



The Club that Fights Diabetes

**Calling All Cosmos!**

**Vol. 1 Issue 7**

**March 25, 2026**

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### CI Board of Directors

**President – John Kryszak**  
**Vice Pres-Art Brassard**  
**Dir of Mktg – Sheila Anderson**  
**Dir of Membership Cheryl MacKenzie**  
**Dir Fundraising - Nancy Trautman**  
**Dir Communications – Tim Dollens**  
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**Treasurer – Randy Kremer**  
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**Dir Special Projects – Dick Gorton**  
**Dir Website/IT – Melvina Newman**  
**Dir Convention Planning – Wade Frink**  
**Dir Education – Judy Weitkemper**  
**CFCI Rep – Angela McFalls**  
**CDF Rep – Don Gentry**

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**"A good board meeting isn't just about decisions made — it's about clarity gained, trust strengthened, and a shared vision moving forward."**

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## *John Kryszak*, President's Report – March 10, 2026 **Theme of the Month: Maintaining the Momentum**

Our winter board meetings were productive, well attended and successful. As you will be able to see from the minutes and summary, a lot was accomplished. Everyone was prepared and the presentations were well done. Meeting in person does have its advantages as we are allowed to communicate one on one and with the entire board. A key thing to remember is when using AI to assist with recordings, just like a zoom, we need to have only one person speaking at a time. This not only helps with recordings but will ensure the rest of us hear what is going on.

I want to thank Candy Gorton for stepping up and offering to help fill in for Secretary Kurt Kopp. We wish him all the best and hope his hospital stay is short.

I hope everyone made it home safe and sound and in good time. Air travel today sure does have its problems as some members were delayed.

We are down to four months remaining during this time. We are moving forward and the rewards are beginning to surface. We must now continue the work in the areas of:

- Convention planning - now that the budget and registration have been set, we will focus on the finer details.
- Awards - now is the time to promote to every club that they should be recognizing those that go above and beyond.
- Member enhancement training sessions are in the works. Let's all help where we can to provide the best information possible to our members.
- We continue to move forward with office duty function allocations. If you notice a particular activity that you believe should be under your portfolio, let us know. We are still working out the bumps.
- Communication remains key. When we do not hear from one another, we naturally assume that everything is running smoothly. Regular check-ins—even brief updates—help us stay aligned, meet deadlines, and support one another in moving our work forward

Together, by staying connected, communicating openly, and supporting one another, we continue to move the organization forward—working together so that we truly can go further.



## Calling All Cosmos!

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**"The secret to change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new."  
 – Socrates**



**Nancy Trautman, CI  
 Fundraising Director**

I believe planning (whether it be for Budget, community projects fundraising, etc.) tasks should be completed prior to the commencement of the upcoming year, rather than delaying it until after the new year has begun. It seems to me that Clubs waste time, perhaps can unnecessarily be frustrating, and be less successful if this is not done. Consequently, I am encouraging Clubs to try to plan for their fundraising activities

### **The following is a summary of the planned Fundraising Activities for the remainder of 2025-2026 Fiscal Year.**

**March:** Discussion of how fundraising can help a Club achieve other goals such as increase in membership, improving Community Awareness, and reinforce the value of being a Cosmo member.

**April:** Send a list of suggestions for fundraising projects, based on a list that Karen Shepherd shared with me. I will research other possible projects to include, also.

**May:** Summarize the previous communications and ask for feedback. Also, offer any help with forming a plan.

**June:** Send information to Clubs about our upcoming CI Annual Convention. Ask for volunteers to help put on a workshop about fundraising planning.

I believe that we should have a training session about fundraising. Perhaps a speaker? I have only been to three International Conventions, so I am sure that there has been such training in the past, but this is one of our most important functions as Clubs and an organization, so it is good to reinforce what we do.

Take time to look at your club fundraising activities in the past. Do you see that each one offers more than gathering funds for something near and dear to your heart? Recognize that fundraising has other benefits for our club as well.

Members learn teamwork and leadership skills. Communities learn what the Cosmopolitans stand for. It is great PR. The network between members and communities provides more opportunities to work together in the battle against Diabetes. A club gains a reputation that makes people want to join and be a part of a worthy endeavor.

