



Jednota

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2012

NUMBER 5867



2012 NATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The First Catholic Slovak Union held its 2012 National Golf Tournament this year with the National Slovak Society. Scenes from the spectacular event – held July 13 – 15, 2012 at the Tam O'Shanter of Pennsylvania Golf Course in Hermitage, PA – as well as tourney results are inside this issue of Jednota. Here, clockwise, FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec (L) with NSS National President David G. Blazek (R) at the Saturday night dinner; four of the many FCSU golfers; and National Chaplain Father Thomas Nasta celebrating Mass.



ATTENTION

THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION, INC 2012 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2012 Scholarship Program.

THE COMMITTEE SHALL AWARD UP TO TEN ONE-TIME \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE CANDIDATES WHO BEST SATISFY THE AWARD CRITERIA.

- Any individual of Slovak descent and Catholic faith who attends an Approved Post Secondary Educational Institution is eligible for a Scholarship.
- Applicants will be required to describe accomplishments they believe would qualify them for recognition in general, and specifically, accomplishments in the areas of:
 - Scholarship
 - Leadership
 - Service to school, church and community
- Applicants will also be required to provide:
 - An official college transcript of grades and all standardized test scores achieved, including all ACT or SAT scores; (if applicable)
 - One (1) letter of recommendation authored by a teacher, counselor, administrator or an employment supervisor familiar with the applicant;
 - Examples of applicant's community involvement;
 - A list and description of leadership positions held by applicant;
 - A list of awards received by applicant for scholastic excellence, community involvement, or leadership ability;
 - A description of the applicant's academic or career objectives;
 - A statement demonstrating an applicant's need for education financing.

For applications, please contact:
Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc.

First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131
Phone 1-800-533-6682 - Fax 216-642-4310
E-mail: fcsu@aol.com – Website: www.fcsu.com

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 28, 2012

*Family members of the Scholarship Committee are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.



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COME
Invitation
VEGAS
Hurry!
Last Chance to
Book Las Vegas
Membership Meet.
Details, p.3

Insights and Viewpoints



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

August 19, 2012

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

John 6:51-58

Gospel Summary

The eight verses that constitute today's gospel reading represent the climax of the lengthy Bread of Life Discourse in chapter six of John's gospel. The first fifty verses have been concerned with the spiritual nourishment that Jesus has brought into

our spiritually famished world. In fact, Jesus declares, in v. 35, that he is "the bread of life," that is, the nourishment that provides the kind of spiritual life that cannot be threatened by illness or death. He makes it clear, however, that this nourishment is available only to those who believe in him, that is, to those accept and adopt in their lives his teaching about unselfish love.

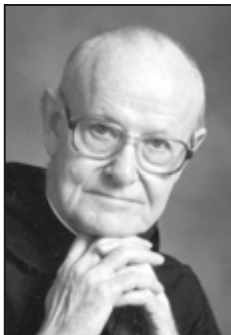
In the climactic verse fifty-one, we find the first mention of the Eucharist itself: "the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." This verse, therefore, represents John's version of the institution of the Eucharist, which is found here in his gospel rather than at the Last Supper. This radical change gives John ample opportunity to insist, in the previous fifty verses, on the importance of a believing, rather than a merely routine, reception of the Eucharist.

Life Implications

John uses much more graphic language than the other evangelists in his description of the institution and the implications of the Eucharist. When the audience of Jesus resists his statement about his "flesh for the life of the world," he repeats and reinforces his original words: "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you" (v. 53).

This forceful statement not only insists on the importance of receiving the Eucharist but it also means, as we see everywhere in this gospel, that the meaning of the Eucharist must be reflected in the lives of those who receive the sacrament. For this is Body-broken and Blood-poured-out for others. Accordingly, we will participate fully in the benefits of the Eucharist only to the extent that we imitate, in all aspects of our lives, the generosity and unselfishness that we see in the life of Jesus himself. The Eucharist will certainly help us to be more thoughtful and compassionate and forgiving but this cannot happen without our own serious commitment to love and service of others.

John then goes beyond the other gospels in spelling out the practical implications of conforming our lives to the demands of the Eucharist. The most significant consequence is presented in v. 57: "Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me." This is a truly daring and wonderful assurance that we fragile human beings can hope to share in the very life of God. We can actually enter into that flow of life that courses between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And to the extent that this happens, through our commitment to God's unselfish way of loving, our eternal life will be assured.



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

August 26, 2012

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

John 6:60-69

Gospel Summary

This passage brings the sixth chapter of John's gospel to a climactic conclusion. Jesus has fed a large crowd with bread and fish; he has revealed his divine identity as I AM by showing his power over the sea; in the synagogue at Capernaum he has revealed that he himself is the bread of life given by the Father--as the bread of his teaching and as bread of the Eucharist. Now upon completion of his teaching, many of his followers murmured, saying, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" Jesus responds that human nature alone (the "flesh") is of no avail in coming to believe and to have life in him. This faith and life is possible only as a gift of the Father.

After the exchange in the synagogue, many of his disciples left him. Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered, "Master to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

Life Implications

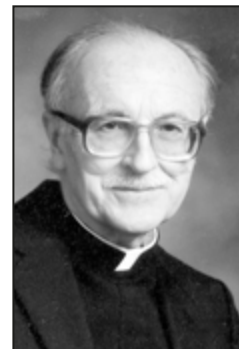
Faith and life in Jesus is a gift beyond human expectation and understanding. This is the implication not only of this passage but of John's entire gospel. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life" (Jn 3:16). The gift of eternal life is NOW; it does not begin after we die. In faith we can live without fear: "Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side" (Ps 23:4). The saints of every age witness to the reality that faith is participation in the joy, the prayer, the gratitude of Christ's life now: "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thes 5:16-18).

Today we hear the good news that the Risen Lord is present among us sacramentally as the bread of life given by the Father--as the bread of his teaching and as bread of the Eucharist. We too may be inclined to murmur, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" Our gospel passage does not tell us why many of his followers refused to believe Jesus and left him. We do know, however, the countless factors in our own culture that dissuade us from giving ourselves to the Lord in faith. Suffering is often experienced as incompatible with God's love. Our "subjective-value" culture reduces faith to no more than "religious preference." Nobel Prize winners tell us there is no God.

There are likewise moral decisions that lead to belief or away from belief. After her lecture at a university, a student asked Flannery O'Connor how he could be certain that God exists. She replied, "Give alms." Jesus himself said, "How can people like you believe, when you accept praise from one another yet do not seek the glory that comes from the One" (Jn 5:44)?

Today's gospel passage alerts us to the fact that faith is not primarily assent to a creed about God but a personal covenant with God. Like friendship, faith is mutual self-giving; it can become stronger or become weaker; it can begin and it can end. Jesus emphasizes the radically personal nature of faith by using the word "betray" and by asking whether the Twelve will also decide "to leave" him. Jesus knows that the human commitment of faith is not so steadfast as God's commitment. He knows that his refusal to let the people make him king (Jn 6:15) and Judas' love of money (Jn 12:6) will lead to a loss of faith in him and to betrayal.

In the Last Supper Discourse Jesus knows that the faith of his followers will be tested again, not by his teaching as in the synagogue at Capernaum but by his death on a cross. "Do you really believe? You will be scattered, leaving me quite alone" (Jn 16:31-32). His followers of weak faith did leave him--Judas betrayed him, Peter denied that he had ever known him. The story of Judas and Peter is both a warning and a source of hope. Like Judas, we too can finally choose to place ultimate, suicidal trust in something other than God. Like Peter, we too may grievously sin; yet trust that if we return, the Lord will welcome us with the joy of steadfast love.



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

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

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22	MONDAY, AUGUST 13
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5	MONDAY, AUGUST 27
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26	MONDAY, SEPT. 17

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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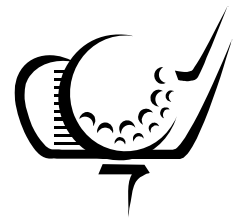


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Accent on Activities



2012 International Golf Tournament

August 2012

This year's golf tournament was held Saturday and Sunday, July 14-15, at the Tam O'Shanter Golf Course in Sharon, PA, in conjunction with the National Slovak Society. A hospitality room allowed the golfers to mingle with their out-of-town friends before the competition began on Friday night. A putting contest was held Friday night to raise funds for the NSS Scholarship fund. Three qualifying putters competed for \$1000. Tod Wilcock won the 50/50 raffle and very generously donated his winnings back to the FCSU scholarship fund.

The beautiful weather on Saturday and Sunday allowed the golfers to play their best. The results of the tournament are posted at www.fcsu.com and are listed on another page of this issue.

Through the generosity of our sponsors, the golfers competed for many skill prizes. The hole-in-one contest on Saturday had a prize of a new car. The prize for Sunday's hole-in-one contest was \$10,000 cash. A few were close, but no one had any holes-in-one!

The golfers enjoyed shotgun starts on Saturday and Sunday. Saturday night, National Chaplain, Fr. Tom Nasta, celebrated Mass at the Park Inn hotel. Afterwards, a tasty buffet dinner took place. Entertainment was provided by Howard Mincone.

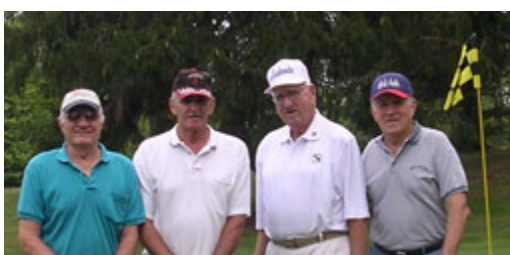
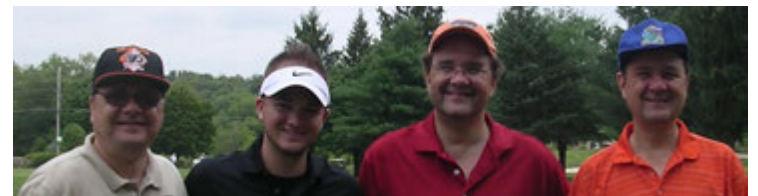
After the golfers finished their round on Sunday, a picnic was held at Tam O'Shanter. Golfers had the opportunity to socialize with each other before heading back home.

Pictures from the golf tournament have been posted at:

http://www2.snapfish.com/snapfish/thumbnaillshare/AlbumID=9982126013/a=129316620_129316620/otsc=SHR/otsi=SALBlink/COBRAND_NAME=snapfish/

Prize Amounts:

Name	Flight	Place	Prize
Lako Raymond	A	First	\$250.00
Batyko George	A	Second	\$150.00
Harr Scott F.	A	Third	\$100.00
Quinn Patrick	A	Fourth	\$30.00
Metarko John	A	Fourth	\$30.00
Wilcock Tod	B	First	\$250.00
Barron Joe	B	Second	\$150.00
Morella Tom	B	Third	\$100.00
Torok Gene	B	Fourth	\$50.00
Cooper Ron	B	Fifth	\$30.00
Hodos Richard	C	First	\$250.00
Stefka Joe	C	Second	\$125.00
Froehlich Chuck	C	Second	\$125.00
McKain Floyd	C	Fourth	\$50.00
Carney Ron	C	Fifth	\$30.00
Johnston Derek	D	First	\$250.00
Collins Patrick	D	Second	\$125.00
Morehart Jim	D	Second	\$125.00
Czarney Jim	D	Fourth	\$50.00
DeGol David	CAL	First	\$250.00
Finklestine Marty	CAL	Second	\$150.00
Nasta Ed	CAL	Third	\$100.00
Ferlin Jim	GCAL	First	\$250.00
Holker Mary Jo	W	First	\$250.00



Skins Winners

Saturday

Patrick Quinn – Hole #5 Birdie
 Lou Falbo – Hole #17 Eagle
 Mary Jo Holker – Hole #1 Par
 Mary Jo Holker – Hole #2 Par
 Sue Burns – Hole #5 Par
 Barb Wilcock – Hole #8 Par
 Barb Wilcock – Hole #9 Bogey

Sunday

Bryce Saunders – Hole #2 Birdie
 Rusty Groner – Hole #5 Birdie
 Ray Lako – Hole #6 Birdie
 George Batyko – Hole #7 Eagle
 John Metarko – Hole #8 Birdie
 Sue Burns – Hole #2 Par
 Mary Jo Holker – Hole #3 Par
 Fran Blazek – Hole #5 Par

Sue Burns – Hole #6 Par
 Sue Burns – Hole #7 Par
 Barb Wilcock – Hole #10 Par
 Mary Jo Holker – Hole #13 Bogey
 Sue Burns – Hole #14 Birdie
 Barb Wilcock – Hole #16 Par
 Sue Burns – Hole #17 Par

Par 3 Challenge Winners:

Len Gmerek – Hole #2
 Gene Torok – Hole #8
 Jim Collins – Hole #14
 Lou Falbo – Hole #18

Slovak Holy Hill Pilgrimage in Milwaukee, WI on Labor Day

This year's 97th annual Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians at Holy Hill will be held on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3rd. It will begin at 8:30 a.m. with Stations of the Cross at the bottom of the hill. At 9:30 a.m., a Holy Mass will be celebrated in the Shrine's upper church. We hope Branch 89 members of Milwaukee will join us. For more information, please call Betty Valent at 414-425-6137.

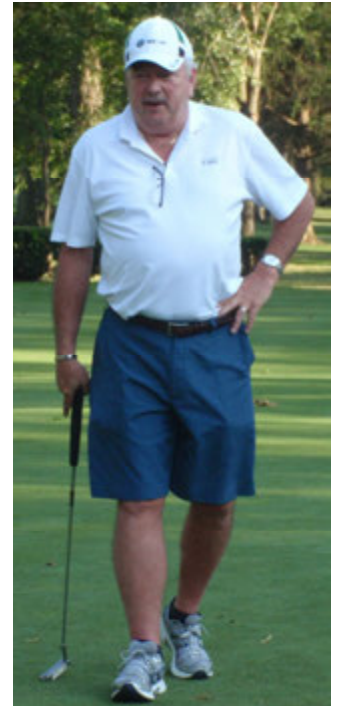
Address Changes?

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.

2012 International Golf Tournament Results



Last	First	Flight	HDCP	SAT GROSS	SAT TOTAL	SUN GROSS	SUN TOTAL	FINAL SCORE
Lako	Raymond	A	11	75	64	75	64	128
Batyko	George	A	8	77	69	71	63	132
Harr	Scott F.	A	11	76	65	79	68	133
Quinn	Patrick	A	12	78	66	81	69	135
Metarko	John	A	12	81	69	78	66	135
Andre	CJ	A	7	80	73	75	68	141
Hudec	Robert	A	13	84	71	85	72	143
Yokopenic	Richard	A	12	88	76	79	67	143
Andre	Barry	A	12	85	73	84	72	145
Falbo	Lou	A	7	83	76	77	70	146
Menich	Tony	A	5	81	76	76	71	147
Czarney	Tom	A	10	86	76	86	76	152
Schmucker	David	A	13	91	78	92	79	157
Blazek	Dave	A	8	88	80	87	79	159
Ferlin	Donald	A	10	95	85	85	75	160
Czarney	Mike	A	8	91	83	90	82	165
Wilcock	Tod	B	15	88	73	77	62	135
Barron	Joe	B	18	83	65	92	74	139
Morella	Tom	B	16	88	72	85	69	141
Torok	Gene	B	14	84	70	86	72	142
Cooper	Ron	B	18	83	65	96	78	143
Quinn	Bill Jr	B	17	90	73	89	72	145
Nemcheck	Mike	B	17	88	71	92	75	146
Felus	Bruno	B	17	91	74	89	72	146
Piper	Rick	B	14	91	77	83	69	146
Groner	Rusty	B	17	92	75	91	74	149
Gbur	Paul	B	16	90	74	93	77	151
Ulishney	Al	B	16	88	72	96	80	152
Collins	James	B	18	94	76	94	76	152
Mitro	Milos	B	16	93	77	92	76	153
Gmerek	Leonard	B	18	99	81	93	75	156
Garver	David	B	15	89	74	98	83	157
Miller	Roy	B	14	95	81	93	79	160
Yokopenic	Jim	B	16	92	76	101	85	161
Olenick	Donald D	B	17	96	79	99	82	161
Felton	Greg	B	15	98	83	95	80	163
Lloyd	Charlie	B	17	91	74	DNF	DNF	
Hodos	Richard	C	24	98	74	85	61	135
Stefka	Joe	C	20	91	71	89	69	140
Froehlich	Chuck	C	23	92	69	94	71	140
McKain	Floyd	C	20	94	74	89	69	143
Carney	Ron	C	25	95	70	99	74	144
Burns	Dean	C	24	92	68	101	77	145
Eller	Terry	C	24	99	75	94	70	145
Vargo	Dan	C	26	98	72	100	74	146
Shank, Sr	Clarence	C	19	95	76	90	71	147
Froehlich	Bill	C	25	98	73	103	78	151
Collins	Greg	C	26	105	79	99	73	152
Tokarsky	John	C	22	98	76	99	77	153
Kavulic	John E.	C	19	96	77	95	76	153
Johnston	Lynn T.	C	25	99	74	107	82	156
Ferrance	George	C	27	105	78	106	79	157
Vargo	Stephen	C	21	96	75	106	85	160
Halula	Barry	C	19	98	79	100	81	160
Kopanic	Robert J.	C	21	102	81	100	79	160
Ritz	Paul	C	26	111	85	111	85	170
Albrecht	Michael	C	29	117	88	112	83	171



Branch 686 held its semi-annual meeting

Branch 686 will celebrate their 100th year next year. At the bottom of its original charter is a FCSU stamp used many years ago.



