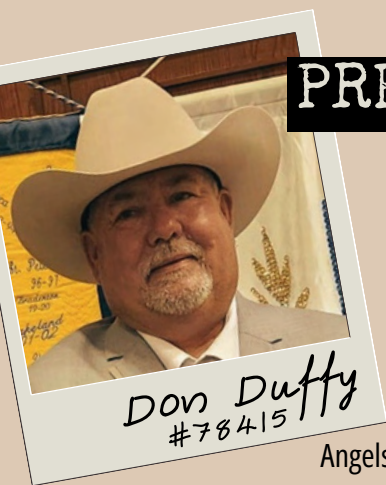


FLORIDA JCI SENATE  
**CHAMBERS**  
VOL 56 | ISSUE 2



## PRESIDENT'S BRIEFING



**Happy Fall, Fellow Senators,**

We kicked off the first quarter with great energy and had a successful meeting featuring a fun MAS\*H theme. A big thank you to Lynn and her team for a fantastic job!

We were honored to welcome guest speaker John Lipscomb from Ann's Angels. Thanks to the fines collected, we raised enough funds to support Ann's Angels Adaptive Water-Skiing for our veterans. Special appreciation to those who attended and represented the JCI Senate at the event.

October has been a busy and exciting month. The Bash was a hit—thank you to Cindy Brandel and her team for making it such a memorable time. We were also thrilled to host guests from Georgia and North Carolina, and to have our National NVP Liz Young join in the Florida Senate festivities.

Looking ahead, October continues with the W4K Trunk or Treat and our Regional Meeting in Clemson, South Carolina. I hope many of you can attend and proudly represent the Great Florida JCI Senate. November brings the Polar Express Conference to help us all get into the holiday spirit. Then in December, we'll celebrate with the Rodeheaver Boys Ranch Christmas Party and Fun Day, followed by Wreaths Across America.

Please remember—the membership deadline is December 1st. Let's make sure our dues are paid on time!

**An Honor to Serve,**

Don Duffy #78415  
56th President, Florida JCI Senate

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56presfljcisenate@gmail.com

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aaharrison@aol.com

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### **SECRETARY**

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kpumphre1@gmail.com

### **CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

Michael Sawyer #36403  
mikesf3@gmail.com



*all aboard*

# THE POLAR EXPRESS

FLORIDA JCI SENATE 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> - 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2025



## ADMIN VP'S LOG

Hello all,

I am incredibly proud of everyone on the Admin Team—what a fantastic job you all did at the August conference! It was a true success, and the 4077 Special was a highlight. Homemade and served by our team dressed in full MASH attire, it brought smiles all around. The dessert spread was abundant and diverse, operations ran smoothly, games were enjoyed, and the hospitality room offered a wonderful selection. Who knew that US JCI Mr. COB, Hal, was such a MASH trivia expert?

A heartfelt thank-you from the podium on Saturday night by President Duffy made the entire team beam with pride. When I accepted the role of Admin VP, the first person I reached out to was Jane Seigler to lead Registration. Without hesitation, she said yes—and I couldn't have been more grateful. I was thrilled when Danny brought Jane to the August event, where she proudly wore her 4077 MAS\*H shirt. I will truly miss my dear friend.

If you missed out on all the MAS\*H fun in August, don't worry—there's more excitement ahead! Make plans now to join us for the Polar Express, November 13–16, 2025, at the Holiday Inn in Tampa. Expect trains, cozy pajamas, hot chocolate, grilled cheese, a Golden Ticket Gift Swap, games, an Ugly Sweater contest, a special guest, and of course—Santa Claus! So pack your ugliest sweater and favorite PJs.

If you'd like to bring a dessert or help out (we'll be serving lunch and dinner on Saturday), please let me know.

A huge thank-you to: Jane, John, Bill, Marge, Maria, Marianne, Mike A, Tom, Andrew, Janet, Willy, Mike P, Linda, Emily, and Marsha.

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

Dear Fellow Senators,

You are part of an organization that honors the best of the best—an elite group where few receive this distinguished recognition. While we may all be getting older, many of our members remain actively involved in their communities and in State, Regional, and National Senate activities.

