



Jednota

THE UNION

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

Volume 123

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2014

NUMBER 5902

- From the Office of The Vice President -

Attention All Recommenders: Win up to \$500 in the FCSU's Convention Cash Drawing



Each new contract on which you are the recommender for any FCSU product – insurance or annuity – between May 1, 2014 and August 15, 2014, will automatically enter you into our Convention Cash Drawing.

What's a recommender? For those of you unfamiliar with the term, a recommender is simply an FCSU member who recommends, or sells, an FCSU product. It's not that hard to do. The FCSU has an excellent portfolio of insurance and annuity products that you can tell family, friends, neighbors, church and club members about. FCSU forms and applications are available on line at www.fcsu.com.

Now, for a limited time, you have the possibility of getting an additional cash bonus when you sign them up. Your name will be entered into the Convention Cash Drawing as many times as you produce a signed contract. Names will be drawn at random, but the entries are limitless.

The more you sell, the more chances you have to win one of 5 cash prizes:

- First name drawn - \$500
- Second name drawn - \$250
- Third name drawn - \$100
- Fourth name drawn - \$100
- Fifth name drawn - \$100

The names will be drawn during our 50th Quadrennial Convention, which will be held in Philadelphia, PA, from August 23 – 27, 2014. You do not have to be present to win. Winners will be announced from the convention floor and also published in a post-convention issue of Jednota.

All contracts need to be postmarked to the Home Office no later than **August 15, 2014**. No exceptions. All contracts must be approved and issued to be eligible to receive prizes.

So start today, and keep those entries coming! Send in your signed contracts to:

FCSU Corporate Center
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
Independence, OH 44131

Until next time, good luck and God Bless,
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
National Vice President



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FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
50TH QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION



To Do List:

1. Save the dates: **AUGUST 23-27, 2014**
2. Reserve your room at 800.325.3535. Discount code: **FCSU**
3. Fill out **BUS or TROLLEY TOUR** form!
4. Fill out **SPIRIT OF PHILADELPHIA** form!
5. **Return forms to the Home Office by JUNE 13, 2014!**
6. Have a question? Call us at 800.533.6682
7. Look forward to the Convention!

The Chewy Challenge:



Check out these rates!

FCSU ANNUITY AND IRA INTEREST RATES AS OF APRIL 1, 2014

- 3.60%** (APY) – 8 Year Flexible Premium Annuity or IRA
- 3.20%** (APY) - 6 Year Flexible Premium Annuity or IRA
- 3.10%** (APY) - Six Year Fixed Rate Annuity or IRA

Call today ... and get a **FREE Chewy Čuvač** with a minimum deposit of \$10,000 on any one of the above products. *Effective on deposits received by July 31, 2014.*



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FCSU@FCSU.COM
WWW.FCSU.COM

Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies, Father Edward Mazich, O.S. B., Father Killian Loch, O.S.B.

May 4, 2014

Third Sunday of Easter

Luke 24: 13-35

The disciples walking on the way to Emmaus in the late afternoon of Easter Sunday did not realize that they were speaking in person with Jesus. The fact that his appearance was different to them is clear; after all, they would hardly fail to recognize such a personal friend and guide, yet their delayed recognition goes beyond visual images and embraces a broader human tendency to fail to see the things that ought to be the clearest to us. They finally recognize him when he takes bread and breaks it to share with them, representing the Eucharist which he had previously shared with his apostles on the evening of Holy Thursday, immediately preceding his passion and death.



Fr. Edward Mazich,
O.S.B.

The breaking of the Eucharistic bread is what connects the disciples' experience of Jesus after the resurrection to what they knew of him before his death—it is the source and the focus of their faith in this defining event of Jesus' life, revolving around the resurrection as the hinge of their belief. As such, the Eucharist and the resurrection are inseparable, each one giving meaning to and confirming the other in a beautiful exchange of grace.

In the first reading for mass this day, from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter urges the crowds to believe in Jesus, now risen to new life, noting how God has exalted Jesus far above David through the power of the resurrection. Peter understands that his almost entirely Jewish audience gathered in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost will esteem David and his place in their religious piety. He appeals to Isaiah, Joel, and the Psalms in order to exhort them to believe that God had raised Jesus from the dead, and thus exalted him as the true Messiah and superior of David—who remained in his tomb.

During the Eucharistic Prayer the entire assembly at mass rejoices in singing the memorial acclamation: "When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory", thus affirming our faith in the bond between the resurrection and the Eucharist and acclaiming Jesus as the true Son of David.

The second reading from the First Letter of Peter goes beyond initial belief in the resurrection and describes the way in which Christians ought to respond to the resurrection in terms of their way of life. "You were ransomed... with the precious blood of Christ" we are reminded, and we therefore have a responsibility to live in a manner worthy of the one who redeemed us at so great a cost. When we partake of the broken bread at mass we must live from that moment on in imitation of the selfless love of Jesus so that we may also share in his resurrection when he comes again in glory.

Finally the gospel account of Jesus accompanying the disciples on their way to Emmaus confronts us with the resurrection in terms of recognizing the Risen One in the breaking of the bread in our midst, reminding us that we do not always see what is obvious. When we gather this third Sunday of Easter to celebrate together the Eucharist of the Lord, we should

remember that through this sacramental action of the Christian community Christ becomes present in our midst and "stays with us". If we trust in God who raised Jesus from the dead, and live as though we truly believe what we profess in the creed, we will need no longer ask each other "Were not our hearts burning within us?", but will be able to proclaim, "The Lord has truly been raised...and has been made known to us in the breaking of the bread".

May 11, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Gospel John 10:1-10

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday because on this Sunday we hear the Gospel in which Jesus teaches us about the Good Shepherd. In addition to the Good Shepherd I see two other images that can be looked at, the Lamb of God and the Good Sheep. This gives us three images in the Gospel, the Good Shepherd, the Lamb of God and the Good Sheep.

This passage from John's Gospel takes place when Jesus is in the area of Jerusalem teaching and performing great deeds. He is preparing to celebrate the Jewish Feast of the Dedication of the Temple and gives this teaching after the leaders gave such a difficult time to the man born blind who Jesus healed. He is responding to their leadership that seems less concerned about the welfare of the people (sheep) and more concerned with maintaining their places of honor and control over the people.

Jesus tells the people about the Good Shepherd. His qualities are that of humility and service, and his motive is care for the sheep. The Good Shepherd calls his sheep by name, and his sheep recognize his voice. The Good Shepherd is first and foremost concerned with the welfare of his sheep, even more than his own welfare. It is obvious to us that Jesus is the Good Shepherd and throughout the last two millennia He has been portrayed as holding a sheep in numerous works of art. It is consoling to know the depth of love Christ has for each one of us. He ultimately showed us how deep it is when he put our redemption ahead of his life as he died upon the cross for us.

In addition to looking at Jesus as the Good Shepherd, one can also look at him as one of the sheep. For when the Good Shepherd laid down his life for the sheep he himself became a sheep. At Mass we pray the Lamb of God as part of the Communion rite. The Jewish Passover practice was to sacrifice the Passover lambs on the altar in the temple. These lambs would serve as the main dish of the Passover Dinner. This was an annual sacrifice to recall God delivering the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. On the Cross Jesus is the Passover Lamb. The Lamb of God is slain once and for all for our redemption. Through Jesus death on the cross we are set free from sin and given the opportunity to enter in the glory of his kingdom.

Throughout the Easter Season we celebrate not only the death of the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, but also his victory over sin and death. It is this victory we are called to savor during the Easter Season. Christ's victory is our redemption. The Gospel of the Good Shepherd teaches us how to embrace the gift of redemption by hearing and recognizing the voice of the Good Shepherd. There are numerous voices calling us to believe and to practice things that might seem nice, but are not truly of the Lord. We need to tune our ears and hearts into recognizing the voice of truth that comes from Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Just as Jesus is the Good Shepherd, we have the call to be Good Sheep. Men and women who are able to recognize the voice of the Lord and to faithfully follow him.



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY OF THE WEEK 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 7	MONDAY, APR 28
WEDNESDAY, MAY 21	MONDAY, MAY 12
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11	MONDAY, JUNE 2

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

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First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
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2013 Annual Report of the National Vice-President

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

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

Membership

As you will see by our reports, the First Catholic Slovak Union is financially and fraternally sound. Our total insurance in force increased by 1 1/2 million over 2012. The annuity income was over 20 million in 2013. Our assets increased 31 million over the year before and we had an increase in surplus of 2 million.

As you know, one of the most important phase of our society is new membership, which brings in premium income. We needed an increased sales force to compliment our branch recommenders. This is what we have been working on – sales agents. To date we have 172 under contract. We will go into detail on these items when we get into marketing.

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

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

Congratulations to the society's TOP 10 Producers by Amount of Insurance Sold for the 2013 Membership Campaign.

1. James R. Marmol
2. Henry J. Pochily
3. Dorothy J. Petrus
4. Cluey Sandy
5. Michael E. Lako
6. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
7. Joseph T. Scavina
8. Karianne R. Barnes
9. Frances Tarquinio
10. Audrey J. Balazik (tied)
11. Florence Sprock (tied)
12. Gregory Petrasek (tied)

Congratulations to the society's TOP 10 Proposers by Amount of Annuity/IRA/Park Money brought in for the 2013 Campaign.

1. Edward Fibbi
2. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
3. Audrey J. Balazik
4. Robert J. Kopco
5. William L. Fedor
6. Roger T. Soltis
7. Florence Matta
8. Jacquelyn Bobby
9. George J. Yuricek
10. Rosemary Deliman

Congratulations to the society's TOP 10 Insurance/Annuity Proposers by Total Points for the 2013 Membership Campaign.

1. Edward Fibbi
2. Frances Tarquinio
3. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
4. James Marmol
5. Audrey J. Balazik
6. Vicki Lynn Schaub
7. Kenneth A. Arendt
8. Robert J. Kopco
9. Bella Ann Burchan
10. Jacquelyn Bobby

Congratulations to the society's TOP 10 Proposers by the Number of Insurance Policies Sold for the year 2013.

1. Dorothy J. Petrus
2. Michael E. Lako
3. Vicki Lynn Schaub
4. Audrey J. Balazik
5. Diana Voytek
6. Patricia Stoker
7. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
8. Martha Zavada Wojcik
9. James R. Marmol
10. Arlo H. Meeker

To each and everyone who signed a member and/or sent in an Annuity/IRA/Park Money contract during the year 2013. My thanks and Congratulations for a Job Well Done!



Andrew R. Harcar Sr.

2103 Annual Report of the National Treasurer

Presented March 21 – 22, 2014

National Chaplain Thomas Nasta, President Andrew Rajec, Officers and Board of Directors:

The following are the activities I attended during 2013:

I have attended all meetings of the Board of Directors called by President Rajec.

I have attended Pittsburgh District Meetings and Branch 38 meetings.

During the Branch and District Meetings I reported on action taken by the Board on various subjects, such as any changes on annuity rates or any changes on insurance offerings. I answered any questions our members may have in our Society or if possible in any other Society.

During the Lenten season I attend various fish fries being sponsored by the Catholic Churches in the area.

I attended the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress Annual Meeting held in Meadowlands, PA.

I attended the Pittsburgh District Annual Father's Day Luncheon. I was also a volunteer at the Pittsburgh District Father's Day Luncheon. While working at that job, I met and exchanged friendly conversation with many members, and in many cases from various branches of the FCSU who were attending the Luncheon.

As President of Jednota, Inc., I attended at least two and sometimes more often meetings in Middletown, Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Independence, OH, along with Regis Brekosky, President of Jednota Properties.

On March 17, 2013 I attended a meeting of Jednota, Inc. and Jednota Properties at the Wyndham Hotel in Pittsburgh. At that time a donation was made from Jednota Properties and subsequently to the Jednota, Inc., and then to the FCSU in the amount of \$150,000.

I am pleased to report that all financials and other reports as required by the various states where the First Catholic Slovak Union is licensed to do business have all been properly filed by March 1, 2014.

Now is the time of the year to review the investment climate for the year 2014. Interest rates, specifically on bond investments during the past three years still remain low. International markets, and particularly the economies of some European nations, specifically the tension between the West and Russia are cause for concern.

The Dow Jones industrial average slid slightly to end at 16,065.67. The Standard and Poor's index closed at 1,841.13. The Nasdaq composite finished at 4,245.40. Even so, the S&P index ended the week down less than 2 percent from a record high reached the previous Friday.

Our investment portfolio continues to do well diversified as emphasis shifted to shorter maturities; as a result, the emphasis in the past two years has been diverted from FNMA and FHLMC bonds to other security venues, such as municipal type bonds. Corporate bond issues have increased providing higher rates.




George F. Matta

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Park 2 Annuity

2.15%

Interest Rate Effective July 1, 2013



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.
- * 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 1/2 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.**

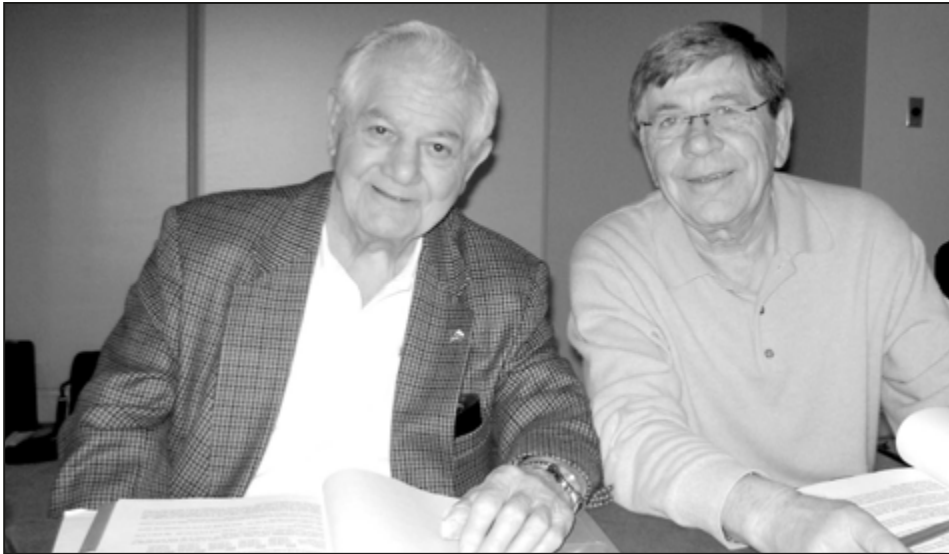
Please contact your Branch Officer, the Home Office or visit our web site at FCSU.com

FCSU Life * 6611 Rockside Road – Suite 300 * Independence Ohio 44131
Phone 1-800-533-6682 * Fax 216-642-4310 * E-Mail: annuity@fcsu.com

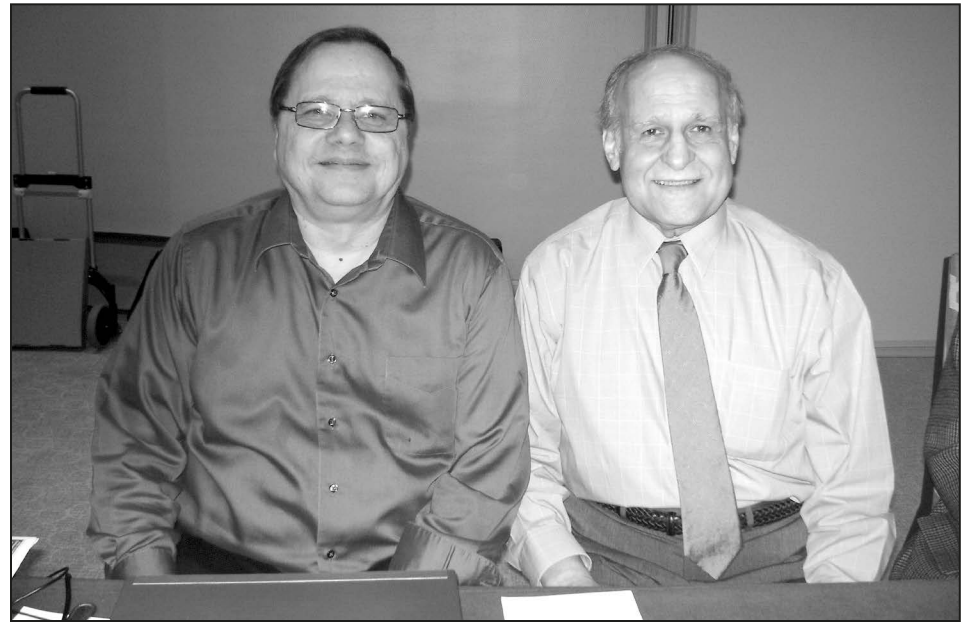
THE PARK 2 ANNUITY IS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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Photos from the Annual Board Of Directors Meeting Held March 21 - 22 at the Sheraton Downtown Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



(L - R) Region 1 Director Joseph F. Minarovich and Region 8 Director Milos Mitro



(L - R) Region 2 Director Damian D. Nasta and Region 3 Director Carl Ungvarsky

2013 Region 1 Annual Report

March 2014

Reverend Father, Mr. President, and Members of the Board

Since the last meeting I have attended either by telephone or in person, all meetings called by the President. I have also attended the "Okres" meeting of the Monsignor Rura Okres, along with several branch meetings.

I joined with branch members of Branch 290 in making up baskets for the unfortunate families in the area. This was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

I received a telephone call from Karen Hunka about a camp for children. I have spoken to several people about her idea; for one, Mary Kapitan, the Secretary for the Monsignor Rura Okres, and she will check with families in the area to see if there is any interest. We will keep in touch.

Until the next meeting, I remain,
Fraternally,

**Joseph F. Minarovich,
Region 1 Director**

2013 Region 2 Annual Report

March 2014

Rev. Thomas Nasta, President Andrew Rajec and fellow members of the FCSU Board of Directors:

It has once again been a privilege and an honor to serve as the Regional Director for Region 2.

In this past year, I performed all duties required of me as stipulated by the bylaws. I've attended all Board of Directors meetings which were held in Pittsburgh, PA and over the phone as a teleconference. Due to a previous commitment, I was unable to attend and was excused from the semi-annual board meeting in September 2013 in Cleveland, OH. In February 2013, I also attended the monthly Executive Committee meeting at the Home Office at the invitation of the President. I attended both of the district meetings that my region held in Lansford, PA and Philadelphia, PA where I updated the delegates with information learned at the board meetings.

In February, 2013, I attended the funeral of former Regional Director George Sprock in Pleasant Unity, PA. In May 2013 I attended and participated at the FCSU bowling tournament in Buffalo, NY. In July 2013 I attended Slovak Day in Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, PA and then participated in FCSU golf tournament in Dover and Zoar, OH. I look forward to attending these events again in 2014. In August 2013 I and my family attended the FCSU picnic in Millstone, NJ. The weather and facilities was absolutely beautiful. At our November district meeting the delegates all complemented the work done selecting this facility and for how it was organized. A few days after the picnic, I spent the day in Philadelphia with members of the convention planning committee, viewing the site of the 2014 convention and driving them around town. On September 14, 2013, my wife, daughter, and myself attended the annual mass held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in the crypt church, sponsored by Branch 856. This year we were joined by a large group from New York. The priest who celebrated the mass did the entire service in Slovak. My understanding is that he will be there again in September 2014.

