

# State Youth Director Lynette Talasek

SPJST Home Office

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September 27, 2016

**Dear Youth Leaders,**

October is here and that means it is Czech Heritage Month. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Czech culture and heritage. Czech people are all about family and that includes your SPJST family! Thanks to those SPJST lodges that have been hosting Czech heritage celebrations in the weeks leading up to this special month and to those who have events planned for Czech Heritage Month. Many of these events consist of a fabulous Czech meal that is enjoyed by all. This is a great opportunity to stress the importance of planning a meal with you family on a regular basis, whether that be SPJST family or your immediate family.

SPJST State Royalty will be at the State Fair in Dallas, Texas on Sunday, October 16, 2016 starting at 10 a.m. This coincides with Heritage Festival, 2016 and is sponsored by Texas Cultural Partnership. There will be Beseda dancers, music, food and lots of fun. Please come to the State Fair and join our SPJST State Royalty Court. If you can't make it to the State Fair there are other Czech events and museums around the state you can visit. Please see the Vestnik for more information on these events.

The 2016-2017 State Royalty Court made their first public appearance at the Westfest in West, Texas on Labor Day Weekend. Westfest is a celebration of Czech heritage and culture held annually in the Central Texas town of West. Royalty Court members rode in the parade and also made an appearance in the Cultural Amphitheater. District Two Beseda dancers did a great job dancing again this year at Westfest. Thanks to District Two and Three members that rode on the float in the Westfest parade. The very next weekend the State Royalty Court had an opportunity to attend the Caldwell Kolache Festival. District One Royalty and State Royalty Courts were introduced to the crowd followed by a performance from Lodge 9, Snook and Lodge 17, New Tabor Beseda dancers.

## **"Seeking The Treasures of SPJST" Membership Drive**

Only three months to go in this year's 2016 membership drive. **There's still time for youth club members to make new member referrals and have them count towards your club's 2016 youth application quota!**

- Goals to Achieve:
- Host one district youth membership rally
  - Meet requirements needed to qualify for Youth Program Incentives

Award: \$100 for each youth club in respective district that achieves its youth club goal. Funds must be used for the benefit of the youth in the respective district.

#### **Seeking The Treasures of SPJST Youth Club Incentives:**

- Award:
- \$10 for each certificate issued, ages 0 to 17, in the respective lodge.
  - Additional \$10 for each certificate issued that joins the youth club (\$20 total)

#### **"Top Youth Club in District" Award**

Top active youth club with most certificates issued in 2015 that remain in force. Must have a minimum of three certificates issued in 2015.

Award: Swimming, etc. party for youth leaders and youth members. Cost not to exceed \$200.

If you have any questions regarding the incentive programs, please refer to the Seeking the Treasures of SPJST Membership Campaign guide on page 66 and 67 of your 2015-2016 SPJST Youth Club Handbook.

#### **Youth Leader Incentive**

Youth leaders don't forget about the youth leader incentive! Some of you have already met your goals and I can not wait to recognize you at the SPJST Awards Banquet on January 30, 2017. All you need is five new youth members to join your youth club and you will win \$100 if you get 10 new youth members you win \$200.

#### **100 Pennies Scholarship Drive Kicks Off October 1**

The 100 Pennies Scholarship Drive begins October 1. All youth club members who donate \$2 or more will receive 2 merit points. Youth club members who donate \$5 or more will receive a certificate acknowledging their gift. This is such an easy way to earn merit points while making a difference in the future of our young members. Remember, the money raised goes to our graduating seniors.

#### **Make a Difference Day is October 22**

Make A Difference Day is the most encompassing national day of helping others - a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. Everyone can participate. Created by USA WEEKEND Magazine, Make A Difference Day is an annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October.

The next event is Saturday, October 22, 2016. Who can participate? Anyone! Young and old, individuals and groups can carry out a volunteer project that help others. It might be a big project like collecting truckloads of clothing for the homeless, or as personal as spending an afternoon helping an elderly neighbor or relative. For more detailed information, please refer to the Make a Difference Day website at <http://makeadifferenceday.com/>. Youth Leaders please take some time out to discuss Make a Difference Day and let the youth plan a project. Consider inviting another SPJST youth club or other youth group to join in on your project. All members who participate will earn 2 points on the merit point system. Also, this is a great way to earn hours for the President's Volunteer Service Award!

### **Christmas Ornament Contest**

As of this newsletter three districts have held their Christmas Ornament Contests -- and I like what I've been seeing! If your district's fall meeting is still pending, please encourage your youth to attend and participate in the contest. Also, encourage youth members to help set up, clean up, run a game, or volunteer their services throughout the day and keep track of their hours. These service hours can be added towards the President's Volunteer Service Award. Remember that any ornaments entered cannot include food items because they cannot be stored or reused on the tree the following year. Christmas Ornament contest rules appear on page 37 of the current SPJST Youth Club handbook. The online version of the handbook may be accessed at <http://www.spjst.org/youthforms.html>. Upcoming district meeting dates are as follows:

District 1	October 9 hosted by Lodge 186, Caldwell
District 3	October 23 hosted by Lodge 25, Ennis
District 6	October 6 hosted by Lodge 4, Hallettsville & Lodge 63, Sweet Home
District 7	November 13 hosted by Lodge 107, Floresville

