



Catholic Fraternal Bi-Weekly

Jednota

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Volume 116

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2007

Number 5756

~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

continued on page 3

From the Desk of the Executive Secretary

Kenneth A. Arendt

This year marks the 58th anniversary of the Act of Congress proclaiming June 14 as National Flag Day. Citizens across this country will pause to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag on this day, including members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, who are among the 10 million Americans affiliated with the National Fraternal Congress of America.

National Flag Day honors the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as our national flag by the Continental Congress, 230 years ago. A National Flag Day was the dream of Bernard J. Cigrand, a 19-year-old schoolteacher at Fredonia, Wisconsin. In 1885, in a windswept school atop a glacier-formed hill overlooking rolling farmland, Cigrand celebrated the first Flag Day by placing a small flag in a bottle on his desk. Cigrand taught his students about the history of the flag and recited a ceremonial pledge. His efforts over the 31 years led to a national observance honoring the flag.

You may ask, "Why should I observe this day?" Quite simply, our flag is more than a patchwork of cloth. It is the silent sentinel of our freedom. It is constant reminders of the courage required maintaining our freedom; the liberty we enjoy in being self-governed, and the loyalty and trust which unites us despite our individual differences.

On this National Flag Day, we encourage you to talk to your children, grandchildren or friends about what the flag means to you. Because others have given their fortunes and their very lives to secure our freedom, we have the freedom NOT to participate in this national observance. However, it is good that we pause to honor our nation's flag, for this act helps remind each of us that we are most blessed to be one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all; and that, fellow citizens, is something worth celebrating.

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The Pittsburgh District held a very successful semiannual Meeting on April 15, 2007 at St. Barnabas Church Hall in Swissvale, Pennsylvania. The officers of the Pittsburgh District at the meeting are first row L-R: Margaret Nasta, Recording Secretary, Joseph Yuros, Financial Secretary; and Lawrence Basista, Vice President. Standing are L-R: Florence Matta, Chair of Auditors; Ann Wargovich, Auditor, George Matta II, President; Ann Berezna, Auditor; and Ann Pavlan, Sergeant-at-Arms.

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 7

FCSU Life Single Premium Insurance Spring Special

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren now through December 31, 2007 and receive a ***FREE GIFT** to present with the certificate.

Pay one premium and have fully paid-up insurance. Issued in any amount (\$5,000 or more) subject to current FCSU Life non-medical limits. Excellent gift for children or grandchildren.



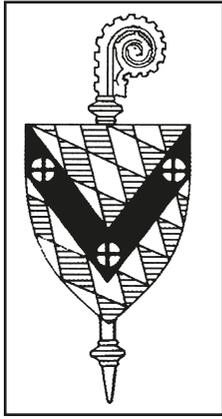
Example – Newborn Male	Example – Newborn Female
\$5,000 paid-up insurance..... \$290	\$5,000 paid-up insurance..... \$250
\$10,000 paid-up insurance..... \$580	\$10,000 paid-up insurance \$500
Example – Age 5 Male	Example – Age 5 Female
\$5,000 paid-up insurance\$340	\$5,000 paid-up insurance \$290
\$10,000 paid-up insurance\$680	\$10,000 paid-up insurance \$580
Example – Age 10 Male	Example – Age 10 Female
\$5,000 paid-up insurance\$400	\$5,000 paid-up insurance \$340
\$10,000 paid-up insurance\$800	\$10,000 paid-up insurance..... \$680
Example – Age 15 Male	Example – Age 15 Female
\$5,000 paid-up insurance\$480	\$5,000 paid-up insurance..... \$405
\$10,000 paid-up insurance..... \$960	\$10,000 paid-up insurance \$810

Contact your branch office or to learn more call the FCSU today at 1-800-533-6682

*Children 8 and under receive a stuffed Jednota Bear. Children 9-18 receive a gift card!



Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies

Fr. Campion P. Gavaler, O.S.B. and Father Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B.

June 24, 2007 (Year C)

Birth of John the Baptist

Luke 1:57-66, 80

Gospel Summary

Luke introduces his gospel narrative of Jesus with the events surrounding the birth of John the Baptist. In prior verses related to our passage, we learn that a priest Zechariah and his wife Elizabeth have no children, both being well advanced in years. While Zechariah is performing his priestly duty in the sanctuary of the temple, an angel appears and says to him that Elizabeth will bear a son who was to be called John. But

because Zechariah did not believe, and questioned the angel, he became unable to speak. After Elizabeth did give birth to a son, Zechariah wrote on a tablet, "John is his name." Immediately his tongue was freed and he spoke, blessing God. The child (whose name means "Yahweh has shown favor") grew and became strong in spirit for he was to become a prophet of the Most High.

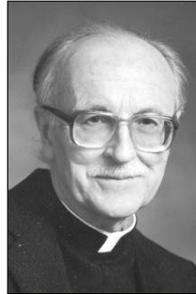
Life Implications

The unbreakable bond between the Jewish people and the people of the new covenant in God's plan of salvation is clearly evident in today's feast. It is from the Jewish people that John the Baptist, Mary and Jesus are born so that the tender mercy of God will visit all people. It is from the Jewish people that the church receives the revelation of the most fundamental truths of faith. In the words of the Second Vatican Council, the church continues to draw "sustenance from the root of that good olive tree onto which have been grafted the wild olive branches of the Gentiles" (Nostra Aetate, #4).

The most fundamental truth from which we draw sustenance is that God is present in human history as one who extends to us the favor of merciful love. We also learn from the Jewish people that the mystery of divine presence is beyond comprehension. The "I AM" of the divine name is a name beyond names (Ex 3:14 and Jn 8:58). A child born of aged Abraham and Sarah or a bush that burns but is not consumed before Moses signals a presence beyond human understanding and control.

It is precisely because the mystery of the divine presence is beyond comprehension that the decision to trust or not to trust is inevitable for every one of us. Zechariah, upon hearing the outlandish words of the Lord's angel, did not trust and became mute, unable to speak a word (Lk 1:20). Luke immediately afterwards tells us that the Virgin Mary, too, was not able to understand the promise of the Lord's angel. However, her response "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" is asked out of trust, not out of doubt. The mystery even of human friendship can deal with a thousand difficulties and questions that are asked out of trust, but is deeply wounded by even one question asked out of doubt.

To receive the gift of recognizing the divine presence through faith calls forth a whole-hearted response. The essence of that response is not only to trust, but also to bless God with praise and gratitude. When Zechariah wrote on the tablet "John is his name" immediately his mouth was opened and he spoke a blessing "because of the tender mercy of our God by which the daybreak from on high will visit us to shine on those who sit in darkness and death's shadow, to guide our feet into the path of peace" (Lk 1:68-79). Mary's canticle of



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

praise and gratitude in response to the favor of divine presence is one of the most beautiful blessings of the entire biblical tradition (Lk 1:46-55).

Today's feast celebrating the birth of John the Baptist reminds us to pray again for the faith to recognize the divine presence in our lives, to trust in God's tender mercy with an undivided heart, and to bless God always and everywhere with a glad and grateful heart. Further, in the difficult circumstances that life brings to us all, only as a grateful expression of trust that God's will is to love us can we with confidence pray, "Thy will be done."



July 1, 2007 (Year C)

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 9:51-62

Gospel Summary

The first verse of today's gospel is a major marker in Luke's story of salvation. Jesus was now ready to be "taken up," i.e. to move toward the final stage of his mission in Jerusalem. For that reason, "he resolutely determined (literally, set his face) to journey to Jerusalem." For the next ten chapters, Jesus will be on this journey during which he will illustrate the meaning of the journey of faith on the part of his followers of every age. This is clearly a spiritual journey in which theology trumps all merely historical consideration.

This arrangement also reveals Luke's recognition of Jerusalem as a holy city with a powerful magnetic force that draws Jesus to the climax of his mission. For it is in Jerusalem that he will reveal the whole purpose of his life, namely, to die out of love for others. Then, in Luke's second book, the Acts of the Apostles, the author will show how the saving power of the Risen Lord will radiate out from Jerusalem to transform the whole world.

The first lesson for those of us who would travel with Jesus is to put aside all initiatives prompted by anger and prejudice. Thus, Jesus rebukes the disciples who want to repay the hostility of the Samaritans with fiery destruction. The second lesson is one of Luke's favorites, namely, that those who would follow Jesus must be willing to let go of all previous attachments. Half-hearted discipleship is simply not acceptable.

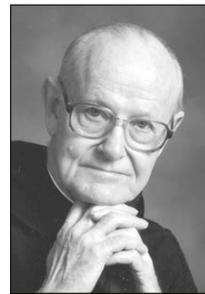
Life Implications

When Luke shows us how Jesus began his career with signs of power in Galilee only to let go of all that as he gave up his life in Jerusalem, he is offering us a dramatic expression of the profound paradox that lies at the heart of Christianity. Jesus freely gives up his power to control even as his loving makes him more and more vulnerable and seems to lead only to defeat. But that same loving concern for others releases the power of God within him--a power that easily conquers

death and eclipses by far all the earthly power that he had manifested in Galilee.

Our secular culture teaches us to value the power of wealth and politics and intelligence as the ultimate achievement in human life. This kind of power is not to be despised but it must always be subordinated to the only power that is ultimately effective, that is, the power of loving concern. We may indeed revel in the success of the "Galilean" period of our lives, usually marked by little victories and growing confidence, but we must eventually come to understand that the only lasting success in life comes from loving others for their good. This presupposes that we have received loving affirmation in our "Galilean" period so that we may be free enough to love and affirm others in our more mature "Judean" existence. In this exchange of love we will make our own contribution to the transformation of the world, as we see the promise of the Book of Acts being fulfilled over and over again.

This wisdom will also enable us to put aside anger and violence as ways to solve problems. We will be able to accept Jesus' reminder that to "call fire down from heaven" is not the Christian way to deal with difficult people. Moreover, when we really begin to trust the wisdom of Jesus, we will gladly let go of unworthy attachments as we trust more and more the promises of God and begin to run joyfully toward the future. There we will discover that, as the wise adage says: The only gift we can ever keep, is the one we give away!



Demetrius R. Dumm,
O.S.B.

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.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

Copy Deadline

MONDAY, JUNE 18

MONDAY, JULY 2

MONDAY, JULY 16

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.

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Anthony Sutherland, Editor

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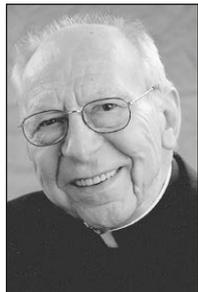
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Insights and Viewpoints

Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

The Equestrian and the Priest Article 3

In addition to the High Priest and the Levites, the hierarchy of the Jewish religion included the **Sanhedrin** whose members made up the supreme court and legislative body of the Jews. The Greek word **synedrion** means "sitting together, assembly, council." There was a chief justice (Nasi), a vice chief justice (Av Beit Din) and 69 general members who sat in a semi-circle when they were in session. Their meeting place was the Hall of Hewn Stones in the temple. **"Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Assemble for me seventy of the elders of Israel, men you know for true elders and authorities among the people, and bring them to the meeting tent. When they are in place beside you, I will come down and speak with you here. I will also take some of the spirit that is on you and will bestow it on them, that they may share the burden of the people with you. You will not then have to bear it by yourself.' (Numbers 11:16-17)**

There was one more component of the hierarchy and it was the temple guard made up of Levites. These guards served as an honor guard at the Temple's gates and they were responsible for all of the keys to the Temple and also for all of the money within it. They were responsible, too, for repairs to the Temple and were to keep strangers from approaching the Temple. These kept watch in the temple at night. This guard was headed not by a military man but by a Levite known as the superintendent. Acts 4:1 and Acts 5:22.

There are 86 men listed as High Priests in the history of the Jews. The office passed from father to son and was for life. They had to be descendants of Aaron, be of legitimate birth and marry a virgin. They were eligible to become High Priest at the age of 20 and they retired when they were 60 years old. They were permitted no contact with bodies of the dead, including their own parents.

They were not allowed to have bodily defects, including eyebrows that grew profusely. Of all ritually slaughtered domestic animals, they were given the right front leg. (See Leviticus 7:32)

On the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), (the 10th day of the month of Tishri), the High Priest alone entered the Holy of Holies in the Temple to atone for the sins of the past year. This affliction of the soul applied only to sins between man and God. For sins committed against other persons, reconciliation must occur between the persons involved and this must be done before observing Yom Kippur.

Originally, the Holy of Holies was a room measuring 15' x 15' and in it was the ark (a chest) with **"the golden jar containing the manna, the rod Aaron which had blossomed, and the tablets of the covenant." (Hebrews 9:4)**

As High Priest, Caiaphas was responsible for the Temple and all of its operations, for the existing religious order and for working with but being subservient to Pontius Pilate. He was expected to be superior to all other priests in physique, wisdom and dignity. He was also expected to be rich in material wealth; if he was not, the other priests were expected to contribute to his wealth.

The High Priest had two homes; one was attached to the Temple, the other was in Jerusalem's Upper City, the wealthy section. This home was constructed around a large courtyard.

Caiaphas was appointed High Priest by the Roman Procurator Valerius Gratus, the predecessor of Pontius Pilate, in A. D. 18. He remained in office until he was removed in A. D. 36 by the Procurator Vitellius. His father-in-law, Annas, served as High Priest from A. D. 6 to 15. Following his rule as High Priest, Annas kept his title and continued to exercise his former authority.

The duties of the High Priest are listed in Exodus 28:6-42, Exodus 29:6, Exodus 39:27-29, Leviticus 6:19-23, Leviticus 21:10 and Numbers 27:1.

Urim and Thummim.

"Whenever Aaron enters the sanctuary, he will thus bear the names of the sons of Israel over his heart as a constant reminder before the Lord. In this breastpiece of decision you shall put the Urim and the Thummim, that they may be over Aaron's heart whenever he enters the presence of the Lord. Thus he shall always bear the decisions for the Israelites over his heart in the Lord's presence." (Exodus 28:29-30)

"If the blame for this resides in me or my son Jonathan, Lord, God of Israel, respond with Urim; but if this guilt is in your people Israel, respond with Thummim. John and Saul were designated, and the people went free."

(1 Samuel 14:41)

Urim is translated "lights and perfections" and Thummim as "revelation and truth." This was a divination process, which the Jews used to reveal the will of God on a contested point of view or other problem. This process remains mysterious.

The breastpiece/plate of Aaron had 12 stones on it, representing the 12 tribes. The stone of Reuben was the ruby, Simeon – smaragd, Levi – carbuncle, Judah – green emerald, Issachar – sapphire, Zebulun – white pearl, Dan – topaz, Naphtali – turquoise, Gad – crystal, Asher – chrysolite, Joseph – onyx, Benjamin – jasper. Stones for the Urim and Thummim were also kept on the breastplate. Under these stones, a small parchment with God's holy name, the Tetragrammaton, was inserted. This caused the breastplate to glow and give "yes" or "no" answers to questions. Only questions of grave importance were answered, function of the state or war or not. This Urim and Thummim disappeared with the rise of classical prophecy in the 8th century, B.C.

to be continued

News Flash

continued from page 1

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.

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

- 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)

DON'T DELAY, ACT NOW!

For information, contact:

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
P. O. Box 318013

Independence, OH 44131-8013

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



Coal and Coke Heritage Center Donation

The Wendelin Society, Branch 162, in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, recently donated a collection of Slovak memorabilia to the Coal and Coke Heritage Center located at the Pennsylvania State University, Fayette Eberly Campus. The following is an acknowledgement of this donation received by James Marmol, President of Branch 162.

Dear Mr. James Marmol and Members of Branch 162,

Thank you for your recent donation to the Coal and Coke Heritage Center. This project continues to grow and thrive because of people like you and the members of Branch 162 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, who wish to preserve an interest in the development of the coal and coke industry as well as the history and heritage of the people who lived and worked in southwestern Pennsylvania.

We are very pleased to add to our growing collection the materials belonging to former officer and active member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Stephen S. Sheba Sr. A biography of Mr. Sheba was included in the donation. These items include many unique and irreplaceable pieces. Among these are two beautifully crafted hand-made and hand-lettered or embroidered banners with red, white and blue schemes dating from 1895 and 1909. Three framed certificates include a membership in the First Catholic Slovak Union, certification for incorporation of Branch 162 dated October 9, 1922 and an original charter dated January 11, 1895, Brownfield. Also included are membership lapel ribbons, 10kt gold 50-year diamond membership pins, a bound volume of minutes from meetings handwritten in Slovak, an official raised seal for marking paper and various books, brochures, and correspondence. Many of these items help to tell the story of a tradition and culture brought from Europe to America- a story that is quickly slipping away. We plan to conserve and preserve this collection to share with our visitors and all those interested in maintaining this aspect of the Slovak heritage.

Once again, a very sincere thank you for your contribution toward helping to build a solid collection of resources that that will allow us to tell future generations of southwestern Pennsylvania's coal and coke heritage and the heritage and traditions of the people. Please feel free to stop in to see us anytime you or your members are in the area.

Sincerely, Pamela Kubacka Seighman, Curator

NATIONAL
FRATERNAL
CONGRESS
OF AMERICA



JOINING HANDS
TO TOUCH LIVES

National Flag Day June 14, 2007

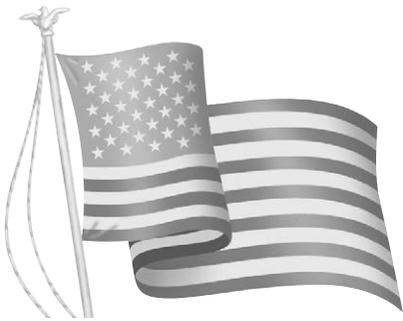
Today we join the National Flag Day Foundation and the National Fraternal Congress of America in celebrating the 230th birthday of the "Stars and Stripes."

We invite you to share your pride with our members across the country and recite the Pledge of Allegiance at (time to coincide with 7 p.m. Eastern) today. Salute the United States- "one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."



First Catholic Slovak Union
6611 Rockside Road, Ste 300
Independence, Ohio 44131

The National Fraternal Congress of America supports National Flag Day.



I Am Your Flag

I was born on June 14, 1777.

I am more than just cloth shaped into a design.

I am the refuge of the world's oppressed people.

I am the silent sentinel of Freedom.

I am the inspiration for which American patriots gave their lives and fortune.

I have led your sons into battle from Valley Forge to the bloody jungles of Vietnam.

