STATE OF THE UNION REPORT

A New Year Means Membership Recruitment . . .

Happy New Year all! It is hard to believe another year has come and gone and I take this opportunity to thank all KJT members, society and district officers, insurance representatives, Home Office staff, state directors and officers for all that you do!

Financials
The KJT continues to possess strong financials and looks forward to continued improvement. While we do not have the final numbers for 2016, through the third quarter of 2016, surplus increased by .3% to $3.848 million over 2015. KJT’s assets sit at over $76 million, which is an increase of 65.6% or just over $30.3 million since 2010. Throughout this time, the KJT has maintained a ratio of assets to liabilities between 105 and 105.5%, which signifies good healthy growth.

Membership
Membership is the biggest challenge that the KJT currently faces. We have seen membership fall below 17,000 and now sits at 16,953, a net decrease of 220 members. With the help of all societies and members we can turn this around! We have heard that it can’t be done but, in 2016, our small society in Elgin brought in 15 new members for an almost 19% increase in membership all by themselves! Way to go Elgin! Let’s see if some others can’t replicate that in 2017.

The Board of Directors has implemented an aggressive incentive program for local societies to encourage new member recruitment. We need all KJT members to help recruit new families into our organization. We continue to add new programs and benefits that make being a member of the KJT attractive.

The KJT just needs help spreading the word to get folks to join! The long list of reasons to join the KJT includes our life and annuity program, loan program, youth camp, teen camp, college scholarships, religious scholarships, Catholic school tuition grants, volunteer opportunities and many other.

If you know someone who might like to take advantage of what the KJT offers, give

(Continued on page 3)
As the Christmas season comes to an end and our New Year’s resolutions remain fresh in our minds and hearts, we begin to look forward to a great new 2017. I hope all societies remember to complete and return their annual reports by Tuesday, January 31, 2017 in order to receive the society’s financial incentives.

A new year also brings in new ideas, goals and hopefully new members which are always a vital part in the success of our organization. I am always proud to boast on our 127 years and still growing stronger. I look forward to visiting with officers and sales representatives at our SDOR meetings.

On Sunday, January 8, I had the pleasure of attending a special dance and performance by Mollie “B” and the Squeezebox. The event was hosted by the Round Top Rifle Association at the Rifle Association Hall in Round Top. Mollie “B” is the host of the Mollie “B” Polka Show on RFD network. She is a very talented musician with a strong commitment to polka and waltz music. It was a fun time with great people, super entertainment and cold beverages.

As always thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Fraternal Activity Manager. You can contact me by phone (409) 771-8101 or email mareznicek@sbcglobal.net.

Michael A. Reznicek
KJT Fraternal Activity Manager

FRATERNAL ACTIVITY REPORT

It’s A New Year – 2017 . . .

KJT COOKBOOK SALE!

Looking for the perfect Super Bowl recipe or Valentine’s Day gift? Look no more . . . “Cooking with the KJT” is the ultimate gift for the chefs on your gift list!

Order on-line at www.kjtnet.org or send check or money order to: Catholic Union of Texas, the KJT P.O. Box 297 La Grange, TX 78945

Please send me ___ copies of Cooking with the KJT

SALE PRICE
$10.00 plus $3.00 shipping/handling per book for general delivery ($13 per book)

SPECIAL BUNDLE SALE PRICE
3 books for $25.00 plus $4.00 shipping/handling ($29 for 3 books)

Enclosed is my check or money order for $______

Mail books to:

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

PICANTE SAUCE

2 lb. tomatoes
4 cloves garlic
½ onion, chopped
9 jalapeno peppers
2 tsp. vinegar

2 tsp. black pepper
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. chili powder
8 oz. can tomato sauce

Blend all ingredients in blender except tomato sauce. Then add tomato sauce and mix. Makes one large bowl, ready to eat.

MOLLIE “B” & MICHAEL REZNICEK IN ROUND TOP

MOLLIE “B” & THE SQUEEZEBOX

KJT COOKBOOK SNEAK PREVIEW

REMINDER . . .

Please note that articles and photos for the KJT News can be mailed to: KJT News, P.O. Box 297, La Grange, Texas 78945, or can be sent via e-mail to editor@kjtnet.org. Deadline for articles, photos and ads for the News is the 10th of every month. We welcome and appreciate your interest in KJT journalism.
KJT President's State Of The Union Report . . .

Continued from page 1

them our number or better yet, talk to them about becoming a member and then give your local representative a call to get them in contact with your prospect. Alternatively, you can call the Home Office and we will make sure they are contacted.

42nd General Convention – July 2018

The 42nd General Convention will be here before you know it and the requirements to serve as a delegate per the KIT by-laws are as follows:

- Only a Catholic insured or annuity or individual retirement account adult member, who has all assessments and dues paid up, if applicable, can be elected a delegate.

1) To be eligible to serve as a delegate or alternate to a General Convention, the member must attend all or a minimum of 50% of the local society meetings from January 1 to December 31 of the year preceding the convention.

2) An individual will not be able to serve as a delegate or alternate to the General Convention who is or whose spouse is a state officer or state director, state directress of other fraternal life insurance organizations, or insurance sales representative representing other fraternal life insurance organizations.

Additionally, there will be three vacancies for state directors at the 42nd General Convention in July 2018. To qualify for the position of state director, one must be eligible to serve as a delegate to the convention (see requirements above). There are additional qualifications, so if anyone is interested and would like to learn more about the other qualifications, please call and ask for me to discuss.

Happy 100th to Society #1, Poth and Society #82, Eastgate

In 2017, our societies in Poth and Eastgate will be turning 100! Poth’s anniversary is February 1 and Eastgate’s anniversary is March 17. We look forward to celebrating with these societies during this year.

Donations

A heartfelt “thank you” goes out to all societies and districts who contributed to our three statewide charities for 2016 – the Religious Retirement Fund, the Seminarium Education Fund and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. I also thank those of you who participated in the KJT Golf Tournament in 2016 as funds were raised for St. Jude at this event. The goal of $30,000 was exceeded as a total of $31,418.55 was collected!

New Programs

Project H (Hope, Help or make it Happen) is KJT’s newest program for 2017 and is designed to “empower” members to take on a project for an individual or for some good cause in the local parish or community. This project does not need to be sponsored by a KJT society, but rather, an individual KJT member or members. These members are encouraged to engage non-members that are willing to “help out” the cause. More information can be found on Project H at our web site, www.kjnnet.org, or by calling the office for details.

KJT Kruise

The KJT Kruise will once again set sail in 2017! October 1-October 8 are the dates for the Kruise so book your vacations early in the year before space runs out. I’ve been told the quicker you sign up, the better deal you will get on your Kruise as well. KJT Kruise Directors – State Director Ray Pokorney and his wife Shirley – are once again coordinating the Kruise and can be contacted at (512) 251-1185 or by email at pokorn eyshirley@aol.com for information on how to sign up.

TEXAS CZECHS: ROOTED IN TRADITION

BY LORI NAVJAR

Our “Saddle Up – Ranching, Rodeo and Tradition” exhibition is in production now and scheduled to showcase in 2018.

Inspired chefs and community cooks, and Texas PBS.

Since October 2014, the “Texas Czechs: Rooted in Tradition” exhibition has been hosted at the following venues: Museum of the Coastal Bend in Victoria, Czech Center Museum in Houston, Lavaca Historical Museum in Hallettsville, Institute of Texas Cultures in San Antonio, Czech Heritage Museum and Genealogy Library in Temple, State Capitol Visitors Center in Austin, and currently at La Retama Central Library in Corpus Christi.

“The Grove, Texas” documentary has aired in 2016 on Texas PBS stations that include: KERA in Dallas, KLRU in Austin and KNCT in Killeen and Waco. It is also soon to air in 2017 on KTTZ in Lubbock, KCOS TV in El Paso, Panhandle PBS in Amarillo and even Eastern New Mexico.

Our “Saddle Up – Ranching, Rodeo and Tradition” exhibition is in production now and scheduled to showcase in 2018.

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By LORI NAVJAR

photography, public programs

through exhibits, film, documentaries,

unique cultural

in 2018.

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Our “Saddle Up – Ranching, Rodeo and Tradition” exhibition is in production now and scheduled to showcase in 2018.

25% OFF

WATERPARK TICKETS

ACT NOW Sale Ends May 15th

For a limited time you can enter your exclusive code to receive 25% off general admission tickets to Splashway when you check-out online! Your promo code is not valid with any other special offers such as group rates, party packages, and discount admission, etc. This promo code has no cash value and may not be refunded, indemnified, or sold for profit. This discount is only valid online.

