



SPOKESMAN

MAY 2026 THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARIZONA JCI SENATE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2025-2026

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THE JAYCEE CREED

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 greatest treasure lies in human personality;

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

C. William Brownfield

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

Our prayers go out to Cathy O'Hara FR#77 with the passing of Art Shane #27322 & Beth Cretin #47771 with the passing of Dick Cretin #38364

Thank you to everyone on my Board: COB Dianne von Borstel #55954, Secretary Debbie Brandt #67298 & Treasurer Cindy Naylor #62479 for all your support this last year. I so appreciate it.

Since the last Spokesman Newsletter, we've had fun this last quarter with the traveling & volunteering we have done. April 4th, 2026 – Easter Parade, Ahwatukee, AZ - Dianne von Borstel #55954 & her sister Tracy Thompson, Lowell Vahl #40315 & Slick Hampshire #38626 volunteered for set up & make sure all the entries were in order & in line for the parade. Myself & Phil Friedman #61455 volunteered to be 2 of 6 announcers at the 50th Kiwanis Annual Ahwatukee Easter Parade & Spring Fling Chaired by Mike Schmitt #39725. Had the most entries since the parade was born.

(continued on page 2)

CHAIRS 2025-2026

**Adopt A Street &
AZ JCI Senate Socials**
Art Shane #27322
Cathy O'Hara Fr#77

Hospitality
Carolyn Smith #64564 LM 121

**AZ JCI Senate Life
Member Fund**
Mike Schmitt #39725 LM 42

AZ JCI Senate Roster
Mike Schmitt #39725 LM 42

**US JCI Senate Foundation
Scholarships**
Dianne von Borstel #55954

AZ JCI Senate Products
Phil Friedman #61455 LM 113

**AZ JCI Senate
Spokesman Newsletter**
Cindy Naylor #62479 LM 109

**US JCI Senate & AZ JCI
Senate Webmaster**
Lowell Vahl #40315 LM 91

**US JCI Future Directions
Rep Region X**
Tanis Jimeno-Friedman #70297
LM 131

US JCI Senate Region X VP
Steve Balint #43364

AZ JCI Senate Freshman
Phil Friedman #61455 LM 113

PRESIDENT'S DESK:

(continued from page 1)

April 16th – 19th, 2026 – Region X Year-End, Las Vegas, NV – So much fun! 25 States represented. 100+ members & 3 new Senatorships awarded. Such a fun time!

May 1st - 3rd, 2026 - CA Year-End, Anaheim, CA - Thank you to Beth & the CA JCI Senate for the friendship & fun in the sun @ Disneyland.

May 9th, 2026 – AZ Year-End meeting, Mesa, AZ – Thank you to Lowell & Debbie Vahl for hosting meeting & elections. Hope no one went home hungry!

We had elections and I have the honor of continuing to be your President for 2026-2027. Thank you to the Board for stepping up again: COB Dianne von Borstel #55954, Secretary Debbie Brandt #67289 & Treasurer Cindy Naylor #62479.

If anyone would like to have a social/get together, please let me know. I would love to see some more friendly faces at our meetings, Adopt A Street and anything else we volunteer for over the year.

ARIZONA JCI SENATE SECRETARY

**Debbie Brandt #67289
LM140**

**AZ JCI Senate
4th Qtr Board Meeting
May 9, 2025
Mesa, AZ**

Tanis called the meeting to order at 1:54pm at Lowell & Deb Vahl's house.

Those in attendance were:

Tanis Jimeno-Friedman #70297,
Phil Friedman #61455,
Debbie Brandt #67298,
Cindy Naylor #62479
Jim Hampshire #38626,
Dianne von Borstel #55954,
Carolyn Smith #64564,
Greg Brannon #84900,
Mike Schmitt #39725
Lowell Vahl #4031015,
Deb Vahl Fr #42,
Teddy Clarke #37167,
Elaine Rudolph #57086

Mike gave the invocation and Dianne led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Since we had a new Senator, Greg Brannon, we did introductions.

