



# Jednota

THE UNION

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NUMBER 5914



The Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada extend their most sincere Fraternal Greetings and Best Wishes to all Members for a Happy, Healthy New Year!

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

## Fraternal Notes

By Rudy Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director

2015 is here! New Years is the perfect occasion to celebrate love, friendships and all the good things in life. A time to be grateful for family and friends, for good times and good fortune. A year full of new days has been given to us. Hopefully, it will be a memorable year for all—rich in friends, health and opportunities.

This year as we mark the 125th anniversary of our organization, make a resolution to participate and be involved in your local branch, district and/or national activities. As a member there are numerous fraternal benefits available to you.

Most recently, well over 100 youths participated in the Christmas Coloring Contest. The entries have been sent off to be judged. The winners will be notified and the results will be announced in a later issue of Jednota. Although it is over for 2014, mark your calendar and watch for the 2015 contest.

*continued on page 4*



### Attention, FCSU College-bound Seniors:

Looking forward to graduation next year? Don't forget about the FCSU. Your membership in our Society may award you \$1000 toward your education – plus an additional \$3,000 in life insurance.

*See page 9 for details.*

## FRATERNALISM ON THE FOREFRONT IN 2015:



• President's update on the Memorial construction on Jednota property at Middletown, *See page 3*

• 2014 Benevolent Scholarship Winners Announced, *See page 6*



• Sign Up For The National Bowling Tournament, *See pages 4 - 5*

• 2014 Photo Contest Winners, Part I

*See pages 12-13*



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START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT!

Open or add to your IRA today!

2015

8 YEAR FLEX PREMIUM ANNUITY or IRA	3.60%
6 YEAR FLEX PREMIUM ANNUITY or IRA	3.20%
6 YEAR FIXED RATE ANNUITY or IRA	3.10%

Call today...and get a FREE Chewy Čuvač with a minimum deposit of \$10,000 on any one of the above products.

Also Available

Park 2	2.15%
Park Free Plus	1.90%

FCSU Financial -First Catholic Slovak Union  
 Contact your branch officer or the Home Office  
 6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131  
 800.533.6682, www.fcsu.com

# Insights and Viewpoints



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

**January 18th 2015 –  
The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
1 Samuel 3: 3b-10, 19  
Gospel - John 1: 35-42**

In the first reading today Samuel is aware of being called, though as a young child, as yet not informed regarding life or the ways of God, he does not know who is calling him—he thought it was Eli, the elderly priest of Shiloh. In the gospel, John the Baptist's disciples literally see Jesus and know that he is the one who is calling them, but a discovery awaits them as well.

For those raised in the Christian faith the experience of Samuel is a unique one that we have access to only through the pages of the Bible—it is a prophetic calling. Taught from our earliest days about God who reveals himself in Jesus Christ, we “see him” in the gospel and encounter him in the sacramental practice of the Church. Although the one who calls us is thus “known” to us, there is still a process of discovery that must take place, as indicated by the two questions we hear in the gospel, one of which comes from Jesus: “What are you looking for?” and the other is spoken by Andrew and John, who were followers till that time of John the Baptist: “Where do you stay?”

The fact that the disciples of the Baptist respond to Jesus' question with another question shows that it was as hard a demand to answer in their day as it is in ours. When asked “What are you looking for?” one might say, “I am looking for God”, and be perfectly honest. More often in our contemporary society people are likely to say, “I am looking for happiness”, or “I am looking for peace”, or “I am looking for meaning”, or “I am looking for love”. These things can and should be sought by all people, both Christians and non-Christian religious believers, and even non-believers alike, yet the ironic beauty of our faith is that even if one does not believe in Christ—even if one “sees” Jesus and does not at first follow him—if that person perseveres in seeking happiness, meaning, and love honestly, then he or she will ultimately arrive at their goal and find what they are seeking in him, and in his self-giving love.

This beautiful discovery, however, often requires a long journey; that is the “Where are you staying?” part of life. It can begin, as already said, with careful catechesis in the Catholic faith and an upbringing in a loving and supportive home. It can also begin, and today it often does begin, with little or no instruction in the faith, and little mention or practice of Catholic faith or culture in the home.

Whatever the case may be concerning the start of this search, the journey is hastened along its way by Jesus' invitation “Come, and you will see”. That invitation does not take us to any single place of course, but rather leads us through the travails and joys and the moments of pain and healing that mark every human life, and it reminds us along the way that he freely chose to experience all those things along with us, for the sake of our salvation. Taking this devotion to the point of enduring an unjust death showed the depth of Jesus' love, a love which often is misunderstood by many in the world because it is not self-serving but self-sacrificing.

Precisely that self-sacrificing love is what can eventually lead to Christ those who may



Fr. Edward Mazich,  
O.S.B.

have turned away from him at his first calling, for in every human heart there is a desire to love and to be loved. As Samuel finally recognized the voice of the one who called him, may we not just see, but come to recognize and embrace him who calls us, on account of his self-giving love, since in the end, for every person “love alone is believable”.

**January 25, 2015 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Gospel –Mark 1:14-20**

The first reading and the Gospel for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time bring out the importance of discerning God's Word. God called Jonah to go to Nineveh and announce the need to repentance. At first Jonah refuses because he doesn't think that the Ninevites are deserving of God's mercy, and he tries to run away from God. He ends up in the belly of the whale. He is delivered from that situation and God calls him again. This time he obeys, but his heart is still not in this mission. But, when he begins to preach in Nineveh his call to repentance touches a chord in the hearts of the people, they proclaim a fast and repent.

In the Gospel Jesus calls Peter, Andrew, James and John with the simple invitation, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” Without hesitation they abandoned their nets and followed Jesus. During the next three years they enter more deeply into his ministry, and are called to be four of the twelve apostles, and after Pentecost they went out to proclaim God's word and to Baptize as Jesus instructed them.

From the experience of Jonah we learn that we should take God's word seriously. Jonah, for some reason, thought that he knew better than God when it came to dealing with the Ninevites. He ultimately learned that God's way worked out much better for them. We can end up in the same sad situation as Jonah by not listening to God's Word. But how do we know it is God's word, or just some thought, or even a temptation? The key is to have someone or a group with the gift of wisdom to guide us and to help us discern. It is so easy to misunderstand or read into a verse something into a verse of Scripture, or into some event that deeply touches us, that could actually lead us away from God. Discerning God's Word is important and should be taken seriously as we try to understand what God might be saying to us.

Peter, Andrew, James and John received a direct call from God to follow him and they immediately left all to accompany Jesus. How do men hear the call to Priesthood today, men and women to Religious life, and men and women to the single or married lives? Those who think they are called to Priesthood or Religious Life go through a discernment process than can take several years. This is done with the help of a spiritual director, vocation director, and probably a few others who help and guide them. There is also a need for discernment for those discerning the single or married life. The recent Synod on Families addressed the need for better preparation for marriage. The formal preparation for marriage is commonly six months to a year, while for Priesthood and Religious Life it is at least four years before Ordination and Profession.

If we take discernment seriously it means that we will take the time to reflect on the decisions we are making. We will seek the wisdom of pastors, spiritual directors and others who have a reputation for giving sound direction and who can guide us through the discernment process. May we avoid the example of Jonah, who thought he know better than God, and find ourselves in the face trouble like his. Instead, follow the example of Peter, Andrew, James and John who for three years listened attentively to Jesus and were prepared to accept his call as leaders in the Church by the time of Christ's Resurrection.



Fr. Killian Loch,  
O.S.B.

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, JAN 28	MONDAY, JAN 19
WEDNESDAY, FEB 11	MONDAY, FEB. 2
WEDNESDAY, MAR 4	MONDAY, FEB 23

Correspondents who are announcing events should allow ample time for them to be received by the readership, taking into account the publication schedule and the extra time in the postal system.

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Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com  
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention “JEDNOTA”  
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398  
FAX: 216-642-4310

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## From the President: Update on the Memorial



Andrew M. Rajec

Here are a few pictures of the progress on our Memorial in Middletown, PA. All the concrete and underground work are done. We are now buttoning up for the Winter. The granite work is at the monument engraver who will be working over the Winter. We expect the work to be completed in April/May with dedication to follow. We'll keep you informed. To date, over 200 "bricks" have been ordered and paid for.

Fraternally,

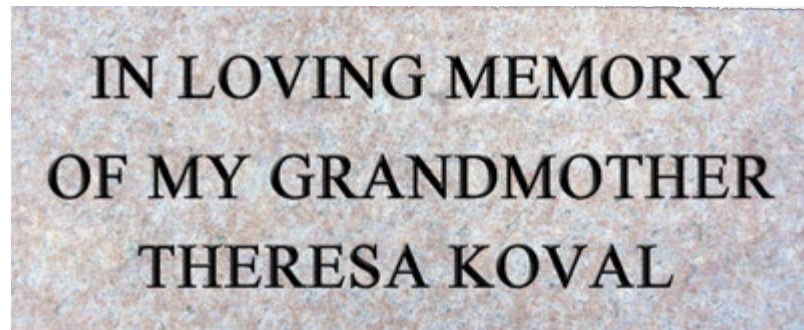
**Andrew M. Rajec**  
National President

## Jednota Memorial Granite Bricks Available for Purchase



The Jednota Memorial is located on the First Catholic Slovak Union's Jednota Estate grounds in Middletown, PA, on a permanently dedicated 1/2 acre of land fronting Rosedale Avenue. This land was once occupied by the Jednota Orphanage. We are re-bronzing an existing "Doughboy" statue, dedicating it to those who died in any national war. The Memorial also is a great opportunity for our Members to honor and remember their ancestors and family members who have made and make our Society great.

The materials are high quality granite and intended to last at least 100 years or more. Bricks are still available for purchase to commemorate loved ones in your branch, district, or family.



Example of a personal brick

For more information on purchasing a brick, go to our website at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) or call the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.

To view all the Memorial photos, find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FirstCatholicSlovakUnion](http://www.facebook.com/FirstCatholicSlovakUnion).



## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

**Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers**

### Hire a Veteran Now

You'd think that Howard Schultz had more than enough to do, running a big company the size of Starbucks. After all, satisfying the cravings of millions of coffee drinkers across America can't be the easiest thing going. But with it all, Schultz, CEO of the Starbucks empire, has written a book—a good book, one that's making its presence felt on the best-seller charts. It's called *For Love of Country*, and it's about the men and women who've distinguished themselves by serving in the armed forces of the U.S. It's all but guaranteed to raise your patriotism level, and it might just change the way you think about this country.

Schultz is no dreamy-eyed escapist. In one section of his book he writes some hard-hitting tales about men and women who've faced the rigors of life in the military, and of how they're faring now. In a second part of *For Love of Country*, he issues a plea to his fellow industrialists and other potential bosses: hire a veteran now. He insists that they deserve a break, but there's much more than sympathy at stake here. Their military experience gives them the background for just about any opening, he argues. "Serving in the military qualifies someone to be more than a security guard," he says.

Schultz tracks the careers of a few former military people—including that of former Col. David Oclander, a West Pointer who served two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan and now teaches English in a Chicago charter high school. His students come from rough backgrounds and there's a high dropout rate—but Oclander's imaginative approach to teaching and a winning personal style have kept his kids in the classroom, and even inspired one to plan an officer's career by enrolling at the military academy himself. Significantly, that student wants to emulate Oclander when his Army career is through by finding a way "to keep serving my country."

The author uses his stories to make the broader point that giving veterans a job makes good business sense.

Schultz begins by describing the way one-time service members and their families have sacrificed so much time together, and reminds readers of another risk, this one deadlier: "Many spent their tours in Iraq and Afghanistan under the constant threat of getting blown up."

Thanks is one thing, he says; offering an opportunity to earn a living is another. "If you are an employer," Schultz writes, "give veterans a fair shake. They don't want your pity or a handout. What they deserve, however, is genuine understanding and appreciation of the skills they've gleaned."

Schultz took another sentence or two to hammer his point home. "Veterans come with a can-do spirit. Many possess leadership and decision-making skills that exceed that of civilians two decades their senior. They know how to follow orders, but also how to exercise initiative."

And the Starbucks chief turned author had one more bit of advice for his executive audience: "Hiring veterans isn't charity," he wrote. "It's good business."

For a free copy of the *Christopher News Note*, *PERSEVERING THROUGH PAIN AND STRUGGLE*, write: *The Christophers*, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: [mail@christophers.org](mailto:mail@christophers.org)



# ATTENTION JEDNOTAR BOWL



United Slovak Fraternal  
4th Annual  
Bowling Tournament  
May 1-3, 2015

**Friday:**

**Teams Event** – Opening Ceremonies to begin at 5:45 pm with team events starting at 6:00 pm and 8:30 PM at Eastway Lanes.

**Hospitality Night** - Hospitality Night beginning at 6:00 PM at Eastway Lanes in Pittsburgh, PA. Enjoy food, refreshments, and socializing.

**Hotel** – Hilton Garden Inn and Courtyard by Marriott of Erie, PA will be housing our guests for the weekend. The phone numbers to the hotel are provided below. The hotels are connected by a convention center. You must identify yourself as a member of United Slovak Fraternal to receive the group rate: \$119 / night (plus tax)

**Deadline for hotel reservations is April 1.**

Hilton Garden Inn (50 rooms)  
2225 Downs Dr.  
Erie, PA 16509  
814-866-1390

Courtyard by Mariott (25 rooms)  
7792 Peach St.  
Erie, PA 16509  
814-860-8300

**Saturday:**

**Doubles/Singles Event** - To begin at 8:30 and 12:30 pm

**Mass** - will be held at 5:00 pm at the hotel.

**Banquet** - will be held in the Garden Atrium. Cocktails at 6 PM and Dinner at 7 PM.

**Eastway Lanes:** 4110 Buffalo Rd., Erie, PA – (814) 899-9855

If you require additional information, please contact Rudy Ondrejco at your convenience at 412-421-7967 or [rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com](mailto:rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com)

The 4th Annual United Slovak Fraternal  
Bowling Tournament  
May 1-3, 2015  
Erie, PA



Would you like to sponsor a lane?

It is only \$50.00 to have a sign placed on a lane and your generosity will go far in making this event an enjoyable weekend for all!

If you are interested in being a lane sponsor, please mail this form in with the wording for your sign printed below and check payable to "FCSU Activities".

Please feel free to contact Rudy Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director with any questions at 412-421-7967 or [rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com](mailto:rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com)

The deadline for sponsoring a lane is March 6, 2015.

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch # / District: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street City State Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes!! We would like to sponsor a lane. Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Wording for Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: FCSU Activities 234 Ilion St. Pittsburgh, PA 15207**

Thank you in advance for your participation in this fraternal event.

## Fraternal Notes

*continued from page 1*

Here are some other events being planned for this year.

**May 1 -3, 2015** Erie, Pennsylvania

The Annual International Bowling Tournament is a great place to meet other members. Even if you do not regularly bowl in a league you can still participate and win prizes competing against others who are not sanctioned bowlers! Even if you do not bowl at all, you are still welcome to attend the Mass and evening social on Saturday. So come and have some fun and bring a friend along even if they are not a member. This year the tournament is open to bring a non-member guest, (one time only). The entry forms and other information are found on pages 4-5 of this issue.

**July 17 -19, 2015** Annual International Golf Tournament. More information will be available once all the details have been finalized.

**September 12, 2015** Washington, D. C.

Join the FCSU and the Slovak Catholic Federation as they celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the dedication of the Mother of Sorrows Chapel, at the National Shrine. Details will be available at a later date.

Remember, these are just a few of the activities being planned on an international level in 2015. Other opportunities for members include Scholarships, (applications and information are available on-line or by calling the Home Office); and the photo contest which will take place in the fall [please see pages 12 – 13 of this issue for Part I of the 2014 photo contest winners]. If your Branch or District has a picnic or other activity for members there are funds available to subsidize qualified activities.

I look forward to working with the Board of Directors, Executive Officers, Home Office Staff and all of you over the next four years.

If you have any other ideas for activities please contact me by phone 412/421-7967 or email: [rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com](mailto:rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com)

V Novom Roku dovoľte zaželať vám veľa zdravia, radosti a Božieho požehnaní.



### Christmas Cheer

The members of St. Michael the Archangel Society Br. 2, in Northside, Pittsburgh held their annual Christmas Caroling event on Sunday, December 21, 2014. This year 20 members of Br. 2 delighted the residents of the Sisters' infirmary and the residents of Marian Hall at the School Sisters of St. Francis Motherhouse in Bellevue, as well as the Sisters at St. Louise Convent (formerly the Vincentian Sisters of Charity in the North Hills) with their English, Slovak and Latin Carols. Afterwards, the group enjoyed refreshments at Luciano's Pizza in the North Hills.

# MEMBERS: SAVE THE DATE IN MAY



Requests - Please circle choice times			
Event	Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice
TEAM			
DOUBLES & SINGLES			

**2015** May 1 - 3, 2015  
 Entries Close  
 March 6, 2015

## BOWLING ENTRY BLANK

Please Read Carefully

### The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual United Slovak Fraternalists Men's and Women's Tenpin Handicap Bowling Tournament

Hosted by First Catholic Slovak Union,  
 National Slovak Society and First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association  
 A/k/a the United Slovak Fraternalists

Eastway Lanes  
 Buffalo Road, Erie, PA

*Entry Fees*  
 Prize Fee .....\$7.00  
 Bowling Fee (3games).....\$8.00  
 Tournament Fee.....\$3.00  
**Total Each Event.....\$18.00**

*Optional Events*  
 All Events .....\$3.00  
 Senior Singles Event (60+).....\$5.00

*Banquet Fees*  
 Member ..... \$25.00  
 Total Included .....\$\_\_\_\_\_

Mail Entry Fee Payable to:  
 FCSU Activities

Mail to:  
 Rudy Ondrejco  
 234 Ilion St.  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Captain Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 League: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

All Events (X)	Attend Banq (X)	CORRECT TEAM LINEUP (Print or Type)	HIGHEST AVERAGE	USBC NO.	ADDRESS	CERT./POLICY NO. MUST BE FILLED IN	BRANCH/ ASSM NO.
		1.					
		2.					
		3.					
		4.					
Singles (X)	Attend Banq (X)	TWO-MAN EVENT (Print or Type Full Names)	HIGHEST AVERAGE	Seniors (X)			
		1.					
		2.					
		1.					
		2.					