The above list is short but there are many more ancillary benefits to Cosmopolitan club fundraising. Know that as you plan for the coming year, you will strengthen your Club by making an effort, no matter what the size of your event. Yes, it takes effort, but it is worth that effort.



The Club that Fights Diabetes

**Calling All Cosmos!**

**Mark your Calendar!**

**FEDERATION CONVENTIONS:**

- Mo-Kan - 4/17-4/19, 2026 at Columbia, MO**
- North Central – 4/24-4/26 at Rapid City**
- Western Canada – 5/22-5/24 at Saskatoon**
- Cornbelt – 5/30 Freemont at the golf club**

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Join Us in Bloomington, MN for our 2026 Int'l. Convention on July 22-26, 2026

CONVENTION REGISTRATION OPENS SOON!

Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington 3900 American Boulevard West Bloomington, MN 55437

SPECIAL GROUP RATE: \$145.00 + tax

**Last Day to Book: June 22, 2026**



# Cosmopolitan International Executive Summary

## Winter Board Meeting – February 27–28, 2026

- The February 2026 Winter Board Meeting marked one of the most engaged and forward-focused gatherings in recent years. Across two full days of training, governance discussion, strategic planning, and operational decision-making, the Board concentrated on strengthening communication, modernizing systems, increasing member engagement, and positioning CI for long-term sustainability.
- A consistent theme throughout the meeting was clear: **CI’s future depends less on finances and more on engagement, communication, and leadership alignment.**
- Full minutes of the 2-day Board meeting may be found on the international website.



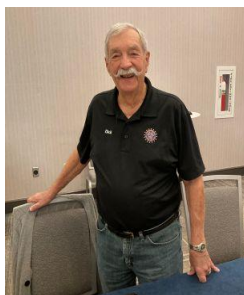


The Club that Fights Diabetes

**Calling All Cosmos!**



The Club that Fights Diabetes



Dick

Gorton, Director of Special Projects

Our International project initiative to raise funds for the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation in both Miami and Canada has reached a total of \$155,784 to date, with the breakdown for 2024 & 2025 as follows:

Individuals	\$	17,314
Columbia Breakfast		15,000
Canadian Found. Of CI		25,759
Calgary		25,000
Regina		5,000
Wascana		7,000
Prince Albert		3,500
Saskatoon		3,000
Fremont		10,500
Columbia Luncheon		20,000
Sioux City		2,500
Aurora		1,000
Rapid City		2,000
Sioux Falls		1,500
Omaha Cornhusker		500
Columbia Show-Me		10,000
Edmonton		6,211
	\$	<b>155,784</b>



**Jamie Wilson, Jefferson City Cosmo Club Governor, MO-KAN Federation SOCIAL MEDIA**

Fellow Cosmopolitans,

As we reflect on this past quarter, and after just wrapping up the Winter Board Meeting, I am reminded of the extraordinary power of collective service. Across our eleven MO-KAN clubs, members have given their time, energy, and resources in ways that continue to strengthen our communities and uplift those we serve.

What makes our Federation so special is not simply the number of projects completed or funds raised — it is the spirit behind the work. Each club brings its own personality, traditions, and signature projects, yet we are united by a shared commitment to service, leadership, and fellowship through Cosmopolitan International.

This quarter, I have witnessed inspiring examples of collaboration, creativity, and compassion. From community outreach initiatives to fundraising events and member recognition, our clubs continue to demonstrate that service is not just what we do — it is who we are.

I am especially proud of the way our Federation supports one another. When one club hosts an event, others show up. When there is a need in the community, members respond. When leadership opportunities arise, individuals step forward. That is the strength of MO-KAN — we serve together.

As we look ahead to the coming months, I encourage each of you to remain engaged, invite new members to join our mission, and continue sharing your stories of impact. Our visibility grows when we celebrate our work and communicate the difference we are making.

Thank you for your dedication, your leadership, and your heart for service. It is an honor to serve alongside you as Governor of this remarkable Federation.

