

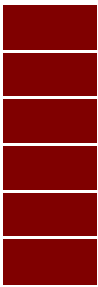
**in this issue >>>**

- Letter from President DeLisa
- Officer Articles



**Issue 2022/2023 3**

**News and updates from the OK JCI Senate 2022/2023**



# Home Run News



Team Oklahoma!

**message from Coach >>>**



Hard to believe that our Senate year is almost half over & we are coming to the end of 2022. In September we had a wonderful time in Golden, Colorado for US JCI Fall Board. Fourteen from Oklahoma were in attendance and enjoyed the awesome hospitality of our own Region VIII Colorado Senate; beautiful scenery & reconnection with lifetime friends. Our very own Gloria Albers was the First Timer's Winner! We had several recognized and all knew Team Oklahoma was in the house! In October, we had our Fall Social at the home of Randy & Sharron Sursa. Randy smoked Ribs and Sharron had yummy skillet potatoes and more. We ate until we were all stuffed! Watched football, enjoyed visiting with each other & Sharron taught several of us to play Sequence! November brought in fall weather for us along with spending time with family & friends for Thanksgiving to reflect how blessed & thankful we have been & continue to be in our lives. Now it is December and the hustle & bustle of the season is fast upon us. Our general membership meeting, Christmas Party & Social was held Oklahoma City. Region VIII Vice President, Ann Engle celebrated with us! I am Excited that 3 groups of us will be joining volunteers across the nation for WREATHS across AMERICA! So special for us to honor & remember our fallen U.S. Veterans. This will definitely be a project I hope we will be a part of for years to come.

Looking forward to a Safe & Happy New Year and excited to have another Oklahoma traveling team show up in New Orleans, for Winter Board, 2023! Be sure to get your Registration in by deadline December 17th. Registration form will be found later in Please read all of the articles by our Awesome Team and mark your calendars for our upcoming meetings, scholarship judging & socials. Our team has done an excellent job in Experiencing the OK Senate by reaching out across the state in correspondence, meetings, socials and prayers for us all. Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas, & a healthy & Happy New Year! Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

## Team Rules 2022- 2023

1. Attendance at Team Practice (meetings) required
2. Know your position
3. Know your Teammates position
4. Do not cross into your Teammates play zone
5. Always be ready to bak up your Teammates
6. Encourage your Teammates
7. When you are a visitor in another team's stadium, let them handle their plays
8. Team Meals is to be Teammates only: Do not put the Coach/Manager in an awkward position
9. Allow the Coach to announce Team Meetings and/or new plays
10. Do not bring negative attitude on the field; we all need to stay positive & confident on and off the field. You never know who is watching!
11. **THERE IS NO CRYING IN BASEBALL!!**



# Team Oklahoma

*chairmen >>>*

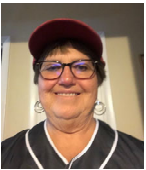


**Scholarships** Each year, the U.S. Junior Chamber International (JCI) Senate Foundation grants scholarships to graduating high school seniors who plan to continue their education at accredited post-secondary colleges, universities, or vocational schools. Last year the Foundation presented a total of fifty (50) \$1,000 scholarship awards. Eight of these awards were presented to students attending a vocational / trade school. In addition to these scholarships, the Oklahoma JCI Senate also presented two (2) \$500 scholarship awards.

The Scholarship program for 2022-2023 is now open. This year, the US JCI Senate Foundation will be awarding scholarship grants of \$1,500 to graduating high school seniors planning to continue their education at accredited post-secondary colleges, universities, or vocational schools. The number of grants awarded is at the discretion of the Foundation and must be used for educational expenses in the first year of full-time study. Scholarship Applications were distributed to high school counselors in the State of Oklahoma the first week of October but if you know of a senior planning to continue their education after graduation, please direct them to our website for application information. The application and student checklist can be found at [oklahomajcisenate.org](http://oklahomajcisenate.org). Questions regarding the Scholarship Program should be directed to Becky Edwards via email at [okjcischolarships@gmail.com](mailto:okjcischolarships@gmail.com).

Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Becky Edwards #62937  
OK JCI Senate Scholarship Program Manager



**The Bob Henry Award** Wishing all our Senate Family a very Merry Christmas and have a wonderful New Year.

Nancy Cloud #52750  
9414 East 39<sup>th</sup> Place  
Tulsa, OK 74145  
[mrscloudnine@aol.com](mailto:mrscloudnine@aol.com)  
918-232-4553



# Team Oklahoma

## vice president >>>



Hello fellow Senators! As we are smack dab in the middle of the holiday season, I want to remind you of a few important things. It's that time of year again, so... Remember to take stock of your life, your home & security, your job (or your ability to not work and enjoy your retirement.) Remember to take care of yourself and your health, Remember your family and friends. Give thanks for all these things. Then give thanks for the things you don't have! Remember to help those who need it. It doesn't have to be a monumental display. Sometimes a fulfilling a need can be as simple as a kind word or smile to a stranger, a meal, a phone call, a card dropped in the mail. Remember Christmas is not about shopping for and receiving gifts or any of the other "stuff" that we are overwhelmed by when things get busy. I've really been feeling the stress myself the last few weeks. Worrying about how much I have to do, trying to get everything done & not finding enough time to do it all, or getting so overwhelmed by it all and not doing anything. You will have more peace and fulfillment if you focus less on the stuff and more on the people.

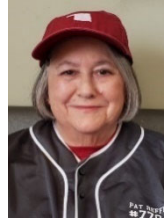
Let's talk about the General membership meeting that took place in August. I was impressed with the turn out! I have never seen that many members at a state meeting since I was made a Senator six years ago. The room had seating for 40 and every seat was occupied with more people standing in the back! I'd love to see you at every meeting and function. We need you to attend meetings and socials! We need your knowledge, your time and talent. We want your presence. Remember how much fun you used to have? Nothing has changed- you will have a great time! You have opportunities to participate this month, and more in the coming months.

Remember to look for joy and peace this season.  
Remember the reason that we celebrate Christmas.

Team Oklahoma!

Stephanie Prewitt #75200  
405-826-2328  
Stephanie.prewitt@att.net

## secretary >>>



Greetings and salutations from the dugout:

Playing winter ball has been a challenge this season trying to out-guess Mother Nature and Old Man Winter. I am so happy to be part of Team Oklahoma and continue to believe that we are Better Together! I want to thank Sheri Menendez for pinch hitting for me at our December meeting while I got to participate in some extra training in Family Dynamics with my GrandGirl at her Oklahoma high school dance team state competition.

Here are some reminders from your Secretary:

Please sign the attendance sheet at each meeting and update information if you move, change email addresses or phone numbers. Also, if you receive the meeting notice via regular mail and now have an email address, please let me know that.

When you see a Mentors Sign In Sheet at our events, please consider signing it. The Mentors sheet is separate from the regular attendance sheet. For those who do not know, we encourage our members and guests to sign the Mentors sheet and donate \$2 to cover the cost of the space ad in our USJCI Senate magazine called Mentors.

Please let me know if I can do anything to help you participate and enjoy our meetings more. I continue to update the Oklahoma JCI Senate master membership roster with the helpful research of several of our members. If you are aware of any updates or contact information for any of our members, missing members, and inactive members, please let me know so we can keep our records current and attempt to activate more members.

I hope each of you are blessed with a joyful holiday season full of memories and traditions of your chosen faith. I celebrate Christmas with family, and this year we will spend it in warm (hopefully) Florida instead of wintry Michigan as in years past. May the New Year be full of new adventures and wonderful experiences! Take care, be well, and stay safe.

Pat Reffett #77848  
lpmm@sbcglobal.net  
(580) 585-2394



Teri Long #57104

### The True Meaning of Christmas

In today's day and time, it's easy to lose sight, of the true meaning of Christmas and one Special night.

When we go shopping, We say, "how much will it cost?" Then the true meaning of Christmas, Somehow becomes lost.

Amidst the tinsel, glitter And ribbons of gold, We forget about the child, born on the night so cold.