Branch 686 held its semi-annual meeting on July 8, 2012 at the home of Rudolph and Anita Glogovsky in Huntley, IL. Members discussed the possibility of merging with other near by Branches. After the meeting, the member were treated to a fraternal luncheon at the home of Rudolph and Anita Glogovsky.

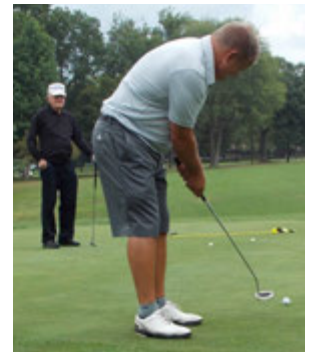


Branch 686 members and guests (L - R): Rudy Bernath, Director Region 7; Liz Bernath; Anita Gogovsky, Treasurer; Terry Davis, Recording Secretary; Rudolph Glogovsky, President; and Mark Davis, Vice President.

2012 International Golf Tournament Results



Last	First	Flight	HDCP	SAT GROSS	SAT TOTAL	SUN GROSS	SUN TOTAL	FINAL SCORE
Johnston	Derek	D	28	93	65	93	65	130
Collins	Patrick	D	34	100	66	100	66	132
Morehart	Jim	D	37	107	70	99	62	132
Czarney	Jim	D	29	99	70	92	63	133
Columbus	Mike	D	36	104	68	104	68	136
Cheberenchick	Dan	D	29	103	74	93	64	138
Burkhart	Joe	D	40	109	69	113	73	142
Lako	Michael	D	28	101	73	97	69	142
Smith	George	D	30	104	74	104	74	148
Froehlich	Dan	D	40	120	80	116	76	156
Koches	Ed	D	31	110	79	109	78	157
Kacsanek	George	D	35	111	76	118	83	159
Ferrance	Jerome	D	32	107	75	120	88	163
Nasta	Damian	D	40	129	89	116	76	165
Nasta	Fr. Tom	D	31	119	88	112	81	169
Matula	Stephen C.	D	36	120	84	130	94	178
Godor	Keith	D	31	127	96	130	99	195
DeGol	David	CAL	CAL	73	68	74	71	138
Finklestine	Marty	CAL	CAL	77	70	73	68	138
Nasta	Ed	CAL	CAL	138	72	136	72	144
Wahl	Michael	CAL	CAL	92	73	97	73	145
Kropf	Ed	CAL	CAL	84	76	83	73	148
Mihailoff	Thomas	CAL	CAL	111	74	114	75	148
Saunders	Bryce	CAL	CAL	84	76	91	74	150
Bernath	Rudy	CAL	CAL	139	78	133	75	153
Quinn	Timothy	CAL	CAL	90	79	88	75	154
Nasta	Andrew	CAL	CAL	152	77	122	77	154
Reed	David	CAL	CAL	95	78	113	78	155
Sinagra	Dave	CAL	CAL	99	75	105	81	155
Columbus	Michael Jr.	CAL	CAL	115	80	103	79	158
Ferlin	Jim	GCAL	CAL	84	75	81	71	145
Barton	David	GCAL	CAL	102	73	96	74	146
Abatista	Leonard	GCAL	CAL	101	76	115	80	155
Holker	Mary Jo	W	25	93	68	89	64	132
Wilcock	Barb	W	26	91	65	95	69	134
Blazek	Fran	W	23	100	77	99	76	153
Burns	Sue	W	16	106	90	106	90	180
Lloyd	JoAnna	W	30	108	78	DNF	DNF	



Mark Your Calendars!!!

September Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar in Chicago

The annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar, under the auspices of the Slovak Catholic Federation, will take place on Sunday, September 23, at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Casimir, 2601 W. Marquette Road, Chicago, IL 60629.

Eva Bustamante will discuss the history of Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak Catholic Cemetery in the Archdiocese of Chicago, which was founded in 1923. This will be of particular interest to people doing geneological research. Afterwards she will answer questions, and distribute booklets.

Registration for the seminar will start at 1:00 pm; Ms. Bustamante will be welcomed at 1:45 pm, with her presentation following. A buffet dinner will be served at 3:00 pm.

The offering for this event is \$15.00. Prepaid registration can be arranged through John Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810. For more information, call Geraldine Hletko at (708) 387-7812.

Robert Tapak Magruder
Seminar Publicity Committee (502) 244-6643

Harcar 50th Wedding Anniversary in July



Andrew R., Sr., and Maria (Kiss) Harcar, of Streator recently celebrated their 50th Anniversary. They were married on July 21, 1962 at Immaculate Conception Church by Rev. Francis Cahill in Streator.

Parents of the couple are the late Thomas G. and Anna (Lesak) Harcar, Sr. and Sandor and Veronika (Hemrich) Kiss.

They are the parents of three children: Veronica (the late Rich) Manzella, Theresa (Tim) Graves and Andy and three grandchildren - Matthew and Jennifer Manzella, and Emma Graves.

Mr. Harcar is a retired general contractor and is currently the National Vice-President of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Mrs. Harcar was owner/operator of L & H Venetian Blind Service for 31 years. Both are members of Branch 40, Streator, IL; Mrs. Harcar also serves as Branch Financial Secretary and Treasurer.

A 50th Anniversary family dinner was held in the couple's honor, and a trip to Germany is being planned.



Alojz Jurcik, president of the Slovak National Alliance, with Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble

Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble Wins Trip to Slovakia

The Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble of Sterling Heights, Michigan participated in a folklore competition sponsored by the Slovak National Alliance (SNA) on May 6 in Bridgeview, Illinois. In conjunction with the SNA's 11th Annual Slovak Festival, the Slovak National Government Agency for Slovaks Living Abroad (USZZ) co-sponsored the competition for Slovak folklore ensembles in North America.

Ensembles from the U.S. and Canada were invited to participate in the competition. The prize for the top performing ensemble was free airline transportation to Slovakia in July 2013 (sponsored by the USZZ) to perform at the annual Detva Folklore Festival. Each group was allotted a ten minute time limit to perform. A panel of three judges rated the ensembles in regard to audience appeal, precision and overall impression. The event also featured a round table discussion to address the needs of Slovak communities in North America, as well as continue to strengthen communication among Slovaks living abroad.

Congratulations to the Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble on their prize. The ensemble is grateful for the opportunity and looks forward to their trip to Slovakia in 2013.



Lynda and Conrad Firment of Branch 181 mark their 45th Wedding Anniversary this month. The couple was married on July 29, 1967 at Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Saigon.

Lynda and Conrad Firment to Celebrate 45th Anniversary

Branch 181 Members Lynda and Conrad Firment will celebrate 45 years of marriage on July 29, 2012. They were married on that date in 1967 in (then)Saigon, Vietnam at the Queen of Peace Catholic Church, a former airplane hangar that later was assigned as the Cathedral of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Vietnam. Lynda and Conrad met in Binh Hoa, Vietnam while she was serving as a nurse during the Vietnam War. Saigon, now Ho Chi Minh City, is the largest city in Vietnam. Under the name Saigon, it was the capital of the independent republic of South Vietnam from 1955 until 1975. Father Crawford (who was a prisoner of the Chinese for many years) officiated at the Firmments' wedding.

Praying for the Gift of Life

Long standing FCSU member, Teresa Singer Davis, Branch 686, also is the current Recording Secretary for District 2. She is a second-generation officer for her branch, and her family has been with Jednota for five generations. Teresa followed in her uncle John Cyganek's footsteps, as he was a Branch 686 member for more than fifty years, and also served as a branch officer.

Teresa has lived with kidney disease for seven years, and has been in end stage renal disease for one and a half years. She is currently on hemodialysis three days a week to filter the toxins out of her blood that the kidneys would normally remove. On March 6 of 2012, Teresa was accepted to the kidney transplant list at the University of Wisconsin, in Madison. At this time she has a two-plus year wait for a possible deceased donor kidney. However, the transplant team has encouraged her to seek out a living donor, as there is a much better chance for compatibility and a better chance at a longer life.

Teresa is reaching to her entire FCSU family in the hope that someone would be willing to consider being a living kidney donor for her. We ask that you share this article with your family and friends, and if anyone would like more information on donating, or would like to be tested as a possible donor please feel free to contact her transplant coordinator.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN KIDNEY TRANSPLANT PROGRAM:

Cathy Werwinski, Clinical Transplant Coordinator

600 Highland Ave., G7/121

Madison, WI 53792-1735

PHONE: 608-261-0516

SECRETARY: 608-890-9362

FAX: 608-262-5624

E-MAIL: cwerwinski@uwhealth.org

- Submitted by Terry Davis, Branch 686 Recording Secretary

Reminder For All Branches

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

14.01 General Rules

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

Playing for Team Slovakia in Lacrosse World Games: The Gaspar Family Recounts Their Experiences

In February of 2011, the Slovak lacrosse team placed an ad in the Jednota news paper looking for American lacrosse players interested in assisting them with team building and support. The Gaspar Family (Charlottesville, Virginia) gladly reached out to these members and were so grateful for doing so.

Doug and Karen Gaspar and their son Nathaniel Gaspar, a member of Branch 292 and a rising junior at Albemarle High School contacted the Slovak team about their ad and wanted to lend their support and assist the team in areas they needed. Both Karen and Doug can trace their ancestry to Slovakia. Doug's family is from Spisska Nova Ves and Nitra; Karen's family is from Trencin. Naturally, their son Nathaniel has deep roots in the history and the knowledge of Slovakia. Never having stepped foot on there "native soil" this family knew it was the perfect opportunity to trace some of their roots and give back to a game that they all love and cherish.

Mr. Adam Hamsik, Martin Kramer, and Stanislaus Mraz members of team Slovakia became good friends over the following year with the Gaspar family. Nathaniel a gifted goalie was thrilled at being accepted to play for the National Slovak team. Nathaniel has been playing lacrosse since he was 4 years old. The area in which the family resides is home to one of the best college lacrosse teams in the country the University of Virginia (UVA).

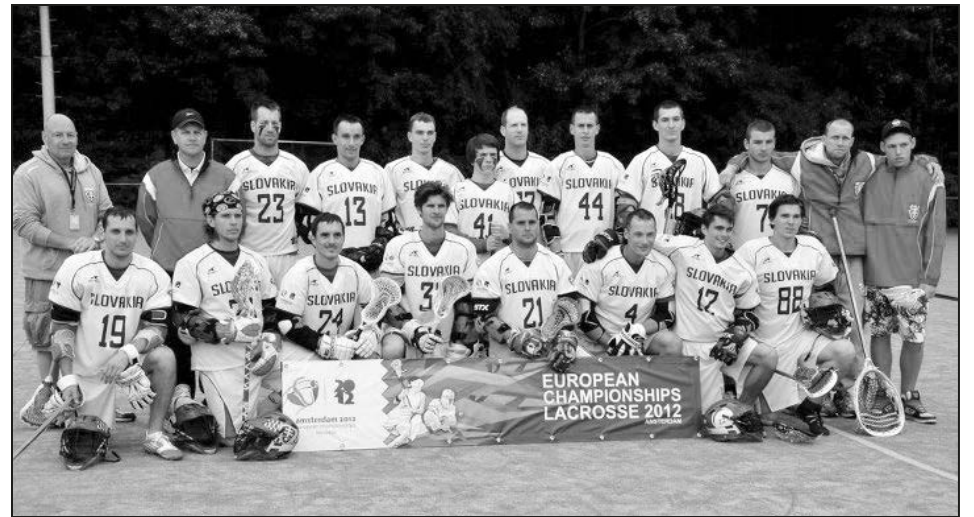
In June of 2012, the lacrosse world would turn their focus to Europe. The European National Championship would be held in Amsterdam, Netherlands. Seventeen (17) Countries would be participating in the Men's event, one of the biggest lacrosse events ever held in Europe. The family was honored and graciously accepted the offer to be a part of this historic championship and made plans to attend. Since Nathaniel was just 15 and not the minimum age of 16, there were some hurdles for him to overcome, and the Gaspar family waited for the appropriate waiver to be granted before he was eligible to participate.

Once all the necessary paperwork was completed and granted, it was just a matter of getting passports and a plane ticket to play as a member of team Slovakia.

Eager to meet the team, the Gaspar family flew to Slovakia, and practiced with them to prepare for the upcoming tournament. One could just not go to Europe for a lacrosse tournament, and not see or experience their "homeland" so the Gaspar family spent three days in the country seeing the sights, tasting the foods, and tracking down long lost cousins. The family met many new friends while there and they had huge success in finding a distant relative of Karen's. Spending some time with long lost relatives, finding the church where he was Baptized in, and the home that her grandfather grew up in before leaving to search for work in the coal mines in Windber, PA made this trip worth every penny spent.

Flying to Amsterdam with the team, everyone was eager and ready for the challenge. The team consisted of 15 players from Slovakia, and the remaining players were Noah Hoselton a dual citizen Slovak/Canadian, Bradley Vrecko whose ancestors trace back to Slovakia, and Nathaniel Gaspar. Going into this tournament with 18 players was going to be tough. There are eight games to be played, all games last 80 min (four 20 min quarters) and only one day off during this tournament. The Slovak team played with much heart and stood beside each other from the first whistle to the last. Winning against team France and Norway, and finishing the first round in third place. The team was excited about their possibilities, for a moment they were one of twelve teams playing for the gold medal. Fatigue and great play from the next three teams dashed all hopes of going for gold, but team Slovakia never gave up. They played with everything they had.

Nathaniel Gaspar went to Amsterdam as the back-up goalie, but during the second game against team Wales, the starting goalie was injured. Nathaniel stepped up and went into the game with enthusiasm and determination to turn the score around. This did not happen, but the team rallied around their young goalie and won their next two games. Nathaniel was the youngest player to play in a European Championship. His parents were proud of the way he played. "The average age for teams was near 24 and here is my young son at 15, standing in the goal doing his best" was a comment his mother told an English reporter. Finishing 12 out of 17 teams was not what Team Slovakia wanted, but they were proud of their unity and



The 2012 Team Slovakia



The defense for Team Slovakia

their never give up attitude.

In two short years, Team Slovakia is looking to make a bolder statement in the World Games held in Denver Co in 2014. Most players will return for this, some regrettably will not.

The Gaspar family would love to thank Team Slovakia for allowing us to be part of their success, and would like to thank the Jednota paper for running the ad, and lastly Joe Hor-nack from the Slovak Institute in Cleveland, OH and Branch 1 Member, for his assistance with a contact in Slovakia. Without this contact, we might never have found our long lost relatives. Jan Lojag our guide was like an angel; we visited places I thought were not even possible. Thank you for making this an adventure of a lifetime. We hope to return to Slovakia next year to spend more time with our new found friends and relatives.

- Submitted by Doug, Karen and Nathaniel Gaspar



Nathan Gaspar, Number 41, directs the defense



Karen Gaspar (R) got to meet a distant relative while in Slovakia.

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Radio Host/Producer, The Christophers

Nurturing Faith on War's Frontline

When Cheri Lomonte was interviewing a woman whose son was serving in Afghanistan as a member of the United States Armed Forces, the radio host discovered that nine months had passed without the young Catholic soldier ever seeing a chaplain from any religious denomination. The reason, she discovered, is that there is a tremendous chaplain shortage, especially for Catholics.

