
SPJST YOUTH

P.O. Box 100 - Temple, Texas 76501 |(800)727-7578 | (254)931-0639

District Fall Fun Fall Dates

District 1 - October 8 hosted by Lodge 186, Caldwell

District 3 - October 22 hosted by Lodge 183, Arlington

District 4 - October 7 hosted by Lodge 215, South Plains

District 5 - September 23 hosted by Lodge 196, Houston

District 6 - October 21 hosted by Lodge 30, Taiton

District 7 - October 22 hosted by Lodge 185, New Braunfels.



What a “funtastic” time we had this summer! Thank you to all the district youth counselors, adult volunteers, camp staff, and SPJST members, officers, and directors for providing our youth with such a wonderful camp. I had a great time being at the District Camps and enjoyed the fun activities at SPJST Education and Nature Center. I really enjoyed watching the youth interact with one another and how it helps them to come out of their comfort zone. I saw this happen with many new campers and experienced ones too. You inspire them to be more confident in themselves, lead by example in teaching them to build lifelong friendships and providing lasting memories from our SPJST camp.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped with State Youth Achievement Day on August 5 at the Temple Mayborn Center. Your assistance was greatly appreciated and I could not have done this without you.

Fall District Youth Counselor Meeting

The 2017 Fall District Youth Counselor (DYC) Meeting will be September 22 and 23 in Fort Worth. During the meeting DYC's talk about guidelines for 2018 YAD Constructed Items (Paper Projects), Foods (Pastries/Sweet Bread), and Photography (Bridges). We also discuss camp, next year's theme, as well as any additions to the youth club rule book that may help things run a little smoother.

Youth Leaders and parents if you have any items you would like your DYC to discuss at our meeting please submit your request in writing to your DYC. This way your voices can be heard and addressed.

Czech Heritage Month

All youth clubs are encouraged to observe - and celebrate - Czech Heritage Month at their October meeting. Since 1999 the month of October has annually been observed as Czech Heritage Month in Texas to commemorate the contributions of Texans or Czech ancestry.

First Quarter Reports Due 9/15/17

Your June, July, and August Quarterly reports and youth club rosters are due September 15.

Christmas Ornament Contest Time

It is Christmas ornament contest time! Make sure that you do not use any food items in your ornate design because they cannot be sorted or reused on the tree the following year. The Christmas ornament contest will be held at your fall district fun day. 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>.

Grandparents Day - September 10, 2017

We all know that we live in a fast paced world, but if we would slow down and take the time to visit with our grandparents we would learn so much from them. All youth club members are encouraged to honor their grandparents and the grandparents in their lodges during the month of September. Give them a chance to tell their stories - I promise you will not be disappointed.





October Vestnik Project

The October *Vestnik* Project is about Healthy Eating. Please consider asking your youth to bring a healthy homemade snack to your next meeting. Another idea would be to invite a fitness trainer to provide simple activities for the youth and share the importance of healthy eating.

West Fest - Saturday, September 2, 2017

This year WestFest parade and festivities will be on September, 2, 2017 at the fairgrounds in West. This is also when the 2017 - 2018 State Royalty Court makes their first public appearance. Watch the *Vestnik* for more details.

Make a Difference Day - October 28, 2017

Volunteers from across the country will unite for Make a Difference Day, one of the largest annual single-days of service nationwide. Please consider participating in this movement. If you plan something significant be sure to take plenty of pictures and register them online at <http://www.makeadifferenceday.com> for a chance to win cash prizes.

SPJST Scholarships and Leadership Grants

Please be sure to encourage all high school seniors in your lodge to apply for the SPJST General Scholarship. Active youth club members are strongly encouraged to apply for the General Scholarship and SPJST Leadership Grant. Enclosed, you will find a roster to write the names of all high school seniors who are members of your Lodge's youth club. Please indicate next to the members name if they are active or not. When you have completed the form please return the information to the Fraternal Department. When we receive your list, the appropriate application will be forwarded to each individual you have listed. College undergraduates who have not received an SPJST Scholarship are also encouraged to apply.

Fraternally,

Lynette Talasek

Lynette Talasek

SPJST September Vestnik Project - Labor Day

This project earns a maximum of 1 point in the SPJST Youth Clubs Merit Points System. Mail completed project no later than **October 15, 2017** to:
SPJST Youth Program c/o SPJST Home Office • P.O. Box 100 • Temple, Texas 76503

Name _____ Age _____ Lodge _____

Labor Day: Celebrating Summer's End and Paying Tribute to the American Worker

Labor Day, the first Monday in September is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It represents a national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City. In 1884, the Central Labor Union -- a worker's rights organization -- designated the first Monday in September as a holiday and urged similar organizations in other cities to follow their example. The idea caught on and soon Labor Day was being observed in many cities.

Oregon was the first state to make the holiday an official statewide observance. Then came Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York. By 1894, 30 states had adopted the holiday in honor of workers. On June 28 of that year, Congress officially designated the first Monday in September of each year a national legal holiday.

What Does Labor Day Mean to You?

Nowadays, Labor Day is seen by many as a way to mark the end of summer -- one last chance to barbecue or party before school starts and the routine of fall settles in. Doug Scott, writing in the August 29, 2014 edition of the online newsletter, *Redeem Your Ground*, offers a perspective that gets back to where the idea originated, "This Labor Day weekend -- in the midst of all the picnics, football games, barbeques, and end-of-summer-pool-parties, let me challenge you to consider and appreciate those men and women who worked so hard to afford us the blessed lives we lead today."