I walk in silence with each of your honored dead, to their resting place.

Beneath the silent white crosses, row upon row.

I have flown through peace and war, strife and prosperity; and amidst it all, I have been respected.

My red stripes symbolize the blood spilled in defense of this glorious nation.

My white stripes signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons.

My blue field is indicative of God's heaven under which I fly.

My stars are clustered together, unifying 50 states as one, for God and country.

"Old Glory" is my nickname, and proudly I wave on high.

Honor me, respect me, defend me with your lives and your fortunes.

Never let my enemies tear me down from my lofty position, lest I never return.

Keep alight the fires of patriotism, strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy.

Worship eternal God and keep his commandments.

And I shall remain the bulwark of peace and freedom for all mankind.

Author Unknown



Pilgrimage of Faith 2007 at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, PA

The Slovak Catholic Federation will sponsor a Pilgrimage of Faith on Saturday, September 22, 2007, at the Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pennsylvania. Everyone is invited to participate in this annual event.

The day will begin with a lunch (pre-ordered only \$6.00) at 11:00 a.m. in the Motherhouse Dining Room. At 12:00 noon all will assemble in SS. Cyril and Methodius Basilica for the opening remarks by the Rev. Philip Altavilla, National President of the Federation, and the recitation of the rosary. From 12:45 to 3:00 p.m. pilgrims may take a tour either of the Basilica or the Jankola Library. At 3:00 p.m. a conference will be held in Maria Hall Auditorium led by Sister John Vianney. The subject of the conference will be the story of women religious during the communist period in Slovakia. A Slovak Hymn Sing will take place at 3:30 p.m. in the Basilica led by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeast Pennsylvania. The day will conclude with a Pontifical Mass in the Basilica at 4:00 p.m. The Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, will be the celebrant and homilist.

All who wish to attend this pilgrimage must contact Dolores Evanko at 570/454-5547 or email jje@intergrafix.net no later than August 20, 2007. Bus leaders will make reservations for those traveling by bus.

Realm of SLOVAK GENEALOGY



Ray Plutko

"Siblings, Pirohy and Middle Initials"

By 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.

Just some idle reflections, insights, reminders, and a little Slovak culture from here and there:

REFLECTION- Few Slovaks, including myself, had the foresight to record our parents and grandparents' words on tape as a genealogy resource but there are oral histories available to fill part of the void. One such source, and a very unique one at that, is entitled: What did you do during the war grandma? These

flashbacks of the World War II period are accessible at www.stg.brown.edu/projects/WWII Women.

INSIGHT-When plotting information of siblings on a Family Group Sheet be alert to a naming tradition in Slovakia during the 19th century. There was a strong pattern to pass down male names (i.e. grandfather to father to son) to the degree of repeating a given name for a newborn baby if a previous sibling with that name had died. Case in point: my great-grandfather Jan repeated the process with three sons, two of whom had passed away before reaching the age of four years.

REMINDER- There is a wealth of valuable information in a variety of "death documents." These include place of birth and death (to begin mapping your genealogical trail), church and priest (who performed the funeral and further church records), employment and career (application records), military records (For war records), civic organizations (the individual belonged to), other family members (both survivors and those who died earlier), etc.

CULTURE- Ever wonder where pirohy came from? Although my grandmothers might argue differently, pirohy is not credited to having originated with the Slovak culture- or any other Eastern European ethnic group for that matter. Research reveals pirohy was a food staple that traces to China and made its way to Eastern Europe by the invading Mongol hordes and through the travels of Marco Polo and his merchants. It was at this point the delicious dumpling adapted to local filling tastes such as potato/onion, sauerkraut, and prunes in Slovakia.

REFLECTION- During the period when the majority of our ancestors immigrated to North America, the ports of Quebec City and Halifax were the most common arrival ports in Canada. Complete passenger lists are accessible for these ports by requesting the proper forms from: Public Archives of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0N3. The approximate year of arrival (within three years) is needed to request a search and without question, the ship's name will enhance your search.

INSIGHT- Are you still in search of the age, birth date and even possibly the birthplace of one of your ancestors? Just a passing thought but have you tried one of these more obscure resources: mortgage record, fraternal club record, nursing home record, probate record, funeral home record, marriage application record, cemetery sexton's office record, church burial record, school annual at the school library or city library (will give you a very close range of age)?

REMINDER- Speaking of naming patterns, are you still attempting to uncover a married woman's maiden name? One such naming tradition finds that daughters carried their mother's maiden name as their own middle name or initial. If you find several children in one family all have the same middle initial or name, it may indeed indicate the mother's maiden name.

CULTURE-This may not come as a shock to many of you, but alcohol is taken very seriously in Slovakia and it is not unusual to see someone start the day with a shot of liquor. Slivovica, or plum brandy, is traditional and is still often homemade. Borovicka, a gin-like concoction made of juniper berries, and Becherovka, a herb-based liqueur, are also favorite "shooters." And let us not forget Pivo.

Just some idle reflections, insights, reminders and a little Slovak culture from here and there.

(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.)

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

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2007 ~ INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN

President Andrew M. Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and opened it with prayer.

ROLL CALL

Members Attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
George F. Matta, Treasurer

ACCEPTANCE OF MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Executive Secretary presented the Minutes of the March 2007 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by George F. Matta and seconded by Andrew R. Harcar to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer George Matta passed out a written report summarizing the investments for the month of March 2007 and answered the questions of the Executive Committee. (The report is attached to the Minutes).

The Treasurer led a discussion regarding our investments. He stated that we have invested in shorter maturity dates, no longer than 20 years, and nothing below A/A rated bonds. The Treasurer also led a discussion concerning the meeting with one of our brokers where our investment strategy was reviewed and also the reports that he is willing to prepare on our portfolio. It was decided that we will supply the information he needs to prepare this report.

The Executive Secretary will contact the custodian Merrill Lynch to see how we will get this information prepared. He also suggested that we invite our other brokers to the Executive Committee meeting not only to discuss the investment strategy but also to discuss what is happening in our economy and how it may effect our future investments.

The President led a discussion concerning the upcoming Bruce & DePersis seminar to be held on May 17 & May 18, 2007 in Pittsburgh with one of the topics Asset/Liability matching. He stated that he contacted one of the brokers who are presenting this seminar to see if he has a program that we can use in house to analyze our portfolio. The President will update us as he receives more information. The President also past out an article about investments in Sally Mayes, which may go public and potentially lose their government backing.

Motion was made by Ken Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

MARCH 2007 TREASURER'S REPORT

WACHOVIA SECURITIES

A1/A+	GOLDMAN SACHS	5.95	01-15-27	99.375	6.03	400K
CALL WHEN MAKE WHOLE						

SMITH BARNEY

A2/A	CIT GROUP	5.95	03-15-22	100.00	5.95	500K
CALL 3-15-10						

UBS

AAA/AAA	FNMA	6.00	04.04.22	100.00	6.00	400M
CALL 04-04-08						

MERRILL LYNCH

AAA/AAA	FED HOME LOAN	6.00	03-15-26	100.00	6.00	1000K
CALL 03-15-08						

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Executive Secretary led a discussion concerning sending follow up letters to those members who are transferring their annuities to another company. The Secretary stated that he would gather the information to be presented at the next Executive Committee meeting.

The President led a discussion concerning temporarily stopping all our ads in diocesan newspapers till we complete our marketing study. The Executive Secretary led a discussion on new Bylaws concerning the Branch stipend. The Executive Secretary stated that he mailed the new requirements to all the Branches and Districts and also placed in Jednota newspaper. This will be done several times a year.

The Executive Secretary stated that we received the maps of Pennsylvania and Ohio and will start the physical location of our Branches. We will also get a map of USA to physically locate the branches outside of state of Ohio and Pennsylvania. This will help us when we start merging our branches.

The Executive Secretary will also prepare a study concerning the retention time of those JEP policies that had the first year of the policy offered for free.

The Executive Secretary explained the new billing procedures where the premium notice will be sent out approximately 30 days prior to the premium payment due date. All new policies will be dated the day they are completely processed instead of being dated on the 1st of the following month. This should help the Home Office to process the policies faster, to shorten the delivery time of policy and we will be able to bill the members earlier. The Executive Secretary will also prepare a new report where not only the number of policies sold by the proposer will be shown, but also how much of premium will be generated.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The Executive Committee reviewed and discussed the monthly membership report for the month of March and the Executive Secretary answered their questions.

MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES

The Executive Secretary presented the report for the month of March for the Committee's review and answered their questions.

MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

Executive Secretary Arendt reported that the following disbursements were incurred and paid during the month of February:

DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2007

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$223,146.03
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 37,800.45
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	-0-
Trust Fund	-0-

The Executive Secretary presented the Annuity Report and answered the Executive Committee questions. The Executive Committee reviewed the rest of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered their questions.

A motion was made by George Matta, seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the Secretary's report as presented. Motion carried.

BANK RELIATIONSHIPS

The Executive Secretary stated that he set up an appointment with the representatives of the bank presently handling our account to review new options available to us and to review current problems we experienced.

The interest rates we receive in our sweep account were also reviewed. Executive Secretary stated he plans to have quarterly meetings to review our relationship with our present financial institution. The bank will be sending over a representative to review the options available on line for us.

AGENTS/GENERAL AGENTS

The President discussed the commission paid to our general agents. The President informed us about his meeting with Ed DePersis to discuss different scenarios that will be presented to Executive Committee for review.

FOLLOW UPS ON MARCH 17, 2007 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The President led a discussion on follow-ups from the March 2007 meeting and the following agenda was reviewed:

a) Building maintenance – The President and the Executive Secretary met with the Landscaping company to discuss landscaping around the Home Office building. The President informed the Executive Committee that we placed a lease sign for 1st & 2nd floor. The painting on the outside of the Home Office building will start in the 1st week of May and should be finished within two weeks period (weather permitting).

b) In-House Agent - An ad was placed in Jednota and an ad will be placed in Plain Dealer after May 15, 2007.

c) Jednota newspaper - The Home Office is still working on insert, which will be placed in the newspaper and should go to each household. The President led a discussion regarding the cost of newspaper printing. To offset the cost of printing and distribution we will reduce the number of issues from 26 to 21 issues. We will also request from our contributors to send their articles for Jednota newspaper via e-mail, which will reduce the set-up cost.

1st QUARTER SALES

The Executive Secretary will present a new form of report on the amount of insurance sold in 2007 in comparison to the amount of insurance sold in 2006, number of policies sold in 2007 comparing with 2006 and total insurance sold in 2007 and 2006.

The Vice President gave a report of production of sales from agents, districts and Home Office and answered the Executive Committee's questions.

SEMINARS

The Vice President updated the Executive Committee on upcoming seminars, which will be conducted as follows:

Sunday, April 22, 2007 **Detroit, Michigan**
Attendees: Andrew R. Harcar & Kenneth A. Arendt

Saturday, April 28, 2007 **Allentown, Pennsylvania**
Attendees: Andrew R. Harcar & Andrew M. Rajec

Sunday, April 29, 2007 **Scranton, Pennsylvania**
Attendees: Andrew R. Harcar & Andrew M. Rajec

Saturday, May 5, 2007 **Uniontown, Pennsylvania**
Attendees: Andrew R. Harcar, Kenneth A. Arendt, George F. Matta

Sunday, May 20, 2007 **Westfield, Massachusetts**
Attendees: Andrew R. Harcar

CRUISE, BOWLING & GOLFING TOURNAMENT

The Vice President updated us on the upcoming Alaskan Cruise for Membership Meet and stated that everything is in place with finalizing the cruise arrangements. He also led a discussion about the possibility of organizing a Caribbean Cruise for proposers who could not make it to Alaskan Cruise. The Vice President will update the Executive Committee at their May 22, 2007 meeting.

The President and the Treasurer will represent the Society at the Bowling tournament in Buffalo, N.Y.

The President and the Executive Secretary will represent the Society at the Golfing Tournament in Sandusky.

CALENDAR ART CONTEST

The President led a discussion regarding a Calendar Art Contest presented by our Fraternal Director. The contest will be available to teenagers who are members of the FCSU.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Branch 3— MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 3, will hold its Annual Picnic on Sunday, July 22, 2007, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Kordiak Park, 49th Avenue, northeast of Central Avenue N.E., Columbia Heights, Minnesota. A luncheon will be served at no charge. There will also be games and races along with treats for the children. Come and enjoy an afternoon of socializing and fellowship.

Joseph Matlon, Publicity Chairman

Branch 10— OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, invites all its members and their families to attend the annual Mass and Communion Breakfast on Sunday, June 24, 2007. The 8:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Ghost Church in Olyphant will be offered for all living and deceased members of Branch 10. Immediately following the Mass, a complimentary breakfast will be served for members and their families at the Regal Room, 212-218 Lackawanna Avenue, Olyphant. Reservations are requested and must be made by calling 570/489-9819 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. no later than June 15.

**William A. Nalevanko
Recording Secretary**

Branch 24— CLEVELAND, OHIO

Members of the St. Andrew Society, Branch 24, are invited to attend the Slovak Radio Club Picnic on Sunday, June 24, and the Zemplin Club Picnic on Sunday, July 15. Both picnics will be held from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. at the Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio. There will be plenty of Slovak food, music and dancing. Hope to see you there.

Bob Kopco, President

Branch 61— BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

The St. Stephen the King Society, Branch 61, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of the President, Victor Sebo, 6802 Roberts Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Matters of importance to our branch and all fraternal activities will be on the agenda. All members are urged to attend.

Victor Sebo, President

Branch 75— SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 75, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 15, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. at the residence of the president and financial secretary, Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a discussion of mid-year business topics. All members are requested to attend this semiannual meeting.

**Ronald M. Anderson, President
& Financial Secretary**

Branch 153— CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 153, will hold its Summer Meeting on Saturday, June 16, 2007, at 12:00 noon at the home of President John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. All members are cordially invited to attend. There will be a fraternal luncheon after the meeting.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

Branch 162— UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. at the third floor meeting room of the Meridan Point Apartments, Confer Vista Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Officers' reports will be presented and branch activities will be discussed. All members are invited to attend.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

Branch 166— BINGHAMTON, CAPITAL AREA, PEEK- SKILL, SYRACUSE, AND POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at 1:15 p.m. at the Old Country Buffet, Town Square, Vestal Parkway. On the agenda will be a discussion of Branch business and information concerning the District Meeting held in Scranton, in April. If you plan to attend, please call Frank Haynak at 607/797-6160, Sue Gabriel at 607/729-8034, or Arlo Meeker at 607/775-4896. Thank you and hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, Vice President

Branch 169P— JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 169P, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Monday, June 18, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Joseph Slivosky, 1510 Emmett Drive, Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Joseph Slivosky, President

Branch 173— GREATER WILKES-BARRE AREA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 173, will hold its annual Mass on Sunday, June 24, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. in Sacred Heart-St. John's Church, North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. This Mass will be offered for all the living and deceased members of Branch 173.

The Semiannual Meeting will be held after the Mass at Norm's, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre. If you plan to attend, please notify Dorothy A. Ungvasky at 570/403-2067 no later than June 20 so arrangements can be made.

Dorothy A. Ungvasky, President

Branch 181— UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 181, will hold its Annual Family Picnic on Saturday, June 30, 2007, from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Pavilion #14, located at the lower level ball diamond across from the dam at Mammoth Park, Mammoth, Pennsylvania.

As in past years, there will be good food, prizes and games. Each member is asked to bring a covered dish with some extra to share with others. All guests of members are also asked to bring a covered dish. The halusky, halupky, rigatoni, chicken, kolbasy, wieners, sauerkraut, and drinks will be provided by Branch 181. There will be chances to win some very nice door prizes. There will also be games and gifts for the children. Lots of fun for all! Come and enjoy an afternoon of friendship, fellowship and fraternalism.

To give the officers an idea of how much food to prepare, please call Clarence Pfeifer at 724/423-2983, Ed Mizikar at 724/423-

2616, or Gerry Kovacina at 724/423-4278, if you plan to attend. If there is no answer, please leave a message.

Gerry Kovacina, Recording Secretary

Branch 199— HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 199, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Francis Pipak. All members are invited to attend.

Sophie Pipak, Financial Secretary

Branch 260— CAMPBELL, OHIO

The St. Matthew Society, Branch 260, will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 24, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Church Msgr. Adamko Hall, Campbell, Ohio. On the agenda will be a discussion of the new rates for insurance sales.

Charles M. Terek, President

Branch 290— RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 290, will hold a meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. We will be discussing our plans for 2008 and also reports on the school awards. Please try to attend. Call Joe at 732/469-5256 after 6:30 p.m. for location of the meeting.

Joseph Minarovich, President

Branch 320— STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 320, invites the members to attend the next meeting on Sunday, July 1, 2007, at 12:00 noon at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. Since lunch will be served, please call Fran at 724/929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

Branch 327— POTTSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 327, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 24, 2007, at 9:15 a.m. in Holy Trinity Church Social Hall, 370 South Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania.

Bernardine Uhas, Secretary

Branch 367— FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 367, will hold its next regular meeting on Monday, June 18, 2007, at 4:30 p.m. at Melonies Restaurant, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

Jane Kish, Secretary

Branch 430— SIMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 430, held a meeting on May 6, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of President Elizabeth M. Pisarcik.

Elizabeth M. Pisarcik, President

Branch 581— GARY, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 581, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, July 8, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the Pruzin Funeral Home, 6360 Broadway, Merrillville, Indiana. On the agenda will be a discussion of an outing to the Railcats Ballgame at USS Steel Yard in Gary, Indiana.

Our branch will pay the premium (\$14.00) for a children's JEP \$10,000 Policy

for the first year. This is a special offer from our branch.. Members are also reminded that our Park 2 Annuity is now paying 4.75 percent. Our Flex Annuity is paying 5 percent with a 2 percent Annuity Bonus, while other insurance companies pay only 3 percent. For more information call 219/926-2410.

George Kelchak, Financial Secretary

Branch 628— MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 628, will hold a meeting on Monday, July 2, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at 821 Laura Avenue, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a summary of the merging of Branch 628 and Branch 311. The election of new officers for the new combined branch will be held. There will also be a discussion of future plans and events.

Sylvia J. Vehec, Recording Secretary

Branch 644— MCKEES ROCKS, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 644, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 24, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. at the home of Michael R. Jablonsky, 1215 Foster Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Regular branch business will be conducted and a semiannual report will be presented for audit. Most important will be a discussion on how we can increase branch membership.

