

# Virginia JCI Senate

Delightful Adventures In the  
Senate Year  
January 2026



## Upcoming Events

- Feb. 10 | 7pm Executive Board Meeting
- Feb. 24 | 7pm: Full Board Meeting
- Feb. 27 | Winter Meeting
- Mar. 10 | 7pm Executive Board Meeting
- Mar. 26 | 7 pm All Senate Zoom
- Apr. 9 | MAI hosted by the NY JCI Senate
- Apr. 14 | 7pm Executive Board Meeting
- Apr. 21 | 7pm Charcuterie DIY Zoom

## President

Greetings My Fellow Senators,

I just returned from a fun weekend in Melbourne, FL for the US JCI Senate National Meeting. It was cold again for our third Winter National Board meeting in a row, but we are ready to heat things up in Virginia in the coming months.

January 28 is National Daisy Day and a perfect time to earn Petals and Daisies. All items turned in that day from the Faith, Family, Friends, Food, and Fun categories earn double petals. If you submit one from each category, you can easily make a Daisy. This applies only to items sent on January 28 to Hope Ellison #71378, your Daisy Coordinator, at [hopendaisies@gmail.com](mailto:hopendaisies@gmail.com).

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## Scholarship Fund

Support the Lost Senator Fund & Scholarship fund by shopping at Pampered Chef with this special link by Jan 31.





## President continued

- On January 28 we will have our very own decorated Jaycee and Senator, Doc Serota #32445, give us an amazing account of The Election of the First Female President of the Virginia Jaycees History at 7pm on Zoom. You will get two petals for attending.
- We have one more Pampered Chef fundraiser for our VA Senate Scholarship Fund. We are so close to our goal. Order by January 31 here.
- John Mosesso #71551 has been very hard at work setting up our Winter Board meeting down in Virginia Beach. I hope to see many of you there. National President Bruce Sostak #52655 and Region 3 NVP Letha Grimes #63946 will be in attendance and get to judge the Martini Mix off with me. I can't wait to see who takes the next title in our highly coveted Martini contest.
- Martini Mix-Off is back. Teams of up to 4 can compete, with a maximum of 8 teams. Create your signature drink, put on a little show if you'd like, and impress the crowd. The People's Choice Award returns with tickets available by donation to the Lost Senatorship Fund, and the Judges' Pick for Best Overall Drink will win the trophy to display for the year.
- I would love to invite you all to join us at one or both of these upcoming meetings: MAI (Region II and III's annual meeting together) in Jamestown NY. April 9-12 - more info on Facebook. Book your hotel here.
- And the year end Senate National Convention where we can celebrate the awesome year of the D.A.I.S.Y. together in San Antonio, TX June 14-18. You can come to any part of the week-long event if you live near or far. I would love a show of our full Garden and everyone who attends is going to receive something Daisified to wear in unity all week long. The registration form and info for San Antonio is here and join the Facebook group. Book your hotel here.
- Anne Johnson #49625 is our Whatsapp group coordinator so if you are coming to either or both meetings please let her know. We like to have everyone in a group so we can tell them where we may go to lunch, dinner, updates to agenda and make sure everyone is included that comes with us.

Thank you all for the support for the first half of this year. Only a few more months left but we are gonna have fun the rest of the time til the end.

With Joy and Cheer this Senate year,  
Karen "DAISY" DeWitt Gage #78980





## Treasurer

Happy New Year Senators!

I have nothing official to report. We are halfway through the year, and we are on target with our budget status. Hope to see many of you at the beach at the end of February. If you need anything from me, please send me an email.

Your devoted Treasurer  
[vajcisenatetreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:vajcisenatetreasurer@gmail.com)  
Laura Murphy #78824

## Products

Show Your Senate Pride!

We've teamed up with a new vendor for VA JCI Senate gear! [Check out the latest items here.](#)

Details:

- Sizes: XS-4X (add \$3 for 2X, \$5 for 3X, \$6 for 4X)
- Color: True Royal Blue
- Personalization: 2 lines - \$10 | up to 3 lines - \$12
- Select shipping so your order is mailed directly to you

Rep your Senate pride in style – order your new gear today!



## '25-'26 Board of Directors

President: Karen Gage

Immediate Past President: Tom Cramer

Vice President: Jacque Camlet

Chief of Staff: Cathy Ralston

Secretary: Lin Martin

Director at Large/

D.A.I.S.Y. Coordinator: Hope Ellison

Bar Chair: Brian Morris

Rooms, Reservations & Outings:  
John Mosesso

Comms. Director: Marissa Garcia

Hospitality: Ron Sleeth

Liaison: Debbie Agee

Treasurer: Laura Murphy

Assistant Treasurer: Tim Eckert

Chaplain: Melissa Sleeth

Historian: Art Esenberg

Sgt. at Arms: Troy Anderson

Sweepstakes Raffles Chair: Ruth  
Ann Bates

Foundation Raffles Chair: Jen  
Rebby

Scholarship Chair: Cindy Kinney

Audit Chair: Jeff Bobich



## Rooms Reservations & Outings

Winter Greetings Everyone!

