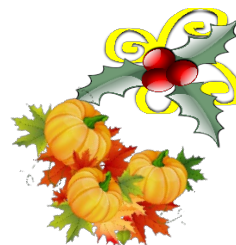




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Upcoming events -State & National*



2024/2025 - Issue V November 2025 News from the OK JCI Senate

Thanks-Mass Edition



Thanksgiving and Christmas



PRESIDENT RANDY SURSA
#49485

Happy Holidays Everyone!

As we enter the holiday season of 2025, hold your family and friends close and let them know how thankful you are for each and every one of them. At this time of year, we also have it in our hearts to help those less fortunate. There are opportunities

everywhere, from helping ring bells for the Salvation Army, providing help at your local food bank or various other organizations that could use your help.

We have tried to plan out a social or event for each month. Please remember to review the **Calendar of Events** and make your plans to join us. **December 13th** is **Wreaths Across America**; **January 10th** is our **Winter Party**; **February 7th** is our **Scholarship Judging with a membership meeting and auction** that evening, and **March 14th** is our **Game Day** and meal at **El Chico**. We will begin wrapping up our year on **May 1st** with our **Annual Membership Meeting** and our last event will be on **June 6th** with the **Glenn Cole Memorial Picnic**. Come and join us as you are missed.

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.
Psalms 107:1



HAPPY FALL, YA'LL



Pat Reffett #77848 V.P.



The seasons are changing, the leaves are turning colors and falling, and Oklahoma weather is still fooling all of us. I hope each of you have adjusted to the time change and are ready for the upcoming holiday season.

Our Calendar of Events is included in this issue of the newsletter. We really appreciate all those who have been able to attend and participate in our events so far this year. We have had great attendance in the last few months at Eskimo Joe's 50th Birthday lunch, the Route 66 Café and museum tour, and the Guthrie lunch at Stables and wine festival. We hope that our upcoming events will be of interest to you and that you will join with other Oklahoma JCI Senators for the fun and fellowship. Please be sure to read about the November community service project in this issue along with the Wreaths Across America event in December.

A dear friend made a special blanket for me that I treasure with these words: Thankful. Grateful. Blessed. I am reminded almost daily that there is always something for which we can give thanks. Being grateful is not just something to demonstrate at a November holiday. Many of life's daily experiences, opportunities, and moments are true blessings if we are open to receive them. May this season of change, celebrations, and renewal bring us more frequent recognition of our blessings.





PEGGY RIDER #58293



Hello OKJCI Senate,

I pray everyone is doing well. If you have any issues with health or if you just feel down, please let me know. I have lots of cards and would love to send you one.

We have lots of events scheduled. I hope you will be able to attend one or all of them. We are trying to do something each month. November, we have a community service project. December is Wreaths Across America, where we put wreaths on military graves. It's a very meaningful project. Please let one of the board members know and we can tell you a list of the cemeteries participating. I look forward to hearing from or seeing you soon.

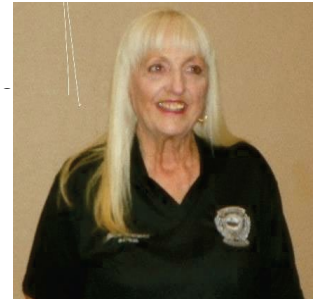
Peggy S Rider
OKJCI Senate Chaplain

DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP DUE:

SHERI MENENDEZ #47839

In this current membership billing cycle, we have twelve (12) members due, lifetime members. The other five (5) members are:

Cheryl Kincannon	Jane Loafman
Leah McCombs	Ann Stolfa
<i>Charles Ramsey - deceased</i>	



We're still looking for three (3) new members to add to this cycle. If you know of anyone that is a senator that would like to join our fun and fellowship, please reach out to them. Our annual dues are only \$30.00 or \$300.00 for a lifetime membership.

Lifetime Memberships are an investment in our organization. It provides a base for us to build our funds for future projects and programs. Think how long you've been a senator – probably way longer than ten years. You'd be money ahead with a lifetime membership. I know many of us are reaching the age that we wonder where we'll be or IF we'll still be enjoying life ten years from now. Whether you have ten hours or 25 more years – your commitment to our organization with a lifetime membership is an investment in our future.

If you have any questions or want more information about paying your dues or becoming a lifetime member, please let me or our treasurer, DeLisa Anderson know. We'd be glad to help you.

Sheri Menendez
Activation / Retention Chairman
sherim@akoffice.com

*Oklahoma JCI Senate
Proclamation
Toby Keith's Kids Korral*

WHEREAS community service is an integral part of the spirit of the OK JCI Senate and,

WHEREAS Toby Keith's Kids Korral provides vital physical and emotional support to children with cancer and their families,

THEREFORE, I Randy Sursa, President of the Oklahoma JCI Senate proclaims December 6th, 2025 as KIDS KORRAL AMAZON SHOPPING DAY for Oklahoma JCI Senators.