**Friday, May 1**  
 Registration 5:00 PM  
 Bowlers: 6:00 PM  
 8:30 PM

**Saturday, May 2**  
 Bowlers:  
 Events 8:30 AM  
 12:30 PM

**Sunday, May 3**  
 Events 10:00 AM

1<sup>st</sup> Team Events  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Events

1<sup>st</sup> Doubles/Singles  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Doubles/Singles

Doubles/Singles  
 (if needed)

ALL BOWLING AND, ENTRY FEES  
 MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM

FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH  
 COMPLETE INFORMATION

INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE  
 RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN AND  
 MUST BE RESUBMITTED

Substitutes **must** bowl in the position vacated by the original entrant as per USBC.

### The Men's and Women's 4th Annual United Slovak Fraternalists Tenpin Handicap Bowling Tournament

This event is being sponsored by the First Catholic Slovak Union, the National Slovak Society, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, for the purpose of promoting fraternalism and good sportsmanship, and to generate nationwide interest in the Slovak fraternal organizations. The National Officers of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the First Catholic Slovak Union, and the National Slovak Society, wish to extend to all members a cordial invitation to the Host City, Erie, PA, in this rapidly growing tournament.

The 4th Annual United Slovak Fraternalists Handicap Tenpin Bowling Tournament will be held at Eastway Lanes, 4110 Buffalo Rd., Erie, Pennsylvania. The tournament will be held the weekend of May 1-3, 2015. Opening Ceremonies will be held on Friday, May 1, at 5:45 PM.

ENTRIES WILL CLOSE MIDNIGHT MARCH 6, 2015. PLEASE NOTE: ALL FORMS MUST BE FILLED IN COMPLETELY. ENTRY FEES, AS STATED ON THE FRONT OF THIS ENTRY BLANK, MUST ACCOMPANY THIS ENTRY. ALL INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN FOR RESUBMISSION.

In submitting this entry, the captain and the team members agree to forfeit all rights to prize money as well as the total entry fees in the event that any information listed herein should be found to be false. We are not responsible for errors in averages made in filling out this entry form. No refunds of tournament entry fee.

USBC Bowling Rules shall govern in all matters concerning the actual play on the lanes in this Tournament.

**ELIGIBILITY:** This Tournament is open to all First Catholic Slovak Union, the National Slovak Society, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, male and female bonafide MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING. All winners will be checked before any prize money is awarded.

Only members with USBC Membership Cards will be eligible for the USBC special awards in this USBC Certified Tournament. Bowlers without USBC Membership Cards may purchase some from the Tournament Committee at current local fees prior to actual participation in this Tournament.

**CONSENT RULES:** Any unmarried grade or high school stu-

dent who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) must have written consent of his/her parents or guardian in order to participate in USBC Certified Tournament where cash or merchandise prizes are offered. Said written consent must be on a form approved by United States Bowling Congress and must be on file with Tournament Committee at least one week before the bowler is eligible for tournament competition unless the student is accompanied by his/her parents, in which case the parental consent form may be filed up to the time the student starts to bowl. USBC Rule No. 13

**AVERAGES:** All entrants will use their highest average of any USBC league of at least 21 games from the 2013-2014 season. Bowlers with no such average from the 2013-2014 season and with at least 21 games in the 2014-2015 season will use their current league average. This must be designated as such on entry form by his name and a league year-to-date statistics sheet must be presented to the Tournament

Committee at the Tournament. Non-certified bowlers, with no certified league average, that have bowled in previous FCSU, NSS, or FCSLA tournaments will have their averages calculated from their three most recent tournaments. All male bowlers with no established USBC average will bowl a 175 scratch. All female bowlers with no established USBC will bowl a 150 scratch. Summer league averages will be accepted.

Any contestant whose current average of at least 21 games as of January 1, 2015, is TEN (10) PINS or more above his or her average from previous season, must use his or her current average and will indicate this on the entry form at time of entry.

**AVERAGE CHANGES:** The original averages submitted on the Entry Blank cannot be changed prior to participation by anyone except the Team Captain, who must submit written proof thereof to the Tournament Committee.

It shall be each bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of his average in handicap or classified tournaments, whether originally submitted by the bowler, his team captain, or others.

Failure to use the proper average shall disqualify score of submitted average if lower than actual average, thereby resulting in a lower classification or more handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the actual average.

Corrections in averages can be made up to the completion of the first game of a series, or within 48 hours after completion of a series if the tournament manager prior to the completion of the

first game of the series has given written consent to the bowler authorizing such extension of time to correct his average.

**TEAMS:** Mixed teams comprising of 2 men and 2 women are allowed. Mixed teams will be grouped with men's teams for prize distribution (see PRIZES), unless at least 21 mixed teams participate. If 21 or more mixed teams enter, a separate mixed prize fund will be established and one prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries.

**DOUBLES:** Mixed doubles are allowed. Mixed doubles will be grouped with men's teams for prize distribution (see PRIZES), unless at least 21 mixed doubles participate. If 21 or more mixed doubles enter, a separate mixed prize fund will be established and one prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries.

**HANDICAPS:** The handicap allowed will be 90% of the difference between 210 and the submitted average. The maximum handicap awarded to any bowler will be 65 pins. Under no circumstances will handicap be increased after participant has bowled.

**PRIZES: MEN and WOMEN** - One prize will be paid for every seven (7) entries in each event, with the exception of All Events, which will pay one prize for every fifteen (15) entries. No duplicate prizes will be awarded and prize fees will be returned 100 percent.

All prizes will be subject to the approval of the Tournament Committee.

Any entrant who has qualified for a prize of \$300 or more in any event of a tournament in the 12-month period prior to entry, must report actual score, position, and amount won to tournament management at time of entry for possible rerating.

**LINE-UP CHANGES:** All participants must bowl according to where they are listed on the submitted entry form. Any replacement of participants originally scheduled to bowl on team or doubles will take same position on team and doubles event.

**ABSENTEES:** To alleviate absentee problems, the Tournament Committee will provide a replacement bowler when notified of the absentee.

**TARDY BOWLERS:** Tardy Bowler will receive zero for each frame missed. USBC Rule 322

**SCORING:** Errors in scoring or calculations must be presented to the Tournament Committee within 48 hours after completion of play. Captains of Teams or Doubles Partners have the option to pick up duplicate score sheets upon completion of play.

# From the Closing Session Wednesday, August 27, 2014

First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada  
50th Quadrennial Convention  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The voting results were announced by the Election Committee Chair Sandra K. Bench (#172) as follows:

CHAPLAIN Rev. Thomas A. Nasta – 321 Votes

PRESIDENT David A. Lang – 31 Votes  
Andrew M. Rajec – 285 Votes

VICE PRESIDENT Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. – 235 Votes  
Robert J. Kristofik – 53 Votes

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Kenneth A. Arendt – 300 Votes

\*TREASURER Thomas A. Bardar – 84 Votes  
George F. Matta II – 160 Votes  
Joseph T. Senko – 80 Votes

\*Due to FCSU Bylaw Section, 8.03, a run off was held between George Matta II and Thomas Bardar. Election Committee Chair reported that 324 ballots were printed, and 296 votes were cast. Mr. George F. Matta II received 170 votes; Thomas A. Bardar received 126 votes. She declared Mr. Matta as the winner.

GENERAL COUNSEL Gary J. Matta – 291 Votes

MEDICAL DIRECTOR Richard F. Ungvarsky, MD – 314 Votes

FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR Rudolf Ondrejco – 298 Votes

CHAIRMAN OF AUDITORS Karen M. Hunka – 296 Votes

AUDITORS Raymond G. Lako – 281 Votes  
John J. Leskovyansky, Jr. – 289 Votes  
Leonard Zilko – 272 Votes

PENSION BOARD Monica Rodacy Boone – 122 Votes  
Christopher Kaluznik – 126 Votes  
Jerry Siman – 132 Votes  
Karen M. Engle Sterling – 144 Votes

CHAIRMAN OF THE SUPREME COURT Steven G. Engel – 183 Votes

SECRETARY OF THE SUPREME COURT Joanne Engle Austin – 184 Votes

## SUPREME COURT

James M. Bench – 152 Votes  
Michael S. Ferenchak – 148 Votes  
Jerome P. Ferrance – 136 Votes  
Joseph Jurasi – 137 Votes  
Joseph F. Jursa – 123 Votes  
Michael Kapitan – 143 Votes  
Robert J. Kopco – 147 Votes  
Robert Magruder – 121 Votes  
Andrew D. Nasta – 125 Votes  
Edward C. Nasta – 97 Votes  
Nicole L. Nasta – 114 Votes  
Andrew P. Rajec – 143 Votes

## REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Region 1 Sabina Sabados – 36 Votes  
Region 2 Damian D. Nasta – 28 Votes  
Region 3 Elizabeth M. Slovenkai – 9 Votes  
Martha Zavada Wojcik – 18 Votes  
Region 4 James R. Marmol – 48 Votes  
Region 5 Patrick Froncek – 11 Votes  
Michael E. Lako – 42 Votes  
Region 6 Henry Hassay – 67 Votes  
Region 7 Rudolph W. Bernath – 39 Votes  
Region 8 Milos Mitro – 14 Votes

## Message From The National Chaplain: World Families

**Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive** is the preparatory catechesis (teaching manual) for the World Meeting of Families to be held September 22-27, 2015 in Philadelphia. The catechesis contains 10 chapters, each concluding with four questions for reflection. One of the reflections from Chapter 2, *The Mission of Love*, is offered here.

How is God's way of loving different  
from our human way of loving?

A good way of describing the human way of loving is to examine stages a couple undergoes prior to their marriage. A man and a woman are introduced to each other. They find something attractive about the other. They begin to share things about themselves with each other and perhaps find out they have some things in common. The more they talk, the more they desire to be with each other. The more they desire to be with each other, the more they discover they can't live without each other. Gradually, they "fall in love" with each other.

Love, the selfless giving of one to another, takes time to develop and effort to maintain. We learn to love, we grow in love.

St. Paul's description of human love found in his First Letter to the Corinthians is very familiar to us. Love is patient, kind, and rejoices with the truth. Love is neither jealous, snobbish, rude, self-seeking, nor prone to anger. While all this is true, perhaps we could add something from our life experience to his listing. Love is temperamental and imperfect. How many times do we come across people who fall in but later fall out of love? In examining our consciences, we recognize those times we fail to love, or not love enough. We resolve to love more or better, but sometimes it becomes too much of a struggle.

On the other hand, God's way of loving is constant, permanent, faithful, and without end. God's love for us is total and complete, merciful and forgiving, ever-faithful and generous, life giving and affirming.

There is one main difference between God's way of loving and our human way of loving. God is love. It is God's very nature to love. We need to learn to love.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

**Thomas A. Nasta,  
National Chaplain**

## From the Desk of the Executive Secretary:



## CONGRATUATIONS 2014 BENEVOLENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Trustees of the Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc., congratulations to the 2014 Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Award recipients. Each student will receive a one-time check for \$500.00. The following is the list of the students selected:

Rosetta M. Cammalleri	Town of Mount Royal, Montreal, PQ
Emily Columbus	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Christina A. Estright	Norristown, Pennsylvania
Alexander J. Hall	Monroeville, Pennsylvania
Lauren E. Lang	Chagrin Falls, Ohio
Danielle M. Rura	Homer City, Pennsylvania
James A. Staley	Whiting, Indiana
Joshua T. Straka	Reading, Pennsylvania
Lauren Tobasco	Madison, Wisconsin
Lindsay Tocik	River Forest, Illinois

We want to thank all the applicants who participated in the program and most especially the scholarship committee for their efforts and support in making the difficult decision of selecting the winners. We wish each and every participating applicant the best of luck in their future endeavors.

## Gifts for Homeless Children



Sisters Michael Ann Orlik(L), Donna Marie, (Center R), and Barbara Sable (L), present Christmas gifts for children to Tom Dougher (Center Right), Director of the Danville Gatehouse Shelter for Homeless Families. More than 50 gifts were donated by the students of Saint Cyril Preschool and Kindergarten. Gifts will also be delivered to children at the Franciscan Center on St. Helena Island in South Carolina, another ministry of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius.

- Submitted by  
Sister Barbara Sable



Pittsburgh district officers for 2015 (L – R): Chaplain Fr Joseph Grosko, Chair of Auditors Florence Matta, Secretary Margaret Nasta, Financial Secretary Joseph Yuros, Vice President Karianne Barnes, Sargeant-at-arms Mary Beth Colbaugh, President David Matta, Auditor Anne Berezna, Activities Director Susan Ondrejco, and Auditor Anna Wargovich.

## Pittsburgh Winter Meeting Honors Retiring National Officers, Elects District Officers

The Pittsburgh District held their Winter business meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2014. At the meeting, District President George Matta II honored several retiring national officers with the presentation of certificates of appreciation for their years of service.



(L – R) District President George Matta II with retiring National Activities Director Susan Ondrejco.



(L – R) District President George Matta II with Barbara Brekosky, accepting for her husband, retiring Regional Director Regis Brekosky.



(L – R) District President George Matta II with his father George, retiring National Treasurer.

## Branch 162's Annual Meeting in December



Branch 162 held its annual meeting on December 14, 2014 at the Denny's Restaurant in Uniontown, PA. Elected to serve as officers (left to right) are Frank Marmol, Auditor; Dolores Marmol, Secretary; Mark Marmol, President; Joanne Marmol, Vice-President and Patty Marmol, Treasurer. The officers were sworn in by Regional Director James Marmol.

Fraternally,  
Jim Marmol, Regional Director

## Branch 567's Kristen Barczynski Receives Girl Scout Gold Award



Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania recently presented Kristen Barczynski with the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest recognition for achievement in Girl Scouting.

As a Girl Scout member for 13 years, Kristen is a Girl Scout of Troop 51525. She was supported in her Gold Award effort by the North Park Latodami Nature Center where she and her family, friends, and volunteers painted a wildlife mural. Her Gold Award project began in August 2013, and was completed in August 2014.

Planning for the project involved over 33 hours, while the project itself took 420.50 hours, for a total of 453.75 hours. Of these hours, Kristen herself provided 196.50 hours, while 21 additional volunteers provided the remaining hours. To accompany the mural, an informational brochure was produced to enhance the use of the mural as an educational tool for students, scouts, guests and groups at the Nature Center, and – in addition – a description of "How to Paint a Mural" was provided to the naturalist at the Nature Center in order that the project will be able to remain sustainable into the future.

As a new Gold Awardee, Kristen will be receiving an invitation in April 2015 to the next Council Court of Award ceremonies, and will receive her Gold Award Pin on June 13, 2015, at a special event hosted in Pittsburgh, PA.

A recent graduate from North Allegheny, Kristen has served in leadership positions in the Guitar Club and Junior Classical League. She also, along with her brother and sister, is a triplet fourth generation member of The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 567, in Allentown, PA. The triplets reach received a 2014 Jednota scholarship to attend college. Kristen plans to attend Seton Hill University for Psychology and Art Therapy.



## The Hollys, Four Generations of Branch 410

Recently, four generations of Branch 410, all life-long FCSU members of the Holly family, gathered. Pictured (L-R) are: Grandson Scott Holly of Baltimore, MD; great granddaughter Maggie Holly of Baltimore, MD; Matriarch Elizabeth G. Holly of Uniontown, PA; and son Tom Holly of Duncansville, TX.

- Submitted by Barbara A. Holly, Branch 410 President

## Come to the (Slovak) Ball

On behalf of the Slovak-American Cultural Center, it our to pleasure to invite the members of the First Catholic Slovak Union to The Slovak Ball on Saturday, January 24th for an evening of celebration, fine dining, dancing, and premium open bar from 7pm to 1am.

Tickets are \$130\* per person. A few last minute tickets are still available! For more information and reservations please call, Mrs. Zuzana Krcmar 973.357.1209 or email: zuzana11@optonline.net

- Submitted by Sabina Sabados, Regional Director, Branch 746 President, Slovak-American Cultural Center

\*Proceeds from the Ball will assist the Slovak-American Cultural Center, a 501(3)(c) non profit organization, in supporting its mission and the Joseph Stasko Scholarship Fund which financially assists Slovak students studying at City University in Bratislava.

For more information, visit our website at: [www.slovakamericancenter.org](http://www.slovakamericancenter.org)

Want to know what we are up to? Like us on Facebook!!!!



# Montreal Branch 784 Hosts Christmas Dinner

On November, 23, 2014, Branch 784 welcomed members and friends to their Annual Christmas Dinner. We were privileged to have our Regional Director, Milos Mitro, and his wife, Anne, from Toronto attend. Father Rudolph Grega started our dinner with a prayer.

- Submitted by Alice Dobrik, President of Branch 784.  
Pictures courtesy of Theresa Buxar.



(L – R) Alex Dobrik, President District 20; Anne Mitro; Milos Mitro, Regional Director; Father Grega; Vladimir Cincik; Alice Dobrik, President Branch 784; John Chandik; and Anne Chandik, Treasurer, Branch 784.



(L – R) Elka Gadosy and Mary Jarabek, Branch 810





Newly elected officers for 2015 of St. Matthew the Evangelist Society Branch 45 in NYC. (L -R) Antonia Krajkovic, Maria Zakovic, Anna Korcak, Maria Jurasi, Jozef Korcak, Anton Kucharovic, father Stefan Chanas, Joseph Jurasi, and Zelmira Beckova-Kucharovic.



Vigilia – Christmas Dinner on December 14, 2014 in St. John Nepomucene Church. (L - R) Maria & Joseph Jurasi, Peter & Jarmila Lesler, Helena, Jozef & Anna Korcak, Anton & Zelmira Kucharovic, Maria & Milan Zakovic, and Helen Brchnel.

## Branch 45 Holds Annual Meeting, Celebrates Christmas Eve in NYC

The St. Matthew Evangelist Society, Branch 45, held its annual meeting on November 30, 2014 and then its Vigilia – Christmas Eve Dinner – on December 14, 2014. Both events took place at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City.

- Submitted by Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

**ATTENTION**  
**COLLEGE-BOUND FCSU MEMBERS**

From the desk  
of the Executive Secretary  
Kenneth A. Arendt

### THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION IS NOW ACCEPTING 2015 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Eighty (80) ONE-TIME SCHOLARSHIPS will be awarded to the winners.

- 75 scholarships in the amount of \$1000.00.
- A "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and "Stephanie Husek Scholarship" in the amount of \$1,250.00 each will be awarded to the highest ranking male and female applicants respectively.
- Three Scholarships of \$1000.00 each will be given from the "John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund" to applicants who have been accepted into either an approved three or four year hospital nursing program or a fully-accredited college of their choice.

In addition, upon proof of college graduation and completed insurance application, each recipient will be issued a paid up \$3,000 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy.