PROMO CODE: KJTC2017

HOW TO USE PROMO CODE

1) Visit Splashway.com and click “Buy Tickets Now”
2) Enter your promo code in the coupon code box and click Apply Coupon Code button
3) Your promotional discount will apply to your ticket price

Promo Code Expires: May 15, 2017

$25 OFF SEASON PASS

Save $25 on 2017 Season Pass to Splashway Waterpark!

Get a Splashway Season Pass for only $74.99 + tax per person or use your KJTC2017 online. In addition to the incredible savings, Splashway Season Pass holders take advantage of "Pass Perks":

• $5 off Splashway Waterpark tickets
• 10% off private cabana rentals
• Discount on ZipLine Tour Adventures
• Free admission when accompanied by a KJT member
• $5 savings on souvenirs, food and more

OFFER EXPIRES: May 15, 2017

www.SplashwayWaterpark.com
5211 Main Street - Sheridan, TX 77475 - 979-234-7718

KJT Welcome to the Family

Splashway is a family owned and operated waterpark and campgrounds just 1 hour west of Katy and Sugar Land!  Splashway is a family fun environment with customer service and one of the best experiences of your life, then Splashway is the place for you. With huge thrill rides, a Texas sand wave pool, zip lines, lazy river and several slides around, Splashway has the whole family covered in the fun department.

Spend the day with us at the waterpark or make your trip a vacation and stay in our campgrounds in one of our family cabins or a cozy cottage. You can also bring the RV or a tent. Make Splashway your family’s summer destination and create memories that last a lifetime.

SBP
MESSAGE FROM THE STATE ATTORNEY

Second Beneficiary Designations – The Potential For Unforeseen Consequences

We all have been tasked with filling out beneficiary designation forms, whether they are for a KJT life insurance application, a 401(k) plan or for opening a bank or brokerage account. For married persons with children, it is almost instinctive after naming the spouse as the primary beneficiary to list the children as secondary beneficiaries. That instinct, however, has the potential to lead to unforeseen consequences that fly in the face of an otherwise well thought out estate plan.

Because minor children cannot own property, and because it may not be advisable to give young adults unrestricted access to large lump sums of money, parents are often advised to draft Last Wills and Testaments that would place their children’s inheritance in trust in the event of the death of both parents prior to the children reaching an appropriate age of maturity. In such cases, the children’s inheritance is typically managed by a trustee chosen by the parents (a family member or close friend) until the children reach an appropriate age as determined by the parents.

Parents are also given the opportunity to spread the distribution of their children’s inheritance over time – for example 25% at age 25, an additional 25% at age 30 and the remainder at age 35.

It is important to be mindful of the fact that beneficiary designations trump whatever may be set out in your Last Will and Testament. In other words, by the law, an insurance company, 401(k) plan administrator or financial institution is not concerned with what your will says; rather, they are bound by their contractual relationship with you and must honor the beneficiary designations you elected.

Consider a hypothetical situation where tragedy falls on parents of 18-year-old twins. Even though the parents may have thoughtfully made plans in their wills for their children’s inheritance to be placed in trust until age 30 and managed by the children’s fiscally conservative uncle, if the parents had fallen into the habit of designating their children as secondary beneficiaries, the hassle reality would be that the 18-year-olds would soon stand to receive lump sum payments for all their parent’s accounts and insurances. This is especially troublesome because insurance and retirement accounts are usually the largest assets young parents stand to leave behind.

When discussing your estate plan with your legal counsel it is vitally important to review and discuss all beneficiary designations and to ensure that they are consistent with your overall estate plan.

Philip J. Hundl is the State Attorney for the KJT and an attorney/shareholder at the law firm of Wadler, Perches, Hundl & Kerlick in Wharton, Texas. This article is courtesy of John D. Perches, attorney/shareholder at Wadler, Perches, Hundl & Kerlick.

KJT STAR AWARDS

Michael Till Claims #1 Spot For 2016

Michael and Society #43 will accomplish in 2017 and beyond. Congratulations to Mr. Till for being the best of the best!

Earning the second place Star Award in 2016 was our #1 Star in 2015, Deborah Currey.
Did You Know?

The State Dog Breed is the Blue Lacy. The Blue Lacy is a herding and hunting breed descended from the greyhound, scent hound and coyote stock and developed by the Lacy brothers who settled near Marble Falls.

W.K. Leonard
Society #119, La Marque
•Fourth Place December 2016 Top Producer
•November 2016 Applications Leader
•November 2016 Volume Leader

Herbert Brem
Society #31, West
•Eighth Place December 2016 Top Producer
December 2016 Applications Leader

Stephanie Prihoda
Society #129, Schulenburg
•Ninth Place November 2016 Top Producer

Lisa Alexander
Society #119, La Marque
•December 2016 Volume Leader

Ellen Zdansky
Society #72, Corpus Christi
•Second Place November 2016 Top Producer
•November 2016 New Application Producer – 143 months
•November 2016 New Member Producer – 140 months
•December 2016 New Application Producer – 144 months
•December 2016 New Member Producer – 141 months

Michael Till
Society #43, Wied
•First Place November 2016 Top Producer
•First Place December 2016 Top Producer

John Kana
Society #4, Ammannsville
•Seventh Place November 2016 Top Producer
•Fifth Place December 2016 Top Producer

Lawrence Yanta
Society #115, Victoria
•Eighth Place November 2016 Top Producer
•Sixth Place December 2016 Top Producer

Victor Janak II
Society #56, Houston
•Tenth Place November 2016 Top Producer
•Seventh Place December 2016 Top Producer

Deborah Currey
Society #130, Elgin
•First Place November 2016 Top Producer
•Second Place December 2016 Top Producer
•December 2016 Applications Leader
•December 2016 Premium Leader

Clem Korenek
Society #34, Nada
•Fourth Place November 2016 Top Producer

Shane Eschenburg
Society #29, Frydek
•Sixth Place November 2016 Top Producer

Mildred Machacek
Society #20, Shiner
•Ninth Place November 2016 Top Producer

Joe Landsfeld
Society #35, Ennis
•Third Place November 2016 Top Producer
•Third Place December 2016 Top Producer
•November 2016 Premium Leader
•November 2016 New Application Producer – 3 months
•November 2016 New Member Producer – 3 months
•December 2016 New Application Producer – 4 months
•December 2016 New Member Producer – 4 months

Mike Kenya
Society #12, West
•First Place November 2016 Top Producer

John Kana
Society #4, Ammannsville
•Seventh Place November 2016 Top Producer
•Fifth Place December 2016 Top Producer

Lawrence Yanta
Society #115, Victoria
•Eighth Place November 2016 Top Producer
•Sixth Place December 2016 Top Producer

Victor Janak II
Society #56, Houston
•Tenth Place November 2016 Top Producer
•Seventh Place December 2016 Top Producer

Deborah Currey
Society #130, Elgin
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•Second Place December 2016 Top Producer
•December 2016 Applications Leader
•December 2016 Premium Leader

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•Third Place December 2016 Top Producer
•November 2016 Premium Leader
•November 2016 New Application Producer – 3 months
•November 2016 New Member Producer – 3 months
•December 2016 New Application Producer – 4 months
•December 2016 New Member Producer – 4 months

Did You Know?

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KJT 2016 Star Award Winners Are Announced . . .

Continued from page 1

Society #130 of Elgin. This is Deborah’s third trip to the Stars Award list. In 2016 Deborah accounted for 17 applications, over $1,200 in life premium and $65,000 in life insurance volume. Congratulations on another great year Deborah!

W.K. Leonard, Society #119, La Marque, eight time winner; fifth place, John Kana, Society #4, Ammannsville, ninth time winner; sixth place, Lawrence Yanta, Society #115, Victoria, FIRST TIME winner; seventh place, Victor Janak II, Society #56, Houston, third time winner; eighth place, Herbert Brem, Society #31, West, tenth time winner, and ninth place, Stephanie Prihoda, Society #129, Schulenberg, FIRST TIME winner.

We are very proud with the efforts that all our Stars put forth in 2016. Without their dedication and efforts, our goals would have greatly suffered. Congratulations to all of you and we look forward to seeing which one of you will take the top honor in 2017!

KJT AGENT AWARDS

Nine Claim Heavy Hitter Awards In 2016

BY DAVID M. WAGNER
STATE VICE PRESIDENT

The Heavy Hitters is an incentive that measures the sales representative’s production based on adjusted annualized premium and the number of applications that are sent in. It rewards those representatives that not only submit a lot of premium, but those that also submit a fair number of applications throughout the year.

The four designations are Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze.