We'd love to see you engaged and hope you'll join us at one of our quarterly meetings or our Annual Florida Bash. Love to travel? We've got you covered! Our Regional and National meetings offer the perfect opportunity to explore this great country—and for those feeling adventurous, international events await. The Florida JCI Senate truly knows no boundaries.

We invite you to participate in our upcoming events, reconnect with old friends, and make new ones. You can also show your support for President Don Duffy and the Florida JCI Senate by renewing your membership. If you need a membership form, just let me know—I'll be happy to assist.

Debra Jeanne #52883  
Treasurer 25-26





**SECRETARY'S STATEMENT**

Hello Fellow Senators,

Your Communications Team is working diligently behind the scenes to ensure your Senate experience is smooth, informed, and enjoyable.

A heartfelt thank-you to:

- Mindy Gallagher #79578 – for her incredible work managing Facebook, the website, The Chambers, The Blast, and so much more!
- Irene Shanley #65316 – our dedicated roster keeper and distribution manager.
- And most importantly, you—the membership—for providing the content that keeps us connected and inspired.

Special thanks to Brenda Swank #67214 for the countless hours and heartfelt prayers she offers to our Senate family.

As a reminder: If you're giving a report at the board or business meeting, please submit a written copy in advance—via email, text, or hand it to me before your presentation.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the fall meeting!

Warm Regards,  
Kathy Pumphrey #57287  
Secretary 25-26

**COB CORRESPONDENCE**

Attention Florida JCI Senators,

At our 2nd Quarter Meeting on Friday night, we will proudly host our traditional "Kissing of the Ring" ceremony—honoring those stepping up to serve on the Executive Committee.

if you're ready to take on a leadership role within the Florida JCI Senate, now is the time!

Submit your filing fee to State Treasurer Debra Jeanne Saunders by Friday evening to be considered.

Filing Fees:

- \$25 – Administrative VP, Management VP, Secretary, or Treasurer
- \$50 – State President

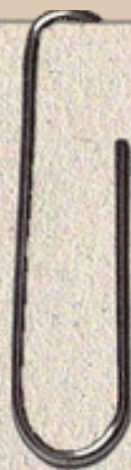
Once your fee is submitted, you'll be eligible for an interview. Please take a moment to speak with your advisor about how you can contribute to the continued success of our great organization.

Important Note: Interviews are being held early this year because we will not meet in February due to the scheduled cruise.

What to Bring: Please provide five copies of your resume to be distributed to the committee on Friday night.

We look forward to seeing passionate leaders step forward and continue building the legacy of the Florida JCI Senate!

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





Hello Fellow Senators,

Region 8 is serving up a mix of fun, food, and service this November—mark your calendars!

## Nov 8 – Tarpon Springs Seafood Festival

Time: 10:00 AM

Meet at: Splash Park (508 Live Oak St, Tarpon Springs) for free parking and transport

Enjoy seafood, arts & crafts, activities, and a chefs competition.

## Nov 11 – Veterans Day Ceremony & Parade

Location: Manatee County Fairgrounds (1402 14th Ave W, Palmetto)

Volunteer Setup: 7:30–8:30 AM

Contact William Orr #38426 at 941-773-0176 to help.

## Nov 14 – Region 8 Dinner Social

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Michi Ramen, 18025 Highwoods Preserve Pkwy, Tampa Relax and connect over great food.

Scott Link #51911

Region 8 Director 25-26

## WHAT'S GREAT IN 8



Scott Link  
#51911

## FROM THE DESK OF REGION 12

Fellow Senators,

Region 12 Senators have two exciting opportunities to connect and give back this season.

First up is the Quarterly Social on **Thursday, October 23 at 6:00 PM at Ole Ole Mexican Grill & Cantina** (8100 W Broward Blvd, Plantation, FL). It's a great chance to network and catch up with fellow members—just don't miss Happy Hour, which ends at 6:30!

