

US JCI Senate  
Region IV  
Don Ebbitt NVP

“Taking Care  
of Business”

# Region IV News

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 28, 2020

## Heard ‘Round Region IV



Dear Fellow Senators,

*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*"(Matthew 11:28)

Sometimes life seems just too much to bear. This passage can provide encouragement when we get overwhelmed by life's journey. Often, we confide in friends or family and even though they are listening, they may not really understand the emotion or seriousness of our situation. Always remember, we are not alone in whatever the day gives us.

We also need to be sure to take care of ourselves each day. Take a walk outside, spend time with your family or friends, or just sit quietly in your comfy chair and relax. There are many unique ways to get replenished.

Find the positive in each day. How we approach our day can make a tremendous difference. Positive thinking is very healthy for us. Kendra Cherry (Very Well Mind (2017B) defined positive thinking as: *"Positive thinking actually means approaching life's challenges with a positive outlook. It does not necessarily mean avoiding or ignoring the bad things; instead, it involves making the most of the potentially bad situations, trying to see the best in other people, and viewing yourself and your abilities in a positive light."* Finally, the coronavirus is more serious than we could ever have imagined. We must remain cautious, strong and calm. Read Psalm 91:

## **Psalm 91**

**Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.  
I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my  
fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust.  
Surely he will save you  
from the fowlers snare  
and from the deadly pestilence.  
He will cover you with his feathers,  
and under his wings you will find refuge  
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.  
You will not fear the terror of night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,  
nor the plague that destroys at midday.  
A thousand may fall at your side,  
ten thousand at your right hand,  
but it will not come near you.  
You will only observe with your eyes  
and see the punishment of the wicked.  
If you say, The Lord is my refuge,  
and you make the Most High your dwelling,  
no harm will overtake you,  
no disaster will come near your tent.  
For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways  
they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a  
stone.  
You will tread on the lion and the cobra  
you will trample the great lion and the serpent.  
Because he loves me, says the Lord, I will rescue  
him  
I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.  
He will call on me, and I will answer him  
I will be with him in trouble,  
I will deliver him and honor him.  
With long life I will satisfy him  
and show him my salvation.**

Until we can all safely meet together again..... my prayers are with us all.

Debra James #48001  
Region IV Chaplain

# North Carolina

Greetings from North Carolina!

My theme for the year is “Sparking Joy” and there have been plenty of events that have sparked joy for me over the past several months. Unfortunately, there is a lot of fear and uncertainty around the world right now. We are being encouraged to spend more time inside and away from other people, which is not in the Jaycee/JCI Senate nature! So how can we be as joyful as we can be under the circumstances?

I recently read an article that provided some suggestions for this. Two of the suggestions were to help others and to connect with friends and family. These are things JCI excels at! Look for ways to help others and let them know you’re looking out for them. This is a time when technology can really come in handy. We all want to feel connected and cared for, so calling and texting can help us all avoid feeling trapped and lonely.

We also have things to look forward to. On May 16, the NC JCI Senate will host its annual “Homecoming” at the Boys & Girls Home of North Carolina. The residents of the home will host a cookout for us and we will enjoy fun and fellowship! Of course, NC will also be home to the US Year End Convention in June. We look forward to seeing everyone in Greensboro to celebrate President Lawrence and his amazing year.

Supporting each other and enjoying fellowship has made for a fun and joyous region. Here’s to the joy that will continue to come into our lives!

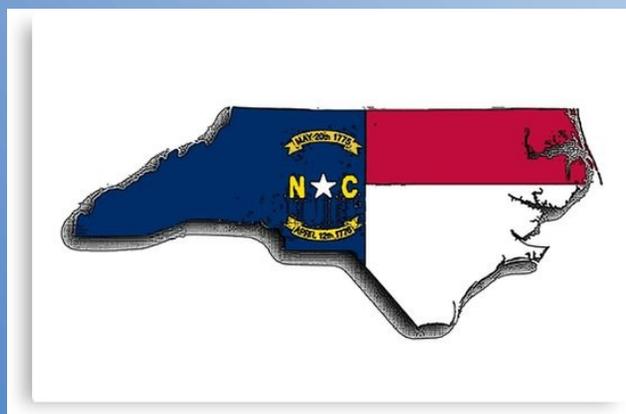
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# Florida

Greetings from the Sunshine State!

I have to pinch myself to believe it's already March and I'm headed into the last quarter as State President! Not sure where to start, as FL has been "**Taking Care of Business**" this year...along with our family of states in Region IV.