We then had a moment of silence for those JCI Senators that are no longer with us. The agenda was reviewed. Phil moved to approve, Carolyn seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Secretary report – Debbie reported that the minutes were in the Spokesman.

Lowell moved and Phil

seconded to approve the minutes as published.

Approved unanimously.

Treasurer report – Cindy presented her report. There are 28 members due. 24, life members, 2 regular members have renewed, 2 pending and 2 adds. Phil moved to approve, Carolyn seconded, and the motion to approve the treasurer's report passed unanimously.

Chairman Reports –

Adopt a Street – Art was not present due to his health.

Socials –

Virtual social is currently suspended. We will need someone to take over this position. Dianne offered to help.

Foundation Scholarships –

Dianne reported that we had two national winners. One is going to Georgia Institute of Technology and the other will be attending ASU

Products – See Phil for shirts, etc. The new camo shirts are available for \$35.

Freshman Senators – Phil welcomed Greg Brannon, our newest Senator.

Return the Favor - N/A

Life Members - Mike

reported that we have a new life member. The next life member # is 163. It is up to thee to become #163. There are 98 living life members. The life member funds are in good shape for the next 25 years unless national raises rates to \$10 then we are at break even.

Roster - Copies of the roster were distributed. Please let Mike know of any changes.

Spokesman – Saturday the 16th is the due date for articles.

Hospitality – Carolyn reported that the Holiday social will be in a similar format, looking for ideas for menu. Maybe a white elephant gift exchange.

Region X Future Directions – Tanis reported that the Wreaths across America is going well, last year of 6,000 organizations the AZ JCI Senate was #163. The code for the AZ Senate for this project is FL1122.

Webmaster – Lowell had no report.

Unfinished/Old Business – Easter Parade – April 4, 2026 – Lowell, Tanis, Phil, Slick and Art usually volunteer. This was the 50th Annual Parade and Mike's last (editorial comment or so he says).

Region X meeting in Las Vegas – 4/17-4/19/26 – It was a good meeting, about 107 people from 25 states.

New Business –

National Meetings

June 14-18, 2026 – Year end in San Antonio, TX

September 17-20, 2026 – Fall Board in Topeka, KS

October 31- November 2, 2026 – Nevada Days in Carson City, NV

Dec 18-20, 2026 – AZ Holiday Social @ Sonesta Inn. Mesa Arts Center is having a holiday Cirque show. VIP tickets are

\$51.50 and up or \$71.50 for evening performance. Dianne will look into.

Jan 2027 – Winter Board Greensboro, NC

June 20-24, 2027 – Year End in Lancaster, PA

2025-2026 Election of Officers -

Dianne as chair asked for any nominations from the floor. The current board of President Tanis, Treasurer Cindy and Secretary Debbie have agreed to one more year! Mike moved to accept the slate of officers by acclamation. Carolyn seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

2025-2026 meetings – The next meeting will be the first quarter Planning and Board meeting and the 2025-2026 annual audit. It will be in Prescott. Specific date and location to come.

Good of the order –

Dianne asked everybody to keep Pat in their thoughts, she had surgery recently and is having a slow recovery. Mike said he had seen Art about a month ago and he is not well. Cathy is having a rough time too so please keep both of them in your thoughts.

Region X Advisor –

Phil said it was good to see everybody and hope everyone can make it to Prescott in August.

Chairman of the Board

Comments – Dianne thanked

Lowell & Deb for hosting.

President Comments- Tanis thanked everybody for coming and Lowell and Deb for hosting.

