



Jednota

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NUMBER 5801

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

HOME OFFICE (TELECONFERENCE)
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SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2009

The Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on Saturday, June 20, 2009 at 9:30 A.M. (telephonically).

The monthly Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, June 19, 2009.

All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent for receipt at the Home Office prior to June 12, 2009.

For any additional information contact the Home Office at (216) 642-9406 or (800) JEDNOTA.

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary



FCSU 2009 JEDNOTA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The students pictured on pages 8-11 were chosen scholarship recipients by our Scholarship Committee as a result of their SAT scores, cumulative grade point average and class rank. In addition, each applicant was judged on the basis of his/her involvement in extra-curricular and volunteer activities. Emphasis was placed upon pride of being Catholic and Slovak as evidenced throughout the required essays on the application. Finally, financial need and the cost of their chosen colleges were evaluated.

The Committee selected 74 winners and each will receive a one-time grant of \$500.00. Included in these 74 winners are Mychael Horak, Jenna Reed, Kaitlyn Rossman and Megan Sell who were selected for the "John A. Sabol Nursing Scholarship Fund".

In addition to the above winners, there were

continued on page 8

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CARNIVAL LIBERTY

Enjoy a 7 Day Cruise in the Eastern Caribbean leaving from Miami, Florida

This magnificent cruise experience begins the moment you step onto the Liberty. On this floating resort you're in for an all-time fantastic week! Your first port of call is Half Moon Cay, Bahamas where you can go horseback riding along the shore. Next it's St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands where you'll marvel at gorgeous white sand beaches. In San Juan you'll tour El Morro Castle or maybe you prefer the hottest nightclubs, or...did you say both? Finally, it's Grand Turk, famous for awesome snorkeling. What will you remember most?

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Cruise rates are capacity controlled in U.S. dollars, per guest and based on double occupancy. Government taxes/fees are included. Air transportation is additional for all guest. Rates are available on select sailings only. Some restrictions (including stateroom category availability) apply. Rates are subject to change without prior notice.
Ships Registry: The Bahamas and Panama.



DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
Sat.	Miami		4:00 PM
Sun.	Half Moon Cay	9:00 AM	4:00 PM
Mon.	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Tues.	St. Thomas/St. John	8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Wed.	San Juan	7:00 AM	3:30 PM
Thurs.	Grand Turk	11:00 AM	5:30 PM
Fri.	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Sat.	Miami	8:00 AM	

The Society is not responsible for airline delays or cancellations, please allow adequate time for transfers between the airport and pier. We strongly suggest you allow at least 3 hours before departure from Miami which is 4:00 pm.. The cruise is contingent on booking at least 25 cabins or 50 passengers; please do not make airline reservations before June 30th.

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Golf Tournament

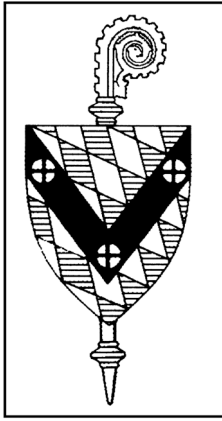


FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, KENNETH ARENDT:

The First Catholic Slovak Union 2009 International Golf Tournament will be held jointly with the Slovak Catholic Sokol on August 14-16, 2009 at the Clarion Oaks and Hi-Level Golf Resorts in Clarion, Pennsylvania. We are very excited at this opportunity to have a historic social event with the Slovak Catholic Sokol. We encourage all our members to get involved and come out and support this event. We are asking all our branches to consider being a sponsor for one or more of your members so they may participate in this exciting event. We look forward to seeing everyone on August 14th. Mark your calendars!

Registration entry form and further information detailing the packages available will be in the next issue of the Jednota Newspaper and on our Website.

Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies Father Campion P. Gavaler; Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.D.B.

June 21, 2009

The Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Mark 4: 35-41

Gospel Summary

In Mark's gospel, Jesus is presented as one who loves to tell stories, such as the one we find in today's gospel. There are few more frightening experiences than to be in a small boat on a large body of water

when a sudden squall comes up. The disciples are experienced fishermen but they know how helpless they are in a turbulent sea.

The disciples do not understand how Jesus can be so calm at a time of mortal danger. We know, however, that in his baptism he has been empowered to deal with all kinds of chaotic situations. He has been sent by his heavenly Father to restore creation and to drive back the powers of darkness and chaos that have entered our lives through sin. He touches sick people and their health is restored; he confronts demons and they are banished; he brings peace and harmony where there had been fear and hopelessness.

Jesus has this power for good because he is in touch with the Creator who has sent him to bring to us that love which enables God to view all of creation and to declare it to be "very good" (Gen 1:31).

Life Implications

In our personal lives, we experience wonderful moments of peace and joy and harmony; but we also have to deal frequently with the challenge of our own kinds of chaos, such as physical ailments, mental anxiety and all the many causes of fear and uncertainty. It is amazing how easily a "calm sea" can change into a "raging storm" of doubt, fear and virtual helplessness.

We need to know how we, like the disciples, can call upon Jesus and suddenly find that our stormy sea becomes calm and serene. Jesus tells us that it is a matter of faith: "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?" We may be tempted to respond that we do indeed have faith for we can say "Amen" to all the statements of the Creed. That is an important kind of faith but it is not as real and personal as the faith that God wants us to have.

