



Jednota

THE UNION

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President's Annual Report for the Year 2010 Presented March 28, 2011

Fellow Officers, Members of the Board of Directors and Members of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

As I prepare this message the World is witnessing the nuclear crisis in Japan that was caused by the recent massive earthquake and tsunami experienced by Japan and its people. The damage is extensive and the recovery will take time. They are in our prayers. Fortunately, Japan is a rich country and has the will and skills to recover.

The year 2010 was another very good financial year for the First Catholic Slovak Union. The bold, decisive actions we took in early 2009 continue to show results.

You will recall that in my 2010 message I went into detail regarding the situation we and the entire economy faced in the 2008 global financial near meltdown. I also reported on how the crisis affected the First Catholic Slovak Union and our investment portfolio. I enumerated the actions that I recommended and that were approved by the Board and then implemented. The results were evidenced as our financials for the year 2009 reported that we reached record total assets of \$234,294,912 and a record surplus of \$13,169,012. We also more than doubled our premium income in 2009.

I am proud to report that: the good news continued in 2010. Our December 31, 2010 financial report filed as required with the State of Ohio, our state of Domicile, as confirmed by our outside Actuary, Bruce and Bruce, and audited by the outside Auditors, Hosack, Specht, Muetzel and Wood LLP, shows that the Society has reached another new record in total assets of \$272,349,497 million dollars, an increase of over \$37.5 million dollars.

In addition, and more importantly surplus for 2010 increased by \$4,350,852 million dollars to another new record of \$17,519,864 million dollars at 12/31/2010, an increase of 33%, even after giving a dividend to our Members exceeding that of last year.

We must be realistic. We will not and cannot expect a 33% increase year after year. We will do our best to continue to minimize our risk while prudently managing our assets in an ever volatile interest rate environment.

Our premium income almost doubled from \$12,676,121 in 2009 to \$33,635,663 in 2010. At the same time our general insurance expense increased by only \$129,493.

I want to thank our employees for their efforts and the Board of Directors for their support and you, our Members, for your continued interest in and support of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Our results were again outstanding, and are among the best when compared to other fraternal societies.

The challenge however continues for us in many areas and for various reasons, which I will discuss.

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Andrew M. Rajec



The Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada extend their most sincere Fraternal Greetings and Best Wishes to all Mothers and Members on Mother's Day, May 8, 2011!

Thank you for keeping the tradition alive.

- Rev. Thomas A. Nasta.....Chaplain
- Andrew M. Rajec.....President
- Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.....Vice-President
- Kenneth A. Arendt..... Executive Secretary
- George F. Matta.....Treasurer

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY AND IRA INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2011

Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.65% (3.585% apr)
With the "Cash Interest" Option	3.40% (3.344% apr)
Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA:	3.90% (3.826% apr)
New "Park 2 Annuity"	3.00% (2.956% apr)
New Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA - first year guarantee	3.00% (2.956% apr)
Maximum deposit is \$25,000.00	
New Six-Year Fixed Rate Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.40% (3.344% apr)
New Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	3.15% (3.102% apr)

2011 Financial challenges

The challenges the Society faces in 2011 are varied. They include the investment environment, interest rates, the number of Recommenders, new agents, existing and new Branches, membership and fraternalism.

A very few people who are unfamiliar with financial issues, or may have their own agenda or

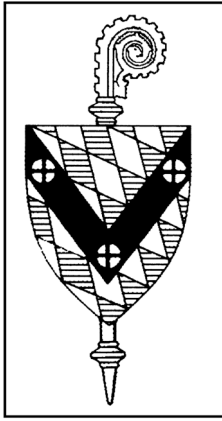
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Insights and Viewpoints



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

May 15, 2011

Fourth Sunday of Easter

John 10:1-10

Gospel Summary

In this gospel passage, Jesus draws upon imagery associated with sheep herding. The people to whom he spoke were well aware of the practice of herding sheep into a protective corral during the

night so that they would not become easy victims of wild animals. They were also aware that robbers could climb over the low wall and steal the sheep. The true shepherd does not need to do this because the sheep are entrusted to his care and he has access to them through the door of the corral.

In the spiritual sense intended by Jesus, the thieves and robbers are those shepherds (pastors, counselors, friends) who claim to be concerned about the sheep (parishioners, anyone of us) but who deceive them by offering quick fixes, which promise salvation without the need of painful personal conversion. Sheep have always had a reputation for being somewhat naïve and easily confused, just as we humans often are in spiritual matters.

Jesus then changes the imagery and calls himself the door to the corral. This means that it is only through the door of his teaching that one can find true salvation. In the same sense, he calls himself "the way and the truth and the life" (John 14:6). His is the only trustworthy "way," because he teaches the only reliable "truth," which leads to "true" and lasting life.

Life Implications

We are great believers in salesmanship and we rely on salesmen even though we know that some of them inflate or misrepresent the benefits of the products they offer to us. This is true also when the product is the most important thing we can imagine, namely, everlasting life and happiness. We are constantly bombarded with promises of eternal salvation without the need to deal with personal problems or deficiencies. We are vulnerable to such offers because we yearn for that kind of security and because these promises are often packaged in very attractive wrappings.

We are told, for example, that if we go through certain external rituals or say certain special prayers we will find salvation in spite of our attachment to selfish behavior. Or we may be told that reaching an emotional pitch of fervor, which cannot be maintained, will nonetheless guarantee our future happiness. When Jesus says that he alone is the true shepherd and that he alone is the door to security for the sheep, he is telling us that it is only his teaching of unselfish love that will lead us to true life and happiness. Prayers and rituals and fervor are wonderful and necessary, but only when they lead to real conversion from selfish tendencies to genuine concern for others.

Being converted in this way will involve the painful process of facing the truth about destructive addictions and being willing to seek help in dealing with them. It will also mean being honest about one's prejudices and striving with God's help to escape from their dangerous influence. We must remember that the worst prejudice of all is to claim to have no prejudices at all! But most of all, it will mean trying to be a caring, thoughtful, generous person. This is the path on which the good shepherd leads us for he has come, not to deceive us, but that we "may have life, and have it abundantly" (v.10).

May 22, 2011

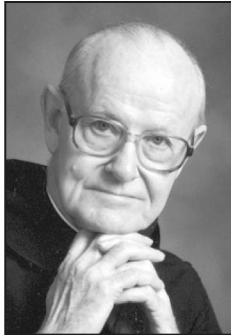
Fifth Sunday of Easter

John 14: 1-12

Gospel Summary

That the Church gives us this Last Supper discourse of Jesus for an Easter Season Eucharist is illuminative. These words are spoken to us now by the Risen Lord, truly alive and present in our midst. In this gospel we find things that Jesus taught before his death beautifully combined with John's inspired interpretation of these teachings, written in full confidence of guidance by the Spirit of Jesus (Jn 16:13).

Jesus tells his disciples not to be troubled, but to have faith in him as they have in God. He must leave them to be with the Father, and to prepare a place for them so that they may again be with him. Jesus explains that he is the way to the Father. He lives in the Father as the Father lives in him, and the Father does work through him. Those who believe Jesus and go with him to live in the Father will have the Father also live in them, and the Father will do even greater works through them.



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

Life Implications

With the disciples and with the Christians of John's church, we have plenty of reasons to be troubled as we gather to celebrate the Eucharist. The good things of life are so fragile and so short-lived: health, security, marriage and family, friendships, peace of mind. The life implication of this gospel is profound because it touches upon the fear of death, that pervasive fear which can take the life out of life.

To hear the words of Jesus "Do not let your hearts be troubled" is the liberating good news that we can live and work in a fragile and violent world and not be overcome. Jesus, too, experienced things which trouble the human heart: misunderstanding and rejection, betrayal and abandonment, torture and dying. Yet in the deepest center of his heart Jesus was still able to know peace and joy because of his trust that he lived in the Father as the Father lived in him and did his work through him.

The Easter grace that we can receive today is the liberating faith that the Risen Lord desires to give us. In that faith we too can trust that with Jesus we live in the Father as the Father lives in us and does even greater work through us. And even in the troubling circumstances of our lives we will know the peace and joy which is beyond understanding, and which nothing in the world can take from us.

Easter Message from Our National Chaplain

Dear Friends,

It is becoming increasingly common to read or hear about a Life Celebration for one who has died. Some people choose this alternative to a funeral service because they fill the need to counter balance the pain and hurt associated with the death of a loved one with something they believe is uplifting. A good number of these Life Celebrations consist of those who remember the deceased sharing a story or special memories about the good times they had with the deceased when he or she was alive. A Life Celebration tends to emphasize and to remember a deceased person's past.

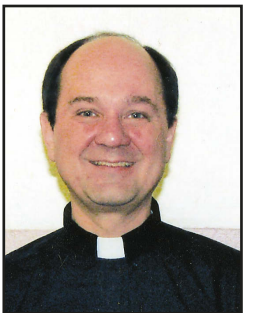
For us who believe in Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life, Easter is a celebration of Our Lord's rising from the dead. Easter is our Life Celebration, a Life Celebration that does not focus on the past, but on the present. Our Life Celebration at Easter is one of rejoicing in Jesus' risen life in us, which is bestowed and nurtured each and every time we receive a sacrament. We celebrate his risen life daily by making a conscious effort to really and honestly live in Christ Jesus, by being faithful to his teachings, his words of Spirit and Life.

Our Celebration of Risen Life at Easter not only involves the present, but also points us forward to the future, to the promise of a life in the heavenly realm where sorrow or pain is no more, but where there is only peace and joy. Celebrating the Risen Life of Christ at Easter renews our hope that all who share in his life on earth will also share life with him in glory.

Because Jesus is raised, we believe and know that the death that ultimately awaits us all is not the end of our lives. There is life after death. This is the life we celebrate now at Easter. It is this life, a life that will never end, that we pray with faith and hope at Easter and every day to one day possess. Happy Easter.

Fraternally,

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain



Rev. Thomas Nasta

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President's Annual Report

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both, question why it is so important to build our surplus.

It should be self-evident when our Society is responsible for investing over \$270, 000,000 million dollars of our Members' money, in many cases a large portion of a Member's investment portfolio and retirement funds. The stronger financially the FCSU becomes, the safer the Members' money, and the greater the cushion to withstand unexpected events like the global financial meltdown of 2008.

Also, as a natural reaction to the world financial crisis of 2008 and the ongoing issues we see today in the Euro nations of Greece, Ireland, Spain, and Portugal, etc., the NAIC (National Association of Insurance Commissioners) and the various State Insurance Departments have been more aggressive in monitoring the financial strength of all insurance companies and fraternal.

As a measure of an insurance company's financial health, States require each company's Actuary to run and provide what are called "Cash Flow Studies" every year. These are complex and costly to the FCSU and to all other insurance companies and fraternal.

A very important test was added in the past few years, called "Risk Based Capital Calculation" (RBC). Many State regulators consider the test to be an extremely important tool. State Insurance Departments consider a RBC ratio of under 300 as a red flag warning, under 250 they contact companies by written letter (action response required) to determine what action a company intends to take to improve their surplus, and overall financial health, and under 200, a State Insurance Department can start regulatory action, which could include forcing the company to raise capital, cease writing new business, and even liquidate.

I am pleased and proud to report that the First Catholic Slovak Union has a Risk Based Capital ratio of 667.2%, a sign of financial strength. Surplus is very important. If we want to attract young, financially savvy new members, we must show financial stability and strength.

Membership and Marketing

We have made some strides in membership aided by our very attractive annuity rates. Our annuity rates were so attractive during 2010 we had to take steps to limit the amount of money we would accept. We could have sold \$100,000,000 if we had wanted. But as I have said previously, we want controlled growth to protect our members. Our model has proved successful.

We intend to emphasize life insurance, especially whole life, rather than annuities in 2011. We are doing this for several reasons, but the primary reason is to attract younger members who may have a limited amount of money to invest, but also need life insurance protection along with wealth buildup.

To accomplish this we need additional participation from our Recommenders and we need to add more independent agents. We will be taking steps in 2011 to take the necessary steps to set and reach certain goals, which may include the addition of needed resources.

We have begun the process for admission into additional states. 2011 will show the results.

The situation of our Branches has been discussed previously. As you know, the Society has experienced decreased activity in too many Branches with the aging or passing of older long-time Officers. We have initiated the merger of certain Branches as we had previously reported to the Board. We are not alone; other fraternal are experiencing a similar situation.

We plan to develop a program whereby we can utilize new independent agents to help organize new Branches in areas we currently do not have Branches and in new states. Some other fraternal have taken this approach.

We will encourage current and new Recommenders to be state licensed to sell more products by incentivizing them to get licensed. More complex products require more information and training. Some states will require licensing to sell products.

As we have discussed previously, the use of independent agents whose primary purpose is to make money for themselves, introduces another dilemma. Agents want to sell to anyone who can pay the premium. They don't care if they are Slovak, Slavic or whatever. The issue becomes, what are the purposes and goals of the Society? Does it care about preserving a Slovak Catholic heritage or is making money the prime objective? Every ethnic fraternal must eventually confront this issue.

Our Society has clearly said we want to preserve Slovak heritage. We showed that at the 2010 FCSU Convention with our emphasis on Slovak culture, music, dance and speakers. We received many compliments on the organization of the Convention, the facilities, activities and events. Many attendees said that it was, by far, the most Slovak centered Convention they have ever attended. It was an event worthy of the 120th anniversary of the Society. 2010 will be a tough act to follow in 2014, but we are already getting ideas.

We also continue to publish and improve the contents of our newspaper, the Jednota, our own FCSU website, as well as support various Slovak and Catholic organizations, and causes, including the Slovak Catholic Federation, Slovak League of America as well as many others. I pledge to continue our support our Slovak heritage and Slovak and Catholic organizations, and causes, as well as a continuing relationship with the Slovak Republic through its Embassy in Washington, D.C.

In 2010, in honor of our 120th Anniversary and before our National Convention, we opened our new Museum at our Home Office in Independence, Ohio, along with our new Slovak entranceway. We will be changing and adding displays from time to time. You will see pictures in the Jednota. If you or anyone you know has articles to be donated or loaned for the Museum, please contact me. We want to preserve our valuable heritage.

Fraternalism

The Society was originally founded by Slovak immigrants in 1890 and attracted and served as a mean of bonding together like-minded people sharing a common language, heritage and religion in a strange new land. As time passed newer generations gradually assimilated into the American fabric, any common ethnic bonds stretched, as to be expected and as experienced by all ethnic fraternal.

As new generations were born and became wealthier, the need for financial security increased and the size and scope of the FCSU expanded and tried to meet the financial demands of its Members. Even as we have expanded in assets, we are still a fraternal and intend to remain that way for our Members' benefit. Branches and Districts are important and we must strive to maintain and support them for a variety of reasons.

The FCSU currently has two national fraternal events, the National Bowling Tournament and the Golf Tournament. In 2011 we will again have a National Picnic on August 14th, in Novelty, Ohio. Many years past the Society, through its Branches, supported Jednota baseball teams, gymnastic events, etc. Times changed after World War II and most of those activities ceased. However, the

Slovak Catholic Sokol, because athletics was a primary basis for their existence, continues to hold, with diminishing success, sporting events such as gymnastics, basketball, volleyball as well as golf and bowling. In fact two years ago the First Catholic Slovak Union and Slovak Catholic Sokol held a historical and very successful joint Golf Tournament.

As I have said many times previously, I think the Slovak Catholic fraternal should get together in some manner to better serve all their members. There may be other opportunities in the near future to hold joint fraternal activities. There have been no serious meetings with other Slovak fraternal regarding a "joint venture" or "marriage" in 2010.

Personally, 2010 has again been a very busy year. I have attended Branch and District meetings, picnics, Vilijas and other events in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, New Jersey and New York. I have participated in seminars with our Vice President. I attended the Slovak Picnic in Pittsburgh and the Slovak Festival in New Jersey. I also attended the Slovak Embassy's Friends of Slovakia event in Washington, D.C. where the FCSU joined as a member of the Friends of Slovakia. The Society again manned a booth at the annual Family Fest in Wickliffe, Ohio, where there were 30,000 attendees.

Some people may question the need for making personal visits and/or hold seminars. I still believe that the Society and myself need to be visible to our Members and potential members. Members want to know that the Home Office is interested in them and their activities. We are interested and want to support them.

I also made several visits to our properties in Middletown, PA to meet with our Jednota Slovak Editor Anna Sutherland and the maintenance personnel of our land and properties. The transition of our Jednota newspaper from our dedicated former Editor, Dr. Anthony Sutherland, to the very capable Ms. Terri Ivanec has been seamless.

We have previously discussed the Middletown properties. There will be a later report on them. Building No. 1 is fully rented and stable. The old Printery building is listed for lease.

There has been no activity regarding the vacant Middletown land and due to the current real estate downturn we do not expect any imminent activity. However, I do want to move the Fr. Furdek statue to our Home Office grounds this year. We will also move the Jednota soldier monument from behind the Printery, up to Rosedale Road, and create a small park and make it visible, to honor our deceased Jednota veterans from several wars. It would also be appropriate to honor the site of the former Jednota Orphanage at this time.

Finally, I would like to thank the Executive Committee and the Board for their help and cooperation. While 2008, 2009 and 2010 were very challenging years, the world is becoming even more complex daily, with new challenges. 2011 will require all our skills and efforts to continue and expand our success. This year's results show, that with the cooperation of our Home Office, the Executive Committee, and all our Officers working together as a team, we can accomplish outstanding results.

Also, I want to thank our Members and especially our Branch and District officers for their continued support and commitment to our Society.

Ďakujem. Thank you. Za Boha a Národ – For God and Nation.

Andrew M. Rajec
President



Report of the National Chaplain, March 2011

Dear Board of Directors and Members of the F.C.S.U.:

It is an honor to be your National Chaplain. I was happy to be present for and to participate in several events during the past year.

The new year began with the sad news that our President Emeritus, Thomas Hrick, died after a short illness. I was among a number of priests who went to his beloved home parish of St. Florian in United, PA to concelebrate his Funeral Mass.

In January I joined others from across the country in Washington, DC and participated in the annual March for Life.

I was present for three of the Board of Directors meetings that were held in 2010. Responsibilities at my parish prevented me from attending the Board Meeting in September. I traveled to the March meeting held at the Renaissance Hotel in Cleveland, OH and attended the other two by means of teleconference. I opened and closed each session with prayer.

In July I traveled to Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, PA for the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day Association's Annual Slovak Day and concelebrated ass. The next week I returned to western Pennsylvania for our annual Golf Tournament that was held in Belle Vernon, PA. I played in the tournament and celebrated Mass for those who attended.

