



# Jednota

THE UNION

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## Register Today for 2013 National Picnic

By Susan Ondrejco, National Fraternal Activities Director



Attention, FCSU Members: Are you ready for a fun day of fraternalism? This year, we will hold our National Picnic at the Frogbridge Resort –an 86 acre all-inclusive natural wonderland centrally located in New Jersey about an hour away from Philadelphia and New York City, and easily accessible from all major roadways including the NJ Turnpike. This year's event – FREE to all FCSU members – promises to be a fraternal event you'll remember for years to come – filled with fun activities to choose from

such as swimming, kayaking, paddleboats, baseball, basketball, tennis, soccer, mini golf, driving range, horseshoes – plus, a delicious all-you-can-eat picnic served under a picturesque covered pavilion. Handicapped parking and golf carts are available for guests with special needs.

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## Plan Now for 2013 National Golf Tournament

By Susan Ondrejco, National Fraternal Activities Director

This year's national fraternal golf tournament will be held near Canton, Ohio, Friday, July 19 – Sunday, 21, 2013. The fun starts Friday night at the Holiday Inn Canton when they host our hospitality evening. On Saturday, July 20, a shotgun start is scheduled from the Wilshire Golf Course in Bolivar. Wilshire Golf Course has created the most scenic and challenging golf experience in Northeastern Ohio.

Wilshire Golf Course has treelined fairways, gently rolling terrain and numerous sand traps that call for accurately placed tee  
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Christ Handing the Keys to St. Peter by Pietro Perugino (1481-82) Fresco, Cappella Sistina, Vatican.

## Our Papal Hymn

By Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M., Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA

The traditional Papal hymn inside this issue of Jednota is most appropriate at this present time.

We praise and thank God for the inspirational selection of Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio. He has already demonstrated his characteristic mode of reaching out with a preferential option for the poor.

He also is focused on ecumenical issues. As an Archbishop in Argentina, he co-authored in 2010, "About Heaven and Earth" with Argentine Rabbi Abraham Skorka. In this book he champions interfaith dialogue. He humbly recalls his efforts to build bridges with other religious leaders. He was a frequent guest at Evangelical Christian services and Islamic religious ceremonies. For him, dialogue "assumes that the other has something good to say."

It is noteworthy that large groups of Orthodox Christians were present for his inauguration. In particular, their Istanbul-based leader, Bartholomew I, was present. This is the first patriarch of that church to attend a papal installation in nearly 1,000 years.

This hymn has been a Papal anthem sung in Slovakia whenever the Holy Father visited, as well as for church-related anniversaries and/or dedications. Whenever it is sung, the congregation stands up, as it would for any national anthem.

It was included in the Sacred Concert provided by religious women of various congrega-

*continued on page 9*



## 2013 Membership Meet aboard the Fabulous Crown Princess

The FCSU has planned its 2013 Membership Meet aboard the Crown Princess. A premier ship in a line awarded "Best Itineraries" nine consecutive years, cruising aboard the Crown Princess ensures you a magnificent experience from the moment you board her. From her nearly 900 balconies, you can enjoy sweeping views of lush Caribbean landscapes and dazzling seascapes and then spend leisure time at three amazing islands.

For details, see p 13 of this issue.

Becoming a member is easy ... Great products on pages 3 and 11

# Insights and Viewpoints



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

May 5, 2013

Sixth Sunday of Easter

John 14:23-29

### Gospel Summary

When Jesus says, in today's gospel, "Whoever loves me will keep my word," he wishes to remind us that, though it is easy to say that we love him, it is far more difficult to obey him by offering our love to our fellow humans. Such concern for oth-

ers will be the indispensable proof of our authentic love of Jesus, for to love Jesus means ultimately to commit oneself to imitate his unconditional love of others.

This challenge is very difficult, and may even seem impossible at times, but our feeble efforts will be strengthened by the love of the Father--the same divine Father whose love is revealed in Jesus. And when we allow that divine love to flow through us, we will discover that both Jesus and the Father will make their dwelling with us in an ineffable mystical communion. Nothing could be more desirable.

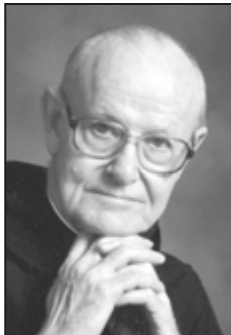
Jesus promises to send us the Advocate, which is the special name John gives to the Holy Spirit. An advocate is one who stands with another to take away that person's fear and sense of aloneness or inadequacy. This divine Advocate will thus dwell deep within us and will continue the work of Jesus by drawing out all the implications of his teaching.

### Life Implications

John's gospel is full of reminders that Jesus has come among us to reveal the true nature of God as one who cherishes his love far more than his power. It is for that reason that Jesus is called the Word of God, for he reveals what is hidden in God just as our words make known our hidden thoughts.

When we accept in faith the testimony of Jesus about the love of God for us, we are liberated from the need to worry excessively about ourselves and are thus enabled to become more and more aware of others and more ready to share our love with them. When this happens, we are drawn into that powerful flow of life and love which courses between the Father and Jesus. In this sense, we can understand how the Father and Jesus will "make their dwelling" with us. When this happens, we discover for the first time the real meaning of our lives, for we will then become what our creator has always intended us to be.

The Advocate/Spirit is given to us, therefore, as one who stands at our side, in bright days and dark, to help us understand the reality of this love of God that Jesus offers to us. As we do so, we will become ever more united with Jesus who has revealed the Father's love and who wishes to lead us back to the source of that love. It will be only then that we will begin to understand the meaning of coming home.



Demetrius R. Dumm  
O.S.B.

May 12, 2013

Seventh Sunday of Easter

John 17:20-26

### Gospel Summary

This Sunday's gospel passage contains part of the prayer Jesus addressed to his Father following his Last Supper discourse with its the promise of the holy Spirit. Jesus prays for his disciples and for all who will believe in him through their words. The depth and poetic beauty of Jesus' prayer defies making an adequate prose summary. Principal elements of the prayer are listed here merely as an aid to memory for the reader -- communion in the life of Father and Son, desire that the world come to believe in him, desire that all may see his eternal glory, desire that the Father's love be in all who believe.

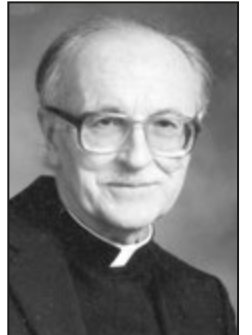
### Life Implications

We usually associate the presence of the Spirit that Jesus gave to his disciples after the resurrection with the audacity with which they preached the gospel (the *parresia* of Acts 4:13,29,31). The first reading of today's liturgy from the Acts of the Apostles alludes to that understanding in recounting the story of Stephen ("filled with the holy Spirit") who was enabled to follow Jesus with courage even to death in his martyrdom. Our gospel passage perhaps is even a more striking illustration of the belief that Jesus shares his Spirit with the church.

What could be more audacious than to express in words the intimate communion of Jesus with his Father in prayer as today's gospel passage does? The church today continues to pray with the Spirit of Jesus, particularly in its eucharistic liturgy. The Spirit also guides each of us in our unique, individual prayer so that we may become more aware that Jesus lives and prays in us. And the Spirit enables us to live in the awareness that the Father loves us with the same love that he loves Jesus. (Raymond E. Brown in his commentary on the fourth gospel calls this last implication of Jesus' prayer "breathtaking.")

The prayer of Jesus is not past tense: as Risen Lord Jesus prays in the eternal now with the same desire of love, and invites us to pray with him in company with all the angels and saints. This is the truth that the second reading of today's liturgy from the Book of Revelation calls to our attention. And this is the truth Saint Augustine taught newly baptized Christians in his Easter Sunday sermon of the year 415. In the eucharistic liturgy we already now are participants with the Risen Lord in the liturgy of heaven. "You are urged to lift up your hearts. That is only right for the members of Christ. If the head had not gone ahead before, the members would never follow. So our head is in heaven. That is why, after the words Lift up your hearts, you reply, We have lifted them up to the Lord."

Jesus continues to pray that all may be one just as the Father and he are one in order that the world may come to believe. In Jesus' mind, the unity and love among his followers will draw all people to believe in him. The separation and hostility among Christians surely is a scandal in the strictest sense -- an obstacle to belief. "See how they attack one another" seems so often to have replaced the saying of pagans about Christians in the ancient world, "See how they love one another." We might recall that at the Last Supper Jesus was aware that he would soon become the innocent victim of violence. Nevertheless, Jesus refused to save himself by responding to violence with "sacred" violence, however justified that response might appear. He experienced God as loving; therefore, he could not be anything else. He knew that even "sacred" violence results only in deeper separation and deeper hostility. It cannot transform the human heart. Only the Father's love in Jesus and in us can work that supreme miracle.



Campion P. Gavaler,  
O.S.B.

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

**THINK ABOUT IT!**

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, MAY 8	MONDAY, APRIL 29
WEDNESDAY, MAY 22	MONDAY, MAY 13
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12	MONDAY, JUNE 3

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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First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"  
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398  
FAX: 216-642-4310

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## Report of the National Vice President

Reverend Father, President Rajec and members of The Board of Directors...

Before I present my annual report...As always...I'd like to thank The Membership and Marketing Committee, which is comprised of Brothers Andrew Rajec, Kenneth Arendt and George Matta, for all the time and effort they spend on the problems and solutions that concern membership and marketing. Each and every member is concerned with the growth and success of our Jednota.

### Membership

As you will see by our reports, the First Catholic Slovak Union is financially and fraternally sound. Our insurance in force increased by 3 million plus over 2011. The annuity income was over 20 million in 2012. Our assets increased 22 million over the year before and we had an increase in surplus of 1.6 million.

As you know, one of the most important phase of our society is new membership, which brings in premium income. We needed an increased sales force to compliment our branch recommenders. This is what we have been working on – sales agents. To date we have 128 under contract. We will go into detail on these items when we get into marketing.

The Membership and Marketing Committee would like to express their sincere thanks to those recommenders who consistently sign up new or increase business during our campaigns.

Now for last years "Top Guns"...our society's "Best of the Best"!

Congratulations to the society's TOP 10 Producers by Amount of Insurance Sold for the 2012 Membership Campaign.



Andrew R. Harcar Sr.

1. John A. Jurcenko
2. Dorothy J. Petrus
3. Theresa Behil Keiser
4. Kyra Leigh Kowasic
5. Audrey J. Balazik
6. Arlo H. Meeker
7. John N. Bauer
8. Frances Tarquinio
9. Vicki Lynn Schaub
10. Theodore F. Kozenko

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## Report of the Fraternal Activities Director

Fr. Nasta, President Rajec, and Members of the FCSU Board,

The 2012 Bowling tournament was held the weekend of May 4-6 in Wickliffe, Ohio. This was a first attempt at a joint fraternal event with three other Slovak fraternal. There were 270 bowlers, total, in the tournament and 100 of them were FCSU members. The banquet was held Embassy Suites in Beachwood and 49 FCSU members attended. The "Don't Stand a Chance" and "Better Luck Next Year" Awards were presented at the banquet to the men's and women's team in last place.

The 2012 Golf tournament was held the weekend of July 14-15 in Sharon, Pennsylvania. This golf tournament was held as a joint tournament with the NSS. 104 golfers participated in the weekend-long festivities, where 67 of the golfers were FCSU members. The banquet featured a variety act. In addition to the monetary prizes, donations were solicited to provide additional skill prizes. A hole in one contest took place on both Saturday and Sunday.

The 2012 Photo Contest had 83 entries. This is a popular event for the young and old. Congratulations to all the winners.

The 2012 Coloring Contest was again met with enthusiasm from our young members. We received 144 entries. Congratulations to all the entrants and especially to all the winners. An analysis of the

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## STUDENTS

### You May Be Eligible To Win A Scholarship If:

- \* You are a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union's – St. Clement's Society Branch #40, of Streator, Illinois.
- \* You are in high school and have applied for a fall term at a qualifying institution OR
- \* You are attending a Private Grade School

St. Clement's Society Branch 40 will be offering scholarships to their youth members. They will be giving out one – one time \$500.00 scholarship for college and one – one time \$250.00 scholarship for a Private Grade School student.

These scholarships are solely funded by your local lodge (Branch #40), not the national office.

For more criteria and an application, please call Theresa at (815) 672-6142 (leave message) or e-mail her at ttegraves@mchsi.com for an application.

Applications must be postmarked by May 17, 2013.

## Report of the National Treasurer

Reverend Father Nasta, President Rajec and Brother and Sister Officers:

I am pleased to report that all the financials and other reports as required by the various states where the First Catholic Slovak Union is licensed to do business have all been properly filed by March 1, 2013.

Now is the time of the year to review the investment climate for the year 2012. Interest rates, specifically on bond investments, have remained generally low for the past three years. The equity market, at least for the time being, appears to be returning to more favorable periods. The Dow Jones Index has recently exceeded its high time high of \$14,447.29.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index, the most popular market measurer for investments funds closed at \$1,556.22, led by financial companies. That's a sign many investors believe the market and economy are on solid footing, said Quincy Krosby, market strategist at Prudential Financial.

The International Markets particularly the economies of some European nations continue to struggle. Interest rates are maintained at low levels, encouraging banks to borrow from the U.S. Federal Reserve, resulting in continuing low interest rates. Government sponsored bonds, such as FNMA and FHLMC are calling bonds with moderate interest rates as soon as possible. They reissue new bonds with low interest rates and short maturities. The NAIC determined that these bonds are no longer exempt from the Asset Valuation Reserves resulting in an increase in the AVR.

Our investment portfolio continues to do well in spite of the continued low interest rates, resulting in purchase of shorter maturities and larger investments in CMO's, which provide more frequent flow of cash through pay downs. In addition, there is a slight increase in other securities, such as municipal bonds.



George F. Matta

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## Report of the Internal Audit Team

The Internal Audit Team conducted audits of different processes of the First Catholic Slovak Union for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. The audits were performed in accordance with the bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada, effective January 1, 2011.

THE AUDIT PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES INCLUDED, BUT WERE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Expense Vouchers
  - Review expense vouchers submitted.
  - Ensure expense vouchers contain required and relevant documentation
  - calculations are correct
  - approvals are obtained
- Death Claims
  - Test death claims processed.

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## FCSU LIFE ANNUITY & IRA

### INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2013

Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.60% APY
Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA's	3.25% APY
with the "Cash Interest" Option	3.00% APY
New six-year fixed rate Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.25% APY
New "Park 2 Annuity" (NOT AVAILABLE IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK)	2.25% APY
New Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA—1st yr guarantee (new Park Free Plus maximum deposit \$25,000.00 PER PERSON)	1.90% APY
New Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	2.75% APY

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRA's, Please contact your local branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682

Website: [www.FCSU.com](http://www.FCSU.com) Email: [fcsu@aol.com](mailto:fcsu@aol.com)  
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2013 PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

**OPEN:**

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and asked Father Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain, to lead the prayer.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President  
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President  
George F. Matta, Treasurer  
Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain (By invitation of the President)

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES:**

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the February 2013 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

The Treasurer presented a written report and answered all the Executive Committee's questions.

**INVESTMENT UPDATES:**

The Executive Secretary reviewed the Matlin Patterson Fund (MPAM), UBS Fund, and MAI Fund, and gave a complete transaction report for the month.

Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt submitted a written report to the Executive Committee. The report gave a complete update of the investments and transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB).

**PORTFOLIO REVIEW:**

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee on the report from our portfolio custodian, Key Bank, and found everything in order and answered the Committee's questions.

**AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:**

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., will give his annual extensive Investment Portfolio transaction report on Friday, March 15, 2013, at the Annual Board of Directors Meeting. Each member of the Executive Committee received a copy of the presentation in advance for his review.

**CURRENT ANNUITY INTEREST RATES:**

The President led an extensive review on the current annuity interest rates and it was decided the rates will be adjusted on April 1, 2013.

**SALES AND MARKETING:**

The Vice President reviewed our sales production report for the different regions and the report of our independent agents. This report is always mailed to our Regional Directors for their information. The Vice President stated we are still continuing to recruit new agents. Following the report, the Vice President answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The Vice President reviewed the 2013 seminar schedule. He is asking the Regional Directors for their assistance in setting up the seminars for 2013. The Vice President announced there will be a sales seminar following the District 6 meeting on April 14, 2013, and following the District 17 meeting on April 21, 2013.

The Vice President said he and the Executive Secretary will advertise an incentive plan they are developing to help the recommenders receive their state license. Recommenders are to contact the home office for more details.

The Vice President stated he has begun looking at sites for a 2013 Membership Meet, and as more information becomes available, he will inform the Executive Committee.

**ADVERTISING:**

The Executive Secretary stated he will continue advertising our products and annuity rates in our Jednota newspaper, mailings, and on our website. The Executive Secretary further stated we will continue to add new addresses as we receive them and using the current e-mail addresses we have on record to advertise our products and inform our members of updated information. The Executive Secretary stated he is reviewing costs of advertising in the small local newspapers and possibly advertising in a few as a test trial.

**FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES:**

The President updated the Executive Committee on the joint activities planned

with the other Slovak fraternal. He reminded everyone of the FCSU Bowling Tournament on May 3-5, 2013, in Buffalo, New York, and the Golf Tournament on July 20-21, 2013, in Canton, Ohio. The President stated he is encouraging the Fraternal Activities Director to explore activities with the other Slovak fraternal.

The President updated the Executive Committee on the National Picnic which will be held on August 11, 2013 at FROGBRIDGE Picnics & Special Events Entertainment Park in Millstone Township, New Jersey. The President stated the contract has been signed to secure the date. The picnic will be advertised on our website, newspaper, and included in the branch mailing. The President stated that we are considering on-line registration for the convenience of our members. The President stated he is expecting around 300 members to attend the picnic.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:****MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES**

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

**MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS**

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

Disbursements for the month of February 2013:

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 325,000.02
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 56,850.23
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

The Executive Secretary also presented the Membership and Annuity Report. The Executive Committee reviewed the remainder of the disbursements and the Executive Secretary answered all questions.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

The President announced Meetings of Jednota, Inc., and Jednota Properties will immediately follow the Board of Directors Meeting on Saturday, March 16, 2013. The FCSU Pension Board will hold their meeting at 4:00 p.m. on March 16, 2013. The Pension Board Trustees include three elected members by the convention delegates (Christopher Kaluznik, Jerry Simon, and Karen Sterling), two Board Members (Andrew Rajec and Kenneth Arendt), and one elected staff employee (Joseph Mitrik). The President stated our Pension Fund is completely funded and exceeds all IRS requirements. Edward DePersis, Financial Consultant, will give the Trustees a full report at the meeting on Saturday.

Reverend Thomas Nasta announced he has been invited to celebrate Mass and give the homily for the Slovak Day at Kennywood Park in July. The Executive Committee congratulated Father Nasta on this honor.

**REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:**

The request for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

**ADJOURN:**

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

The President asked Father Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain, to close the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec  
President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary

## Reminder For All Branches

Among the requirements to complete in order to qualify for your branch stipend, under Bylaw Section 14. RULES GOVERNING LOCAL BRANCHES, is the following:

### 14.01 General Rules

a) Branch and district meetings must be held in the close proximity of the hub of its members. The meetings shall be held at least semiannually, one of which must be for the elections of officers, who shall assume their duties upon election. **Notice of each of these meetings shall be published in the Official Organ at least thirty (30) days in advance of such meeting.**

**First Catholic Slovak Union**

**2013 Annual Golf Tournament  
July 19 - 21, 2013**

**Deadline for entry forms and hotel reservations is June 19<sup>th</sup>**



**Friday: Fraternal Hospitality Night – 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM**  
We will kick-off the weekend on Friday evening with Hospitality Night beginning at 6:00 PM at the Holiday Inn Canton. Our evening will begin with food, refreshments, socializing.

**Hotel** - We have rooms booked at the Holiday Inn Canton at a rate of \$119.00 +tax per night. Please reference the First Catholic Slovak Union when making your reservations to ensure you receive this rate.

**Saturday: Individual Competition**  
We will begin with a shotgun at 8:00 AM. Please make sure to arrive at the course no later than 7:00 AM.

**Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes**

**Mass:** Mass will be held at 5:00 PM

**Banquet:** Cocktails at 6:00 PM with buffet dinner at 6:30 PM  
Roast beef and chicken marsala are the buffet entrée choices with the chef's accompaniments, tossed salad, seasonal fruit bowl, rolls, and the chef's sweet table. A cash bar will be available.

**Sunday: Individual Competition-Round 2:**  
We will begin with a shotgun at 8:30 AM. Please make sure to arrive at the course no later than 8:00 AM.

**Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes**

**Awards BBQ:** Lunch will begin at 1:00 PM and be available throughout the afternoon. Grilled steak, baked potatoes, salad, rolls, and 2 soft drinks.

*Through the generosity of our sponsors this year, your souvenir will be a golf shirt. Please include your size on the registration form to ensure you get the correct size.*

We are looking forward to a great fraternal weekend and hope that you can share it with us.