As in past years, members of Branch 644 have an opportunity to attend the Pittsburgh District Father's Day Breakfast on June 17, 2007. You can receive a free ticket to this affair by calling 412/921-2516 before June 11, 2007.

The officers of Branch 644 wish all fathers a Happy and Blessed Father's Day.

**Michael R. Jablonsky
President/Financial Secretary**

Branch 780— SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 780, has planned three meetings for the remainder of 2007.

The first meeting will be held on Monday, June 18, 2007, and the second will be on Monday, September 17, 2007. Both meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the home of the president, 2090 Bock Road, Saginaw, Michigan.

The third meeting will take place on Sunday, December 9, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of the financial secretary, 1367 Briarson, Saginaw. At this meeting we will have a potluck dinner and a celebration for the Christmas holidays. All members are encouraged to come and to bring their families. For more information please call Ben at 989/791-1775, Mary at 989/791-3505, or Cathy at 989/792-0186.

Catherine Karlsen, Secretary

Branch 823 — YOUNGWOOD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 857, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 24, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Margaret Yakubisin, 399 South 7th Street, Youngwood, Pennsylvania. If you plan to attend please call 724/925-9565 by June 22.

**Margaret Yakubisin
Secretary-Treasurer**

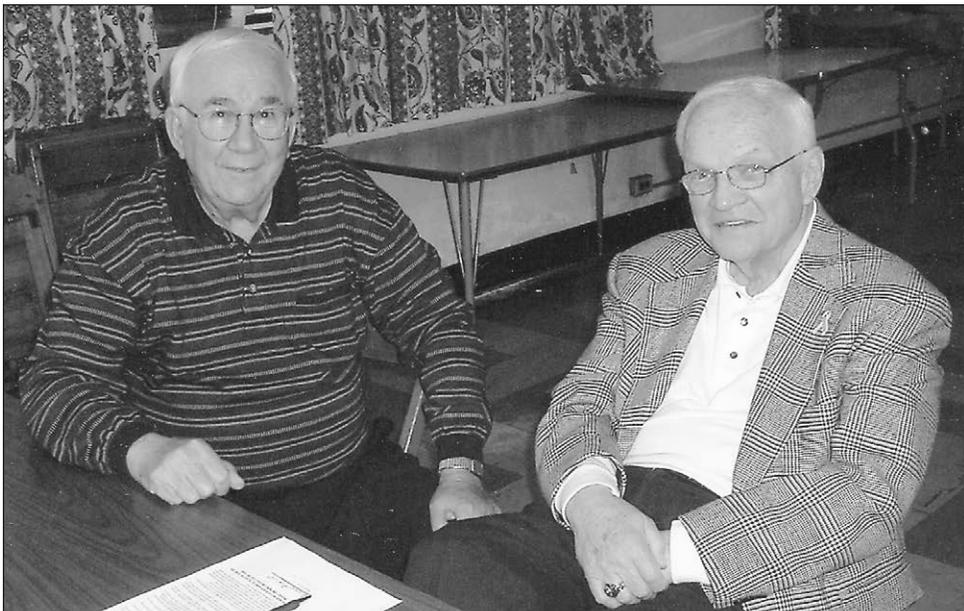
DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS



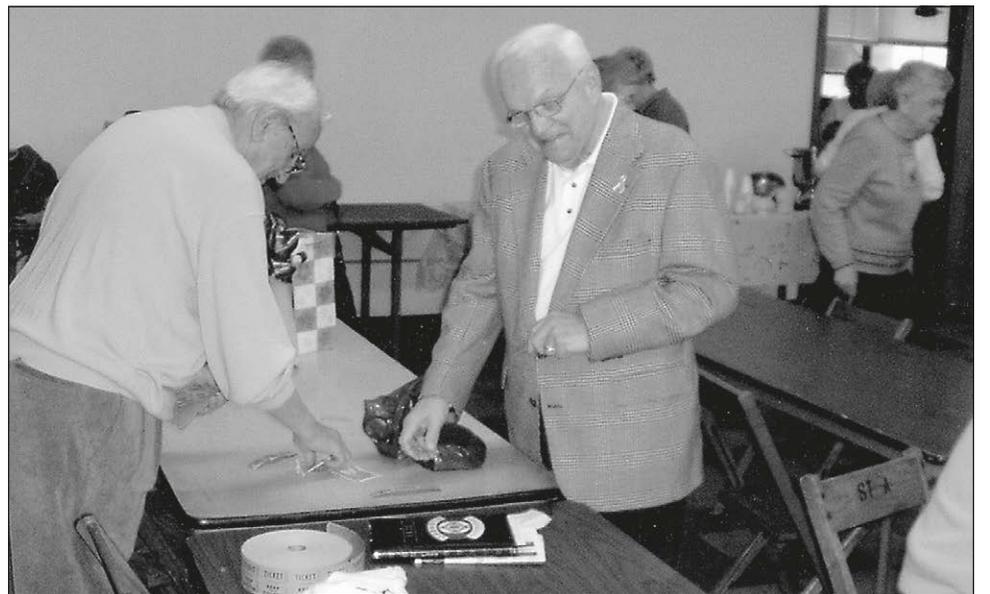
Members of the Pittsburgh District listen to the officers' reports.



District President George Matta II (left) and Regional Director Regis Brekosky.



Regional Director Regis Brekosky (left) and National Treasurer George Matta.



District Vice President Larry Basista (left) and National Treasurer George Matta check the tickets for the door prizes awarded at the meeting.



Recording Secretary Margaret Nasta (left) and Auditor Ann Berezna discuss upcoming District events. In the background are Joe Yuros and Larry Basista.

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT— Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The Pittsburgh District held its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, April 15, 2007, at St. Barnabas Church Hall, Swissvale, Pennsylvania. The meeting began at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda was a discussion of the annual Father's Day Brunch and the Slovak Day Picnic and Mass at Kennywood Park. Refreshments were served after the meeting.

George Matta, National Treasurer

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT— Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania- Father's Day Breakfast

The Pittsburgh District will celebrate its annual Father's Day Mass and Breakfast on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at Holy Trinity Church, 529 Grant Avenue Extension, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. Mass will begin at 9:30 a.m. Breakfast will be served immediately after the Mass in the church hall. Those planning to attend are asked to contact Florence Matta, 310 Harden Ave., Duquesne, PA 15110, Phone: 412/466-7460.

PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT— Los Angeles, California

The Prince Pribina District will hold a Father's Day Meeting on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 South Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. The celebration will begin with a Slovak Mass at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel followed by the meeting in the cafeteria. After the meeting there will be a period of fellowship and a gourmet lunch with dessert and refreshments. On the agenda will be a discussion of FCSU insurance products and the planning of fraternal activities including the Slovak Picnic at Big Bear Mountain. All Districts are urged to send delegates. All members are welcome to attend.

Paul Skuben, President

FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT— Uniontown, Pennsylvania

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 15, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, North Mt. Vernon Avenue, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a discussion of district and branch activities. All members are invited to attend.

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 6

Branch 844— LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 844, will hold its Annual Slovak Father's Day Mass on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. Mass will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. A delicious lunch will be served after the liturgy. Bring your family and friends and come join us in celebrating Father's Day.

After the lunch, Branch 844 members will hold a meeting to review officers' reports and to discuss various branch activities.

We hope to see you there. We would like to wish everyone a very special and safe Father's Day.

Milan Konkol, Secretary

Branch 853— ELLSWORTH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 853, will hold its next meeting on Thursday, July 5, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at McDonalds Restaurant, McKean Avenue, Charleroi, Pennsylvania. Branch members are encouraged to attend.

Monica Rodacy-Boone, President

continued on page 8

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

continued from page 5

There will be 12 winners each representing a month, and will be awarded by a monetary gift. The 2008 Calendar will be sent to new members and possibly sold to other members of the Society.

The President will further discuss this matter with the Fraternal Director.

MIDDLETOWN

a) Printery – The President updated us on the leasing of the Printery Building. He stated there was couple of interested parties. He will update the Executive Committee with further development. The President talked about his upcoming trip to Middletown and his plans to meet with the Gas Company in regards of running a gas line since the building is all electric. This was maybe a deterrent for other possible tenants.

b) The President stated that he plans to meet with our realtor to get an update on the leasing of our building. He also plans to meet with several other parties regarding our building and property in Middletown. He said he also plans to meet with the President/Owner of the Press & Journal who currently prints our Jednota newspaper.

c) The President will also send a letter to a farmer who is farming our land in Middletown stating that if he wishes to continue farming our land, he must meet certain conditions and if he is not able to meet these conditions, he will not be allowed to do farming on our property. The President will give a report regarding this matter.

MISCELLANEOUS

George Matta led a discussion regarding the District Picnic in Kennywood Park, PA and "Slovak Day" with possibility of setting up a booth by FCSU, passing out literature and become more recognizable and visible. The President will get more information regarding this matter.

The President further led a discussion about possibility of doing business from Home Office in Canada with the possibility of giving a fraternal benefit to Canadian Branches for policies signed up by the Home Office. This will be presented to General Counsel Gary Matta for review.

The President read the "Thank you" letters, sent to the Home Office by contributors to Jednota, for the small stipend they received for their contribution.

The President asked to check on the status of a radio station (1060 AM) who asked us to purchase some air time and report back to him.

REQUEST FOR ADS AND DONATIONS

Requests were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Andrew Harcar, seconded by Kenneth Arendt to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The President closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary



St. Thomas A' Becket Parish Annual Festival Set for June 28-30

St. Thomas A' Becket Parish will hold its Annual Festival on Thursday and Friday, June 28 and 29, 2007, from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m., and on Saturday, June 30, from 4:00 to 11:00 p.m. on the Parish Grounds, 139 Gill Hall Road, Jefferson Hills, Pennsylvania. There will be special attractions with entertainment and amusement rides. Entertainment will be provided by the Steel City Sky Jumpers and the Big Band Music by the Ritz on Thursday, the Kigerbrannon Band on Friday, and The New Holidays on Saturday. There will be amusement rides including the Giant Ferris Wheel. The Super Auction will feature prizes with various themes and will be on display each day with the drawing on Saturday night. We suggest that if you plan to buy a large number of these tickets, please bring your name labels that could be placed on the tickets.

Dinners will be served each evening. On Thursday, chicken planks and fries will be served. A battered fish dinner and pirohys will be served on Friday, and pulled pork dinner on Saturday. In addition to these, there will be halusky, kolbasy, hot sausage, hot dogs, hamburgers, French fries, funnel cakes, kettle corn, strawberry shortcakes, sundaes and more.

There will be a bake sale, grabbags, and various games of chance and raffles. Outdoor bingo will begin at 7:00 p.m. each evening.

The public is invited to this great event at St. Thomas A' Becket Church. Bring your family and friends.



From the desk of the Executive Secretary –

Visit our web site! www.fcsu.com

Exciting News – The Jednota Newspaper (English and Slovak sections) is now on our web page and for your convenience 4 back issues and the current issue are maintained on the web page at all times. If you missed an article or looking for a recipe you need only to go to the web site

Branch and District Officers announcements are now on the web page and listings of all activities for the various regions.

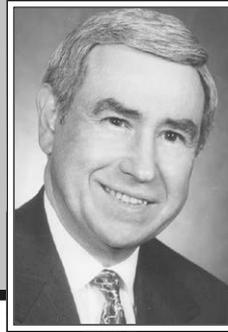
If you are looking for forms or applications you may find those also on the web site.

We encourage our branch and district officers to use this means of keeping in touch with their branch members and announcing events. The email address is fcsu@aol.com if you wish to send your information to the home office.

We will continue to update the web page, please check for announcements such as our special 2% bonus now being offered through our annuity program, special offers on our insurance products, trips to Slovakia, and our Alaskan Cruise Membership Meet.

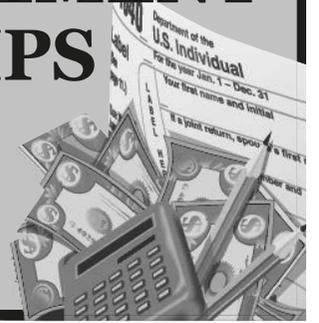
WEB SITE – www.fcsu.com

MONEY MANAGEMENT & TAX TIPS



By **Joseph T. Senko**

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



Tax Planning For Newlyweds

Marriage brings many joys and a few unexpected challenges, such as filing your taxes together. By starting an income tax to-do list well in advance of tax season, filing your first return as husband and wife will go more smoothly. Here are several items you can do to prepare.

Update Records

A woman who takes her husband's surname upon marriage should notify the Social Security Administration and her employer of the change. This helps ensure that earnings are properly reported and credited. To get a Social Security card printed with your new name, complete Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card. The application is available on the SSA Web site at www.ssa.gov, or by calling (800) 772-1213.

When your marriage involves a move, you should complete IRS Form 8822, Change of Address. You can find this form on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov or you can request a copy by calling (800) 829-3676. Be sure to notify the U.S. Postal Service as well.

Newlyweds should also submit new W-4 forms with their employers so paycheck withholding reflects their new marital status. Additionally, newlyweds may want to make an estimate of the year's income, deductions, and tax liability to be sure that the tax withheld from their paychecks is sufficient to cover the tax on their incomes. If needed, one spouse may request an additional amount be withheld for income taxes.

Filing Status

It doesn't matter if you were married on Jan. 1 or Dec. 31, or anytime in between, the IRS treats you as being married for the entire year, so you must file as a married taxpayer. You need to consider whether filing jointly or separately is better for your personal financial situation.

Choosing the best filing status is a major tax decision for newlyweds. When you file jointly, you combine your income, deductions, and credits, all on one income tax form. Generally – but not always – filing a joint return results in the lowest tax bill. Keep in mind that when you file a joint return, both spouses are liable for everything on the return.

Filing separately may be a better choice if one spouse has high medical expenses or miscellaneous itemized deductions. Since in both cases you can only deduct expenses in excess of a specific threshold (7.5 percent of adjusted gross income for medical expenses and 2 percent for miscellaneous deductions), combined income on a joint return would make it more difficult to qualify.

On the other hand, keep in mind that some tax credits and deductions are reduced or eliminated for married couples filing separately. For example, separate filers can't take advantage of education tax credits or deduct student loan interest. Figuring your taxes both ways is the best way to determine which filing status results in the lowest tax bill.

Tax Brackets

If you're married and plan to file jointly, it's possible that you will be in a higher tax bracket based on the combined income of you and your spouse. For a married couple filing jointly in 2007, the rate on taxable income between \$63,700 and \$128,500 is 25 percent.

IRA Deductions

A newly married taxpayer who was able to deduct IRA contributions as a single filer may find that he or she no longer qualifies. If your new spouse is covered by a retirement plan at work, you may be entitled to only a partial deduction or no deduction at all. Your ability to claim a deduction is determined by your filing status, your combined adjusted gross income, and whether or not your spouse is covered by a qualified employer plan.

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

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 7

REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT— Youngstown, Ohio

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold a meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Matthias Church Rectory, Youngstown, Ohio. On the agenda will be a discussion of District summer activities. A discussion of holding a regional insurance seminar will also be included on the agenda. All branches are urged to send representatives.

Carla Peshek, President

REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT— Eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

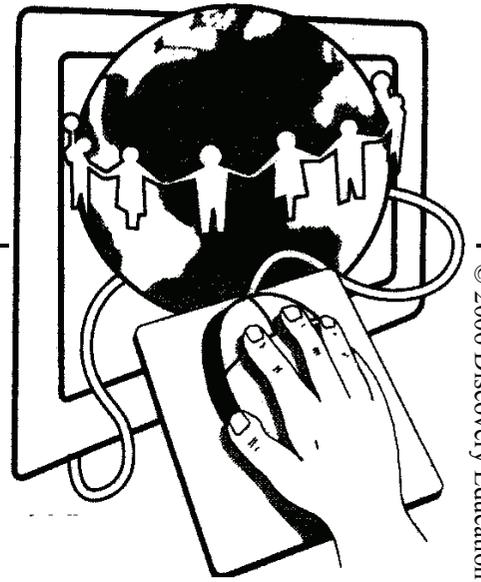
The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 9, 2007, in Washington, D.C. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. in the Crypt Church in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The lunch and meeting will take place after the liturgy in the Basilica Executive Conference Center. More information will be announced later.

Helen Fiala, Recording Secretary



UR_space.jrs

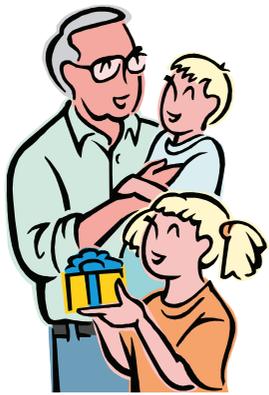
Friends Events Sports Culture Trivia Activities



© 2006 Discovery Education

Events Space

June 2007



Father's Day

Father's Day is celebrated on June 17th and is unique to modern America. It's a day when all children, young and old, remember their present and past fathers.

What makes your dad so special?

I appreciate my dad for many reasons. For instance, if any of us need help, my Dad will always come. Also, if I'm ever sad or mad, he always makes me feel better. That is why I love and appreciate my dad.



Happy Father's Day, Tata!
~ Joey Lako

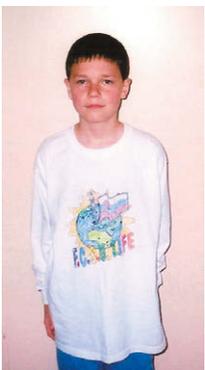
Give your dad one of these coupons for Father's Day. These coupons are good any time. No purchase necessary. No restrictions apply. Can be used more than once. No expiration date.

On Father's Day, we give thanks to God for having the right to call them Dad, shower them with gifts, love, and affection.

Don't forget Father's Day, and don't forget to tell him, "I love you, Dad!"



Mail Space



Noah Allen
Mt. Nebo,
West Virginia

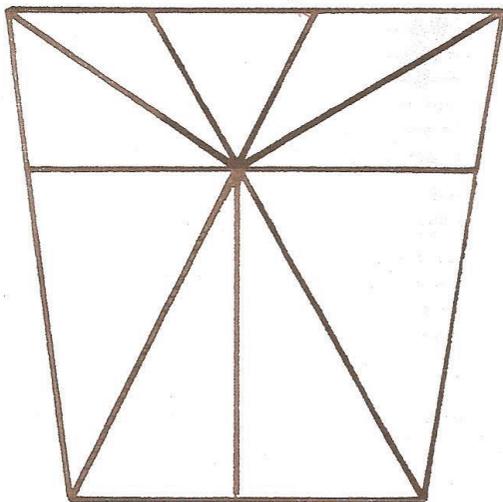
Hi Susan,
This is a picture of Mark Sedlacko with his shirt on. Mark loved getting all the stuff in the mail and all his friends think it so cool he got to color his own shirt.

