



# Catholic Fraternal Bi-Weekly

# Jednota

THE UNION

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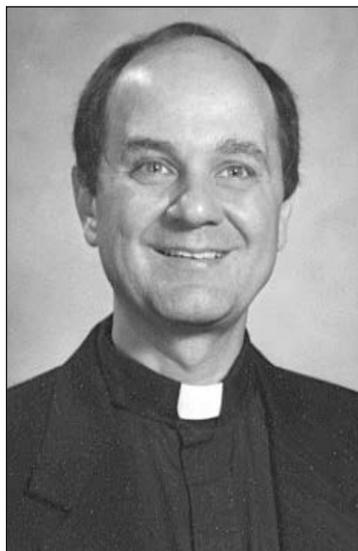
Fr. Stephen Furedek  
Our Founder

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

Volume 116

WEDNESDAY, February 21, 2007

Number 5748



Fr. Thomas A. Nasta

## A Lenten Message From Our Chaplain

Dear Friends,

In certain places in our world it is not unusual to see people wear distinctive items of clothing, which identify the wearer as a member of a particular faith community. Some Jewish males cover their heads with a yarmulka; some Islamic women do not leave their homes without wearing a borqa.

Once a year we wear something that readily identifies us to the world as Catholic Christians. Rather than distinctive clothing, we wear ashes on our foreheads. The ashes publicly identify ourselves as sinners in need of God's mercy and bear witness to a renewed commitment we make to live a life of holiness.

Sometimes we may be afraid to wear ashes in public because we are unwilling to undergo ridicule or stares

from other people, and so we wash our faces at the first opportunity we get. This year, wear the ashes all day. One never knows if someone will see you and become inspired to "reform (his/her) life and be faithful to the Gospel."

Sincerely,  
**Fr. Thomas A. Nasta**  
National Chaplain



## FCSU LIFES 2006 TOP INDEPENDENT AGENT William F. Liptak

The Membership and Marketing Committee is honored to recognize William F. Liptak of Streator, Illinois, as being FCSU Lifes Top Independent Agent for the year 2006. Mr. Liptak, along with the society's top recommenders will be recognized later this year.



William F. Liptak

## Inside

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Editorial/Commentary.....          | 2, 3     |
| Branch/District Announcements..... | 6, 7     |
| Obituaries .....                   | 14       |
| Youth .....                        | 3        |
| Sports.....                        | 8, 9, 10 |
| Slovak.....                        | 20-24    |

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been a busy first month on the job at the Home Office.

Getting acquainted with and in some cases modifying a few of our procedures etc. has taken much of my time. The Home Office staff has been very helpful in the transition.

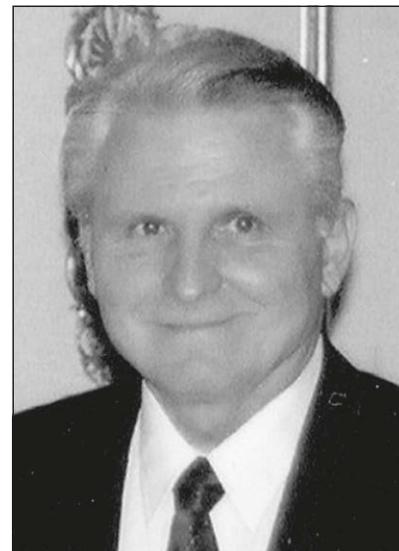
I have had the chance to meet some of our Members either by phone or when they stop in the Office. I welcome contacts from you, our Members, especially from Branch and District Officers by phone or in writing. We are always looking for positive suggestions to improve the Society.

I hope you have become aware of our Annuity 2% Bonus Offer. Please consider this in your financial planning and take advantage of this opportunity.

I have had a recent opportunity to compare our whole life rates for younger people with the rates of other fraternal. We are very competitive and in most cases lower in cost. I hope you and your family members will consider the Jednota in your financial planning.

We are in the process of updating our files so that every Member household gets a copy of the JEDNOTA. In too many cases, when our younger Members go on their own or get married they don't get our newspaper. Help us. If you know of a Member household that does not currently get a copy of the JEDNOTA, call the Home Office and let us know.

The Society is only as strong as its Members. It is your Society. Be active. Keep involved. Let's grow stronger together.



Andrew M. Rajec

Fraternally,  
**Andrew M. Rajec**  
President

## ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

HOME OFFICE

6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD, SUITE 300  
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

PHONE: 216-642-9406 \* FAX: 216-642-3107

MARCH 16 AND 17, 2007

The Annual Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17, 2007.

All Officers are requested to consult Section 6.03(b) and Section 6.03(c) of our Bylaws for further information concerning officer participation and the conduct of this meeting.

The monthly Executive Committee Meeting will be held at the conclusion of the Annual Business Meeting of the Board of Directors.

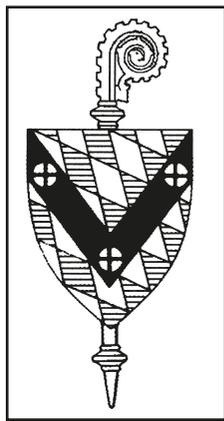
Officers who are required to give reports at the Annual Meeting should send them to the attention of the Executive Secretary at the Home Office located at 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131, on or before March 9, 2007.

All correspondence relative to the Annual Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent for receipt at the Home Office prior to March 9, 2007. For any additional information contact the Home Office at 216/642-9406 or (800) JEDNOTA.

**Andrew M. Rajec**  
National President

**Kenneth A. Arendt**  
Executive Secretary

# Insights and Viewpoints



## St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies Fr. Campion P. Gavaler, O.S.B. and Father Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B.

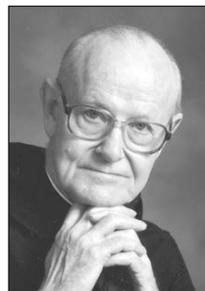
March 4, 2007

### Second Sunday of Lent

#### Gospel Summary

Luke's version of the transfiguration of Jesus is more personal than the accounts of Mark and Matthew. Thus, Luke alone tells us that Jesus was "at prayer" when this occurred. And he alone informs us concerning the subject of Jesus' conversation with Moses and Elijah, that they "spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem" (9:31).

Luke 9: 28b-36



Demetrius R. Dumm,  
O.S.B.

Moses and Elijah represent the Old Testament (the Law and the Prophets) which is centered in the exodus of God's people from the bondage of the Pharaoh. Correspondingly, the exodus of Jesus in Jerusalem, which is his death and resurrection, will be a new exodus initiating a new covenant between God and all the people of the world. This new exodus happens by design on the anniversary of the exodus from Egypt and will be the fulfillment of that pivotal event.

The liberation of the Hebrew slaves from the bondage of the Pharaoh was the effect of a divine initiative revealing God's true nature as one who loves and who wishes that all who are in bondage may be made free. This same revelation is at the center of that definitive exodus, which is the death and resurrection of Jesus. Moreover, just as the Passover meal in Israel kept alive the power of the original exodus, so also does the Eucharist of Christians make present among us the love of God as one who offers true and lasting freedom.

#### Life Implications

The luminous aura that surrounds Jesus on that mountaintop is an external manifestation of his ecstatic recognition that God's plan of salvation--God's ultimate exodus--will be brought about by his own loving sacrifice. His loving vulnerability thus becomes the surprising vehicle for God's power to save the world. In effect, loving concern for others is revealed as the only power with beneficent and lasting results.

This kind of loving vulnerability does not mean that we are called to be passive or compliant. In fact, this kind of loving is persistent and relentless at the same time that it is gracious and sensitive. For it results from a passionate commitment to the ideal of love received and then offered to others. The only true source of freedom is unselfish love, and the only valid purpose of such freedom is to enable one to love others so that they also may be free.

This equation is clearly implied in the command of God to Israel in Deuteronomy 24:17, where the now liberated Israelites are told to care for the vulnerable ones: the widow, the orphan and the wayfarer. They must do so simply because they were once themselves desperately weak and vulnerable and God loved them into freedom and self-confidence.

The transfigured Jesus represents the full awareness of this incredible wisdom of God. And when the voice from heaven commands us to "listen to him" (9:35), we are challenged to be transfigured by our own recognition of this wisdom as we become more and more ready to use our freedom so that others also may be free--free from fear and guilt and poverty and pain. At some point in our lives, we all need to discover the transfiguring power of discovering this apparently unlikely truth that living for others is the secret of our own happiness.

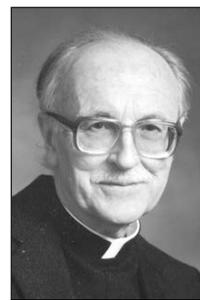
March 11, 2007

### Third Sunday of Lent

#### Gospel Summary

The gospel passage refers to two recent tragedies that were on people's minds. Pilate had ordered the massacre of some Galileans who had come to Jerusalem to offer sacrifices in the temple. And eighteen people had been killed when a tower at Siloam fell on them. Jesus comments that the victims of these tragedies were no greater sinners than other people were. He then says: "But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did." Then he tells them the parable about the person who had planted a fig tree that did not bear any fruit. When the owner ordered it to be cut down, the gardener asked for another year of cultivation to see if the fig tree would finally bear fruit before it was cut down.

Luke 13:1-9



Campion P. Gavaler,  
O.S.B.

#### Life Implications

Jesus uses the experiences of the worst possible human tragedies in order to reveal the possibility of even a greater spiritual tragedy. We are all in a state not only of physical death, but of spiritual death as well. Unless we turn to God to be saved from our condition of spiritual death, Jesus warns us, all of us will remain in it and perish. Saint Paul particularly in his Letter to the Romans clearly spells out the reality of the death-culture to which Jesus alludes: "all, both Jews and Gentiles, are under sin" (3:9). And this condition of Sin (alienation from God, the source of life) Paul equates with Death.

The human condition of Sin/Death, initiated by the first humans, pre-exists the sins of individuals and is not their responsibility, even though they have added to it by their own personal sins. Without God's liberating grace, human beings would remain helplessly mired in a state of enslavement to Sin/Death. Jesus says: Realize the truth of the state you are in. Accept the liberated life of God's kingdom that I now offer you, or you will all perish. It is easy to see why Jesus is distressed by the illusion of self-righteousness that makes repentance and liberation from Sin/Death impossible. I can think of no better illustrations of this most fundamental teaching of Jesus than the fiction of Flannery O'Connor. Her short stories have the power to awaken us to the truth that we are all inextricably involved in evil, and are all in dire need of God's liberating, saving grace.

After the warning about perishing in our sinful state unless we repent, Luke adds Jesus' parable about the fig tree. We may be liberated from our fallen state of Sin/Death and stand in freedom like a fig tree. However, if we choose evil and do not bear the fruit of good work, we will be cut down like a useless fig tree. In the second reading of today's Mass (1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12), Paul forcefully emphasizes the warning of Jesus' parable. Paul writes that his ancestors were liberated for new life with God from their condition of death-slavery in Egypt. However, under pressure of their trials they succumbed to evil desires and thus reverted to a state of enslavement. "God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the desert."

The experience of the liberated slaves in the desert, Paul tells us, is meant to serve as an example for us so that we will not desire evil things. If we do, we would revert to our original enslavement to Sin/Death as idolaters, seeking life where it cannot be found. Paul's warning is an apt comment on the teaching of Jesus' parable: "Whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall." At the same time, in the Spirit of Jesus, he offers us a word of comfort: "God is faithful and will not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial he will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it" (1 Cor 10:13).

## JEDNOTA

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## Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

### Complementary Institutions

Church and State are complementary rather than adversarial because both are made up of the same members. The State's responsibility to its citizens is civil law and order in temporal society. The Church's concern is the biblical ethical and moral behavior of its members in temporal society so that they may live on in eternal life with their Savior and Redeemer Jesus Christ. The State stops at the grave. The Church's concern for its members goes beyond their graves.

The State is an organized political community, which elects its own leaders and has the duty to act in ways that are ethically and morally right and fair with respect to its governance of its citizens and the relationships of its citizens with each other. Where does the State get its guidelines for the execution of its duties? The answer is the Bible upon which its elected and appointed officials take their oaths of office. These guidelines do not originate with the State. Rather, they come from God and are revealed by the Church.

Thusly, separating the State and the Church completely and making them completely independent of each other is comparable to limiting a drummer to one stick.

In Romans 13:1-7, Paul writes about obedience to authority, "...there is no authority except from God, and all authority that exists is established by God." (vs. 1) He refers to the ruler as "God's servant to work for your good" (vs. 4), and to "magistrates being God's ministers who devote themselves to his service with unremitting care." (vs. 6) In this con-

continued on page 3

# Insights and Viewpoints

## Reflections on Our Christianity

*continued from page 2*

text, "servant" and "his service" stipulate that the ruler and the ministers are obedient to God and act in accordance with his will. "Servant" and "his service" apply equally to rulers and ministers of State and Church. No ruler, no minister of State and Church is above the law of God.

Kings, princes, of State and Church, hearken! Hear, therefore, kings and understand; learn you magistrates of the earth's expanse! Harken, you who are in power over the multitude and lord it over throngs of people! Because authority was given you by the Lord and sovereignty by the Most High, who shall probe your works and scrutinize your counsels! Because though you were ministers of his kingdom, you judged not rightly, and did not keep the law, nor walk according to the will of God, terribly and swiftly shall he come against you, because judgment is stern for the exalted – for the lowly may be pardoned out of mercy but the mighty shall be mightily put to the test. For the Lord of all shows no partiality, nor does he fear greatness, because he himself made the great as well as the small, and he provides for all alike; but for those in power a rigorous scrutiny impends. (Wisdom 6:1-8)

On January 1, 1802, Thomas Jefferson wrote a letter "To Messrs. Nehemiah Dodge and Others, a Committee of the Danbury Baptist Association in the State of Connecticut" in which he said, "Believing with you that religion is a matter which lies solely between man and his God, that he owes account to none other for his faith or his worship, that the legislative powers of government reach actions only, and not opinions, I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' thus building a wall of separation between church and state." Jefferson states here that the government cannot establish a state religion, nor can it stop anyone from practicing their religion. Jefferson's point is that the state cannot make any religion the official religion of the United States. Nor can the government keep anyone from practicing the religion of his choice. Jefferson's "wall" keeps the government out of religion and out of the religious practices of its citizens. Period.

In his letter "To Rev. Samuel Miller" dated "Washington, Jan. 23, 1808," Jefferson wrote "Every religious society has a right to determine for itself the times for these (religious) exercises, & the objects proper for them, according to their own particular tenets; and this right can never be safer than in their own hands, where the constitution has deposited it. .... civil powers alone have been given to the President of the U.S. and no authority to direct the religious exercises of his constituents. .... I again express my satisfaction that you have been so good as to give me an opportunity of explaining myself in a private letter."

In Jefferson's "wall", there is no door for the State to enter into the Church.

The earliest version of our Pledge of Allegiance was published in a Boston-based youth magazine, entitled "The Youth's Companion," on September 8, 1892. It read: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag, and to the republic for which it stands; one Nation indivisible, With Liberty and Justice for all."

On June 14, 1923, the pledge was changed to read: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States, and to the republic for which it stands: one Nation indivisible, With Liberty and Justice for all."

On June 14, 1924, the pledge read: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands: one nation indivisible, With Liberty and Justice for all."

President Dwight David Eisenhower made the last change on June 14, 1954, when he added the words "under God": "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands: one Nation under God, indivisible, With Liberty and Justice for all."

On that occasion, the president said, "In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource in peace and war."

State and Church are partners here forever from sea to shining sea, from the sun rising in the east to its setting in the west. Break this bond and we will disappear in the dust of history.

### FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY: FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY INTEREST RATE INCREASES THROUGH MARCH 31, 2007

Effective January 1, 2007, the annual yield on existing First Catholic Slovak Union Flexible Premium Deferred Retirement Annuity and Individual Retirement Account (IRA) is 5.00% (4.879% APR).

The annual yield on the Park 2 Annuity 4.75% (4.641% APR).

The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Option will be 4.75% (4.641% APR).

Settlement Options will be based on an annual yield of 4.50% (4.402% APR).

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRAs, please contact the Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA.

**THESE RATES WILL REMAIN EFFECTIVE THROUGH MARCH 31, 2007**

**Kenneth A. Arendt  
National Secretary**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT RE: VISAS FOR SLOVAK CITIZENS VISITING THE UNITED STATES

On Friday February 09, 2007 I had the opportunity to participate in a meeting with other members of the Cleveland ethnic community and U.S. Senator George V. Voinovich.

The issue is U.S. Visa Waiver Program (VWP). Senator Voinovich has introduced bipartisan legislation, S – 342, that would extend visa free travel privileges to 13 countries that are U.S. allies, including Slovakia.

A good number of you have relatives in Slovakia and are aware of the extreme difficulty in their obtaining visas to visit here.

The VWP - established in 1986 to improve relations with U.S. allies and strengthen the U.S. economy – permits nationals from selected countries to enter the United States without a visa for up to 90 days. Currently, 27 countries participate in the program. Slovakia is currently not one of them. A number of new allies including Slovakia, would also like to enjoy the program's privileges and are willing to meet strict security requirements and cooperate on counter terrorism initiatives in order to do so.

I had the pleasure to speak with Senator Voinovich personally. In addition I spoke with Frank J. Spula who is the President of the Polish National Alliance (PNA), located in Chicago, who came to Cleveland especially for this meeting. He stated that the PNA has been working on this legislation for five years and saw this as a major breakthrough.

I would encourage you to either send a letter, fax, e-mail or call the following co-sponsors of this legislature to urge their support:

#### Senate Bill: SB

#### Senator George V. Voinovich (R-Ohio)

1240 E. 9th Str.  
Cleveland, OH 44199  
Ph: 216-522-7095 Fax: 216-522-7097  
E-mail: voinovich.senate.gov

#### Secure Travel and Counterterrorism Partnership Act

#### Representative Phil English (R-PA)

208 E. Bayfront Parkway  
Suite 102  
Erie, PA 16507  
Phone: 814/456-2038  
Fax: 814/454-0163

#### Senator Daniel Akaka (D-HI)

300 Ala Moana Blvd., Rm 3-106  
Box 50144  
Honolulu, HI 96850  
Phone: 808/522-8970  
Fax: 808/545-4683

#### Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-MD)

Brown' Wharf  
1629 Thames Street  
Suite 400  
Baltimore, MD 21231  
Phone: 410/962-4510  
Fax: 410/962-4760

#### Senator Richard G. Lugar (R-IN)

1180 Market Tower  
10 West Market Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
Phone: 317/226-5555  
Fax: 202/228-0360

#### Senator Ted Stevens (R-AK)

222 West 7th Avenue #2  
Anchorage, AK 99513  
Phone: 907/271-5915  
Fax: 907/258-9305

**Andrew M. Rajec  
President**

## Coming Events

### MARCH

11 – The Frank T. Holly Jr. District's Annual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at Melanie's Restaurant, 105 West Main Street, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

11 – The Jozef Cardinal Tomko District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Country Club, Philipsburg, Pennsylvania.

# 100th Anniversary of the Slovak League of America

## Celebrating a Century of the Slovak Cause

By Daniel F. Tanzone

*Continued from last issue*

### The advent of Communism

With the advance of Communism in 1948, Czecho-Slovakia began its darkest period of history. It was not until 1968 that an attempt to advance freedom in the then Czecho-Slovakia led by the Slovak, Alexander Dubcek took place. The Soviet invasion of August of that year crushed any attempt to put a face on Communism. The political situation returned to its oppressive past and any attempt at freedom for the Slovaks and Czechs was again delayed. During these years, the Slovak League kept the world apprised of the oppressive situation in Czecho-Slovakia.

Finally in 1989, after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the fall of communism, the peoples of Central and Eastern Europe finally emerged from the long winter of oppression. A new spring for freedom emerged and nation after nation once again joined the family of free nations of the world. The so-called "Velvet Revolution" saw the fall of communism in Czecho-Slovakia.

### Slovakia's independence

At the invitation of the Slovak League, Dr. Ladislav Kosta, the Minister of Justice of the Slovak government, attended the 1990 Congress of the Slovak League in Orlando, Florida. It was the first government official to attend a gathering of American Slovaks since the advent of communism in Czecho-Slovakia in 1948. In turn, the Slovak government, then headed by Milan Cic invited an official four-member delegation of the Slovak League to visit Slovakia in May of 1990. During the visit, in official and private conversations, Mr. Cic conveyed the conviction that Slovakia would strive for complete independence or at least press for a federative state with the Czechs. Again, this delegation was the first Slovak American delegation to officially be invited to Czecho-Slovakia in nearly a half century.

Very quickly, the Slovak question was again placed in the international forefront. Could Slovakia declare its independence and establish an independent state? Would it survive and would it be in the best interests of the Slovak nation? These were questions pondered by Slovak political leaders.

Finally, in 1992, the "Velvet Revolution" gave way to what would be known as the "Velvet Divorce," in which the Slovaks and Czechs peacefully agreed to seek their own political future. In the summer of 1992, it was agreed that two separate states be established. Thus at Midnight on January 1, 1993, amidst the pealing of its church bells, Slovakia declared its independence and once again joined the free and independent nations of the world. A delegation of the Slovak League of America was invited to the independence celebrations in Bratislava. Officers of the Slovak League of America were present in the Slovak Parliament on January 1, 1993, as the country's declaration of independence was read. It was a memorable moment in both Slovak and American history.

Since its independence for the past 14 years, Slovakia has enjoyed a close association with the United States and for the first time became an ally as a member of NATO. In recent years, the Slovak League

of America and its member organizations have promoted a host of projects to assist the economic, religious, social and cultural development of Slovakia. Close cultural and social ties currently enjoy great success.

Since 1907, the Slovak League of America has been a bridge between the old world and the new, uniting the best in culture and heritage of both the United States and Slovakia and in effect, helping to make the world a better place to live in for all peoples.

In 2007, we need to ask ourselves what, if any, is the role of the Slovak League of America today? Its goal of independence for Slovakia first conceived at that historic assembly in 1907 in Cleveland has been achieved. However, there is still an important role in American Slovak life for the Slovak League. With its various cultural projects including its publication of the scholarly annual SLOVAKIA, its scholarship program for young people and its heritage fund for cultural projects, the Slovak League continues to serve as a catalyst within the American Slovak community. We need to continue to promote the rich heritage of our ancestors as an integral facet of the cultural fabric of American life.

In May 2007, the Slovak League will sponsor an historic tour to Slovakia. Slovakia

wants to thank the Slovak League for its role in its history and creation as an independent state. In May, the Slovak Republic will issue a special commemorative stamp to honor the centennial of the founding of the Slovak League of America. A special historic seminar will be held in Bratislava and the statue of the Rev. Stephen Furdek, a co-founder of the Slovak League, will be dedicated. Slovakia's President Ivan Gasparovic and other political leaders will welcome the participants of this historic tour. For information on this 10-day tour, which departs from New York on Friday, May 4, contact Danube International Travel, Inc. of Central Nyack, N.Y. at 886/232-0755.

I likewise extend a cordial invitation to all members of our Slovak fraternal, both those currently affiliated with the Slovak League as well as those who formerly were affiliated, to attend the historic 100th anniversary dinner of the Slovak League, which is scheduled for Sunday, June 10, 2007, at the Crown Plaza Hotel at the Meadowlands in New Jersey. We look forward to the presence of the leaders of the Slovak fraternal affiliated with the Slovak League. Likewise, we extend a cordial invitation to the leaders of those Slovak fraternal, which were formerly affiliated

with the League to join us.