If you have any questions contact Susan Ondrejco at (412) 421-7967 or [sueo99@yahoo.com](mailto:sueo99@yahoo.com)

**2013 Golf Tournament Info Sheet**

**Friday, July 19**

- ◆ Hospitality Night, Holiday Inn Canton, 6:00 - 9:30 PM

**Saturday, July 20**

- ◆ Registration begins at 7 AM. Shotgun starts at 8:00 AM.
- ◆ Wilkshire Golf Course
  - 10566 Wilkshire Blvd. Bolivar, OH
  - NO Alcoholic Beverages allowed to be brought on the premises. All alcoholic beverages must be bought from Wilkshire golf course.
- ◆ Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes
  - sponsored by Bruce & DePersis
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:00pm at the Holiday Inn Canton.
- ◆ Cocktails at 6 PM with buffet dinner at 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn Canton

**Sunday, July 21**

- ◆ Shotgun starts at 8:30 AM. Please arrive no later than 8:00 AM.
- ◆ Zoar Golf Course
  - 8229 Dover Zoar Rd. NE Dover, OH
- ◆ Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes
  - sponsored by AQS Asset Management
- ◆ Awards Barbeque to begin at 1 PM
  - partially sponsored by Pin Point Computer Systems

**Hotel Information**

Prices have been negotiated at the following hotel:

**Holiday Inn Canton**  
4520 Everhard Rd.  
Canton, OH 44718  
330-494-2770

Rate: \$119/night +tax

**\*\* Cut off date June 28, 2013, for Group Rate\*\***

**\*\* Mention the First Catholic Slovak Union to receive the Group Rate \*\***

Hotel check in time is 3 PM on Friday. Checkout time is 12 noon.

**First Catholic Slovak Union  
2013 National Golf Tournament  
July 19 – 21, 2013**

**Zoar and Wilkshire Golf Courses**  
near Canton, OH

**Deadline for Entry Forms is June 19, 2013**

Sat. Banquet (X)	Sunday BBQ (X)	9 Holes Only* (X)	Polo Size	Name	Address	Phone or E-Mail	Branch and Certificate Number
1							
2							
3							
4							

\*For women or seniors age 75+. 9-hole players must play together; no 18-hole player and 9-hole player foursomes allowed.

**GOLFERS (fees are listed per person):**

18-Hole Players	\$81.00
9-Hole Players	\$41.00
Tournament Fee	\$ 7.00
Prize Fee	\$12.00
Saturday Banquet	\$15.00
Sunday BBQ	\$15.00

**NON-GOLFERS:**

**Please Choose ALL that apply & indicate number attending**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Will attend Hospitality Night @ \$0.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Banquet Dinners @ \$25.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ FCSU Member Banquet Dinners @ \$15.00
- \_\_\_\_\_ Will attend Sunday BBQ @\$15.00

Mail Entry Fee Payable to:  
FCSU Activities

Mail to:  
FCSU Golf  
234 Ilion St.  
Pgh. PA 15207

**Room accommodations provided by**

Holiday Inn Canton  
4520 Everhard Rd.  
Canton, OH 44718  
330-494-2770

Room Rates: \$119 + tax per night - indicate you are with the FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION

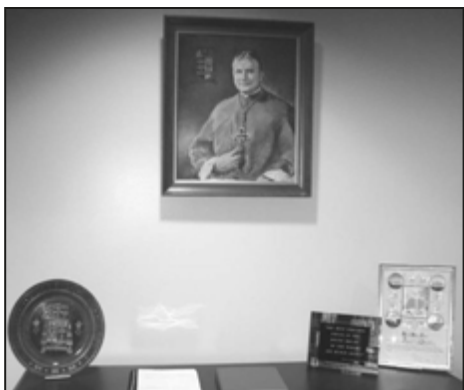
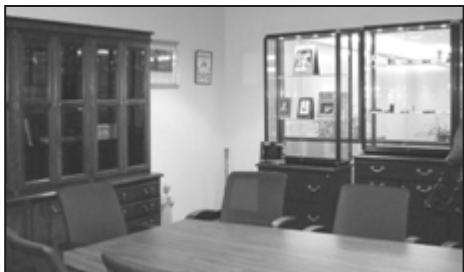
Check in time: 3 PM

**Deadline for Reservations is June 28, 2013**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM**



(L – R) Daniel Lowery, Ph.D., President, Calumet College of St. Joseph; Rudolph Bernath, Region 7 Director, First Catholic Slovak Union; Most Reverend Dale J. Melczek, D.D., Bishop of Gary, IN; Reverend Monsignor Joseph Semancik; and Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President, First Catholic Slovak Union.



The Center, located at Calumet College, covers many aspects of Bishop Grutka's life and makes available to the public documentation of his work.



The Bishop of Gary, IN, the Most Reverend Dale J. Melczek, D.D., blesses the new Bishop Grutka Center.



Just a few of the items you will find in the archives of the Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Center at Calumet College of St. Joseph, Whiting, IN.

(L – R) Monsignor Joseph Semancik and Dr. Anthony Bonta

## Blessing and Dedication of Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Center

**Monsignor Joseph Semancik**

On February 22, 2013, Bishop Dale J. Melczek, D.D. Bishop of Gary, blessed and dedicated the newly created Bishop Grutka Center established at Calumet College of St. Joseph in Whiting, IN.

The Center contains the memorabilia and archival materials of Bishop Grutka, First Bishop of Gary and the First American Bishop entirely of Slovak ancestry.

The First Catholic Slovak Union was represented at the dedication and ceremonies by its National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., and Regional Director Rudolph Bernath. Vice President Harcar spoke of the support which Bishop Grutka gave to the American Slovak community, coming to Jednota events and helping keep the Slovak spirit and culture alive.

A presentation on the life and work of Bishop Grutka was highlighted by a talk by Anthony Bonta, Ph.D. Dr. Bonta, of Italian and Slovak heritage, had written his history dissertation about Bishop Grutka. He particularly noted the Bishop's work with the Institute of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Rome and his work in speaking through Radio Free Europe and Vatican radio to the communist-ruled Slovak people. This activity made him "persona non grata" and prevented him from visiting Slovakia.

There were commentaries on Bishop Grutka by Monsignor Joseph Semancik, former Gary Mayor Richard Hatcher, and Father Robert Gehring. I, Monsignor Semancik, who had served as Charities Director for the Bishop, noted his pastoral style and his friendships as important in his commitments. Mayor Hatcher recalled his work with the Bishop on racial matters. Father Gehring, who was Chancellor the Bishop, spoke of his willingness to go beyond the expected to reach various communities.

The Center itself, located at the College, makes available to the public the memorabilia and documentation of the Bishop's work. It covers the many aspects of his life: Establishment of the Diocese; Council Father at Vatican II; work with Slovak causes, especially the Institute of Sts. Cyril and Methodius; racial and union matters; and some important work with federal prison chaplains.

Persons who find themselves in the area will find a visit to the Center to be informative and enjoyable. Call 219-473-4239 for information.

## Update to FCSU 2013 National Sales Seminar Schedule for June

The FCSU Membership and Marketing Committee is hosting seminars around the country in 2013 to help membership grow, and help keep our Society strong and vibrant far into the future.

The following seminar has been confirmed for June 2013:

- Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District 2 – June 23, 2013 – at 2:00PM. The seminar will be held at the Missionary Benedictine Convent, 5900 W. 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL. Please RSVP District President John Jurcenko (773) 763-0810 or National Secretary Kenneth Arendt (800) 533-6682 by June 20th.

The following districts are still tentatively planning seminars (time and place to be determined and announced):

- Michigan District 5
- Rev. Stephen Furdek District 8
- Rev. Stephen Furdek District 10

Please attend a seminar in your area...form a car pool. If any other district would like a seminar this year, please contact the home office.

Until then



Andrew R. Harcar Sr.

Good Luck and God Bless  
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.  
National Vice-President

## Year of Faith: Bishops in the Church

Dear Friends,

The Decree concerning the Pastoral Office of Bishops in the Church (Christus Dominus) was the first of five documents promulgated by Pope Paul VI on October 28, 1965.

It begins by stating that, as the successor of Peter, the pope has supreme, full, immediate and universal authority over the entire church. Bishops, the successors of the Apostles, are true and authentic teachers of the faith and exercise their office in communion with and under the authority of the pope. They also exercise this office individually in reference to portions of the Lord's flock assigned to them, each taking care of particular church committed to him. Any rights and privileges granted to civil authorities in some parts of the world to designate, present, nominate or elect individuals for the office of bishop were revoked. The nomination and appointment of bishops belongs exclusively to the competent ecclesiastical authority.

Bishops enjoy fullness of the Holy Orders and both priests and deacons are dependent upon them in the exercise of their authority. Bishops are the principal dispensers of the mysteries of God, as well as being the governors, promoters, and guardians of the entire liturgical life in the church committed to them. In discharging their apostolic office, which concerns the salvation of souls, bishops per se enjoy full and perfect freedom and independence from any civil authority.

As primary teachers of the faith, bishops are to make certain that people of all ages, from children to adults, are being offered and given catechetical instruction, which is to be based on Scripture, the church's liturgy and tradition, and is to be faithful to the magisterium (teaching office of the church). Catechists are to be properly trained for this function. In their own teaching through their preaching and catechetical instruction, bishops are to make use of the various media at hand (yes, this includes YouTube) for proclaiming Christ's doctrine. Topics for preaching and catechetical instruction are to include: the dignity of the human person; the family; procreation and education of children; civil laws; labor and leisure; the arts and technical inventions; poverty and affluence; ownership, increase, and just distribution of material goods; peace and war; and brotherly relations among all countries.

Regarding their duties and obligations, bishops are to be diligent in giving an example of holiness in their charity, humility and simplicity of life to their priests and deacons, religious and laity by being examples. Bishops are to regard their priests as sons and friends and be ready to listen to them. At regularly fixed intervals, if at all possible, bishops are to call their priests into dialogue with them, especially about pastoral matters. With active mercy bishops should pursue priests who are involved in any danger or who have failed in certain respects. They are to empathize with their brother bishops who, for sake of Christ, are plagued with slander and great poverty, detained in prison, or held back from their ministry.

Bishops are to make every effort to have the faithful actively support and promote works of evangelization and to see to it, as much as possible, that some of their own priests go to the missions or dioceses suffering from lack of clergy either permanently or for a set period of time. They are to be mindful, in administering church property, of the needs of their own dioceses and other churches. When disasters take place in other dioceses or regions, bishops should direct their attention to leading efforts towards offering relief. They should deal lovingly with separated brethren and have a place in their hearts for the non-baptized.

The Decree called for several innovations. They include the formation of a Synod of Bishops, whereby bishops are chosen from various parts of the world and, by acting in the name of the entire episcopate, render more effective assistance to the pope on a specific topic; an allowance for bishops to retire from their office, either from their own initiative or upon the invitation of competent authority; a reorganization of the Roman Curia (agencies that work in the name of the pope with his authority), including a call for diocesan bishops to be chosen as members of departments; and the establishment, if possible, of a military vicariate in every nation to provide for the spiritual care of military personnel. Diocesan bishops should release to the military vicar a sufficient number of priests who are qualified for this serious work.

Fraternally,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta National Chaplain



Rev. Thomas Nasta

# YOUTH ROUND-UP



## Branch 6 Welcomes Newest Member Cosby Timm

The St. Stephen's Society, Branch 6K, welcomed their newest member, Cosby Timm, at their annual meeting on December 16, 2012. (L – R) Logan Chismar, Jay Timm, Megan Timm holding newest member Cosby Timm, Paul Chismar, Bob Elias Sr., and Stella Elias.

- Submitted by Paul Chismar, Branch 6 Recording Secretary



## Branch 240P's Amy Kester Honored for Academic & Athletic Acumen

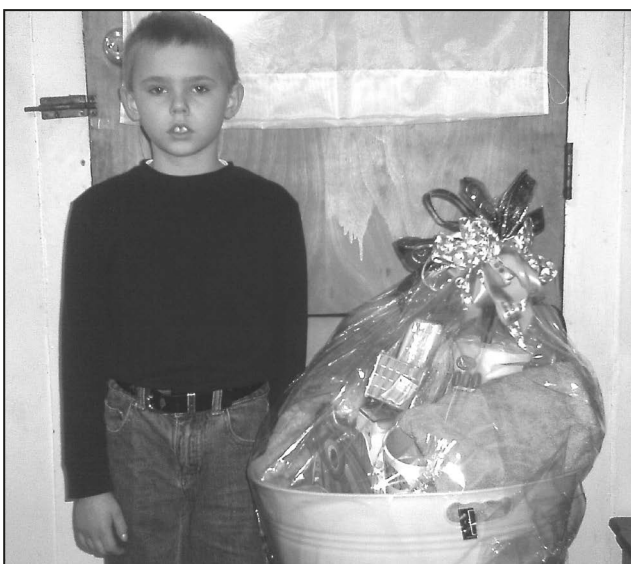
Amy Kester, former volleyball and track athlete from Notre Dame of Easton (PA) High School and current student at Marywood University, Scranton, PA, was recently notified that she was named to the All-Colonial States Athletic Conference Academic Team for the fall semester of 2012, also making the Marywood University Deans List. In volleyball, she received CSAC Honorable Mention for the 2012 season and was CSAC Rookie of the Year Runner-Up. She was also selected to the CSAC Volleyball Honor Roll for the week of September 3rd. Amy ended her season in the top 10 CSAC players in both hitting percentage and total blocks. She is a Pre-Physician Assistant major at Marywood. Amy is a member of Branch 240P, Pittston, PA.



- Submitted by Thomas Kester, Branch 240P



## Branch 382's John J. Slovenkai, Jr. Wins Raffle



John J. Slovenkai Jr., son of John J. Slovenkai Sr., of Branch 382KJ located in Scranton, Pennsylvania, recently attended a turkey dinner, sponsored by St. Peter's Cathedral, at St. Mary's Center. John won the children's bath time play ensemble in the Chinese raffle held that day.

- Submitted by John J. Slovenkai, Branch 382 Financial Secretary

## Branch 410's Holly Workman Receives Scholarship & Admittance to Prestigious Music Conservatory

Holly D. Workman, graduated with highest honors as a junior at age 16, from the Pennsylvania Virtual Charter School on June 9, 2012. At graduation, she received the CEO Excellence Award and scholarship for academic excellence, values and community service.

She is the daughter of Gregory J. and Dolores Holly Workman, Mountville, PA and granddaughter of the late Thomas F. and Mary Jo Holly, who were members of the Frank T. Holly, Jr. District, Uniontown, PA. She is also the granddaughter of Ruth E Workman, Hopwood, PA and the late Ted Workman.

Holly graduated with a 4.0 gpa; is a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church and an instrumentalist with the choir, in Columbia, PA; a member of the National Honor Society; and an accomplished violinist. She has been playing the violin and performing since age 4. She was the Concert Mistress of the Hershey Symphony Middle School Orchestra, Festival Strings and is now one of their rehearsal assistants. She has been a member of the adult, Hershey Symphony Orchestra for five years; a member and current Concert Mistress of Allegretto, the Lancaster Youth Chamber Orchestra; past member of the Lancaster Junior Orchestra; a member of the orchestra pit for Lancaster Opera's performance of "Madame Butterfly"; a student and performer of the Pennsylvania Academy of Music and is also a teaching assistant in the Lancaster City School District with her teacher, Dr. Michael Jamanis for the program, "Music for Everyone." She was a second place winner of the American Protege International Music Talent Competition against a very large number of performers from sixteen different countries, and was awarded a solo at Carnegie Hall in November. She was a student ambassador for People to People having traveled to Fiji, New Zealand and Australia. Last summer she received a full scholarship to the Philadelphia International Music Festival at Bryn Mawr College where she was accepted into the Gold Orchestra and was a finalist in their Concerto Competition. She performed and studied at the International Chamber Music Camp in Positano, Italy and France and then the Salzbach-Rosenberg Festival in Bavaria, Germany in July and August.

She was recently admitted to and received scholarships from several music conservatories and plans to accept admission and scholarship at the Eastman School of Music for a Bachelors Degree in Violin Performance and then The Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science to take over her parents' businesses, Workman Funeral Homes, Inc. in Mountville and Columbia, PA.

Holly has a brother Reilly, 15, who is a 4.0 student at the Pennsylvania Virtual Charter School. He is a baseball catcher for Elite Baseball and also for the JV team of Hempfield High School, Lancaster. He also plays the violin.

They are the great niece and nephew of Elizabeth G. Holly, Uniontown, PA.

- Submitted by Dolly Workman



## Largest Outdoor Sports Conference in Europe Held in Slovakia



The Nature & Sports Euro'Meet is the largest outdoor sports conference in Europe and is a joint initiative of the Slovak town of Liptovský Mikuláš and the European Network for Outdoor Sports (ENOS). The conference will be held October 2 – 4, 2013, in Liptovský Mikuláš in the Tatras Mountain area of Slovakia.

The conference provides a unique opportunity to learn about how outdoor sports are developing across a range of European countries, but also

to develop new friendships, partnerships and networks with like-minded enthusiasts. The ENOS is committed to supporting the exchange of information and good practice and to create a much needed unified voice for the development, promotion and management of outdoor sports across Europe.

The Tatras are a superb location with wonderful natural resources – so don't just come for the conference – be sure stay a bit longer to explore the mountains, rivers and forests of the "National parks of the High Tatra" or the "Tatra national park".

- From Slovakia.travel, the official central promotional and information system of the tourism in the Slovak Republic on the Internet.



(L – R)  
Geraldine Hricik,  
Archbishop  
Sokol, Bishop  
Brandt, Michael  
Hricik, and  
Jozefina Agosti



(L – R) Bishop  
Brandt and  
Archbishop Sokol

## Archibishop from Slovakia Honored at Dinner in Greensburg, PA

Archbishop Ján Sokol, Archbishop Emeritus of Trnava, Slovakia was the guest of honor at a dinner at The Most Rev. Lawrence E. Brandt's home, Bishop of the Diocese of Greensburg, PA, on Friday, March 15, 2013. In attendance were Geraldine Hricik, wife of deceased President-Emeritus, Thomas Hricik, of the First Catholic Slovak Union; Michael Hricik, Thomas and Geraldine's son and Professor of English at Westmoreland County Community College; and, Jozefina Agosti, translator for Archbishop Sokol, who resides in Indiana, PA.

Thomas and Geraldine Hricik were nominated as a Knight and Lady of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem by Bishop Brandt in 2006. The conferring of these honors took place at the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg and at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. Thomas passed away in 2010 and Geraldine continues to attend a variety of events for the Diocese of Greensburg as a Lady of the Holy Sepulchre.

Thomas and Geraldine made many trips to Slovakia and Europe, most especially during Thomas' 12 years in office. While in Slovakia they had the opportunity to meet with Archbishop Sokol. The Archbishop also made several visits to the FCSU offices in Independence, OH, and has toured all through the United States.

The dinner for Archbishop Sokol featured personal recipes of Bishop Brandt's, including a tomato based hearty fish soup, a nut encrusted salmon entrée, and a light mango fruit dessert.

Archbishop Sokol gave an after dinner blessing to each member of the group. He also sang several songs for the good health and long life of his dinner partners. Bishop Brandt also gave his blessings and well wishes at the conclusion of the evening. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the evening.

Submitted by Michael Hricik

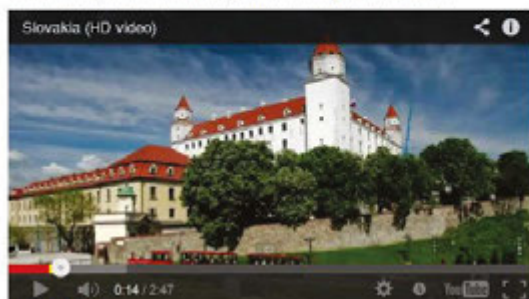


## NEW! FCSU Member Tours to Slovakia on First Catholic Slovak Union Website

### 2013 Tours to Slovakia

Thinking of visiting beautiful Slovakia, or know someone who is?

The First Catholic Slovak Union has information about a range of complete tours to Slovakia led by and/or coordinated by our members throughout the coming months of 2013.



At the First Catholic Slovak Union, we are constantly updating our website to make it more useful, more informative – fresher. We have just added new content to our website homepage. Now can find information on the many tours to Slovakia offered by

and for our FCSU members ... and take your own beautiful video "tour" of the country right from your own desktop!

Visit [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) today.



Back row (L – R): Joe Donahue, Jean Foss, Betty Ten Haken, Cathy Rick, Fred Forrest, Betty Bordeaux, Emily McNulty, Leslie Gago, and Kathy Valent. Middle row (L – R): Mary Ann Dodulik, Anne Simone, Dolly Stecker, Vi Ciernik, Ann Gliniecki, and Bob Budjac. Front row (L – R): Rose Marie Trokan, Mary Misany, Emily Kosso, and Betty Valent

## St. Stephen's Rosary Society Celebrates 100 Years in Milwaukee Area



St. Stephen's Martyr Church Rosary Society celebrated its 100th Anniversary recently.

On October 22, 2012, St. Stephen's Martyr Church Rosary Society celebrated its 100th Anniversary at Alioto's Restaurant in Wauwatosa, WI. Even though St. Stephen's Church has been closed and merged since 2001, Rosary Society members stayed together to have annual meetings and pray the rosary. This 100th Anniversary celebration was organized by Betty Valent and Emily McNulty. Mary Misany and Rose Marie Trokan were two of the officers present at the meeting. Rose Marie Trokan prayed the rosary and Kathy Valent said a prayer for all the deceased

members. At the end of the event, all the members and guests sang Immaculate Mary and also, Hej Slovaci. Every one of the ladies received a keepsake which was a colorful heart shaped rosary bracelet with a miraculous medal and a crucifix on it.