For the 330,000 members of the military who declare themselves Catholic, there are only between 200 to 250 chaplains. As Lomonte explained to me during our Christopher Closeup interview, in many cases "the chaplains come in to wherever the troops are, they hear confession, they say a Mass, they give out Holy Communion. But then they're on to the next place." As a result, the troops often feel like they're "forgotten." The situation isn't much different when it comes to Protestant troops and chaplains.

Some people might have heard that information, felt bad for the troops, then moved on with their lives. Not Lomonte. She grew determined to be a genuine Christopher, a Christ-bearer.

Lomonte had previously worked on a project that provided the homeless in her hometown of Austin, Texas, with mp3 players that contained Catholic content like her radio show, Mary's Touch. The homeless, after all, needed reminders of God's love just as much as anyone else. Why not apply the same principle to helping the troops, she reasoned.

She got groups of military people—from a new recruit to a Colonel—sitting around her dining room table and asked them, "What do the men and women of our military need? What would you want to hear?" They all offered opinions, as did others when word of the project spread.

Audio of a Mass, the rosary, children reading letters of appreciation to soldiers, and stories that would nurture the troops' faith, became part of what is now called the Frontline Faith Project which includes seven hours of material on every mp3 player. The players—which are paid for entirely by donations from the public—are distributed by chaplains when they visit with troops.

Lomonte said, "I had one [soldier] say, 'I wake up every morning wondering if this is going to be the day [I die]. When I listen to the player, it gives me strength, it helps me relax, it's like my best friend.'"

This project for Catholics eventually grew to include an interfaith aspect as well when Protestant chaplains asked Lomonte if she could create a version for them. She was happy to comply, saying, "Isn't that a beautiful part of it? This is for everyone. We all have the same God, of Abraham and Isaac."

At a time when many troops are returning home severely wounded physically and mentally, when the suicide rate among members of the armed forces is higher than ever, Lomonte has now been asked to grow the project further and provide the mp3 players to wounded warriors too. She is willing to do her part, but asks the public for help defraying the cost which is \$24 per player. That donation can offer one service-member some much needed spiritual support.

Though Cheri has done a lot of the legwork for the Frontline Faith Project, she attributes its growth and success to a higher power: "I know this is the Holy Spirit at work. This wasn't on my radar. When these things come along, I think we have to respond. As a Catholic, it's my duty to respond and do the best job I can."

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

FCSU Spitkovsky District 2

AFTERNOON AT THE BALLPARK





Gary SouthShore RailCats vs. Fargo RedHawks

Sunday, July 29th at the modern USS Steelyard in Gary, Indiana

Game Time - 2:00pm

FCSU Members, families and friends are welcome (kids and grandchildren included)

- ❖ Reserved seats with a great view
- ❖ Free parking with fenced lots
- ❖ Enjoy minor league baseball at it's best
- ❖ Cost is only \$8.00 per person for FCSU members (include \$1 off district rebate)
- ❖ Members children and grandchildren attend for FREE
- ❖ Cost is only \$9.00 per person for non members (group rate)

If you wish to attend, please complete the form below and return by July 20, 2012 with appropriate payment to:

George Kelchak, 953 Portage Ave., Porter, IN 46304

Any questions? Call George Kelchak, Director of Fraternal Activities, at 219-926-2410

(Cut Here)

FCSU Member Name: _____ Number of Tickets _____

FCSU Member Children & Grand Children _____ Number of Free Tickets _____

Non-members Name: _____ Number of Tickets _____

Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Special Offer Extended thru 2012

1st Year Premium Waived on Juvenile Enrichment Plan (JEP)



Offered extended due to popular demand.

All applications must be received in the Home Office **postmarked before December 31, 2012.**

- 1st year premium waived on \$10,000 Term Insurance *
- \$14 annual premium
- Premium never increases
- Guaranteed convertibility at any time up to age 25 (no medical examination required)
- College scholarships available
- Free newspaper subscription
- Youth activities



FCSU LIFE
6611 Rockside Rd
Independence, OH 44131
800-533-6682
fcsu@aol.com
www.fcsu.com

**Higher amounts available - please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office*

SLOVAK FESTIVAL

22nd ANNUAL SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS PARISH SLOVAK FESTIVAL



FRIDAY Aug. 24, 2012 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Talent Show	SATURDAY Aug. 25, 2012 2:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	SUNDAY Aug. 26, 2012 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Slovak Mass - 11:30 a.m.) (Parish Raffle - 6:00 p.m.)
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Ethnic Food - Bake Sale - Parish Raffle
Inflatables - Kids' Game Tent
Rock Climbing Wall - 50/50 Raffle
Beer - Wine - Pop - Live Music & More

\$5,000
Top Prize!

ENTERTAINMENT

Friday: * Parish Talent Show
* Family Night "Karaoke"

Saturday: * Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble and Junior Šarišan (from Sterling Heights, MI)
* Slovak Domovina Dancers (from Windsor, Ontario)
* Tri-City Plus Band

Sunday: * Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble and Junior Šarišan (from Sterling Heights, MI)
* Slovak Domovina Dancers (from Windsor, Ontario)
* The Hank Haller Ensemble (from West Lake, OH)

---- Public Dancing on Saturday and Sunday ----

(Program subject to change)

FOOD - Slovak & American

****Slovak food on Sat. & Sun. ONLY****

Holubky (Stuffed cabbage)
Sliže s kapustou (Noodles & cabbage)
Pirohy (Pierogi)
Faširky (Slovak burgers)
Klobása s kapustou (Kielbasa with sauerkraut)
Parky (Hot Dogs)
Hranolky (French Fries)
Cyril Burgers (specialty pocket sandwiches)
Palacinky (Crepes)
Zmrzlina (Ice Cream)
Predaj Koláčov (Bake Sale)

BEVERAGES

Pivo (Beer) * Vino (Wine)
Malinovsky (Pop)
Káva (Coffee) & More

CHILDREN'S AREA

* Game Tent - Duck Pond, Balloon Darts, Ski Ball, Basketball, More Games & Prizes
* Inflatables * Rock Climbing Wall

Plus a **FREE AREA** with Sand Boxes, Face Painting, Playdough & More!

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Catholic Church
41233 Ryan Rd. (north of 18 Mile Rd.) * Sterling Heights, MI * 48314
www.saintcyrils.org * 586-726-6911

All Proceeds to Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church Building Fund

Scenes from Slovak Events Around the FCSU

2012 Slovak American Day in Franklin, WI



(L - R) Ang Alexander, Atty. Keith Alexander, Branch 89 Member Andrew P. Rajec, and Robert Feind



The Tatra Slovak Dancers of Milwaukee

(L - R) Dr. Jim Rydlewicz, Dr. Mark Rydlewicz, Andy Agacki, and Andrew P. Rajec of Branch 89



The Slovak Catholic Sokol Drillers

2012 Slovak Day at Kennywood in W. Mifflin, PA



The Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PAS) gets ready to perform.



The Vychodna Slovak Dancers from Toronto, Canada

(L - R) Milenka Kopanic, Jim Kopanic, and Branch 553 Member and Jednota Contributing Writer Dr. Mike Kopanic



The Veselica Slovak Folklore Ensemble from Chicago, IL



Dr. Mike Kopanic (C) sings songs from the central Slovak region of Horehronie with the group.



The Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble from Detroit, MI

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10			
11				12				13		14				
15			16						17					
18						19		20			21			
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68			69				70			71				
72							73						74	
75								76					77	

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Across

- 1 Chip additive
- 4 So. state (Abbr.)
- 7 Strike
- 11 One (Sp.)
- 12 Coral reef
- 14 Brim over
- 15 Free as a bird
- 17 Prohibited
- 18 Without restraint
- 19 Bowler
- 21 Football player
- 22 Small rug
- 24 Paper quantity
- 25 ___ *Miserables*
- 26 Implore
- 29 Cut grass
- 31 Cover
- 33 Scarce
- 35 Chitchat
- 37 Guide
- 41 Eager
- 42 Enlighten
- 44 Destiny
- 45 Abhor
- 47 Exclamation of disgust
- 48 Prong
- 49 High degree
- 50 Pet
- 52 Doleful
- 53 Cable channel (Abbr.)
- 56 Ohio team
- 59 Arena cheer
- 61 Period of time
- 62 Build
- 64 Rot-resistant wood
- 68 Scandinavian
- 70 Biz colleagues
- 72 Toe

- 73 Oil source
- 74 Month (Abbr.)
- 75 Pigswill
- 76 Genetic material
- 77 Cooking measure (Abbr.)

Down

- 1 Twofold
- 2 Division word
- 3 Field game
- 4 Consumed
- 5 Duke
- 6 Change
- 7 Holiday resort
- 8 Defamation
- 9 Solitary
- 10 Trudges along
- 12 At right angles
- 13 Harp
- 14 Obstruct
- 16 Belief
- 20 Hype
- 23 In concert
- 26 Nail
- 27 Roof overhang
- 28 Gumption
- 30 Tobacco measure
- 32 Loopy
- 34 Promised land
- 36 Napkin, of sorts
- 38 Pulpit
- 39 Bunsen burner
- 40 Swamp grass
- 43 Rage
- 46 Sidewalks divider
- 51 Brightness
- 53 Doubles over
- 54 Grill
- 55 Freight
- 57 Art ___
- 58 Chew out
- 60 Deer relative
- 63 Duplicate
- 65 Fender mishap
- 66 God of love
- 67 Invitation inits.
- 69 Small drink
- 71 Eggs

Rev. John. J. Spitkovsky District II Attends the Annual Indiana Slovak Day on Sunday, July 15th, 2012

The Annual Indiana Slovak Day Picnic and Celebration was held at the Salvatorian Shrine in Merrillville, Indiana, on Sunday, July 15th, 2012. This is the same location the Society held the 1995 Jednota Family Day Picnic, hosted by the Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District II.

Chairpersons of this event had always been Carl and Betty Yurechko, FCSLA Members who always did an outstanding job. Carl passed away this year and Betty remained as Chairperson.

The day began with the celebration of Mass at 10:30am, following the mass was musical entertainment provided in the main air-conditioned hall, along with Slovak dancers from Milwaukee. Lunch/Dinner was served starting at 12pm. Among Slovak foods being served were halusky, kolbasy, holubky, chicken, chicken soup, coffee and dessert.

In attendance were FCSU Vice President Andy Harcar Branch 40, Art Fayta and Barbara Fayta Branch 706 members, Joseph Bugel Branch 313, Ed and Shirley Uram Branch 706, George and Betty Kelchak Branch 581, Ed Bonk Branch 581, Rev. Joseph Kelchak and Rev. Greg Holicky.

Tables were set up to display and sell the homemade Slovak Rozeks: nut, poppy seed, apricot, prune, and poppy seed/raisin filled rolls. This has been done for a number of years and always has been a great get-together for society members, who always do an outstanding job.

The afternoon concluded with hours of music preceded by the Slovak Dancers.

- Submitted by Art Fayta, District Picnic Member

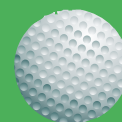
See Solution on Page 19



Scenes from 2012 National Golf



f Tournament, July 13-15, 2012



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society- Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call 216.228.8179.

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish in Minneapolis, MN, will hold their annual festival on Sunday, August 19, 2012, on the parish grounds.

The festival will begin with a polka Mass at 10:30AM and conclude at 5:00PM with the cash raffle drawing.

There will be Slovak and Spanish food available, along with games for children, a cake walk, pull-tabs, refreshments, and door prizes.

All Jednota members and their families are invited. Members will be volunteering at the food and game booths. Members are invited to register at the Big Raffle Booth for a free cash raffle entry and a food/refreshment ticket.

This activity replaces our annual family picnic.

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 7 – HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 7, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, August 12, 2012, at 9:00AM at Christ the King Parish Center, 100 Brisbin Street, Houtzdale, PA. All members are encouraged to attend.

Marie Sedlak, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24 will hold a meeting on Sunday, August 26, 2012, at the Beachwood Hilton, 3663 Park East Drive, Beachwood, OH, 44122. The meeting will begin at 1:00PM in Porter's Restaurant, the Elton John Room, after which a light lunch will be served. Please call Susan Lang at 216-896-0957 before August 24, 2012, to make a reservation.

David Lang, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 27P – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 027P Pittston, PA and Branch 382K Scranton, PA.

All members of Branch 027P will now hold membership in Branch 382K. This merger has taken place as of June 28, 2012.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: John J. Slovenkai, Sr., 318 14th Avenue, Scranton, PA, 18504-2512 (507) 347-3579.

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 32 – PINE BROOK, NEW JERSEY

There has been a merger between Branch 032K Pine Brook, NJ and Branch 746K Linden, NJ. All members of Branch 032K will now hold membership in Branch 746. This merger has taken place as of July 20, 2012. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Mary Kapitan, 166 Echo Ave, Edison, NJ 08837-2631 (732) 225-2658.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 35 – BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 35, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, July 14, 2012, at 1:00PM at the residence of Joseph Yuros, 15 Sumner Avenue, Forest Hills, PA. All members are invited to attend.

Janet M. Sullivan, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 47K – STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

There has been a merger between Branch 047K Stamford, CT and Branch 019K Trumbull, CT. All members of Branch 047K will now hold membership in Branch 019K.

This merger has taken place as of July 02, 2012.

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 51P – HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 51P Hazleton, PA and Branch 003P Hazleton, PA. All members of Branch 51P will now hold membership in Branch 003P. This merger has taken place as of July 12, 2012.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Michael Leo Koval, 1007 W. 7th Street, Hazleton, PA, 18201-3923 (507) 454-0004.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

All members are invited to attend a Christmas performance at the Theatre at the Center in Munster, Indiana on Sunday, December 9, 2012. The performance is Forever Plaid presents "Plaid Tidings" at 2:30 p.m. We will start with a Brunch at 12:30 p.m. The cost for Branch 153 members is \$34.00; the branch will subsidize the \$22.50 cost for the Brunch. The cost for non-members will be \$56.50.

Please mail checks payable to Rudy Bernath, 810 Fairhope Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025. Deadline is October 1, 2012. For further information call Rudy Bernath at 847 724-5243 or Dorothy Jurcenko at 773 763 0810.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 196P – COALDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 196P Coaldale, PA and Branch 293K Lansford, PA. All members of Branch 196P will now hold membership in Branch 293K. This merger has taken place as of June 26, 2012.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Robert John Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA, 18232-2210 (570) 645-4872.

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 254 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wenceslaus Society will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, August 15, 2012, at noon at Panera's restaurant in the Mt. Lebanon Galleria mall located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, contact Albina Senko at 412-343-5031.

Albina Senko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 293 – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph's Society, Branch 293, in Lansford, PA, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, August 13, 2012, at the home of the Financial Secretary, 527 E. Bertsch St. Lansford, PA, 18232, at 6PM.

Robert Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 312 – BAGGALEY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 312 will hold its next semi-annual meeting on September 9, 2012 at 1:00PM at the home of Branch President Mark Smolleck, 1121 Monastery Dr., Latrobe, PA 15650. For more information, please call 724-539-8326.

Fraternally,

Mlcki Smolleck, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 327 – POTTSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael Branch 327 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, August 12, 2012, at 9:00AM at the Holy Trinity Church Social Hall, 370 South St., Pottstown, PA. All members are urged to attend.

Elmer Pollock, President

BRANCH 367 – FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 367 Fairchance, Pa will hold its regular meeting on Wednesday, September 12, 2012, at Caporella's Italian Ristorante, 90 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, PA. The meeting will begin at 5 PM. If planning to attend please call Kathryn Baranek at 724-569-1006 or Audrey Balazik, President at 724-438-3887.

Patricia Speshock, Vice President

BRANCH 393 – HANNASTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Branch 393 will hold a meeting on Sunday, August 26, 2012, at 1:00PM at Hoss's Steak & Sea House, Rt 119, Greensburg, PA 15601. All members are welcome. For reservations, please call Mary Ann Nalevanko at (724)-834-6386.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 425 – BARBERTON, OHIO

St. Mark's Society, Branch 425, will hold its semi-

annual meeting on Sunday, August 19, 2012, at 1:00PM at the Slovak Society of Barberton, 887 W. Tuscarawas, Barberton, OH 44203. All members are welcome.

