

Virginia JCI Senate Newsletter



Presidential Prose

Dear Senators,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your 2019-2020 President. It has been an honor and a privilege. Thank you for your support and active participation this year. Our theme of Celebrating F.U.N. (Fellowship.Unity.Networking) was accomplished. We enjoyed Fellowship at the Summer Outing in Charlottesville, the Fall meeting with the Virginia Jaycees in Farmville, our Holiday party in Centreville and our Winter meeting in Virginia Beach. In promoting Unity, we attended national events and events with state senate organizations throughout the region; and we continued to foster and grow our longstanding partnership with the Virginia Jaycees Life Membership Association. Our Networking efforts with active Jaycees were accomplished via volunteering at Food Bank service projects, beer pour fundraisers, recruiting at the NAS Oceana Air Show, Holiday shopping tours, hosting socials for Jaycees attending JCI USA trainings in DC and more!

Thank you to the F.U.N. board of directors for all their hard work this year. Treasurer Sharon Showalter #70987 and Assistant Treasurer Jack Ferry #76561 ensured our

membership remained strong and active. Our Hospitality and Bar team of Kathleen King #68704 and Jacqueline Camlet #67098 served us delicious treats and beverages in decorated suites for our meetings. Rooms, Reservations & Outings Director Sean Murphy #77721 coordinated our Dutch treat dinners with the Life Membership Association. The Communications team led by Director Lillian Cheng #72962 increased member engagement on our Facebook page with creative posts; webmaster Paul Showalter #65156 kept our user-friendly website current; and Newsletter Editor Dawana Harris-Bey #68527 produced four outstanding newsletters. We presented five new senatorships this year and Liaison Lisa Smith #72136 did a tremendous job to make this happen. Participation in US JCI Senate programs was vital this year. Return the Favor Chair Chris Taylor #75972 worked with local Jaycee chapters and submitted three nominations. The nominees were recognized in Kansas City and Melbourne – Lee Wolfe #73613, Paul Showalter #65156 and Cathy Sharpe #72271. Scholarship Chair Jeff Bobich #72309 and committee received 161 applications, and

successfully submitted two winners from Virginia to the US JCI Senate Foundation Scholarship program. Director at-Large and our Greensboro Trail Program Manager Jennifer Rebbly #75071 submitted six photos and one was featured as the top three in the December issue of Mentors. Our Chaplain Lee Wolfe shared the happy and sad moments of the year, and First Timers Chair Lillian Cheng engaged Jaycees attending state meetings for the first-time. Thank you to Secretary Lin Martin #73612 for documenting our meetings, Foundation Raffles Chair Elizabeth Benka #47053 and Presidential Sweepstakes Chair Peggy McHugh's #62466 for raising funds. Thank you to Historians Gerry Sproles #14886 and Dan Benka #41176, Sergeant at Arms Sam Goin #49237 and Kenny Loyall #63743, Constitution & By Laws Chair Rod Williams #66088 and Audit Committee Chair Tom King #59642.

A big THANK YOU to Presidential Advisor Anne Johnson #49625, Kathleen King, US JCI Senate AVP Ariel Jones # 65423 and our Chairman of the Board Melissa Sleeth #69220, for their guidance and

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continued assistance this year. To our Region III NVP John Cotter #41511, thank you for his leadership and support. Thank you to Vice-President Jackie Julien #74251 for her leadership. We are looking forward to another great year as she steps up to lead the Virginia JCI Senate!

In the last few months, we as a global community are

facing a crisis that is unprecedented in our lifetime. Life as we know it has changed and we've had to accommodate to what is, for now, the new norm. We have been unable to see our family and friends. However, through this experience, the fellowship of our Senate family and reminding ourselves of every line of the Jaycee creed has made us stronger and more connected with each other. THANK YOU for

your continued strength, tenacity and support. Because, "We Believe..."

Here's to Celebrating F.U.N. my fellow Senators!