For rules, requirements and applications go to

[www.fcsu.com/scholarships](http://www.fcsu.com/scholarships)

or call the Home Office at 800.533.6682

**Applications must be postmarked by midnight,  
March 31, 2015**

## 11th CONSULAR TOUR TO SLOVAKIA

August 23, 2015 to September 2, 2015 Escorted by Joseph & Albina Senko



Slovak Honorary Consul Joseph Senko has visited Slovakia 25 times since 1995, including ten tours which he has arranged and escorted. His wife, Albina, was born and raised in Slovakia. With their experience, they have created a customized tour for 2015 which will take you across Slovakia. Each night, we will stay at a first class hotel. Over 270 people from the United States have enjoyed these tours with Joe and Albina.

In addition to touring many historic towns in Slovakia, we will also visit famous historic sites in neighboring countries - Vienna, Austria and Budapest, Hungary. Our tour of Slovakia will take us from west to east through Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia; Trnava, known as the "Little Rome" of Slovakia; Modra, where we will be seeing a demonstration in a ceramic factory; the world famous spa town of Piešťany; historic Banska Bystrica; the High Tatras; the famous town of Levoča; Bardejov, which is included in the UNESCO list; Presov, the sister city of Pittsburgh; and Kocise, the second largest city in Slovakia.

In addition to visiting several famous castles and museums, we will enjoy listening to live folk music, touring many historic churches, and dining in several typical Slovak restaurants.

Unique to this tour is: receiving a spa treatment; attending a mock Slovak wedding; rafting on the Dunajec river; several wine tastings and meeting with several Slovak dignitaries.

As we travel through the various regions of Slovakia, we can make arrangements for you to visit relatives or family towns and villages at an additional cost. These are just some of the highlights of our tour. The 11 days you will spend with us will be enjoyable, educational and you will be pleasantly surprised what Slovakia has to offer visitors.

For a detailed itinerary and payment schedule, contact Joe Senko at 412-956-6000 or [jtsenko@aol.com](mailto:jtsenko@aol.com). For a list of hotels, flight schedules, payment schedule and restrictions, contact Joe Senko.

## Branch 670 Now Accepting Scholarship Applicants



Branch 670 of Donora, PA, is excited to announce that it is accepting applications for its 2015 Scholarship Program. The committee will award, to the candidates who best satisfy the criteria, one \$500.00 scholarship in memory of Albert (Abby) John Marflak and up to three, onetime \$1000.00 scholarships. Any individual of Branch 670 that has had a policy for at least 4 years, is current in their premiums, is a high school senior and

will attend an Approved Educational Institution is eligible to apply.

For applications, you may email your request or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to 1 of the following officers:

Dorothy Petrus, 545 Castner Ave., Donora, PA 15033

Joe Matinko, 85 Crestline Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022 (email: [matinko305@comcast.net](mailto:matinko305@comcast.net))

Cheryl Hyatt, 410 Sunset Hills Drive, Freedom, PA 15042 (email: [hyattfamily@comcast.net](mailto:hyattfamily@comcast.net))

**ALL APPLICATION REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 15, 2015.**

- Submitted by Joe Matinko

## Explore Your Heritage This Summer with 2015 Treasure Tours



The 85th Treasure Tour continues our strategy of immersing in the Slovak culture, traversing the country from east to west and north to south, and finding long-lost family for our travelers; proud of our 98% success rate! 2015 Treasures Tour offerings include Bratislava Old Town, Detva's 49th Folk Festival, Kezmarok International Crafts Fest; the walled towns of Levoča and Bardejov, Prešov, Spiš Castle, charming Cicmany, the High Tatras, and much, much more. July 10 to 19, 2015 - \$2,199 per person for the land trip.

For more information, contact Helene:

151 Colebrook Drive, Rochester, NY 14617

Phone: (585) 342-9383

Email: [helenezx@aol.com](mailto:helenezx@aol.com)

Or visit [www.our-Slovakia.com](http://www.our-Slovakia.com)

# Epiphany Customs in Slovakia

**Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.**

Earlier this month on January 6th, Slovaks celebrated Epiphany, known in Slovak as the Feast of the Three Kings (Sviatok Troch kráľov). The word Epiphany derives from the Greek word meaning "manifestation." The feast day commemorates God's revelation of His Son in human form, the child Jesus, to the world at large. Epiphany ranks among the oldest of Christian holidays, and all Christian churches in Slovakia celebrate the feast.

Epiphany is also an official state holiday, and all government offices and most businesses are closed across Slovakia. One of the reasons is that Eastern Orthodox believers in Slovakia celebrate their Christmas holidays from January 6-9, and use the old Julian calendar. About 50,000 people belong to the Orthodox faith and most live in eastern Slovakia.

In Slovakia, Epiphany also signified the final day of the Christmas season, the end of Christmas school holidays, and the commencement of Fašiangy (Shrovetide or Carnival Time). Thus we are currently in the Fašiangy period, which culminates in the revelry in the last few days before the beginning of Lent.

The Feast of the Three Kings commemorates God's revelation of His Son to all peoples and nations, as the Three Wise Men traveled afar from the East to Bethlehem in order to pay homage to the newborn Savior. For this reason, Slovaks also refer Epiphany as the Feast of the Three Wise Men (Sviatok Troch Mudrcov).

According to Holy Scriptures, three wise men from the East followed a star to Bethlehem in search of the Infant Jesus. The star led them to a house, where they found him twelve days after his birth. They presented the child with gifts of gold to signify his royalty, frankincense, a gift befitting a priest, and myrrh, which symbolized his upcoming suffering. Tradition identified the three kings by the names Casper (Gašpar), Melchior (Melichar), and Balthazar. Their presentation of gifts to the Baby Jesus played an important part of most Nativity scenes and the Bethlehem plays which Slovaks performed.

In the past, youthful male carolers (koledníci or jasičkáry) would stroll the village on January 5, which would be the last night of the 12 days of Christmas. The boys would dress in long white robes and wear crowns to symbolize the Magi who visited the baby Jesus. In singing, they would wish people good health, good fortune, and prosperity during the new year. Many boys would also perform the traditional Epiphany play, which would retell the New Testament story of Three Kings. (See the selection at the end of the article for an example.)

## Epiphany Blessings

Since Epiphany was a holy day, the faithful would attend Holy Mass, and at the service, the priest would announce his schedule for blessing the homes of the village. People would bring water in vessels or jars to church for the priest to bless, as well as candles, salt, and chalk.

While some priests blessed homes on the night of January 5, the blessings continued after Mass on January 6. Priests would make the rounds in a procession to each house in the village and bless every one of them, and sprinkle holy water, which would also ward off evil spirits. An acolyte, who most often was an altar server, would carry censers that burned incense, which usually consisted of a fragrant thyme. The ringing of bells would notify people that the procession had commenced.

Each home would prepare for the priest's coming by covering the family's table with a white cloth and placing a cross on it, and lighting a candle. The gazdina (housewife) would add a bowl of various fruits, breads, and sausages for the visitors to enjoy, as well as a few coins for a donation, and some choice flax. Before the procession arrived, the gazdina would pour some grain over the home's doorstep, and later feed it to the hens, so they would lay many eggs.

When the priest and his acolytes arrived, they would sing some carols (koledy), and then the good father would offer some prayers to protect the household. Above the door on the lintel of the frame, the priest would write with blessed chalk the first two digits of the year, the letters of the three wise men separated by crosses, and then the last two digits of the year. Thus for the year 2015, this inscription would appear as such: 20+G+B+M+15. After the blessing, the gazdina would offer the priest and his acolytes some refreshments, and then the procession would move on to more homes.

Other customs also surrounded the Epiphany holiday. The gazda (head of the household) would put three crosses lined with garlic and holy water above each door of his house, so that evil spirits would be kept at bay, including natural disasters. His gazdina would cook noodles because people believed that would assist in later producing a bountiful harvest.

## Vinšovačky na Tri Krále - Wishes on Three Kings' Day

Here is an example of an Epiphany wish in Slovak, followed by English translations. This particular rendition comes from carolers in Važec, a village in the Liptovský Mikuláš District of northern Slovakia, which lies at the foot of Kriváň, a western peak in the High Tatras mountains. The speeches by each boy representing the three kings offer a gift, and then together, they acknowledge their common search for Jesus by following the wondrous star. They conclude with a short song and dance, and thank their hosts for the gifts presented to the carolers.

### Prvý kráľ (First king):

Panboh daj večer vždy vesely, vždy vesely,  
najprv panu gospodarovi, potom tiež i gazdinke,  
i čeliadke vždy jeho milej.

*Lord God make this evening always happy, always happy,  
first for the farmer, then also to his housewife  
and always pleasing to the household.*



**Feast of the The Three Kings (TASR).**

### Druhý kráľ (Second king):

Ja som z mesta Arabie kral,  
mam od slnka spalenu tvar,  
slnko tam prehorko pali,  
bo tam zima nikdy neni.  
Kto by uznal jeho vieru,  
oferoval by mi mieru.

*I am the king from a city of Arabia,  
I have a burned (dark) face from the sun,  
as the sun there burns harshly,  
and there it's never cold.  
Who would recognize his faith,  
Would offer me peace.*

### Tretí kráľ (Third king):

My sme tri krali z perskej zemi  
prišli sme medzi tento lud neznamy,  
hviezda, ktora sa nam ukazaua,  
nas pri všetkych cestach sprevadzaua,  
a tak divna sa nam zdaua,  
že ani inym hviezdám podobna neboua.  
We three kings of Persia,  
Came unknown to these people,  
the star, which was shown to us,  
guided us on all roads,  
and seems so strange to us,  
unlike any other stars in the heavens.

### Všetci (All recite):

Ked sme sa mi vedno zišli,  
budme že mi jednej mysli,  
jednu piesen zaspievajme,  
jeden tanec zatancujme.  
My sme chuapci zverbovanci, husari, husari,  
nas nezmuožu žiadni pani cisari, cisari!  
*When we went together, we had one thought,  
that we sing one song, that we dance one dance.  
We boys are young recruits, hussars, hussars,  
No Emperor can top us!*

### Po obdarovaní všetci spievajú (After presenting the gifts, all sing):

D'akujeme vam za vaše dary, za vaše dary,  
ktore ste nam oferovali.  
D'akujeme vam za vašu pomoc, za vašu pomoc  
a vinšujeme vam dobru noc.  
*Thank you for your gifts, for your gifts, which you offered us.  
Thank you for your help, for your help, and we wish you a good night.*

### Sources

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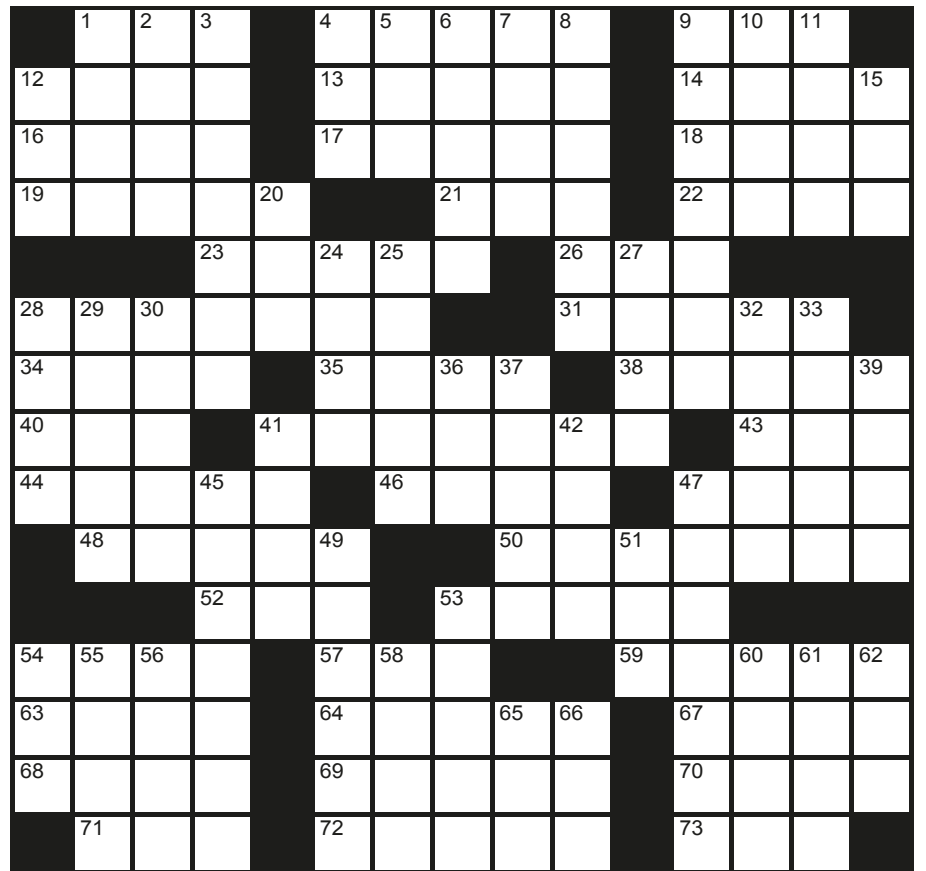
## Chewy Going to 100th Like on FCSU Facebook



Congratulations to Amanda Polzner on being the First Catholic Slovak Union's 100th Like on Facebook! In the spirit of the Christmas season, we sent her our own FCSU mascot Chewy Čuvač.



# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



## VISIT SLOVAKIA----- "THE OLD COUNTRY"



Remember how your parents or grandparents referred to their birthplace as "the old country." Well now is the time for you to go to Slovakia and visit the ancestral homeland and villages of your family.

Join Kay and Jim Bench as they host the 18th annual Youngstown/Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Tour July 13-27, 2015.

See the capital of Slovakia—Bratislava, enjoy award winning folk groups, visit Litmanova where there were documented apparitions of the Blessed Mother appearing to three school children in the 1990's, enjoy traditional Slovak food, attend several kolibas, enjoy shopping, go whitewater rafting

on the Dunajec River, the natural border between Poland and Slovakia, visit villages such as Cicmany where you will see decorated homes, visit historic Tichy Potok, stay in a beautiful spa in Sliac and enjoy the thermal waters, indoor and outdoor pools and other amenities. Visit relatives and enjoy a luncheon reception with our Sister City Spisska Nova Ves. There are many more activities and cities too numerous to mention in this short article. For further information call Jim or Kay Bench.

Jim Bench cell phone 724-858-5843 e-mail jmbench@yahoo.com

Kay Bench cell phone 724-771-7900

Travel arrangements are made through Adventure International Travel. Contact Paul Hudak at 216-228-7171 or 800-542-2487 or Fax 216-228-7174. E-mail Paul@advintravel.com

### Across

- 1 Elmer, to Bugs
- 4 Alaskan native
- 9 Ancient
- 12 Tibetan monk
- 13 Tether
- 14 Cancel
- 16 Show horse
- 17 Also-ran
- 18 Thus
- 19 Subway handhold
- 21 Dutch city
- 22 Siesta
- 23 Drive away
- 26 Contribute
- 28 Precise
- 31 Question
- 34 Mine entrance
- 35 Insect eggs
- 38 Phobias
- 40 Plum part
- 41 8th century epic tale
- 43 Bark
- 44 Kind of energy
- 46 African nation
- 47 Cola
- 48 Precept
- 50 Lines of approach
- 52 Wonderment
- 53 Field of play
- 54 Squabble
- 57 Caviar
- 59 Upright
- 63 Besides
- 64 Softens
- 67 Zhivago's love
- 68 Verse
- 69 Stir up
- 70 Balanced
- 71 Manner
- 72 Poplar variety

### 73 Condensation

### Down

- 1 Feathered missile
- 2 Actor Epps
- 3 Nightclub
- 4 Entirely
- 5 Sign before Virgo
- 6 Artist's stand
- 7 Preowned
- 8 Seamstress need
- 9 Late arriving
- 10 Elders' teachings
- 11 Excavates
- 12 \_\_\_ Tunas, Cuba
- 15 Flyspeck
- 20 According to
- 24 Glazier's unit
- 25 *Four Quartets* poet
- 27 Remove, as a hat
- 28 Pool exercise
- 29 Bonehead
- 30 Mr., Mrs., Sir, e.g.
- 32 Louisiana swamp
- 33 Swap
- 36 Low card
- 37 Sweetener
- 39 Jacuzzis
- 41 Make beer
- 42 Zippo, in tennis

- 45 Med. school course
- 47 Held up, like traffic
- 49 Mother \_\_\_
- 51 Compass pt.
- 53 Fable writer
- 54 Tree juice
- 55 Farm equipment
- 56 On the briny
- 58 Feedbag fill
- 60 Roof overhang
- 61 Work party
- 62 Summer shade
- 65 \_\_\_ out a living
- 66 D.C. bigwig

## JEDNOTA

### Publication Schedule for 2015

January 28  
February 11  
March 4  
March 18  
April 22  
May 6  
May 20  
June 10  
July 15  
August 12  
Sept 9  
Sept 23  
October 7  
October 21  
November 4  
November 18  
December 9

January 19  
February 2  
February 23  
March 9  
April 13  
April 27  
May 11  
June 1  
July 6  
August 3  
August 31  
Sept 14  
Sept 28  
October 12  
October 26  
November 9  
November 30

See Solution on Page 20

# Part 1 of the 2014

Part II to be published in

## People



First Place – Liam Joiner  
Aurora, ON, Branch 785

“Coral Reef, Fiji”



Second Place – Sarah Garris  
Matawan, NJ, Branch 746

“In the Spotlight”



Third Place – Emily Horensky  
Slatington, PA, Branch 796

“Family Photo”

## Nature or Environment



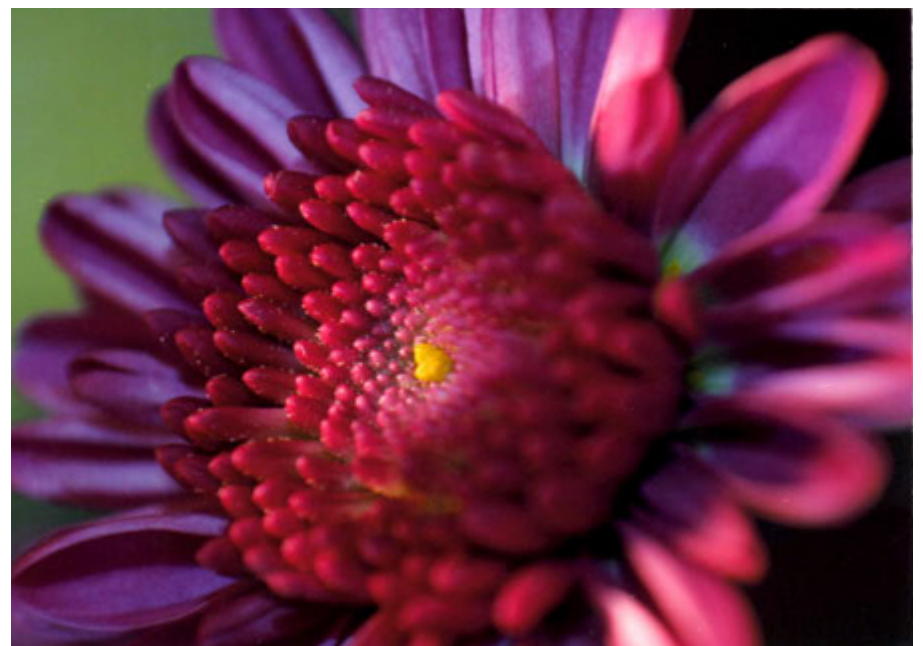
First Place – Audrey Zavada  
Forty Fort, PA, Branch 5P

“Overlooking the Back  
Yard”



Second Place – Megan Horensky  
Slatington, PA, Branch 796

“In the Back Yard”



Third Place – Anna Catherman  
Clearfield, PA, Branch 7

“At Home”

# Photo Contest Results

## the January 28 issue of Jednota

### Travel or Destinations



First Place – Caryn Wascovich  
Westlake, OH, Branch 24  
“Oahu, Hawaii”



Second Place – Joel Scekeres  
Mt. Pleasant, PA, Branch 181  
“Ocean City, MD”



Third Place – Emily Horensky  
Slatington, PA, Branch 796  
“Maui, Hawaii”

### Overall Winner – Ages 12 - 18



Mark Wascovich  
Westlake, OH, Branch 24

“In the Front Yard”

### Overall Winner – Over 18



Jim Marmol  
Uniontown, PA, Branch 162

“Ohiopyle, PA”

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3 will hold their annual breakfast meeting on Sunday, March 29, 2015. Mass will be offered for our living and deceased members at 9:00AM at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, Second Street and 13th Ave., NE.