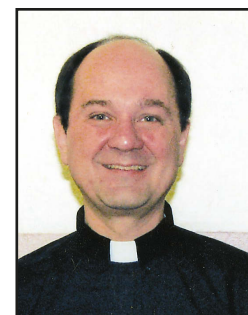
At the 49th Quadrennial Convention held at the Renaissance Hotel in Cleveland, OH I prepared and coordinated all liturgical celebrations. I led the prayer service by which convention delegates remembered our dear members who died since the last convention. The service took place in the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist immediately prior to the Sunday Mass that opened our convention. I also began and closed each convention session with prayer, served as spokesman for the convention's Resolution Committee, and swore in the newly elected officers just prior to the convention's adjournment. At the Board of Director's meeting which followed the convention, I opened and closed the session with prayer.

As a member of the Executive Board of the Slovak Catholic Federation, I attended both Board meetings that were held in 2010. The meeting in March took place in Cleveland, Ohio and the September meeting was in Altoona, PA. I remained one extra day in Altoona for a meeting of the Conference of Slovak Clergy.

Throughout the year I have written articles that were published in our fraternal's newspaper and have answered correspondence that was sent to me.

The year 2010 was a special year of grace for all of us. May our Lord continue to bless us in our journey to Him.

Fraternally,



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain

Report of the Executive Secretary, March 28-29, 2011

Reverend Father, Mr. President and Members of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada:

It is my pleasure to present this report to you, the Board of Directors of the FCSU.

In 2010 we held our 49th Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland, Ohio the home of our founding father, Reverend Stephen Furdek. Our theme for convention was "Return to our Roots". Our delegates enjoyed a "Slovak Music and Dance Spectacular" program, Slovak Folk Art and Folk Dress Collection, Tours of the Cleveland area and an evening boat cruise while listening and dancing to a Slovak Band. We also celebrated our 120th Anniversary in 2010. Our Society continues to remain strong as we move into our 121st year.



Kenneth Arendt

The Society experienced successful operating results for the year 2010; operating result profits while lower than 2009 continued the long string of profitable years. Net gain from operations before capital gains amounted to \$1,801,798. Total asset value increased 16.0% (+\$37,495,063) with realized capital losses of \$855,477 and \$3,646,259 of unrealized capital gains. Liabilities increased \$33,144,211 (15.0%) and surplus increased 33.0%.

The increase in surplus resulted from the operating gains and large unrealized gains and was only partially offset by realized capital losses. The amount of \$252,033 was deposited into the AVR. The AVR balance at the end of 2008 was only \$235,339 and now stands at \$2,766,154 which is the 2010 maximum. The capital losses resulted from OTTI write-downs on General Motors and Lehman Brothers bonds. Similar write-downs are anticipated for 2011.

The Bond Unrealized gains were General Motors \$831,854; Lehman Brothers \$524,567 and miscellaneous \$962,057. No new unrealized losses were experienced, while Schedule BA Surplus Notes gained \$385,230. Preferred stock owned were reduced by \$772,960 and showed unrealized gains of \$345,000. Common stocks showed unrealized gains of \$142,905 and profits of \$412,857.

The Society emphasizes Bonds and Stocks (92.1%) as its main investments. The Society had over \$9,000,000 of cash on hand at the end of the year.

The Society uses funds available from the Federal Home Loan Bank at very favorable interest rates to help generate interest income. The funds acquired through the FHLB are managed by an investment management company.

In 2009 a significant change was made in the investment area when the Society employed the services of AQS, a fraternal benefit society experienced firm to assist in guiding its investment activity.

Our 2010 premium income is broken down as follows:

Life Insurance	\$ 1,517,156
Annuities	32,118,507
Total	\$ 33,635,663

Investment income for 2010 is broken down as follows.

Investment Income for 2010:

Government Bonds	\$ 2,052,992
Bonds	11,026,362
Preferred Stock	403,002
Common Stock	62,041
Mortgage Loans	140,168
Real Estate	288,889
Certificate Loans	52,189
Short-Term Investments	1,583,942
Other Investment Assets	167,547
Write-ins for Investment Income	(549,342)
Total Investment Income	\$ 15,227,790

Investment Expenses:

Depreciation on Real Estate and Other	
Investment Expenses (Investment Taxes,	
License Fees, etc.)	\$ 902,533
Net Investment Income	\$14,325,257

Listed below is a five-year comparison of assets, premium income and net income.

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Assets	\$197,310,824	\$203,610,335	\$201,036,525	\$234,794,912	\$272,289,975
Prem. Income	4,725,837	5,693,973	8,025,584	17,676,121	33,635,663
Invest. Income	11,746,690	12,064,200	12,053,864	14,943,839	14,325,257
Net Gain	1,489,106	1,915,292	1,427,520	4,309,466	1,861,798

Bonds constitute 88.9% (+5.9%) of the Society's assets, and have an average maturity of 16 years. The Organization enjoys excellent bond quality, with 92% (+2.3%) of the bonds in the two highest NAIC rating classes. Preferred Stocks now make up only 2.2% of invested assets. Common Stocks are 1.1% in an effort to diversify the portfolio and increase investment return. Other assets consist of mortgages (0.7%); real estate (1.0%); and all others (6.2%). The Society owns \$897,144 of surplus notes which are listed on Schedule BA and shown as Other Invested Assets on the asset page. Other Invested Assets also included \$4,015,149 in bond like Funds. The Society's net investment rate of return was 5.89%, which is comparable to the five-year average of 6.4% and very good in the current market.

The most significant increases in liabilities were: life policy reserves increased 1.3%; annuity re-

serves increased 23.1%; deposit type accounts by \$2,842,578 (includes FHLB funds) and Funds held as trustee 8.0%. AVR increased from \$252,033 to \$2,766,154 to fully restore the safety reserve, and the IMR increased 12.8%. Unpaid expenses showed a significant decrease as the Convention reserve was released. The Society's convention was held in 2010. Average lapse ratio remains at a very favorable 2.36% over the past 5 years. The Society has no foreign investments payable in foreign currency. The Foreign Exchange Reserve was maintained at \$10,000.

Surplus increased 33.0%. Surplus is at its highest point, in the history of the Society and currently stands at \$17,519,864.

Total life premium income showed an increase of 14.3%, while annuity premiums increased 96.5%. Overall premium income increased 90.3%, investment income decreased slightly by 4.1% due to the dissolution of a high return Bond Fund. The return is good despite the low interest rates currently available and the continuing economic turmoil. Overall, total income for the year increased 47.4%, which will rank among the highest increase for fraternal.

Total member benefits were 54.8% lower. Total life benefits were 4.3% higher; annuity benefits decreased by 91.1%. Annuity reserves were considerably higher (+\$12,674,000) reflecting the increase in premium income and annuity benefits. Commissions were 130.1% higher reflecting larger production; operation expenses were a modest 10.1% higher, led by General Expenses which were only 5.0% higher, and taxes were 11.6% lower. Management continues to control expenses. Dividends to members were 11.9% higher. The Society enjoyed a gain from operations for the 16th year in a row.

Bond and Preferred Stock capital losses, both realized and unrealized, were reviewed earlier in this Report.

There are no known trends which will cause future operation results to deviate materially from 2010 results.

The AVR increased by \$252,033, and stands at the maximum of \$2,766,154. The increase in AVR was also detailed earlier in this report. The IMR increased 12.8% and now stands at \$1,578,788.

The combination of surplus, AVR and IMR total \$21,864,806, an increase of 28% over the same items in 2009. This amount represents stable funds available for member safety.

The items which provide liquidity are \$8,982,617 of cash/short term funds, \$2,889,496 of Common Stock, almost \$4,700,000 of bonds maturing in less than one year, \$33,600,000 of premium income and over \$14,300,000 of investment income. Expected outgo for benefit payments, commissions, dividends and expenses is about \$16,200,000. The society has more than adequate liquidity as reflected by the \$30,411,388 of cash from operations in 2010.

The Risk Based surplus calculations indicate that total adjusted surplus is \$20,486,018, which is above actual surplus. This does not include the IMR. The total for 50% of the calculated RBC was \$3,070,331 (after RBC Cash Flow Scenario testing which did not require an adjustment entry), which is substantially lower than actual surplus. The Society's RBS ratio of 667 is safely above regulatory action levels.

The Society has only one IRIS Ratios outside the NAIC designated ranges. The unusual ratios result from the large increase in premium income.

The Society recorded an increase of \$909,000 for insurance in force. This represents a turnaround from 2009. Insurance in-force has increased only .7% since 2006.

Our 2010 financial statements, quarterly and year-end were compiled and completed on a timely basis and filed with the various states in which we are licensed to do business. We are continually in contact with the regulatory agencies of the various states regarding their requirements, which are constantly changing. We are in compliance with all of the states' and NAIC accounting regulations.

In 2010 we had a loss in insurance membership (death claims, cash withdrawals, expels, etc.) of 1,267 members compared to a loss of 1,097 in 2009. We had a decrease in the number of life insurance certificates of 1,312 in 2010 compared to a loss of 1,475 in 2009.

As of December 31, 2010, the Society had 5,330 annuity certificates. As of December 31, 2010, annuitant membership totals 1,848 annuitant members (this total does not reflect members who have both insurance and annuity contracts). The total cash value of our annuity accounts for 2010 was \$141,768,864.52 compared to \$113,055,636 in 2009. Our annuity products continue to be the bright spot in our portfolio, bringing in over \$70,000,000 in the last five years alone. This represents great confidence in our Society and its continued growth.

The First Catholic Slovak Union's insurance and annuity portfolio contains many products, which suit all insurance and annuity needs. The Membership and Marketing Committee, along with our actuarial firm, Bruce and Bruce Company, and our Financial Consulting Firm, Bruce and DePersis, continues to explore avenues to improve and enhance our existing products and develop new products.

In 2010 we continued to offer training seminars to our branches and districts. These seminars are designed to educate our branch officers, district officers and recommenders not only about our existing products but also our new products and ways to present them. We believe these seminars will help stimulate the growth of our Society, develop motivation and strengthen the relationship between the home office, our branches and recommenders. Our goal is to keep the lines of communication open among our branches, districts, recommenders and the home office. We encourage our district officers, branch officers and recommenders to personally discuss their thoughts and ideas with us.

We are further expanding our search for new independent insurance agents to sell our products.

continued on page 6

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2010 HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

(TELECONFERENCE)

OPEN MEETING

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. and asked National Chaplain, Fr. Thomas Nasta, to offer the opening prayer.

ROLL CALL

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call:

Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain – present via telephone;
Andrew M. Rajec, National President – present;
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President – present via telephone;
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary - present;
George F. Matta, National Treasurer – present via telephone;
Karen M. Hunka, Chairman of Auditors – present via telephone;
Susan M. Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director – present via telephone;
Gary J. Matta, General Counsel – present via telephone;
Joseph F. Minarovich, Regional Director, Region 1 – present via telephone;
Damian Nasta, Regional Director, Region 2 – present via telephone;
Carl Ungvarsky, Regional Director, Region 3 – present via telephone;
George Sprock, Regional Director, Region 4 – present via telephone;
Regis P. Brekosky, Regional Director, Region 5 – present via telephone;
Henry Hassay, Regional Director, Region 6 – present via telephone;
Rudolph Glogovsky, Regional Director, Region 7 – present via telephone;
Milos Mitro, Regional Director, Regions 8 & 9 – present via telephone;
Incoming Regional Directors Rudolph Bernath and James Marmol – present via telephone by the invitation of the President.

READING OF THE CALL

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Quarterly Meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2010

A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Joseph Minarovich to accept the minutes of the September Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Quarterly Meeting which had previously been sent to all the Board members and asked for its acceptance.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Rajec also led a discussion concerning Jednota Estates, in Middletown, PA and the maintenance work done at the Printery Building. He stated he received bids to install a natural gas line to the old Printery in Middletown (currently it uses electric heat which is very expensive) and bids for replacing the air-conditioning and heating units which are approximately 35 years old. He further stated that both projects will be done once we determine the needs of potential renters.

The President led a discussion concerning our current annuity interest rates. He stated that the Executive Committee decided to keep the current rates and to review them again at the January 2011 Executive Committee meeting.

President Rajec also led a discussion regarding proposed regulations by the Ohio Department of Insurance concerning licensing of agents which affect all fraternal insurance companies in state of Ohio. He will update the Board of Directors as soon as more information becomes available.

FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THIRD QUARTER 2010

Executive Secretary's Report

Secretary Arendt presented the summary of the Financial Report for the 3rd Quarter of 2010. After his report he answered the Board's questions. The Executive Secretary stated that the 2010 third quarter Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

The Executive Secretary presented the Proposed Budget for 2011 and answered the Board's questions. A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky to accept the 2011 Budget as presented. Motion carried.

The Executive Secretary led a review of the FCSU'S Convention costs held at the Renaissance Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio and answered the Board's questions.

FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK OF CINCINNATI – VICTORY ASSET MANAGEMENT

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Board of Directors which gave a complete update of the investments in the Victory Capital Management (a subsidiary of Key Bank) ARC Fund and updated the Board of Directors on all current transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

AQS – ASSET MANAGEMENT COMPANY, LLC.

The President led a discussion about a Web-ex presentation that was presented to the Executive Committee by Mr. Larry White of AQS, Asset Management Company, LLC, on Friday, December 18, 2010. A copy of his presentation has been distributed to the Board of Directors. After the discussion the President answered the Board's questions.

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

Director of Fraternal Activities Susan Ondrejco presented her report on upcoming FCSU events. She stated that the FCSU's Bowling Tournament will take place at the Brunswick Zone - Carolier Lanes, North Brunswick, NJ, April 29 – May 1, 2011. She further stated that the Golfing Tournament will be in July. Dates and place of the Golfing Tournament are to be determined. She also stated that she will be visiting potential sites for a National Picnic planned for the Summer 2011. She will also continue to explore the possibility of joint ventures with other fraternal organizations for 2011 and 2012. The President asked the Susan Ondrejco to keep the Home Office informed about the progress of possible joint ventures.

MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING

The Vice President reviewed the sales production by Districts and also by General Agents and Independent Agents and answered the Board's questions.

The Vice President also stated that the MT Software, Inc., was selected to develop the Illustration of our insurance and annuity products. He stated that MT Software, Inc., will work closely with the Executive Secretary to have this program up and running as soon as possible.

The Vice President also stated that we are still in process of recruiting independent agents to sell our products.

The Vice President further led a discussion regarding seminars for 2011 and encouraged the Regional Directors to contact him regarding seminars within their region. The Vice President will update the Board of Directors with the dates of scheduled seminars for 2011.

CHAIRMAN OF AUDITOR'S REPORT

Chairman of Auditors, Karen Hunka, presented the Auditor's Report and answered the Board's questions. She stated that the Internal Auditors conducted a thorough audit and everything was in order.

PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Executive Committee Meetings. He stated that in accordance with the Bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Executive Committee meets monthly and whenever else it is necessary to take care of the business of the Society.

Investments were made in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and with the directives adopted by the Board of Directors. All investments are approved by a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee.

Scholarship Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report regarding our scholarship program. He stated that the Scholarship Applications for 2011 were available starting November. The Executive Secretary further stated that an announcement regarding the scholarship rules was published in the Jednota newspaper and is posted on our Website. Applications were mailed to Branch Officers thru the branch mailing. Interested eligible members can obtain an application from our Website, thru their Branch officers or by contacting our Home Office. We have increased the amount of an individual scholarship.

SUBSIDIARIES REPORT

Jednota, Inc. The President of Jednota, Inc., George Matta, gave his report to the Board of Directors and, after answering the Board's questions, he turned the meeting over to the President of Jednota Properties, Inc., Regis Brekosky, who presented his report to the Board.

The reports of Jednota, Inc., and Jednota Properties are informational in nature.

DONATIONS

Donation requests were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky to adjourn. Motion carried.

The President asked Father Thomas Nasta to end the meeting with a prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Report of the Executive Secretary,

continued from page 4

The agents that have signed contracts with our Society are eager and very interested in making our products available to their clients. They have been especially enthusiastic about our annuity products and insurance rates. We have developed an illustration program for our insurance and annuity products. This illustration tool will be helpful to our independent agents.

The home office maintains a supply of sales tools, which aid our officers, recommenders and independent agents with their presentation of our products. Some of these tools are sales kits, which contain information regarding our products (rates, application forms, etc.) and sales brochures describing our products. The 2001 Mortality Tables have also been incorporated into the sales kits. We now have available our new updated version of the pamphlet: What is the Jednota. This pamphlet gives a brief history of our Society. Our highly qualified home office staff is also available during normal business hours to answer any questions concerning rates, completing applications, etc. To better serve our members and to increase efficiency, we offer an automatic premium payment service, which enables our members to have their premium payments automatically deducted from their bank accounts. Automatic deposit for annuity checks is also available to our annuity holders. For the convenience of our members, we are now accepting Visa and Master Card credit cards which may be used for premium payments, annuity deposits, loan payments and newspaper subscriptions.

We are continually updating our computer system to be more efficient to ensure that it meets and exceeds all state and NAIC requirements.

We continue to use, direct mail as a means of contacting our branches and our members, giving them information about our existing and new products. Direct mail is a necessary tool in marketing our products as we can reach a vast majority of our members in a short time. We have expanded our marketing advertising in our *Jednota*, our official organ, to better inform our members about our products. Our official organ, *Jednota*, is also a very useful vehicle for advertising our products.

Teresa Ivanec, our new editor, has really worked hard to improve the appearance of our paper by adding color and additional articles to the paper. All articles should be sent to the home office or they may be emailed to fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com.

The FCSU maintains its own web site www.fcsu.com, which contains the history of our Society and information about our products. We are continuing to update our website so that when you visit it you will not only have the latest information regarding our insurance and annuity products but also information about what is going on in the FCSU (branch meetings, district meetings, etc.). We are encouraging all branches and districts to send information about their activities to the home office so we may include the news on our website. The *Jednota* newspaper (English and Slovak sections) is now on our web page and for our member's convenience four back issues and the current issue are maintained on the web page at all times. The site contains links to Slovak news agencies, the Slovak Embassy and other interesting topics. We continue to offer insurance quotes on our website for the convenience of all our members.

We have the capability of sending and receiving information from our members through our e-mail address, fcsu@aol.com. We encourage our members and officers to use e-mail when corresponding with the home office. In 2010 our annual statement was filed electronically with the NAIC. We have been filing electronically financial and various reports required by the states in which we are licensed.

We use the Internet daily to communicate with our members and to receive information from the Slovak Embassy and the Slovak News Agency. This information is used by our Slovak Editor to write articles about current events in Slovakia.

We are continually looking for ways to improve our home office operations. We believe a strong communication and working relationship between the home office, branches and recommenders is vital. Input from our members is necessary and very important to us. The home office always wel-

comes suggestions about ways to improve service to our members.

In 2010 our internal auditors and outside auditors, Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, conducted their audits for the period ending December 31, 2010. Their audits consisted of a complete review of our quarterly and year-end financial statements and our home office operations. As a result of these audits our Society received an excellent review.

During 2010, we continued merging inactive branches with active branches. This process will continue through 2011. This is an ongoing problem for our home office since many of our branch officers are unable to continue to service the members in their branches and not only is it difficult to find replacements for them within their branches, but it is also difficult to find other branches to merge them with. One of our home office staff employees will work closely with our branches and independent agents and provide support, information and generally to be available and answer questions.