The faith that calms storms in our lives is a conviction that the Risen Lord is present in our world more truly than he ever was to the disciples in Israel. This kind of faith is a special gift of God for which we must pray not only when we are in trouble but especially when things are going well. When his heavenly Father said to Jesus in his baptism: "You are my beloved Son," he was endowing him with the power of divine love that he would then offer to all of us. In effect, this is the kind of loving presence that speaks to us every moment of our lives and which can be expressed in those reassuring words that we need so much to hear: "I am with you always" (Matt 28:20), which means that love and trust will win out in the end.



Apostleship of Prayer Intentions for June 2009

General Intention

Foreign Debt Relief. That international efforts to help poorer nations bring prompt, concrete results to relieve the crushing burden of foreign debt.

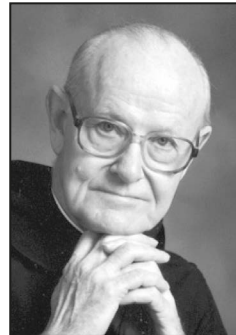
Pope Benedict's general prayer intention this month speaks directly to us, since we are citizens of one of the richer nations holding the debts of poorer nations. The Pope asks us to pray that nations such as ours grant debt relief, not to be merciful, but to be just.

Pope John Paul II proclaimed the Jubilee Year of 2000 "an appropriate time...to reducing substantially, if not cancelling outright, the international debt which seriously threatens the future of many nations."

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has stated that the debt of poor nations is a "human problem, affecting the well being of families, the survival of the poor, the bonds of community, and the security of the future."

Many of the loans have already been repaid, in effect, as poor countries pay debt service without the ability to reduce the principle. For example, from 1970 to 2002 Africa received some \$540 billion in loans and paid back \$550 billion in principle and interest. Yet Africa still owes \$295 billion (Jubilee USA Network).

As members of the Apostleship of Prayer, we are nourished by our devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, sign of God's infinite love. We strive to enter into His Heart to know and feel with Jesus. His Heart was always moved with pity for the poor. He told a parable denouncing a rich man who allowed Lazarus, poor and ill, to suffer at his gate (Luke 16:19-31). Like



Demetrius R. Dumm
O.S.B.

Gospel Summary

A synagogue official named Jairus pleads with Jesus to cure his daughter, who is at the point of death. While on the way to the official's house, a woman afflicted with hemorrhages for twelve years comes through the large crowd that is following Jesus, and touches his cloak. She is instantly cured. Jesus, aware that power had gone out of him, asks, "Who has touched my clothes?" The woman in fear and trembling tells him that it was she. Jesus says to her, "Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction."

While he was still speaking, people from the synagogue official's house arrive and announce that the young girl has died. Jesus says to the official, "Do not be afraid; just have faith." Taking Peter, James, and John with him, Jesus goes to the official's house. Upon arrival, the crowd ridicules him when he says that the child is asleep, not dead. He then takes the child by the hand and says to her, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!" The girl, a child of twelve, arises and walks around. Jesus gives strict orders that no one should know about what he did, and adds that the girl should be given something to eat.

Life Implications

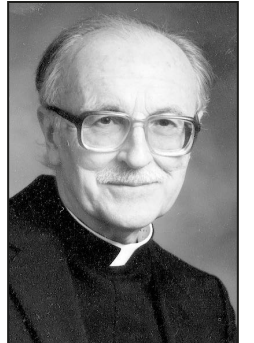
The same Jesus, now Risen Lord, who reached out with compassion and with power to heal and to give life is with us. Gathered in his name, we pray that in our moment of affliction, we too will hear his words, "Do not be afraid; just have faith." Likewise, we pray that the Lord will extend his compassion and power through us to others who are afflicted. For one, it may be care given to an aging parent; for another, it may mean long hours spent in a laboratory searching for a cure for cancer.

Two things in today's gospel passage suggest further exploration of the mystery of Christ and its implication for anyone who wishes to follow in his way. Mark gives us the apparently needless information that Peter, James, and John witnessed the power of Jesus in raising the daughter of Jairus; secondly he tells us that Jesus gave the strange order about keeping what he had done a secret.

Jesus is quite aware of the large crowds that are beginning to follow him with the expectation that with his extraordinary power he will help them. Jesus recognizes their afflictions and responds with compassion. Yet, he must resist the temptation to reduce his mission for God's kingdom to pressing earthly afflictions like illness and hunger. He commands silence about the raising of the daughter of Jairus because he does not want the essence of his mission to be misunderstood. The fourth gospel also refers to the fact that many people misunderstood the mission of Jesus (Jn 6:2,15,26).

Mark tells us that Peter, James, and John were also with Jesus on the mountain of transfiguration (9:2-13) and in the garden of Gethsemane (14:32-42): even though beloved son of God, he will be stripped of power. In consequence of his trusting obedience to his loving Father, he will suffer greatly, be treated with contempt, and be killed. Dying upon a cross, he was in fact mocked for his loss of power: "He saved others; he cannot save himself" (15:29-32). Paul wrote that the message he preached, Christ crucified, is an obstacle to faith for Jews, and foolishness for the rest of us (1 Cor 1:23). Yet it is in dying powerless on a cross that Jesus reveals the ultimate meaning of divine power as self-giving love in response to his Father's love. In this action Jesus heals the ultimate human affliction—separation from God.

Peter, James, and John, however, also witnessed the surprise of resurrection. Because Jesus emptied himself, becoming obedient even unto death, God greatly exalted him (Phil



Campion P. Gavaler,
O.S.B.

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Apostleship of Prayer

continued from page 2

Jesus, we ought to hold the poor of the world in our hearts. Our own economic "hard times" pale in comparison to the perennial destitution of scores of poor nations throughout the world.