The children look for Santa In his big red sleigh, Never thinking of the child Whose his bed was made of hay.

In reality, When we look into the night sky, We don't see a sleigh But a star, burning bright and high.

A faithful reminder, Of that night so long ago, And of the child we call Jesus, Whose love, the world would know.

Brian K. Walters

*Merry Christmas and Prayers for a Joyful, Healthy, and Prosperous 2023*  
Teri Long #57104



### Where and how to find Team Oklahoma



**Mail:**

**OK JCI Senate  
P.O. Box 1803  
Sand Springs, OK 74063**



**Facebook: OKJCI SENATE CLUB**



**Website:**

**<https://oklahomajcisenate.org/>**



A huge thank you for all that came out to celebrate with us for our OK JCI Christmas Party in OKC! We had 25 in attendance and missed the 9 that had planned to come, but the flu & Covid bug had 7 of them down! You were missed! Praying all of you are on the mend and feeling better.

Thank you, thank you, for the wonderful Peanuts/Snoopy Christmas gifts you gave me! I loved them all and have been wearing my Snoopy PJ's, Snoopy socks and using my ever so plush Christmas Snoopy blanket! Using my Snoopy Notes pad to not forget things I need to do! 😊 I am blessed and honored to serve as your OK JCI President and cherish our friendship!

The Christmas Bingo was great fun! The Dirty Santa was a blast! We had several take gifts away to make it a more interesting, fun gift game! Some left sad they lost their cherished gift, but overall, we all enjoyed the fun of the game! LOL

I enjoyed my dinner as well. Very good food at a very reasonable cost! Our waitress was great to put up with all of our needs. Stephanie did a great job on making the tables look festive. Thank you all so much for helping us get the tables and room ready for the party.

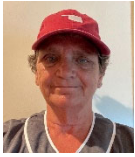
I appreciate you all! Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

~ President DeLisa



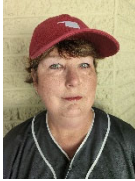


## directors >>>



### Gloria Albers #79536

Hi everyone, December Birthday cards have been sent, you should be receiving them soon. I also do anniversary cards, if I have missed anyone I'm sorry, but I don't have your information. Please email at [mamag5479@yahoo.com](mailto:mamag5479@yahoo.com) Merry Christmas! Gloria



### Pam Peters #79538

Greetings from Newkirk! I hope everyone got their reminder postcard about their dues and found them helpful. I plan to send out reminder cards for those members who are coming due in March, 2023 very soon, so keep your eyes peeled! I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Pam #79538 Activation Director



### Sissie Harmon #63802

First I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas. I want to thank you so much for supporting the pay it forward program. Without your support, we would not have new senators. Yours truly Sissie Harmon #63902



### Jerre Taylor #66554

Greeting from your Oklahoma Senate Director that brings you the opportunity to purchase Sweepstake Tickets every time you see me. 😊 To date we have been able to send \$455 to the US JCI Senate to aid in the operations of our national organization. As far as we know there has not been a winner from Oklahoma YET but based on experience, I am sure we will have one. The tickets will be sold throughout this senate year so if you haven't purchased or won one yet there is still time. Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season from the Taylor Family. Shaq has been very helpful with wrapping support and thinks this is a good month for napping! Jerre



### DECEMBER RENEWALS

Treva Kennedy, # 62085  
Jane Loafman, # 49493  
Charles Ramsey, # 48493

### Annual Dues \$30

#### PayPal:

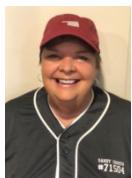
OKJCITreasurer@gmail.com  
*(Please select "Friends & Family" to avoid fees)*

#### OR MAIL to:

Oklahoma JCI Senate  
P.O. Box 1803  
Sand Springs, OK 74063



## treasurer >>>



### Sandy Crouch #71504

Merry Christmas from your Senate Bean Counter. All the beans have been counted and we are very much in the Green. Thanks to all of you who have responded to the invoices and/or reminders for your yearly dues. Did you know you can pay your dues at any time of the year, not necessarily in the month in which you are due? So, if you get a payoff from that scratch-off lotto ticket you got for Christmas, I promise I will put your beans in the correct jar. And, if you get a big loto win, our Lifetime Membership dues are \$300.