The year 2010 was the twelfth year that our branches had to meet the requirements set forth by our FCSU Convention to qualify for the branch stipend. We encourage our branch officers that if they are unable to perform their duties and cannot find anyone in their branches to take over their duties, to call the home office. We will try to merge them with an active branch. For those branches that do not wish to merge, the home office can offer you guidelines as to how you can meet the requirements and receive the stipend. Throughout 2010 the requirements for the financial obligations (bylaw section 4.05) has been mailed to all branch officers as a reminder of the expectations for each branch.

The FCSU has an outstanding scholarship program, which is available to our members who meet the requirements. Members may contact the home office for information concerning the scholarship program. We continue to award 75 one-time scholarships each year to the highest ranking applicants.

The *Jednota* Benevolent Foundation, which is separate from the Society's scholarship program, is available to any person pursuing post-secondary education. To be eligible for this one-time scholarship, the applicant must be of Slovak descent and Catholic faith. At this time, ten non-renewable scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 each are expected to be awarded.

Our Society is very active in fraternal activities. We sponsor bowling and golf tournaments each year. A coloring contest and photo contest for the younger members of our Society is held each year. Family picnics are now held on the District and Branch level and are more centrally located for our members. There were activities for the young and older members of the FCSU at the picnics. We hope to continue this practice annually. In 2011 we are planning a FCSU Family Picnic on Sunday, August 14, 2011 at Wigand's Lake Park in Novelty, Ohio. One of the activities that the FCSU takes part in each year is the March for Life, which is held in Washington, D.C. in January. Members of our Society join with all others who respect the rights of the unborn. We will continue to explore possible joint adventures with other fraternalists for the future.

As I have stated in the past, the economic success of our Society hinges on four factors: the effective sale and promoting of our insurance and annuity products to increase premium income; the effective management of our investment portfolio to increase our investment income; continuing to control our operating expenses; and also investigate new ways to attract new members. New members are vital to our growth.

As your Executive Secretary, I represented the FCSU on the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Federation and Slovak League as well as a Director of the Secretary Section of the National Fraternal Congress. I have attended and represented the Society at fraternal functions not only within our FCSU but also other fraternal societies. I represent the society at various branch and district meetings throughout the year. Each year I attend the National Fraternal Congress of America's Annual Convention. I also attend many seminars, including the Bruce and Bruce Seminars, which are always very informative regarding current insurance trends and pending state and NAIC regulations that might affect the FCSU.

My wife, Theresa, and I appreciate your trust and support as your Executive Secretary. I will continue to work and do my very best for our society. I will work towards a stronger society and address all issues with honesty and integrity. We are the First Catholic Slovak Union and I pray for our Society's continued growth. We have outstanding products with competitive rates and we all need to be involved in reaching new members and promote our society.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of my fellow officers and board members who assisted me throughout the year. A special thank you goes to our home office staff, a very hard-working entity of our Society.

Fraternally,
Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary



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 11	MONDAY, MAY 2
WEDNESDAY, MAY 25	MONDAY, MAY 16
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8	MONDAY, MAY 30

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

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:
Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398
FAX: 216-642-4310

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.

Annual Statement of the Year, 2010 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & CANADA**
ASSETS

	Current Year			Prior Year
	1 Assets	2 Nonadmitted Assets	3 Net Admitted Assets (Cols. 1 - 2)	4 Net Admitted Assets
1. Bonds (Schedule D).....	239,151,083		239,151,083	192,755,317
2. Stocks (Schedule D):				
2.1 Preferred stocks.....	5,834,427		5,834,427	6,607,387
2.2 Common stocks.....	2,899,496		2,899,496	3,318,652
3. Mortgage loans on real estate (Schedule B):				
3.1 First liens.....	1,883,937		1,883,937	2,023,638
3.2 Other than first liens.....			0	
4. Real estate (Schedule A):				
4.1 Properties occupied by the company (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	1,127,831		1,127,831	1,181,360
4.2 Properties held for the production of income (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	813,172		813,172	923,632
4.3 Properties held for sale (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	633,223		633,223	562,675
5. Cash (\$.....8,982,617, Sch. E-Part 1), cash equivalents (\$.....0, Sch. E-Part 2) and short-term investments (\$.....0, Sch. DA).....	8,982,617		8,982,617	4,417,205
6. Contract loans (including \$.....0 premium notes).....	911,063		911,063	860,699
7. Derivatives.....			0	
8. Other invested assets (Schedule BA).....	4,981,249		4,981,249	19,342,441
9. Receivables for securities.....	1,885,447		1,885,447	202,000
10. Securities lending reinvested collateral assets.....			0	
11. Aggregate write-ins for invested assets.....	0	0	0	0
12. Subtotals, cash and invested assets (Lines 1 to 11).....	269,103,545	0	269,103,545	232,195,006
13. Title plants less \$.....0 charged off (for Title insurers only).....			0	
14. Investment income due and accrued.....	3,171,829		3,171,829	2,583,447
15. Premiums and considerations:				
15.1 Uncollected premiums and agents' balances in course of collection.....	14,601		14,601	16,459
15.2 Deferred premiums, agents' balances and installments booked but deferred and not yet due (including \$.....0 earned but unbilled premiums).....			0	
15.3 Accrued retrospective premiums.....			0	
16. Reinsurance:				
16.1 Amounts recoverable from reinsurers.....			0	
16.2 Funds held by or deposited with reinsured companies.....			0	
16.3 Other amounts receivable under reinsurance contracts.....			0	
17. Amounts receivable relating to uninsured plans.....			0	
18.1 Current federal and foreign income tax recoverable and interest thereon.....			0	
18.2 Net deferred tax asset.....			0	
19. Guaranty funds receivable or on deposit.....			0	
20. Electronic data processing equipment and software.....			0	
21. Furniture and equipment, including health care delivery assets (\$.....0).....	29,895	29,895	0	
22. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....			0	
23. Receivables from parent, subsidiaries and affiliates.....			0	
24. Health care (\$.....0) and other amounts receivable.....			0	
25. Aggregate write-ins for other than invested assets.....	29,627	29,627	0	0
26. Total assets excluding Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts (Lines 12 to 25).....	272,349,497	59,522	272,289,975	234,794,912
27. From Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts.....			0	
28. TOTALS (Lines 26 and 27).....	272,349,497	59,522	272,289,975	234,794,912

Annual Statement of the Year, 2010 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**
LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS

	1 Current Year	2 Prior Year
1. Aggregate reserve for life certificates and contracts (Exhibit 5, Line 9999999) (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	226,806,000	196,855,000
2. Aggregate reserve for accident and health contracts (Exhibit 6, Line 16, Col. 1) (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....		
3. Liability for deposit-type contracts (Exhibit 7, Line 14, Col. 1) (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	15,213,178	12,370,600
4. Contract claims:		
4.1 Life (Exhibit 8, Part 1, Line 4.4, Column 1 less sum of Columns 9, 10 and 11).....	300,000	300,000
4.2 Accident and health (Exhibit 8, Part 1, Line 4.4, sum of Columns 9, 10 and 11).....		
5. Refunds due and unpaid (Exhibit 4, Line 10).....		
6. Provision for refunds payable in following calendar year-estimated amounts:		
6.1 Apportioned for payment.....	400,000	400,000
6.2 Not yet apportioned.....		
7. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts received in advance less \$.....0 discount; including \$.....0 accident and health premiums (Exhibit 1, Part 1, Col. 1, sum of Lines 4 and 14).....	290,189	299,760
8. Contract liabilities not included elsewhere:		
8.1 Surrender values on canceled contracts.....		
8.2 Other amounts payable on reinsurance including \$.....0 assumed and \$.....0 ceded.....		
8.3 Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR, Line 6).....	1,578,788	1,399,339
9. Commissions to fieldworkers due or accrued-life and annuity contracts \$.....0 ; accident and health \$.....0 and deposit-type contract funds \$.....0.....	12,374	17,503
10. Commissions and expense allowances payable on reinsurance assumed.....		
11. General expenses due or accrued (Exhibit 2, Line 12, Col. 7).....	204,528	770,564
12. Transfers to Separate Accounts due or accrued (net) (including \$.....0 accrued for expense allowances recognized in reserves).....		
13. Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued (Exhibit 3, Line 8, Col. 6).....	22,962	22,843
14. Unearned investment income.....		
15. Amounts withheld or retained by Society as agent or trustee.....	6,763,991	6,262,860
16. Amounts held for fieldworkers' account, including \$.....0 fieldworkers' credit balances.....		
17. Remittances and items not allocated.....		
18. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....	10,000	10,000
19. Liability for benefits for employees and fieldworkers if not included above.....		
20. Borrowed money \$.....0 and interest thereon \$.....0.....		
21. Miscellaneous liabilities:		
21.1 Asset valuation reserve (AVR, Line 16, Col. 7).....	2,766,154	2,514,121
21.2 Reinsurance in unauthorized companies.....		
21.3 Funds held under reinsurance treaties with unauthorized reinsurers.....		
21.4 Payable to subsidiaries and affiliates.....		
21.5 Drafts outstanding.....		
21.6 Funds held under coinsurance.....		
21.7 Derivatives.....		
21.8 Payable for securities.....		
21.9 Payable for securities lending.....		
22. Aggregate write-ins for liabilities.....	401,947	403,310
23. Total liabilities excluding Separate Accounts business (Lines 1 to 22).....	254,770,111	221,625,900
24. From Separate Accounts statement.....		
25. Total liabilities (Lines 23 and 24).....	254,770,111	221,625,900
26. Aggregate write-ins for other than liabilities and surplus funds.....	0	0
27. Surplus notes.....		
28. Aggregate write-ins for surplus funds.....	0	0
29. Unassigned funds.....	17,519,864	13,169,012
30. Total (Lines 26 through 29) (Page 4, Line 47) (including \$.....0 in Separate Accounts statement).....	17,519,864	13,169,012
31. Totals (Lines 25 + 30) (Page 2, Line 28, Col. 3).....	272,289,975	234,794,912

Annual Statement of the Year, 2010 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

	1 Current Year	2 Prior Year
1. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts (Exhibit 1, Part 1, Line 20.4, Col. 1).....	33,635,663	17,676,121
2. Considerations for supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....		
3. Net investment income (Exhibit of Net Investment Income, Line 17).....	14,325,256	14,943,839
4. Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR, Line 5).....	177,563	54,446
5. Separate Accounts net gain from operations excluding unrealized gains or losses.....		
6. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance ceded (Exhibit 1, Part 2, Line 26.1, Col. 1).....		
7. Reserve adjustments on reinsurance ceded.....		
8. Miscellaneous Income:		
8.1 Income from fees associated with investment management, administration and contract guarantees from Separate Accounts.....		
8.2 Charges and fees for deposit-type contracts.....		
8.3 Aggregate write-ins for miscellaneous income.....	52,559	16,665
9. Totals (Lines 1 to 8.3).....	48,191,041	32,691,071
10. Death benefits.....	2,563,521	2,532,557
11. Matured endowments (excluding guaranteed annual pure endowments).....		2,659
12. Annuity benefits.....	9,367,755	4,901,437
13. Disability benefits and benefits under accident and health contracts, including premiums waived \$.....0.....		
14. Surrender benefits and withdrawals for life contracts.....	501,109	498,712
15. Interest and adjustments on contract or deposit-type contracts funds.....	291,108	283,795
16. Payments on supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....		
17. Increase in aggregate reserve for life and accident and health contracts.....	29,951,000	17,123,000
18. Totals (Lines 10 to 17).....	42,674,493	25,342,160
19. Commissions on premiums, annuity considerations and deposit-type contract funds (direct business only) (Exhibit 1, Part 2, Line 31, Col. 1 less Col. 5).....	308,970	134,291
20. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance assumed (Exhibit 1, Part 2, Line 26.2, Col. 1 less Col. 5).....		
21. General insurance expenses and fraternal expenses (Exhibit 2, Line 10, Cols. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6).....	2,699,457	2,569,964
22. Insurance taxes, licenses and fees (Exhibit 3, Line 6, Cols. 1, 2, 3 and 5).....	77,121	98,407
23. Increase in loading on deferred and uncollected premiums.....		
24. Net transfers to or (from) Separate Accounts net of reinsurance.....		
25. Aggregate write-ins for deductions.....	167,156	(122,552)
26. Totals (Lines 18 to 25).....	45,927,197	28,022,270
27. Net gain from operations before refunds to members (Line 9 minus Line 26).....	2,263,845	4,668,801
28. Refunds to members (Exhibit 4, Line 17, Cols. 1 + 2).....	402,047	359,336
29. Net gain from operations after refunds to members and before realized capital gains (losses) (Line 27 minus Line 28).....	1,861,798	4,309,465
30. Net realized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of \$.....0 (excluding \$....357,012 transferred to the IMR).....	(855,477)	
31. Net income (Lines 29 + 30).....	1,006,321	4,309,465
SURPLUS ACCOUNT		
32. Surplus, December 31, previous year (Page 3, Line 30, Col. 2).....	13,169,012	9,059,592
33. Net income from operations (Line 31).....	1,006,321	4,309,465
34. Change in net unrealized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of \$.....0.....	3,646,259	2,193,793
35. Change in net unrealized foreign exchange capital gain (loss).....		
36. Change in nonadmitted assets.....	(22,415)	3,898
37. Change in liability for reinsurance in unauthorized companies.....		
38. Change in reserve on account of change in valuation basis, (increase) or decrease (Exhibit 5A, Line 9999999, Col. 4).....		
39. Change in asset valuation reserve.....	(252,033)	(2,278,782)
40. Surplus (contributed to) withdrawn from Separate Accounts during period.....		
41. Other changes in surplus in Separate Accounts statement.....		
42. Change in surplus notes.....		
43. Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles.....		
44. Change in surplus as a result of reinsurance.....		
45. Aggregate write-ins for gains and losses in surplus.....	(27,280)	(118,954)
46. Net change in surplus for the year (Lines 33 through 45).....	4,350,852	4,109,420
47. Surplus December 31, current year (Lines 32 + 46) (Page 3, Line 30).....	17,519,864	13,169,012

The Best of the Best!

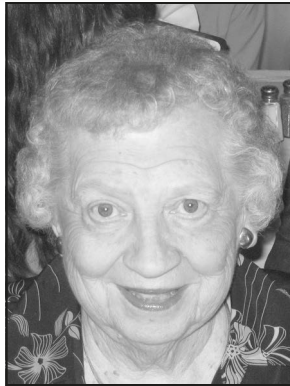
Top Guns of the Year 2010



James Robert Marmol
First Place



Joseph T. Scavina
Second Place



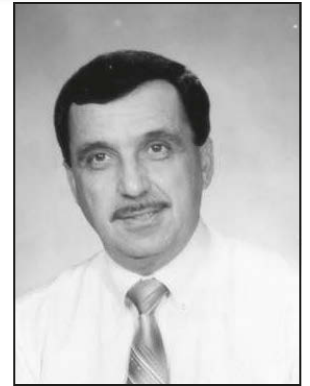
Dorothy J. Petrus
Third Place



Joseph T. Scavina
First Place



Andrew R. Harcar
Second Place



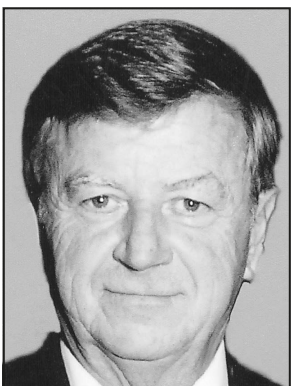
Cluey Sandy
Third Place

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF INSURANCE SOLD

Name	Branch	Insurance Amount
Marmol, James Robert	162	310,000
Scavina, Joseph T.	682	300,000
Petrus, Dorothy J.	670	225,000
Meeker, Arlo H.	166	225,000
Slovenkai, Michael J.	382	185,000
Yuros, Joseph J.	35	145,000
Tarquino, Frances	320	130,000
Ungvarsky, Carl J.	173	119,000
Balazik, Audrey J.	367	110,000
Graytok, Margaret A.	380	110,000

TOP PROPOSERS BY TOTAL POINTS

Name	Branch	Total Points
Scavina, Joseph T.	682	868
Harcar, Andrew R.	40	845
Sandy, Cluey	322	708
Kopco, Robert J.	24	676
Sprock, George A.	181	596
Deliman, Rosemary	417	535
Matta, Florence K.	38	376
Jurcenko, John A.	153	372
Terek, Charles M.	260	340
Buchheit, Geraldine	410	312



Andrew R. Harcar
First Place



Cluey Sandy
Second Place



Robert J. Kopco
Third Place

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF ANNUITIES/IRA SOLD

Name	Branch	Annuities
Harcar, Andrew R.	40	826,569.51
Sandy, Cluey	322	709,514.06
Kopco, Robert J.	24	679,460.48
Scavina, Joseph T.	682	571,918.00
Sprock, George A.	181	549,449.64
Deliman, Rosemary	417	520,247.06
Jurcenko, John A.	153	359,828.48
Matta, Florence K.	38	316,727.12
Buchheit, Geraldine	410	269,763.44
Rura, Joseph Edward	484	240,849.31



Slovak Flag-Raising In Carteret

The Slovak Community of Carteret, New Jersey gathered together to celebrate the annual Slovak Flag Raising in front of the Carteret Memorial Municipal Building Plaza on March 14, 2011.

The event was chaired by Diane Gruskowski and coordinated by Mary Rindosh.

The Flag Raising is a very emotional ceremony for the Slovak citizens of Carteret. This was quite evident during the singing of Hej Slovaci and God Bless America.

The convocation was offered by Rev. Raymond Dolan, Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, followed by a brief history of our Slovak Heritage reminding us of the strong Catholic Religion our ancestors fought so hard for.

A Proclamation was presented to Mary Rindosh by Mayor Daniel J. Reiman.

After the Flag Raising everyone was invited to a reception in the Mayor's office.

Sponsored by the Ladies Slovak Citizen's Club of Carteret.

Submitted by Diane Gruskowski, Branch 324



Check out the redesigned
FCSU website @ www.fcsu.com.

Same great resource –
now with a great new look!

Let us know what you think.
We want to hear from you.

Scenes from the Annual Slovak Ball in NYC

The Slovak-American Cultural Center held its 19th Annual Slovak Ball on Saturday, February 26, 2011. Some 150 people gathered at the New York Athletic Club in New York City to honor Nina Holy, Secretary-Treasurer of the Slovak League of America. Dinner and dancing followed a presentation program. Slovak kroj folk costumes was on display as well.