I hope you have been staying cool during these hot days – I'm sure on some scale somewhere, 11 degrees is warm. So come to the beach and chill. Polar plunge anyone?

Winter Meeting will be here before we know it. I'm sure you've already heard some of the details, but here it is: The hotel is Delta by Marriott Virginia Beach Waterfront Suites, 2800 Shore Drive. Yes, we are waterfront and on the bay side.

Friday Dutch Treat Dinner will be at Shorebreak Pizza & Taphouse, 2941 Shore Drive, VA Beach, 23451, starting at 6:30pm. It is a five-minute walk from the hotel. Then back to Hospitality.

On Saturday, LMA will kick off the day with their meeting at 9:00 am, with the Senate meeting following at 10:30am. Then lunch-time by Lin. We were to join the Jaycees for an afternoon service project, but that got canceled, so be on the lookout for an afternoon outing. The plan is then to join the Jaycees for a Celebration Dinner, with those details coming – so stand on your tippy-toes in anticipation.

Then after dinner we come back to the hotel for the Martini Mix-off, where we will definitely be crowning a new winner this year.

I'm so excited ( I just can't help it) for this weekend. Here is the registration link. Use this payment link to pay for the Registration / Hospitality Fee, which is \$25 for the weekend – the following payments are acceptable: PayPal, Venmo, Pay Later, Apple Pay, Debit/Credit. Stay tuned to this same JCI channel for more details as we get ever closer. You never know where daisies may be sprouting.

Save the date for the Spring Meeting- May 29 - 31, in Waynesboro VA.

Have a Daisy of a time,  
John #71551





## Immediate Past President

Happy New Year to all. As the calendar turns, it is once again time to invite members to step forward and run for a position on the Board of Directors for the 2026–2027 Senate year. This is a fun, fulfilling opportunity and a wonderful way to get to know fellow Senators better while helping shape the future of the Virginia JCI Senate.

### Why Serve This Year?

Serving on the Board allows members to:

- Contribute talents and experience to continue the great work and strong legacy of the Virginia JCI Senate.
- Build deeper friendships and connections by working side-by-side on meaningful projects.
- Grow as leaders in a supportive environment while having a great time doing it.

Every role, whether elected, appointed, or committee-based, plays an important part in keeping our organization vibrant and moving forward.

### Elected Board Positions

In accordance with our Bylaws and Policies, the following positions will be elected for the 2026–2027 Senate year:

- President
- Vice-President
- Five (5) Directors (with specific responsibilities assigned by the President)

Members who feel called to provide overall leadership, planning, and guidance for the year ahead are encouraged to consider one of these positions.

### Appointed Leadership Roles

In addition to the elected positions, there are many appointed roles where members can share specific skills and interests, including:

- Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer
- Secretary
- Chaplain
- Sergeant at Arms
- Scholarship Chair
- Jaycee Liaison
- Hospitality Chair and Bar Chair
- Rooms & Reservations Chair
- Communication/Newsletter Chair and Webmaster
- Historian
- Foundation Raffles
- Presidential Sweepstakes Chair
- Mentors



These positions help ensure that everything from our finances and communications to events and historical records runs smoothly throughout the year.



## Immediate Past President continued

### Committee Service Opportunities

For those who prefer to serve as part of a team, there are several important committees that welcome willing hands and thoughtful voices:

- Audit Committee
- Senate Review Committee
- Scholarship Committee
- Finance Committee
- Elections/Nominations Committee

Committee service is a great way to get involved, learn more about Senate operations, and support the Board without holding an individual office.



### Campaign Guidelines & How To Nominate

To keep our process fair and focused on service, please note the following policy concerning campaign literature and materials for candidates:

- Candidates may campaign by word of mouth, such as telephone or person-to-person conversations, or by sending a personalized individual letter.
- Candidates may not campaign through generalized letters to the full membership, signs, flyers, handouts, trinkets, or give-aways.
- Candidates may insert a campaign article in the official Senate publication that is distributed to the membership prior to the annual meeting.

Any member wishing to be nominated through the Nominating and Elections Committee must submit a written request to [Senator61957@gmail.com](mailto:Senator61957@gmail.com) no later than one (1) week before the annual meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (808) 600-9012. This is your chance to say “yes” to service, leadership, and fellowship—please consider how your time and talents can help lead the Virginia JCI Senate into another outstanding year.

Tom Cramer





## Vice President

Happy Winter, fellow Senators!

It has been an especially cold winter so far, and I hope everyone is staying as warm and safe as possible.

Our winter meeting will take place February 27–March 1 in Virginia Beach, so please remember to reserve your hotel room by February 6. We're excited to once again host the Annual Martini Mix-Off during the meeting weekend. If you're interested in competing, be sure to contact Ron Sleeth—it's always a great time.

Nominations for next year's board positions are coming up soon. If you're interested in serving the Virginia Jaycees on the board, please reach out and let me know. I'll be making a few phone calls over the next couple of weeks, especially to those who have already expressed interest. You can also email me at [jacque67098@gmail.com](mailto:jacque67098@gmail.com). I hope to see many of you in February!