As always, I continue to keep my branches informed through my reports at the district meetings and will continue to do so in the future.

Fraternally,

**Damian D. Nasta
Region 2 Director**

2013 Region 3 Annual Report

My fellow members of Region Number 3, the Saints Cyril and Methodius District Number 17, Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties, Pennsylvania and Broome County New York, and members and officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union, it has been an honor to serve you as Regional Director this past year.

I have participated in the annual, semi-annual and telephonic board meeting of the First Catholic Slovak Union this past year. At each of these board meetings I have voted for the betterment and goals established by the founding fathers of our Society. I have attended and participated in all District meetings and functions and promoted "JEDNOTA" with our members and potential members.

As a member of FCSU Properties Inc., a for profit subsidiary of our organization, I actively participated in each meeting for the best profitable use of this valuable asset of the FCSU.

In this period of attrition of our older members and declining membership of all fraternal societies, it has been my aim to help rebuild membership and enhance the fiscal solvency of the FCSU.

At each meeting of District No. 17, I have reported to the members any action from the national board meetings, spoke of ways to promote the FCSU and answered any questions. I am always available to any members or branch officers, by phone, email, or in person for help in filling out forms or any other general society business. As an insurance licensee, I have outlined the latest insurance forms and rates at each meeting and have promoted both the insurance and annuity programs of the FCSU to our members.

At each district meeting, that I have attended, I have read or referred to the correspondence from the Executive Secretary or other national officers that was sent to each branch, to ensure that each member has the latest and most useful information about the FCSU. By doing this I hope to promote an active discussion or questions concerning this correspondence and therefore reinforce the subject that the national officers wish to convey and hopefully have more informed and active members and recommenders.

I have attended and participated in the District Picnic when not in scheduling conflict with the FCSU Board Meetings.

If each of us would sign a new member this year among our family and friends we can build our Branches, District and the FCSU.

I stand ready and available to help in any way to serve the best interest of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

**Carl Ungvarsky
Region 3 Director**

2013 Region 4 Annual Report

Dear Rev. Thomas Nasta, President Andrew Rajec, Executive Officers and fellow members of the FCSU Board of Directors,

This past year I've attended all board meetings either by personal attendance or teleconference and the Executive Board Meeting by teleconference held on July 19th, 2013 at the request of the president.

On February 27, 2013, I visited the Gaut-Baccha Funeral Home in Pleasant Unity to give my respect to our former regional Director, George Sprock and his family.

On March 10th, July 14th and October 13th, 2013, I attended the Frank T. Holly, Jr. District #9 meetings. On April 20th, 2013 I attended the George Onda District #3 meeting and on April 28th, 2013, the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District #12 meeting. At the Frank T. Holly District #9 meeting on October 13th, the home office presented an insurance and annuity sales seminar which was well attended, enjoyable and informative.

On March 16th, 2013 I attended the Jednota, Inc. meeting held at the Wyndam Hotel in Pittsburgh, PA.

Over the past year I was present at one meeting of Branch 367 on March 18th, 2013, Branch 181 on March 1st, 2014 and all four meetings of the St. Wendelin Branch 162. On

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2013 Region 4 Annual Report

continued from page 4

April 3rd, 2013, I attended the Haky Funeral Home in Uniontown at the request of President Rajec to honor John Hvasta who passed away on March 28, 2013.

Our national picnic was held in East Windsor, New Jersey on August 10, 2013 where my wife, Patty, and I were in attendance along with the several hundred members of our society.

On October 5th, 2013, my wife, Patty, and I attended the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour's 31st Annual Dinner Dance at the Slovak Club located on Carson St. in Pittsburgh, PA.

The Membership Meeting held on the Princess Cruise Lines from Nov. 9th to the 16th, 2013 was attended by Patty and I.

Patty and I attended two Vilija Dinners. The first was held on December 6th, 2013 in Fairchance, PA and was sponsored by the Ss. Cyril and Methodius R.C. Church Christian Mothers. The second was held on December 8, 2013 in Greensburg, Pa and was sponsored by the George Onda District.

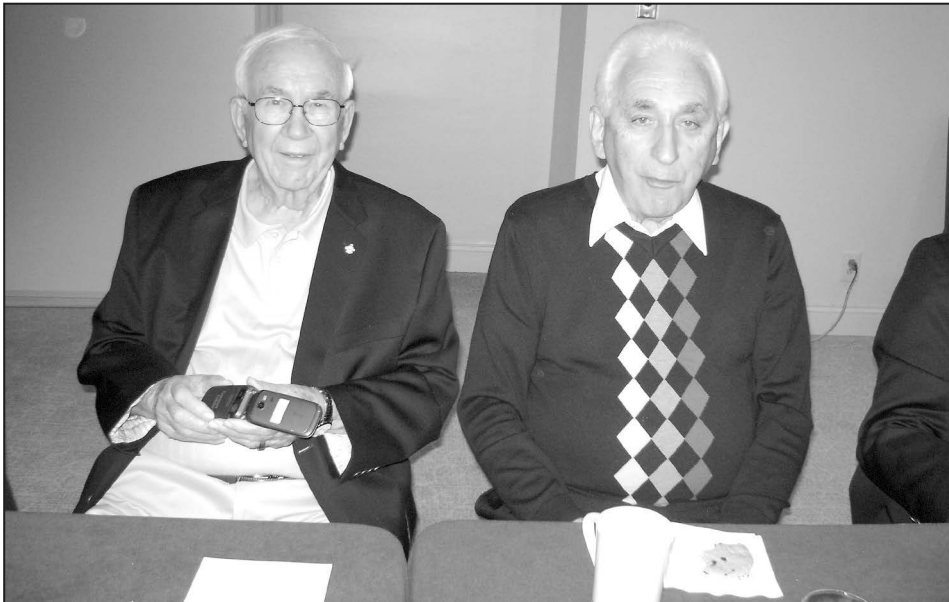
Currently I am continuing to work with President Rajec on the development and construction of a new memorial on the property in Middletown, PA. The proposed project will refurbish and relocate the current doughboy statue and five bronze plaques. The project has extended into this year, but all indications are that the major portion of construction will be completed before mid-year with some additional granite monuments to be installed later. More information about supporting the project by purchasing walkway plaza bricks or memorializing various granite items will follow in the upcoming months.

I certainly want to thank everyone for their hospitality where both my wife and I were graciously welcomed at all meetings and events. I look forward to seeing everyone again at the various branch and district meetings as well as our national convention in Philadelphia, PA. It truly has been an honor to serve as your regional director and I look forward to serving you in the upcoming convention year. May God bless all of you with good health, lots of wealth and numerous friends.

Should you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance, please contact me at my office at 724-439-3440, or my home by calling 724-437-0892 or sending me an email at jrmarmol@verizon.net.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Marmol
Region 4 Director



(L - R) Region 5 Director Regis P. Brekoksy and Region 6 Director Henry Hassay

2013 Region 5 Annual Report

Rev. Thomas Nasta, Supreme Chaplain, Andrew Rajec, Supreme President, Offices of the Executive Committee and Officers of the Board of Directors.

This is the report of the Regional Director of Region Number 5, as per First Catholic Slovak Union by-laws.

I have attended all meetings of the Board of Directors called by President Rajec including two telephonic meetings and branch meetings in my region. On our district meetings all information on sales of our products are passed on to our membership. Sales information received from our Vice President is passed on to the membership.

Listed are some of the functions I attended as Regional Director, Region 5.

- Slovak Day, Kennywood Park
- Pittsburgh District Annual Fathers' Day Luncheon
- Slovak Radio Dinner Dance, South Side, Pittsburgh, PA
- Annual District Meeting and Christmas Eve Dinner

In addition to being on the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union, I am also President of Jednota Properties and Building Manager of Building No 2.

Mortgage Payments have been made each month. Each monthly payment was \$21,291.68.

All utilities are paid and up to date.

Management fees have been paid and are up to date.

Bookkeeping fees are paid and up to date.

Roof insurance inspections have been made and fees paid.

Insurance covering Jednota Properties is paid yearly and are up to date.

Fire protection insurance for Building No. 2 is paid to Triangle Fire Protection. The payments are current.

Centimark continues its inspections and repairs as needed.

Snow removal when needed is contracted to Misty Meadows to assist our people.

All taxes, federal, state, local, etc., are paid and current.

Audits by Hosack-Speckt made as needed; current and paid.

Skull tree service pruned all trees in the area of Building No. 2.

Mid State performed building repairs on Building No. 2; paid and current.

Jones Lang and La Salle are now handling leasing operations for ACS Lease.

Parking lot, driveways, and parking lot drains have been resurfaced.

Enginuity replaced two (2) A/C and heat exchanger unites in January 2014.

As President of Jednota Properties, Inc., I see that Building No. 2 is in good repair and the property around the building is properly landscaped and, in the winter months, snow is removed as necessary.

As Building Manager I keep in contact with tenants and their needs, keep check on building systems such as fire protection, and the outside sprinkling system in the spring, summer, and fall.

The tenants' needs are our primary concern. We also see that our taxes and utilities are paid and kept current.

Jednota Properties, Inc. Board of Directors:

Regis P. Brekoksy, President; J. Minarovich, Vice President; J. Bielecki, Secretary; J. Senko, Treasurer; C. Ungvarsky, Member.

Respectfully submitted,

Regis P. Brekoksy
President, Jednota Properties, Inc.
Region 5 Director



(L - R) Region 7 Director Rudolph W. Bernath and Region 4 Director James R. Marmol

2013 Region 6 Annual Report

Dear Father Nasta, Mr. President and Members of the Board of Directors

It has been an honor to serve as your Regional Director for Region 6 for the last 15 years.

I have attended all Annual and Semi-Annual Board of Director Meetings either in person or by teleconference over the years. I have served as a past Vice President of Jednota Inc., our holding company for First Catholic Slovak Union.

I have reviewed all the financial statements and have been instrumental in developing the investment policies of the First Catholic Slovak Union. I have suggested new ideas for the operational procedures for the society.

I have represented First Catholic Slovak Union at our district level as well as many Slovak Fraternal events. I have been a strong proponent for joint ventures with other Slovak Fraternals.

Every year I make an annual report to the Board of Directors on the various activities of the District and Region.

It has been a pleasure serving as your Regional Director and as a member of the Board of Directors.

Fraternally,

Henry Hassay
Region 6 Director

**Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union
website at www.fcsu.com**

2013 Region 7 Annual Report

In February I attended the blessing and dedication of the Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Center established at the Calumet College of St. Joseph in Whiting, IN. The center covers many aspects of his life: established the diocese of Gary, IN, Council Father at Vatican II, worked for Slovak causes – especially the Institute of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, racial and union matters, and some important work with federal prison chaplains.

In July there was the Slovak picnic in Franklin, WI (just south of Milwaukee). After the outdoor Mass on a great sunny day, the Slovak Tatra dancers performed in traditional Slovak costumes. They danced the traditional folk dances of the various regions of Slovakia while the audience applauded enthusiastically. Good food, great weather, and great entertainment made for a perfect day.

In September I attended a Slovak Mass celebrated by Bishop Jozef Halko at St. Simon Church in Chicago. St. Simon is the only Slovak Church in Chicago. Bishop Halko brought a relic of St. Cyril to the church for veneration. Bishop Halko resides in Bratislava and is a church historian as well as a pastoral Bishop of Slovaks living abroad.

The highlight of the year for me was the Caribbean cruise sponsored by the FCSU. It's very comfortable to cruise with people that you know – especially Slovaks. The weather, food, and conversation were great. What's next?

Rudolph W. Bernath
Region 7 Director

2013 Region 8 Annual Report

Mr. President, Executive Committee and Fellow Board Members,
This is my report for the Year 2013. It has been a privilege and honor to serve as the Regional Director for Region 8.

In 2013,

- I have performed all duties required of me as stipulated in the bylaws of the FCSU.
- I have attended both the annual and semi annual Board of Directors meetings. Also I took part in both quarterly teleconference meetings.
- I have also attended the local annual meetings of Okres Msgr. Michael Shuba District and Branch # 785, as well as their semi annual meetings.
- Personally I participated in fraternal activities of the Jednota by taking part in the International Bowling Tournament which was held in Buffalo NY in May 2013 and the International Golf Tournament in July 2013.
- For our local fraternal activities I assisted and participated in our annual summer Regional Picnic held in June 2013 in Mississauga Ontario which was well attended by our members.
- I also joined in our annual Local Bowling Fun Day with Jednota and Catholic Sokol.
- I participated in our 2nd Annual Joint Local Golf Tournament of Jednota and Catholic Sokol. This was held in September 2013 at Deerfield Golf Club. This event was well attended by both organizations.
- I assisted and enjoyed the Casino Rama bus trips, which were organized by Jednota Branch 785.
- Also I attended funeral services of our deceased members in Mississauga Ontario.

Respectfully submitted

Milos Mitro
Region 8 Director

First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada

Report to Management

Year Ending December 31, 2013

The Internal Audit Team conducted audits of different processes of the First Catholic Slovak Union for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. The audits were performed in accordance with the bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada, effective January 1, 2011.

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

- Review expense vouchers submitted.
 - Ensure expense vouchers
 - contain required and relevant documentation
 - calculations are correct
 - approvals are obtained
 - checks are properly issued and documented
- Test death claims processed.
 - Ensure death claims
 - contain required and relevant documentation
 - are processed correctly according to FCSU
 - checks are properly issued and documented

continued on page 10



(L - R) National Director of Fraternal Activities Susan Ondrejco and National Chairman of Auditors Karen M. Hunka

2013 Annual Report of the National Fraternal Activities Director

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

The 2013 Bowling tournament was held the weekend of May 3-5 in Buffalo, New York. This was a joint fraternal event with three other Slovak fraternal. There were 136 bowlers, total, in the tournament and 103 of them were FCSU members. The banquet was held at the Millennium Hotel in Buffalo and 48 FCSU members attended. The "Don't Stand a Chance" and "Better Luck Next Year" Awards were presented at the banquet to the men's and women's team in last place.

The 2013 Golf tournament was held the weekend of July 20-21 in Canton, Ohio. 78 golfers participated in the weekend-long festivities. In addition to the monetary prizes, donations were solicited to provide additional skill prizes. A hole in one contest took place on both Saturday and Sunday.

The 2013 Photo Contest had 87 entries. This is a popular event for the young and old. Congratulations to all the winners.

The 2013 Coloring Contest was again met with enthusiasm from our young members. We received 148 entries. Congratulations to all the entrants and especially to all the winners. An analysis of the number of entries over this year shows that most of the participation is in the 7-9 year-old age groups.

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

The 3rd United Slovak Fraternal Bowling Tournament will take place April 25-26 at Mt. Lebanon Lanes in Pittsburgh, PA.

The Golf Tournament will take place July 19-20, 2014, at the Chestnut Ridge and Tom's Run Golf Courses in Blairsville, PA.

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

Fraternally submitted,

Susan Ondrejco
National Director of Fraternal Activities

Branch 40 Now Accepting Scholarship Applicants



ATTENTION STUDENTS **You May Be Eligible To Win A Scholarship If:**

* You are a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union's – St. Clement's Society Branch #40, of Streator, Illinois.

* You are in high school and have applied for a fall term at a

qualifying institution OR

* You are attending a Private Grade School

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

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

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

Applications must be postmarked by May 30, 2014.

Report of the National Vice President

continued from page 3

Marketing

This past year the Membership and Marketing Committee...

A.) Increased the advertising of our products in the Jednota. Updated our website and sent marketing bulletins to our members. We did this to gain more visibility of our marketing.

B.) We increased our agent sales force that's under contract to 180.

C.) Adopted the marketing name: FCSU Financial

D.) The Membership and Marketing Committee always devotes a portion of the monthly meetings to membership retention and marketing.

E.) The year long fraternal benefit of the first year free premium for a \$10,000 Juvenile Enrichment Plan (JEP) ended the last day of March in 2013. With only one month to go, 92% paid the second year premium. There were 357 members that took advantage of our fraternal benefit.

F.) On April 14th – held a seminar for the Pittsburgh District, District #8 at Holy Trinity Church in West Mifflin, PA.

G.) March 13th – Checked out Pittsburgh for a Convention site.

H.) On April 21st held a seminar for District #17 – St. Cyril and Methodius District at St. Ann's Basilica in Scranton, PA.

I.) On May 23rd and May 24th attended the "Industry Development" at the Bruce and Depersis Seminar in Pittsburgh.

J.) On May 28th – Inspected 4 hotels for possible convention sites in Philadelphia.

K.) On June 4th – went to Indianapolis to inspect 4 hotels for a possible convention site.

L.) On June 23, 2013 held a seminar for the Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District #2 at the Benedictine Convent in Oak Forest, Illinois.

M.) On July 18, 2013 set up an information booth at Kennywood Park in Pittsburgh.

N.) On August 4, 2013 set up an information booth about the society's insurance and annuity products at the "Fest." It is put on by the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland in Wickliffe, Ohio. Thirty to Thirty-five thousand participants attended the one day free family festival.

O.) On August 25, 2013 held a seminar for the Rev. Stephen Furdek Ohio District #10 at the home office in Independence, Ohio.

P.) On September 1, 2013 – set up an information booth at the annual Slovak Fest put on by the Slovak Radio Club of Greater Cleveland. It was held at St. Anthony Church Hall in Parma, Ohio.

Q.) Attended the annual Fraternal Alliance Meeting and workshop on September 4, 2013 in Hollywood, Florida.

R.) On September 29, 2013 we set up a booth at the 36th New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival. The festival was held at the New Jersey Arts Center in Holmdel, New Jersey.

S.) On October 13, 2013 a combined seminar for Frank T. Holly District #9 and the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District #10 was held at the Hampton Inn in Uniontown, PA.

T.) From November 9th to November 16th, we set up a membership Meet aboard the Princess Cruise Ship. We gave out awards to our top proposers in attendance. We had 85 participants at the meet.

U.) On December 22, 2013 held a special meeting at the Tatra Hall in Muskegon, Michigan.

V.) Added 12 more states to be licensed in...which gives us a total of 27.

W.) Set up a program to help our recommenders and branch/district officers obtain a state insurance license to represent the FCSU.