Ho, Ho, Ho  
Sandy Crouch, # 71504



The OK JCI Senate participated in Wreaths Across America project in conjunction with the US JCI Senate on Saturday, December 17, 2022. As a group, we worked several different locations across the state. Sheri lead the SW OK Group at Fort Sill National Cemetery in Elgin; Stephanie & President DeLisa were at Oklahoma Veterans Cemetery – Union Soldiers Cemetery in Oklahoma City; Karen & Becky led the group in the Tulsa area at Floral Haven Cemetery. Gloria Albers and Pam Peters crossed state lines (the nearest cemetery to them) and volunteered at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery in Winfield KS. Volunteering Saturday were: Sheri & Vic Menendez, Jim & Sissie Harmon, Randy & Sharron Sursa, Pat Reffett, Carrie Crow (Sheri's sister); President DeLisa & Dennis Anderson, Stephanie & Tony Prewitt, Jake & Laken Moore, Justin Prewitt, Karen MacCannell, Dale Crouch, Cheryl Gilchrist, Becky Edwards with two of her grandkids, Sabra & Eli Edwards, Cathy Griggs, Teri Long, Margo Van Dyke (Karen's sister), Gloria Albers and Pam Peters. Thank you to everyone who came out for this amazing project. Thank you President Susan Hatcher for making this a national project this year – it will be an annual event in Oklahoma going forward!



PHOTO BY JIMMY L. HARRIS FOR THE OKLAHOMA JOURNAL



## The Reason for the Season

### Jesus' birth.

Without Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection we would have no reason to celebrate this "season". Sometimes I wish people could be shown what this world would be like if He had never been born. Sort of like a gospel "It's a wonderful Life". Perhaps it would help us be more sensitive to what an amazing gift we received when this child, Jesus, was born. Perhaps it would help us comprehend the magnitude and impact that Jesus' birth means for every one of us. I encourage you to take a few moments and think about this Gift. The gift of life!

### Luke 2: 1-18 The birth of Jesus

This scripture may be something you read every year at Christmas. This scripture may be one you have not read in many years. This scripture may be one you have never heard or read. Please take the time to read it this Christmas and consider the character of God and His gift to us.

### An Irish Christmas Blessing

May you be blessed with the spirit of the season, which is PEACE.  
The gladness of the season which is HOPE  
And the heart of the season which is LOVE

Merry Christmas and Prayers for a blessed 2023.  
Cindy Empting #65595  
Chaplain



## Home Health - Prayer Requests

If you know of any members who are ill, injured or grieving, please contact me so that I may send a card or note to them. I prefer to be contacted in writing via email: [ckempton@gmail.com](mailto:ckempton@gmail.com) or text: 580-761-3077. If you ever feel an urgent need to be prayed over, please call me and I will pray with you.

Dick Churns #25438

Dick lost his wife, Marcia, OK Princess #23 in November. Please put Dick in your prayers for comfort during this difficult first holiday season without her.

Rob Cronkwright #54515

Rob lost his mother in November. Please continue to pray for comfort for Rob during this holiday season.

Sissie Harmon #63902

Sissie had to have emergency gallbladder surgery and then lost a dear cousin in October. Please keep her in your prayers for healing and also comfort during this holiday season.

Gayle Kearns-Buie #76043

Gayle lost her mother in October. Please keep her in your prayers for comfort during this first holiday season without her mother.

Jimmie Lewis #78887

Jimmie is recuperating from very extensive surgery to his knee/leg. Please continue to pray for healing for him.

Teri Long #57104

Teri underwent surgery on her shoulder in September. Please continue to pray for improvement during her PT.

Barbara Nickles #62938

Barb has had some difficulties following some surgery. She is doing better, but please remember her in your prayers for continued improvement.

Stephanie Prewitt #75200

Stephanie is doing much better since she had her neck injected in October. Prayers for continued improvement.