Thanks again for everything.
JoAnn Sedlacko (Marks mom)

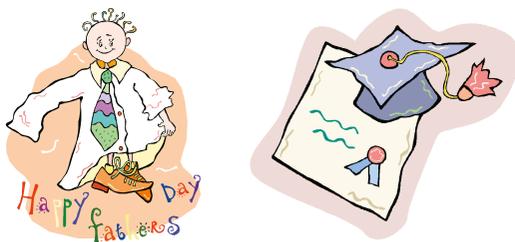


Challenge Space

MATH QUIZ



It's math quiz time. Look at the drawing above and count the number of triangles you see. A triangle is a three sided geometric figure. This is tricky. There are more triangles than you think.



June is usually the month for graduations. If you have graduated from Kindergarten, Grade School, or High School, send your picture with your name and school to the address at the right. Your picture will be in future issues of ur_space.jrs!

Solution to last month's Sudoku

7	6	1	8	4	5	9	3	2
9	4	2	3	6	7	8	1	5
3	5	8	9	1	2	4	6	7
5	3	6	4	7	8	2	9	1
1	2	7	6	5	9	3	8	4
4	8	9	1	2	3	7	5	6
6	9	5	2	8	4	1	7	3
8	1	4	7	3	6	5	2	9
2	7	3	5	9	1	6	4	8

Send your ideas, letters etc. to: UR_Space.jrs
234 Ilion St.
Pgh., PA 15207
sueo99@yahoo.com

2007 Golf Tournament Info Sheet

Friday, July 20

- ◆ Family Day at Cedar Point or Soak City
 - Golfer's Admission Prices to Amusement Parks:
 - Cedar Point - \$26
 - Soak City - \$13
 - Ride & Slide - \$60
- ◆ Hospitality Room, Holiday Inn, Sandusky. 7 PM - 11 PM

Saturday, July 21

- ◆ Registration begins at 7am. Shotgun start at 8am, Thunderbird Hills Golf Course - SOUTH course
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm at the Holiday Inn, Sandusky.
- ◆ Banquet begins at 6pm at the Holiday Inn, Sandusky.

Sunday, July 22

- ◆ Shotgun start at 8am, Thunderbird Hills Golf Course - NORTH course
- ◆ Awards Barbeque to begin at conclusion of tournament

Hotel Information

Prices have been negotiated at the following hotel:
 Holiday Inn, Sandusky
 5513 Milan Rd. - Sandusky, OH 44870
 (419) 626 - 6671
 Rate: \$119/night +tax
**** Cut off date June 20, 2007, for Group Rate****

Other area hotels:

Plantation Motel (877) 677 - 2770
 Comfort Inn (419) 433 - 5359
 River's Edge Inn (800) 947 - 3400

Directions to Holiday Inn

CLEVELAND

Route 2 west. Stay on Route 2 to the Route 250 exit. Turn right onto Route 250. Holiday Inn is on the left side of Route 250.

Ohio Turnpike west to exit 7 (Norwalk/Sandusky), proceed north on Route 250. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of Route 250, just past the Route 2 intersection.

COLUMBUS

I-71 to route 13 north, which will join Route 250. Stay on Route 250 to Sandusky. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of Route 250, just past the Route 2 intersection.

DETROIT

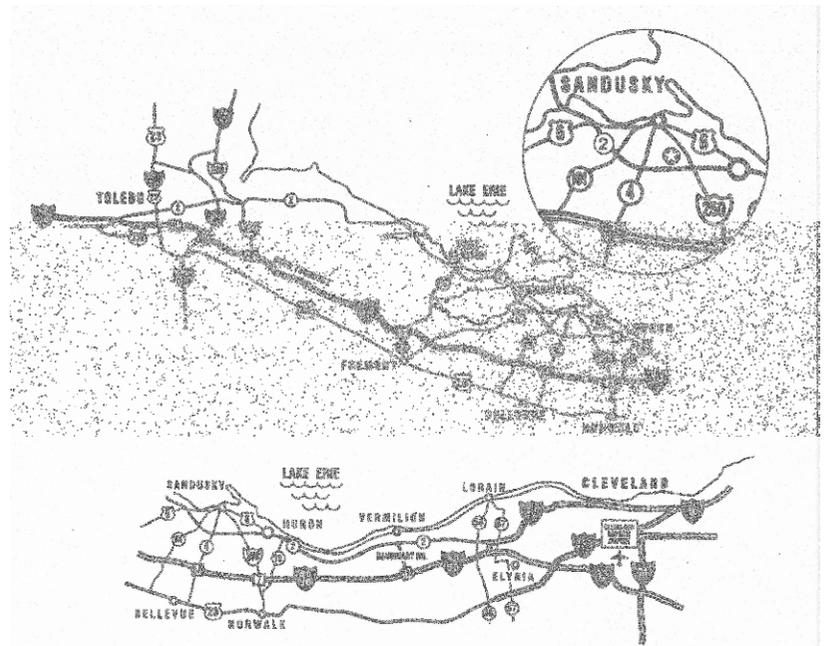
I-75 south to Route 280. Get off Route 280 at exit 7/118. Take Route 2 east approximately 90 miles to the Route 250 exit. Turn left onto Route 250. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of the road just past the Route 2 intersection.

TOLEDO

Ohio Turnpike to exit 7, route 250 north. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of Route 250 approximately six miles from the turnpike.

DAYTON / CINCINNATI

I-75 north to Findlay. Take 12 north past Fremont, to Route 2 east. Follow Route 2 east to Route 250 exit. Turn left onto Route 250. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of the road just past the Route 2 intersection.



2007 Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament

July 21 and 22, 2007

Thunderbird Hills Golf Club, North and South Courses

Huron, OH



Registration Forms postmarked after July 12, 2007 will NOT be accepted.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email** _____ Phone Number _____
 Branch Number _____ Certificate Number _____

If over age 65, would you like to be placed in the over 65 class? (Check one)

Yes No N/A

Note: Those who have not participated in 2 tournaments in the last 10 years will be placed in the Callaway Division.

Name of preferred riding partner: _____

Fees: South Course Greens Fees (played Saturday): \$39
 North Course Greens Fees (played Sunday): \$39
 Tournament Expenses: \$10
 Prize Fund: \$12
TOTAL DUE: \$100

Please make checks payable to 'FCSU Activities' and mail this registration form with check to:

Susan Ondrejco
 234 Ilion St.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

**Those who provide email addresses will be notified of schedule via email.
 ***Golfers must be members in good standing of the FCSU
 **Any Golfer who acts in an un-sportsmanlike manner will be disqualified from the tournament.

2007 Jednota Golf Tournament SOCIAL EVENTS

Saturday Evening Dinner and Sunday Awards Barbeque

Join us for a Country Hoe-Down Saturday evening,
 and for an awards ceremony Sunday afternoon.

Saturday Night (at Holiday Inn, Sandusky):

We invite you to 2-step back in time to a good ole country hoe-down. So don't just sit there like a bump on a log, come join us in a little southern hospitality. And ya'll can't pass up the lively entertainment of those square dancers. They'll get ya off your bum a-right! Meal includes fresh salad greens, BBQ chicken, hamburgers, twice baked mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, coleslaw, watermelon, and dessert. Cash bar, 6pm - 10 pm.

Cost: GOLFERS \$15
 GUESTS \$30

Sunday Afternoon (held at Thunderbird Hills Pavilion):

Meal includes 12 oz. sirloin steak, potatoes, green beans, corn, salad, soda.

Cost: GOLFERS & GUESTS \$15

Make checks payable to FCSU ACTIVITIES and return form with

payment by July 12 to:

Susan Ondrejco

234 Ilion St.

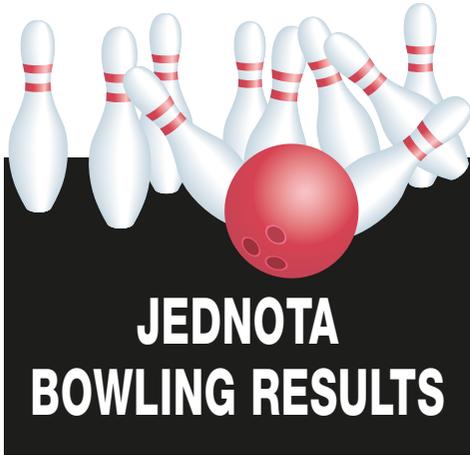
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Name _____

Check all that apply:

Golfer Saturday Only Guest Saturday Only
 Golfer Sunday Only Guest Sunday Only

Amt Enclosed _____



Kent-Dudince dinner celebrates fourth anniversary Weekend activities include reunion of Slovakia tours

Article courtesy of
Margaret Garmon

Record-Courier correspondent

The Kent-Dudince Sister City Association celebrated its fourth anniversary with a weekend of activities for Slovakia tour participants and a dinner at the Kent Elks Club.

More 25 Kent-Dudince members and guests gathered on a recent Saturday evening at the Rusty Nail for a dinner to share memories of past trips to Dudince, Slovakia, and other places of interest they visited in Slovakia, Hungary, Austria and Poland. More than 150 members and guests gathered the following Sunday for a dinner at the Kent Elks Club.

Entertainment for the dinner included traditional Slovak music and dancers with performances by the Johnny Pastirik Band, Pittsburgh Slovaks Folk Dance Ensemble and the Slovak Vocal Ensemble of Greater Cleveland.

Kent Dudince officers Rudy Bachna and Lexia Yankovich greeted guests and Yankovich served as master of ceremonies. John Fender, Mayor of Kent, was among the speakers. Fender read the greetings sent from Stefan Pokluda, Mayor of Dudince.

"From the heart of Europe, the small country of Slovakia and from our beautiful spa town of Dudince," sending warm wishes of celebration to officers and members of their sister city of Kent, Pokluda wrote.

"Although we are a great distance apart, we will joyfully join in your celebration," Pokluda added.

U. S. Senator George Voinovich sent greetings and congratulations. George Brown, an assistant to Voinovich, delivered a proclamation on behalf of Voinovich.

Guests enjoyed music provided by the Johnny Pastirik Band with musicians Pastirik, Ken Javor and Len Jacko, popular and favorite performers who have performed for previous banquets.

The Slovak culture portion of the program included the Pittsburgh Slovaks Folk Ensemble under the direction of Sue and Rudy Ondrejko who performed Slovak dances and songs in traditional Slovak costumes. Slovenske Mamicky performers included Milka Anderko, Maria Cvicela and Monica Smid.

Special guests also included Andrew Hudak, Jr., director of the Slovak Institute in Cleveland and Tony Beno of the National Slovak Society.



Photo by Don Madar

This year's Kent Dudince Sister City Association included presentation of proclamation from U. S. Sen. George Voinovich. From left, are, Dr. Bob Stevenson, George Brown, assistant to Voinovich, who delivered a proclamation on behalf of Voinovich; Rudy Bachna, Lexia Yankovich, and Roak Zeller. Stevenson, Bachna, Yankovich, and Zeller are officers of the Kent Dudince Sister City Association.

TORONTO SLOVAK MIXED (BRANCH #785) April 4, 2007

Pos	Tm#	Team	Won	Lost
1	15	Michael Kapitan	135.0	68.0
2	6	Jerry Siman	133.0	77.0
3	4	Emil Jursa	127.0	83.0
4	2	Stan Pella	122.0	88.0
5	8	Jim Szabo	117.0	93.0
6	3	Rose Pikul	117.0	93.0
7	11	Jason Ubeika	113.0	97.0
8	12	Ed Jursa	108.0	102.0
9	5	Joe Jursa	108.0	102.0
10	9	Greg Grys	106.0	104.0
11	14	John Jursa	104.0	106.0
12	7	Hank Grys	103.0	107.0
13	13	Anne Mitro	100.0	110.0
14	1	Sharon Tomas	94.0	116.0
15	10	Denise Ricciuti	77.0	133.0

This Week's Individual High Scores

HI-SERIES-FLAT: Jason Ubeika-627; Cathy Szabo-492.

HI-SERIES-HCP: John Tokarsky-686; Melissa Rak-757.

HI-GAME-FLAT: John Tokarsky-236; Melissa Rak-202.

HI-GAME-HCP: John Tokarsky-272; Melissa Rak-296.

April 11, 2007

Pos	Tm#	Team	Won	Lost
1	15	Michael Kapitan	138.0	72.0
2	6	Jerry Siman	137.0	80.0
3	4	Emil Jursa	132.0	85.0
4	2	Stan Pella	124.0	93.0
5	8	Jim Szabo	122.0	95.0
6	3	Rose Pikul	119.0	98.0
7	11	Jason Ubeika	115.0	102.0
8	12	Ed Jursa	113.0	104.0
9	5	Joe Jursa	111.0	106.0
10	7	Hank Grys	110.0	107.0
11	9	Greg Grys	110.0	107.0
12	14	John Jursa	104.0	113.0
13	13	Anne Mitro	102.0	115.0
14	1	Sharon Tomas	99.0	118.0
15	10	Denise Ricciuti	82.0	135.0

This Week's Individual High Scores

HI-SERIES-FLAT: Greg Grys-689; Chris Goodyear-482.

HI-SERIES-HCP: Greg Grys-707; Chris Tokarsky-666.

HI-GAME-FLAT: Greg Grys-256; Lydia Scibravy-204.

HI-GAME-HCP: Hank Grys-269, Stan Pella-269; Lydia Scibravy-271.

Sharon Tomas, Secretary

**SIGN UP
A NEW
MEMBER
TODAY!**

St. Ann Slavic American Festival

St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Parish will hold their annual Slavic American Festival on Sunday, July 15, 2007, from 12:00 noon until 9:00 p.m. on the parish grounds, 5408 Locust Lane, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Come enjoy our famous Slavic culinary specialties, pirohy, halusky, holupky as well as drinks and delicious desserts. Listen and dance to the music of the Polka Quads and John Stevens & Doubleshot. There will be games for the young and old, bingo, church tours and cultural and religious artifacts for sale. There is free admission and free parking. The public is invited to attend.

Rev. John Zeyack, Pastor

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 FCSU Fraternal Activities Director:

Susan Ondrejko
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

**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.

Approximate cost per game
Scoring Equipment Available

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

MEMORIAL DAY 2007

Patriotism and Sacrifices Recalled Amid Turmoil at Home

By John Karch

For the past thirteen years, while the National Memorial Day has been celebrated officially—begun in 1868—at the Arlington National Cemetery, the Archdiocese for Military Services has celebrated Mass in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in the nation's Capital. The Day is celebrated throughout the country in various ways. In recent years, the National Memorial Day PBS Concert on Capitol Hill has been a source of inspiration and remembrance (See my article on Memorial Day 2006 in JEDNOTA, June 14, 2006).

Celebrations, yes, but somehow more sadness than in the past, given, among other things, the global war on terror, Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran, Lebanon/Palestine/Israel, North Korean missiles, Dafur, Chinese global aspirations, Russia and missile defense, global warming, and equivocation of our Allies. There are domestic political controversies over various issues, not the least of which are the early, bitter Presidential campaigns, as well as immigration, the high price of gasoline, the long lines to the shore, and strict security at the airports. The mainstream media gave more and prominent coverage to problematic issues than to the Memorial Day.

Nevertheless, despite attention devoted to these stories, the public found time to really devote its attention to recalling and commemorating our patriots, heroes, the departed and their families, through ceremonies discussed here, on radio, television, the local press, military journals, diocesan publications, and personal participation in local activities throughout the nation.

Mass at the Shrine

The Thirteenth Annual National Memorial Day Mass for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, U.S.A. (AMS) was held 21 May 2007 in the Basilica of the National Shrine.

The Principal Celebrant was His Excellency, The Most Reverend Edwin F. O'Brien, Archbishop for the AMS. The Principal Concelebrants were The Most Reverends Paul Loverde, Bishop of Arlington and Francis X. Roque, Retired Auxiliary Bishop of AMS and Rev. Msgr. Walter R. Rossi, Rector of the Basilica; and Rev. Richard J. Neuhaus (see below). The three Deacons were Rev. Mr. Daniel Goulet, Ira E. Chase, Sr., and Joseph Curtis, Jr. The following were Lectors: Admiral William J. Fallon, USN, Commander, U.S. Central Command; and TSgt Trish Bunting, USAF, Fort Meade, MD. The Gift Bearers were from the Catholic War Veterans.

Archbishop O'Brien

In his AMS News message to the Catholic men and women of our Armed Forces, Archbishop O'Brien said "As our

divided Nation continues to search for an honorable and morally responsible end to our military involvement in Iraq, the four years that have elapsed since the start our incursion compel an assessment of our current circumstances and the continuing obligation of the Church to provide a moral framework for public discussion."

Mindful of the military chaplains, the Archbishop said that he is "well-aware of the daily spiritual support and moral guidance offered to you by our generous and courageous chaplains who serve side by side with you, often in the most perilous of circumstances. The Church in our Land owes them a profound debt of gratitude, as all of America does to you and to your families. May your sacrifices, offered out of selfless love of neighbor, soon bring about that responsible and peaceful transition for which all of us hope and pray each day."

Photo courtesy: ©Capital Concerts

Crowd at the National Memorial Day Concert.



Archbishop O'Brien with the troops.

The Homilist

The Homilist was Rev. Neuhaus, President of The Institute on Religion and Public Life, Founder and Editor of FIRST THINGS, The Journal of Religion, Culture and Public Life. The Canadian-born convert and highly regarded homilist said that "To those in battle, to those preparing for battle, to those bearing the wounds of battle, and to those who love them, you are 'clothed with power from on high.'"

Rev. Neuhaus continued: "Jesus says, and you will be my witnesses." And to

the chaplains, he said "... you are the witnesses of Christ and His Church to a new order of undivided love and allegiance. That kingdom is now present by faith's anticipation of what is to be. There are many good things a chaplain does—he counsels, he encourages, he consoles. But, above all, the chaplain is a witness to the sovereignty of Christ and his kingdom. He is a witness to what is to be; he is a witness to what, for those who believe, already is.... The history of the world is marked by what St. Augustine calls 'libido domini'—the lust for glory and power."