Ellen Zdansky and Joe Landsfeld struck Silver in 2016! We congratulate both on their achievement and they will receive a check in the amount of $250 for their efforts.

The Bronze category welcomed 7 winners for 2016. Herbert Brem, Deborah Currey, Victor Janak II, John Kana, Stephanie Prihoda, Michael Till and Lawrence Yanta all qualified for our Bronze designation. A huge thank you to each one of our Bronze qualifiers as they will receive a check for $100.

Congratulations to all our 2016 Heavy Hitter winners and we look forward to a very successful 2017.

Zdansky Secures Another Pacesetter Award

BY DAVID M. WAGNER
STATE VICE PRESIDENT

The Pacesetter Award is an award that was implemented in 2002 to reward those representatives that sold $12,000 in premium for the year and 12 applications. Repeat winners could qualify with $2,000,000 in new coverage or $7,500 in premiums along with a minimum of 12 insurance applications issued during the year.

We congratulate Ellen Zdansky for qualifying for the KJT Pacesetter Award in 2016. She will add yet another diamond to her KJT Pacesetter Ring for her achievement.

We congratulate Ellen for her efforts and look forward to her 2017 achievements.

2016 Life Premium Challenge Agents

BY DAVID M. WAGNER
STATE VICE PRESIDENT

At the beginning of the year, the KJT agency force was challenged to write $3,000 in Life Premium for 2016. Several agents answered the call and achieved the goal in front of them. The KJT Home Office would like to recognize the following agents who rose to the challenge and submitted at least $3,000 in Life Premium:

Leon Barton, Herbert Brem, Victor Janak II, John Kana, Joe Landsfeld, Mildred Machacek, Albert Sustala, Michael Till, Lawrence Yanta and Ellen Zdansky.

We congratulate the 10 agents who made the cut. Thank you! In 2017, we will once again challenge our agents to reach the $3,000 Life Premium mark.

Did You Know?
The state crustacean is the Texas Gulf Shrimp.

2017 Czech Summer Study Program 2017

JUNE 28 TO JULY 19, 2017

Praha, Czech Republic

Housing: Group participants will be housed in dorms of the Agricultural School at Suchdol with double occupancy rooms sharing a bath. Single rooms are available at an extra charge.

The dorm is situated in the northwestern part of Praha, linked to downtown by bus and subway.

Food Service: Three meals a day will be served featuring authentic Czech cuisine.

Czech Language Instruction: Class size and levels will depend on enrollment.

Your Level: Beginning or intermediate will be evaluated informally for placement into the proper class.

The class will meet five days a week for four hours before lunch and once a week for two hours of conversation after lunch.

The classes are non-credit courses.

Arrangements for credit must be made with your university before you depart.

For more information contact:
Thadious Polasek
979.562.2207
or email: polasek29@gmail.com

Czech Language Instruction: Class size and levels will depend on enrollment.

Your Level: Beginning or intermediate will be evaluated informally for placement into the proper class.

The class will meet five days a week for four hours before lunch and once a week for two hours of conversation after lunch.

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SOCIETY SPECIAL EFFORT

13th Annual Memorial Mass Held In East Bernard

BY EDWIN C. MARIK
PRESIDENT, SOCIETY #40,
EAST BERNARD

St. Wenceslaus Society #40 of East Bernard and St. Anne KJZT #30 of East Bernard held their 13th Annual Memorial Service on Thursday, November 10 with Chaplain Rev. Don Ruppert and Deacon Stephen Vacek presiding. Prior to the service, Ann Kramr and Helen Mica led the rosary.

Society members served as greeters, altar servers, lector, gift bearer and Eucharist Minister. Mark Dujka provided the music. A special altar with candles representing each deceased member for the past five years and two larger candles representing all deceased members from the two societies was erected in front of the main altar.

Society #40 President Edwin C. Marik and KJZT Society #30 President Sophie Korenek read the names of each deceased member at which time a family member or the candlelight assistant lit a candle in honor of the deceased members. Those honored were:

**KJZT**
- Bertha Landers
- Bessie Kramr
- Louise Macha
- Janell Barta
- Elvira Kulhanek
- Mildred Repka
- Agnes Smaistrla
- Lucy Talas
- Dorothy Toman
- Lillian Karasek
- Jeanette Kalina
- Betty Wicke
- Betty Jean Kubala
- Christine Hlavinka
- Eva Mae Dusek
- Dorothy Sulak
- Georgie Wicke
- Rosie J. Rogers
- Edith Krenek
- Anna Macha
- Mary Miculka
- Irene Mican
- Lucille Ferguson
- Mary Jocheck
- Evelyn Howard
- Frances Pilcik
- Gertrude Hillmann
- Martha Chalupa
- Frances M. Morgan
- Josephine Ann Hlavinka
- Annie Orsak
- Leona Miller

**KJT**
- Rudolph Klecka
- Charles Michulka
- Leon S. Hlozek
- Simon Borak
- Bessie Kramr
- Stanley Rejsek Sr.
- Joe Szymanski
- Josephine K. Vacek
- John R. Vacek Jr.
- Jerome Vialovskiy
- Christine Hlavinka
- Francis “Jr.” Vacek
- Bernard “Bennie” Orsak
- Henry J. Hlavinka
- Oscar J. Litvik Sr.
- Lucille Ferguson
- William “Bill” Marik
- Daniel “Danny” Pilcik
- Norbert J. Janis
- Theodore Keptra
- John Szymanski
- John F. Dusek
- Sylv Marik
- Mel Roy Jurek

Following the impressive service, a social was held at Riverside Hall.

A meal of Mexican food along with many homemade desserts was served.

Special guests were KJT State Director Margaret Holik and KJZT State Fraternal Activity Manager Michael Reznicek. Door prizes were given to complete the evening.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Earns Eagle Scout Rank

Devin Sembera of West Boy Scout Troop 494 has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He was recognized at a Court of Honor ceremony on Friday, December 2, 2016. His Eagle Scout project was to build a new sign for West City Hall and Police Department. The West High School junior is the son of Dale and Kathy Sembera. His grandparents are Herbert and Edith Brem and the late Lawrence and Doris Sembera. He is a member of Society #60 of Tours. Devin would like to thank everyone that contributed to the success of his Eagle Scout project. Pictured with Devin is his grandfather Herbert Brem, sales representative for Society #31 West and Society #60 Tours. These societies contributed greatly to his project. Congratulations Devin!

CHARITY PROGRAM

St. Wenceslaus Society #40 of East Bernard officers presented a check to State Director Margaret Holik for the Religious Retirement Fund, Seminarian Education Fund and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. At the presentation were (left to right) State KJT Activity Fraternal Activity Manager Michael Reznicek, Society Vice President Sandy Logan, State Director Margaret Holik, Society President Edwin C. Marik, Society Secretary Mark Dujka, Society Treasurer Dennis Viktorin and Deacon Stephen Vacek.
SOCIETY SPECIAL EFFORT

Pflugerville Society #132 Salutes Fallen Warriors

BY SHIRLEY POKORNEY
SOCIETY #132, PFLEUGERVILLE

When our Society #132 reporter Juan Bosquez asked our KJT to sponsor a wreath to be laid at the Fallen Warrior Memorial in Pflugerville on Veteran’s Day, President Jim Krahula and members were happy to oblige, but we had no idea that the community response would be so overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

Our large city park was literally swarming with veterans and patriots listening to the fantastic Cele Middle School Band and Choir performing rousing renditions of patriotic music as background for the fervent speeches of gratitude to the men and women that gave of their time, and often their very lives, so we can all live as free citizens with a voice in how our America is governed.

As a finale to this moving ceremony, U.S. Navy veteran Ray Pokorney, Air Force lifer Al Albano and U.S. Army veteran Juan Bosquez presented a beautiful flag-adorned red, white and blue wreath to honor those who made the supreme sacrifice. Other KJT veterans in attendance included Jim Petter, Herb Thweatt, Bill Simcik and James Wilhelm.

Following the formal ceremony, Juan and the local American Legion arranged for the traveling Vietnam War Memorial Wall to visit Pflugerville for three days.

During this time, several thousand visitors from all over Central and South Texas came to remember and recount stories of extreme valor and were assisted in searching the seemingly endless expanses to make commemorative etchings of the names of their fallen friends and family members.

May God continue to bless America, the American Legion, VFW and the KJT for all they do to keep America strong and to keep our service men and women of both yesterday and today always in our minds and hearts!