Mrs. Nina Holy, Secretary-Treasurer of the Slovak League of America, was honored at the 19th Annual Slovak Ball in New York City

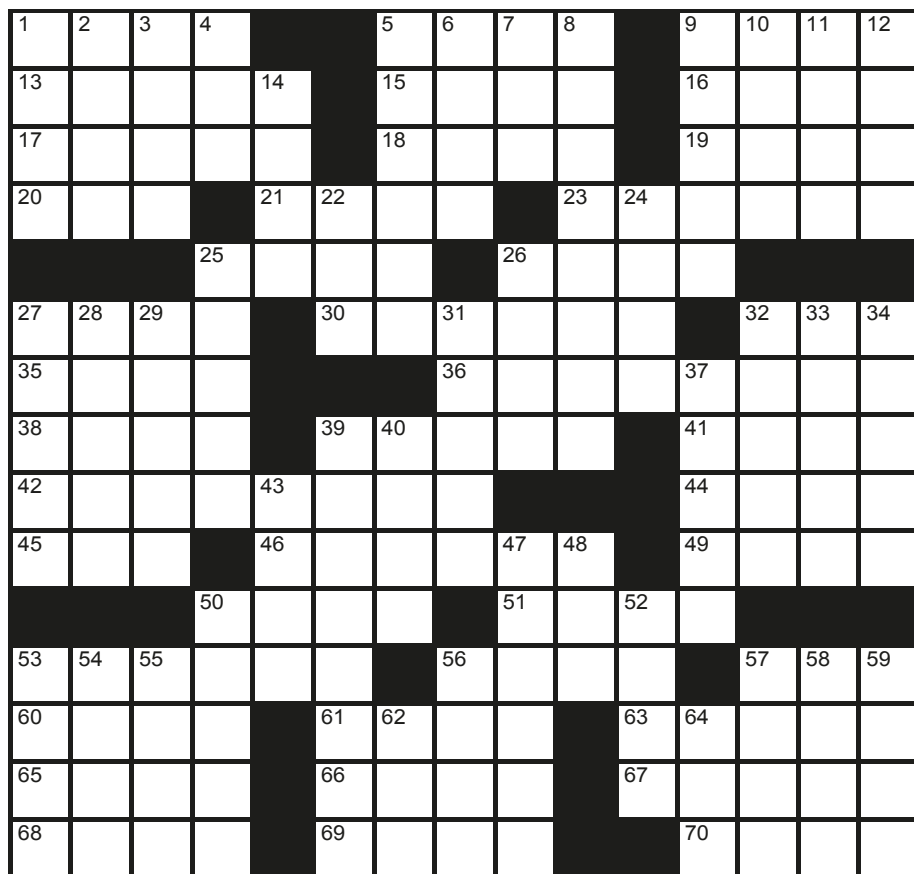


(L - R): Former Slovak Foreign Minister Eduard Kukan; Slovak-American Cultural Center Secretary and FCSU Branch 746 President Sabina Sabados; Slovak-American Cultural Center Vice President Matthew Culen; Slovak Ball Honoree Mrs. Nina Holy; Mr. John Holy; Mrs. Andrew Rajec; FCSU President Andrew M. Rajec; and Slovak-American Cultural Center President Rosemary Golia



(L-R) Branch 89 Members Itka Rajec, Andrew P. Rajec, and Branch 746 President Sabina Sabados

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Nanny actress Drescher
- 5 Field game
- 9 Conveyor
- 13 Tanker
- 15 Tel ____
- 16 Fencing sword
- 17 Juliet's beau
- 18 Constructed
- 19 Adore
- 20 Gr. letter
- 21 Rind
- 23 Dried grape
- 25 Recount
- 26 Area unit
- 27 Indifferent
- 30 Team good-luck charm
- 32 Body of water
- 35 Simpleton
- 36 Low-caste, once
- 38 Ms. Fitzgerald
- 39 Astute
- 41 Original zoo keeper
- 42 Softened
- 44 Slangy negative response
- 45 Eye infection
- 46 Family member
- 49 Shoshonians
- 50 Walking stick
- 51 Voiced
- 53 History
- 56 Prayer ending
- 57 Geological period
- 60 Horse
- 61 ____ Korbout
- 63 Subdued
- 65 Constellation
- 66 Require

67 Spotted

- 68 Cornerstone
- 69 Divinities
- 70 Wings

Down

- 1 Golf term
- 2 Disorder
- 3 ____ mater
- 4 Maiden name
- 5 Tiffin or Anderson
- 6 Egg-shaped
- 7 Cover
- 8 Ulster
- 9 Contradict
- 10 Epic poem
- 11 Jacob's son
- 12 Adolescent
- 14 Lariat
- 22 Shade tree
- 24 Crafts' buddies
- 25 Sum
- 26 Winged fruit tree
- 27 Halts
- 28 Adolescent hoo
- 29 Goofy
- 31 Shovel
- 32 Nose
- 33 Mil. storehouse
- 34 Fire residue
- 37 Rescind
- 39 Last hurrah
- 40 Simple
- 43 Opaque gem
- 47 Wanderers
- 48 Three (It.)
- 50 Small boat
- 52 Pismires
- 53 Saddle horse
- 54 *Thin Man* name
- 55 Hen-pecks
- 56 Elderly
- 57 Actor Jannings
- 58 Dance
- 59 Contributes
- 62 Star sign
- 64 Copy

See Solution on Page 19

2011 Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament

July 16 and 17, 2011

Tam O'Shanter and Oak Tree Golf Courses

Sharon, PA



Registration Forms postmarked after May 27, 2011 will NOT be accepted.

1. Golfer Name

My Personal Information is the same as 2010** (check the box)

Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email Address _____
 Branch Number _____
 Certificate Number _____

2. Golfer Name

My Personal Information is the same as 2010** (check the box)

Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email Address _____
 Branch Number _____
 Certificate Number _____

** If you participated in the 2010 tournament and your personal information has not changed, you do not need to complete the rest of the information.

Notes: Golfers aged 62 and over will be placed into their appropriate flights based on handicap, then will tee off from the senior tees.

Handicap calculations will not include the 2010 results. The handicap allowed will be 75% of the average strokes over par for the last 8 years. 100% of the average strokes over par for the last 8 years will be used to divide into flights.

Those who have not participated in 2 tournaments in the last 8 years will be placed in the Callaway Division.

Foursomes will be paired at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

Those who provide email addresses will be notified of the schedule via email.

Golfers must be members in good standing of the FCSU.

Any Golfer who acts in an un-sportsmanlike manner will be disqualified from the tournament.

Fees (per person):

Full Golf Package*	2 rounds of golf with cart 2 nights lodging Friday night hospitality Sat. and Sun. breakfast Radisson drink coupon	Package Fee: \$ 245.00 Prize Fee: \$ 12.00 Tournament Fee: \$ 8.00 TOTAL DUE: \$ 265.00
Golf Only Package	2 rounds of golf with cart Friday night hospitality	Package Fee: \$ 100.00 Prize Fee: \$ 12.00 Tournament Fee: \$ 8.00 TOTAL DUE: \$ 120.00
Non-Golf Package*	2 nights lodging Friday night hospitality Sat. and Sun. breakfast Radisson drink coupon	Package Fee: \$ 140.00 TOTAL DUE: \$ 140.00
Saturday Night Dinner		\$25.00
Sunday Awards Barbecue		\$15.00

*Also indicate:

Roommate Name: _____ Room Type: 2 Double Beds / 1 King Bed
Smoking / Non-Smoking

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

Susan Ondrejco
234 Iliion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Saturday Night

(at Radisson Hotel, Sharon)

Meal includes:

Salad, Roast Sirloin of Beef, Chicken Marsala,
Marinara Pasta, Green Beans Almondine, Herb
Roasted Redskin Potatoes, Dessert

Cash Bar

Cost: FCSU Members \$25
Guests \$40

Sunday Afternoon

(at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course)

Meal includes:

Roasted half chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Buttered
Corn, Italian bread and butter, Soft Drinks

Cost: Golfers and Guests \$15

2011 Golf Tournament Info Sheet

Friday, July 15

◆ Hospitality Room, Tam O'Shanter Golf Course, 6 PM - 10 PM

Saturday, July 16

- ◆ Registration begins at 9 am. Tee times start at 9:32 am*.
- ◆ Oak Tree Country Club Golf Course
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm at the Radisson Hotel, Sharon.
- ◆ Banquet begins at 6:30pm at the Radisson Hotel, Sharon.

Sunday, July 17

- ◆ Golf starts at 8:30 am, Tam O'Shanter Golf Course
- ◆ Awards Barbeque to begin at conclusion of tournament

*Tee times on Saturday will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Seniors (ages 62+) will play from the senior tees, in their appropriate flight, based on handicap.

The round on Sunday is a shotgun start.

Your rooming information (if using the full golf package) will be completed by the Fraternal Activities Director. **You do not need to call the hotel.** It is very important to have your forms in on time since the rooming list is due to the hotel June 1.

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

Reservations can be cancelled 2 weeks prior to arrival date. Any reservations cancelled less than 2 weeks before the tournament will not be refunded.



"Park 2 Annuity" 3.00% (2.956% apr)

Rate Effective April 1, 2011

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

Features of the "Park 2 Annuity" include:

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

Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications or visit our web site at FCSU.com

The Immigrant Mother Revisited

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

The following article first appeared in the May 1, 1996 issue of Jednota. Since the positive response was so great, I periodically reprint it from time to time.

Several years ago, my sister gave me a copy of an article entitled "The Immigrant Mother." From the stories our parents used to tell us, the publication was indeed true to life.

Every time I ran across the article, I would read it and start reminiscing about my own mother. She too was an immigrant. She was born in a mountain village called Vondriesel in Slovakia, and came to this country at the age of 19. She married and bore 10 children.

When I was growing up, I can remember she would never eat a meal until my fathers, brothers and sisters and I had finished eating. She wanted to make sure everyone had enough to eat before she would sit down. Many, many times she deprived herself and went without for the sake of her children.

With Mother's Day approaching, I thought it would be a fitting tribute to have this article printed in honor of all our mothers.

The Immigrant Mother



For all eternity America is indebted to the immigrant mother, whether she is Italian, Slovak, Jewish, Polish, Austrian, German, Russian, English, Greek, Bulgarian, Irish, Slovenian, or Ukranian.

Born in the old country, she usually married at a young age the young boy with whom she worked in the fields. While still a young bride and sometimes with child, she remained and waited while her man left for America – that distant land filled with promises of a better life.

The days, months, and sometimes years, passed slowly, while she patiently waited for word from her husband. Finally, when the letter came

with the passage fare for the long boat ride to America, she gathered up her few possessions and children, and boarded a ship to join her husband.

She found him working in the steel mills, brickyards, iron mines, coal mines, slate mines, and on the railroad. She found him living in a shack, shanty, railroad car, or even in a tent. But at least this was a start, a foundation for a new life. Here in America, with her husband at her side, she prepared for the years ahead.

Our country was young; it needed laborers! she gave five, six or more children from her body and of her soul. While her husband worked in the bitter cold of winter, or the blistering heat of summer, in ditches laying sewers, and deep in the ground mining coal or iron ore, the mothers worked from early morning to late at night, cooking on a coal stove, washing the clothes with a washboard, and heating the water in a big copper tub on the same coal stove. At the same time, she took care of the children, preparing breakfast, making lunches, and sending them off to school.

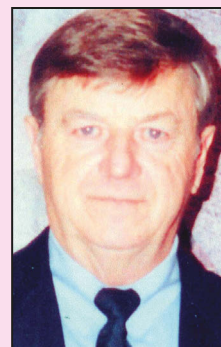
Now, the freshness of young womanhood is gone. By the flickering oil lamp she sews and irons clothes late into the night. She scrimps and saves to dress her children decently, while she wears an old dress and stays at home. Her children must have an education, so that they may be respected and amount to something someday.

And then at last, when her children are grown, as her cup of joy runneth over, we see how want, deprivation, and hardship have taken their toll. All worn out, her bones aching from so many ills, she lays helplessly in her sick bed, and her children gather around her. She turns to kiss them and to bless them – and then she is gone.

She is the unsung hero and pioneer of America. No statue can be built high enough with which to sculpture a fitting memorial to the immigrant mother.

She, who with her breast nurtured us, with her arms raised us, with her ideals inspired us, with her tears washed us clean, with her devotion saved us, and then on the altar of love, laid out her worn spent body. She found her place in heaven and sends down her blessing on America for what America has offered to her children in this great land.

May the people of America never forget what they owe to that sweet and blessed soul – the immigrant mother of us all.



Andrew Harcar

-Author, Unknown

God love them. Until next time ... good luck and God Bless.

We are pleased to invite you to the

FCSU National

Picnic

104 acres of beautiful grounds, with plenty to do for everyone: paddle boats, play-grounds, softball, sand volleyball, corn hole, basketball, soccer, horseshoes, swimming, and more. Food is served all day.

Watch the Jednota paper for more details!

Wiegand's Lake Park
9390 Kinsman Road
Novelty, Ohio 44072

Sunday, August 14, 2011

Save the Date!

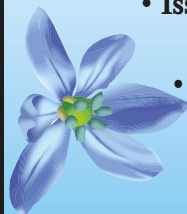
FCSU LIFE Single Premium Insurance Spring Special!

Newborn Male	Newborn Female
\$5000 for \$290	\$5000 for \$250
\$10000 for \$580	\$10000 for \$500
Male - age 5	Female - age 5
\$5000 for \$340	\$5000 for \$290
\$10000 for \$680	\$10000 for \$580
Male - age 10	Female - age 10
\$5000 for \$400	\$5000 for \$340
\$10000 for \$800	\$10000 for \$680
Male - age 15	Female - age 15
\$5000 for \$480	\$5000 for \$405
\$10000 for \$960	\$10000 for \$810
Male - age 20	Female - age 20
\$5000 for \$545.00	\$5000 for \$470.00
\$10000 for \$1090.00	\$10000 for \$940.00

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren 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



DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District Annual Fathers Day Brunch will be held Sunday, June 19, at Holy Trinity Parish in West Mifflin. The event will begin with the celebration of Mass at 9:30 and wrap up by 1:00. There will also be a short business meeting to discuss the possibilities for district participation in local cultural events. Reservations are required. Branches should have received a notice from Host Branch 2 regarding prices for the brunch and ad booklet.

Branches are encouraged to look for ways to increase attendance. Possibilities are putting a notice in your church bulletin, offering to pay for the children's meals, etc. The deadline for reservations is June 10. If you need additional information, please contact Branch 2 at smosr@verizon.net

Branch 35 will host the Fall meeting on a date to be determined later following publication of the Steelers Fall schedule.

The district is collecting e-mail addresses from each branch in order to facilitate communications. If we don't already have your e-mail, please contact the district secretary at manasta@verizon.net

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary
Pittsburgh District

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 May 15, 2011 at 2:00 PM at St. Francis Church Hall Coral, PA. The St. Joseph's Society Branch 484 will be the host. Holy Mass will be offered at 11:00 am in Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Coral Site, for the living and deceased members of the district.

Member branches should have received by now their dues notices. These dues may be paid at the meeting. Spring is here, the weather is nicer, so let's show our fraternalism with a good turnout of delegates.

Joseph E. Rura, Secretary

DISTRICT 9 – FRANK T. HOLLY JR DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting at 1PM on Sunday, June 12, 2011, at the K-2 Engineering Inc Conference Room at 234 Pittsburgh St., Uniontown, PA. Mr. Andy Harcar, FCSU National Vice President, will do a presentation. District activities and insurance programs will be discussed.

Fraternally,

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

DISTRICT 11 – MSGR. JOSEF TISO

The Semiannual Meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District (District 11), normally scheduled on the last Sunday of April, will be held on Sunday, May 22 this year. Time and place are 2:00 PM in the Upstairs Banquet Room, 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) 763-1104 by June 4. Per FCSU By-Laws, Branch representation at one District meeting per year is required to qualify for receipt of the annual Branch stipend."

Thank you.

Grace M. Charney, Secretary
Msgr Josef Tiso District (District 11)

DISTRICT 12 – MSGR. ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, May 22, 2011, at 1:00 PM, a meeting of the Andre Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. Members of the various branches are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

DISTRICT 14 - REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold its next meeting Tuesday, May 17, 2011 7:00PM at St. Matias Church Rectory. On the agenda will be a discussion of upcoming activities. All members are urged to attend.

Carlie Peshek, President

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR. STEPHAN KRASULA DISTRICT

The Msgr. Stephan Krasula, District 16, will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2011, at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall at St. John Nepomucene Church 411 East 66th Street, New York City, NY. On the agenda will be a financial report and a discussion of activities for next season.

We urge all District branches to send their representatives to this meeting. All members of the FCSU – not just delegates – are welcome.

Refreshments will be served by Branch 716, the Stephen the Martyr Society, NYC, after the meeting.

Fraternally,

Henrietta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

DISTRICT 19 - MSGR. MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT- TORONTO

Semi Annual meeting to be held on Thursday June 16, 2011 at Sts Cyril and Methodius Church hall in Mississauga. Meeting to start at 7:30pm. Refreshments will be available.

President Mike Kapitan

ORDER TICKETS NOW For Branch 743 90th Anniversary

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its 90th Anniversary celebration on Sunday May 15, 2011 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

The 90th anniversary celebration, will include a banquet lunch and entertainment, and will follow the 11:30 a.m. Mass in the Church Social Hall.

The cost for the event is \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members. Children's ticket age 17 and under are \$10.00.

Only 100 tickets will be sold for this event. There will be NO tickets sold the day of the event. You are urged to purchase your tickets early! We anticipate a sell out.

Tickets can be purchased from: Anna Magusin (586-751-2960), Milan Straka (248-478-3818) or Daniela Grisak (248-659-8522).

Program information Joseph C Rimarcik (586-254-0225).

Joseph C Rimarcik
President and Financial Secretary

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 24-

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Svorad's Society, will hold a branch meeting on Sunday, May 29th. This meeting will be in conjunction with and which we are co-sponsoring the "Celebrating Our Slovak Catholic Culture" series being held at the St. Andrew Svorad's Abbey Church located at 2900 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44104.

Mass will be at 1:00 PM followed by Lunch at 2:00 PM with a Presentation about the Marion Shrines of Slovakia at 3:00PM.

Tickets for Branch 24 Members are complimentary. Tickets for Non-Members are \$14.00 per person. Checks for Non-Members should be made out to St. Andrew's Abbey and sent to the above address care of Fr. Albert Marflak.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE AND ARE DUE NO LATER THAN MAY 18th. Please call our activities director Susan Lang at (216) 896-0957 evenings after 6:00 PM if you plan to attend.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 45 –

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew's the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold a meeting on Sunday, April 10, 2011, at 12:30 pm after the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th and 1st Avenue, New York City. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 114K –

SHENANDOAH, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 114K Shenandoah, PA and Branch 112K Pottsville, PA. All members of Branch 114K will now hold membership in Branch 112K. This merger has taken place as of March 23, 2011.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact:

Stephen G. Engle, 396 Copley Dr., Lancaster, PA 17601-2976 (717) 569-4564.

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 153 –

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 153 encourages its members to attend the District 2 Brunch and Theatre At the Center, Munster, Indiana performance of "Nunset Boulevard."

