



# KJT NEWS



The Official Newsletter of the Catholic Union of Texas

Volume 67, No. 05

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September 2025

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## Scripture of the Month

“The Lord has put  
angels in charge of you,  
to guard you in all your  
ways.” (Ps 91:11)

## MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE VICE PRESIDENT

### We still have a little time...



**DAVID WAGNER**  
*KJT State Vice President*

It's amazing how quickly this year is flying by. Fall sports are in full swing, pumpkins are popping up everywhere, our Tarock Tournament will be held at

the TCHCC Heritage Fest & Muziky Festival in October (please sign up ASAP) and then Thanksgiving will be here before we know it.

This year began with plenty of excitement and a long list of goals. Like most of us, I started 2025 with a laundry list of things I wanted to accomplish. And now, with just a few months left, I can admit—I still have work to do. Sure, I've slipped on a few of my goals, but there's still time. With some effort (and maybe a little luck), I can check off more items and even get a head start on next year's goals.

I often speak with individuals who admit they wish they had purchased life insurance

when they were younger and still insurable. Others regret not converting their term life insurance into permanent coverage ten years earlier, when it was more affordable. Time and again, I hear from people who didn't save enough for retirement or waited too long to act. Now, some must delay retirement simply because they don't have enough set aside to feel secure. The common thread? They all wish they had acted sooner.

The truth is, we all believe there's more time. Life happens, distractions pull us in different directions, and it feels like tomorrow will always be there. But eventually, tomorrow runs out. When that

happens, opportunities we once had may no longer be available.

Here's the good news: we do have time—right now. With a few months left in 2025, we each have the chance to finish strong, accomplish meaningful goals, and set ourselves up for success in 2026. The Catholic Union of Texas, the KJT, can provide the financial tools to help you get there. I challenge you to use the time you have today to act—whether that means securing your financial future, protecting your family, or even tackling that closet you've been avoiding. We still have a little time left—let's make it count.

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**It is a great color copy available at your fingertips, anytime, anywhere!**

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## ACTIVITIES MANAGER MESSAGE

### Third Quarter Comes to an End



**MICHAEL REZNICEK**  
*KJT Activity Manager*

By the time this article hits the press we will be coming to the end of the third quarter of 2025. What a great time we have had so far this year.

We began the third quarter with the 4th of July celebrations. It is always great to celebrate this special occasion with family and friends. Then on Sunday July 20th KJT held family day in Frelsburg. We had a great turnout for this event. This year we had a delicious meal catered with kolaches from Hruska for dessert. There were several great door prizes for the adults, as well as the children in attendance. With a catered meal this year, our State Officers and State Directors had more time to visit with other societies and members. I am now looking forward to State Family Day in 2026.

On August 16th, my wife Melba and I ventured on a trip to Ennis to attend the 125th Anniversary of Ennis Society 35. They did an outstanding job of decorating and hosting the event. They provided a delicious Czech meal and super music by Czech and Then Some. It was a great event, and I would like to congratulate and thank Society #35 for their super hospitality.

On August 30th and 31st my wife Melba and I along with Tanner Schlottman and wife Brandy attended the West Fest in West. We enjoyed music, cold beverages and visited with several people while promoting the KJT. On Sunday we attended the Polka Mass. It was another great event.

As we begin the last quarter of 2025, we still have time to improve our memberships. Our financial remains strong and with all the fraternal benefits, life insurance, and annuities available to present to potential members is a great opportunity to become a part of a great fraternal, KJT. Let us all work together to help build our membership.

As always thank you for the opportunity to serve as State Director Pos.3 and Fraternal Activity Manager.

### Ivan John Anders Passes



**IVAN JOHN ANDERS**  
1926 – 2025

Ivan J. “Johnny” Anders, 98 of Houston went to the Lord June 4, 2025. He was born July 11, 1926, in Ammannsville, TX. He lived in Holman area and attended Sedon and then Pecan for Grade school. He then moved with his family to Fairchild, TX, where he attended Foster School. While helping his parents in the field farming cotton and other crops, he

was drafted into the Army in 1945 during WWII where he serviced his country honorably. After his time in the service he held various jobs until he went to work for Southern Pacific in 1949, where he was a truck driver for over 20 years, delivering to various parts of Texas and Louisiana before becoming a crane operator until his retirement after 39 years of service. Afterwards he focused on his family, his passion for the yardwork and gardening, growing a variety of vegetables, along with love of his Czech heritage and music, dancing, while also volunteering at church, St Vincent de Paul pantry, and Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed going to any dance or church festival to enjoy the polka music.

He was a member of St. Jerome Catholic Church, along with numerous organ-

izations like KJT, KJZT, SP-JST, Catholic Life, Knights of Columbus, VFW, and American Legion. He was a devoted member of KJT and his local Society #56 in Houston. He was actively involved, attended all meetings, and assisted wherever possible. He was a staple at the many conventions as a Marshall. A job he overwhelmingly enjoyed and was always willing to assist to help the convention run smoothly.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 46 years, Margaret Reiss Anders, his parents Emil and Mary (Vacek) Anders, along with Brothers Ernest Anders and Sydney Anders. He is survived by his sons Jeffery and Wife Shelly Anders, and Son Patrick Anders, along with several nieces and nephews.

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## LEGAL CORNER

# “I’m Not a Tax Attorney/CPA but I did read the Wall Street Journal!”



**Philip J. Hundl**  
KJT State Attorney

Question: Have you protected your family by electing the portability of your spouse’s unused estate tax exemption?

A recent WSJ article reminded me of an often-overlooked tax decision, when one spouse dies, the surviving spouse can preserve the deceased spouse’s unused federal estate tax exemption—known as the Deceased Spousal Unused Exclusion (DSUE)—by electing “portability.” This benefit, found in IRC § 2010(c), allows the surviving spouse to add the unused exemption to their own, potentially saving millions in future estate taxes. But portability is not automatic. It must be elected on Form 706, and the critical step is not opting out of portability in Part 6, Section A of the return.

The deadline for making the election is nine months after death, with an automatic six-month extension available by filing Form 4768. For smaller estates not otherwise required to file Form 706, the IRS now permits a late election within five years of death under Revenue Procedure 2022-32. Missing these deadlines—or failing to provide required information—can be devastating. In one recent Tax Court case, highlighted in the Wall Street Journal, a widow lost access to \$3.7 million of unused exemption because the executor’s return was incomplete, resulting in an extra \$1.5 million in estate tax.

Most folks look at the federal estate tax exemption and think “it is so high this will never apply to my situation.” In 2025, the federal estate tax exemption is \$13.99 million per spouse which is high. However, every four years there is always uncertainty whether the exemptions will decrease and/or the value of estate assets (i.e. – land) can often hyper-appreciate in booming areas.

Portability is one of the simplest, yet most valuable, estate tax planning tools. Executors should view check-

ing the box on Form 706 as a routine safeguard for families, regardless of estate size. With estate tax rates reaching 40%, the cost of neglecting portability can be enormous—while the effort to secure it is relatively minimal. Remember, I’m not giving tax advice! This is just so that you can ask your tax advisor the right questions.

Philip J. Hundl is State Attorney for the K.J.T. and the owner of the law firm, Land Rights Law, PLLC, with its office in El Campo, Texas, and representing clients throughout the State of Texas. State Attorney’s note: The information in this column is not intended as legal advice but to provide a general understanding of the law. Readers with legal problems, including those whose questions are addressed here, should consult attorneys for advice on their particular circumstances.