Activities

Some of my activities in the year 2013 were: Attended all monthly executive meetings as well as special meetings called by the president. Articles were written pertaining to insurance and published in the Jednota. Served on the committee for the insurance meet. Attended branch and district meetings and/or social functions. Attended Bruce and DePersis seminar in Pittsburgh. Attended Indiana Fraternal Alliance meetings in Indiana. I attended seminars in Pittsburgh, PA, Scranton, PA, Oak Forest, IL, Independence OH and Uniontown, PA. Attended American Fraternal Alliance Meeting. Represented the society at the Indiana Slovak Day in Merrillville, Indiana. I inform Regional Directors of their districts insurance and annuity

production on a quarterly basis. Attended festivals at Wickliffe, OH. - Parma, OH., Kennywood Park in Pittsburgh and Holmdel, NJ. Looked at Convention sites in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Indianapolis with the Executive Committee. I represented FCSU at the dedication of the Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Center, Calumet College of St. Joseph in Whiting, Indiana. Went to Muskegon, MI with the president.

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

Until Next Time,
Good Luck and God Bless,

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
National Vice-President

Report of the National Treasurer

continued from page 3

The Society continues to utilize low interest funds that are available as a result of the Society's membership in the Federal Home Loan Bank and use those low interest rates to arbitrage investment in securities that pay a higher interest rate. Purchases and guidance of security purchase has been assisted by the Society's investment manager, AQS.

Net investment rate of return was 4.63%. A change was made in determining the net investment rate of return, effective with the 2007 Annual Statement. The current year's income from IMR is now included as part of investment income. The Society's net investment rate of return will rank in the middle among fraternal and commercial insurers. The Society's average investment rate of return for the past five years in 5.37%.

In spite of the slowly recovering economic climate, the Society's 2013 investment income results were good. Against this backdrop, the Society made decisions and changes that strengthened its investment procedure and promoted increased sales resulting in another favorable growth year in our surplus; an increase of \$2,000,000, or 9.8%. It raised surplus to \$22,681,610 and the solvency ratio stayed at 107.3%. The returns from the Hedge Fund that replaced the Victory Hedge Fund Trust returned to profitability at 6.328%.

Surplus – 12/31/09	\$13,169,012	increase of	\$4,109,420
Surplus – 12/31/10	\$17,519,864	increase of	\$4,350,852
Surplus – 12/31/11	\$18,984,017	increase of	\$1,464,153
Surplus – 12/31/12	\$20,646,572	increase of	\$1,662,555
Surplus – 12/31/13	\$22,681,610	increase of	\$2,035,038

The society added to the Hedge Fund during 2013. In line with Ohio Regulation, the total investment will be smaller than had been invested in the Victory Hedge Fund during 2012. Ending balance through 12-31-13 was \$7,026,555.72.

Bonds make up 90.4% of the investment portfolio. Investment grade bonds are 99.1% of bonds owned. Only 0.2 of the Society's bonds are in the default category. Preferred stocks dropped to 0.6% of the portfolio. All preferred stocks owned by the Society are in the top 3 NAIC. Rating grade common stocks are 1.05% of invested assets. The common stock include the Society's investment in Jednota Holding Company \$593,623. The Society had a 7.1% increase in assets.

There is capital gains shown of \$553,505, which resulted from gain on the sale of surplus notes. The bankrupt Lehman Brothers Bond remain on Society's books, although they have been replaced by escrow bonds. In prior years, the book value of the value of the bonds had been lowered by accounting adjustment known as "Other Than Temporary Impairment". As a result, the issuance of the escrow bonds had little impact on the Society's bond portfolio or surplus. Other than Lehman Brothers, the Society has only \$100,000 of Bordon Inc bonds that are in near default status.

Gains on the sale of bonds and preferred stocks were \$818,187, all of which went into the Interest Maintenance Reserve, as required by regulations. These gains helped increase the IMR balance to \$609,141, which will be released in annual increments each year.

The Society purchased over \$133,000,000 of securities in the year 2013, while over \$106,000,000 of securities were matured, called or sold. The combined total of \$239,000,000 equals 78.2% of the invested asset total. The large volume of activity was necessitated by the continuing large number of calls, especially government sponsored entities such as FNMA, FHLMC, and pay downs on GMNA's. The challenge continues to find replacement bonds of equal value and the best interest rates available while maintaining quality. Another factor is to earn sufficient investment income to support a competitive interest rate on the Society's product.

The large volume of trading in recent years is consistent with the volatile economic climate since 2008. The engagement of a professional asset manager to assist in portfolio management can be viewed as a wise and prudent decision.

As we review the continued growth and success of our society, along with the outstanding performance of our recommenders, sales agents, and our outstanding staff of office personnel, all I can say is "THANK YOU" for a job well done.

Respectfully submitted,

George F. Matta
National Treasurer
President of Jednota, Inc.

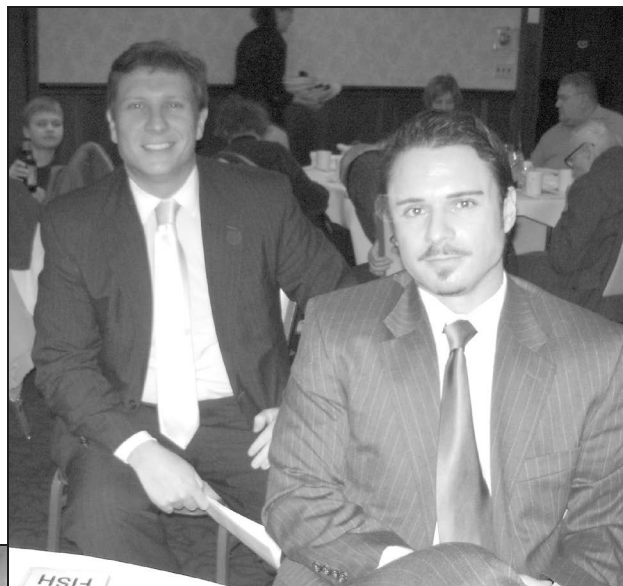
If each member would sign up just one new member, we could double our Society immediately
THINK ABOUT IT!

Branch 89 Recent Events



National President Andrew M. Rajec and Mrs. Idka Rajec attend their branch meeting, Branch 89 of Milwaukee, WI.

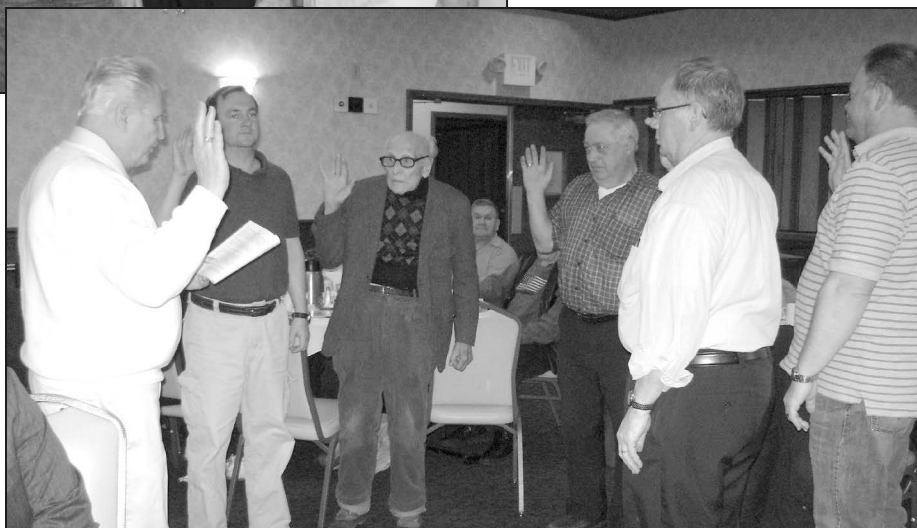
Branch 89 held a meeting on Saturday, February 22, 2014 at Allio's Restaurant in Wauwatosa, WI, with a social hour starting at 12:30 and a luncheon served at 2:00pm. The meeting agenda included election of branch officers and election of delegates to the upcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Directly following, the Marketing and Sales Committee of the FCSU held a Sales Seminar, presenting information about the Society's portfolio of insurance and annuity products.



(L - R) Andrew and Daniel Rajec, both members of Branch 89

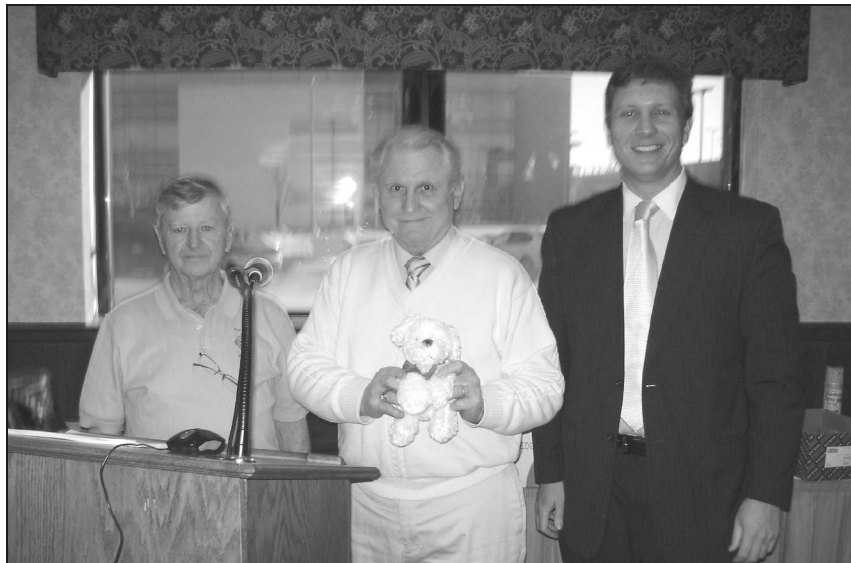


National President Rajec with the newly elected slate of officers for Branch 89; on right, President Rajec administers the oath of office to the officers.

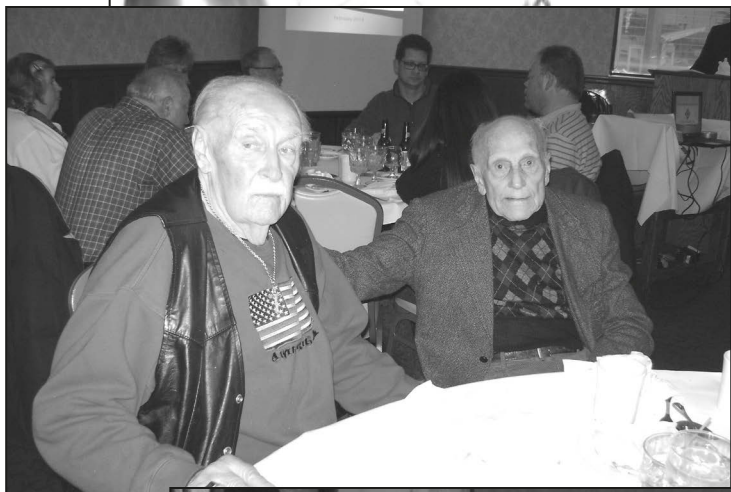


Andrew P. Rajec conducts a portion of the FCSU Sales Seminar, which was held after the regular Branch 89 meeting and luncheon.

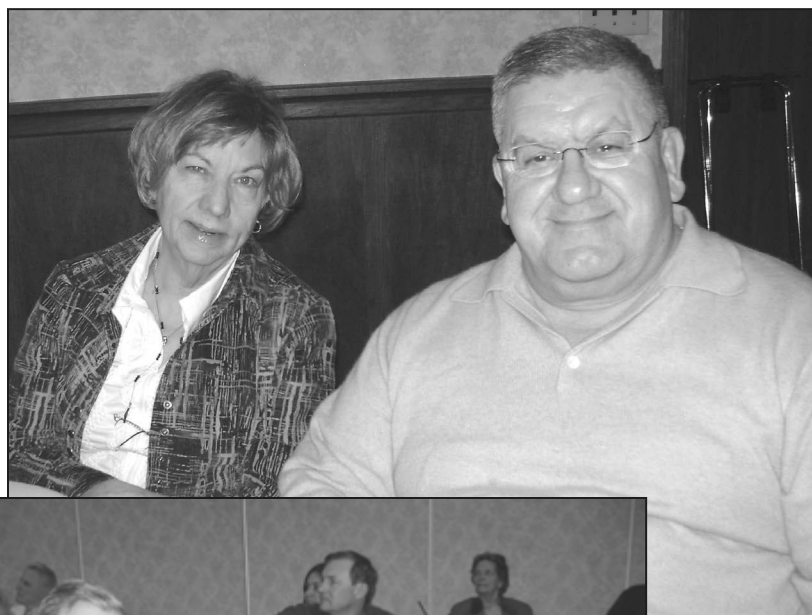
Branch 89 Recent Events



Members of the FCSU Membership & Marketing Committee: (L - R) National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National President Andrew M. Rajec, and Branch 89 Member Andrew P. Rajec.



Members and guests of Branch 89 enjoyed a wonderful luncheon at Allio's Restaurant in Wauwatosa, WI, after the branch meeting.



Mark Your Calendars:

The following FCSU Sales Seminar has been finalized...



An FCSU Sales Seminar will be held on **Sunday, May 18, 2014** at the Beaverdale Fire Station, 411 Cedar Street, Beaverdale, PA. The seminar will be conducted by the Membership & Marketing Committee of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU), and will be held directly after the District 7 meeting and luncheon. District 13 also is invited to attend the seminar. (Editor's note: please see page 15 of this issue for details on the District 7 event).

An FCSU Sales Seminar will be held on **September 28, 2014** at Tatra Hall, at 2526 Sixth Street, Muskegon Hts., MI, 49444. The seminar will be held directly after Branch 595's meeting at 2:00PM (Editor's note: please watch for details of the Branch 595 meeting in upcoming issues of Jednota).

Other seminars are pending...time and place to be announced. Watch for more information in upcoming issues of *Jednota*.

Two Slovak Athletes Win in April

Tichomir Miko

Barteková Shoots for Gold



Danka Barteková, Olympic Bronze medalist for Slovakia in London 2012 won the Skeet Women final at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup, beating Wei Meng of the People's Republic of China 14 to 13 hits in the Gold medal match. The first stage on the World Cup tour took place on April 12-13, 2014, in Tucson, Arizona.

The 29 year old from Trenčín had been absent from the podium for the last two years having won her last world cup stage back in

2012, before the London Olympics. After the Games, the Skeet competition format was changed. At the same time, Danka was elected as a member of the IOC Athletes Committee. "Being a member of the IOC Athletes Committee is a great honor, a wonderful experience, and at the same time it means that I have a lot of duties. Last year I've dedicated most of my time to that. Now I am fully focused on shooting again, and I will be at least until September. I am here, I have been training for the new finals, and I am ready to go for the ISSF World Championship."

Skeet shotguns, attempt to break clay disks automatically flung into the air from two fixed stations at high speed from a variety of angles. Skeet is one of the three major disciplines of competitive clay pigeon shooting. The others are trap shooting and sporting clays. Danka Barteková is a five-time World Champion medalist in Women's Skeet.

Čepelová Slays Giants on Tennis Court

Upcoming Slovak tennis ace Jana Čepelová surprised the tennis world when as an unseeded player she advanced all the way to the finals of the WTA Tour's Family Circle Cup in Charleston, South Carolina from March 31 to April 6, 2014. Along the way she slew several Goliaths.

The twenty year old started out on her giant slaying mission by defeating world number one Serena Williams of the USA in two straight sets 6-4, 6-4 on Tuesday, April 1, 2014. Ousting the world number one came as a surprise even for Čepelová, who had never beaten a top 15 player before. "I don't know what to say," said Čepelová moments after her victory over Williams, "It was my dream." Like her childhood idol Martina Hingis – they were both born in Kosice – Čepelová forced Williams out of her rhythm with crafty off-pace slices and frequent drop shots.

As if to prove that her win over Williams was not just a fluke, Čepelová then proceeded to knock off her next opponent, thirteenth seeded Elena Vesnina of Russia 7-6, 3-6, 6-3. This brought her up against compatriot Daniela Hantuchova in the quarter-finals. Still on a roll, she needed only two sets to eliminate the Slovak veteran 6-2, 6-1 to enter the semi-finals against 17 year old Belinda Benčičová of Switzerland.

The two youngsters were evenly matched; the Košice native won the first set 6-4, lost the second set 5-7, and then edged out the Swiss Slovak 7-6 to take the match and advance to the finals, the first WTA finals of her career. Benčičová was born in Switzerland, her father a Slovak immigrant. She trained at the tennis school founded by Melanie Molitor, the mother of Martina Hingis, and is often overheard speaking Slovak courtside with her father who is also her coach.

In the finals, the young Slovak gave her all, narrowly losing the first set 5-7 Andrea Petkovic of Germany. In the second set, the older and more experienced Petkovic held the upstart Slovak to only two set victories, winning the set and match 6-2.

"I wish to thank my opponent for the unbelievable week. Andrea played well today making it very difficult for me. I also wish to thank my coach Martin, my family, friends and fans back in Kosice and all of Slovakia," said a very emotional Čepelová at the presentation ceremonies at the conclusion of the final match.



Year Ending December 31, 2013

continued from page 6

- Test payroll and personnel procedures.
 - Ensure payroll and personnel
 - procedures are in place and functioning properly
 - calculations of earning, special payments, benefits, taxes and voluntary/involuntary deductions are accurate complete and timely
 - transactions are accurately reflected in the accounting system
- Test branch stipend processing.
 - Ensure stipend requests
 - contain required and relevant documentation
 - Annual report
 - Financial report
 - verify at least 2 published announcements including one for election of officers
 - submitted by February 15
 - contract(s) obtained
- Test annuities application process.
 - Ensure the annuity
 - application contains required documentation
 - recommender receives appropriate points
 - interest is calculated correctly according to the contract
- Test new insurance application process.
 - Ensure that insurance applications
 - contain required and relevant documentation
 - are approved according to appropriate procedures
 - have timely and accurate medical examinations when appropriate
- Test accuracy of annual statement
 - Ensure financial transactions
 - are recorded properly within the accounting system
 - are subsequently recorded accurately on the annual statement
- Review corporate credit card procedures
 - Verify proper internal controls are being utilized to ensure
 - relevant documentation present
 - approval follows designated chain of authority
 - mathematical calculations are correct
- Review Bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States of America and Canada, effective January 1, 2013
 - Submit recommendations to bylaws committee prior to next convention

METHODOLOGY

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

OVERALL EVALUATION:

No indications of irregularities or abuse were discovered during the audits performed for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. The audit team finds that the Home Office operates effectively and with high standards.

AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT #1

Subject: Credit Card Payments

Receipts for expenditures are not always supported by documentation. If a receipt is to be sent "after the fact" such should be noted on the statement and every effort made to attach the receipt before the statement is filed.

AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT #2

Subject: Travel Expense Vouchers

Home office continues to make changes to expense vouchers when necessary. Closer attention should be paid by those individuals submitting expenses for reimbursement.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Expanded Jednota Newspaper Archive Now on FCSU Website



Looking for information in a past issue?