Jeannette Willis, Recording Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 430 - SIMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Stephen's Society, Branch 430, in Simpson, PA will hold its meeting on Sunday, August 19, 2012 at the home of Elizabeth M. Pisarcik, President, 448 Main St., Simpson, PA, at 2:00PM.

Elizabeth M. Pisarcik, President

BRANCH 480K – CUDAHY, WISCONSIN

There has been a merger between Branch 480K Cudahy, WI and Branch 900K Independence, OH.

All members of Branch 480K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of July 16, 2012. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Rd., Ste 300, Independence, OH 44131 (800) 533-6682.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493 in Chicago, IL, will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting and Summer Luncheon on Saturday, August 11, 2012.

Location: Bohemian Crystal Restaurant, 639 N. Blackhawk Drive, Westmont, IL 60559.

We will begin with a fraternal social period with refreshments at 1:30 pm, with the Meeting starting at 2:00 pm; Family-style dinner follows.

If you plan to attend, please call the Financial Secretary Robert Tapak Magrunder at (502) 244-6643 or (773) 558-5956 by July 30th. Members of other FCSU lodges who attend will pay via separate check.

Robert Tapak Magrunder

BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567 KJ will have their semi-annual meeting on Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 1:00pm at 419 East Hamilton St., Allentown, PA 18109. A discussion will be held regarding our future fundraising plans.

Fraternally,

Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 623K – SHEFFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 623K Sheffield, PA and Branch 900K Independence, OH. All members of Branch 623K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of July 16, 2012.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Rd., Ste 300, Independence, OH 44131 (800) 533-6682.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 624K – MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

There has been a merger between Branch 624K S Milwaukee, WI and Branch 900K Independence, OH. All members of Branch 624K will now hold membership in Branch 900K. This merger has taken place as of July 17, 2012.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Rd., Ste 300, Independence, OH 44131 (800) 533-6682.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 659K – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 659K Lansford, PA and Branch 293K Lansford, PA. All members of Branch 659K will now hold membership in Branch 293K.

This merger has taken place as of June 26, 2012. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Robert John Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA, 18232-2210 (570) 645-4872.

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

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 703K – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

There has been a merger between Branch 703K Chicago, IL and Branch 153K Chicago, IL. All members of Branch 703K will now hold membership in Branch 153K. This merger has taken place as of July 18, 2012. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Dorothy M. Jurcenko, 7113 W. Talcott Ave., Chicago, IL, 60631-2436 (773) 763-0810.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

On September 16, 2012 at 1:00 pm, Saint Joseph Branch 731 members will meet at Saint Matthias Church Rectory, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio.

We are planning our Mass for deceased branch members which will be celebrated on December 16, 2012. In addition, plans for our annual meeting to include the election of officers will be made. Please try to attend.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 743-STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 would like to invite all FCSU members and friends to the St. Cyril & Methodius Parish Festival and FCSU Michigan District Picnic to be held Saturday August 25th and Sunday August 26th on the Parish grounds located at 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48314.

Festival hours are: Saturday 2 pm to 11 pm and Sunday 12 noon to 8 pm.

Attendees will be under the BIG TENT once again. There will be bands, Slovak dancers, ethnic foods, adult beverages and much more. There are children's games, prizes, inflatables, dunk tank, bake sale, craft and silent auction. Look for the Slovak specialties from the kitchen and grill!

For complete and current Festival information, please visit the web- site at www.saintcyriils.org

Come and enjoy the festival and meet with your fellow Slovaks!

Joseph C. Rimarcik President & Financial Secretary

BRANCH 764 - WARREN, OHIO

Branch 764 held their monthly meeting on May 30, 2012 at Bella Women's Center. We discussed the upcoming breakfasts scheduled at St. Mary & St. Joseph Church in Newton Falls on September 16, 2012 following the 9:30am Mass and also the breakfast at St. Cyril & Methodius in Warren on October 28, 2012. We scheduled a Mass at St. Cyril & Methodius on November 4, 2012 at 9:30am for the living and deceased members of the Branch. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 29, 2012 at 12:00 noon at Bella Women's Center, 1192 North Park Road, NE, Warren, OH. Hope to see you there!

Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 769 – ENDICOTT, NEW YORK

The St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 769, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Wednesday, August 15, 2012, at the residence of Henry J. Pochily, 2809 Smith Dr., Endwell, NY. All members are encouraged to attend.

The meeting will include a discussion of the value of membership in the First Catholic Slovak Union. The meeting also will provide information on annuities as investments in the current financial climate.

Henry J. Pochily, President

BRANCH 779K – KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 779K King Of Prussia, PA and Branch 055K Broomall, PA. All members of Branch 779K will now hold membership in Branch 055K.

This merger has taken place as of July 09, 2012. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Helena T Gaydos, 137 Cypress Dr., Broomall, PA, 19008-3206 (610) 356-7956.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary

BRANCH 888 – WEST PALM, FLORIDA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888, will hold its next two meetings on Wednesday, September 5, 2012, at 5:30PM at 4649 Perth Road, West Palm Beach, FL, 33410, and on Wednesday, November 7, 2012, at 5:15PM at 4649 Perth Road, West Palm Beach, FL, 33410. Contact David Rafaidus, President at (561) 776-0449 or jednota888@yahoo.com for directions and further information.

On the agenda will be future branch activities, election of officers, Treasurer's report, and items of mutual interest to the membership. All branch members are invited to attend.

David Rafaidus, President

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 1 – REV MATTHEW JANKOLA DISTRICT – NEW ENGLAND

The Rev Matthew Jankola District 1 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, Sept 9, 2012, at 11:00AM at Sts Cyril and Methodius Church Hall (now called The Rev Matthew Jankola Hall), 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. We will review our year's activities and plan next year's agenda. The election of District Officers will take place at this meeting.

Members of the various branches are encouraged to attend this annual meeting. We look forward to seeing many members of District 1 at this meeting.

Jacqueline Zack, Secretary

DISTRICT 2 - THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky will hold its annual meeting and election of officers on Sunday, October 14, 2012 at the Missionary Benedictine Sisters Priory, 5900 W. 147th Street, in Oak Forest, IL. We will enjoy a short period of fraternal fellowship and refreshments starting at 1:30 pm.

The Annual Meeting will start promptly at 2:00 pm.

Attendees will enjoy a scrumptious catered meal. All branches are asked to send delegates; individual FCSU members who wish to learn more about becoming active in District 2 are also welcome to attend. If you plan to attend, please call District President John Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810, so enough food and beverages can be ordered for the meeting.

Robert Tapak Magruder

DISTRICT 3--GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT-WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District of the First Catholic Slovak Union will hold its Annual meeting on Saturday, September 29, 2012. We will meet following the 5:00P.M. Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church in United, PA. in the Formation Room of the Convent. On our agenda will be the election of officers for 2013 and planning for our annual Stedry Vecer. Attendance from each branch is encouraged and will be appreciated. Refreshments will be served.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary



Branch 855 To Host AARP Driver Safety Program Class

President Michael Kolesar of Branch 855 is happy to announce that the branch will host an AARP Driver Safety Class on Thursday, October 11, 2012 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM at the Activities Center of St. Charles Borromeo Church, located at 5901 Ridge Road; Parma, Ohio 44129.

Individuals who complete the course will receive a certificate of completion, which enables the individual to be eligible for a reduction of his/her automobile insurance premium. The specific percentage discount varies from insurer to insurer. Check with your agent for specifics.

The course carries a fee of \$12.00 per attendee; however, Branch 855 is offering to subsidize the fee for the first 25 Jednota members who register for the course.

Individuals may register by calling Linda Kolesar, Secretary-Treasurer of the Branch, at 440-886-0206.

Slovak Festival

Sunday, Sept. 2, 2012

St. Anthony of Padua Church Hall

6750 State Rd. Parma, Ohio

Music: John Pastirik Band • Frank Moravick Band

12:00 Noon until 8:00 pm

Plenty of Slovak Homemade Food and Pastry

Cultural Program 3:00 p.m

Sarisan Dancers/Detroit • Lucinka Dancers/Cleveland

Tickets at the door \$5.00

(12 years and under FREE)

Info call: 440-886-4828 • 440-885-1994 • 440-845-0282

Save Money and Possilby More:

ATTEND AN AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM CLASS SPONSORED BY BRANCH 855

Branch 855 is hosting an AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM class on October 11, 2012 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM, at the Activities Center of St. Charles Borromeo Church; 5901 Ridge Road; Parma, Ohio 44129.

Course material includes safe driving strategies for drivers over 50, however, much of the material is extremely useful to drivers of all ages.

You can register for the course by calling Linda Kolesar at 440-886-0206.

The course fee will be subsidized by Branch 855 for the first 25 Jednota members who register.

Attendees could be eligible for premium discounts on their auto insurance. Check with your insurance agent for specifics on the discount percentage.

For more information, call 440-886-0206.

A Tribute to Dr. Ladislaus Bolchazy

**Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.,
University of Maryland University College**



Dr. Ladislaus Bolchazy

After a long bout with illness, Ladislaus J. Bolchazy, PhD. passed away in Barrington, Illinois on July 28, 2012, at the age of 75. A well known publisher and Professor Emeritus at Loyola University in Chicago, Bolchazy had served for many years as the president of Bolchazy Carducci Publishers. He devoted his life to promoting and publishing classical works of Latin and Greek literature and to his special interests in Slovak culture.

His friends, colleagues and acquaintances knew him as Laci, or Lou, and he had a warm and congenial style in his interpersonal relations with others. In 2011, Laci visited the well known publisher and writer in Bratislava, Ivan Reguli, with whom he had cooperated on many projects. Reguli noted that even when Laci knew that he had cancer, he continued to pursue some ambitious plans for future publications. While ill, some of the best doctors in

USA were caring for him at the Mayo Clinic, and they gave him an honest assessment of the terminal nature of his condition. But Laci kept his illness in the background, and moved ahead with a full steam of energy – with the same enthusiasm he had shown almost 40 years earlier.

As a university professor, he became keenly aware of the dearth of good, solid classical Greek and Roman works of literature. For this reason, together with his wife, Mary, whose maiden name was Carducci, he founded Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers. In addition to publishing classical works, Laci co-founded and co-edited two scholarly journals, *Ancient World* (1978-1991) and the *Classical Bulletin* (1991-2008). To this day, the publishing house supplies numerous schools and libraries the timeless classics of ancient writers such as Virgil, Cicero, Horace, Seneca, Ovid, and Socrates.

Bolchazy pursued his interest in Slovak studies with the same enthusiasm and energy he had shown for classical literature. After first meeting Laci in 1988, Ivan Reguli recalls how his colleague longed to make available many of the rich works of Slovak authors to the larger English-speaking world. With the fall of communism and the beginnings of new possibilities after the 1989 revolution, Bolchazy helped publish the monumental and comprehensive English-Slovak dictionary which Professor Ján Šimko composed. There was such a demand for the dictionary that it sold an incredible 62,000 copies.

During the 1990s, Bolchazy founded and became president of the Slovak American International Cultural Foundation, a non-profit organization which publishes English translations of Slovak literature and promotes Slovak art. Bolchazy collaborated with a number of renown scholars, public figures, and other publishing houses to produce some major works about Slovakia and Slovaks in the English language. These included the following, just to name a few: poet Milan Rúfus' *And That's The Truth*, a Biographical Slovak Dictionary (with the Matica Slovenska), Cardinal Ján Ch. Korec's *Night of the Barbarians*, and Anton Spiesz's *Illustrated Slovak History*, which this author, Professor Michael Kopanic, also assisted in translating and editing.

Other works included a very unique edition of 170 Slovak songs translated into Latin Bystrik Muránsky: *Slovak Songs in Latin*, Slovak, English. He also had translated into English the incredible collection of fairy tales recorded by Pavel Dobšinský, entitled *Slovak Tales for Young and Old* with illustrations by Martin Benka (Kriván Publishers).

One of my personal favorites that Laci published is *Images Gone with Time: Photographic Reflections of Slovak Folk Life*. The book contain an incredible number of photographs taken by Igor Grossmann which intimately records the folk life of Slovak villages before modern society began to wipe out centuries old customs and traditions. The book remains a perfect gift, and a must for any coffee table in Slovak-American households.

These are just a few of the books from the rich depositary that Dr. Bolchazy has left with us as his legacy. In all, he contributed nearly forty books to our collection of works about Slovaks and Slovakia in English. He also made an effort to assure that some of the best American libraries and universities would add these books about Slovakia to their collection and took meticulous attention to be sure that they maintained the highest academic and cataloging standards.

In recognition for his many achievements and vast contributions, in 2007, the President of the Slovak Republic awarded him the prestigious Order of Ľudovít Štúr, named after the first codifier of the literary Slovak language. Slovakia rightfully granted him the honors he deserved, and we all should remain grateful and indebted to him for his many years of service and hard work on behalf of Slovak culture. *Ďakujem Laci!*

One of the best ways we can pay tribute to Dr. Bolchazy is to continue to purchase and read the many works he has published about Slovakia and the Slovaks. A full list of works is available at the following website: <http://www.bolchazy.com/>. Or one may write to the following address:

Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, Inc.
1570 Baskin Road
Mundelein, Illinois 60060 USA
Tollfree: (800) 392-6453
Phone: (847) 526-4344
Fax: (847) 526-2867



Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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



Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
002K	Olga M Kandravy	152K	Celia J Evan	323K	Joseph P Bullon	706K	Mary C Puclik
002K	Joseph J Lachowicz	157K	Irene P Mayernik	333K	Joseph A Lucas	731K	Dianne M Morton
003P	Eleanor Marcinko	157K	Marie A Regec	362K	George J Semancik	733K	Patricia R Melko
004K	Diane M Eddy	157K	Andrew A Skarbo	368K	Stephen E Goch	746K	Albert J Kiyak
016P	Marie Adamchak	162K	Sherron M Foster	373K	Irene M Perloski	746K	Joseph L Macai
019K	Andrew L Drob	166K	Theodore John Palkovic Sr	419K	Mary Jane Ciprich	746K	Joseph M Rapach
024K	Ignatius Seman	200K	Rose Marie Ferguson	429K	Anna Fedokovitz	754K	Joseph A Yanok
038K	Michael Laychak	200K	Rose A Nelson	484K	Michael B Gonos	764K	Mary Urchek
038K	Helen P Mihaly	228K	Andrew J Balcik	484K	Michael F Olsavsky	831K	Emil Pracko
053K	James J Koscak	259K	Robert J Sedlacko	567K	Mary A Knoblach	855K	Mary T Biros
075K	Stephen G Wasko	260K	Thomas A Bilkie	581K	Anthony L Sandrick	855K	Irene C Doronsky
083K	Benedict Spisak	276K	Sophie Leibold	628K	Agnes J Asmonga	855K	Michael C Hudac Sr
085K	Gertrude P Jasinski	280K	Paul S Homick	670K	Alfred W Hruby	855K	Helen R Nalesnik
085K	Leonard A Skovira	294K	Sue B Takach	670K	Marie A Juliana	856K	Andrew K Gregos
089K	Frank P Bucek Jr	308K	Pauline J Rohovsky	670K	Ryan M Moravec	862K	Joseph Charles Oyaski
089K	Thomas J Moritz	312K	David B Mickinac	670K	Dorothy A Radic		
112K	Joseph C Rittle	321P	Paul M Batko Jr	682K	Helen F Zalka		
132K	Edward J Dzurny						

* Processed in the month of July 2012

OBITUARIES

FR. RICHARD A PORTASIK, OFM BRANCH 200- FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The following is the obituary for Father Richard A. Portasik, O.F.M., who died at the age of 85 on July 14, 2012. I attended the celebration of his 60-year anniversary as a priest in May 2012 representing the Jednota. There was a standing room only crowd in the Friary Chapel honoring Father Portasik's many years of dedicated service to the church and to the Slovak people. We can be sure that Father has reached his goal of eternal life with our Lord.

*He truly lived the call – Za Boha a Narod
– For God and Nation.*

Andrew M. Rajec, President

Fr. Richard A. Portasik, OFM, died on July 14, 2012, at the age of 85. Born in Ford City, PA, Fr. Richard was priest of the Franciscan Province of St. John the Baptist for over 60 years. He is predeceased by his parents, Frank and Mary (Lalis), his uncle, Brother Florian Lalis, OFM, and his brothers, Fr. Joseph, OFM and John. His is survived by his nieces, Lee Ann Wood, Laura Shymansky, MD, and Linda Portasik.