In conclusion, the officers and board of directors in this centennial year take the opportunity to express thanks and gratitude to the Slovak fraternal, which have sustained the work of the Slovak League of America and hold continuous membership. Through the charity and benevolence of these fraternal, the Slovak presence and cause have been sustained in America during this past century. We salute the First Catholic Slovak Union of the U.S. and Canada, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the National Slovak Society of the U.S.A., and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. Individuals are invited to become members of the Slovak League in its centennial year. Individual annual dues are \$5.00 and may be sent along with donations for our centennial year projects to our office in Passaic, New Jersey. Make checks payable to: Slovak League of America, 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055, tel. 973/472-8993. Join us as we begin our second century of promoting the Slovak presence and cause in the United States!

*(Daniel F. Tanzone of Yonkers, New York, serves as national president of the Slovak League of America.)*



## SLOVAK INSTITUTE and Library

www.slovakinstitute.com • slovakinstitute@csnmail.net



During the past four years the Slovak Institute and Library in Cleveland, Ohio, has received several special collections of books, newspapers, and documents. These donations are being processed and will soon be available to researchers. Here is a sampling of some recent acquisitions.

Our Lady of Sorrow Priory in Oak Forest, Illinois, donated their complete library and archives to the Slovak Institute and Library. This amounted to over 120 boxes of books and archival material, much of it on the Slovaks of the Chicago area.

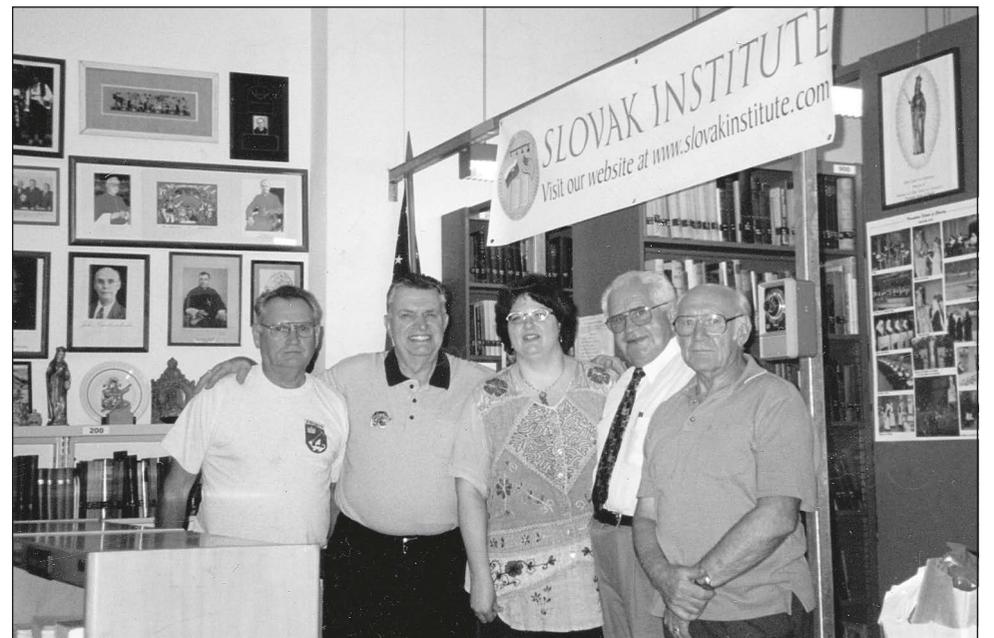
Professor Victor S. Mamatey donated the personal library of his father, Albert Mamatey, former president of the Slovak League of America. The library contained over 500 books and periodicals.

Andrew F. Hudak donated several hundred books and his personal papers from his time as president of the Slovak Garden in Winter Park, Florida.

The First Catholic Slovak Union gave several hundred books, calendars and bound volumes of the JEDNOTA newspaper to the Slovak Institute and Library. Also in the collection was a complete file on the trial of Jozef Tiso, President of the Slovak Republic (1939-1945).

Helen Brchnel, of New York City, donated several hundred books from the library of her late husband, Anton Brchnel.

Books were also received from Dr. Ludovit Pavlo, Joseph J. Hornack and Martha Mistina-Kona. The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association gave bound volumes of its newspaper, FRATERNALLY YOURS (ZENSKA JEDNOTA) from 1989 to 2005.



**Slovak Institute and Library Staff, L-R: Eddie Kovach, Joseph Hornack, Assistant Director; Ginny Parobek, Andrew F. Hudak Jr., Director; and Joseph Valencik.**

Olga Sidor Strmen donated the complete archives of Rev. Mikulas Sprinc including the archives relating to the periodical MOST, which he published and edited. Much of this material was in turn shipped to the Sprinc Historical Library in Krompachy, Slovakia. Other archival material was received from Dolores Soska, late editor of FRATERNALLY YOURS; the Parma, Ohio Slovak American Club; and Stephen J. Kandra and Branch 1 of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Slovak costumes were given to the Slovak Institute and Library by Joseph J. Hornack,

Dr. Lukas Pituch, and George Carny. Rudy Bachna, president of the Kent-Dudince Sister Cities, donated a Slovak Legionnaire uniform from World War I.

The Slovak Institute and Library is very grateful for all these donations. These items are being properly stored and preserved for scholars and visitors. To contact the Slovak Institute write: Slovak Institute & Library, St. Andrew Abbey, 10510 Buckeye Rd., Cleveland, OH 44104. Phone 216/721-5300, ext. 294. E-mail: slovakinstitute@csnmail.net. One may also visit the website at www.slovakinstitute.com.

# Scenes from the Jednota Slovak Day Picnic in Toronto, July 23, 2006



Standing, L-R: Mike Dobis, John Kapsa, and Marnie Dobis. Sitting, Olga Dobis.



L-R: Gus Kapsa, Mark Tonkovich, Helen Tonkovich and Marge Kapsa.



Jim Szabo and John Tokarsky work the barbecue.



L-R: Joe Jursa, Ed Jursa, Milos Mitro, Mike Kapitan and Jerry Siman.



Sue Babinchak and Cathy Szabo hand out ice cream cones.



Diane Chadwick, Dave Chadwick, John and their children.



Father Miroslav Vercimak.

## ADVANCED SLOVAK ADDED TO PITT'S SUMMER MENU

### *Study Abroad in Slovakia Planned for 2008*

The intensive Slovak Summer Institute will be held at the University of Pittsburgh from June 4 through July 13, 2007. Beginning, Intermediate, and this year for the first time, Advanced Intensive Slovak will be offered. These courses are open to students of any age, including juniors and seniors in high school, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as to persons of any age not currently enrolled in a college or university. Partial and full scholarship aid is available.

Attracting students from all over the U.S. and Canada, the Institute will consist of intensive instruction (five hours daily), allowing students to make the greatest possible progress in Slovak during the time available. Cultural and social activities, including lectures, discussion groups, and film showings are planned. Guest students may choose to stay in our modern air-conditioned dormitory.

Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Intensive Slovak all carries six college credits. The courses thoroughly cover the basic categories of Slovak pronunciation, grammar, and syntax. Emphasis is placed on the communicative competence, the active use of new structures in dialogues, unstructured conversation, reading, and listening comprehension.

An instructional staff chosen for its experience, enthusiasm, and commitment to language teaching ensures the high academic quality of Pitt's SLI program. Daily contact with instructors, both in class and out and the use of native speakers in all sections create an environment conducive to effective language acquisition. Location at the University of Pittsburgh campus ensures access to the latest technology, combined with a sophisticated urban setting, with social and cultural amenities. The Slovak course is part of the University of Pittsburgh's East European Summer Language Institute. Other languages offered include Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian, Polish, Russian, Serbian and Ukrainian. Study abroad programs in Russia, Bulgaria and Poland are also offered.

A new study abroad program in Slovakia is planned for the summer of 2008. Following the six-week program in Pittsburgh, students will be able to continue their studies in Modra. The four week program will include three weeks of class, visits to various cities in Slovakia (Bratislava, Martin and more) and a week of travel to Eastern Slovakia (Kosice, Presov, and others). Students with intermediate knowledge of Slovak would be eligible to join the 4-week program in Slovakia.

For further information and applications for the 2007 Slovak Summer Institute, contact Christine Metil, Slavic Department Summer Programs, University of Pittsburgh, 1417 CL, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, call (412) 624-5906, or visit the website at <http://sli.slavic.pitt.edu/>

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**6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300**

**P. O. Box 318013**

**Independence, OH 44131-8013**

**Call 1-800 JEDNOTA or 1-216-642-9406**

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Branch 1— LAKEWOOD, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold the first meeting of the year on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. Important issues for 2007 concerning Branch 1 members will be discussed.

In the year 2007, meetings will be held on March 13, June 12, September 11 and December 11. Please mark your calendars. The officers for 2007 are: John Golias, President; Vincent V. Jacko, Vice President; Sophie R. Jacko, Recording Secretary; John S. Golias, Treasurer/Elder; and Mary Dubber and Andrew Hudak, Auditors.

Looking forward to seeing our members this new year. See you in March.

**Sophie R. Jacko, Recording Secretary**

### Branch 3 and 226— MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 3, and the St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 226, will celebrate Palm Sunday with a Mass and breakfast on Sunday, April 1, 2007, at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 1315 Second Street N.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. for the living and deceased members. A breakfast and fellowship will be held in Father Dargay Hall following the liturgy.

**Joseph Matlon,  
Publicity Chairman**

### Branches 5, 240, 263, and 419— OLYPHANT, NANTICOKE, DUPONT AND WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branches 5, 240, 263, and 419 held a joint Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 14, 2007, at the home of the Financial Secretary/Treasurer Joe Obester, 500 Brown Street, Duryea, Pennsylvania.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Vice President Deanna Obester. Deanna reported that the President Marie Gryczko was in the hospital undergoing a heart operation. Prayers were requested for her recovery.

Auditors David and Bella Gryczko audited the books and gave their approval. They announced that they would be leaving the meeting early due to other commitments. Several other members announced that because of prior commitments they would also be leaving early. A motion was made by Elaine Yakus and seconded by Bella Gryczko to hold the election of officers. Another motion was made by Al Yakus and seconded by Ann Yurish to retain the current officers. Both motions passed unanimously. The following officers will serve in 2007: Marie Gryczko, President; Deanna Obester, Vice President; Joe Obester, Financial Secretary and Treasurer; and Bella Gryczko and David Gryczko, Auditors.

A motion to adjourn was made by Vice President Deanna Obester, seconded by Elaine Yakus. Vice President Deanna Obester closed the meeting with a prayer for the recovery of our President, Marie Gryczko. Deanna also announced that because of the shortened meeting a special meeting would be called to review all branch business. The date and place of the meeting will be announced in the JEDNOTA paper. Food and refreshments were served after the meeting.

**Joe Obester, Financial Secretary/Treasurer**

### Branch 6— STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 6, held its Annual Meeting on December 17, 2006, at Chippers, in Streator, Illinois. The following officers were elected to serve in 2007: Robert Elias, President; Stella Elias, Vice President; Katie Michlik, Treasurer; and Paul Chismar, Secretary. A lunch was served and enjoyed by all. Also attending was member Dan Lip-tak. The meeting was closed with a prayer.

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, March 4, 2007, at the home of Katie Michlik. All members are encouraged to attend. For more information call 815/672-3836.

**Paul Chismar, Secretary**

### Branch 19— BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will celebrate the feast day of its patron, St. Joseph, on Sunday, March 11, 2007, at the 8:30 a.m. Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 78 Church Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut. The Mass will be offered for the living and deceased members by Msgr. Joseph Pekar, Pastor. Refreshments will be served in the Church Hall following the liturgy.

Members of Branch 19 who have reached their 16th birthday in 2006 and have either a term policy of \$5,000 minimum held for at least four years or a reserve policy of \$1,000 minimum held at least for four years will receive the annual Margaret Evancho Award of a \$50 Savings Bond. During the business meeting the following members will receive this award: Christopher Danielczuk, Stephen Dolan, Alia Elnahaf, Jessica Johnson, Matthew Mineese, Thomas Murach, Amanda Nelson, and Jonathan Solek. This award was established in 1986 in recognition of Margaret Evancho's 40 years of dedication and her concern for the junior members of Branch 19.

Members are reminded that the next meeting will be held on Sunday, April 15, 2007. We hope many members will be able to attend the March 11 meeting.

**Henry Zack, Recording Secretary**

### Branch 45— NEW YORK CITY

The St. Matthew Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 15, 2007, at 12:30 p.m. after the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and First Avenue, New York City. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

**Joseph Jurasi, President**

### Branch 278— MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Peter Society, Branch 278, will hold a meeting on Monday, March 19, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Middletown, Pennsylvania. All members and officers are asked to attend.

**Andrew Trojczak, President**

### Branch 311— MONESSEN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 311, will hold its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. at Courtyard Pittsburgh West Homestead/Waterfront, 401 West Waterfront Drive, West Homestead, Pennsylvania. The election of officers and other Branch business will be on the agenda.

**Ken Vehec, Secretary**

### Branch 362— BARTON, OHIO

The Our Lady of Angels Society, Branch 362, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, March 18, 2007, at 12:00 noon at 70870 Crescent Road, St. Clairsville, Ohio. All members are urged to attend.

**John J. Wodarczyk, President**

### Branch 382— SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382, will conduct a General Membership Meeting on Sunday, March 4, 2007, at 12:00 noon, in Holy Family Church Hall, Gibson Street and North Washington Avenue, Scranton, Pennsylvania. Auditors will review the financial records. Also on the agenda will be financial and correspondence reports, fraternal activities, the Branch report to the Home Office, and a discussion of upcoming activities. Light refreshments will be served. All members are urged to attend.

Frank M. Slovenkai Jr., is president. Other executive officers are Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President; Michael J. Slovenkai, Treasurer; Michael J. Czankner, Secretary; and John J. Slovenkai, Financial Secretary.

**Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President**

### Branch 410— UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, will hold its Quarterly Meeting, on Tuesday, March 6, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. at the Highland House. On the agenda will be a discussion of branch activities for the year. All members are invited to attend.

**Geri Buchheit, Recording/  
Financial Secretary**

### Branch 510— KENOSHA, WISCONSIN

The St. Anthony Society, Branch 510, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 25, 2007, at 5:30 p.m. at the Fireside, Kenosha, Wisconsin. On the agenda will be the officers' reports, updates on insurance and annuity programs, and a discussion of plans and activities for the remainder of the year. The election of officers will also take place. Dinner will be available to those who attend. For reservations call Joseph Scuglik at 262/654-7364.

**Joseph Scuglik, President**

### Branch 580— WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 580, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 25, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. after the Mass at the home of Financial Secretary, Mary G. Perun, Outlook Drive, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be the election of officers and a discussion of ways to increase our membership.

**Mary G. Perun, Financial Secretary**

### Branch 682— YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. George Society, Branch 682, will hold a meeting on Tuesday, February 27, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. at the Materials Research Center, Struthers, Ohio. On the agenda will be a branch audit and a discussion of activities for 2007. All members are invited to attend.

**Joseph Scavina, Financial Secretary**

### Branch 706— SOUTH CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch

706, will conduct a meeting on Friday, March 2, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. at the home of President Shirley Uram, 13861 South 86th Avenue, Orland Park, Illinois. On the agenda will be officers' reports and a discussion on insurance and selling new products. The 2006 audit will take place at this time. If you plan to attend please call Shirley before the meeting at 708/349-9049. Members are also asked to check the beneficiaries on their policies.

**Shirley Uram, President**

### Branch 731— YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 731, will celebrate its patron feast day with a Mass on Sunday, March 18, 2007, at 11:30 a.m. in Saint Matthias Church, Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. A brunch will be served following the liturgy. All members are invited to attend. Reservations should be made by March 11, 2007 by calling 330/782-3219 or 330/629-2505.

Branch 731 held its annual meeting and election of officers on December 17, 2006. The following officers will serve in 2007: Millie Leskovyansky, President; Msgr. Peter M. Polando, Vice President; James Bobby, Recording Secretary; Jacquelyn Bobby, Financial Secretary; and John Kavulic and Edward Walko, Auditors.

**James Bobby, Recording Secretary**

### Branch 743— DETROIT AND STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, will celebrate the feast day of St. Joseph on Sunday, March 18, 2007, with a Slovak Mass at 11:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan. Refreshments including coffee and Slovak baked goods will be served in the Social Hall following the liturgy. All members and their families are invited to attend this annual celebration of St. Joseph Day and to enjoy fellowship with other members.

Any member who has recently moved or requires branch services should contact the branch secretary Joseph C. Rimarcik, 42909 Sussex Park Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087 or phone 586/254-0225.

**Joseph C. Rimarcik,  
President/Financial Secretary**

### Branch 743— DETROIT AND STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The Financial Secretary of the St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, is searching for the addresses and phone numbers of several members. Some of these people may be deceased and beneficiaries are entitled to life insurance proceeds.

Help is needed to locate the following members born between 1910 and 1929: Frances Atkinson, Angelo Bertoloni, Josephine Gordon, George J. Gronsky, John Korpak, Pauline E. Maas, and Frank Kacir. Help is also needed to locate the following born between 1930 and 1945: Donald Churhan, Dorothy Comito, Rebecca Dinardo, Maryann Karafa, Joseph Lesky, Christina Madar, Judith Madar, and Marvin Rimay.

Anyone who can provide a current address or telephone number for any of the above named individuals is asked to contact: Joseph C. Rimarcik, President/Financial

# Most Rev. Paul Hnilica, S.J.

By Paul Berish

The late Bishop Hnilica ranks among the heroic individuals of the Slovak nation. This heroism is not confined to Slovakia but is an inspiration to peoples of all nations. He lived and worked in the era of the Iron Curtain, during communist rule under both the Czechs and Slovaks during the attempts by the ruling power to wipe out and erase God and the Church from both nations. This activity concentrated first on the clergy, religious and brave laity.

I knew little of Bishop Hnilica except for articles in the JEDNOTA. He was a member of the Jesuit community and was ordained a Bishop secretly in the Church of Silence. The church itself was not silent, but in this period of communist history there was a secret activity going on in silence. Since the government controlled the number of ordinations and could even prevent ordinations, this silent activity was initiated. Secretly ordained priests continued priestly functions. Eventually the government began a search and it was deemed that the better part of valor was for the good Bishop to leave Slovakia and let the world know about internal persecutions.

I first saw and heard Bishop Hnilica at the dedication of the Chapel of Our Lady of Seven Sorrows at the National Catholic Basilica in Washington, DC. Both the Chapel in honor of Slovakia's patroness and the statues of SS. Cyril and Methodius on the exterior walls were donated by the First Slovak Catholic Union (Jednota) in the name of Americans of Slovak heritage. Bishop Hnilica was the homilist at this mass, which also marked the 1100th anniversary of the coming of SS. Cyril and Methodius to Slovakia in 863 A.D. This Washington celebration occurred in 1963. I attended along with thousands of Americans of Slovak heritage. The upper basilica was jam-packed, the lower church was filled and an altar was set up outdoors beneath the statues of SS. Cyril and Methodius. It was a once in a lifetime event. The basilica resounded and echoed with our beloved hymns. There was a choir but everyone in the basilica sang. The same was true of the lower church and the groups attending mass outdoors. We were connected by a Public Address system.

Then came the homily. Bishop Hnilica began to speak. He expressed his admiration of our coming together in freedom to worship. Then he began his description of life in Slovakia under communist repression. In 1948 the communists assumed power through a free election by a large majority, although in Slovakia the vote was against this system. Then came the clampdown on the church. Laws were enacted limiting the activities of bishops and the clergy as well as against laity protesting these laws or participating in church activities. Bishop Hnilica explained how these laws worked on clergy, religious and laity. Bishops were jailed or under house arrest. Bishop Jan Vojtassak, at age 72, was sentenced to 24 years in jail for opposing seizure of people's private land, properties to form collective cooperatives. In 1950 male religious seminaries and monasteries were raided, priests and brothers were taken to concentration camps. The laity who attended mass, where churches were still open, were threatened with job loss or the threat of not permitting their children to attend higher education.

As he spoke with passion, an elderly man sitting next to me began to audibly cry. These were honest tears. His daughter attempted to console him. My own heart felt his pain. As I listened to the Bishop, I mentally tried to determine if I could be as brave as the Bishop or laity under the conditions described by Bishop Hnilica. One had to be absolutely dedicated to God, Church and Nation. Bishop Hnilica was so dedicated. I heard the Bishop's words and that elderly man's sobs for years.

The Rev. Dr. Edward Ondrako, OFM. Conv., asked me to translate books by, now, Jan Chryzostem Cardinal Korec. These detailed life under Communism. As I finished one book, another followed. What a heroic figure Cardinal Korec was then and is. At the same time there were references to Bishop Hnilica. To him credit is due for the establishment of the present administration, begun and negotiated under communism. The Church at the time was reduced to only one elderly Bishop who was under house arrest. Others were jailed or had died. Then, secretly ordained Bishop Korec was exposed and served an eight-year jail sentence. He worked as a laborer in a chemical factory for 20 years and was forbidden to act as Bishop. Secretly he had ordained over 100 priests.

Bishop Hnilica had the ear of Pope Paul VI who then acted to rebuild the church in Slovakia. He created the Metropolitan Apostolic Administration and appointed Bishop Jan Sokol as Archbishop. The communists permitted this under Slovak Alexander Dubcek. In 1968, the charges and imprisonments of Bishops and priests were declared null. It was a short period but gave the church leaders and laity a renewed injection of hope.

During this period Bishop Korec was permitted to go to Rome with his mother and a few friends. In Rome, he was brought to meet Pope Paul VI. This had been arranged by Bishop Hnilica. To show his recognition of Bishop Korec as a legitimate Bishop, the Pope presented him with miter, crosier, cross and ring which were his personally.

Bishop Hnilica was not only an active Bishop while in Slovakia but became a power behind the scenes for Slovak freedom and recognition. We don't know what eternity and heaven may be, for eye has not seen nor has ear heard what God has prepared for those who love Him. Jesus said that there were many mansions in heaven. So I feel that Bishop Hnilica's soul occupies a huge mansion, for he lived "za boha, Naroda aj cirkev."

This is an aside, completely divorced from the good Bishop, but in September I joined a tour group for a visit to Slovakia. As we traveled about, I tried as much as possible to speak to Slovak people. They were as surprised as I was. Ako to ze si z Ameriky a tak pekne hovoris po slovensky? (How is it that you are from America and speak Slovak so beautifully?) Well, first I thank my grandparents with whom I lived for a few early years of my life. Then the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius, who taught me standard Slovak at SS. Cyril and Methodius, in Binghamton. Our Slovak Conventual Fathers fostered devotions and prayers in Slovak and English. In those grammar school days and even later I wrote articles for Priatel Dietok. Another great factor has been the JEDNOTA with its Slovak articles and the once flourishing JEDNOTA ALMANAC. JEDNOTA's news items and historical articles and U.S. and Slovak news have all been helpful in preserving my knowledge of the Slovak

language and events.

I cannot neglect to mention Anna Karaffa of Montgomery, New York. She had been a teacher in Slovakia. From time to time we talk on the phone and she corrects any of my grammatical errors. She is most encouraging in helping me to grow in speaking Slovak correctly.

To all who say, "I wish I could speak Slovak", I say, "You can". What has spurred me through the years has been "Hej slovaci, este nasa slovenska rec zije dokial nase verne srdce za nas narod bije". That's the key.