Now you can browse through 5+ years of Jednota that we have digitized. Just go to <http://www.fcsu.com/newspaper> and click on the words Newspaper Archive to access the appropriate PDF.

Or, for questions, email Jednota Editor Teresa Ivanec @ fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com or call her at the Home Office, 1-800-JEDNOTA, x 123.

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.

End of April Foolies



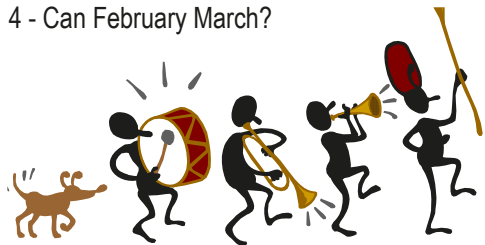
1 - Susie's mother has three children. The first was named April. The next was named May. What is the final one's name?



2 - What can be seen in the middle of the months April and March that cannot be seen in the beginning or end of either month?

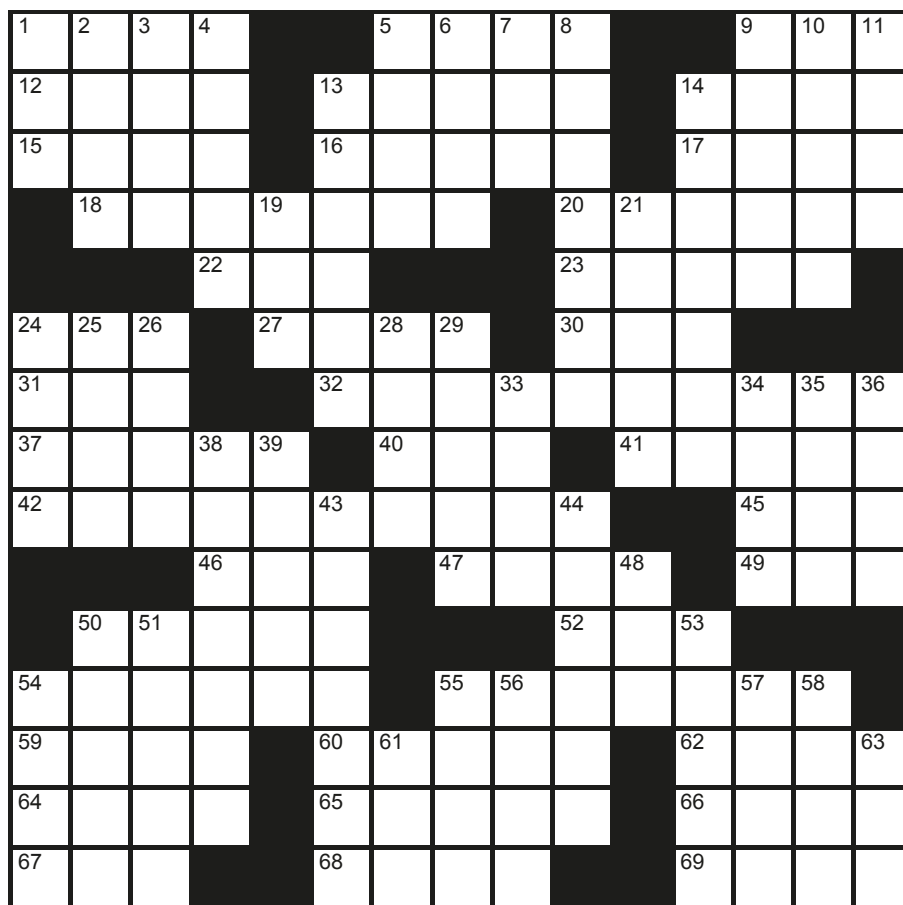
3 - April showers bring mayflowers, but what do Mayflowers bring?

4 - Can February March?



Answers:
 1 - Susie, of course.
 2 - The letter 'R'
 3 - Pilgrims! The Mayflower was the ship that brought the first pilgrim settlers to Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts.
 4 - No — but April May!

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



United Slovak Societies of Lorain Scholarships



The United Slovak Societies of Lorain Ohio will grant college scholarships to High School Seniors who are members in good standing in the following fraternal:

- First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 228,
- National Slovak Society Assembly 160,
- First Catholic Slovak Ladies Branch 114,
- Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111, and
- Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union Branch 77

For rules and application, please contact Helene Virant, 440/282-3325

Deadline for submission is May 30, 2014.

JEDNOTA

Publication Schedule for 2014

Issue Date	Deadline
May 7	April 28
May 21	May 12
June 11	June 2
July 2	June 23
July 23	July 14
August 6	July 28
Sept 17	Sept 8
October 15	October 6
November 5	October 27
November 19	November 10
December 3	November 24

Across

- 1 Male sheep
- 5 Cat command
- 9 Milk supplier
- 12 Connive
- 13 Cranium
- 14 Legal prefix
- 15 Diner's card
- 16 Like notebook paper
- 17 Jewish month
- 18 Ravines
- 20 Lucidity
- 22 Children's game
- 23 Astound
- 24 Celestial altar
- 27 Curly cabbage
- 30 Fond du ____, Wis.
- 31 Stir
- 32 Bull nettle, e.g.
- 37 Biting
- 40 Back then
- 41 Waste conduit
- 42 Bloodstone
- 45 Actor Wallach
- 46 Blade
- 47 Bottle part
- 49 Clamor
- 50 Subway
- 52 Chair part
- 54 Meal
- 55 Cereal type
- 59 Auditory
- 60 Diviner's deck
- 62 Halo, e.g.
- 64 Faction
- 65 Blue-pencils
- 66 Excursion
- 67 Hesitant sounds
- 68 Went by car
- 69 Plane reservation

Down

- 1 Engine speed, for short
- 2 Fish sauce or actor Baldwin
- 3 ____, Lisa
- 4 Movie exploit
- 5 Hide
- 6 4th century nomads
- 7 Bullfight cheer
- 8 Veteran sea dog
- 9 SW Spain's Gulf of ____
- 10 Speechify
- 11 Cautious
- 13 Motto
- 14 Distinctive flair
- 19 Wild ox
- 21 Accumulate in great quantities
- 24 Asian nurse
- 25 Houston university
- 26 Figure skater's jump
- 28 Fibber
- 29 Encourage
- 33 Expectation
- 34 Blown away
- 35 Sandwich shop

- 36 Hibernia
- 38 Harsh reprimand
- 39 Swine
- 43 Race horse
- 44 Plaudits
- 48 Barbie's beau
- 50 Taxi feature
- 51 Long stories
- 53 Bearded animals
- 54 Showy flower
- 55 Power system
- 56 Learning style
- 57 Artificial bait
- 58 Solo
- 61 Big fuss
- 63 Liable

FREE

Estate Planning Booklet from the First Catholic Slovak Union



First Catholic Slovak Union

Estate Planning Booklet



Your Personal Record Keeper

As National President Andrew M. Rajec and Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt state in the beginning of the newly published Estate Planning Booklet from the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) - the very foundations of our Society have been built on values that honor and protect our loved ones. The FCSU portfolio of insurance and annuity products itself, they point out, is designed with the financial protection of loved ones in mind, as well.

Now, as a member of the FCSU, you can receive a valuable tool for free that allows you to help your loved ones once again. Inside the pages of this personal record keeper are easy ways to record and centralize all the pertinent information for processing your estate – from personal, medical and financial information to life insurance policies, real estate holdings and other assets to final wishes for your family.

To request your free copy of the First Catholic Slovak Union Estate Planning Booklet, please call at 1-800-JEDNOTA (533-6682).

Final Expense Insurance: The Ultimate Gift of Love

**Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary,
First Catholic Slovak Union**



People in general are living longer and more healthful lives. It is not unusual for folks these days to be active well into their eighties, even nineties, with more of us entering our "golden years" every day. According to the US Census, by the year 2030, the 65-plus population will double to about 71.5 million, and by 2050 it will grow to 86.7 million people. Of course, we all know

we are going to pass away some day; but most of us would rather not dwell on the inevitable, let alone plan for it. Yet wouldn't you feel better knowing that those you care about most deeply will be cared for when you are no longer here? Sure you would. That's the real point of life insurance. It isn't for the ones who pass away. It's for the ones we leave behind.

Final expense insurance is coverage specific to the costs of a funeral and memorial service and therefore written with a lower face value, or maximum amount payable. This can make it a very affordable way to circumvent some very expensive costs that may await your loved ones at the time of your burial. The latest estimates by some industry experts give some eye-opening facts about just



how financially burdensome funerals have become. The current price range of the average North American traditional funeral is between \$7,000 and \$10,000. This includes standard items such as services at the funeral home, burial in a cemetery, and the installation of a headstone; it doesn't encompass "extras" like placing an obituary in a newspaper or floral arrangements.

Not surprisingly, few people have the wherewithal to pay for a loved one's entire funeral all at once. The Social Security Death Benefit only provides a lump sum

benefit of \$255 for those who qualify. Depending solely on this meager financial resource, your survivors might have to depend on their own savings, credit cards, or even loans to cover the costs of your burial.

The bottom line: the more you can anticipate and cover these costs through final expense planning, the less surprise and burden you will be leaving for your survivors at an emotional time.



Final expense insurance can be a real blessing to your survivors – and to you.

Without it, the people you love most may be left with an unintentional financial burden at your passing. With it, you have the peace of mind that everything regarding your final arrangements will be taken care of once you are gone. This affordable and simple policy can truly be your ultimate gift to those you love.

To learn more about financial expense insurance coverage through the First Catholic Slovak Union, contact the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682 or your local branch officer.

Plan ahead and leave a positive legacy behind

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

According to a recent article in TIME magazine the cost of a funeral is between \$6,000 and \$15,000 with an average of \$7,775?

Don't leave a financial burden for your family or loved ones.

Inquire today about
**FINAL EXPENSE
INSURANCE**

The sooner you do, the less it costs!

Call 800.533.6682 or visit www.fcsu.com



FCSU Financial - First Catholic Slovak Union
Contact Branch Officer or the Home Office

6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131, 800.533.6682,
www.fcsu.com, insurance@fcsu.com



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 2 - PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St Michael's Branch 2 will be holding our semi-annual meeting on Tuesday July 8th at 7 pm at Kretzlers on Babcock Blvd. to discuss the upcoming convention. All delegates from Branch 2 should attend. For reservations please contact Joanne Lako at 412 766 3222.

Fraternally,

Joanne Lako, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 3 - MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3 will hold their delegate elections to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU on Sunday, May 18, 2014, at 9:00AM at Sts Cyril & Methodius Church Hall Second Street and 13th Avenue, NE.

Fraternally

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 3P - HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of St. Joseph Society, Branch 003P, will be held at 9:45 am on Sunday May 18, 2014 at the Faith United Church of Christ Hall, 21 Faith Drive, West Hazleton, PA. All members are invited to attend. A breakfast buffet sponsored by the Pardeesville Christian Association will be provided free for all branch attendees immediately following the meeting. Also, delegates will be elected for the upcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union to be held in Philadelphia, PA, in August of 2014 at this meeting. Please call M. Koval at 570-454-0004 for details and directions, if needed.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 55 - BROOMHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 55 K.J. will hold a meeting on Sunday, May 4, 2014, at 2:00 P.M. at the residence of Steve and Josephine Gerba at the Wesley Enhanced Living Complex, 8401 Roosevelt Boulevard, Apt. P114, Philadelphia, PA. Elections will be held for Delegates and their Alternates to the FCSU's 50th Quadrennial Convention. This 2014 Convention will be held in Philadelphia, and hosted at the Sheraton Downtown Philadelphia Hotel on August 23-27, 2014.

If you wish to attend, please call the President at (610) 356-7956 or the Secretary at (215) 637-6530, as we need a head count for the lunch that will be catered. For directions to the meeting, please call either number.

Fraternally yours,

Helena T. Gaydos, President

BRANCH 60 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch #60 - McKeesport will hold its semi-annual meeting Sunday, May 18, 2014 at the home of President Ann Wargovich (58 Lilmont Drive, Swissvale) at 1:00 p.m.

On the agenda will be Officers' reports, and discussion of the upcoming convention.

All members are urged to attend.

Julie Perla, Secretary

BRANCH 85 - BLAKELY, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Florian Society, Branch 85K, will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, at 7:00PM at the Jessup American Legion Post 411, Church ST., Jessup, PA.

The agenda will include the election of

delegates to the 2014 Convention of the FCSU to be held in Philadelphia, PA, August 23 - 27, 2014.

Bernard Skovira, President

BRANCH 199 - HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 199 will hold a meeting at 1:00PM on Sunday, May 18, 2014, at Joio's Restaurant, Route 981, Latrobe, PA. Delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention being held in Philadelphia Aug 23 - 27, 2014, will be elected at this meeting. Attendance is encouraged.

Sincerely,

Barbara Patula, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 254 - PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 254 will hold a meeting on Sunday, May 4, 2014, at noon at Panera's Restaurant in the Mt. Lebanon Galleria Mall located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads. On the agenda: election of delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union to be held in August, 2014. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, contact Albina Senko at 412-343-5031.

Albina Senko,

Financial Secretary/ Treasurer

BRANCH 266 - HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of St. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266, will be held on Sunday May 18, 2014, at 9:45 am at the United Church of Christ Hall at 21 Faith Drive, West Hazleton, PA. All members are invited to attend. Election of delegates to the upcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union in Philadelphia in August of 2014 will be conducted at this meeting. A buffet breakfast will be provided by the Pardeesville Christian Association for all branch attendees. For more information, and to get directions if needed, contact R. Lazar or any other branch officer.

Richard Lazar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 276 MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St John the Baptist Branch # 276 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, May 18, 2014 at St Patrick's church hall on 32nd Street in McKeesport. Pa at 1:00 P.M. Reports will be given by the officers and discussion about the convention in Philadelphia will be made. All members are urged to attend.

Nancy Gerdich, Rec. Sec.

BRANCH 290 - RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

St. John the Baptist, Branch 290, will hold a meeting at 7:30PM on May 7, 2014. We will elect our delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union at this meeting. Please call Joe at (732) 469- 5256 after 6PM for information on the meeting place.

Joseph F. Minarovich, President

BRANCH 293 - LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold a special meeting for the purpose of electing delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union on Monday, May 19, 2014, at 6PM at the home of Financial Secretary Robert J. Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA, 18232. Anyone having questions or needing

service or more insurance call the financial secretary at 570-645-4872, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Fraternally,

Robert J. Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 293 - LANDSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, June 23, 2014, at 6PM at the home of the financial secretary Robert J. Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch Street, #2210, Lansford, PA, 18232. Anyone needing more insurance or information should call 1-570-645-4872 and your will call will be returned as soon as possible.

Fraternally,

Robert J. Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 313 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 313 will be holding a meeting on Saturday, May 17, 2014, at 11:00AM. The meeting will take place at the Mother of Sorrows Convent, 5900 W. 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL. Delegates will be elected at this meeting for the upcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention in Philadelphia, PA in August 2014.

Joseph Bugel, President

BRANCH 320 - STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 320 will hold its next meeting on May 4, 2014, at 11:30AM at the home of Frances Tarquinio at 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. The agenda will include the election of delegates to the 2014 Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU, along with other items. Any questions, please call Frances at (724) 929-9788.

Fraternally,

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

BRANCH 382 - SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382K, of Scranton, Pennsylvania, will hold a Pre-Convention Meeting at noon on Sunday, May 18, 2014. Branch members will gather in the VFW Post 3474, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, Pennsylvania.

On the agenda will be information on the Quadrennial Convention set for August 2014. Members will have the opportunity to offer suggestions regarding items to be brought to Convention.

In addition, members will discuss possible summer activities for young members of Branch 382K. The District 17 picnic will also be discussed.

A report of the District 17 spring meeting will be given. Members will hear any updated information from the Home Office.

Light refreshments will be served. All members are encouraged to attend.

Frank M. Slovenkai, Jr. is president. Other officers are Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, vice president; Michael J. Czankner, recording secretary; Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., treasurer; and John J. Slovenkai, Sr., financial secretary.

Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President

BRANCH 595 - MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 will hold its next meeting on May 18, 2014 at 2:00pm, at 2526 Sixth Street, Muskegon Heights, Michigan, 49444. Please mark your calendar to attend and learn all about the great activities that are

being planned for a fun filled summer. Everyone is encouraged to attend and show your support.

The May Breakfast will be served on May 25, 2014. This will be our last breakfast until the fall. Don't miss out on the best breakfast in town.

Burritos will be May 1st and May 22nd. Bring your family and friends to meet for dinner from 4:30pm to 7:00pm.

Our annual Memorial Day luncheon will be May 26th beginning at 12pm. Enjoy a BBQ, Macaroni Salad and a pickle for \$5.00 per person.

Thank you to everyone who joined us on Fridays during Lent for Soup and Grill Cheese. It was a great success and will be back next year.

Fraternally,

Cindy Bellefeuil, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 670 - DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 670 will hold its next meeting on May 4, 2014, at 12:00 PM at King's Restaurant located in Bentleyville, PA. The agenda will include the election of delegates to the 2014 Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU, along with other items. Any questions, please call Dorothy at (724) 379-5881.

Fraternally,

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 721 -

Branch 721 will have a meeting on Sunday, May 18, 2014, at 2:00PM. It will be held at the home of Julius Remenar, Branch Financial Secretary, located at 8977 S. Mason Road, Bannister, MI. Election of delegates to the 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union will be on the agenda. All members are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Members of Branch 731 will meet on Sunday, June 1, 2014. The meeting will be at Noon at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio. Plans for the 50th FCSU convention will be on the agenda. Our participation at the Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest on August 10, 2014 at Saint Matthias Church will also be discussed. Please plan to attend.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 769 - ENDICOTT, NEW YORK

The St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 769, will hold its semi-annual meeting at 1:00PM on May 19, 2014, at the residence of Henry J. Pochily, 2809 Smith Dr., Endicott, NY. All members are encourage to attend. The meeting will provide information regarding the forthcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union to be held in Philadelphia, PA, on August 23 - 27, 2014.

Other items of concern to the membership will be discussed, including an election of a delegate to the convention.

Henry J. Pochily, President

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

On April 6 Branch 38 hosted the spring meeting of the Pittsburgh District at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall in West Mifflin, PA. District President George Matta II was elected as the District Delegate to the upcoming convention. A meeting for all delegates is scheduled for Tuesday, July 22, 6:30 PM at the Holy Trinity church hall in West Mifflin.

Branch 254 will host the annual Fathers Day Mass & Luncheon at Holy Trinity Church in West Mifflin, with assistance from Branch 2. Members are asked to attend a 9 AM Liturgy at the church. Immediately following Mass, members are invited to the church hall for a meal and socializing. The cost of the brunch is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 12 & under. Reservations must be made in advance no later than Monday, June 9. No tickets will be sold at the door. Prices for the ad booklet are: full page \$75, half page \$40, quarter page \$25. This deadline is also June 9. Contact jtsenko@aol.com or 412-531-2990 (day) 412-343-5031 (evening). Checks should be made payable to FCSU Pgh District and sent to 230 Thornberry Circle, Pittsburgh PA 15234. If possible, use the orange form distributed at the meeting.