As a start, rich nations should forgive the debts of poor nations so they can devote their resources to their own economic development- creating jobs, fighting disease, and educating their children. With hearts of compassion toward the poor, we pray that our country will take the lead in developing international policies that will help poor nations rise out of poverty.

Reflection

How can you share with others, especially our political leaders, that you support debt relief for poor nations?

Mission Intention

The Church in Areas of Violence.

That local Church communities serving areas torn by violence may be supported through the love and help offered by Catholics around the world.

Recent news reports inform us that more than 150,000 Christians living in the Holy Land have left because of the violence perpetrated by various hostile factions, some directed at them. Thousands of Christians have fled Iraq, as well, threatened and persecuted for their faith. In some northern states of India, Christians are openly harassed, tortured, and martyred.

It's timely, then, that this month the Pope is asking us to pray for the Church in areas of violence, especially where there is direct persecution. Their suffering is our suffering, because we are one Body. The news reports quote some of the Christians who are remaining in areas of violence: "Don't forget about us," they say, and "Please pray for us."

Let's pray for them with our whole hearts, offering ourselves for peace in areas of religious conflict all over the world. May Christians everywhere strive with all our might to live peacefully in obedience to the Prince of Peace. May those of other religions- Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists- also be true to their own peaceful creeds. May extremists and fundamentalists not prevail. May all acts of violence cease. May we learn to confer upon one another the dignity due to persons of every age, gender, race, and creed. May we forget old grudges, feuds, and retributions. May we humbly seek peace through patient efforts to communicate. May we learn to forgive our enemies as Jesus did.

The Word of God reminds us over and over again that by living justly we bring peace to our lives, our communities, and the whole world. "What does God require of you but to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). The great universal peace of God which passes understanding, the Shalom of Jesus Christ, will not be fulfilled until Christ returns. But in the meantime, the Kingdom of Heaven is already among us. By the power of the Spirit we pray and work for peace.

Reflection

What can you do to advance the peace of Christ at home, in the Church, and in the world?

From the Desk of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt

The following branches did not qualify for the branch stipend for the year 2008 based on the requirements as stated in the Bylaw Section 4:05:

Region 1, Regional Director, Joseph Minarovich -
004K, 032K, 053K, 082K, 102K, 121K, 132K, 168K, 324K, 339K, 340K, 381K, 517K, 652K, 725K, 890K

Region 2, Regional Director, Damian Nasta -
018K, 040P, 051P, 061K, 064K, 116P, 131P, 136K, 144P, 156K, 215K, 226P, 278K, 294K, 326K, 332K, 335K, 505K, 659K, 775K, 796K

Region 3, Regional Director, Carl Ungvarsky -
005K, 006P, 016P, 152K, 237J, 238K, 240K, 240P, 263K, 321K, 356P, 368K, 419K, 461K

Region 4, Regional Director, George Sprock -
086K, 122K, 198P, 211K, 233K, 299K, 321P, 322K, 323K, 369K, 380K, 417K, 549K, 565K, 571K, 577K, 604K, 667K, 732K, 826K, 835K

Region 5, Regional Director, Regis Brekosky -
164K, 315K, 429K, 454K, 465K, 487K, 580K, 600K, 618K, 635K, 701K, 704K, 733K

Region 6, Regional Director, Henry Hassay -
114P, 165K, 319K, 348K, 362K, 472K, 714K, 741K, 759K, 862K, 888K

Region 7, Regional Director, Rudolph Glogovsky -
028K, 083K, 100K, 109K, 128K, 163K, 221K, 224K, 226K, 296K, 330K, 358K, 403K, 404K, 480K, 510K, 543K, 584K, 586K, 591K, 595K, 624K, 633K, 686K, 700K, 703K, 717K, 721K, 729K, 735K, 748K, 756K, 762K, 774K, 780K, 788K

Checks have been sent to all branches that did qualify for their \$4.00 per member stipend for the year 2008. If anyone feels there is a discrepancy, please contact me at the home office.



Searching for Recipes

If you have a special recipe you would like to share with the readers, send it and we will print it. Be sure to give your name and address. Send to: Editor, Jednota Estates, 1001 Rosedale Ave., Middletown, PA 17057, or Email at editorjednota@yahoo.com.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8	MONDAY, JUNE 29
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5	MONDAY, JULY 27
WEDNESDAY, SEPT 2	MONDAY, AUGUST 24

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

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- *20 Year Level Term
- *Term to age 25
- *Annuities



FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

Insights and Viewpoints

Thirteenth Sunday

continued from page 2

2:5-11). No longer enjoined to be silent about what Jesus had done, they with other apostles have proclaimed the good news to the entire world. By following in the way of Jesus, each of us also as beloved son or daughter share in that life with God and with each other that no earthly affliction, death included, can destroy.

At our Eucharist today we might pray for the grace to grasp the meaning in our own lives of a truth that is as incomprehensible to human reason today as it was the day Paul wrote it: "The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor 1:18).



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Plan II - 3 payments, the initial premium is 40% of the single premium. *The balance must be repaid within two years from the issue date to avoid interest expense on the loan.* The balance of the premium can be paid in twenty-four equal monthly installments; or in two additional payments, 30% at the end of one year and 30% at the end of two years from the issue date.



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- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- The minimum deposit is \$1,000.00.

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

Allentown Parish to Sponsor Annual Festival

The St. John the Baptist Slovak Roman Catholic Church is sponsoring their annual Church Festival on Saturday, June 27, 2009, from 12:00 noon until 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall, 924 North Front Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Ethnic food will be available such as holupky (stuffed cabbage), halusky (noodles and cabbage), pirohy, kolbasy, sauerkraut and other food. A bake sale will also be held. For information call Helen Fiala at 610/434-8614.