NOW THEREFORE, OK JCI Senators are encouraged to shop the Toby Keith Kids Korral Wish List on Amazon, have items delivered directly to the Kids Korral with card stating it is a donation from the

OKLAHOMA JCI SENATE

Randy Sursa #49485 President

OK Kids Korral founded by the Toby Keith Foundation

The Oklahoma JCI Senate is proud to support the OK Kids Korral as one of our community service projects this year. Our membership has agreed to conduct the following activities:

1. Host a meal at the OK Kids Korral and pay for food and supplies with funds from the OK JCI Senate.

Saturday, November 22, 2025 - Tour facility.

Details to follow in an email to all members after confirmation with OK Kids Korral coordinator.

2. Conduct **Amazon Gift Party December 6, 2025.**

Remotely donate items needed at the OK Kids Korral through Amazon, from OK JCI Senate members **via link provided on OK Kids Korral Website**. Members will receive a reminder of the date and event via email for the event. Members who want to participate can go online in the comfort of their homes and purchase items currently needed by the OK Kids Korral. Further details will be provided in an email to members before the end of November.

Please check your e-mail inbox for these important upcoming announcements so you can participate. Also, please see the link below to learn more about the OK Kids Korral.

<https://www.tobykeithfoundation.org/ok-kids-korral>



SAVE THE DATE: December 13, 2025

The Oklahoma JCI Senate is again participating in the annual Wreaths Across America Program. Please consider two ways to participate:

WREATH LAYING: If you and fellow Senators in your area want to help lay the wreaths on the day of the event, please go to this website to find locations near you:

<https://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/About/LocationAndGroupSearch>.

You will see a map of the US. Click on Oklahoma and continue clicking till you see icon near your area. Click on the icon to get a list of participating cemeteries. You can then click on a particular cemetery and VIEW details for time of event. You can click on SPONSOR if you want to purchase a wreath for that specific cemetery.

SPONSOR A WREATH: The US JCI Senate is participating in the \$5 Pay It Forward Program. By sponsoring a wreath for \$17, the organization receives \$5 credit toward additional wreaths. These wreaths are placed at Arlington National Cemetery. Here is the link to sponsor: www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/FL1122. That link takes you to the US JCI Senate group donation page. FL1122 is our group number.

Deadline to order wreaths for that program is November 28, 2025.

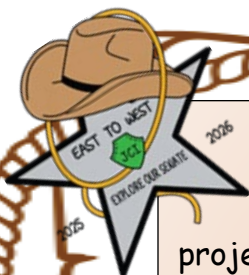
IMPORTANT: Please consider asking friends and family to join you if you plan on laying wreaths on December 13. When you determine what cemetery, date and time, please let me know.

(lpmm@sbglobal.net)

We will publicize it through Randy's E-Blast, the Oklahoma JCI Senate website, and on the OK JCI Senate Facebook page. Please take photos and keep track of participants at your location and send me the list of participants so I can submit a report for Oklahoma. Please send the photos to our newsletter co-editor Cindy Empting at ckempling@gmail.com.

Thank you for supporting this program whose mission is to: Remember the fallen. Honor those who serve. Teach the next generation the value of freedom.





NEW SENATORS WANTED

Remember those friends in Jaycees that worked on all the projects, attended the meetings and helped deliver all the food baskets back in the day. During our Jaycee days, some of those people were overlooked when senatorship awards were presented. We'd like to right that wrong. Please let us know of anyone in your chapter that deserves to be recognized as a senator.

We will be presenting the new senatorships after the first of the year, so we need your nominee as soon as possible.

If you have questions or need more information don't hesitate to contact me or President Randy.

Sheri Menendez Activation / Retention Chairman

sheri@aokoffice.com

OLD SENATORS WANTED

Remember those friends in Jaycees that worked on all the projects, attended the meetings and helped deliver all the food baskets back in the day. During our Jaycee days, some of those people were overlooked when senatorship awards were presented. We'd like to right that wrong. Please let us know of anyone in your chapter that deserves to be recognized as a senator.

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Sheri Menendez Activation / Retention Chairman

sheri@aokoffice.com



Becky Edwards #62937
Scholarship Chair

The United States JCI Senate Foundation was created in 1987 to provide scholastic funding to all eligible high school seniors who are going to continue their education at any accredited college or vocational school in the United States. High seniors who are U.S. citizens must apply to the JCI Senate state organization in which they reside. The state organization will distribute the applications, judge those returned, then forward the top two academic applications to the national competition coordinated by the Foundation Trustees. The state organization can now also submit the top vocational

application for a total of three applications. National winners are chosen by a panel of university level judges selected by the Foundation. Applicants need not be children or relatives of anyone affiliated with the JCI Senate organization.