*Submit your questions for this column via email to [phundl@landrights-law.com](mailto:phundl@landrights-law.com) or via U.S. Mail to Land Rights Law, PLLC c/o Philip J. Hundl, KJT State Attorney c/o KJT Legal Column, 102 E. Norris Street, El Campo, Texas 77437 or at [www.landrights-law.com](http://www.landrights-law.com).*



**KJT**  
Catholic Union of Texas

Come Join Us **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Central Texas KJT  
Charity Scramble October 4, 2025  
Flatonia Golf Course  
1245 US-90, Flatonia, TX 78941

\$100 a person / \$400 a team

\* Longest Putt Contest \*  
\* Longest Drive Contest \*  
\* Closest to the Pin Contest \*

Proceeds Benefitting Camp Hope with matching funds (up to \$2,500) by the KJT Home Office

Register online @ [kjtnet.org](http://kjtnet.org) or call 979-968-5877



**GUARDIAN ANGEL CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
5610 Demel Street - Wallis, Texas

**BAZAAR**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025**  
Thanksgiving Masses at 7:30 am & 9:30 am

**BBQ BEEF, CHICKEN & SAUSAGE**  
HOMEMADE DRESSING and all the trimmings  
\$15.00 per Plate - Includes Tea  
DINE IN OR DRIVE-THRU BEGINS AT 10:30 am

**GRAND AUCTION**  
Begins at 1:00 pm under the Pavilion

**Fun for the Whole Family**

**Dancing & Music All Day**  
Duwayne Engelhardt  
Al Sulak & The Country Sounds  
The Czechaholics

**Drawing Games**  
Food & Booths  
Kid's Rides  
Video Game Truck  
Homemade Desserts  
Czech Kolaches

**November News Deadline:  
Monday, November 10  
10 a.m.**

## STATE DIRECTORS' MESSAGES

# Thank You to All

Hello K.J.T. members! This is Margaret Hanslik, one of your State Directors! I have been serving on the KJT Board of Directors since 2002 and recently have admitted I am the “most seasoned” director.

I served under President Elo Goerig in 2002 and the attorney State Director Jacob Walla. In 2006, Chris Urban came aboard in 2006 as a Marketing Director and worked his way up to our current President in 2008. With many face changes, we now have a very strong group of Officers, Directors and Spiritual Director that have made great accomplishments. My re-election journey is set for the 44th 2026 Annual Convention which is scheduled in San Marcos, Texas.

My twenty-three years have allowed me many opportunities to travel and work with all the fantastic people in my nine societies. Over these twenty-three years on continuing as a State Director, my society officers and members have become personal friends and family.

On my closing comments I want to thank my sweet and considerate husband, Mike of 47 years of



*Margaret Hanslik*  
State Director

marriage. For all the miles and time we have driven for many society events, presenting 75-year pins, youth camp, conventions, donation presentations, he has always been my greatest chauffeur and my target.

Mike and I have been blessed with two wonderful boys. Mark and his wife Rachel and our youngest son Matthew and his wife Jessica. We now run crazy with five grandchildren, Cullen (12), Blakely (9), Taylin (8), Kade (7) and Case (5).

They keep us super busy with baseball, softball, football, 4-H, soccer, and baking.

I would like to say “thank you” for all the great work my societies do with local parishes and statewide charities; they have made me proud.

## Greetings to all members of KJT, The Catholic Union of Texas

It has been an honor to serve as your State Director and Insurance Representative of the KJT, The Catholic Union of Texas for the past 15 years. Faith and family have always been the center of my life, and being part of this great organization gives me the opportunity to grow in both.

I have presented numerous 75-year pins recognizing a milestone of service, and dedication. This distinguished honor reflects not only the longevity of membership, but also the enduring values and commitment that they have brought to KJT since joining. I have also presented many scholarships to deserving graduates as they strive to fulfill their educational goals.

I was raised with strong Catholic values that continue to guide me in everything I do. I enjoy being active in my parish and helping with community events, whether it is

volunteering, attending Mass, or supporting activities that bring people closer to Christ. My faith has taught me the importance of compassion, service, and love for others, and I strive to live these values each day.

Outside of KJT, I enjoy traveling, fishing and polka dancing with my wonderful husband, Charles of 47 years. We are MiMi and PoPo to six (6) adorable grandchildren!

What I appreciate most about KJT is its commitment to faith, family, and community. By being involved, I feel connected to a larger tradition that has been part of Texas History for generations. I am grateful to be part of an organization that supports not only its members but also the values that shape us into better Christians.

Looking ahead, I hope to continue strengthening my faith, giving back to others, and honoring the principles



*Margaret Holik*  
State Director

that KJT represents. It is not only an organization but also a family where we grow spiritually, socially, and personally.

Thank you to all the Societies for your dedication, hard work, fundraising, meetings, and activities as you support your local parishes and statewide charities. The memories of traveling and meeting you at activities, meetings and celebrations will always be cherished! Look forward to seeing you soon!

**IMPORTANT  
REMINDER**

KJT – Catholic Union of Texas  
979-968-5877  
<https://kjt.net.org/member-forms>

- **Changes in Life?**
- **Married?**
- **Divorced?**
- **Children? Grandchildren?**
- **Loss of Loved One?**

Don't forget to review and update your beneficiaries. The member service form is available on our website or contact our office for information. Thank you.

# MOTAL FAMILY RECOGNIZED

## Motal Family Recognized for 100% Membership



Matthew and Lisa Motal were recognized at the recent family day event for being a family with 100% KJT Membership in Society #43. Along with a certificate, they were presented with KJT Merit pins for their children all being KJT members. Congratulations!

Pictured here are President Chris Urban, Director Margaret Hanslik, Lisa Motal, Jacob Motal, Matthew Motal, Joseph Motal, Vice President David Wagner with James, Karoline and Natalie Motal in the front.

### GROW YOUR NEST EGG WITH

**KJT**  
Catholic Union of Texas



Effective July 1, 2025: **NEW INTEREST RATES**  
on **ALL NEW** Kapital Accounts,  
Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity (FPDA),  
IRA and Roth IRA Accounts

Deposit Balance	Kapital Account 6 <sup>+</sup> , FPDA 7 <sup>+</sup> , IRA 6 <sup>+</sup> , & Roth IRA 6 <sup>+</sup>
\$250 <sup>***</sup> - \$9,999	5.00%
\$10,000 - \$99,999	5.25%
\$100,000 - \$249,999	5.50%
\$250,000 - Up	5.75%

\*Includes 1.00% First Year **ONLY** Additional Interest

\*\*\*Requires Additional Deposits

+Accounts Have a 3.00% Guaranteed Rate

*Interest Rates are Subject to Change Without Notice*

Contact David Wagner for Details @ 1.800.245.8182 or [insurance@kjt.net](mailto:insurance@kjt.net)

# 2025 KJT CAMP



# 2025 KJT CAMP



## NEW SALES REPRESENTATIVES

# KJT Welcomes Three New Team Members



**John and Kaylan Kopycinski with their sons, Hays and Ridge.**

The Catholic Union of Texas would like to welcome John Kopycinski to our team of Insurance Representatives. John has been a long-term KJT member who was raised on small town roots in East Bernard, Texas. John grew up the oldest of two boys to Jan Kutach and Chris Kopycinski, where he was involved in Holy Cross Catholic church, as well as various sports programs in East Bernard. He attended Rocky Mountain Retreat when in high school and could usually be found sitting in the choir loft on Sundays where his mom led the music at church. John is also a third-degree knight with the Knights of Columbus.

Currently, John works full time for Percheron LLC as a title agent and also has taken over the reigns of K Realty from his late mother in law, Cindy Kubicek, and father in law Kenneth Kubicek who still serves as broker. John remains active in Holy Cross Catholic church, serves time at community events such as the annual Kolache Klobase and is involved in the lives of his busy two boys.

John is married to his high school sweetheart, Kaylan (Kubicek) Kopycinski and they reside in their home town of East Bernard, staying true to both of their upbringings. They have two boys, Hays who will be starting 8th grade at EBJHS, and Ridge who will be in second grade. Both boys keep John and Kaylan very busy!

We are excited to have John Kopycinski, and this family, join the KJT team of sales representatives.



**Tina Risinger (middle center) pictured here with her children - Erin, Eric, and Emily.**

The Catholic Union of Texas would like to welcome Tina Risinger to the team of Insurance Representatives. The Risingers joined KJT Society #134, Round Rock in 2000, and have been active members ever since. Tina's children have gone to KJT Youth Camps and received KJT scholarships, she has been Vice President, and she is now currently President of #134. They love KJT!

Tina is a lifelong educator, having taught in 7 schools, 4 districts, and 10 different grade levels. She currently works in Windham SD as a Cognitive Improvement teacher for adult learners. She is a devoted Longhorn (Go Horns!) and loves UT football season. Her daughter Emily is a UT Dallas grad working in library sciences, daughter Erin went rogue as an A&M Aggie (the shame...) becoming a legal assistant, and son Eric is in helicopter flight school. Dog Junie is also a very important part of their lives, since Junie has used the last 7 years to take over as leader of the household. They all love to travel and spend time as a family, and Tina is looking forward to the next phases of their lives. We are very excited to have Tina Risinger and her children join the KJT team of sales representatives.