After Mass, a full breakfast will be served by the St. Cyril Slovak Mass Club is Father Dargay Hall.

The breakfast is free for all members of Branch 3, and the former St. Joseph Branch 226. Please, no parking in the school lot!

Fraternally,

**James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 4 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph, Branch 4, will hold a meeting on Sunday, January 18, 2015, at 3PM at the home of Anna Marie Hanlon (2338 Lucina Ave., Pittsburgh, PA). Lodge business to be discussed.

Happy New Year to all.

**A.M. Hanlon, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 10 – OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, K.J., First Catholic Slovak Union of Olyphant, PA, held its Annual Meeting, Audit and Election of Officers on Sunday, December 7 at the Regal Room, 216 Lackawanna Avenue, Olyphant.

Officers for 2015 were elected as follows: President, Daniel Spegar; Vice-President, Gaza Mika; Financial Secretary-Treasurer, William Spegar; Recording Secretary, William A. Nalevanko, and Auditors, Donna Mroczka, Florence Nalevanko, Carol Spegar, Mary Ann Spegar.

Donations in the amount of \$7,400 were approved for distribution in 2015 to the following: La Salle Academy, Jessup, Pa.; Holy Ghost Cemetery, Holy Cross Parish Religious Education and Youth Group Activities Fund, and the Mid Valley Senior Center, Olyphant, Pa.; Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius Retirement Fund, Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius Holiday Fund and the Jankola Library and Archives, Danville, Pa.; Dickson City (Pa.) Civic Center; Valley Community Library, Peckville, Pa.; St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen, Meals-on-Wheels of NEPA, Inc., South Side Senior Center, and the Valley Blood Council, Lackawanna County Chapter of the American Red Cross, all of Scranton, Pa., and V.F.W. "Blankets for Vets" Project.

Arrangements are being made for the annual Communion Breakfast that will follow the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Cross Parish at St. Patrick's Church, Olyphant, Pa., on Sunday, June 28, 2015. This celebratory Mass will be offered for all living and deceased members of the Branch.

Finally, the officers and members of Branch 10 wish to extend best wishes to everyone a joyful New Year!

### BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St. Andrew Society, will hold a branch meeting at 2:00 PM, Sunday, January 18, 2015 at the Old Town Hall, 6652 Brecksville Rd. (Rt. 21) in Independence, OH. Parking is available behind the gazebo on the town square. Refreshments will be served.

The agenda will include discussion of branch activities and a financial report.

Please phone activities director Susan Lang at 216/896-0957 evenings after 6:00 PM if you plan to attend. Thanks.

**Bob Kopco, President**

### BRANCH 40 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Clement Society, Branch #40, of the First Catholic Slovak Union, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday January 25th at 1:00 P.M. at Chipper's Grill, 1733 North Bloomington St. Streator, Illinois. All members are urged to attend the meeting. A buffet luncheon will follow. Election of officers will take place. Please make reservations by calling Maria Harcar at (815) 672-6682 before January 22, 2015.

**Maria Harcar, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 89 – MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Branch 89 invites all members and their guests to a meeting and social, with luncheon to follow on Saturday, February 14, 2015, at Allio's Restaurant, 3041 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI. Social time is from noon until 12:30pm; the meeting is from 12:30pm to 1:00pm (approximately); with lunch to be served directly following the meeting at 1:00pm. On the agenda: election of officers and a discussion of donations and 2015 activities.

Lunch for members is complimentary; guest's cost is \$20.00. Make checks payable to: Knights of St. Mary & Joseph, Br 89. Reservations must be made by February 11, 2015 by calling Mike Novak @ 414-445-5382. Reservations are required in order to give the number attending to the restaurant.

Fraternally,

**Mike Novak, President**

### BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 of the First Catholic Slovak Union holds meetings at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH, on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held at the American Slovak Club.

Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities.

Come to our meetings. They are fun, informative and help to promote fraternal camaradery.

**Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 254 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wenceslaus Society will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, February 15, 2015, at 11:45am at Panera's restaurant in the Mt. Lebanon Galleria mall located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads. On the agenda will be: election of officers for 2015; review of 2014 branch activities; and plans for 2015 business. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, contact Albina Senko at 412-343-5031

**Albina Senko, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 259 – STRUTHERS, OHIO

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 259, will hold a meeting on February 15, 2015, at

10:00AM at the Church Hall of Christ Our Savior Parish (Holy Trinity).

We will conduct our Annual Audit and also discuss the activities for 2015.

We want to wish all members a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

**Vivian Sedlacko, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 312 – BAGGALEY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 312 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, January 25, 2015, at 1:00PM at the home of President Mark Smolleck, 1121 Monastery Drive, Latrobe, PA, 15650. On the agenda: election of officers.

Branch 312 wishes all FCSU members a very blessed happy and healthy New Year.

Fraternally,

**Micki Smolleck, Secretary/Treasurer**

### BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Branch 450 Annual Meeting will be held at Holy Spirit church hall on February 21, 2015 at noon. At this meeting we will be electing officers. All members interested in becoming officers should plan to attend.

**Lori Valencik, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 will hold its annual meeting, which will include the election of officers, on February 18, 2015, at 6pm. The meeting will be held at 2526 Sixth Street Muskegon, MI. In general, Branch 595 holds a meeting every third Wednesday of each month at Tatra Hall.

Please add this to your calendar and tell your friends.

Additional events at the Hall:

January 18th 2015

595 will hold a pork and sauerkraut dinner from 11-3 pm

January 25th 2015

595 will hold the best breakfast in Muskegon county from 8:30-12:00 noon.

The 595 meeting hall is open daily from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Come and enjoy the company of fellow members.

**Cindy Bellefeuil, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Saint Joseph Branch 731 elected officers at the annual meeting held on December 21, 2014.

The following officers we elected: Grace Kavulich, President, Irene Makovec, Vice-president, James Bobby, Recording Secretary and Jacquelyn Bobby, Financial Secretary.

Plans for 2015 were made beginning with our Patron Saint Mass on March 22, 2015. The liturgy is at 11 am at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio.

We would like to wish everyone a Holy, healthy and happy New Year.

**James Bobby, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PA

Branch 796 will be holding its semi-annual meeting on Sunday February 8th at 1pm. at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Egypt. All members are welcome to attend. At our annual meeting last November our President Bernie Madeja decided to step down after holding the position for 42 years. All of the members of Branch 796 would like to sincerely thank Bernie for his many years of service to our branch and wish him many more happy and healthy years ahead. Mike Fabian was elected as the new President and Monica Fabian was elected the new recording secretary. Andy Hudak was re-elected Vice President and Jerry Lloyd was re-elected as Treasurer. Good Luck new officers. Branch 796 wishes all a happy and healthy new year. God bless.

**Jerry Lloyd, Secretary**

### BRANCH 888 – WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 888 will hold its next two meetings on Monday, January 19, 2015, and Monday, February 16, 2015, respectively. Both meetings will be at 6:00 pm at 6921 Isla Vista Drive, West Palm Beach, Florida 33412. Contact David Rafaidus, President at (561) 776- 0449 or jednota888@yahoo.com for directions and further information.

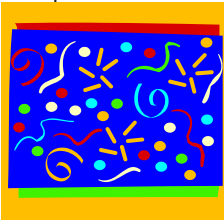
On the agenda for the January 19th meeting will be the discussion of future Branch activities, treasurer report & items of mutual interest to the membership. The agenda for the Feb 16th meeting will include the nomination/election of officers, All Branch members are invited to attend.

**David Rafaidus, President**

## February Fašiangy Dance in Milwaukee

The Slovak League Assembly 20 of Milwaukee, WI, is hosting its traditional Fašiangy (Pre-Lenten Dance) on Saturday, February 14, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at WG's Banquet Center the Knights of Columbus Hall), 3200 S. 103rd Street (103rd and Oklahoma Avenue). Delicious Slovak food and bakery will be available from 6 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided throughout the evening. The Tatra Slovak Dancers will have a performance at 7:30 p.m. Bury the Basa (Bass Fiddle) is scheduled for 9:00p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 per person. We are inviting all Branch 89 of Milwaukee members to join us.

For more information, contact Betty at 414-425-6137 or Ellen at 262-893-7483



**COME JOIN US  
AT THE  
SIXTH ANNUAL  
CZECH & SLOVAK DAYS 2015  
A WEEKEND OF CULTURAL IMMERSION**



**Friday, Saturday & Sunday, January 16, 17 & 18, 2015**

The American Czech-Slovak Cultural Club, in concert with the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (Florida Chapter) & First Catholic Slovak Union (Branch 888 – West Palm Beach, Florida), present Czech & Slovak Days, a weekend of Czech and Slovak cultural and traditional events.

For Additional Information:  
American Czech-Slovak Cultural Club  
13325 Arch Creek Road, North Miami, Florida 33181  
(305) 891-1930 acscc.org  
or  
David Rafaidus, President  
First Catholic Slovak Union – Branch 888  
(561) 776-0449  
Jednota888@yahoo.com



## District 11 Members Attend Czech Theater Performance

Officers of Msgr Josef Tiso District arranged transportation from Ford City to Shadyside Academy in Pittsburgh on November 15, 2014, for members and guests of Branches 200/Ford City and 401/East Vandergrift to take advantage of a special promotion offered at Pitt's 24th Annual Slovak Day earlier in the month. Seventeen people ranging from 2 to 78 years of age thoroughly enjoyed Eastern European food, music, dancing, face painting, and craft exhibits coordinated and provided by Hillman Center staff as a precursor to the main event, Cirk la Putyka's Slapstick Sonata. Youngsters in the group, though initially disappointed to learn that no lions or elephants (as in other "circuses" with which they are familiar) would be involved, were just as enthralled as senior citizens with the artistry, Olympic-level athleticism, and comedic timing of the performers. It was a wonderful evening of excitement that was much appreciated, and the experience will long be remembered by all participants.

Cirk La Putyka is one of Europe's most pioneering physical theater companies. This six-member troupe treated one Pittsburgh audience to stunningly athletic and incredibly artistic synchronized antics on a brief stopover during its return to Prague from a highly successful tour in Australia. Set to the music of Mozart, Handel, Shostakovich and other classics, Slapstick Sonata is an absurd yet poetic theater piece without text or words. Visual poetry meets physical comedy with a dash of contemporary circus...and this warehouse nightshift will never be the same!

- Submitted by Grace Charney, District Secretary/Chaplain



## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 276 hosted the annual Fall/Winter meeting of the FCSU/Pittsburgh District on Sunday, December 14, 2014 at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall in West Mifflin. Members enjoyed a dinner of ham and stuffed cabbage. Branch 2 and the Pittsburgh Slovaks provided entertainment. There were songs and dances depicting winter traditions from in the Slovakia of our ancestors. Jaslickari retold the story of the coming of the Christ Child from the viewpoint of the shepherds.

A new slate of district officers was elected for 2015. They are: chaplain Fr Joseph Grosko, president David Matta, vice-president Karianne Barnes, financial secretary Joseph Yuros, secretary Margaret Nasta, chair of auditors Flo Matta, auditor Anne Berezna, auditor Anna Wargovich, activities director Susan Ondrejco, and sergeant-at-arms Mary Beth Colbaugh.

Branch 35 will host the spring business meeting on Sunday, April 19, 2015 at 1PM at Holy Trinity Church in West Mifflin. Branch 35 requests an RSVP by April 1. Please contact Janet Sullivan at 412-824-4185.

Branch 738 will host the Fathers Day brunch on Sunday, June 21. Karianne Barnes of Branch 628 will do the ad booklet. More details will be provided at the spring meeting. Branch 38 will host the annual winter meeting at a date to be determined later.

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

\*\* WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library. Topics are: February 2: Bob Dvorchak – Researching and Publishing Slovak Family History, March 2: Larry Kozlowski – Slovak Easter Customs

\*\* Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in spring and fall. Contact Joe Senko for information about reservations and fees.

\*\* Slovak Day at Kennywood – Thursday, July 16, 2015. Tickets available on Father's Day.

\*\* Pittsburgh Folk Festival – Monroeville Convention Center – see [www.pghfolkfest.org/](http://www.pghfolkfest.org/)

\*\* Tour of Slovakia with the Senko's – August 23 to September 2, 2015 – Includes Vienna and Budapest. Contact Joe Senko for information about the itinerary.

\*\* Various Slovak programs and courses are available through the University of Pittsburgh Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. See [www.slavic.pitt.edu](http://www.slavic.pitt.edu)

\*\* If you're interested in study abroad, Slovakia has a number of major universities, some of which have programs taught in English. Check out [www.slovakia.com/study-in-slovakia/](http://www.slovakia.com/study-in-slovakia/)

\*\* The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is available to visitors Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations.

See [www.nsslife.org/Museum.php](http://www.nsslife.org/Museum.php)

\*\* Don't forget the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour – 3-4 PM, Sunday's – WPIT-AM 730

\*\* FCSU information and forms can be found at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com)

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

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, District Secretary

### DISTRICT 9 – THE FRANK T. HOLLY, JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, March 5, 2015 at Meloni's Restaurant, 105 W. Main Street, Uniontown, PA, at 1PM. Everyone attending is asked to contribute \$5.00 toward their meal.

Reservations are to be made to President Marmol at 724-437-0892 by Wednesday, March 4, 2015. There will be an election of officers and information pertaining to district business. Branch members are invited to attend.

Barbara A. Holly, District Secretary



### ATTENTION CLEVELAND-AREA

#### JEDNOTARS

An Evening of Fun &

Fraternalism

Saturday, March 21, 2015

7:00pm

Monsters vs. Grand Rapids Griffins  
Quicken Loans Arena-Cleveland, OH



#### Special Offer Includes:

- Discounted End Zone Tickets!! (\$24 game day value)
  - Non-members: \$18 per ticket
  - Members: deep discount available through your branch
- Rally Towel Giveaway!

#### To get your branch discount and order tickets, please

#### contact the representative in your branch:

- Branch 24: Tom Ivanec, 216-668-7797
- Branch 450: George Carny, 440-885-5702
- Branch 553: Greg Petrsek, 330-398-1888
- Branch 855: Tom Bardar, 216-956-5507



Special FCSU member rates, courtesy of your FCSU branch.  
Contact your branch officer for details!!

Deadline to order: Monday, March 2, 2015

#### METHOD OF DELIVERY:

From your branch officer or by pick up at the Q's will call (located near box office), if arrangements are made in advance through your branch.

All orders are subject to availability. No ticket required for children under the age of two. Video cameras are not allowed in Quicken Loans Arena. Offer and discounts not available at arena box office. No refunds or exchanges.