Then, on **Tuesday, November 25, join us for JCI Hollywood's Annual Thanksgiving Basket Project** at the Hollywood Jaycee Hall (2390 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood, FL). The evening begins at 4:00 PM with a Little Free Library dedication honoring Darrel Mahar's Eagle Project, followed by basket assembly at 5:00 PM—with pizza for all volunteers.

Let's come together to celebrate friendship and service. See you there!

Best regards,

Stacy Mahar #81584

Region 12 Director



Stacy Mahar  
#81584

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Hello Senators,

Region 13 is having an exciting year—and we're not done yet!

## September Social Recap

On September 21, we had a fantastic time at P.F. Chang's in North Miami. A big thank you to Region 12 RD Stacy Marie for joining us, along with Past JCI State President Jaci Newmark and JCI State Treasurer Debra Jean Saunders. We also celebrated Beth Barash's birthday with delicious bites and great company!

## October Social & Fundraiser

Join us on Sunday, October 26 at 6:00 PM for our next Region 13 social and fundraiser at Texas Roadhouse Grill, located at 9161 W. Flagler St., Miami, FL. It's a great opportunity to connect with fellow Senators, enjoy good food, and support our region's growth. Don't miss out on the fun!

## November Bowling Social

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 9—we're going bowling! The location is still to be announced, but it promises to be another exciting chance to bond and have a blast with Region 13 members.

I'm planning many more socials and events throughout the year and would love your input! If you have ideas for gatherings in December, January, or February, please don't hesitate to share them. You can RSVP or reach out to me directly at [cmcmamusjd@gmail.com](mailto:cmcmamusjd@gmail.com) or on my cell at 240-888-4110. I look forward to hearing from you and continuing to grow Region 13 together!

Warm regards,  
Catherine McManus  
Region 13 Director

## REGION 13 NEWS



Catherine McManus  
#81988

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Hello Everyone,

Sending love and prayers to each of you—hoping this message finds you well. It's been a challenging start to the new year, and our hearts are heavy as we reflect on the losses within our JCI Senate family.

We've said goodbye to several cherished Senators who have taken their walk on the Golden Path above:

Doyle Sewell #63344

Jane Clay Sigler #47096

Victor Regan #61738

Jay Escho #57322

Please continue to keep their families and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

We also share our condolences with Amelia Harrison #62082, who lost her sister, Martha Elizabeth. In a heartbreaking series of events, Stacy Regan and Victor Regan #61738 lost their mother, followed by Victor's unexpected passing the next week, and then Stacy's father shortly after. This family has endured unimaginable loss—please lift them up in your prayers.

Additionally, Patsy and Jay Edmondson have needed our support. Jay Edmondson #41977 has been in and out of hospitals in Hendersonville and Asheville, NC for several weeks. As of this writing, Jay is back in Asheville Hospital while doctors work to understand his health issues. This has been a difficult time for Patsy as well, so please keep both of them in your thoughts and prayers.

On a brighter note, we celebrate some joyful news: Brenda #67214 and Johnny Swank #44479 welcomed their first great-grandson in September. Congratulations to the Swank family!

As I close, I offer this prayer:

Lord, we thank You for today—a new opportunity to love, give, and be all that You want us to be. We ask for peace in uncertainty and



Brenda Swank  
#67214

strength for whatever we face. In Your name, Jesus. Amen.

If you have anything you'd like to share with the Chaplain, please feel free to email [bj67214@yahoo.com](mailto:bj67214@yahoo.com), text, or call me at 478-338-1773 anytime!

Prayers for all—and hugs.  
Brenda Swank #67214, Chaplain

## JCI FL SENATE FOUNDATION BRIEFING

Greetings Florida Senators, Congresswomen, Senior Statespersons, and Friendship Awardees,

It's almost time—mark your calendars! On November 15, 2025, the Florida JCI Senate Foundation will host our annual Gift Exchange Fundraiser in Tampa.

This year, in celebration of President Duffy's theme "The Polar Express," we're excited to introduce the **Golden Ticket Swap!**

How It Works:

- Bring a wrapped gift and draw a number.
- You'll receive a Golden Ticket—hold onto it!
- At the end of the game, we'll have a special drawing. You must be present to win.