St. Stephen's Rosary Society with the financial help of FCSU Branch 89 of Milwaukee is responsible for the annual pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians at Holy Hill on Labor Day. In 3 years, Milwaukee area Slovaks will celebrate the 100th Anniversary to this sacred place.

- Submitted by Betty Valent



## Chewy Makes it To Finland!

Hi, Kids (And All Those Young At Heart):

It's me. Chewy. Check this out. I made it to Finland! Pretty cool, huh?

Well, I'm not gonna lie. I didn't actually go there myself. Remember that crazy cat carrier that got me to the FCSU from Slovakia in the first place? Man, that's a ride I really don't want to repeat anytime soon. No, this time one of the judges who was at the event my good friend Elisabeth Pisula held for čuvač breeders last fall (editor's note: see the Nov 21, 2012 Jednota, p. 5, for the full story) was from Finland. This person, one Visa Marttila, President of the Slovensky Čuvač Club Finland, ran this photo of yours truly and all my beautiful Slovak-American rodina in the official Magazine of the Slovensky Čuvač Club of Finland.

Not that I can read a word of it, but me and the FCSU all the way to Finland and back - now that's hotter than a kettle of smoked herring.

Until next time,

Keep your ears up and your tail waggin'.



Amerikan 2012 voittajat: RDP Yoo Texas woin Boehmerwald (vasen), keskellä suomari Miia Gehring ja VSP Ulka z Pasišovskaj Doliny. Nuori! Puolen voittajatuulidra on saatu Suomesta! Auhlan (identänd toini) Dennis Piisla.

Tvoj priatel,

Chewy



## Focus on Fraternalism

### M. Mark Stolarik Reaches Major Milestone

On April 22, 2013, M. Mark Stolarik, of Ottawa, Ontario, celebrated his 70th birthday.

Marián (Mark) Stolarik was born in the picturesque central Slovak town of Turčiansky Sv. Martin to Imrich and Margita Stolárík. As the Russian front approached in the winter of 1945, Mark's parents decided to evacuate their family of six children into Austria with hundreds of other Slovaks, to escape the fighting and possible retribution by Communists who were persecuting supporters of the first Slovak Republic (1939-1945). The refugees then languished in one room in Austria until 1950. In 1951 they made it into Canada, first settling in Hull, Quebec and later in Ottawa, where Mark grew up and graduated from the University of Ottawa with honours in history (1965) and with an M.A. in history (1967). He subsequently published his M.A. thesis on "The Role of American Slovaks in the Creation of Czecho-Slovakia, 1914-1918," in the annual *Slovak Studies*, 8, 1968.

After graduating from the University of Ottawa, Mark decided to enroll in the Ph.D. programme at the University of Minnesota. Here in 1963 his professor Timothy L. Smith had established the first Immigrant Archives in the USA. Mark helped Smith collect archival materials from Slovak communities in the USA and Canada while working on his dissertation, "Immigration and Urbanization: The Slovak Experience, 1870-1918" (Ph.D., 1974). The dissertation was published by AMS Press in New York with the same title in 1989.

Mark Stolarik's professional career began as a Lecturer in History at the Cleveland State University (1972-1974) and as an Assistant Professor (1974-1976) at the same university. In 1976 he decided to return to Canada, to work for the National Museum of Man (later the Canadian Museum of Civilization). During this period he visited many Slovak communities in Quebec and Ontario, collected numerous material artifacts pertaining to Slovak history and culture and deposited them into the collections of the Museum, the National Library and the National Archives. He also interviewed on tape such Slovak pioneers as Ján Frajkor, Štefan Hreha, Štefan Jesenák, Hermína Kráľovicová Andrej Potocký, Michal Sinčák, Jozef Tokár and others. In 1977, while at the National Museum of Man, Mark also established the Slovak Studies Association, which attracts scholars in the USA and Canada into one organization that sponsors scholarly presentations at the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. The SSA also issues an occasional Newsletter informing its members of their activities. Stolarik served as the Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter editor for the first ten years of this organization, which still exists.

In 1979 Mark returned to the United States to become Executive Director (later President) of the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies in Philadelphia. It was a library, museum and education centre dedicated to collecting, displaying and interpreting material artifacts, library and archival collections on all of America's ethnic groups. While there he established three departments, increased the staff from seven to twenty-five and recruited fifty volunteers. During his thirteen years as head of the Institute, Stolarik raised millions of dollars from various individuals, corporations and foundations in order to fund the Institute's operations, exhibits and programs. The Trustees of the Institute were so satisfied with his work that they told him that he could stay on until he decided to retire. While in Philadelphia Stolarik also joined the Slovak community and he and his family became active members of the Slovak parish of St. Agnes-St. John.

Meanwhile, in the 1980's the Slovak community in Canada and the USA raised \$500,000, which the Canadian government matched with another \$400,000 in order to establish a Chair in Slovak History and Culture at the University of Ottawa. The Chair was formally inaugurated in the History Department in May of 1990. After a competition for the position of Chairholder was announced, Mark Stolarik was among those who applied and he won the competition. In January of 1992 Stolarik began his career as Professor and Chairholder of the Chair in Slovak History and Culture at the University of Ottawa. Since then he has regularly taught courses on the history of the Slovaks, on Central European history and on the history of Immigration to North America. In addition, he has established a Slovak Archives at the University with collections from prominent personalities in the USA and Canada. With additional funds raised in the last twenty years, Stolarik has established eight scholarship funds at the University, to promote the study of Slovak history, to allow outside scholars to do research in the Slovak Archives, and to invite guest speakers to address matters of interest to scholarly and local Slovak community. He also organized three major international conferences at the University, one of which (in 2002) was attended by the President of the Slovak Republic. The papers of all three conferences either have been or will be

published in the near future. Altogether Stolarik has published nine books and over sixty articles in scholarly journals pertaining to Slovak or immigrant history. His most recent publication is: *Where is my Home? Slovak Immigration to North America, 1870-2010* (Bern: Peter Lang, 2012).

In addition to his professional interests, Stolarik continues to actively participate in North American Slovak communities. Besides being a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the National Slovak Society and the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Stolarik has been a member of the Canadian Slovak League since 1958. In 1993 he was elected National President and served for two terms. In 1997 he was elected President of Branch 63 in Ottawa, a position which he still holds.

Officials in Slovakia have recognized Mark Stolarik's achievements with various awards.

In 1992 the Matica Slovenská gave him its silver medal. In 1998 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic awarded him its silver medal. Finally, the President of the Slovak Republic gave Stolarik the Presidential Medal in 2002.

Mark Stolarik is married to the former Anne Ivančo of Oshawa and has two sons: Andrej and Matthew.



Ad multos Annos  
Anne Stolarik!



## Our Papal Hymn

*continued from page 1*

tions of Slovak origin at the 41st International Eucharistic Congress in 1976. The entire group of Slovaks assembled at the Spectrum in Philadelphia arose when the Sisters began singing it.

Thus, we have much for which to thank and praise God, as well as to live and practice our own faith with a more intense imitation of Jesus.

Papal Hymn

1. Hear from St. Peter's joyous singing,  
From Rome's seven hills resounding;  
Thousands of voices join the chorus,  
With this hymn devout and glor'ous:

CHORUS:

Bless O God, our Holy Father,  
Vicar of Christ, your own Son, on earth!

2. This hymn extends throughout eternity,  
And inspires all on their journey;  
O'er hills and valleys praise is sounding,  
Faithful souls join in acclaiming:

3. From homes and mountains, plains and farlands,  
Far beyond the world's great coastlands,  
As flash the brilliant streaks of lightning,  
Hear this thund'rous hymn resounding:

1. V Sedmobrežnom Kruhu Ríma  
Kde sa Petra chrám vypína,  
Z tisíc hrdiel sa ozýva  
Pieseň nabožná, horlivá

SBOR:

Živ, Bože, Otca svätého,  
Námestníka Kristovho!

2. A ten hlas sa nocne nesie –  
Až do tichej hrobov skrýše:  
Po horách i po dolinách,  
Po mestách a pustatinách.

3. Po hradoch a po rovinach  
Širých sveta po krajinách,  
Jak na krídlach blesko-hromu  
Preletuje z dom do domu.

4. Letí ten hlas na tie strany,  
Kde sú svätých slávostany,  
Odtiaľ do srdc našich padá,  
V pobožnú sa pieseň skladá.

## Slovak Alliance of Greater Bridgeport 2013 \$1,000 Scholarship Available



The Slovak Alliance of Greater Bridgeport, CT, has announced it is accepting scholarship applications for 2013. Application and Procedures Guideline Forms are available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Scholarship Chairperson Eileen Wilson, 395 Pilgrim Lane, Stratford, CT, 06614. Deadline for submission is May 11, 2013.

Among the requirements for this \$1,000 Scholarship: Applicant, Parent (s), Grandparent(s) must be a member of the Alliance for three years and of Slovak descent, and must be a resident of the state of Connecticut.

- Submitted by Eileen Wilson, Branch 19

# Wisdom and Faith: Slovak Culture in Pittsburgh

**Tom Sisolak**

During medieval times, churches represented the centers of wisdom and faith in Slovak communities. Whether it was a massive Gothic cathedral or humble wooden chapel, society frequently revolved around the church.

This vision of knowledge appealed to John Gabbert Bowman, University of Pittsburgh's 10th Chancellor, and he used it to solve one of the University's most pressing problems. After World War I, student enrollment sharply increased, causing a critical shortage of classroom space. Restricted to the site limitations of a 14-acre plot, Bowman envisioned a tall monumental structure that would be a visible inspiration to all and carry the message that education was the result of aspiring to great things.

Rising to 535 feet, the 42-story Late Gothic Revival Cathedral of Learning is the tallest educational building in the Western hemisphere and the second tallest university building in the world. The truncated Gothic form, with its dramatic parallel lines, implies learning and our quest for God should be unending.

While Bowman wanted the architecture to inspire viewers, he also wanted the school to include the concept of national heritage, culture and society. As a result, Bowman invited Pittsburgh's ethnic communities to create nationality classrooms, which reflected their old world heritages. As a result 29 rooms, each celebrating the national groups which built the city, were opened on the first and third floors of the Cathedral of Learning.

Fueled by emotions of new found nationalism and freedom from the Austro-Hungarian Empire, men and women of both Czech and Slovak descent celebrated their heritage in a joint Czechoslovak room. Dedicated in 1939, it recognizes the cultural contribution of those from Slovakia.

The classroom combines design elements from a typical Slovak farmer's home, a country church, and the Charles University in Prague. All woodwork, except the oak furniture, is made of knot-free larch, a tree which grows from 65 to 150 feet tall in the Carpathian Mountains.

Overlapping flat boards cover the ceiling, supported by heavy wood beams. Each section is colorfully painted with images of flowers and plants growing in the region.

Along the front of the classroom are more painted ceiling panels. Each depicts a significant person in Czechoslovak history from the ninth through 19th centuries. Those most important to Slovak culture include Saints Cyril and Methodius who brought the Eastern Rite to Eastern Europe in the ninth century. Though they were considered controversial in their time for delivering the liturgy in the local language, they were also important for developing the Cyrillic alphabet named for St. Cyril.

Ján Kollár, also displayed, was a Slovak writer, poet, archaeologist, scientist, and politician. He promoted the Pan-Slavism ideology and supported the mid-19th century movement whose goal was to unite all Slavic peoples.

Slovak politician, writer and national thinker Ľudovít Štúr codified the Slovak language used today. Based on central Slovak dialects, it is a common language that unified all Slovaks. Rather than speaking many distinctly different dialects, the common language became the Slovak literary language. He also helped organize the Slovak attempts for freedom from the Magyar feudal rule.

Bishop Stefan Moyzes campaigned for popular education among Slovaks. He championed teaching school in the Slovak language instead of Latin or Czech and was the founder of the Matica Slovenská, an institution for the promotion of Slovak arts, literature and science.

Glass cases on the side walls display examples of Slovak art and folk crafts. These include embroidery, corn husk dolls, dolls in ethnic costume and crystal.

In Slovakia, "Corn Husk Dolls" are an important traditional folk craft. Sold as souvenirs, these dolls are made out of dried corn husks. They are used in homes as decorations for different holidays, including Easter and Christmas. The hand-

**The 42-story Late Gothic Revival Cathedral of Learning is the tallest educational building in the Western hemisphere.**



**Doll dressed in Slovak kroj, or folk costume.**



**A portrait of Ján Kollár, a mid-19th century Slovak known for his talents in both the arts and sciences.**



**A painting of Saints Cyril & Methodius**



**Beautiful flowers such as these adorn the ceiling of the Nationality Room featuring Slovak artifacts on wood harvested from the Carpathian Mountains.**

made dolls are very delicate and often finely detailed. Tiny objects, such as baskets full of eggs, hay rakes, water buckets and brooms, showcase items used in everyday village life.

Each Nationality Room has a recorded tour which runs from five to eight minutes and describes the room's elements. It supplements the tour guide program and allows guests to proceed through the rooms at their own pace.

Guided group tours are available for groups of ten or more; reservations must be made two weeks in advance.

Nationality Rooms  
Cathedral of Learning  
4200 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
[www.nationalityrooms.pitt.edu](http://www.nationalityrooms.pitt.edu)

Writer's Bio: Tom Sisolak is an adventurer, writer, photographer and blogger. For photos and activities to accompany this story, go to <http://midatlantictravel.wordpress.com>.



**One of the Cathedral's 29 nationality classrooms designed for Pittsburgh's ethnic communities to reflect their old world heritages.**

**Sts Cyril & Methodius Slovak Church**  
and  
**Jednota, Monsignor Shuba District**  
cordially invite you to their annual ....

# SLOVAK FAMILY DAY



**On Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2013**

**Mass at the grounds starting at 11 am**

**Lunch to be served after the Mass**  
Schnitzel **\$8.00**  
Gulash **\$6.00**  
Hot Dogs **\$1.00**

**BBQ at 4pm**

**At Creditvale Park**  
**On Barbertown Rd, Mississauga**  
*Admission \$8.00 for adults*  
*Children under 12 is Free*



## FCSU LIFE Single Premium Insurance Spring Special!

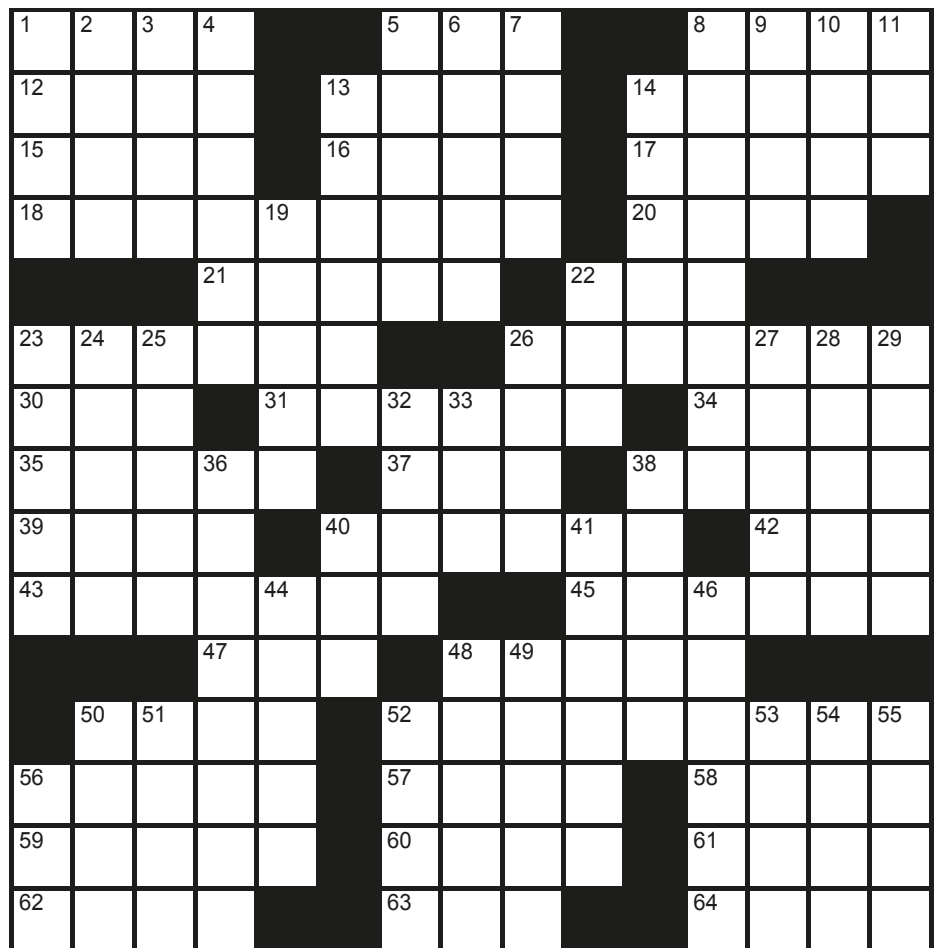
Newborn Male \$5000 for \$410 \$10000 for \$820	Newborn Female \$5000 for \$345 \$10000 for \$690
Male - age 5 \$5000 for \$475 \$10000 for \$950	Female - age 5 \$5000 for \$410 \$10000 for \$820
Male - age 10 \$5000 for \$565 \$10000 for \$1,130	Female - age 10 \$5000 for \$485 \$10000 for \$970
Male - age 15 \$5000 for \$670 \$10000 for \$1,340	Female - age 15 \$5000 for \$570 \$10000 for \$1,140

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren (0 -18) and receive a **FREE \$10.00 GIFT CARD** to present with the certificate!

**Features:**

- Pay one premium and have fully paid-up Insurance
- Issued in any amount (\$5000 or more) subject to current FCSU LIFE non-medical limits
- Excellent gift for children or grandchildren

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



- 1 Rush Hour star Jackie
- 5 Choose
- 8 Go yachting
- 12 Ambience
- 13 Affirm
- 14 Colorless
- 15 Penal facility
- 16 Brownish purple
- 17 Cowboy show
- 18 Broadway feature
- 20 Frosts, as a cake
- 21 Comic DeGeneres
- 22 Inquire
- 23 Obstacle
- 26 Precise
- 30 Compass pt.
- 31 Mideast republic
- 34 Hindu princess
- 35 Stirs up
- 37 Mouths (Lat.)
- 38 English race place
- 39 Elevator man
- 40 Souped-up auto
- 42 Dutch city
- 43 Propriety
- 45 Ship's officer
- 47 Golf bag item
- 48 Nimble
- 50 Queens stadium
- 52 Banana-like veggies
- 56 Citation
- 57 Competent
- 58 Connive
- 59 Romeo's rival
- 60 Regrets
- 61 Cork's country
- 62 Sweeping story

- 63 Dash lengths
- 64 Freeway exit

**Down**

- 1 Hacks
- 2 Offended
- 3 Solo
- 4 Hen-pecked
- 5 Seed structure
- 6 Pie choice
- 7 Deuce topper
- 8 Some movies
- 9 Helper
- 10 Residents (Suffix)
- 11 *Leathal Weapon 2* character \_\_\_ Getz
- 13 Turnover fillers
- 14 Arm joint
- 19 NY island
- 22 Be indisposed
- 23 King of Judea
- 24 Join forces
- 25 Museum piece
- 26 Kind of jet
- 27 Belmont features
- 28 Battery part
- 29 Wine bottle size
- 32 Motel offering
- 33 College major

- 36 Abstruse
- 38 Grownup
- 40 Shade
- 41 Editorializes
- 44 Uses a book
- 46 Grim \_\_\_
- 48 Scrapbook
- 49 Strong winds
- 50 Trade
- 51 Mata \_\_\_
- 52 Prune
- 53 Hip bones
- 54 Standard
- 55 Footfall
- 56 Gorilla

## JEDNOTA

### Publication Schedule for 2013

Issue Date	Deadline
May 8	April 29
May 22	May 13
June 12	June 3
July 17	July 8
August 7	July 29
September 4	August 26
September 25	September 16
October 9	September 30
October 23	October 14
November 6	October 28
November 20	November 11
December 4	November 25

See Solution on Page 19



## Come Join Us



FCSU National Picnic  
 Sunday, August 11, 2013  
 12 PM – 6 PM

Frogbridge  
 7 Yellow Meeting House Road  
 Millstone Township, NJ 08510

### The Great American Picnic Menu (served continuously for five hours)

#### Off The Grill

- Angus Beef Hamburgers & Cheese Burgers
- All Beef Sabrett Hot Dogs
- Rubbed and Sauced Barbecue Chicken
- Grilled Garden Burgers

#### Specialty Stations Menu Items

- Street Fair Sweet Sausage & Peppers Station
- Philadelphia Cheese Steak Station

#### Hot Spectacular Sides

- Dutch Oven Vegetarian Baked Beans
- Sweet Corn on the Cob
- Cast Iron Beef and Bean Chili

#### Side Salads

- Frogbridge Signature Salad
- Country Potato Salad
- Creamy Cole Slaw
- Macaroni Salad
- Primavera Pasta Salad

#### Sweets & Treats

- Ice Cream Novelties
- Chilled Sliced Watermelon
- Freshly Baked Cookies

#### Beverages

- Soft Drinks
- Iced Tea
- Bottled Water

### Amenities and Sports Fields (all sports equipment is provided)

- 14 Bay Golf Driving Range
- 18 Challenging Holes of Miniature Golf
- 3 Full Court and 6 Half Court Basketball Courts
- 4 Tennis Courts
- Multiple Softball / Baseball Fields
- 3 Soccer Fields
- 6 Gaga Courts
- 2 Beach Volleyball Courts
- Regulation Bocce and Horseshoe Courts
- Whiffle Ball Stadium
- Children's Playground Complex
- Hockey Rink
- Heated Pool, waterslides, towel service
- Kayaks and Paddleboats on the Lake



12 PM – Registration Opens  
 12:30 – Mass in the air-conditioned Gym  
 1:30 – Food Service Begins  
 2 - 4 PM – Soccer Workshop\*\*  
 3 – 5 PM – Bingo

Music provided for your listening and dancing pleasure by Kontakty.