This District Fraternal Event is a musical comedy and will be held on May 15, 2011, with brunch starting at 12:45PM. There are special discounts for FCSU members and an extra-special discount for Branch 153 members, as Branch 153 will subsidize part of the ticket cost.

Ticket costs are as follows:

Nonmembers:	\$52.20
FCSU members:	\$42.20
Branch 153 members:	\$27.20

If interested, call Dorothy Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810 before March 22, 2011.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 260 –

CAMPBELL, OHIO

St. Matthews Branch 260 will hold their semi-annual meeting Sunday, June 12, 2011 at Bedford Trails at 1:30PM. The meeting was re-scheduled due to Father's Day. Members are urged to attend and participate in the discussion pertaining to important business that the Society will act upon. The viability of our Branch and Society depends on membership interest and also on members being more active. We have to improve our sales and increase our membership in order to survive. Hoping for a good attendance.

Fraternally submitted,

Charles M. Terek, President

BRANCH 290 –

RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

A meeting will be held on May 4, 2011, at

7:30PM. Please call Joe at (732) 469-5256 as to the location of the meeting. Please attend.

Joe F. Minarovich, President

BRANCH 320 –

BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of Ss. Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, June 19, 2011, at NOON at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. Since lunch will be prepared, please call Fran (724) 929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

BRANCH 372 -

BEAVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Branch 372 will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 22 at 1:00pm at the home of President Michael Hudak, 829 Cameron Ave., Beaverdale, PA, 15921. All members are urged to attend.

Fraternally,

Michael Hudak, President

BRANCH 380 –

CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380 Canonsburg, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 29, 2011, at 2:00PM at Wendy's in Canonsburg, PA. Welcome Branch 851 to Branch 380.

Fraternally,

Margaret Graytok

BRANCH 421K –

NANTY GLO, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 421K Nanty Glo, PA and Branch 484K Coral, PA. All members of Branch 421K will now hold membership in Branch 484K. This merger has taken place as of March 29, 2011.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Joseph Edward Rura, 43 Rugh Road, Box 108, Coral, PA 15731-0108 (724) 479-2298.

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 553 –

AKRON, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist, Branch 553, will hold a lodge meeting on Sunday, June 5, 2011 at 2 pm. The meeting will be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311.

A discussion will be held on upcoming events for the year sponsored by the lodge. Refreshments will be served.

A special thanks to all volunteers that provide services for our monthly spaghetti night and for the Lenten fish fry's. Thank you to our loyal members who support us through attending the different meals. Your loyalty is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 549K –

CLYMER, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 549K Clymer, PA and Branch 484K Coral, PA. All members of Branch 549K will now hold membership in Branch 484K.

This merger has taken place as of March 29, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Joseph Edward Rura, 43 Rugh Road, Box 108, Coral, PA 15731-0108 (724) 479-2298.

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 563K –

CLYMER, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch
continued on page 15

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

563K Clymer, PA and Branch 484K Coral, PA. All members of Branch 563K will now hold membership in Branch 484K.

This merger has taken place as of March 29, 2011. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Joseph Edward Rura, 43 Rugh Road, Box 108, Coral, PA 15731-0108 724) 479-2298.

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 in Muskegon Heights, MI would like to announce our monthly pork and kraut dinners being served at the club. They will be held on the second Sunday of each month. This is a complete traditional dinner including dessert. Only \$6 for adults and children under 12 pay only \$4. We will be serving from noon until 3 p.m.

Our monthly breakfast is held the fourth Sunday of each month. We serve from 8:30 a.m. until noon. We serve a wide variety of breakfast items. The cost remains at \$6.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

We are located at the corner of Sixth Street and Sherman Boulevard in Muskegon Heights. Our phone number is 231 733 7525. Please contact us if you have any other questions.

Thank you,

Donna Stone, Recording 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, May 22, at NOON at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. Members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 706 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 706, will hold its Spring Meeting on May 1, 2011, at 3:30PM at the home of the President, Shirley M. Uram, 1361 S. 86th Avenue, Orlando Park, IL 60462. On the agenda will be discussions on membership, as well as activities for the coming year. Refreshments will be served. All members are invited to attend. If you plan to attend, please call Mrs. Uram at 1-708-349-9049.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Uram, President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Sunday, May 1, 2011, at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall, St. John St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East, 66th Street, 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 725K – SOUTHPORT, CONNECTICUT

There has been a merger between Branch 725K Southport, CT and Branch 019K Trumbull, CT. All members of Branch 725K will now hold

membership in Branch 019K.

This merger has taken place as of April 04, 2011.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Jacqueline Ann Zack, 15 Brookhedge Rd., Trumbull, CT 06611-3212, (203) 268-4727.

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

On May 15, 2011 at 12:30 pm, Saint Joseph Branch 731 members will meet at Saint Matthias Church Rectory, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio.

We will be planning the activities for the rest of the year.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 738 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 738 will hold its semi-annual meeting Tuesday 5/10/11 at 6:30 pm at the VFW Post 6673, Whitaker Way, Munhall, Pa. The meeting will include all branch business,

fraternal activities and planning for the Branch party in October 2011. All members are invited to attend.

Pat Guidish, Secretary Branch 738

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON DC, MARYLAND AND VIRGINIA

Our Mother of Sorrows Society will hold the next meeting May 2, 211 at 1:00PM in the Thomas Jefferson Library at 7415 Arlington Blvd, Falls Church.

Members are encouraged to attend meetings and become more active in our fraternal organization. A warm welcome to Branch 61 of Baltimore that merged with Branch 856.

For more information, call Stephen Matula at 703-671-3013 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 703-860-1693.

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 785 – TORONTO, ONTARIO

Semi Annual meeting to be held on Thursday June 16, 2011 at Sts Cyril and Methodius Church hall in Mississauga. Meeting to start at 7:30pm. Refreshments will be available.

Recording Secretary , Anne Mltro

Branch 382 Members: Your Help Is Needed

Branch 382 is trying to update their member list and addresses. If you have move or know a relative or another member that has moved, please send the new information to:

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

*American Slovak Club
2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, O.*

*Spring Polka Dance
Open to the Public
Sunday May 15th 2011*



*Doors open 2:30 pm
Music 3:00- 7:00pm*

*LIVE MUSIC, DANCING &
ENTERTAINMENT by*

*RALPH SZUBSKI... The
ACCORDION MAN &
The PARTY BAND*

*Great food available from our kitchen!
Cash bar.... Door Prizes.....and surprises!
Good friends, good music...good food!*

DONATION: \$5.00 at the door

- Submitted by Michelle Mager, Branch 228

"PARK FREE PLUS" ANNUITY

Effective April 1, 2011 the "Park Free Plus" Annuity is earning 3.00% (2.956% APR) for the first year and is limited to \$25,000.00 per individual.

*The new annuity plan that combines features from our most popular annuities...
The Park Annuity and the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity.*

The "Park Free Plus" offers a first year interest rate of 3.00% (2.956% APR) This initial interest rate is guaranteed for the entire first year of the Annuity policy. At the first anniversary date of the policy, the **Annuitant has 15 calendar days to elect this option:**

1. Withdraw the full value of the accumulated Annuity funds (principal plus interest) WITHOUT INCURRING A SURRENDER CHARGE!

*Note: If the funds are withdrawn prior to the first anniversary of the policy, a 6% surrender will be imposed on the funds withdrawn.**

2 If this option is not exercised, the Annuity will continue for an additional five years. The interest rate at that time will be based on the interest rate established by the Society on it's Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity. This rate is published regularly in the official publication and on our website.

If the policy is continued, the Annuitant may withdraw up to 10% of the policies cash value at the beginning of each policy year, without incurring a surrender charge.*

If the Policy is continued, withdrawals that exceed 10% of the policy's cash value will incur a surrender charge of 5% in the second year and withdrawal charges will decrease by 1% each year until the end of the sixth year from the issue date*.

INITIAL DEPOSIT MAY BE AS LOW AS \$1,000!

Low Minimum Deposit. Initial deposit may be as low as \$1,000 for the "Park Free Plus" Annuity. Maximum deposit for this program is 25,000.00 per individual. No additional deposits are permitted during the first year.

Flexible Deposits. Additional deposits of \$1,000 or more will be accepted at any time after the first year.

Maturity Options. At the end of the six year policy period; the Annuitant has these options:

(a) The policy can be continued . There will be no surrender charges on any withdrawals.* The interest rate will be based on FCSU Life's Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity interest rate.

(b) The policy can be converted to any Annuity product offered by FCSU Life at that time. The interest rate will be based on the then current declared interest rate on the selected policy.

(c) Taxes on all interest earned on the "Park Free Plus" Annuity and any subsequent policy selected, will be deferred until funds are withdrawn.

For additional information, contact your Branch officer or the Home Office.

* Early withdrawals may be subject to IRS penalties.

6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence OH 44131-8013
1-800-JEDNOTA - Website: www.fcsu.com - E-mail: FCSU@aol.com



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
001K	Joseph A Nichta	122K	Margaret B Repasky	292K	Edward J Pollock	731K	Leonard J Antal Sr
001K	Daniel E Sagan	136K	Michael J Glita	327K	George P Koren	748K	Ella B Smalley
001P	George Fierro	152K	Betty J Wydawski	327K	Veronica B Kriebel	762K	Albert B Pieters
002K	Stanley F Balon	153K	Karol Capiak	414K	Vincent Belcik	764K	Anne J Malys
002K	Phyllis Dalak	153K	Adolph C Rulak	484K	Joseph Biros	774K	Irene Agnes Pacholka
010K	John G Bendick	162K	Anthony R Krizner	484K	Robert T Gnibus	796K	Joseph P Kuchera
035K	George Gimera	166K	Bernard J Pochily	484K	Joseph F Hromulak	830K	Mary Ruth Fancovic
038K	Philip S Mikolay	175K	Michael A O'pake	553K	Martha J Snyder	852K	Elizabeth H Dougherty
038K	Norman Mozeik	175K	Edward M Shurilla	567K	Valeria Krawczyk	855K	Helen A Pohorenc
045K	Helen Bartenstein	181K	Edward F Kowinski	587K	Josephine L Fratello	888K	Bertha Louise Kusnir
055K	Helen M Wojtko	181K	Stephanie M Ungvarsky	600K	Edward P Cibik Jr	888K	George Steve Rafaidus
060K	Dolores T Wargovich	215K	Michael J Mayshock	628K	Bernard F Zilka	890K	Felix Marek
085K	Kathleen A Lamoreaux	228K	Steve J Marinik	635K	Thomas T Maga	900K	Catherine Konewecke
089K	Julius L Gregor	254K	Anna S Seroky	703K	Joseph John Podmanik	900K	Louis H Schibilla
089K	Gejza Micech	260K	John V Spencer	704K	George A Dugas	900K	Marion S Van Leuven
096K	Mary A Gavalier	292K	Stephen Korzi	714K	Deborah L Plsek		

* Processed in the month of January 2011

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH M. BIROS BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

Joseph M. Biros, 84, of 228 Ridge Ave., Middletown entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, March 29, 2011 at his home.

Joe was born on October 13, 1926 in Wilkes-Barre, PA and was the son of the late Stephen and Elizabeth Cicon Biros. He was a former computer programmer at the New Cumberland Army Depot, a member of Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church and the American Legion Post #594 both of Middletown. He was a member of the Slovak Catholic Jednota and the Slovak Catholic Sokols of Passaic, NJ, First Catholic Slovak Union of the USA and Canada, and The National Slovak Society of the USA, Cannonsburg.

Joe enjoyed golfing, going for walks, singing and dancing. In addition to his parents, he was pre-deceased by his first wife, Dorothy Cusick Biros; son, Joseph T. Biros; son-in-law, Stephen W. Moore; brothers, Stephen Biros, John Biros, Matthew Biros, and Bernard Biros; sisters, Sophie Biros and Anna Yatko.

He is survived by his wife, Anna Dubisova Biros; daughter, Susan C. Moore of Camp Hill; brother, Cyril husband of Margie Biros of Willingboro, NJ. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at 11:00 A.M. in his church at 280 N. Race St., Middletown with the Rev. Louis P. Ogden as celebrant.

Viewing was Monday, April 4, 2011 from 7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. and Tuesday from 10:00 A.M. - 10:45 A.M. at the Matinckek & Daughter Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Middletown.

Recitation of the Rosary was Monday, April 4th at 8:30 P.M. at the funeral home. Burial was in the Middletown Cemetery.

CHARLES J. TRIPOLI BRANCH 199 – MT. PLEASANT, PENNSYLVANIA

Charles Joseph Tripoli, 73, of Latrobe, died Sunday, April 3, 2011, in UPMC Presbyterian, Oakland. He was born Feb. 22, 1938, in Latrobe, the son of the late Joseph and Jacqueline (Manganello) Tripoli.

Charles was a member of Sacred Heart Church and of Branch 199 of the First Catholic Slovak Union. He was retired from the State Correctional Institution in Houtzdale. He had served in the Pennsylvania National Guard. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Connie Tripoli Hook. Charles is survived by his wife, Nancy (Pipak) Tripoli, of Latrobe; a daughter, Jennifer Tripoli Howard and her husband, Ronald, of Grove City; a sister, Josephine Tripoli, of Greensburg; and two grandchildren, Ronnie Howard and Matthew Howard. He is also survived by a number of nieces and nephews. Family and friends were received from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, 2011, in the JOHN J. LOPATICH FUNERAL HOME INC., Latrobe. Military services were conducted at 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, April 6, 2011, in the funeral home by American Legion Post 515 and VFW Post 3414. A funeral Mass was celebrated at 11 a.m. Wednesday in St. Cecilia Church, Whitney, with the Rev. Peter Augustine Pierjok, OSB, as celebrant. Interment followed in St. Joseph Cemetery, Derry.

**Barbara Patula,
Branch 199 Secretary/Treasurer**

MARGARET E. DEEMER BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

A memorial Mass was celebrated Monday, Dec. 27, at 10 a.m. at St. Matthias Church in Youngstown, OH for Margaret E. Deemer, 91, who passed away Dec. 22, at Hospice House.

Born in Czechoslovakia on May 13, 1919, Margaret was the daughter of John and Katarina Kacir Hudak and came to the United States and this area as a child.

She was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School and a member of St. Matthias Church. She also belonged to the Jednota, St. Elizabeth Society Branch 161 and First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 731. She was also active in the Lansingville Ladies Political Club.

Margaret was always a hard worker. Even before graduating from high school, she served as the assistant to Reverend Purvis and his family. Before starting her family, she was employed at Foster's Lunch in the

Uptown area, where she enjoyed receiving numerous promotions. For many years, she held various positions with the Mahoning County Board of Elections, including Presidential Judge.

Throughout her life, Margaret enjoyed traveling with her family, especially their trips to Hawaii, Las Vegas and Florida. She often talked about her helicopter ride over Niagara Falls, her hot air balloon ride at 90 years old, and her countless theatre, boat and music concert adventures.

Besides her parents, Margaret was preceded in death by her brothers, John Hudak, Jr. and Joseph J. Hudak.

She is survived by her daughters, Cynthia (Robert) Frohman of Painesville, Joanne Deemer of Boardman, Darlene (Joseph) Mac Benn of Canfield and Christine Flak of Youngstown; by her brother, Rudolph Hudak of Liberty; and by her grandchildren, Olivia and Richard Flak, Joseph Mac Benn and Bobbi Frohman.

Visitation will take place at the church on Monday from 9:30 to 10 a.m. one-half hour prior to the Mass.

Interment will take place at Calvary Cemetery.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Kubina-Yuhasz Funeral Home.

Slovak League of America to offer 12 scholarship grants in 2011

The Slovak League of America, a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry founded in Cleveland in 1907, will offer college scholarship grants to students of Slovak ancestry in 2011. A total of 12 grants of \$1,000 each will be awarded to students currently enrolled as a full-time student at a college, university or professional school. These scholarship grants are available to both students on the undergraduate or graduate level of study.

This year's grants are made possible through the generous support of Mrs. Mimi Danihel of Calabasas, California. The grants are given in memory of her late husband, Leo J. Danihel, a prominent member of the American Slovak community. Mr. Danihel was a well-known cultural and business leader and a former president of the Slovak World Congress. Ms. Danihel serves as the vice president of the Slovak League of America for the state of California. The 2011 grants will be designated as the Leo J. Danihel Memorial Scholarship Grants.

Applicants are asked to prepare a study paper on some theme from Slovak history or culture of no less than five type-written double-spaced pages. Through the preparation of this paper, the applicant enjoys a learning experience hopefully acquiring a better appreciation of his/her rich Slovak heritage. The completed application along with the study paper is to be returned by the deadline date of October 15, 2011. The scholarship grants will be paid directly to the individual student in December 2011.

For an application, write: Slovak League of America, 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055, tel. daily Monday-Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at (973) 472-8993. Applications must be requested by July 30, 2011.

The Slovak League of America Scholarship Fund, Inc. was established in 1972 to assist American students of Slovak ancestry in their quest for a good education. To date more than 150 students have received scholarship grants from this fund. Tax deductible donations are welcome. Make checks payable to: Slovak League Scholarship Fund and sent to the address listed above. We encourage students of Slovak ancestry to make application for this year's scholarship grants.

YOUTH ROUND-UP



Charles surpassed his goal of collecting 150 magazines with his Cub Scout Pack 601

Branch 853 Charles Boone Wins Cub Scouting Conservation Award

Eleven-year-old Branch 853 member, Charles Boone, of Cub Scout Pack 601 has dedicated himself to saving the world – one tree at a time. Throughout February, Charles spearheaded a recycling project for the pack, which earned him the Cub Scouting Conservation Award.

As stated in the requirements, a scout must “participate with a conservation project.” Not only did Charles participate in the project, he organized a project to collect unwanted magazines, and then delivered those to others for enjoyable reading.

Charles’ goal was to collect 150 magazines with the help of his pack. He far surpassed his goal and collected over 225 magazines which were delivered to the chaplain’s office at the county jail. The chaplain’s office was thrilled with the generous donation.

Branch 853 beams with pride at our young member for his commitment to earth-saving conservation and for earning the internationally recognized Cub Scout Conservation Award. Charles’ parents are the former National Auditor and former Pension Board Trustee Monica Rodacy-Boone and 853 Branch member Ron Boone, Jr. of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Alissa Slanina State Finalist in National American Miss Pageant

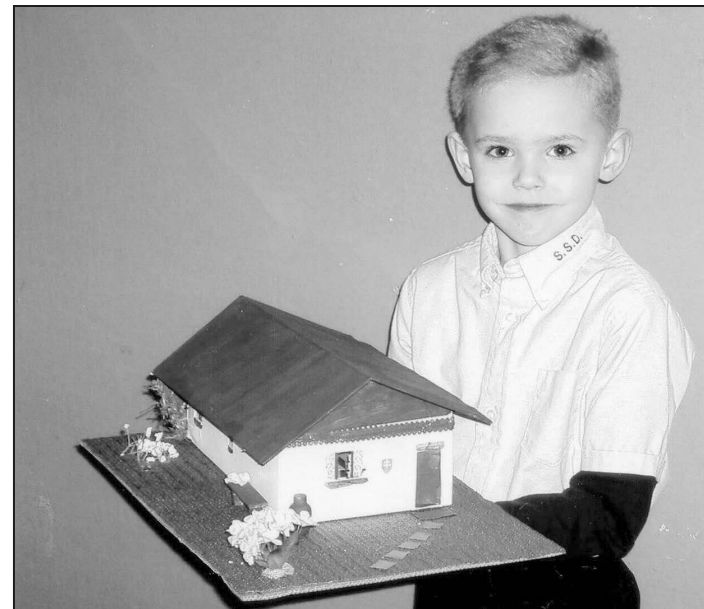


Branch 764 Member Alissa Marie Slanina, 16, has been chosen as a State Finalist in the National American Miss Pageant to be held July 17 – 18, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus, OH. The National American Miss pageants are held for girls ages 4 – 18, and have four different divisions. Alissa will be participating in the 16 – 18 age division, along with other outstanding young ladies from across the great state of Ohio.