Sincerely,

Sabitha Venkatesh
#71858

President, Virginia
JCI Senate
2019-2020



Voice of the Vice President

Hello F.U.N. Senators,

A friend posted a meme today. It says: "Ok, but honestly, how privileged are so many of us that during a global pandemic, we can just stay warm at home, reading, working, still being educated, creating, talking to our loved ones, with little worries and a fridge stocked with food? Do remind yourself to be grateful today." Wow! This is incredibly true. Perspective is needed during this time. In an industry that has been hard hit by this virus, all the while, parts of it are slowing to a crawl, I'm lucky to have worked at all. There are so few hours and so many people to split them. Be sure to reach out to your fellow Senators, especially the social ones, that are working from home. People like me, the introverted extrovert, are ok because the solace is part of the deal, but everyone needs someone. Be that someone.

As we come to the close of the 2019-2020 Senate year, I hope everyone had F.U.N., I know I did. I loved the Fellowship at each meeting and gathering we had. I enjoyed the Unity of our group. We have so many different personalities and they all kind of work well together. Dictionary.com defines unity in a few ways, eight to be exact, but the one I'm talking about is: "oneness of the mind, feeling, etc., as among a number of persons; concord, harmony, or agreement. We do this very well and I'm very proud of that. Finally, we Networked with the Jaycees and Life Members. It was a full and productive year.

I want to thank President Sabitha for her leadership this year and asking me to serve as Vice President. I'd also like to thank everyone that served the Senate in some capacity. The biggest thanks go to the members,

without which, we wouldn't have a Senate organization. I am looking forward to seeing our new as well as our seasoned members in the coming year. Be sure to enjoy the warm weather.

In the Senate Spirit,

Vp Jackie
#74251



Celebrating
FELLOWSHIP
UNITY
NETWORKING
2019-2020

Chatter from Your Communications Director

Hello Fellow Senators,

As your Communications team of Dawana Harris-Bey (newsletter guru), Paul Showalter (master webmaster), and myself continue to support the executive team and the Senate this year, it seems more important than ever during this unprecedented public health crisis to remember President Sabitha's theme: F.U.N. (Fellowship, Unity, Networking).

Social distancing measures, state/local restrictions, and

the increased risk of exposure to COVID-19 have kept us physically apart from each other, causing the cancellation of meetings and events that normally allow us to catch up and re-connect. But we can still support fellowship, promote unity, and network with others by expanding and enhancing our communication methods – as individuals, as communities, and as organizations. The Communications Team is committed to playing our part in the VA Senate, and we hope you'll join!

If you have any news, stories, photos, or suggestions to share – anytime- please email Dawana, Paul, or me (at lcheng1010@gmail.com or find me on Facebook). Stay healthy and safe, be well, and remember the importance of F.U.N.!

Lillian Cheng
#72962
Communications Director



From Your Liaison...

I am happy to report that as of the last newsletter, we have welcomed 5 (FIVE) new Senators into the Virginia JCI Senate! Our first presentation for the year was in January to Marissa Nihill (Senate #78634) from the Virginia Beach Jaycees and also the 2019 Virginia Jaycees State President. Marissa moved to Japan right after her presentation, as her new husband was reassigned there. Knowing Marissa, we're sure she'll get involved with the World JCI organization in some way.

We had four presentations at the Winter state meeting in Virginia Beach in February. (So grateful to have gotten all those in before our social distancing rules came into play!)

Aimee Hart (Senate #78708), who headed and served on many projects and in numerous roles in the Norfolk Jaycees chapter, including President, continues to keep former chapter members together by hosting get-togethers at her home in Norfolk.

Another recipient, Cindy Kinney (Senate #78711) served **two** local chapters—West End and Vienna—over 14 years in various roles, Jaycees and continues to assist her former chapters and her community.

Our final two senators are a husband-and-wife team, Michael Polychrones (Senate #78709) and Sheri Polychrones (Senate #78710). Mike was a member of the Vienna Jaycees and served as President, among other offices, and helped start a city-wide Memorial Day event that eventually went from a Jaycee-run 1-day event to a 3-day weekend event run by the Chamber of Commerce.

Sheri served both the West End Jaycees and the Virginia Jaycees in multiple leadership roles over a span of 19 years, as well as supporting her husband's chapter as an "unofficial member," and started and maintains the Richmond Old Farts to keep exhausted Richmond-area members connected.