KJT GRANT PROGRAM

La Grange Society #46 officers presented Debbie Green, Sacred Heart Catholic Church DRE, with a Society #46 donation and the Home Office Matching Grant donation to the SHOCK group. The donations represented the group’s efforts with ticket sales and the Bake Sale held in conjunction with the society’s Fajita Dinner Fundraiser. Debbie also accepted donations to the Sacred Heart Church and to the CCD Teacher’s Program. At the presentation were (left to right) Treasurer Gailynne Zapalac, President Mike Kaspar, Debbie Green and State Vice President David M Wagner.

Corpus Christi Society #72 sponsored a very successful Bake Sale at St. Thomas More Catholic Church after all Masses on Saturday and Sunday, December 3 and 4, 2016. With $1,728.50 in sales, plus the matching grant from the Home Office, totaled to $2,228.50, which was presented to Father Tomasz of St. Thomas More Catholic Church. At the presentation were (left to right) Treasurer Gailynne Zapalac, Father Tomasz and State Director Ellen Zdansky. A Christmas monetary check, also from the society, was presented to Father Tomasz who is Chaplain for Society #72.
HE WILL BE MISSED . . .

BY ANGELA MURAS MEDRANO
Dominic Benedict Muras of Dallas died on Sunday, November 27, 2016 at Charlton Methodist Hospital in Dallas. He was 82. He was born on November 2, 1934 in Hostyn to parents Willie Joseph and Ludmilla Janda Muras, both of Hostyn.

Dominic attended grade school at Hostyn’s Holy Rosary Catholic School. In 1951, he graduated from La Grange High School. Dominic enjoyed helping his parents on the family farm. He entered the Air Force in 1955 and served in a Radio Relay Squadron, serving both in Anchorage, AK and Shaw AFB, SC.

On April 26, 1958, Dominic married Olga Theresa Narendorf at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in High Hill. Shortly thereafter, they moved to Dallas, residing in Oak Cliff since 1960. Together, they had four children.

For 38 years, Dominic was an insurance sales representative for the KJT. He served for 40 years as an officer in his beloved Dallas Society #111. Dominic also was a member of the school board at Bishop Dunne High School, serving as president for a term.

Dominic was a strong family man who was always available and willing to do whatever his family needed. He was very active with his children and grandchildren, playing with and teaching them, and he enjoyed being a scout leader. Dominic was an ardent reader and woodworker. He enjoyed building, volunteering at the church, and playing taroky, a Czech card game.

He is survived by Olga, his wife of 58 years; four children, Andrew and his wife Lynn; Patrick and his wife Lisa; Angela Medrano and her husband Rolando; William and his wife Lisa; nine grandchildren – Kathryn, Laura, Joseph, Samuel, Adeline, Norah, Theresa, Hope and Nicolasa, and two step-grandchildren – Christopher and Emily. Dominic is also survived by his sister Dolores Stryk, sister Mary Grahmann and brother John Muras. Dominic was preceded in death by his parents; his brother Cleo Muras and his sister Georgia Kubiczk.

Dominic will be greatly missed by all, but especially by his beloved grandkids.

Visitiation and Holy Rosary was held on Wednesday, November 30, 2016. A Mass of Christian Burial was at 10 a.m. Thursday, December 1, 2016. All services were at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Catholic Church, 4015 South Hampton Road, Dallas, with internment at Holy Redeemer Cemetery in DeSoto.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Diabetes Association or the American Heart Association.

DIAMONDS OF KJT

Joe Pustka, William Pratka Get Pins

Joe Pustka and William Pratka were awarded their 75-year membership pins recently. Presenting the awards was State Director Ellen Zdansky. Joe and William are members of Society #115 of Victoria. Congratulations Joe and William!

KJT GRANT PROGRAM

25-Year Membership
January 2017

Society #3, Hostyn
Stephen Christopher Janda
Justin Michael Smith

Society #35, Ennis
Christopher A. Valek Jr.
Catherine Marie Valek

Society #46, La Grange
Glenn Thomas Acker
Ali Allise Trojacek

Society #72, Corpus Christi
Lowery Aloysius Ross

Society #102, San Antonio
Victoria W. Williamson

Society #111, Dallas
Linda M. Marshall
Olga Theresa Muras

Society #128, Killeen
Florence Delahanty

La Marque Society #119 presented a matching grant check to Judy Slocum with Independence Village, which was the Matching Grant recipient for 2016. The presentation was made at the society’s Christmas Party held on Sunday, December 11, 2016.

St. Theresa Society #130 of Elgin presented Father George Joseph with a $1,000 check toward the Building Fund which represents the proceeds of their recent Garage Sale and the Matching Grant from the Home Office. Pictured with Father are Brenda Pina, Beatriz Castillo, President Deborah Currey, Secretary Olga Colmenero, Kathy Schlimper and Vice President Sue Dunne.

CHARITY PROGRAM

Missouri City Holy Family Society #133 President Al Janda (right) is shown presenting three checks to State President Christopher L. Urban for the Statewide Charity Project.
the Victor Peter Memorial Scholarship is a $500 scholarship granted by The Czech Heritage Society of Texas to a graduating Texas high school senior. The money is given to the recipient upon proof of registration in a program of studies in a college or university. The applicant must submit the following:

1. A copy of his or her high school transcript.
2. Two letters of recommendation. One should be from a high school teacher attesting to the student’s academic promise. The other should be from an adult attesting to the student’s interest in Czech culture.
3. A 200-word autobiography (Times New Roman font, 14 point, one inch margins on a separate sheet of paper).
4. A 100-word statement explaining what he or she plans to study in college or university, and what he or she plans to do in terms of a career. Include the name of the college or university you plan to attend. (Times New Roman font, 14 point, one inch margins on a separate sheet of paper)
5. A list briefly explaining up to 10 ways in which he or she has had contact with Czech culture or the Czech Heritage Society of Texas organization. The list should be in order of importance, with the first item as the most important. Even seemingly small things may be included, such as learning how to make kolaches or visiting Czech festivals. (Times New Roman font, 14 point, one inch margins on a separate sheet of paper. A line should be skipped between each numbered item in the list.)
6. An original 300-word essay. Topic may be either:
   A Family Member Who Represents Czech Heritage
   or
   A Family Member Who Contributed to the Czech Heritage in the United States
   (Times New Roman font, 14 point, one inch margins on a separate sheet of paper)

7. A cover sheet including the student’s name, address, phone number, e-mail address and high school’s name, address and phone number.
All items must be submitted together in one envelope postmarked no later than Tuesday, February 28 and send to:
The Czech Heritage Society of Texas
Victor Peter Memorial Scholarship
Pat Parme
3311 Carolina Way
Rochester, Texas 77406-9680

Victor Peter Scholarship Application Deadline Is Feb. 28

KJT GRANT PROGRAM

Yoakum Society #13 held a Matching Grant Taco Sale (in its fifth year). Funds are given to the St. Joseph High School CCD program. Yoakum Society #13 members and the St. Joseph 11th Grade CCD class begin making 150 breakfast tacos at 7:30 a.m. The tacos are sold after the 9 a.m. Mass. $406 was made from the event. Shown are some of the 11th grade CCD students with Elaine Dornak, KJT member, and Ashley Hermes, 11th grade Confirmation Class instructor.

Society #139 of Bay City held a holiday baked goods sale on Sunday, November 13, 2016 at Holy Cross Catholic Church. A total of $407 was raised during the sale. The society applied for a matching grant and was awarded a check for $400 from the Home Office. A check was presented to Holy Cross Catholic School for a total of $807. At the presentation of the check on Friday, January 6 were (left to right) Society Vice President James Engbrock, Society President Larry Browning, Holy Cross School Principal Inez Kucera, Society Secretary/Treasurer Vince Nemec and pastor of Holy Cross Catholic Church Rev. Greg Korenek. Not present at the time of the presentation were Society Chaplain Msgr. Casimir Jarzombek and Sales Representative Dan Stavena. The monetary donation will be used for professional development from Region III for the teachers. The professional development will focus on individualized teaching strategies to use with the children at all levels.

KJT BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

BY KEVIN KANA
STATE SECRETARY-TREASURER

The Board of Directors meeting of the Catholic Union of Texas, the KJT, was held at the Home Office in La Grange on Tuesday, November 22, 2016. State Spiritual Director Fr. Bob Knippenberg offered Holy Mass for all enrolled in the KJT Memorial Foundation. State President Christopher L. Urban welcomed the Board members and distributed the agenda that would be followed. All financial reports, investment reports and marketing reports were accepted as presented. After discussion, the Board voted to once again offer residential home loans.