Fr. Richard was a prolific author and preacher both in English and in Slovak preaching in churches and for religious communities through the United States. He spent 21 years in ministry to the Secular Franciscan Order (Third Order). Most of his years in ministry were spent at Holy Family Friary in Pittsburgh and St. Anthony in Uniontown. He was elected as Custos of the Vice Province 1976 - 1982.

He was a member of the Slovak Fraternals: FCSU, FCCLA, and the SOKOLS. Fr. Richard together with his brother, Fr. Joseph Portasik, OFM, were instrumental in raising funds for the Province of the Most Holy Savior in Slovakia after the fall of Communism.

Viewing took place at Holy Family Friary, Pittsburgh, PA 15202 on Friday, July 20, 2012 from 2 PM until 8 PM. A wake service was held at 6:30 PM. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 11 AM, Saturday, July 21, 2012 at the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Pittsburgh. Interment followed in the friar's plot, Christ the Re-

deemer Cemetery. Friars, family members, and members of the Holy Family Friary Chapel Community gathered for Morning Prayer on Saturday, July 21, 2012 at 10 AM at the Friary.

MICHAEL S. RURA BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

Michael S. Rura, 83, of Conifer, CO, formerly of Homer City, PA, passed into the Lord's Kingdom, Friday, July 13, 2012, while living with his son, Tom, and daughter-in-law, Lisa, in Las Vegas.

A son of the late Paul and Matilda Konkol Rura, he was born October 18, 1928, Mike was a graduate of Homer City High School and Davis and Elkins College, where earned a civil engineer degree. He also played football at both Homer City and Davis & Elkins College.

Mike served his country in the US Army during the Korean Conflict. He worked on the design team that developed and then built rapid transit systems at airports in Pittsburgh, Denver, Miami, Tampa and many places all over the world.

He was a member of and helped build the Our Lady of Assumption Church in Coral, PA, and Branch 484 of the FCSU. He was a charter member of Deacon Wally Kuhlman Knights of Columbus Council #14479, which he joined in 1958. He also was a charter member of Our Lady of the Mountains 4th Degree Assembly #3138.

For the last decade, Mike was the council's chairman for People with Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll) Drive. He was instrumental in raising as many funds as needed for special-needs programs in the Conifer area.

He is survived by two sons: Michael D. Rura and wife Deb, of Fort Collins, CO; Thomas G. Rura and wife Lisa, Las Vegas; and a brother, Rudy Rura, Homer City.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his wife, Helen D. Kellerski Rura, who passed away Oct 13, 1972, and two brothers John and Paul Rura.

Friends were received July 20, 2012, at the Robinson-Lytle Funeral Home, Indiana, PA, where a vigil service was held at

2:45PM. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday, July 21, 2012, at Our Lady of Assumption Church with the Rev. Father Ron Cyktor as celebrant.

Interment was in St. Bernard Cemetery in Indiana. Committal prayers also were said by Branch 484.

**- Submitted by Joseph E. Rura,
Branch 484, Financial Secretary**

MARY MAKOVSKY BRANCH 810 – MONTRÉAL, QUEBEC

Mary Makovsky (nee Bindas) passed away on June 23, 2012, at Charles LeM-

oyne Hospital, Montréal, QC, at the age of 80. Beloved wife of Anthony Makovsky. Devoted mother of Bill (Dawn) and John. She leaves to mourn: her sister Anne (late husband Joe), as well as other family members and many friends. Visitation was at Jasko Moshonas Ouimet Funeral Home in Montréal, QC, on Wednesday, June 27, 2012, from 3 - 9 p.m. Funeral services were on Thursday, June 28, at 11 a.m. at Sts-Cyril & Method Slovak Church, Montréal, QC. Interment at Notre-Dame-des-Neiges Cemetery, Montréal, QC, followed.



8th Annual Adult Retreat in Lakewood, OH

"We Remember How You Loved Us"

Sponsored by the Lakewood, OH Cluster Parishes:
St. Clement, St. James, St. Luke, & Transfiguration

Date: Tuesday, September 11, 2012

Time: 9:00AM to 2:00PM

Place: St. Clement Church and Hall
14401 Madison Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

Speaker: The Rev. Joachim J. Pastirik, O.S.B.
(FCSU Member, Branch 24)

Cost: \$10.00

Program: Continental Breakfast will be served in St. Clement Hall at 9:00AM. The Rev. Joachim Pastirik, O.S.B., will talk about Forgiveness and Remembrance. Afterward, we will move into the church for Mass and Anointing. We will conclude with a catered **hot chicken lunch** in the Hall.

Registration: please register as soon as possible, but no later than **Sept 7, 2012**

- Sylvia Namitka from Transfiguration at 216-228-1134
- Pat Geib from St. Clement at 216-221-1926
- Delores Beemer from St. James at 216-221-2248
- Marilyn August from St. Luke at 440-333-1188



Registration Form for Tuesday, Sept 11, 2012 Adult Retreat (please print)

Parish _____

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

\$10.00 payment enclosed _____ Check _____ Cash _____

If paying by check, please make check payable to your parish. Submit your registration form and payment in an envelope marked "Older Adult Retreat." Take it to your rectory or put it into the Sunday collection. No refunds will be issued. Thank you!

Picnic Photos from Branch 181, United, PA

Branch 181 Held its annual family picnic at Mammoth Park on Sunday, June 24th at Pavillion #14 in Mammoth Park, PA. The branch provided the main course and drinks, while members contributed covered dishes to share with fellow Jednotars and guests. The fun afternoon included prizes and games for the children. A meeting was held after the picnic.

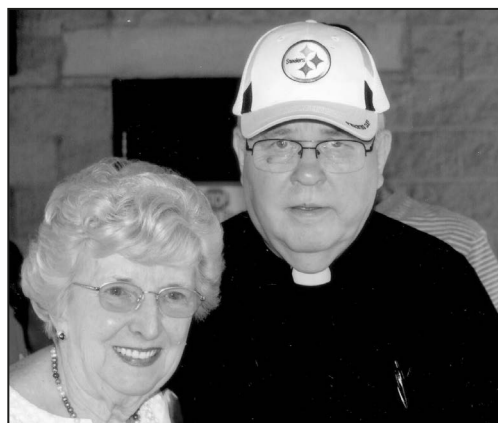
- Submitted by Gerry Kovacina, Recording Secretary



(L - R) James Marmol, Branch President Clarence Pfeifer, National Treasurer George Matta, National Chair of Auditors Karen Hunka, and Ed Mizikar.



The Hricik Family



The Rev. Monsignor William G. Charnoki with Mrs. Sprock (L) and Mrs. Geraldine Hricik (R)



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA MARCH 23-24, 2012 HOME OFFICE

FIRST SESSION:

Friday, March 23, 2012

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked Reverend Thomas Nasta, Chaplain, to offer the opening prayer. The President asked Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director, to lead the Board in singing the Anthems of the United States, Canada, Slovakia and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Kenneth Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call with the following members present:

Rev. Thomas Nasta	National Chaplain
Andrew Rajec	President
Andrew Harcar, Sr.	Vice President
Kenneth Arendt	Executive Secretary
George Matta	Treasurer
Karen Hunka	Chairman of Auditors
Susan Ondrejco	Fraternal Activities Director
Gary Matta	General Counsel
Joseph Minarovich	Regional Director, Region 1
Damian Nasta	Regional Director, Region 2
Carl Ungvarsky	Regional Director, Region 3
James Marmol	Regional Director, Region 4
Regis Brekosky	Regional Director, Region 5
Henry Hassay	Regional Director, Region 6
Rudolph Bernath	Regional Director, Region 7
Milos Mitro	Regional Director, Region 8

READING OF THE CALL:

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Annual March 2012 Meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 17, 2011:

A motion was made by James Marmol and seconded by Damian Nasta to accept the minutes of the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting of December 17, 2011 as presented. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA:

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Annual Meeting and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the agenda and to allow the President to change the order of the agenda, if necessary. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OF COMMITTEES:

The President appointed the following committees:

DONATION COMMITTEE

George Matta
Carl Ungvarsky

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Reverend Thomas Nasta
Gary Matta
Karen Hunka

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME:

The President read his welcome to the Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT:

President Rajec turned the meeting over to Vice President Harcar, who recognized President Rajec. President Rajec read his 2011 annual report. At the conclusion of the President's Report, a motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Father Thomas Nasta for its acceptance. Motion carried. (The President's Report is to be published in the Jednota Newspaper).

OUTSIDE AUDITORS REPORT:

Edward Mertz, of the accounting firm of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP, presented a written report to the Board. He found all FCSU financial reports in excellent order. Mr. Mertz answered all the Board's questions.

ACTUARIAL REPORT:

Edward DePersis, of Bruce and DePersis, presented the actuarial report for 2011. Mr. DePersis stated that since each board member received a copy of the report, he will not read the entire report, but will just give the highlights. He gave a very extensive positive report for 2011. The actuary recommended that a dividend be paid in 2011. The President stated his recommendation is to pay a dividend in 2012 using the same format as used in 2011. A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by George Matta to pay a dividend in 2012 using the same format as used in 2011. Motion carried.

MATLIN PATTERSON ASSET MANAGEMENT (MPAM)

Christopher Welker, Chief Operating Officer, and Craig Ruch, Chief Executive Officer, of Matlin Patterson Asset Management (MPAM) presented their extensive report on our investment portfolio. After their presentation they answered the Board of Directors' questions.

RECESS OF SESSION:

The Board broke for lunch and to celebrate Mass with Father Thomas Nasta.

SECOND SESSION:

Friday afternoon, March 23, 2012

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec opened the afternoon session with a prayer and a call to order. The Executive Secretary stated that all members were present.

AQS ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT:

Larry White, representing AQS Asset Management, at the invitation of the President, presented his report to the Board of Directors. During and after his presentation, Mr. White answered the Board of Directors' questions.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2011:Executive Secretary's Report

Kenneth Arendt presented the financial summary report for the year ending 2011 and answered the Board's questions.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Board of Directors which gave a complete update of the investments and all current transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

The Executive Secretary also presented a comparison report between what was budgeted for 2011 and the actual expenditures for 2011.

After an analysis by AQS Management, the President asked the Board to increase our advancements with Federal Home Loan Bank from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000. The President noted that this strategy allows the FCSU to earn a substantial margin on our investment with limited risk over a pre-determined short time span. Motion was made by James Marmol and seconded by Regis Brekosky to give the Executive Committee the authority to raise our advancement limit from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 if the proper investment scenario arises. Motion carried.

Portfolio Custodian

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.

A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by Rudolph Bernath to accept the secretary's report as presented. Motion was carried. The Executive Secretary stated that his 2011 Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer George Matta presented the Treasurer's Report for 2011 and answered all the Board members' questions. Motion was made by Carl Ungvarsky and seconded by James Marmol to accept the report as presented. Motion carried. The Treasurer's Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

CHAIRMAN OF AUDITORS REPORT:

Chairman of Auditors, Karen Hunka, presented the 2011 Auditor's Annual Report and answered the Board's questions. The Chairman stated that the internal auditors conducted a thorough audit and found everything in order. Motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Rudolph Bernath to accept the report as presented. Motion carried. The Chairman of Auditors' Report will be published in the Jednota Newspaper.

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:

Director of Fraternal Activities, Susan Ondrejco, gave a Power Point presentation to the Board of Directors summarizing the 2011 activities and answered their questions.

The Director of Fraternal Activities also presented an update on the upcoming joint Bowling Tournament with the Slovak Catholic Sokol and the National Slovak Society on May 4-6, 2012 at the Freeway Lanes in Wickliffe, Ohio. Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director, is also working on the joint Golf Tournament with the National Slovak Society which will be held on July 14-15, 2012 in Sharon, Pennsylvania.

The Director gave a report on the photo contest and coloring contest. She also gave the final report on the 2011 National Picnic. Sites for a picnic are being investigated for 2012. The President stated it is really too late for 2012 and the Director should concentrate on finding a picnic site for 2013. The aim is to rotate sites for the picnic in the east, west, Pittsburgh and Cleveland areas in order to reach more members.

A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Joseph Minarovich to accept the Fraternal Director's report as given. Motion was carried. The Fraternal Activity Director's Report will be published in the newspaper.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL:

General Counsel, Gary Matta, gave his 2011 report and answered the Board's questions.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA MARCH 23-24, 2012 HOME OFFICE

There being no further business, Henry Hassay made a motion to adjourn and James Marmol seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Father Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

THIRD SESSION:

Saturday, March 24, 2012

OPEN:

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Reverend Thomas Nasta led the Board in prayer.

ROLL CALL:

The Executive Secretary took a visual roll call. He stated that everyone is present.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

At this time the President recognized the Vice President, who presented his annual report to the Board of Directors and answered the Board's questions. The report covered membership and marketing, seminars, agent recruitment and information for the proposers to assist them in obtaining their state licenses. The Vice President stated we have 80 active independent agents and we are continuing to recruit agents. The Vice President also reviewed his 2012 seminar schedule and is trying to accommodate branches and districts.

Membership and Marketing

The Vice President distributed a written report to the Board of Directors. The report contained a listing of the top proposers of insurance and annuity sales, a detailed report of sales production by districts and a five year comparison report broken down by districts.

The Executive Secretary stated we are upgrading our Power Point presentation and will have it available for future seminars.

The motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky to accept the Vice President's report. The Vice President's Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

SUBSIDIARIES REPORT:

Jednota, Inc.

The President of Jednota, Inc., George Matta, gave his report to the Board of Directors and answered all the Board's questions.

Jednota Properties, Inc.

At this time, the President turned the meeting over to Regis Brekosky, President of Jednota Properties, Inc., to present a report for the Jednota Properties, Inc., and answer the Board's questions. As part of his report, a teleconference with Joseph Bielecki, Secretary of Jednota Properties, Inc., and Joseph Senko, Treasurer of Jednota Properties, Inc., took place for the purpose of discussing the upcoming lease renewal for one of the tenants in Building #2 located in Middletown, Pennsylvania. At the completion of his report, Mr. Brekosky turned the meeting back over to the President.

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

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND NATIONAL CHAPLAIN:

The Regional Directors and our National Chaplain presented their annual reports. All reports will be printed in the Jednota newspaper. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the reports as presented. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee

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

Investments were made in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and with the investment policy adopted by the Board of Directors. All investments are approved by a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee members work very closely with the Society's Investment Advisor, AQS Asset Management.

Pension Committee

The Executive Secretary gave an update on the FCSU Pension Plan. He stated that we are in full compliance with all federal regulations and answered the Board's questions.

Scholarship Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Scholarship Committee comprised of three independent professional educators. The applications for FCSU scholarships are being processed and will be sent to the Scholarship Committee. He also gave a report on the Jednota Benevolent Foundation and answered the Board's questions.

A motion was made to accept the committee reports by Henry Hassay and seconded by Damian Nasta as presented. Motion was carried.

Donation Committee

George Matta made the report of the Donations Committee. All requests were reviewed and acted upon.

Resolutions Committee

Father Thomas Nasta gave the report on the Resolutions Committee. All requests were reviewed and acted upon.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President stated once the meeting dates are finalized for 2012 the list will be sent to the Directors.

The President stated the position for Secretary of the Supreme Court of the First Catholic Slovak Union has become vacant due to the death of Dr. Stephen J. Whisdosh. Since this vacancy did not substantially affect the operation and business of the First Catholic Slovak Union it was not filled on a temporary basis. The vacancy will be advertised in our Jednota Newspaper per the bylaws. The vacancy will be filled by the Board at the September 21-22, 2012 Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting.

The Executive Secretary updated the Board on the cost of health insurance for FCSU employees and answered all the Board's questions.

The President recognized James Marmol, Regional Director, who gave a detailed presentation on drawings and costs associated with the Jednota Monument in Middletown, Pennsylvania. A suggestion by James Marmol to help defray the costs would be to sell memorial bricks that would have family names, branches, or in memoriam engraved on them. A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Regis Brekosky to proceed with the monument project and with a cost not to exceed \$65,000. Motion was carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING:

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Damian Nasta to pay all the bills associated with the meeting. Motion carried.