**Kirby Macik is pictured here with his wife, Melissa and their children Kierstyn, Koy, and Kayson.**

The Catholic Union of Texas would like to welcome Kirby Macik to our team of Insurance Representatives. Kirby has been a KJT member since he was an infant and grew up active in the KJT. His parents, Harry and Vernell Macik, raised 4 kids and taught them the importance of religion and heritage. Kirby grew up in Hallettsville and was part of the Smothers Creek Society of KJT. He played sports in high school and was involved in the FFA and 4H. Currently, Kirby is the President of Society 12 in Frenstat. He has helped for years putting on the two polka dances that raise funds for Priest Retirement (January Dance) and Priest Education (May Dance). Kirby works full-time at Caldwell Junior High, where he is the Assistant Principal and coaches several sports. Kirby married his wife Melissa on July 9, 2005, and they have 3 children: Koy, Kierstyn, and Kayson. Koy will be attending Texas A&M this fall and was a recipient of a KJT scholarship this year. Kierstyn is a sophomore at Caldwell High School, and Kayson is a fifth grader at Caldwell Intermediate. We are very excited to have Kirby Macik and his family join the KJT team of sales representatives.

## IN MEMORIAM

### NOTICES OF JULY/AUGUST 2025

Eugene H. Havran, 94  
Fort Worth #54  
5/3/25

Charles J. Sulak, 79  
West #31  
6/10/25

Edmund A. Caka, 96  
Shiner #20  
2/28/25

Dorothy J. Langer, 93  
Ennis #35  
7/21/25

Robert L. Vrana, 63  
Ennis #35  
6/8/25

Rev. Msgr. Isidore Rozycki, 82  
Tours #60  
5/16/25

Albert J. Charanza, 89  
West #31  
6/25/25

Kelly Leann Matus, 55  
Dallas #111  
7/20/25

Delfina O. Guajardo, 92  
Manor #131  
5/5/25

Robert C. Marek, 94  
Hillje #48  
6/28/25

Gerald Novak, 76  
Chappell Hill #142  
7/13/25

John C. Polansky, 84  
West #31  
8/4/25

Anton Vrazel, 97  
Marak #39  
6/5/25

Alice Zett, 99  
Taylor #27  
6/29/25

Edward P. Novak, 59  
Rosenberg #90  
6/28/25

Cynthia Garcia, 66  
Austin #112  
6/24/25

Gilbert Bohuslav, 92  
Freeport #122  
5/17/25

Richard D. Jansky, 70  
Taylor #27  
6/17/25

Frank E. Novak, 64  
Rosenberg #90  
7/7/25

Mary Evelyn Neckar, 87  
Waco #117  
7/16/25

Carroll P. Bartosh, 82  
Austin #112  
5/9/25

Joseph L. Richter, 85  
San Antonio #102  
4/7/25

Daniel R. Trlicek, 77  
Plum #23  
6/21/25

Scott Strnadel, 62  
Hillje #48  
8/9/25

Alvin J. Zemanek, 84  
Bryan #14  
4/26/25

Joseph W. Shaw, 87  
Corpus Christi #72  
1/15/25

Henry Odlozil, 72  
Ennis #35  
7/6/25

David A. Toupal, 69  
Ennis #35  
7/4/25

John C. Bohac, 69  
Needville #49  
3/11/25

David L. Martini, 48  
Corpus Christi #72  
4/29/25

Albert Socha, 82  
El Campo #84  
7/26/25

Irene Michalsky, 90  
La Grange #46  
6/30/25

Leona Tesar, 96  
Shiner #20  
8/3/25

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 dearly departed who are listed above. May their souls rest in peace.

# TOP PRODUCERS



Tanner Schlottman  
Society #35  
Ennis

First Place August



Lisa Alexander  
Society #119  
La Marque

Second Place August



Brady Alexander  
Society #119  
La Marque

Third Place August



Ellen Zdansky  
Society #72  
Corpus Christi

Fourth Place August



John Kana  
Society #4  
Ammannsville

Fifth Place August



Tommy Prasifka  
Society #20,  
Shiner

Sixth Place August



Holly Pavlas  
Society #31  
West

Seventh Place August



Taylor Ivy  
Society #79  
Hungerford

Eighth Place August



Linda Gaas  
Society #12  
Frenstat

Ninth Place August



Holly Malik  
Society #81  
Poth

Tenth Place August

**Consecutive  
App-A-Month Producer**

**Lisa Alexander**

**Consecutive New  
Member-A-Month Producer**

**Lisa Alexander**

# GRANT DONATIONS AND RECIPIENTS

## Catholic School Tuition Grant Winners

### Society #3, Hostyn

Hannah Connors  
James Connors  
Brielle Goedrich  
Dillon Goedrich  
Luke Goedrich  
Anthony Janda  
Krislee Kallus  
Sami Montgomery  
Thomas VanVeghel  
Tyler VanVeghel  
Faith Vavra

### Society #4, Ammannsville

Emileigh Divin  
Adriana Leihardt  
Charlotte Wick  
Hadley Wick  
Kasen Zbranek  
Tenley Zbranek

### Society #20, Shiner

Adaline Appelt  
Delane Appelt  
Liam Berger  
Lily Berger  
Frankie G. Darilek  
Clara Picha  
Evelyn Picha  
Jacey Picha

### Society #28, Granger

Johnnie "J.D." Morgan  
Daniel Pekar  
Eva Pekar  
Thomas Pekar

### Society #35, Ennis

Poppy Reynolds

### Society #43, Wied

Jacob Motal  
James Motal  
Natalie Motal  
Easton Olivarez  
Lacie Olivarez

### Society #46, La Grange

Justin Janda  
Sophie Janda

### Society #72, Corpus Christi

Luna Rodriguez

### Society #76, Dime Box

Briscoe Blankenburg  
Justice Blankenburg  
Langtry Blankenburg

Liberty Blankenburg  
Trinity Blankenburg

### Society #84, El Campo

Addelyn Leopold  
Brooklyn Leopold  
Elizabeth Leopold

### Society #100, Caldwell

Cecilia Perry  
Luke Perry

### Society #111, Dallas

Nicolasa Medrano

### Society #112, Austin

Matthew Hyzak

### Society #129, Schulenburg

Laine Measom

### Society #132, Pflugerville

Fletcher Dorrance  
Gideon Dorrance  
Clara Hudson  
Ephraim Hudson  
Lopez Santiago



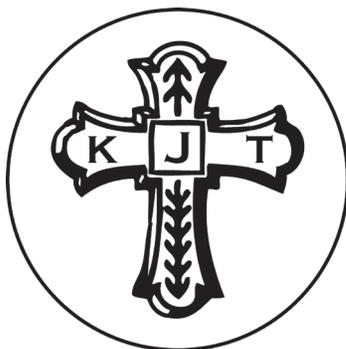
## Society #9 Make Donation

Fayetteville KJT Society #9 Treasurer Paul Kovar (left) and Vice President Edward Muske (right) present Director of Religious Education Lexxus Zika a donation from the KJT Home Office for the Matching Grant funds received in conjunction with their annual garage sale.



## Fire Department Grant Donation

KJT Society #79 President Taylor Ivy (center) presents a matching grant check given by Catholic Union of Texas, the KJT, and KJT Society #79 of Hungerford to Hungerford Volunteer Fire Department President Donnie Kalmus (right), while Fire Chief Keith Jedlicka (left) looks on. Matching Grant funds were raised by sponsoring a ring toss booth at HVFD annual Fried Chicken dinner held on June 1, 2025.



# KJT

Catholic Union of Texas

## FUNDRAISERS

# Burger Lunch Fundraiser, A Success!

KJT Society #20 of Shiner held its annual hamburger fundraiser on July 9 at the Shiner KC Hall kitchen. Once again, the event was successful, and we would like to thank all those who purchased a plate! Our Society also donated plates, along with waters to the Shiner police department and the Shiner Fire/EMS departments. We would like to extend our appreciation to all those who volunteered their time to make this a successful event.



## # 55 Bake Sale Fundraiser

KJT Society #55 of Corn Hill hosted a bake sale at Holy Trinity Catholic Church; a variety of home-baked items were sold after all four Masses on the last weekend of July.

Proceeds from the sale help support the society's continued participation in parish and community activities.

Members seated: Jenna & Jacqueline Danek; Standing, Teresa Nemece, John Danek, John Valenta and Helen Havelka.