Ronald Briggs, PC, of Rosenberg was chosen as the external auditor for the 2016 financial statements. The Board approved all the 2017 programs that would be offered. Most would be the same as the 2016 programs. The Board approved a brand-new program called Project H, which is designed to enable individual or multiple KJT members to provide Hope, Help or make it possible to provide Hope, Help or make it possible, or multiple KJT members to provide Hope, Help or make it possible, or multiple KJT members to provide Hope, Help or make it possible.

Happen through fundraising, volunteering and education assistance throughout their local parishes and communities. The 2017 statewide charities will be the Religious Retirement Fund, Seminarian Education Fund and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.
The meeting of St. Stephen’s Society #112 of Austin was held on Thursday, January 12 at Sacred Heart Church. Interim President Ted Vitek opened the meeting with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. State Director Ray Pokorney then installed the society officers for 2017. They are Co-Presidents Darlene Chapa and Mike Hyzak, Vice President Annie Hyzak, Secretary Shirley Macik and Treasurer Nick Macik.

Co-President Darlene Chapa conducted the meeting. She made a presentation to outgoing Interim President Ted Vitek thanking him on behalf of the society for all his efforts and support in making the KJT what it is today.

Vice President Anne Hyzak sent a sympathy card to Nick and Shirley Macik on the death of Nick’s brother Harry. May he rest in peace. A get-well card was sent to Evelyn Futschik who had foot surgery. We’re wishing you a speedy recovery. A thank you card was received from Fr. Matt Iwuji for his Christmas gift. A.J. Kutach mentioned that his brother Gene was having health issues and was in the hospital for some tests. Cynthia Giesen recently had shoulder surgery. We hope that everyone is on the mend and feeling much better.

State Director Pokorney thanked the officers and the society for all they do. He gave a report on items from the Home Office. He said members should take advantage of all the benefits they can.

The Austin CROP Hunger Walk will be on Sunday, February 26 at 2 p.m. at Camp Mabry.

Darlene Chapa stated that volunteers will be needed for the Annual Hamburger Cookout on Thursday, March 9 and for the Family Day at Dell Diamond (date TBD). Members should also be thinking about new events the society can have to promote the youth.

The Budget and Finance Committee and Audit Committee will meet before the next meeting.

State Director Pokorney mentioned the District IV meeting, which will be held on Saturday, March 25, and the upcoming KJT Kruise on October 1-8 for all interested members and guests.

The meeting adjourned with a closing prayer. Shirley Macik won the society drawing.

IN MEMORIAM
OF OUR
DECEASED MEMBERS

The members of the Catholic Union of Texas, the KJT, wish to express their sincere and heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of the departed members who are listed below. May their souls rest in peace.

November 2016

Society #16, Wallis
Albert E. Zajicek
Date of Death: 10/24/2016
Age 84

Society #72, Corpus Christi
Clement C. Sherek
Date of Death: 02/05/2016
Age 78

Society #84, El Campo
John F. Lukas
Date of Death: 11/05/2016
Age 78

Society #81, Poth
Herbert A. Steves
Date of Death: 10/15/2016
Age 88

Society #28, Granger
Willie L. Cervenka
Date of Death: 11/07/2016
Age 96

Society #122, Freeport
Vaclav J. Janik
Date of Death: 10/16/2016
Age 78
IN MEMORIAM OF OUR DECEASED MEMBERS

The members of the Catholic Union of Texas, the KJT, wish to express their sincere and heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of the departed members who are listed below. May their souls rest in peace.

December 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society #</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#35, Ennis</td>
<td>Luther E. Scott III</td>
<td>11/09/2016</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#11, Austin</td>
<td>Albin E. Zurovetz</td>
<td>10/13/2016</td>
<td>90</td>
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<tr>
<td>#28, Granger</td>
<td>Joseph Vrina Jr.</td>
<td>11/12/2016</td>
<td>84</td>
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<td>#13, Yoakum</td>
<td>Ralph W. Manning</td>
<td>10/24/2016</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#46, La Grange</td>
<td>Julius C. Holubec</td>
<td>11/17/2016</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
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<td>#54, Fort Worth</td>
<td>Marvin T. Kubin</td>
<td>10/24/2016</td>
<td>76</td>
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<td>#68, Weimar</td>
<td>Frank Vana</td>
<td>10/28/2016</td>
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<td>#99, Seymour</td>
<td>George Petrus Jr.</td>
<td>10/17/2016</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#111, Dallas</td>
<td>Louis R. Machala</td>
<td>10/17/2016</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#111, Dallas</td>
<td>Dominic Muras</td>
<td>11/27/2016</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#39, Marak</td>
<td>John L. Gurecky</td>
<td>02/20/2014</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

SOCIETY HAPPENINGS

#87 JOURDANTON
By Susan Netardus

Jourdanton KJT Society #87 and Jourdanton KJZT Society #75 held their Annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 4, 2016. There were 23 members (including youth) representing both societies in attendance. Everyone enjoyed a noon meal of smoked ham and several side dishes and desserts. After the meal, Secretary Susan Netardus, out-going Mayor of the City of Jourdanton, gave a brief status of what is happening in the City and what is forthcoming. Afterwards, she and Society #87 Vice President Phillip Netardus, and KJZT President Marcella Dornak, drew names for the door prizes. Everyone left with a prize!

Also, collected at this event were non-perishable food items to be donated to the local Atascosa County Christmas Elf Project 2016 (ACCEPT 2016) for those in need, especially during this Holiday Season.

Youth KJT/KJZT members (left to right) Annie Netardus, Molly Netardus, Erin Soward and Thomas Netardus enjoying the food and fun at the December 4 party!

#56 HOUSTON
By Jeff Anders

Houston Society #56 is looking forward to the new year. The members closed the year with its annual Christmas Party. It is held in conjunction with Katy-Spring Branch Society #121. The society has even branched out to another local fraternal, the KJZT, and invited them for a more enjoyable time. It was a nice turnout. Enjoyed a nice social, pork roast dinner with the trimmings and caroling. Hope everyone enjoyed it.

In the new year, we are hoping and looking forward to more members showing up this year at the local meetings and be able to do more activities. The society still has its large door prize drawing that is trying to give out at each meeting. It is drawn from attendance numbers across the years and the pot keeps growing. One day someone is going to have a great day. Come enjoy and you could be the winner!

Please take note of the dates of upcoming regular meetings, deceased members Mass and Christmas Party in the KJT News calendar of events and on the KJT web site calendar. Please plan to attend as many of these events as you can!

Looking forward to a great 2017 for the society and the KJT.

Happy New Year’s to everyone!
SOCIETY HAPPENINGS

#3 HOSTYN
By Dianna Kallus

Sts. Cyril and Methodius and St. George Society #3 of Hostyn met for its fourth and last meeting of the year 2016 on Sunday, November 20. The meeting was at the Hostyn Parish Hall with 15 members in attendance. It was brought up that the society gained four new members for 2016: Lori Kallus, Nolan Klesel, Tyler van Veghel and Lillie Tucker. The society had one deceased member, Charles Chamrad.

The Hostyn society had two teams in the turkey shoot in Ammannsville in August, winning second and third places. The society also had a team in the State KJT Golf Tournament.

The officers for 2017 are President Patrick Janda, Vice President Benedict Kallus, Secretary Joyce Muras, Treasurer Brenda Fietsam and Reporter Dianna Kallus.

A discussion was held on the monetary donation/gifts to Chaplain Father Dan Kahlich, Deacon John McCourt, Altar Servers, AMEN project, Deputy Santa, Scholarship Breakfast Fund, Religious Retirement Fund, four Masses per year for living and deceased members (which is always the Sunday of the meeting) and La Grange Volunteer Fire Department. A donation was also voted on to give to Seminarian Ryan Kapavik from Shiner.

The KJT Christmas Party in conjunction with the KJZT was to be held on Saturday, December 3 after the 5 p.m. Mass at the Hostyn Hall. The KJZT would oversee the party this year. A meal and refreshments were to be served. Santa was expected to drop in to say hello to the children with goody bags and a list to bring back to the North Pole. Bingo would be played and door prizes would be drawn.

The Annual Fraternal Report forms were due Sunday, January 8 to Joyce Muras or Patrick Janda. Society records will be audited in January. A possible raffle in place of the annual drive-thru fundraiser was discussed and tabled until the next meeting.

Meeting dates for 2017 are set for and subject to change: February 19, May 21, August 6 and November 19. Meetings are at Hostyn Hall and always scheduled first with Mass at 8 a.m. for the living and deceased members, followed with a free-will donation Scholarship Breakfast, then the KJT meeting around 9:30 a.m. Mark your calendar—you are part of this organization, so please attend! Vice President Janda wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Prosperous and Healthy New Year.