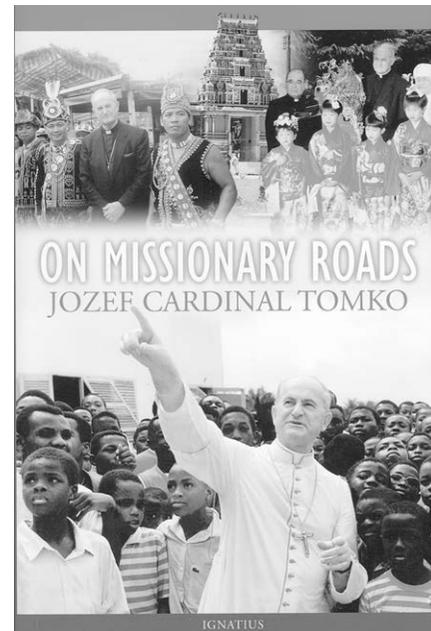
## the Book Corner

Jozef Cardinal Tomko, *ON MISSIONARY ROADS*, Translated by Rev. Lubo Strecok, (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2006), 390 pages.

Jozef Cardinal Tomko, a native of Udavske, Slovakia, is the Prefect Emeritus of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. Appointed by Pope John Paul II, in 1985, Cardinal Tomko served in this post until his retirement in 2001.

"From Botswana to Thailand, from Peru to Bosnia, the missionary work of Catholic Church stretches from pole to pole, encompassing every part of the globe. Jozef Cardinal Tomko, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples from 1985 to 2001, shares his account of the many missionary journeys he made around the world. Often accompanying the Pope, Cardinal Tomko saw firsthand how the Church is dealing with the particular challenges of various cultures around the world. He gives witness to the flowering of faith as well as to the hardships that many Catholics face in other countries. The encyclopedic knowledge of countries and peoples that the Cardinal possesses will enrich the reader's understanding of the world today and show that the Roman Catholic Church is truly "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic."

The 390-page book is illustrated with many color photos and maps. It makes for very interesting reading and is highly recommended. The book sells for \$24.95 (softbound) and is available from Ignatius Press.



## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT — Uniontown, Pennsylvania

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 11, 2007, at Melonie's Restaurant, 105 West Main Street, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. A luncheon will be served at 1:00 p.m. Each member attending is asked to contribute \$5.00 towards their meal. Reservations should be made by Wednesday, March 7, 2007, by contacting President James Marmol at 724/437-0892 or Secretary Barbara Holly at 724/438-0697. On the agenda will be the election of officers and the updating of accounts.

**Barbara A. Holly, Secretary**

### JOZEF CARDINAL TOMKO DISTRICT— Houtzdale, Pennsylvania

The Jozef Cardinal Tomko District will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, March 11, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the Country Club, Philipsburg, Pennsylvania. All branches are urged to send delegates to this meeting. If you plan to attend, call Rosemary Deliman at 342-5592.

**Marcella Kopchik, Secretary**

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*continued from page 6*

Secretary, 42909 Sussex Park Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48314. Phone: 586/254-0225. Email: j1d21344@wowway.com.

**Joseph C. Rimarcik, President/  
Financial Secretary**

### Branch 780— SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 780, will hold its next meeting on Monday, March 19, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the home

of the president, 2090 Bock Road, Saginaw, Michigan. All members are welcome to attend. For more information call Ben at 989/791-1775, Mary at 989/791-3505, or Cathy at 989/792-0186.

The officers of Branch 780 for the year 2007 are: Benjamin Gombar Jr., President and Treasurer; Mary Albers, Vice President and Financial Secretary; and Catherine Karlsen, Recording Secretary.

**Catherine Karlsen, Recording Secretary**

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

| Requests (based on order received) |      |      |      |      |
|------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Event                              | Date | Time | Date | Time |
| Team                               |      |      |      |      |
| Doubles & Singles                  |      |      |      |      |

# ENTRY BLANK

## 53rd Annual Men's and 44th Annual Women's International Jednota Handicap Tenpin BOWLING TOURNAMENT

*Sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union*

MORAL SUPPORT SANCTIONED BY THE UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS  
AND THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL BOWLING CONGRESS

**Airport Lanes - Genesee St., Cheektowaga, New York**

### ENTRY FEES

|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| PRIZE FEE.....               | \$ 6.85        |
| BOWLING FEE (3 games).....   | \$ 4.65        |
| TOURNAMENT FEE.....          | \$ 6.50        |
| <b>TOTAL EACH EVENT.....</b> | <b>\$18.00</b> |
| <i>Optional Events</i>       |                |
| ALL EVENTS .....             | \$ 2.00        |
| SENIOR SINGLES EVENT .....   | \$ 5.00        |

# 2007

April 20 • 21 • 22

**ENTRIES CLOSE**

**MARCH 1, 2007**

Mail Entry Fee Payable To:  
**FCSU Activities**  
Mail to: Susan Ondrejco  
234 Ilion St.  
Pgh., PA 15207

|                  |                     |                             |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Team Name: _____ | Captain Name: _____ | City Assoc. USBC/WIBC _____ |
| League: _____    | Address: _____      | Secretary: _____            |
| City: _____      | Phone: _____        | Address: _____              |

| ALL EVENTS (X) | CORRECT TEAM LINE-UP<br>(Print or Type)     | HIGHEST AVERAGE | USBC/WIBC NO.  | ADDRESS | CERT. NO.<br>(MUST BE FILLED IN) | BRANCH NO. |
|----------------|---|-----------------|--|---------|----------------------------------|------------|
|                | 1.  |                 |  |         |                                  |            |
|                | 2.  |                 |  |         |                                  |            |
|                | 3.  |                 |  |         |                                  |            |
|                | 4.  |                 |  |         |                                  |            |
| SINGLES (X)    | TWO-MAN EVENT<br>(Print or Type Full Names) | HIGHEST AVERAGE | <b>★★ SCHEDULE ★★</b><br><b>TEAM EVENT</b><br><b>Friday, April 20 6 p.m. &amp; 9 p.m.</b><br><b>Saturday, April 21 9 a.m. (or as needed)</b><br><br><b>DOUBLES &amp; SINGLES</b><br><b>Saturday and Sunday</b><br><b>April 21 &amp; 22 9 a.m. &amp; 1 p.m.</b><br><br><b>PLEASE NOTE ABOVE TIMES &amp; DATES</b> |         |                                  |            |
|                | 1.  |                 |  |         |                                  |            |
|                | 2.  |                 |  |         |                                  |            |
|                | 1.  |                 |  |         |                                  |            |
|                | 2.  |                 |  |         |                                  |            |

- **BOWLER CAN BOWL ONLY ONCE IN EACH EVENT**
- **BOWLING FEES AS WELL AS ENTRY MONEY MUST ACCOMPANY THIS BLANK**
- **FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH COMPLETE INFORMATION**
- **INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN AND MUST BE RESUBMITTED**
- **SEE RULES 8-10 BELOW REGARDING PRIZE DISTRIBUTION**
- **SEE RULE 6 BELOW REGARDING CALCUALTION OF HANDICAP**

Substitutes on two-man teams **must** bowl in the position vacated by the original entrant as per USBC/WIBC.

## BOWLING TOURNAMENT - PLEASE READ ALL RULES CAREFULLY

The Men's and Women's Annual International Jednota Tenpin Handicap Bowling Tournament is solely sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union, for the purpose of promoting fraternalism and good sportsmanship, and to generate nationwide interest in the Jednota. The Supreme Officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union wish to extend to all Jednota members a cordial invitation to the Host City, Cheektowaga, New York, in this rapidly growing tournament.

1. The 53rd Annual Men's and the 44th Annual Women's Jednota International Handicap Tenpin Bowling Tournament will be held at Airport Lanes, 3754 Genesee St., Cheektowaga, New York. The tournament will be held the weekend of April 20, 22 and 22, 2007.

ENTRIES WILL CLOSE MIDNIGHT MARCH 1, 2007.

OPENING CEREMONIES WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, APRIL 20, AT 5:30 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL FORMS MUST BE FILLED IN COMPLETELY. ALL INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN FOR RESUBMISSION.

**2. This Tournament is open to all Jednota male and female bonafide MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING. All winners will be checked before any prize money is AWARDED.**

3. All matters pertaining to this Tournament must have the sanction of the Director of Fraternal Activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The Tournament Officers will handle all matters pertaining to this Tournament.

4. U.S.B.C. and the W.I.B.C. Bowling Rules shall govern in all matters concerning the actual play on the lanes in this Tournament.

5. Only members with U.S.B.C. and W.I.B.C. Membership Cards will be eligible for the U.S.B.C. and W.I.B.C. special awards in this Moral Sanctioned Tournament. Bowlers without U.S.B.C. and W.I.B.C. Membership Cards may purchase some from the Tournament Secretary at current local fees prior to actual participation in this Tournament.

**5-A. CAPTAINS OF EACH TEAM ENTRY MUST ENTER HIS TEAMMATES' U.S.B.C. AND W.I.B.C. SANCTION CARD NUMBERS AND VERIFY SAME AS LISTED IN PROPER AREA ON ENTRY FORM.**

#### MEN AND WOMEN

6. MEN - The handicap allowed will be 90% of the difference between 210 and the highest average of any U.S.B.C. League of at least 21 games from the 2005-2006 season. Bowlers with no such average from the 2005-2006 season will use highest league average as of JANUARY 1, 2007 and this must be designated as such on ENTRY FORM BY HIS NAME. Bowlers with no established U.S.B.C. average will BOWL A 210 SCRATCH. SUMMER LEAGUE AVERAGES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

WOMEN - The handicap allowed will be 90% of the difference between 180 and the highest season average of any W. I. B. C. or C. T. F. League of at least 21 games from the 2005-2006 season. Bowlers with no average for the 2005-2006 season will use highest league average as of January 1, 2007, and must be designated as such on ENTRY FORM BY HER NAME. Bowlers with no established U.S.B.C. average will BOWL A 180 SCRATCH. SUMMER LEAGUE AVERAGES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

6-A. MEN AND WOMEN: Any contestants whose current average of at least 21 games as of January 1, 2007, is TEN (10) PINS or more above his or her average from previous season, must use his or her current average and will indicate this on the ENTRY FORM AT TIME OF ENTRY.

6-B. Under no circumstances will handicap be increased after participant has bowled.

6-C. MEN- Any unmarried grade or high school student who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) must have written consent of his parents or guardian in order to participate in U.S.B.C. sanctioned Tournament where cash or merchandise prizes are offered. Said written consent must be on a form approved by American Bowling Congress and must be on file with Tournament Secretary at least one week before the bowler is eligible for tournament competition unless the student is accompanied by his parents, in which case the parental consent form may be filed up to the time the student starts to bowl, U.S.B.C. Rule NO. 13 FEMALE - Any unmarried grade or high school student, who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) must have written consent of her parents or guardian in order to participate in a W.I.B.C. sanctioned Tournament where cash or merchandise prizes are offered. Said written consent must be on a form approved by the Women's Bowling Congress and must be on file with Tournament Secretary at least one week before the bowler is eligible for tournament competition unless the student is accompanied by her parents, in which case the parental consent form may be filed up to the time the student starts to bowl.

**7. In submitting this entry, THE CAPTAIN AND THE TEAM MEMBERS AGREE TO FORFEIT ALL RIGHTS TO PRIZE MONEY AS WELL AS THE TOTAL ENTRY FEES IN THE EVENT THAT ANY INFORMATION LISTED HEREIN SHOULD BE FOUND TO BE FALSE. WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ERRORS IN AVERAGES MADE IN FILLING OUT THIS ENTRY FORM. NO REFUNDS OF TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE.**

8. PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED FOR TEAM, DOUBLES, SINGLES, AND ALL EVENTS.

9. MEN - One prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries in each event, with the exception of All Events, which will pay one prize for every fifteen (15) entries. No duplicate prizes will be awarded and prize fees will be returned 100 percent.

10. WOMEN - One prize will be paid for every five (5) entries in each event with the exception of All Events, which will pay one prize for every fifteen (15) entries. No duplicate prizes will be awarded and the prize fees will be returned 100 percent.

**11. All prize winners will be checked with the Jednota Home Office for verification of membership in good standing.**

12. All prizes will be subject to the approval of the Director of Fraternal Activities and the Tournament Committee.

13. The original averages submitted on the Entry Blank cannot be changed prior to participation by anyone except the Team Captain, who must submit written proof thereof to the Tournament Secretary.

14. Any replacement of participants originally scheduled to bowl on team or doubles will take same position on team and doubles event.

15. All participants must report one half-hour before starting time and sanction cards must be presented to the Tournament Secretary by same.

16. No bowler will be permitted to compete more than once in each event.

17. Prize fees, as stated on the front of this entry blank, must accompany this entry.

18. In the event that there should be a tie for first place, a Co-Champion will be declared and duplicate trophies will be awarded.

19. Errors in scoring or calculations must be presented to the Tournament Secretary within 48 hours after completion of play. Captains of Teams or Doubles Partners have the option to pick up duplicate score sheets upon completion of play.

20. "Average of a bowler may be rerated and must be accompanied before the entrant bowls, but if the rerated average is not accepted by the bowler, the entry fee shall be refunded." RULE 319-C.

MEN - RULE NO. 319-D - A Bowler whose high league average is under 190 shall submit himself for rerating and shall be rerated before entering a classified or handicap tournament.

(a) When his accumulated average is not less than 21 tournament games during the immediate preceding 12-month period exceeds his high league average by 10 or more pins, or

(b) when he has exceeded his high league average by 15 or more pins in each of five tournaments, i.e., 45 pins in a three game series, 60 pins in a four game series, etc. - based only on his high series in each of the five tournaments - during the immediately preceding 12-month period.

21. YOU ARE ONLY ALLOWED TWO (2) RE-RACKS PER GAME.

22. 319-a-3 It shall be each bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of his average in handicap or classified tournaments, whether originally submitted by the bowler, his team captain, or others.

Failure to use the proper average shall disqualify score of submitted average if lower than actual average, thereby resulting in a lower classification or more handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the actual average.

In case of teams of two or more bowlers, the average shall be combined to determine whether the correct total is higher or lower than the submitted total.

Corrections in averages can be made up to the completion of the first game of a series, or within 48 hours after completion of a series if the tournament manager prior to the completion of the first game of the series has given written consent to the bowler authorizing such extension of time to correct his average.

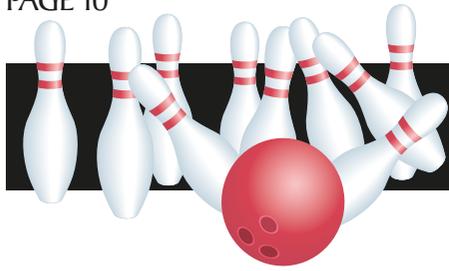
319-D - Any entrant who has qualified for a prize of \$300 or more in any event of a tournament in the 12-month period prior to entry, must report actual score, position, and amount won to tournament management at time of entry for possible rerating.

**23. Refer to A.B.C. Rule 322 - Tardy Bowler or Bowlers will receive zero for each frame missed.**

#### OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT OFFICERS

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| EX-OFFICIO TREASURER & FRATERNAL DIRECTOR ..... | SUSAN ONDREJCO |
| TOURNAMENT SECRETARY .....                      | JOE BURKHART   |





# JEDNOTA BOWLING RESULTS

## MONTREAL JEDNOTA MIXED January 9, 2007

| Team   | Points |
|--|--------|
| James Verrillo   | 74     |
| John Gaydos  | 69     |
| Emil Ondrechak   | 66     |
| Gerry Madejchuk  | 61     |
| John Jasko   | 59     |
| Steve Szubiak  | 58     |
| Paul Dvorsky   | 53     |
| Mary Makovsky  | 53     |
| Tony Makovsky  | 53     |
| Domenic Pugliese   | 49     |
| High single game team: Steve Szubiak-651.  |        |
| High three games team: Steve Szubiak-1833.   |        |
| High single game individual: (woman) Mary Jurkanin-186; (man) James Verrillo-263.  |        |
| High three games individual: (woman) Mary Makovsky-480; (man) James Verrillo-608.  |        |
| Next four high single games: (women) Rosa Pugliese-180, Mary Makovsky-170, Anne Szubiak-159, Olga Slodichak-159, Helen Madejchuk-152; (men) Paul Dvorsky-246, John Jasko-200, Larry Wedlich-190, Emil Ondrechak-189. |        |
| Next four high three games: (women) Mary Jurkanin-475, Rosa Pugliese-454, Anne Szubiak-431, Marta Fuska-412; (men) Paul Dvorsky-571, Emil Ondrechak-501, John Jasko-501, Joe Sekeres-490, John Chandik-483.          |        |

## January 16, 2007

| Team  | Points |
|---|--------|
| John Gaydos   | 74     |
| James Verrillo  | 74     |
| Gerry Madejchuk   | 68     |
| Emil Ondrechak  | 66     |
| Steve Szubiak   | 65     |
| John Jasko  | 61     |
| Paul Dvorsky  | 60     |
| Tony Makovsky   | 58     |
| Mary Makovsky   | 53     |
| Domenic Pugliese  | 51     |
| High single game team: John Gaydos-635.   |        |
| High three games team: Paul Dvorsky-1799.   |        |
| High single game individual: (woman) Mary Jurkanin-194; (man) Gerry Madejchuk-238.  |        |
| High three games individual: (woman) Mary Jurkanin-532; (man) Gerry Madejchuk-606.  |        |
| Next four high single games: (women) Pauline Dvorsky-173, Ann Ondrechak-173, Mary Makovsky-161, Rosa Pugliese-159; (men) Domenic Pugliese-199, Paul Dvorsky-196, Steve Szubiak-192, John Chandik-188. |        |
| Next four high three games: (women) Ann Ondrechak-439, Rosa Pugliese-434, Pauline Dvorsky-425, Mary Makovsky-413; (men) Steve Szubiak-548, Domenic Pugliese-513, Paul Dvorsky-512, Tony Makovsky-510. |        |

## January 23, 2007

| Team                                      | Points |
|---|--------|
| James Verrillo                            | 79     |
| John Gaydos                               | 77     |
| Gerry Madejchuk                           | 71     |
| Steve Szubiak                             | 69     |
| Emil Ondrechak                            | 68     |
| Paul Dvorsky                              | 64     |
| Tony Makovsky                             | 63     |
| John Jasko                                | 63     |
| Mary Makovsky                             | 58     |
| Domenic Pugliese                          | 53     |
| High single game team: Mary Makovsky-630. |        |
| High three games team: Mary Ma-           |        |

kovsky-1774. High single game individual: (woman) Ann Ondrejchak-198; (man) James Verrillo-209. High three games individual: (woman) Mary Makovsky-507; (man) Paul Dvorsky-561.

Next four high single games: (women) Mary Makovsky-176, Anne Szubiak-167, Suzanne Hurtuk-144, Rosa Pugliese-138, Mary Jurkanin-138; (men) Gerry Madejchuk-203, John Jasko-193, Joe Corej-193, Paul Dvorsky-192.

Next four high three games: (women) Ann Ondrechak-472, Anne Szubiak-413, Suzanne Hurtuk-395, Rosa Pugliese-394; (men) James Verrillo-560, Gerry Madejchuk-539, Steve Szubiak-501, Tony Makovsky-499. Mary Makovsky, Secretary

## TORONTO SLOVAK MIXED (BRANCH #785) November 29, 2006

| Pos | Tm# | Team            | Won  | Lost |
|-----|-----|-----------------|------|------|
| 1   | 3   | Rose Pikul      | 60.0 | 31.0 |
| 2   | 6   | Jerry Siman     | 54.0 | 37.0 |
| 3   | 2   | Stan Pella      | 52.0 | 39.0 |
| 4   | 5   | Joe Jursa       | 51.0 | 40.0 |
| 5   | 15  | Michael Kapitan | 51.0 | 33.0 |
| 6   | 4   | Emil Jursa      | 50.0 | 41.0 |
| 7   | 12  | Ed Jursa        | 50.0 | 41.0 |
| 8   | 13  | Anne Mitro      | 49.0 | 42.0 |
| 9   | 14  | John Jursa      | 49.0 | 42.0 |
| 10  | 11  | Jason Ubeika    | 47.0 | 44.0 |
| 11  | 8   | Jim Szabo       | 47.0 | 44.0 |
| 12  | 7   | Hank Gryz       | 42.0 | 49.0 |
| 13  | 10  | Denise Ricciuti | 40.0 | 51.0 |
| 14  | 1   | Sharon Tomas    | 39.0 | 52.0 |
| 15  | 9   | Greg Gryz       | 37.0 | 54.0 |

### This Week's Individual High Scores

HI-SERIES-FLAT: Jim Szabo-563; Anne Mitro-486.

HI-SERIES-HCP: John Tokarsky-687; Josie Siman-668.

HI-GAME-FLAT: John Tokarsky-244; Cathy Szabo-177.

HI-GAME-HCP: John Tokarsky-296; Sue Babinchak-249.

## December 6, 2006

| Pos | Tm# | Team            | Won  | Lost |
|-----|-----|-----------------|------|------|
| 1   | 6   | Jerry Siman     | 61.0 | 37.0 |
| 2   | 3   | Rose Pikul      | 60.0 | 38.0 |
| 3   | 2   | Stan Pella      | 59.0 | 39.0 |
| 4   | 13  | Anne Mitro      | 56.0 | 42.0 |
| 5   | 5   | Joe Jursa       | 56.0 | 42.0 |
| 6   | 15  | Michael Kapitan | 56.0 | 35.0 |
| 7   | 4   | Emil Jursa      | 54.0 | 44.0 |
| 8   | 12  | Ed Jursa        | 52.0 | 46.0 |
| 9   | 14  | John Jursa      | 51.0 | 47.0 |
| 10  | 8   | Jim Szabo       | 50.0 | 48.0 |
| 11  | 7   | Hank Gryz       | 47.0 | 51.0 |
| 12  | 11  | Jason Ubeika    | 47.0 | 51.0 |
| 13  | 9   | Greg Gryz       | 44.0 | 54.0 |
| 14  | 1   | Sharon Tomas    | 41.0 | 57.0 |
| 15  | 10  | Denise Ricciuti | 40.0 | 58.0 |

### This Week's Individual High Scores

HI-SERIES-FLAT: Danny Zrobok-615; Anne Mitro-509.

HI-SERIES-HCP: Frank Lipka-745; Bernie Zrobok-681.

HI-GAME-FLAT: Danny Zrobok-224; Bernie Zrobok-203.

HI-GAME-HCP: Frank Lipka-275; Bernie Zrobok-284.