## Successful Bake Sale for Society #121

KJT Society 121 Katy/Spring Branch held their bake sale on August 16/17, 2025 at St. Jerome Catholic Church, which was a great success. Many thanks to our bakers, donors and purchasers; your support is appreciated!

L-R: Ted Sedlar, our heavy lifter; Connie Burrows, cashier, for our sale; Eleanor Sedlar, baker and coordinator for our event; Irene Dittrich, baker and sales assistant. Not pictured Mary K Dittrich, baker, setup & helped with sales; Charla Parker and Mary Titsus helped with sales.



# MATCHING FUNDS



## Hostyn Youth Receive Matching Funds

On July 20, 2025 the Hostyn KJT Society #3 Officers, presented a check to the Youth of Hostyn and Plum parishes at the monthly Scholarship breakfast. The check totaled \$1500, which reflected proceeds from the youth bake sale, which was held at the Society’s drive thru fundraiser in May, matching funds from the KJT Home Office, along with additional funds from Hostyn KJT. The youth will use the funds for many different projects, including providing the children’s bulletins, gifts for First Communicants & graduating Seniors, and for their annual youth service trip.

**37th Annual Czech Heritage Festival 2025**  
 Victoria County Czech Heritage Society  
 Victoria, Texas  
 Sunday September 28, 2025

**Kyla Jupe**  
 CBS Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen 2025-2026

**Wyatt Holeczek**  
 CBS Texas Czech-Slovak King 2025-2026

**10:30 am - 6:30 pm**  
 Victoria Community Center  
 2905 E. North St.

**\$10 Admission • Kids 14 & younger get in free**

**Culture • Music • Food • Language  
 Fun • Dancing • History & More**

**JOIN US ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH  
 IN THE HEIGHTS!**

★★★  
**LIVE MUSIC & MARKETPLACE**

★★★  
**BEER GARDEN**

★★★  
**FAMILY FUN:  
 PUMPKIN PATCH  
 PUPPET SHOWS  
 GAMES, INFLATABLES  
 FACE PAINTERS**

★★★  
**CZECH FOOD & BEVERAGES**

★★★  
**BAKE SALE**

★★★  
**FEATURING:  
 CHRIS RYBAK  
 CZECH ORCHESTRA  
 GRAND MARCH**

**SPJST LODGE 88 • HOUSTON**

Visit [lodge88.org](http://lodge88.org)  
 for tickets & event info  
 1435 Beall St | 77008

## ADDRESSES NEEDED

### NO ADDRESS KNOWN

**Below are the names of members for whom we no longer have a valid mailing address. If you know a person named, please let them know to contact their local society or the home office at (979) 968-5877 or by email to [billing2@kjtnet.org](mailto:billing2@kjtnet.org). We appreciate your help on this matter!**

**Society #1, Praha  
Joseph E. Jasek, Jr.**

**Jonathan Frank Kubena  
Whitney Nicole Wilson**

**Society #102, San Antonio  
Rev. Dennis P. Zerr**

**Society #9, Fayetteville  
Steven Charles Chovanec**

**Society #40, East Bernard  
Tobias M. Hlavinka**

**Society #111, Dallas  
Anton F. Peterson  
Kenneth C. Adamcik**

**Society #13, Yoakum  
Barbara Jean Pippin**

**Society #55, Corn Hill  
Dennis E. Danek  
Thomas D. Lockhart, II**

**Society #112, Austin  
Mark Andrew Mills**

**Society #14, Bryan  
William Jared Bayet**

**Society #56, Houston  
Joseph R. Foyt**

**Society #114, Temple  
Nathan Paul Drozd**

**Society #20, Shiner  
Dustin M. Hagens**

**Society #59, Seymour  
David Allen Bales**

**Society #132, Pflugerville  
Jennifer A. Gutierrez  
Jo Ann Gutierrez**

**Society #29, Frydeck  
Benjamin S. Kutra, Jr.**

**Society #71, Ganado  
Charles James Psencik**

**Society #134, Round Rock  
John D. Matus**

**Society #35, Ennis  
Gregory L. Toupal  
Jeffrey D. Jelinek**

**Society #95, Kaufman  
Jeffrey N. Davidson**

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

### Society #55 Pin Presentations

Corn Hill Society #55 recognized their milestone members during its July meeting.



State Director Shirley Pokorney pinned Lambert Havelka with his 75-year pin; Jamie Danek was also recognized for her 25th membership year.



L-R: President John Valenta, Director Shirley Pokorney, Jamie Danek and Vice President John Danek.

### Belota Receives 75-Year Pin

Clement Belota, Jr. was presented his 75-year KJT membership pin at the family day gathering; he is a member of Plum Society #23.

L-R: Chris Urban, Clement Belota, Jr., David Wagner



### #48 Welcomes New Member

Meet Charlotte Ann Stavena, the newest member to KJT Society #48 Hillje. Welcome Charlotte!

Proud parents are Frank and Michelle Stavena and big brother Waylon Stavena. Grandparents are Charles and Margaret Holik-State Director and Tommy and Jo Gayle Stavena.



**HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
WHARTON, TEXAS

# Fall Festival

**OCTOBER 19, 2025**

**\$15 PER PLATE**

**MASS 9:00A.M.**

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**TURKEY & DRESSING WITH TRIMMINGS**  
DINE IN OR DRIVE THRU 10:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

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**RUSTY STEINS BAND 10:45 - 12:15**  
**LIVE AUCTION BEGINS AT 12:30**

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<p>GROCERY/CAKE WALK SPLIT THE POT SILENT AUCTION/RAFFLE CONCESSION STAND/PASTRY BOOTH</p>	<p>BOUNCE HOUSE   GAMES COUNTRY STORE OBSTACLE COURSE   PETTING ZOO TRAIN RIDE   FACE PAINTING</p>
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2011 BRIAR LANE  
WHARTON, TX 77488

# MEMBERSHIP

## 25-Year Membership September/October 2025

Society #1, Praha  
Madelyn Christine Okruhlik

Society #3, Hostyn  
Jodi a. Kozelsky  
Kimberly A. Jobb  
Tara Ann Goerig

Society #4, Ammannsville  
Jessica Ann Parma

Society #13, Yoakum  
Frances Kaye Patek  
John W. Patek  
Marie E. Patek  
Philip Molnoskey  
Samuel G. Patek  
Travis Molnoskey  
Victoria Longoria

Society #14, Bryan  
Noah Marcel Storemski

Society #20, Shiner  
Kerri M. Darilek  
Sydney Nicole Grabarkievtz  
Colton Jacob Machart  
Rose Marie Braun

Society #31, West  
Christopher T. Pustejovsky  
Jody Lynett Nors

Society #35, Ennis  
Kelsey Janalle Overall  
Rebekka Kay Overall White  
Carli Michelle Bragg  
Christine Mokry  
Kamren Renee Bragg  
Keith Duane Bragg  
Ty Adam Zabochnik

Society #38, Moulton  
Elissa A Rothbauer

Society #43, Wied  
Erica Marie Pavliska  
Vernell Marie Macik  
Derrick Anthony Labay

Society #46, La Grange  
Jessica L. Recek

Society #48, Hillje  
Preston Daryl Brandes  
Sanae Michelle Brandes  
Austin Gregory Holub  
Joshua Tyler Holub

Society #50, Penelope  
Kearstyn Marie Woodard  
Tyler John Machac

Society #55, Corn Hill  
Clare Ann Sukup

Society #71, Ganado  
Collin Ray Hons

Society #87, Jourdanton  
Addison Michael Terrell

Society #100, Caldwell  
Alexis Carolyn Melton  
Nicholas Robert Piwonka

Society #103, Baytown  
Alexander Thomas  
McMorrow

Society #111, Dallas  
Annalis Marie Mach  
Donald L. Sachse  
James Quaid Mach  
Marcela McDonald Mach

Society #112, Austin  
Angelee M. Mucha

Society #115, Victoria  
Russell Witte  
Sandra Witte

Society #119, La Marque  
Elizabeth L. Dispensa  
Benjamin Reeves O'Nan

Society #129, Schulenburg  
Benjamin James Vavra, III  
Nickolas James Prihoda

Society #132, Pflugerville  
Joshua Thomas Dickinson

Society #133, Missouri City  
Spence C. Spencer

Society #137, Burnet  
Melissa Reyes

# MEMBERSHIP

## 50-Year Membership September/October 2025

Society #4, Ammannsville  
David G. Osina

Society #13, Yoakum  
Alan Ray Jirkovsky  
Chris A. Kutac  
Larry G. Jirkovsky

Society #14, Bryan  
Charles D. Kucera

Society #20, Shiner  
Andrew A. Juranek  
Scott A. Zabransky

Society #27, Taylor  
Johnny E. Kubicek, Jr.