You can read more about these new Senators in the next Mentors magazine. They have been added to the Facebook page, so make sure to go on there and welcome them, especially since we will not be able to welcome them in person for the foreseeable future. Digital connections are more important now!

We are still hoping to add more Senators to our roster before the end of President Sabitha's term, though we will need to be creative with presentations in our current quarantined environment. I have been honored to serve as your state JCI Liaison and my friend, President Sabitha for the F.U.N. 2019-2020 term. Wishing everyone health and prosperity in these uncertain times, many silver linings on the other side, and prayers that we will be able to join together in person very soon!

Lisa Smith
Virginia JCI Liaison 2019-2020

Region III National Vice President

At this very tumultuous time it is difficult to focus on the Senate. Less than a month and a half ago we were attending the Virginia Senate / Jaycees / LMA Winter Meeting in Virginia Beach. Scarcely a thought was paid to the emerging pandemic which has changed our lives so profoundly.

I cannot imagine the difficulties that some of you are going through. We are being told to maintain our physical health by staying at home, keeping physical distance, and maintaining personal hygiene. Yet many of you are called upon to keep society functioning at great personal risk. We owe a tremendous depth of gratitude to all those individuals who provide essential services.

With this having been said, I would be remiss if I did not recognize what a wonderful job the Virginia Senate has been doing this year. Either at the US JCI Senate Meeting in Melbourne or at the Virginia Winter Meeting in Virginia Beach, Senators have been recognized for their terrific work. US JCI Senate President **Lawrence Pittman** has recognized the following individuals with his People Purpose Passion Awards: VA Senate President **Sabitha Venkatesh**, US JCI Senate AVP **Ariel Jones**, Presidential Assistant **Tom King**, **Anne Johnson**, **Sharon Showalter**, **Paul Showalter**, **Jack Ferry** and **Lillian Cheng**. Presidential gold pins were also awarded to **Jennifer Rebbly** and **Christina Brunner**. **Paul Showalter**, and **Cathy Sharp** were recognized for Return the Favor. Finally, **Jackie Julien** won the First Timers Award in Melbourne.

In near future, I anticipate that more Region III Senators will be recognized. The depth of leadership and commitment demonstrated by these Senators has benefited the entire Senate. It is why my theme this year is "**Proud to be From Region III**".

Following the Meeting in Melbourne Region III was extremely active.



The **Year End & Outstanding Young West Virginia Winter Convention** was held February 7th – 9th in Triadelphia, WV. Senator **Cori Erbacher** chaired the event and did a fantastic job. Thank you, WV Senate President **Sherry Dugan** and the Senators from WV for making Pam and I feel so welcome.

The **MD 40th Anniversary Celebration and Bull & Oyster Roast** took place on March 7th in Timonium, MD. It enjoyed record attendance. It was a fabulous event. Kudos to President **Jennifer Ray** and the committee that organized it.

Finally, the **Virginia Senate / Jaycees** put on a terrific **Winter Meeting** in Virginia Beach on February 14th-16th. The attendance and enthusiasm were as great as I have ever seen at a state meeting. It was wonderful seeing the Senate and the LMA working together to raise additional scholarship funds. A service project brought household goods to the members of the community in need. We also welcomed new Senators **Cindy Kinney**, **Sheri Polychrones**, **Michael Polychrones** and **Aimee Hart**. Of course, the highlight of the meeting was the Martini Shake-off.

This year the presentations were kicked up a notch further with mixologists dressing up in costume for their submissions. Congratulations **Troy Anderson** and

your team for taking home the trophy.

Since M.A.I. had to be cancelled, DC President **Vanessa Kinsley** was unfortunately unable to preside over the first ever meeting of the DC Senate at MAI. Thank you Vanessa for all your hard work this year.

The US JCI Senate National Convention is still scheduled to take place from June 21st - 26th in Greensboro, NC. At that time, we will elect AVP **Ariel Jones** to the position of US JCI Senate President. **Alan Richardson** will also be elected Region III NVP. Chairman **Hope Ellison** will unveil the incredible Region III Party Booth based on "The Untouchables." We will have a private dining room for our regional dinner where can take perform some of those activities that we were not able to do because of the cancellation of MAI.