\*\* Soccer Workshop will be led by the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO).

All skill levels, from beginner to advanced, and all ages, 6 to 14, are welcome.

- A \$15 admission fee will be charged to each non-member attending the picnic. Mail your check by July 11, made payable to FCSU Activities, with the registration form.
- Absolutely **NO** alcohol or pets are allowed at the Frogbridge Resort.
- The first 200 members to register will be entered in a drawing to win a Chewy Čuvač stuffed animal, complete with "official" certification and dog tag.

**Picnic Registration:** On-line at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) or Clip the Registration form below and mail to:

**Deadline for Registration is July 11, 2013**  
**Advance Registration is REQUIRED – No one will be admitted without advance registration**

FCSU Activities  
 234 Ilion St.  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Yes! I am attending the 2013 National Picnic.

Name	(if a non-member, write non-member)	Check the box for your age category:			Will participate in Soccer Workshop (X)
		Over 10	4 - 10	3 & under	

Phone Number or Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



## What Are You Doing this November? Cruise With the FCSU- and RELAX in STYLE

**7 Nights-8 Days Cruise      November 9-16, 2013      3 Magnificent Islands**

**Crown Princess – Cruising at its Best**—The FCSU has planned its 2013 Membership Meet aboard the Crown Princess. A premier ship in a line awarded “Best Itineraries” nine consecutive years, cruising aboard the Crown Princess ensures you a magnificent experience from the moment you board her. From her nearly 900 balconies, you can enjoy sweeping views of lush Caribbean landscapes and dazzling seascapes.

### Picture-Perfect Ports of Call

**Princess Cays** - your exclusive tropical retreat– with fun-filled activities and water sports, island cuisine and even shopping.

**Curaçao** - hop a trolley train to the colorful capital of Willemstad, a UNESCO World Heritage Site or simply spend the afternoon on this island gem at your leisure.

**Aruba** - enjoy all the amenities this sunny paradise has to offer-snorkeling, scuba diving, or relaxing on a glorious white sand beach.



**INTERIOR**

**\$878**

**OCEANVIEW**

**\$1, 098**

**BALCONY**

**\$1, 228**

All prices include cruise, all taxes, meals, gratuities, transportation costs from Ft. Lauderdale airport to the ship, and much more.

### All-inclusive Luxury Awaits -AND MORE with the FCSU

The serenity of the world-class spas can be yours during the day, along with yoga and fitness classes to a leisurely dip in one of the ship’s many pools to duty-free shopping to nothing at all. You can try your luck at the casino, watching a Broadway-quality production or going to first-run films at Movies Under the Stars®.

### The FCSU Factor - Raising the BAR on FUN

When you cruise with the FCSU, there’s always MORE. In addition to a cocktail reception, complete with drinks and hearty hors’ oeuvres, you can expect a bottle of wine tableside at every meal, a token of “welcome” in your cabin, PLUS a special **Shipwide Savings Coupon Booklet worth up to \$325 when you book with \$250 deposit by May 12, 2013.** Transportation to Ft. Lauderdale not included. For airfare accommodations contact Paul Hudak at 216.228.7172.

**For more info call Karen at 1-800-Jednota or go to <http://www.fcsu.com/2013membershipmeet> to view the video and print the reservation form.**

# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 5P – EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Evangelist Society, Branch 5P, will hold a meeting Sunday, April 28, 2013, at 1:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the home of Marion Rubino, Vice President, 67 9th St. Wyoming, PA.

On the agenda will be a discussion of branch business and activities.

All members are encouraged to attend.

**Marion Rubino, Vice President**

## BRANCH 24 CLEVELAND, OHIO

We encourage you to attend two upcoming summer events. The Cleveland Slovak Radio Club will hold their annual picnic on Sunday June 9th; The American Slovak Zemplin Club's picnic will be on Sunday July 26th. Both will be at St. Sava's Picnic Grove, 2151 Wallings Rd, Broadview Hts, OH from 12 to 8 PM.

Why not join your Jednota Branch 24 members for delicious Slovak food, refreshments, music and dancing? Please help support our fine Slovak organizations.

**Bob Kopco, President**

## BRANCH 38 – DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Thursday, May 23, 2013, at 7:00PM at the home of the Secretary, Florence Matta, 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, PA. On the agenda will be financial reports. Discussions on the Father's Day brunch, the Slovak Day picnic at Kennywood Park, and the FCSU 2013 National Picnic being held at the Frogbridge Resort located in New Jersey. Additional details will be available in the Jednota.

**Florence Matta, Secretary Treasurer**

## BRANCH 60 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. At the home of President Ann Wargovich, 58 Lilmont Avenue, Swissvale, PA. On the agenda will be officer's reports, and discussion of branch activities. All members are urged to attend.

Fraternally,

**Julie Perla - Branch Secretary**

## BRANCH 132 – WHIPPANY, NEW JERSEY

Branch 132 will hold a meeting on Saturday, June 15, 2013 at 2 PM, at the home of President, Susan Salko. Plans will be finalized for our Slovak Union National Picnic on Sunday, August 11, 2013, in Frogbridge, NJ. The picnic is free to all members. Three of our members have won in the Christmas Contest. "Congratulations." Also, we had a winner last year in our scholarship contest. We are an active, participating group. Please, join us for our next meeting. For directions, call Sue in Whippany.

**Susan Salko, President**

## BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Please pray for the following members of St. Stephen Branch 153 who have gone to their eternal rest:

Steve Zmrazek  
Richard Palenica  
Charles Cernicka  
Edward Kissel  
George Pekelnicy  
Edward Evans

**Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 166 – BINGHAMTON, CAPITAL AREA, PEEKSKILL, POUGHKEEPSIE, AND SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, April 28, 2013, at 1:15 P.M., at Ponderosa

Steak House, 1261 Upper Front Street, Binghamton, New York. On the agenda will be a discussion of the District Meeting and Branch business. All members are encouraged to attend.

Please call Sue Gabriel at 607-729-8034 or Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by April 25, 2013, to make a reservation if you plan to attend. We hope to see you at the meeting.

**Arlo Meeker, President**

## BRANCH 200 FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Meeting dates: 1st Thursday of each month except June & July. Officers @ 7:00 pm & beneficial members' meeting to immediately follow. Meeting location: Social Hall @ C. U. Club, 910-912 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA. Meeting purpose: General meeting. We are asking for our members to become actively involved. Any participation will be truly appreciated. Agenda: Discuss if we will have 2nd annual corn roast which was a great success last year. We will be discussing an open Trustee position which will be advertised prior to an election. We lost a very dear, dedicated member, Joe "Gish" Gispan-ski Sr. on April 6th. He served as head trustee for 38 years. He will be missed deeply. His shoes will be hard to fill. Thanks to all who helped with the funeral dinner or donated delicious deserts.

Contact info-Vicki Schaub 724-763-9229 or cell 502-619-9252

Finally, a note to all members: Branch 200 has had a lot going on. We recently had a major sewerage problem which has been replaced. A new restroom has been added for the patrons/customers of the bowling alley. The bowling alley, entry area, stair walls, & top landing area have been freshly painted. New bar stools were purchased for the club's bar room. The bar area was cleaned on Sat. April 20th by a fine group of volunteers. Thanks to all who helped! We will be cleaning the social hall once new carpet is replaced upstairs in the social hall and would love to have your help. Many hands make for less work. The door into the club has been replaced and a keyless card system has been added. Members can pick their cards up at the club & there is a \$2.00 charge. We have a suggestion box in the club and encourage members to put in "GOOD" ideas. Please do not hesitate to ask how you can help your club no matter how small and any way you can be of assistance. All help will be appreciated by all. We would love to put in an elevator to accommodate the handicap to the 2nd floor. This has been checked into and is still being pursued.

God bless!  
Fraternally,

**Vicki Schaub, Ben./Fin. Sec./Treas.**

## BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228, regularly holds meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during each December meeting. The exact date for this year's election meeting is December 16, 2013. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. I appeal to our younger members to become active in our lodge to help direct our branch as well as becoming involved with the Slovak Club and the United Slovak Societies. The First Catholic Slovak Union will conduct another convention next year and we will be sending delegates to voice our local's concerns. Input from any and all members is appreciated. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. Come to our meetings. You won't be disappointed.

**Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold its Semi-Annual meeting Sunday June 23, 2:00 pm at Bedford Trails Golf Course. On the agenda: New members, FCSU activities, Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest, Annual Golf Tournament, and discussion of policies and annuities.

**Charles M. Terek, President**

## BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Branch 276 will have their next meeting on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at 1:00 P.M. at St. Patrick's church hall on 32nd Street in McKeesport, Pa. All members are invited to attend.

Fraternally,

**Nancy Gerdich, Rec. Secretary**

## BRANCH 293 – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Society, Branch 293, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, June 24, 2013, at 6:00PM at the home of the Financial Secretary Robert Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA, 18232. Anyone needing more insurance or service should call 1-510-645-4872 and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Fraternally,

**Robert Lakata, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of SS Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend a luncheon at the branch's next meeting on **Sunday, May 5 2013**, at 1:00PM, at Paolo's in Charleroi, PA. There will be no cost to members; however, there will be a \$10.00 charge for nonmembers. Please make your reservation by calling Fran at (724) 929-9788.

**Mary Anne Higginbotham, President**

## BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Ignatius, Branch 380, will hold its semi-annual meeting Sunday, April 28, 2013, at 2:00PM, at King's Restaurant, Canonsburg, PA.

**Margaret Graytok, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 382, of Scranton, Pa., is updating their files and looking for the following members:

Stephen Bonick, Jared Brown, Taryn Brown, Nanette Contardi, Nicholas Edward Cook, Paul Crambo Sr., Ronald Crambo Jr., Tara M. Crambo, Christopher Czankner, Jessica Czankner, Sarah M. Czankner, Jami Lyn Dougherty, Ryan J. Dougherty, Cheryl A. Glnsky, Thomas Hanis, Jillian Louise Hetsko, Michael Kapacs, Kenneth G. Kochis, Michael J. Kolebar, Mark Kosko, Edward Kucha, James T. Legg Jr., Micheline Malosh, Nicholas August McDonald, Henry Moeller, Bevin Monaghan, Colleen Monaghan, Todd Morgan, Margaret Opsasnick, Diane Parsons, Ann Polovitch, Joanne Rovon, Lynn M Schultz, Sarah Ann Scotchlas, Darlene M. Skrip, Charlene Strodoski, Carol Swartz, Erin Walsh, Beverly Marie Yedinak.

If you are, or know any of these members, please contact:

John J. Slovenkai Sr.  
Financial Secretary  
FCSU Branch 382KJ  
318 Fourteenth Avenue  
Scranton, Pennsylvania  
18504-2512

**John J. Slovenkai, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 2, 2013, at 1:00PM at Jamison's Restaurant, 2155 Route 119, Greensburg, PA, 15601. All members are invited. For reservations, please call Maryann Nalevanko at 724-834-6386.

**Maryann Nalevanko, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

Attention Branch 553, St. John the Baptist, members. Mark your calendars for the year 2013 – the following dates have been chosen for lodge meetings this year:

June 23  
November 24

All meetings will start at 2 pm and will be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. Come to the meeting to learn what is happening with

your branch and learn about all the exciting offers from the Home Office.

All members are invited to join us on Friday's during Lent for our famous All You Can Eat Buffet. It's just \$8.00 per person and we offer children's meals at \$4.00. Join us for a great meal.

Respectfully submitted,

**Linda Hanko, Recording/Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The Officers of St. Anton of Padua, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, April 28, 2013, at 11:30AM at King's Restaurant, located in Bentleyville. Members are urged to attend.

**Dorothy Petrus, President**

## BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. George Society, Branch 682, will hold a general meeting on Sunday, May 19, 2013, at 2:30PM at Material Research Laboratories, located at 290 North Bridge

Street, Struthers, OH, 44471. All members are encouraged to attend.

**Andrew J. Hirt, President**

## BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Sunday, April 28, 2013, at 1:00PM, in the Parish Hall of St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East, 66th St., New York City.

On the agenda will be a financial report and discussion of plans for next season. All members are urged to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Fraternally,

**Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary**

## BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Attention all members: Branch 731 has a corrected date for its Patron Saint Mass. Due to a conflict, the Branch 731 Patron Saint Mass previously schedule for Sunday, April 28, 2013, will instead be held on Saturday, April 27, 2013 at 4:00 pm. The location remains the same, at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. Please try to attend.

**Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, June 9, 2013 at 12:30 PM in the upstairs meeting room of the Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. Okres meeting will follow at 1:00 PM. Agenda will include discussion of planned activities for the upcoming year.

There will be a Lancaster bus trip (show/dinner/shopping) on Saturday, October 12, 2013 to see NOAH. To RSVP and for more details, please contact Mary Karch @ 732-572-2331.

**Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary**

## BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON D.C. AREA

Branch 856 K, Our Mother of Sorrows Society - encompassing Washington DC, Virginia and Maryland - will hold their next meeting on Saturday May 18, 2013, at 1:00 pm at the home of Secretary Marion Mistrik at 4513 Gladwyne Drive Bethesda, MD 20814.

On the agenda will be reports on the district meeting, and activities for coming months. All members are encouraged to attend. Would like to see some members from Baltimore. Also up for discussion: should we continue to have a Mass in honor of our Slovak Chapel in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception?

For more information and directions call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 703-860-1693.

**Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary**

The First Catholic Slovak Union is now accepting  
**VISA, Mastercard and Discover credit cards**  
as newspaper subscription payments.  
Contact the Home Office for details:  
**1-800-JEDNOTA or fcsu@aol.com.**

## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISTRICT 2 – THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2 will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 28, 2013. The meeting will take place at the Missionary Benedictine Convent, 5900 W. 147th Street, in Oak Forest, IL. Attendees will gather at 1:30 pm for a period of fraternal fellowship, with the meeting starting at 2:00 pm. A delicious, catered dinner will be served. All branches are encouraged to send delegates. If you plan to attend, please notify District 2 Spiritual Adviser Dorothy Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810, so enough food and drinks can be ordered. Individual members of District 2 branches who wish to become active in district activities are also encouraged to attend.

**Robert Tapak Magruder, Recording Secretary**

### DISTRICT 4 – MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, June 9, 2013 at 1:00 PM. Branch 746 will host the meeting at Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church, 2806 Parkway Avenue, Linden, NJ. Election of officers will take place. Please join us. Refreshments will be served.

**Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 60 will host the Pittsburgh Fathers' Day Brunch on Sunday, June 16, 2013. Mass will be offered at 9AM at St Anselm Church of Word of God Parish in Swissvale. St Anselm is located at 7446 McClure Ave. Brunch will be at 10:30 at the St Barnabas Hall in Swissvale. Please RSVP by June 1 to Anna Wargovich with the number of members who will attend. Prices for the meal have not yet been set.

District vice-president Karianne Barnes of Branch 628 will do the ad booklet. Contact Kari at kvehc@hotmail.com. Prices for advertising remain the same: \$75 full page, \$40 half page, \$20 quarter page.

There will be a short business meeting at the brunch. This year the national FCSU picnic will be held at Frogbridge in Millstone, NJ. This year reservations are required for the picnic. Forms were distributed at the district meeting. If you weren't at the meeting, check the FCSU website at www.fcsu.com/fraternal-events. We must decide whether the district will sponsor a bus. We must also decide whether this should be a day-trip or an overnight stay. Estimated travel time is 5-6 hours, not including any breaks.

Branch 2 will host the Fall meeting on Sunday, November 25 at Holy Trinity Parish Hall in West Mifflin. This year the meeting will include a traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Supper or Vilija. The Pittsburgh Area Slovaks will perform. The meeting will start at a later time – 3 PM. Reservations will be required. More information will follow.

While we look forward to seeing everyone at the FCSU Fathers' Day Brunch, remember there are many other local Slovak events that also merit your attention:

\*\* Check out the FCSU Caribbean cruise at www.fcsu.com – November 9-16.

\*\* Consider a visit to Slovakia. Five tours are described at www.fcsu.com.

\*\* WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library: May 6: Folk Customs of Eastern Slovakia, John Righetti; June 3: Overview of Slovak Folklore and Crafts, Larry Kosloski. WPSCA will take a break over the summer.

\*\* 10th Consular Tour of Slovakia – August 24 to September 3. Call Joe Senko at 412-956-9000 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

\*\* Slovak Language Classes will be held Tuesdays in the spring. Call Joe Senko at 412-956-9000 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

\*\* Saturday programs at the National Slovak Society Heritage Museum in McMurray: April 27: Straw ornaments & nut cookies; September 21: Christmas in September. Guided tours are available by appointment. Call 1-800-488-1890.

\*\* Slovak Day at Kennywood Park is Thursday, July 18. Tickets will be available at the Fathers' Day Brunch or through Holy Trinity Parish in West Mifflin.

\*\* The Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble will be performing at Slovak Day and at the McKeesport International Village on August 13, 14, & 15. Look for their booth at the craft pavilion.

\*\* 22nd Slovak Heritage Festival at the University of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning: Sunday, November 3.

**- Margaret Nasta, District Recording Secretary**

### DISTRICT 7 - REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT – BLAIR, CAMBRIA, INDIANA, SOMERSET, AND BEDFORD COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

The Rev. John Martvon District will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Sunday, April 28, 2013, in the meeting room of Cuzi's Restaurant, 41 South Main St., Homer City, PA, 15748. The St. Joseph's Society, Branch 484, will be the host branch. The meeting will start at 1:15PM and a meal will follow at the restaurant. If delegates have any questions or need directions, call 724-479-8181 or 724-479-2298.

Member branches that have not paid their dues may do so at this meeting. Spring is here; the weather is nicer, so let's show our fraternalism with a good turnout of delegates.

**Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary**

### DISTRICT 11 – MSGR. JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

The Semiannual Meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District (District 11) will be held on Sunday, April 28. Time and place are 2:00 PM at the C.U. Club 910 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. All Branches should identify their representatives who will attend to Grace Charney, District Secretary, at (724) 664-7185 by Apr 27. Per FCSU By-Laws, Branch representation at one District meeting per year is required to qualify for receipt of the annual Branch stipend."

**Grace M. Charney, District Secretary**

### DISTRICT 12 - ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, April 28, 2013, at 1:00PM, a meeting of the Andre Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville. Members of the various branches are urged to attend.

**Frances Tarquinio, Secretary**

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AS OF MAY 1, 2013 THE FOLLOWING BRANCHES DID NOT MEET THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THEIR 2012 BRANCH STIPEND PER BYLAW 4.05 FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

Branch #	Branch #	Branch #	Branch #	Branch #
001P	157K	315K	429K	638K
004K	163K	319K	430K	652K
016P	164K	321K	434K	661K
023K	165K	322K	454K	667K
053K	175K	323K	456K	686K
064K	189K	324K	461K	700K
083K	189P	326K	465K	701K
086K	211K	327K	472K	702K
090K	215K	330K	487K	704K
096K	221K	333K	497K	714K
098K	224K	335K	505K	717K
102K	226P	348K	510K	729K
108K	233K	353K	512K	733K
110K	238K	353P	514K	735K
114P	240P	356P	517K	748K
121K	266K	358K	543K	754K
122K	270K	362K	571K	756K
124K	278K	368K	584K	777K
128K	279K	373K	586K	787K
132K	280K	381K	591K	788K
136K	282K	388K	600K	823K
144P	294K	403K	615K	831K
149K	299K	404K	618K	852K
152K	308K	414K	635K	862K
156K	310P	417K	636K	890K

## National Golf Tournament

*continued from page 1*

shots. A totally automated irrigation system ensures plush playing conditions. Golfers will be eligible to participate in a hole in one contest and skill contests sponsored by Bruce and DePersis Actuaries.

The Mass and banquet will be held at the Holiday Inn Canton. Hotel accommodations will also be provided by the Holiday Inn Canton.

On Sunday, July 21, a shotgun start is scheduled from the Zoar Golf Course in Dover. Enjoy gently rolling terrain, white sand bunkers, and tree lined fairways throughout. These features combined with the bent grass tees, greens, and fairways make for a golf course suited for golfers of all skill levels. Zoar's accolades include Golf Digest's honor of "Best Place To Play" in 2004! So, when looking at the scorecard you may find yardages too short for your liking, but don't be deceived. The large greens with subtle undulations make for a tough read for all. The strategically placed bunkers keep this course a challenge even with today's technology. Golfers will be eligible to participate in a hole in one contest and skill contests sponsored by AQS Asset Management.

We will close the weekend festivities with a luncheon at Zoar golf course on Sunday, which is partially sponsored by Pin Point Computer Systems.