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

** WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library. Topics are: May 5: Rev Valerian Michlik – Greek Catholic Churches in Slovakia, June 2: Joe Bielicki – The Czechoslovak Room at Pitt. Meetings resume in the Fall. The Western PA Slovak Cultural Association features their events on Facebook.

** Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in Spring and Fall. Call Joe Senko at 412-531-2990 during office hours for information about reservations and fees.

** Pittsburgh Folk Festival – Monroeville Convention Center – Friday, May 9, 2014.

** Slovak Day at Kennywood – Thursday, July 17. Discount tickets will be available at our Fathers Day Brunch on June 15 or email Sue at smosr@verizon.net.

** The McKeesport International Village at Renzi Park, August 12-14, features ethnic foods and dancing from many countries, including Slovakia.

** The Pitt Slovak Heritage Festival will be held Sunday, November 2, at the Cathedral of Learning, noon to 5 PM.

** The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is open Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations at 412-421-1204 or by email to smosr@verizon.net. The web address is www.nsslife.org/Museum.php.

** The 15th Genealogical & Cultural Conference of the CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International will be held on Oct 21-24, 2015 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. See www.cgisi.org. Cedar Rapids is the home of the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. See www.ncsml.org.

** Various Slovak programs and courses are available through the University of Pittsburgh Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. See www.slavic.pitt.edu

** If you're interested in study abroad, the University of Presov has a number of interesting programs, including the study of Rusyn Language and Customs. Check out www.unipo.sk/en/.

** Western PA Slovak Radio Hour – 3-4 PM, Sunday's – WPIT-AM 730

Anyone with additional Slovak events in Western Pennsylvania that they wish to be included in our district notice should send information to manasta@verizon.net

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary

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

The Semi-annual meeting of the Rev. John Martvon District will be held May 18, 2014, at the Beaverdale Fire Station, 411 Cedar Street, Beaverdale, PA. The meeting will begin at 2:00PM with St. Joseph's Society, Branch 372, as the host.

On the agenda will be a discussion on the upcoming 50th Quadrennial Convention and other district business.

Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 12 – MONSIGNOR ANDREW HLINKA

District 12 will hold its next meeting on May 4, 2014, at 1:00PM at King's Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. The agenda will include the election of our delegates to the 2014 Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU, along with other items. Any questions, please call Dorothy at (724) 379-5881.

Fraternally,

Dorothy Petrus, President

DISTRICT 16 - MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT - NEW YORK CITY

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District, District 16, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 1, 2014, at 1:00PM in the Rectory of St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, New York, NY 10065.

On the agenda will be a financial report and a discussion of activities and other business.

We urge all district branches to send their representatives to this meeting. All members of the FCSU, not only district representatives, are welcome.

After the meeting, refreshments will be served, courtesy of The St. Matthew Society, Branch 45, NYC.

Fraternally,

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 17 -- SAINTS CYRIL AND METHIDIUS DISTRICT - BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK, AND LACKAWANNA AND LUZERNE COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

District 17 will hold its Annual Spring Meeting at 11:30 A.M. on Saturday, May 17, 2014, in the Shrine Dining Room at St. Ann's Basilica, St. Ann Street, Scranton, PA.

On the agenda will be the election and certification of our District Delegate to the FCSU 2014 Quadrennial Convention in Philadelphia, the Annual District 17 Summer Picnic, and other district business.

A light luncheon and social will follow the meeting and should conclude at 2:30 P.M.

Please note the change in day, date, and time of the meeting. This is to ensure that District 17 is in compliance with FCSU By-Laws.

All Branches in District 17 are urged to send representatives to the meeting. Please contact Michael Slovenkai at 570.342.7562 to confirm your Branch's attendance.

- Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., District 17 President

DISTRICT 20 - PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT – MONTREAL

Prince Rastislav District will hold their semi-annual meeting on Sunday June 8, 2014, at Sts.Cyril and Methodius Parish Hall, following the 11.00 AM Mass. Confirmation of the elected delegates and alternate, and the revised social calendar for 2014 will be discussed. Branches 784 and 810 are encouraged to attend.

A light lunch will be served.

Alexander S. Dobrik, President.

Slovak Alliance of Greater Bridgeport 2014 Scholarship



The Slovak Alliance of Greater Bridgeport, Inc. announces that the Guidelines and Procedures and Application Forms for its \$1,000 Scholarships are now available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Chairperson Eileen Wilson, 395 Pilgrim Lane, Stratford, CT, 06614. No requests via phone, please.

Among the requirements to receive a 2014 Scholarship: applicant, grandparent(s), parent (s) must be a member of the Alliance for a minimum of three years and of Slovak descent, and shall reside in the state of Connecticut.

Deadline for the return of forms is May 12, 2014. Recipients will be notified by June 2, 2014, and the award will be presented at the June meeting. NOTE: the Scholarship award will be paid directly to the recipient's school.

Fraternally,

**Eileen Wilson Chairperson, Slovak Alliance of Greater Bridgeport, Inc.
Member, Branch 19, First Catholic Slovak Union**

ALL – NEW TOURS! VISIT SLOVAKIA & THE WORLD



At the First Catholic Slovak Union, we are constantly updating our website to make it more useful, more informative – fresher. We have just added an entirely new list of tours to Slovakia guided by FCSU members under our informational tab called SLOVAKIA & THE WORLD. Here you can also find information on news and views related to our shared heritage – such as the latest video highlighting beautiful Slovakia.

Visit www.fcsu.com/slovakia-and-the-world today.

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH J. MENARCHEK BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA



Joseph J. Menarchek, 85, of Latrobe, PA, passed away Friday, January 17, 2014 at his home. He was born October 3, 1928 in Whitney, a son of the late Ignatius and Julia (Barlock) Menarchek.

Joe was an active member of St. Vincent Basilica Parish in Latrobe. He graduated from Redstone High School in Republic, PA. Following high school, he played baseball for five seasons as a pitcher in the minor leagues for the Pittsburgh Pirates. At age 34, he received his degree from California State Teacher's College (Cal U.) and then was a teacher in the Brownsville and Greater Latrobe School Districts for 26 years until his retirement. Joe served as a baseball coach, umpire, and basketball official for Fayette and Westmoreland County High Schools. In 1992, "Lefty" was inducted into the Fayette County's Big Ten Hall of Fame.

In addition to his parents, Joe was preceded in death by his sister, Lillian Russin. Left to cherish the good years are his wife of 62 and a half years, Cecelia (Sanko) Menarchek, and their children: Diane Swetz (Joe) of Latrobe, Joe Menarchek Jr. (Malinda) of Huntsville, AL, Marilee Fetkovich (George) of Greensburg, Michael Menarchek (Sue) of Greensburg, and Don Menarchek (Cathy) of Parkersburg, WVA. He was beloved gramps to twelve grandchildren: Amanda Noone (Michael), Adam Swetz, Matthew and Daniel Menarchek, Luke and Emma Fetkovich, Andy and Julia Menarchek, and Ben, Anna, Nic, and Seth Menarchek and his great grandson, Asher Noone. He is also survived by two brothers, William of Uniontown, and Robert (Connie) of Canton, OH, and a sister, Lorraine Razum of Euclid, OH.

Joe's family would like to thank Lois and Angie of Excelsa Health Hospice for their compassionate care.

Friends were received from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 PM Monday January 20, 2014, in the Hartman-Graziano Funeral Home in Latrobe. A mass of Christian burial was celebrated at 10:00 AM Tuesday, January 21, 2014, in St. Vincent Basilica, Latrobe. Interment followed in St. Vincent Cemetery.

SISTER CLAUDIA VOYTEK, SCN

Sister Claudia Voytek, a Sister of Charity of Nazareth, died peacefully on Tues-

day, April 15, 2014, at the age of 85, having served the Lord faithfully for 68 years. She was originally from Republic, PA and entered the Congregation of the Vincentian Sisters of Charity from Holy Rosary Parish in 1946. Sister Claudia received her B.Ed. and M.Ed. in Elementary Administration from Duquesne University. During her years in ministry in the Dioceses of Pittsburgh, Greensburg, and Mobile, Alabama, Sister Claudia served in various assignments, including elementary school teacher, principal, and parish organist. Prior to her retirement, Sister was organist at the Vincentian Motherhouse for 45 years, where she was greatly regarded for her gift and love of music. Sister Claudia endeavored to glorify the Lord through her rendition of meaningful music in Sacred Liturgy. Her final years were spent as a substitute teacher at St. Sebastian and St. Ursula School, along with providing piano lessons to students in the Pittsburgh area. Sister Claudia was preceded in death by her parents, John and Mae Voytek. She is survived by her sister, Sister Emerentia Voytek, SCN; her brother, Leo; and her Sisters in Community. Friends were received at St. Louise Convent (formerly the Vincentian Motherhouse) on McKnight Road, Pittsburgh, on Monday, April 21, 2014, from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. The Mass of Christian Burial was offered on Tuesday, April 22, 2014, at 11 a.m., followed by interment in the Sisters' cemetery on the convent grounds.

CHARLES JOSEPH BILICSKA BRANCH 381 - PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY

Charles Joseph Bilicska, 66, of Passaic Park, NJ, passed away on April 4, 2014. Born and raised in Jersey City, Mr. Bilicska lived in Passaic Park for most of his life. He was retired after 33 years of employment with J.P. Morgan Co. in New York City.

Mr. Bilicska was a parishioner of St. Mary R.C. Church in Passaic. He was a member and served as secretary of the First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 381 KJ and was a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokols Assembly #1 in Passaic. He was predeceased by his wife, Gail (nee Kopchak) in 2002; and a daughter, Cheryl Bilicska in 1976. Survivors include: his son, Michael Bilicska of Passaic Park; two daughters, Lauren Bilicska (Robert DeSopo) and Suzanne Bilicska, both of Clifton; two grandchildren, Matthew and Nicholas DeSopo; his mother-in-law, Florence Kopchak of Wallington; his sister-in-law, Judith Kopchak of Wallington; his brother-in-law, John Kopchak and his family of Park Ridge.

- submitted by Suzanne Bilicska

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY				
AS OF APRIL 1, 2014 THE FOLLOWING BRANCHES DID NOT MEET THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THEIR 2013 BRANCH STIPEND PER BYLAW 4.05 FINANCIAL OBLIGATION				
Branch #	Branch #	Branch #	Branch #	Branch #
001P	163K	315K	434K	700K
004K	164K	319K	456K	701K
010K	165K	321P	461K	702K
016P	175K	322K	465K	704K
023K	189K	324K	472K	714K
041K	189P	326K	487K	717K
053K	198P	327K	497K	729K
064K	200K	330K	505K	733K
083K	211K	333K	510K	735K
086K	215K	335K	512K	748K
090K	221K	348K	514K	754K
096K	224K	353K	517K	756K
098K	226P	353P	543K	774K
102K	233K	358K	571K	777K
108K	238K	362K	584K	780K
110K	240P	368K	586K	788K
114P	266K	373K	591K	823K
121K	270K	381K	600K	831K
122K	278K	388K	615K	852K
124K	279K	401K	618K	853K
128K	280K	402K	633K	858K
132K	294K	403K	635K	862K
136K	299K	404K	636K	888K
144P	308K	414K	638K	890K
149K	310P	417K	652K	
152K	312K	429K	667K	
156K	313K	430K	686K	

Reminder...

All English and Slovak articles should be sent directly to the editor Teresa Ivanec, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398. The email address for articles is fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com. Articles may also be sent by Fax at 216/642-4310. Teresa Ivanec can be reached by phone at 216/642-9406 or 1/800-533-6682.

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

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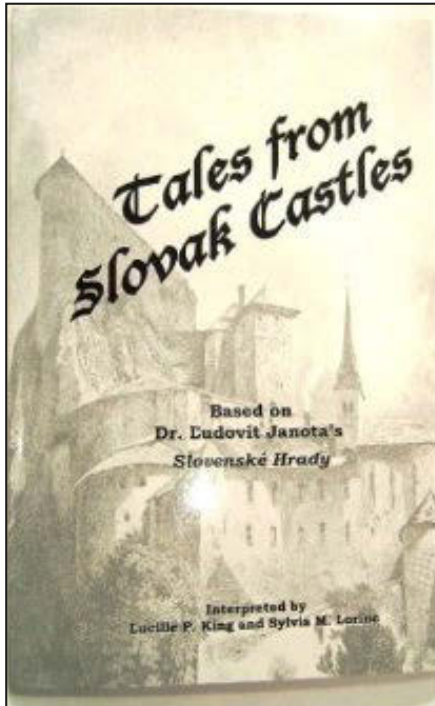




Book Corner

Tales from Slovak Castles

Interpreted by
Lucille P. King and Sylvia M. Lorinc



Tales that surround 15 Slovak castles are based on Dr. Ludovit Janota's Slovenske Hradky, a collection of oral tales, published in 1935 and currently out of print. Notes at the end of several stories highlight the history behind the tale. Tales includes romance, war, mystery, comedy and myth.

Some reviews

"I enjoyed Tales from Slovak Castles very much. The authors did an excellent job presenting the tales with the historical backgrounds that accompanied each."

- Margaret Slavik, Kenosha, WI

"... pretty doggone good book. I gave the book to my son, my brother, nephew, and they all agreed. We visited Europe 4 times and visited many castles. These stories made the castles come alive."

- Stephen Pastrasek, Alliance, OH

"... fantastic! I was thrilled to read the book. I was disappointed that the castle from my parent's village was not included, but the Bibliography in the back led me in the direction to find the information on the Internet."

- Milan Blaho, Cicero, IN

For more information or to order this book, go to www.amazon.com and type the book name or go directly to the order page on the site by going to <http://tinyurl.com/ocdza3c>



ATTENTION Branches and Districts Electing Delegates to the 50th Quadrennial of the First Catholic Slovak Union: HAVE YOU MAILED IN YOUR DELEGATE FORMS?

11.03 Qualification of Delegates

(c) Election of delegates must be completed no later than ninety (90) calendar days before the opening of the Convention. **Credentials must be forwarded to the Office of the Executive Secretary and postmarked, not to exceed thirty (30) calendar days after the election of the delegate.** Names of those elected delegates not received by the Executive Secretary in accordance with the above requirements will not be seated as delegates at the Convention.



Bob Rychlik 2013

Last Chance for Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Cities Tour 2014



What are you waiting for? This trip is a go. This is the last chance for you to get on board. Don't postpone making the decision a minute longer. We're awaiting your call or e-mail. Contact Jim Bench at 724-858-5843 or Kay Bench at 724-771-7900 or e-mail us at jmbench@yahoo.com. This is a trip of a lifetime.

The cost of the trip including airfare, hotels, admissions, breakfast and dinners daily is \$3849.00 from Washington D.C. and \$3899.00 from Pittsburgh, Pa. We

spend three nights in Bratislava, 1 night in Piešťany/Trenčín region, 2 nights in the Tatry Mountains, 3 nights in Levoča, 2 nights in Košice, and 2 nights in Sliach. All the hotels are 4-5 star. Remember our trip is 14 days. No matter what state you are from Paul Hudak of Adventure International will arrange for you to meet us in Washington D.C. He can be reached at Adventure International at 216-228-7171 or 800-542-2487.

Side trips are available to visit relatives with advance planning. Hope to hear from you.

Address Changes?

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

Learn to Play an Easy and Wonderful Slovak Music Instrument this Summer

Bob Rychlik

The symbol of Slovak folk music, the decorated "fujara" flute is often presented as a gift to visiting heads of states and it has been recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of Heritage of all Humanity (2005). Some bought a decorated fujara and it is now hanging on the wall, because they assumed that it is difficult to play that instrument. I have great news for everybody: IT IS NOT DIFFICULT AT ALL, and after a week long course you would be on your way to enjoy playing fujara or koncovka for yourself or for your community.

It doesn't matter if you already play a music instrument, or if you have never played one in your life!

Slovak overtone flutes are very easy to play and have wonderful sound.

The short flute "koncovka" has no side holes and sounds great the second you blow into it, there are no "wrong" tones there, no need to read music either, you can play intuitively and my students have been jamming blues on the 3rd day.

The large flute "fujara" is based on the same overtone scale, but with 3 side holes has 2 octave range, and has majestic and soothing sound.

If you'd like to hear them, click on the link to watch my concert at Library of Congress, from Library archives:

http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=5044

or from YouTube:

http://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.youtube.com/watch%3Fv%3D5Y5fonktBzQ&sa=U&ei=s7yuTaj_NYmftwfoj4XeAw

If you'd like to play one, the 5 day course at Common Ground on the Hill. (McDaniel College, Westminster), 1st week of July 2014, is open right now, don't wait too long to register:

<http://www.commongroundonthehill.org/index.html> (Traditions week 1 / Overtone flutes), or to get the printed catalog of all courses, send email to Sarah LaCoss, Office Administrator Sarah@commongroundonthehill.org and ask for the Traditions Week printed booklet to be mailed to you.

Please contact me for any questions at:

fujara@gmail.com

home: 301-829-1202

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014

SHERATON DOWNTOWN HOTEL, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked National Chaplain, Rev. Thomas Nasta to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

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

ACCEPTANCE OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the February 2014 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by George Matta to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT:

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

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

President stated there would be no AQS Report because Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., gave his extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report to the Board of Directors on Friday, March 21, 2014.

INVESTMENT UPDATES:

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Executive Committee for its review of the investments and transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), the Matlin Patterson Fund (MPAM), UBS Fund, and MAI Fund. Following the report, the Executive Secretary answered the Executive Committee's questions. The Report was also given to the Board of Directors.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES

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

MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

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

Disbursements for the month of February 2014:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 322,192.90
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 34,426.12
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

PORTFOLIO REVIEW:

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

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President gave a detailed summary of the Annual Report he presented to the Board of Directors on March 21, 2014. The Vice President stated we are still continuing to recruit new agents and we now have 180 agents. Following the report, the Vice President answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The Vice President stated he is still scheduling seminars for 2014 and asked the Regional Directors to contact him with available dates.

The Vice President stated we will introduce two new programs; the first will be a Final Expense Program and the second will be a Wealth Management/Transfer of Wealth Program. More information will be available soon, and the information will go out to all branches, will be published in the Jednota newspaper, and on our website.

ADVERTISING:

The Executive Secretary stated we have been advertising the IRA and Roth products in our mailings, on the website, and through e-mail.

The Executive Secretary informed the Committee that we have received excellent response from our members on the Wealth Management/Personal Estate Planning Booklets. The booklet is a fraternal benefit and is still available to all members upon request.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President stated the convention planning in Philadelphia is going very well. The President stated the Annual March Board of Directors Meeting and the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting are being held at the Sheraton Downtown Philadelphia Hotel, the site of the Convention. He announced the Board will have a tour of the hotel and see the space that will be used for our convention. The Board had a Big Bus City Tour which provided an overview of the City of Philadelphia.