ADJOURN:

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

Father Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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Pittsburgh District Fathers' Day Brunch in June

Members of the Pittsburgh District and their families enjoyed a lively get-together on Fathers' Day, June 17, 2012, at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall in West Mifflin, PA. Members gathered at 9:30AM for morning Mass, followed by brunch and socializing at the hall. Logan Dillinger, president of Branch 38, welcomed everyone. Pastor Joseph Grosko asked everyone to keep fathers in their prayers. He reminded us that we should keep up our Slovak traditions. Following the meal, George Matta II, District President, lead a discussion of FCSU activities. Rege Brekosky, Region 5 Director; George Matta, National Treasurer; Susan Ondrejco, National Activities Director; and Gary Matta, National Counsel; provided updates. It was decided that the next district meeting will be held at noon on December 2, 2012, at the Holy Trinity Hall in West Mifflin, PA. Branch 580 will host. The event ended with the awarding of door prizes. Gift bags of Steelers souvenirs went to all men over the age of 18. The district particularly wishes to thank Kari Barnes of Branch 628 for preparing the ad booklet, and Rege Brekosky for providing the photographs.

- Submitted by Margaret Nasta, District Recording Secretary



55. kongres Slovenskej ligy v Bridgeport, CT

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výboru Eileen S. Wilson. Výkonný výbor SLvA dezignoval za predsedu kongresu člena Výkonného výboru advokáta Jána Ducha. Pri otvorení kongresu bolo 46 delegátov prítomných a viacerí hostia. Predseda Tanzone menoval Nominačný – volebný výbor a Výbor pre rezolúcie. Za tým nasledovala ideová prednáška Dr. Michala Kopanica, ktorej vedúcou témou bola história Slovákov v novoanglických štátoch. Hovoril aj o širšej slovenskej problematike v Spojených štátoch a odporúčal niektoré akcie na zveľadenie slovenského života v Amerike.

Druhé zasadanie kongresu 9. júna otvoril člen Výkonného výboru SLvA advokát Ján Duch, ktorý si hneď vyžiadala vyjadrenia k správe gen. tajomníčky W. Niny Holej. Okrem niekoľkých otázok, na ktoré gen. tajomníčka odpovedala oznámila prítomným, že ďalšie číslo Slovakia je pripravené do tlače a vyjde toho roku koncom leta. V písomnej správe dozorcovia SLvA Marta Catalano a Jozef Goda oznámili, že prezreli finančné knihy, účty a bankové výkazy a odporúčajú prijatie správy gen. tajomníčky, ktorá bola následne jednoducho prijatá. V správe Rezolučného výboru, ktorú podal Rev. Andrej Hvozdovič, kongres si pripomemnul 20. výročie vzniku druhej Slovenskej republiky a blížiac sa 1150. výročie príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda na územie dnešného Slovenska a blížiac sa 150. výročie Maticy slovenskej. Na agende kongresu boli aj rokovania o ďalšom programe Slovenskej ligy a o tom ako pritiahnúť najnovších prisťahovalcov do práce v Slovenskej lige a vo slovenských fraternalistických organizáciách.

Vo voľbách nových funkcionárov SLvA, predsedníčka Nominačného-volebného výboru Cecilia Maleski vo svojej správe oznámila, že výbor dostal písomné nominácie na rôzne funkcie a sa rozhodol predložiť ich kongresu bez vlastného odporúčania. Na funkciu predsedu sa uchádzali Daniel F. Tanzone a Jozef Janek z Detroitu. Na funkciu gen. tajomníčky sa uchádzali terajšia tajomníčka Nina Holá a Marika Kaničková z nového zboru 55 v Roselle Park, N.J. Na funkciu troch dozorcov sa uchádzali štyria kandidáti, ale pred uzavretím nominácií Mária Božeková zo zboru 1 v NYC odvolala svoju kandidatúru.

Nominačný – volebný výbor oznámil nasledujúce výsledky volieb: Predseda – Daniel F. Tanzone väčšinou hlasov; Gen. tajomníčka W. Nina Holá, väčšinou hlasov; Bez opozície boli zvolení nasledujúci funkcionári: 1. podpredseda – Dr. Mikuláš Halko, Mt. Kisco, NY; 2. podpredseda – Justine Wesnak, Schnecksville, Pa.; 3. podpredseda – Jozef Kováč, Fraser, Mich.; Traja volení členovia Výkonného výboru: John G. Duch, Esq., Wyckoff, NJ, Stephanie Siegel, NY, Eileen S. Wilson, Stratford, Conn. Podľa Stanov SLvA členmi Výkonného výboru sú ex officio aj predsedovia a tajomníci členských fraternalistických organizácií. Za čestného predsedu bol na poslednom kongrese zvolený Dr. Ludovít Pavlo a za čestného tajomníka Ján A. Holý, ktorí sú tiež členmi Výkonného výboru. Direktor programov pre mládež – Milan Čuba; Oblastní podpredsedovia: Milan Dait pre štát New York, Gabriel Kováč pre New Jersey, Dr. Michal J. Kopanic pre Pennsylvaniu, Ružena Kováčová pre Ohio a Michigan, Ivan Králik pre Illinois a Wisconsin, Robert Ťapák Magruder pre Kentucky a Mimi Danihel pre Kaliforniu a západné štáty. Dozorcí: Marta Catalano, NYC, Jozef Goda, Stratford, Conn. A Dr. Ladislav Korček, Fishkill, NY. Na záver popoludňajšieho zasadania Ivan Králik pripravil pre kongres Slovenskej ligy výstavu historických dokumentov, ktorú doplnil historickým výkladom boja za suverenitu a samostatnosť slovenského národa a o účasti Slovákov v Amerike v tomto historickom zápase.

Po recepcii, ktorá začala o 6.15 večer nasledoval slávnostný banket 55. kongresu, ktorý zahájil invokáciou Rev. Robert Birošchak. Za tým americkú a slovenskú hymnu zaspieval operný spevák Radoslav Lesay za doprovodu Jozefa Jurašeho. Konferenciou večera bol Daniel F. Tanzone, ktorý privítal hosti a účastníkov spolu s predsedníčkou miestneho organizačného výboru Eileen S. Wilson. Slávnostným rečníkom banketu Slovenskej ligy v anglickej reči bol bývalý americký veľvyslanec USA v Bratislave, Vincent Obsitnik. Vo svojom príhovore účastníkom priblížil svoje skúsenosti a zážitky počas pôsobenia na Slovensku ako aj za tým hovoril o slovensko-európskych a slovensko-amerických vzťahoch. Slovenským rečníkom bol predseda Maticy slovenskej, Marián Tkáč. Hlavnou témou jeho prejavu boli vzťahy a spolupráca Maticy so Slovenskou ligou a Slováckmi v Amerike a tiež oboznámil prítomných s budúcim programom a plánoch Maticy. Žagratuloval novozvoleným funkcionárom Slovenskej ligy a pozval Slovákov v Amerike na oslavy blížiac sa 150. výročia založenia Maticy slovenskej a na oslavy 1150. výročia príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda na Slovensko. Predseda MS za tým odovzdal predsedovi a tajomníčke SLvA ocenenie a poctu MS Slovenskej lige za vyše storočnú prácu v prospech Slovenska. Podobné ocenenie bolo odovzdané aj Jozefovi Janekovi. Vmene členských fraternalistických organizácií sa prihovarila predsedníčka Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Ženskej Jednoty Cynthia Maleski. V kultúrnom programe banketu sa predstavil spevom viacerých slovenských ľudových piesní, Radoslav Lesay za doprovodu Jozefa Jurašeho. Program banketu ukončila gen. tajomníčka SLvA Nina Holá pod'akováním jej spolupracovníkom v prípravnom výbore Kongresu ako aj všetkým účastníkom za prítomnosť a za záujem o slovenské diania.



Zľava: hlavný predseda IKSJ Andrej M. Rajec a veľvyslanec Vincent Obsitnik v spoločnosti Jednotárov zľava: Milan a Henrieta Dait z New Yorku; manželka predsedu IKSJ Idka Rajec; Anna Korčák, Martha Catalano a Maria Božeková z New Yorku.



Na snímke zľava: predseda SLvA Daniel F. Tanzone; predseda Maticy slovenskej Marián Tkáč; syn veľvyslanca a kandidát na kongresmana Stephen Obsitnik; gen. tajomníčka SLvA Nina Holá; veľvyslanec Vincent Obsitnik; čestný tajomník Ján A. Holý a podpredseda Dr. Mikuláš Halko.

Americký veľvyslanec precestoval Slovensko krížom krážom

Cieľom nie je len dostať americké firmy na Slovensko, ale aj pritiahnúť slovenské investície do Spojených štátov, povedal americký veľvyslanec v SR Theodore Sedgwick. Dodal, že za dva roky jeho pôsobenia na Slovensku sa pri rozvíjaní slovensko-amerických ekonomických vzťahov skutočne urobil pokrok v oblasti celého IT sektora.

“Firma Google začala pôsobiť v SR, dokonca v nej začal pracovať jeden bývalý, slovenský pracovník nášho veľvyslanectva,” uviedol Sedgwick v nedávnom rozhovore pre TASR. “Hovoril som s lídrami firmami Hewlett Packard, Sisko, AT&T, DELL, Google, Amazon – i tie spoločnosti, ktoré vo vašej krajine už boli, rozširujú svoje pôsobenie. Majú stovky, tisícky zamestnancov a veľmi ma to teší. Do Prešova prichádza tohto roku firma Honeywell, postaví tu svoju prvú továreň,” konkretizoval americký diplomat.

Podľa Sedgwickových slov je veľmi dôležité povzbudzovať americký export a investície na Slovensku, avšak aj slovenské investície v Spojených štátoch. “Som rád, že sa dari pritiahnúť slovenské investície do USA – jedna spoločnosť, reprezentujúca technológiu cloud computing, sa presťahovala do Las Vegas. Svoj veľmi úspešný koncept zo Slovenska preniesli do Ameriky,” dodal veľvyslanec.

Letné prázdniny sú vždy spojené s cestovaním mladých po svete. Slovenskí študenti využívajú možnosť pracovať v lete v USA – spoznať krajinu, zdokonaľiť sa v jazyku. “Máme približne rovnaké čísla každý rok, počet záujemcov nerastie, ani neklesá, ide zhruba o 2000 študentov. Sme radi, že pretrváva vysoký záujem. Vždy na jar, keď si študenti prichádzajú pre víza, pripravujem pre nich typické americké jedlo – hotdogy a hamburgery, pretože pricestujú začiatkom júla, keď sa u nás oslavuje Deň nezávislosti.

Dva roky vo funkcii Sedgwick dôkladne využil na spoznávanie Slovenska a urobilo na neho dojem, aká je pre Slovákov dôležitá rodina. Hovoril s ľuďmi, ktorí dlho žili v USA, ale vrátili sa do svojej domoviny. Keď sa ich pýtal na dôvody, odpoveď bola skoro vždy rovnaká, prišli za rodinou, chcú žiť vo svojej dedine, postarať sa o rodičov. “Toto nie je také typické pre USA, kde ľudia viac cestujú za prácou – napríklad moja rodina, jeden brat je v Kalifornii, ďalší vo Virgínii, sestra v Bostone, ja som bol vo Washingtone D.C., rozprchlí sme sa po celej krajine. Na Slovensku sú však rodiny často pospolu, ľudia sú si veľmi blízki – to je pekná vlastnosť,” podotkol diplomat.

Ako ale povedal ďalej, našiel i styčné body – Slováci majú radi prírodu, turistiku, chodia do hôr, rybačiť, poľovať - rovnako ako aj on. Slovensko je pre takéto aktivity “skvelou krajinou” a americký veľvyslanec ho precestoval krížom-krážom. Prezradil, že v pracovni má mapu SR, kde si vyznačuje miesta, ktoré navštívil, a mapa je už plná špendlíkov. Dodal, že Slováci milujú Vysoké Tatry, ale jemu sa obzvlášť páčia zalesnené pahorkatiny. Pripomínajú mu totiž lesy v jeho domovskej Virgínii, podobná krajina je i v Ohio. Ocenil krásu slovenských pamiatok a vyzdvihol skutočnosť, že v SR sa veľa urobilo pre obnovu historických centier miest, starých hradov.

V súvislosti so súčasným hospodárskym vývojom v EÚ prejavil Sedgwick optimizmus, avšak zdôraznil, že situácia je veľmi náročná nielen v únii, ale aj v USA. “EÚ je pre Spojené štáty najväčším obchodným partnerom a chceme, aby bola Európa úspešná,” priblížil americký pohľad na problém. Dodal, že Washington pozitívne vníma politický i ekonomický záväzok krajín EÚ riešiť tieto otázky, a tiež prijaté opatrenia – reformy v oblasti bankovej únie, depozitov, poistenia, snahu o silnejší systém finančného dohľadu, aby úroky pre Španielsko a Taliansko príliš nerástli.

Podľa názoru Sedgwicka sú slovensko-americké vzťahy stabilné a predčasné voľby v SR tento fakt neovplyvnili. „Neraz som už povedal, že slovensko-americké vzťahy budú naďalej veľmi pevné a nezáleží na tom, aká je na Slovensku vláda, ľavicová či pravicová, ani či sú v USA pri moci demokrati alebo republikáni. Môj dojem zo stretnutí s predstaviteľmi vlády - vrátane premiéra Roberta Fica, ministra vnútra Roberta Kaliňáka a ministra zahraničných vecí Miroslava Lajčáka - bol, že pevné slovensko-americké vzťahy sú pre nich záväzkom, čo nás veľmi teší. Je veľa rôznorodých oblastí, v ktorých chceme pokračovať v spolupráci,” konštatoval veľvyslanec USA.

TASR



Rok sv. Cyrila a Metoda otvorený na púti v Nitre

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

rady SR, poslanci Európskeho parlamentu, diplomati, zástupcovia cirkevného, spoločenského, politického a kultúrneho života. Slávenie 1150. výročia od ich príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda na naše územie pripomenú na Slovensku i v zahraničí viaceré podujatia.

Odkaz sv. Konštantína - Cyrila sprítomnila jeho relikvia, ktorú vystavili pred oltárom počas svätej omše. Na bohoslužbe nechýbali ani predstavitelia Ordinariátu OS a OZ SR, Čestnej stráže prezidenta SR, Zvrchovaného rádu Maltézskeho rytierov, Slovenského orla, Slovenského skautingu, Spolku sv. Vojtecha, Maticy slovenskej a ďalších inštitúcií a spoločenstiev domáceho i medzinárodného charakteru. Svätú omšu sprevádzal spevácky zbor Psallite Deo pod vedením Vladimíra Kopca a duchovná hudba Nedanovčianka. Celonárodná púť v Nitre je súčasťou trojdňových mestských slávností Nitra, milá Nitra..., Dni Nitranov a Pribinových slávností. Účastníci púte mohli navštíviť aj Biskupský palác, ktorý bol voľne prístupný verejnosti. Popoludní pred palácom slávnostne požehnali sochu bl. pápeža Jána Pavla II. Návštevníci mohli navštíviť aj ďalšie akcie, napríklad Akademickú Nitru či festival folklórnych súborov zo slovanských krajín.

TK KBS

Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

Slovenská katolícka púť v Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, NY

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na Slovenskú katolícku púť, ktorá sa uskutoční v nedeľu 12. augusta 2012 v Marian Shrine, saleziánov Don Boska, vo West Haverstraw, New York, 10993. Pred svätou omšou budú mať pútnici možnosť sa vyspovedať.

Svätá omša začne o 11:00 hodine dopoludnia. Obed sa začne o 12:30 hodine odpoľudnia a Ružencová procesia bude o 2:30 hodine odpoľudnia. Kto by mal záujem na túto púť cestovať autobusom, nech sa prihlási u brata Jozefa Bilika. Ak bude dostatočný počet záujemcov, autobus bude pristavený pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku.

Blížšie informácie o púti vám podajú: Jozef Bilik: (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová: (201) 641-8922.

Známi a neznámi Slováci

Slovenský drevorezbár v Austrálii



Juraj Pavlišin

Medzi osobnosti slovenského exilu po februárovom komunistickom puči ne-sporne patrí aj Boris Gašpar. Narodil sa 3. októbra 1930 v Bratislave a do Štátnej ľudovej školy chodieval na Palisády. Pretože bol synom významného predstaviteľa Slovenského štátu Tida Jozefa Gašpara, po ukončení gymnaziálneho štúdia v roku 1950 mu nebolo umožnené ďalej študovať a začal pracovať ako laborant v Štátnom zdravotníckom ústave v Bratislave. Na jeseň v roku 1951 bol povolaný do pracovno-technického práporu v Ostrave odkiaľ v júni 1952 spolu aj s priateľom utiekli a o pár mesiacov neskoršie za dramatických okolností, ale napokon šťastne obaja preplávali rieku Moravu a dostali sa do Rakúska. V utečeneckom tábore Boris prežil takmer jeden rok v dosť ťažkých životných podmienkach.