We adjourned with the Creed at 2:37pm. Elaine Rudolph led the Creed.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Cindy Naylor #62479
LM #109

Our next dues submission is due June 1st. There are 28 members due with 24 being Life Members. There are 4 members due to National who are not Life Members. One member is deceased: Dennis Gertz #28910 LM 56. I mailed out 24 membership renewal letters to ALL AZ JCI Senators that received their Senatorship in this quarter, searching for new membership and to renew their membership in the AZ JCI Senate. Thank you to Dianne von Borstel #55954 and Richard Berry #18103 for renewing so far. The loss of Art Shane on May 10 is a great blow to the AZ Senate. He will greatly be missed by all who knew him.

As always, we are continually looking for Ways and Means projects to help our General Fund.

ROSTERTERRIAN

Mike Schmitt #39725

LM #42

Rostefarian Matters:

Luckily, we don't have to add anymore "Lost" Senators to this list for this quarter. Two were added then and none removed. Please help us find them if possible.

It sure would be nice if we could locate the following "Lost" Senators. It's been a long time (over 10 years in some cases) that these Senators have been on this list. Perhaps some may have passed. If you know the whereabouts of any of the following, please let me know. Here is the list of "Lost" Senators that we ask your assistance in locating: **Carl W. Bienert** #25891 (Yuma '78), **Donald Boggs** #32141 (ASPO '82), **Gary Burger** #36909, AZLM#124 (Ahwatukee '84), **Larry Butterfield** #39962 (Coolidge '86), **Kenneth L. Carleton** #38345 (Phoenix '85), **Phillip J. Carr** #20224 (Phoenix '75), **Bert Crockett** #08078 (Tempe '68), **Keith F. Greenburg** #44911 AZLM #094 (Deer Valley '89), **Ken P. Hill** #20095 (Mesa '75), **John Himes** #21603 (Scottsdale '76), **Carl R. Johnson** #29066 (Apache Junction '80), **Donald Lawson** #02880 (Tucson '61), **Gerald Milam** #18139 (Phoenix '74), **Rebecca S. Polmanteer**

#53502 (Mesa '95), **Billy G. Purdy** #53366 (Glendale '95), **Timothy J. Rethlake** #46441 (Ahwatukee '90), **Dale Schwartz** #6942 AZLM #63 (San Diego '67), **Allen Starr** #16483 (Phoenix '73), **Debra Steele** #57068, AZLM #81 (San Jose, CA, '97), **Don F. Steward** #09566 (Camelback '69), **Mike Traynor** #28403 (Chandler '80), **Ron L. Walker** #33258 (AZ Jaycees '82), **Ed J. Wasielewski** #09796 (Phoenix '69) and **Albert E. Wenger** #19122 (Flagstaff '74). **(Total: 24)**. Please let me know at 480-759-0007 or e-mail msch0007@aol.com if you know the address or phone number of any of these "Lost" Senators.

BTW, if any Arizona Senator missed the last meeting and would like a hard copy of the Senate Roster, just give me a call (480-694-8525) or send an e-mail request (msch0007@aol.com) and I'll be glad to mail you a copy.

US JCI SENATE

LAIASON

Jim Hampshire
#38626 LM #20

The last AZ Senate meeting was in Mesa at Lowell Vahl's home. Region X Year End was April 17-19, 2026 in Las Vegas, NV. June 14-18, the 2026 JCI Year End meeting is in San Antonio, TX. Fall 2026 BOD September 17-20, 2026

is in Topeka, KS. No location for the 2027 Winter BOD at this time. June 20-25, 2027 JCI Year End meeting in Lancaster, PA. Think about joining the US JCI Senate Foundation. Keep your dues up to date, that way you will keep up to date with the latest information. Registration forms for upcoming meetings of the US JCI Senate can be found on the US JCI Senate Web site. Mike Schmitt is on look-out for new Life Member you can be next with number 163. Look in the Secretary report for information from May 9th meeting in Mesa about Fundraisers and other information in this newsletter. Keep the loved one in your life close at all times of the year. On the sad side the passing of Art Shane was loss to us all in the Arizona Senate. The next Adopt-A-Street info will be forthcoming. Will see if someone will keep the Virtual Social going that Art started.