## December 13, 2006

| Pos | Tm# | Team        | Won  | Lost |
|-----|-----|-------------|------|------|
| 1   | 6   | Jerry Siman | 68.0 | 37.0 |
| 2   | 5   | Joe Jursa   | 63.0 | 42.0 |

|    |    |                 |      |      |
|----|----|-----------------|------|------|
| 3  | 15 | Michael Kapitan | 63.0 | 35.0 |
| 4  | 3  | Rose Pikul      | 60.0 | 45.0 |
| 5  | 2  | Stan Pella      | 59.0 | 46.0 |
| 6  | 13 | Anne Mitro      | 58.0 | 47.0 |
| 7  | 8  | Jim Szabo       | 57.0 | 48.0 |
| 8  | 4  | Emil Jursa      | 54.0 | 51.0 |
| 9  | 7  | Hank Gryz       | 52.0 | 53.0 |
| 10 | 11 | Jason Ubeika    | 52.0 | 53.0 |
| 11 | 12 | Ed Jursa        | 52.0 | 53.0 |
| 12 | 14 | John Jursa      | 51.0 | 54.0 |
| 13 | 1  | Sharon Tomas    | 48.0 | 57.0 |
| 14 | 10 | Denise Ricciuti | 47.0 | 58.0 |
| 15 | 9  | Greg Gryz       | 46.0 | 59.0 |
| 2  | 15 | Michael Kapitan | 70.0 | 35.0 |
| 3  | 2  | Stan Pella      | 64.0 | 48.0 |
| 4  | 13 | Anne Mitro      | 63.0 | 49.0 |
| 5  | 5  | Joe Jursa       | 63.0 | 49.0 |
| 6  | 4  | Emil Jursa      | 61.0 | 51.0 |
| 7  | 3  | Rose Pikul      | 60.0 | 52.0 |
| 8  | 8  | Jim Szabo       | 59.0 | 53.0 |
| 9  | 7  | Hank Gryz       | 57.0 | 55.0 |
| 10 | 11 | Jason Ubeika    | 56.0 | 56.0 |
| 11 | 12 | Ed Jursa        | 55.0 | 57.0 |
| 12 | 14 | John Jursa      | 53.0 | 59.0 |
| 13 | 9  | Greg Gryz       | 51.0 | 61.0 |
| 14 | 1  | Sharon Tomas    | 50.0 | 62.0 |
| 15 | 10 | Denise Ricciuti | 49.0 | 63.0 |

### This Week's Individual High Scores

HI-SERIES-FLAT: Jason Ubeika-622; Helen Gryz-534.

HI-SERIES-HCP: John Hergel-699; Sharon Tomas-701.

HI-GAME-FLAT: Jason Ubeika-246; Jara Ragan-199.

HI-GAME-HCP: Jason Ubeika-264; Sharon Tomas-264.

## December 20, 2006

| Pos | Tm# | Team        | Won  | Lost |
|-----|-----|-------------|------|------|
| 1   | 6   | Jerry Siman | 75.0 | 37.0 |

### This Week's Individual High Scores

HI-SERIES-FLAT: Jim Szabo-573; Sue Babinchak-536.

HI-SERIES-HCP: John Tokarsky-688; Sue Babinchak-746.

HI-GAME-FLAT: Jim Szabo-241; Sue Babinchak-223.

HI-GAME-HCP: Jim Szabo-264; Sue Babinchak-293.

Sharon Tomas, Secretary

## 2008 JEDNOTA INTERNATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Anyone interested in suggesting a course for the 2008 Golf Tournament may submit their proposal. The customary dates for the Tournament are July 12-13 or July 19-20, 2008. Please furnish the following information in your written proposal.

### Local Contact Person:

Name  
Address  
Phone Number

### Golf Course/Resort:

Name  
Contact Person at Course  
Address  
Phone Number

Number of holes      \*\*Please note: A 36-hole course is preferred. Two nearby 18-hole courses would also be acceptable.

Approximate cost per round of golf

### Housing:

Please enclose a list of nearby hotels/motels, including addresses and phone numbers.

### Deadline for proposals is July 1, 2008.

Please send proposals to the FCSU Fraternal Activities Director:

Susan Ondrejco  
234 Ilion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207  
sueo99@yahoo.com

## 2008 JEDNOTA INTERNATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT OFFERS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Any District or branch interested in sponsoring the 2008 Bowling Tournament may submit their offers. The customary dates for the Tournament are April 11-13, or April 18-20, 2008. If circumstances would warrant, we would use both weekends. We prefer using only one weekend. Please furnish the following information in your written offer.

### Branch or District hosting the Tournament:

#### Local Contact Person:

Name  
Address  
Phone Number

#### Bowling Lanes:

Name  
Contact Person at Lanes  
Address  
Phone Number  
Number of lanes available

Approximate cost per game  
Scoring Equipment Available

\*\*Please note: A minimum of 40 lanes will be needed for one weekend, preferably more. If two establishments are to be used, we will need at least 40 lanes in one house and at least 30 lanes in the other house.

### Housing:

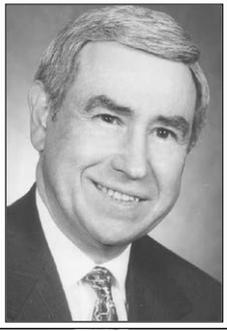
Please enclose a list of nearby hotels/motels, including addresses and phone numbers.

### Deadline for all offers is July 1, 2007.

Please send offers to the FCSU Fraternal Activities Director:

Susan Ondrejco  
234 Ilion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207  
sueo99@yahoo.com

# MONEY MANAGEMENT & TAX TIPS



**By Joseph T. Senko**

*Certified Public Accountant  
Certified Financial Planner  
Personal Financial Specialist  
(AICPA)*



## Don't Overlook The Benefits Of Roth IRAs

When it comes to building a retirement nest egg, the Roth IRA is gaining in popularity and for good reason. The Roth IRA offers a number of benefits, including tax-free qualified withdrawals at retirement and the ability to take certain early distributions without penalty. Here is an overview of the basic rules governing the Roth IRA, its key benefits, and how it compares with traditional IRAs.

### The Basics

The maximum annual contribution is the same for both traditional and Roth IRAs. For 2006, you may contribute \$4,000 to an IRA. Taxpayers age 50 or older by the end of 2006 may make an additional "catch up" contribution of \$1,000 for 2006.

Unlike traditional IRAs, Roth IRA contributions are not tax deductible. While this may limit the Roth IRA's short-term income tax benefits, taxpayers would be wise to consider the financial impact of the Roth IRA's tax-free withdrawals.

As with deductible, traditional IRAs, you must meet certain income requirements to qualify for a Roth IRA. The modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) for a full contribution for single filers may not exceed \$95,000 or \$150,000 for married taxpayers filing jointly. The amount you can contribute is reduced gradually and then completely eliminated when your MAGI exceeds \$110,000 if you file as single or \$160,000 for joint filers. Unlike traditional IRAs, participating in a retirement plan offered by your employer will not affect your eligibility to contribute to a Roth IRA.

Also keep in mind that on May 17, 2006, President Bush signed the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005 into law. This tax bill included a provision dealing with conversions of traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs. Starting in 2010, the existing \$100,000 income test for converting a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA will no longer apply. Conversions that occur in 2010 will be able to have half of the taxable converted amount taxed in 2011 and the other half taxed in 2012. If income limitations have prevented you from participating in a Roth IRA, proper planning now could make 2010 conversions extremely beneficial to your retirement savings.

### Benefit 1: ROTH IRA Distributions May be Tax-Free

For most taxpayers, the greatest benefit of a Roth IRA is its tax-free distributions. Distributions, including earnings, are tax free if you meet two requirements. First, the Roth IRA must be in existence for more than five years. This does not mean that each contribution must remain in the account for five years before you can withdraw the earnings tax-free. It means that five years must pass from the first day of the first taxable year from which any Roth contribution was made. If you start a Roth IRA in 2006, your distributions will be tax-free beginning in 2011. Second, one of the following conditions must be met: you are age 59 1/2 or older at the time of the distribution; you are disabled; the distribution is used to pay up to \$10,000 of qualifying first-time home buyer expenses; or you are a beneficiary receiving distributions following the death of the account holder.

### Benefit 2: You Can Contribute to a Roth IRA at Any Age

As long as you have earned income – and meet the modified adjusted gross income requirements – you may contribute to a Roth IRA at any age. People with traditional IRAs cannot make deposits once they reach 70 1/2 years of age.

### Benefit 3: No Mandatory Minimum Distribution Requirements

With a traditional IRA, you must start taking money out of your IRA by April 1 of the year following the year you reach 70 1/2, whether or not you need the money. When you have a Roth IRA, you're free to keep the money invested where it can continue to grow tax-free until you need it.

At your death, any funds remaining in your IRA go to your beneficiaries. Your beneficiaries will be subject to a minimum distribution requirement.

### Benefit 4: Contributions May be Withdrawn without Taxes or Penalties

You can withdraw your Roth IRA contributions at any time for any reason without paying income taxes or penalties on the amount of your contributions. However, unless you are age 59 1/2 or meet certain limited exceptions, early withdrawal of earnings may be subject to taxes and penalties. Roth IRA distributions are treated as being made first from contributions and then from earnings.

If you have additional questions on this subject, contact Joe Senko at Manor Oak Two, Suite 500, 1910 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220 or 412/531-2990 or fax 412/531-4793 or [jsenko@mvs-cpa.com](mailto:jsenko@mvs-cpa.com)

## More Memories of the 48th Convention in Boca Raton, Florida July 1-5, 2006



L-R: Ruzena Kapitan, Annie Mitro, and Josie Siman.



L-R: Pauline Jursa, Ed Forma and Maureen Jursa.



Standing, L-R: Mike Kapitan, Ruzena Kapitan, Cathy Szabo, Jim Szabo, Regina Kapsa, and John Kapsa. Sitting, L-R: Annie Mitro, Milos Mitro, Olga Dobis and Milan Zoldak.



Standing, L-R: Jerry Siman, Josie Siman, Maureen Jursa and Joe Jursa. Sitting, L-R: Ed Forma, Anne Forma, Ed Jursa and Pauline Jursa.

## VISIT THE FCSU'S WEBSITE

Home page at: <http://www.fcsu.com>

Send e-mail to the FCSU at the following address:

[fcsu@aol.com](mailto:fcsu@aol.com)

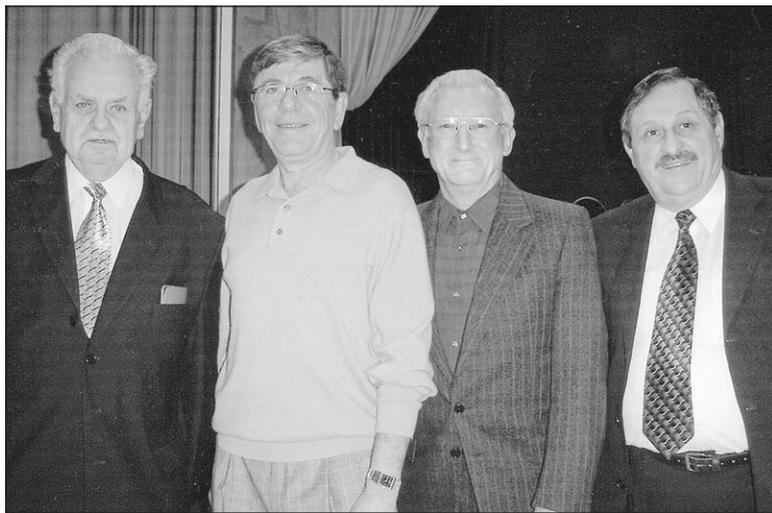
# Msgr. Michael Shuba District—Toronto, Ontario

The Msgr. Michael Shuba District held a joint annual meeting with Branch 785 on Sunday, January 14, 2007, at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Parish Hall, Mississauga, Ontario. Prior to the meeting 38 members enjoyed a delicious lunch.

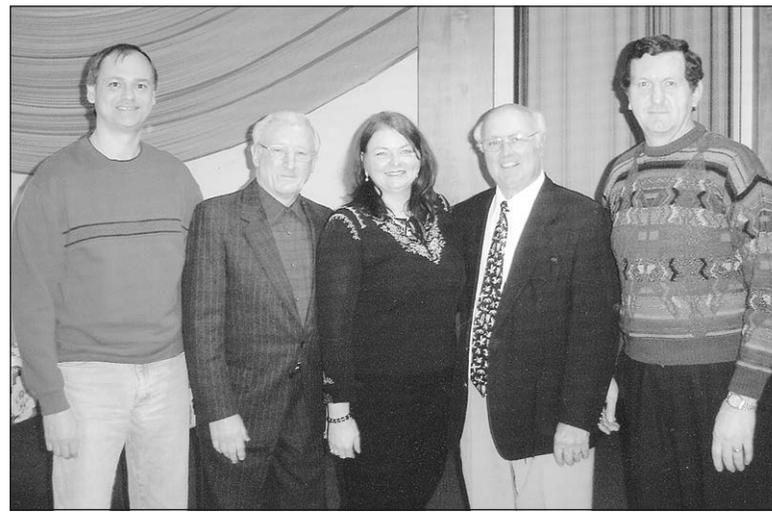
Annual reports were presented by District Officers, President Ed Jursa and Treasurer Milan Zoldak. Auditor Gus Kapsa reported that all figures were audited and found to be correct. There was a discussion of the annual Jednota Slovak Day picnic held Sunday, July 23, 2006. The weather was great and there were about 584 people in attendance. The day began with a Mass at noon followed by a home cooked lunch, a cultural program, games for the children, swimming, and a bacon and hot dog barbecue. A request was made for the SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Stained Glass Windows Project. A motion was made by Regional Director Milos Mitro to donate \$1,000 each from the Msgr. Michael Shuba District and Branch 785. The motion was seconded by Michael Dobis and unanimously approved.

Annual reports were also presented by Branch 785 Officers, President Michael Kapitan, Treasurer Mike Dorich, and Sports Director Joe Jursa. Auditor Jim Szabo reported that all figures were audited and correct. Joe Jursa reviewed the Jednota bowling and golf tournament held in the United States and the local Jednota golf tournament held in Toronto.

There was a review of the Jednota Con-



**National Officers from the Msgr. Michael Shuba District. L-R: Ed Jursa, Supreme Court Member; Milos Mitro, Regional Director; Jerry Siman, Pension Board Member; and Mike Kapitan, Supreme Court Member.**



**L-R: John Tokarsky, Jerry Siman, Sharon Tomas, Joe Jursa, and Milan Zoldak.**

*Some of the attendees at the Msgr. Michael Shuba District Annual Meeting.*



vention held in Boca Raton, Florida, July 1-5, 2006. The following local members were elected as supreme officers at the convention: Milos Mitro, Regional Director; Jerry Siman, Member of the Pension Board; and Ed Jursa and Mike Kapitan, Members of the Supreme Court.

The following officers of the Msgr. Mi-

chael Shuba District were elected to serve in 2007: Ed Jursa, President; Milan Zaviski, Vice President; Milan Zoldak, Treasurer; Joe Jursa, Financial Secretary; Sharon Tomas, Recording Secretary; Gus Kapsa, Chairman of Auditors; and John Kapsa, Milos Mitro, Ed Forma and Jim Szabo, Auditors. The following were elected officers of Branch

785: Milan Zoldak, President; John Kapsa, Vice President; Mike Dorich, Treasurer; Joe Jursa, Sports Director; Mike Dobis, Financial Secretary; Anne Mitro, Recording Secretary; Jim Szabo, Chairman of Auditors; Jerry Siman, Public Relations; and Ed Forma, Stan Pella, and Joe Tomko, Auditors.

**Jerry Siman**

## FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY/IRA

Six-Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity – Currently Earning 5.00% (4.879 APR)

Under the Six-Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity, you may make periodic payments into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at, or greater than, the guaranteed rate. You can open the account with as little as \$500.00 and make additional deposits (\$25.00 minimum) as your financial situation allows. Additional deposits are not mandatory.

At the retirement age you choose, the funds accumulated in the Six-Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity may be withdrawn using any of the FCSU's lump sum or periodic income settlement options.

### Features of the Six-Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity include:

- The FCSU guarantees your deposits will accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- Your annuity continues to accumulate interest after you have stopped contributing and have begun to receive retirement income. The interest rate you receive on your annuity after settlement will never be less than 3.0%.
- Death Benefit-If you die prior to settlement, your beneficiary receives the full cash value of the annuity. If you die while receiving retirement benefits, the value of your remaining guaranteed benefits will be paid to your beneficiary.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Since annuities are meant to be long-term investments for providing retirement funds, funds withdrawn during the first six years of your contract are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. You may withdraw 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Your interest will be added to your account. You may, however, elect to have your interest paid directly to you on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually basis. This is called an Interest Option and the interest rate is slightly lower than if you left your interest to accumulate.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- Also available in a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA (subject to IRA Guidelines)

**HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO OWN  
THIS BEAUTIFUL  
"OUR LADY OF SORROWS" STATUE.  
IT CAN BE YOURS IF YOU...**



Sign up new members for insurance during the months of January, February and March!

The Membership and Marketing Committee want to give its proposers something special to start the New Year.

You will receive one beautiful Pieta – for every two (2) new members you sign up for Whole Life Insurance or four (4) new members for JEP Insurance or sign up two (2) new members for Term Insurance.

There is no limit!

Remember...this special campaign is only good for new members signed up between January 1 and March 31, 2007.

Let us all get involved with membership.

*Good luck and God bless!*

**Andrew R. Harcar Sr.  
National Vice President  
Membership & Marketing Chairman**

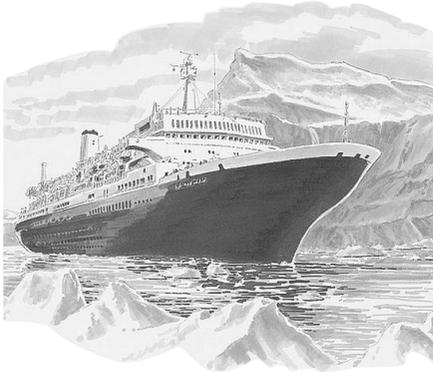
## Veronica Wilhelm is Big on Jednota

Veronica (Dorko) Wilhelm, a resident of Texas, is certainly BIG on the First Catholic Slovak Union. She is a longtime member of the Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 853, in Ellsworth, Pennsylvania. Over the years she has acquired membership for all of her 21 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. We hope others will follow her example and help the FCSU to continue to grow and prosper. Thank you Veronica!



Veronica Wilhelm

## A SAILING WE WILL GO!



Come on board with the First Catholic Slovak Union for a seven (7) night Alaskan Cruise.

The Membership and Marketing committee is sponsoring their 2007 membership meet from July 27 – August 3 aboard the Vision of the Seas. Your accumulated points up to December 31, 2006 will be used towards the cost of the cruise.

Royal Caribbean's Vision of the Seas is one of the most popular cruise ships in the world. On the ship you will be staying in an ocean view stateroom. Our itinerary from Seattle, Washington includes stops in Juneau, Skagway, Tracy

Arm Fjord, Alaska and Prince Rupert, B.C.

The cost for a large ocean view stateroom which includes the cruise, port and government taxes, the new \$50.00 Alaska state tax, all pre-paid gratuities and transfer from the airport to the cruise ship and back is \$1,523.00. (Optional insurance and airfare package is available through Carolyn Pollack of Ambassatour Travel at 724-375-8687).

The First Catholic Slovak Union will provide your on board stateroom (double occupancy) plus meals and entertainment as provided by the cruise line. You must settle any additional expenses incurred prior to departure.

The First Catholic Slovak Union is not responsible for your travel arrangements to and from Seattle, Washington. Please contact Ambassatour Travel or your own travel agency.

The cut off date for reservations is May 4, 2007. A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit is required when you make your reservations. Final payment is due May 18, 2007. The trip is open to all members of the First Catholic Slovak Union and their guests.

To all recommenders – here is your chance to enjoy your vacation unlike any other. This will be an experience of a lifetime. From January 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007, the First Catholic Slovak Union is offering all cruise participants an opportunity to earn double points for insurance and annuity sales – that's right – DOUBLE POINTS! These double points will only count toward the Alaskan Cruise Membership Meet and payment will be made upon your return. If you have any further questions - please contact the home office and ask for Karen at 1-800-533-6682.

**HURRY – ROOMS ARE LIMITED!**

We only have 45 staterooms at that price (90 people). These rooms will be given out on a first come – first serve basis.

Until we meet at the meet!  
Good luck and God bless,  
**Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.**  
Membership and Marketing Chairman

## Experience

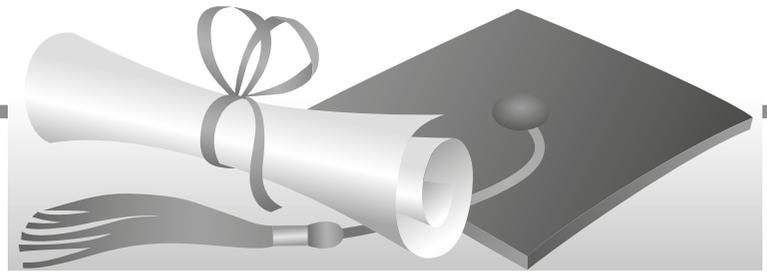
Viewing the world from my small corner of the universe I've never had any regrets.

Life was simple and ready to make me, an orphan a part of the drama; ever craving its contemporary light paintings of life's features and appointments.

Experience gave us freedom as children in a safe and secure culture from the ills of humanity.

Thus, we made the best of what was given. And always thankful to Sisters for the experience of drawing "fruit in good season".

**Francis X. Markley, OPL**



*From the Desk of the Executive Secretary – Kenneth A. Arendt*

## ATTENTION ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS

The First Catholic Slovak Union is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2006 Scholarship Program.

Seventy (70) **ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS** in the amount of \$500.00 each will be awarded to the winners. In addition, a **ONE-TIME** "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and "Stephanie Husek Scholarship" in the amount of \$750.00 each will be awarded to the highest-ranking male and female applicants respectively.

Three additional **ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS** of \$500.00 each will be given from the "John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund" to applicants who have been accepted into either an approved three or four year hospital nursing program or a fully-accredited college of their choice.

In addition, upon proof of college graduation, each recipient will be issued a \$3,000 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy.

The rules and requirements are as follows:

1. Applicants must have a minimum of \$1,000 of reserve insurance with F.C.S.U. for at least four years prior to April 1st of the year of graduation from high school; or an applicant must have \$5,000 or more of term insurance with the F.C.S.U. for at least four years prior to April 1st of the year of graduation from high school. All scholarship winners must maintain this insurance in force during their college years. Applicants must be insured prior to April 1, 2002 to be eligible under the rules of this period.

2. Applicants must apply for grants in the Spring of their senior year of high school.

3. Applicants must have applied for the Fall term at a qualifying institution. Proof of college admission must be sent to the Home Office with application.

4. Applicants must apply on an official form which can be obtained from their branch or the Executive Secretary of the F.C.S.U., or download an application from [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com).

5. Applicants will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee according to their individual merit in categories of high school cumulative grade point averages, extra-curricular activities, talents, achievements, initiative, communication skills, transcripts and S.A.T. and/or A.C.T. test scores.

6. Applicants will send completed applications to: Scholarship Program, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Independence, OH 44131.

7. Final award checks will be made payable to the student.

8. Applications will be accepted only on the proper forms obtained and signed by the branch financial secretary. **INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS (THOSE WHICH ARE RECEIVED NOT FULLY COMPLETED OR DO NOT HAVE ALL ATTACHMENTS) WILL BE INVALID AND WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.**

The scholarship application is being mailed to all members between the ages of 17 and 19. If you are interested and do not receive the application, please contact your branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA. **Applications must be postmarked by Midnight, February 28, 2007. All applications without the above stipulated postmark will be considered invalid.**

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY BEFORE THE ISSUE DATE, unless otherwise stated below because of special holiday scheduling. Copy that is not received by this deadline will not necessarily appear in the following Wednesday's issue.

| Issue Date          | Copy Deadline       |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7  | MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26 |
| WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21 | MONDAY, MARCH 12    |
| WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4  | MONDAY, MARCH 26    |

Correspondents who are announcing upcoming events should remember that the JEDNOTA is printed EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY, and should take into account the extra time lost in the postal system. Therefore, please plan to have your announcements to us in ample time for them to be printed and received by the readership.