Meeting was adjourned and Treasurer Brenda Fietsam led the closing prayer. Door prizes were drawn.

Did You Know?
The state snack is tortilla chips and salsa and was named so by the 78th Legislature in 2003.

DANCE
Bexar County
Czech Heritage Society
Sunday, March 5, 2017
2:00-6:00 p.m.

MUSIC BY
The Dujka Brothers Band
Martinez Social Club
7791 FM 1346 at FM 1516
San Antonio, TX 78220

ADMISSION $10.00
Admission for children 14 & under – Free
Refreshments:
Sausage on a Bun, Kolaches

For More Info Call 210.275.7971
Society Happenings

#112 Austin
By Sarah Vitek

The meeting of St. Stephen’s Society #112 of Austin was held on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, at Sacred Heart Church. Interim President Ted Vitek opened the meeting with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President Annie Hyzak received a thank you card from the Zurovetz Family for remembering a longtime member Albin Zurovetz. May he rest in peace. Ted Vitek informed the members of the interest rate change effective December 1, 2016.

Nick Macik and Kenneth Klanika gave reports on the joint KJT/KJZT Christmas Party. It was well attended, having delicious food, Santa appearing and a beautiful Nativity re-enactment was held. Thanks to all who participated and a resounding thank you to co-chairs Kenneth Klanika from the KJT and Laura Duckworth from the KJZT and for all attendees for making this a big success.

A Mass for all deceased members of the society was held on Sunday, October 23 at St. Albert the Great Church. After the Mass, the members met at Pok-É-Jo’s Smokehouse for lunch. The society participated in St. Albert’s Annual Ministry Fair.

After an update on the Annual Statewide Charity Fundraiser, the raffle drawing was held. The winners were: $250 Visa Gift Card – J.C. Boyer, $150 Visa Gift Card – David Migl, $100 Walmart Gift Card – Annette Kohoutek, $50 Target Gift Card – Melanie Carrate, and $50 HEB Gift Card – Rosemary Loewe. Congratulations to all and thanks to your generosity the donation to this very worthwhile cause.

Shirley Macik reported that due to the increase of CCD students at Sacred Heart, the meeting room is needed for classes. It was decided that the society would meet on the second THURSDAY of the month instead of the second WEDNESDAY and will meet in the same room.

The society will make the usual donation to Sacred Heart Church for the use of the facilities for the year. The Austin CROP Hunger Walk is requesting sponsorship. Society #112 has been an active participant in this charitable cause for many years. It was voted on to again donate and get the exposure in the handout given to the walkers. The walk will be on Sunday, February 26 at 2 p.m. at Camp Mabry.

Interim President Vitek appointed an Audit Committee consisting of Kenneth Klanika, Eileen Rosipal and Sarah Vitek. They will give their report at the February meeting.

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Kenneth Klanika, Chairman, Darlene Chapa and Gene Kutach presented the slate of officers. The society will be blessed with Co-Presidents Michael Hyzak and Darlene Chapa. The society is fortunate that these two young people stepped up to lead the society in 2017. The current remaining officers agreed to serve another year. They are Vice President Anne Hyzak, Secretary Shirley Macik, Treasurer Nick Macik, Reporter Sarah Vitek and Chaplain Fr. Matt Iwuji. Thank everyone for a job well done in the past and for stepping up to again serve the membership.

Donations to the officers and chaplain were approved. Interim President Vitek thanked everyone for supporting him this past year and to continue to support the new officers in 2017.

The meeting adjourned with a closing prayer. Michelle Hyzak won the society drawing.

Shown is the Nativity production put on at the Austin Society #112 Christmas party.

Annette Kohoutek (left) is shown accepting her gift card from Society #112 Secretary Shirley Macik.

A young Austin Society #112 member gives Santa his wish list. Santa’s elves are Darlene and Ben Chapa.

Thomas Klanika performed the drawing for the Society #112 raffle prizes. This was the society’s fundraiser for the Statewide Charities. We thank everyone that supported us.
SOCIETY HAPPENINGS

#141 GEORGETOWN
By Bernice Ermis

Georgetown Society #141 celebrated Christmas on Friday, December 2, 2016 in the St. Rita Activity Center at St. Helen’s Catholic Church.

President Gary Gentz led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The dinner consisted of ham, sausage, turkey breast and dressing along with many sides and desserts and ice cream. They also enjoyed wine, beer, tea and coffee.

Santa Dean made a visit at 7 p.m. The children were delighted to see him. Santa had each child sit on or around his lap and asked them what they wanted Christmas. He then called out their names and gave them each a small gift which were provided by the members. He stayed to take pictures with the children and adults and then individual couple pictures with him as well. This is the second year he has come to play Santa for the group. Santa Dean works for the Williamson County Sheriff’s Department and plays Santa for the Brown Santa program each year as well as for many other organizations around town. He has his own beard and really looks like Santa. Georgetown has a magazine called The View and last month he was the featured article with a full front cover of his picture as Santa.

There was a short meeting held afterward. Fr. Will Stratton, the pastor of St. Helen’s, dropped by for a visit and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Daphne Gentz purchased some poinsettias and the society had a drawing for them.

Those attending were Gary and Daphne Gentz, Dan and Virginia Berto, George and Mary K. Marusak, Larry and Pat Gregoire, Pat and Bernice Ermis, Clarence and Elizabeth Meyer, State Director Thomas and Jeannie Arellano and their family, Taylor and Rhiana Close and their family, and Kevin and Lauren Hay and their family. Monsignors Louis Pavlicek and Wozniak and Rick and Jeanette Nemec were unable to attend.

#35 ENNIS
By Cy Svrcek

On Sunday, December 4, Ennis Society #35 opened the meeting with prayers and the Pledge of Allegiance. Everyone welcomed the newest member Jason York who was present.

In discussion was the RCIA church group asking for donations to be made to construct chapels to rural Bolivia. The donation will be made during their meeting on Sunday morning. Also, the members voted to donate to the Religious Retirement Fund.

Election of officers for 2017 was held. It was unanimous that the present officers be re-elected for 2017 therefore the officers will remain: President Joe Block, Vice President Ashley Holland and Secretary/Treasurer Joe Landsfeld. Joe Landsfeld is also the society’s sales representative.

There were 23 members present. The meeting closed with prayers for all deceased members.

Following the meeting a social/Christmas party was held for all present. The youth from the KJT and KJZT enjoyed a visit from Santa who gave away bags of fruit and candy. There were approximately 35 children in attendance.
**SOCIETY HAPPENINGS**

**#31 WEST**

By Georgie Nors

West Society #31 held a meeting in the afternoon of Sunday, December 11, 2016 at the Tours Hall.

President Michael Kraemer opened the meeting and led the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Robert Nors, Cathy Kraemer, George Meurer and Don Urbanovsky were the attendance prize winners.

Treasurer Robert Nors reported that the 2016 Annual Reports will be due by the end of January.

Sherry Pavlas reported that she sent Christmas cards to members who are in the rest home: Ervin Cinek, Stanley Pavelka, Cindy Nors, Agnes Dujka, Richard Matus, Velma Schuetz, Johnny Gerik and Frank Nemec.

A thank you note was read from the KJT Home Office State President Christopher L. Urban for the donation to the Religious Retirement Fund. This money was raised from the Fish Dinner Fundraiser held in February.

The election of officers was held. Except for the office of 2nd Vice President, the others were re-elected by acclamation.

Sandy Kidwell was elected as the 2nd Vice President. The 2017 Society #31 officers that were elected are: President Michael Kraemer, 1st Vice President Sherry Pavlas, 2nd Vice President Sandy Kidwell, Secretary Cathy Kraemer, Treasurer Robert Nors and Reporter Georgie Nors.

President Kraemer stated that he has the calendar of events for Society #31 available. The KJT is also on a Facebook page, on the parish web site and into organizations as per Cathy Kraemer.

The president stated that the District Family Day will be hosted by the West Society and held sometime in April. In May, there will be the Hamburger Fundraiser for Scholarships and the June meeting will be held at 2 p.m. with the Youth Swim Party to follow.

Audit Committee members are Marvin Cepak, Ervin Laubert and Don Urbanovsky. Treasurer Robert Nors asked these Audit Committee members to be present at the Sunday, January 8 meeting for the year-end audit.

Sandy Kidwell reported that the KJT youth had a cookie baking party. The Youth and Junior members showed up to bake and decorate cookies. Afterwards they were treated to pizza.


Raffle prize winners were Heather Kraemer (2), Georgie Nors, Ernest Bezdek (2), Tim Sullins (2), Mary Scott, Michael Kraemer (2), Eugene Hosek, Kevin Berger and Kurt Veselka.