Further details and registration forms can be found on page 5 of this issue and www.fcsu.com. Information was mailed April 19, so contact Susan Ondrejco at 412-421-7967 if you did not receive your forms.

Our Annual Golf Tournament will be held Friday, July 19, through Sunday, July 21, 2013. The Jednota sponsors the tournament Friday through Sunday and a banquet Saturday evening.

This year we are looking for skill contest sponsors: (Longest Drive, Longest Putt, etc.)

Skill Contest Sponsor: \$100 – a sign will be placed on the hole where the skill contest will occur with your Branch, District, or Region name.

If you are interested in being a skill contest sponsor, please send the wording for your sign and your check payable to "FCSU Activities" to:  
Susan Ondrejco  
234 Ilion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

The deadline for sponsoring a hole is June 30, 2012.



**If each member would sign up just one new member,  
we could double our Society immediately  
THINK ABOUT IT!**



# Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members



The First Catholic Slovak Union has a Mass said for each of our deceased members at St. Andrew Abbey in Cleveland, Ohio.

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
005P	Albert Simalchik	181K	Helen C Bizub	484K	John M Mino	670K	Evelyn L Skorvan
006K	Lydia J Dubovi	181K	Elizabeth C Saglime	497K	Deborah Ann Cornell	682K	Michael A Eperjesi
019K	Robert James Onuska	181K	George A Sprock	505K	Donald E Misera	682K	Kathryn V Gillen
035K	Mary D Magda	189K	Irene Roselyn Suchta	553K	Beulah F Minninger	738K	Paul F Maxin
055K	Martin J Gresh	224K	Richard H Janetka	553K	John Robert Recny	743K	Catherine E Kosin
060K	John G Seliga Jr	254K	Agnes B Stropkay	567K	Florian M Talianek	743K	Joseph J Zdilla
085K	Kenneth R Lamoreaux Jr	270K	Cula M Andrulevich	587K	Frances M Reid	746K	Arthur G Brown
124K	Ruth Nalepa	276K	Irene M Uziel	618K	Chris Michael Severa	746K	Veronica Kopas
156K	Joseph E Bartos Md	373K	Jerome J Krajcovic	628K	Albert J Asmonga	754K	Bernice A Ashcraft
156K	Joseph P Matus	381K	Helen Fackovec	628K	Robert J Frena	853K	Helen A Babchak
162K	Helen I Thomas	430K	Thomas G Kohut	652K	Mildred B Kosma	855K	Richard C Marjak
169P	Evangeline L Hodos	430K	Kathryn P Smith	670K	David M Hruby	855K	Jean C Poticny
173K	Francis P Chisarick	456K	Thomas L Rusnak	670K	Agnes Rothbauer		

\*Processed through the month of March 2013



## OBITUARIES

### ANN BICANOVSKY BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Ann Bicanovsky, 96 of Ford City, PA, died Sunday, February 17, 2013 at Saxonburg Medical Center. She was born December 25, 1917 in Kaylor to Andrew and Anna (Domovich) Bakse.

A lifelong community resident, Ann formerly worked at Big River in Kittanning. She was a member of Christ Prince of Peace Parish in Ford City and formerly Holy Trinity Church. Ann enjoyed being outdoors and maintaining her property.

Ann is survived by her son, James T. Bicanovsky of South Park, PA; granddaughter, Dr. Lesley K. Bicanovsky of Cleveland, OH; daughter-in-law: Barbara Bicanovsky of Cleveland, OH; and two sisters: Gertrude Kovalovsky and Delores Maus – both of Ford City, PA.

Ann was preceded in death by her husband, John T. Bicanovsky; son, John E. Bicanovsky; and two sisters: Helen Burdett and Pauline Jakola.

Friends were received from 2-7PM Sunday, February 24, 2013 at the Mantini Funeral Home in Ford City. A prayer service was held at 9:30AM Monday, February 25, 2013 at the funeral home followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10AM at Christ, Prince of Peace Parish in Ford City. Father Bryan Summers officiated. Interment followed in Holy Trinity Cemetery.

- Submitted by James Bicanovsky

### PETER P. GAVRAS BRANCH 224K – OSWEGO, ILLINOIS

Peter P. Gavras, age 82, passed away March 8, 2013. Peter served his country in the Army during the Korean War. He is survived by his beloved wife, Mildred, children, Mike, Deb and Paul (Heather), grandchildren, Nick (Esmeralda), Krystal (Tom), Julian and Evan, great-grandchildren Nicky, Bella and Manny, and brother, John. Visitation was from 2 until 8 p.m., Monday, March 11, 2013 at Beideleman-Kunsch Funeral Home & Crematory, Naperville, IL. A funeral service was held Tuesday, March 12, 2013, at Holy Spirit Catholic Community, Naperville, IL. Interment followed at Assumption Cemetery, Wheaton, IL.

### ANNA M. TROJAK BRANCH 278 – ELIZABETHTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Anna M Trojak, 88, of Conewago Township, passed away peacefully on March 17th, 2013 at the Masonic Village, Elizabethtown, PA. She was born May 9, 1924 in Koskovec, Slovakia. She immigrated to Pittsburgh at the age of 13. She was employed in the role of "Rosie the Riveter" for The Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Rail Road, and various other jobs at Pittsburgh Screw and Bolts, Cheeseboro Ponds and Allis Chalmers.



She was an active member of Seven Sorrows Church in Middletown, PA, where she was part of the "God's Housekeepers Crew", a baker and cook for various activities and a member of the Council of Catholic Woman. She was known to clients and students at Progressive Enterprises Sound Studios simply as "Mother Trojak" where they enjoyed her stories and European pastries.

In addition to her parents Martin and Mary Kovach, she was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years Andrew Trojak on May 23, 2008 and a brother Martin Kovach. She is survived by her son Joseph Trojak and his wife Lynne of Conewago Township, her brother Joseph Kovach of McKees Rocks, PA, and his wife Margie, sisters MaryAnn, Bernadette, Joann Kovach also of McKees Rocks and Veronica Kovach Wolf of Valencia, PA, and her husband Thomas.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Thursday March 21 at 11:00 AM at Seven Sorrows Church, Middletown, PA, with Fr. Thomas Hart and Fr. Ted Keating as celebrants.

Viewing took place at Matinckek and Daughter Funeral Home and Cremation Services Inc., Middletown, Wednesday March 20th from 7:00 to 9:00 PM with recitation of the Rosary at 8:30 PM and at Seven Sorrows Church Narthex on Thursday from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Interment followed at the Middletown Cemetery.

### RUDOLPH F. CIPRICH BRANCH 419 – WILKES BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Rudolph F. Ciprich, 84, of Plains Township passed away Sunday, March 3, 2013, at his home. His wife of 60 years is Sally Tabaka Ciprich.

Born March 21, 1928, in Plains Township, he was the son of the late Paul and Katherine Budziak Ciprich, a graduate of Plains Memorial High School, a Korean War veteran serving in the U.S. Army, a life member of LANI Post 6325, Hudson, and a member of the Parish of St. Benedict's Church, Parsons.

He is also survived by his children, Richard, Paula, Randolph and Allan; four grandchildren; and sisters, Agnes Siskovich and Margaret Krill.

Funeral services were held at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, March 7, 2013, from Simon S. Russin Funeral Home, Plains Township, with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. in the Parish Church of St. Benedict's, Parsons. Interment followed in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery, Dallas. Family and friends called from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, 2013, at the funeral home.

### PAULINE A. STANO BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Pauline A. Stano (nee Kan), 89, Beloved Wife of the late William T. Stano, Sr.; Loving Mother of the late Kenneth W., Dr. William T. Jr. (Deborah), David P. (Jan), Russell



L. (Michelle); Dear Grandmother of Kenneth, Stephen, Jennifer, William III, Brian, Jessica, Matthew, Jo Ann, Cheryl; Great-Grandmother of 18; Sister of the late Anne, Michael, and Albert. Passed away Friday, December 28, 2012. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. John Neuman Catholic Church, Strongsville, OH, on Monday, December 31, 2012, at 10AM. Interment followed at Holy Cross Cemetery. Friends called at The Busch Funeral Home, Parma, OH, Sunday, December 30, 2012, from 2-6PM.

### REGINA KUSNIR BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

Regina Kusnir, 92, passed away Thursday, December 13, 2012 at her home. Regina was born December 21, 1919 to Michael and Mary (Billy) Proco in Coleridge, OH. She was a resident of Akron/Barberton/Wadsworth, OH, her entire life. She was employed by Goodrich Tire & Rubber Company as a zipper maker for over 37 years, retiring in 1976. She helped make John Glenn's original spacesuit.

Regina was a former member of St. John the Baptist and SS. Cyril and Methodius Churches in the Diocese of Cleveland, OH. Upon their closings, Regina attended Prince of Peace Church and St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church. She was active throughout her life journey as a faithful Sacristan and volunteer helper to the Catholic Church and the former Vincentian Sister of Charity in Bedford, OH. Regina was a member of the Rosary Society, Branch 553 of the FCSU as well as the FSCLU Branch 415.

Regina was preceded in death by her husband George Michael Kusnir in 1966, and brother George; sisters Helen and Anne. She is survived by her daughters, Sr. Regina Kusnir, S.C. and Susan Ann Undercoffer; grandchildren Michael, Steven and Anne Marie (Dr. Steve Warrington) Undercoffer; and the Broda family: Sam (Lana), Matt, and Mara; and niece Diane Miller. A funeral service was held Monday, December 17, 2013, at the Kucko-Anthony-Kerteszes Chapel in Akron, OH, and was followed by a Funeral Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 a.m. at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, with Rev. G. David Blin, Pastor, as celebrant. Interment followed at Holy Cross Cemetery in Akron, OH. The family received friends on SUNDAY FROM 2-5 P.M. at the funeral home where a Rosary was prayed at 5:45p.m. Special thanks to Fathers Blin, Suso, Workman, Jackson and Hengle for their Anointings, bringing the Eucharist, and pastoral care. Special thanks to her grandchildren who she loved tremendously and to who she passed the Faith; and to her loving daughters, Sister Regina and Susan. May she have eternal rest and peace!

- Submitted by Susan Undercoffer

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# News From Slovakia

## Slovak Agriculture University to Build New Research Center in Nitra

Nitra, April 11 (TASR) - The Nitra-based Slovak University of Agriculture (SPU) is slated to build a new research center with a view of developing applied research in the spheres of agrobiolgy, bioenergy production and biotechnologies, TASR learnt on this date.

The realization of the project was approved within the EU's Operational Program Research and Development. The university is set to obtain a financial contribution worth €24.994 million for the construction of the center.

The construction of AgroBio Tech, as the name of the center goes, will be launched in April and the center is estimated to be completed in June 2015.

AgroBio Tech is expected to aid the competitiveness of the associated institutions participating in the project, to attract researchers from the region to engage in agriculture-related research activities.

"The center will be aimed at interlinking education and research and development with practical research work. In addition, it will have a real impact on the employment rate in the region and on improving living standards of people," said SPU director Peter Bielik.

## Continental Plant in Puchov to Become Largest Tiremaker in Europe

Hannover, April 10 (TASR) - The Continental plant in Puchov (Trencin region) is set to become the largest tiremaker factory in Europe following the German company's planned investment worth €250 million, according to a memorandum signed by Slovak Premier Robert Fico with representatives of Continental in Hannover, Germany on this date.

Fico noted that the investment, which will create 600 new jobs, has a significant added value, as it will include research and development.

At the moment, Continental employs more than 5,000 people in Slovakia.

Slovakia has offered the Germans a €20 million tax relief in exchange for placing the investment in Puchov.

## M.A. Bazovsky's Artwork to Be Displayed in Rome

Rome, April 10 (TASR) - To mark this year's 20th anniversary of an independent Slovakia, the Slovak Institute in Rome has prepared a representative exhibition of paintings by one of the founders of Slovak Modernism in fine arts, Milos Alexander Bazovsky (1899-1968).

The ceremonial opening of the exhibition will be held on Thursday, April 11, 2013, at the Slovak Embassy in Italy and the Slovak Institute in Rome. The event will also feature a performance by Slovak pianist Ladislav Fancovic and violinist Milan Pala.

The exhibition consists of more than 50 works from the collection of M.A. Bazovsky Gallery in Trencin.

The event is the last to be overseen by incumbent director of the Slovak Institute in Rome Peter Krupar, who is slated to be succeeded soon by eminent Slovak tenor Peter Dvorsky after four years in office.

## Kosice-London Flight to Be Introduced In Summer 2013

Kosice, April 9 (TASR) - A direct flight between Kosice and London is likely to be introduced in the summer this year, director of the Kosice Tourism organization Iveta Ninajova confirmed on this date.

"It was the initiative of businessmen affiliated with Kosice Tourism, as we realize that accessibility of the whole eastern Slovakia is very bad and this factor has been adversely affecting tourism in the region for quite a long time," said Ninajova.

Talks on support for the Kosice-London flight are underway between the Kosice Airport, Kosice Tourism and relevant air carriers, with the Kosice Tourism offering to finance the flight operation based on the number of transported passengers. As negotiations are not concluded yet, Ninajova refused to disclose any details, however.

The Kosice Tourism is made up of 38 members, which include local hotels, restaurants, attractions, transport companies, travel agencies and public sector.

## Slovakia Invests more than U.S.A. or Russia in Czech Republic

Bratislava, April 4 (TASR) - Slovakia has topped even the U.S.A. and Russia in the volume of foreign investment in the neighboring Czech Republic, newly elected Czech President Milos Zeman said during his first official visit abroad since taking office last month.

The volume of Slovak investments in the Czech Republic has accounted for 4.7 percent, which corresponds with the figure posted for the U.S.A., while the proportion of Russian investments have been hovering at around 0.8 percent.

"I strongly believe that this favorable trend will continue," said Zeman at a joint press conference after the meeting with his Slovak counterpart Ivan Gasparovic.

In addition, Zeman told journalists that there is at least one area in which Slovakia has overcome the Czech Republic; namely, the country's decision to join the eurozone. "This is certainly an inspiration for the Czech Republic," said the President, whose predecessor Vaclav Klaus was known for his 'euro skepticism'.

It's been a tradition with both Czech and Slovak prime ministers and presidents since the 1993 split that their first visit abroad is to the former federation partner. However, Zeman claimed that it's not only about this tradition that he chose to visit Slovakia first, but due to the extraordinarily high standard of bilateral relations between the countries.

Even though there haven't been any significant disputes between Slovakia and its western neighbor since the two countries split in 1993, both officials conceded that there are numerous challenges ahead in terms of cross-border cooperation. This includes the creation of better traffic linkage and more intensive co-operation among Czech and Slovak companies. Moreover, the two countries may in the foreseeable future engage in talks about reinstalling a joint 'Czechoslovak' ice-hockey league after a 20-year hiatus.

## Zbigniew Brzezinski to Attend GLOBSEC Conference in Bratislava

Bratislava, April 5 (TASR) - Distinguished geo-political strategist Zbigniew Brzezinski, Polish Foreign Affairs Minister Radoslaw Sikorski, Estonian President Hendrik Ilves, Montenegrin Premier Milo Djukanovic and dozens of foreign ministers are set to attend the GLOBSEC international security conference in Bratislava held April 18-20, 2013, according to Vladimira Briestenska from the Slovak Atlantic Commission (SAC).

Brzezinski is set to deliver a keynote speech on the status of the Visegrad Four and the role of Central Europe at a time in which Europe is facing a crisis linked to its own survival, Transatlantic ties are weakened by cuts in defense spending, Europe is losing competitiveness, and the West is facing the challenge of growing economies, said Briestenska.

"At such difficult times, we need new inspiration and strategic vision both in our region and Europe. We're too focused on coping with the ordinary effects of the crisis, and we tend to lose focus on a more strategic culture. I can't imagine a better person to inspire us than Zbigniew Brzezinski," said SAC general secretary Robert Vass.

"Experts will also focus on the Transatlantic Free Trade Agreement, which should represent a new source for reviving a transatlantic economy, competitiveness and strategic ties," added Vass.

## Nitra: Flood Situation Stabilizing, Nove Zamky Faring Worst

Nitra, April 1 (TASR) - River levels in the Nitra region have been gradually stabilizing, TASR learnt from Branislav Bonis of Nitra Regional Police Operational Center.

According to Bonis, the situation has improved significantly in Levice, Zlate Moravce and Vrable districts. "The roads in Zlate Moravce and Vrable districts are passable. In the Levice district, many roads have been made passable again, although the road between the Hungarian border and Vyskovce nad Iplou remains closed. We're still monitoring the situation."

The worst problems are in the Nove Zamky district, where the inhabitants of Surany have had their hands full due to the overflowing Nitra river. Furthermore, the highest (third-degree) flood alert has been issued in Velka Mana and Hul, with water flooding local fields and cellars.

## Over 550 Jobless People to Lend Hand in Clean-up Work After Floods

Bratislava, April 2 (TASR) - The Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Center (UPSvaR) will help villages and towns struck by the latest wave of floods by giving jobless people a chance to make some extra money in the clean-up efforts, TASR learnt from Labor Minister Jan Richter (Smer-SD) on this date.

"UPSvaR got in touch with local job centers this morning, instructing them to get in contact with the mayors of affected towns and villages so that assistance may be provided," said Richter.

A total of 149 entities, mostly towns and villages, have shown an interest through fifteen job centers in receiving assistance from the unemployed. The personnel will be available for 1-2 months.

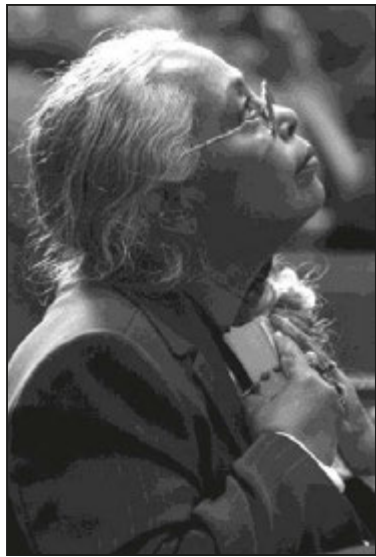
The state is putting up some €680,000 towards personnel wages of the personnel, who will mainly be deployed in the districts of Nitra, Nove Zamky and Levice (Nitra region) and Prievidza (Trencin region).

Second-degree flood warnings are in force for the whole of Banska Bystrica region, some districts of Nitra region (Zlate Moravce) and Trencin region (Partizanske, Prievidza). The situation is quite critical in Levice (Nitra region), where the highest third-degree warning has been issued.

# REFLECTIONS ON THE PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE BENEDICT XVI February 2013

## General Intention - Liturgy, Source of Life

*That the public, prayerful celebration of faith may give life to the faithful.*



In 1963 the bishops at the Second Vatican Council wrote that "the liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; it is also the fount from which all her power flows." They went on to say that the "Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that full, conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy." The celebration of the Eucharist is a sacred event that should never be treated casually.

More recently, at the 50th International Eucharistic Congress in Ireland, Pope Benedict said that the changes in the liturgy after the Council were "intended to make it easier to enter into the inner depth of the mystery." Their "true purpose was to lead people to a personal encounter with the Lord." "Yet," he lamented, "not infrequently, the revision of liturgical forms has remained at an external level, and 'active participation' has been confused with external activity."

Active participation in the Eucharist involves more than singing, making the responses, following the appropriate postures, or going up for Holy Communion. Those activities involve our bodies, but if our minds and hearts are not involved, they are empty activities.

Out of this concern, Pope Benedict asks us to pray for a renewal of our faith in the Eucharist—that it be "the memorial of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross" and that we deeply understand that the elements of bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Christ given to us for our transformation. Our celebrations must be prayerful so that they don't become "merely a matter of habit," but instead truly give life to us and to all the faithful.

### Reflection

How can I better prepare for Mass and enter more prayerfully into its celebration?

### Scripture

1 Corinthians 11:23-32: Do this in remembrance of me.....

## Mission Intention - Mission Churches

*That mission churches may be signs and instruments of hope and resurrection.*



In a very real way the Catholic Church in every nation is a mission church. In the words of Pope Benedict's 2012 Message for World Mission Day, "the number of those who do not know Christ has grown." More people than at any other time have never heard the Good News of Jesus and more people than ever who have heard about him don't care. This is the "crisis of faith" which led Pope Benedict to call for the Year of Faith which we are now celebrating.

As part of our celebration we are praying this month in particular for the Church in places where the Gospel has been newly planted or where Christians are a minority. In many cases these are

places of great injustice and poverty, conflict and genocide, where our brothers and sisters are tempted by hopelessness. In these places the Church must proclaim the Gospel not only with its words but by its witness. It must be a sign of hope for people: so that justice and reconciliation are made possible. The Church must be the instrument that empowers people to work for order and the common good that can lead to peace. When Jesus appeared to the disciples after his resurrection, his first words were "Peace be with you" (Luke 24:36 and John 20:20-1).

On the cross Jesus took away the sins of the world and reconciled people with God and one another. Every celebration of the Eucharist makes this sacrifice present and empowers us to continue Jesus' work of reconciliation. The Risen Lord promised: "I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). His presence gives us hope and power.

In his letter announcing the Year of Faith, Pope Benedict wrote: "Through faith, we can

recognize the face of the risen Lord in those who ask for our love." We join the Holy Father in praying that through an increase in their faith the mission churches may be ever more effective signs and instruments of hope and resurrection.