[LakeErieMonsters.com](http://LakeErieMonsters.com)

[twitter.com/MonstersHockey](https://twitter.com/MonstersHockey)

[facebook.com/LakeErieMonsters](https://facebook.com/LakeErieMonsters)

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FCSU Financial - First Catholic Slovak Union

Contact your branch officer or the home office  
6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131,  
800.533.6682, [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com), [insurance@fcsu.com](mailto:insurance@fcsu.com)





# Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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



Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
001K	Elizabeth H Kotik	173K	Joseph V Kasper	321P	Kathleen M Slezak	628K	Mathilda A Hallas
001P	Mary R Ziminski	175K	Debra Lascoskie	327K	George C Ruyak	652K	John F Harcar
002K	Dolores Kosiara	181K	Marie A Hudak	358K	Andrew Thomas Sablatura	652K	Albert J Tobias
002K	Helen J Kralosky	181K	Marlene H Lentz	367K	Bernard F Sandrosky	670K	Holly Buchak
002K	Albert G Treylinek	181K	Joseph A Massena	388K	Amelia J. Lape	670K	Crystal Lee Dolan
003P	Joseph J Gulas	181K	Michael R Yasher Sr	410K	Joseph B Banko	670K	John M Pazej
003P	Stephen J Lazar	189K	Peter A Yartin	419K	Josephine Royer	670K	Buthene Sampuda
005P	Joseph P Pitonyak	199K	Joseph J Kozak	425K	Bernard E Pramik Sr	682K	Nicholas Cooper
006K	James Edward Reese	200K	Mary Catherine Dinga	450K	Edward F Slane	700K	Kevin F Amick
019K	Denise Nicholas	228K	William J Doslak	450K	John M Yusko	716K	Vincent Solar
024K	Eleanore J Gresko	228K	Edward Firment	465K	Mary E Celio	721K	Virginia Rose Hatta
024K	Julia C Kuhar	259K	Raymond B Brayer	472K	Lawrence C Macenko	731K	Richard E Novak
038K	Mary Margaret Bonga	259K	John A Kozusko	484K	John Angelini	731K	Joyce A Reigrut
038K	Dorothy Gogoel	260K	Robert W Hovanec	505K	Frances J Toth	731K	Dorothy I Strawn
038K	Lynn Edwin Matta	278K	Joseph Smak	505K	Michael Volanski	731K	Edward J Walko
040K	Erma A Paxton	280K	Grace I Zembrowski	543K	Vernon P Tichy	731K	Catherine M Wilson
045K	Thomas F Woods	292K	Herbert A Halkovich	553K	Mary Jean Brunton	855K	Anna Davalla
055K	Stephen J Gajdos	292K	Stephen J Mauger	553K	Joseph A Prats	855K	Robert A Kompan
055K	Steven J Gerba	293K	Bonita M Folk	567K	Mary P Steigler	855K	Edwin R Lipaj
075K	Anna Mihalik	299K	Mary M Kolasa	567K	Paul Svetik	900K	Steve Baldovski
085K	Jessica Nash	308K	John Andrew Koneval	580K	John Philip Cimbala	900K	Martin Steve Kralik
085K	Marie L Prego	308K	Elizabeth T Rogenski	581K	William R O'drobinak	900K	Paul J Silan
086K	John A Kozak	312K	Mary Ann Balega	581K	Joyce Rennoldson	900K	George M Wargo
089K	Mary M Misany	312K	Esther M Rudy	587K	John P Hancovsky	926K	Gilbert A Shoemaker
112K	Bernard J Havrilko	313K	Ann Margaret Mayto	587K	Helen Sutherland		
112K	Anna Marie Lesko	315K	Irene M Blasko	591K	Irene Ann Baker		
112K	John J Lokitis Sr	315K	Evelyn Marie Novotny	595K	Eleanor M Hornik		
166K	Anna Mae Elizabeth Tokos	320K	John E Krempasky	600K	Robert E Sulava		

\*Processed through the month of December 2014

## OBITUARIES

### MARTIN M. KITSKO BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Martin M. Kitsko, 92, of Latrobe, PA, passed away Sunday, Aug. 24, 2014, at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital. He was born Nov. 6, 1921, in Whitney, PA, a son of the late John Kitsko and Anna (Macek) Kitsko. Martin was a member at St. Vincent Basilica. He was retired from Standard Steel with more than 40 years of service. Martin was a World War II veteran, having served in the Army 80th Division, 318 Infantry Regiment and was a Purple Heart recipient. He was a member of the American Legion Post 982, the VFW Post 3414, the Frontier Club, the Lloydsville Veterans and Sportsmen Club, the Cooperstown Veterans and Sportsmen Club, Loyal Order of Moose and Jednota, and he was an avid gardener. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers, Paul, John, Michael and Stephen Kitsko; and three sisters, Marie Williams, Elizabeth Krempasky and Anna Sass. He is survived by a sister, Cecelia Zajac, of Nescopek; special niece and nephew, Joanne Kitsko, of Latrobe, and Thomas Sass and his wife, Marcia, of North Huntingdon, PA; two special great-nephews, Kevin Sass and his wife, Haley, of North Huntingdon, and Brian Sass, of Columbus, OH; special great-great-nephew, Gabriel Sass; and he is also survived by several other nieces and nephews. Family and friends were received from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at the John J. Lopatich Funeral Home Inc., Latrobe. A funeral Mass was celebrated at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in St. Vincent Basilica. Interment followed at St. Vincent Cemetery where graveside military services will be accorded by Greensburg VFW Post No.



33. The family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff at Nature Park Commons for their excellent care and compassion.

### ANN M. MAYTO BRANCH 313 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Ann M. Mayto (nee Nedorost) passed away on September 17, 2014. Beloved wife of the late Frank E. Mayto; loving mother of Peggy (Bernie) Hill; devoted grandmother of Beth Hill and Rob (Meg) Hill; fond sister of Joseph (the late Marge) Nedorost and the late Mary (Leo) Zarattini; cherished aunt of many nieces and nephews. Funeral arrangements were held by Lawn Funeral Home, Tinley Park, IL.

- Submitted by Peggy Hill

### WILLIAM RICHARD O'DROBINAK BRANCH 581 – GARY/WHITING, INDIANA

Bill was born in Whiting, IN and graduated from Hammond Tech. He was a member of the Holy Name Society at St. John the Baptist and The Marian Theater Guild. He worked at Standard Oil for about 20 years. He met Sharon Ehlinger at his delicatessen in Indiana and they married on September 17, 1949 in Cascade, IA. They went on to develop many businesses including a dress shop, Pioneer Tap, Bonanza Steak Houses, Pizza Pantry, Happy Joe's Pizza, and Harvest House while raising eight children. Bill and Sharon spent the majority of their lives in Hammond, IN followed by fifteen years in Lakeland, FL. They spent the last four years in Colbert, WA and attended St. Joseph's Parish.

Bill was an entrepreneur, singer, actor, dancer, business owner, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather. He was a dreamer, traveler, baker, woodworker and

full of boundless energy and curiosity.

Bill is survived by his wife of 65 years, Sharon; his sister, Rose Matalik; his children: Catherine Conway; Larry (Cindy) O'Drobinak; Diane (James) Grasha; Lynette (Cal) Sjol; James O'Drobinak; Paul (Rebecca) O'Drobinak; Lee Ann (Dan) Palmer; Jon (Brooke) O'Drobinak; 17 Grandchildren; 10 Great-Grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. You are dearly loved and will be missed, but your stories will live on through many generations.

- Submitted by Lynette Sjol

### JOHN P. "SONNY" HANCOVSKY BRANCH 587 – ALQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

John P. "Sonny" Hancovsky, age 78, of McMurray, PA, peacefully passed away on Sunday, October 26, 2014, at home surrounded by his family. Beloved husband of Joyce (Keber) Hancovsky for 50 years; loving father of James (Ellen) Hancovsky and Paul (Lori) Hancovsky; grandfather of Brianna, Robbie, Joey, Connor, and Kevin; brother of Irene (Bud) Miller, Edward Hancovsky, and Marge (Dale) Innocenti; son of the late John and Margaret Hancovsky; also survived by many nieces and nephews. John was an industrial designer for 19 years with Matthews International. After his retirement from Matthew Int., he enjoyed fishing, gardening and creating unique garden sculptures. Funeral arrangements were by Beinhauers, McMurray, where friends and family were welcome on Tuesday, October 28, 2014, from 5-8 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, October 29, 2014, 10 a.m. in St. Benedict the Abbot Church, McMurray. Interment was private.

- Submitted by Edith Valo, Branch 587  
Financial Secretary

### HELEN (COPAK) SUTHERLAND BRANCH 587 – ALQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

Helen (Copak) Sutherland, 83, formerly of Aliquippa, PA, passed away Saturday October 18, 2014 at The Mifflin Center in Shillington, PA, where she has resided since December, 2010. Born in Aliquippa, she was the daughter of the late Michael and Mary Copak. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 41 years, Donald Sutherland in 1983 and her son Donald R. Sutherland in 2007. One of six children, she was also preceded in death by a brother Michael Copak, a sister Jennie Bellan, and her twin brother George Copak. Helen was a member of St. Titus Roman Catholic Church, Aliquippa, and a member of St. Titus Confraternity of Christian Mothers. She retired as a manager from the Beaver County Housing Authority, with many years of service. Having lived the majority of her life in Aliquippa, where she and Donald raised their family and where she worked until age 70, she has been a resident of Berks County for 7-1/2 years, living at The Country Meadows in Wyomissing, PA, for 3-1/2 years prior to moving to The Mifflin Center. She is survived by two sons, Robert, husband of Ann of Wyomissing, PA, and David, husband of Geri of Beaver, two sisters and a brother in law Mary and George Rossick and Elizabeth Copak. She was the proud grandmother of five grandchildren: Raena McDowell, daughter of Donald R. and the



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## OBITUARIES

*continued from page 15*

four children of Robert and Ann: Brian (Jessie) Sutherland, Rebecca Sutherland, Emily (Conor) Larkin and Nathan Sutherland. She was blessed with two great grandsons, Felix and Leo Larkin. Helen's family is sincerely grateful to the loving staff of both The Country Meadows and The Mifflin Center who were so kind and caring to her during her respective residence in their facilities. Friends were received Tuesday, October 21, 2014, from 6-8pm in Tatalovich Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc., Aliquippa, where a service was held Wednesday, October 22, 2014, at 9:00am, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 9:30am in St. Titus Catholic Church-Aliquippa. Interment followed in Sylvania Hills Cemetery, Rochester, PA.

- Submitted by Edith Valo,  
Branch 587 Financial Secretary

### ELEANOR M. HORNIK BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HTS., MICHIGAN

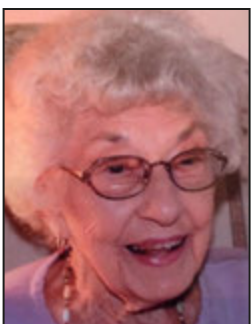
Mrs. Eleanor Hornik, age 92 passed away Saturday, September 13, 2014. She was born on November 26, 1921, in Muskegon, MI, to Paul and Frances (Woppel) Goodman and resided in the area her entire life. Eleanor was a lifelong member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Tatra Hall and the First Catholic Slovak Union. She worked at both George Morrell and Nelson School, before retiring. Eleanor enjoyed her Wednesday night poker games and her yearly trips to Las Vegas. She also loved golfing, and bowling and was a member of the GMWBA 600 Club. On August 23, 1952, she married Stephen J. "Pete" Hornik, and he preceded her in death on June 9, 2002. SURVIVORS include her daughter, Susan Hornik of Norton Shores; sister-in-law, Shirley "Dawn" Goodman; and many nieces and nephews. Eleanor was also preceded in death by two sisters, Bertha Cherney and Irene Arnold; and two brothers, John Goodman and Victor Goodman. A special thanks to Harbor Hospice, including her nurse, Sue; and social worker, Ann. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 11 AM Wednesday, September 17, 2014, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with Rev. Fr. Norman Droski presiding. Visitation with the family was held from 5-8 PM Tuesday, September 16, 2014, at The Walburn Chapel, Muskegon, MI, with the Rosary being prayed at 7:30PM. Visitation was also one hour prior to the funeral service, from 10-11AM at the church. Burial took place in St. Mary's Cemetery.



- Submitted by Susan Hornik

### ANN T. BREZNICAN BRANCH 831 T A R E N T U M , PENNSYLVANIA

Ann T. (Kopecky) Breznican, 93, of Tarentum, PA, passed away at home on Sunday, Nov. 23, 2014. She was born Feb. 6, 1921, in



Blairsville, PA, daughter of the late Joseph and Anna (Valasek) Kopecky. She has lived her entire life in Tarentum where she was a homemaker and a member of Holy Martyrs Church, Tarentum. Ann attended St. Clement Parochial school and graduated from Tarentum High School. Ann enjoyed puzzles, spectator sports on TV and especially enjoyed her family, children, grandchildren and her Catholic faith. Survivors include her sons, Stephen J. Breznican, of New Kensington, PA, and Joseph A. (Kathy) Breznican, of Delaware, PA; grandchildren, Anthony (Jill) Breznican, Gregory Yaniz, Andrea (Joseph) DeFranco and Stephen Breznican; and great-grandchildren, Audrey Breznican, Prosper Breznican and Luca DeFranco. Also surviving is a sister, Marie Millen-Jack, of Natrona Heights, PA. Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Stephen J. Breznican Sr.; a brother, Rev. Joseph Kopecky; and a sister, Ethel Prazenica. Visitation was from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, November 26, 2014, in the Duster Funeral Home Inc., Tarentum. A blessing service was held at 9:30 a.m. Friday, November 28, 2014, in the funeral home followed by a Christian Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in Holy Martyrs Church, Tarentum, with Rev. Aaron J. Kriss, officiating. Interment was in Our Lady of Hope Cemetery, Frazer Township, PA

- Submitted by Kathy Persun, Branch  
831 Financial Secretary

### LAWRENCE P. KULIK BRANCH 831 – TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA

Lawrence P. Kulik, 90, of Tarentum, PA, passed away Sunday, Nov. 30, 2014, in the Good Samaritan Hospice Unit at Concordia, Cabot, PA. He was born June 25, 1924, in Tarentum, PA, the son of the late Lawrence P. and Pauline Cherman Kulik. He lived all his life in Tarentum, residing at Logan House in Lower Burrell the past four years. Lawrence was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army. He retired in 1989 as the plant monitor at the water treatment plant for the Upper Allegheny Joint Sanitary Authority. Lawrence was a member of Holy Martyrs Roman Catholic Parish in Tarentum, a life member of the Summit Hose Company in Tarentum, the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota) and was a Tarentum Councilman for many years. He enjoyed gardening and taking care of his home. Lawrence is survived by his daughter, Roxanne (Donald) Arbuckle, of Tarentum; brothers, Andrew (Rita) Kulick, of Lower Burrell, and Clem (Yumi) Kulick, of Lower Burrell; sisters, Marge Kulik, of Tarentum, and Wilma (Bill) Moret, of Lower Burrell; and by numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Jane Wagner Kulik, on July 26, 2010; and by his sisters, Mary Makara, Ann Pastrick and Stella Bednarofsky. Friends were received from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, December 3, 2014, in the Cicholski-Zidek Funeral Home Inc, Natrona Heights, PA, where a blessing service was held at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, December 4, 2014. A Mass of Christian Burial followed



at 10 a.m. in Holy Martyrs Church with his pastor, the Rev. Aaron Kriss, as celebrant. Entombment was in Our Lady of Hope Cemetery Mausoleum, Frazer Township, PA. The Summit Hose Company held services at 7 p.m. Wednesday, December 3, 2014 in the funeral home.

- Submitted by Kathy Persun, Branch  
831 Financial Secretary

### LAWRENCE MICHAEL LISCO BRANCH 831 – TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA

Lawrence Michael Lisco, 72, of Poland, OH, formerly of Natrona Heights, PA, passed away Monday, November 3, 2014, at his home with his family by his side. He was born September 12, 1942, in Natrona Heights; a son of the late Michael Joseph and Margaret Joan (Steffan) Lisco. Lawrence has lived the past 37 years in Poland OH. He was a Purchasing Agent for Hunt Valve Company, Salem OH. He was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church, Poland, OH, and earned a Bachelor of Arts from West Liberty University, WV. Lawrence enjoyed gardening, was a Pittsburgh Sports fanatic, and especially enjoyed spending time with his family. Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Dianna Jean (Staricek) Lisco; sons, Mike (Emiko) Lisco, Virginia Beach, VA, Mark (Kana) Lisco, Columbus, OH and Matt (Renee) Lisco, Colorado Springs, CO. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Alexander "Alex", Michelle and Daniel Lisco, all of Virginia Beach, VA; and Joshua and Erika Lisco of Columbus, OH. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Sylvia Grayson and Lillian Vidmar. Visitation was held in the Duster Funeral Home, Tarentum, PA, on Friday, November 7, 2014, from 9:30AM until the time of the Christian Funeral Mass at 11:30 AM in St. Ladislaus Church, Natrona. Interment in Mt. Airy Cemetery, Natrona Heights.

- Submitted by Kathy Persun,  
Branch 831 Financial Secretary

### STEPHEN J. MAGOC BRANCH 831 – TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA

Stephen Joseph Magoc, 93, of Tarentum, PA, returned to God Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2014. He died in peace at Platinum Ridge Nursing Home in Brackenridge following a brief illness. Mr. Magoc was born Aug. 13, 1921, in Trnove, Czechoslovakia, and remained proud of his Slovak-Catholic heritage all his life. He was the second child of the late Anthony Magoc and Margaret Kalinchak, with whom he immigrated to the United States in 1925 at the age of 4, completing the journey through Ellis Island despite having contracted pneumonia aboard ship. Mr. Magoc attended St. Clement Church and grade school, graduating from Tarentum High School in 1940. He remained a devout member of St. Clement's, (later Holy Martyrs) Roman Catholic Church in Tarentum. After working briefly at both PPG works in Creighton and Allegheny Ludlum Steel in Brackenridge, he served in the Army during



World War II in the New Guinea campaign of 1943-1944. He returned briefly to active duty in 1951 during the Korean War. Upon the conclusion of World War II, Mr. Magoc returned to Allegheny Ludlum and became a proud steelworker, staying in "the mill" for more than 40 years, many of them as a repairman in the blooming mill and then finishing as a powerhouse operator in No. 8-2 Department. After marrying Frances Judith Uhric, of Brackenridge, Stephen moved his young family to the Mill Street area. There, in 1948, Mr. Magoc bought an unimproved piece of property that had a concrete block foundation and little else but rocks, cinders and brush. He soon built a home with help from extended family, and over the next 65 summers spent countless hours in his yard hauling dirt, planting grass, trees, shrubs, flowers and tending his vegetable garden. By the 1960's, his yard was the jewel of Mill Street and one of the most beautiful in Tarentum. It was on that landscape that he taught his five sons the value of hard work, simple pleasures and so much more. He introduced his sons and several of his nieces, nephews and then grandchildren to the joys of exploring the wooded Bull Creek valley and loved to tell stories about his life adventures, especially growing up during the Great Depression. Besides his passion for gardening, Mr. Magoc enjoyed golfing, Pirate baseball, doing jigsaw and crossword puzzles and drinking a beer with his sons. He treasured old things that he found, collected or made himself over his many years of adventures, carefully dating many of them. Stephen was an avid reader of history and faraway places, many of which he would visit over the years. He and Frances toured Europe, cruised the Caribbean and took their sons on many vacations south, to New England, and the American West, visiting by the 1980s every state in the union except Alaska. Wherever he went, whatever he was doing, Mr. Magoc could be seen with his trademark Italian cigar. Stephen is survived by Frances Judith Uhric Magoc, his beloved wife of 68 years, of Tarentum; his five sons, Stephen Daniel, of Tarentum, and his companion, Letitia Kus, of Sarver, James C. and Sue Ann Magoc, of Brackenridge, PA, Gerard T. and Sandra Magoc, of Tarentum, Ronald A. and Karen Magoc, of Natrona Heights, PA, and Chris J. and Mary Ellen Magoc, of Erie, PA. Also surviving Stephen are eight wonderful grandchildren of whom he was very proud, a dear sister, Josephine Magoc (and her husband Walter) Berkoben, and brothers, Andrew Magoc, of Tarentum, and Peter (and wife, Patricia) Magoc, and many nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, Mr. Magoc was preceded in death by brothers, Thomas, John and Frank. Family and friends called from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, September 5, 2014, at the Duster Funeral Home, Tarentum. A Mass of Christian Burial was at noon Saturday, September 6, 2014, in Holy Martyrs Church, Tarentum, with the Rev. Aaron J. Kriss, officiating. Interment followed in Our Lady of Hope Cemetery, Frazer Township, PA, with full military honors by the Tarentum VFW Post 5758.