Attention Members of:

Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District & Michigan District

On Sunday, June 14, 2009 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. the Membership and Marketing Committee will hold a Sales Seminar at the Hilton Suites, 10 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois. This seminar is open to all members of the First Catholic Slovak Union interested in learning more about our products and selling them.

Because time is of the essence, we must start on time and not deviate from the program. At the seminar, sales brochures and rate charts will be distributed.

All branch officers, district officers, recommenders, and First Catholic Slovak Union members interested in learning and selling our insurance and annuity products are urged to attend this seminar. Form a car pool.

Lets get involved with sales.

Please RSVP to our National Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt by June 8 at 1-800-533-6682.

Until we meet the seminar.

Good Luck and God Bless!

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.

National Vice President

Membership and Marketing Chairman

Publication Schedule for 2009

Issue Date	Deadline
January 7	December 23,
January 21	January 12
February 4	January 26
February 18	February 9
March 4	February 23
March 18	March 9
April 1	March 23
April 29	April 20
May 13	May 4
May 27	May 18
June 10	June 1
July 8	June 29
August 5	July 27
September 2	August 24
September 16	September 7
September 30	September 21
October 14	October 5
October 28	October 19
November 11	November 2
November 25	November 16
December 9	November 30

There will be no issues on: April 15, June 24, July 22, August 19, and December 23

REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Charles J. Cibik Branch 600 Leechburg, Pennsylvania



Charles J. Cibik, 71, of Allegheny Township, Pennsylvania, died Thursday, May 7, 2009, in his home.

He was born March 5, 1938, in West Leechburg, a son of the late Charles and Mary (Kawka) Cibik.

He was a 1956 graduate of Leechburg High School, where he was an all-star on the football team.

After high school, he entered the Army for three years. After an honorable discharge from the Army, he attended Point Park College for two years.

After college, he became co-owner of Myra's Catering of Pittsburgh, until his retirement.

During his retirement, he was an active real estate agent for Century 21 American Heritage, Allegheny Township, until his time of death.

He enjoyed his HAM radio, playing Scrabble and especially spending time with his family.

He attended Mt. Hope Church of God, Allegheny Township.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by an infant brother.

brother.

He is survived by his wife, Janis (Bracken) Cibik; three children, Lori (Joseph II) Cardaro of New Kensington, Pennsylvania, Shawn (Jennifer) Bracken of Vandergrift, Pennsylvania, and Andrea (Stephen) King of Allegheny Township; two grandchildren, Shelby and Tanner Bracken of Vandergrift; one sister, Kathleen (James) Detar of Vandergrift; two brothers Shawn (Jennifer) Bracken of Vandergrift, Pennsylvania, and Andrea (Stephen) King of Allegheny Township; two grandchildren, Shelby and Tanner Bracken of Vandergrift; one sister, Kathleen (James) Detar of Vandergrift; two brothers, Frank (Amy) Cibik of West Virginia and James Cibik of Apollo; and nephews, nieces, mother-in-law and brother-in-law.

Friends were received at the Joseph J. Cardaro Funeral Home, New Kensington. A funeral service was held in the funeral

home, with Pastor Deborah Mentel of Mt. Hope Church of God, officiating. Burial was in Brookland Cemetery, Allegheny Township.

John Mago

Joseph G. Gerics Branch 19 Bridgeport, Connecticut

Joseph G. Gerics, 90, of Trumbull, Connecticut, died Monday, April 13, 2009, at St. Vincent Medical Center, surrounded by family members. He was the husband of Mary Spodnik Gerics.

Joe was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut on January 9, 1919, a son of the late Franc and Magda Fibar Gerics. He returned to Yugoslavia with his parents when he was 2 years old. At age 18, Joe followed his dreams and came back to the United States where he lived with his aunt and uncle in Fairfield, Connecticut. He joined the US Army during World War II. He served for over 3 years in England, Italy, and Africa as an anti-aircraft gunner.

Upon returning from the war, he met Mary, the love of his life, and together they raised a family of six children. He worked in Acme United Corporation ("Acme") for 47 years, retiring as the Superintendent of the Cast Iron division in 1986. Joe was a member of Acme's Quarter Century Club.

Throughout his life Joe impressed upon his children the importance of hard work and a good education. Despite working in a factory all his life, he put his six children through Catholic schools and colleges. He loved gardening, and kept a large vegetable garden in his yard each year. He took great care in maintaining his "park like" grounds.

He loved spending time with his children and grandchildren and stayed close to them all his life. To his grandchildren he was known as "Dedek", the handyman, fixer of all things, gardener extraordinaire and their favorite pinochle player.

Joe was a member of the St. Joseph Society, Branch 19. He was a delegate to Jednota conventions and enjoyed many good times at various Society events. In fact, a picture of his family was used in a sales

brochure promoting family plans. Before his death, his family gathered to celebrate his 90th birthday. They, too, are all members of Branch 19.

Joe is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mary; six children, Joseph and his wife, Susan, of Manhattan, Gregory and his wife, Kathryn, of Trumbull, Robert of Stratford, Mary Anne Levin and her husband, Gary, of Tampa, Florida, David of Newtown, and Joanne Lorys and her husband, Robert, of Roswell, Georgia; a brother Franc of Slovenia; 12 grandchildren, Joseph A. Gerics, Kristina Gerics, Nicole, Michael and Richard Levin, David and Matthew Gerics, and Tara, Cindy, Meredith, Renee and Robert Lorys; and three great-grandchildren. He is also survived by sisters-in-law Margaret Evancho, former Supreme Officer of the FCSU and Theresa Kuruc, Treasurer of Branch 19.