Under President Sabitha's leadership the Virginia Senate has enjoyed a terrific year. Next year promises to be just as exciting. It is a great time to be involved with the Virginia Senate!

If you have not joined the Region III Facebook page please consider doing so since it provides timely information

Take care, and I am looking forward to seeing you in the not too distant future.

John Cotter, #41511

Region III NVP
410-703-7983

jcotter@verizon.net



"Proud to be From Region III"

VA JCI Senate Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2020

Virginia JCI Senate Meeting

February 15, 2020

Holiday Inn and Suites North Beach

Virginia Beach, VA

President Sabitha called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Lee Wolfe, Chaplain gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by all Veterans.

Approval of Agenda: Art Esenburg made the motion to approve the agenda. Gerry Sproles second. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes from October Meeting: The minutes from the October meeting was sent out in the newsletter. Approve as presented motion by Peggy McHugh, second by Jackie Julian. All were in favor.

Recognition of Guests: Anne Johnson recognized all guests present. National President, Lawrence Pittman and First Lady Karol Pittman; Administrative Vice President, Ariel Jones; Region III National Vice President, John Cotter and his wife Pam Cotter; National Presidential Assistant, Tom King; National Presidential Assistant Tom Rohr and wife Mary Ann; Mentors Reporting Editor, Kathleen King; JCI-USA Liaison/Return the Favor Program Manager, Rob Ray; President of the DC Senate, Vanessa Kinsley; President of the Maryland Senate and Social Media Program Manager, Jen Ray; Past National President John Robinson; Past National President Calvin Baerveldt and wife Diane; Maryland

Senate members Sam and Marilyn Young; Region III Foundation Representative, Elizabeth Benka; Region III Future Directions Representative, Melissa Sleeth.

President Sabitha called on JCI Senate President Lawrence Pittman. Commented on the talent and people in Virginia and in the region. Thanked everyone who attended the meeting in Melbourne, FL. Looking forward to the remainder of his term. Thanked Ariel Jones for the work she does as Administrative Vice President. Recognized people for their work that they do for the organization by giving out one of his gold pins Christina Bruner and Jennifer Reby. Purpose and Passion awards were presented to Sharon Showalter, Paul Showalter, Jack Ferry, Lillian Chang, and Anne Johnson. Special gift presented to Kathleen King and Sabitha Venkatesh. President Sabitha present President Lawrence and First Lady Karol with a special gift.

President Sabitha recognized Virginia Jaycee State President Eboni Lee. Eboni addressed the meeting. Thanked for all the support that is offered by the Senators. Encouraged people to be part of the Senator Mentorship program. Theme for this year is "Visualize then Realize".

US JCI Senate Administrative Assistant, Ariel Jones, will reserve her comments to later in the meeting.

Region III National Vice President, John Cotter, great to see how well all of the organizations in Virginia

work well together. Following people recognized at the meeting in Florida: Sabitha Venkatesh, Ariel Jones, Tom King, Jackie Julien, Paul Showalter (Return the Favor), Kathy Sharpe (Return the Favor), Jennifer Ray, Tom Rohr, Paul and Sharon Showalter and Ole Oreset helped with a reception at the JCI USA training in January. Senators are working hard to support the Jaycees. Dues increase did go through. Hope Ellison will be chairing the party booth in Greensboro, NC in June.

DC JCI Senate President, Vanessa Kinsley, announced some events happening: April 11 tour of Washington on a double deck tour bus, will go around the cherry blossom festival. May 16th, trip to the zoo. District Winery tour on June 13th.

MD JCI Senate President, Jennifer Ray, MD Senate is celebrating their 40th anniversary this year. Helping sponsor the Maryland year end meeting. March 7th celebrating the 40th anniversary at the Bull and Oyster Roast. JCI USA is celebrating 100 years in 2020. OCT 15 – 18 in St. Louis, MO will be a celebration of JCI USA.

Officer & Director Reports: Jackie Julien

Hospitality – Kathleen King – Jackie reported there's food in the suite.

Bar – Jacqueline Camlet - Drink everything in the room

Room, Reservations, and Outings – Sean Murphy, thanked everyone for coming to the Dutch treat last night. Had over 40 people at the meal.