Oklahoma's scholarship awards are currently \$1,000 each for its top two academic applications and \$500 for the top vocational application. Applications will be available for the 2025-2026 school year by August 1st. The applications will be available at that time on our website, <https://oklahomajcisenate.org/>. The scholarship committee will judge all applications received by the deadline of January 17, 2026.

Judging will be held on Saturday, February 7th in the Tulsa area. Specific place will be determined by the number of applications received.

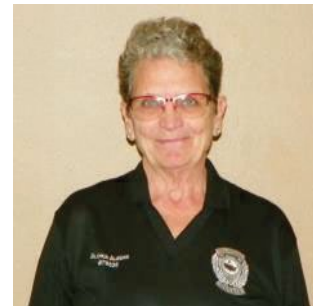
In the spirit of the holidays, I would like to share this "Thought For The Season"



*"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."
Mother Teresa*

Thanks everyone for being patient with me and answering my questions about your birthdays and years and your anniversaries. I am caught up (I think).

I have some new dates added so those folks will be receiving their cards also. I hope everyone is enjoying getting their cards and have a great rest of the year and Happy Holidays!



Gloria Albers #79536, Director

I'd like to put on my Sweepstakes Committee Hat now. I want to thank everyone for purchasing tickets throughout the year for the Sweepstakes. I also want to give a special shout out to those of you who have donated prizes for the Sweepstakes prize drawing at National Convention. Being on the committee has made me step out of my comfort zone, and I have enjoyed it very much! Gloria

OKLAHOMA JCI SENATE – CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2025-26

MONTH	EVENT	DETAILS
November 22,	Tour of the OK Kids Korral -	Nov 22 - Toby Keith Kids Korral support for children and families.
December 6,	OK JCI Senate Amazon Wish List Shopping Day Toby Keith Kids Korral	Shop the Toby Keith Kids Korral Amazon List - Shop from home!
December 13, 2025	Wreaths Across America	OK JCI Senate groups participate in their area and socialize/meal after
January 10, 2026	Winter Party to celebrate new year	Oklahoma City area - DeLisa checking on restaurant private room
Jan. 15-18, 2026	US JCI Senate Winter Board	Melbourne, FL
Feb 7, 2026	Scholarship Judging General Membership meeting and lunch	Tulsa, OK
March 14, 2026	"Game Day" and meal at El Chico in the Sooner Mall	SoonerCade, Norman, OK Vintage arcade games. Adults \$10, children free. Open 11am to 8pm All arcade games free; coin operated pin ball and prize claw.
April 5, 2026	Easter	
April 30-May 3, 2026	US JCI Senate Region VIII Meeting	Topeka, KS
May 16, 2026	OK JCI Senate Annual Meeting & Elections	To be determined
June 6, 2026	Glenn Cole Memorial Picnic	Tulsa, OK
June 14 - 18, 2026	US JCI Senate Annual Meeting	San Antonio, TX



Have a
HAPPY, Merry
THANKS-MASS!



Congratulations to Teresa Mullican #49496 who was featured in a very nice article on the City of Elk City Facebook page! Thank you to DeLisa Anderson #54310 who submitted the information for publication in our newsletter.



City of Elk City

MADAM MAYOR

Teresa Mullican made Elk City history several ways. She was the first woman to serve as Elk City Mayor. She served in that role longer than anyone.

She was also the first woman to serve as a local civic organization's president.

Mullican, Elk City's 29th mayor, held that office for eight terms, from 1997 to 2013.

Those 16 years are the record for the longest tenure in that office.

And of the more than 30 individuals who've been mayor since 1907, Mullican is the only woman.

"Serving as mayor of Elk City for 16 years has been one of the greatest honors of my life," Mullican said. "I am humbled to have been the first woman to hold this position and grateful for the trust and support of our community."

She was no stranger to elective office. When she was first elected mayor in 1997, she'd been serving on the City Commission since 1991.

Mullican was also elected Oklahoma Jaycees President in 1995.

Then, in 2000, she became the first woman elected President of Elk City's Rotary Club.

"Elk City will always hold a special place in my heart," Mullican said.

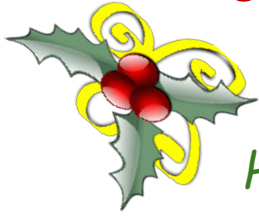
And she will always hold a special place in Elk City's heart.