According to St. Augustine, "Peace must be your aim; war should be a matter of necessity, so that God might free you from necessity and preserve you in peace. One does not pursue peace in order to wage war; one wages war to achieve peace...." "To you, the chaplains of the armed forces—past, present, and future—is owed an immeasurable debt of gratitude. You are the nation's good servants but God's first; and you are the nation's better servants because you are God's first. In the midst of the conflict of the principalities and powers of the present age, you have been 'clothed with power from on high.' To bear witness to the One who was and is and is to be."

The May 24 issue of the CATHOLIC STANDARD, weekly of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., carried an article by Mark Zimmerman about Fr. Sam Giese who served as a combat area chaplain with an Army National Guard Unit in Iraq during 2005. The writer said that "Fr. Giese and his fellow soldiers gained a new respect for Memorial Day, because they lost friends and comrades in the war. They now owned Memorial Day in a way they didn't before. It was not just the beginning of summer anymore. It changed from a holiday to a day of remembrance, said the priest, remembering meeting with soldiers that Memorial Day in Iraq."

Arlington National Cemetery

Once again President George W. Bush commemorated Memorial Day at the Arlington National Cemetery. Among his remarks, the President said "Today we honor the warriors who fought our nation's enemies, defended the cause of liberty, and gave their lives in the cause of freedom...."

For seven generations, we have carried our fallen to these fields. Here rests some 360,000 Americans who died fighting to preserve the Union and end slavery. Here rest some 500,000 Americans who perished in two world wars to conquer tyranny and build free nations from their ruins. Here rest some 90,000 Americans who gave their lives to confront Communist aggression in places such as Korea and Vietnam....

Now this hallowed ground receives a new generation of heroes—men and women who gave their lives in places such as Kabul and Kandahar, Baghdad, and Ramadi. Like those who came before them, they did not want war—but they answered the call....

The greatest memorial to our fallen troops cannot be found in the words we say or the places we gather. The more lasting tribute is all around us—a country where citizens have the right to worship as they want, to march for what they believe, and to say what they think. These freedoms come at great costs—and they will survive only as long as there are those willing to step forward to defend them against determined enemies....

Those who serve are not fatalists or cynics. They know that one day this war will end—as all wars do. Our duty is to ensure that its outcome justifies the sacrifices made by those who fought and died in it....

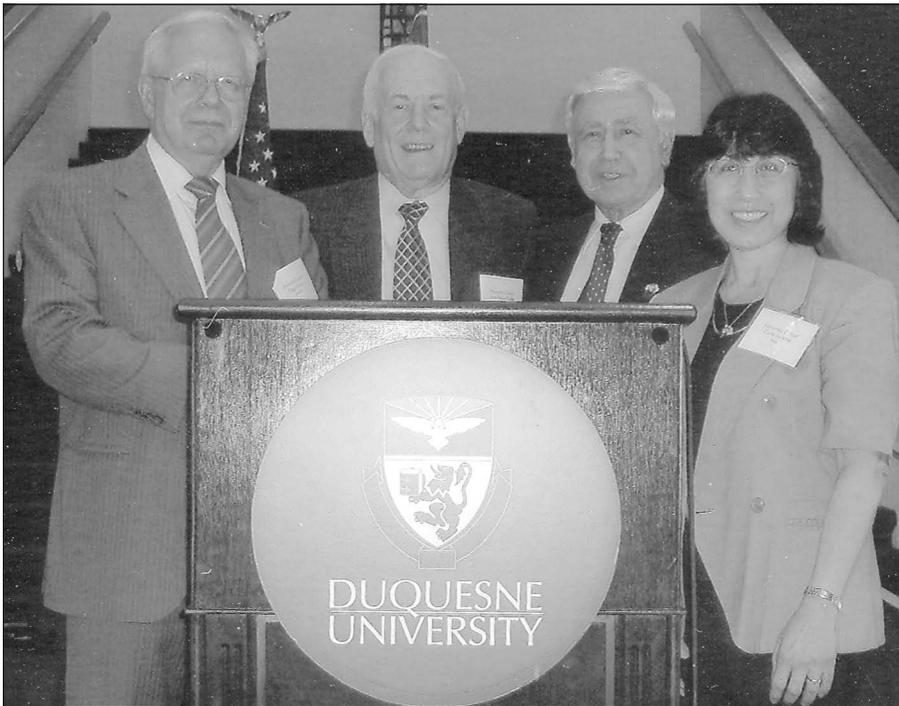
On this Day of Memory, we mourn brave citizens who laid their lives down for our freedom. They lived and died as Americans. May we always honor them. May we always embrace them. And may we always be faithful to who they were and what they fought for. Thank you for having me. May God Bless you and may God continue to bless our country."

The Concert

Beginning in 1990 the National Memorial Day PBS Concert has been a moving staple of this Day. The purpose of the Concert is to "remember the sacrifices of America's veterans." The Mission is to "unite the country in remembrance and appreciation of the fallen and to serve those who are grieving."

The May 27 event focused on the brave servicemen and women who had been injured in line of duty, with a review of the war's impact on these soldiers and their families. In his eloquent address, GEN Colin Powel emphasized the need to help these servicemen and women.

continued on page 13



L-R are: Edgar Braun, Jean-Pierre Collet, Joseph Senko, and Carla Lucente

European Union Anniversary Observed in Pittsburgh

As part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the formation of the European Union, Duquesne University in Pittsburgh hosted a "Europe Day Forum". The program included a panel discussion entitled "European Harmonization and Cultural Diversity". Over 100 guests were in attendance. The panel was comprised of Austrian Honorary Consul Edgar Braun, French Honorary Consul Jean-Pierre Collet, Italian Honorary Consul Carla Lucente, and Slovak Honorary Consul Joseph Senko.

From the Desk of the Executive Secretary: OHIO FRATERNAL CONGRESS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

The Ohio Fraternal Congress is pleased to announce that the Congress will award two (2) scholarships to college-bound high school seniors who are graduating in 2007.

Applicants must be an Ohio resident and a member of a Fraternal Society belonging to the Ohio Fraternal Congress and have been accepted to an accredited school for the 2007 school year.

Contact the Home Office for the application forms which must be submitted before July 15, 2007. The instructions are on the application.

If you have any questions, please contact the Home Office at (800) 533-6682.

Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius to Hold Summer Festival July 14

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius invite all to their annual Summer Festival on Saturday, July 14, 2007, at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pennsylvania. The day begins at 10:30 a.m. and concludes at 5:30 p.m. with the Sunday Liturgy celebrated in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

A perennial favorite at the festival is the Sisters' Pantry with its assortment of baked goods. There will also be a flea market and games for both children and adults. In addition to the usual picnic fare, there will be holupky dinners and other culinary specialties available beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Once again, the Sisters look forward to seeing you at the festival in Danville on Saturday, July 14.

Annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar Set for September 30

The Slovak Catholic Federation will host its annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar on Sunday, September 30, 2007, at the Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church, 14610 Will Cook Road, Homer Glen, Illinois.

Father Thomas Loya will be the presenter at this year's seminar. He will give a detailed explanation of the icons that he has painted in Annunciation Church. A Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 1:00 p.m. followed by a delicious lunch.

The offering for this event (pre-registration) is \$15.00 per person and \$20.00 at the door. For pre-paid registration contact John Jurcenko at 773/763-0810 no later than September 5, 2007. For more information call Geraldine Hletko at 708/387-7812.

REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Anna Jurco

Branch 743

Sterling Heights, Michigan

Anna Jurco, 95, of Sterling Heights, Michigan, died peacefully on Tuesday, April 10, 2007, at her home.

Born December 27, 1911, in Nizna Sunava, Slovakia, she was the oldest daughter of the late Jan and Alzbeta (Jancuska) Erdziak. Her three sisters, Maria, Zofia, and Alzbeta, are still living in Slovakia along with nieces and nephews.

Anna married Andrew Jurco on January 17, 1929, in All Saints Church in Sunava, Slovakia. In September 1929 Andrew Jurco left for America. Their daughter Anna was born in October 1929. They were reunited in the United States on January 10, 1937. Their son Andrew was born in June 1928.

Anna was an active member of SS. Cyril and Methodius Church and its St. Cyril Rosary Society. She was a longtime member and former officer of Jednota Branch 781, now merged with Branch 743.

Anna was proud of her six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Five great-grandsons and one grandson served as pallbearers at her Funeral Mass celebrated in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church by the Rev. Ben Kosnac. Her four granddaughters and two great-granddaughters carried the offertory gifts. The Rosary Society processed into the church with candles and sang "Bliz Tebe Boze Moj" as a last farewell. Interment was in Resurrection Cemetery, Clinton Township. A luncheon was held at Fern Hill Country Club after the funeral.

Anna Magusin

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PENNSYLVANIA FRATERNAL CONGRESS 2007 SCHOLARSHIP

Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress Scholarship Program is again offering at least one (1) \$500 scholarship to a deserving young student from a member society. Additional scholarships may be awarded depending upon available funds.

The following are the rules and requirements:

Applicants must:

- Be a resident of Pennsylvania and a member of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a member of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress.

- Be a 2007 high school graduate attending an accredited college, university, trade school, etc. in the summer/fall of 2007 as a full time student (twelve semester credits). Proof of attendance must be submitted with application.

- Obtain a recommendation letter from your Fraternal Benefit Society.

- Submit a 500-word essay on: "How has your life been influenced by your Fraternal Benefit Society and what has the experience taught you?"

- Sign the Statement of Application on the bottom of the application page.

- Return the completed application, proof of acceptance from your university and postmarked no later than September 10, 2007.

- Contact the Home Office for an application by calling, (800) 533-6682.

Patriotism and Sacrifices

continued from page 12

Unlike last year's pleasant weather, this Concert took place under cloudy/rainy skies. It featured, again, the Washington Symphony Orchestra, directed by Erich Kunzel, musical performances, documentary footage, and dramatic readings.

Local Celebrations

Falls Church, VA may be cited as an example of a local Memorial Day celebration. The Pastor of St. James Catholic Church, Rev. Patrick Posey celebrated the 8:30 A.M. Memorial Day Mass, Monday, May 28. As in past years Catholic War Veterans (CWV) Post 1652 participated and hosted a reception afterwards. At 11:00 A.M., the City of Falls Church held its Memorial Day Veterans Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial, followed by a 2:00 P.M. Parade with 67 participants, including the CWV float.

Veteran MC Harry Shovlin opened the half-hour program with Posting of Colors by Honor Guard from American Legion Post 130, followed by a rendition of the National Anthem by the Mary Ellen Henderson Sixth Grade Band under the direction of Connie Jenkins; Invocation by Rabbi Amy M. Schwartzman, of Temple Rodef Shalom; Welcoming by Mayor Robin Gardner, and Remembrance for MIA's by Tony Scerbo.

Marvin McFeaters, Chairman of Greater Falls Church Veterans Council, gave an update of the Council's activities. The Keynote Address was delivered by Roger B. Neighborgall, President, U.S. Army Ranger Battalions Association of World War II. He was followed with Wreathlaying by Honorary President Mrs. Eldred Yochim of the DAR. Rabbi Schwartzman said the closing Prayer. Taps by MSGT John Abbracciamento, U.S. Marine Band; a rendition by the Sixth Grade Band; and the Retiring of Colors ended this event.

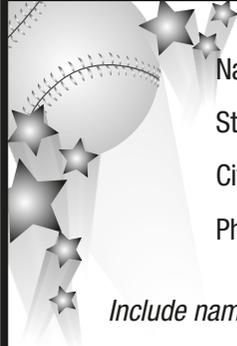
In its May 31 issue, the ARLINGTON CATHOLIC HERALD had a front page story, with a large photo of Bishop Paul Loverde celebrating the annual Memorial Day Mass in neighboring Fairfax Memorial Park. More photos appeared on page six. In his homily, the Bishop "asked the congregation to especially remember all the U.S. military personnel who have sacrificed their lives in defense of their country."

Ellsworth Branch 853 Plans Baseball Outing

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 853, is planning an outing to cheer on the Pittsburgh Pirates on Slovak Day at PNC Park.

On Sunday, August 19, 2007, the Pittsburgh Pirates will host the Philadelphia Phillies at 1:35 p.m. While cheering on the Bucs, enjoy authentic Slovak cuisine, music, and entertainment. The cost for the day is only \$18 for Branch members and \$25 for non-branch members. For only \$18, you will receive your ticket to the game, early entry to the Slovak events, a Pirate Slovak Day Cap and vouchers for food. The person attending the event is responsible for their own transportation to and from PNC Park. Join Branch 853 to celebrate your heritage while cheering the Pirates on to victory.

To make reservations, fill out the coupon below. Send your name, address, for return mail of tickets, and phone number to: Monica Rodacy-Boone, 2016 Crosby Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15216. Payment for Branch 853 members is \$18. All other FCSU members are \$25. Make your check payable to Branch 853. The deadline for ticket orders, to be seated as a group, is June 3. Ticket orders will be taken until June 30. Tickets will be returned by first class mail. The Branch is not responsible for lost tickets. To ensure ticket delivery, you can request Priority Mail with delivery confirmation for an additional \$4.50.



For Reservation Please Clip and Mail

Name _____

Street _____

City and Zip _____

Phone () _____

Include name of attendee and branch number for each ticket ordered

	Br. _____

_____ Br. 853 members attending x \$18 = \$ _____

_____ Non Br. 853 members x \$25 = \$ _____

Shipping – Choose One:

_____ First Class Mail – no charge

_____ Priority Mail with delivery confirmation - \$4.50 _____

If no choice made tickets will be sent First Class Mail

TOTAL _____

Send your name, address for return mail of tickets, and phone number to:

Monica Rodacy-Boone
2016 Crosby Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15216



Michael Kopanic and daughter Milenka went to the Pittsburgh Folk Festival at the David Lawrence Convention Center on Saturday, May 26. The event was multicultural and the Slovaks were one of over 20 ethnic groups participating.

Last Call for Articles for THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The deadline for articles for the 2007 edition of The Good Shepherd is June 20, 2007. The scope of the articles is broad. Any topic of interest to Slovak-American Catholics can be included in the annual. Articles solely political in nature will not be accepted.

In order to facilitate the editing and printing of The Good Shepherd, the following guidelines are established for those who wish to have their submissions considered for inclusion in the annual:

All articles must be type-written, double-spaced in Microsoft WORD format in 12 point, Times New Roman font. It is strongly preferred that articles be e-mailed to Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M., Editor, at: bernsscm@yahoo.com. In this age of modern technology, it is easier and more economical to work from a text that is provided via a digital file rather than of having to retype a full article. If it is not possible for an article to be e-mailed, a "hard copy" may be mailed to Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M., Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.

Kindly keep your article between three and ten typewritten pages. We cannot accept an article which is fewer than three pages. Please try not to go beyond ten pages.

If at all possible, kindly send photos to accompany articles. If sending photos electronically, save as separate JPEGs to accompany the article. Indication should be given as to where photos are to be located within the body of the article, but do not imbed the photos into the text; please save them as separate JPEG files to accompany the text. Be sure to properly identify the persons, places and/or situations depicted in the photo(s). In the event that the article is e-mailed and photos are not included as attachments, prints of the photos should be mailed to Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M., for inclusion in the article. (Please do not send photos run out on a home printer on "typewriter" paper. They are generally grainy and of very poor quality for reproduction. Photos you print out yourself should be of the same quality as if you had them developed commercially.) If more convenient, photos can also be saved to a CD, which the printer can then link up with the article. Once again, please be sure that the photos are properly identified and kindly note where, within the article, the photos are to be inserted.

As Editor, Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M., retains the right to correct grammatical errors, delete repetitions, rearrange phrasing to make it more clear, etc. However, she will not substantially change your ideas.

It is preferred that articles be written in English. If, however, articles in Slovak are submitted, they will be sent to a third party for editing.

On behalf of the Slovak Catholic Federation, I sincerely thank all of the faithful contributors to The Good Shepherd. Your contributions, year after year, ensure the fact that we are able to provide a quality annual which helps celebrate our Catholic faith, preserves our Slovak heritage, and allows our readers to stay in touch with what's happening in the Catholic Church, in Slovakia, and in the Slovak-American community. We are looking forward to your contributions again this year.

During this year of transition, your patience, understanding, and continued support of The Good Shepherd and the Slovak Catholic Federation are deeply appreciated!

May God bless you!

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla
National President, Slovak Catholic Federation

"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%.
- The "Park 2 Annuity" can be converted to any of the FCSU Annuity Plans at any time.
- 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.

Reaching Out to Your Slovak Family Roots

A Local Detroit Slovak Has Developed an 8-Generation Family Tree

John Baca, born in Vechec (Zemplin County, Slovakia) and a long-time resident of Roseville, Michigan (a suburb of Detroit), has spent 3 1/2 years researching his family tree which now includes 8-generations of family on both his father's (Baca/Bacha/Bacsa) and mother's (Pavlik) sides listing a total of approximately 2,000 family members. The family tree dates back to approximately 1780

-1800. (The dates are approximate because formal records were not kept that far back. Mr. Baca worked with a professional to identify the approximate dates.) The research and development of his family tree were guided by Mr. Jan Zaleski, a nationally recognized genealogist and lecturer with a specialty in Eastern European research. Therefore, his family tree meets national and international

genealogy standards.

Once retired, Mr. Baca was able to follow his dream of tracing his roots. John has had the rare opportunity to reach out and touch his many living relatives and document how they are related. This required going beyond libraries, courthouses, telephone calls, and data bases. For Mr. Baca to achieve a family tree of this magnitude in a relatively short period of time, it required a tenacious commitment to tedious research and creative research strategies in locating information about his multigenerational family members.

To get started, Mr. Baca developed a network of genealogists, attended genealogical seminars, and identified varied genealogical resources. Mr. Baca has spent thousands of hours at the Roseville Family History Center (Mormon Library), Detroit Public Library, and on internet data bases. He visited family cemetery sites in the Detroit-area; Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania; and Vechec, Slovakia. He also contacted numerous rela-

tives across the United States, Canada, and Slovakia. Mr. Baca has made numerous calls to churches, municipal records offices, and followed-up suggested contacts.

During his search for family information, he has experienced great joys in locating information, making contact with new-found relatives, and trading family tree information with family members across states and countries. He has also experienced the sadness and disappointment of family members who are afraid, distrustful, or apathetic about sending requested critical information.

The Pavlik and Baca families are very fortunate to have a documented history of 8 generations of family that encompasses not only the family members in the United States and Canada, but also in Slovakia.