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:

Anthony Sutherland, Editor

"JEDNOTA"

1011 Rosedale Avenue, Middletown, PA 17057-4835

FAX: (717) 944-3107

## REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

### SISTER MARY LOUISE VRANA, OSF Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sister Mary Louise Vrana, OSF, died January 24, 2007. She was the daughter of the late Mary Majoros and George Vrana, and sister of the late John and Steve Vrana, Ann Grimm, Mary Tomallo and Margare Delarre.



Sister Mary Louise Vrana,  
OSF

She is survived by her sisters, Helen Mihalik, Betty Vrana, Agnes Nealen and Dorothy Vrana.

Sister Mary Louise was the Provincial Minister of the Pittsburgh Province from 1989 to 1993. She was an active member of the Slovak Catholic Federation and the Conference of Slovak Religious for many years.

Friends were received at Mt. Assisi Convent in Pittsburgh on Friday, January 26. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Saturday, January 27 at Queen of Angels Chapel, Mount Assisi.

### SISTER M. ROSAIRE SEDORY, VSC Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sister M. Rosaire Sedory, a member of the Vincentian Sisters of Charity of North Hills, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, died at the age of 84, on Wednesday, January 31, 2007, at the Motherhouse Infirmery, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Sister was in the 67th year of her religious life.

Sister entered the Vincentian Sisters of Charity from Holy Name Parish, Monessen, Pennsylvania. Sister Rosaire attended Duquesne University and earned a Bachelor of Education Degree in Elementary Education. She then attended Dayton University to earn a Master of Science Degree in Administration.

Sister Rosaire taught in elementary schools for 29 years in the Dioceses of Pittsburgh and Greensburg. She then served as Principal of Visitation School in Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania for four years. Following that, she became Principal at All Saints School, Masontown, Pennsylvania, where she served for eight years. She then moved to United, Pennsylvania, where she was Principal of St. Florian School for 13 years.

When Sister came back to the Motherhouse in 1997, she served at Vincentian Child Care Center for three years prior to her illness.

Sister Rosaire is survived by one sister, Mary Yursco and one brother, Andrew Sedory both of Monessen, Pennsylvania, and one niece, Georgine Whipkey.

Friends were received at the Motherhouse on McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, on Friday, February 2 from 1:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 3 from 9:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. after which a Mass of Christian Burial was offered in the Motherhouse Chapel. Burial was in the Sisters' cemetery on the Motherhouse grounds.

Donations may be made to the Vincentian Sisters of Charity.

Sister Raynita Kristofco, VSC

### STEPHEN J. STAS Branch 199

Hostetter, Pennsylvania

Stephen J. Stas Sr., 81, of Whitney, Pennsylvania, died Friday, January 26, 2007, at

Excelsa Health Latrobe Hospital.

He was born July 29, 1925, in Whitney, a son of the late John M. and Mary (Menar-check) Stas. He was a graduate of Latrobe High School Class of 1943. Prior to retirement, he worked for 34 years at the former Vulcan Mold & Iron Co., Latrobe. He was a member of St. Cecilia Catholic Church, Whitney, and its Holy Name Society. He was a member and past officer of Jednota Branch 199 and charter member and founding officer of Vulcan Mold Employees Federal Credit Union.

Steve was very proud of his Slovak heritage and taught his grandchildren phrases at every opportunity. He brought joy to many people with his lively sense of humor and beautiful harmonica music.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Anna C. (Hannak) Stas on February 25, 1995; and a son, James J. Stas on May 6, 1997. He is survived by four sons, Nicholas J. and wife, Nancy of Billings, Montana, Stephen J. "Bud" Jr., of Jeannette, Pennsylvania, Michael R. and wife, Debra, of Latrobe, and William E. Stas and wife, Elaine, of Unity Township; two daughters, Mary Ann Dunlap and husband, James, of Hostetter, and Susan A. Truong and husband, Minh, of Jeannette; 14 grandchildren, Jason, Jesse, Julianne, Samantha, Elizabeth, Greg and Jeff Stas, Cecilia Kissel, Jamie, Sherrie and Valerie Dunlap, and Hannah, Rachel and Emily Truong; six great-grandchildren, Nicolette, Anthony, Isaac, Nathan, Athanasia and Sahara; two brothers, John R. "Jumbo" and wife Ethel and Joseph E. Stas and wife, Theresa, all of Unity Township; two sisters, Martha Uhring of Unity Township, and Margaret Dlugos and husband, Joseph, of Mammoth, Pennsylvania; a sister-in-law, Mary T. Hannak of Unity Township; and many nieces and nephews.

Friends were received at the Gaut-Bacha Funeral Home, Pleasant Unity. A Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Cecilia Church by Rev. Aaron N. Buzzelli, OSB. Burial was in Westmoreland County Memorial Park, Hempfield Township.

Sophie Pipak

### MARY A. HEPLER Branch 600

Leechburg, Pennsylvania

Mary A. Hepler, 83, formerly of Vandergrift, Pennsylvania, died Wednesday, January 24, 2007, in Magnolia Place of Greenville, Greenville, South Carolina.

She was born April 3, 1923, in Leechburg, the daughter of the late Jacob and Mary Julia (Mago) Cibik. She lived in Vandergrift most of her life. She was a homemaker and also worked at Pete's Restaurant in Leechburg.

She was a member of St. Gertrude Roman Catholic Church in Vandergrift, Owls Club Ladies Auxiliary and Lapidary clubs in Kittanning and Vandergrift. She also was a member of Jednota Branch 600.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Frank Hepler, Jr., in 1997; a sister, Julia Podmilsak; and a brother, Michael Cibik.

She is survived by her daughter, Frances (Ronald) Oglietti of Taylors, South Carolina; a brother, Stephen (Dottie) Cibik of Virginia Beach, Virginia; a grandson, Gregory (Kimberly) Oglietti of Troutman, North Carolina; a granddaughter, Karen (Michael) Moore of Columbia, South Carolina; and two twin

great-grandchildren, Noah and Ryan Oglietti of Troutman.

Friends were received at the Brady Curran Funeral Home, Vandergrift. A Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Gertrude Roman Catholic Church by the Rev. Leo Rothrauff. Burial was in Greenwood Memorial Park, Lower Burrell.

John Mago

### ELEANORE WAUGH Branch 580

Duquesne, Pennsylvania

Eleanore "Boots" Waugh, 76, of Duquesne, Pennsylvania, died Tuesday, December 26, 2006, at home.

She was born June 21, 1930, in Duquesne, a daughter of the late Paul John and Mary Tirpak Thomas. A former employee of Shop-n-Save, Crafton-Ingram Shopping Center, she was a member of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, West Mifflin.

She is survived by a daughter, Devie Daigle of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; a brother, George Thomas of West Palm Beach, Florida; and a sister, Margie Thomas Nese of West Mifflin. She was preceded in death by two brothers, John and Edward Thomas.

A Memorial Mass was held in Holy Trinity Church on Saturday, December 30, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. in Holy Trinity Church with the Rev. Joseph Grosko as celebrant. Burial was in Holy Trinity Cemetery, West Mifflin. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the William S. Skovranko Memorial Home, Duquesne.

Eleanore was a member of Jednota Branch 580.

The officers of Branch 580 express their

deepest sympathy to her daughter, Devie Daigle and her sister, Margaret Nese and her brother, George Thomas. May she rest in peace. A Mass will be said for Eleanore in Holy Trinity Church requested by the officers of Branch 580.

Mary G. Perun

### ANNA HORVATT Branch 580

Duquesne, Pennsylvania

Anna (Annie) Koresko Horvatt, 94, of Duquesne, Pennsylvania, died Thursday, January 11, 2007, in LGAR Nursing Facility, Turtle Creek.

Born in Duquesne, February 11, 1912, she was the daughter of the late John and Anna Andrejchak Koresko. She was the wife of the late Frank C. Horvatt. She is survived by a daughter, Marian Horvatt of Duquesne; a son, Jan Horvatt of Slickville; two sisters-in-law, Mary Horvat of Oakmont, Pennsylvania and Olga Horvat of Verona, Pennsylvania; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Annie was a member of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in West Mifflin. She was also a member of Jednota Branch 580.

Friends were received at the William Skovranko Memorial Home, Duquesne. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Holy Trinity Church by the Rev. Joseph Grosko. Burial was in Holy Trinity Cemetery, West Mifflin.

The officers of Branch 580 express their deepest sympathy to her daughter Marian Horvatt and her son, Jan Horvatt. May she rest in peace. A Mass will be said for Anna at Holy Trinity Church requested by the officers of Branch 580.



## Lucina Celebrates 25th Anniversary

The Lucina Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland, Ohio, celebrated its 25th Anniversary with a Dinner-Dance and Concert on Saturday, November 11, 2006, at Pokrova Hall, in Parma, Ohio. The concert featured current and former Lucina dancers, the newly formed Lucinka Children's Ensemble, and the Slovak Folk Band Dolina. The program was directed by Nadia Oros, former director of Lucina. Following the concert, the overflow crowd danced to the music of Dolina.

Lucina wishes to thank all those who participated in the celebration and all those who attended.

Thomas J. Ivanec, Director  
Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble



Former and current members of Lucina gathered together for the 25th anniversary.



Lucina performs at its 25th anniversary celebration.

# ~NEWS FLASH~

**Special 2% Annuity Bonus  
Limited Time Only  
You Must Act Before 06/30/07**

FCSU's flexible premium annuities are among the safest and most secure ways to provide funds for the future. The current interest rate of 5% (\*) on the 6 year flexible premium annuity remains among the most competitive rates available.

\*Current interest rate is reviewed quarterly by Executive Committee and subject to change.

Now we offer the opportunity for a 2% bonus on New funds deposited before 06/30/07

### How do you earn this 2% Bonus?

- Applicable to both new and current annuity members.
- Applies only to new annuity deposits made to a new Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity policy.
- Deposits made between receipt of this notice and June 30, 2007. Minimum new deposit \$4,000.
- Bonus of 2% will be added to your annuity on June 30, 2011.

#### \* Bonus Rules \*

1. Bonus of 2% applies only to net deposits received by FCSU between receipt of this offer and June 30, 2007, excluding interest earned and less any withdrawal made between 01/01/07 and 06/30/07. Bonus payable only on the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity.

2. Bonus of 2% will be credited on 06/30/2011. The bonus will be based on the net funds deposited between 01/01/07 and 06/30/07, which must be maintained with FCSU until 06/30/2011. (Interest earned on the bonus funds will not be included in the bonus calculations.) Example: \$100,000 @ 5.0%\* (4 years) + 2% of \$100,000 = \$123,551.

3. If member with funds eligible for the bonus dies prior to 06/30/2007, no bonus is payable. If a member with funds eligible for the bonus dies between July 1, 2007 and July 1, 2011, the bonus will be prorated to the date of death.

4. To be eligible for the 2% bonus, new deposits must be received by June 30, 2007. Any FCSU annuity withdrawals after January 1, 2007 and redeposit with FCSU (except Park Money Annuity and Park 2 Annuity) prior to 06/30/07 will not be eligible for the 2% bonus.

**MIAL-IN FORM BELOW**



When our ancestors came to these shores more than a century ago, they brought with them few monetary assets. However their most precious possession was their faith. The seeds were nurtured by the Slovak priests who came with the immigrant people and helped build our Slovak Catholic Fraternal, Religious Communities of men and women and nearly 300 Slovak Parishes. Today, in response to this legacy, the Slovak Catholic Federation will sponsor the 29th Annual SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal. The Church in Slovakia has enjoyed a great renaissance since the fall of Communism in 1989. We in America and Canada take pride in the fact that the Slovak Catholic Fraternal, our Parishes and individuals of Slovak ancestry have responded generously to assist the Church in our ancestral homeland. The 2007 Annual Appeal begins during the month of February, in Churches of Slovak Decent, across the United States and Canada and will continue to the end of the year.

The 2006 Appeal collected \$63,000.00. Since its inception, this Appeal has raised \$2,007,028.90.

Funds raised from the Appeal will aid the priest-graduate students at the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril & Methodius. These fine priests are being called upon to be the future leaders of the Diocesan Churches in Slovakia

both as Vicars and Bishops, in addition to providing qualified instructors/professors for the seminaries that educate future priests. As well, funds benefit those Religious Communities both men and women which

share a counterpart which belongs to the Slovak Catholic Federation and the Slovak Conference of Religious. These Communities being: Vincentian Sisters of Charity (Ruzomberok); Dominican Sisters (Dunajska Luzna); School Sisters of St. Francis (Zilina); Daughters of St. Francis (Bratislava-Prievoz); Byzantine Catholic Sisters of St. Basil the Great (Secove and Presov), Franciscan Friars Minor (Bratislava), House of St. Benedict (Bacurov).

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911, under the spiritual leadership of Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the Slovak Catholic Federation is to federate individuals of Slovak origin under one banner; for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as National President is Rev. Philip Altavilla, pastor of St. Thomas More Parish, Lake Ariel, Pennsylvania. The Episcopal Moderator is the Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, D.D., Bishop of Altoona/Johnstown. The National First Vice President, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, Pastor of the Church of the Epiphany, Sayre, Pennsylvania, is the Coordinator for this Annual Appeal.

In our Church today, we are finding more and more individuals of Slovak descent/background do not attend traditionally founded Slovak Parishes, for a number of reasons. Because of this reality today, the monies raised for this Appeal come both from the collections taken in our Slovak Parishes as well as from individual donors.

Your tax deductible donation made out to the Slovak Catholic Federation, noting for the Annual Appeal, can be sent directly to the National Secretary/Treasurer of the Slovak Catholic Federation: Dolores Evanko, 173 Berner Avenue, Hazleton, PA 18201.

**Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic**

## Kent-Dudince Sister Cities Plan Anniversary Banquet

The Kent-Dudince Sister City organization will hold its Fourth Annual Anniversary Banquet on Sunday, April 29, 2007, at the Kent Elks Club Hall, Elks Lane, State Route 59, Kent, Ohio. A social hour will begin at 1:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 2:00 p.m. and a program at 3:00 p.m. During the social hour and dinner, music will be provided by the Johnny Pastirik Band. The cultural program will feature the Pittsburgh Slovaks Folk Dance Ensemble and the Slovenske Mamicky of Greater Cleveland. Dancing will follow the program.

Tickets are \$15.00 and must be purchased in advance. Make checks payable to Kent-Dudince Sister City Association and mail to Kent-Dudince Sister City Association, 1544 Vine St., Kent, OH 44240. For more information call Rudy Bachna at 330/673-3255.

# ☆☆☆ NEWS FLASH ☆☆☆

**Special 2% Annuity Bonus • Limited Time Only  
You Must Act Before 06/30/07**

**Sign Me Up for the Bonus Program!**

1. Proposed Annuitant:  M  F

a. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Date and Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

d. Social Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Amount paid with this application: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Beneficiary: (Show full name and relationship to the Proposed Annuitant.)

Primary: \_\_\_\_\_

Contingent: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Will the plan applied for be a tax qualified plan:  Yes  No

If Yes, show basis (such as IRA): \_\_\_\_\_

5. Will the plan now applied for replace or change any existing insurance or annuity:  Yes  No

If Yes, show name of the Insurer and policy number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

The Proposed Annuitant shall be the Owner of any contract issued; except, when the Applicant is an entity other than a person, the Applicant shall be the Owner. The contract shall be effective on its date of issue.

I do hereby represent that the statements and answers included herein are full, complete and true, to the best of my knowledge and belief. I agree that this application shall be the basis for and a part of any contract issued. I understand that only an officer of the FCSU, in writing, may: (1) make or modify contracts; or (2) waive any of its rights or requirements.

Signed At: \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Annuitant: \_\_\_\_\_

# Fasiangy (Shrovetide-Prenten Carnival Time)

**Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.**

Fasiangy, literally meaning "carnival," is the Slovak word for Shrovetide or the French equivalent "mardi gras." Fasiangy is a mad celebration of relentless costumed parades, singing, and dancing -- an emotional release of pent up energy before Ash Wednesday, which marks the start of great fasting of the holy season of Lent.

The word "carnival" itself originated during Roman times and traces its origins from the Latin phrase *carne levare*, meaning "withdrawal" or "removal" of meat, a reference to the Medieval Lenten fast from all animal products. The Slovak fasiangy derives from the German word *der Faschung*. Some experts believe that the German word for the carnival comes from the ancient Germanic word *vasen*, which means "running around crazily," which was what literally happened.

Traditionally in Christian Europe, Lent represented a time of intense fasting and prayer. The church prohibited all types of merrymaking; no parties, weddings, or other such celebrations were permitted during Lent. Fasiangy originated as one last attempt to engage in prankish amusement before the onset of the holy season of fasting.

In general, the fasiangy celebrations in Slovakia lasted from the Sunday before Lent until Tuesday, and sometimes well into Ash Wednesday morning. Frequently a wedding initiated the festivities. Musicians played from after lunch almost until the morning,

Consuming huge amounts of food and drink were very much part of fasiangy customs in Slovakia. The tables were filled with various drinks, such as whiskey, brandy, wine, and beer. In previous centuries, Slovaks also imbibed the much-loved *medovina*, an alcoholic beverage made from fermented honey. In their homes, women baked meat (if available), *bravcova huspenina* (a pork jelly), fried *sisky* (filled pastries) or *pampuchy* (a kind of fritter, often from potatoes, since the Slovak diet was rife with potatoes).

This tradition of fasiangy baking took place in both the cities and the villages of Slovakia. Similar customs were practiced in almost all European nations, and many peoples also placed baked goods on graves of their deceased relatives and beloved.

Typically a happy group of costumed and masked youths strutted from house to house playing music. They dressed up as outrageous characters, such as a *slamenik* (strawman), *bakus* (Bacchus-the Roman god), *kurina baba* (an old lady), a *koza* (goat), a *medved'* (bear) and especially *turon* (an ox or some other type of cattle). The *turon* was formed when a young man would hoist a companion on his shoulders, cover them selves with a large sheet or blanket, and place a sewn head of an ox or bull with bells on the head of the guy on top. Then the group of masked marauders would saunter around the village and go from house to house. As they made their rounds, they would throw some manure on the way in order to leave a sign of their passing by, and the team leader would strike up some hearty and jovial folk songs. When they went into someone's home, they carried with them a vessel of cow dung, which they claimed was cattle blood. This was not meant to be an insult as we might think if someone brought dung into our homes. Rather Slovaks interpreted this as fortuitous, for this was a sign they would enjoy the fruits of dung -- a



**Fasiangy Parade in Slovakia.**

bountiful and fruitful harvest.

During the visits, the spirited youths addressed songs to the unmarried young maidens of the household. The people would offer the entertaining visitors *slanina*, i.e., smoked bacon, smoked meats, and other treats that were prohibited during Lent. Some of the young men dressed in drag as women and parodied and mimicked members of other ranks in society. For example, they might wear an animal skin, or some of them would dress like a *zobrak* (beggar) in torn up pants, shirt, and stuff themselves with straw. The dressed up youths would frolic about clumsily, stagger, slide, and fall on the ground in front of the onlookers. The goofiest and most humorous character of group was often named *Kubo* or *Sary*, just as in the Bethlehem (*jaslickare* plays from the Christmas season.

The young merrymakers also might each be equipped with a branch, a basket, and one in the group would be sure to play a *harmonika* (accordion in English). They would sing ludicrous songs and shout out ludicrous and humorous sayings and speeches. At the various homes they visited, they would collect eggs, bacon, and a few coins. In some villages, a home or the local *krcme* (taverns) would roast a pig and have a live band, which would be paid for with the money and goodies which the youths had collected.

Women also participated in the festivities. They would visit several homes, usually where some *priadky* (spinning) was taking place. (Spinning thread and making clothing were some of the main jobs women performed during the winter time. It was also done in groups, so it was a chance for women to socialize.) There they would drink "*na vysoky l'an*," i.e., literally, for tall flax, a main material for their work. In order to ensure that the flax grew long, the women would pull the hair of the lady whose was longest. Then they would jump up from their benches and do a special dance.

Women and men also used fasiangy to apply some social pressure to the unmarried maidens. They joked about those girls who had not yet found a husband, especially the older girls. For instance, the ladies might sing a song that this girl thought she was too good for any of the eligible bachelors. Thus fasiangy reinforced the strong belief in marriage as a necessary and desired institution which all should aspire to.

Another aspect of fasiangy was dedicated to honoring the deceased. Ancient pagans wore masks to remember their connections with their past. Pagan Slavs had burned their dead and smeared ashes on their heads to symbolize the continuity of spirit between them and their ancestors. The custom was

later Christianized and became known as *Popolec* (The Day of Ashes) or *Popolcova streda* (Ash Wednesday). When the ceremony was moved to the Halloween period, the masks remained, but the church modified the commemoration by replacing it with "All Saints Day," followed by "All Souls Day" in November.

Here is a short excerpt from a song sung by young revellers in Hont County. The boys would enter the house, raise a branch to the ceiling, spin around and sing:

Fasiangy, Turice, Vel'ka noc pride,  
kto nema kozucha, zima mu bude.  
Ja nemam, ja nemam, len trasiem,  
dajte mi slaniny, ze sa vypasiem.

A tam hore na komore, sedi kocur na  
slanine,  
chod'te si ho odohnali,  
a mne kusok odrezati,  
a to taky kus, ja pecena hus . . .

**Translation:**

Fasiangy, Pentecost, and Easter will come,  
whoever does not have a fur, will be freezing cold.

I don't have one, no I don't, I'm just shivering,  
Give me some bacon, so I can eat my fill.

And there up in the cupboard, a tomcat sits on the bacon,  
go chase him away, and cut me a little piece,  
oh, such a piece, like baked goose.

Fasiangy was a time of fun and nonsense, but it served a purpose as the people could vent their merriment before the six week fast of Lent. The tradition of merriment continues to this day in ceremonies sponsored by the *Matica Slovenska* (the Slovak Cultural Society) and in many cities such as the capital of Bratislava, which stages a full-fledged parade every year. The fasiangy tradition is alive and well!

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

### ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS THE NEW YORK FRATERNAL CONGRESS ANNOUNCES 2007 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

*In the year 2007 two (2) scholarships of \$250 each will be awarded to eligible applicants. One scholarship will be awarded for academic merit the other for financial need. The rules and requirements are as follows:*

1. Applicants must be high school seniors who have been accepted for the fall term at a fully accredited college.
2. Applicants must be residents of New York State.
3. Applicants must be insured members of First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada which is a dues paying society of the NYFC.
4. Applicants must be able to prove involvement and volunteerism in community and/or fraternal activities as verified by the signature of a local officer of First Catholic Slovak Union on the application form.
5. Applicants will be scored and rated according to their individual merit in categories of high school cumulative grade point averages and fraternal involvement. Proof of financial need will also be required in order to qualify for the scholarship to be awarded based on financial need.

To obtain an application for this scholarship, please contact Kenneth Arendt, Executive Secretary, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131 or telephone 1-800-533-6682 and we will send an application form and specific details on how to verify fraternal involvement and financial need. Completed applications **must be submitted by March 1, 2007**, to the Chair of the NYFC Scholarship Committee.



## Realm of SLOVAK GENEALOGY



Ray Plutko

### "Pinpointing a Simple Greeting" Ray Plutko

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of feature articles addressing the realm of genealogy. It is one specifically designed for Slovak descendants and is so structured to serve as an introductory course for the novice, meet the needs of the advanced researcher— or, if nothing else, the curious.)