### Reflection:

How does my faith in the resurrection of Jesus help me to face situations that seem hopeless?

### Scripture:

2 Corinthians 5:16-20: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation.

## Prayer of the Month

*Lord Jesus, at the Last Supper you commanded your apostles to remember you in the breaking of bread, now become your Body, and in the drinking of wine, now become your Blood. Whenever we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, help us focus our attention on your total gift of yourself on the cross and the gift of yourself you make to us anew in the Eucharist. May we truly feed on you with our bodies, minds, and hearts, that we may know and love you more in each Eucharistic celebration. Amen.*



## Links

### Links for April, 2013 General Intention

Pope Benedict's Apostolic Exhortation "The Eucharist as the Source and Summit of the Church's Life and Mission."

Pope Benedict's Message for the Closing of the 50th Eucharistic Congress in 2012.

Pope Benedict's General Audience of January 7, 2009.

### Links for April, 2013 Mission Intention

Pope Francis' Homily at his Inaugural Mass.

Message for the 2013 World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Pope Benedict's Homily at the 2012 Easter Vigil.

## ❖❖❖ ❖❖❖ ❖❖❖ 2013 National Picnic

*continued from page 1*

The first 200 members to register will be entered in a drawing to win a Chewy Čuvač stuffed animal, complete with "official" certification and dog tag. This year, advance reservations are required. To help you register as early as possible, online registration will be offered at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com)

A \$15 admission fee will be charged for each nonmember attending the picnic. If you like, you can mail in registration information instead. The deadline for reservations is July 11, 2013.

For anyone considering traveling a distance to this year's picnic, a group rate at a nearby hotel has been secured. The Holiday Inn, East Windsor, has a block of hotel rooms, at a discounted rate, available. The rate for a Saturday night stay is \$141.04 + tax and the rate for a Sunday night stay is \$115.24 + tax. Mention that you are booking the with FCSU group to get these rates. The hotel reservation cutoff date is July 10.

For printed registration form and more details on how to register online plus fun facts about the National Picnic, please see page 12 of this issue.

## Slovak Picnic in June

Sponsored by the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club

Sunday, June 9, 2013

Noon until 8PM

St. Sava Picnic Grounds

2151 Wallings Road

Broadview Heights, OH



Featuring: Good Slovak Food & Pastries

Music: by John Pastirik

Info: 440-886-4828 or 440-885-1994; 440-845-0282

# Report of the National Vice President

*continued from page 3*

Congratulations to the society's TOP 10 Proposers by Amount of Annuity/IRA/Park Money brought in for the 2012 Campaign.

1. Robert J. Kopco
2. Florence K. Matta
3. Audrey J. Balazik
4. John A. Jurcenko
5. Maria Zakovic
6. Geraldine Buchheit
7. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
8. Albert R. Valo
9. Carl J. Ungvarsky
10. Joseph Edward Rura

Congratulations to the society's TOP 10 Insurance/Annuity Proposers by Total Points for the 2012 Membership Campaign.

1. Theresa Behil Keiser
2. Audrey J. Balazik
3. Dorothy J. Petrus
4. John A. Jurcenko
5. Albert R. Valo
6. Robert J. Kopco
7. Florence K. Matta
8. Frances Tarquinio
9. Geraldine Buchheit
10. Maria Zakovic

Congratulations to the society's TOP 10 Proposers by the Number of Insurance Policies Sold for the year 2012.

1. Dorothy J. Petrus
2. Audrey J. Balazik
3. Vicki Lynn Schaub
4. Theodore F. Kozenko, Jr.
5. Frances Tarquinio
6. Florence K. Matta
7. Frederick Brunetti
8. Bernard A. Skovira
9. Virginia A. Schwab
10. Michael E. Lako (tie)
11. Janet Mical (tie)
12. Robert J. Lakata (tie)

To each and everyone who signed a member and/or sent in an Annuity/IRA/Park Money contract during the year 2012. My thanks and Congratulations for a Job Well Done!

## Marketing

This past year the Membership and Marketing Committee...

A.) Are still continuing to recruit new agents.

B.) Will continue advertising our products and annuity rates in our Jednota newspaper, mailing and on our website.

C.) On the Annual Premium Juvenile Enrichment Plan (JEP) we are offering a special fraternal dividend of \$14.00 toward the first year premium. The special program ran through most of 2012 and will end the last day of March this year.

D.) On April 21st held a seminar for the George Onda District #3 in United PA at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church.

E.) From May 17-19th we set up a booth at the Pittsburgh Folk Festival at the Monroeville Convention Center.

F.) On July 19, 2012 we set up an information booth at Kennywood Park in Pittsburgh, PA.

G.) Set up an information booth about the society's insurance and annuity products at the "Fest." It is put on by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland in Wickliffe, Ohio. Thirty to thirty-five thousand participants attended the one day free family festival.

H.) Set up an information booth on Sunday September 22, 2012 at the annual Slovak Fest put on by the Slovak Radio Club of Greater Cleveland. It was held at St. Anthony Church Hall in Parma, Ohio.

I.) On September 23rd, we had a booth at the Slovak Fest in Holmdel, New Jersey.

J.) On September 23rd, we held a seminar in Boardman, Ohio at Bruno's Restaurant and Catering. All members of Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District were invited to attend.

K.) Held a sales seminar on Sunday October 7, 2012 starting at 1p.m. The seminar was at S.S. Cyril and Methodius Church in Windber, Pennsylvania. The Seminar was opened to all members of Rev. John Martvon District 7.

L.) On September 21, 2012 we held a seminar at St. John Nepomucene Slovak Church Hall in New Your City. Mass was at 11 a.m. and the seminar at 1 p.m.

M.) Held a insurance meet from November 12th to November 14th at Ballys in LasVegas. We Honored our Top Recommenders.

N.) Developed a incentive plan to aid members in obtaining their insurance licenses.

## Activities

Some of my activities in the year 2012 were: Attended all monthly executive meetings as well as special meetings called by the president. Articles were written pertaining to insurance and published in the Jednota. Served on the committee for the insurance meet. Attended branch and district meetings and/or social functions. Attended Bruce and DePersis seminar in Pittsburgh. Attended Indiana Fraternal Alliance in Lafayette, Indiana. I attended seminars in United, PA, Youngstown, Ohio, Winder, PA, and New York City. Attended American Fraternal Alliance Meeting in New Orleans. Represented the society at the Indiana Slovak Day in Merrillville, Indiana. I inform Regional Directors of their districts insurance and annuity production on a quarterly basis. Attended festivals at Monroeville Convention Center - Wickliffe, Ohio - Parma, Ohio and Kennywood Park in Pittsburgh.

At this time, I personally want to thank our Executive Committee and the Board of Directors for their help. Many thanks to the district and branch officers for their untiring commitment to our society. I want to express my sincerest thanks to our home office staff for the excellent help and cooperation given to me thru out the year.

Until Next Time,  
Good Luck and God Bless,

**Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.**  
National Vice-President

# Report of the Fraternal Activities Director

*continued from page 3*

number of entries over this year shows that most of the participation is in the 7-12 year-old age groups.

Plans for all scheduled events for this year are well underway.

The 2nd United Slovak Fraternal Bowling Tournament will take place the weekend of May 3 - May 5 at Airport Lanes in Buffalo, New York.

The Golf Tournament will take place July 20-21, 2013, at the Zoar and Wilkshire Golf Courses near Canton, Ohio.

A national picnic will be held on Sunday, August 11, 2013, at Frogbridge Events Center in Millstone Township, New Jersey. Watch the Jednota paper for more details on this exciting event!

In conclusion, I thank the Members of the Board for supporting the various activities throughout the year, and I encourage all of you to promote participation in activities at all levels, of our organization. Please feel free to contact me if I can help to coordinate or promote any activities in your area.

Fraternally submitted,

**Susan Ondrejco**  
Director of Fraternal Activities

# Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

C	H	A	N			O	P	T			S	A	I	L						
A	U	R	A			A	V	E	R		W	H	I	T	E					
B	R	I	G			P	U	C	E		R	O	D	E	O					
S	T	A	G	E	P	L	A	Y			I	C	E	S						
				E	L	L	E	N			A	S	K							
H	U	R	D	L	E				L	I	T	E	R	A	L					
E	N	E				I	S	R	A	E	L		R	A	N	I				
R	I	L	E	S				O	R	A		A	S	C	O	T				
O	T	I	S			H	O	T	R	O	D		E	D	E					
D	E	C	O	R	U	M					P	U	R	S	E	R				
				T	E	E				A	G	I	L	E						
						S	H	E	A			P	L	A	N	T	A	I	N	S
A	W	A	R	D						A	B	L	E			P	L	O	T	
P	A	R	I	S						R	U	E	S			E	I	R	E	
E	P	I	C							E	M	S				R	A	M	P	

## OBITUARIES

*continued on page 16*

### MICHAEL LASHANIK BRANCH 784 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Michael Lashanik, age 82, passed away peacefully on Saturday December 15, 2012 at the Notre Dame Des Mercy Hospital in Montreal. A retired Bell Canada employer for 34 years, he is survived by his wife Adel (Pado). He also leaves to mourn his children: daughter Dianne (Bruce) Pelkey; son James; and grandchildren Alex and Mark. Family received condolences at Centre funéraire Côte-des-Neiges (Réseau Dignité), Montréal, Québec, on Wednesday, December 19, 2012, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., followed by a funeral service officiated by Rev. Peter Sabbath and then interment at the Notre-Dame des Neiges Cemetery.

- Submitted by Adel Lashanik

### DAVID J. KREMPASKY BRANCH 796 – WHITEHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

David J. "Eggy" Krem-pasky, 51 years old and a resident of Walnutport, passed away peacefully on Wednesday afternoon February 13, 2013 in the Lehigh Valley Hospice, Allentown, with his family by his side. Born of the Catholic faith in Allentown to the late Francis J. and Elizabeth A. Betty (Brinkos) Krem-pasky, he was the longtime companion of Diane Faryna with whom he resided. Eggy loved



working and was an expert concrete finisher for CC Inc. for the past nine years, and Northampton Concrete Forms earlier in life. He was a life member of the Alliance Fire Co. # 1 Northampton. Survivors: Beside his companion, are son David J. Jr. and his wife Courtney (Dodig) of Northampton, who are expecting the birth of their daughter in May; brother Frank S. and his wife Lori, along with their daughter Kelsey of Whitehall; step

mother Margaret Krem-pasky, step brother Mark Nederostek and step sister Deb Walsh; Diane's mother Josie Faryna of Danielsville; many aunts, uncles, cousins and their families. Services were held 11 a.m., Monday, February 18, 2013, in the Gilbert Funeral Home, Whitehall, with Rev. Dr. Robert C. Santucci officiating. Visitation began at 10 a.m. with interment following in Our Lady of Hungary Cemetery, Northampton.

## Report of the National Treasurer

*continued from page 3*

Corporate bond issues have been increasing in number providing some higher rates, unfortunately at high cost, which brings the final yield much lower. Purchase and guidance of security purchases has been assisted by the Society's investment manager (AQS). The Society continues to utilize low interest funds that are available as a result of the Society's membership in the Federal Home Loan Bank.

Net investment rate of return was 4.75%. A change was made in determining the net investment rate of return effective with the 2007 Annual Statement. The current year's income from IMR is not included as part of investment income. The Society's average rate of return for the past five years is 5.71%. The Society's net investment rate of return will rank in the middle among fraternal and commercial insurers.

In spite of the slowly recovering economic climate, the Society's 2012 investment income results were good. Against this backdrop, the Society made decisions and changes that strengthened its investment procedure and promoted increased sales resulting in another favorable growth year in our surplus; an increase of \$1,662,555. The returns from the Hedge Fund that replaces the Victory Hedge Fund Trust were not as successful as in the past. In line with Ohio Regulations, the total investment was smaller than had been invested in the Victory Hedge Fund.

Surplus -	12/31/09	\$ 13,169,012	increase of	\$4,109,420
Surplus -	12/31/10	\$ 17,519,864	increase of	\$ 4,350,852
Surplus -	12/31/11	\$ 18,984,017	increase of	\$ 1,464,153
Surplus -	12/31/12	\$ 20,646,572	increase of	\$ 1,662,555

The Society continues to utilize interest funds from the Federal Home Loan Bank and use those low interest rates to arbitrage investment in securities that pay a higher interest rate.

Bonds make up 92.2% of the investment portfolio. Investment grade bonds are 97.6% of bonds owned. Only 0.2% of the Society's bonds are in the default category. Preferred stocks dropped to 0.2% of the portfolio. All preferred stocks owned by the Society are in the top 3 NAIC. Common stocks are 1.05% of invested assets. The common stock include the Society's investment in Jednota Holding Company (\$559,432). The Society had a +7.1% increase in assets.

There are capital gains shown of \$198,857, which resulted from gain on the sale of surplus Notes. The bankrupt Lehman Brothers Bonds remains on the Society's books, although they have been replaced by escrow bonds. In prior years, the book value of the bonds had been lowered by an accounting adjustment known as "Other Than Temporary Impairment". As a result, the insurance of the escrow bonds had little impact on the Society's bond portfolio or surplus. Other than Lehman Brothers, the Society had only \$4,000,000 of Northern Telephone and \$525,000 of Royal Bank of Scotland bonds that are in default or bankruptcy status. The Royal Bank of Scotland market value doubled in 2012, producing unrealized gains. I believe there is a good chance that there may be a favorable future improvement.

The Society purchased almost \$111,000,000 of securities in the year 2012, while almost \$93,000,000 of securities were matured or called. The combined total of \$204,000,000 equals 72.4% of the 2011 invested asset total. The large volume of activity was necessitated by the continuing large number of calls, especially government sponsored entities such as FNMA, FHLMC, and pay downs on GMNA's. The concerns continue to find replacement bonds of equal value and the best interest rates available while maintaining quality. Another concern is to earn sufficient investment income to support a competitive interest rate on the Society's annuity products.

As we review the continued growth and success of our society, along with the outstanding performance of our recommenders, sales agents, and our outstanding staff of office personnel, all I can say is:

THANK YOU AND LETS DO IT AGAIN IN 2013!

Respectfully submitted,

George F. Matta  
National Treasurer  
March 12, 2013

## Report of the Internal Audit Team

*continued from page 3*

- Ensure death claims
- contain required and relevant documentation
- are processed correctly according to FCSU
- checks are properly issued and documented
- Payroll
  - Test payroll and personnel procedures.
  - Ensure payroll and personnel
  - procedures are in place and functioning properly
  - calculations of earning, special payments, benefits, taxes and voluntary/involuntary deductions are accurate complete and timely
  - transactions are accurately reflected in the accounting system
- Branch Stipends
  - Test branch stipend processing.
  - Ensure stipend requests
  - contain required and relevant documentation
  - Annual report
  - Financial report
  - verify at least 2 published announcements including one for election of officers
  - submitted by February 15
  - contract(s) obtained
- Annuities
  - Test annuities application process.
  - Ensure the annuity
  - application contains required documentation
  - recommender receives appropriate points
  - interest is calculated correctly according to the contract
- Investment Policy
  - Review investment policy.
  - Ensure adherence to the policy
  - policy updated as necessary
  - guidelines, limitations and restrictions followed
  - activity and status submitted for review
- Outside Agents
  - Test accuracy of outside agent's commission.
  - Verify contracts exist and ensure
  - commission rate correct
  - payments accurate
- Credit Cards
  - Review corporate credit card procedures
  - Verify proper internal controls are being utilized to ensure
  - relevant documentation present
  - approval follows designated chain of authority
  - mathematical calculations are correct

Audit procedure programs, written by the audit team, were used throughout the year to evaluate the key operations of the specific areas audited. Discussion with management and staff, observations, and analytical testing was performed.

No indications of irregularities or abuse were discovered during the audits performed for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. It is the opinion of the audit team that the Home Office operates effectively and with high standards. Controls are adequate and have been properly maintained thus keeping errors to a minimum.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Bardar  
Karen M. Hunka—Chairman  
Raymond G. Lako  
John J. Leskovyansky, Jr.

## Address Changes?

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, cancellation, or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398; Phone: 1/800-JEDNOTA (1/800-533-6682); Fax: 1-216-642-4310; or E-mail: FCSU@aol.com.

## Návraty k medzinárodnej vedeckej konferencii Matice slovenskej

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Slovákov, o vzniku a pôsobení Matice slovenskej v Juhoslávii, o vzniku a vývoji Matice slovenských národov, o vzniku Matice slovenskej v Amerike, o Slovenskej lige v Amerike a Kanade, o slovakistike a cirkevnej spolupráci, o duchovnej starostlivosti pre Slovákov v zahraničí ako aj o vzniku a vývoji časopisu *Slovensko*, ktorý bol a dodnes je určený pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. Som presvedčený o tom, že práve obsah týchto príspevkov by dokázal zaujať širokú verejnosť. Takisto verím, že by upútali pozornosť i príspevky zo súčasného života zahraničných Slovákov. V hlavnom otváracom pléne odznel príspevok na tému *Starostlivosť Slovenskej republiky o Slovákov v zahraničí*, ktorý predniesol predseda ÚSZZ Igor Furdík. Mimo iného aj on hodnotil vedeckú konferenciu veľmi pozitívne a podľa jeho vyjadrenia konferencia priniesla aj pre jeho prácu mnoho nových poznatkov a podnetov. Taktiež by určite verejnosť zaujali aj príspevky o tom ako žijú Slováci v Mníchove, v Toronte, na Dolnej Zemi v Srbsku, Maďarsku, Rumunsku a Chorvátsku, Česku, Bulharsku alebo na Blízkom Východe, v Libanone. Mnohých zaujala aj téma Európske dimenzie Slovákov doma a v zahraničí, kde referujúci podal návrh ako získavať finančnú podporu z projektov dotovaných eurofondami.



Výstava Matice v národe *Národ v Matici*.



Marián Mark Stolárik pri prezentácii svojej knihy v sídle *Krajanského múzea Matice slovenskej v Dome J.C. Hronského*.

Podnetná bola aj diskusia, ktorá nasledovala na záver referátov. Otázky našich krajanov boli nasmerované k štátnej politike, k Matici slovenskej, k pomoci a starostlivosti o zahraničných Slovákov, na ktoré odpovedal po celý čas prítomný Igor Furdík ako i predstavitelia MS. Hovorilo sa o grantovom systéme a podpore Úradu, o potrebe novelizovať zákon pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, o slovenskom občianstve, o ďalšej podpore študentov a mladých ľudí pre štúdium slovenského jazyka, o duchovnej starostlivosti, o možnosti zabezpečiť príjem rozhlasu a kanálov slovenskej televízie v zahraničí ako aj o vytvorení priestoru pre pravidelné vysielanie o živote a činnosti Slovákov v zahraničí.

Paralele s konferenciou prebiehalo i sprievodné podujatie v Dome J. C. Hronského, ktoré zorganizovalo KM MS a Miestny odbor MS. Priestory dnešného Krajanského múzea sa zaplnili poslucháčmi, ktorí si prišli vypočuť prednášku popredného amerického Slováka, univerzitného profesora žijúceho v Ottawe, Mariána Marka Stolárika. Ten prišiel prezentovať svoje historicko-biografické dielo *Kde sa cítim doma? Slovenské vystaňovalctvo do Severnej Ameriky (1870-2010)*. Možno o niečo viac ako samotná kniha, vzbudilo pozornosť publika jeho autentické rozprávanie o živote emigranta v Kanade plné osobných zážitkov a postrehov. V závere sa rozprúdila tak živá diskusia, že podujatie ani nemôžem nazvať inak ako pozoruhodné. Otázky hostí smerovali až k aktuálnemu stavu „slovenskosti“ v Kanade, k dnešnej emigrácii a momentálnej starostlivosti o Slovákov žijúcich v Amerike.

Počas nasledujúceho doobedia sa nezabudlo ani na našich predkov a na martinskú Národnú cintorínku matičiari i hostia položili zosnulým spomienkové vence. Vo večerných hodinách bolo pre účastníkov konferencie pripravené divadlo, ktoré bolo živým dôkazom toho, akí schopní sú naši krajanovia a za hranicami našej domoviny. Hra *Záveje od Vladimíra Hurbana*, dolnozemskeho Slováka žijúceho v Starej Pazove, divákov preniesla do minulých čias a zožala patričný úspech.

Verím však, že všetko to vypovedané i nepovedané medzi nami na Vedeckej konferencii nahradiť pripravovaný zborník, ktorý vydá Matica slovenská v dohľadnej dobe. Ja však už teraz chcem vysloviť veľké a úprimné poďakovanie všetkým účastníkom konferencie nielen za prednášky, ale i za ich vrele zapájanie sa do diskusií a vytvorenie príjemnej, pracovnej a priateľskej atmosféry, lebo práve z takéhoto prostredia vzišlo mnoho nových poznatkov a podnetov pre našu ďalšiu prácu. A o to nám išlo...

Vedeckú konferenciu v sekcii Slováci v zahraničí som ukončil slovami: *Človek je schopný zabudnúť na všetko, no nikdy nezabudne na to, ako sa pri druhom človeku cítil*. A ja verím (a potvrdzujú to i ohlasy, ktoré dostávame), že sa účastníkom Medzinárodnej vedeckej konferencie v Martine páčilo, že sa cítili dobre a že našu konferenciu nezabudnú.