- Submitted by Kathy Persun,  
Branch 831 Financial Secretary

# THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING FRIDAY OCTOBER 17, 2014 HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**FIRST SESSION:****OPEN MEETING:**

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

**ANTHEMS:**

Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director led the singing of the national anthems of the United States, Canada, and Slovakia and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**READING THE CALL:**

The Executive Secretary read the Call to the Quarterly Meeting.

**ROLL CALL:**

Kenneth Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call:

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 (Excused)
Joseph Minarovich	Regional Director, Region 1
Damian Nasta	Regional Director, Region 2 (Excused- by teleconference)
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

All present and accounted.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING JUNE 2014:**

A motion was made by James Marmol and seconded by Milos Mitro to accept the minutes of the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting of June 21, 2014, as presented. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA:**

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

The President stated the meeting was moved from September to October this year due to waiting on all the final convention expenses to come into the office so that a complete report could be given to the Board.

**AQS ASSET MANAGEMENT REPORT:**

Larry White, representing AQS Asset Management, Inc. at the invitation of the President, presented his report to the Board of Directors. A copy of his report was distributed to each Board Member. During and after his presentation, Mr. White answered the Board of Directors' questions.

The President led an extensive review of our current annuity rates and with the recommendation of the Executive Committee; it was decided to have the rates remain the same.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

The President led a discussion on the fees paid to AQS Management as our asset manager and asked the Board's opinion on these expenses or should the Board consider turning over a portion or all the responsibility to the newly elected Treasurer, George Matta II. There was an immediate unanimous consensus that we should continue working with AQS as our Asset Manager. The Board was in agreement there is no board member with the professional expertise or resources to manage the portfolio or the time to do the job, especially as a part-time employee. Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka discussed and agreed the fees charged more than offset the dividends paid to the society and the yield has been much higher. It was also pointed out that the 2008-2009 occurrences certainly impacted our society, but with the professional help, the society has been able to recover, stay strong, and grow. Treasurer George Matta Sr. was in full agreement to retain a professional asset consultant on all our investments.

Scholarships

The Executive Secretary stated the applications for the Jednota Benevolent Foundation Scholarship have been given to the Scholarship Committee for its review.

2014 Convention

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the 2014 50th Quadrennial Convention expenses, gave each Board member a copy of the summary, and answer all the Board's questions. Also, each member of the Board received from the President a summary of convention costs from some other fraternal organizations. The President stated that it cost over \$1 million to hold our convention in August 2014, nearly 2 to 3 1/2 times more than what other fraternal spend. The Board expressed its concern that convention costs and expenses for future conventions could make our society non-competitive to our peer fraternal. While we want to provide a premier convention experience to our delegates and provide for all delegate expenses, we must keep in mind our fiduciary responsibility to all our members.

**ADJOURN:**

The meeting was adjourned and lunch was served.

**SECOND SESSION:**

The President led a discussion on our actuary and it was decided the society would retain Bruce and Bruce as our actuary and Edward DePersis as our consultant.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER 2014:**

Secretary Arendt presented a detailed summary of the Financial Report for the second quarter of 2014. After his report, he answered the Board's questions. The Executive Secretary stated that the 2014 second quarter Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper. Thus far, 2014 has shown records in assets and surplus.

Investment Updates

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

Portfolio Custodian

The Executive Secretary updated the Board of Directors on the report from our portfolio custodian, Key Bank. Everything was found to be in order and the Executive Secretary answered the Board's questions.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

Treasurer George Matta, presented his report and answered all the Board's questions.

**MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING:**

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

The Vice President updated the Board on the recruiting process for Independent Agents to sell our products. He informed the Board we have 190 Independent and General Agents.

The Vice President further led a discussion regarding seminars for 2014 and encouraged the Regional Directors to contact him regarding seminars within their regions. He also stated he is beginning to schedule seminars for 2015.

The Vice President stated a Membership Meet will be held in 2015. He is looking into what would be available and gathering ideas. As more information is available, he would keep the Board informed.

The Vice President reviewed the "final expense policy" and the "transfer of wealth policy" which are both being offered to our members. The Executive Secretary stated this would not be a guarantee issue, but would be handled with expedited underwriting.

Executive Secretary announced the possibility of holding sales seminars by web ex. He said we are expanding our advertising to include Facebook as well as continuing with the FCSU website and email, while including ad material in our home office mailings.

The Executive Secretary stated we are installing a program where our members will be able to view their annuity statements online.

*continued on page 19*

# QUARTERLY MEETING

*continued from page 18*

## CHAIRMAN OF AUDITORS REPORT:

Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka presented the 2014 Second Quarter Auditors' Report and answered the Board's questions. The Chairman stated that the internal auditors conducted a thorough audit and found everything in order. The Chairman also stated a thorough audit of the convention delegates was completed and everything was in order.

## FRATERNAL ACTIVITY DIRECTORS' REPORT:

Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activity Director, updated the Board on the upcoming Bowling Tournament which will be held May 1-3, 2015 in Erie, Pennsylvania. She stated she was unable to coordinate dates with the other fraternal, and that this would be an ongoing discussion for 2016. The site for the 2015 Golf Tournament has not been selected as yet.

Several Board Members commented their concerns on how some other fraternal that have been invited to join our events are now dictating when and where we hold our tournaments. Some Board Members feel we have lost control of our own bowling and golf tournaments. The President stated we are encouraging these other fraternal to join in events, but we must remember it is our tournament and plan accordingly. The Board again directed the Fraternal Activity Director to work with the Slovak Catholic Sokol to try to find common ground for joint fraternal future events.

The President announced we are considering a 2015 Family Picnic in Illinois, Michigan or Wisconsin and asked Fraternal Director Susan Ondrejco to look for a site in the Chicago area. Regional Director Rudolph Bernath offered some suggestions and it was agreed they would begin their search for the right facility.

## PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### Executive Committee

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

Investments were made in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and with the directives adopted by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee members work very closely with AQS Asset Management Company and all investments are approved by a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee.

### Scholarship Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Scholarship Committee, comprised of professional educators, and stated we are preparing the scholarship applications for 2015. The applications will be available on the website, through branch officers, or by calling the home office. The Jednota newspaper will also publish the scholarship information.

## SUBSIDIARIES REPORT:

### Jednota, Inc.

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

### Jednota Properties, Inc.

The President of Jednota Properties, Inc., Regis Brekosky, presented his report to the Board of Directors and answered all the Board's questions.

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

## MISCELLANEOUS:

The President led a discussion on the possibility of a pipe line going through our Middletown, Pennsylvania property. He asked General Counsel Gary Matta to look into the easements going through the property. General Counsel emailed the President and recommended companies that could be hired to do the work.

## JEDNOTA ESTATES MEMORIAL PROJECT:

The President stated the project is approximately 60% completed. The Board questioned the maintenance of the memorial. Regional Director James Marmol stated granite and concrete materials are used and very little maintenance or upkeep would be needed. The Executive Secretary said he is inquiring about insurance on the project to protect it from vandalism or storm damage in the future. It was announced there has been very good response in selling memorial bricks so far. Bricks are still available.

## MISCELLANEOUS:

The President led a review on the coming events in 2015. It was announced we will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of FCSU, the 100th anniversary of the death of our founder, Father Stephen Furdek, and the 50th anniversary of our Mother of Sorrow Chapel at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. He asked the Board for suggestions on honoring these special occasions. He commented that the Slovak Catholic Federation has stated they are interested in joining the celebration of the 50th anniversary of our chapel. Motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Rudolf Bernath to allow the Executive Committee to determine the type of celebration we would be involved for each event. Motion carried.

## PAYMENTS OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING:

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

## ACCEPTANCE OF ALL REPORTS:

A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by Regis Brekosky to accept all reports given. Motion carried.

## DONATIONS:

Donation requests were reviewed and acted upon.

## ADJOURN:

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

Father Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer. \_\_\_\_\_

Andrew M. Rajec  
President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary



**FCSU members at the 2014 CBSC Christmas party (L – R) Branch 24 Member Ann Kysilka, Branch 89 Member Andrew P. Rajec, Branch 24 President Bob Kopco, and Branch 24 Member Beata Begeniova-Fedoriouk, Branch 24 Member Sofia Fedoriouk, and Branch 24 Member Tom Ivanec.**

**Harmonia playing for listening pleasure and sing-along Christmas carols in Slovak and English, with (L – R) featured singer and Branch 24 Member Beata Begeniova-Fedoriouk, guest artists Branch 24 Member Sofia Fedoriouk on violin, Branch 24 Member Artem Fedoriouk on flute, Branch 24 Member Alex Fedoriouk on cimbalom, Branch 24 President Bob Kopco on vocals, and Ken Javor on bass.**



**(L – R) CBSC Officers and FCSU Members Marie Golias (Branch 1) and Eileen Sotak (Branch 24) greet guests as they arrive at the CBSC Christmas party.**



**(L – R) Adam, Dolores, and Joseph Hornack, all members of CBSC and the FCSU, Branch 1, enjoying the evening**

## Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities Celebrates Christmas 2014

Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities (CBSC), held their annual Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 6, 2014. The event was in the Activities Center of St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church in Brecksville, OH. Marie Golias is currently CBSC president and Branch 1 Member. Members, guests and friends – including many members of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) enjoyed an afternoon and evening of American and Slovak Christmas music and song, courtesy of the popular folk band Harmonia. Beata Begeniova-Fedoriouk, Branch 24, was the featured soloist. Along with tasty homemade delights such as sauerkraut and sausage soup, stuffed cabbage, pierogis, party goers enjoyed assorted party trays and a full array of delicious desserts. A very special appearance was made by St. Nicolas and his helper elf.

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2014 INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**OPEN:**

President Andrew Rajec turned the meeting over to Vice President Andrew Harcar. The Vice President opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and led the prayer.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES:**

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

**AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:**

Byron White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented his extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report via web ex and telephone. Each member of the Executive Committee received a copy of the presentation in advance for his review. Following the report, he answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The Vice President led a discussion on our current annuity rates. It was decided to keep the rates the same and review them again at the December meeting.

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

The Treasurer presented a written report prepared by Larry White of AQS.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

**INVESTMENT UPDATES:**

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

**PORTFOLIO REVIEW:**

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

**MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES**

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

**MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS**

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

Disbursements for the month of October 2014:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 200,302.82
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 46,974.76
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

The Executive Secretary led a review on the third quarterly financial statements. He answered all the Committee's questions and stated the report will be printed in the newspaper.

**SALES AND MARKETING:**

The Vice President presented a written detailed sales production report to the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee on the different regions and the report of our independent agents. This report is always mailed to our Regional Directors for their information. The Vice President stated we are still continuing to recruit new agents and now have 190 agents. Following the report, the Vice President answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The Executive Secretary stated we are expanding our advertising to include Facebook as well as continuing with the FCSU website and email, while including ad material in our home office mailings.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

The Executive Secretary gave a progress report on the Middletown Memorial Project and stated the contractor is on schedule. The Executive Secretary stated we are still accepting memorial granite brick orders. Order Forms are available on our website, in our newspaper, or through the home office.

The Vice President stated we are still in the planning stage for the 2015 special events including the 125th anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the 100th anniversary of the death of our founder, Stephen Furdek, and the 50th anniversary of our Sorrowful Mother Chapel at the National Shrine in Washington DC. The Executive Committee will be kept informed.

**REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:**

The request for donations and ads will be reviewed at the December meeting.

**ADJOURN:**

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

The Vice President Andrew Harcar closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec  
President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary

## Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

	D	O	C		A	L	E	U	T		O	L	D				
L	A	M	A		L	E	A	S	H		V	O	I	D			
A	R	A	B		L	O	S	E	R		E	R	G	O			
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L	I	T	E	R	A	L				D	O	U	B	T			
A	D	I	T		N	I	T	S		F	E	A	R	S			
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# Správy zo Slovenska

## PREZIDENT: Vyhlásil referendum o ochrane rodiny, uskutoční sa 7. februára

Občania SR sa budú vyjadrovať k tomu, čo si myslia o ochrane rodiny. Prezident Andrej Kiska sa rozhodol vyhlásiť referendum po tom, ako si prešľachoval názor Ústavného súdu (ÚS) SR k danej veci. Oznámil to 27. novembra v Prezidentskom paláci. Hlasovanie sa uskutoční v sobotu 7. februára budúceho roka. Pozostávať bude z troch otázok - či ľudia súhlasia s tým, aby sa manželstvom mohol nazývať len zväzok jedného muža a jednej ženy; či súhlasia, aby si homosexuálne vzťahy nemohli nárokovať adopcie detí a či súhlasia, aby rodičia mohli rozhodovať o spôsobe výchovy a vzdelávania svojich detí v školách pri citlivých kultúrno-etických veciach, ako je sexuálne správanie alebo eutanázia.

Petíciu za vypísanie referenda pôvodne so štyrmi otázkami iniciovala Aliancia za rodinu (AZR). Vyše 400.000 podpisov doručila Kiskovi 27. augusta. Ten sa rozhodol, že dá súlad predmetu referenda s ústavou SR preskúmať ÚS. Ústavný súd prišiel 28. októbra k záveru, že jedna zo štyroch otázok nie je v súlade s ústavou. Ide v poradi o ôsme všeľudové hlasovanie v ére samostatného Slovenska.

## ŠÚSR: Nezamestnanosť na Slovensku v 3. štvrtroku medziodročne klesla o 8,2 %

Nezamestnanosť na Slovensku v 3. štvrtroku tohto roka medziodročne klesla o 8,2 % na 350.600 osôb. V porovnaní s predchádzajúcim kvartálom sa znížila o 1,9 %. Miera nezamestnanosti bola v tomto období 12,9 %. Spolu s osobami nezamestnanými jeden až dva roky predstavovala výsledná dlhodobá nezamestnanosť 65,7 % z celkovej nezamestnanosti. „Skoro dve tretiny našich nezamestnaných sú dlhodobě nezamestnaní,“ zdôraznila Benkovičová.

Ako ďalej uviedla, krátkodobá nezamestnanosť do jedného roka sa znížila o 6,5 % na 120.200 osôb. Nezamestnaní, ktorí ešte nikdy nemali zamestnanie, tvorili v 3. štvrtroku 20,7 % z celkového počtu nezamestnaných. Najvyšší počet nezamestnaných bol podľa štatistikov v Prešovskom a Košickom kraji. Nezamestnanosť klesla vo väčšine krajov, najviac v okolí Košíc - o 19,6 %. Vrástla len v Trnavskom kraji, a to o 1,2 %.

## Slovensko skončilo na zahanbujúcom poslednom mieste

Naša krásna krajina turistov spoza hraníc neláka! Podľa Európskej komisie pre cestovný ruch (ETC) je Slovensko jediné z 25 štátov, kde počet zahraničných návštevníkov klesol. Turizmu sa darí takmer v celej Európe, mnohé krajiny majú z neho veľmi slušný zisk. Do trojky najpopulárnejších destinácií patria podľa ETC Island, Lotyšsko a Grécko. Spokojné však môže byť aj susedné Česko, kde sa počet návštevníkov spoza hraníc zvýšil o celú desiatinu, vďaka čomu im v 25-miestnom rebríčku patrí siedme miesto. Zatiaľ čo všetky porovnávané krajiny sa tešia z rastúcich návštev cudzincov, Slovensko je smutnou výnimkou. Nielenže sme skončili na poslednej priečke rebríčka, ale navyše sme jedinou krajinou, v ktorej počet zahraničných turistov klesol. Pokles je pritom veľmi výrazný, až o 13,8 percenta! Slovensko sa prepadlo i v počte jednodňových návštev, a to o neuveriteľných 11,2 percenta. Napríklad údaje za Island hovoria o počte turistov za január až september, teda zahŕňajú i letnú sezónu a podobne je to v prípade úspešného Srbska, Rumunska, Španielska či Chorvátska. Naopak, Slovensko je hodnotené len za obdobie január až jún, takže počet cudzincov, ktorí nás navštívili cez hlavnú letnú sezónu, nie je v štatistike zarátaný. No pravda je i to, že úspešnejší českí susedia takisto poskytli údaje iba za januára až jún.

## Nábytok slovenského rezbára je aj na kráľovskom dvore

Slovenský rezbár sa začal venovať Umeleckému rezbárstvu až v tridsiatke. Ján Homola zo Žiaru nad Hronom sa svojou jedinečnou technikou rezbí prepracoval do európskej špičky. Jeho výrobky, v ktorých dominujú poľovnícke motívy, poznajú takmer na celom svete. „Doma nebol nikto umelecky nadaný, ani nikto nepracoval s drevom, takže som nemal možnosť niekde prichúchnúť k takejto práci. Všetko som sa naučil sám, išiel som od menších vecí k čoraz väčším, od jednoduchých k zložitejším, postupne som zdokonaľoval techniku a kvalitu práce,“ hovorí 56-ročný vyštudovaný hutnícky inžinier. Špecializuje sa na detailnú prírodu a zvieratá, čím sa dokázal presadiť nielen doma, ale aj v zahraničí. Vyrezávaný nábytok z jeho dielne poznajú na španielskom kráľovskom dvore, zdobí interiéry



## Ministerstvo vnútra SR začne vracat' občianstvo

Ministerstvo vnútra začne na budúci rok vracat' slovenské občianstvo ľuďom, ktorí oň prišli, keď prijali občianstvo iného štátu na základe trvalého pobytu. Občianstvo bude vracat' na základe výnimky. Novela zákona o občianstve totiž ešte nie je schválená, ministerstvo ju ešte ani nepredložilo.

Kedy presne začne občianstvo ľuďom vracat', nie je jasné. „Vzhľadom na prebiehajúce rokovania a prípravu interného predpisu nebol zatiaľ presný termín stanovený,“ uviedlo pre ministerstvo vnútra. Jeho šéf Robert Kaliňák (Smer-SD) už avizoval, že by nariadenie mohlo platiť začiatkom roka. Presný počet ľudí, ktorým by mali vrátiť slovenský pas, ministerstvo nemá. O slovenské občianstvo prišlo dosiaľ 963 ľudí.