Most assume the initial and most common greeting in the United States is, "Hello, how are you?"

Although true in most regions of the country, it hardly fits the bill if you are Slovak and also conducting family ancestral research. A more appropriate greeting is one of, "Where did you say you are from?"

What is interesting is our response. We sense there is a need to draw out the answer— a ritual that has been handed

down through the years and one still seem very content to follow. The conversation goes something like this. . .

Individual #1— "Hello there. Where did you say you are from?"

Individual #2— "I'm from back East."

Individual #1— "That's interesting, so am I. Where are you from back East?"

Individual #2— "I'm from Pennsylvania."

Individual #1— "That's interesting, so am I. Where are you from in Pennsylvania?"

Individual #2— "I'm from the Pittsburgh area" (notice the precise answer at this stage of the conversation).

Individual #1— "Where in Pittsburgh?"

Individual #2— "Actually, I'm from McKeesport, just about 20 miles outside of Pittsburgh."

At this point, the two are like old friends, but both need to sit down and rest to recover from their lengthy conversation. And keep in mind, this was just the greeting. It's safe to say there will be numerous rest stops over the next two hours as the dialogue probes even deeper!

The point of creating this often-factual scene is that we virtually face the same frustrations in our genealogical research. The single-most critical aspect of tracing one's family history is that of pinpointing the Slovak village of origin.

It was also common for our ancestors to respond in terms of "general geographical locations." Taken at face value, it will add months and possibly years of frustration to your personal research.

As an example, our grandparents seldom would use their exact village of origin in Slovakia. It should be kept in mind that there are a number of villages in Slovakia with identical spellings, no different than there are cities with the same names throughout the United States.

Thus to prevent confusion our grandparents, from their perspective, would utilize the name of the largest town near their village. However, this could well be a 20 or 30-minute drive in any one of four directions!

In my specific case, it was four months into my initial research when I discovered one of my grandparents was not actually from Kosice, but a small village of Ploske, roughly 25 miles north of Kosice.

Although genealogists are extremely interested in the old county (zupa) location of the village for record purposes, few Slovaks seeking help with their research make reference to this larger geographical starting point.

However, don't let this be a roadblock to your efforts. As a review, Slovakia was broken down into 20 old counties (zupas) and then further subdivided into districts (okres). As an example, the county might be Zemplin, the district of Michalovce and the village of Krasnovce.

With this information – or even a segment of it – you have now "pinpointed" a more specific area of your search. If you are able to find an old letter from Slovakia with a return address, look for Okres or okr. This is another word for designating the name of the largest town nearest the village you are seeking.

Now back to our two Slovaks and their continuing conversation:

Individual #1— "Where did you say you were from again?"

Individual #2— "I'm from McKeesport, roughly 20 miles southeast of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania."

Individual #1— "I thought so. No one is ever from Pittsburgh!"

(EDITOR'S NOTE: There is now available a completely revised and updated Slovak Genealogy Research Kit (from 18 to 52 pages, plus forms) one designed exclusively for those tracing their Slovak roots. The kit may be ordered for \$13, plus \$1.75 postage. Also available is a detailed historical summary and comprehensive area map for any single village that you specify in Slovakia at \$5 plus \$1 postage— make check payable to Ray Plutko, Slovak Genealogy Research Center, 6862 Palmer Court, Chino, CA 91710-7343.)

If each member would sign up just one new member,  
we could double our Society immediately.

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

## Dogs Say "Take Me Out To The Ball Game"

### James M. Bench

In 1992, Steve J. Elias, of Windber, Pennsylvania, had an idea. On his many evening strolls, he had observed various baseball teams playing and losing baseballs to the rough thickets surrounding the baseball fields. The burrs, thorns, and bugs, coupled with the uncertainty of finding the balls were major deterrents to the people trying to recover them. As a result, baseballs were



The late Steve Elias and Mykey, the baseball retriever.

often left to the elements, and it does not take long for dew or rain to waterlog the balls making them impractical for use. Steve knew from personal experience that searching for lost baseballs is an unpleasant and frequently unsuccessful task. As an ardent walker, he was usually accompanied by his faithful dog Nikki, and he wondered if Nikki could be trained to retrieve the balls. At that time Nikki was not a young dog, but with Steve's persistence and patience, Nikki became the first of three dogs used from 1992 through 2006 to locate and return lost baseballs. Steve and son Mark, with the assistance of the three dogs, were able to recover baseballs that would have languished and fallen prey to the elements. Many of the recovered baseballs were discarded inasmuch as the leather had rapidly moisturized making them unfit for use. However, the Elias team had accumulated four hundred usable baseballs, which they wanted to donate to a worthy cause.

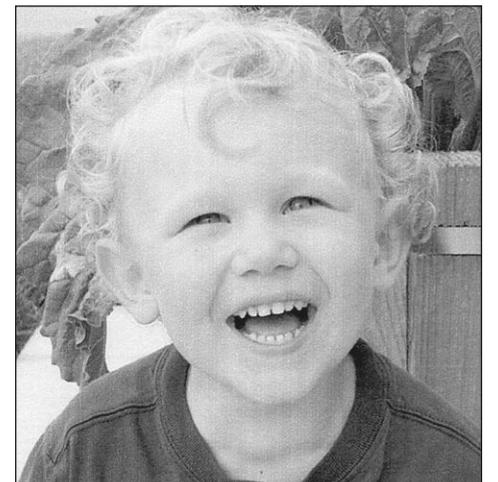
Steve Elias recalled having read an article in the First Catholic Union's, JEDNOTA, about baseball equipment being sent to Slovakia, but had misplaced the article. He wanted the baseballs sent to Kosice, which was the home of the Elias family prior to their emigration to the United States. Unfortunately Steve passed away in September 2003 without realizing his wish. His son Mark was determined to fulfill his father's wish and began a telephone search relative to the newspaper article that his father had referenced. During the search Mark learned that the Youngstown/Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Program had shipped baseball equipment to Slovakia, and he wasted no time in contacting Steve Bacon, President and founder of Sister Cities. Mark offered to donate the baseballs with the stipulation that they would be sent to Kosice in his father's name. The baseballs were collected, packaged and sent to the Kosice Seals. The Kosice Seals, a senior league, (17 years old plus), was organized in 1994. There is also a junior league for players 15 to 17 years of age, as well as a program to teach the younger players beginning at age 8. All baseball equipment is welcomed in Slovakia inasmuch as it is expensive. We have received an acknowledgement and thank you letter from Radomil Revilak, who until recently was the manager of the team.

An interesting sidelight to this story was communicated via e-mail by Radomil. He informed us, a former major league player, married to a Slovak woman is presently involved in the development of baseball in Kosice. American baseball fans should recall Sam McDowell when he pitched for the Cleveland Indians. He was a premier pitcher in his eleven years as a major leaguer.

*continued on page 18*

## YOUTH ROUND-UP

Jonathon Fayta is the newest member of the St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 706, in South Chicago, Illinois. Jonathon is an active 3-year old boy who likes to pretend he is a pirate. He enjoys sword fights and searching for treasure. When he is not sailing on the high seas, he plays with his sister Mary and draws pictures. On nice days he has fun going on walks with his mom Nicole and bike rides with his dad Jim. Jonathon resides with his parents at 1609 Parkside Road, Shorewood, Illinois. Proud grandparents are Bill and Marion Fayta of Sherville, Indiana.



Jonathon Fayta

# FCSU National President Visits Slovak Institute

On Thursday, February 1, 2007, the newly elected National President of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Andrew M. Rajec, made his first visit to the Slovak Institute and Reference Library in Cleveland, Ohio. After receiving a brief tour, an informal discussion was held between Mr. Rajec and Slovak Institute Director Andrew F. Hudak, Assistant Director Joseph Hornack, and Rasto Gallo, a member of the volunteer staff at the Institute.

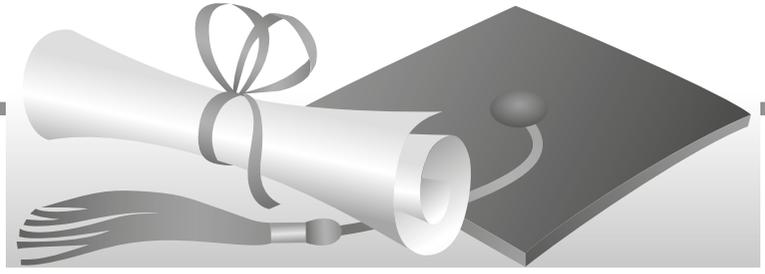
Although acquainted with each other from previous meetings and activities, this was the first meeting held in the Institute. It was an opportunity for Mr. Rajec to see for himself the work being done to collect and organize Slovak books and periodicals along with archival material and cultural items. President Rajec is interested in learning as much as he can about Slovak life in the Cleveland area, the original home of the FCSU. It is difficult to say what the future of the Slovak Institute will be. Only time will tell, but we hope by our microfilming project and computer cataloging of books to preserve Slovak history and culture for future generations.

This might be a time to suggest visiting the Slovak Institute. Since we are all volunteers and may not always be available, it is recommended to call us a day in advance of your visit at 216/721-5300, ext. 294. One can also write to us at: Slovak Institute, St. Andrew Abbey, 10510 Buckeye Rd., Cleveland, OH 44104 or email us at: slovakinstitute@cbhs.net. For more information visit our website: [www.slovakinstitute.com](http://www.slovakinstitute.com).



L-R: Andrew F. Hudak, Andrew M. Rajec, and Joseph Hornack.

Joseph Hornack



## From the Desk of the Executive Secretary – Kenneth A. Arendt

### ATTENTION ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS

The First Catholic Slovak Union is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2006 Scholarship Program.

Seventy (70) **ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS** in the amount of \$500.00 each will be awarded to the winners. In addition, a **ONE-TIME** "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and "Stephanie Husek Scholarship" in the amount of \$750.00 each will be awarded to the highest-ranking male and female applicants respectively.

Three additional **ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS** of \$500.00 each will be given from the "John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund" to applicants who have been accepted into either an approved three or four year hospital nursing program or a fully-accredited college of their choice.

In addition, upon proof of college graduation, each recipient will be issued a \$3,000 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy.

The rules and requirements are as follows:

1. Applicants must have a minimum of \$1,000 of reserve insurance with F.C.S.U. for at least four years prior to April 1st of the year of graduation from high school; or an applicant must have \$5,000 or more of term insurance with the F.C.S.U. for at least four years prior to April 1st of the year of graduation from high school. All scholarship winners must maintain this insurance in force during their college years. Applicants must be insured prior to April 1, 2002 to be eligible under the rules of this period.

2. Applicants must apply for grants in the Spring of their senior year of high school.

3. Applicants must have applied for the Fall term at a qualifying institution. Proof of college admission must be sent to the Home Office with application.

4. Applicants must apply on an official form which can be obtained from their branch or the Executive Secretary of the F.C.S.U., or download an application from [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com).

5. Applicants will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee according to their individual merit in categories of high school cumulative grade point averages, extra-curricular activities, talents, achievements, initiative, communication skills, transcripts and S.A.T. and/or A.C.T. test scores.

6. Applicants will send completed applications to: Scholarship Program, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Independence, OH 44131.

7. Final award checks will be made payable to the student.

8. Applications will be accepted only on the proper forms obtained and signed by the branch financial secretary. **INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS (THOSE WHICH ARE RECEIVED NOT FULLY COMPLETED OR DO NOT HAVE ALL ATTACHMENTS) WILL BE INVALID AND WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.**

The scholarship application is being mailed to all members between the ages of 17 and 19. If you are interested and do not receive the application, please contact your branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA. **Applications must be postmarked by Midnight, February 28, 2007. All applications without the above stipulated postmark will be considered invalid.**

## Dogs Say

*continued from page 17*

Although the Youngstown/Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Program, collected, packaged and underwrote the cost of shipping the baseballs, the major credit is attributed to Steve Elias and his son Mark. Only one of the beautiful and faithful dogs remains with Mark today as Nikki passed away in 1996 followed by Mikey in 2001. Mykey, a black Labrador, continues with Mark collecting baseballs for a later shipment. It is a long process and many miles are covered in this spirit of giving. Their efforts are applauded by the Sister Cities Program as well as the various teams of Slovakia.

The Elias Family are members of Branch 292, Windber, Pennsylvania.

Editor's note: The writer James M. Bench had initiated a collection of baseball equipment in 2001 for the Spisska Nova Ves Knights, an adult baseball league, which had originated in 1992. The writer serves on the Board of Directors for the Sister Cities Program, which had underwritten the cost of shipment. Anyone interested in donating usable equipment or money for this project please contact the Youngstown/Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Program, P.O. Box 5500, Poland, OH 44514. Telephone: 330/549-3917 ext. 116 or visit the web site: [www.youngtownsistercities.com](http://www.youngtownsistercities.com).

You can also obtain information regarding the Sister Cities annual tour of Slovakia, July 3-17, 2007, which will be hosted by James and Kay Bench, at the above web site.



*From the Desk of the Executive Secretary*

### ATTENTION



#### All Jednota Michigan Members Residing in Michigan

The Michigan Fraternal Congress is accepting applications for its scholarship program.

If you meet the requirements listed below and wish to apply for a scholarship, please call the Home Office for an application. Our toll-free number is 1/800-533-6682 (1-800-JEDNOTA).

#### Michigan Fraternal Congress College Scholarship Program

Three (3) \$500.00 non-renewable College Scholarships shall be awarded each year. The Michigan Fraternal Congress Scholarship Committee will use their discretion in selecting the honorees that are chosen. The Scholarship recipients are subject to approval of the Executive Board.

#### Rules and Regulations

1. Applications are open to young men and women who are residents of Michigan, insured members and active participants of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a current paid member of the Michigan Fraternal Congress.
2. Candidates shall be graduating high school seniors who are planning to enroll in the fall as a full time student (minimum 12 credits hours) in an accredited two or four-year college, university or trade school.
3. A check in the amount of \$500.00 shall be issued in the name of the recipient following the receipt of the proof of enrollment. The money is to be used for tuition and books only.
4. There is no limit to the number of applicants from any one fraternal group or society.
5. A certificate, provided by the Michigan Fraternal Congress, is to be presented at the High School Awards or commencement exercises, if possible.

#### Selection Criteria

1. Applicants must have a minimum grade point Average (G.P.A.) of 2.5 out of a 4.0. A transcript request form must be filled out and sent along with an official high school transcript (with affixed seal by the deadline).
2. An essay (maximum 100 words) will be submitted detailing volunteer activities that the individual has participated in, including dates, with their Fraternal Benefit Society and/or the Michigan Fraternal Congress.

Enclosed forms are to be sent to Brian Medved, Scholarship Chairperson, Michigan Fraternal Congress, 27620 Elba Drive, Grosse Ile, MI 48128 and postmarked by April 1. The winner will be notified by May 1.

## Chicago Branch Hosts Annual Meeting and Christmas Luncheon

The Assumption of the B. V. M. Society, Branch 493, held its Annual Meeting and Christmas Luncheon on Saturday, December 9, 2006. The following officers were elected to serve in 2007: Ed Kedzuch, President; Emil Rusinak, Vice President; Robert Tapak Magruder, Financial Secretary; and Valerie Vesely, Recording Secretary. After the 2:00 p.m. meeting all enjoyed a delicious dinner at Mabenka's Restaurant, in Burbank, Illinois.



Gerry James and Amelia Rogalin



Beverly and Emil Rusinak



Ed Kedzuch and Robert Tapak Magruder



Helen Strezo and Jean Melinauskas



Rich Strezo



Valerie Vesely and Pete Turner



## WPSCA Announces Slovak Language and Cultural Program

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association announces the second year of its SUMMER SLOVAK LANGUAGE AND CULTURE PROGRAM. Awards will be made to eligible students based on academics, major course of study, interest in Slovakia, letter of recommendations and acceptance into the Summer Slovak Language and Culture Scholarship Program under the auspices of Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia.

**Requirements are:**

- Full Time Student in the U.S.;
- Must apply to Comenius University for acceptance;
- Must be of Slovak heritage;
- Must not have previously attended the Program;
- Must be willing to attend WPSCA events when request to discuss the Program.

The SAS Summer School is the oldest summer language school in Slovakia (since 1965) and is designed to enable students to improve and extend their Slovak language competency as well as increasing their level of expertise in Slovak literature and culture.

Funding for this program has been made possible through a grant from the FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES' ASSOCIATION. It is one of several founding sponsors of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association. WPSCA, founded in 1997, is dedicated to promoting Slovak culture through programs such as language and cooking classes, film festivals and musical programs.

For further information or for application materials, contact Cynthia Maleski or Joseph Senko at 412/531-2990. All application materials must be received at Manor Oak Two, Suite 500, 1910 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220 on or before April 15, 2007.

**IT'S TIME YOU GET INVOLVED — ATTEND LODGE MEETINGS!**

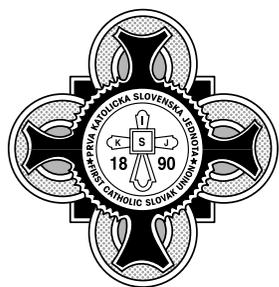
## “PARK 2 ANNUITY” – NOW PAYING 4.75%

**Under the “Park 2 Annuity”, you make a one-time deposit of at least \$1,000.00 into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at a guaranteed rate for two years. Additional deposits are not allowed.**

**Features of the “Park 2 Annuity” include:**

- The FCSU guarantees your initial interest rate for two years. After two years, your funds will continue to accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
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- The “Park 2 Annuity” is not applicable to any settlement option or interest option.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Funds withdrawn during the first two years are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. The charge is 6% the first year and 5% the second year. You may, however, withdraw up to 10% of your ‘beginning of the year balance’ with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- The minimum deposit is \$1,000.00.

**Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications.**



# Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

# Jednota



ÚRADNÝ ORGÁN PRVEJ KATOLÍCKEJ SLOVENSKEJ JEDNOTY V SPOJENÝCH ŠTÁTOCH A V KANADE

Volume 116

STREDA, 21. FEBRUÁR 2007

Číslo 5748

## Správa hlavného predsedu Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty

V Hlavnom úrade bolo môj prvý mesiac v práci veľmi rušno. Hodne môjho pracovného času som venoval zoznámeniu sa s pracovnými postupmi ku ktorým v niektorých prípadoch došlo aj k zmenám. Pri prevzatí úradu mi bol pracovný personál Hlavného úradu veľmi nápomocný. Mal som možnosť zoznámiť sa aj s niektorými členmi IKSJ buď telefonicky, alebo osobne ich návštevou úradu. Uvítam akýkoľvek telefonický alebo osobný kontakt našich členov, hlavne našich spolkových a okresných úradníkov. Neustále hľadáme pozitívne návrhy k pokroku našej katolíckej jednoty.

Dúfam, že ste si uvedomili našu ponuku annuity 2-%bonusom. Prosíme Vás využiť túto príležitosť a začleňte našu ponuku do vášho finančného plánu.

Nedávno som mal možnosť porovnať našu životnú sadzbu pre mládež so sadzbou iných fraternalistických spolkov. My sme veľmi konkurenční a v mnohých prípadoch aj s nižšou cenou. Dúfam, že pre seba a pre všetkých vašich rodinných príslušníkov zväzíte Jednotu do vašich finančných plánov.

V tomto čase kontrolujeme naše zoznamy tak, aby každý člen domácnosti dostal jeden výtlačok novín JEDNOTA. V mnohých prípadoch, keď sa mladí jednotári osamostatnia, alebo vstúpia do manželského zväzku, nedostanú naše noviny. Prosím pomôžte nám v tom, ak poznáte člena domácnosti, ktorý v súčasnosti nedostáva noviny JEDNOTA, dajte to na vedomie Hlavnému úradu. Katolícka jednota je len natoľko silná ako je silné jej členstvo. Je to vaša Katolícka jednota. Buďte aktívni! Pridajte sa k práci! Nech spoločným úsilím prispejeme k jej vzostupu. S fraternalistickým pozdravom



Andrej M. Rajec

Andrej M. Rajec, hlavný predseda

### Otázka vízovej povinnosti občanov SR pri návšteve USA

Dňa 9. februára 2007 sa konala schôdza členov americkej etnickej komunity v Clevelande spolu s americkým senátorom George V. Voinovichom, ktorej som sa aj ja mal možnosť zúčastniť.

Hlavnou otázkou stretnutia bol americký bezvízový program (U.S. Visa Waiver Program (VWP)). Senátor Voinovich predstavil dvojstrannú legislatívu, S - 342, ktorá by udelila 13 spojeneckým krajinám s USA predĺžený bezvízový styk vrátane Slovenska.

Veľký počet z vás jednotárov má príbuzných na Slovensku a si je vedomá veľkých ťažkostí pri obstarávaní víza do Spojených štátov.

Americký bezvízový program vznikol v roku 1986 za účelom zlepšiť vzájomné vzťahy medzi Spojenými štátmi a jej spojencami a zosilniť americké hospodárstvo. Tento program dovoľuje občanom vybraných krajín cestovať a zdržiavať sa na území USA bez víz po dobu 90 dní. V súčasnosti sa na tomto programe podieľa 27 krajín. Slovensko momentálne k nim nepatrí. Nové krajiny spolu so Slovenskom by tiež chceli využiť privilégia bezvízového programu. Slovensko je ochotné plniť požadované bezpečnostné opatrenia, spolupracovať a spoločne čeliť hrozbám terorizmu.

Dostalo sa mi potešenia osobne sa pohovárať so senátorom Voinovichom. Zároveň som sa stretol s Frankom J. Spulom, prezidentom Polish National Alliance (PNA) v Chicagu, ktorý zvlášť pricestoval kvôli tejto schôdzi. Spula vyhlásil, že PNA pracuje už päť rokov na tejto legislatíve a vidí v tomto smere výrazný prelom.

Chcel by som vás čitateľov poďakovať buď k napísaniu listu, faxu, e-mailu. Alebo telefonicky zavolať nasledovných spolusponzorov legislatívy, s naliehaním o ich pomoc.

Senate Bill: SB, Senator George V. Voinovich (R-Ohio), 1240 E. 9-th Str., Cleveland, OH 44199. Tel.: (216) 522-7095; Fax: (216) 522-7097

E-mail: voinovich.senate.gov

(Nasledujúce adresy viď v anglickej časti článku na 3. strane)

## Otvorenie nových priestorov Americkej obchodnej komory v Bratislave

Bratislava (TASR) – Americká obchodná komora v SR AmCham vznikla v roku 1993 v Bratislave ako nezávislá, nezisková organizácia, ktorá združuje podnikateľské subjekty pôsobiace na slovenskom trhu. V septembri 2003 otvorila svoju pobočku v Košiciach s cieľom pomôcť a podporiť ekonomický rozvoj vo východoslovenskom regióne. V súčasnosti patrí AmCham s vyše 300 členskými spoločnosťami medzi najväčšie a zároveň najaktívnejšie zahraničné komory na Slovensku.

Slovensko by sa podľa ministra hospodárstva Ľubomíra Jahnátka mohlo stať jedným z prioritných štátov amerických investorov smerujúcich do Európy. "Napriek zlepšujúcemu sa podnikateľskému prostrediu na Slovensku, vieme aj o nedostatočne rozvinutom kapitálovom trhu, ktorý neumožňuje podnikateľským subjektom efektívny prístup k finančným zdrojom," uviedol Jahnátek v súvislosti s otvorením nových priestorov obchodnej komory (AmCham) 1. februára 2007. Zúčastnených informoval tiež o tom, že boli vypracované a schválené efektívnejšie a transparentnejšie pravidlá v oblasti poskytovania štátnej pomoci investorom. "Tie nerobia rozdiel medzi zahraničnými a domácimi investormi," dodal. Na Slovensku už pôsobí viac ako 120 amerických spoločností. Ich investície presiahli viac ako 16 miliárd Sk. Z toho takmer 15 miliárd Sk sa uplatnilo v podnikovej a viac ako 1.6 miliardy Sk v bankovej sfére.