Society #28, Granger  
Edward P. Knappek

Society #35, Ennis  
Tommy L. Pechal

Society #40, East Bernard  
Kenneth E. Vacek

Society #43, Wied  
Brian C. Herman

Society #48, Hillje  
Michael Matthew Sulak

Society #81, Poth  
Brian L. Vajdos

Society #84, El Campo  
Kenneth John Rod  
Russell W. Rod

Society #111, Dallas  
Louis J. Prasifka

Society #112, Austin  
Meredith Jeffrey Doerr  
John D. Horton  
Keith L. Hrachovy

Society #114, Temple  
Christopher L. Uptmore

Society #129, Schulenburg  
Kristopher L. Faith

## 75-Year Membership September/October 2025

Society #3, Hostyn  
Ivan Muras

Society #9, Fayetteville  
Richard A. Sodek

Society #13, Yoakum  
Victor G. Kocian

Society #20, Shiner  
David E. Wagner

Society #28, Granger  
Adrian J. Kocurek

Society #31, West  
Frank J. Urbanovsky  
Thomas H. Sykora  
Richard W. Grellhesl

Society #39, Marak  
Edmund J. Tepera

Society #40, East Bernard  
Henry A. Divin  
Benjamin F. Krpec

Society #43, Wied  
Dennis R. Heidaker

Society #46, La Grange  
Daniel L. Tajchman

Society #48, Hillje  
James R. Barnard, Jr.

Society #54, Fort Worth  
Bernard L. Becan  
Frank J. Kadlecek

Society #55, Corn Hill  
Laddie P. Vrazel

Society #56, Houston  
Barry E. Chovanetz

Society #72, Corpus Christi  
James E. Kaspar  
David J. Tajchman

Society #84, El Campo  
Machael A. Krpec

Society #102, San Antonio  
Frankie J. Dusek  
Robert C. Stuchly

Society #112, Austin  
Ronald L. Rainosek

Society #114, Temple  
Daniel J. Kruppa

Society #115, Victoria  
Dennis P. Juroske

Society #126, New Braunfels  
Robert E. Tajchman

## KJT IN ACTION



### Society #142 Donates Chairs

KJT Society #142 in Chappell Hill has donated 6 chairs to the parish office to replace the 25+ year old couch and arm chairs. They blend well with the carpet and paneling.

The chairs are sturdy and sit well, are on casters, and are easy to rise from because of the arms. The six seats are a comparable replacement; we hope they serve the parish office well.

### Society #35 Stays Busy

We had a Kentucky Derby party where everyone joined in on the racing fun and games. The Polka Festival was once again a full house with many visitors coming to eat and dance the weekend away. On Thursday we had our Flag raising ceremony to start off the weekend. We do want to thank all our help for the weekend from the kolache making crew, the kitchen crew, the bartenders, our clean up staff and all the rest that help out where they are needed. Ashley Holland does a great job getting everyone lined up to help out. Then we had a few teams from our Society participate in the North Texas KJT Golf Tournament. We also wrapped up our events for our 125th Anniversary celebration. One was a fundraiser for the building with an open bar, a food truck,

dancing and 12 chances to win some money with the first prize being \$12,500. We had a good turn out and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. On August 16th we had a free event to celebrate our 125 Anniversary with music by Czech and Then Some, along with a BBQ meal. We enjoyed seeing so many people coming out to help us celebrate.

We look forward to seeing you soon; if you are ever in the neighborhood drop by and see us.

Please visit our Facebook page to see how much fun we are having at K.J.T. Society #35 in Ennis. It will also keep you informed of our next event and members meetings. Until next time, have a good day and stay safe. Also remember to contact Tanner Schlottman to get

### Society #119 Grant Fundraiser Event

KJT Society #119 (La Marque) is having a bake sale and raffle fundraiser on Sunday, November 23, 2025, at Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 1224 Cedar Drive in La Marque in the Parish Life Center. The bake sale will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Many delicious homemade goodies will be available for purchase. The bake sale will be our KJT matching grant fundraiser designated for Galveston County Food Bank.

At the conclusion of the bake sale, we will hold the drawing for our raffle prizes. Raffle tickets will be sold from September 1 until November 23, 2025. Tickets are six (6) for \$5. If you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets, please contact our President Mike Reznicek at 409-771-8101, Vice President Pat Krc at (281) 639-2239, or Cindy Quintela at 409-795-0933, or any Society #119 member. We have twelve (12) wonderful prizes, including several gift cards; contact any member to get your raffle tickets for your chance to win one of our great prizes!

The funds raised from the raffle will go into our operating account to fund our charitable endeavors.

Following the bake sale and raffle prize drawings we will have a society meeting.

*St. Philip Catholic Church Presents*

# Oktoberfest

**Saturday, October 18, 2025**

**11:00 am - 6:00 pm**

**13095 Old China Spring Road**

**China Spring, TX 76633**

**BEER·FOOD·AUCTIONS**  
**JODIE MIKULA ORCHESTRA**  
**KIDS WORLD·COUNTRY STORE**  
**RAFFLE·BAKE SALE·FUN FOR THE FAMILY!**

11:00 am - 3:00 pm: Meal Served  
 11:00 am - 2:00 pm: Silent Auction  
 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm: Live Auction  
 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm: Jodie Mikula Band

*German Meal: \$12, Hot Dog Plate: \$5*  
*Carryout Available \* Cash, Check, Card Accepted*



# SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Statement of Financial Condition

	30-Jun 2025	31-Dec 2024
<b>Admitted Assets</b>		
Cash and Short-Term Investments	\$ 1,376,588	\$ 1,404,297
Bonds	74,260,844	74,244,470
Preferred and Common Stock		
Mortgage Loans	24,133,243	23,244,063
Real Estate	68,541	69,547
Policy Loans	700,834	683,553
Other Invested Assets	5	5
Accrued Investment Income	1,085,122	1,043,861
Premiums and Considerations Recoverable from Reinsurance	8,529	9,996
Write Ins OTI Assets & Misc	28,110	35,651
<b>Total Admitted Assets</b>	<b>\$ 101,661,816</b>	<b>\$ 100,735,443</b>
<b>Reserves, Liabilities, and Surplus</b>		
Reserves for Certificates	\$ 90,910,943	\$ 89,987,590
Contract Claims	422,464	373,918
Liability for Deposit Type Contracts	706,469	706,303
Provisions for refunds payable	50,704	50,177
Asset Valuation Reserve	732,211	692,821
Interest Maintenance Reserve	6,404	6,965
Miscellaneous Liabilities	339,148	264,657
<b>Total Reserves and Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 93,168,343</b>	<b>\$ 92,082,431</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 8,493,473</b>	<b>\$ 8,653,012</b>
<b>Total Reserves, Liabilities, &amp; Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 101,661,816</b>	<b>\$ 100,735,443</b>

## St. Stephen's Society #112

Members are encouraged to attend the Heritage Fest & Muziky on October 17 & 18 to participate in our society donation to the Texas Czech Heritage & Cultural Center. For more information, Visit [www.czechtexas.org](http://www.czechtexas.org)

## Statement of Financial Condition

	For Quarters Ended June 30	
	2025	2024
<b>Income</b>		
Life and Annuity Premium Income	\$ 3,183,893	\$ 2,062,648
Net Investment Income	2,559,081	2,483,257
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	6,198	(16,254)
Misc Income	40,815	28,431
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 5,789,987</b>	<b>\$ 4,558,082</b>
<b>Benefits and Expenses</b>		
Policy Death Benefits	\$ 420,808	\$ 304,539
Matured Benefits	-	-
Annuity Benefits	708,253	476,696
Disability Benefits		
Surrender Benefits	2,976,532	1,481,658
Interest and Adjustments on Contract Funds	13,182	13,313
Payments on Supp. Contracts with Life Contingencies	7,969	7,966
Increase in Life and Annuity Reserves	923,353	1,306,595
Expenses, Taxes, and Commission Payments	837,609	850,358
Increase in loading	1,030	(197)
<b>Total Benefits and Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,888,736</b>	<b>\$ 4,440,928</b>
Net Gain (Loss) From Operations Before Refunds	(98,749)	117,154
Refunds to Members	26,214	28,403
Net Gain (Loss) From Operations After Refunds	\$ (124,963)	\$ 88,751
Net Realized Capital Gains (Losses)	(11,274)	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (136,237)</b>	<b>\$ 88,751</b>
<b>Surplus</b>		
Net Income From Operations	\$ (136,237)	\$ 88,751
Change in Net Unrealized Capital Gains (Losses)	3,082	
Change in Non-Admitted Assets	13,006	29,043
Change in Asset Valuation Reserve	(39,390)	(104,675)
Write Ins - Prior Period Adjustment		
<b>Net Change in Surplus</b>	<b>\$ (159,539)</b>	<b>\$ 13,119</b>
Surplus - Prior Year	\$ 8,653,012	\$ 8,709,291
<b>Surplus as of Statement Date</b>	<b>\$ 8,493,473</b>	<b>\$ 8,722,410</b>

**November News Deadline:  
Monday, November 10  
10 a.m.**

## KJT IN ACTION

### Hillje Society #48 Bucket Toss

KJT #48 Hillje sponsored the bucket toss at the annual Hillje church picnic on Sunday, August 17, 2025.