Peggy Rider #58293

Peggy underwent another back surgery in August. She is doing well with her recovery. She begins PT this month. Please pray for continued improvement and healing.

Sharron Sursa #62080

Sharon lost her sister in November. Please keep her in your prayers for comfort during this holiday season.

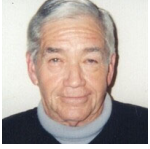
Please keep the family members of Senators we recently lost in your prayers, as the families face their first holiday season without their loved ones.

Also, there are members of our group who keep their illnesses or struggles to themselves. I ask that you remember them in your prayers as well.

*Dear Heavenly Father, we ask for blessings for our OK JCI Senate members and families who are in need of Your healing and comforting touch. We ask this with open hearts and faith in Your amazing power. Amen*



## Senate Obituaries



Darryl Burton #0700 Darryl was born on August 29, 1937 in Marietta, Oklahoma at his grandfather's house and passed away on July 13, 2022 at the age of 84 years. A resident of the Ardmore area most of his life, Darryl graduated from Ardmore High School in the class of 1955. He then attended the University of Oklahoma and later the University of Arizona where he received his bachelors degree in engineering. Darryl joined his father in the early 60's where they owned and operated the Clyde Burton and Son construction as well as C & D Construction. He and his wife acquired and operated the Shinn Insurance Agency. In his leisure time Darryl enjoyed reading, watching OU Football and was an avid golfer and had won many tournaments. He also served as President of the Dornick Hills Country Club and was very active in the Ardmore Jaycee's. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Ardmore.

Survivors left to cherish Darryl's memory include his loving wife of 49 years, Nell Burton; daughters, Lynn Janosek, Wendy Garcia and Lois Cain; son, Brett Burton and wife Stephanie; grandchildren, Gregory Janosek and his wife Molly, Elicia Hills, Ashli Carmona and her husband Juan, Nicholas Burton; great-grandchildren, Karli, Kason and Kassi Latimer and Emma Carmona.



William Allen Howard # 62077, Oklahoma passed away September 23, 2022 at the age of 65.

He was a 1976 graduate of Marlow High School. Allen lived in the Stephens County area all of his life and worked as a janitor for Duncan Regional Hospital and he previously worked at Wal-Mart for 10 years. He was a member of the Red Red Rose, C.B. Club, and a former president of the Marlow JC Club. Allen spent time serving as a proud member of the National Guard for 6 years ranked as a Staff Sgt. He was an Avid University of Oklahoma fan and enjoyed watching all OU sports. He enjoyed good music and collecting DVDs of old TV shows. Allen will be deeply missed.

Survivors include his son, A.J. Howard; daughter, Ashleigh Howard; grandchildren, Mary Jane Jolly, Matthew Jolley, and Jacob Jolley; 2 brothers, Richard Howard and wife Jannie of Marlow, and Carrol Howard and wife Donna of AZ; 3 sisters, Margie Brown and husband Harold of Duncan, Kathy Christian of Marlow, and Glenda Hurt of KS; and numerous nieces and nephews.



Richard Szczepaniak #68142, Oklahoma passed away Friday, September 23, 2022 in Enid. He was 72. He graduated from Enid High School class of 1967 and later earned his Bachelor of Business degree from NWOSU in 1972. He married Bonnie James on August 15, 1970 in Enid where they made their home since. Richard worked in the parts department at Zaloudek Marine. Richard was a member of Jaycee's, Compassionate Friends and St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Richard loved his family and he and Bonnie would spend the winters in Texas where they loved sitting on the beach. Richard is survived by his wife

Bonnie, grandson Shawn Kendall, sisters Krystyna Hatfield and Rosy Bramwell, brothers Marion and John Szczepaniak.



William Allen Orcutt "Bill" #33023 born October 11, 1949 passed away on Friday, October 7, 2022 at the age of 72. He was a very active member of the Oklahoma City Jaycees, holding many offices and always made working projects fun. Bill was also a Past-President of the Oklahoma Jaycees. He will dearly missed by those who had the honor to know him.