FOTO TASR - Martin Baumann  
Na snímke zľava slovenský premiér Robert Fico a minister hospodárstva SR Ľubomír Jahnátek počas slávnostného otvorenia nových priestorov Americkej obchodnej komory v hoteli Crowne Plaza 1. februára 2007 v Bratislave.

## Stav Národného pokladu Slovenskej republiky k 8. februáru 2007

Zbierka na Národný poklad Slovenskej republiky spravovaná Nadáciou Matice slovenskej dosiahla po štrnástich rokoch od jej vyhlásenia (vyhlásená bola 8. februára 1993) celkovú hodnotu Sk 30,822,417.- z čoho v peňažnej forme je Sk 23,056,911.-; hodnota predmetov z drahých kovov je Sk 3,744,306.-; hodnota umeleckých diel - obrazov ocenených zmlacami je Sk 4,021,200.-.

Aj v súčasnosti je stále možné prispieť na Národný poklad Slovenskej republiky na účet č.150134-012/0200 vedený vo Všeobecnej úverovej banke.

Istina Národného pokladu je neodkľuteľná (nesmie sa používať na

hradenie nákladov národno-kultúrnych projektov). Výnosy z peňažných prostriedkov Národného pokladu Nadácia Matice slovenskej používa na podporu rozvoja kultúrnych aktivít smerujúcich k prehĺbovaniu národného povedomia Slovákov, úcty k historickým tradíciám slovenského národa a k sprístupňovaniu slovenskej kultúry a informácií o Slovensku príslušníkom iných národov a Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí, na oceňovanie osôb za vynikajúce výsledky dosiahnuté najmä v oblasti kultúry, vedy a techniky, ochrany ľudských práv a prínosov k slovenskému národnému životu.

Jozef Markuš  
Predseda správnej rady Nadácie  
Matice slovenskej

# Krátke správy zo Slovenska

**Ekumenický preklad časti Bible - Starej zmluvy z hebrejčiny do modernej slovenčiny je podľa predstaviteľov cirkví na Slovensku nielen významnou teologickou a ekumenickou udalosťou, ale aj kultúrnym činom pre celú spoločnosť. Na preklade zmluvy začali v roku 1988 pracovať 13. odborníci zo šiestich kresťanských cirkví. Náročná práca členov prekladateľskej komisie, ktorú priebežne dopĺňali, trvala vyše 18 rokov.**

**Prezident Ivan Gašparovič by privítal zriadenie rezidentného veľvyslanectva Mexika so sídlom v Bratislave. Zdôraznil to 2. februára na stretnutí s ministerkou zahraničných vecí Mexika Patriciou E. Cantellanovou v Prezidentskom paláci. Hlava štátu ocenila zintenzívnenie vzťahov oboch krajín v poslednom období. Vlni navštívil Slovensko vtedajší mexický prezident Vicente Fox a počas tejto návštevy boli podpísané viaceré medzištátne zmluvy a dohody. Niektoré z nich napomáhajú rozvoj kontaktov medzi podnikateľmi a vytvárajú podmienky na vzájomné investície. Prezident Gašparovič sa vyslovil aj za obojstranné zblížovanie krajín prostredníctvom spolupráce v oblasti kultúry a cestovného ruchu.**

**Do funkcie rektora Slovenskej technickej univerzity (STU) 5. februára slávnostne uviedli Vladimíra Baleša. Za účasti ministra školstva Jána Mikolaja boli spolu s ním inaugurovaní aj dekaní štyroch jej fakúlt. Dekanom Stavebnej fakulty STU je Alojz Kopáček, dekanom Strojníckej fakulty STU sa stal Ľubomír Soos. Do funkcie dekana Fakulty elektrotechniky a informatiky STU uviedli Jána Vajdu a dekanom Fakulty chemickej a potravinárskej technológie STU sa opätovne stal Dušan Bakoš. Rektor v slávnostnom príhovore zdôraznil, že hoci STU je univerzitou s najnižším počtom nezamestnaných absolventov, aj tak ostáva jednou z priorit nutnosť pružnejšie reagovať na požiadavky praxe, čím sa zlepší šanca absolventov presadiť sa na trhu práce. Okrem toho chce univerzita rozšíriť počet doktorandov, zlepšiť spoluprácu s firmami, obnovovať informačné systémy školy aj sociálnu oblasť života študentov a zamestnancov.**

**V jadrovej elektrárni (JE) v Mochovciach bude podľa ministra hospodárstva SR Ľubomíra Jahnátka možno dostavaný okrem 3. a 4. bloku aj blok piaty. Minister uviedol to na stretnutí s novinármi v prestávke Medzinárodnej konferencie o budúcnosti slovenskej energetiky, ktorá sa konala začiatkom februára v Bratislave. "Táto koncepcia nie je celkom nová, už sa pred pár rokmi objavila," dodal a doplnil JE Jaslovské Bohunice a Kecerovce ako ďalšie oblasti, v ktorých by bolo možné zvýšiť aktivity. Potenciál má podľa neho Slovensko aj vo vodných elektrárnach. Slovenské elektrárne a.s. sa majú rozhodnúť o tom, či dostavajú 3. a 4. blok v Mochovciach do konca apríla tohto roka.**

**Slovensko a Poľsko sa pretekajú v snahe zaregistrovať sýrový korbáčik v Bruseli. Ani jedna z krajín zatiaľ oficiálnu žiadosť o registráciu nepodala, obe na nej však pracujú. Spor sa zintenzívnil 18. januára, kedy Stála misia SR pri Európskej únii (EÚ) avizovala MP, že Poľsko sa údajne snaží zaregistrovať si korbáčik v EÚ. Niekoľko dní po tom, 23. januára, oznámil starosta obce Zázrivá, kde majú korbáčiky dlhoročnú tradíciu, že došlo k potvrdeniu registrácie Združenia zázrivských korbáčikov na Ministerstve vnútra SR. Cieľom združenia je zaregistrovať Zázrivský a Oravský korbáčik skôr, ako svoje korbáčiky registrujú Poliaci. Podobný spor, ale týkajúci sa tokajského vína, viedlo Slovensko s Maďarskom. Nakoniec sa nezhody podarilo vyriešiť v roku 2004 kompromisom na európskej úrovni, kedy sa slovenskí a maďarskí vinári dohodli na zdieľaní značky.**

**Zamestnanci Úradu vlády Slovenskej republiky dostanú možnosť učiť sa francúzsky a anglický jazyk, zlepšiť si manažérske i počítačové zručnosti. Účet za to všetko v sume deväť miliónov korún bez DPH im zaplatí štát a fondy Európskej únie. Lukratívnu štátnu objednávku dostane víťaz tendra na vzdelávanie úradníkov v rámci projektu Efektívny štátny zamestnanec.**

**Slovenská diplomacia chce tento rok vytvárať podmienky pre realizáciu apoštolskej návštevy pápeža Benedikta XVI. na Slovensku. V pláne je zároveň iniciovanie návštevy premiéra Roberta Fica vo Vatikáne. Uvádza sa to v zameraní zahraničnej politiky SR na tento rok, ktorý v prvej polovici februára schválil vládny kabinet.**

**Zriadením Rady Konferencie biskupov Slovenska (KBS) pre interpretáciu historických otázok a zriadením Európskej spoločnosti pre katolícku teológiu na Slovensku sa zaoberali okrem iného slovenskí katolícki biskupi na 56. plenárnom zasadnutí KBS. Zasadanie sa uskutočnilo v dňoch 12. a 13. februára 2007 v Prešove.**

**Socha Milana Rastislava Štefánika sa po 55 rokoch vráti do Levíc. Od začiatku mája tohto roka bude umiestnená v novom parku v Leviciach, ktorý je pomenovaný práve po generálovi Štefánikovi. Bronzovú sochu vysokú 240 centimetrov dal vyhotoviť Dom Matice slovenskej v Leviciach. Financie získal verejnou zbierkou a z Nadácie matice slovenskej. Podľa riaditeľa Domu Matice slovenskej Vincenta Mozdíka sa za dva roky od vypísania verejnej zbierky podarilo vyzberať vyše 570 tisíc Sk. Bronzová socha Milana R. Štefánika v nadživotnej veľkosti bola odhalená na vtedajšom Námestí republiky v Leviciach v máji 1932 pri príležitosti výročia tragickej smrti generála Štefánika. O šesť rokov neskôr ju však odstránili a odviezli do Nitry. O necelých desať rokov sa znovu vrátila do Levíc. Dlho tam však nevydržala. "Štefánik vtedajšiemu režimu nevyhovoval. V roku 1952 prišiel jedného dňa traktor, strhol sochu a odtiahol ju. Takmer nič sa z nej nezachovalo," priblížil osud monumentu Mozdík.**

**TASR a slovenské časopisy**

## Národné nominačné projekty do Zoznamu Svetového dedičstva UNESCO



Drevený rímsko-katolícky kostol sv. Františka Assiského v Hervartove.

Bratislava (TASR) – Slovensko predložilo 26. januára Centru svetového dedičstva v sídle UNESCO v Paríži viacero návrhov na zápis do Zoznamu Svetového dedičstva UNESCO. Konkrétne ide o národný nominačný projekt s názvom Drevené kostoly v slovenskej časti Karpatského oblúka, ktorý predstavuje rímsko-katolícke kostoly v Hervartove a Tvrdošíne, evanjelické artikulárne kostoly v Kežmarku, Lestínach a Hronseku, kostoly východného obradu v Bodružali, Ľadomírovej a Ruskej Bystrej. Originálna a jedinečná prezentácia slovenskej drevenej architektúry v Karpatskom oblúku, vrátane hraničnej oblasti Poľska a Ukrajiny, dokumentuje styk východnej a západnej kultúry, symbiózu ľudového a profesionálneho staviteľstva, pretavenú do regionálnych zvláštností. Slovensko predložilo spolu s Maďarskom ďalší nominačný projekt Pevnostný systém na sútoku riek Dunaja a Váhu v Komárne-Komarom. Spoločný cezhraničný projekt je výsledkom intenzívneho úsilia oboch krajín o zápis tejto unikátnej pevnosti zo 16. storočia na zoznam UNESCO. Ide o druhú spoloč-

nú nomináciu s Maďarskom, v roku 1995 boli ako cezhraničná prírodná pamiatka zapísané Jaskyne Slovenského a Aggtelekskeho krasu. Nomináciu posúdia tento rok, následné rošírenie zápisu sa očakáva v roku 2008.

Súčasná Slovenská republika predložila Centru svetového dedičstva UNESCO návrh na úpravu hraníc už zapísanej lokality Spišský hrad a pamiatky okolia, ktorý zahŕňa mesto Levoča a dielo Majstra Pavla na Spiši. Levoča ako opevnené slobodné kráľovské mesto na križovatke obchodných ciest vytvára nedeliteľný celok dodnes zachovanej stredovekej urbanistickej štruktúry, uzavretej dômyselným hradobným systémom s mestskými bránami a fortifikačnými prvkami. Okrem vyššie spomenutých návrhov na zápis do Zoznamu svetového dedičstva požiadalo Slovensko Centrum svetového dedičstva UNESCO o doplnenie do národného zoznamu nový pripravovaný návrh nazvaný Pamiatky Veľkej Moravy: Slovanské hradisko v Mikulčiciach - Kostol sv. Margity Antiochijskej v Kopčanoch.

## Bratislavský chlapčenský zbor zožal úspech v Carnegie Hall v NYC

New York (TASR) – Pre Bratislavský chlapčenský zbor bola nedávna newyorská premiéra Oratórium Terezín, ktoré skomponovala úspešná britská hudobná skladateľka Ruth Fazalová, splnením najtajnejšieho sna. Vystúpiť pred preplnenou sálou najslávnejšej hudobnej scény sveta Carnegie Hall je túžbou každého hudobníka. Jakub Kokavec, Mario Mikuš, Marko Pachník, Matej Raučina, Marcus Revaj, členovia Bratislavského chlapčenského zboru, ktorý vedie Magdaléna Rovnáková, si užili slávy naplno.

Chlapci s nadšením listovali a čítali svoje mená v bulletine svetoznámej hudobnej scény, kde môžu vystupovať iba tie najväčšie hviezdy. Počas dvojhodinového koncertu v dokonalej súhre a harmónii spolu s detským zborom z Toronta a newyorskými filharmonikmi predviedli podľa prítomných bravúrny výkon. Publikum ho nadšene ocenilo "standing ovation". Oratórium venovala skladateľka Ruth Fazalová terezinským deťom, ktoré prežili drámu koncentračného tábora počas rokov 1941 až 1944.

## Novým šéfom Ústavu pamäti národa Ivan Petranský

Bratislava (TASR) – Koaličný kandidát historik Ivan Petranský sa podľa neoficiálnych informácií stal novým predsedom Správnej rady Ústavu pamäti národa (UPN). Rozhodli o tom 31. januára poslanci v opakovanej tajnej voľbe. Petranského podporilo 80 poslancov zo 144 hlasujúcich. Za protikandidáta poslancu KDH Františka Mikloška hlasovalo 62 zákonodarcov. Utoroková voľba bola neplatná, keď sa na hlasovaní zúčastnilo 144 poslancov. Overovatelia však po spočítaní hlasov zistili, že bolo odovzdaných 145 hlasovacích lístkov. O funkciu šéfa UPN mali záujem šiesti kandidáti. Koalícia podporila nominanta SNS 30-ročného historika Ivana Petranského a opozícia poslancu KDH Františka Mikloška, ktorý sa na hlasovaní nezúčastňuje. O dôveru zákonodarcov sa uchádzal aj Stanislav Gilan, Jozef Sivák, Ján Vojtek a Pavel Vido.



Ivan Petranský FOTO TASR

## Po takmer polstoročí vychádza v Slovenskej republike

Slovník súčasného slovenského jazyka a Ecyklopédia Slovenska a Slovákov

Bratislava (TASR) – Základnú terminológiu z viac ako sto vedných oblastí obsahuje prvý zväzok Slovníka súčasného slovenského jazyka (A-G), ktorý vyšiel vo VEDE - Vydavateľstve Slovenskej akadémie vied (SAV). Na 1,134 stranách v ňom používateľ nájde informácie o 30, 293 heslových slovách.

“Vydanie prvej časti slovníka je významnou kultúrnou udalosťou, keďže po takmer polstoročí začína na Slovensku vychádzať nový slovník toho typu”, konštatoval šéfredaktor vydavateľstva VEDA Emil Borčina. Je to moderné dielo, ktoré pripravili odborníci Jazykovedného ústavu Ľudovíta Štúra SAV. Pri jeho tvorbe využívali počítačové metódy a databázu Slovenského národného korpusu. Podľa slov Borčina osobitosťou slovníka je aj to, že v rámci heslového rozpätia od A po G na konci časť obsahujúca názvy obcí (sídla) na Slovensku. Slovník súčasného slovenského jazyka bude mať asi osem zväzkov, ktoré budú vychádzať počas približne desiatich rokov. Druhý zväzok s heslami od písmena - H vyjde pravdepodobne koncom roka 2008.

Druhou významnou publikáciou z produkcie VEDY je jednozväzková encyklopédia v anglickom jazyku - The Encyclopaedia of Slovakia and the Slovaks (Encyklopédia Slovenska a Slovákov). Publikácia z dielne Encyklopedického ústavu SAV má 760 strán a obsahuje 3,760 hesiel, okolo 1,400 farebných a čiernobielych fotografií, ako aj 20 máp. Zahraničnému používateľovi ponúka obraz o minulosti a súčasnosti Slovenska, dejinách jeho územia od najstarších čias, prírodných pomeroch krajiny, slovenskej kultúre a umení, školstve, rozvoji priemyslu, o mestách a obciach i významných osobnostiach Slovenska. Prezentácia prvého zväzku Slovníka súčasného slovenského jazyka sa uskutočnila 22. januára v Hoteli Bôrik v Bratislave. Encyklopédia Slovenska a Slovákov v anglickom jazyku uviedli do života 23. januára 2007 takisto v hoteli Bôrik. Vydavateľstvo SAV, pôsobí na Slovensku už vyše 60 rokov. Za toto obdobie vydalo viac ako 3,600 knižných titulov z oblasti vied o živej a neživej prírode a spoločenskovednej sféry.

## Vo Washingtone Za život

Vo Washingtone sa 22. januára konal tradičný pochod Za život. Podujatím mladí či starí účastníci chceli ukázať, aký dôležitý je ľudský život a aké hodnoty v ňom treba vyznávať. Program začal spoločnou svätou omšou v športovej hale vo Washingtone v kruhu asi 25-tisíc ľudí. Na stretnutí sa zúčastnili aj bohoslovci Košickej a Rožňavskej diecézy Dalibor Ondrej a Martin Chovanec, ktorí sú v USA na ročnej pastoračnej praxi. Bohoslužbu celebrazoval washingtonský arcibiskup Mons. Donald W. Wuerl. V homílii sa k mladým prihovril William D. Byrne, kaplán University of Maryland Catholic Student Center. Povedal, že pre každého z nás má Boh pripravené určité poslanie. Spomínal, ako raz za biskupom prišlo mladé dievča, ktoré čakalo dieťa. Bálo sa ísť domov. Pýtalo

sa biskupa, čo má robiť. On s ňou šiel za jej rodičmi. Na prekvapenie dievčiny rodičia prijali správu o ťarchavosti svojej decéry veľmi dobre. To však ešte nebol koniec. Po istom čase oznámili dievčine, že bude mať dvojčatá. Ostala zarazená a nevedela čo ďalej. Opäť išla za biskupom a on ju upokojil. V súčasnosti má vlastnú rodinu, v ktorej k dvom chlapcom pribudlo i dievčatko.

Po svätej omši sa účastníci stretnutia v sprievode vybrali k budove Kapitoly - sídla Amerického kongresu, aby demonštrovali, aký dôležitý je ľudský život. Na pochode sa zúčastnili poprední politici krajiny, nechýbali ani IKSJ, IKSŽJ, SKS a iné fraternalistické spolky, telefonicky ho pozdravil aj prezident G. Bush. Z katolíckej strany prišlo 20 biskupov a arcibiskupov a predstavitelia katolíckych komunít.

## Vyšla kniha o chudobe v slovenskej spoločnosti

Bratislava (TASR) – Ľudsko-právne, historické, sociálno-filozofické a náboženské pohľady na chudobu, ako aj výsledky skúmania sociálnej situácie obyvateľstva v SR predstavuje nová publikácia s názvom Chudoba v slovenskej spoločnosti a vzťah slovenskej spoločnosti k chudobe.

Je to zborník príspevkov odborníkov zo slovenských univerzít, Slovenskej akadémie vied (SAV) a ďalších inštitúcií na konferencii o chudobe v SR, ktorú koncom roku 2005 usporiadal Sociologický ústav SAV pod záštitou Slovenskej komisie pre UNESCO, národný komitét MOST v spolupráci s nadáciou Friedricha Eberta. Podľa údajov komisie EÚ počet ľudí v únii postihnutých chudobou a sociálnou vylúčenosťou dosiahol v rokoch 2002 až 2003 viac ako 68 miliónov a vyše 20 percent to bolo v prípade, Írska, Slovenska, Grécka a Portugalska. K chudobným skupinám ľudí patria predovšetkým etnické menšiny, Rómovia, ľudia so zdravotným postihnutím, bezdomovci, ľudia umiestnení v opatrovateľských zariadeniach a neraz i samostatne hospodáriaci roľníci na malých hospodárstvach. Na Slovensku popri spomenutých skupinách k ľuďom ohrozeným chudobou alebo žijúcim v chudobe patria nezamestnaní, rodiny s viacerými deťmi, neúplne rodiny, najmä osamelé matky s deťmi, osamelí dôchodcovia odkázaní na nízky dôchodok, ale tiež ľudia v regiónoch s nízkymi príjmami. V knihe sa uvádza, že zo všetkých krajín, ktoré vstúpili do EÚ v

roku 2004, slovenská právna úprava nároku na dávku v nezamestnanosti je vo vzťahu k nezamestnaným najtvrdšia. Vznik nároku na dávku v nezamestnanosti vyžaduje trvanie poistenia najmenej tri roky v posledných štyroch rokoch. Túto otázku riešili ústretovejšie k nezamestnaným napríklad v Poľsku, Maďarsku, Slovinsku či v Chorvátku. V Českej republike sa vyžaduje dvanásť mesiacov poistenia za posledné tri roky.

Odborníci v publikácii takisto upozorňujú, že dobre fungujúca ekonomika neznamená automaticky najefektívnejšie riešenie chudoby, respektíve zlepšenie situácie ľudí. Je to aj otázka prerozdelenia zdrojov. Pokiaľ ide o postoje spoločnosti k chudobe, podľa niektorých sú chudobní sami zodpovední za svoje problémy. Z európskeho výskumu z prelomu rokov 1999 - 2000 však vyplýva, že na Slovensku tak ako vo väčšine krajín západnej a strednej Európy prevažuje názor, že najdôležitejšou príčinou chudoby je nespravodlivosť v spoločnosti. Naopak, v Českej republike a Rakúsku prevládol názor, že chudoba je predovšetkým dôsledkom lenivosti a nedostatku pevnej vôle u ľudí. Ukazuje sa, že názory na chudobu súvisia aj s úrovňou nezamestnanosti v tej-ktorej krajine. Čím je nezamestnanosť nižšia, tým častejšie ľudia vnímajú chudobu ako výsledok lenivosti a nezodpovednosti. Keďže v Slovenskej republike nie je skúsenosť s nezamestnanosťou ničím výnimočným, solidarita so sociálne odkázanými ľuďmi prevažuje nad ich odmietaním.

## Generálne riaditeľstvo už sídli v novostavbe SND

Bratislava (TASR) – Generálne riaditeľstvo Slovenského národného divadla (SND) už sídli v novostavbe. Uživa časť novej budovy, na ktorú bolo vydané koloaudačné rozhodnutie o predčasnom užívaní. Vedenie SND sa zo sídla na ulici Gorkého 4 v historickom centre Bratislavy začalo sťahovať 15. januára. “Zmenili sme bez problémov sídlo. Dúfam, že sa nám podarí priestor novostavby v priebehu niekoľkých mesiacov oživiť, aby sa stalo divadlom, do ktorého budú ľudia radi chodiť. Dôležité je, aby investor a dodávatelia v krátkom čase stavebnú a technologickú časť budovy dokončili,” povedala generálna riaditeľka SND Silvia Hroncová. V Divadle P. O. Hviezdoslava, ako aj na Malej scéne SND sa bude hrať do konca marca. Obe scény sa budú sťahovať v prvej polovici apríla. Nové SND slávnostne otvorí 14. a 15. apríla 2007.