Dedicated to celebrating America’s future leaders and equipping them with life-long skills, the National American Miss Pageants are unlike any other. All activities and competitions are kept age appropriate. Girls under the age of 12 are not allowed to wear makeup, and there is no swimsuit competition. The Pageant program is based on inner-beauty, as well as poise and presentation, and offers an “All-American spirit of fun for family and friends.” Emphasis is put on the importance of developing self confidence, learning good sportsmanship, as well as setting and achieving personal goals. The Pageant recognizes the accomplishments of each girl while encouraging her to set goals for her future. A life-long member of Branch 764 in Warren, OH, Alissa also is active in the Italian Club, Drama Club, Students for the Environment, her high school marching band, and her church.

Pageant winners will receive a \$1,000 cash award, an official crown and banner, a bouquet of roses, and air transportation to compete in the National Pageant in California, where she will receive a complimentary tour of Hollywood and two VIP tickets to Disneyland®.

Good luck, Alissa!



Branch Member 382 John J. Slovenkai, Jr. proudly carries his model of a Slovak cottage into Frances Willard School, Scranton, PA.

John Slovenkai, Jr Honors Slovak Heritage, Grandfather

John J. Slovenkai, Jr. (age 7) – a first grader at Frances Willard School, Scranton, PA – chose to honor his Slovak Heritage and his grandfather Frank M. Slovenkai, Sr., who grew up in Poproc, Slovakia.

Following a class study of houses and reasons people build houses, John Jr. decided to build a model of a Slovak cottage. John and his father found a pictures in books about Slovakia, and pictures as guides for making the interior and exterior of the model. They added wallpaper, simple furnishings, lace curtains, and candles. John added fringed carpets to his cottage.

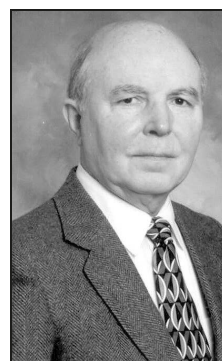
John’s father attached the cottage to a “grassy plot of land” and added a stone walkway and garden.

To complete his project, John wrote a description of his cottage and explained why he chose to make a Slovak cottage.

John Jr. is a member of Branch 382, Scranton, and is the son of John J. Slovenkai, Sr., branch financial secretary. His grandfather Frank M. Slovenkai, Sr. served as president of Branch 382 until 1996. His aunt (Elizabeth) and uncles (Frank and and Michael) now serve as branch officers.

Congratulations, John Jr.!

Focus on Fraternalism



Joe Yuros

Joe Yuros, Always Willing to Help Others

Many organizations, fraternal, and companies believe it’s important to recognize their co-workers or friends that willingly volunteer their time to make things more comfortable, in many cases, for complete strangers. One such person is Joseph Yuros, a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union’s Pittsburgh District.

Yuros was employed by the H.J. Heinz Company as a Dispatcher in the Transportation and Warehouse Division. He retired in 1987 after 37 years of service with Heinz. In 1985, Joe was named “Transportation and Warehouseman of the Year,” and was presented with a plaque for his honor. Joe was a member of the Foremen’s Club and the Heinz Retirement Club.

A lifetime member of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU), Joe served as Financial Secretary of Branch 35 (Braddock) for over 50 years and as Financial Secretary of the Pittsburgh District for over 20 years. He has attended every FCSU convention as a delegate for the past 50 years, attending his first convention on 1960 in Pittsburgh.

He has been an active member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society for 56 years and several years ago received a plaque honoring his 50 years of service. He is President of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Maurice Conference. He also is active in the St. Maurice Food Bank.

On January 20, 2006, Joe was named Senior Volunteer by the Pittsburgh Catholic newspaper, one of the first volunteers recognized by that publication. He also has been a volunteer for the Forest Hills Meals on Wheels for more than 10 years.

I have known Joe Yuros for over 40 years. After listing all of his volunteerism and accomplishments, I am sure you will join me in extending your congratulations to him for his willingness to serve those in need.

George F. Matta, National Treasurer

Branch 764 Hosts Successful Night at the Races

SS Cyril & Methodius Branch 764, Warren, OH, co-sponsored a "Night at the Races" on Saturday February 26, 2011 to support church activities in the coming year. Approximately 250 people attended the event to make it a great success with a profit of \$3,373.00. The November 26, 2010 Races were such a hit that it was decided that the event would be repeated.

The night began at 5:30 PM with a delicious spaghetti and meatball dinner prepared by Bill Hrusovsky, President. Fred Brunetti, Vice President, George Yuricek, Treasurer, and Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary along with several members of the Branch and parishioners of SS Cyril & Methodius taking care of the serving duties. Desserts that were prepared by SS Cyril & Methodius parish members were served prior to the races at the Social Hall.

The races began promptly at 6:30 PM under the direction of Ron Zelenak featuring 11 horse races, greyhound races, and an Auction Race.

A special 'Thank You' goes out to the 2011 Confirmation candidates for their help in the kitchen and table service.

Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary



George Yuricek and Mae Stark



(L- R) George Yuricek, Fred Brunetti, Joy Brunetti



2011 Confirmation candidates (L - R): Ty McVicker, Jim Misocky, Michael Rong



Deciding on which horse to bet on!



(L - R) Drew Verbosky; Robert Marchese, Council President; Jim Graham, Warren Mayor Elect; Ron Zelenak; and John Brown, 4th Ward Councilman



(L - R) Father Jim Walker, Sister Yvonne-Horning O.O., Clara Hagan

Successful Fasiangy Dance party in New York City

The St. Matthews Society, Branch 45, in New York City held a Fasiangy Dance Party aft the Slovak Mass which was celebrated by Rev. Stefan Chanas in St. John Nepomucene Church Hall on Sunday, February 27, 2011, at 1:00 pm.

The introduction of the dance party belonged to President Joseph Jurasi, who kindly welcomed the guests. All the guests had an opportunity to taste traditional Slovak foods, deserts, and refreshments which were prepared by our Slovak ladies under the supervision of Maria Bozek. A raffle was drawn during the afternoon. Music for listening and dancing pleasure was provided by the family band "Kontakty" led by Joseph Jurasi. Altogether, attending guests had a great time just before the beginning of Lent at the New York City Fasiangy Dance Party.

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary



Fasiangy Dance Party Committee (L – R): Joseph Jurasi, Antonia Krajkovic, Rev. Martin Svitan, Maria Zakovic, Jan Zeman, Helen Brchnel, Rev. Stefan Chanas, Maria Jurasi, Anton Kucharovic, Jozef Jurasi, Jr., Zelmira Beckova-Kucharovic, Jozef Korcak, Anna Korcak, and Emil Pavelek



(L - R) Antonia Krajkovic, Henrietta Daitova, Renata Jurasiova, Maria Zakovic



Fasiangy Dance Party attendees having a great time



Rev. Stefan Chanas leads attendees in prayer at the beginning of the Fasiangy Dance Party. Pictured (L-R): Joseph Jurasi, Rev. Stephan Chanas, Maria Jurasi, Renata Jurasi, and Jan Vasil.



Members and guests on the dance floor

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

F	R	A	N		P	O	L	O		B	E	L	T		
O	I	L	E	R	A	V	I	V		E	P	E	E		
R	O	M	E	O	M	A	D	E		L	O	V	E		
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R	O	A	N		O	L	G	A		T	A	M	E	D	
A	R	G	O		N	E	E	D		S	P	I	E	D	
B	A	S	E		G	O	D	S			S	E	L	L	S

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:
The following Branches Have Not Qualified To
Receive The 2010 Stipend
Per Bylaw 4.05 Financial Obligation

Branch #	Branch #	Branch #	Branch #	Branch #	Branch #	Branch #
001 P	110 K	211 K	321 P	407 K	586 K	725 K
003 K	114 K	215 K	322 K	408 K	591 K	729 K
004 K	114 P	221 K	323 K	414 K	595 K	732 K
007 K	116 P	224 K	324 K	417 K	600 K	733 K
010 K	121 K	226 P	326 K	429 K	604 K	735 K
016 P	122 K	233 K	327 K	434 K	615 K	736 K
027 P	124 K	238 K	330 K	454 K	618 K	741 K
028 K	128 K	240 P	332 K	456 K	623 K	748 K
032 K	131 P	258 K	333 K	461 K	624 K	754 K
035 K	132 K	268 K	335 K	465 K	633 K	756 K
040 P	136 K	270 K	348 K	472 K	635 K	762 K
047 K	144 P	278 K	353 P	480 K	636 K	774 K
051 P	149 K	279 K	356 P	487 K	638 K	775 K
053 K	152 K	280 K	358 K	497 K	652 K	777 K
064 K	156 K	282 K	362 K	499 K	659 K	779 K
075 K	157 K	292 K	368 K	500 K	661 K	780 K
083 K	163 K	293 K	369 K	505 K	667 K	788 K
085 K	164 K	294 K	372 K	510 K	686 K	823 K
086 K	165 K	296 K	373 P	512 K	700 K	830 K
090 K	175 K	299 K	381 K	514 K	701 K	831 K
096 K	189 K	308 K	387 K	517 K	702 K	851 K
098 K	189 P	310 P	388 K	543 K	703 K	852 K
100 K	196 P	312 K	401 K	549 K	704 K	862 K
102 K	198 P	315 K	402 K	563 K	714 K	888 K
108 K	200 K	319 K	403 K	571 K	717 K	890 K
109 K	201 K	321 K	404 K	584 K	718 K	

Kent Dudince Sister City Association
Eighth Annual Anniversary Banquet

Sunday, May 22, 2011

Kent Elks Lodge Hall
Elks Lane – State Route 59

(behind Twin Star Bowling Lanes – 2245 State Route 59)

1:00pm – Social Hour

2:00pm – Dinner

3:00pm – Program

Music by Johnny Pastirik Band during Social Hour and Dinner

Orchestra Members: Johnny Pasitirk, Len Jacko, and Ken Javor

The Pittsburgh Slovaks Folk Dance Ensemble

Directors: Sue and Rudy Ondrejco

Slovenske Mamicky of Greater Cleveland Vocal Ensemble

Members: Milka Anderko, Maria Cvicela, Monica Smid

Lucinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble of Greater Cleveland

Director: Christine Matis Hearn

Dancing following the program

Tickets – \$15.00 per person – Advance ticket sales only

Deadline for purchasing tickets: May 6, 2011

Ticket orders with directions will be mailed.

Please include names of all guests.

Donation of Baked Goods would be appreciated.

Make checks payable to:

Kent-Dudince Sister City Association

1544 Vine Street

Kent, OH 4420

Rudy Bachna: 330 – 673-3255

Scholarship For University Study in Slovakia Now Available

The Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic has just announced its 2011/2012 Government Scholarship Program. The Scholarship Program provides for University study in the Slovak Republic in the Slovak language (both Undergraduate and Graduate), including one year of preparatory language training at Comenius University in Bratislava.

The Government Scholarship Program is specifically intended to provide a University educational opportunity for Slovaks living abroad. As a result, Slovak organizations in the U.S. offer candidates a unique advantage, because the Ministry of Education requires any candidate to be endorsed by a local Slovak organization.

Candidates may select any study program of their interest at any accredited University in Slovakia. Ministry of Education, however, recommends following priority study departments (candidates to the following study departments shall be prioritized during selection process).

Pedagogy /Učiteľstvo, vychovávateľstvo a pedagogické vedy/ 1.1.1 - 1.1.10 /

Humanities sciences /Humanitné vedy/ 2.1.1 - 2.1.28

Art / Umenie/ 2.2.1 - 2.2.8

Social and behavioural sciences / Spoločenské a behaviourálne vedy/ 3.1.1 - 3.1.16

Journalism and information /Žurnalistika a informácie/ 3.2.1 - 3.2.4

Economy and Management /Ekonomika a manažment/ 3.3.1 - 3.3.25

Inanimate Nature Sciences /Vedy o neživej prírode/ 4.1.1 - 4.1.39

Animate Nature Sciences /Vedy o živej prírode/ 4.2.1 - 4.2.16

Ecology and Environmental Sciences /Ekologické a environmentálne vedy/ 4.3.1 - 4.3.5

Architecture and Civil Engineering /Architektúra a staviteľstvo/ 5.1.1 - 5.1.7

Construction Engineering, Technology, Production and Communication /

Konštrukčné inžinierstvo, technológie, výroba a komunikácie/ 5.2.1 - 5.2.60

Agriculture /Poľnohospodárstvo/ 6.1.1 - 6.1.17

Forestry /Lesníctvo/ 6.2.1 - 6.2.6

Veterinary Sciences /Veterinárske vedy/ 6.3.1 - 6.3.11

Water Management /Vodné hospodárstvo/ 6.4.1 - 6.4.2

Nonmedical Health Sciences /Nelekárske zdravotnícke vedy/ 7.4.1 - 7.4.11

Mathematics and Statistics /Matematika a štatistika/ 9.1.1 - 9.1.11

Information Sciences and Technologies /Informatické vedy, informacné a komunikacné technológie/ 9.2.1 - 9.2.10

Please be advised that medical sciences, dentistry and pharmaceuticals are not recommended in 2011/2012 by the Ministry of Education.

Application and Selection Process

Candidates shall submit their applications to the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** of the Slovak Republic latest **by May 30, 2011. Applications received after May 30, 2011 will not be accepted.**

Candidates may apply individually - directly to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - OKUD, Hlboka cesta 2, 833 36 Bratislava, Slovakia.

The Slovak Embassy in Washington is willing to provide assistance in submitting applications; however, please be advised that the deadline to submit complete application at the Embassy is **May 1, 2011.**

The Scholarship Application shall include following documents (please consult also Section 32 of the attached Application Form):

- Document proving the level of education (superlegalization required; please contact Embassy)
- Study results from an accredited College or other higher education institution, if available,
- Birth Certificate (verified translation)
- Recommendation from two professors including their working field and institution they represent,
- A personally signed Curriculum Vitae,
- A Medical Certificate (Form enclosed in the Scholarship Application)
- Documents giving evidence of scientific or specialized publications by the applicant (if available),
- Photographs, slides, cassettes, scores of original work (art study only),
- Document of Integrity
- Recommendation from a local Slovak organization

The Selection Committee of the Slovak Ministry of Education shall evaluate the candidates according to two basic criteria, which are:

- 1) High School grade - average of minimum 80 %,
- 2) Selected study program

Selected candidates must begin education according to the date set by the University, the latest being September 30, 2011.

Please find all additional information at www.studyin.sk or www.minedu.sk and attached is the application form.

Note: Those with Slovak citizenship are not eligible to apply

Terézia Šajgaliková

First Secretary

Embassy of Slovakia

3523 International Court, NW

Washington, DC 20008

Tel.: +12022371054 ext. 223

Fax: +12022376438

IN MEMORIAM

Zomrel kňaz Anton Hlinka

V sobotu 26. marca tohto roku sa rozšírila správa o odchode do večnosti jedného z najvýznamnejších a najplodnejších slovenských novinárov, publicistov a spisovateľov najprv dlhé roky v zahraničí, následne aj na Slovensku, prof. Antona Hlinku. Narodil sa 31. októbra 1926 vo Valašskej Belej, ešte mladý vstúpil do rehoľnej spoločnosti Saleziánov Don Bosca, v ktorej absolvoval stredoškolské štúdiá. V roku 1951, keď štát zrušil rehole a prenasledoval ich členov, podarilo sa mu ujsť cez Rakúsko do Talianska, kde pokračoval v štúdiách filozofie a teológie, ktoré dovŕšil vysviackou za kňaza v roku 1955. S titulom ThLic. Prednášal potom filozofiu na saleziánskych vyšších školách v Rakúsku, na Sicílii a nakoniec v Nemecku pri Kolíne nad Rýnom, kde získal aj doktorát v teologických vedách. Následne pôsobil ako duchovný vysokoškolských študentov v Miláne. Tam sa osobitne venoval aj slovenským študentom a študentkám, ktorí v značnom počte prichádzali rozličnými cestami do exilu. Mnohým pomohol dokončiť vysokoškolské štúdiá a zapojiť sa do normálneho života v Taliansku alebo inde v Európe.



Anton Hlinka

Odtiaľ ho pozvali viesť duchovné programy v americkom Rádiu Slobodná Európa so sídlom v bavorskom Mníchove. Dlhé roky organizoval vysielanie slovenských omší a iných náboženských programov, ktoré vzbudzovali stále väčší záujem na Slovensku. To mu časom umožnilo nadviazať také pevné a sústavné spravodajské styky s odporcami komunistického režimu, že informoval celý svet o všetkých nepravostiach, akými režim obmedzoval slobodu občanov a prenasledoval veriace kresťany. Viaceré jeho publikácie na túto tému vyšli v aj niekoľkých cudzích jazykoch. Preto ho pozvali pracovať aj v Hlase Ameriky, tiež dobre počúvanom na Slovensku. V týchto službách vytrval až do roku 1991, keď sa vrátil na rodné Slovensko. Saleziánski predstavení tak ako ho radi uvoľnili pre túto ináč výnimočnú činnosť, dali ho k dispozícii Cirkvi na Slovensku, aby pomáhal pri jej oživení a raste po štyridsiatich rokoch nevoľnosti. Aj doma prof. Anton Hlinka rozvinul veľmi intenzívnu apoštolskú činnosť a stal sa jedným z najobľúbenejších kazateľov tak v rozličných kostoloch, ako aj v médiách. Pri tom sa venoval aj svojej spisovateľskej a prekladateľskej činnosti, ktorou uviedol na Slovensko značný počet vybratých diel kresťanských autorov z rozličných jazykov. Aj jeho kázne a prednášky obohatili takmer umlčanú náboženskú literatúru. Zažil však aj veľa nepochopenia a protivenstiev, čo sa postupne odrazilo aj na jeho zdraví. Tieto posledné roky prežil v ťažkej nemoci, ktorá ho postupne pozbavovala najdôležitejších životných funkcií až po túto oslobodzujúcu smrť. Svojou celoživotnou obetavou a plodnou činnosťou pre dobro slovenského národa a jeho kresťanských hodnôt Anton Hlinka sa zapísal hlbokými literami do dejín slovenskej literatúry, novinárstva, publicistiky, ako aj do dejín kresťanstva na Slovensku. Je povinnosťou mladšej generácie študovať dielo tohto vzácneho kňaza-saleziána, aby sa od neho učila a vydala z pomedzi o seba podobné osobnosti zapálené plodnou láskou k národu a jeho historickým kresťanským hodnotám.