In fellowship and service,

*Jamie Wilson*



## **Calling All Cosmos!**

### **Education Committee**

**Judy Weitkemper**



**Karen Shepherd**



**Linda Gentry**



**Candy Gorton**



***Judy Weitkemper, Cosmopolitan International Director of Education – judyweitk@gmail.com***

### **What the Education Committee Is Working on Next—and Why It Matters:**

The CI Education Committee is currently engaged in several important initiatives designed to strengthen the club experience for both new and existing members. Our work focuses on three key areas: creating an Onboarding program, improving member retention, and supporting member recruitment.

#### **Building a Strong Onboarding Program**

The committee is developing a comprehensive Onboarding Program for our Cosmo clubs to use with new members. This program will help newcomers feel welcomed, informed, and empowered from their very first day. By offering clear guidance, expectations, and early engagement opportunities, the program ensures new members quickly feel connected and equipped to participate fully. Proper onboarding will also boost member retention.

#### **Retaining Current Members**

In addition to welcoming new members, the committee is also focusing on strategies to retain current ones. Retention efforts include identifying what members value most, improving communication, and creating opportunities for continued growth and involvement. Keeping existing members engaged is essential for maintaining a vibrant, stable, and active club community.

#### **Recruiting New Members**

Finally, the committee is working on practical tools and approaches to support recruitment. Attracting new members is vital for bringing in fresh ideas, new energy, and diverse perspectives. Recruitment efforts also help the club stay dynamic and relevant into the future.

\*Utilize social media platforms to share success stories, upcoming events, and member testimonials to increase visibility and attract interest from the broader community.

\*Offer trial memberships (be a part of the club for one quarter before joining) or promote “bring a guest,” allowing potential members to experience the club firsthand before committing.

\*Partner with local organizations, schools, or businesses for joint events or community service projects, expanding the club’s reach and network.

#### **Why This Work Is Necessary**

These initiatives are essential because a strong club relies on a steady cycle of welcoming new members, keeping current members engaged, and continually growing the community. Without thoughtful Onboarding, new members may feel lost or disconnected. Without retention strategies, clubs risk losing the valuable experience and enthusiasm of long-time members. And without recruitment, clubs cannot sustain long-term progress or adapt to changing needs. By addressing Onboarding, Retention, and Recruitment together, the Education Committee is ensuring that clubs remain supportive, engaging, and sustainable for years to come.



### Calling All Cosmos!

JOIN a community of changemakers.



## Cosmopolitan International

is a vibrant, not-for-profit civic service organization, chartered in 1918 and committed to building stronger communities worldwide.

Since making diabetes research and treatment our mission in 1977, we've donated millions of dollars to these vital causes—helping to save lives and support healthier futures.

At Cosmopolitan Int'l, people from all backgrounds come together to create meaningful, lasting changes, both locally and globally. Whether you want to make new friends, grow your skills, or have a real impact, you'll find a welcoming community and countless opportunities to make a difference right here.

*Cheryl MacKenzie*, Cosmopolitan International

Director of Membership & New Clubs

[Cheryl.MacKenzie@Cosmopolitan.org](mailto:Cheryl.MacKenzie@Cosmopolitan.org)

### Jump on the Bus – Stay Connected with Cosmos Worldwide

The name of the *Cosmopolitan International Newsletter* says it all, “Calling All Cosmos”, keeping everyone informed and connected. It reminds us that meaningful impact happens when *all* of us are engaged and involved.

With that in mind, we're inviting all COSMOS who use Facebook to jump on board and join our “Cosmo International – Members Site.”

👉 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CIMembers>



There's a lot happening on the page that you won't want to miss—and you might even find yourself inspired to join in. If you're not yet one of the 182 members currently following the group, here's a glimpse of what you can expect:

- #CosmoMemberMondays – Celebrating our members
- #CIDiabetesDialogue Wednesdays – Important conversations on diabetes awareness
- #CosmoFlashback Thursdays – A look back at our history
- #CIFunFactFridays – Fun and interesting insights
- #CIServiceStory Saturdays – Showcasing service in action

It's also a great way to stay connected with fellow Cosmos between Federation and International Conventions.

The COSMO family can accomplish great things when we stay connected—so come along for the ride.

## 7 Calling All Cosmos!

**Just One Hour--That's all it takes**



We all say it: “I don’t have enough time.”