Za pomoci známych vo Viedni sa mu podarilo získať kontakt na Pátra Bohumila Horáčka, pôvodom z Moravy a toho času pôsobiaceho vo Vatikáne, ktorý mu pomohol dostať sa z utečeneckého tábora v Rakúsku do španielskeho Madridu, kde na jeseň v roku 1953 začal študovať na madridskej štátnej univerzite (Universidad Central de Madrid) históriu a dejiny umenia. V tom čase sa v Madride už nachádzalo niekoľko slovenských študentov, ktorí sa do Španielska dostali z utečeneckých táborov v Nemecku. Dôvodom ich emigrácie bolo hlavne to, že sa ako študenti zapojili do veľkej protikomunistickej demonštrácie v Prahe a po jej násilnom potlačení (viac ako 108 študentov bolo zatknutých) sa obávali budúci život alebo ďalšieho prenasledovania zo strany nových mocipánov.

Slovenskí študenti boli v Madride ubytovaní vo Vyššom kolégiu sv. Apoštola Jakuba (El Colegio Mayor de Santiago Apostol) a ich pobyt a štúdium v Madride financovalo Katolícke dielo univerzitnej pomoci (Obra Católica de Asistencia Universitaria). Riaditeľom tohto kolégia bol bývalý vyslanec Slovenského štátu v Madride Doktor Jozef Cieker, ktorý mal okrem Slovákov na starosti aj študentov z Poľska, z Rumunska a zo Slovinska, ktorí boli nútení emigrovať zo svojej vlasti pred nastupujúcou komunistickou diktatúrou.

Boris bol medzi študentami známy najmä tým, že vo svojom voľnom čase sa venoval vyrezávaniu z dreva. Už ako chlapec mal počas svojho pobytu v skautskom tábore príležitosť zoznámiť sa s veľkým slovenským rezbárom Pánom Tiborom Bartfayom, ktorý z čerešňového dreva vyrezával fajky. Vtedy ešte Boris vôbec netušil, že táto jeho veľká záľuba v rezbárstve bude v budúcnosti jedným z hlavných zdrojov jeho príjmov.

Na madridskej univerzite sa Boris zoznámil aj so svojou budúcou manželkou Carmen. Svadbu mali dňa 3.11.1955 v Kostole Matky Božej na ul. Glorieta de la Iglesia v Madride. V auguste 1956 odcestovali mladí manželia do ďalekej Austrálie, kde sa usadili v meste Sydney. V tom čase tam bol duchovným správcom pre Slovákov Páter Štefan Senčík, ktorý však onedlho odišiel do Kanady a postupne ho nahradili Páter Tibor Strnisko a Páter Ján Krasňanský a po nich prišiel medzi Slovákov v Sydney dôstojný pán Emil Černaj.

Po príchode do Sydney sa Boris uchýlil v chemickom laboratóriu jedného závodu na výrobu umelých živíc, kde pracoval až do roku 1975. Od roku 1976 potom pracoval ako knihovník v miestnej univerzitnej knižnici a to až do svojho odchodu do penzie v roku 1992. Popri svojom riadnom zamestnaní sa neustále venoval svojej veľkej láske a to drevorezbárstvu. So svojimi nádhernými drevorezbarami sakrálného charakteru sa zúčastnil viacerých výstav. Onedlho nato prišli prvé objednávky a tak sa jeho veľká záľuba stala ďalším z hlavných zdrojov obživy jeho rodiny. Keď slovenská katolícka komunita v Sydney neskôr zakúpila vlastný kostol tak sa Boris podujal urobiť oltár sv. Cyrila a Metoda čo mu trvalo takmer 2 roky. Tento nádherný drevený oltár je dodnes veľkou ozdobou slovenského kostola v Lidcombe v Sydney a všetci tam žijúci Slováci sú naňho veľmi pyšní.

Juraj Pavlišin, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia



(fotografia je z pozostalostí po Dr. Michalovi Ševc-Pristašovi).

Veľmi vzácna svadobná fotografia (Madrid 3.11.1955) Borisa Gašpara (druhý sprava) a jeho manželky Carmen s jej rodičmi. Vstrede v klobúku Dr. Jozef Cieker, riaditeľ Kolégia sv. Apoštola Jakuba v Madride. Prvý zľava je vtedajší študent medicíny Michal Ševc-Pristaš

IN MEMORIAM

Významná autorka a profesorka Norma Rudinská 1928 – 2012

V Corvallis, Oregon skonala po dlhšej chorobe slovenská spisovateľka a kultúrna pracovníčka, profesorka Norma Rudinská. Bola to Američanka, ktorá sa vydala za slovenského vedca v obore entomológie, prof. Júliusa Rudinského. Ako profesorka anglickej literatúry na Oregon State University sa začala zaujímať aj o slovenskú literatúru. Naučila sa slovenskú reč to takej miery, že písala články a štúdie v slovenčine s dobrým pravopisom.

Keď manžel, emigrant z roku 1945, dostal pozvanie ako odborník v lesovej kultúre a entomológii na dvojročný pracovný pobyt na zvolenskom pracovisku Akadémie vied, jeho manželka Norma strávila s ním a so šiestimi deťmi dva roky na Slovensku, kde vyučovala angličtinu na univerzite a venovala sa výskumu slovenskej literatúry.

Výsledkom jej úsilia boli viaceré vedecké štúdie uverejnené v odborných slovenských i amerických periodikách.

Norma bola členkou združenia Slovak Studies Association, ktorí združuje slovenských aktivistov, pracujúcich na univerzitách a na iných vedeckých inštitúciách. A bola tiež členkou 1. katolíckej slovenskej ženskej jednoty. V „slovenskom svete“ sa stala známou po publikovaní jej prekladu do angličtiny siedmich Kukučínových noviel a rozprávok v knihe Seven Slovak Stories a neskoršie ďalšej knihy Incipient Feminists: Women writers in the Slovak National Revival.

Manželka Rudinskí zanechali po sebe pre slovenský národ významné kultúrne dedičstvo. Dali zhotoviť tri exempláre sochy Martina Kukučina v sediacej polohe s knihou v ruke. Autorom sochy je medzinárodne známy slovenský sochár Meštrovič. Financovali tiež umiestnenie jednej sochy v Bratislave v Univerzitnej záhrade, Druhý exemplár je v areáli Oregon State univerzity v Corvallis, Ore a tretí je v Argentíne, kde Kukučín pôsobil mnoho rokov a písal slovenské knihy.

Slováci žijúci v zahraničí i na Slovensku majú byť začo vďační tejto Američanke, ktorá si „adoptovala“ slovenský národ a propagovala jeho kultúru. Aj svoje deti vychovala v láske k Slovensku. Všetci hovoria po slovensky a radi navštevujú Slovensko.

Normu Rudinskú prežívajú dcéry Helen a Mary a synovia Michael, Steve a Paul. Jej manžel ju prešiel do večnosti v roku 1980 a syn Alexander v r. 2012.

Zomrel americký vydavateľ slovenského pôvodu L. J. Bolchazy 7. 6. 1935 - 28. 7. 2012

Vo veku 75 rokov zomrel v sobotu 28. júla v Barringtone, IL Ladislav J. Bolchazy, PhD. Bol profesorom na Loyola University v Chicagu a prezidentom vydavateľstva Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, ktoré vydávalo aj preložené slovenské diela. Vydavateľstvo klasickej latinskej a gréckej literatúry založil pred takmer 40 rokmi spolu s manželkou Máriou. Bolchazy chcel otvoriť svet dielam slovenských spisovateľov. Ladislava Bolchazyho za jeho prínos v oblasti kultúry ocenil v roku 2007 prezident Ivan Gašparovič Radom Ľudovíta Štúra. Ladislav J. Bolchazy bol členom Spolku č. 689 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v Chicagu, Ill.

Spomienka na Laciho

Ladislav J. Bolchazy, PhD. emeritný profesor na Loyola University v Chicagu, prezident vydavateľstva Bolchazy-Carducci Publ. zomrel po dlhšej ťažkej chorobe ráno o šiestej hodine 28. júla 2012 v Barringtone, IL.

Jeho priatelia, kolegovia a mnohí známi sme ho poznali ako Laciho, lebo takto, neformálne sa predstavoval, čím si svojou otvorenosťou a priamosťou získaval dôveru. Naposledy nás navštívil vlni a aj keď už vedel, že má rakovinu, nevzdával sa svojich plánov do budúcnosti. Bol v dobrých rukách tých najlepších lekárov Mayo Clinic a tí hovoria s pacientmi otvorene, nedávajú zbytočné nádeje. Laci vedel, že skôr, či neskôr ho choroba zdoľá, ale bol s tým natoľko vyrovnaný, že kto o tom nevedel, nebol by povedal, že ho niečo trápi. Aj keď už mal sedemdesiatpäť rokov, stále bol na čele vydavateľstva klasickej latinskej a gréckej literatúry, ktoré založil pred takmer štyridsiatimi rokmi, keď ako vysokoškolský učiteľ pociťoval nedostatok učebníc a diel antických autorov v angličtine. Vybudoval spolu s manželkou Máriou, rodenou Carducci, vydavateľstvo, ktoré dnes zásobuje najmä školy a knižnice dielami Vergília, Cicera, Horacia, Senecu, Ovidia, či Sokratesa.

Keď sme sa zoznámili r. 1988, sníval o tom, ako otvorí svet dielam slovenských autorov prostredníctvom angličtiny. Po politických zmenách v nasledujúcom roku sa pustil do práce a vydal na tie časy najväčší anglicko-slovenský slovník Jána Šimka v neuveriteľnom náklade 62-tisíc výtlačkov. V spolupráci s viacerými slovenskými vydavateľstvami pripravili vydanie ďalších kľúčových diel: *Slovak Biographical Dictionary* (Matica slovenská), *Anton Spiesz: Illustrated Slovak History (Perfekt)*, *Ján Ch. Korec: The Night of the Barbarians*, ale i preklad výberu poézie Milana Rúfusa *And That's the Truth* a unikátne vydanie 170 slovenských piesní, ktoré do latinčiny preložil Bystrík Muránsky: *Slovak Songs in Latin, Slovak, English*. Vydal aj Dobšinského rozprávky pod názvom *Slovak Tales for Young and Old* s ilustráciami Martina Benku (Kriváň). Dovedna takmer štyridsať kníh. Nie je to veľa, ale ani málo. Bez Laciho a mena jeho vydavateľstva v USA by sa nebolo nikdy dostalo do amerických knižníc a na univerzity toľko diel o Slovensku v angličtine.

Ladislava Bolchazyho za jeho prínos v oblasti kultúry ocenil r. 2007 prezident republiky Radom Ľudovíta Štúra. Laci vydával slovenské diela najmä pre česť a slávu nás, Slovákov. Patrí mu za to naša večná vďaka a úcta.



Laciho dar prezidentovi Schusterovi.



(Foto: autor)

Ladislav Bolchazy s Radom Ľudovíta Štúra.

Ivan Reguli

Nové knihy

Sida Kollárová: Na dvoch kontinentoch. 96 strán. Vydalo Vydavateľstvo Post Scriptum, Ražecká 36, 82107 Bratislava, SR.

Knihy Na dvoch kontinentoch je ďalším prínosom do slovenskej exilovej memoárovej literatúry. Autorka pochádza z Trnavského kraja a po zaujímavých peripetiách sa dostala s manželom a dvoma deťmi z komunistického Československa do Talianska a neskoršie do Ameriky, kde prežila väčšiu časť svojho života.

V prvej časti opisuje svoj život v mladosti v rodnej obci Zemianske Sady a v Trnavskom kraji a tiež svoje zážitky ako stredoškolskej študentky v Trnave a potom ako učiteľky a matky dvoch detí.

V ďalšej časti opisuje ako s manželom Alexom prežívali časy tvrdého komunizmu a konečne prišli k rozhodnutiu emigrovať na Západ a tým riskovať straty kariéry a aj žalár v prípade neúspešného úniku. Poslednú časť knihy autorka venovala krátkemu pobytu v talianskych táboroch pre utečencov a životu v Amerike, kde s manželom museli začínať nový život „od nuly“. Sida Kollárová tu približuje čitateľovi ťažkosti a osudy jednej exilovej generácie, ktorá odmietla život v komunistickej neslobode a rozhodla sa riskovať útek do slobodného zahraničia a tam si budovať nový život, novú existenciu.

Autorka doplnila knihu viacerými článkami, ktoré ona a jej manžel Alex uverejnili v americkoslovenských časopisoch, hlavne v Slováku v Amerike.

Záujemcovia si môžu knihu objednať vo vydavateľstve Post Scriptum. Tel. č. 1-421-903-442-679. Email: info@postscriptum.sk

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Slovenské nemocnice** združené pod spoločnosťou Svet zdravia sú od roku 2011 poberateľmi humanitárnej pomoci od Rádu maltézskeho rádu zo Švajčiarska. S ďalšími darmi v podobe polohovateľných postelí či nábytku môžu rátať slovenské zdravotnícke zariadenia aj v budúcnosti. V prípade spomínanej humanitárnej pomoci ide o vybavenie a technické zariadenia, ktoré sú pre ich zastaranosť vyradené vo Švajčiarsku z používania. Esteticky, no predovšetkým funkčne sú však stále na vysokej úrovni. Humanitárnu pomoc zo Švajčiarska doteraz obdržali aj ďalšie zdravotnícke zariadenia, a to napríklad v Komárne, Bratislave, Dunajskej Strede, Myjave či Prešove.

• **Slovenská ekonomika** sa v posledných rokoch radí pravidelne medzi najrýchlejšie rastúce hospodárstva eurozóny aj Európskej únie (EÚ). V apríli 2012 vyprodukoval slovenský priemysel o takmer 20 % viac tovarov a služieb než pred krízou. Za porovnateľné predkrízové obdobie zobrala spoločnosť UniCredit Bank Slovakia priemerný mesiac 1. polroka 2008. Slovenský priemysel síce v prvej fáze krízy zaznamenal jeden z najväčších prepádov spomedzi všetkých krajín EÚ, pomerne rýchlo sa však zo šoku dokázal spamätať. **Od konca roka 2009 bolo hlavným rastovým odvetvím priemyslu strojárstvo.** V polovici minulého roka sa začali výraznejšie zobúdzajúť slovenské automobilové závody, ktoré sú hlavným motorom rastu slovenského priemyslu v súčasnosti.

• **Slovensko** má prevziať predsedníctvo v Európskej únii o štyri roky, krátko po parlamentných voľbách. Okrem nesporných výhod to so sebou prinesie aj zvýšené výdavky. Zvažuje sa napríklad vytvorenie postu osobitného splnomocnenca vlády, ale aj kúpa novej budovy stáleho zastúpenia Slovenska pri EÚ v Bruseli. Ministerstvá budú zrejme musieť prijímať nových úradníkov a zároveň zaškoľovať terajších v agende EÚ či investovať do zvyšovania ich jazykových znalostí. O témach, na ktoré bude chcieť upozorniť počas predsedníctva, sa vláda chystá hovoriť aj s opozíciou. O tom, aké by mali byť a aká vôbec bude EÚ o štyri roky, je však podľa analytikov predčasné hovoriť.

• **Vydavateľstvo Don Bosco** a Saleziáni don Bosca - Slovenská provincia pripravili pri príležitosti blížaceho sa 1150. výročia príchodu vierozvestcov Cyrila a Metoda na naše územie tri výnimočné formy spracovania ich života. Prvou z nich je animovaný film Svätí Cyril a Metod, druhou 40-stranový pútavý komiks s rovnomenným názvom pre najmenších. Treťou formou je unikátna česko-slovenská kniha s názvom Prečo práve Cyril a Metod?, na ktorej sa autorsky podieľali gréckokatolícky arcibiskup Cyril Vasil' - sekretár Kongregácie pre východné cirkvi, a uznávaný český autor a historik Jaroslav Šebek. Všetky tri produkty pripravili Saleziáni don Bosca a vydavateľstvo Don Bosco v súvislosti s jubilejným rokom ako prostriedok na lepšie spoznávanie hodnôt a života solúnskych bratov.