O vrátenie občianstva bude treba požiadať. Ministerstvo žiadosť posúdi a pokiaľ bude splnená podmienka trvalého pobytu, občan by mal získať slovenský pas späť. Výnimku možno podľa zákona udeliť, pokiaľ je udelenie občianstva v záujme Slovenska.

Slovenský pas strácajú ľudia na základe zákona o štátnom občianstve, ktorý prijala prvá vláda Roberta Fica (Smer-SD). Niekdajší kabinet reagoval právnou normou v roku 2010 na maďarský zákon, ktorý od roku 2011 zjednodušuje udeľovanie dvojakeho občianstva zahraničným Maďarom. Na základe súčasného zákona prichádzajú o slovenský pas tí, ktorí prijali občianstvo iného štátu.

Od prijatia zákona sa objavili viaceré pokusy o zjemenie tejto právnej normy, avšak ani jeden z nich nebol úspešný. Súčasnou právnou normou sa zaoberal aj Ústavný súd SR, ktorý nedokázal povedať, či je protiústavná, alebo nie je.

V súčasnosti sa zmiernením zákona zaoberá ministerstvo vnútra. Podľa pripravovanej novely by získanie cudzieho občianstva malo byť naďalej viazané na trvalý pobyt. To má byť dostatočná väzba slovenského žiadateľa na danú krajinu a nebude sa tak musieť obávať straty slovenského občianstva. Tí, ktorí oň pre súčasný zákon prišli, budú môcť znova o občianstvo požiadať. TASR



## Korupcia je problém aj na Slovensku, tvrdí veľvyslanec USA

Korupcia je celosvetový problém a je problémom aj tu na Slovensku. Uvedol to vo vyhlásení 9. decembra 2014 k Medzinárodnému dňu boja proti korupcii veľvyslanec USA na Slovensku Theodore Sedgwick.

Korupcia je celosvetový problém a je problémom aj tu na Slovensku. Uvedol to vo vyhlásení k dnešnému Medzinárodnému dňu boja proti korupcii veľvyslanec USA na Slovensku Theodore Sedgwick. Podľa neho sme na Slovensku svedkami prijímania niektorých opatrení, je však potrebné urobiť oveľa viac.

Veľvyslanec pripomenul, že Slovensko vylepšilo svoje hodnotenie v indexe vnímania korupcie podľa Transparency International, hoci v EÚ je naďalej šieste od konca. „Oceňujeme tiež nedávne reformy slovenskej vlády, vrátane prijatia nového zákona na ochranu oznamovateľov korupcie. Táto nová právna úprava je však len časťou riešenia. Skorumpovaní úradníci musia byť bráni na zodpovednosť,“ zdôraznil. Ako dodal, od získania nezávislosti bolo na Slovensku odsúdených za korupciu len málo vládných úradníkov. „Pokiaľ takýmto jednotlivcom ponecháme voľné pole pôsobnosti, korupcia bude pretrvávajúť a podkopávať dôveru verejnosti k vláde a jej inštitúciám,“ dodal Sedgwick.

Podľa jeho slov ho nadchol pohľad na tisíce slovenských občanov, ktorí vyšli do ulíc, aby vyjadrili svoju nespokojnosť s korupciou. „Je jasné, že ľudia na Slovensku majú už dosť korupcie a od svojich politických lídrov očakávajú viac. Dúfame, že politickí lídri budú brať túto nespokojnosť vážne a budú sa snažiť budovať transparentnejšie, zodpovednejšie inštitúcie, ústretové k potrebám svojich občanov,“ dodal s tým, že dozrel čas na rozhodnejšie kroky. TASR



Theodore Sedgwick

štýlových poľovníckych izieb prominentov v rôznych kútoch sveta, ale aj domácnosti bežných ľudí. Mnohé ďalšie jeho výrobky si našli cestu nielen do celej Európy, ale aj Kanady, USA, Ruska, Austrálie, najnovšie aj do Číny a Spojených arabských emirátov. Sú vyhľadávané pre ich kvalitu, prepracovanosť a najmä dodržiavanie anatómie zvierat.

## Čo prezradili kosti starých Bratislavčanov?..

Trpeli infekciami a kľby im deformovala náročná manuálna práca. Takto žili naši predkovia z 12. až 18. storočia. Prezradili to tisíce kostí a stovky lebiek z Kaplnky sv. Jakuba staršieho v Bratislave, ktorú odkryli archeológovia pri Starej tržnici ešte v roku 1994. Kaplnka sv. Jakuba staršieho je najstaršia stredoveká sakrálna stavba na území dnešnej Bratislavy. Mestský ústav ochrany pamiatok pred rokmi zrealizoval archeologický výskum. Ten odhalil pozostatky rotundy, ale aj románskeho osária - kostnice. Najmä v ranom stredoveku tvorili výraznú časť hrobov detí do sedem rokov. V niektorých obdobiach tvorili až 43 percent všetkých pochovaných. Dospelí ľudia zomierali väčšinou vo veku od 40 do 59 rokov. Väčšinu tvorili mužské lebky, na ktorých sa našli sečné a bodné poranenia či zlomeniny. Jedinci trpeli aj nádorovými ochoreniami, zápalmi v ústnej dutine a na kostiach boli stopy po infekciách či syfilise. Mŕtvych pochovávali veľmi skromne.

## Ľuďom s rakovinou uteká čas, na ožarovanie čakajú prídlho

Onkologickí pacienti musia niekedy precestovať celú republiku, aby sa dostali k liečbe. Pacienti, ktorí potrebujú ožarovanie, sa totiž nie vždy dostanú k tejto terapii vo svojom kraji. Zo stredu Slovenska cestujú do Bratislavy či do Košíc. Doma im totiž nemocnice ponúkajú dvoj- alebo trojmesačné čakacie lehoty. Na Slovensku funguje 14 pracovísk, ktoré majú potrebný prístroj na ožarovanie. Sú v nemocniciach vo väčších mestách alebo v špecializovaných ústavoch. Ich počet sa nemení, hoci onkologických pacientov je stále viac. Podľa lekárov každý rok pribudne 22-tisíc nových pacientov. Ministerstvo zdravotníctva považuje počet radiačných oddelení za dostatočný. Tvrdí, že chýbajú len modernejšie prístroje. Zariadené nemocnice zase poukazujú na to, že na modernejšie prístroje nemajú peniaze.

## „Prezident Kiska láme rekordy“.

Prezidentská poštová známka sa teší obľube, predali sa už milióny. Znáмка s podobizňou prezidenta SR Andreja Kisku sa predáva na Slovenskej pošte od 16. júna 2014 a k dispozícii je 8 miliónov kusov. Od toho obdobia až po november sa predalo vyše štyroch miliónov známok s jeho portrétom, ktorý vyhotovil akademický maliar Martin Činovsky. Na porovnanie známka s portrétom bývalého prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča bola vytlačená v počte 7 miliónov kusov počas 10 rokov. Za 4 roky sa predalo menej než Kiskových známok za pol roka. Kiska nie je úspešný, len čo sa týka výplatnej známky, ale i u filatelistov. Filatelistické produkty vydané k známke Andreja Kisku sa vypredali v priebehu jedného mesiaca, ide o rekord.

## Cameron môže z Británie vyhnat' aj tisíce Slovákov

Ak si nenájdeš prácu do pol roka, musíš odísť. Takéto plány prezentuje britský premiér David Cameron. Razantné kroky proti migrantom sa môžu dotknúť aj 50-tisíc Slovákov. 45 percent z nich pracuje prevažne v administratívnej, 20 percent v ubytovacích službách, 15,6 percenta robí au pair, 10 percent je v poľnohospodárstve i potravinárstve a 4 percenta pôsobia v zdravotníctve a sociálnych službách. Škrť plánom môžu urobiť európske zákony.

## Lode uložili na zimný spánok“.

A je po sezóne! Bratislavčania a návštevníci metropoly sa po Dunaji plavia čoraz viac. Tento rok si výlet po nieke vychutnalo takmer 120.000 ľudí. Najväčší záujem bol o plavbu na Devín a trasu z hlavného mesta k rakúskym susedom. Plavidlá si tak skutočne zaslúžia oddych. Lode z vody už vytiahli žeriavom a v zimnom prístave uložili na pontón. Nová sezóna začne až v marci na budúci rok.

TASR a slovenské časopisy



**Svätá omša, ktorá je poďakovaním za 20 rokov kolednickej akcie Dobrá novina v Kostole sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Terchovej 6. januára 2015. Zúčastnili sa na nej zástupcovia Dobrej noviny aj koledníci z Čadce (na snímke) a celebrol ju žilinský biskup Tomáš Galis. Na záver zahrala koledy Terchovská muzika.**



FOTO TASR - Pavol Ďurčo

**A Mass was celebrated on January 6, 2015, by Zilina Bishop Tomas Galis in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Terchova in thanksgiving for 20 years of Christmas caroling by Dobra Novina. Participating were representatives of Dobra Novina.**

## Budte šťastní v novom roku 2015

Odchádza rok 2014 a my vítame Nový rok 2015. Jedny dvere sa zatvárajú, aby sa druhé mohli otvoriť. Je čas bilancovať, hodnotiť, premýšľať, ďakovať a nanovo v pokore padnúť na kolena a prosiť. Poďte spolu so mnou nájsť odpoveď na otázku: Čomu ma odchádzajúci rok naučil? Prvá vec, ktorú som si ja nanovo uvedomila, je skutočnosť, že tam, kde ja už nemôžem nič urobiť, prichádza Boh. Takže naučila som sa viacej spoľiehať na Boha, ako na svoje vlastné schopnosti. Už viem, že sama nedokážem držať v rukách celý svoj život i životy najbližších. Ďalšia skúsenosť ma priviedla k poznaniu hodnoty darov, ktoré som dostala a som za ne Bohu nesmierne vďačná. Vďaka nim, je môj život naplnený a ja sa v srdci radujem. Viete, ak máte dlhé roky pocit, že stojíte na križovatke, z ktorej sa nemôžete pohnúť a odrazu zasvieti zelená a vy konečne kráčate ďalej do svojho cieľa, čo viac si môžete priať? A ešte niečo som si v tomto roku uvedomila. Hodnotu služby a dávania.

Nič nemá väčšiu cenu ako slúžiť a dávať sa iným. A nič iné si tam raz hore nevezmeme, len to, čo sme rozdali.

Do nového roka si ľudia vzájomne prajú veľa pekných želaní. Všetko, čo si želáme pramení z odvekej túžby človeka byť šťastný. A čo robí šťastný človek? Šťastný človek sa raduje z toho čo má a je vďačný. Takže buďme vďační a naučme sa nanovo vidieť hodnoty, ktoré máme. Neporovnávajme sa s inými, lebo bremeno križa spočíva na každom, či už si to uvedomujeme alebo nie. Šťastný človek nesmúti, že sused zbohatol a on nie. Pociť šťastia je v uvedomení si vlastných hodnôt a darov. Šťastný človek pomáha a slúži. Takže vykročme zo svojich domovov a obzrieme sa, kde môžeme pomôcť. Je okolo nás veľa takých, ktorí pomoc potrebujú možno viac, ako si myslíme. A to, čo za pomoc získate, ma neceniteľnú hodnotu neba. A to stojí, za to, však? Šťastný človek si zhromažďuje večné poklady, ktoré „ani moľ, ani hrdza nezničia.“ Prajeme Vám, aby zavládol pokoj vo vašich srdciach i domovoch, aby sme si viacej vážili jeden druhého, aby sme dokázali byť vďační, za to, čo dostávame. Aby sme dokázali dávať, aby sme mali odvahu vykročiť aj na nové neprebádané cesty, aby sme vždy mali vôkol seba priateľov, na ktorých sa môžeme spoľahnúť. A nech je celé toto úsilie korunované Božím požehnaním. Jednoducho Vám všetkým prajeme: Budte šťastní!

Slovo z Britskej Kolumbie 3/2014

## Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

### Reprezentačný slovenský ples SAKS-u bude 24. januára

Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko pre New York a okolie usporiada tohoročný, v poradí už 22. formálny ples (Black Tie) v sobotu 24. januára. Tohto roku sa ples bude konať v elegantných priestoroch podniku The Royal Manor v Garfield, N.J.

Ples sa začne koktailovou recepciou o 7. hod. Večera bude o 8. hodine a nasledovať bude tanečná hudba do 1. hod. po polnoci. Bar bude otvorený až do skončenia plesu. Program večera spestrí hudobník Andrej Pulver. Na plese si prevezme ocenenie SAKS-u Oto Raček, zakladateľ SlovakInfo. Vstupné je \$130 za osobu.

The Royal Manor je situovaný v blízkosti diaľnic s pomerne ľahkým prístupom. Zaujímavci si môžu vyžiadať bližšie informácie a cestovné inštrukcie od Zuzky Krčmar na tel. číslo 973 357 1209

### Fašiangová zábava v Milwaukee, Wisconsin

20. zbor Slovenskej ligy v Milwaukee usporiada Fašiangovú zábavu v sobotu, **14. februára 2015** v WG Banquet Center (bývala K.C. Hala) 3200 S. 103rd Street v Greenfield, Wisconsin. Začiatok bude o 6:00 do 11:00 hodiny večer. V kultúrnom programe sa predstavia slovenský folklórny súbor Tatra Slovak Dancers o 7:30 hodiny večer. Tradičné „Pochovanie basy“ bude o 9:00 hodiny. Vstupné je \$5.00 za osobu. Na predaj budú slovenské jedlá, zákusky a koláče. O bližšie informácie volajte: Betty Valent tel.: 414- 425-6137; alebo Ellen tel.: 262- 893-7483. Pozývame všetkých členov č. 89 z Milwaukee. Srdečne ďakujem.

Betty Valent

### Národný slovenský spolok oslávi 125. výročie

Národný slovenský spolok (NSS) je najstaršou slovenskou fraternalistickou organizáciou v Amerike. Založený bol 16. februára 1890 v Pittsburghu. Medzi dnešnými slovenskými fraternalistickými organizáciami je na 3. mieste v hodnote majetku.

V súčasnosti má NSS sídlo vo vlastnej budove Na adrese 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, Pa, v predmestí Pittsburghu. Predsedníctvo NSS oznámilo, že jubilejná oslava sa bude konať v sobotu 7. marca t.r. v hoteli Hilton Garden Inn na južnej strane Pittsburghu. Oslavy budú zahŕňať slávnostný banket a iné aktivity.

## Vianočné párty slovenských detí vo Fairfield, CT

Radosť do očí prinieslo Vianočné stretnutie skupiny slovenských detí z Fairfield County, aby tak ako každý rok oslávili Vianoce a utužili svoje priateľstvá. Deti za pomoci rodičov vyrábali náhrdelníky z brusnic a kukurice; zdobili domáce perníčky, robili vianočné ozdoby a ikebany z vetvičiek magnólií a borovic. Počas detských súťaží, ktoré viedla organizátorka podujatia aj rodičia mali dost' času na rozhovory a výmenu skúseností.

Na vianočné stretnutie prišiel aj Mikuláš s batohom darčiekov a pozorne vypočul prania detí, ktoré mu zaspievali pesničku a pri odchode mu venovali nádielku koláčikov. Po šesťhodinovom stretnutí, každý odchádzal domov s peknými zážitkami.

Deti zo slovenských a českých rodín zoskupené v spoločnosti sv. Mikuláša.



Agáta Slivková

## Priateľský vianočný a novoročný vinš Slovákom vo svete

Bohumilé sviatky Narodenia 2014, osobnej i rodinnej pohody, pokoja a radosti, šťastný, zdravý, bohatý Nový rok 2015 všetkým priateľom, kolegom, spolupracovníkom, neochvejným, neoblomným stúpencom slovenskej národnej a duchovnej perspektívy

Slovákov na celom svete.  
Glória a P F!

Stanislav Bajaník  
člen Výboru M S

Viera D. Tapalagová  
tajomníčka EDR

Svetového združenia Slovákov v zahraničí  
Bratislava december 2014

## Výročná členská schôdza Okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasuľu č. 16 IKSJ v NYC

V nedeľu dňa 26. októbra 2014 sa na fare Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC uskutočnila Výročná členská schôdza Okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasuľu Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty za účasti výboru, delegátov ako aj nedelegátov patriacich do Okresu č. 16 a spolku č. 41 v Yonkers, New York. Na schôdzi sa zhodnotila správa za minulé obdobie, finančná správa; vypracoval sa plán na budúce obdobie ako aj uskutočnila sa voľba výboru na rok 2015.



Členovia výboru okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasuľu IKSJ zľava: Jozef Bilik, dozorca; Želka Becková Kucharovič, podpredsedníčka; Anna Korčák, predsedníčka; Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka a pokladníčka.



Členovia výboru a delegáti na Výročnej schôdzi zľava sediaci Jozef Bilik, Želka Kucharovič, Anna Korčák, Mária Zakovič. Zľava stojaci: Anton Kucharovič, Michal Zákutný, Helen Brchnel, Henrieta H. Daitová, Ladislav Korček, Daniel F. Tanzone.

## Výročná členská schôdza Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ v NYC

V nedeľu dňa 9. novembra 2014 sa konala Výročná členská schôdza Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty vo farskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City za účasti úradníkov a členov Spolku. Počas programu sa podala správa o činnosti Spolku za minulé obdobie, finančná správa ako aj príprava plánu na budúci rok a voľba úradníkov na rok 2015.

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka



Členovia výboru Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ zľava: Ján Škrkoň, podpredseda; Milan R. Dait, pokladník; Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka; Jozef Bilik, predseda; Anna Bilik, dozorkyňa; Ján Lysák, kultúrny referent; Mária Božeková, dozorkyňa.



Členovia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ gratulovali našej členke Eve Lysákovéj k jej narodeninám.

## IN MEMORIAM

## Zomrel Dr. Ľudovít Pavlo



Dr. Ľudovít Pavlo

V nedeľu 21. decembra 2014 zomrel v Bratislave vo veku 89 rokov Mudr. Ľudovít Pavlo, čestný predseda Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, člen slovenského ústavu, laureát štátneho vyznamenania SR Pribinov Kríž I. triedy a Medal Of Honor (USA).