If you have questions or additional information on the Pavlik or Baca family, contact John Baca at: hasubaco99@comcast.net or by calling him at 586.863.7676 (cell) / 586.776.1376 (home).

Coming Events

JUNE

17 – The Pittsburgh District annual Father's Day Mass and Breakfast at Holy Trinity Church, 529 Grant Avenue Extension, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. Mass at 9:30 a.m. followed by breakfast in the church hall.

17 – A Father's Day Meeting of the Prince Pribina District at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 South Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. Mass at 11:00 a.m. followed by the meeting and lunch.

19 – A meeting of the Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District at 7:00 p.m. in St. Matthias Church Rectory, Youngstown, Ohio.

JULY

15 – The Frank T. Holly Jr. District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, North Mt. Vernon Avenue, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

SEPTEMBER

9 – The Rev. Stephen Furdek District's Annual Meeting at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Mass at 11:00 a.m. in the Crypt Church followed by lunch and the meeting in the Basilica Executive Conference Center.



United Branch 181 Annual Picnic

The Annual Picnic of the St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 181, will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2007, from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Pavilion number 14, Mammoth Park, Mammoth, Pennsylvania. This popular yearly event features excellent food, numerous door prizes, activities for children, cultural performances, and good old fashion Slovak socializing. Be sure to mark your calendar for that date. Each member is asked to bring a covered dish to supplement the halusky, klobasy, halupky, chicken, rigatoni, sauerkraut, wieners and drinks, which will be provided as in the past by Branch 181.

Final plans for the picnic were made recently by the officers and members at the branch meeting held on May 19, 2007 at the Old Country Buffet in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Branch 181 officers and members are proud of the reception by its members of this annual family event and the large crowd that it attracts. Under the capable leadership of President Clarence Pfeiffer, Vice President Edward Mizikar, Secretary Gerry Kovacina, and Financial Secretary George Sprock, Branch 181 continues in its efforts to promote our cultural heritage. Branch 181 remains one of the largest branches in the First Catholic Slovak Union, as well as one of the most active, and is proud of its favorite son, former FCSU President Thomas Hricik. Other National Officers include Richard Ungvarsky, M.D., Medical Director; George Sprock Region 4 Director; Karen Sprock Hunka, Chairperson of Auditors; Dr. Stephen Whisdosh, Secretary of the Supreme Court; and James M. Bench, Supreme Court Member.

James M. Bench



United Branch 181 members enjoy a dinner meeting finalizing plans for the upcoming branch picnic.

WORKING WORLD

Tips To Combat Stress At Work

(NAPSA)-Anyone who has ever worked knows that stress is part of the job. Some stress helps keep us motivated and productive, but too much or poorly managed stress can negatively impact our health and efficiency.

Recent studies show that stress costs the U.S. economy more than \$300 billion a year in poor performance, absenteeism and health care. The World Health Organization estimates that stress will be the major cause of poor health in the workplace by 2020. Despite these grim statistics, there are simple things employees can do to combat stress at work. Deralee Scanlon, registered dietitian and consumer education specialist, offers tips to manage workplace stress.

• **Skip the Java:** Coffee helps many of us get started in the morning. But instead of an energy jolt, we may experience altered mood and anxiety. Instead of coffee, try a cup of green or black tea.

• **Nosh on Nuts:** Proper nutrition plays an important role in managing stress. Instead of snacking on chips or chocolate, choose nutrient-rich sunflower seeds or walnuts.

These nuts contain B vitamins, which may be helpful to the body during times of stress. Walnuts also contain omega fatty acids, which may help improve mood and brain function.

• **Take a Break:** Time pressures and work demands have resulted in fewer workers taking time for lunch. In fact, a 2006 study on behalf of KFC found that more than half of employees eat lunch at their desk while working or take a lunch break of 30 minutes or less. This practice may lower productivity and increase stress. Instead of working through lunch, go for a short walk. Increasing midday physical activity helps release endorphins-the body's natural stress fighters.

• **Supplement:** StressEez, a fast-acting and easy-to-swallow tablet, contains scientifically supported herbs and vitamins that help reduce stress quickly and naturally. StressEez, which contains Bacopa, Valerian, Gotu Kola and B vitamins, is found in the vitamin aisles of Walgreens, Rite Aid and CVS.

For more information about natural stress relief, visit StressEez.net.



FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY: FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY INTEREST RATE INCREASES THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007

Effective April 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 JUNE 30, 2007.

Kenneth A. Arendt
National Secretary



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota



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

Volume 116

STREDA, 13. JÚN 2007

Číslo 5756

Vydarená púť Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ do Washington, D.C.



Účastníci púte pri kaplnke Sedembolestnej Panny Márie v Národnej Svätyni Nepoškvrneného Počatia, Washington, D.C.

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ v New Yorku zorganizoval v dňoch 28. a 29. apríla 2007 Slovenskú katolícku púť do Washingtonu D.C., spojenú s prehliadkou jeho pamätihodností. Zúčastnení pútnici mali možnosť navštíviť rôzne historické miesta hlavného mesta medzi ktorými boli White House, U.S. Capital, Supreme Court, Arlington National Cemetery, Korean War Veteran's Memorial, Lincoln Memorial a z Washington Monument obdivovali z vtáčej perspektívy nádherný výhľad na mesto Washington. Skupinu pútnikov sprevádzal otec Štefan Chanas a jeho priateľ žijúci vo Washingtone otec Juraj Feník. V sobotu večer všetci účastníci sa zišli na spoločnej večeri v Taverna reštaurácii.

Pokračovanie na str. 19

Americké univerzity chcú spolupracovať so slovenskými

Bratislava (TASR) – Rozšírenie výmenných programov medzi USA a Slovenskom je cieľom Fóra vyššieho vzdelávania, ktoré 6. júna pripravilo Veľvyslanectvo USA v Bratislave v spolupráci s Ministerstvom školstva SR, Fulbrightovou komisiou v SR a Univerzitnou knižnicou InfoUSA.

Podľa dekana medzinárodných programov na Univerzite v Delaware Johna Kmetza americké univerzity očakávajú, že nájdu na Slovensku partnerov, s ktorými budú môcť spolupracovať. Medzinárodná spolupráca by sa mala rozšíriť najmä v oblasti výmenných programov medzi slovenskými a americkými študentmi a pedagógmi.

Ako uviedol veľvyslanec USA na Slovensku Rodolpho Vallee, jedným z najpopulárnejších programov pre mládež je Work and Travel, vďaka ktorému ročne do Ameriky zavíta zhruba šesťtisíc slovenských študentov. Program

umožňuje mladým ľuďom niekoľko mesiacov v Spojených štátoch pracovať a potom asi mesiac cestovať po celej krajine.

Podľa amerického veľvyslanca Spojené štáty majú výborne prepracovaný model spolupráce medzi podnikateľmi a univerzitami. "Je však potrebná aj väčšia výmena študentov - či už na nižších stupňoch vzdelania alebo aj doktorantov, manažérov," povedal Rodolpho Vallee.

Viac ako 60 zástupcov slovenských a amerických univerzít diskutovalo počas fóra aj o iných možnostiach spolupráce. Zástupca riaditeľa programov komercializácie z Texaskej Univerzity Paul Zukowski hovoril najmä o tom, ako naše technické univerzity môžu využiť výsledky svojho výskumu v praxi a ako rozvinúť spoluprácu s podnikateľskou sférou.

Historická výprava Slovenskej ligy v Amerike na Slovensku

Prezident Gašparovič prijal amerických krajanov

Bratislava (TASR) – Pri príležitosti 100. výročia založenia Slovenskej ligy v Amerike (SLvA) prijal 14. mája prezidentský pár 25 krajanov zastupujúcich SLvA. Hneď v úvode stretnutia im hlava štátu poďakovala za to, čo urobili v prospech zvrchovanosti Slovenska v zahraničí. Zároveň dodal, že bez ich podpory by sa Slovensko nedostalo na dnešnú pozíciu. Prezident ich ocenil aj za to, že si zachovávajú slovenský jazyk a kultúru, a za pomoc všetkým Slovákom, ktorí museli dobrovoľne či nedobrovoľne opustiť vlasť.

"Vašou zásluhou vznikla nová inteligencia, ktorá nielen v Spojených štátoch, ale aj doma na Slovensku podporuje vaše myšlienky," dodal Gašparovič. Pobyt skupiny našich krajanov u nás, pred oficiálnymi oslavami storočnice SLvA v Amerike, je podľa predsedníčky Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí Vilmy Prívarovej spojený s návštevou významných historických pamätných miest Slovenska. Nad oslavami v Bratislave, ktoré úrad organizuje, prijal záštitu Ivan Gašparovič. Ako poznamenal na stretnutí člen Výkonnej rady SLvA, jej čestný tajomník a redaktor Slováka v Amerike Ján Holý, keď sa pred sto rokmi rodila SLvA, slovenský národ žil v úplnej biede. "Bol potláčaný a nie je prehnaním povedať, že vtedy bol slovenský národ na pokraji zániku. Keď bol umlčaný, mali sme už v Amerike skoro pol milióna Slovákov," konštatoval Holý. Podľa našich krajanov bola Pittsburská dohoda za celých 90 rokov inšpiráciou pre mnohých Slovákov. Aj na dôkaz toho priniesli prezidentovi Gašparovičovi ukázať originál tejto dohody.

K 100. výročiu SLvA odhalili bustu Štefana Furdeka

Pri príležitosti 100. výročia založenia Slovenskej ligy v Amerike (SLvA) 15. mája 2007 v Bratislave odhalili bustu jej zakladateľa a prvého predsedu, rímsko-katolíckeho kňaza Štefana Furdeka. K buste v Clevelande tak pribudla druhá v jeho rodisku a to na priechod budovy Matice slovenskej. Na jej slávnostnom odhalení sa zúčastnil minister zahraničných vecí Ján Kubiš, predseda Matice slovenskej Jozef Markuš a delegácia amerických Slovákov zo SLvA, ktorí na podobizeň odliatú v Kremnici prispeli sumou 10,000 dolárov.

"Štefan Furdek bol veľká osobnosť slovenských dejín, už dávno tu mal byť. Je to pre nás veľké zadosťučinenie," povedal Jozef Markuš.

Pokračovanie na str. 19



FOTO TASR - Miroslav Košírer

Zľava starosta mestskej časti Bratislava-Ružinov Slavomír Drozd, prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič, predseda Spoločnosti Andreja Hlinku Stanislav Májek, prvá podpredsedníčka SNS Anna Belousovová a minister kultúry SR Marek Maďarič počas slávnostného odhalenia pamätníka Andreja Hlinku 5. júna 2007 v bratislavskej mestskej časti Ružinov.

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

Pozdravný list pápežovi Benediktovi XVI. zaslali účastníci 5. valného zhromaždenia Spolku sv. Cyrila a Metoda, ktoré sa skončilo v druhej polovici mája v Michalovciach. V liste vyjadrili pápežovi úctu a odhodlanie napomáhať procesu novej evanjelizácie, ako aj prosbu o apoštolské požehnanie, informoval hovorca Košického gréckokatolíckeho exarchátu Michal Hospodár. Za čestných členov spolu prijali na rokovaní nitrianskeho diecézneho biskupa Viliama Judáka, teológa a básnika Jozefa Tótha a básnika Mikuláša Kasardu. Prítomný na rokovaní bol košický gréckokatolícky exarcha - vladyka Milan Chatur, ktorý spolu s prešovským biskupom Jánom Babjakom koncebroval archierejskú svätú liturgiu v michalovskom Chráme Svätého Ducha otcov redemptoristov. Michalovský Spolok sv. Cyrila a Metoda má približne 4 000 členov a jeho cieľom je hlavne vydavateľskou činnosťou a príležitostnými podujatiami upevňovať cyrilo-metodské povedomie medzi veriacimi v duchu ekumenizmu a ochraňovať bohaté tradície gréckokatolíckej cirkvi. Z rokovania vydali bulletin Spolok na ceste. Spolok sv. Cyrila a Metoda vznikol v roku 1941. V 50. rokoch komunistický režim jeho činnosť zastavil a opätovne začal pôsobiť v roku 1991.

Deň Slovákov v holandskom Haagu sa vydaril, ako konštatoval po návrate z podujatia v závere druhého májového týždňa jeden z jeho organizátorov a podporovateľov Pavel Repka z Podhradíka pri Prešove. Hlavným organizátorom bola veľvyslankyňa SR v Holandskom kráľovstve Oksana Tomová a ústrednými účinkujúcimi členovia ľudovej Hudby folklórneho súboru Šarišan z Prešova. Akcia mala dve časti, jednu na diplomatickej úrovni, druhú pre širšiu verejnosť. Obe sa konali v budove slovenskej ambasády. Na prvé prišlo asi 150 ľudí, významných Slovákov, žijúcich a pôsobiacich v Holandsku. Išlo o diplomatov, lekárov, učiteľov a vojakov.

Spolu sú ligotavejšie ja názov výstavy dvoch unikátnych zlatých pokladov zo Slovenska a Maďarska z obdobia 15. až 17. storočia, ktorú slávnostne otvorili v košickom Východoslovenskom múzeu v polovici mája pri príležitosti Medzinárodného dňa múzeí. V špeciálnej trezorovej miestnosti sú vystavené Košický zlatý poklad (KZP) objavený v roku 1935, pozostávajúci z 2,920 zlatých mincí, troch medailí a masívnej zlatej reťaze, a poklad s 261 kusmi zlatých mincí, ktorý našli roľníci v apríli 2002 v maďarskom meste Ujfehértó. Výstava je jedinečným príkladom cezhraničnej muzeálnej spolupráce. Výstava potrvá do septembra a potom ju uvidia v Maďarsku.

Obyvatelia Slovenska začali nakupovať omnoho odvážnejšie ako doteraz. Tržby v 50 najväčších obchodoch v roku 2006 vzrástli najrýchlejšie, odkedy sa v krajine začali usádzať prvé hypermarkety. Vzostup o 11.3 percenta, čo je 16 miliárd korún, znamená nové tempo mŕňania peňazí v najväčších slovenských obchodoch. V roku 2005 rástli ich tržby o tri percentá. V 50 najsilnejších obchodoch nechali občania vyše 161 miliárd korún. Vyplýva to z údajov agentúry pre prieskum trhu Terno.

Obnovené rezprezentačné schodisko a dve miestnosti severného krídla sprístupnili v kaštieli vo Svätom Antone neďaleko Banskej Štiavnice. Tamojšie múzeum zároveň predstavilo aj súkromné miestnosti posledného užívateľa kaštiela Ferdinanda Coburga. Autorom vzácnych stropných fresiek z prvej polovice 18. storočia je viedenský maliar Anton Schmidt. Alarmujúci stav pamiatky si vyžiadala aktuálne reštaurovanie, ktoré sa uskutočnilo v rokoch 2005-2006 pod vedením akademických maliarov Vojtecha Mýtnika a Maria Flaugnattiho.

Vyše tritisíc pracovných miest ponúkli zahraniční zamestnávateľia slovenským občanom za posledné štyri mesiace. Slovákov najradšej vidia v susednom Česku, v Írsku a vo Veľkej Británii. V Čechách pracuje 90-tisíc Slovákov, v Írsku viac ako 20-tisíc a vo Veľkej Británii vyše 50-tisíc. Prostredníctvom Ústredia práce a siete Eures im ponúkajú miesta zámočníkov, šoférov, kuchárov a podobne. Najsilnejšou skupinou, ktorá cestuje za prácou do cudziny, sú stredoškolsky vzdelaní ľudia.

Americký výrobca pištolí najvyššej kvality STI International prejavil záujem o spoluprácu so slovenským výrobcom pištole K-100, banskobystrickou spoločnosťou Grand Power. Prezident americkej spoločnosti David L. Skinner si pozrel výroby slovenskej pištole K-100 v Detve. Vyhlásil, že zbraň je svojimi parametrami vynikajúca a je na najlepšej ceste stať sa najúspešnejším produktom pre 21. storočie v tejto kategórii.

Slovensko prestáva byť pre zahraničných investorov krajinou s lacnou pracovnou silou. Hodinové mzdy v priemysle v eurách totiž za posledných päť rokov vzrástli o polovicu. Vyplýva to z prepočtov ING Bank. Kým v roku 2002 dostali zamestnanci v priemyselnej výrobe mesačne priemerne 325 eur, minulý rok za rovnakú prácu dostali 505 eur. Hodinové mzdové náklady na Slovensku však stále dosahujú len 22 percent priemeru pôvodných štátov EÚ.

Staviteľ, vodohospodár, "otec myšlienky" a spoluautor projektu Sústavy vodných diel Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros na Dunaji, prof. Ing. Dr. techn. Peter Danišovič, Dr.h.c. dovŕšil 1. júna 100 rokov. Projektant a staviteľ mnohých priehrad na Slovensku a jeden z iniciátorov vytvorenia technickej vysokej školy na Slovensku rozvíjal odbor vodné hospodárstvo, ktorý bol počas jeho mladosti takmer na okraji záujmu. Svoje celoživotné dielo rozvíjal v odbore vodné hospodárstvo a vodné stavby s dôrazom na hydrotechnické problémy, konštrukcie a diela. Jeho vedeckovýskumné aktivity boli zamerané najmä na problémy vodohospodárskeho, energetického a stavebného využívania štrkonosných tokov s konkretizáciou n Dunaj a Váh. Presadzoval myšlienku energetického využitia a zlepšenia

plavebných podmienok na Dunaji. Rodák z Boleraza (nar. 1. júna 1907) odišiel študovať inžinierske stavitelstvo, smer vodohospodársky na Vysoké učení technické (CVUT) do Prahy. Po ukončení vysokej školy pracoval krátko v Prahe a v decembri 1935 mu rektor CVUT ako prvému Slovákovi udelil titul doktor technických vied. v odbore vodné hospodárstvo.

Oštiepok vyrobený na Slovensku sa bude predávať pod názvom "Slovenský oštiepok" a oštiepok vyrobený v Poľsku pod názvom "Oscypek". Medzištátnu dohodu o označovaní tradičného sýrového výrobku podpísali v Palárikove minister pôdohospodárstva SR Miroslav Jureňa a minister roľníctva a rozvoja vidieka Poľskej republiky Andrzej Lepper. Podľa dohody sa obidva názvy nebudú prekladať a výrobky budú označované v národných jazykoch. Zabráni sa tým tomu, aby bol spotrebiteľ uvedený do omylu, aký druh oštiepku konzumuje. Zhodli sa, že ide o dva rôzne výrobky. Rozdielne sú pomery surovín používaných vo výrobnom procese, spôsob výroby i vlastnosti finálneho výrobku.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Vydarená púť Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ do Washington, D.C.