• **Necelá pätina Slovákov (18 %)** tvrdí, že ovláda aspoň tri cudzie jazyky tak dobre, že v nich dokáže konverzovať. Celkom 43 % Slovákov ovláda aspoň dva cudzie jazyky a 80 % Slovákov hovorí len jedným cudzím jazykom. Slováci tak štatisticky vo všetkých možnostiach prekonali priemer EÚ, ktorý ukazuje, že minimálne jedným cudzím jazykom dokáže konverzovať zhruba polovica populácie (54 %). Vyplýva to z prieskumu Eurobarometer, ktorý sa uskutočnil na vzorke 1000 Slovákov na prelome februára a marca. Slováci sa nadpriemerne hlásia k znalosti nemeckého a ruského jazyka. Kým priemer európskej dvadsaťsedmičky v prípade nemčiny je 11 % oslovených, v SR je to až dvojnásobok. Po rusky sa dohovoria až 17 % Slovákov oproti päťpercentnému priemeru Únie. Naopak, v znalostiach anglického jazyka Slováci zaostávajú v pomere 26 % proti 38-percentnému priemeru EÚ. Na otázku, ktoré dva cudzie jazyky považujete za najdôležitejšie pre svoj osobný rast, slovenskí respondenti najčastejšie spomínali anglický (63 %), nemecký (44 %) a ruský jazyk (8 %).

• **Delegátov Európskej únie** na tohtoročný mládežnícky summit G8 vo Washingtone vybral Slovak. Absolvent parížskej Sorbonny, Radoslav Šoth, jeden zo zakladateľov Asociácie AEGIS bol zodpovedný za výber a prípravu delegátov mládežníckeho summitu G8, ktorý sa konal začiatkom júna vo Washingtone a ako jediný zastupoval našu krajinu a aj EÚ na májovom mládežníckom summite G20 v Mexiku. Radoslav Šoth má 23 rokov, úspešne ukončil štúdium histórie a európskych štúdií na parížskej Sorbonne a v období dokončovania magisterského štúdia so zameraním na európske právo, ktoré má rozdelené medzi univerzity v Barcelone, Miláne, Montpellieri a Štetine, sa zameriava na stáže v inštitúciách EÚ a na organizovanie a účasť na celosvetových mládežníckych summitoch.

• **Vstup** na slovenský trh pripravuje jedna z najväčších britských sietí obchodov s mrazenými potravinami Iceland. Prvý slovenský obchod by mal vzniknúť v Bratislave na prelome rokov 2013 a 2014. Doma, vo Veľkej Británii, má Iceland v súčasnosti 750 obchodov. „Reťazec Iceland je nový typ predajní, ktorý na Slovensku ani v strednej Európe ešte nepôsobí“, hovorí Michal Kozub, analytik Home Credit Slovakia. Šancu na úspech sieti dáva odlišný obchodný koncept, ktorý však obsahuje aj oba najnovšie maloobchodné trendy.

• **Prakticky všetky veľké letné hudobné festivaly** na Slovensku považujú propagáciu a komunikáciu cez sociálne siete za minimálne rovnocennú ako prezentáciu prostredníctvom internetovej stránky. Niektoré z nich dokonca považujú sociálnu sieť za svoj hlavný komunikačný nástroj. Využíva sa najmä Facebook, v menšom meradle Twitter a Google+. Najviac prívržencov na sociálnej sieti má celkom logicky najväčší letný festival – trenčianska Pohoda. Na Facebooku existujú okrem oficiálneho profilu festivalu, ďalšie tri.

• **Ficov** kabinet zachová daň z príjmu fyzických osôb na 19-% úrovni iba do hranice príjmu 3,246 eur. Slováci, ktorí mesačne zarobia vyššiu sumu, budú po novom platiť 25-% daň. Ide iba o 1 % obyvateľstva. Zvýšená sadzba dane by sa mala týkať aj ústavných činiteľov, aj keď ich príjem nedosiahne stanovenú hranicu. Vláda tiež deklaruje snahu pokračovať v zodvodňovaní dividend, ktoré zaviedol ešte exminister práce Jozef Mihál (SaS). Odvod bude po novom predstavovať zvýšených 14 %. Vzrástť má aj maximálny vymeriavací základ na odvody, ten má dosiahnuť päťnásobok priemernej mzdy v hospodárstve. To sa dotkne tých, čo zarábajú viac ako 1,200 eur.

• **Zmluvu** o spolupráci v oblasti vedy, výskumu a vzdelávania podpísali nedávno v Galante zástupcovia Samsung Electronics Slovakia, s.r.o., Slovenskej technickej univerzity (STU) a Žilinskej univerzity (ŽU). Producent elektroniky a vysoké školy sa budú na základe rámcovej dohody podieľať na projekte aplikovaného výskumu za účelom jeho využitia v elektromechanickom priemysle. Univerzity poskytnú svojich vysokoškolských pedagógov a študentov a Samsung ľudské zdroje, priestory, materiálové vybavenie a ďalšie potrebné zdroje.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Ján Kubiš prevzal najvyššie francúzske štátne vyznamenanie



Jan Kubis (left), personal representative of the General Secretary OSN in Afganistan, received the highest French state medal.

FOTO TASR - Štefan Puškáš

Udelenie najvyššieho francúzskeho štátneho vyznamenania Komandér Národného rádu Čestnej légie Jánovi Kubišovi, osobitnému predstaviteľovi generálneho tajomníka OSN v Afganistane a riaditeľovi Asistenčnej misie OSN v Afganistane, sa uskutočnilo vo štvrtok 19. júla 2012 na Francúzskej rezidencii na Godrovej ulici v Bratislave. Odovzdanie tohto významného vyznamenania je vyjadrením vďaka Francúzska za výnimočný príspevok Jána Kubiša k mieru a bezpečnosti v Európe a vo svete počas celej jeho kariéry. Je zároveň vyjadrením uznania za prínos slovenskej diplomacie v medzinárodnom meradle. Na snímke Ján Kubiš (vľavo) a mimoriadny a splnomocnený veľvyslanec Francúzskej republiky v SR Jean-Marie Bruno po udelení vyznamenania.

Oznam o nových službách SZSZ

Matica slovenská zrušila pracoviská Krajanského múzea MS (KM MS) v hlavnom meste SR Bratislave, o.i. – Styk so slovenským zahraničím KM MS, Grossligova 23, v Bratislave. Svetové združenie Slovákov v zahraničí (SZSZ) viď web. stránku - www.szszy.sk

o ozname nových službách- po prerokovaní a v aktuálnej potrebe posilniť na pôde hlavného mesta SR Bratislavy vzájomnú komunikáciu so slovenským svetom, ponúka nové služby na svojej pôde na sekretariáte v NOC, Námestie SNP 12, 812 34 Bratislava.

Aj touto cestou Vám chceme poďakovať za doterajšiu plodnú spoluprácu na pôde Matice slovenskej v Bratislave a v súlade s poslaním SZSZ ponúknuť svoje dlhoročné skúsenosti v jeho službách v hlavnom meste SR v Bratislave a na Slovensku.

Tešíme sa na spoluprácu od 17.júla 2012 – Dňa Deklarácie SNR o zvrchovanosti SR na uvedenej adrese SZSZ alebo priamo na kontaktoch: PhDr. Stanislav Bajaník: ++0918507768, email: bajanik.stanislav55@gmail.com, Mgr. Viera D. Tapalagová: ++0905591694. email: v.tapalagova@gmail.com, SZSZ, Nám. SNP. 12, Bratislava, Slovensko.

Želáme Vám príjemné prežitie horúceho leta a šťastnú cestu na Slovensko. Kedykoľvek sa rozhodnete navštívte nás na pracovisku alebo hocikde vo svojej otcovskej a materskej vlasti.

Kontaktná adresa na zmenu zasielania Vašej pošty, novin a časopis, publikácií, ktoré budú k dispozícii našim krajanom i slovenskej verejnosti:

**Svetové Združenie Slovákov V Zahraničí,
P.O.Box 33, Sk - 814 99 Bratislava 1, Slovenská Republika.**

PhDr.Stanislav Bajaník,v.r.

Mgr. Viera Dend'úrová-Tapalagová, v.r.



Takmer stovka cudzincov sa cez leto učí slovenčinu

Cudzinci a krajanovia zo Srbska, Ruska, ale aj napríklad USA, Thajska či Vietnamu, sa v lete učia slovenčinu. Do programu Letná univerzita slovenského jazyka, ktorý organizuje Centrum ďalšieho vzdelávania Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave (CDV UK), sa tento rok prihlásilo 98 záujemcov. Kurz má 22-ročnú tradíciu a za toto obdobie ho absolvovala takmer tisícka účastníkov.

Aktuálny kurz, ktorý sa začal začiatkom júla, potrvá tri týždne. Prihlásení účastníci sú z viacerých kontinentov. „Medzi päťicu najzastúpanejších krajín patria Srbsko, Ukrajina, Ruská federácia, Maďarsko a USA. Z najvzdialenejších spomeniem Thajsko, Vietnam, Japonsko či Egypt. Najmladší účastník má 18 rokov, najstarším je 68-ročný Američan. V aktuálnom kurze prevládajú ženy.

Okrem výučby slovenčiny čakajú účastníkov aj výlety do Bratislavy, Liptovského Mikuláša, Starého Smokovca vo Vysokých Tatrách či do banských miest. Zo Slovenska si odnesú aj zážitky z návštev hradov a zámkov, prírodných pamiatok či mestských centier.

Okrem Letnej univerzity slovenského jazyka v Centre ďalšieho vzdelávania UK sa na univerzite už tradične koná aj Letná škola slovenského jazyka a kultúry Studia Academica Slovaca. Jej 48. ročník, ktorý organizuje Filozofická fakulta UK, sa uskutoční od 5. do 25. augusta 2012.

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O. Štefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

Archbishop-Metropolitan Stanislav Zvolensky of Bratislava celebrated Mass for thousands of the faithful in Nitra marking the opening of the Year of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

FOTO TASR – Henrich Mišovič

Na Svätoplukovom námestí v Nitre sa 5. júla 2012 zúčastnili tisíce veriacich na slávnostnej svätej omši pri príležitosti otvorenia Cyrilo-metodského roka. Omšu celebrol Mons. Stanislav Zvolenský, rímskokatolícky arcibiskup - metropolita Bratislavskej arcidiecézy a predseda Konferencie biskupov Slovenska.

Rok sv. Cyrila a Metoda otvorený na púti v Nitre

Starobylá Nitra sa 5. júla stala dejiskom otvorenia Roka sv. Cyrila a Metoda, ktorý vyvrcholí v septembri 2013. Otvorenie bolo spojené so slávnostnou svätou omšou, ktorú v rámci celonárodnej púte ku cti dvoch solúnskych bratov celebraval predseda Konferencie biskupov Slovenska (KBS) Mons. Stanislav Zvolenský. Medzi niekoľko tisíc veriacimi nechýbali ani najvyšší ústavní činitelia, biskupi a kňazi a hostia zo zahraničia.

Pútnikov privítal nitriansky biskup Mons. Viliam Judák. Ocenil ich účasť na slávnosti a prijatie pozvania označil za prejav ich „živej viery“. Povedal tiež, že v živote Cirkvi a národa sú výročia, ktoré nemožno obísť bez toho, aby sa na ne zabudlo, pretože by sme sa sami ochudobnili o hodnoty, ktoré nám pripomínajú. Tým, kvôli ktorému putovali do Nitry, je pripomienka 1150. výročia príchodu vierozvestcov sv. Cyrila a Metoda na naše územie.

Arcibiskup Zvolenský, ktorý bol aj kazateľom, vo svojej homílii pripomenul, že vo sv. Cyrilovi a Metodovi „slávime duchovný základ, ktorý podopiera a zjednocuje naše spoločenstvo“. Označil ich za duchovných otcov kresťanského presvedčenia nášho ľudu, ktorí zjednocujú spoločnosť. V závere odpovedal na to, ako byť v súčasnosti verný a čomu. Odpoveďou je duchovný základ, ktorým je kresťanstvo, posolstvo sv. Cyrila a Metoda a vzťah k Bohu.

Pred požehnaním sa prítomným prihovril apoštolský nuncius na Slovensku Mons. Mario Giordana. Pútnikom okrem iného povedal, že svätých solúnskych vierozvestcov prosíme o to, aby sa „prihovárali u Boha za našu vlasť i za náš spoločný dom.“ Apeloval na to, aby si Slováci chránili svoju vieru a odovzdávali ju ďalej. „Viera je veľký dar, ktorý nesmieme stratiť. Naopak. Máme ju s láskou opatrovať, posilňovať a odovzdávať,“ povedal otec nuncius.

Na slávnosti sa zúčastnili aj viacerí členovia vládneho kabinetu, poslanci Národnej
Pokračovanie na str. 21

Minister M. Lajčák na návšteve Spojených štátov

Stretnutím s vybranými predstaviteľmi Ministerstva zahraničných vecí Spojených štátov amerických začal v utorok 24. júla podpredseda vlády a minister zahraničných vecí SR Miroslav Lajčák návštevu USA. Rozhovory s americkými partnermi sa týkali zásadných a aktuálnych medzinárodnopolitických otázok, hlavne situácie na Blízkom a Strednom východe, osobitne v Sýrii a Iráne. Neobišli ani spoločné aktivity v aliančnej misii ISAF v Afganistane, na západnom Balkáne, v krajinách Východného partnerstva a Južného susedstva. Predmetom diskusií boli zároveň vzťahy a kooperácia medzi EÚ a USA, ako aj ďalší rozvoj slovensko-americkej spolupráce vo všetkých oblastiach.

Uvedené otázky, ako aj ďalšie témy boli predmetom diskusie Miroslava Lajčáka s americkou ministerkou zahraničných vecí Hillary Clintonovou. Okrem nej sa stretol s americkými kongresmanmi Johnom Micom a Joeom Wilsonom, s námestníkom ministra obrany USA pre obrannú politiku Jamesom Millerom i predstaviteľmi Národnej bezpečnostnej rady (administratíva úradu prezidenta USA).

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FOTO: TASR/ MZV

Minister M. Lajčák a H. Clinton na stretnutí vo Washingtone.

Slovak Minister of Foreign Affairs Miroslav Lajcak met with American Minister of Foreign Affairs Hillary Clinton in Washington on July 25, 2012.



55. kongres Slovenskej ligy v Bridgeport, CT

Mesto Bridgeport, Connecticut sa stalo v dňoch 8. a 9. júna dejiskom 55. kongresu Slovenskej ligy v Amerike (SLvA). Zastúpenie mali na ňom hlavní predsedovia a delegáti všetkých členských fraternalistických organizácií ako aj osobnosti a hostia z miestneho kultúrno-spoločenského výboru. Registrácia delegátov a hostí sa začala v raňajších hodinách v lobby hotela. Každý delegát obdržal registračný balíček, ktorý obsahoval zápisnicu z 54. kongresu, správy predsedu a generálnej tajomníčky, vytlačenú agendu kongresu, balíček s občerstvením od miestneho výboru, ako aj pamiatkové dary od členských fraternalistických organizácií.

Prvé zasadanie kongresu zahájil v piatok 8. júna predseda Daniel F. Tanzone a spev americkej a slovenskej hymny. Recitovaním Pledge of Allegiance a minútu ticha si prítomní uctili pamiatku zomrelých funkcionárov a členov SLvA od posledného kongresu. Za tým nasledovalo privítanie a krátky príhovor predsedníčky miestneho organizačného
Pokračovanie na str. 21

Slovenský festival v NJ bude 23. septembra

Výbor Festivalu slovenského dedičstva v NJ už niekoľko týždňov pripravuje program na 35. festival v Holmdell, N.J. V programe vystúpi folklórna skupina PAS z Pittsburghu a dve mládežnícke skupiny z NJ a New Yorku. Na festivale sa zúčastnia aj prominentní hostia zo Slovenska. Slovenský festival v NJ je už mnoho rokov najväčším slovenským podujatím v Amerike.

Záujemci o predávanie potravín a nápojov sa môžu prihlásiť u Milana Daita, tel. 201-641-8922. Záujemci o vystavovanie alebo predávanie rôznych folklórnych výrobkov, kníh, atď., sa majú hlásiť u Zuzky Krčmár, tel. 973-357-1209.



Na snímke zľava: hlavný predseda IKSJ Andrej M. Rajec; bývalý poradca mesta Yonkers, N.Y. Štefan J. Kubašek Jr.; veľvyslanec Vincent Obsitnik a predseda SLvA Daniel F. Tanzone.