Ľudovít Pavlo sa narodil 18. marca 1925 v Michalovciach v rodine tesára a poštového doručovateľa ako druhé dieťa. Po štúdiu na miestnom gymnáziu odišiel do Bratislavy, kde začal r. 1946 študovať na lekárskej fakulte Univerzity Komenského. Po politickom prevrate r. 1948 sa pre svoje členstvo v Klube demokratických akademikov, kontakty s predstaviteľmi Demokratickej strany a Ústrednou katolíckou kanceláriou stal objektom sledovania štátnou bezpečnosťou. Bol uväznený i mučený. Vo väzení musel sľúbiť, že vypátra osoby, ktoré štátna bezpečnosť považovala za protištátne. Zakrátko nato Ľudovít Pavlo spolu s pátrom Štefanom Fáberom a ďalšími tzv. nepriateľmi štátu 23. februára 1950 preplávali rieku Moravu a cez Rakúsko prešli do Nemecka. V štúdiu medicíny pokračoval v Leuvene v Belgicku a štúdium dokončil v Nemecku. Tam sa zoznámil so svojou budúcou manželkou Máriou Steinhübelovou. Aj ona bola lekárka a po krátkej praxi v Nemecku sa rozhodli pre život v USA. Spoločne vychovali dve deti, lekárku Anne-Marie a právnika Lewisa.

Dr. Pavlo po niekoľkoročnej praxi v nemocnici sa špecializoval na rodinného lekára. Pre svoju obetavosť si získal dobré meno medzi svojimi pacientmi. Vďaka dobrým investíciám sa stal zámožným človekom, ktorý veľkoryso podporoval rôzne kultúrne a spoločenské aktivity slovenskej komunity a vo volebných rokoch ako presvedčený republikán štedro podporoval volebné fondy politických kandidátov. Mal dobré kontakty s prezidentom R. Reaganom i G. Bushom st. Na politických mítingoch republikánskej strany vystupoval ako čestný podpredseda strany. Keď išlo o záujmy Slovenska a Slovákov, členstvo v republikánskej strane mu nebránilo stretávaní sa s demokratickým prezidentom Clintonom a jeho manželkou.

Za svoju prácu medzi americkými Slovákami dostal od Multiethnic Federation r. 1996 prestížne ocenenie Medal of Honor a 1. januára 1998 prevzal z rúk prezidenta SR Michala Kováča Pribinov kríž I. triedy. Po odchode do dôchodku ešte niekoľko rokov pracoval ako výkonný predseda Slovenskej ligy v Amerike. Napísal desať kníh v slovenskom i anglickom jazyku. Publikovaných bolo v krajanskej tlači v USA i nemálo jeho príhovorov a vystúpení. Bol členom Spolku slovenských spisovateľov.

Keď mu r. 2006 zomrela manželka prejavili sa mu výrazné ťažkosti s kolenami. Zostal na vozíčku odkázaný na pomoc opatrovateľov. Tak sa zoznámil aj so svojou druhou manželkou Tatiou Merunkovou, zdravotnou sestrou z New Yorku, ktorá tam žila a pracovala od r. 1968, kedy emigrovala z Československa. Vďaka jej starostlivosti a operácii oboch kolenných kĺbov sa opäť postavil na nohy. Presťahovali sa z New Jersey na Floridu a každé leto žili niekoľko mesiacov v Bratislave. Na Slovensku bol Dr. Ľudovít Pavlo oddaným členom Matice slovenskej.

Od jari, keď opäť ako inokedy priľteli na Slovensko, začali sa výrazne prejavovať u Dr. Pavla príznaky Alzheimerovej choroby. Vďaka starostlivej a obetavej opatere svojej manželky prežil posledné dni života v pokoji v domácej opatere.

Krátko po Vianociach sa v bratislavskom krematóriu rozlúčili s Dr. Ľudovítom Pavlom jeho rodina a priatelia.

Cirkevný obrad vykonal Rev. Ján Košiar, rytier Maltézskeho rádu. Za Maticu slovenskú, Úrad Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, Spolok slovenských spisovateľov a Slovenskú ligu v Amerike, ktorej bol Dr. Ľudovít Pavlo emeritným predsedom a doživotným čestným predsedom sa rozlúčil prvý podpredseda Matice slovenskej Jozef Šimonovič. Urna s popolom neobehého bude uložená v rodčovskom hrobe v Michalovciach. Česť jeho pamiatke! R.I.P.

Mgr. Ivan Regulí  
Fotografie: Štefan Dlugolinský



Rev. Ján Košiar, rytier Maltézskeho rádu.



Na recepcii, ktorá sa konala v máji 2007 v Bratislave pri príležitosti storočnice SLvA. Zľava: Dr. Ľudovít Pavlo, Prof. Milan S. Ďurica a hlavný predseda IKSJ, Andrej M. Rajec.



Okrem manželky Dr. Pavla, Tatiiny bol z najbližších príbuzných prítomný na pohrebe jeho synovec MUDr. Maroš Kunderlík.



Jozef Šimonovič, prvý podpredseda MS, známy rozhlasový, filmový a televízny herec, predstaviteľ Ľudovíta Štúra.

## Nový hovorca Konferencie biskupov Slovenska

Od 1. decembra bol vymenovaný do pozície hovorca Konferencie biskupov Slovenska ThLic. CSILic. Martin Kramara. Nahradil v úrade doterajšieho hovorca CSILic. Jozefa Kováčika, ktorý bol vymenovaný za programového riaditeľa TV LUX.

Martin Kramara (36) je kňazom Žilinskej diecézy. Pochádza z Bytče. Teologické štúdiá absolvoval v Nitre. Za kňaza bol vysvätený 21. 6. 2003. V rokoch 2003 – 2005 pôsobil ako biskupský ceremoniár v Nitre, v rokoch 2005 – 2007 ako kaplán vo farnosti Žilina-Mesto. V odbornom štúdiu pokračoval v rokoch 2007 – 2013 na Pápežskej univerzite Svätého kríža v Ríme, kde absolvoval licenčné a doktorandské štúdiá na Fakulte sociálnej inštitucionálnej komunikácie. V rokoch 2011 – 2013 pôsobil ako duchovný správca Slovenskej katolíckej misie v Ríme. Od roku 2013 pracuje ako redaktor v TK KBS a ako výpomocný duchovný vo farnosti Bratislava - Dúbravka

“Chcem vyjadriť svoju vďaku Konferencii biskupov Slovenska za prejavenu dôveru. Ďakujem tiež môjmu predchodcovi Jozefovi Kováčikovi a prajem mu úspešné pôsobenie v jeho novej úlohe programového riaditeľa TV LUX. Svoje menovanie vnímam ako novú výzvu, s ktorou sa spája zodpovednosť i náročnosť. Je mojou úprimnou nádejou, že služba, ktorú budem konať na tomto mieste, bude na osoh Konferencii biskupov i spoločenstvu veriacych, predovšetkým čo sa týka vzájomnej komunikácie so svetom médií. Teším sa na blízku spoluprácu so žurnalistami aj s každým, kto má úprimný záujem dozvedieť sa informácie o katolíckej viere a živote našej Cirkvi. Veriacich prosím o modlitbu, aby som túto prácu dokázal vykonávať čo najlepším spôsobom,” povedal v reakcii na menovanie nový hovorca KBS Martin Kramara.

TK KBS



## Skončil sa adventno-vianočný projekt so svätým Jánom Pavlom II.

Na Slovensku vyvrcholil projekt zamyslení od svätého Jána Pavla II. Pripravila ho Konferencia biskupov Slovenska (KBS). Tridsaťtri krátkych myšlienok dostalo do svojho e-mailu počas decembra a prvý deň nového roka okolo pätnásť tisíc zaregistrovaných ľudí. Boli medzi nimi nielen biskupi a kňazi, ale i stovky laikov. Ďalšie tisíce ľudí si myšlienky prečítali na stránke projektu advent.kbs.sk, kde boli okrem slovenského i v maďarskom jazyku. Zamyslenia sa širili aj prostredníctvom vysielania Rádia LUMEN, TV LUX, ktoré majú k dispozícii audionahrávky vo svojich archívoch a na weboch i sociálnych sieťach partnerov projektu. Jeho cieľom bola spoločná duchovná príprava na Vianoce.

“Začnime tento Nový rok v Ježišovom mene! Nech nám Panna Mária vyprosí stať sa jeho vernými učeníkmi, aby sme mu slovami i skutkami vzdávali slávu a česť na veky vekov,” prihovárал sa svätý poľský pápež v poslednej myšlienke, ktorú dostali odberatelia na Nový rok. Ide o úryvok z jeho homílie z roku 1999. K tejto myšlienke sa pridali ďalšie, pochádzali z rôznych príhovorov, posolstiev a homílií. Projekt sa niesol v znamení slov sv. Jána Pavla II. „Nebojte sa! Otvorte, dokorán roztvorte dvere Kristovi!“ V podobnom duchu sa konal po štvrtý raz. Predtým to boli pôstne zamyslenia súčasného Svätého Otca Františka, vianočné a adventné myšlienky slovenských biskupov a minuloročné letné interaktívne duchovné sprevádzanie púte relikvie sv. Cyrila v zámorí.

Projekt aktívne podporili všetci biskupi Slovenska. Osobne tiež prijímali na svoje emaily denne myšlienky. Citáty sv. Jána Pavla II., ktoré dobrovoľníci projektu preložili z oficiálnych zdrojov z Vatikánu z taliančiny, nadväzovali každý deň na evanjelium dňa. Prvá z nich prišla do e-mailu 30. novembra. Myšlienky neprijímali len ľudia zo Slovenska, ale i v zahraničí. Zo štatistik vyplýva, že išlo napríklad o záujemcov z Českej republiky, Rakúska, Veľkej Británie, Spojených štátov amerických, Talianska, Írska, Nemecka, Maďarska a Srbska. Podľa štatistik zo sociálnych sietí, statusy s adventnými myšlienkami najviac čítali ľudia z Bratislavy a celkovo najviac ľudí vo veku od 18 do 24 rokov. KBS plánuje v podobnom projekte pokračovať i v najbližšom veľkonočnom období.

TKKBS

## Ars bene moriendi

Rodine, priateľom, príbuzným, Slovenskej lige v Amerike, Svetovému kongresu Slovákov, Slovákom v Amerike, Kanade, Európe, Austrálii, vyjadrujeme ako dlhoroční priatelia, kolegovia a spolupracovníci na pôde Matice slovenskej i mimo nej na podujatiach Slovákov celého sveta úprimnú sústrasť na odchode k Najvyššiemu čestnému predsedu Slovenskej ligy v Amerike Dr. Ľudovítovi Pavlovi (1925 - 2014). Umenie dobre umrieť je skutočne umením. Jemu nateraz od nás slovenská rozlúčka: *Kamaráti, bratia, pomaly sa tratia. Jeden išiel k Bohu, druhý pôjde zajtra... Kamaráti, bratia, po jednom sa tratia. keď sa jeden stratí, už sa nevráti... Bratia slzy ronía, Pána Boha prosia: dajže mu Bože náš pokojné nebesia...* Sapienti sat.

Bratislava 29. 12. 2014

PhDr. Stanislav Bajaník

člen Výboru Matice slovenskej,

gr. Viera Dend'úrová Tapalagová,

tajomníčka EDR Svetového združenia Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí

Sekretariát SZSZ v Bratislave

O. Štefan Furdek  
Náš zakladateľ

FOTO: prezident.sk

Prezident SR Andrej Kiska

## Z novoročného príhovoru prezidenta SR

Väčšina ľudí na Slovensku si podľa prezidenta SR Andreja Kisku želá žiť v takej krajine, kde štát bude stáť na strane slušných a pracovitých ľudí. "Väčšina ľudí si tiež želá štát, ktorý bude sociálne vnímavý. Ale nie v podobe hesiel a kampaní, ale voči konkrétnym ľuďom, ktorí sa nepriazňou osudu alebo v chorobe ocitnú v neriešiteľnej životnej situácii," uviedol 1. januára 2015 v novoročnom príhovore s tým, že keď mnohé iné krajiny dokázali v tomto smere zabezpečiť účinnú a adresnú podporu, tak to musí dokázať aj Slovensko. "Som tiež presvedčený, že väčšina z nás dobre rozumie, že potrebujeme nielen štát, ktorý stojí na strane ľudí, ale aj štát, ktorý dobre funguje. A to okrem iného znamená, že dokáže rýchlo reagovať a flexibilne povzbudzovať užitočné projekty a dobré myšlienky, ktoré budú Slovensko posúvať ďalej," zdôraznil s tým, že Slovensko nie je také veľké a bohaté, aby sme si mohli dovoliť nechať nepovšimnuté inovatívne projekty a spoločensky prospešné iniciatívy.

Prezident poukázal tiež na množstvo nespravodlivých sociálnych rozdielov, regionálnych nerovností a nerovnosť šancí. Ako ale poznamenal, nie je pravdou, že by sa nepoznali riešenia týchto problémov. "Niektoré sa úspešne uplatnili vo svete, a neraz ich máme na papieri aj u nás. Zatiaľ nám však chýba dôslednosť a myslím, že aj praktický prístup," konštatoval. V tejto súvislosti ako príklad spomenul nedávnu kauzu predraženého nákupu CT prístroja v piešťanskej nemocnici.

"Postupne sa u nás zaviedli zložité pravidlá na to, aby sa nerozkrádali štátne peniaze, peniaze občanov nášho štátu. Ale prípady neoprávneného obohacovania sa na úkor pacienta alebo verejných zdrojov sa napriek týmto zložitým pravidlám neustále opakujú. Akoby žiadne pravidlá ani neexistovali. Pritom všade, kam prídem, počujem to isté - presadiť užitočné veci, užitočné projekty trvá prídlho, pretože máme zložité pravidlá," pripomenul. Stav, keď iniciatívni ľudia nedokážu poctivým prístupom prekonať prekážky, ktoré iní nepoctivým prístupom ľahko obídu, nie je podľa neho ojedinelý. Občanov vyzval k tomu, aby sa s touto situáciou nezmierili. "Pretože všetko ostatné dokážeme zvládnuť, ak budú mať poctiví ľudia navrch," upozornil. Rovnako vyzval na to, aby občania v tomto roku, v ktorom odštartuje predvolebná kampaň do parlamentných volieb v roku 2016, vyvinuli účinný tlak na politikov, ako chcú zlepšiť spravovanie štátu či fungovanie inštitúcií. "Budeme mať príležitosť pozorne počúvať, čo kto dokázal, čo kto hovorí a ako si predstavuje budúcnosť," podotkol a súčasne požiadal ľudí, aby boli dôslední v otázkach a nároční na odpovede.

Kiska sa vo svojom príhovore nevyhol ani situácii na Ukrajine. Poznamenal, že neexistuje návod, ako na túto situáciu reagovať, avšak upozornil, že si nikto nesmie dovoliť spochybňovať základné princípy suverenity, sebaurčenia a sebarozhodovania. "Je v našom vlastnom záujme, aby Slovensko svojimi činmi prispievalo k tomu, aby Európa bola v tejto zásadnej otázke jednotná. Aby Európska únia dokázala tieto princípy obhájiť aj v celkom novej situácii, ktorú sme nečakali a ktorá bude v tomto roku veľkou skúškou mieru, slobody a budúcnosti Európy na dlhý čas," zdôraznil prezident.

TASR

## Každý národ ma vlastné poslanie na zemi

A preto sa nemáme porovnávať s inými národmi. Nikdy nemáme slepo kopírovať to, čo iní robia. Boli by sme ako opice. Múdri sa na takých iba zabávajú. A vlastne by sme kradli. My musíme zostať originálni. To neznamená, že sa nemáme učiť od iných. Vždy je treba sa učiť od toho, čo vie viac a lepšie. Ale treba dať novým veciam vlastného ducha, pretaviť ich, urobiť ich slovenské. Kristovo učenie a ďalšie múdrosti vied učme v materskom jazyku. My máme plniť naše vlastné poslanie na zemi. Učenie Krista a Kniha kníh nás učí aké je to naše poslanie. Tak ako každý jednotlivec má svoje poslanie vo svojom národe, tak i každý národ má svoje poslanie v ľudstve. Neporovnávajme sa často s inými ľuďmi a národmi, ale s ideálom podľa Krista.



Jerry Jaroslav Krupa

Obyčajne keď sa ľudia, národy porovnávajú jeden z druhým, vzniká v ich srdci závišť. Berme si z dobrých ľudí príklad, ale nečakajme, že náš život bude presne ako ich život. Ak necháme závišť rásť, prerastie do nenávisť. Nerobme to! Ako je v nebi, tak robme i na zemi. Pre nás je len jeden hlavný štandard - a to je nebeský štandard. Keď sa porovnáme s nebeským štandardom, zistíme presne akí sme. A zistíme, že väčšina z nás si bude chcieť zlepšiť svoj duchovný štandard. Zlepšiť svoj charakter. Zlepšiť svoje vzdelanie. Zlepšiť svoj život a život svojej rodiny a svojho národa. Zistíme, že väčšina z nás neplní najlepšie svoje poslanie na zemi. Také porovnávanie je v náš prospech. To je prvý krok ku vnútornému mieru a múdrosti. Ku rozoznaniu nášho poslania na zemi. Nezávidíme iným. Iní majú v živote iné poslanie ako my. Ale dbajme na to, aby sme boli naplnení Duchom svätým.

Nikdy nezabúdajme, že materiálna bieda vychádza z biedy nášho ducha. Keď bohatneme na Božom duchu, sme múdri, a tak sme bohatí vo všetkom. V momente, keď skutočne objavíme, že sme chudobní na Božom duchu, zmúdreli sme. Objavili sme veľkú nádej na veľký vzostup. Objavili sme celú vedu spásy, objavili sme vec veľkého duchovného, a áno, vedeckého významu pre seba a celé ľudstvo. Objavili a odhalili sme tajomstvo jednej Božskej blahoslavenosti. Objavili sme veľkú priepasť medzi nami a Bohom-Otcom. Objavili sme Bohom danú veľkú príležitosť pozdvihnúť seba samých. Možnosť zbohatnúť na duchu. A tak postupne nadobudnúť nový, bohatý život po každej stránke. A tento nový život nás privedie k všeobecnému pozdvihnutiu, k bohatému rozvoju duchovnému a tak i materiálnemu. Preto bohatý duchovný život je najväčšie bohatstvo človeka a národa.

Jerry Jaroslav Krupa ([www.jarokrupa.sk](http://www.jarokrupa.sk))

## Slovenská republika si pripomenula deň svojho vzniku



Foto TASR - Miroslav Košířer

Na snímke arcibiskup Ján Zvolenský (za oltárom) celebruje slávnostnú svätú omšu pri príležitosti slávnosti Panny Márie Bohorodičky a 22. výročia vzniku samostatnej Slovenskej republiky v Katedrále sv. Martina v Bratislave 1. januára 2015.

Archbishop Jan Zvolensky celebrated a Mass on January 1, 2015, in the Cathedral of St. Martin in Bratislava on the occasion of the 22nd anniversary of Slovak independence.