LIFE MEMBERS

Mike Schmitt #39725
LM #42

LIFE MEMBER NEWS:

Life Member Passes:

Richard "Dick" Cretin
USJCI #38364 AZLM #30
(see obituary herein)

New Life Member: Rick

Schilke USJCI #48663
(Flagstaff '91) is new AZ Life Member #162.
Congratulations Rick! No

more pesky dues letters for you. Welcome!

Life Member Report:

As reported at the May Quarterly meeting, the Life Member CD was rolled over in last June for 13 months at 3.0%. We are in compliance with the By-Laws and have sufficient CD funds to pay USJCI annual dues for the next 25 years for the 98-living life members.

Next Available Life Member:

#163 "It's up to thee to become #163" and skip any future dues letters by sending your \$275 check made out to AZ USJCI Senate, PO Box 50713, Phoenix, AZ 85076.

US JCI SENATE CONVENTIONS

**US JCI Senate National Meeting
San Antonio, TX
June 14-18, 2026**

Full Reg due by 12/31
\$170.00

Late \$185.00

On Site

\$200.00

Hotel:

Westin San Antonio North

9821 Colonnade Blvd

San Antonio TX, 78230

\$160.00 + Taxes

Phone: (844) 886-4304

Group Code: Texas JCI Senate
2026

**US JCI Senate Fall BOD
Topeka, KS
September 17-20, 2026**

Full Reg due by 8/17...\$95.00

Late \$110.00

On Site \$125.00

Hotel:

Ramada by Wyndham

Downtown Hotel &

Convention

420 SE 6th Avenue

Topeka, Kansas

\$119.00 + Taxes

Phone: (785) 234-5400

Group Code: 091526KJSJ

***** If you need a registration form for upcoming conventions, look on US JCI Senate website *****



ADOPT A STREET & SOCIALS

As we continue to work through this difficult time in the recent loss of Art Shane #27322, Adopt a Street will continue with a date to be reported in the future. Information to come. The virtual Social will continue and will be put together by committee. Information is forthcoming.

**Friendship Award
Lowell Vahl #40315
LM91**

On March 1st, Mary Lou Sanny Friendship Award #1 passed away. The U.S. JCI Senate Friendship Award was created as a way to honor Mary Lou and other (non-Senator) spouses who have significantly contributed to the JCI Senate. Although the Award was created in 2005, Mary Lou has been a strong supporter of the JCI Senate since Nebraska's Charter in 1976. The actual Friendship Award was created almost 10 years after my time in Nebraska, I was very aware of her contributions to the Nebraska JCI Senate and she was a special friend of Debbie and I.

This quote is from the Award Description: *"Nebraska has long been in awe of spouses of senators who have helped significantly over the years to the benefit of the US JCI Senate organization. Because there hasn't been an award for non-senators, these individuals have gone unrecognized."*

Arizona has had 8 people over the years that received the U.S. JCI Senate Friendship award sponsored by the Nebraska JCI Senate. I wanted our members to know a little more about the history of the Friendship Award and Mary Lou.



In Memorium...

Sadly, the AZ JCI Senate recently lost two beloved members. Here are the details:

Richard "Dick" Cretin USJCI #38364 AZLM #30 (Carrol, IA '85) was born on November 1, 1949, in Eldora, Iowa, and passed away on March 18, 2026. He graduated from Wellsburg High School before answering the call to serve his country. Dick was drafted into the United States Marine Corps but subsequently enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served in the motor pool from 1969 through 1972. In 1985, he began a new chapter with his family by moving to Arizona where he spent the next 40 years. Following his military service, Dick continued his life's work as an automotive technician. He was an active and highly respected member of the Iowa and Arizona (Mesa) chapters of Jaycees. Throughout his involvement, he held numerous leadership roles, including President of the Carroll, Iowa, Chapter and was later became an Arizona JCI Lifetime Senator. Dick is survived by his loving wife, **Beth Cretin** USJCI #47771. Dick's Memorial was held at his residence on May 9, 2026.