The Executive Secretary stated he has begun the process of certifying the delegate credential forms. Once a delegate is certified, a letter of acknowledgement will go out to him or her along with a tentative schedule and information on how to register at the hotel.

The Executive Secretary stated the 2013 Financial Statement is completed and has been filed with the State of Ohio and the other states we are licensed in prior to the March 1st due date. The Annual Statement will be published in the April issue of our Jednota newspaper.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

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

ADJOURN:

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

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

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Explore Your Heritage This Summer with 2014 Treasure Tours

Treasure Tours is offering two trips this coming summer that visit Slovakia, continuing our strategy of immersing in the culture, traversing the country from east to west and north to south, and finding long-lost family for our travelers; proud of our 98% success rate! 2014 Treasure Tours offerings include Bratislava old town, Modra ceramics, Detva Folk Festival, Kežmarok Crafts Fest; two walled towns - Levoča and Bardejov - Prešov, Spiš Castle, staying in a castle overlooking Košice, charming Čičmany and more. July 11 to 20 -\$2,199 per person for the land trip. More information is available



by visiting www.fcsu.com and clicking on Slovakia & The World Tab or directly from Treasure Tours, Helene Cincebeaux, 151 Colebrook Dr, Rochester NY 14617, (toll-free) 888 529-7150, helenezx@aol.com

The traditional Slovak greeting of bread and salt was offered to Treasures of Slovakia tour-goer Perre DiCarlo at the beginning of a village wedding party.

Reminder For All Branches

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

14.01 General Rules

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

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Jerry Costello for The Christophers

Football Hero Becomes Role Model for Deaf Children

Seattle Seahawks fullback Derrick Coleman didn't quite win the Most Valuable Player award this year in the Hawks' Super Bowl romp over the Denver Broncos, but don't tell that to hundreds of hearing-impaired youngsters who watched the game as his guests. As far as they were concerned, he was the MVP for all time and a lock for the Hall of Fame. And who's to say they're wrong?

It all began in January, when Coleman, who is deaf himself, recorded a commercial for Duracell batteries. It told of his journey from being a bullied deaf child to his eventual emergence as a football hero, his deafness pretty much unknown until the commercial appeared. It turned out to be a winner, one that touched many people. As they say in the social media world, it went viral, and an estimated 15 million viewers watched it. Among them was the Kovalcik family of Roxbury, New Jersey, and that's when the story really got started.

Coleman's deafness hit home for the Kovalciks' twin girls, Riley and Erica, 9, both of whom have hearing problems and wear hearing aids. Until they saw the commercial, they never dreamed that someone who was deaf could go on to football stardom, and Riley Kovalcik decided to write directly to Coleman. "I know how you feel," she wrote. "I also have hearing aids. I have faif [sic] in you Derrick good job on January 20th game" (for the league championship, against the San Francisco Forty-Niners).

The girls' father, Jake, posted the letter on his Twitter account, and eventually it reached Coleman himself. He wrote back to little Riley: "Really was great hearing from a friend who I have so much in common with. Even though we wear hearing aids, we can still accomplish our goals and dreams... I hope we can all get together & play some sports or games!"

Coleman may not have known it at the time, but it was that exchange that got the ball rolling. One deaf youngster who benefited from Coleman's generosity was a namesake: 10-year-old Jack Coleman of Allentown, Pennsylvania, who was completely surprised by his hero in a sporting-goods store. "I had no idea," Jack said, astonished. "I'd been looking all over for a Derrick Coleman jersey, and there he was!" The boy not only received his jersey (signed), but also an autographed football and tickets to the Super Bowl for his whole family.

Then there were the 100 children from area who were fitted for new hearing aids by doctors at MetLife Stadium, again through the courtesy of Derrick Coleman. His interviews and his exchanges with others easily describe what motivates him.

When Jake Kovalcik first wrote to thank him because "you've inspired my little girls in a way I never could," Coleman told him, "Your girls are awesome! Thank you for the support. Means a lot!"

All of them finally met on the set of "Good Morning America," when Riley and Erica thought they were simply being interviewed, and then were stunned to see Coleman himself.

When it was his turn to speak he explained what he had in mind.

"One of my goals is to help others in the hard-of-hearing and deaf community," he said. "And kids? Who couldn't relate to them?"

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, YOUR CAREER COUNTS, write: The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org



2014 September Slovakia Heritage Tour to End in Krakow

This September's Slovakia Heritage Tour (September 4-14, 2014) will finish with a day in Krakow, Poland. This small group, 10-day tour will travel the heartland of Slovakia from Bratislava and the Tatra Mountains to Košice and Bardejov with time to get out into the countryside and cities to meet the people and learn about the history and culture. People will have time to visit their family villages, if they choose. Other positives to ending the tour in Krakow: the city has very good air connections for those returning to the states, and it will be a good launching point for trip extensions to Prague, Warsaw, or other eastern locations. Another plus for devout Catholics, is that it is the spiritual home of Pope John Paul II and there are museums and churches dedicated to his memory.

For more information on the September Slovakia Heritage Tour (Sept 4-14), visit the FCSU website at www.fcsu.com and click on the Slovakia & The World tab or go directly to the Slovak Heritage Tour website at www.slovakiaheritage.com or contact Tour Director Judith Northup-Bennett at 978-544-5144 or connectionswork4u@hotmail.com.



Kent-Dudince Sister City Association

Eleventh Annual Anniversary Banquet
Sunday, May 18, 2014

Kent Elks Lodge Hall
Elks Lane - State Route 59
(behind Twin Star Bowling Lanes - 2245 State Route 59)

1:00 pm -- Social Hour 2:00 pm -- Dinner 3:00 pm -- Program

Music by Johnny Pastirik during Social Hour and Dinner
Dancing following the program

Pittsburgh Slovaks
Sue and Rudy Ondrejco, Directors

Lucina Slovak Folk Ensemble of Greater Cleveland
Nadia Oros, Choreography Tom Ivanec, Director/Program Coordinator

Tickets - \$20.00 per person
Catered by Tom's Country Place of Avon, Ohio
Advance ticket sales only
Deadline for purchasing tickets: May 9, 2014

Ticket orders with directions will be mailed. Please include names of all guests.
Donation of Baked Goods would be appreciated

Ticket Order Form ---- Kent-Dudince Sister City ---- Anniversary Banquet

Name: _____ Number of Tickets _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

List others attending (if known) _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip _____

Ticket orders with directions will be mailed
Make Check payable to: Kent-Dudince Sister City Association
Mail to: Dr. George Wargo, Treasurer,
858 Stonewater Drive, Kent, Ohio 44240 (330-677-9094)

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

R	A	M	S		S	H	O	O		C	O	W			
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News From Slovakia

Prochazka Advises Fico to Seek Job as European Commissioner

Bratislava, April 7 (TASR) - Independent MPs Radoslav Prochazka, Andrej Hrnčiar and Miroslav Beblavy – who are working on building a new political party – recommended to Prime Minister Robert Fico on this date that he should seek a post of European Commissioner, TASR learnt on the same day.

The three MPs spoke on the occasion of the second anniversary of Fico's incumbent Government taking power – or the halfway point in the term.

"I personally think that Fico becoming a European Commissioner after the European Parliament elections would be the most useful thing," said Prochazka. He added that Fico is now short of "energy and true ambitions to advance this country any further".

This was laid bare with Fico's recent run for the presidency, as he demonstrated a willingness to depart from the post of prime minister, said Prochazka. "The Government is currently headed by a person who no longer enjoys the job ... who's not really into it any longer," said Prochazka. Former Christian Democrat (KDH) MP Prochazka has recently been in the limelight after receiving a surprisingly high vote of support - 21.2 percent - in the first round of the presidential elections on March 15.

Prochazka, who was first elected as an MP in 2010 and left KDH in early 2013 to run for president, also said that the premier has built a strong position in international politics – and he could now lean on that as a member of the European Commission. "He's prided himself for many months on having a strong position on the international scene, and we believe that he has rightfully prided himself on it to a certain extent," said Prochazka.

As one of the few positive facets of the current Government's term, Prochazka said that the Cabinet has managed to push for an extension to the drawing of EU funding for Slovakia by two years, which is down to Fico's solid position abroad.

When asked as to whether he possesses some 'insider' information from Fico's Smer-SD party to the effect that Fico may indeed vie for post of European Commissioner, Prochazka said that there's no way he can keep track of what's going on within Smer.

[It was reported back in the autumn of 2012 that Fico could replace European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso once his term expires in October 2014. Hospodarske Noviny daily reported in October 2012 that Fico had discussed his candidacy with German Chancellor Angela Merkel during his visit to Berlin in July of that year. Fico's spokesman didn't refute the reports back then, saying that "the prime minister has only one interest - to remain in Slovakia". He would not have to be on the Smer-SD slate for the May 24 EP election to be elevated to a Commissioner's post, or even Commission President if the Social Democratic faction wins. Maros Sefcovic, Slovakia's current commissioner, heads the current slate. He was not on the party slate in 2009 - ed. note

This move follows the poor 3.3-percent support he received in the first round of the presidential elections in mid-March. In addition, Pavol Abrhan, who was responsible for Hrusovsky's campaign, resigned from his post of the KDH vice-chairman.

"I thank Pavol Hrusovsky for his courage and commitment in the campaign. The election outcome didn't correspond with KDH's standing, so we consider it to have been a failure," admitted Figel. New party caucus chairman, as well as the new vice-chairman are expected to be elected in the coming days. Furthermore, KDH is set to hold a convention in the autumn in which Figel suggests opening up some personnel issues.

Maidan Protesters Recovering in Slovakia Visit Spis Area

Spisska Kapitula, April 9 (TASR) - A group of 25 Ukrainians, who sustained some harm especially to their mental health during anti-government protests at Kiev's Maidan Square, visited Spis Castle (Presov region) and other nearby sights on this date.

The group is currently on a rehabilitation stay in Michalovce (Kosice region), at a rehab centre owned by the Defence Ministry in Zemplinska Sirava. Their trip to the castle and the nearby ecclesiastical town of Spisska Kapitula was organised by Ukraine's Consulate General of Ukraine in Presov in conjunction with the Slovak-European Cultural Association (FEMAN).

"It's mostly young people who've come here. They were directly on site during the protests between November and February. Their rehabilitation stay was made possible thanks to the Slovak Government and the Foreign and European Affairs Ministry. They wanted to see some of the area around, so we've organized this trip here, and they're enjoying it so much," said Ukraine's consul general Olga Benc.

They're also being accompanied by psychologist Oxana Voloshyna. "Some of these young boys were barely 16 years of age when they went to Maidan from various parts of Ukraine. They didn't expect to see shooting and death there, they didn't expect to see their friends die holding them in their arms," said Voloshyna. "Yet they tried to help, and while their bodies may have recovered, they're still suffering mental harm ... it's so hard to get over it," she added.

Slovak and Czech Defence Ministers Herald Tangible Joint Projects

Bratislava, April 11 (TASR) - Slovak and Czech Defense Ministers - Martin Glvac and Martin Stropnický - will sign at least two documents on cooperation at a joint session of the two governments in Skalica (Trnava region on April 24, 2014).

Rather than memoranda of understanding, "they'll be highly concrete items ... we'll engage in joint projects," Glvac said after holding talks with Stropnický in Bratislava. The Czech Defence Minister is currently on an official visit to Slovakia.

"We're working ... with a view toward the joint session of the two governments," said Stropnický. He added that "talks have been proceeding at a fast pace. There's not much explaining to do and both sides share the same views."

He noted that many Czech and Slovak defense ministers have talked a lot about mutual cooperation but it has never fully come to fruition. "Now there's a realistic chance of proceeding in unison on many issues," said Stropnický before indicating that the cooperation might involve sharing of some weapon systems and joint planning.

"We talked about possibly sharing airforce capacities, about how to go ahead with training of ground forces ... what lies ahead for us and about how our duties will change in light of the international situation and the situation in Ukraine," said Glvac.

At a gathering of Visegrad Four (Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary) defense ministers in Hungary in mid-March, the officials signed three documents concerning long-term cooperation between the countries in the sphere of defense including a memorandum of understanding on setting up a joint V4 battle group.

Hrusovsky Resigns as KDH Party Caucus Chairman

Casta-Papiernicka/Bratislava, April 7 (TASR) - Unsuccessful KDH (Christian Democrats) presidential candidate Pavol Hrusovsky, who was also supported by ethnic Hungarian Most-Hid part and sort of by SDKU-DS, has resigned from his post of KDH party caucus chairman, KDH chairman Jan Figel announced after the session of KDH Presidium in Casta-Papiernicka (Bratislava region) on this date.

FCSU LIFE Single Premium Insurance Spring Special!

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

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



Editor's Note: The rates in the Winter Single Premium Special that ran on page 22 of the January 15, 2014 issue were published in error. Jednota apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.

Správy zo Slovenska

R. Procházka odporúča premiérovi, aby sa uchádzal o post eurokomisára

Bratislava 7. apríla (TASR) - Nezávislí poslanci Národnej rady (NR) SR Radoslav Procházka, Miroslav Beblavý a Andrej Hrnčiar, ktorí pripravujú vznik nového pravicového subjektu, dnes odporúčili premiérovi Robertovi Ficovi (Smer-SD), aby sa uchádzal o post eurokomisára. Vyhľadali to na dnešnej tlačovej besede, ktorá bola venovaná hodnoteniu prvých dvoch rokov vlády Roberta Fica.

„Môj osobný názor je, že by bolo najužitočnejšie, keby sa po eurovoľbách premiér stal eurokomisárom,“ vyhlásil Procházka, podľa ktorého Robertovi Ficovi už v domácej politike chýba „energia a skutočná ambícia túto krajinu ešte niekde posunúť“.

Robert Fico to podľa neho dokázal okrem iného aj tým, že kandidoval na prezidenta a teda prejavil ochotu odísť z postu predsedu vlády. „Vládu dnes vedie človek, ktorého to už nebaví, ktorému sa už do toho nechce. A národu pred pol rokom oznámil, že to svoje ako premiér už splnil,“ vyhlásil Procházka.

Na druhej strane, v medzinárodnej politike si podľa Procházku premiér skutočne vybudoval silné pozície, o ktoré by sa ako člen Európskej komisie mohol oprieť. „Dlhé mesiace sa hrdil svojim postavením na medzinárodnej scéne a podľa nášho názoru sa tým do istej miery hrdil právom,“ vyhlásil Procházka.

Za jeden z mála pozitívnych výsledkov tejto vlády považuje Procházka fakt, že dokázala presadiť pre Slovensko možnosť predĺženia lehoty čerpania eurofondov o dva roky, čo je tiež dôsledok jej dobrej medzinárodnej pozície.

Na otázku, či má z prostredia Smeru-SD nejaké kuloárne informácie o tom, že by možnosť, ktorú navrhuje, bola reálna, Procházka odpovedal, že dianie v štruktúrach Smeru-SD nemá ako sledovať. „Nie je naša úloha, aby sme to za neho riešili. Ale my sa na to, čo sa na Slovensku deje, nepozeralme krvavými očami, ale cez prizmu toho, čo by pre Slovensko bolo najužitočnejšie,“ uzavrel.

M. Glváč: Spolupráca s Poľskom v oblasti obrany naberá ďalšie dimenzie

Bratislava 7. apríla (TASR) - Slovenská a Poľská republika chcú užšie spolupracovať v oblasti obrany. Zhodli sa na tom minister obrany SR Martin Glváč a poľský minister národnej obrany Tomasz Siemoniak počas dnešného rokovania v Krakove. Priestor na spoločné projekty sa črtá nielen v oblasti pozemných, ale aj vzdušných síl.

„V čase obmedzených zdrojov na obranu je potrebné hľadať efektívne riešenia prospešné pre obe krajiny. Som preto rád, naša doterajšia spolupráca s Poľskom naberá ďalšie dimenzie a verím, že už čoskoro začneme spoločne realizovať konkrétne projekty,“ povedal minister obrany SR Martin Glváč.

Záujem o rozvoj vzájomných vzťahov v oblasti obrany deklaroval na stretnutí aj poľský minister národnej obrany Tomasz Siemoniak. „Slovenskú republiku vnímame ako blízkeho partnera. Naša spolupráca má veľmi pevné základy, spolupracujeme v rámci V4, NATO, Európskej únie a máme podobné názory. Naším vzťahom chceme dať preto novú úroveň,“ uviedol minister Siemoniak.

Zámer ministrov užšie spolupracovať, by mala potvrdiť aj nová medzivládna dohoda o rozvoji spolupráci v oblasti obrany, ktorá sa v súčasnosti pripravuje. Rámce konkrétnej spolupráce stanoví pracovné skupiny vedené štátnymi tajomníkmi rezortov obrany z oboch krajín.

Ministri dnes hovorili aj o aktuálnej situácii na Ukrajine. „Ide o nášho spoločného suseda, preto sa nás táto téma týka a treba o nej hovoriť,“ zdôraznil šéf poľského rezortu národnej obrany.

Šéfovia rezortov diskutovali aj o spoločných projektoch v rámci krajín V4. „Ich realizáciu budeme presadzovať aj počas predsedníctva Slovenskej republiky vo Vyšehradskej skupine, ktoré Slovenská republika prevezme 1. júla 2014,“ potvrdil minister Glváč.

KDH: Pavol Hrušovský a Pavol Abrhan rezignovali na svoje funkcie

Častá-Papiernička 7. apríla (TASR) - Neúspešný kandidát KDH na prezidenta Pavol Hrušovský, ktorého v marcových voľbách podporovali aj Most-Híd a SDKÚ-DS, sa vzdal postu predsedu poslaneckého klubu KDH. Tento krok je dôsledkom slabého volebného výsledku, keď Hrušovský v prvom kole prezidentských volieb získal len 3,33 percenta hlasov. Z funkcie podpredsedu hnutia zase odstúpil Pavol Abrhan, ktorý bol v rámci KDH politicky zodpovedný za voľby. Po dnešnom rokovaní rozšíreného Predsedníctva KDH to oznámil líder hnutia Ján Figel' s tým, že svojho miesta sa vzdala aj riaditeľka komunikačného odboru KDH Mária Hlucháčková.

„Ďakujem Pavlovi Hrušovskému za jeho odvahu a nasadenie v kampani. Výsledok bol nepriemeraný postaveniu hnutia, hodnotíme ho ako neúspech,“ priznal Figel'. Nový predseda klubu by mal byť zvolený v nasledujúcich dňoch, rovnako tak aj podpredseda. Na jeseň bude mať KDH snem, kde Figel' navrhne aj otvorenie personálnych otázok.