And honestly, most days, that feels true. Life is busy. Calendars are full. But here’s the question—what if making a difference didn’t take a whole day... just one hour?

Because of one hour with your fellow COSMOS? That’s where the magic happens.

It’s the hour spent laughing while setting up tables. The quick catchups that turn into real conversations. The teamwork, the energy, the shared purpose - all adds up to something bigger than any one of us.

And the impact? It’s real.

One hour can help run an event. Support a cause. Lift someone up. Strengthen your club. And just as importantly, it recharges *you*. There’s something powerful about stepping away from the daily grind and doing something meaningful alongside friends who care just as much as you do.

That’s what “COSMOS Care In Action” is all about—showing up, pitching in, and making a difference together. So don’t overthink it. You don’t need a full day. You don’t need a perfect schedule. You just need one hour.

One hour to give. One hour to connect. One hour to make an impact.....*And chances are... you’ll be glad you took it.*

Cheryl MacKenzie, Director Membership (Cont’d.)


## Are You (or Someone You Know) an Aspiring Podcaster?

**Would you like to lend your voice—and your interview skills—to become part of COSMO’s Members Podcast Series?**



We’re looking for enthusiastic members to help

bring our stories to life by interviewing fellow COSMOS and highlighting the incredible activities and events happening across our clubs. These interviews will be featured weekly or biweekly on our Members Site and shared on our YouTube channel.

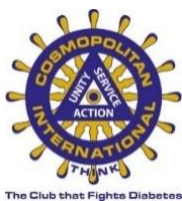
If you’re interested and would like to explore how you can get involved, we’d love to hear from you! 

Please email [Cheryl.MacKenzie@Cosmopolitan.org](mailto:Cheryl.MacKenzie@Cosmopolitan.org)

*Our goal is to build a team of at least three podcast hosts, so don’t be shy—step forward and be part of something exciting as we showcase the energy and impact of the CI Family.*

Not only is this a great way to connect with others, but it’s also an opportunity to develop valuable skills. And with the summer conference coming up, you’ll have a perfect chance to gain guidance and hands-on experience!

**Additionally:** We would also like to pay tribute to members we have lost each month. If a Cosmo you know has passed away, please let us know or have your Club Secretary email us at [cheryl.mackenzie@cosmopolitan.org](mailto:cheryl.mackenzie@cosmopolitan.org). Where appropriate, we would like to post their names, years of service and a link to their Tribute or Obituary.



### Calling All Cosmos!

#### Why New Members are Vital to our Clubs – by Judy Weitkemper

New members are vital to our organization, fueling growth and sustainability with fresh ideas and wider networks. In clubs focused on diabetes and local initiatives, they help organize fundraisers, raise awareness, and support those affected. Their participation strengthens community response and improves program delivery.

**The Benefits of Joining Making a Difference:** Directly contributing to improving the lives of individuals & families affected by diabetes.

**Personal Growth:** Participation fosters leadership skills, teamwork, & a sense of accomplishment.

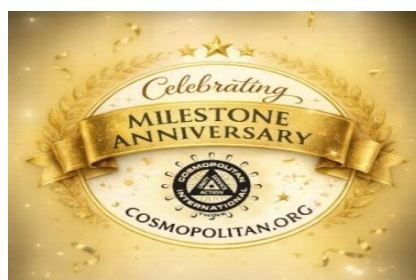
**Building Connections:** Members form lasting friendships and professional relationships within a supportive network.

**Learning Opportunities:** Clubs offer training & educational events that help members stay informed about diabetes prevention and community service best practices.

**Community Recognition:** Active members are often recognized for their dedication and service, enhancing their sense of pride and belonging.