Daniel Zemančík

## Slovenské sochárske diela na cyrilometodských miestach v Ríme

Kto sa seriózne zaujíma o príbeh spojený s Cyrilom a Metodom, jednoducho nemôže obísť Večné mesto. V Ríme sa nachádza niekoľko autentických sakrálnych pamiatok, pripomínajúcich zápas solúnskych bratov o nábožensko-kultúrne povznesenie Slovanov. Vďaka úsiliu ponovembrových slovenských diplomatov (najmä veľvyslanca pri Svätej stolici Antona Neuwirtha a jeho zástupcu Stanislava Valla) a viacerých kňazov pôsobiacich v Ríme, boli v roku 1998 na týchto historických miestach inštalované sochárske diela od renomovaných slovenských autorov.

V svetoznámom chráme Santa Maria Maggiore pápež Hadrián II. v roku 868 uznal za štvrtý liturgický jazyk staroslovenčinu položením preložených liturgických kníh na oltár. Túto historickú udalosť pripomína tabuľa a bronzové sošky od Mariána Polonského. Na budove neďalekého kláštora pri Bazilike Santa Prassede, kde v rokoch 867 - 869 počas návštevy Ríma Cyril a Metod bývali, bola inštalovaná mramorová tabuľa od Ľubomíra Ferka. Tam vo veku 42 rokov, dňa 14. februára 869 Konštantín - Cyril zomrel.

Bazilika San Clemente má pre Slovanov osobitný význam, pretože sa tam nachádzajú reliéfy sv. Klementa, ktoré objavili na Kryme solúnski bratia, ako aj hrob sv. Cyrila. V pravom rohu nádvorja tejto starobylej svätyne stojí kamenná pamätná tumba (náhrobok) od Andreja Rudavského.

Tri rôzne posvätné miesta, traja slovenskí autori. Spája ich jeden nosný motív - vyjadrenie našej vďaky sv. Cyrilovi a Metodovi, čo sme, až na krajanov, do roku 1989 nemohli verejne urobiť.

TASR

## Putovanie po regiónoch Slovenska

(Pokračovanie)

### Tekov

Región obklopujú Štiavnické vrchy, Podunajská nížina a Ipeľská pahorkatina. Strediskom je starobylé mesto Levice, osadené v údolí Hrona, ktoré vzniklo pri Levickom hrade. Archeologické nálezy dokumentujú, že mesto bolo osídlené už v mladšej dobe kamennej. Písomná zmienka o ňom siaha až do r. 1156. Často trpelo nájazdmi Turkov, preto ho v 14. st. ohradili.

Každé mesto je niečím zvláštne. Levice tým, že sa tam nachádzajú až tri kaštiele. V prvom, renesančnom, z r.1574, je Tekovské múzeum približujúce návštevníkom históriu, národopis a prírodu regiónu. Druhý kaštieľ je barokový z r. 1734 so zaujímavými klenbami. Tretí je neoklasicistický z r. 1863-68. V meste sú aj tri kostoly s bohatými interiéromi. Medzi najväčšie patrí gotický kostol sv. Mikuláša zo 14. st. so štyrmi neskorogotickými oltármi z dielne majstra Pavla z Levoče.

Región je známy svojim živým folklórom. V okolí, vo viacerých obciach, najmä v Rybníku, Čajkove, Gondove..., nosia ženy nádherný kroj s osobitnými tvarmi čepca pôsobiacim orientálnym dojmom.

Turci prenikali na svojich bojových výpravách aj do iných častí regiónu. V r. 1664 sa dostali aj do Pukanca, pôvodného banského mesta na striebro, ktoré takmer úplne zničili. Po zániku baní v 18. st. mal už len poľnohospodársky a remeselnícky charakter, predovšetkým: debnárstvo, kolárstvo, hrnčiarstvo, kamenárstvo, čižmárstvo a garbiarstvo.

Z prírodných zaujímavostí v Štiavnických vrchoch je pozoruhodné Počúvadlianske jazero vo výške 682 m s rozlohou 12.13 ha, ktoré vzniklo v r.1755-79 ako umelá nádrž. Toho času je jedným z najvýznamnejších rekreačných a turistických stredísk.

Niektoré obce majú v názve tento región, napr.: Tekov, Tekovská Nová Ves, Tekovské Lužany, Nový Tekov.

V Brhlovciach a neďalekých Hontianskych Tesároch môžeme obdivovať v andezitových masívoch vysekané domy, ktoré počas tureckých nájazdov slúžili ako úkryty. Neskôr sa stali obydliami a v súčasnosti (niektoré aj poschodové) sa využívajú ako letné kuchyne, vinné pivnice, garáže...

Zásadne by sme nemali vynechať Topoľčianky, kde je jeden z našich najkrajších kaštieľov, ktorý bol do r. 1950 letným sídlom čs. prezidentov (Masaryk, Beneš). Poblíž kaštieľa sa nachádza rozľahlý park (9438 ha) a veľká obora poľovnej zveri: zubria, jelenia, srnčia, diviacia, danielia, muflonia ako aj chov plemenných ušľachtilých koní.

Andrej Štelmák, Sliac



Kaštieľ v Topoľčiankach.



Príbytky v andezitových skalách v Brhlovciach.



Levický hrad.



Žena z Čajkova.

## Korupcia oberá Slovensko ročne o pol miliardy eur

Problém nie je podľa podnikateľov v nedostatočných zákonoch. Žiadajú väčšiu transparentnosť verejnej správy.

Priemerný úplatok pri udeľovaní zákaziek alebo dotácií je podľa prieskumu medzi podnikateľmi trinásť percent z ich celkovej hodnoty. Len pri verejných zákazkách tak ide ročne o pol miliardy eur. Vyplýva to z výsledkov projektu Protikorupčná iniciatíva PAS realizovanej alianciou v spolupráci s Transparency International Slovensko a Inštitútom pre ekonomické a sociálne reformy INEKO. O jeho výsledkoch nedávno informovali v Bratislave na stretnutí s novinármi.

„Výsledky Indexu podnikateľského prostredia z minulého roka označujú korupciu ako jednu z najväčších dlhodobých bariér podnikania. S cieľom zintenzívniť boj proti korupcii sa PAS rozhodla spracovať analýzu korupcie v podnikateľskom prostredí a navrhnuť opatrenia na jej obmedzenie,“ povedal Róbert Kičina, výkonný riaditeľ PAS.

Po pri odhadnutí priemernej výšky úplatkov, podnikatelia identifikovali ako korupčne najrizikovejšie kontrakty s ministerstvami, inštitúciami poskytujúcimi peniaze zo štrukturálnych fondov, ostatnými ústrednými orgánmi štátnej správy a orgánmi vyšších územných celkov. Pozitívne vyznieva zistenie, že podnikatelia, ktorí majú priamu skúsenosť s obchodovaním so štátom, vnímajú korupciu ako menej rozšírenú v porovnaní so všeobecnými názormi podnikateľskej sféry. To však neznamená, že sa tomuto problému netreba venovať. Podľa Transparency International je z hľadiska korupcie až 61 krajín sveta hodnotených lepšie ako Slovensko.

TASR

## Oznamy a spoločenské podujatia

### Polročná členská schôdza Spolku č. 716 IKSJ v New York City

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v New York City, že v nedeľu 28. apríla 2013 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia sa uskutoční polročná schôdza v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East, 66<sup>th</sup> Street v New York City. Na schôdzi bude podaná finančná správa a diskusia o návrhoch na ďalšiu činnosť. Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa na tejto schôdzi zúčastnili. Ostávame s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

### Koncert skupiny TAKTICI v New York City

V sobotu 18. mája 2013 sa uskutoční v hale Kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East Str. a 1st Ave., v New York City koncert hudobnej skupiny TAKTICI, ktorý bude spojený so zábavou. Začiatok podujatia je o 8.00 hodine večer. Vstupné za osobu je \$ 25.00. Počas večera bude losovaná tombola. Predpredaj lístkov a bližšie informácie nájdete na internetovej adrese: [www.taktici.event.com](http://www.taktici.event.com)

## U.S.Steel zostane v Košiciach ešte minimálne päť rokov

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Theodore Sedgwick v reakcii na podpis spoločného memoranda o zotrvaní spoločnosti U. S. Steel v Košiciach. Dohodu považuje za výhodnú pre obe strany. Podľa Sedgwicka pre americkú oceliarsku spoločnosť bolo rozhodujúce, že je ekonomicky výhodné zostať na Slovensku. "Pre rozhodnutie U. S. Steel bola dôležitá ekonomická ponuka slovenskej vlády," dodal americký veľvyslanec.

Pôsobenie amerického oceliarskeho gigantu na Slovensku považuje Sedgwick aj za historický symbol. "Pred viac ako sto rokmi mnoho Slovákov emigrovalo do Pittsburghu, aby pracovali v tamjších oceliarniach a v súčasnosti pôsobí a investuje spoločnosť z tohto mesta práve na Slovensku," konštatoval Sedgwick.

TASR

## Kempinski Hotel River Park v Bratislave hostiteľ už ôsmeho ročníka GLOBSEC

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Keďže Kempinski Hotel River Park bude počas konferencie plne obsadený a v hoteli sa bude denne pohybovať približne 450 ľudí, riaditeľ hotela prezradil aj zaujímavé čísla z vrcholáciach priprav. „O hostí Kempinski Hotel River Park sa bude počas konferencie GLOBSEC starať približne 180 zamestnancov.

Bratislavské bezpečnostné fórum (GLOBSEC) sa s účasťou viac ako 650 významných hostí z viac ako 60 krajín sveta radí medzi päť najvýznamnejších konferencií svojho druhu v Európe a Severnej Amerike. Mnohí vplyvní účastníci ho porovnávajú s prestížnymi fórami v Bruseli a Mníchove. GLOBSEC zo strednej Európy doplní strategickú debatu, ktorá formuje transatlantickú a európsku zahraničnopolitickú, bezpečnostnú a ekonomickú agendu.

OTS

## Nový internetový portál – Slovenské slovo

Panslovanská únia spolu s Kongresom slovenskej inteligencie, Konzervatívnym Slovenskom a Slovenskou ekonomickou spoločnosťou – Nezávislým združením ekonómov Slovenska spustili prevádzku webovej stránky s názvom Slovenské slovo. Slovenské slovo je určené slovenským vlastencom na celom svete a má ambíciu stať sa ich spoločným médiom. Do štartovacej verzie boli zaradené články, ktoré už boli publikované, avšak stojí za to prečítať si ich aj viac krát. Postupne zaraďujeme nové, spravídla autorské, príspevky a mienime zaraďovať zaujímavé články a videá aj z iných zdrojov. Predpokladáme, že nám budú posielat príspevky aj Slováci zo zahraničia. Prvá lastovička zo zahraničia sa už objavila.

Cieľom Slovenského slova je stať sa nezávislými internetovými novinami, ktoré pomôžu znížiť deficit slovenských vlasteneckých médií na Slovensku. Nechceme konkurovať iným národoveckým médiám, ale chceme s nimi spolupracovať tak, aby v tejto oblasti vznikol synergický efekt.

Privítame spoluprácu všetkých slovenských spolkov, novín, magazínov a všetkých médií, ktorým je slovenská vec drahá. Spoluprácu nám môžete ponúknuť na adrese [info@slovenskeslovo.sk](mailto:info@slovenskeslovo.sk). Podrobnosti spolupráce dohodneme s každým osobitne.

Ak sa zaregistrujete na tejto stránke a prihlásite sa na odber noviniek, budete automaticky informovaní o nových článkoch a akciách propagovaných na Slovenskom slove.

### Tu je krátky návod ako sa zaregistrova na Slovenskom slove a prihlásiť na odber informačného bulletinu:

Zaregistrovať sa a prihlásiť sa na odber informačného bulletinu musíte osobne na stránke Slovenského slova [www.slovenskeslovo.sk](http://www.slovenskeslovo.sk). Tam, vpravo dolu, nájdete tlačidlo/nápis „Registrácia“, po jeho stlačení sa Vám otvorí prihlasovací formulár, ten vyplníte a potvrdíte. Na Vašu e-adresu Vám príde prihlasovacie heslo, ktoré použijete vždy keď sa budete chcieť prihlásiť. Približne v strede dolnej časti nájdete „Prihlásenie na odber noviniek“, tam do okienka označeného „E-mail“ napíšete svoju e-adresu a potvrdíte červeným tlačidlom „Subscribe“. To je všetko.

Slovenské slovo je už napojené na sociálne siete (Facebook a Twitter), máte teda možnosť formovať ho aj prostredníctvom možností ponúkaných týmito médiami.

**Slovenské vlastenecké spolky: Panslovanská únia, Kongres slovenskej inteligencie, Konzervatívne Slovensko, Slovenská ekonomická spoločnosť – Nezávislé združenie ekonómov Slovenska.**

## IN MEMORIAM

### Anna Mary Trojčáková vo večnosti

Dňa 17. marca 2013, tíško usnula v Pánovi vo veku 88 rokov v Masonic Village, Elizabethtown, PA Anna M. Trojčáková. Anna bola členkou Spolku číslo 278 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v Elizabethtown, PA.

Nebohá sa narodila 9. mája 1924 v Koškovciach v okrese Humenné na Východnom Slovensku. Ako 13. ročná emigrovala do Ameriky spolu s rodinou, ktorá usadila v Pittsburghu, Pensylvánia. Pracovala u niekoľkých zamestnávateľov v Pittsburghu. V roku 1958 sa zosobášila s Jozefom Trojčákom. Neskoršie sa presťahovali do Middletownu, PA, kde Jozef dostal prácu v bývalej tlačiarňi JEDNOTA, ako slovenský sadzač na linotype. Anna a Jozef sa dožili krásnych spoločných osláv 50. výročia manželstva. Anna bola veľmi aktívnu členkou Kostola Sedembolestnej Panny Márie v Middletown, PA. ako aj členkou The Council of Catholic Woman. Piekla a varila slovenské dobroty pri rôznych príležitostiach farnosti. Ponúkala často študentov a klientov Hudobného štúdia (Progressive Enterprises Sound Studios), ktoré vlastní jej syn Jozef, chutnými koláčmi o ktoré v jej domácnosti nikdy nebolo núde.

Do večnosti ju predišli jej rodičia Martin a Mary Kovach, manžel Andrej Trojčák 23. mája 2008 a brat Martin Kovach. Nebohá Anna zanecháva za sebou syna Jozefa s manželkou Lynne, brata Joseph Kovach s manželkou Margie z McKees Rocks, sestry Mary Ann, Bernadette, Joann Kovach tiež z McKees Rocks a Veronicu Kovach Wolf z Valencie, PA a jej manžela Thomasa.

Telo nebohej Anny bolo vystavené 20. marca u pohrebniča Matinček and Daughter Funeral Home, ako aj v deň pohrebu. Pohrebná svätá omša sa konala vo štvrtok 21. marca 2013 o 11. hodine doobeda v kostole Sedembolestnej Panny Márie v Middletown, PA, ktoré hlavnými celebrantmi boli otec Thomas Hart a otec Ted Keating.

**Odpočinutie večné daj jej Pane, a svetlo večné nech jej svieti. Nech odpočívá v pokoji!**



## Medzinárodný letný tábor Matice slovenskej

Milí priaznivci prázdninových dobrodružstiev! Ak ste už netrepeživo čakali na informáciu o letnom tábore Matice slovenskej, máme pre vás dobrú správu. Prázdninový tábor v Tatranskej Lesnej sa uskutoční aj v tomto roku, a to už po dvadsiaty druhýkrát. Opäť pripravujeme bohatú, pestrú a dufáme, že aj nezabudnuteľnú náruč podujatí, akcií, hier, výletov a dobrodružstiev v srdci tatranskej prírody.

Pripájame niekoľko ďalších informácií o letnom tábore (informácie budeme priebežne aktualizovať a doplňat).

•Kedy bude tábor prebiehať? V termíne od 30. 6. 2013 do 14. 7. 2013

•V akej lokalite? Tábor je organizovaný v Škole v prírode DĚTSKÝ RAJ v Tatranskej Lesnej

•Kto sa môže tábora zúčastniť? Letný tábor je určený deťom zo Slovenska i zo zahraničia vo veku od 7 do 16 rokov.

•Dokedy je možné poslať prihlášku? Prihlášku môžete zaslať poštou, alebo naskenovanú e-mailom (musí obsahovať podpis zákonného zástupcu) najneskôr do 10. júna 2013.

•Aký je poplatok za pobyt v tábore? Pobyt v tábore je dvojtýždňový – výška poplatku 210 €. Je možné sa prihlásiť aj na týždeň – výška poplatku na jeden týždeň je 105 €.

•Čo všetko je v poplatku zahrnuté? V cene pobytu je ubytovanie (v murovanej a podľa potreby aj vykurovanej budove Školy v prírode, sprchy na poschodí), stravovanie (strava je podávaná 6x denne), pitný režim, celodenný dozor, športové vybavenie, materiál na tvorivé dielne a doprava počas celodenných výletov. Vstupenky a poplatky za podujatia si deti hradia z vreckového (zmluvné ceny).

•Ako sa môžete dopraviť do tábora? Doprava do tábora je individuálna. Škola v prírode Detský raj je výborne prístupná osobnou, autobusovou alebo železničnou dopravou. Autobusová a železničná zastávka sa nachádza v tesnej blízkosti strediska (podrobnejšie informácie poskytneme na požiadanie). Dovož a odvoz dieťaťa odporúčame spojiť s návštevou miestnych prírodných alebo kultúrnych atrakcií.

•Aký bude program tábora? Program tábora bude zverejnený v priebehu apríla 2013, nebude v ňom chýbať kúpanie v blízkom aquaparku, výlety a túry do blízkeho i vzdialenejšieho okolia, návšteva kultúrnych pamiatok, športové turnaje, hry, besedy, tvorivé dielne, táborová vatra a opekačka a diskotéky.

Ďalšie informácie o priebehu tábora vrátane zoznamu odporúčaných vecí, dostanú všetci prihlásení účastníci obratom po zaslaní prihlášky. Radi privítame aj Vaše námety a nápady, čo by ste radi v programe privítali, príp. ďalšie Vaše postrehy.

Kontaktné údaje: Matica slovenská, Nám. J. C. Hronského 1, 036 52 Martin Slovak Republic. Tel: 043/4012826, 0905735336; Fax: 043/4133188; E-mail: [fin@matica.sk](mailto:fin@matica.sk)



## Arcibiskupstvo vystaví vzácne historické knihy

Výstavu vzácných historických kníh zo svojej knižnice otvorí Trnavská arcidiecéza (TA) v galérii na Arcibiskupskom úrade v Trnave. Výstava potrvá od pondelka 15. apríla do 15. mája. Informovala o tom TA na svojej webovej stránke.

Po minuloročnom sprístupnení unikátnych archívnych dokumentov dáva TA tentoraz verejnosti možnosť zoznámiť sa s knihami z bývalej knižnice Trnavského vikariátu pochádzajúcich zo 16. až 18. storočia. Sú medzi nimi diela známych polyhistorov ako Matej Bel, Samuel Timon, Juraj Papánek a Martin Sentiváni, rôzne teologické práce, liturgické knihy, zbierky kánonického a uhorského práva, schematizmy a tiež jazykovedné práce v bernolákovčine. Napriek tomu, že sa do dneška z knižnice vikariátu zachoval iba zlomok jej kníh, patria k skvostom a obohacujú kultúrne dedičstvo nielen Trnavy, ale aj v celoslovenskom meradle. Výstava s názvom Fragmenty z knižnice Trnavskej arcidiecézy bude otvorená v pracovných dňoch.

## Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Bratislava** vyniká kvalifikovanou pracovnou silou, avšak pri porovnaní kvality života ďaleko zaostáva za Viedňou, Prahou, Ľubljanou či Budapešťou. Vyplyva to z porovnávania miest v rámci projektu Európskej únie POLYCE, na ktorom sa podieľali odborníci zo Slovenskej technickej univerzity (STU). Projekt porovnával vývoj a aktuálnu situáciu v hlavných mestách vo viac ako stovke indikátorov v piatich oblastiach – ekonomika, mobilita, bývanie, kvalita života a demografia. Hlavné mesto SR sa dostalo mierne nad priemer v dvoch, v ekonomike a demografii. Kritérium, v ktorom Bratislava prepadla, je kvalita života a iné mestá ju predbehli aj v oblasti dostupnosti bývania. Viedeň má širokú ponuku služieb, rozvinutú a spoľahlivú vnútro mestskú dopravu a rôzne formy dostupného bývania vrátane flexibilnej ponuky nájomného bývania.

• **Nová** televízna stanica, ktorá posilní ponuku skupiny JOJ, vstúpi na televízny trh 15. apríla pod názvom WAU. Divákovi ponúkne atraktívny mix programov zameraných primárne na mladšiu cieľovú skupinu. Televízia WAU bude svoj program s claimom „po čom ženy túžia“ primárne cieľiť na mladé, moderné a mestské ženy, na svoje si však prídu aj moderní muži. WAU prinesie na obrazovky relácie o bývaní, varení, nakupovaní, svadbách, prípravách na rodičovstvo, o životnom štýle, chudnutí, plastických operáciách a ďalších „ženských“ témach. Chýbať nebude denné spravodajstvo zo šoubiznisu v relácii TOP STAR, ktorá sa bude exkluzívne vysielat iba na stanici WAU. Na obrazovky sa vrátia aj úspešné pôvodné seriály, ktoré bavili divákov TV JOJ v uplynulých rokoch.