One big reason for this is that Mayor Mullican started the annual Mayor's Toy Drive in 2004 to help make Christmas special for less advantaged local kids. It's continued every year since, and this year's toy drive begins this month.

Mullican relocated to Alaska where she owns a stained-glass business, works in human resources, and takes photographs professionally.

For 16 years, though, she was The Honorable Teresa Mullican, history-making Elk City political and civic leader.

Getting to Know Your Board of Directors



How Creative Are They With Food Dishes??

President Randy Sursa - #49485



1. What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish? **Fried Turkey (yum)**
2. What was the best Christmas gift you ever received?
Rock'em Sock'em Robots
3. If Thanksgiving and Christmas were combined, what 2 dishes would you combine (1 from each holiday) and what would you call the dish?
Cranberries and Sweet Potato – TART YAMS!

Vice-President Pat Reffett - #77848

1. What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish? **Cornbread dressing made the way my Momma made it! (Momma's is always best)**
2. What was the best Christmas gift you ever received?
Second hand set of drums!!! (Ouch)
3. If Thanksgiving and Christmas were combined, what 2 dishes would you combine (1 from each holiday) and what would you call the dish? **Dressing and Sweet Potato casserole –**



SWEET DRESSED POTATOS

Secretary Nancy Cloud #52758



1. What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish? **The stuffing.**
2. What was the best Christmas gift you ever received? **My Carrie doll. I carried her everywhere and still have her!**
3. If Thanksgiving and Christmas were combined, what 2 dishes would you combined (1 from each holiday) and what would you call the dish? **I have two!**
A bottle of Coke and Candy Canes – COKECANE
😊
Pumpkin pie and candy canes - PUMPCANE

DeLisa Anderson #54310

1. What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish?
Dressing
2. What was the best Christmas gift you ever received: **Play Stove and Ice Box!**
3. If Thanksgiving and Christmas were combined, what 2 dishes would you combine (1 from each holiday) and what would you call the dish?
Chocolate Pie and Pumpkin Pie - CHOCKIN PIE!



Chaplain and Director Peggy Rider #58293



1. What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish? **Pumpkin Pie with Whipped Cream**
2. What was the best Christmas gift you ever received? **Pony Boy (a spring horse). He was my best friend at 3 years old (aww)**
3. If Thanksgiving and Christmas were combined, what 2 dishes would you combine (1 from each holiday) and what would you call the dish? **Dressing & Gravy and Green Bean Casserole - GREEN BEAN DRESSING**

Director Fred Williams #51340



1. What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish? **Stuffing**
2. What was the best Christmas gift you ever received? **Underwear (oh my 😊)**
3. If Thanksgiving and Christmas were combined, what 2 dishes would you combine (1 from each holiday) and what would you call the dish? **Sweet Potato and Stuffing - SWEPOFING**

Director Sissie Harmon #63902



1. What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish? **Baked Ham**
2. What was the best Christmas gift you ever received? **Two daughter-in-laws who said they'd give me grandbabies.**
3. If Thanksgiving and Christmas were combined, what 2 dishes would you combine (1 from each holiday) and what would you call the dish? **Ham and Bread – HAM SANDWICHES – They're the best!**

Director Gloria Albers #74536

1. What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish? **Cornbread dressing and turkey gravy.**
2. What was the best Christmas gift you ever received? **Sewing machine (lucky for us!)**
3. If Thanksgiving and Christmas were combined, what 2 dishes would you combine (1 from each holiday) and what would you call the dish? **Sweet Potatoes and Cornbread - POT BREAD 😊**





**Welcome to our two newest
Senators!**

Robert Lippe #84219

Kim Rawls #84220





Fall Board 2025





OCTOBER



Guthrie Wine Festival
&
Membership Meeting
Lunch at Stables



PRESIDENT	RANDY SURSA #49485
VICE-PRESIDENT	PAT REFFETT #77848
SECRETARY	NANCY CLOUD #52759
TREASURER	DELISA ANDERSON #54310
DIRECTOR	GLORIA ALBERS #74536
DIRECTOR	FRED WILLIAMS #51430
DIRECTOR	SISSIE HARMON #63902
CHAPLAIN/DIRECTOR	PEGGY RIDER #58293
SCHOLARSHIP	BECKY EDWARDS #62937
BOB HENRY	NANCY CLOUD #52759
PAY IT FORWARD	SISSIE HARMON #63902
MEMBERSHIP/ACTIVATION	SHERI MENENDEZ #47839

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 one 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.!



Senate Trustees

Dale Crouch #77010

Bill Werner #60976

Jim Harmon #63903