Pokračovanie zo str. 20

Slovenská katolícka púť do Washington, D.C sa sústredila predovšetkým na návštevu Národnej Svätyně Nepoškvrneného Počatia, kde v nedeľu dopoludňa odslúžil otec Juraj Feník a otec Štefan Chanas slovenskú svätú omšu. Následne po nej sa uskutočnila pobožnosť v kaplnke Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, patrónky Slovenska. Táto prekrásna kaplnka, ktorej vysviacka sa konala 5. septembra 1965, bola darom Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty americkému ľudu.

Všetci účastníci sa vracali z Púte plnej osobných i historických zážitkov. Vďaka patrí hlavne sprievodcom zájazdu otcom Štefanovi Chanasovi a Jurajovi Feníkovi a tiež Jozefovi Bilikovi za organizačné prípravy a všetkým tým, ktorí sa podieľali na úspechu zájazdu.

Henrieta H. Daitová
tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ



Zoskupení pútnici počas túry pri Bielom dome vo Washingtone, D.C.

Historická výprava Slovenskej ligy v Amerike na Slovensku

Pokračovanie zo str. 20

K 100. výročiu SLvA vydala Slovenská pošta známku

Slovenská pošta a.s. (SP) 15. mája 2007 vydala k 100. výročiu založenia Slovenskej ligy v Amerike (SLvA) poštovú známku. "Známku sme vydali preto, lebo členské štáty Svetovej poštovej únie, medzi ktorých patrime aj my, majú povinnosť venovať pozornosť najdôležitejším udalostiam. Určite sem patrí aj 100. výročie SLvA," povedala Ing. Jarmila Brichtová, riaditeľka odboru pošty Ministerstva dopravy, pôšt a telekomunikácií SR (MDPT). Na známke je umelecké stvárnenie pôvodného znaku SLvA, v ktorom je výrazne napísané heslo "Za tú našu slovenčinu". Autorom výtvarného návrhu známky v nominálnej hodnote 22 korún je Peter Augustovič. Poštová známka vyjde v náklade 300-tisíc kusov. Okrem známok bola zhotovená ja špeciálna pečiatka a obálky, na ktorých je portrét zakladateľa SLvA Štefana Furdeka a náčrt Clevelandskej a Pittsburskej dohody. Pri príležitosti uvedenia tejto známky pripravila SP aj pamätné listy, ktoré budú obsahovať nielen známku a obálku, ale aj kovovú doštičku so zrkadlovým obrazom rytiny z obálky. Listy budú slúžiť ako dar pri inauguráciách. Známku uviedla SP, SLvA, Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí a MDPT. V roku 1907 vydala SLvA slovenskú poštovú známku, akú posielali na listoch Slováci z Ameriky rodinám do Rakúsko-Uhorska. Tieto obálky bývali často konfiškované úradmi.

Viktor Šebo - osemdesiatnik

Dožiť sa vyššieho veku, je iste len dar Boží. Osemdesiatka je akýsi prvý medzník nášho života. Tohoto pozhnaného veku sa v dobrom zdraví dožil aj Viktor Šebo, skromný, tichý, slovenský pracovník, jednotár, vo veľkomeste Baltimore, Maryland. Aj on, ako tisíce Slovákov, okúsil čiastku zo sedem neúrodných rokov. Jeho rodičov tiež vyhnala bieda za chlebom do Ameriky, kde v uhoľných baniach, v ťažkom priemysle, v oceliarniach a farmách, začínali takmer z ničoho. Avšak ich viera a slovenská pracovitnosť, im dávala nádej, na lepšiu budúcnosť. A tu v zemi Kolumbovej, v známom slovenskom Clevelande, Ohio, sa dňa 10. apríla 1927 narodil náš oslávenc, Viktor Šebo. Avšak, ťažké sociálne pomery, zachvátili, aj vysnívanú Ameriku. Veľa emigrantov prinútili k návratu späť do rodnej vlasti. Aj rodina Šebových, prijala tento osud a Viktor s matkou so starším



Viktor Šebo

bratom a sestrou, sa vrátili do Krškan, pri Leviciach, na Slovensku. Nádej, že pán Šebo, zarobí a ušetrí nejaký ten dolár, kúpi si kus zeme a budú pracovať na svojom, pokazila zlá celosvetová hospodárska kríza, jak v Európe, tak aj v Amerike. Vyvrcholenie tejto krízy, bola Druhá svetová vojna. Čas sa však nezastavil a malý Viktor rástol, ako z vody. Cesta späť do Ameriky, ostala iba snom. Československá republika sa rozpadla a Slovensko ostalo slobodné. Mladý, šikovný Viktor toho využil a zapísal sa do vojenskej, hudobnej školy, ktorú absolvoval v Banskej Bystrici. Tam mu jeho najlepšiu kamarát predstavil jeho peknú, šarmantnú sestru Gabrielu, priateľstvo ktoré v júni 1950 skončilo láskou a manželskými sľubmi pri oltári. Svetová a najmä európska situácia, nevestila nič dobrého. Vojna sa síce skončila v roku 1945 a bola znovu utvorená Česko-Slovenská republika. Netrvalo dlho a v roku 1948 komunisti násilne prebrali vládu do svojich rúk a cesta do Ameriky ostala veľkým otáznikom. Viktor ako americký občan sa mal vrátiť do jeho rodného Clevelandu. Šťastie, podložené modlitbami, sa naň trochu usmialo a Viktor v novembri 1950 dostal od Česko-Slovenských úradov povolenie vrátiť sa do jeho rodnej Ameriky. Srdce mu však zakrvácalo, lebo jeho tehotnej manželka Gabriele povolenie vycestovať nedali. Až po dlhom sedem a polročnom čakaní, so sedemročným synom Viktorom, narodenom v Banskej Bystrici, dala s Bohom Česko-Slovenskej republike. Rodina Šebových sa usadila vo veľkomeste Baltimore, MD. Tu bol aj Viktor povolaný na dva roky vojenskej služby. Využil svojich vedomostí a zase sa prihlásil do vojenskej hudby. Ďalších šesť a pol roka, pokračoval u vojenskej rezervy. V roku 1961 vstúpil do Maryland National Guard, kde ako stály zamestnanec, pracoval až do roku 1987, kedy v hodnosti Srg. Major, odišiel na zaslúžený odpočinok. Viktor Šebo, ako americký občan, mal a má veľký kus slovenského srdca. V roku 1966 do rodiny Šebových, pribudol ďalší člen rodiny menom Anthony, ale všetci, ktorí ho poznajú ho volajú Tonko. Keď tento skončil Loyola High School, rozhodol sa pokračovať v otcových šlapajách. Prihlásil sa do slávnej "West Point Military Academy", ktorú skončil s výborným prospechom v roku 1989. Odvtedy je členom USA Army a v hodnosti Lt. Colonel, bráni záujmy svojej, ľúbenej americkej vlasti.

Viktor Šebo si s jeho skromnou povahou získal dôveru, kamarátstvo a rešpekt. Dôkazom, že má veľké slovenské srdce je, že už v roku 1954 sa stáva členom Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, ktorá mu pre jeho náboženské a slovenské cítenie, prirástla príliš k srdcu. Už veľa rokov zastáva funkciu predsedu miestneho čísla 61 IKSJ v Baltimore. Je tiež dlhodobým členom Slovenskej Ligy v Amerike. Keď miestna Univerzita v Dundalk, otvorila brány národných výstav, Viktor bol medzi prvými, ktorý vystavoval za Jednotu a Slovákov. Šebových za ich oddanosť viery, Boh pozhnal dvoma vnukmi a jednou vnučkou, ako aj dvoch pravnukov a dvoma pravnučkami.

Viktorovi k jeho osemdesiatke praje veľa dobrého zdravia, šťastia, pokoja a Božieho pozhnanie, jeho rodina a všetci tí priatelia a známi a hlavne "Jednotári". Do klbka tohoto prania, prikladá svoj mimoriadny pozdrav a praje veľa šťastných rokov aj

Jozef Smák

Folklórny festival Východná pokračuje po ročnej prestávke

Liptovský Mikuláš (TASR) – Vrcholný sviatok slovenského ľudového umenia - Folklórny festival (FFV) Východná sa uskutoční 29. júna až 1. júla. Jeho vlnačejší 52. ročník sa uskutočnil kvôli nedokonalnej výstavbe nového amfiteátra v tejto podtatranskej obci, teraz je jeho väčšia časť už vybudovaná. Hudobnou pozvánkou na FFV bude vystúpenie zahraničných súborov, ktorú uvedú 28. júna v liptovskomikuláskej pešej zóne. Hlavný program sa začne v posledný júnový piatok už v nových

priestoroch amfiteátra vo Východnej, kde v nedeľu popoludní 1. júla uvedú aj záverečný galaprogram. Súčasťou festivalového programu budú školy remesiel, tancov. Prezentovať svoje umenie budú súbory a folklórne skupiny z rôznych regiónov Slovenska. Pestrú paletu piesní a tancov pripravili organizátori FFV - Národné osvetové centrum v Bratislave a Liptovské osvetové stredisko v Liptovskom Mikuláši. Záštitu nad podujatím prevzal predseda vlády SR Robert Fico.

146. výročie prijatia Memoranda národa slovenského

Bratislava (TASR) – Slovensko si pripomína 146. výročie prijatia Memoranda národa slovenského. Na jeho počesť sa stal 7. jún pamätným dňom SR. Memorandum národa slovenského k Vysokému snemu krajiny uhorskej prijalo Slovenské národné zhromaždenie 6. a 7. júna 1861 v Turčianskom Svätom Martine. Zdôrazňovalo potrebu zabezpečiť svojbytnosť slovenského národa a jeho rovnoprávnosť v rámci Uhorska, nastoľovalo požiadavku zriadiť autonómne územie - Hornouhorské slovenské Okolie.

Deklarovalo nároky na slovakizáciu správy, súdnictva a školstva na území (slovenského) Okolia, adekvátny pomer v používaní slovenčiny a maďarčiny v úradnom styku a vo vyučovaní. Na Slovensku mala byť zriadená práv-

nická akadémia a na peštianskej univerzite sa mala založiť katedra slovenského jazyka. Štát mal podporovať slovenské kultúrne ustanovizne, slobodné používanie materinského jazyka a primerané zastúpenie národností v hornej snemovni.

Memorandum, programový dokument slovenských národných požiadaviek, ktorého hlavným osnovateľom bol Štefan Marko Daxner, sa v tom čase nepodarilo naplniť. Opierali sa oň ale zakladatelia Matice slovenskej v roku 1863 i zakladatelia Slovenskej národnej strany v roku 1871. Memorandumové požiadavky zostali základným programovým cieľom slovenských národovcov počas obdobia do vypuknutia prvej svetovej vojny, keď vrcholila maďarizácia na území Slovenska.

Bryndza sa na Slovensku začala vyrábať pred 220 rokmi

Detva (TASR) – Presne 220 rokov si tento rok pripomenie najstaršia prevádzka na výrobu bryndze na Slovensku v Detve. Bryndziareň rodiny Vagáčovcov začala vyrábať túto slovenskú špecialitu z ovčieho syra v roku 1787. Bryndziareň založil vtedy 28-ročný Ján Vagáč, ktorý prišiel do kraja pod Poľanou zo Starej Turej. Bryndza v jeho manufaktúre v dnešnej starej Detve sa z hrudiek ovčieho syra vyrábala ručne, pomocou drevených valkov. Mala ale trochu iné zloženie i chuť ako dnešná. Takúto bryndzu nazývali vtedy snajdka. Dnešnú podobu dostala bryndza až koncom 19. storočia, keď ju ako prvý pripravil zvolenský bryndziar Teodor Vallo. Začala sa plniť do drevených sudkov, zvaných geletky. Vtedy ju už v Detve

vyrábala jeden z potomkov zakladateľa prvej bryndziarne, Alexander Vagáč. Konjunktúru výroby dosiahla v 30. rokoch 20. storočia, keď sa vyvážala do viacerých krajín Európy. Záznamy hovoria, že v roku 1931 vyviezli z Detvy do cudziny až 20 vagónov bryndze. Vagáčova bryndziareň skončila s výrobou začiatkom 50. rokov uplynulého storočia, keď ju vtedajší režim zoštátnil. Bryndzu v nej však už ďalej nevyrábala. Po roku 1989 ju v reštitúcii získali vnukovia Štefana Vagáča, ktorý bol jej posledným majiteľom. Podľa informácií z Podpolianskeho múzea v Detve je dnes objekt bryndziarne v rekonštrukcii. Pôvodnému účelu už ale zrejme slúžiť nebude.

Malé vysvetlenie s krátkym dodatkom

Kanadský Slováč (5. máj 2007) uverejnil reportáž Spomienky na zašlé doby so snímku písacieho stroja, na ktorom sa údajne písali prvé čísla Kanadského Slováka. Nepochybujem! Pravdepodobne písací stroj, o ktorom je reč, pôvodne vlastnil môj nástupca František Kvetan. Po rokoch ho dal do úschovy vtedajšiemu tajomníkovi KSL J. Hudákovi, ktorý v tých časoch vážne presadzoval myšlienku stavby centrálnej budovy pre Ligu a noviny s muzeálnou miestnosťou, niekde v južnom Ontariu. Hádam nie som ďaleko od pravdy s malým dodatkom.

V Kalendári KSL na rok 1976 v príspevku Moje reminiscencie (str. 36), pred vyše 30 rokmi som napísal:

"Naše začiatky - pri organizácii i novinách - boli ťažké s mnohými nedostatkami. Keď sme začali vydávať Kanadský Slováč, nemali sme ani poriadny písací stroj. Ten čo sme mali, bol rozhegáný. Používal som svoj a keď bolo treba aj opravoval za vlastné. Keď v r. 1949 prišiel k novinám Konšto Čulen za výpomocného redaktora, dal sa mu ten starý, rozhegáný stroj. Povedal: "Štefan, na tej starej klapačke noviny sa robiť nedajú." Mal pravdu. Keď nebol dobrý pre mňa nebol dobrý ani pre neho. Kúpil sa mu nový, Underwood písací stroj za \$250.00. Za celý čas, čo som bol pri novinách používal som svoj bez akejkoľvek náhrady. Keď sme v roku 1952 kúpili tlačiareň vo Winnipegu, aj tam so mnou putoval. Až raz budeme mať vlastnú budovu a v nej zriadený ústav-múzeum, podarujem ho tam ako relikvii s ceduľkou: "Na tomto stroji boli písané prvé čísla Kanadského Slováka."

Štefan Hreha
zakladateľ a prvý redaktor KS



Štefan Hreha za redakčným stolom s písacím strojom, na ktorom sa písali prvé čísla Kanadského Slováka (1942).

Msgr. Tomáš Kujovský oslavoval 50. výročie kňazstva

Je 50 rokov veľa, alebo málo? V každom prípade je to milosť od Boha. Ako vek človeka na tejto planéte sa neposudzuje podľa dĺžky jeho rokov, ale podľa kvality jeho života a dobrých skutkov, tak aj 50 rokov kňazstva možno nazvať úctyhodným vekom.

A tejto milosti od Pána Boha sa dožil aj Rev. Msgr. Tomáš Kujovský, ktorý oslávil 50. rokov kňazstva 6. mája 2007 pri svätej omši v kostole sv. Petra v Elizabethtown, Pa za prítomnosti viacerých kňazov a farníkov. Pri tejto príležitosti obdržal aj čestné uznanie Snemu štátu Pensylvánia, ktoré prečítal zástupca štátu pán David Hickernell. Za tým sa konala slávnostná recepcia v Bishop Keeler Center Harrisburg, Pa, kde si prišlo vyše 200 pozvaných hostí uctiť jubilaanta.

Msgr. Kujovský vyjadril vďaka predovšetkým Pánu Bohu, rodičom, súrodencom a všetkým tým, ktorí mu pomáhali počas životných zastavení. Počas slávnostného obe-
du na jeho počesť zaspievali jeho obľúbené piesne detský súbor z Elizabethtown, Pa a prítomní Slováci.

Msgr. Tomáš Kujovský sa narodil ako najmladší zo siedmich detí Tomáša a Anny Ryška Kujovských, pochádzajúcim zo Slovenska. Vyrástol v Lebanone, Pa, neďaleko kostola sv. Cyrila a Metoda, kde aj v r. 1948 ukončil gymnázium. Vzorná katolícka výchova v rodine, ale aj príkladné prostredie školy sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Lebanone formovalo osobnosť budúceho kňaza. Túžil po poznaní a popri ďalšom štúdiu na Univerzite sv. Prekopa, teraz Benedictive University v Illinois a v Mariánskom seminári v Baltimore, študoval okrem slovenského jazyka aj taliančinu, francúzštinu, latinčinu, grécky a hebrejský jazyk. Dňa 11. mája 1957 prijal z rúk biskupa Georga L. Leecha sviatosť kňazstva v katedrále sv. Patricka v Harrisburgu. V roku 1964 bol menovaný riaditeľom školy Ducha Svätého v Mount Carmel, kde pôsobil osem rokov. Počas tohto obdobia neúnavne študoval a získaval ďalšie vzdelanie na Bloomsburg State University, Fordham University a Steubenville University. Ako kňaz pôsobil v šiestich farnostiach. Všade uplatňoval svoje organizačné schopnosti nielen ako pri výstavbe a rekonštrukcii kostolov, ale aj v rôznych charitatívnych organizáciách. Bol na čele Northern Deanery, poradca biskupa Daley, neskôr biskupa a v súčasnosti kardinála Keelera. V r. 1983 získal titul Prelát Jeho Svätosti Jána Pavla II. a v tom istom roku dostal hodnosť Monsignora v katedrále sv. Patricka v Harrisburg, Pa. V roku 1990 bol menovaný do funkcie sekretára Tribunálu v diecéze Harrisburg, Pa.

Monsignor Kujovský napriek tomu, že je už na dôchodku a nedávno prekonal operáciu srdca, svoje tempo nespomaľuje. V súčasnom období pracuje ako riaditeľ Archívu katolíckej diecézy v Harrisburgu a naďalej vypomáha ako kňaz kde je zapotreby.