Left - Working the booth, Charles Holik-President & Deacon Patrick Kubala-Treasurer. Right - Youth members and winners, Kent Koudela & Layni Schoeneber



### # 142 Society Member Receives Scholarship

KJT Society #142 is proud to announce the awarding of our third scholarship to member Kathleen Novak. She is a remarkable, well-rounded individual whose life touches many people and her accomplishments are in numerous areas of interest.

Kathleen received a \$500.00 scholarship from her local society as well as a \$1,350.00 scholarship from KJT Catholic Union of Texas in LaGrange.

Kathleen received scholarships from these additional organizations:

Bellville Lions Club Diabetes Awareness Essay Contest (\$2,000.00); Austin County Go-Texan Scholarship (\$2,000.00); Austin County Peace Officers Scholarship (\$1,000.00); Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church Knights of Columbus Scholarship (\$1,000.00); and, Austin County Fair Memorial Scholarship (\$2,750.00).

Her parents (Laura and Mike), and her brothers (Weston and Dane) are extremely proud of Kathleen and wish her well as she heads off to Texas A & M in College Station to begin her studies. She is looking forward to the day when she becomes a veterinarian!

Good luck, Kathleen. May God bless and keep you in His loving arms. May you achieve your dreams and continue your charitable works.



Pictured here are Henry Wilganowski, President; Laura Novak; Kathleen; Mike Novak; and Patricia Novak, Treasurer & Grandmother

# POKORNEY SCHOLARSHIPS

## Pflugerville Society #132 Present Scholarships

Pflugerville Society 132 proudly congratulates this year's winners of their Agnes Pokorney Memorial Scholarship in amounts totaling \$6,000. This award was heavily weighted upon service – service to their church, their community, and the KJT. Recipients are Riley DeRoulac, Adrian Cisneros Nava, Kaylynn Kolinek, Jeffrey Lopez, and Valerie Kaiser. All 5 of these graduates qualified for state KJT scholarships as well. We wish them many blessings as they embark upon their post-secondary journey!



**Riley DeRoulac with Shirley Pokorney**



**Adrian Cisneros Nava**



**Kaylynn Kolinek**



**Jeffrey Lopez**



**Valerie Kaiser**

## KJT IN ACTION

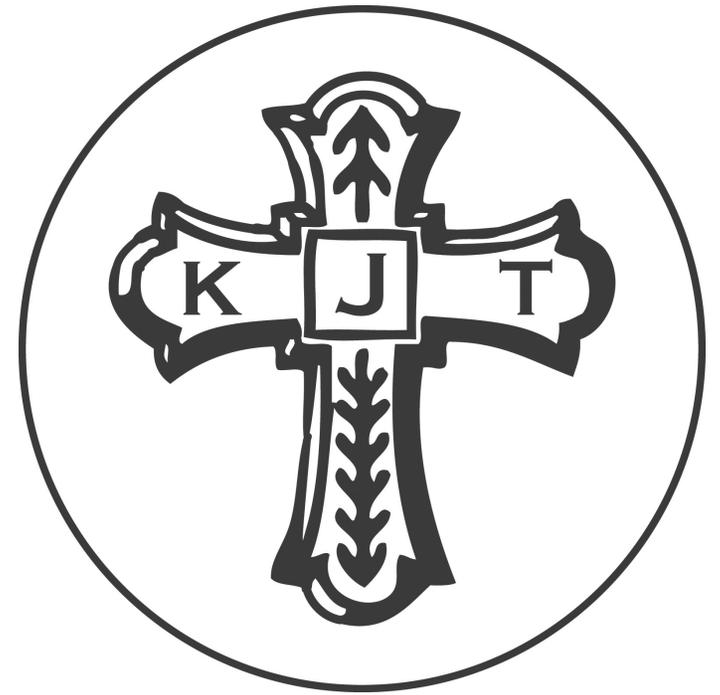
# Society #117 Events & Christmas Planned

KJT Society #117, St. Louis Waco, had a wonderful luncheon and meeting earlier this summer, observing our country's freedoms and honored the flag for a nice group photo.

Celebrating Czech heritage over Labor Day weekend, KJT and KJZT members rode in the 'Czech mobile' for the Westfest parade.

Society #117 Christmas Party and BINGO will be at noon, 12 p.m., on Sunday, November

23, 2025, at Knights of Columbus Hall, 5515 Sanger Ave, Waco, Texas. Pork loin will be provided, please bring a side dish and/or dessert to share. Please bring a prize for EACH member who will play BINGO so everyone will win a prize! Donations of blankets for Fuzzy Friends and nonperishable foods for Shepherd's Heart food bank will be collected for our Youth Community projects.



### You Are Invited District VIII Family Day KJT Meet & Eat

You and your family are invited to this joint event. Dinner is hosted by the KJT Home Office in appreciation of your membership. There will be a short presentation by the KJT President and Vice President. **Guests are welcome**, so please bring a friend so we can tell them all about KJT!

**DATE:** Sunday, November 9, 2025

**REGISTRATION:** 11:30 AM ~ Meal Served @ Noon

**LOCATION:** Frenstat Rec Center  
(Behind Holy Rosary Catholic Church, on FM 2774)

**RSVP:** Before Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> by

**E-mailing:** [info@kjt.net](mailto:info@kjt.net)

**Calling:** #979-968-5877 KJT Home Office

Seating is limited; please be sure to RSVP!

*We look forward to visiting with you!*

## KJT HAPPENINGS

### Society 132 Pflugerville Holds Fundraiser

On Sunday August 10, 2025, Society 132 in Pflugerville raised \$1,800 for the Kerr County Flood Relief Fund. A check for \$1,800 will be sent to the KJT State Office to make this donation.

We conducted a successful pancake breakfast and bake sale in the Parish Hall to raise this money. One hundred and thirty small boxes of home-made bake goods were sold; this money was included in the \$1,800.

Twenty-five homebound parishioners were provided KJT pancake breakfasts by our So-

ciety. In this picture Dan Dorrance, Shirley Pokorney and Alice Bosquez are preparing homebound breakfasts.

Right - Craig Romick and George Dickinson are on the outdoor grills preparing pancakes and eggs.

Below - A \$250 donation was made to the St. Elizabeth Religious Education Ministry. Shown below, L-R: Jim Krahula, Adrian Cisneros Nava, Shirley Pokorney, Cindy Lucero, Maria Carmona, and Kim Sharp.