According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, the US workforce is comprised of more than 140 million workers!

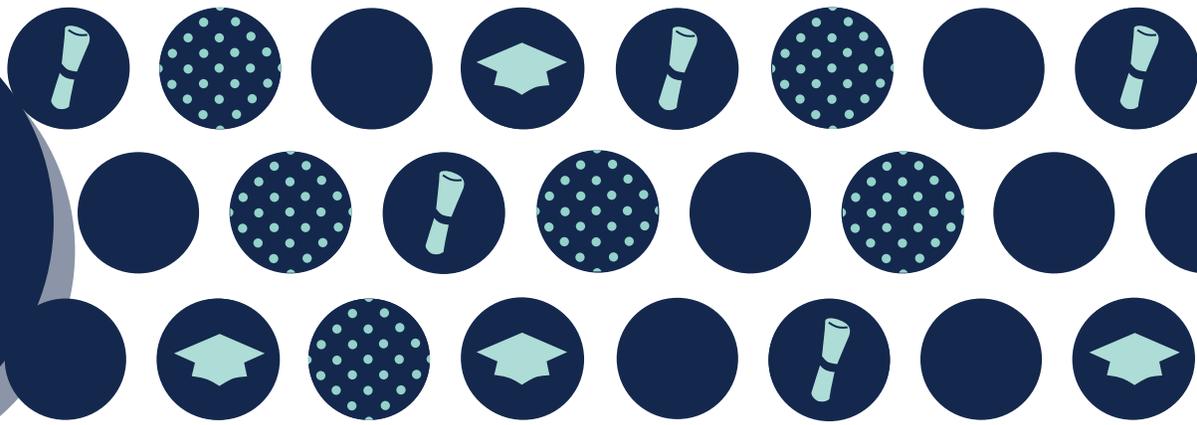


And a Little Something for Parents . . .

He continues, "And if you're a parent, let me challenge you further to try to think of ways you could help your kids get their hands dirty and work hard towards something so that they too might be able to appreciate Labor Day now and in the future. If you do, I'd venture to say that you'll be making it more likely that they will be more productive, more responsible, and more engaged in whatever lives they lead once they are on their own. And as a parent, there are few things that are better than that."

Now, It's Your Turn!

In the space below -- or on the back if you need more space -- explain what Labor Day means to you! What do you believe would be a good way to observe Labor Day in your community?



Attention SPJST High School Seniors and College Undergraduates:

SPJST Scholarship Applications Available September 2017 Through January 2018

Please Note:

Applications and all required information must be submitted to the Fraternal Department by February 1, 2018.

To receive a General Scholarship Application and *Leadership Grant Application, please call the SPJST Home Office Fraternal Department at 800.727.7578 or 254.773.1575 or download an application at www.spjst.org.

*Must be an active SPJST Youth Club member to apply for the Leadership Grant.

Please list the names and addresses of all High School Seniors from your lodge who are active Youth Club members. They will receive a General Scholarship Application and a Leadership Grant Application from the Home Office.



Lodge Number and Name: _____

Youth Leader's Name: _____

Date: _____

Name _____

Address _____



2017 SPJST STATE YAD PERFORMANCE/YOUTH VIDEOS ORDER FORM

SPJST State Youth Video

features snippets from summer camps and YADs - shown at State YAD

State YAD Talent Performances

features individual talents (four age groups of individual talents)
and senior/junior group talents

State YAD Royalty Speech

features king and queen contestant interviews and speeches
duke and duchess interviews and crowning

I would like to order _____ copies of the State Youth Achievement Day
Performance/Youth Video(s) @ \$15 ea. Videos will be on a flash drive.

Make checks payable to SPJST.

Grand Total: \$ _____

Mail To:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Email _____



Videos will be available after Sept. 1.

Orders may also be placed online at www.spjst.org in the youth section.

**Return order form with payment to:
SPJST Vestnik/Communication Dept.
P.O. Box 100 • Temple, Texas 76503**

For questions: 800-727-7578 • email: info@spjst.org





Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund Established by SPJST Foundation

The devastation experienced by Texans living along the Texas Gulf Coast and many points inland reminds us of the fragile existence that we share with our environment. In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, SPJST members and others have been contacting the SPJST Home Office in Temple wanting to give financial assistance — under the auspices of SPJST.

The Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund has been organized and will be managed by the SPJST Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, located within the confines of the SPJST Home Office at 520 North Main Street in Temple, Texas.

Relief efforts are currently underway and are expected to continue for months if not years. A Hurricane Harvey Relief Committee will be established to identify projects needing attention and submitting requests to the SPJST Foundation for the disbursement of funds contributed to the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund.

As Texans work to rebuild their lives post Hurricane Harvey, it is important that SPJST — through the SPJST Foundation — do all it can to help them get back on their feet. The Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund is being organized in a fashion similar to that of the West Benevolence Fund which sought to address a multitude of needs and projects promulgated as a result of the massive April 18, 2013, fertilizer explosion which rocked the Central Texas City of West.

Checks may be issued to the “SPJST Foundation” and designated in the memo portion of the check to be directed to the “Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund.” Donations to the relief fund are tax-deductible and can be mailed to:

SPJST Foundation • PO Box 100 • Temple, TX 76503