Milan S. Ďurica

Hlinka je autorom množstva teologických, filozofických a cirkevno-politických štúdií, úvah a esejí. Literárnu činnosť začal publikovaním časopiseckých článkov v roku 1964. Publikoval aj časťové štúdie v časopisoch v zahraničí, ako aj v rozhlas. Okrem vlastných kníh preložil, vydal či spracoval vyše 30 kníh, ktoré vychádzali v zahraničí za podpory rôznych sponzorov.

Za celoživotné dielo udelil Antonovi Hlinkovi prezident SR Michal Kováč 1. januára 1997 Rad Andreja Hlinku I. triedy a 28. októbra 1998 Rad Ludovíta Štúra I. triedy.



Pingpongový turnaj v New Yorku

Športoví referenti Spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v New Yorku, Ján Zeman a Jozef Korčák, zorganizovali pingpongový turnaj, ktorý sa konal dňa 22. januára 2011, v hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, v New Yorku. Turnaj zahájil modlitbou pán kaplán, otec Štefan Chanas. Na turnaji sa zúčastnilo 18 hráčov, ktorí boli rozdelení do troch skupín. V skupine sa hralo každý s každým. Do štvrtfinále postúpilo najlepších osem hráčov.

Dalej sa už hralo podľa uvedenej tabuľky.

Skoro všetci účastníci turnaja tipovali za víťaza pána Bernarda, ktorý prešiel celým turnajom bez jedinej straty setu. Avšak vo finále našiel recept proti dobrej hre najstaršieho hráča Jozefa Korčáka.

Finále sa skončilo víťazstvom Jožka Korčáka 2:0. Hráči na prvých štyroch miestach obdržali ceny, ktoré venoval Spolok sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ.

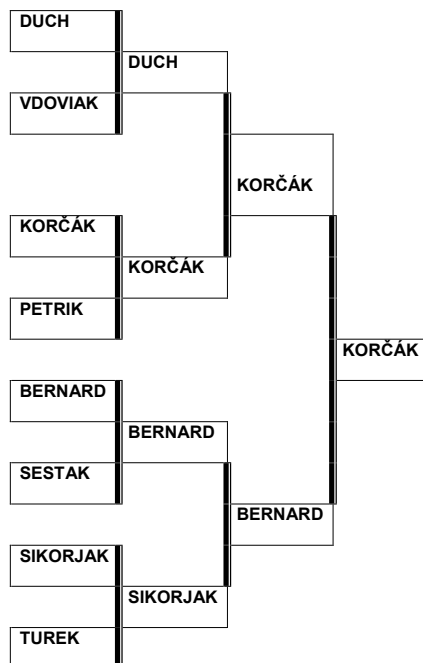
Poradie na prvých štyroch miestach bolo nasledovné:

1. Korčák
2. Bernard
3. Sikorjak
4. Duch

Po skončení turnaja si všetci športovci posedeli a pochutnali na dobrom jedle a občerstvení, ktoré pripravili organizátori turnaja, Ján Zeman a Jozef Korčák.

Na záver sa chcem poďakovať za veľmi dobrú úroveň turnaja všetkým tým, ktorí sa ho zúčastnili. Ďalej sa chcem poďakovať hlavnému duchovnému Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, otcovi, Martinovi Svitani, že nám bol ochotný poskytnúť halu na odohratie tohoto turnaja. Pán Boh zaplat'!

Ján Zeman,
športový referent, New York



Zomrel Jozef M. Biroš

S hlbokým zármutkom oznamujeme, že v utorok, 29. marca 2011, vo veku 84 rokov, sa odobral do večnosti, obklopený prítomnosťou svojej milovanej manželky v Middletowne, Pennsylvánia, USA, dlhoročný priateľ, obetavý americký Slovák, Jozef M. Biroš. Manželka Anna Dubišová Biroš, preživala o to väčší smútok, keď práve v deň jej narodenín si náš Všemohúci Boh povolal jej životného partnera k sebe. Osláv narodenín sa zúčastnili aj bratranec nebohého, Frank Straka spolu so synom Rev. Frankom Strakom z Readingu, PA.



Jedna z posledných fotografií manželov Birošových.

Jozef sa narodil 13. októbra 1926 vo Wilkes-Barre, PA, nebohým rodičom Štefanovi a Alžbete Cicoňovej Birošovej, pochádzajúcich z obce Víťaz na Východnom Slovensku. Nebohý pracoval v The New Cumberland Army Depot, ako počítačový programátor.

Ako sa vyjadrila jeho manželka, Anna, ktorá je rodená Slovenka, Jozef miloval spoločnosť. Rád sa zúčastňoval na schôdzach Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty a jej konvencií. Bol dlhé roky tajomníkom Spolku č. 278 IKSJ v Middletowne, PA. ako aj členom všetkých slovenských fraternalistických organizácií v USA. V roku 2005 na 56. konvencii Združenia slovenských katolíkov v Hazletone, PA obdržal spolu s manželkou Annou vyznamenanie za šírenie katolíckej viery a slovenskej kultúry v Amerike.

Miloval fotografovanie, a to robil z lásky, bez nároku na odmenu. Rád sa zúčastňoval slovenských festivalov, oblečený vždy v kroji spolu s manželkou nosili zástavu pri oltári. Podľa slov Anny, spieval dlhé roky v speváckom zbere kostola Sedembolestnej Panny Márie v Middletowne. Bol široko ďaleko známy svojmu blízkemu vzťahu k tancu. Rád hral golf a učil aj ju svojim „grifom“. Bol jej v mnohom vzorom a hlavne v skromnosti. Bol vždy spokojný s tým, čo mal. Bol veľmi pracovitý a vždy všetko robili spolu. Miloval svoju manželku. Boli spolu 12 rokov a jeho láskavé prejavy svedčili o vzájomnej láske. Bol verný Bohu. Každý deň sa spolu modlili Ruženec, Litánia a iné obľúbené modlitby. Radi spolu chodili do lesa na prechádzky. Výborne jazdil autom a aj preňu bol inštruktorom. Bol prísny, ale aj láskavý. Na vzdialených cestách autom, najprv sa modlili Ruženec a za tým si krátili cestu spoločným spevom. Navštívili spolu mnoho pútnických miest ako napríklad, Lourdes, Fatima, Medžugorie, Guadalupe, Rím, Svätú zem, Jordánsko atď. V posledných rokoch sa väčšinou zdržiavali na Slovensku. Miloval Slovensko a rád sa zaujímal o jeho históriu. Pri každej príležitosti navštívil svoju rodinu na východnom Slovensku, kde nikdy neprišiel s prázdnyimi rukami.

Nebohého Jozefa predišli vo večnosti: jeho prvá manželka, Dorothy Cusick Biros; syn, Joseph T. Biros; zať, Stephen W. Moore; bratia, Stephen Biros, John Biros, Matthew Biros a Bernard Biros; sestry, Sophie Biros a Anna Yatko.

Za nebohým smútiť manželka Anna Dubišová Biros zo Slovenska; jediná dcéra, Susan C. Moore z Camp Hill; brat, Cyril a manžel Margie Biros z Willingboro, N.J. Pozostatky nebohého Jozefa Biroša boli vystavené u pohrebničky Matinček & Daughter Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Middletown, PA.

Pohrebná sväta omša za zosnulého bola obetovaná v utorok, 5. apríla 2011 o 11.00 hodine doobeda, za mohutného zborového spevu v kostole Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, Middletown, PA. Hlavným celebrantom bol Rev. Louis P. Ogden a spolucelebrantom Rev. Frank Straka. So zosnulým sa prišlo na pohrebe rozlúčiť veľké množstvo ľudí zďaleka i zblízka. Brata Birosa pochovali so všetkými vojenskými poctami na cintoríne v Middletowne, PA. Nad hrobom spievali členovia Slovak Heritage Society, Eastern Pennsylvania, Wilkes Barre, po slovensky: "Odpočinutie večné daj mu ó Pane, a Pán večné svetlo nech mu svieti. Nech odpočíva vo svätom pokoji. Amen." Otec Frank Straka sa pomodlil niekoľko modlitieb v slovenčine.

Všetci, ktorí ste poznali nebohého brata Jozefa M. Birosa, nech žije vo vašich srdciach a v modlitbách. Česť jeho pamiatke!



Vernisáž slovenského výtvarníka a fotografa vo Washingtone

Na pôde Veľvyslanectva Slovenskej republiky vo Washingtone sa 24. marca 2011 uskutočnila vernisáž slovenského výtvarníka a fotografa Daniela Brogyányiho.

Na vernisáži sa zúčastnilo množstvo významných hostí z radov US administratívy, diplomatického zboru, slovenskej komunity a washingtonských kultúrnych spolkov. Výstava je súčasťou prebiehajúceho cyklu prezentácie slovenského moderného umenia vo Washingtone a v ďalších mestách Spojených štátov amerických. Prítomní ocenili farebnosť post pop artového zobrazenia okolitého sveta, ktorý umelec predstavil vo svojej kolekcii vyše 40 obrazov.

Výstava bude v priestoroch slovenského veľvyslanectva vo Washingtone k nahliadnutiu pre verejnosť do začiatku mája 2011, kedy sa presunie do New Yorku.

Oznámenia o pripravovaných podujatiach spolkov

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

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 1. mája 2011 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia sa uskutoční polročná členská schôdza v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East, 66th Street v New York City. Na schôdzi bude podaná finančná správa a diskusia o návrhoch na ďalšiu činnosť.

Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa tejto dôležitej schôdzi zúčastnili! Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie.

Ostávame s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Polročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu, č. 16 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu, č. 16 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 22. mája 2011 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City. Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní.

Program schôdze bude zameraný na prípravu plánu činnosti na budúce obdobie a taktiež finančná správa. Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripravia členovia spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Oslava 100-ročnice Združenia slovenských katolíkov v Scrantone, PA

Združenie slovenských katolíkov pripravuje oslavu 100 rokov od svojho vzniku, ktoré sa uskutoční v nedeľu 15. mája 2011 v Scrantone, Pennsylvánia. Hlavná časť osláv sa bude konať v diecéznej katedrále sv. Petra. Koncelebrovanú svätú omšu z tejto príležitosti odslúži biskup Jozef Adamec. Nasledujúci deň sa začne konvencia slovenských katolíkov v hoteli Gennetti's.

Úspešná fašiangová zábava spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New Yorku



Na snímke pri losovaní tomboly zľava: Jozef Juráši ml., Anna Korčák, Mária Jurášiová.

ktorú viedla Anna Korčák a Jozef Juráši mladší. Do tanca vyhrávala rodinná kapela Jozefa Jurášiho „Kontakty“. Všetci prítomní strávili príjemné odpoľudnie v hale kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City, na poslednej zábave pred pôstnym veľkonočným obdobím.

Mária Jurášiová, pokladníčka



V New Yorku sa na Fašiangy veselo zabávalo.

Deň slovenskej štátnosti v Detrote

V nedeľu 13. marca 2011 sa konala Oslava slovenskej štátnosti v Detrote, MI v osadnej hale kostola sv. Cyrila a Metoda. Pripravil ju 34. zbor Slovenskej ligy v Amerike a zúčastnilo sa na nej približne 50 ľudí. Už od roku 1948 si Slováci v Detrote bez prestávky pripomínajú tento dôležitý deň v slovenskej histórii. Na slávnosti účastníci s radosťou privítali delegáciu Slovákov zo susedného Windsoru, Canada. Na zhromaždení sa prečítalo niekoľko pozdravov zo Slovenska z ktorého vyberáme príhovor od exposlanca SNR a NR, Judr. Stanislava Šárossyho, ktorý nasledovne uverejňujeme – Red. JEDNOTA.

Slávnostné zhromaždenie 34. zboru kráľa Svätopluka Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Detroit, Michigan, USA.

Vážené dámy, vážení páni!

Je mi ctou, že môžem pozdraviť Vaše slávnostné zhromaždenie, na ktorom si pripomínate vznik slovenskej štátnosti.

Slovenská štátna samostatnosť sa zrodila z prirodzeného práva slovenského národa na vlastný život. Zápas Slovákov o dôstojný národný život má vyše tisícročnú tradíciu a začal sa už našim vstupom medzi historické národy. Dôkazom toho je Samova ríša (623-658), prvý štátny útvar starých Slovákov nazvaný v historickej frankej tzv. Fredegarovej kronike Regnum Sclavorum – Kráľovstvo Slovákov.

Naše snahy o svojbytný národnostný život sa prejavili v dávnej minulosti za života vládcov Rastislava a Svätopluka a sú doložené aj v diele našich vierozvestcov – apoštolov svätých Cyrila a Metoda, ktorí nám priniesli písmená pre náš jazyk – jazyk, ktorý sa stal štvrtým bohoslužobným jazykom sveta, ďalej vytvorením cirkevnej provincie potvrdenej rímskym pápežom, a najmä vytvorením mocnej Svätoplukovej ríše.

Ako štátnotvorný národ žijúci na vlastnom území mali Slováci určitú formu štátnosti aj v Česko-Slovenskej republike, avšak vlastnú štátnu samostatnosť – I. Slovenskú republiku – si v novodobých dejinách vytvorili v roku 1939 a zvrchovane vládnucím národom sa Slováci – ako subjekt medzinárodného práva – stali až obnovením svojej štátnej suverenity 1. januára 1993, keď vznikla II. Slovenská republika.

Každý kultúrny národ si zachováva pamäť na svoje počiatky na hodnoty dôležité pre jeho históriu. Aj my, Slováci, máme také dedičstvo a musíme si ho znovu a znovu obnovovať a oživovať.

K národnej a štátnej samostatnosti Slovákov viedla dlhá a mnohokrát i komplikovaná cesta. Je preto namieste vyjadriť úprimný a hlboký obdiv k mnohým vynikajúcim osobnostiam slovenského života od úsvitu našich dejín až po súčasnosť, ktorí sa zaslúžili o slovenskú svojbytnosť. Boli medzi nimi nepochybne naši králi, kniežatá svetské i cirkevné, generáli, kňazi, národní mučeníci, vedci, zmlatci i politici. Lenže náš najväčší obdiv a úcta patria pre mnohým generáciám našich predkov a statočnému ľudu Slovenska, ktorému vďačíme za všetko. Aj za to, že sme ako národ nezahynuli, že sme si uchovali jazyk, náboženské a kultúrne tradície, že sme prežili ťažké a dlhé obdobie sociálneho a národného útlaku.

Vďaka treba vysloviť aj zahraničným Slovákom, mnohým generáciám príslušníkov slovenskej emigrácie v USA, Kanade a ostatnom svete, ktorí najmä v čase nadvlády čechoslovakizmu kriesili a udržiavali vo svete myšlienku slovenskej samostatnosti. Oni v ďalekej cudzine, ďaleko od rodnej zeme bojovali v mnohorakých formách za slovenskú nezávislosť, oni vo svete pripomínali vplyvným zahraničným politickým kruhom, že v strede Európy žije národ, ktorému sa odopiera vlastná štátnosť, oni nám pripomínali povinnosť vytrvať v boji za dovršenie a dosiahnutie národnej a štátnej slobody. Aj ich pričinením boli úspešne zavŕšené dlhoročné emancipačné snahy slovenského národa. Aj vďaka tomu je dnes Slovenská republika zvrchovaná, demokratický a právny štát, v ktorej žije suverénny slovenský národ spolu s príslušníkmi národnostných menšín na základe demokratickej Ústavy SR.

Bratia a sestry!

Roduverní Slováci a Slovenky!

Dovoľte mi, aby som svoj pozdravný príhovor ukončil modlitbou pátra prof. Antona Hlinku, SDB, ktorý je menovec Oica národa Msgr. Andreja Hlinku. Modlitba s názvom druhého desaťročia II. Slovenskej republiky prvýkrát zaznela na začiatku jedenásteho roku jej samostatnosti v roku 2003:

Nebeský náš Otec!

Prichádzame k Tebe s prosbou, aby si ostal uprostred nášho národa a viedol nás – jednotlivcov a celý národ – úskaliaми života.

Drž nad nami ochrannú ruku tak ako po stáročia v minulosti. Len Ty si naša nádej.

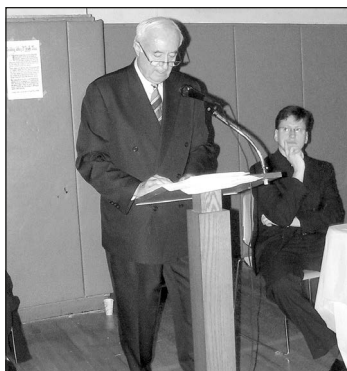
Bože, Ty nesmrteľný vládca, prebývaj medzi nami ako naša všestranná opora. Ostaň s nami ako prozreteľný Boh a Otec, a my budeme Tvojím verným ľudom. Amen.

JUDr. Stanislav Šárossy
exposlanec SNR a NR SR
nositeľ štátneho vyznamenania
Radu Andreja Hlinku I. triedy
a zástupca 34. zboru kráľa Svätopluka
Slovenskej ligy v Amerike na Slovensku

Veľký Šariš, marec 2011

Oslava slovenskej štátnosti v New Yorku

Pokračovanie zo str. 24



Hlavný rečník, predseda I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy v NYC, Milan R. Dait počas prejavu a prizerajúci za stolom je dôstojný otec Štefan Chanás.

Oslavu tiež pozdravil svojím príhovorom predseda Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Daniel F. Tanzone. Ako je tradíciou Henrieta H. Daitová zarecitovala dve básne: „K pamiatke prezidenta Dr. Jozefa Tisu od Jozefa Smáka a „Mor ho!“ od Sama Chalúpku.

Na záver tajomníčka Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Nina Holá vyhodnotila podujatie, poďakovala sa usporiadajúcim organizáciám a hlavnému rečníkovi, Milanovi R. Daitovi za jeho hodnotný prehľad o boji Slovákov za národné sebaurčenie, a taktiež prítomným za dobrú účasť na tejto oslave. Na koniec podujatia sa za doprovodu hudobnej skupiny Kontakty zaspievalo God Bless America a Hej Slováci. Po oslave sa podávalo slovenské pohostenie.

Vďaka za túto krásnu a vydarenú oslavu patrí manželom Bilikovým, Daitovým, Šulákovým, Jurášiovým, Renáte Jurášiovej, Márii Božekovej, Milke Matfiakovej a ostatným ochotným členom slovenských spolkov.