Warm regards,  
Jacque Camlet  
67098



## Hospitality Director

Hello Fellow Senators,

It is hard to believe that we're more than halfway through the year of the DAISY. It has been a fun year working with the village. Thank you to everyone who helped with the Festivus meeting. There was so much good food, fun and fellowship. We definitely could not do this without everyone's contributions. We have a lot still to come and I am looking forward to the meeting in Virginia Beach the last weekend of February for the Martini Mixoff. As always, if you have any questions feel free to reach out at 804-986-3302 or [rbsleeth@verizon.net](mailto:rbsleeth@verizon.net).

Ron Sleeth #79099

Hospitality Director





**D.A.I.S.Y.**

# Delightful Adventures In the Senate Year



*A daisy does not pretend to be a rose. Life is all about finding people who are your kind of crazy. In the world full of Roses, you should be fresh as a DAISY – you are Awesome Every Daisy.*

This year we are focusing on activation, retention and most of all having fun! Earn petals and daisies by doing the items in each of the five categories.

How to Earn a Petal: Do at least one item in any Category.

How to Earn A DAISY: Do one item in every Category.

Senators with the most Petals and Daisies will win The KRAZY DAISY Awards at Year-End meeting.

Send in your information with picture proof to Director at Large/D.A.I.S.Y. Coordinator:

Hope Ellison at [hopenadaisies@gmail.com](mailto:hopenadaisies@gmail.com)

July 1 – Aug 11 – pick your prizes at Summer Outing | Aug 12–Nov 11 – pick your prizes at Fall Meeting

Nov 12 – Jan 31 – Pick your prizes at the Winter meeting | Feb 1 – April 30 – pick your prizes at the Spring meeting

FAITH	FAMILY	FRIENDS	FOOD	FUN
Send a notecard in the mail to your Mentor/Mentee for any reason	Help put a New Membership Application (Senatorship) package together (The Liaison will confirm)	Picture/Selfie with 2 or more Senators from anywhere at VA Senate Event	Bring Food to the Hospitality Suite at the Summer Outing	Attend or Lead One of our Zoom Nights
Bring Daisies to a Senator who needs encouragement, is sick/recovering or just because	Recruit a lost Virginia JCI Senator or have them reinstated	Picture/Selfie with 2 or more Senators from anywhere at another States event or JC Event	Bring Food to the Hospitality Suite at Fall Meeting	(in person or Zoom) Attend any of our quarterly meetings
Sign up for the Electronic Mentors National Magazine (must not already receive it)	Contribute to the Lost Senator Fund at any time	Picture/Selfie with 2 or more Senators from anywhere at a National meeting or non-Region 3 meeting	Bring Food to the Hospitality Suite at Winter meeting	Attend a quarterly excursion or special event that takes place
Sign up for National E-news (must be new to receiving it)	Recruit a Senator from another state to join us	Picture/Selfie with 2 or more Senators from anywhere at a Region 3 event	Bring Food to the Hospitality Suite at Spring Meeting	Attend the Holiday Party (12/6/25)
Sign up to be one of our Mentors for a Senator (brand new or reinstated)	Participate in Wreaths Across America December 13, 2025 or Buy a Wreath for it	Picture/selfie with 2 or more Senators at an event that isn't Senate related	Bring/Send Food to a Senator who needs encouragement or just because	Bring a white elephant gift or ornament for the Holiday party (12/6/25)
Contribute to the Scholarship program via a fundraiser or straight donation	Buy 1 or more wreaths for Wreaths Across America December 13, 2025 or Buy a Wreath for it	Get an extra petal on the above pictures when you: •Post it to VA JCI Senate FB Group •When you have a DAISY paddle or the Daisy Duck mascot in the picture •When you are wearing a Daisy bracelet or headband •When you have the SOAR paddle •When you email the pix to <a href="mailto:pictures@usjcisenate.org">pictures@usjcisenate.org</a>	Attend Dutch Treat during our Quarterly event	Participate in the Color Party at the Spring Meeting
Send a card in the mail to a Senator for any reason	Volunteer to work or attend a JC or Senate event in Virginia or another state (i.e. ECSC or PA Senate Ice Cream Sales)		Send in your favorite recipe(s) for our Cookbook by January 31 (earn 1 petal per recipe) <b>The Virginia JCI Senate Village Cookbook</b>	Hang out in the Hospitality Suite Friday night
Bring a gift for one of our four basket auctions	Drive President Daisy somewhere (extra petal if you have a Daisy on your car)	Post a selfie wearing Red on Fridays or Blue on Mondays to the VA JCI FB page or Region 3 FB page	Bring Food to Holiday Party 12/6/2025	Hang out in the Hospitality Suite Saturday night
			Bring Food to another state, region or nation event	Compete in our Martini Mix Off Competition
Presidential Power Petal at the President's Discretion	Presidential Power Petal at the President's Discretion	President Power Petal at the President's Discretion	President Power Petal at the President's Discretion	President Power Petal at the President's Discretion