SPIŠ: Ukrajinci demonštrujú na Majdane navštívili Spišský hrad

Spišská Kapitula 9. apríla (TASR) - Niekoľko Ukrajincov, ktorí boli priamymi účastníkmi demonštrácií na Majdane, je v súčasnosti na rehabilitácii na východe Slovenska. V rámci pobytu v Michalovciach dnes pre 25 z nich pripravil ukrajinský konzulát v Prešove v spolupráci so združením Feman - Slovensko-európskou kultúrnou spoločnosťou program v Spišskej Kapitule a na Spišskom hrade.

„Prišli sem mladí ľudia, ktorí boli v ťažkých časoch, od novembra až do februára priamo na mieste demonštrácií. Vďaka vláde SR a ministerstvu zahraničných vecí sa podarilo pre nich túto rehabilitáciu pripraviť. Chceli zároveň vidieť niečo z tohto kraja, tak sme pripravili exkurziu a veľmi sa im tu páči,“ uviedla pre TASR generálna konzulka Ukrajiny na Slovensku Oľga Benč.

Na Spiš prišli prevažne mladí ľudia do 30 rokov zo západnej, centrálnej i východnej Ukrajiny, Lvova, Užhorodu i ďalších menších miest.

Na pobyte sa týmto Ukrajincom venuje predovšetkým psychologička Oxana Voloshyna, ktorá ich sprevádza a poskytuje hlavne psychologickú pomoc. „Tí mladí chlapci, niektorí mali len 16 rokov, keď išli z rôznych regiónov Ukrajiny na Majdan, neočakávali, že tam sa bude stieľať, že uvidia smrť, že budú v náručí držať zranených kamarátov. Aj napriek tomu sa snažili pomôcť a hoci možno ich telo je už vyliečené zo zranení, ich psychika stále trpí, je veľmi ťažké to prežiť,“ vysvetľuje Voloshyna so slzami v očiach.

Slovenské firmy hrozby odmietajú

„Hackeri sú rizikom pre zastarané technológie“.

Tisíce počítačov v slovenských firmách stratia ochrannú ruku pred útokmi hackerov. Americká spoločnosť Microsoft totiž ukončila podporu populárneho operačného programu Windows XP. V praxi to znamená, že takmer 13 rokov od spustenia XP prestane jeho tvorca poskytovať používateľom náplasti na nové bezpečnostné chyby v operačnom systéme. Počítače sa tak podľa denníka stávajú podstatne ľahším terčom pre hackerov či vírusy. Napriek rizikám sa slovenské firmy neobávajú. „Veľká časť počítačov má u nás Windows XP, neplánujeme však žiadne zmeny v súvislosti s ukončením jeho podpory,“ povedal napríklad pre denník Hospodárske noviny Michal Borovský, vedúci pre IT v spoločnosti Sevt.

HN

V Bratislave predstavili najstaršiu slovenskú tlačenú knihu

Bardejovský katechizmus

Slovenská národná knižnica (SNK) predstavila 16. apríla 2014 v Bratislave jedinečnú publikáciu Bardejovský katechizmus, ktorú vydala na sklonku minulého roka v edícii Pramene k duchovným dejinám Slovenska. Dielo prostredníctvom faksimilnej rekonštrukcie a vedeckých štúdií sprístupňuje verejnosti historicky najstaršiu knihu na území Slovenska, vydanú v roku 1581 v domácej spisovnej reči - slovakizovanej češtine.

Bardejovský katechizmus vytlačil v Bardejove v roku 1581 ako jediné slovenské vydanie medzi mnohými latinskými, nemeckými a niekoľkými maďarskými tamojší tlačiari Dávid Gutgesell. Preto nesie pomenovanie „bardejovský“. Kovačka uviedol aj ďalší dôvod, prečo má táto kniha pre Slovákov jedinečný význam: „Uvádza do života slovenský bohoslužobný jazyk vtedajších evanjelikov, a tým v chrámoch i v školách fixuje domáci jazyk ako legitímny prejav dlhodobu formujúceho sa slovenského národa.“

Unikátna kniha sa na Slovensku zachovala v podobe jediného, veľmi poškodeného výtlačku. O jeho objav a získanie do fondov SNK sa zaslúžil bibliograf a historik knižnej kultúry Boris Bálent, ktorý sa postaral v roku 1947 aj o jej faksimilné vydanie. Zachovaný výtlačok poškodil v presne nezistenom čase kníhviazač, ktorý z neho odrezal vrchnú časť, a tak sťažil predstavu o autentickom podobe Bardejovského katechizmu. V dôsledku toho v ňom sčasti alebo úplne chýbajú prvé riadky. Ďalšie poškodenie unikátneho výtlačku zvyrazňujú i chýbajúce, možno kedysi zámerne odstránené, strany. Skupina bádateľov začala preto po roku 2009 spolupracovať, s cieľom vytvoriť čo najzreteľnejšiu predstavu o tom, aký mala najstaršia slovenská kniha pôvodný formát a akým bol jej autentický text, vrátane zničených alebo stratených textových pasáží. Po piatich rokoch sa ciele podarilo naplniť. Dôkazom je nielen rekonštruovaný text Bardejovského katechizmu vo vydanej knihe, ale i celý rad špecializovaných štúdií, ktoré prehľbujú znalosti o dejinách Slovenska, osobitne o jeho knižnej kultúre v 16. storočí, ako aj o dejinách kresťanstva a reformácie na Slovensku.

Na prezentácii najstaršej slovenskej knihy v bratislavskej Univerzitnej knižnici tiež odznela prednáška profesora Ľubomíra Ďuroviča s názvom Bardejovský katechizmus - retrospektíva a perspektíva.



FOTO TASR - Michal Svítok

Z prezentácie reedície najstaršej slovenskej knihy z roku 1581 s kultúrohistorickými, filologickými a teologickými štúdiami a komentármi - Bardejovský katechizmus. Bratislava, 16. apríla 2014.

On April 16, 2014 in Bratislava there was a formal presentation of the reprinting of the oldest Slovak book, the Bardejovský katechizmus (The Bardejov Catechism), first published in 1581.



FOTO TASR - Oliver Ondráš

Na snímke pohrebný sprievod s lyžou kráča z Chaty pod Soliskom ku hrobu počas ukončenia lyžiarskej sezóny na Štrbskom Plese vo Vysokých Tatrách 20. apríla 2014.

The ceremonial burying of skis took place in Solisko in the High Tatras on April 20, 2014, marking the official end of the 2014 skiing season.

Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

Pripravované podujatia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v New York City Vám oznamuje, že pripravuje pre Vás tieto zaujímavé podujatia:

Dvojdňovú katolícku púť do chrámu Božieho milosrdenstva – **National Shrine of The Divine Mercy Stockbridge, Massachusetts v máji 2014.**

Tradičnú slovenskú katolícku púť do **Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, New York** spojená so slovenskou svätou omšou, ružencovou pobožnosťou a obedom v nedeľu dňa **10. augusta 2014.**

Zájazd na divadelné predstavenie s náboženskou tematikou „**Mozeš**“ do divadla **Sight & Sound Lancaster, Pennsylvania** (pravdepodobne 2-dňový s nocľahom) **jeseň 2014** – presný termín bude oznámený – podľa záujemcov.

Žiadame záujemcov o uvedené podujatia, aby sa prihlásili do konca mája 2014.

Bližšie informácie Vám podajú: Jozef Bilík (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová (201) 641-8922; Mária Božeková (347) 612-1934.

Polročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu č. 16 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že polročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu Spolku č. 16 sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa **1. júna 2014** o 1:00 hodine odpolednia na färe 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 podanie finančnej správy a príprava plánu činnosti na budúce obdobie. Po polročnej schôdzi sa bude predávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripravia členovia spolku sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ. Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Skupina Drišľak na turné v USA

Skupina Drišľak zo Slovenska, ktorá bude na turné v USA bude mať nasledovné vystúpenia:

V sobotu **3. mája** o 7.00 hodine v Harristown, NJ. Informácie: Oľga (609) 529-1522, (609) 771-6736.

V nedeľu **4. mája** o 2.00 hodine popoludní v Clifone, NJ. Informácie: Martina (201) 751-8481.

V sobotu **10. mája** o 7.00 hodine v hale kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, Manhattan, NY. Informácie: Mária (347) 612-1934; Domink (914) 403-7877.

Ponuka vzdelávacích programov pre krajanov 2014

Škola choreografie ľudového tanca regiónov Slovenska

Milí krajanovia, Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, Centrum ďalšieho vzdelávania ponúka vzdelávací program na aktuálny rok, ktorý začína v júni v poradí už piatym ročníkom školy choreografie ľudového tanca regiónov Slovenska. Počas celého leta máme pre Vás pripravenú zaujímavú ponuku programov so zameraním na rôzne kreatívne a odborné oblasti, v rámci ktorých sa zdokonalíte v slovenčine, získate odborné zručnosti vo vami vybranej sfére a spoznáte kus nášho krásneho Slovenska. Našu ponuku zaväzujeme tradičným podujatím Mikuláš a Vianoce na Slovensku pre našich najmenších.

Aktuálna ponuka

- Škola choreografie ľudového tanca regiónov Slovenska V. ročník
- Filmová škola - letný kurz dokumentárneho filmu
- Škola filmového líčenia - letný kurz tvorby maskérskych efektov
- Street Dance (pouličné tancovanie)
- Bilingválna škola slovenských reálií a anglického jazyka
- Letná škola mladých informatikov - digitálne spracovanie fotografií
- Letná škola mladých informatikov - tvorba web stránok
- Rozvoj čitateľskej gramotnosti v primárnom vzdelávaní
- Rozvoj čitateľskej gramotnosti na vyučovaní slovenského jazyka a literatúry
- Mikuláš a Vianoce na Slovensku

Informácie o ďalších programoch pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí nájdete na <http://www.cdvk.sk/blade/index.php?c=3219&ponuka-programov-a-kurzov>.



Žlté taxíky v USA vymyslel Slovák John Daniel Hertz

Autorom myšlienky populárnych žltých taxíkov v USA je rodák zo Slovenska John Daniel Hertz, ktorého 135. výročie narodenia si pripomíname 10. apríla 2014.

Narodil sa 10. apríla 1879 v Sklabini pri Vrútkach a jeho pôvodné meno bolo Sándor Herz. Keď mal 3 roky jeho rodina emigrovala do USA. V mladom veku bol Hertz amatérskym boxerom, súťažil pod menom "Dan Donnelly". Po víťazstve v amatérskych majstrovstvách v americkom Chicagu ďalej súťažil pod svojim vlastným menom.

Z chudobného mladika sa vypracoval na väzneného a uznávaného podnikateľa v automobilovom priemysle a filantropa. Začínal ako predavač novin Chicago Morning News, neskôr sa stal ich reportérom. Po ich zlúčení s ďalším denníkom prišiel o prácu. Hoci nemal vodičský preukaz, začal v roku 1904 predávať autá. Veľmi sa mu nedarilo, a tak prišiel s myšlienkou vytvoriť taxi spoločnosť, ktorá by za nízke ceny prevážala cestujúcich, aby si to mohli dovoliť aj obyčajní ľudia. V roku 1907 jeho autopark tvorilo sedem ojazdených vozidiel. V roku 1915 založil v Chicagu firmu Yellow Cab, ktorá ponúkala taxislužbu za skromnú cenu. Myslel si, že ak bude lacnejší má veľký potenciál. Čoskoro sa stali žlté taxíky populárne nielen v Chicagu a Hertz rýchlo získal licenciu v celých Spojených štátoch amerických.


V roku 1917 založil Chicago Motor Coach Company - autokarovú spoločnosť na prevádzkovanie autobusovej dopravy v Chicagu a Yellow Cab Manufacturing Company v roku 1920, v ktorej vyrábali taxíky na predaj. V roku 1924 začal podnikáť s požíčovaním áut v spoločnosti Hertz Drive-Ur-Self Corporation. V roku 1926 predal väčšinové podiely vo svojich firmách General Motors a stal sa riaditeľom jednej z divízií.

John Daniel Hertz sa v roku 1903 v Chicagu oženil s Francis (Fannie) Kesnerovou. Spolu mali tri deti: Leona Jane, John Jr. a Helen. John Jr. bol krátko ženatý s filmovou hviezdou Myrnou Loy. V roku 1933 Robert Lehman predal Hertzovi menšinový podiel v investičnej banke Lehman Brothers v New Yorku a tak sa stal jej akcionárom až do svojej smrti.

Meno Johna Daniela Hertza sa v Chicagu spája aj so svetelnými križovatkami, ktoré v meste budoval. Ešte v roku 1924 venoval mestu 34.000 dolárov na inštaláciu prvých semaforov na Michigan Avenue. Bol i chovateľom čistokrvných koní, ktoré vyhrávali americké dostihy. S manželkou Fannie zase založili nadáciu, ktorá doteraz udeľuje štipendiá nadaným študentom fyziky, biológie a technických smerov. John Daniel Hertz zomrel 8. októbra 1961 ako 82-ročný v americkom Chicagu.

TASR

Slovenská Národná Aliancia



Pozýva všetkých na 13. ročník

Slovenských ľudových slávností v Chicágu

poslednú májovú nedeľu, t.j. 25. mája 2014.

Program:

- Začiatok o 12:30 hod., svätou omšou, celebrovanou Mons. Jánom Sokolom, emeritným arcibiskupom.
- Obed o 13:30 hod.
- Hlavný program o 14:00 hod.

Do programu boli pozvaní:


- Žiaci Školy slovenského jazyka v Chicágu.
- Host' zo Slovenska: Dvadsaťjeden členov folklórneho súboru ORAVAN z Nižnej.
- Po programe nasleduje tanečná zábava – o občerstvenie je postarané (Cash bar).

Adresa: The Village of Bridgeview Community Center
7900 Oketo Ave., Bridgeview, IL 60455

Vstupné: dospelí \$25, seniori a mládež do 21 rokov \$10, deti do 12 rokov zdarma

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Zo života Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ v NYC

Naši jubilanti



Skupina zúčastnených gratulantov osláv narodenín Simonky Lysákovvej.



Simonka Lysáková, ktorá patrí medzi mladšie členkyne Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ, dňa 29. januára 2014 oslávila 16. narodeniny v kruhu svojej rodiny, priateľov a členov nášho spolku. Simonka je dcérou známych aktivistov Janka a Evy Lysákových. Je veľmi činnou členkou folklórneho súboru Limboráčik, ktorý úspešne vystupoval na niekoľkých Festivaloch slovenského dedičstva, ktoré sa každoročne konajú v Holmdel, New Jersey.

Na snímke v spoločnosti rodičov oslávenkyňa Simonka Lysáková a sprava jej teta Milka Hlinková.



Všetci prítomní na oslavách 65. narodenín Márii Božekovej.

Ďalšou jubilantkou je Mária Božeková, ktorá oslávila 26. februára 2014 svoje okrúhle 65. narodeniny. Marienka sa narodila v Spišskej Belej na Slovensku. Má jedného syna a vnuka Denisa, ktorý je tiež členom nášho Spolku. Pri rôznych podujatiach Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ ako i pri oslavách priateľov a členov Spolku sa už tradične stará o občerstvenie.



Jubilantke, Marienke Božekovej podáva peknú a chutnú tortu, Anna Bilik.

Pri príležitosti tohto okrúhleho výročia jej prišiel popriať veľa zdravia, síl a Božieho požehnanie aj náš otec Štefan Chanas. Prítomní s radosťou zaspievali obom jubilantom „Happy Birthday“, kde tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana, Henrieta H. Daitová sa prihovorela za všetkých gratulantov a popriala im veľa rokov šťastného a spokojného života.

Obidve podujatia sa konali v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City.

Henrieta H. Daitová
Tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716

Budúceho prezidenta Kisku prijal primátor Danko

Na Mestskom úrade (MsÚ) v Poprade 22. apríla 2014 primátor Anton Danko slávnostne prijal budúceho prezidenta a zároveň Popradčana Andreja Kisku. „Je pre nás veľkou čťou, že aj v čase, keď má veľa povinností, prijal pozvanie svojho rodného mesta na toto oficiálne a zároveň neformálne stretnutie. Chcel by som mu zapriať pri výkone tohto mandátu hlavne veľa sil a úspechov,“ povedal vo svojom príhovore Danko.

Nedávno skončená priama voľba prezidenta podľa neho dokázala potlačiť doterajší vplyv všetkých politických strán a potvrdila tak svoj význam a silu občianskeho postoja. „Som presvedčený, že táto pre Slovensko mimoriadna voľba má výrazné predpoklady významne prispieť k transformácii našej spoločnosti a k upokojeniu dlhodobo polarizovanej politickej scény,“ konštatoval Danko s tým, že istá neskúsenosť v oblasti správy vecí verejných, ktorú aj on sám na začiatku považoval za slabé miesto prezidentského kandidáta spod Tatier, môže byť v konečnom dôsledku jeho výhodou.

„Návrat pod Tatry bol veľmi príjemný, Poprad je moje rodné mesto a každý návrat je jeden krásny a príjemný pocit, som hrdý na svoje rodné mesto. Budem teraz na striedačku medzi Popradom a Bratislavou, kým sa veci a naše rodinné pôsobenie neusadí na istú dobu v Bratislave,“ uviedol pre novinárov Kiska s tým, že do Popradu sa bude vracieť často, keďže tu má rodičov, brata a množstvo priateľov.

Budúci prezident je pripravený pomôcť rodnému mestu, ak to bude len trochu možné. „Chcel by som sa stretávať s občanmi každého mesta počas svojho pôsobenia a s obyvateľmi rodného mesta o to viac,“ dodal Kiska. Zároveň nevyvážil, že si v Poprade otvorí vysunuté pracovisko, podobne, ako mal bývalý prezident Rudolf Schuster v Košiciach. To by veľmi uvítal aj súčasný primátor podtatranskej metropoly.



FOTO TASR - Oliver Ondráš

Na snímke nastupujúci prezident SR Andrej Kiska (vľavo) preberá dar z rúk primátora Popradu Antona Danko počas slávnostného prijatia na Mestskom úrade v Poprade 22. apríla 2014.

Newly elected Slovak president Andrej Kiska (left) accepts a gift from the mayor of his native town of Poprad, Anton Danko.

TASR



Ukončenie diecéznej fázy skúmania možného zázraku na príhovor bl. Zdenky



Bl. sestra Zdenka

Od 25. februára do 2. marca 2014 sa generálna predstavená Kongregácie milosrdných sestier Svätého kríža zo Švajčiarska zúčastnila slávnostného ukončenia diecézneho procesu skúmania zázračného uzdravenia na príhovor bl. Zdenky Schelingovej. K predpokladanému uzdraveniu došlo v arcidiecéze Denver, v štáte Colorado, v Spojených štátoch. Generálnu predstavenú doprevádzala terajšia i bývalá slovenská provinciálka, ako aj postulátor kauzy svätorečenia blahoslavenej sestry Zdenky.