Arthur "Art" R. Shane USJCI #27322 (Tempe '91) was born in Nogales, AZ, on November 29, 1935, and passed away peacefully due to natural causes on May 10, 2026. Art was happily married to **Cathy O'Hara** USJCI Friendship Awardee #77 for 13 years. He served his country in the U.S. Navy Reserve and spent time aboard U.S.S. Carpenter (DD-825). Art was well known for his volunteer work with the St. Vincent De Paul Society, for establishing the Virtual Social for AZ Senators, for organizing Adopt-A-Street followed a social gathering and for staging entries at many Ahwatukee Easter Parades. Art received Order of Kachina #28 in 1996 and his Senatorship in 1991. He was; Tempe Jaycees Life Member #4, Tempe Jaycee of the Year in 1972-73, AZJCI Senate President 1995-96, USJCI National Vice President for Region X 1998-99, and USJCI Ambassador to Mexico 1999-2004. Art's first wife, **Anne Shane** USJCI #54445 (Tempe '95) preceded him in death on September 15, 2010. Memorial Mass for Art will be held in June at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church in Tempe the date and time to be announced.

Here are some condolences Art received:

Bill Snyder USJCI #40231 AZLM #25 (Scottsdale '86) "Art was my best friend."

Andy Tobin USJCI #43024 AZLM #106 (Phoenix '88) "Sad to hear this today. Art was a true Jaycee and was always there for all of us. RIP My friend."
Debi Lake USJCI #57871 AZLM #86 (Tempe '97) "So sad to hear this. He was such a great friend, mentor, and one of the true loves of my life."
Tom Benefiel USJCI #32768 AZLM #35 (Ahwatukee '82) "RIP Art and thank you for all you have done in our communities! You exemplify what a Jaycee represents."

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Cindy Naylor #62479

The Spokesman is the official newsletter of the AZ JCI Senate that is published once a quarter during the Senate year to dues paying members of the AZ JCI Senate. Please let me know if you are wanting your edition of the Spokesman sent to you via email or if US Post Office is still sufficient. Email me at cindy@aznaylor.com.

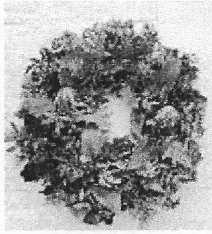
REGION X



"WHERE THE SUN SHINES LONGER"

Arizona JCI Senate Holiday Social

December 18-20, 2026



Name: _____ Senate _____

Spouse/Guest: _____ Senate/Friendship _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Full Registration \$75, Hospitality only \$25

Make Checks payable to AZ JCI Senate

Mail registrations to: Cindy Naylor 4519 N. 11th St, Phoenix, AZ 85014

Sonesta Select Tempe Downtown

601 South Ash Avenue, Tempe, AZ 85281

480-966-2800

Room Rates: 2 queen beds or 1 King \$114 per night plus tax

Please use the link below or call the hotel. Mention AZ JCI Senate (AZJAYSEN)

Any questions please contact Tanis Friedman 928-460-3274 (moosemariner@msn.com) or

Dianne Von Borstel 480-560-3566 (diannevb@msn.com)

Hotel Link : [Arizona JCI Senate](#)

Note: the booking dates will show Thurs. – Sun. (as some like us stay Thurs. night) even though our Holiday Social is Fri. – Sun.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – UPCOMING EVENTS

June 14-18, 2026	Year End Convention.....	San Antonio, TX
August 22, 2026	AZ Senate BOD meeting.....	Prescott Valley, AZ
September 17-20, 2026	JCI Fall BOD.....	Topeka, KS
Oct 31-Nov 2, 2026	Nevada Days.....	Carson City, NV
December 18-20, 2026	AZ Senate Holiday Social.....	Tempe, AZ
January ??, 2027	Winter BOD.....	TBD
June 20-25, 2027	Year End Convention.....	Lancaster, PA

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