The family was greatly comforted by the beautiful funeral. Joe's six children served

as pall bearer. The Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Trumbull with Msgr. Richard Shea presiding. Concelebrants were Rev. Robert Levens, S.J., Rev. Lawrence O'Neill, S.J., and Rev. Martin Shaugnessy, S.J. of the Fairfield Jesuit Community, and Rev. Michael Reilly, Rev. Joseph Tierney and Rev. Mark Vailancourt of the Archdiocese of New York. His eldest son, Joseph, gave the eulogy, reminding everyone of his father's honorable reputation as a hard working, disciplined man who was always there for anyone in need. At a luncheon following burial, at Heaven's Gate Cemetery in Trumbull, family and friends shared their thoughts and fond memories of Joe.

Joe lived a full life overflowing with family and friends. Even as he faced his own mortality, he continued to teach how to live an exemplary life. May he rest in peace.

Joseph Gerics and Family in 2009

Getting into gear

Finalist for European Inventor of the Year 2009 in the "SME" Category

Although the technical description of a reduction gear may send one's head proverbially spinning, in layman's terms, it's simply a gear that slows things down. Bartolomej Janek, the 52-year-old engineer, inventor, and co-founder of the Slovakian company SPINEA, revolutionised the way gears are made by designing a compact reduction gear that maximises a motor's torque at sustained speeds.

At a glance

Inventor: Bartolomej Janek (SK)

Invention: Reduction gear systems

Sector: Machinery

Company: SPINEA

Janek, a pioneer of the robotics industry, discovered in 1999 a way to enhance the overall performance of reduction gears - gears that reduce the number of turns a motor makes - so that they achieve a constant, reduced speed while dramatically increasing the force of rotation (torque). These enhancements meant that Janek's new reduction gears achieved greater torque at sustained speeds and were considerably smaller than traditional gears with comparable force.

Janek believed there had to be a way to increase the durability and productivity of machines, particularly those with large-load capacities. His idea was that by concentrating the torque on the outside of the reduction gear, machines could be tougher, stronger and faster.

Beginning his work in the late 1980s, with spare time spent tinkering in his garage, Janek designed a number of prototypes to test his theory. In a final trial, Janek tested a cross-like mechanism that exerted increased force while concentrating torque outwards. The resulting gear was a "bearing reducer" more durable and stronger than those available from famous gear-producers such as Japan or Germany.

Janek's bearing reducers, marketed by SPINEA as "TwinSpin", combine a high-precision, high-torque gear reduction system with heavy-duty radial bearings that save space by providing more than twice the torque and stiffness capability than competitors' gearboxes of a similar size. TwinSpin bearing reducers are used for mechanical applications whose specifications need to meet the highest standards of modern mechanics. These include robot joints, automation equipment, military industrial applications, machine tools and more.

SPINEA, a private engineering company, was established in Eastern Slovakia in 1994 to produce Janek's gears, with commercial production beginning six years later. Today SPINEA produces 22 000 gears annually, 60 percent of which are used in robotics. In fact, virtually every major robot maker in Europe including KUKA, COMAU and ABB robotics uses the company's gears.

Janek's TwinSpin bearing reducers single-handedly revolutionised the way gears are made, bringing forth a new generation of power transmission systems.

Coming Events



June 21

-The Pittsburgh District's Annual Father's Day Brunch at 11:30 a.m. at St. Barnabas Church Hall, Swissvale, Pennsylvania.

June 28

-A meeting of the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania

June 28

-The Prince Rastislav District's Semiannual Meeting after the High Mass in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Parish Hall, Montreal, Quebec.

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009

HOME OFFICE • INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN

President Andrew M. Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and asked Vice President Harcar to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL

Members Attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
 George F. Matta, Treasurer
 Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director, by invitation of the President

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MARCH MEETING MINUTES

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the March 2009 Executive Committee meeting. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S STOCK AND BOND REPORT

The Treasurer led a discussion reviewing the monthly report from our asset manager, AQS Asset Management, LLC., and answered the questions of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer stated that since we have an asset manager, we are receiving more and better quality offers than in the past.

Larry White from AQS Asset Management, LLC. joined the Executive Committee meeting via teleconference and presented his monthly report thru WebEx. When Mr. White completed his presentation, he answered the questions of the Executive Committee.

The President had a discussion with the President of the National Fraternal Congress concerning the possibility of fraternal organizations getting involved with state guaranteed funds. The President will update the Executive Committee as more information becomes available.

Based on the recommendation of Bruce & Bruce, our consulting actuaries, a motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Andrew Harcar to declare a dividend for 2009. Motion carried.

FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK

The Executive Secretary presented the current rates offered by Federal Home Loan Bank. He stated that there will be a teleconference with the representatives from Key Bank during the afternoon session concerning the progress of ARC funds.

PORTFOLIO CUSTODIAN

The Executive Secretary stated that everything is in order and working well with our portfolio custodian.

SALES AND MARKETING

The Vice President reviewed our Sales Production Report in different Regions and answered the Executive Committee's questions. The Vice President also reviewed the Sales Production Report of our independent agents.

The Vice President updated the Executive Committee on the progress of our in-house agent and stated that this agent is still in process of contacting Branches, assessing their activity, and investigating potential Branch mergers. He is also gathering information about how the Home Office can aid the Branches.

The Vice President further stated that we will continue with our advertisements in the Jednota newspaper and on our website.