**HERITAGE FEST AND MUZYKY**

250 W. Fairgrounds Rd. La Grange, Texas

**FREE ENTRY—OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
**Antique Tractor & Car Show!**  
 Plus Music, Wagon Rides,  
 Village Tours, Demonstrations, Arts & Crafts,  
 Childrens Activities, Fraternal Mutual Pavilion,

**OCT 17 & 18, 2025**  
**FRIDAY**  
 Oktoberfest on the Deck  
 4:30pm – 10:00pm  
 Music by The Dujka Brothers  
 6:00pm – 9:30pm

**SATURDAY**  
**ACTIVITIES ALL DAY!**  
 Car Show, Farm Show,  
 Demonstrations  
 KJT State Tarock Tournament  
 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
 Music by Lavaca County Line,  
 Mark Halata & Texavia,  
 & The Vintage Drafts  
 10:00 am – 5:30 pm

**Amphitheater Muziky**  
 55 Years of the Red Ravens  
 (\$15 Concert Ticket at Amphitheater Entrance)  
 7:00pm – 9:30pm  
 Fireworks Finale 9:30pm


**FRIDAY FOOD MENU**  
 Our Famous Homemade  
 Chicken and Dumplings and Koláče

**SATURDAY FOOD MENU**  
 BBQ Brisket on a Bun,  
 Patek's Shiner Smokehouse Sausage  
 (homemade bread, kraut, pickle and chips)  
 Weikel's Koláče

**HOSPODA BEER GARDEN**  
 Shiner Bock (light and premium)  
 Ultra Lite, Alstadt Kolsh  
 Alstadt Oktoberfest and more!

**The Red Ravens**  
  
 Mark Halata & Texavia  
  


# DELEGATE/DIRECTOR REQUIREMENTS

## Delegate/Director/ Resolution Requirements

If you are interested in being a delegate to the convention, would like to run for a place on the board of directors, or would like to submit a resolution for a by-law change.

### 1. DELEGATE ELIGIBILITY

a. To be a delegate at the 44th Convention in 2026, the By-laws state that a delegate must be a Catholic insured member (life or annuity) and must attend at least 50% of the local society meetings of whom they represent from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

b. A member may not be a delegate if they or their spouse is a state officer, director/directress or insurance representative representing another fraternal life insurance organization.

### 2. RESOLUTIONS FOR BY-LAW CHANGES

a. Resolutions for changes to the Charter, Constitution, and By-laws must be submitted to the State Secretary on or before February 21, 2026, in order to be presented at the convention.

b. No motions and proposed revisions shall be allowed from the floor at the General Convention.

### 3. DIRECTOR ELECTIONS AT THE CONVENTION

a. To run for director:

i. Must be eligible to serve as a delegate (attend 50% of meetings in 2025)

ii. Must submit an application of candidacy (request from home office)

iii. Must consent to a background check (get from office)

iv. Must submit resume along with items ii and iii.

b. Items ii, iii, and iv above must be submitted to the KJT State Secretary between February 1 and April 1, 2026.

c. Applications will be reviewed by a qualifications committee and the applicant will be notified if the application is approved or disapproved.

d. A document that contains the roles, duties, and qualities of a director can be requested from the Home Office

e. If a candidate wants to run against an incumbent director, the same procedures as above are applicable.

## Important Reminder For Members

The KJT asks members to always check their certificates to note if they have the:

- *proper beneficiaries designated*
- *current mailing address*
- *current phone number*
- *current email address*

# SEEKING BAND BIDS



**KJT is seeking band  
bids for the  
2026 Convention.  
Dates: Evening of  
July 10 & 11, 2026**

**Submit your inquiries/bid to  
Chris, [president@kjt.net](mailto:president@kjt.net).**

## MEETING MINUTES

### KJT Society #134 June Meeting Report

**By Felix Leonardi, Secretary**

The KJT meeting took place at St. William parish Hall (Round Rock) on June 14, 2025. Registration begins at 6:30pm.

At 6:54 p.m., Monsignor Luis Pavlicek presides the blessing for the meal. Piza from Domino's is served. Thank you to Tina for arranging this meal.

At 7:51 p.m., Tina officiates the opening of the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Remembering Leon Barton (August 23, 1942 – May 1, 2025)

- Tina prepared slide-shows of memories with Leon.

- Ernie Motloch of Temple and Monsignor Louis Pavlicek said a few words about Leon. Monsignor Louis Pavlicek was assigned to St. William in 1984. Ernie Motloch, Leon Barton, and Fr. Louis Pavlicek starting the KJT foundation at St. William, Round Rock. That date was Aug. 1, 1988. Leon has been the President of KJT Society of 134 for 30 years and Vice President for 6+years. Margaret Barton, Leon's wife, has been by his side all these years.

- 61st wedding anniversary for Leon and Margaret Barton Mass was at St William Catholic Church in Round Rock on February 9, 2025. They were united in

Holy Matrimony on February 8, 1964 at Saints Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church in Shiner, TX.

- Leon Barton was laid to rest at Shiner Catholic Cemetery on May 5th, 2025. Saints Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church in Shiner.

Tina announced that we are looking for a Vice President to replace Leon Barton as an officer and co-signer on checks. To handle the replacement signer on the checks, until we have a permanent replacement for Leon Barton, each time we are to approve the checks, it will require a Death Certificate.

- Treasury report for June 14, 2025 was read by Janie. Motion was approved by Emily Risinger and second it by Rebecca Mara. All those in favor say "aye."

- Meeting minutes from March 8, 2025, was read by Tina. Motion was approved by Chris Lively and second it by Erin Risinger. All those in favor say "aye."

Important dates: Next meeting will be on Sep-12th and Dec. 5. Both events will be at St. William's Knight of Columbus Pavilion.

Welcome to new guest: Janet Bell.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Bingo is played. Priest retirement and Door prize were drawn.

### St. Stephen's KJT #112 Austin September Meeting Minutes

**By Sarah Vitek, Reporter**

The meeting of St. Stephen's KJT #112 was held on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at Pok-e-Jo's restaurant. President Louri O'Leary introduced State President Chris Urban and his wife Kelly as special guests.

Our society voted to make a substantial donation to the Texas Heritage and Cultural Center in LaGrange. These funds primarily came from the Austin Aqua Fest Czech Night. This donation will be made on October 18 at the Heritage Fest and Muziky. Members that were involved with the Czech Night are invited to join in the presentation. If we don't have your contact information, please just come and join in.

President Urban thanked our society for our donation to the Catholic Charities Fund that was to go help the Hill Country flooding situation.

The annual family outing at Dell Diamond for the tailgate party and game was enjoyed by everyone even though the rain delayed everything for awhile. Kenneth Klanika brought the food/beverages and tables and others participated in bringing tables, etc. and everyone brought desserts.

Our society made the statewide charity donation to

the Home Office at the State Family Day with our members being well represented.

President Urban recognized Ted Vitek for his many years of service to the KJT. He elaborated on the many awards and different positions Ted held during his 43 years of service. He also reminded members of the convention which will be held next July in San Marcos.

The Czech Kolache Baking Class will be held on Saturday, September 13 at St. Louis Hall. Chef Pavla Van Bibber will be the instructor. Pavla is an instructor at Escoffier School of Culinary Arts, specializing in pastry. This is sponsored by KJT Soc. #112 and KJZT Soc. #93. The proceeds benefit St. Louis School. Thanks go to our past-president Mike Hyzak who did the planning and coordinating for this event. THANKS MIKE!

The annual KJT-KJZT Christmas party is scheduled to be held at St. Louis Activity Center on Sunday, December 7 beginning at 11 a.m. with a meal at 1 p.m. RSVPs will be required by December 1. The 9:30 Mass is for the living and deceased members of KJT #112 and KJZT #93.

In lieu of the annual raffle, this year our society intends to match all member donations

to statewide charities – the Priest and Religious Retirement Fund and the Education of Seminarians Fund. Contributions from members will be matched up to \$200. In addition, all members making a donation to these worthy causes will be entered to win one of three \$100 VISA gift cards. To be eligible for one of the gift cards, you must send your donation payable to St. Stephen's KJT #112 no later than December 1 to: Kenneth Klanika, PO Box 308, Coupland, TX 78615.

The society voted to buy a brick for the new Commons Building at St. Louis Church. Mike Hyzak will take care of that.

The next society meeting is scheduled for December 9 at 6 p.m. at Ted and Sarah Vitek's home.

#### Reminder

Deadline to submit articles is the 10th of each month.

Articles should be emailed to [media@kjtnet.org](mailto:media@kjtnet.org) or mailed to the home office at:

KJT  
PO Box 297  
La Grange, Texas 78945

# STATE FAMILY DAY FUN

## State Family Day Held

Our KJT State Family Day was recently held on Sunday, July 20th, in Frelsburg. Fellowship with good food, kolaches, music and door prizes were enjoyed by the members. We had the opportunity to present a 75-year pin, 100% Family/Merit pins, and accept a Statewide Charity donation. The day concluded with everyone standing and joining to sing a heartwarming “God Bless America.”



# STATE FAMILY DAY FUN



## FLAG DAY CEREMONIES



### Society #114 Holds Flag Day Ceremony

Society #114 Flag Day Ceremony held on Friday, June 13 at St Mary's Church in Temple, Tx.