Fraternally,

*Lynette Talasek*

Lynette Talasek  
SPJST State Youth Director

# SPJST October Vestnik Project - Kolaches: A Taste of Czech Culture

This project earns a maximum of 1 point in the SPJST Youth Clubs Merit Points System. Mail completed project no later than **November 15, 2016** to:  
 SPJST Youth Program c/o SPJST Home Office • P.O. Box 100 • Temple, Texas 76503

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge \_\_\_\_\_

## Kolaches: A Taste of Czech Culture

Kolaches — square- or oval-shaped sweetbreads with fillings of apple, apricot, peach, pineapple, prune or poppyseed, as well as cottage cheese or cream cheese — are a favorite at Czech festivals and family gatherings throughout the state. Considered by some to be the original Czech wedding pastry, kolaches also make a great breakfast food, dessert, or a food at any gathering. Some of the first kolaches made in Texas were baked in the wood stove ovens of Czech families after they began arriving in the New World in the mid 1800’s.

Folklore has it that in the early eighteenth century, a mother was baking the weekly family bread. Her small daughter was helping. The mother sweetened a small amount of the dough and gave it to her daughter, Libuse, to keep her busy. Libuse made her dough into small flat cakes. She then added some sweetened plum jelly into the center where she had made an indentation with her fingers. These cakes went into the oven along with the mother’s bread.



The little cakes had just come out of the oven when the father came in from the field. He immediately tried one and the hot pastry burned his mouth, causing him to dance around as he tried to cool his tongue. Thinking that her father was dancing for her, Libuse began clapping her hands as she sang, “*Tatinec, do kola, do kola,*” which translated, means, “Daddy go around, go around.”

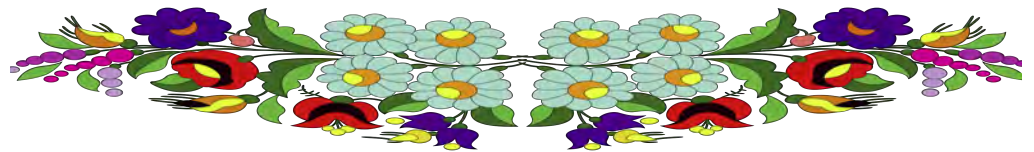
The next week, the father asked Libuse to make him some more of the little cakes. She called them “*kolas*” because they made daddy go around. So every week Libuse made her “*kolas*.” The family began to call them “*kolache*,” meaning “go around things.” Friends and neighbors learned about Libuse’s kolaches and they started making them, too. Over the next century, they spread over Europe and were eventually brought by Czech

immigrants to Texas and other parts of the United States. Generations later, the kolache remains a lasting and tasty part of Czech culture.

**After reading the story, find these related words in the puzzle below and circle them.**

- |         |           |              |
|---------|-----------|--------------|
| kolache | pineapple | cream cheese |
| apple   | prune     | Libuse       |
| apricot | poppyseed | SPJST        |

L I Y H B A E L P P A E N I P Y U N X  
 I R Z D C A L D W E L L X L F F K T H  
 I B R Z J O C N K D K E P B A A A F A  
 T R L C O T T A G E C H E E S E G I R  
 S E H I L J M D E E S Y P P O P M A O  
 J A G I B W X V Q I M A B S J M E E E  
 P K K B P U Y A A V C E R O I R L L H  
 S F T A V R S H R E H O X G U T D D C  
 V A O P U V U E A C J Y R T U O E K A  
 S S C P C I I N A B Z A L T U S W J L  
 F T I L W T T E E L N U E G S S S U O  
 F J R E J Z P S E T C L H E Q E R H K  
 Z R P N B T T O S I M J R D P E W P Z  
 S C A J T F X L J T R T D E J I L B G  
 Q E T A E S E E H C M A E R C L T D H



**2016 Seeking the Treasures of SPJST  
Issued Applications**

**Age 0-17**

As of August 31, 2016

<b>District One</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Issued</b>	<b>District Six</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Issued</b>
Lodge 9, Snook	5	1	Lodge 30, Taiton	5	10
Lodge 17, New Tabor	5	0	Lodge 40, El Campo-Hillje	3	3
Lodge 186, Caldwell	5	2	Lodge 148, El Maton	3	0
<b>District Two</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Issued</b>	<b>District Seven</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Issued</b>
Lodge 20, Granger	3	1	Lodge 79, Corpus Christi	5	7
Lodge 24, Cyclone	5	3	Lodge 185, New Braunfels	5	3
Lodge 29, Taylor	5	9	Lodge 202, Jourdanton	5	0
Lodge 47, Seaton	5	20			
Lodge 48, Beyersville	5	3			
Lodge 80, Holland	5	0			
Lodge 182, Falls County	3	3			
Lodge 187, Round Rock	3	5			
<b>District Three</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Issued</b>			
Lodge 6, Cottonwood	5	4			
Lodge 25, Ennis	5	5			
Lodge 84, Dallas	5	1			
Lodge 92, Fort Worth	5	2			
Lodge 154, Fort Worth	5	4			
Lodge 183, Arlington	5	7			
<b>District Four</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Issued</b>			
Lodge 49, Rowena	5	1			
Lodge 215, South Plains	5	3			
<b>District Five</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Issued</b>			
Lodge 81, Needville	5	5			
Lodge 88, Houston	5	7			
Lodge 142, Houston	5	5			
Lodge 162, Iowa Colony	3	4			