The Vice President also stated that he will work closely with the Executive Secretary on improving the seminars by having Power Point presentations and by careful selection of materials presented at the seminars. He stated that these new tools should make his presentations more efficient.

Recess of session

At this time the Executive Committee broke for lunch.

Afternoon session

The President called the afternoon session to order.

The session started with a teleconference with the representatives of Key Bank regarding the progress of ARC funds. The Key Bank representatives presented a scenario how can we possibly use funds from Federal Home Loan Bank for investments. The Key Bank representatives answered the Executive Committee's questions. The Executive Secretary stated that this might be a good time to utilize our membership with Federal Home Loan Bank due to low interest rates being offered to us. A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by George Matta to proceed with obtaining funds from Federal Home Loan Bank with a 3 (three) year fixed rate with 50% of the funds going to ARC fund and 50% into fixed rate bonds (the Executive Committee had an approval from Board of Directors to obtain funds up to ten million dollars). Motion carried.

The Vice President continued with his report. He stated that he is in the process of contacting District Officers for possible seminars.

The President stated that he and the Executive Secretary will be working on Branch mergers and will update the Executive Committee about their progress.

COMBINATION OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES

Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director, updated the Executive Committee on the progress of the joint Golf Tournament with Slovak Catholic Sokol in 2009. She informed the Executive Committee that the joint Golf Tournament will be held on August 14-16, 2009 at the Clarion Oaks and Hi-Level Golf Resorts, Clarion, PA. She stated that she is working with the Executive Secretary on preparing the information for advertising this event on our Website and Jednota newspaper. This information will also be mailed to the Branches and past golfers. This information will include golf packages, reservation forms, hotel information, etc.

She further informed the Executive Committee about FCSU's Bowling Tournament which will be held in Belle Vernon, PA from April 24 - 26, 2009. Branch 670K will be hosting this tournament. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to accept the Fraternal Activities Director's report.

2010 CONVENTION

The President led a discussion regarding the site inspections in Las Vegas, Nevada and in Cleveland, Ohio for the 2010 Convention. He stated that once all the information is compiled, the Executive Committee's decision will be presented to the Board of Directors.

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

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

MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

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

Disbursements for the month of March 2009	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$386,176.43
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$269,953.06
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ - 0 -
Trust Fund	\$ - 0 -

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

MISCELLANEOUS

The Vice President updated the Executive Committee on the Membership Meet. The 2009 Membership Meet will take place on November 14 - 21, 2009. Once all the information is received from the travel agency, it will be sent to recommenders and will be placed on our website and published in the Jednota newspaper.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS

Requests were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN

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

The Vice President closed the meeting with prayer.

 Andrew M. Rajec
 President

 Kenneth A. Arendt
 Executive Secretary

NEW FROM FCSU

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

The First Catholic Slovak Union is pleased to announce that it can now accept credit cards for Insurance premium payments.

*Annuity payments cannot be made with credit cards.

**CREDIT CARDS
ACCEPTED**

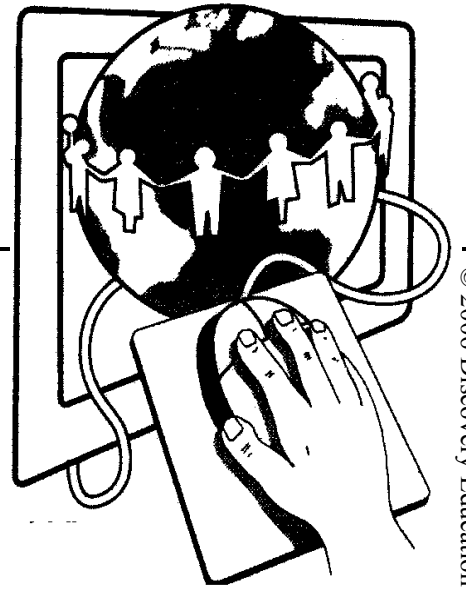
Please contact the home office at
 1-800-533-6682 for further information
 or go to our website at www.fcsu.com
 to download a payment form.

**We accept:
 Visa,
 Mastercard,
 and Discover**



UR_space.jrs

Friends Events Sports Culture Trivia Activities



© 2006 Discovery Education

Activity Space

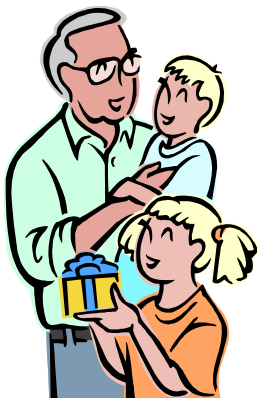


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Events Space

June 2009

Father's Day



Father's Day is a special day for everyone! We use this day to honor our fathers all over the world! We celebrate this holiday on the third Sunday in June.

A woman named Sonora Smart Dodd from Spokane, Washington, thought of the idea for Father's Day while listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909. Her father, Henry Jackson Smart, had raised Sonora after her mother died and she wanted him to know how special he was to her. Her father was born in June, so she chose that month to celebrate the new holiday!

Mail Space

Dear Ms. Susana M. Ondrejco,
 Thank you for the Target gift card. I got 5 things. I bought gel pens, pencils, a notepad, a United States book, and chocolate. I enjoyed all of it.
 Love,
 Lauren

Dear Jednota,
 Thank you so much for the Target gift card. With the gift card I bought a silver brush with a gummy gripper at the bottom. I have been wanting that brush for a long time.
 Love,
 Emily Walker
 Christmas Coloring Contest
 Honorable Mention Winner
 Age 10.