## Welcome to new Members in February/March!

- Shawn Bauman, Wichita Air Capital Club (Sponsor: Chad Phipps)
- Jack Judkins, Wichita Air Capital Club (Sponsor: Jason Judkins)
- John Peckham, Wichita Air Capital Club (Sponsor: Donald Baxter)
- Mike Galligan, Omaha I-80 Club (Sponsor: Unnamed)



## MARCH MEMBER MILESTONES ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

**62 YEARS:** Raymond Mayhew (Headquarters)



**59 YEARS:** Richard Brynteson (Headquarters)

**50 YEARS:** [Richard Gordon](#) (Sioux City)

**45 YEARS:** Steve Hanna (Lawrence River City)

**20 YEARS:** [Brent Brodeur](#) (St Albert Cosmo Club), Roger Bradley (St Albert), Terry Wiebe (St Albert)

**10 YEARS:** Bradford Box (Wichita Air Capital Club); Scott Speer (Sioux Falls); Dan Unruh (Wichita Air Capital Club)

**5 YEARS:** [Amanda Bavle-Bannister](#) ([Edmonton Cosmopolitan Club](#))

**Additionally:** We would also like to pay tribute to members we have lost each month. If a Cosmo you know has passed away, please let us know or have your Club Secretary email us at [cheryl.mackenzie@cosmopolitan.org](mailto:cheryl.mackenzie@cosmopolitan.org). Where appropriate, we would like to post their names, years of service and a link to their Tribute or Obituary. *Cheryl MacKenzie*



**Calling All Cosmos**

*Gord Hendrickson-WCF Gov.*



**Communication:** Club Newsletters – there are many clubs that have monthly newsletters. Check out the newsletters now available on the WCF website. I encourage any clubs not currently publishing newsletters to have a look at both the WCF and CI websites for ideas and inspiration.

**Cosmo Topics** – There has been a large effort to gather articles for the upcoming issue of Cosmo Topics. If you or your club have anything that you would like to see in upcoming issues of Cosmo Topics please contact me and I will let you know who to send them to.

**WCF Website** – <https://wcf-cosmopolitan.org>. The website has a wealth of information for WCF members. If you want to update any information or add information about your club, please contact Cheryl. I have seen a lot of great pictures and comments on the club Facebookpages, and these could easily be added to the WCF website

*Gord Hendrickson, WCF Governor*

**Western Canada Federation News**

**CLUBS OF CALGARY, EDMONTON, PRINCE ALBERT, REGINA, SASKATOON, ST. ALBERT, WASCANA, WINNIPEG**

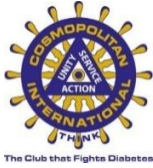
The Executive is in full gear again. We held our last meeting on February 19th. Following is a summary of items discussed:

Karen Shepherd, Nomination Committee, is looking to fill the Governor Elect, Judge Advocate and possibly some Lt. Governor positions. We are hoping that the current Lt. Governor’s will either move into other roles within the WCF board or let their names stand and continue as Lt. Governors. If you are interested or know of anyone that you think we should approach, please contact Karen. The Award submission date is March 31st. All award submission forms will be reviewed to ensure that they are current and fillable forms. Lt. Governor Greg Nicol, Awards Chair, will be approaching three club members to sit on the Awards Committee for selection of the winners. Lt. Governors Terry and Deb Down advised that the Saskatoon Club is finalizing their plans for the May convention. The registration form and hotel information will be forwarded to all WCF members in the next few weeks. Secretary Tammy will be requesting President reports and Executive reports soon so she can compile the information required for the meetings. John Krysak, CI President will be attending the convention. Some clubs have not submitted their final receipts for the Cosmo Day expenses. Please ensure that all receipts are sent to the WCF treasurer so we can complete any outstanding payment. Prince Albert Cosmo Club will be celebrating their 77-year anniversary on April 8, 2026, and I am planning to attend. The Humboldt 4X4X48 fundraising event will be on the weekend of June 5, 6 and 7, 2026. We have once again this year offered to assist in any capacity that this group requires. Talks are ongoing between the Humboldt group and the Cosmo committee so we should expect more information long before the event date. The group who attended this event last year found it very rewarding and would encourage as many Cosmo members as possible to attend.

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**CI Website** – <https://www.cosmopolitan.org>. If you want to update your personal information or to see what resources are available, enter your username and password. If you have forgotten them, click on “forgot username” or “forgot password.”

**Thought for the day: “Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud.” ~ Helen Dyer**



### Calling All Cosmos!



**Patrick J. Hodgins, Founder**

**ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING EVERY BUSINESS PROFESSION URGES SWATTING OF 'SEAT HOG'**

The Cosmopolitan club, whose membership represents every business and profession in Kansas City, yesterday pledged its forces to the Rotary club's courtesy campaigns. Pledging men to give their seats in street cars and other public conveyances to women. About 100 members were present, all of whom agreed.