Communications – Lillian Cheng – been doing highlights of the organization history on the Facebook page. Will be focusing on who we are.

Newsletter – Dawana Harris-Bey – Jackie on her behalf, thank you to everyone who submits articles for the newsletter.

Website – Paul Showalter – we have a website, it's up to date.

Director-at-Large – Jennifer Reby – thank you for taking pictures on trips to other activities. Will be working on the SOAR program in the next few months.

Appointed Executive Committee Team Reports:

Treasurer: Sharon Showalter reported dues are due for this quarter, will be collecting money after the meeting. Suite fee for the weekend needs to be paid also, it is \$10, pay to Jack Ferry. Went over the financial report that was handed out. If you have any questions, please see Sharon.

Secretary: Lin Martin stated that minutes are being taken and will be posted in the next newsletter.

Products: Lee Wolfe reported that if you want anything special to let her know. Email her at lee@elevenwest.com. Will be able to help with products for fundraisers. There is a product page on the website.

Liaison: Lisa Smith reported that a Senatorship was presented to Marissa Nihill in the past few weeks. Will be presenting 4 Senatorships this evening. There are at least 2 more

Meeting Minutes—February 15, 2020 (continued from page 5)

that are being worked on. See Lisa if you have any questions about the Senatorship paperwork.

First Timers: Lillian Cheng reported that there are six First Timers at this meeting. There are different activities that the participants are doing this weekend. They will be asking questions, taking pictures, and looking for signatures from Senators.

Return the Favor Program: Chris Taylor thanked everyone for all their help to Jaycees across the state. Congratulations to Paul and Kathy for their recognition on the National level.

Historians: Gerry Sproles asked questions regarding US JCI and Virginia Jaycee history.

Committees:

Finance: Sharon Showalter reported that the committee met this morning and it was a very productive meeting.

Good of the Senate: Alan Richardson reported that they met last night. May need to revamp the Virginia Jaycee Senate application with so many chapters that are no longer active.

US JCI Senate Foundation Scholarships: Jeff Bobich reported that they received 161 scholarship applications from all over Virginia. Has reviewed the top 30 applications and will meet this afternoon to select the top 2 applications to submit to the national organization.

The LMA has approved \$500 for scholarship funds in memory of Skip Hilton. The Foundation also approved \$500 in memory of Skip Hilton to be given to the scholarship winners.

Old Business

Ariel Jones, US JCI Mid-Year Meeting, Melbourne there was 350 in attendance at the meeting, which is a record number. The audit committee was created. Dues increase was approved. Candidate announcements were made. Alan Richardson was announced as Region III NVP. Spring, 2021 will be in Mesa, Arizona. June 2021 will be in Virginia Beach, VA. Wichita, KS will be Fall, 2021. She is looking forward to being elected and serving you well.

Anne Johnson – Campaign 2020 – Kicked off in Melbourne, FL on January 25th. Thank you to everyone has helped with getting information out. There is a campaign fundraiser in the suite with 16 baskets up for auction. Meet and greet happening after the meeting. Fundraising events are continue to happen and watch for updates. National appointments due March 1st, see Anne if you are interested.

Kathleen King – National Convention 2021 – more information will be coming out in the coming months. Save the date magnets are going around. The meeting will be held at the Founders River and Spa in

Virginia Beach, VA. She will be calling on people to help out with planning the meeting.

Tom King – Virginia Jaycee Scholarship – Camp was able to help send 4 Virginia Jaycees to the Corpus Christy, TX.

New Business

LMA/Senate Meeting: Joyce Cooke reported that the meeting will be held at Mountain Lake Lodge in Pembroke, VA on May 1 – 3. See Lee Wolfe or Lin Martin about registration and lodging information.

Nominations and Elections: Melissa Sleeth accepted nominations for elected positions for the 2020/2021 board. The following were the nominations from the floor:

Director – Christina Brunner (Jackie Julian made the motion. Second by Art Esenburg.)

Vice President – Lillian Cheng (Jackie Julian made the motion. Second by Betty Esenburg.)

President – Jackie Julien (Sherry King made the motion. Second by Art Esenburg.)