• **Slovenčinári** majú možnosť stať sa lektormi na univerzitách v Nemecku, Srbsku, Poľsku, Číne či vo Francúzsku. Celkovo majú na výber desať univerzít. Základnou podmienkou je minimálne vysokoškolské vzdelanie druhého stupňa v odbore slovenský jazyk a literatúra alebo učiteľstvo akademických predmetov so špecializáciou na tento predmet. Uchádzači by taktiež mali mať pedagogickú prax a praktické skúsenosti s výučbou a prezentáciou slovenčiny ako cudzieho jazyka. V aktuálnom akademickom roku pôsobí v zahraničí 20 lektorov. Najviac je v Nemecku a Poľsku. Ďalší pôsobia v Číne, Chorvátsku, Rakúsku, Rumunsku, Rusku, v Slovinsku a v Taliansku.

• V areáli Baziliky minor v Lutine neďaleko Prešova sa nedávno začali práce na výstavbe druhej etapy miniskanzenu drevených chrámov. Lutina je najvýznamnejším pútnickým miestom gréckokatolíkov na Slovensku. Hlavnou myšlienkou projektu je priblížiť širokej verejnosti drevené chrámy ako duchovné a kultúrne pamiatky a na jednom mieste prezentovať sakrálnu architektúru širšieho okolia. Gréckokatolícka cirkev, farnosť Lutina, pokračuje vo svojom zámere doplniť miniskanzenu ďalšími desiatimi maketami drevených chrámov, tentoraz z okresu Bardejov, spolu s oplotením areálu miniskanzenu. Slávnostné otvorenie II. etapy miniskanzenu je naplánované na august 2013. Cezhraničným partnerom projektu je poľská Caritas Rzeszowskej diecézy, ktorá je zriaďovateľom miniskanzenu drevenej architektúry poľsko-slovensko-ukrajinského pohraničia v obci Myczkowce. Tento park miniatúrnych chrámov otvorili v roku 2007 a nachádza sa v ňom 140 makiet drevených chrámov. Projekt je spolufinancovaný Európskou úniou (EÚ) z prostriedkov Európskeho fondu regionálneho rozvoja a štátnym rozpočtom SR v rámci Programu cezhraničnej spolupráce Poľsko - Slovenská republika 2007-2013.

• **Nový** model britskej automobilky Bentley s pracovným názvom Falcon by sa mohol vyrábať v Bratislave. Podľa šéfa firmy Wolfganga Schreibera by mohla dostať prednosť pred domácim závozom v Crewe. Bratislavu ako centrum výroby nového modelu uprednostňuje vedenie nemeckej automobilky Volkswagen, ktorá Bentley vlastní. Spoločnosť sa však ešte definitívne nerozhodla, alternatívnou možnosťou je, že by sa dielce naďalej vyrábali v Británii a do Bratislavy by sa následne prepravili na zmontovanie. V hlavnom meste Slovenska už v súčasnosti Volkswagen vyrába napríklad luxusné vozidlá Porsche Cayenne a Volkswagen Touareg. Podľa Schreibera je Bratislava v porovnaní s Anglickom atraktívna pre nižšie mzdy. Produkcia nového modelu Bentley by sa mala začať v rokoch 2015 až 2016.

• **Unikátny** kostolík, ktorý nebol postavený, ale prinesený, sa nachádza v hlavnom meste Grécka, v Aténach. Je taký malý, že ho zhotovili v betonárskej fabrike a priviezli na nákladnom aute. Dorobili k nemu z dreva dve krídla, v ktorých sú spoločenské a administratívne priestory. Kostolík je vo vnútri vyzdobený ikonami s podobizňami apoštolov Slovanov. Nachádza sa v olympijskej dedine na okraji Atén, ktorá bola vybudovaná pre ubytovanie asi 10,000 športovcov počas letných olympijských hier v roku 2004. Ide o jediný kostol v Aténach zasvätený solúnskym bratom. Pravoslávni kňazi, ktorí sa zaslúžili o jeho výstavbu, už majú ďalšie plány. Oproti malému kostolíku získali pozemok, na ktorom vyrastie veľký murovaný chrám sv. Cyrila a Metoda.

• **Slovenský** cyklista Peter Sagan obsadil v prestížnych jednoetapových pretekoch E3 v belgickom Harelbeke vynikajúce druhé miesto. Jazdovi tímu Cannondale sa to podarilo napriek tomu, že po 56 km musel vymeniť bicykel pre defekt. Prvenstvo si v cyklistickej klasike dlhej 211 km vybojoval Švajčiar Fabian Cancellara (RadioShack Leopard), ktorý si tak zopakoval svoj jasný triumf pred dvoch rokov. Vtedy na E3 Harelbeke vyhral osamotený s náskokom presnej minúty, pričom z víťazstva sa tešil aj v roku 2010. Už 56 rokov sa obyvatelia mestečka Harelbeke môžu dívať na prestížne cyklistické preteky. UCI organizátorom po rokoch prosieb vlni vyhovel a zaradili ich do kalendára World Tour, takže sa bojovalo aj o cenné body.

• **Kontrakt** v hodnote vyše 6 miliónov amerických dolárov na výrobu mincí pre Srí Lanku podpísal riaditeľ Mincovne Kremnica Vlastimír Kalínek priamo v Centrálnej banke Srí Lanky. Mince bude Mincovňa Kremnica postupne vyrábať a dodávať krajine počas troch rokov. Ide o výrobu celkového množstva 175 miliónov kusov mincí nominálnej hodnoty 10 Rupia, kde hodnota zákazky je 6.032 milióna amerických dolárov (4.634 milióna eur).

• **Rokovanie** košického mestského zastupiteľstva sa zaoberalo v polovici apríla aj medializovaným problémom ťažby uránu v lokalite Kurišková na Jahodnej pri Košiciach. Primátor Košíc Richard Raši avizoval, že predloží Návrh vyjadrenia postoja mesta Košice k zámeru ťažby a spracovania uránu v lokalite Jahodná – Kurišková. „Intenzívne vnímam, že ťažba uránu v tejto lokalite je verejnosťou vnímaná ako vysoko riziková a prevažujú obavy z negatívnych dôsledkov ťažby uránu v tesnej blízkosti nášho mesta,“ povedal Raši. Zdôraznil tiež, že berie do úvahy občanov, ktorí očakávajú, že vedenie mesta Košice a nimi volení zástupcovia v mestskom zastupiteľstve urobia maximum pre to, aby boli Košičania komplexne, pravdivo a priebežne informovaní a aby aj v tomto projekte bol rešpektovaný, obhajovaný a chránený v prvom rade verejný záujem a vôľa širokej verejnosti.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

## Na Slovensku je už vzácna relikvia dona Bosca

Vzácna relikvia dona Bosca, zakladateľa spoločenstva saleziánov, pricestovala 11. apríla na územie Slovenska cez hraničný priechod Vyšné Nemecké. Relikviu potom vystavili v kostole Panny Márie Pomocnice kresťanov v Michalovciach a ďalej putovala aj po farnostiach v ďalších slovenských mestách.

Urna s relikviou svätého Jana Bosca pricestovala na Slovensko po štyroch rokoch putovania južnou, strednou a severnou Amerikou ako aj po viacerých krajinách Afriky a Ázie. Jej putovanie po Slovensku sa skončí 30. apríla v Bratislave.

Katolícka cirkev nazýva relikviami telesné pozostatky svätých po ich smrti. Vzácna relikvia dona Bosca putuje po jednotlivých krajinách sveta v špeciálne upravenom automobile pri príležitosti blížiaceho sa 200. výročia narodenia tohto svätca. Konštrukcia urny, kde je uložená relikvia, má spolu s podstavcom dĺžku 250 centimetrov (cm), šírku 100 cm a siaha do výšky 132 cm. Celková váha urny spolu s vozíkom, ktorým sa premiestňuje, je približne 450 kilogramov.

„Horná časť urny je presklená, tam je figurína dona Bosca oblečeného ako kňaza. V tej sa nachádza v hrudi vložená samotná schránka a v nej je relikvia - pravá ruka dona Bosca,“ priblížil riaditeľ Saleziánskeho mládežníckeho strediska v Prešove Stanislav Seman. Doplnil, že špeciálna schránka, v ktorej je uložená relikvia má rozmery 27 x 9 x 16 cm a je zapečatená zinkovými skrutkami. Podstavec predstavuje most vybudovaný na štyroch pilieroch, pričom na vrchnej časti sú vyobrazené tváre mladých ľudí z piatich kontinentov. K relikvii je priložené osvedčenie o pravosti vydané turínskym arcibiskupom a potvrdené Vatikánom.

Seman pripomenul, že Don Bosco bol kňaz, ktorý pôsobil na severe Talianska v 19. storočí a venoval sa predovšetkým opustenej mládeži. Prvé stredisko pre mládež založil v roku 1846. Neskôr v roku 1859 založil aj spoločnosť pre výchovu mladých ľudí a prví nadšenci sa nazvali saleziáni podľa jedného zo ženevských biskupov. Dona Bosca vyhlásili za svätého v roku 1934. Na Slovensku dnes pôsobí vyše 20 saleziánskych stredísk.



FOTO TASR - Tomáš Doboš

Na snímke presklená urna s figurínou svätca dona Bosca v kostole Panny Márie Pomocnice kresťanov v Michalovciach. V hrudi figuríny je ukrytá relikvia, časť pravej ruky dona Bosca.

Relics of St. Don Bosco have been brought to Slovakia on April 11, 2013, to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth. Shown in the photo are relics containing a part of the right hand of the saint on display in Michalovce. The relics will travel throughout Slovakia.

TASR

## Aktivity EHMK Košice 2013 predstaví výstava fotografií v Londýne

Bohatú históriu, pamiatky a osobnosti z oblasti kultúry mesta Košice a ich okolia bude prezentovať výstava fotografií, ktorá sa uskutoční v Londýne začiatkom mája tohto roka. Európske hlavné mesto kultúry (EHMK) Košice 2013 predstaví od 1. do 10. mája britskej verejnosti prostredníctvom tejto výstavy sériu propagačných a kultúrnych aktivít, ktoré vytvárajú nové pole pre vzájomnú umeleckú výmenu, komunikáciu a tvorbu dlhodobých partnerstiev.

Vedúci oddelenia komunikácie EHMK Košice 2013 Tomáš Čizmárik informoval, že výstava je pripravená v rámci projektu Putujúce mesto v spolupráci s Veľvyslanectvom SR v Londýne. Jej vernisáž sa uskutoční 30. apríla v galérii Európskeho domu v Londýne, kde vystúpi slovenská jazzová kapela AMC Trio. „Prezentáciu EHMK Košice 2013 tvorí 39 fotopanelov. Tie predstavujú hlavné investičné projekty, rekonštrukcie a revitalizácie niekoľkých nefunkčných budov, ako Kulturpark (bývalé kasárne), Kunsthalle (chátrajúca plaváreň) alebo nefunkčné výmenníky tepla, ktoré boli premenené na kultúrno-komunitné centrá,“ vysvetľuje Čizmárik. Pripomenul, že niekdajšie priemyselné mesto sa dnes koncentruje aj na posilnenie medzinárodnej spolupráce a mobility umelcov. Zameriava sa pritom na podporu kreatívnej ekonomiky, napríklad prostredníctvom prepojenia umenia a kultúry s rozvojom vedy, výskumu a inovácií.

TASR

## Sviečková manifestácia bola najvýznamnejším verejným protestom

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Slovákov so Slovenskom a naopak. V tej dobe prišla na svet myšlienka Sviečkovej manifestácie. V mojom záujme bolo, aby na tejto aktivite participovalo čo najväčšie množstvo ľudí. Nad manifestáciou som začal premýšľať sám, ale nechcel som vyniknúť ako individualista,“ priznal.

Podujatia organizované ÚPN sa uskutočnili 25. marca 2013 v priestoroch Historického múzea Slovenského národného múzea na Bratislavskom hrade. Na vedeckom seminári poprední slovenskí a českí historici predniesli príspevky nielen o samotnej Sviečkovej manifestácii, ale aj o širšom kontexte vtedajšej situácie. Popoludní sa uskutočnila diskusia aktérov historických udalostí. Podujatia ÚPN vyvrcholili vernisážou výstavy s názvom „Sviečková manifestácia 25. marca 1988“.

Sviečková manifestácia sa stala najväčším verejným vystúpením proti komunistickému režimu vo vtedajšej ČSSR od roku 1969. Zišli sa na nej tisíce občanov z hlavného mesta i ďalších miest a obcí Slovenska. Manifestáciu neprekazilo ani jazdenie obnorených transportérov po meste, obmedzenia v hromadnej mestskej a prímestskej doprave, ani ďalšie opatrenia vtedajšej moci.

TASR



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

# Jednota

O. Štefan Furdek  
Náš zakladateľ

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

Ročník 122

STREDA, 24. APRÍLA 2013

Číslo 5882

## U.S.Steel zostane v Košiciach ešte minimálne päť rokov

Spoločnosť U. S. Steel bude na východnom Slovensku pôsobiť ďalej ešte minimálne najbližších päť rokov. Povedal 26. marca premiér Robert Fico po podpise spoločného memoranda o zotrvaní amerického investora v Košiciach. Dodal, že obe strany sa tiež dohodli na istých úľavách pre U. S. Steel v oblasti energetických nákladov a tiež nákladov na environmentálnu oblasť. Podľa prezidenta U. S. Steel Košice Davida J. Rintoula je podpis memoranda dobrou správou pre Slovensko, ale najmä pre zamestnancov spoločnosti. Uviedol tiež, že po investícii v objeme 80 - 100 miliónov do rekonštrukcie kotlov sa bude americká spoločnosť uchádzať o úľavu pre takzvané zelené podnikanie.

Konkrétne podmienky memoranda o zotrvaní americkej spoločnosti v Košiciach sa definitívne dohodli 25.

marca na rokovaní premiéra v centrále U. S. Steel v Pittsburghu. Správy o plánovanom odchode amerických oceľiarň z východu Slovenska sa v médiách objavili začiatkom tohto roka. Dôvodom mali byť predovšetkým náklady spoločnosti v súvislosti s energiami a legislatívou EÚ v oblasti životného prostredia, ktoré si vyžadujú vysoké dodatočné investície.

Zotrvanie spoločnosti U. S. Steel na Slovensku je dobrý signál aj pre ďalšie americké firmy, ktoré by chceli pôsobiť v krajine. Povedal americký veľvyslanec na Slovensku

Pokračovanie na str. 22



FOTO TASR/AP Photo/Keith Srakocic

Na snímke vpravo premiér SR Robert Fico, vľavo najvyšší predstaviteľ spoločnosti US Steel John Surma v centrále firmy v americkom Pittsburghu po spoločnom rokovaní 25. marca 2013.

*The Prime Minister of Slovakia, Robert Fico, right, shakes hands with U.S. Steel CEO John Surma during a photo opportunity after a news conference that followed a meeting with executives of U.S. Steel at the steelmakers headquarters in Pittsburgh on Monday, March 25, 2013. Fico said the purpose of his visit was "to motivate U.S. Steel to stay in Slovakia."*



## Sviečková manifestácia bola najvýznamnejším verejným protestom

Sviečková manifestácia, ku ktorej došlo pred 25 rokmi 25. marca 1988, bola najvýznamnejším verejným protestom občanov proti normalizačnému komunistickému režimu, keď veriaci aj neveriaci občania na Hviezdoslavovom námestí v Bratislave so zapálenou sviečkou v ruke manifestovali za občiansku aj náboženskú slobodu. Na tlačovej konferencii, ktorá sa konala 21. marca, to vyhlásil predseda Správnej rady Ústavu pamäti národa (ÚPN) Ondrej Krajňák.

Podľa Krajňáka napriek závanu Gorbačovovej perestrojky zasiahli mocenské a represívne zložky bývalého Československa brutálnou silou proti modliacim sa pokojným občanom. "Napriek vyhrážkam zo strany mocných, napriek ich dezinformáciám a intenzívnemu zastrašovaniu zhromaždení občania vyslali celému svetu jednoznačné posolstvo viery, odvahy a statočnosti. Napokon až po Novembri '89 sme sa na základe vyšetrovania dozvedeli, že kordón policajných oddielov bol okrem obuškov vyzbrojený aj ostrými nábojmi, ktoré našťastie neboli použité," informoval šéf ÚPN. Pripomenul tiež skutočnosť, že šoféri polievacích áut dostali za ich mimoriadnu službu odmenu 200 korún a montérky.

"V krátkom čase sa Sviečková manifestácia stala udalosťou, o ktorej hovoril celý svet. Udalosťou, ku ktorej sa môžeme s hrdosťou prihlásiť, pričom 25. marec sa právom stal pamätným dňom SR. Posolstvo zhromaždených občanov rezonuje už 25 rokov a je aj úlohou ÚPN, aby sme si ho pripomínali aj naďalej," dodal Krajňák.

Autor myšlienky Sviečkovej manifestácie a bývalý hokejový reprezentant Marián Šťastný pripomenul, že v roku 1987 bol zvolený do Svetového kongresu Slovákov za výkonného podpredsedu. "Od začiatku bolo mojím cieľom zblížiť Svetový kongres

Pokračovanie na str. 23



Pracovné predsedníctvo Vedeckej konferencie s čestnými hosťami.

## Návraty k medzinárodnej vedeckej konferencii Matice slovenskej

O tom, že sa v Martine počas 26. - 27. februára tohto roku konala Medzinárodná vedecká konferencia s názvom *Matica slovenská v národných dejinách* sa naša široká verejnosť doma i v zahraničí mala možnosť dozvedieť z rozličných médií. Jej medializácia bola pre matičiarov veľmi potešiteľná.

Na medzinárodnú vedeckú konferenciu organizovanú Maticou slovenskou pri príležitosti 150. výročia príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda na naše územie a 150. výročia vzniku Matice slovenskej sa prihlásilo takmer 80 účastníkov z celého slovenského sveta. Niektorí z nich prišli z nemaléj diaľky, spoza veľkej mláky. Práve preto, aby boli všetci referujúci vypočutí, pracovalo sa na konferencii v troch sekciách. Mal som tú česť viesť rokovanie I. sekcie – Slováci v zahraničí. Z toho dôvodu som nebol prítomný vo zvyšných dvoch sekciách, preto mi prosím prepáčte, že sa budem venovať len tej našej.

Počas dvoch dní vo vyhranenej miestnosti pre referáty týkajúce sa slovenského zahraničia prednieslo svoj príspevok 22 účastníkov. Obsahom príspevkov neboli len dejiny a historické skutočnosti, ale i informácie týkajúce sa dneška. V komornom prostredí zasadačky mestského úradu bolo po celé dva dni úplne plno. Každý účastník konferencie mal možnosť vypočuť si to, čo ho najviac zaujíma alebo si voľný čas vyplniť prezretím výstavy *Matica v národe/Národ v Matici*. Príspevky odzneli na tému histórie Matice slovenskej a Slovákov v zahraničí, počuli sme o zahraničnej Matici slovenskej, Svetovom kongrese

Pokračovanie na str. 21



## Kempinski Hotel River Park v Bratislave hostiteľ už ôsmeho ročníka GLOBSEC

Kempinski Hotel River Park v Bratislave sa stane od 18. do 20. apríla miestom stretnutia diplomatickej špičky z celého sveta. V týchto dňoch sa tu bude konať už 8. ročník najväčšej konferencie o zahraničnej politike a bezpečnosti v strednej Európe GLOBSEC.

Na konferencii, ktorej sa zúčastní viac ako 650 hostí zo 60 krajín sveta, prednesie kľúčový prejav o postavení Vyšehrada a úlohe strednej Európy v čase, keď Európa čelí existenčnej kríze poradca bývalého amerického prezidenta Jimmyho Cartera Zbigniew Brzezinski. Bude tiež súčasťou expertnej skupiny Slovenskej atlantickej komisie (SAC). „V časoch, kedy Európa prechádza veľkými zmenami, musí stredná Európa zohrávať významnú úlohu,“ povedal Rastislav Káčer, prezident SAC v súvislosti s jednou z piatich najvýznamnejších konferencií na svete.

Počas troch dní konferencie bude Kempinski Hotel River Park nielen najlepším kongresovým hotelom v Bratislave, ale aj najstráženejším. Priestory luxusného päťhviezdičkového hotela skontrolovali policajní špecialisti a na vstupe do priestorov je inštalovaný rám na detekciu kovov. O bezpečnosť aj pohodlie viac ako 800 akreditovaných účastníkov a 150 akreditovaných novinárov tak bude výborne postarané. „Kempinski Hotel River Park poskytuje služby na najvyššej úrovni a naši zamestnanci sú špeciálne školení na prácu s VIP hosťami. Okrem individuálneho prístupu sme aj maximálne flexibilní. Svedčí o tom aj fakt, že v kongresovej sále Maria Theresia sme zvesili lustre, pretože celý priestor sa zmení na pomyslenú arénu, v ktorej sa ocitne naraz približne 300 účastníkov,“ zhodnotil Gerald Haberhauer dôvody, pre ktoré si organizátori konferencie vybrali už tretíkrát práve Kempinski Hotel River Park.

Pokračovanie na str. 22

