



# Branch Newsletter

MARCH 2016










## *From the Desk of our National President... Cynthia M. Maleski*

During this season of Lent and as we approach Easter, I hope you and your loved ones are growing spiritually through all the wonderful services and prayers that the Church offers us at this time of year. It is so important as we focus on our relationship with our Savior and with each other.

We are very pleased with the results from the 2015 National President's Branch Membership Challenge. A total of 69 branches were able to obtain five or more new members for us! Each branch will receive special recognition in our magazine and several gifts for their efforts which we hope will be helpful for their branch meetings and business. We appreciate these efforts and another great achievement!

I hope you, your families and friends have a joyous and happy Easter!



## BRANCH REMINDERS

-  **FORMS** – Remember to use the appropriate forms when submitting requests to the Home Office for Branch Activity Reimbursement; Give Away Item Request; Matching Funds Eligibility Request & Matching Funds Payment Request. We are enclosing a copy of each. Please feel free to make copies. These forms can also be found on our website [www.fcsla.org](http://www.fcsla.org) / Branch Officers Section.
-  **JOIN HANDS DAY** – It's not too early to start planning your activity! If you should need any assistance do not hesitate to call EXT. 1051. You can also look on the FCSLA website [www.fcsla.org](http://www.fcsla.org) under the branch officers section for a list of great ideas for planning a Join Hands Day project. You can do your project any day in May.
-  **MEMBER CHECKS** – When receiving checks from your members, kindly deposit them as soon as you can. Any mail you receive from your members needs to be a priority!
-  **BRANCH FUNDS** - Throughout the year you should be spending your branch money on your members and making charitable contributions. Branch officers are allowed to give themselves (within reason) a stipends each year.
-  **MAIL TO MEMBERS** - When you send mail to your members, please be sure to put a return address label on it (EX. FCSLA Branch S-000 / J-000 with your name and address). This lets members know that it is important and not "junk mail" it is also good in case the member has moved and we have not been notified at the home office. The post office has no way to return undeliverable mail.
-  **TAX DOCUMENT / FRATERNAL REPORT / BRANCH CARD** – **Were DUE January 31, 2015!** In order to receive your branch compensation check, you need to complete all 3 and return them to the Home Office **ASAP!!!**
-  **BRANCH MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE**— Congratulations to all the branches that signed up new members. Even if it was only one or two. To all the branches that signed up five or more you will be receiving a special gift in the mail as a reward for all your hard work. All the branches helped in growing our membership during this challenge. Keep up the great work! Even though the contest is over we need to continue signing up new members on a regular basis to help FCSLA grow. Keep spreading the word about the best kept secret...FCSLA!



# April 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  HAPPY APRIL FOOL'S DAY!	2 Matching Funds J-339 Raffle
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Branches S-081 & J-058 Monthly Meeting	14 Matching Funds W-026 Salad Luncheon	15	16 Matching Funds J-362 Night @ the Races & Basket Raffle
17	18 S-161 Branch Meeting	19	20 S-172 & J-362 Monthly Meeting	21	22  EARTH DAY	23
24 Matching Funds S-620 Pancake Breakfast & Bake Sale	25	26	27	28	29	30

### Earth Day Facts:

-  The First Earth Day was April 22, 1970 in the United States.
-  Earth Day was created to promote a healthy sustainable environment coast to coast.
-  Earth Day went Global in 1990 in 141 countries.
-  The first Earth Day led to the creation of the USEPA—United States Environmental Protection Agency & the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water & Endangered Species Act.
-  The 50th Anniversary of Earth Day will be celebrated in 2020!