The meeting was closed and George Meurer led the closing prayer.

After the meeting, a short Christmas program was held. Gabby Veselka read the story taken from Luke 2: 8-16 of the Christ child born in a manger. Then an adult and kid’s choir led the singing of several Christmas songs. The program ended with the arrival of Santa Claus and his helper who listened to wishes and gave out goody bags.

Following was a memorial presentation for all the deceased KJT and KJZT members from the past year. Father Paul Hudson had a prayer and afterwards family members were presented a rose from Sherry Pavlas and Mary Kallus.

KJT family members present were the families of Joseph Mynarcik Jr., Ernest Nors and Hattie Kolar.

Members who received their 25- and 50-year membership pins during the year were

- Michael Kraemer and Catherine Smith were recognized for receiving their 50-year membership pins.
- Afterwards, a delicious meal of pork loin and all the trimmings and lots of desserts were enjoyed by all who came.

Special thanks to the cooks – Louis Pavlas, Michael Kraemer, and Mike Kidwell, and their helpers Cody and Heather Kraemer, Brent and Travis Pavlas, and Holly Soukup who helped with the cooking, serving and clean up.

After the meal, adult and children’s raffle prizes were given away.

**#72 CORPUS CHRISTI**

By Connie Williams

The meeting of Corpus Christi Society #72 was held on December 4, 2016 at approximately 2 p.m. at Moravian Hall. President Rosalie Bohuslav opened the meeting with a prayer, followed with the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed all new members and guests.

President Bohuslav reminded members of the requirements to becoming a delegate for 2018. There are three openings for the State Director position. Please direct all questions to State Director Ellen Zdansky. She also stated the interest rates made a slight drop in percentage.

The president stated there has been a change in the Level 1 Society Recognition requirements. Societies are no longer required to do the Junior Activities, but if a society continues, it will receive a bonus.

Rosalie Bohuslav mentioned the following were for sale at the meeting: cookbooks, a few Junior members had pecans and there were a few left over baked goods from the bake sale at St. Thomas More. The society will also have the Bake Sale at the Shareholder’s Meeting in February at the Moravian Hall. Please bring in baked goods, as this will be another fundraiser for the society.

President Bohuslav gave all Junior members 16 and under a Christmas gift. There was a drawing for all members of the requirements. Societies of the Level 1 and Level 2 Societies are no longer required to do the Junior Activities, but if a society continues, it will receive a bonus.

Rosalie Bohuslav mentioned that a Christmas card was sent to all members. They had a Christmas party at the Moravian Hall. President Bohuslav gave all members their Christmas present and closed with a prayer.
SOCIETY HAPPENINGS

#112 AUSTIN

By Sarah Vitek

The meeting of St. Stephen’s Society #112 of Austin was held on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at Sacred Heart Church. Interim President Ted Vitek opened the meeting with a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President Annie Hyzak sent sympathy cards to A.J. and Gene Kutach on the loss of their sister Evelyn Rose, to Thomas and Leonard Friesenhahn on the loss of their father Wilburn Friesenhahn and to James Friesenhahn on the loss of his brother. A KJT Memorial was sent to the family of Frances Tomasek, who was a long-time member of Society #112.

Thank you cards were received from Gene and Anita Kutach and from St. Vincent de Paul of Sacred Heart Church for the society’s donation.

Anne Hyzak stated that if the society has the Nativity presentation at the Christmas party, members are asked to volunteer to be in the production. Full participation is needed for it to be effective.

Ted Vitek thanked Mike’s Print Shop for donating all the printing for the raffle tickets and other work will be needed to prepare the meal and servers help would be needed starting this weekend. Equipment will be needed at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. He stated that he is co-chairman of the dinner and would be needed starting on Wednesday morning to help prepare the meal and servers and other work will be needed on Thursday morning.

A discussion was held on the upcoming Christmas Party on December 11, 2016. President Kraemer stated that they would get to the hall by 11 a.m. They plan to get the pork loin seasoned and ready to go the night before. He asked the members to bring either a salad or dessert. Raffle prizes for kids and adults would be appreciated.

There would be no youth program, only Christmas singing and a visit from Santa. Sherry Pavlas asked if the society would honor the deceased KJT members at the Christmas Party. Members agreed that this should be done. They would also honor the members present who have received their 25-, 50- and 75-year membership pins this year.

Sherry stated that she would send Christmas cards to the rest home members.

Members were reminded of the Ministry Fair that was going on in the Parish Center Gym after all Masses.

Youth Club Leader Sandy Kidwell stated that the youth would get together and make cookies for the Christmas Party on Saturday, December 10 at St. Joseph’s Hall.

Raffle prize winners were Sandy Kidwell and Don Urbanovsky.

The meeting was adjourned and Robert Nors led the closing prayer.

Victoria Society #115 members Irene Brosch, Wendy Hrncir, Rosie Olsovsky and numerous KJIT and KJZT members Joining Hands at Twin Pines Nursing Home for bingo and refreshments.

Pflugerville Society #132 celebrated Veterans Day with patriotic music and a church hall decorated with the U.S. Service Flags including the MIA flag. President Jim Krahula introduced the members of the Kerlin-Lyerly American Legion Post 154 who were present and a standing ovation was given to James E. Leavelle. Mr. Leavelle was a seaman on a ship next to the U.S. Navy Battleship USS Missouri when Japan signed the Japanese instrument of surrender ending the war. He is shown on the far right in the picture above along with members of Kerlin-Lyerly Post 154. This photo includes veterans from WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the Gulf War on Terrorism.

Pflugerville Society #132 members are pictured in front of the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall which was in Pflugerville from Thursday, November 10 to Sunday, November 13. Many visitors from Central Texas came to see the names of their friends, school mates and loved ones on The Wall and to remember them. Society President Jim Krahula presented an Austin VFW Post with a $2,000 check and American Legion Kerlin-Lyerly Post 154 with a $500 check for their continued work in helping veterans, developing Americanism and promoting leadership in America’s youth.

Deacon Steve Borowicz was recently elected chaplain of Victoria Society #115. Pictured with him is Society #115 President Lawrence Yanta.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SOCIETY #80, SEALY
Friday, January 27, After Christmas Party. Officers meeting at 6 p.m. Meal served at 7 p.m. followed by short meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church Center.

ANNUAL SOCIETY REPORTS DUE
Tuesday, January 31.

Happy Groundhog Day!

SOCIETY #6, HOUSTON
Sunday, February 5, meeting, Assumption Catholic Church, Pope John Building, second floor right behind the rectory, Houston, 1:30 p.m. Meeting followed by social, bingo and meal. We encourage all members to mark the date and plan to attend and be involved.

SOCIETY #112, AUSTIN
Thursday, February 9, meeting, Sacred Heart Reception Room, 6:30 p.m.

SOCIETY #129, SCHULENBURG
Sunday, March 19, home of James and Carolyn Prihoda, 2 p.m.

DISTRICT IV FAMILY DAY AND MEETING
Saturday, March 25, Old Settler’s Reunion Hall, Round Rock.

SOCIETY #129, SCHULENBURG
Sunday, April 9, Matching Grant Turkey Shoot.

SOCIETY #34, NADA
Sunday, April 9, (Palm Sunday), meeting.

KJT NORTH TEXAS GOLF TOURNAMENT, FERRIS
Saturday, April 29, Old Brickyard Golf Course, 605 North Fwy, Service Road, Ferris, Texas 75125. Shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Four-person scramble (one team member must be a KJT member). $75 person ($300 per team). RSVP to insurance@kjt.net.org. Call 800.245.8182 for more information. Prizes and other giveaways. Proceeds going to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION GRANT ENTRY FORMS DUE
Wednesday, May 31.

SOCIETY #34, NADA
Saturday, June 10, meeting, KC Pavilion.

SOCIETY #134, ROUND ROCK
Saturday, June 11, meeting, 2 p.m., prior to Youth Swim Party.

SOCIETY #129, SCHULENBURG
Sunday, July 30.

KJT DISCOUNTED SPLASHWAY SEASON PASS DEADLINE
Monday, May 15.

SOCIETY #129, SCHULENBURG
Sunday, May 21, meeting, home of James and Carolyn Prihoda, 2 p.m.

SOCIETY #3, HOSTYN
Sunday, May 21, Hostyn Parish Hall. Mass for the deceased and living members at 8 a.m. followed with a free-will donation Scholarship Breakfast with meeting starting around 9:30 a.m.

SOCIETY #129, SCHULENBURG
Monday, May 29, Veterans Day Memorial Day Service, McBridge Post #143, Schulenburg.