Dear Ms. Ondrejco,
 I won first place in the Christmas coloring contest. I wanted to thank you for the prize and for the blanket you sent me. I like it and so does my cat, Magic. It keeps me warm and she likes to sleep on it.

Kaitlyn Estright

Dear Jednota:
 Thank you for the blanket and the twenty-five dollars. The blanket kept me really warm this winter. With the money I bought a big tub of LEGOs

I love playing with them. Thank you so much.
 Love,
 Alex Walker
 Age 6
 Christmas Coloring Contest Winner

Dear Susana
 Thank You For the blanket And Money For Winning In the contest
 Love
 Rachel Katekovich

What Is A Dad?

A Dad is a person who is loving and kind, And often he knows what you have on your mind. He's someone who listens, suggests, and defends ~ A dad can be one of your very best friends! He's proud of your triumphs, but when things go wrong, A dad can be patient and helpful and strong In all that you do, a dad's love plays a part ~ There's always a place for him deep in your heart ~ And each year that passes, you're even more glad, More grateful and proud just to call him your dad! Thank you, Dad... for listening and caring, for giving and sharing, but, especially, for just being you!

Happy Father's Day



Send your ideas, letters etc. to: UR_Space.jrs
 234 Ilion St.
 Pgh., PA 15207
 sueo99@yahoo.com

2009 Jednota Scholarship Winners

continued from page 1

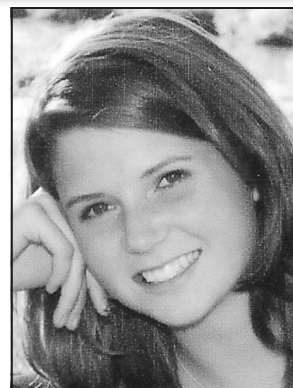
two special awards given. David Michael Svac is the recipient of the "Philip Hrobak Scholarship" and Rebecca Ann Wald is the recipient of the "Stephanie Husek Scholarship". These awards are also one-time grants and are in the amount of \$750.00 each.

Additionally, each scholarship winner will be issued a \$3,000.00 Single Premium Life Insurance Policy upon proof of graduation from college.

All applicants who did not receive a scholarship will be given a one-time \$50.00 U.S. Savings Bond in appreciation of their efforts.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary



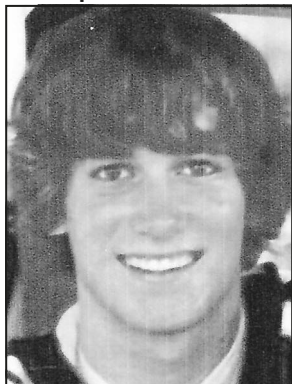
ABATE, ELYSSA MARIE
Parents: Jeanmarie A. & Francis G. Abate, Branch: 055K ~ Broomall, PA, College/University: Rowan University Major: History, Special Education

ACKERMAN, HANNAH ELIZABETH
Parents: Elizabeth Dixon & Samuel Ackerman, Branch: 401K ~ Ford City, PA, College/University: Oberlin College of Arts & Sciences Major: Environmental Science

ALPHA, CARMEL
Parents: Bobbi & Sigma Alpha, Branch: 756K ~ Owosso, MI, College/University: Colorado State University, Major: Mathematics with an emphasis in education

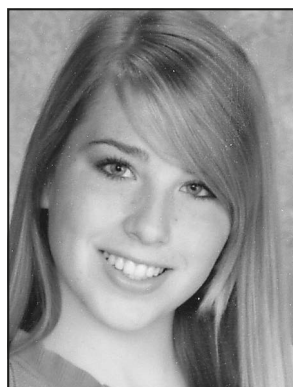
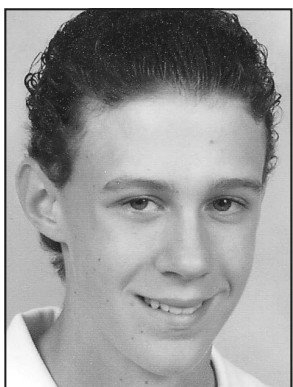
Philip Hrobak Award

Stephanie Husek Award



SVAC, DAVID MICHAEL
Parents: Kathleen & Michael Svac, Branch: 670K ~ Donora, PA, College/University: Purdue University Major: Engineering

WALD, REBECCA ANNE
Parents: Ruth Matinko Wald & Barry Wald, Branch: 670K ~ Donora, PA, College/University: Johns Hopkins University, Major: Bio-medical & Public Health

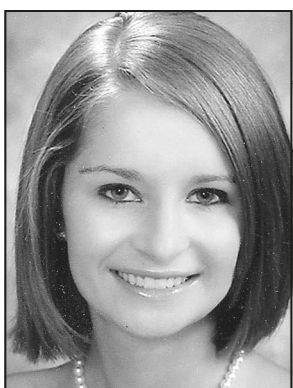
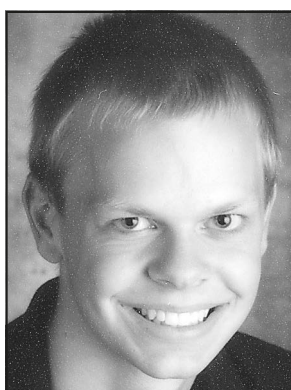


BEDA, ALYSSA MARIE
Parents: Janice & Thomas Beda, Branch: 762K ~ Whiting, IN, College/University: The College of William & Mary Major: Pre-Medicine (Biology, Kinesiology or Neuroscience)