## Nezazlievajte mi, prosím...

*Nezazlievajte mi, prosím, že som zaspal v kostole, veď, to Dom boží je, kde obeta sa koná na stole, na oltári, tam kde On býva, tam, kde na kríži visí. Áno, zaspal som; roky ma tlačia, únava sa dostavila, neodolal som, ale v duchu som Ho mal, na myslí. O zdravie, šťastie, pokoj som prosil môjho Spasiteľa. Aká nádherna je to, človek si myslí, že je v nebi, tichúčko, svetlo sviečok žmurká na vás, len keby, zvonce miništranta, na Pozdvihovanie ma nezobudili. Ešte troška som si chcel zdriemnuť, ale ony, nedovolili. Nuž, rýchlo som sa prežehnal, aby ma babky nevideli, bo celá dedina, by bola plná, všelijakých ohovárok, kým ja, som sa v duchu modlil a strážil svätostánok. Teda, nezazlievajte mi prosím, že som zaspal v kostole, môj kamarát "Anjel strážca" ma tam verne chránil, a ma chráni, či na poli, doma, keď odpočívam v stodole. A vy, babky, majte ľútosť nadomnou, dajte rečiam pokoj! Dnes je iný svet, vraj nepotrebujeme Boha. Volajú to rozvoj. Sľubujem, že už nikdy viac nezaspím v kostole, to Dom boží je, kde svätá obeta sa koná na stole.*

Jozef Smák

## Slovenskí benediktíni ďakujú všetkým darcom

Začiatok každého roku je v každej dobrej kresťanskej rodine zvykom plánovať, ale aj hodnotiť to najdôležitejšie. Takto si lepšie uvedomíme potrebu vďačnosti Bohu a ľuďom.

Vzácní čitatelia a benediktínski priatelia!

Radi by sme sa s vami podelili o to, čo je najhlavnejšou udalosťou našej Benediktínskej komunity na Slovensku v uplynulom roku 2006 a zároveň výzvou pre rok 2007. S vďačnosťou v srdci vám môžeme oznámiť, že historický krok návratu Benediktínskej tradície na Slovensko sa podaril. Úprimne chceme vysloviť veľké Pán Boh zaplať všetkým Vám ktorí ste nám akýmkoľvek spôsobom v uplynulom roku pomohli. Vaša pomoc v modlitbách, ale aj v štedrých finančných daroch nám bola veľkou pomocou v ťažkostiach, ktoré ku každému Božiemu dielu patria. Chceme vás uistiť o našej oddanej modlitbe za každého z vás. Pravidelne za vás slúžime sv. omše a modlitba za dobrodincov je nám "Chlebom" na každý deň.

Dovoľte, aby som vás krátko poinformoval o našich výsledkoch aj ďalších plánoch na rok 2007. V septembri minulého roka sme začali realizáciu budovania kláštora "Premenenia Pána" v Sampore.

Do konca uplynulého roka 2006 sa nám nepodarilo zrealizovať celú prvú etapu prác v budove kláštora a základoch kostola. Práce však pokračujú a budú skončené v apríli tohto roku. Na dokončenie tejto etapy už finančnú hotovosť s Božou pomocou máme. Je to aj vďaka vašej štedrosti.

V tomto novom roku 2007 potrebujeme znova pokračovať v prácach na stavbe budovy kláštora a základoch kostola. Chceme dobudovať hrubú stavbu (dva poschodia a strecha) a k tomu budeme znova potrebovať aj vašu pomoc o ktorú znova prosíme. Ak sa nám podarí získať dostatok finančných prostriedkov a sponzorov chceli by sme zrealizovať aj nasledujúce práce:

- zapojenie nízkeho napätia, vnútorného osvetlenia, vodovodu a kanalizácie.

- dokončiť vnútornú inštaláciu (elektrina, voda, centrálné vykurovanie, vnútorná kanalizácia).

Práce, ktoré sme uviedli v druhej etape plánujeme zrealizovať podľa množstva získaných finančných prostriedkov od našich dobrodincov.

Veríme, že duchovný a historický význam prvého Benediktínskeho kláštora na Slovensku po páde komunizmu presvedčí sponzorov, ktorí nám pomôžu toto dielo zrealizovať až do konca.

Prijmite naše úprimné Pán Boh zaplať za prejavení štedrosť v roku 2006. Zároveň vás prosíme, aby ste nám ostali verní a podporili nás svojimi darmi aj v roku 2007. Svoje dary pre projekt: "Návratu Benediktínov na Slovensko", môžete aj naďalej posielat' na známu adresu:

Saint Andrew Abbey, 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, OH 44104-3725.

Úprimné Pán Boh zaplať všetkým štedrým darcom

**o. Jozef Brodňanský, OSB**  
mních z domu sv. Benedikta v Bacúrove, Slovakia

## Petícia Greenpeace proti ťažbe zlata v Kremnici

Bratislava (TASR) – Zástupcovia organizácie Greenpeace odovzdali 23. januára Ministerstvu životného prostredia SR (MZP SR) petíciu proti plánovanej ťažbe zlata v Kremnici, ktorú do tohto dňa podporilo 6,063 občanov. Podpisy na petíciu začali zbierať v septembri 2006. Podpismi, zväčša obyvatelia dotknutej oblasti, vyjadruje nesúhlas s plánovanou ťažbou zlata v lokalite Štúrec pri Kremnici a zároveň žiadajú, aby sa dodržala stratégia trvalo udržateľného rozvoja mesta, ktorá je zameraná na rozvoj turistiky a rekreácie v regióne. "Povrchová ťažba zlata, s použitím nebezpečných kyamidov, by predstavovala neustále riziko pre zdra-

vie obyvateľstva a zároveň by v regióne spôsobila vznik trvalej environmentálnej záťaž. Žiadame preto MZP SR, aby ešte pred záverečným stanoviskom v procese posudzovania vplyvov na životné prostredie k zámeru spoločnosti Tournigan Gold prešetrili a prehodnotili dopady navrhovanej ťažby zlata na životné prostredie a zdravie obyvateľstva," uviedla v stanovisku Katerina Ventušová, koordinátorka toxickéj kampane Greenpeace. Proces posudzovania vplyvov plánovanej ťažby na životné prostredie sa začal v januári 2006. Okrem slovenských subjektov sa do procesu zapojili aj zahraničné organizácie.

## Slovenský národ by mohol vymrieť

Bratislava (TASR) – Ak vláda Slovenskej republiky nepodnikne zásadné opatrenia o sedemdesiat rokov by mohol slovenský národ vymrieť. Na tlačovej besede 18. januára to povedala podpredsedníčka Slovenskej národnej strany (SNS) Anna Belousovová. "Prognózy ukazujú, že v roku 2050 budú na Slovensku na jedného pracujúceho človeka pripadať dvaja dôchodcovia," povedala na margo demografického vývoja Belousovová. Riešením je podľa nej aktívna podpora štátu mladým rodinám. "Štát poskytne 4.5 miliardy korún na štartovacie byty a zvýhodnené hypotéky," svoje tvrdenie ilustrovala príkladom Belousovová.

## Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

### Členská schôdza spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New York City

Oznamujeme členom nášho spolku, že schôdza sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New Yorku sa uskutoční v nedeľu 15. apríla 2007 po slovenskej omši o 12:30 hodine v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na Prvej Avenue a 66. ulici. Láskaovo žiadame našich členov o hojnú účasť na tejto schôdzi.

Jozef Juráši, predseda

## Oslava slovenskej štátnosti v New Yorku 11. marca 2007

I. Zbor Slovenskej ligy v New Yorku za spolupráce Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, Spolku sv. Štefana, Spolku sv. Matúša, Slovenského Katolíckeho Sokola a ostatných fraternalistických slovenských spolkov si vás dovoľuje pozvať na Spomienkovú oslavu slovenskej štátnosti, ktorá sa bude konať v nedeľu 11. marca 2007 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia v spoločenskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 411 East, 66th Street v New York City.

Spomienková slávnosť začne modlitbou otca Martina Svitaňa, farára Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého. Americkú a slovenskú hymnu zahraje a zaspieva skupina Kontakty. Predseda I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Milan Dait predstaví hostí a slávnostného rečníka na tému - 14. marec a jeho význam pre Slovensko. Konferenciérkou počas slávnosti bude Henrieta Daitová. V hudobnom programe sa predstaví Stanislav Rosenberg v hre na husliach a básň prednesie Henrieta Daitová. Tak budú nasledovať pozdravy oficiálnych hostí. Na záver vystúpi tajomníčka Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Nina Holá. Program ukončíme spevom God Bless America a Hej Slováci.

Po slávnostnom programe sa bude podávať občerstvenie ako aj bar bude k dispozícii. Vstup je voľný. Bližšie informácie: Milan Dait (201) 641-8922; Jozef Bilík (718) 463-2084.

## Levoča a dielo Majstra Pavla nominuje do zápisu svetového dedičstva UNESCO

Bratislava (TASR) – Mesto Levoča a dielo Majstra Pavla na Spiši nominuje Slovensko do Zoznamu svetového dedičstva UNESCO. Minister kultúry SR Marek Maďarič podpísal 19. januára s primátorom Levoče Miroslavom Vilkovským nominačný formulár pre rozšírenie zápisu Spišského hradu a pamiatok jeho okolia o spomenuté dielo. Na príprave materiálov do nominačného formulára pracovalo mesto Levoča v súčinnosti s Ministerstvom kultúry SR (MK SR) a Pamiatkovým úradom SR. Nomináciu posúdia tento rok následne rozšírenie zápisu sa očakáva v roku 2008. V zozname svetového dedičstva UNESCO je zapísaný Spišský hrad a pamiatky okolia, Banská Štiavnica a technické pamiatky okolia a rezervácia ľudovej architektúry Vlkolinec od roku 1993. Od roku 2000 aj historické jadro mesta Bardejov.



Levoča

## Zameranie zahraničnej politiky Slovenskej republiky na rok 2007

Bratislava (TASR) – Prioritou zahraničnej politiky SR je pôsobenie v Európskej únii (EÚ). Strategickým cieľom Slovenska zostáva posilňovanie transatlantických vzťahov, rozvoj partnerstva a spolupráce medzi členskými štátmi EÚ a USA. Uvádza sa to v zameraní zahraničnej politiky SR na tento tok, ktorý 7. februára schválila vláda. Slovenská diplomacia podľa materiálu považuje za nevyhnutné oživiť a rozšíriť politický dialóg medzi EÚ a NATO na strategickú a operačnú úroveň. V rámci EÚ i NATO sa Slovensko chce aktívne zúčastňovať na formovaní "východnej" politiky, jeho záujmom je pritom euroatlantická orientácia Ukrajiny. Slovensko ďalej podporí efektívny multilateralizmus a posilne-

nie postavenia medzinárodných organizácií globálneho charakteru, predovšetkým OSN. Medzi prioritami zahraničnej politiky SR bude aj aktívna politika v oblasti ľudských práv, osobných slobôd, vrátane práv osôb patriacich k menšinám. V tomto smere chce diplomacia spolupracovať s mimovládny sektorom. V porovnaní s predchádzajúcim obdobím má Slovensko výrazne posilniť ekonomický rozmer svojej zahraničnej politiky a diplomacie. Slovenská republika v tomto roku bude pôsobiť ako člen Bezpečnostnej rady OSN, do konca júna 2007 ako predsedníčka krajina vyšehradskéj štvorky a od novembra ako predsednícky štát Rady Európy.

# Na oslavu 65-ročného Kanadského Slováka

## Oslavujeme

A máme čo oslavovať. 65-ročné jubileum neprestajného vychádzania novín Kanadský Slovák. Na naše pomery nemalá vec, keď uvážime, že niektoré slovenské noviny vychádzajúce v Kanade sa nedožili ani svojej 50-tyky.

Šesťdesiatpäť rokov v živote človeka i za dnešných moderných životných okolností, je to úctyhodný vek. Čas odchodu na zaslúžený odpočinok. Šesťdesiatpäť rokov života emigrantských novín vychádzajúcich vo svete hromadnej asimilácie a - pravda - do nemalej miery aj našej slovenskej nedbalosti a národnej nevedomosti, naposledy aj našej rodovej rozdrobenosti a neznášanlivosti, je o to vzácnejší a obdivuhodnejší.

V mojom, skoro 90. roku pozemského života, už osamelého žijúceho tvorcu Kanadského Slováka, moje prvé vďaky idú nebeskému Otcovi, že mi doprial dožiť sa tohto vzácneho životného medzníka našich novín. Hovorím našich novín, lebo také boli od svojho začiatku - naše noviny. U náročnejších - náš Kanadský Slovák. Nielen menom ale aj svojim misijným poslaním patril všetkým kanadským Slovákom. V duchu ekumenizmu slúžil kanadskej svojeti bez rozdielu spolkárskej a náboženskej príslušnosti a nekompromisne aj politickým aspiráciám národa doma.

Kanadský Slovák sa narodil vo vír-vare druhej svetovej vojny. Prvé číslo nových slovensko-kanadských novín vyšlo s dátumom 5. marec 1942 v meste Montréal - vtedajšej Mekke slovenskej tvorivosti v Kanade - na 10 stranách novinového formátu ako úradný orgán Kanadskej Slovenskej Ligy. Z úsporných dôvodov vyštartoval ako dvojtýždenník. O rok neskôršie ako týždenník. Prvým, zakladajúcim a redaktorom, bol Štefan Hreha. Patrí sa tu dodať a poďakovať, že Kanadský Slovák nebol pokračovaním žiadnych slovenských novín vtedajších vychádzajúcich v Kanade, za aké ho niektorí považovali, a ani nepatrila žiadnej akciovej spoločnosti. Vychádzal pod správou Tlačového výboru. Malej skupiny ľudí, ktorí mali iba minimálne znalosti súvisiace s produkciou novín. Avšak na schôdzkach "dobrých rád a odporúčaní" vždy bolo viac ako dosť. Takmer na každej takej schôdzi niekto vyrukoval s návrhom, že noviny potrebujú viac inzerátov. Nikto však z nich nepovedal ako a kto tie inzeráty má zháňať. Mali svoje osobné problémy. Domnievali sa akoby pri novinách účinkoval celý štáb pracovného personálu, pokiaľ celá výroba novín ležala na pleciach jedného človeka - redaktora. Dokonca našli sa aj takí členovia, ktorí či už v svojej naivnosti, zaostalosti, nevedomosti, alebo ich kalkulovanej škodlivosti vehementne argumentovali, aby noviny dostávali bezplatne. Čo viac dôvodili, aby "redaktor robil zadarmo, lebo pracuje za Boha a národ". Možno povedať, že redaktor bol hromozvodcom, po ktorom zvädzali svoje neopodstatnené útoky tí, ktorí nechceli aby Liga vydávala svoje vlastné noviny. V časovom odstupe nahromadených rokov, zdá sa mi, že títo ľudia mentálne a fakticky ostali pozadu v behu každodennej normálnej slovenskej tvorivosti.

My, ktorí sme zakotvili na tejto strane Atlantiku ako emigranti vieme, že každý začiatok je ťažký. Taký bol aj Kanadského Slováka. Ešte sa ani nenarodil a už mu otvorení i zakuklení oponenti národnoslovenskej orientácie v Kanade veštili predčasnú smrť. Systematicky útočili na ideovo-obsahový smer novín a ich poslanie v radoch slovenskej pospolitosti v Kanade. Rozháraná a zmotaná svetová politická situácia, vývoj politických udalostí doma, naša stranícka, náboženská a spolkárska rozháranosť do nemalej miery hamovali normálny beh nášho tunajšieho podnikania. Pustiť sa do vydávania novín v tých neistých napnutých časoch bolo iriskantné. Predsa náš pioniersky duch zvíťazil, lebo sme verili so Štefánikom: "Prebijeme sa, lebo sa prebiť chceme."

Treba si uvedomiť, že vtedajšia Kanada to nebola dnešná Kanada so sociálnym poistením, nezamestnaneckou podporou, rodinnými príspevkami, jazykovými kurzami, multinárodnou konštitúciou, chartou ľudských práv a diskriminačnou obranou. Boli sme odkázaní sami na seba, alebo na milosť a nemilosť cudzích. Emigrantský chlebič bol ťažko zarobený. Podpora na noviny prichádzala v centoch, nie v desiatkach dolárov ako dnes. Chvála Bohu, že si to môžeme dovoliť.

V tých časoch noviny boli dôležitým krajanským a organizačným spojivom, spoznávacím prostriedkom, informačným inštrumentom, propagátorom solidarity a rodovej jednoty Slovákov roztratených po preveľkej Kanade od Atlantiku k Pacifiku až po L'adové more. Mimo toho boli aj neodvratným obhajcom práva Slovákov na ich národnú suverenitu a na ich slobodný politický a náboženský život. Boli nielen tribúnou života Slovákov v Kanade, ale aj interpretátorom politického diania na Slovensku. Do roka vyšlo 52 čísiel kontra dnešným 47. Vákacie, k tomu ešte platené, vo vtedajšom vokabulári Kanadského Slováka neexistovali. Klasický príklad. Jeden raz som ochorel. V tlačiarňi dostal som životu nebezpečný prievan. Len-len že som sa z toho vymotal. Nie bez trvalých následkov. Keďže ten týždeň noviny nevyšli, odopreli mi dať môj beztak nevelký plat. (Vid' Moje reminiscencie. Kalendár KSL na r. 1976, str. 36-41).

Noviny v tých časoch skladali sa ručne. Na takto poskladané noviny potom bolo treba nalepiť adresy odberateľov novín, podľa miest osvie ich zabaliť, povkladať do poštových vriec určených pre jednotlivé provincie, teritória a inde, taxíkom odvieť na vzdialenú hlavnú poštu a z pošty tramvajom domov už dosť neskoro večer. Expedícia novín obyčajne trvala celý deň. Keď niečo nečakané prišlo do cesty, dlho do noci. V tejto neodkladnej a zdĺhavej novinovej vykonávke pomáhala mi manželka



Štefan Hreha

bezplatne. Dnes to zneje skoro neuveriteľne. No v tých časoch našej pionierskej tvorivosti našou prednostnou snahou bolo nadobudnúť trvalé dedičstvo pre naše nastupujúce generácie.

Odvtedy dodnes veľa vody pretieklo pod mostom. Svet sa zmenil skoro na nepoznanie. Neostali sme pozadu ani my. Noviny prešli technickým prerodom a na ich veliteľskom poste sa vystriedalo niekoľko redaktorov, množstvo dopisovateľov a veľký počet prispievateľov. Posledne všetko ľudia od pera. Možno povedať, že každý z redaktorov novinám dal výraz svojej osobnosti a za celý ten čas potrafili udržať duchovný a ideologický profil novín, aký im bol daný pri ich narodení pred 65 rokmi, čo nemožno povedať o iných slovenských novinách vychádzajúcich v Kanade. V slovách spisovateľov prof. Fera Vnuka z Austrálie: "Stránky Kanadského Slováka sú najvernejšou a najpodrobnejšou kronikou o tom, ako naši krajanovia v Kanade žili a pracovali, o tom ako slovenská vetev slovenského národa ani v cudzom svete nezvädla, ale ostala svieža a zelená."

George Ján Frajkor, odchovanec starej pionierskej generácie slovenského pôvodu, profesor žurnalistiky na Carleton University v Ottawe a terajší predseda Kanadskej Slovenskej Ligy, na margo novín Kanadský Slovák napísal: "This newspaper considred itself the organ of all Slovaks in Canada indeed sometimes it spoke for all Slovaks in North America as well."

Historik, prof. M. Mark Stolárik, vedúci katedry slovenskej kultúry a histórie na University of Ottawa, autor viacerých historiografických štúdií o Slovákoch v Amerike, napísal: "Most of 250 or so Slovak Newspapers that were published between 1885 and the present (in the USA) lasted for only a few years because they were commercial ventures. Only those newspapers supported by a fraternal-benefit society typically had a long life. Among them has been Kanadský Slovák because it was supported by the Canadian Slovak League".

Skúškou Kanadského Slováka od jeho začiatku bolo udržať ho pri živote, ktorú dobre absolvoval i navzdor mnohým ťažkostiam a nedostatkom, ktoré mu prišli do cesty. I napriek našej početnosti v etnickej mozaike kanadského obyvateľstva, nie sme síce na prvom mieste, ale ani na poslednom. Odvážni optimisti odhadujú, že je nás tu vyše 100 tisíc. Realistickejší operujú číslom 50 tisíc. Podľa štatistiky je tu viac Čechov, Čechoslovákov - ako nás Slovákov. Príčina? Nie všetci Slováci a ich potomkovia sa hlásia za Slovákov, alebo k slovenským koreňom. Á propo, nie každý Slovák odberá Kanadského Slováka. Následkom čoho jeho príjmové zdroje sú obmedzené a jeho predplatiteľská základňa nekorešponduje s odhadovanými číslami našej početnosti v Kanade čím, rád - nerád, musíme sa zmieriť a prijať to ako neodvratný údel existencie slovenských novín vychádzajúcich v diaspore.

Po desiatych rokoch svojho vychádzania v Montreale, Kanadský Slovák v marci 1952, odišiel do Winnipegu do svojej vlastnej tlačiarne. Po odpredaji tlačiarne vo Winnipegu roku 1958, presťahoval sa do Toronta odkiaľ dodnes vychádza s dvojjazyčným obsahom v tabloidovej forme na 12 stranách so zväčšeným už tradičným štvorfarebným vianočným číslom na vysokej obsahovej a grafickej úrovni s prívlastkom "jediný slovenský týždenník na americkom kontinente. Od roku 1997, teda plných desať rokov, jeho redaktorom je Julo Behul, človek pevnej viery, plný oduševnenia a bojovného elánu, vplyvný úvodníkár, príležitostný reportér, držiteľ niekoľkých prestížnych odmien, významná a všeobecne rešpektovaná slovenská osobnosť nielen v našej tunajšej spoločnosti ale aj doma. Možno o ňom povedať a mu privlastniť dávnejšiu frázu, že sa dobre rozumie "novinárske mu remeslu". Novinám dal novú náplň a novú víziu. Ako také, radia sa medzi prednostné slovenské noviny vychádzajúce v zahraničí.

Žičím Kanadskému Slovákov, ako jeho tvorcu, aby reprezentoval nás, náš život a naše snahy v slovenskom svete ešte za mnoho plodných rokov na slávu a česť všetkých nás, ktorí sme si privlastnili prírmenie - kanadský Slovák.

**Štefan Hreha**  
zakladajúci redaktor Kanadského Slováka



Na snímke motorový vozeň pred skúšobnou jazdou. FOTO TASR - Jozef Durník

Nový prototyp motorového vozňa s označením 813-913 odovzdali 13. februára 2007 do užívania železničnej spoločnosti Slovensko, a.s. (ZSSK) zástupcovia dodávateľa, spoločnosti železničné opravovne a strojárne, a.s., Zvolen (ZOS). Motorový vozeň bude už od 1. apríla nasadený na regionálnych dráhach najmä v Trenčianskom a Žilinskom kraji. "Na vývoji nového vozňa pracovali naši pracovníci jeden a pol roka," povedal TASR generálny riaditeľ ZOS Juraj Pilát. Vozidlo muselo na základe požiadavky odberateľa splniť niekoľko kritérií, medzi ktoré patrila najmä požiadavka nízkeho nákladu na prevádzku a dlhej životnosti. Na vývoji a konštrukcii sa podieľali tiež vývojové zložky niektorých zahraničných firiem ako sú MAN, MAN Ferrostaal, VOITH, Gmieder, BEHR a ďalších. ZOS by podľa zmluvy mal pre ZSSK dodať celkom 29 vozňových súprav. Cena jednej súpravy je asi 26 miliónov Sk. Vozneň je určený na prepravu 82 sediacich osôb a na slovenských železničných tratiach nahradí niektoré staršie, už dosluhujúce motorové vozne.