Msgr. Tomáš Kujovský, vďaká vám za to, že sme našli vo vás dobrého duchovného pastiera aj v našom osobnom živote. Nech Pán Boh naďalej sprevádza vaše kroky, aby ste mohli spolu so sv. Pavlom povedať "Dobrý boj som bojoval" alebo "Pre mňa žiť je Kristus a zomrieť zisk".

Anna a Jozef Biroš



Msgr. Tomáš Kujovský v spoločnosti manželov Birošových.



Spolucelebranti slávnostnej svätej omši z príležitosti 50. výročia kňazstva Msgr. Tomáša Kujovského. Jubilant Msgr. Kujovský je v strede obrázku.

Slovo života na jún 2007

"Duch pravdy vás uvedie do plnej pravdy." (Jn 16, 13)

Evanjelium svojimi slovami pravdy priam fascinuje. Hovorí v ňom totiž ten, ktorý povedal: "Ja som pravda" (porov. Jn 14.6). Odhaľuje nám tým nekončiacie tajomstvo Boha a umožňuje nám poznať jeho plán lásky s ľudstvom - dať pravdu.

No táto pravda má v sebe tajomstvo nekonečnej hĺbky. Ako ju teda pochopiť a žiť v celej jej plnosti? Ježiš vie, že nie sme schopní zvládnuť jej závažnosť. Preto počas svojej poslednej večere s apoštolmi, skôr ako sa mal vrátiť k Otcovi, im sľubuje, že pošle svojho vlastného Ducha, aby im vysvetlil slová, ktoré vyriekol, a aby im i nám umožnil ich žiť.

"Duch pravdy vás uvedie do plnej pravdy."

Spoločenstvo veriacich túto pravdu pozná, lebo žije z Ježiša. Pod bezpečným vedením Ducha Svätého je zároveň na ceste k "plnosti pravdy". Dejiny Cirkvi sa tak dajú čítať ako dejiny postupného a čoraz hlbšieho poznávania tajomstva skrytého v Ježišovi a v jeho slovách. Na tejto ceste vedie Duch Cirkvi mnohorakými spôsobmi: cez meditovanie a konanie samotných veriacich, cez charizmy svätcov a napokon cez Učiteľský úrad Cirkvi (porov. Dei verbum, 8). Duch svätý sa prihovára aj v srdci každého veriaceho. Všade, kde prebýva, necháva počuť svoj "hlas". V každej chvíli vnuká odpúšťať, slúžiť, darovať sa, milovať. Učí, čo je dobré a čo je zlé. Pripomína a povzbudzuje žiť tie slová života, ktoré do nás evanjelium zasieva každý mesiac.

"Duch pravdy vás uvedie do plnej pravdy."

Ako teda budeme žiť tieto slová života? Tak, že budeme počúvať "hlas", ktorý sa ozýva v našom vnútri a vyzýva nás k poslušnosti voči Duchu Svätému, ktorý nás vedie, napomína a povzbudzuje. Chiara Lubichová to vysvetľuje takto: "Kresťan má kráčať pobádaný Duchom Svätým, ktorý potom môže pôsobiť v jeho srdci svojou tvorivou mocou a doviest' ho k svätosti, zbožšteniu a vzkrieseniu." Pre lepšie pochopenie, akoby zosilnenie tohto "hlasu" Ducha Svätého, nás Chiara vyzýva žiť v jednote. To nás naučí počúvať v sebe nielen hlas Ducha Svätého, ale aj "hlas Ježišov, lebo keď sme v ňom - Zmŕtvychstalom - zjednotení, je medzi nami prítomný." A keď je medzi nami Ježiš, Duch Svätý, "zdokonaľuje v každom z nás spôsob, akým počujeme jeho hlas". A Chiara dodáva: "Overili sme si, že najlepší spôsob, ako milovať Ducha Svätého, ako mu vzdávať úctu a udržiavať si ho vo svojich srdciach, je počúvať jeho hlas, lebo nám vie dať svetlo v každom okamihu nášho života. Keď sme počúvali tento hlas, s veľkým prekvapením sme zisťovali, ako sa kráča k dokonalosti: nedokonalosti sa postupne strácali a oveľa výraznejšie sa prejavovali čnosti.

"Duch pravdy vás uvedie do plnej pravdy."

Tieto slová života, ktoré sa čítajú na slávnosť Najsvätejšej Trojice, nás priam vyzývajú vyzývať Ducha Svätého: "Duchu Svätý, neprosíme Ťa o nič inšie, ako o Boha kvôli Bohu... Daj, aby sme život, ktorý nám ešte zostáva, prežili iba tak, že až do konca a v každom okamihu budeme v tvojej službe, lebo jedine teba chceme milovať a jedine tebe slúžiť. Bože, ty, najčistejší Duch, daj, nech sme ako prázdny kalich, ktorý ty naplníš...Boh, ktorý by mal vyžarovať z nášho ducha, z nášho srdca, z nášho výzoru, z našich slov, z našich skutkov, z nášho mlčania, z nášho života i z nášho umierania, mal by tu zostať aj po našom odchode z tohto sveta, v ktorom môžeme, ba musíme zanechať po sebe jedine žiarivú stopu jeho prítomnosti v nás, ale i vo svete, v tom, čo zostáva a žije, i v tom, čo sa rúca; máme ho zviditeľňovať chválou aj pomínutelnosťou všetkých vecí, aby sa uvoľnilo miesto pre toho, ktorý je Všetko, ktorý je Jediný, ktorý je Láska" (CH.Lubichová: Scritti spirituali).

Katolícke noviny

Gašparovič prijal zástupcov krajanských spolkov z 22 krajín sveta

Bratislava (TASR) – Prezident Ivan Gašparovič s manželkou prijal predstaviteľov slovenských krajanských spolkov a organizácií z 22 krajín sveta, ktorí sa v Bratislave zišli na Stálej konferencii Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí 2007. Prezident uviedol, že Slovensko zažíva v súčasnosti ďalšiu emigračnú vlnu, ale inú ako v rokoch dvadsiatych alebo sedemdesiatych. Podľa jeho slov žije a pracuje v súčasnosti napríklad v Írsku viac ako 33 tisíc Slovákov. "Za posledné mesiace sme zaznamenali, že Slovensko opustilo viac ako 160 tisíc ľudí, ktorí si išli hľadať prácu,"

konštatoval Gašparovič. Na jednej strane je podľa neho dobre, že dnes Slováci dokážu voľne cestovať a sú vítaní v iných krajinách. Avšak na druhej strane to je signál pre nás, aby sme doma vytvárali také podmienky, aby nemuseli odísť a "také podmienky, aby tí, ktorí odišli, sa mohli vrátiť domov a mohli sme Slovensko ďalej úspešne rozvíjať," dodala hlava štátu. Podľa štatistík dnes žije v zahraničí zhruba dva milióny Slovákov. Najviac - 1.2 milióna je ich v Spojených štátoch amerických, v Českej republike 375,000, v Maďarsku 110,000 a v Kanade 100,000.

Starších ľudí bude dramaticky pribúdať

Bratislava (TASR) – Počet starších ľudí na Slovensku sa bude v nasledujúcich rokoch dramaticky zvyšovať. Podľa prognóz Štatistického Úradu SR bude nárast podielu obyvateľov nad 65 rokov pokračovať až do roku 2025. Súčasne sa bude dramaticky znižovať počet ekonomicky činných obyvateľov vo veku 15 - 64-ročných. Ich podiel sa postupne znižuje zo 70.4 percenta v roku 2002 na hodnotu v rozpätí 66.6 až 68.4 percenta, kvôli prechodu viacerých ročníkov do produktívneho veku, informovala o tom Tatiana Sedláková zo Slovenského Červeného kríža.

185. výročie narodenia slovenského kňaza Jána Palárika

Divadelno-spevácky súbor Jána Palárika v Majcichove vyhlásil 1. ročník literárnej súťaže Palárikovi nasledovníci

Ak sa niečo hovorí o J. Palárikovi (1822 - 1870), tak by sa na prvom mieste malo vždy začať s tým, že to bol rímskokatolícky kňaz pôsobiaci vo vtedajšej Ostrihomskej arcidiecéze, kam sa začlenil na začiatku svojho prijatia do klerického stavu v roku 1839 štúdiom teológie v Ostrihome, Bratislave a Trnave.

Pre túto partikulárnu cirkev bol v roku 1847 vysvätený za kňaza - teda tohto roku je odvtedy 160 rokov - a celý svoj život zostáva verný svojmu kňazskému povolaniu; čiže už ako kaplán v Starom Tekove (1847-1850), kde zakladá Spolok striezlivosti; alebo ako kaplán v Štiavnických Baniach (1850 - 1851), kde začal vydávať prvý slovenský cirkevný časopis pre Cirkev a školu pod názvom Cyrill a Method. Za svoje odvážne názory musí svojou vernosť dokázať pred cirkevným súdom v Ostrihome (3.- 8. januára) ako aj pri následných duchovných cvičeniach - za trest - v kláštore františkánov v Ostrihome (12. -28. januára 1851). Po preložení za kaplána do Banskej Štiavnice (1851) presťahuje aj vydávanie Cyrilla a Methoda pričom v Štiavnicach k nemu pridáva aj List pro výchovu, školu a literaturu a dosvedčuje svoju poslušnosť a vernosť Cirkvi, keď pri odchode z Banskej Štiavnice prosí banskobystrického biskupa Štefana Moysesu, aby sa postaral o časopis. Ako nemecký kaplán a katechéta v Budapešti u sv. Terézie a v Krajinskom slepeckom ústave (1851 -1862) zostáva služobníkom Katolíckej cirkvi a rodu verným Slovákom, keď vynikajúco rediguje Katolícke noviny pre dom a cirkev, čo vidieť aj z toho, že rozhodujúco prispieva svojimi článkami k víťazstvu slovenčiny nad češtinou. V Budapešti organizuje postavenie pomníka kňazovi a básnikovi Jánovi Hollému na Dobrej Vode, prekladá tri zväzky Spisov pre mládež od Krištofa Schmida, spolu s Viktorínom vydávajú: slovenský beletristický almanach Svornosť (1857), časopis pre literatúru a umenie Sokol (1861) a obaja spolu sú hlavnými aktérmi vydávania Pešťbudínskych vedomostí (1861); pod pseudonymom Beskydov napíše tri divadelné hry - veselohry (Incognito 1858, Drotár 1860, Zmierenie alebo Dobrodružstvo pri obžinkoch 1862), píše články do Priateľa ľudu a Priateľa školy a literatúry, zúčastní sa Memoranda národa slovenského v Martine (1861), uverejňuje úvahu O slovenskej vzájomnosti (1862 - časopis Sokol, 1864 - almanach Lipa) a u sv. Anny v Budapešti zorganizuje zádušnú sv. omšu za zomrelého českého slavistu Václava Hanku (1861) - pričom jeho reč vyjde tlačou.

Napokon zakotví v Majcichove, kde spravuje aj Abrahám a Hoste ako filiálky. Počas svojej farárskej služby napíše Katechizmus pre počiatovníkov, Prvú čítanku a mluvnicu, Druhú čítanku a mluvnicu, píše literárne a polemické články, divadelnú drámu Dimitrij Samozvanec (1866), stáva sa spoluzakladateľom Matice slovenskej v Martine (1863) a Spolku sv. Vojtecha v Trnave (1870).

Ale to ho už odvoláva z tohto sveta Pán: "Správne, dobrý a verný sluha; bol si verný nad málom, ustanovím ňa nad mnohým: vojdi do radosti svojho pána." (Mt 25,21)

A tak Ján Palárik - Slováč, ktorý pochádzal z kysuckej Rakovej - 185. výročie narodenia si tiež toho roku pripomínáme, kde sa mu doma v rodine od mamy: Anny rod. Pastorkovej a otca: Šimona, organistu a domáceho učiteľa, dostalo prvého vzdelania: viery a mravov; kde získal svoju náklonnosť k literatúre, hudbe a spevu; ako vynikajúci študent na Gymnázium v Žiline, Kecskeméte a poslucháč teológie v Ostrihome, Bratislave a Trnave, s mimoriadnou znalosťou siedmich svetových jazykov a výnimočnou schopnosťou pre cirkevný a národný život - odovzdáva vo svojich štyridsiatich rokoch života a po dvadsiatich rokoch kňazstva svoju dušu Stvoriteľovi.

Je úžasné sledovať, čo Palárik prežil a čo dokázal! Ako vedel tvorivosťou naplniť celé svoje bohaté dielo, ktoré nám zanechal. A preto ak chceme zachovať jeho odkaz, budme tvorivými aj my! Aspoň v písaní poézie a prózy...

Ďakujeme preto všetkým, ktorí na Slovensku: v Rakovej, Trnave, Opoji a v Majcichove ako i v USA - náš majcichovský rodák Jožko Smák, dopisovateľ JEDNOTY, pochopili pri vyhlásení 1. ročníka literárnej súťaže Palárikovi nasledovníci, ktorú vyhlásil Divadelno-spevácky súbor Jána Palárika v Majcichove, meritum veci a ochotne sa do nej zapojili a pripravili slávnostné vyhlásenie výsledkov, 2. mája 2007: ako spoluorganizátori - Obec Raková, Farnosť Raková, ZŠ Raková, Cirkevná ZŠ Jána Palárika Raková, Arcibiskupské Gymnázium Trnava, Pedagogická a sociálna akadémia bl. Laury Trnava, Spolok sv. Vojtecha Trnava, Obec Opoj. ZŠ Najsvätejšej Trojice Opoj, Obec Majcichov, ZŠ Jána Palárika Majcichov a Rímskokatolícka cirkev, farnosť Majcichov. Za podpory bývalých starostov z Rakovej - Františka Broša a z Majcichova - Pavla Pinčeka, ktorí sú už čestnými členmi DSSJP v Majcichove, ale za svoje si súťaž vzali aj ich nástupcovia: Anton Heglas, starosta z Rakovej a Ing. Jozef Adámek, starosta z Majcichova.

Osobitne ďakujem zakladajúcim i ostatným členom DSSJP a členom Prípravného Výboru slávnostného vyhlásenia 1. ročníka literárnej súťaže Palárikovi nasledovníci pod vedením vedúcej Súboru Mgr. Anny Čičmanovej ako i všetkým, za čo nech majú u Boha svoju odmenu!

Tešíme sa spolu, že na slávnostnom vyhlásení výsledkov sa zúčastnili: Mons. Thlic. Vendlín Pleva, riaditeľ SSV v Trnave; vsdp. dekan Michal Pokopec z Malaciek; vsdp. Mgr. Roman Skolozdra - farár z Rakovej a lektor podielovej knihy SSV na rok 2007; vsdp. dekan Mgr. František Galvánek, básnik - duchovný Nemocnice s Poliklinikou v Považskej Bystrici; vsdp. dekan Ján Kamenský, náboženský



Ján Palárik

spisovateľ, duchovný sestier vincentiek v Beluškých Slatinách; Ing. Ivan Haščík, riaditeľ Arcibiskupského školského úradu z Trnavy a starostovia obcí Opoj, Hronské Kľačany a Hoste.

Myslím, že Ján Palárik má za nás radosť! Nezaspime preto na vavrínoch a preto hor sa do 2. ročníka súťaže tvorivosti, ktorý si v rámci DSSJP dovoľujeme vyhlásiť spolu s ďalšou Palárikovskou obcou - Starým Tekovom na školský rok 2007/2008.

Dr. Pavol Zemko, farár v Majcichove a excur. v Opoji

Slovenská katolícka púť do West Haverstraw, N.Y

Spolok svätého Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva slovenskú verejnosť a známych na Slovenskú katolícku púť, ktorá sa uskutoční v nedeľu 12. augusta 2007 v Marian Shrine Salesians of Don Bosco, West Haverstraw, New York 10993; Tel.: (845) 947-2200.

Program púte

Spoveď pred svätou omšou; Svätá omša o 11:00 hodine dopoludnia; Obed o 12:30 hodine odopoludnia; Ružencová procesia o 2:30 hodine odopoludnia.

Dôležité upozornenie

Kto má záujem cestovať na túto púť autobusom, nech sa prihlási u brata Jozefa Bilika! Autobus bude pristený pri Slovenskom kostole Sv. Jána Nepomuckého v meste New York. Blížšie informácie o púti vám podajú: Jozef Bilik: (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová (201) 641-8922.

Zbierka na Detský domov Ratolesť na Slovensku

Prosíme o pomoc pre deti umiestnené v Detskom domove RATOLESŤ v obci Trnieň okrem Zvolen, kde žije 85 detí rôzneho veku. Je to výzva k všetkým tým, ktorým nie je ľahostajný osud sirôt, pretože sa situácia na Slovensku vo veciach financií pre Detské domovy stále nezlepšila. Naša humánna akcia na pomoc Detským domovom začala v r. 1995 a postupne sme navštívili: Detský domov Štós, Východné Slovensko; Detský domov na Železnej studničke v Bratislave; Detský domov pre mentálne postihnuté deti v Ošadnici okrem Čadca, ktorý sme navštívili dvakrát; Detský domov Hviezdička v Železnej Breznici, okrem Zvolen; Detský domov Nádej v Bernolákove okrem Senec a Detský domov v Hriňovej okrem Zvolen.

Tento rok už po ôsmykrát sa chystáme na jeseň navštíviť spomínaný Detský domov Ratolesť. Táto výzva je pre všetkých vás krajanov, aby ste mysleli na tieto deti, ktoré potrebujú našu lásku a pomoc. Tak ako v minulosti príspevky môžete poukázať na Slovenský kostol sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East - 66th. Str. New York, N.Y. 10021 pod heslom "Detské domovy na Slovensku". Po skončení akcie bude uverejnené vyúčtovanie.

Blížšie informácie vám podajú: Milan a Henrieta Dait tel.: (201) 641-8922.



FOTO TASR - Radovan Stoklasa
Turista sa pozerá 4. júna 2007 zo šiestipodlažnej mestskej veže v Trenčíne, ktorá od začiatku júna opäť víta záujemcov, ktorí si chcú prezrieť centrum mesta z výšky 32 metrov. Trenčania a návštevníci mesta môžu využiť túto možnosť do konca septembra.

T ú ž b a

Myslel som, že si už odišla navždy
a nikdy nevrátiš sa späť.
V srdci nemôžem uhasiť smäd,
túžim za tebou ako kvet po daždi.

Po daždi objaví sa dúha
a v očiach znova žiari nádej.
Ticho kráčam po mojej ceste malej,
len túžba robí mi v srdci druha.

Pavol Sirchich