One of Florida's proudest moments was hosting our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in November at the Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore. It was a weekend to remember with 200+ in attendance... including 8 US JCI Senate Nat'l Presidents, President Lawrence & 1<sup>st</sup> Lady Karol, 29 Past FL JCI Senate Presidents and 11 past FL Jaycee Presidents. We welcomed a new Senator to our Florida family...Donald Duffy, Jr. #78415. He was completely surprised by the Senatorship presentation given by Mark & Cindy Brandel (#49789 & #54928, respectively). Of course, as always Region IV Senators attended to show their love and support. For that, I am truly grateful!!

A huge **THANK YOU** goes out to Chairman Bianca Deal #71182 and Co-Chairman Bill Hossman #41293 for the dedication and work they put into making this celebration such a successful event! This was a TEAM effort, and their committee members were an integral part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary's success as well.

This year I chose to continue what COB Bianca Deal implemented during her presidency, by choosing a Pet Project at each quarterly meeting. The **Big Cat Rescue** in Tampa was my Pet Project at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Due to everyone's generosity, and a little help from the prodding by the Sergeant of Arms (Mark Brandel #49789 & Mike Phillips #50063) at our Saturday Membership Meeting, \$1,322.00 was raised for **Big Cat Rescue** ([www.bigcatrescue.com](http://www.bigcatrescue.com))!! Thank you Region IV for supporting this worthwhile charity. I am truly touched by your generosity, as this charity is special to not only me, but was a favorite of my late-husband Larry.

The next road on Florida's Journey led us to Melbourne, FL in January where we attended and assisted Region IV with hosting the US JCI Winter Board Meeting. What a fun weekend! Congratulations to Chairman Denise Bauer #61276 and her committee for making Region IV shine. **Region IV Rocks!!**

During the Saturday Night Banquet, Dee Stone #59531 & I were honored to present a Senatorship to a well deserving past Bradenton Jaycee & friend...Julia Cutshaw #78350. FL was also very proud of Madeline Robinson #50844 and BJ Craft #45900 for receiving President Lawrence's People Purpose Passion Award.

Thank you to JCI Florida President, Mindy Fels and her board members Stacy Mahr & Michael Holiday #77747 for jumping in wherever needed to assist with manpower at Winter Boards.

As we headed into February, our Journey brought us to Kissimmee, FL for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Meeting with 60+ in attendance. We welcomed our friends from Region V (via Illinois) & Region II (new FL Senators). The entertainment on Saturday night was a fundraiser hosted by the FL Senate Foundation...we had the opportunity to be a horse jockey or to bet on our favorite jockey and horse. Fun evening with the most adorable horses made by our very own Scholarship Chairman Randy Windham #58263.

The FL Senate reached deep into their pockets once again and helped raise \$1,126.00 for my 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Pet Project...**K9s for Warriors** ([www.k9sforwarriors.org](http://www.k9sforwarriors.org)). This time Sergeant of Arms Jay Edmondson #41977 and Steve Sutherland #27073 stirred things up by fining the attendees at our Saturday Membership meeting. Not much was off limits. LOL!

Our Regional Directors have kept a busy social calendar within their regions every quarter. Just some of the socials were Region 9's Summer Crush Winery Social; Region 6's Light Up Mt. Dora Outing w/dinner; Region 12/13 Brunch with the Clauses; Region 8's Holiday Party; and Greater Hollywood Jaycees' 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary...just to mention a few.

Mark your calendars for May 15 – 17 for our YE Conference & Elections. Finding a hotel to host this conference has been very challenging. As soon as we confirm the hotel, we will post it on our website ([www.fljcsenate.org](http://www.fljcsenate.org)). We are looking forward to hosting JCI Florida at our meeting. One of many steps towards rebuilding the FL Senate and Jaycee relationship.

It's tough for NVPs to visit their home states when there is so much going on in their Regions...but NVP Don Ebbitt has been able to attend all our meetings and the FL Bash. We really appreciate your commitment to FL; as you've had to travel many a weekend to all the events/meetings hosted within Region IV. I know I speak for the Region when I say we appreciate all the time you've spent on the road (and in the air) supporting all of us.

As I write this article, the Coronavirus is causing so much apprehension and tension throughout the country. I pray that we all stay safe and healthy, and that we will be able to meet up in April at the Annual Calabash.

As Florida's "**Journey of a Lifetime**" continues, let's show everyone how strong and proud Region IV continues to be by "**Taking Care of Business**" in the US JCI Senate.

In Senate Friendship,

Caryn "CC" Ackerman #62039  
50<sup>th</sup> President



That's All Folks!!!

Please remember during this Pandemic to  
remain Calm, Courteous and Kind!

Check on your Elderly and single friends.

Stay safe and WASH YOUR HANDS for at  
least 20 seconds... Forget Happy Birthday,  
Say the Creed!!!

Take your Vitamins!

We will all see each other as soon as we  
can!

