators,

The JCI Florida Senate is proud to publish two key newsletters—The Chambers and The FL Blast—to keep our members informed, inspired, and connected throughout the year. These publications are your platform to share updates, celebrate achievements, and spotlight the incredible work happening across our Senate family.

Why Deadlines Matter:

Timely submissions help us maintain a consistent publishing schedule and ensure your content reaches members when it's most relevant. Late entries may be held for the next issue; please plan ahead.

Ready to Contribute?

If you have something to share—articles, photos, flyers, or news—send it our way! Let's celebrate your chapter's impact and keep our JCI Florida Senate family informed and inspired. Send your submissions to chambersjcifls@gmail.com by the deadline!

Due Dates:

Chambers - 10/5, 1/11, 4/8

FL Blast - 7/30, 8/30, 10/30, 11/30, 1/30, 2/28, 4/30, 5/30



NOTE FROM YOUR HOSPITALITY TEAM

We're thrilled about all the FUN planned for the upcoming year! Please take note of a few important updates and meet the team making it all happen:

Important Updates

- **Late Registration Fees:** Any registration not postmarked by the deadline will incur a late fee.
- **Friday Night Hospitality Room:** This will include snacks and a general bar (well-type items only). It will not serve as a full meal.
 - If you have a preferred drink or would like to contribute a bottle, please contact **Mike Andrews** at andrewsmike25@yahoo.com.

Team Responsibilities

Name	Role	Contact	Responsibilities
Lynn Whalen	Administrative VP	gmallynn53@yahoo.com	Overseeing the team and ensuring a fun and successful year.
Mike Andrews	Bar Coordinator	andrewsmike25@yahoo.com	Managing the hospitality bar and accepting suggestions or bottle donations.
Maria Meesit	Head Cook	mmeesit@gmail.com	Leading food preparation for events.
Marianne Romano	Hospitality Donations & Dietary Needs	busterm1@bellsouth.net	Handling food-related donations and special dietary requests.
Janet Orr	Saturday Night Games Coordinator	janetaorr@gmail.com	Organizing games and entertainment for Saturday night (August 23).

Got Ideas?

We're following in the footsteps of a fantastic year led by Cindy Brandel and Debra Jean Saunders, and we want to keep the momentum going! If you have suggestions or ideas to make this year even more fun, don't hesitate to reach out to Lynn Whalen.