**The resolution presented by P. J. Hodgins:** "It is especially fitting," said Mr. Hodgins, "that this organization adopt such a resolution. We are organized on a social, fraternal and civic basis and chivalry is one of our fundamental principles. The Cosmopolitan club since its inception has been pledged to the aid of the weak and if we live up to our principles, we should aid the rotary club in its splendid movement to have courtesy and politeness shown our women who are doing so much at this time." *Stay Tuned - Full Story in the April Issue of how some men of the "seat hogs acted and accusations of being drunk"*



**Tim Dollens, Director of Communications**

### **Patrick Joseph Hodgins**

**Founder of Cosmopolitan International in 1918.**

**Had 55 Clubs Across the United States and Canada**

**when he died in 1933 at the age of 49.**

**Compiled by Timothy D. Dollens**

This is the first of a series of articles to talk about the early history of our organization so that our members can know more about the founding of our movement and those who set the foundation of what is now Cosmopolitan International. Below is the first installment that talks about our founder Patrick J. Hodgins and his accomplishments up until his death in 1933 at the relatively young age of 49.

Patrick J. Hodgins was born in New Castle, Nebraska on October 22, 1883, the son of William M. Hodgins and Sylvia Cryans Hodgins, both of Ontario, Canada. He grew up in Nebraska and in 1905 he was married in Des Moines, Iowa to Sylvia Belle McDermott. They were the parents of two children: Patricia Bernice Hodgins who was born in Sioux City, Iowa in 1907 and Patrick Desmond Hodgins who was born in Oklahoma City in 1909.

Patrick was a teacher and a salesman before he got his law degree while living in Guthrie, Oklahoma. He set up his first practice in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma where he was also a notary. In Oklahoma City he became involved with his first fraternal organization called Fraternal Patriots of America, a pro country and civic group that included both men and women.

In *The Daily Oklahoman*, Saturday, March 16, 1912, on page 5, published in Oklahoma City, the following article:

#### "CHARTERS

The following corporations were granted charters Friday by Secretary of State Benjamin F. Harrison: The Fraternal Patriots of America, of



### **Calling All Cosmos!**



439 Railroad Exchange

***Men of ability to organize high class businessmen's club in leading cities; nationwide organization. Call at 439 Railway Exchange. Calls Attention to a Civilians' Patriotic Society.***

**NEW CLUB IN DRIVE FOR 1,000 MEMBERS**

**Cosmopolitan Organization Allows One Membership for Each Business**

Tim Dollens on Patrick J Hodgins Cont'd.

Oklahoma City, no capital stock; incorporations, P. J. Hodgins, D. C. Kuykendall, E. E. Hodgins, J. F. Cody and Floyd J. Rolend of Oklahoma City, and H. B. Moffitt of Holdenville.”

By 1918 the Hodgins family moved to 3621 Prospect Ave., Kansas City, Missouri. His law practice office was located at 439 Railway Exchange Building which now a doggie park in the heart of downtown Kansas City, MO. An ad he was running in The Kansas City Star of June 2, 1918, page 22, reads as follows:

“WOMEN war workers, patriotic society needs you everywhere in big campaign drive; good pay, Fraternal Patriots, 439 Railway Exchange.”

Another article in The Kansas City Star of November 3, 1918, page 19 reads,

“INSURANCE men and fraternal organizers, \$20 per day sure; only patriotic benevolent order of workers admitting both men and women equal basis. Pays doctor bills, sick and accident benefits and funeral expenses. Territory open. Address Fraternal Patriots, 439 Railway Exchange.”

The ad in The Kansas City Star of Sunday, Jan 12, 1919, page 28 reads:

#### “ORGANIZERS.

Men of ability to organize high class businessmen's club in leading cities; nationwide organization. Call at 439 Railway Exchange.”  
“Calls Attention to a Civilians' Patriotic Society.

To The Star: In the Public Mind September 30 I saw a communication from Russell S. Dixon, advocating the organization of an “American Civilians' Legion.”