Mark Dale Swayne #62059 Kansas/Oklahoma May 1, 1959 ~ November 15, 2022 (age 63) Mark was a dear friend to Oklahoma Senate, and will be greatly missed. We were fortunate to spend time with him in Colorado in September.

**Fall Board Golden CO >>>**

More photos can be found on our website:

<https://oklahomajcisenate.org/photo-gallery>













**Region VIII at Fall Board – Golden Colorado**





## OK Holiday Party >>>

More photos can be found on our website: <https://oklahomajcisenate.org/photo-gallery>

















## OK Wreaths Across America >>>

More photos can be found on our website: <https://oklahomajcisenate.org/photo-gallery>











# Oklahoma Senate Team

|                       |                        |  |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--|
| President             | DeLisa Anderson #54310 | <a href="mailto:delisakay75@gmail.com">delisakay75@gmail.com</a>         |
|                       | Stephanie Prewitt      |  |
| Vice President        | #75200                 | <a href="mailto:stephanie.prewitt@att.net">stephanie.prewitt@att.net</a> |
| Secretary             | Pat Reffett #77848     | <a href="mailto:lpmm@sbcglobal.net">lpmm@sbcglobal.net</a>               |
| Treasurer             | Sandy Crouch #71504    | <a href="mailto:sandy.crouch@gmail.com">sandy.crouch@gmail.com</a>       |
| Director 1 YR         | Sissie Harmon #63802   | <a href="mailto:sissie21@sbcglobal.net">sissie21@sbcglobal.net</a>       |
| Director 1 YR         | Jerre Taylor #66554    | <a href="mailto:osufour@aol.com">osufour@aol.com</a>                     |
| Director 2 YR         | Pam Peters #79538      | <a href="mailto:pamelapetersok@gmail.com">pamelapetersok@gmail.com</a>   |
| Director 2 YR         | Gloria Albers #79536   | <a href="mailto:mamag5479@yahoo.com">mamag5479@yahoo.com</a>             |
| COB / Chaplain        | Cindy Empting #65595   | <a href="mailto:ckempting@gmail.com">ckempting@gmail.com</a>             |
| Bob Henry             | Nancy Cloud #52750     | <a href="mailto:mrscloudnine@aol.com">mrscloudnine@aol.com</a>           |
| Chair/Trustee         | Karen MacCannell       |  |
|                       | #49497                 | <a href="mailto:karen@tmgtransforms.com">karen@tmgtransforms.com</a>     |
| Newsletter Ed/Trustee | Sissie Harmon #63802   | <a href="mailto:sissie21@sbcglobal.net">sissie21@sbcglobal.net</a>       |
| Pay it Forward Chair  | Becky Edwards #62937   | <a href="mailto:beckylynn53@gmail.com">beckylynn53@gmail.com</a>         |
| Scholarship Chair     | Teri Long #57104       | <a href="mailto:ghoft3@aol.com">ghoft3@aol.com</a>                       |
| Sgt at Arms           | Sheri Menendez #47839  | <a href="mailto:sheri@aokoffice.com">sheri@aokoffice.com</a>             |
| Pres/Protocol Advisor | Dale Crouch #77010     | <a href="mailto:dalewcrouch@gmail.com">dalewcrouch@gmail.com</a>         |
| Trustee               |                        |  |

## OK JCI Senate

To submit an article or pictures, please send to:

[karen@tmgtransforms.com](mailto:karen@tmgtransforms.com)

Visit us on Facebook

**OK JCI SENATE CLUB**

**Karen MacCannell #49497  
Newsletter/Social Media**

## Upcoming Events:

### Oklahoma JCI Senate

May 26 – Savannah Bananas - OKC

### Region VIII

2023

May 3-4 Region VIII Meeting – Colorado

### US JCI Senate

2023

Jan 19-22 - US JCI Senate Winter Board  
Keener, LA

June 26–30 – US JCI Annual Meeting &  
Celebration  
St. Louis, MO

## We Believe:

That faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life;

That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations;

That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise;

That government should be of laws rather than of men;

That earth's great treasure lies in human personality;

And that service to humanity is the best work of life.