KJT YOUTH & TEEN SEASON PASS DEADLINE
Saturday, June 3, prior to Youth Swim Party.

CROP Hunger Walk, Camp Mabry, 2 p.m.

ST. MARY’S ANNUAL PARISH FESTIVAL, VICTORIA
Sunday, February 12, Victoria Community Center. Meal of roast beef, gravy, country potatoes, green beans, squash casserole, roll, desserts and drink served 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. for $9 per plate. Plates to go at 10:30 a.m. Live auction at 12:30 p.m. – antiques, collectibles, crafts, jewelry and quilts. Games, booths, silent auction and family entertainment.

Sunday, February 5, meeting, Conception Church Center. 7 p.m. followed by short meeting after 7:30 p.m. Meal served at 8 a.m. followed with a free-will donation Scholarship Breakfast.

Sunday, February 19, Hostyn Parish Hall. Mass for the deceased and living members at 8 a.m. followed with a free-will donation Scholarship Breakfast with meeting starting around 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 12, breakfast served and meeting after 7:30 a.m. Mass.

Sunday, March 12, meeting and covered dish meal, Queen of Peace Life Center, 1 p.m.

Sunday, March 19, home of James and Carolyn Prihoda, 2 p.m.

Saturday, March 25, Old Settler’s Reunion Hall, Round Rock.

Sunday, April 9, Corporate Communion at 7:30 a.m. Mass (Palm Sunday), meeting afterwards with coffee and kolaches.

Sunday, April 30, West Church Presentation of James and Carolyn Prihoda, 9:30 a.m. for $9 per plate. Plates to go at 8 a.m. followed with a free-will donation scholarship.

Tuesday, April 4, Youth Swim Party.

Sunday, April 9, (Palm Sunday), meeting.

SOCIETY #34, NADA
Sunday, June 10, meeting, KC Pavilion.

June 25.

Sunday, June 11, Flag Day, ceremony at all Masses.

Sunday, June 11, meeting, 2 p.m., prior to Youth Swim Party.

Sunday, June 11, meeting and covered dish meal, Queen of Peace Life Center, 1 p.m.

Friday, June 23.

Friday, June 23.

Friday, June 23.

Friday, June 23.

Friday, June 23.
Round Rock Society #134 meet on Saturday, December 10, 2016 for its quarterly meeting and Family Christmas Party.

Father Louis led everyone in prayer before dinner. Special guests for the evening were Father Dean, Father Louis, Father Floyd, Father Francisco, Deacon Henry, and State Director Ray and Shirley Pokorney from the Home Office.

Guests were treated to a chicken fried steak dinner served by Captain Reds. Members brought desserts to share.

Santa Claus was present and passed out treats and members took pictures with Santa. Tina Risinger announced the new officers who were voted on in the last quarterly meeting in October 2016.

Saturday, January 21 would be the district meeting at St. Elizabeth’s which officers will attend.

State Director Pokorney and his wife Shirley extended a Merry Christmas to everyone from the Home Office. He extended an invite to KJT and reminded members of the annual Coushatta trip.

Leon Barton is Society #134’s sales representative and anyone needing insurance should contact him. Reminder – you can add a rider to an adult life insurance policy to cover your children.

A check for $350 was presented to State Director Pokorney for the Religious Retirement Fund by Leon Barton, Tina Risinger and Margie Thompson.

Christmas carols were sung and door prices were given out.

Society #134 had 65 members present for the Christmas party – some members were not able to attend due to conflicting Christmas parties, birthday parties or family reunions.

Tina Risinger announced the new officers who were voted on in the last quarterly meeting in October 2016.

Saturday, January 21 would be the district meeting at St. Elizabeth’s which officers will attend.

State Director Pokorney and his wife Shirley extended a Merry Christmas to everyone from the Home Office. He extended an invite to KJT children 9-12 years to attend the youth summer camp and youth ages 13-15 years to attend the teen summer camp. He also reminded members of the college scholarships the KJT offers to its members. State Director Pokorney told everyone to start thinking about delegates for the 2018 KJT General Convention and said that three state directors will be leaving.

The District IV Family Fun Day and Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 25.

Shirley Pokorney invited members on the next cruise sponsored by the KJT and reminded members of the annual Coushatta trip.

Tourism Guidelines

1. Each bowler must be a member, at least 16 years of age, in good standing of one of the fraternal organizations participating in the Fraternal Alliance of Texas. The tournament is open to bowlers and non-bowlers.
2. Teams will consist of five members - any combination of men and women. Although team entries are encouraged, individual entries will be accepted. You do not have to have a full team to enter the tournament. Lodges are encouraged to enter multiple teams.
3. The winning organization will be determined by pin fall. The total pin fall for each organization will be divided by the total number of participants for that organization to determine an average for the three games bowled. The organization with the highest average will be declared the winner.
4. Each participant must bowl three games.
5. If a participant is a member of more than one fraternal society, he/she must decide which organization that he/she is representing before bowling.
6. Awards will be presented to the top three males and top three females for high series and high game.
7. Cost will be $10 per person or $50 for a team of five bowlers.
8. Registration begins at 11 a.m. with the tournament beginning at 12:30 p.m.
9. Walk-ins will be accepted from 11 a.m.-12 noon on the day of the tournament provided lanes are available.
10. Teams will be assigned lanes at check-in table on the day of the tournament.
11. Any questions about the tournament should be directed to Tammi Sutherland by phone at 210-226-9261, ext. 239, or 800-234-4124, ext. 239, or by email at tammiis@hermannsonslife.org

Entry Form

Name ________________________ Male ____ Female ____ Lodge ____________

Address ____________________ Bowling for (Fraternal) ______________________

Name ________________________ Male ____ Female ____ Lodge ____________

Address ____________________ Bowling for (Fraternal) ______________________

Name ________________________ Male ____ Female ____ Lodge ____________

Address ____________________ Bowling for (Fraternal) ______________________

Name ________________________ Male ____ Female ____ Lodge ____________

Address ____________________ Bowling for (Fraternal) ______________________

Name ________________________ Male ____ Female ____ Lodge ____________

Address ____________________ Bowling for (Fraternal) ______________________

Mail entry form and $10 entry fee per bowler to:
FAOT Bowling Tournament
P.O. Box 1941
San Antonio, TX 78297-1941
Deadline is Feb. 15, 2017.
Make checks payable to Fraternal Alliance of Texas (FAOT)

Holman Society #42 held its annual Building Fund Raffle in conjunction with the St. Wenceslaus Parish Picnic on Sunday, September 18, 2016. With part of the funds from this raffle, a donation of $1,500 was made to the Church Cemetery Fund for improvements to the fencing around the cemetery. At the presentation are (left to right) Treasurer Daniel Muras, President Daniel Neiser Jr., Daniel Neiser, St. Wenceslaus Cemetery Association, and Vice President David Cernosek.

Encourage Youth to Participate at the Local, District & State Level. They Are the Future of This Great Fraternal Family!
HELP US FIND THESE MEMBERS

Contact with our members is very important to us. We need to deliver important papers to these members. If you have information concerning any of the names listed below, please call the Home Office at 800.245.8182.

SOCIETY #100, CALDWELL
Alexis Carolyn Johnson
Paul M. Kocurek
Charles A. Prevost

SOCIETY #101, DANBURY
Frank Boone Jr.
Jeffrey A. Orsak
Eddie L. Prihoda Jr.

SOCIETY #102, SAN ANTONIO
Timothy J. Dusek
Gearion B. Jurek Jr.
Henry F. Matula Jr.

SOCIETY #103, BAYTOWN
Thomas F. Donnelly
Kurt J. Kloesel
Paul F. Kloesel
Lonnie J. Mazoch

SOCIETY #107, ABBOTT
Patricia S. Jimenez
Robert J. Kocurek
Nicholas Jr. Neill
Christopher R. Rycklir

MISSING MEMBERS

Please help us find members that no longer have a correct address on file with the KJT.

13th Annual Fraternal Alliance of Texas Bowling Tournament
Saturday, March 4, 2017
Fiesta Lanes
1202 Huisache Avenue (behind HEB off of IH-35), New Braunfels

Come out and enjoy some time with your fraternal friends!
And help your organization bring home the traveling trophy!
Bowlers representing the organizations that are part of the Fraternal Alliance of Texas will be competing for bragging rights and individual awards.
This year’s event is strictly for fun. No money will be raised for scholarships.
Registration materials must be received by Friday, Feb. 15.
Entry fee is $10 per person!
Entry fee will cover cost of bowling and awards.
Please see back of this flyer for complete tournament guidelines and entry form.