Permit me to call your attention to the fact that there has been founded already just such an organization. It is known as the “Fraternal Patriots of America.” Its plans and purposes are very similar to those of the American legion. It was not, however, modeled after the legion. It had its inception as far back as 1911. Recently it has been incorporated as a national institution. From the first it has received the loyal support of patriots in Kansas City, and it is the intention to make Kansas City its headquarters.

The organization is first of its kind to admit both men and women to full membership on an equal basis. The local organization intends to undertake the work of real community service and public welfare, such as providing means to reduce the high cost of living, procure better housing facilities and transportation. The organization will admit both soldiers and civilians who can show that they are thoroughly American.



### 1918 FORM CHAPTER OF COSMOPOLITAN CLUB

“A preliminary organization was formed yesterday at a luncheon at the Kupper hotel for a local chapter of the Cosmopolitan club. One hundred members have already been obtained and before the charter is closed in two weeks, it is expected that the application will carry 500 names.

The club will affiliate with international federation of Cosmopolitan clubs which has headquarters in Kansas City under the direction of P. J. Hodgins, a lawyer with offices in the Railway Exchange building.

The club will be a social, fraternal and civic organization. Another luncheon will be held Monday.”

*The Kansas City Post*, Kansas City, Missouri; Friday April 5, 1918, page 14, column 6.

#### **“NEW COSMOPOLITAN OFFICERS.D. C. McDowell Was Chosen President of the Club**

The Cosmopolitan Club, civic in its functions and patterned along the lines of the Rotary Clubs, has elected the following officers: D. C. McDowell, president; Dr. Edward Hume, vice-president; H. C. Newcomer, second vice-president; William J. Phelps, secretary; Sidney J. Cooke, treasurer. Members of the executive committee are S. L. Stancliffe, H. I. Hayes and W. F. Fetters.” *Kansas City Times*, KCMO; Friday June 21, 1918, page 3, column 1

## **CALLING ALL COSMOS!** Tim Dollens on Patrick J Hodgins Cont’d

The motto of the organization is, “America first.” Party politics and the endorsement of any party politician as such is forbidden.

I believe Kansas City will trust this organization and thus become the cradle of the great co-operative movement.

P. J. HODGINS

439 Railway Exchange Building.”

This was published in *The Kansas City Star* of Saturday, October 4, 1919, on page 4.

While Patrick Joseph Hodgins was promoting the Fraternal Patriots of America, he was also starting the International Federations of Cosmopolitan Clubs organization. *The Kansas City Post* of Friday, June 21, 1918, page 12 published the following:

### **“NEW CLUB IN DRIVE FOR 1,000 MEMBERS**

#### **Cosmopolitan Organization Allows One Membership for Each Business.**

The Cosmopolitan club, an organization recently formed here to promote civic, welfare and patriotism, has started.

The first noon-day luncheon was held yesterday at the Mora salon, 920 Grand Avenue. The club will hold luncheons there every Thursday. At these meetings talks will be made along the line of showing how business can best cooperate in winning the war.

Officers of the club are as follows: D. C. McDowell, president; Dr. Edwin Hume, first vice president; H. C. Newcomer, second vice president; William J. Phelps, secretary; Sidney J. Cooke, treasurer. The executive committee consists of S. L. Stancliffe, H. I. Hayes and W. F. Fetters.”

By September of that year St. Joseph, Missouri was starting its own chapter of the Cosmopolitan movement. *St. Joseph News-Press* of Tuesday, September 24, 1918, page 7 reads as follows:

### **“TO ORGANIZE ST. JOSEPH.**

#### **Representative of the International Federation of Cosmopolitan Clubs Here to Form a Branch.**

Edward L. Ayres of Kansas City, deputy general director of the International Federation of Cosmopolitan Clubs is in St. Joseph to organize a club. This is a civic, fraternal and social organization, which has in its membership only one man in a particular line of business or



**Calling All Cosmos!**



Patrick J. Hodgins

**DEATH CLAIMS  
COSMOPOLITAN  
CLUB FOUNDER**

Patrick J. Hodgins of Chicago, director and founder of the International Cosmopolitan clubs, died Wednesday morning, according to a telegram received here by L. E. Smith, local Cosmopolitan club president, from G. H. Taylor, international secretary.