Henrieta H. Daitová
tajomníčka I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Poštové známky** venované Majstrovstvám sveta 2011 v ľadovom hokeji vydala nedávno Slovenská pošta, a. s. v. Ide o dve známky, sú na nich vyobrazení hokejový brankár a útočník Pavol Demitra, ktorý dáva počas samostatného nájazdu gól na brankára. Prichádza obdobie, keď celý svet upriami svoju pozornosť na Slovensko do dejiska 75. majstrovstiev sveta 2011 IIHF (International Ice Hockey Federation). Súčasne so známkami bude vydaná obálka prvého dňa (FDC) s pečiatkou FDC s dátumom 25. marca a domicilom Bratislava. Na FDC je zobrazený hokejista s hokejkou a pukom na ľadovej ploche štadióna. Autorom výtvarného návrhu známky, FDC, ako aj FDC pečiatky je Igor Benca.

• **Slovensko-nemecká** obchodná a priemyselná komora (SNOPK) v marci zorganizovala pre zástupcov podnikateľskej sféry z domova a zahraničia návštevu viacerých výrobných spoločností s nemeckou majetkovou účasťou situovaných v mestách Michalovce a Košice. Cieľom stretnutia je predstavenie východoslovenského regiónu potenciálnym investorm a naštartovanie vzájomnej spolupráce medzi domácimi a zahraničnými výrobcami. Ako prví navštívili zástupcovia pozvaných subjektov firmu Michatek v Michalovciach, ktorá je dodávateľom komponentov pre domáce spotrebiče a výrobcou mechanických a dekoratívnych dielov z nerezovej ocele, plastu a hliníka. Je zároveň producentom elektrických a plynových spotrebičov pre kuchyne.

• **Bránami** Letiska M. R. Štefánika - Airport Bratislava (BTS) prešlo vo februári tohto roka 74,570 cestujúcich. Pri medzročnom porovnaní tak ich počet poklesol o 17 %, teda 12,546 osôb. Vyplýva to zo štatistik BTS. "Február sa stal najslabším mesiacom v roku," podotkol prevádzkový riaditeľ bratislavského letiska Juraj Mitka. Výrazne sa na tomto poklese podpísala situácia v severnej Afrike. Do letovísk v tejto oblasti letisko nevybavilo ani jeden let. Ďalším dôvodom bol aj iný letový poriadok, ktorý mal počas zimy zavedený Ryanair. O takmer 50 % poklesol aj počet cestujúcich na vnútroštátnych linkách, medzročne o 1,527.

• **Mladých** bez práce má Slovensko najviac v únii. Každý tretí mladý Slovák zostáva bez práce. Situácia na Slovensku je najhoršia spomedzi štátov Európskej únie. Kým doteraz sa vina dávala najmä hospodárskej kríze, odborníci varujú, že zlepšenie sa ani v blízkej budúcnosti nečrtá. Podľa Štatistického úradu stúpol aj vlani počet tých, ktorí zamestnanie ešte nikdy nemali. Len v poslednom štvrtroku ich pribudlo asi 7,500. Najväčší nárast nezamestnanosti vykázala veková skupina 15- až 24-ročných. Aj údaje z Ústredia práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny potvrdzujú, že nezamestnanosť mladých je dnes najhoršia od roku 2003.

• **Najväčší** internetový obchod na svete - americká spoločnosť Amazon ide na Slovensko. Neotvorí však e-shop, ale kontaktné centrum, ktoré im bude zabezpečovať zákaznícku podporu. Zistilo sa, že spoločnosť už začala i s vyhľadávaním svojich budúcich zamestnancov. Investícia by mala odštartovať svoju činnosť už 1. mája. Spoločnosť Amazon patrí podľa magazínu Fortune medzi 500 najbohatších spoločností sveta. Ponúka milióny rôznych druhov tovarov, patrí medzi priekopníkov tzv. e-commerce, nákupov cez internetové aplikácie.

• **Nový** závod na výrobu turbodúchadiel, ktorý sa rozhodla pri Prešove postaviť americká spoločnosť Honeywell, by mal začať vyrábať v druhej polovici roka 2012. Uviedol to nedávno na prešovskej radnici finančný riaditeľ divízie dopravných systémov spoločnosti Honeywell Peter Bracke, ktorý spoločne s ministrom hospodárstva SR Jurajom Miškovom informoval o vstupe investora do priemyselného parku. Spoločnosť v priebehu nasledujúcich piatich rokov očakáva nárast využitia týchto komponentov v automobilovom priemysle.

• **Ministerstvá** zdravotníctva a financií sa dohodli na spustení prípravnej fázy elektronického zdravotníctva tzv. e-Health. Prípravná fáza, ktorá sa začala 23. marca a potrvá do 30. júna, má zodpovedať na kľúčové strategické otázky a zabezpečiť finančné a organizačné predpoklady budúcej implementácie programu implementácie e-Health. Program vychádza z novej stratégie projektu, ktorú rezort zdravotníctva pripravil začiatkom roka s cieľom eliminovať riziká a odstrániť nedostatky pôvodnej stratégie. Tie mal odhaliť audit oboch rezortov. Nová stratégia predpokladá implementáciu e-Health v niekoľkých fázach a jej zámerom je zabezpečiť urýchlenie zavedenia a sprístupnenia elektronických služieb v zdravotníctve.

• **V sobotu** (9. apríla 2011) stúpila cena benzínu na slovenských čerpacích staniách približne o 1.5 centa na liter. Priemerná cena najpredávanejšieho benzínu 95 Natural sa na niektorých pumpách vyšplhala až k sume 1.480 eura za liter. Benzín momentálne Slováci tankujú najdrahší v histórii. Platí to od začiatku roka, keď zdraželi ceny benzínov približne o 5 až 6 centov za liter.

• **Na hokejových** fanúšikov čakajú ziskuchtiví taxikári. Etický kódex, ktorý nedávno vydala samospráva slovenského hlavného mesta, by mal zabrániť v tom, aby taxikári oklamali zahraničných turistov, ktorí na Slovensko prídu v čase Majstrovstiev sveta v hokeji. Samospráva tiež dúfa, že tak zabráni aj neprímeranému zvýšeniu cien v baroch a reštauráciách. Viacero taxikárov však tvrdí, že kódex nebude mať žiadny účinok. Väčšina taxikárov sa na majstrovstvá sveta chystá tak, že si prestaví taxameter a od zahraničných zákazníkov bude pýtať päť eur na kilometer. Za jednu jazdu z bratislavskej Hlavnej stanice k hokejovému štadiónu tak môžu zarobiť až 15 eur.

• **Obľúbené** stravné poukážky na Slovensku môžu skončiť. Ministerstvo hospodárstva pod vedením Juraja Miškova (SaS) chce, aby stravné lístky, ktoré dostávajú zamestnanci od zamestnávateľa, mohli nahradiť hotovosť. V súčasnosti využíva gastrolístky na Slovensku viac ako 800,000 ľudí. Podľa prieskumu, ktorý robila spoločnosť GfK, si až 91% z 1,010 opýtaných ľudí myslí, že stravné lístky sú štandardný benefit zo strany zamestnávateľa. Z výsledkov navyše vyplýva, že ak by sa nahradili finančným príspevkom ku mzde, až 49% zamestnancov by tieto peniaze použilo na iné účely ako na teplý obed v práci.

• **Východ** dá prácu stovkám Slovákov. Celosvetový výrobca automobilových komponentov Faurecia, ktorý zamestnáva vo svete v 200 závodoch 62-tisíc ľudí, začína v Košiciach s náborm nových zamestnancov. K súčasným 330 pracovníkom pribudne ešte 700. Dôvodom je spustenie novej výroby. „Jej začiatok plánujeme na leto tohto roku“, spresnila personálna riaditeľka Faurecie Slovakia Nora Baťová. Podnik investuje do novej výroby do konca roka viac ako osem miliónov eur. Závod bude dodávať interiérové časti áut pre značky a automobily Audi, Daimler, Ford, Jaguar, Land Rover, PSA Peugeot Citroën, Volkswagen a Volvo. „Hlavný dôvod, prečo sa v poslednom čase investície na východe Slovenska rozširovali, je stále lacná pracovná sila, jej výraznejší nedostatok v porovnaní so západom Slovenska, ako aj štruktúra tejto pracovnej sily“, vysvetlil vedúci partner KPMG Ľuboš Vančo.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Na oslave 70. narodenín prezidenta SR Gašparoviča sa zišlo viac ako sto prominentov

Bratislava (TASR) - Viac ako sto prominentných hostí sa 31. marca zišlo vo vládnom hoteli Bôrik v Bratislave, aby oslávilo 70. narodeniny prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča. Medzi prítomnými nechýbal predseda parlamentu Richard Sulík, premiérka Iveta Radičová, podpredsedovia parlamentu, členovia vlády SR, predsedovia politických strán, šéfovia štátnych inštitúcií, predsedovia vyšších územných celkov, predstavitelia samospráv, cirkví, odborov, médií, podnikatelia, umelci či športovci.

Po úvodnom prípitku vedúceho Kancelárie prezidenta SR Milana Čiča sa pozvaným hosťom prihovoril oslávenc, aby poďakoval za všetky blahoželanania a dary, ktoré dostal. O dobrú náladu sa počas večera starali fujaristi zo stredného Slovenska. Zaspieval prezidentovi prišli aj operní speváci Jolana Fogašová a Martin Babjak.

Na večierku nemohli chýbať ani špeciality. Hostia mohli ochutnať tradičné jedlá vrátane pečeného prasiatka. Podávali sa slovenské vína, ktoré osobne vyberal prezidentský pár. Súkromnú oslavu významného životného jubilea v kruhu rodiny už prezident absolvoval v deň svojich narodenín, v nedeľu 27. marca.

Prezident Gašparovič sa narodil 27. marca 1941 v Poltári. Je absolventom práva na Právnickej fakulte Univerzity Komenského (UK) v Bratislave bol dlhé roky pedagógom na tejto vysokej škole. Od roku 1968 tam prednášal na Katedre trestného práva, kriminológie a kriminalistiky. S prestávkami až do roku 2004 odovzdával teoretické vedomosti budúcim právnikom na tejto vysokej škole. V rokoch 1990-1992 bol generálnym prokurátorom ČSFR v Prahe. V roku 1992 sa stal poslancom Slovenskej národnej rady (SNR) za Hnutie za demokratické Slovensko (HZDS) a v zákonodarnom zbore pôsobil desať rokov. V rokoch 1992-1998 bol predsedom SNR, neskôr Národnej rady (NR) SR. V marci až októbri 1998 ho poverili niektorými právomocami prezidenta SR. Podieľal sa na vzniku Ústavy SR. Po odchode z HZDS v júli 2002 a po založení nového politického subjektu Hnutie za demokraciu (HZD), na ktorého čele stál, pôsobil ako nezávislý poslanec NR SR.

Do úradu slovenského prezidenta ho inaugurovali 15. júna 2004 a o päť rokov neskôr znovu na druhé funkčné obdobie hlavy štátu. Ivan Gašparovič sa ako prvý prezident v histórii SR 15. júna 2009 ujal úradu druhýkrát po sebe.



Prezidentský pár.



FOTO TASR - Pavol Ďurčo

V predveľkonočnom období a počas Veľkej noci výstavné priestory kaštieľa v Radoli na Kysuciach patria výtvarným prácam Jozefa Práznovského zo Žiliny. Vystavuje tu 250 predmetov viazucich sa k tomuto najväčšiemu kresťanskému sviatku. K zaujímavým dielkam patrí aj krížová cesta v slepačom vajčisku, kraslice s osobnosťami zo svetovej histórie ako boli Napoleon Bonaparte, M.R. Štefánik, František Jozef I. a mnohí ďalší. Na snímke vystavená expozícia 7. apríla 2011.

In Radola near Kysucké Nové Mesto, there is a unique display of decorated Easter eggs designed by Jozef Práznovsky of Žilina. Inside the eggs are Stations of the Cross or miniature statues of historic personalities such as Naopleon Bonaparte, Franz Josef I, Milan Štefanik and others.

Slovenskí biskupi vyzvali veriacich, aby sa hlásili ku katolíckej viere

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

V scenári sa vychádza z historických dokumentov, ktoré sú známe pod názvom Žitie Konštantína a Metoda. "Film má ambíciu byť verný historickým udalostiam," podotkol Rábek. Producentom filmu je Ján Oparty, scenár pripravuje Ondrej Šulaj. Režisér je Ivo Trajkov z Macedónska. Snímka by sa mala natáčať najmä na miestach, kde sa Cyril a Metod v minulosti pohybovali. "Film by mal byť uvedený v roku 2013, kedy sa bude sláviť príchod vierozvestcov na Slovensko," pripomenul biskup.



Oslava slovenskej štátnosti, 13. marca 2011 v New York City. Na snímke zľava sediaci: Henrieta H. Daitová, Nina Holá a Milan R. Dait. Stojaci zľava: Jozef Juráši, Daniel F. Tanzone, Ladislav Korček a Jozef Bilík.

Oslava slovenskej štátnosti v New Yorku

I. Zbor Slovenskej ligy v meste New Yorku za spolupráce Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, Spolku sv. Štefana, Spolku sv. Matúša, Slovenského Katolíckeho Sokola a ostatných fraternalistických slovenských spolkov usporiadal Oslavu slovenskej štátnosti, ktorá sa konala 13. marca 2011 o 1:00 hod. odpoľudnia v spoločenskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 411 East 66th Street, NYC za bohatej účasti Slovákov z New York City, New Jersey, Connecticut a Pennsylvánie.

Oslava sa začala slávnostnou svätou omšou za nášho Prvého prezidenta Dr. Jozefa Tisu, ktorú odsľúžil dôstojný otec Štefan Chanas v Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC. Pre nás Slovákov v Amerike sú oslavy slovenskej štátnosti už tradičným podujatím, kde si pripomíname, že boj za sebaurčenie slovenského národa trval počas storočí a často sa zdala predstava slovenského národa len neskutočným snom. Napokon bola história pre Slovákov a slovenský národ v minulom storočí priaznivá, kde Slováci dosiahli uskutočnenie svojich snov. Najskôr 14. marca 1939, kedy bol vyhlásený Prvý slovenský štát na čele s prezidentom Dr. Jozefom Tisom a po mnohých ďalších bojoch za samostatnosť, po druhýkrát kedy bola vyhlásená Slovenská republika 1. januára 1993.

Oslava pokračovala v Spoločenskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC modlitbou a zaspievaním Americkéj a Slovenskej štátnej hymny za doprovodu slovenskej hudobno-spevackej skupiny Jurášiových „Kontakty“.

Slávnostným rečníkom na tejto oslave bol predseda I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy v NYC, Milan R. Dait. Na rozdiel od minulého roku, keď sa zamerával na obdobie od Košického vládného programu v 1945 roku až do vyhlásenia Slovenskej republiky 1. januára 1993, zamerával sa na obdobie boja za samostatnosť od I. svetovej vojny, vyhlásenia I. Slovenského štátu 14. marca 1939, až do exilu slovenskej vlády v 1945.

Pokračovanie na str. 22

Mojej mame – ku Dňu Matiek

Umy ma slzami Tvojich milých radostí
a pohľad, ešte raz moju tvár,
nech pocítim okamih mojej mladosti,
ako kedysi dávno, keď som bol malý
chlapec, To bol pre mňa ten, najkrajší dar.

Aj dnes, nesiem Ti kvietok, malú kytičku,
Ty zostaneš navždy mojou dobrou mamou
v mojom srdiečku.

Ako sa Ti odmením, za Tvoju krásnu lásku?
Iba modlitbou za Teba. Nie nemám otázku.
Viem, kde si, Stvoriteľ! Ťa už dávno odmenil.
Si tam, kde nie sú slzy, starosti, žiaľ a bôl,
On je náš Pán, On všetko na dobré premenil.

Ja viem a som si istý, že raz budeme spolu
sláviť „DEŇ MATIEK“.

Jozef Smák

Slovenskí biskupi vyzvali veriacich, aby sa hlásili ku katolíckej viere

Donovaly (TASR) - Katolícka cirkev počas veľkonočnej liturgie 24. apríla vyzývala veriacich aby sa pri najbližšom sčítaní obyvateľstva aktívne hlásili k svojmu vierovyznaniu. Služiť má na to Pastiersky list, ktorý kňazi čítali namiesto homílie. Informovali o tom biskupi po rokovaní 68. plenárneho zasadania Konferencie biskupov Slovenska (KBS) 29. marca na Donovaloch.

Podľa predsedu KBS Stanislava Zvolenského list sa mal čítať vo všetkých rímskokatolíckych a gréckokatolíckych kostoloch na Slovensku. Biskupi si ale netrúfli odhadnúť, koľko ľudí sa ku katolíkom tento raz prihlási, veria ale, že sa prejavi každý, kto je pokrstený.

Biskupi sa okrem iných tém zaoberali aj prípravou historického veľkofilmu o svätých Cyrilovi a Metodovi. Podľa Františka Rábeka, KBS je myšlienkovým iniciátorom tohto projektu. Scenár filmu je v súčasnosti v pripomienkovom konaní. Odhadované náklady na jeho realizáciu sú 8 miliónov eur. Projekt by malo podporiť aj Ministerstvo kultúry SR, prostredníctvom Audiovizuálneho fondu.

Pokračovanie na str. 23

Hokeyové MS 2011 - historická akcia na Slovensku

Bratislava (TASR) - Slovenská premiérka Iveta Radičová (SDKÚ-DS) ocenila počas návštevy 12. apríla rekonštruovaného mestského zimného štadióna Ondreja Nepelu v Bratislave, že ide o moderný športový stánok s dvoma tréningovými plochami a s nadštandardne vybavenými priestormi pre športovcov. V jeho priestoroch ako aj v Košiciach sa bude konať od 29. apríla 2011 svetový hokeyový šampionát.

Pred piatimi rokmi sa na kongrese Medzinárodnej hokeyovej federácie (IIHF) rozhodlo, že Slovensko na prelome apríla a mája 2011 usporiada turnaj A-kategórie MS. Teda nielen najvýznamnejšiu akciu jeho samostatnej športovej histórie, ale aj najrozsiahljšie podujatie krajiny vôbec. Ešte nikdy v dejinách SR nepricestovalo pod Tatry naraz toľko turistov-fanúšikov, športovcov so sprievidom, hostí a médií, teda tisícky akreditovaných a desaťtisíce ostatných účastníkov.

Na snímke zľava minister školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu SR Eugen Jurzyca, premiérka SR Iveta Radičová a primátor mesta Bratislava Milan Ftáčnik počas kontrolnej prehliadky zimného štadióna Ondreja Nepelu 12. apríla 2011 v Bratislave.

Slovak Prime Minister Iveta Radic along with Minister of Sports Eugen Jurzyca and Bratislava Mayor Milan Ftacnik open the newly remodeled hockey arena Ondrej Nepela in Bratislava on April 12, 2011. The new facility meets all the requirements for a modern sports arena. The arena is ready for the World Hockey Championship to be begin April 29. 2011.