Motion by Melissa Sleeth to put on the table to vote at the meeting in May. Second made by Vanessa Kingsley. All were in favor.

Presidential Raffle: Was led by Peggy McHugh. Raised \$140 today, 11 tickets were handed out.

President Comments: This has been a quick almost 8 months. Thanked all the membership, board, Anne Johnson, Kathleen King, NVP John Cotter, AVP Ariel Jones, and President Lawrence.

Tom Rohr, Sippy Cup Corp in MD, a special award was presented to Tom King (spilling beer) and Lawrence Pittman (spilling wine)

Meeting was adjourned with the Jaycee Creed led by President Lawrence at 2:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lin Martin

Secretary
Virginia JCI Senate
2019-2020



Celebrating
**FELLOWSHIP
UNITY
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Return the Favor Chairman

Congratulations to Paul Showalter and Cathy Sharp for winning the winter Return the Favor Award! Thank you for everything you do to support your local Jaycee chapters! One of the most important missions of the JCI Senate is to give back to the Jaycee chapters. They may need advice on how to run a project or just help with manpower, and of course, membership referrals are the gift that keeps on giving!

If you know of a chapter that needs help, let me know so I can get the word out.

Don't forget to nominate a fellow senator for all the great things that they are doing to help their local chapters. Send me the nomination form along with an additional statement from the local chapter supporting the nomination and I will submit them to the National Chair. The next national deadline is June 1, so please get your applications to me by May 15.

Have a great spring!

—Chris Taylor
#75972



Candidacy Announcement: US JCI Region III NVP

As we all adjust to what has become our new normal, I hope and pray that all of my fellow Senators in the Virginia JCI Senate, as well as the US JCI Senate, stay safe and healthy during the coronavirus pandemic. It is hard to imagine, even back in February when we met as a Senate in Virginia Beach, that that meeting would be our last for a while. We never could have imagined that MAI would be cancelled along with other regional meetings across the US. We never would have imagined that our joint May meeting with the LMA would have been cancelled. And many of us would not have imagined turning areas of our homes into a telework office...mine is in my dining room!

I am excited to have the opportunity to serve Region III next year as one of 10 National Vice Presidents and thank each and every member of the Virginia JCI Senate for their support. I have been a Jaycee since 1987 and received my Senatorship in 1992...it truly is the honor that I treasure the most. The friendships made throughout the years are precious to me and I look forward to making many more while serving as Region III NVP. I look forward to working with the Maryland JCI Senate, the DC JCI Senate, the West Virginia JCI Senate and of course, my home state, the Virginia JCI Senate during the 2020/2021

Senate year. I also look forward to working with one of our own, current US JCI Senate AVP Ariel Jones, #65423 as she is elected National Senate President in Greensboro in June. I promise not to let her or you down.

As I sit in my home office, it is a beautiful Spring day...my cherry tree is in full bloom, the grass freshly cut, the cardinals flying through the sky. It is hard to believe that this is the new normal as it seems to be just the normal. To all of my fellow Senators, thank you again for the support you have always given me, as Virginia Senate President and as last year's MAI Chair and in my new quest to serve as Region III NVP. That support has always meant more than you will ever know! Stay safe, stay healthy, social distancing and we will be able to get together soon. We will toast each other and tell stories of how we survived the pandemic in the Senate Suite!

In the Spirit of the Senate,

Alan Richardson, #50550
Past President, 2001



Hello, Virginia – We have a candidate for US JCI SENATE NATIONAL PRESIDENT!!!!



Hellllllo Virginia JCI Senate!



Although we are going through difficult times as a Commonwealth and Nation, I am still very proud to be your candidate to be the 49th President of the US JCI Senate. My heart is filled with joy and gratitude that you have bestowed upon me in the next phase of leadership on this journey.

There are so many of you to thank personally that I am hesitant to name because I do not want to omit anyone. Just know that I am more than grateful for your financial contributions to the campaign as well as your time and energy.