L-R: Michael Galler (KJT guest), Edwin J Vasicek (KJT Vice President), Charlene Pavlat (KJT Secretary), Madalene Parker (Church Secretary), Father Will Rooney (Church Priest), and Jim Oakes (Church worker).



### KJT Society #48 Distribute Flags at all Masses on June 15 for Flag Day

Hillje Society #48 distributed flags at all Masses. President Charles Holik and State Director Margaret Holik passing out flags at 8 a.m. Mass. Pictured are Renee Popp, Bobby Popp, Georgia Henderson.



KJT members handed out flags at Hillje 10 a.m. Mass on June 15 2025. Pictured: Virginia Barosh, Jimmy Barosh, Patricia Reck, Dillyn Ramczyk, Rylie Ramczyk

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## NEW ADDRESS?



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Catholic Union of Texas

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## KJT IN ACTION

# Society #72 Lending a Global Mission Hand

### Lending a Global Mission a Hand

There are several ways to participate in missionary work and not leave Texas! KJT Society #72 participated in a mission with global reach during a Join Hands activity. Our Society 72 officers, Ellen Zdansky (Pres) and Danette Zdansky (VP), spent several hours helping the St. Faustina Catholic Church Rosary Markers (Tricia, Denise, and Judy) in Fulshear, Texas.

### Touching Hearts

The rosaries made by this St. Faustina ministry has spanned the globe touching the lives of people in India, Japan, Ukraine, Africa, and South America, as well as churches, schools, and hospital in the USA. They pray while making the rosaries and have them blessed prior to distribution.

### Mary's Helping Hands

During this Join Hands activity, we sorted beads and supplies and assem-

bled 30+ rosary making kits. In supporting the Rosary Maker Ministry, Society 72 had the chance to work for our heavenly Mother Mary in helping to spread hope and the love of Jesus.

### Be a Missionary!

We are all called to spread the Gospel, share our faith, and serve others. The Rosary Makers encourage their parishioners to take a bag of blessed rosaries with them when they travel. By dropping rosaries off at churches, hospitals or other places, they can share their faith and help bring people to a closer relationship with God through the Rosary.

*For details on how you can get rosaries, visit <https://www.saintfaustina-church.org/rosary-ministry> or visit St. Faustina Catholic Church in Fulshear, Texas.*



## KJT IN ACTION



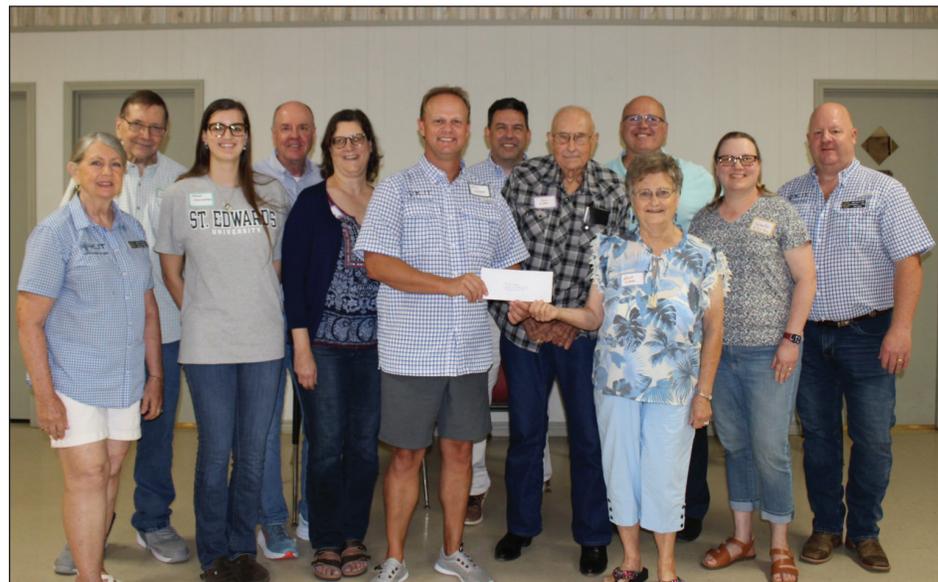
### Ted Vitek Retirement

Ted Vitek was honored during the Society #112 meeting held at Pok-e-Jo's on the evening of Tuesday, September 9, for his service to the KJT, those totaling forty-three (43 ½) years, 1982–2025.

State President, Chris Urban, commented on Ted's long-time involvement in KJT. He included that Ted has been a member of KJT for over 82 years, has served in many different capacities on the state and local level including as a society officer for many years, a Camp Observer during KJT's Youth Camps, a member of the Outreach Committee, and a State Director from 2002 – 2010. Chris then

commended him on his 43 ½ years of being an insurance agent where he was a Star Award winner nine times, including three 1st place finishes and two 2nd place finishes, a Heavy Hitter winner five times, a 3,000-club winner three times, a Pacesetter Award winner two times, and a Travelers Club winner two times. Ted was instrumental in helping form new societies in the Central Texas Region during his tenure.

Ted and wife Sarah, pictured with KJT President Chris Urban and wife, Kelly, along with Society #112 members.



### Society #112 Statewide Charities Donation

Members of Austin KJT Society #112 attending the State Family Day made their presentation for the Statewide Charities that will benefit the Priests and Religious Retirement and the Seminarian Education Funds.

L-R: Shirley Pokorney - State Director, Dan Valenta, Renae Friesenhahn, Leonard Friesenhahn, Barbara Friesenhahn, David Wagner - Sate Vice President, Kevin Kana - State Secretary-Treasurer, Ted Vitek, Sarah Vitek, Kenneth Klanika, Jennifer Kanika, Chris Urban -State President. (not pictured is Carl Friesenhahn)



While the KJT has had the ScriptSave prescription drug discount card for many years, ScriptSave now has some additional savings opportunities for our members.

If you would like to take part in the ScriptSave program and you don't have your original card that was sent out at the inception of the program, you can contact us at [info@kjt.net](mailto:info@kjt.net) or you can call the office

at 800.245.8182 to get your discount card. Additionally, you can go to [www.kjt.net](http://www.kjt.net) to download your card. All household members of a KJT member may take part in the program.

### Kerr County Flood Relief

With the generosity from our KJT Societies and individuals, we have sent a check to the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of San Antonio for Kerr County Flood Relief in the amount of **\$18,525.00**. This is amazing!

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

# Catholic Union of Texas, The KJT

# KJT NEWS

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## Save the Date

**Saturday, October 4, 2025**  
16th Annual KJT Central Texas  
Golf Tournament

**Saturday, October 11, 2025**  
Czechfest 2025  
In The Heights, SPJST Lodge 88 -  
1435 Beall St, Houston

**Sunday, October 12, 2025**  
West Soc. #31 Meeting  
Meeting after 8 a.m.  
Mass with Breakfast Served

**Friday, October 17-18, 2025**  
HERITAGE FEST & MUZYKY

**Saturday, October 18, 2025**  
KJT Annual Tarock Tournament

**Saturday, October 18, 2025**  
KJT #121 Katy-Spring Branch Bake Sale

**Saturday, October 18, 2025**  
11 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Oktoberfest  
China Spring

**Saturday/Sunday October 18/19,**  
Bake Sale  
St. Jerome Catholic Church

**Sunday, October 19, 2025**  
Guardian Angel Catholic Church Bazaar

**Sunday, October 19, 2025,**  
10:30 AM

Holy Family Catholic Church Fall  
Festival

**Thursday, October 23, 2025,**  
1:30 PM

Holy Family KJT Society #133 Meeting

**Sunday, November 9, 2025**  
West Soc #31, Meeting after 8 a.m. Mass

**Sunday, November 9, 2025,**  
11:30 AM  
District VIII Family Day/KJT Meet & Eat

**Sunday, November 23, 2025,**  
8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Society 119 Grant Fundraiser Event

**Friday, December 5, 2025**

Grand 'Ol Christmas Show  
Event will be held at the Amphitheater;  
watch for details!

**Saturday, December 6, 2025**  
KJT Society #46 Christmas Party

**Saturday, December 6, 2025**  
Holy Family KJT Society #133 St.  
Mikulas Youth Social

**Sunday, December 7, 2025,**  
2 - 5 p.m.

KJT #121 Katy-Spring Branch, Christ-  
mas Party/Mtg.

## Official Newsletter of the Catholic Union of Texas

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\*Submit News Articles/Photos to: media@kjtnet.org\*

Deadline September 10 for next issue.

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