Pri slávnostnej svätej omši (28. februára 2014) členovia tribunálu zložili a podpísali prísahu mlčanlivosti a zozbierané dokumenty boli verejne zapečatené. Celý takmer 700-stranový spis obsahoval súbor svedectiev ľudí, ktorí poznali uzdraveného, ako aj lekárske záznamy o jeho uzdravení. Následne boli všetky materiály odovzdané do rúk postulátora, ktorý ich spolu so zástupkyňami Kongregácie milosrdných sestier Svätého kríža priniesol 11. marca 2014 na Kongregáciu pre kauzy svätých do Ríma. „Týmto dňom oficiálne začala rímska fáza procesu skúmania predpokladaného zázraku na príhovor bl. Zdenky Schelingovej. Ak sa preukáže, že táto udalosť je podľa lekárskej vedy naozaj nevysvetliteľná, môžeme dúfať, že Svätý Otec pápež František bude rozhodovať o svätorečení sestry Zdenky Schelingovej, mučnice komunistického režimu,“ informovala TK KBS sr. Sebastiana Tuptová, provinciálna predstavená Milosrdných sestier Svätého kríža na Slovensku.

Bl. sestra Zdenka z Inštitútu milosrdných sestier Svätého kríža, rodným menom Cecilia Schelingová, sa narodila okolo polnoci medzi 24. a 25. decembrom 1916 v Krivej na Orave. V rokoch 1922 – 1930 navštevovala 8-ročnú ľudovú školu v Krivej. 6. júla 1931 nastúpila ako kandidátka v Inštitúte milosrdných sestier Svätého kríža do Podunajských Biskupíc. 30. januára 1937 zložila prvé rehoľné sľuby v Podunajských Biskupiciach. 28. januára 1943 skladala večné sľuby. V rokoch 1937 – 1940 po zložení prvých sľubov pracovala na internom oddelení na röntgene na klinike v Štátnej nemocnici v Bratislave. V rokoch 1941 – 1942 pracovala ako ošetrovatelka v krajskej nemocnici v Humennom. Od roku 1942 – 29. 2. 1952 bola zamestnaná v Štátnej nemocnici v Bratislave na Miczkiewiczovej ulici ako laborantka. 29. februára 1952 ju zatkl príslušníci Štátnej bezpečnosti a uväznili ju v Justičnom paláci v Bratislave, kde ju podrobili vyšetrovaniu, ktoré bolo spojené s bezohľadným mučením. 17. júna 1952 bola odsúdená za údajný velezradu na 12 rokov straty slobody a 10 rokov straty občianskych práv. Okrem vyšetrovacej väzby v justičnom paláci v Bratislave bola väznená v Rimavskej Sobotě, Pardubiciach, Brne a vo väzenskej nemocnici v Prahe na Pankráci. Z Prahy bola 16. apríla 1955 ako ťažko chorá prepustená z väzenia a prijatá do nemocničného ošetrovania v Trnave. Zomrela 31. júla 1955 o 7.45 hod. v trnavskej nemocnici na onkologickom oddelení. Dožila sa necelých 39 rokov. 2. augusta 1955 boli jej telesné pozostatky uložené na Starom cintoríne v Trnave. 6. apríla 1970 ju Krajský súd v Bratislave oslobodil spod obžaloby pre trestný čin velezrady. 18. novembra 1970 Najvyšší súd SSR zrušil rozsudok v celom rozsahu, a tým umožnil jej úplnú občianskoprávnú rehabilitáciu. 18. septembra 2000 bol v Trnave otvorený diecézny proces jej blahorečenia. Štrnásteho septembra 2003 na sviatok Povýšenia Svätého kríža dostalo Slovensko prvú blahoslavenú – rehoľnú sestru z Inštitútu milosrdných sestier Svätého kríža (Zdroj - archív TK KBS).

Vyhlásenie predstaviteľov kresťanských cirkví o náboženskej slobode

V Bratislave sa 9. apríla konalo tretie stretnutie najvyšších predstaviteľov kresťanských cirkví na Slovensku. Stretli sa v priestoroch Generálneho sekretariátu Konferencie biskupov Slovenska. Pri tejto príležitosti prinášame ich spoločné vyhlásenie o náboženskej slobode.

Vyhlásenie najvyšších predstaviteľov kresťanských cirkví o náboženskej slobode

Kresťania na Slovensku majú v živej pamäti porušovanie náboženskej slobody v 20. storočí. Sme preto vďační Pánu Bohu a mnohým svedkom viery, ktorí svojim svedectvom a aktivitou vytvorili predpoklady na rozvoj náboženského života v uplynulom štvrtstoročí. Tešíme sa, že môžeme slobodne vyznávať vieru a verejne sa k nej hlásiť.

Aktuálne spoločenské problémy sú pre nás motiváciou k objasneniu pojmu „náboženská sloboda“. Právo vyjadriť verejne svoj postoj k spoločenským otázkam vychádza z dôstojnosti človeka, stvoreného na Boží obraz a vykúpeného Božím Synom, Ježišom Kristom. Príslušnosť k cirkvi alebo náboženskej spoločnosti by nemala byť dôvodom, aby bol takýto názor považovaný za menejcenný alebo dokonca nelegitímny. Kresťanská viera preniká celého človeka a ovplyvňuje jeho postoje a správanie v každej oblasti života. Zachovávanie náboženskej slobody si vyžaduje umožniť jednotlivcovi konať v súlade s jeho náboženskou vierou v každej oblasti života, aj v sfére slobody prejavu.

Život podľa evanjelia vyžaduje zaujať kresťanský postoj pri posudzovaní konkrétnej situácie. Robíme tak v duchu Ježišovej požiadavky, aby sme konali dobro a vyhli sa zlu. Táto úloha nás zaväzuje hľadať pravdu. Slobodné vyjadrenie kresťanského postoja v konkrétnej situácii považujeme za prejav uplatnenia náboženskej slobody, ktorá bola znovu nadobudnutá v roku 1989. Zaujatie kresťanského postoja nie je šírením netolerancie a nenávisti v spoločnosti.

Vyjadrujeme vďačnosť všetkým obyvateľom Slovenskej republiky, ktorí akýmkoľvek spôsobom prispievajú k zachovávaniu náboženskej slobody. Obraciame sa na predstaviteľov Slovenskej republiky, aby aj naďalej aktívne prispievali k rešpektovaniu náboženskej slobody v spoločnosti, ktorá je jedným z dôležitých ukazovateľov dodržiavania ľudských práv.

Stanislav Zvolenský, bratislavský arcibiskup – metropolita a predseda KBS, Rímskokatolícka cirkev v SR

Miloš Klátik, generálny biskup Evanjelickej cirkvi augsburského vyznania na Slovensku, predseda ERC v SR

Ján Babjak SJ, prešovský arcibiskup a metropolita, Gréckokatolícka cirkev v SR

Rastislav, arcibiskup prešovský, metropolita českých krajín a Slovenska, Pravoslávna cirkev na Slovensku

László Fazekas, biskup Reformovanej kresťanskej cirkvi na Slovensku, podpredseda ERC v SR

TK KBS



V Bratislave pochodovalo za život niekoľko tisíc ľudí

Centrom hlavného mesta 13. apríla pochodovalo za život niekoľko tisíc ľudí. Dav, ktorý podľa odhadov tvorilo asi 4000 ľudí, sa zišiel na Hviezdoslavovom námestí, kde druhý ročník akcie Bratislava za život odštartoval koncertom či svedectvami žien, ktoré stáli pred vážnym životným rozhodnutím a svoje dieťa si nechali.

Na otázku, či pochod možno chápať ako akciu proti potratom, jedna z organizátoriek povedala, že snahou je skôr postaviť sa za niečo, než bojovať proti niečomu. „Nechceme riešiť nijakú bojovnú cestu, ale skôr sa postaviť za ochranu života a tiež ponúknuť konkrétne riešenia. Lebo ťažko o tom len hovoriť, keď ženy, ktorá má problém, nepomôžeme,“ povedala Natália Šepitková z iniciatívy Bratislava za život. Na pochode dnes prezentovali projekty pomoci ženám, ktoré čakajú dieťa a sú v ťažkej životnej situácii.

„Nečakane som otehotnela, nemala som kam ísť, nemala som sa ako postarať o dieťa. Všetci okolo ma posielali na potrat. Od kamarátky som dostala kontakt na Fórum života. Skúsila som ich poprosiť o pomoc, povedala som, že nechcem ísť na potrat, ale nemám podmienky na výchovu dieťaťa. Dali mi bývanie aj všetko k tomu, aby som sa mohla starať o Vikinku,“ opísala svoju skúsenosť Stanislava (26). Dnes má jej dcéra 2,5 roka a hovorí, že spravila najlepšiu vec v živote. „Lepšiu vec som asi nikdy neurobila,“ povedala mamička.

Ján, ktorý prišiel podporiť pochod, hovorí, že väčšina ľudí možno prišla z náboženských dôvodov, no on je za ochranu života od počatia aj z humanistických dôvodov. „V článku 15 našej ústavy máme jednoznačne definovanú ochranu života od počatia a mám za to, že nie je dodržiavaná. Ľudský život je nielen hodný ochrany, ale je to tá najcennejšia hodnota, ktorú máme a bez nej uplatňovať akékoľvek iné práva nie je možné,“ zdôvodnil Ján.

Verejné zhromaždenie a pochod ulicami Bratislavy je aktivitou iniciatívy Bratislava za život. Pripravuje ho skupina dobrovoľníkov v rámci kampane „25. marec – Deň počateho dieťaťa“.

TASR



Slováci žijú najkratší zdravý život v únii

V pondelok 7. apríla bol Svetový deň zdravia. Poslanec Európskeho parlamentu Eduard Kukan pri tejto príležitosti upozornil na chabé výsledky Slovenska a možnosti na zlepšenie. „Sme lídrom v smutnej štatistike. V počte zdravých rokov zaostávame za všetkými ostatnými štátmi Európskej únie. Sme občanmi druhej kategórie,“ upozornil europoslanec Kukan (SDKÚ-DS, EĽS).

Slováci majú podľa Eurostatu najkratší zdravý život v Európskej únii. V zdraví žijú len 5 rokov, čo je menej ako občania ostatných 27 členských štátov. Za európskym priemerom Slováci zaostávajú o takmer desať rokov. Aj slovenskí seniori, teda občania s vekom nad 65 rokov, sú na tom najhoršie z celej únie. „Musíme pracovať na zlepšení zdravia Slovákov a zvlášť seniorov. Európa na to má liek,“ uviedol Kukan. Na minulotýždňovom plenárnom zasadnutí Európsky parlament v prvom čítaní odhlasoval dve regulácie, ktoré zvýšia bezpečnosť pacientov. Prvá sa týka zdravotníckych pomôcok a druhá zvlášť zdravotníckych pomôcok in vitro.

Kukan obe regulácie v hlasovaní podporil. „V Európe máme spoločný trh so zdravotníckymi pomôckami aj liekmi. Musíme však bdiť, aby ich kvalita bola v súlade s bezpečnosťou pacientov,“ vysvetlil Kukan. „Prísnejšie nariadenia, ktoré sme naposledy odhlasovali, prispievajú ku kvalitnejšej zdravotnej starostlivosti. A tým aj k dlhšiemu životu v zdraví pre občanov Slovenska. Tu vidím aj do budúcnosti dôležitú úlohu pre Európsky parlament ako zákonodarného orgánu,“ uzavrel Kukan.

TASR



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota



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

Ročník 123

STREDA, 30. APRÍLA 2014

Číslo 5902

Zomrel gréckokatolícky emeritný prešovský biskup Mons. Ján Hirka

V Prešove 10. apríla zomrel gréckokatolícky emeritný prešovský biskup Ján Hirka (90). „Zaopatrený sviatosťami odovzdal svoju dušu Pánovi Mons. Ján Hirka, gréckokatolícky emeritný prešovský biskup. Pán života smrťou k sebe povolal vo veku 90 rokov života, v 65. roku kňazstva a v 25. roku biskupskej služby. Večná mu pamiatka a blažený pokoj!“ uviedlo v tlačovej správe Informačné stredisko Prešovskej archieparchie.

Životopis gréckokatolíckeho emeritného prešovského biskupa Jána Hirku

Mons. Dr. h. c. Ján Hirka sa narodil 16. novembra 1923 v Abranovciach v okrese Prešov. Za kňaza bol vysvätený blahoslaveným Vasiľom Hopkom 31. júla 1949 v Prešove. V rokoch 1950 až 1968, kedy bola totalitným režimom Gréckokatolícka cirkev v bývalom Československu zakázaná, zostal verný Bohu, Gréckokatolíckej cirkvi, Svätému Otcovi a svojmu svedomiu. Preto bol prenasledovaný a väznený. Od 20. decembra 1968 bol počas celého ťažkého obdobia totalitného režimu ordinárom Gréckokatolíckej cirkvi v Československu. Za prešovského sídelného biskupa ho 21. decembra 1989 vymenoval blahoslavený pápež Ján Pavol II. Biskupskú konsekráciu prijal z rúk kardinála Jozefa Tomka 17. februára 1990 v Prešove. Emeritným prešovským biskupom sa stal 11. decembra 2002.

Počas svojho dlhoročného pôsobenia vo vedení Gréckokatolíckej cirkvi v Československu a potom na Slovensku sa zaslúžil o jej rozvoj. Okrem iného má zásluhu na majetkovom vyrovnaní Gréckokatolíckej a Pravoslávnej cirkvi, 2. júla 1995 privítal v Prešove pápeža Jána Pavla II.. Počas pôsobenia Mons. Jána Hirku bol blahorečený jeho predchodca prešovský biskup mučeník Pavel Peter Gojdič OSBM a prebehla aj podstatná časť beatifikačného procesu sväticeho biskupa Vasiľa Hopka. Zaslúžil sa o zriadenie Gréckokatolíckej teologickej fakulty a gréckokatolíckeho kňazského seminára v Prešove, čím zabezpečil možnosť študovať oveľa väčšiemu počtu bohoslovcov, než tomu bolo počas totality v Bratislave. Tak postupne do farností prichádzali kňazi. Pod jeho vedením sa Gréckokatolícka cirkev stala životaschopnou v nových demokratických podmienkach jej existencie.

TK KBS



Mons. Ján Hirka



FOTO TASR- Milan Kapusta

Pašiový sprievod na Veľký piatok v Košiciach. Na snímke Mäsiarska ulica. An Ecumenical Passion Procession was held in Kosice on Good Friday, April 18, 2014.

Pašiový sprievod v Košiciach

Ekumenickým pašiovým sprievodom si 18. apríla aj v Košiciach pripomenuli umučenie, ukrižovanie a zmŕtvychvstanie Krista. Na sprievode, ktorý sa konal už po 20.-krát, sa zúčastnila asi tisícka ľudí. „Ekumenický sprievod je tradíciou priblíženia utrpenia Ježiša Krista prostredníctvom spojenia katolíckej tradície, ktorá má rada púte a protestantskej, ktorá preferuje čítanie z Písma. Každá cirkev počas zastavení čítala a rozjímala nad Svätým Písmom,“ uviedol jeden z organizátorov z Teologickej fakulty Katolíckej univerzity Anton Konečný.

Sprievod sa uskutočnil za účasti veriacich a predstaviteľov kresťanských cirkví pôsobiacich v metropole východného Slovenska. Témou tento rok boli slová z Knihy proroka Izaiáša: „Úspech bude mať môj služobník, pozdvihne, vyvýši, zvelebí sa veľmi“. Podľa Konečného je to protichodná realita, pretože si pripomínajú deň Kristovej prehry, kedy zomrie na kríži, ale zároveň jeho výhry, pretože zmenil dejiny a nikto po ňom ani pred ním nemal toľko nasledovateľov.

Myšlienka realizácie pašiového sprievodu sa zrodila so vznikom Ekumenického spoločenstva, ktoré sa rozhodlo spoločne sláviť „veľkonočné tajomstvo“. „Pretože spoločné slávenie Krížovej cesty hlavne pre reformované cirkvi je vzdialené, Ekumenické spoločenstvo našlo spoločnú reč v symbolickom prepojení Veľkopiatočkej tradície čítať v rámci bohoslužieb úryvky zo Svätého Písma o utrpení Ježiša Krista (Pašie) a kresťanovo putovanie k Božiemu hrobu,“ uviedol tajomník košického Ekumenického spoločenstva Dominik Macák.

Na príprave a realizácii Ekumenického pašiového sprievodu sa podieľajú mesto Košice, Reformovaná kresťanská cirkev na Slovensku, Apoštolská cirkev, Bratská jednota baptistov, Cirkev bratská, Cirkev československá husitská, Evanjelická cirkev a. v., Gréckokatolícka cirkev, Pravoslávna cirkev, Rímskokatolícka cirkev a Teologická fakulta Katolíckej univerzity.

TASR

Svätý Otec František vyprosoval pokoj celému svetu

Na Námestí sv. Petra bohato vyzdobenom kvetmi začal Svätý Otec slávenie Eucharistie Veľkonočnej nedele obradom pokropenia vodou posvätenou počas vigílie. Slávnostným prednesom po latincky a grécky zaznel úryvok z Evanjelia podľa Jána o tom, ako sa apoštol Peter a Ján vidiac prázdny hrob presvedčili o Ježišom vzkriesení.

Účastníci bohoslužby, ktorí zaplnili priestor od baziliky až po ulicu Via della Conciliazione, sa potom započúvali do liturgického byzantského spevu Stichiry Paschy, ktorý je vo východnom obrade súčasťou Veľkonočnej utierne. Po Kréde nasledovali spoločné modlitby v jazykoch hindí, po francúzsky, čínsky, nemecky a kórejsky. Po skončení svätej omše pápež František nasadol do bieleho džípu, aby pozdravil veriacich na námestí. Potom sa presunul na loggiu Vatikánskej baziliky, odkiaľ predniesol veľkonočné posolstvo Mestu a svetu (je v samostatnej správe).

Po posolstve Svätého Otca kardinál-diakon Jean-Luis Tauran uviedol slávnostné požehnanie Svätého Otca určené všetkým prítomným i tým, ktorí boli v spojení prostredníctvom médií. Potom pápež František so štólou na pleciach udelil všetkým veriacim požehnanie Urbi et orbi, spojené so získaním úplných odpustkov.

Na záver pápež poďakoval za kvetinovú výzdobu pochádzajúcu z Holandska a rozlúčil sa želaním dobrej chuti k obedu. Slávnosť Veľkonočnej nedele vo Vatikáne ukončili zvuky vatikánskej hymny v podaní dychového orchestra a pochod Švajčiarskej gardy a Vatikánskeho žandárstva vo sviatočných uniformách.

Na Veľkonočný pondelok sa Svätý Otec napoludnie pomodlil z okna Apoštolského paláca spolu s veriacimi na Svätopeterskom námestí mariánsku modlitbu Raduj sa, nebies Kráľovná.

TK KBS, RV