Fundraiser Fun:

- Stealing gifts is encouraged—each steal costs just \$5.00!
- Your \$25.00 donation counts toward your personal account and helps you reach the next recognition level.

Why It Matters:

Last year, we awarded 10 scholarships to Florida seniors. Let's aim even higher this year! Your generosity helps make education more accessible for our future leaders.

Copies of the rules will be available at the event to refresh your memory.

See you in Tampa!  
Kay Elliott #61747  
President, Florida JCI Senate Foundation





## PRESIDENT'S PET PROJECT REPORT

Thank You for Misbehaving!

A huge thank you to everyone who “misbehaved” at the First Quarter Conference! Your generosity helped us raise enough funds to fully support the Ann’s Angels Adaptive Waterskiing Foundation’s Veteran Program scheduled for September 20, 2025. We truly surprised AAAWF President John Lipscomb, and saved the day after they lost funding for the event.

Special thanks to Mike and Marsha Phillips, Lynn Walen, and John Robinson for showing up and assisting with this incredible project. The participants had a fantastic time—including me! I was even invited to ski, and it was so much fun!

Let’s Do It Again in November!

At our upcoming November meeting, we’ll be raising money for President Duffy’s other Veteran organization, Do You Give a Ruck? This Region 9-based group is run by Veterans and is known for its “boots on the ground” approach to helping those in need. Currently, they’re rebuilding a home for two disabled Veterans after a hoarding situation got out of control. Last year, they played a key role in rescue and recovery efforts following back-to-back tornadoes in the area.

We’ve already supported them by attending their Ruck March fundraiser on September 27, and by the time you read this, we’ll have joined one of their weekly BINGO nights to raise additional funds. We plan to attend more of their events, and everyone is welcome to join us! We’re also working on bringing a speaker from the organization to an upcoming meeting—stay tuned!

### A Call to Action for RDs

Regional Directors, please remember that President Duffy encourages you to host fundraisers for his Veteran programs. Donations are always welcome and deeply appreciated.

Let’s keep the momentum going and continue making a difference in the lives of our Veterans!

Irene Shanley #65316  
President’s Pet Project Chairman



# SUPPORT THE RODEHEAVER BOYS RANCH THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

The **Rodeheaver Boys Ranch** in Palatka, Florida, is a nonprofit residential facility that provides a wholesome, Christ-centered home for at-risk boys aged 7 and older. These boys come to the Ranch due to parental challenges such as death, desertion, divorce, or dysfunction—and many arrive with very little.

Once again this year, President Don Duffy, the board, and I are asking for your support in raising funds to purchase gift cards and small gifts for the boys living at the Ranch. Some boys use these gift cards to buy presents for their parent or guardian. If funds remain after purchasing gifts, we will donate the balance toward the upkeep of the Jaycee Cottage, built by the Florida Jaycees.

## Donation Collection

We will be collecting donations at the 2nd Quarter Meeting in Tampa, taking place November 14–16.

If you're unable to attend, you can still contribute:

- Zelle: fljcisenate@gmail.com
- Mail a check to: Debra Jeanne Saunders #52883, 908 N Golf Dr, Hollywood, FL 33021

(Please note your donation for Rodeheaver Boys Ranch)

## Ongoing Clothing Drive

Throughout the year, we continue collecting new clothing for the boys. Many arrive with very few belongings, so your help is deeply appreciated.

## Items Needed:

- Boxers: Boys Medium/Large & Men's Small/Medium/Large
- White Crew Neck Undershirts: Men's Medium/Large
- Socks: No-show or crew, sizes 6–12, white or black

## Vehicle Donation Program

You can also support the Ranch by donating your car, truck, boat, jet-ski, RV, tractor, or golf cart—whether it's running or not!

Donated vehicles are repaired and either used on the Ranch or sold at dealer-only auctions held on-site. Donors receive maximum tax benefits, and the Ranch receives much-needed operating funds. Call or Text: 386-972-8777

## If you have any questions, please reach out to:

Melanie Fickas #77281

melanief77281@gmail.com

Thank you for your generosity and continued support of the Rodeheaver Boys Ranch!