It has been said many times, that it takes a village to support one – and in this year – it has been one of the best F.U.N. villages ever led by President Sabitha. I do hope you all can

make it to Greensboro, NC for the US JCI Senate National convention where I hope to be elected on Wednesday, June 24th and installed on Thursday, June 25th. It definitely is a big deal, but it is a bigger deal to me personally to have YOU there. I need YOU and treasure your presence. I know that Alan Richardson, #50550 who will be our incoming Region III National Vice President feels the same way..... Allllllon Richardson!!!! Virginia is in the house!!!!

I will NOT let you down and will represent Virginia, Region III and the US JCI Senate to my best ability.

I promise to make you proud to have a candidate and National President from Virginia! That is the very least I can do for everything YOU have given me.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Ariel

Ariel Jones, #65423
VA JCI Senate President 2009-2010

Chairman of the Board

Hello Senators!

I hope you are all well. It is certainly disappointing that we won't be able to hold our end of the year meeting as scheduled, but we will persevere and all be the better for the experience! I have had FUN serving as your Chairman of the Board with President Sabitha this year. It has been a pleasure working with such a vibrant and enthusiastic group of people. Congrats on a great year! President Sabitha has worked hard to give us such a great variety of opportunities in which to participate this year, as well as coming together with the rest of the Board of Directors in the face of the hardships we are currently enduring.

I am still accepting names to put into nomination for our incoming Board of Directors at the next meeting where we will hold our elections. Let me know if I can help answer any questions by email, mhseagle@verizon.net, or by text, 804-986-3246. Remember that Service to Humanity is the Best Work of Life!

In Jaycees,

Melissa

Melissa H. Sleeth
2019-2020 Virginia JCI Senate
Chairman of the Board





Left: Cheers - Senators toasting in the suite



Above: US JCI Senate President Lawrence presents gold pins to Christina Brunner and Jennifer Rebbly

Immediate right: Senate President Lawrence Pittman, US JCI Senate AVP Ariel Jones, US JCI Senate Region III NVP John Cotter, VP Jackie Julien, President Sabitha Venkatesh



Immediate left: Senators and Life Members joined the Virginia Jaycees in a service project "Welcome Home"





Immediate left:
New Senators -
Cindy Kinney,
Sheri Polychrones,
Michael Polychrones,
Aimee Hart

Right: President Lawrence
presented the People, Purpose,
Passion awards to Anne Johnson,
Paul Showalter, Sharon Showalter,
Lillian Cheng and Jack Ferry



2019-2020 Scholarship Program

The Virginia JCI Senate 2019-2020 Scholarship Program has concluded. We received over 160 applicants from outstanding high school seniors across the state. Our top two students were Jamael Smith of Evington in Campbell County (Rustburg High School) and Mia Hagood of Asburn in Loudoun County (Stone Bridge High School). These students were entered into the U.S. JCI Senate National Scholarship Program, with final results due in April. Furthermore, these top students are each receiving a \$500 Scholarship in memory of the late Skip Hilton, Senator #72682. These scholarships were

co-funded by the Virginia Jaycees Foundation and the Life Member Association. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 and the closure of schools, in-person scholarship presentations will not be feasible this year. Instead we will issue a press release when the funds are distributed in May. My thanks to our Scholarship Committee Members – Joyce Cooke #65605, Jack Ferry #76561, and Dr. Bill Incatasciato #76562 – they did a great job reading through a large number of outstanding applications in a short time.

–Scholarship Chair, **Jeff Bobich**, #72309

Chaplain

My two-cents concerning on COVID-19:

"It is the long history of humankind (and animal kind, too) that those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed."

~ Charles Darwin

This is definitely a time that not too many have seen before where we must learn to improvise and change to accommodate in a difficult situation. Don't be disheartened; if we all work together, we can make these changes work and realize this too shall pass, or at least become more comfortable as each day passes. Keep each other in your thoughts and prayers, reach out to those who may need a helping hand, and stay healthy! We will persevere and prevail!

Thanks,
Lizz Wolfe
73613



Treasurer

Dear Fellow Senators,

In February we renewed 36 members, reactivated 6 "lost members", and welcomed 5 new Senators for the quarter. Thank you for your continued support! In early March, Assistant Treasurer Jack Ferry mailed this quarter's renewal letters - we have 71 renewals due by mid-May. Just a reminder, you have two options available for renewing: you can mail a \$35 check to Jack or you can renew using PayPal on the membership page of our website (<http://www.vajcisenate.org/membership.html>).