The telegram received by Mr. Smith stated: "Patrick J. Hodgins, director and founder of the International Cosmopolitan clubs, passed away Wednesday morning. Funeral will be from his home at 6301 Lakewood avenue, Chicago."

profession, and gives him an opportunity to exploit his business, and to carry the ideas gained in the club to others in his line. The club is presumed to take an active part in all civic affairs.

Cosmopolitan clubs have been organized in Kansas City, Mo.; Kansas City, Kan.; Tulsa, Enid and Claremore, Okla.; Joplin, Springfield and other Missouri cities, and Leavenworth and Topeka, Kansas.

The business of the club is to be transacted at weekly luncheons."

This article tells of the first 10 Cosmo Clubs, the Tulsa Club was the second according to other sources. When Patrick J. Hodgins died in 1933 there were 55 organizations in the International Federation of Cosmopolitan Clubs. His obituary in the Chicago newspaper is as follows:

"HODGINS, Patrick J. Hodgins, beloved husband of Sylvia, nee McDermott, fond father of Patricia B. and Patrick D., devoted son of William Hodgins and the late mother Mary, brother of Mrs. C. M. Threadgill of Colgate, Okla.; Mrs. Michael M. Kirsch, Mrs. John P. Crehan of Fort Sill, Okla.; Eugene E. and William D. Hodgins. Funeral Saturday, April 29, at 9:30 a.m., from late residence, 6301 Lakewood Av. to St. Ignatius' church. Interment All Saints; Founder and director general of International Federation of Cosmopolitan Clubs. Member of University council No. 1687, and La Salle general assembly, Fourth Degree, K. of C.; Press club, and Economic club. Information. Briargate 6220." *Chicago Tribune*, Thursday, April 27, 1933, page 12.

"Hold Services Tomorrow for P. J. Hodgins, Attorney.

Funeral services for Patrick J. Hodgins, an attorney, of 6301 Lakewood Avenue, will be held tomorrow morning at St. Ignatius church, with burial in All Saints cemetery. Mr. Hodgins, who was 49 years old, died Wednesday in the Alexian Brothers hospital. He is survived by; his widow, Sylvia; a son, Patrick and a daughter, Patricia. *Chicago Tribune*, Friday, April 28, 1933, page 24.

Patrick's obituary was mentioned in several of the towns and cities where the 55 International Cosmopolitan Club chapters were held. His immediate family would experience more hardship in the death of his son Patrick Desmond Hodgins who died May 30, 1936, in a freak hayride accident in Chicago. Earlier that year his widow, Sylvia McDermott Hodgins died February 14, in Tucson, Arizona. Patrick's parents William and Mary both died a few years after he did.

The surviving daughter Patricia Bernice Hodgins attended the University of Missouri Columbia her first year but transferred to a college in Chicago. She was active with her father in attending the annual Cosmopolitan Club conventions and married a military man by the



### **Calling All Cosmos!**

#### **This Year's Convention**



**Cosmopolitan International  
Convention  
July 22nd – 26th 2026**

**SEE YOU IN JULY!**

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**Please remember to have your articles for the April 25<sup>th</sup> *Calling All Cosmos!* Newsletter in by the 20th**

**Members are eager to read about all of us.**

**“The Strength of the Team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.” Phil Jackson**

Tim Dollens on Patrick J Hodgins Cont'd

name of Brigadier General John George Ondrick. They left the Chicago area and lived on several military posts including in San Francisco, California and Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, as well as the Ryukyu Islands off the coast of Japan. He died in 1972 in San Antonio, Texas and is buried in Arlington Cemetery, Washington, D. C. as is his wife Patrica Bernice Hodgins Ondrick who died in 1987. They were the parents of two daughters: Patricia who married Wilbur S. Jones, Jr. and Mary Kathleen who married Joseph Maria. The daughter Patricia Jones is deceased.

The next installment will mention more about his death and his legacy of the beginnings of the several clubs he started and his involvement in them. To Be Continued....

As Always, it's a Great Day to be a Cosmo!

*Timothy D. Dollens*

Stay tuned for the next Series in April 2026

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**KUPPER HOTEL**

11<sup>TH</sup> Street West from McGee St.

Kansas City, MO