It has been a pleasure serving you as Treasurer this year. But you haven't seen the last of me! Assuming AVP Ariel is elected as National President in June (Go Ariel!), I will be working

with Kathleen King and her planning committee to handle all the finances for the National Convention we will host in Virginia Beach in June 2021. I hope to see all of you there! Registration will open by the end of June.

During these uncertain times, please reach out to your fellow Senators, especially those who live alone or are most vulnerable to the coronavirus. I know they would love to hear from you. Stay safe.



Sharon Showalter

#70987
Treasurer 2019-2020

Your Director-at-Large Dishes...

Hello Senators!

I cannot thank you enough for supporting the US JCI Senate's Greensboro Trail Program! Over twenty senators participated by attending events in Maryland, Kentucky and Tennessee. They took group photos, often creatively using their cell phones

to display the Greensboro Trail covered wagon logo. The Virginia JCI Senate proved their Senate Spirit with six photo submissions! I know we will continue to demonstrate the same level of support for our national programs and our regional neighbors. Until we meet again, let the F.U.N. continue!

Jennifer Rebbly, #75071

Director-at-Large
Greensboro Trail Program
Manager

A Word from your Region III US JCI Senate Foundation Rep

With the cancellation of the MAI meeting and, therefore, the Auction, John Cotter and I began discussing ideas for raising money for the US JCI Senate Foundation from MAI (Mid-Atlantic Institute Regions II & III). This same day Past National President John Robinson, one of our faithful Auction "runners" from PA, sent an email to Carole Harlan, Region II Representative and MAI Auction Co-Chair, and me, suggesting the idea of sending the MAI Registration Fee to the Foundation instead of getting a refund! Each person who donated would have that amount credited to his/her Foundation account or would go towards establishing an account!

It was an amazing idea, supported by Roxanne Astry, MAI Registration Chairman, and Earl Sawyer, Foundation Treasurer! John Cotter put a notice on his Region III Facebook page and sent letters to all four

Region III presidents. Carole Harlan did the same for Region II.

As of this writing, a total of \$3000 has been raised by MAI for the Foundation from donated Registration Fees as well as Program Ads!! Thank you to everyone who contributed to this worthwhile endeavor. A special thanks to John Robinson and our own Region III NVP John Cotter!!

Stay safe and well. Hopefully, we'll all be together soon.

Elizabeth Benka

Region III Representative
US JCI Senate Foundation

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Presidential Sweepstakes Update

I hope these challenging times are finding you and your family healthy. I pray that we can get through all the restrictions soon with no horrible lasting effects. I miss seeing all of you!!

Thanks so much for supporting the JCI Senate Presidential Sweepstakes by participating in our raffles at each meeting. You have allowed us to send \$380.00 to help support President Lawrence in his travels and other needs. We gave away all our allotment of tickets along with President Sabitha's and Future Directions Melissa's allotments. Thank you again!!

I hope each of you was able to send in your own contribution for the tickets you received earlier this year. If you are using some quarantine time to clean off tables and you just found yours, it's not too late to send them in. I also just received more tickets from the national chairman in anticipation of our May meeting, so if we are able to meet in June we will do one last raffle. If you would like more

tickets, please let me know and I can get them to you.

This will definitely go down as a year we will never forget. Thanks to President Sabitha and her team for all the fun and adventures we were able to have - I have been honored to play a small part in the group.

Stay safe and wash your hands!!

Peggy McHugh

#62466

Presidential Sweepstakes Chair



Virginia JCI Senate

Dawana L. Harris-Bey, #68527
Editor



We're on the web :

<http://www.vajcisenate.org/>

From Your Webmaster

Hello fellow Senators!

Spring is here and we are all trapped inside our homes. Please send me your event photos and any information about upcoming events that you would like displayed on our website. Incoming Board members should review their web pages and provide updates to me as necessary.

It was great seeing everyone this year – and an amazing year it was. Sabitha made it F.U.N. for everyone. I hope you join us for a fun-filled Spring meeting.

Remember to “Smile” when I point the camera in your direction.

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