BENDGEN III, WILLIAM ADEN
Parents: Mary Ann & William Bendgen, Jr., Branch: 738K - Munhall, PA, College/University: John Carroll University, Major: Undecided (interested in Psychology)

BOBBY, ANNA VIRGINIA
Parents: Kathleen & David Bobby, Branch 731K ~ Youngstown, OH, College/University: John Carroll University, Major: Classical Language

John A. Sabol Nursing Awards – 3



HORAK, MYCHAEAL
Parents: Sue & Mark Horak, Branch: 721K ~ Bannister, MI, College/University: Lansing Community College, Major: Nursing

REED, JENNA
Parents: Julianne & David Reed, Branch: 553K ~ Akron, OH, College/University: Kent State Stark University, Major: Pre-Nursing

BOX, MARGARET
Parents: Diane & Daniel Box, Branch: 152K ~ Plymouth, PA, College/University: Wells College, Westminster College (undecided), Major: Psychology

BRADLEY, SHANNON
Parents: Lisa & Patrick Bradley, Branch: 75K ~ Shamokin, PA, College/University: West Chester University of Pennsylvania Major: Psychology

BRIGGS, COURTNEY
Parents: Tami & Leonard Briggs, Branch: 312K ~ Latrobe, PA, College/University: Saint Vincent College, Major: Undecided



ROSSMAN, KAITLYN
Parents: Christine & Daniel Rossman, Branch: 165K ~ Erie, PA, College/University: Edinboro University of Pennsylvania Major: Nursing

SELL, MEGAN
Parents: Christine & Charles Sell Branch: 553K ~ Akron, OH College/University: The University of Akron, Major: Registered Nursing

BROWN, TARA LYNN
Parents: Marianne Kyes & Tim Brown, Branch: 002K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Fairmont State University, Major: Pre-pharmacy

CENKNER, REBECCA
Parents: Susan & John Cenkner, Branch: 2K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Saint Vincent College, Major: Biology

CHAMRA, NICOLE A.
Parents: Carolyn & David Chamra, Branch: 324K ~ Carteret, NJ, College/University: New York University, Major: Law

2009 Jednota Scholarship Winners



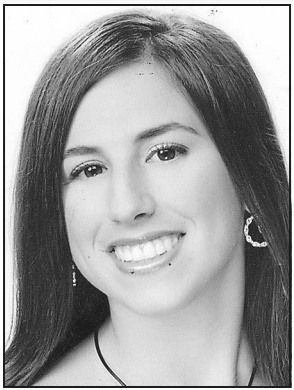
CHELKO, KATHRYN M.
Parents: Mona Jean & Bernard Chelko, Branch: 280K ~ Natrona Heights, PA, College/University: Saint Francis University, Major: Physical Therapy



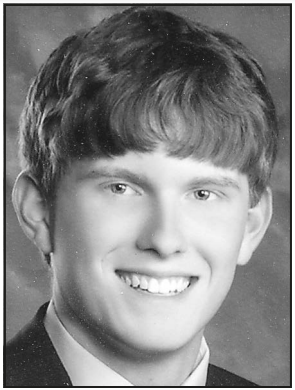
CIRINCIONE, EMILY NICOLE
Parents: Karen & Richard Cirincione, Branch: 738K ~Munhall, PA, College/University: Suny Geneseo, Major: Psychology



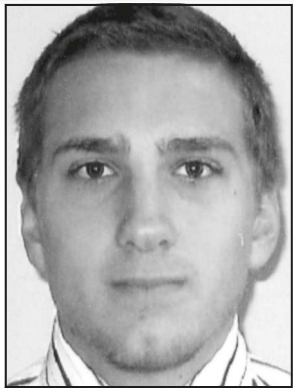
CVEJKUS, EVAN M.
Parents: Judy & Kenneth Cvejkus, Branch: 580K ~ Duquesne, PA, College/University: Duquesne University, Major: Business/Psychology



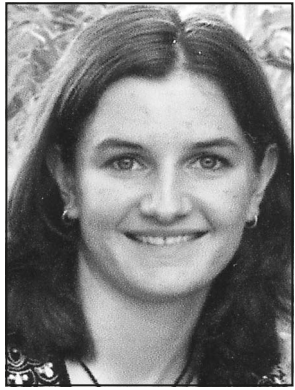
DEPIETRO, ALYSSA
Parents: Maureen & Frank DePietro, Branch: 382K ~ Scranton, PA, College/University: Penn State University, Major: Undeclared/Medical



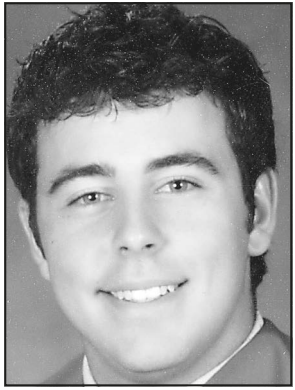
FARRELL, DANE MICHAEL
Parent: Christine Farrell, Branch: 401K ~ East Vandergrift, PA, College/University: Saint Vincent College, Major: Pharmacy



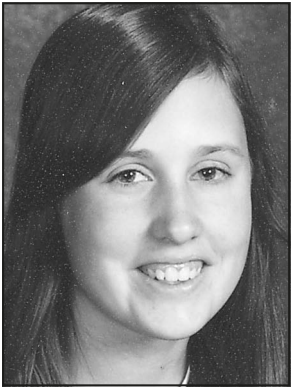
FEDOR, CHRISTOPHER
Parents: Linda & Mike Fedor, Branch: 238K ~ Moscow, PA, College/University: University of Pittsburgh, Major: Computer Science



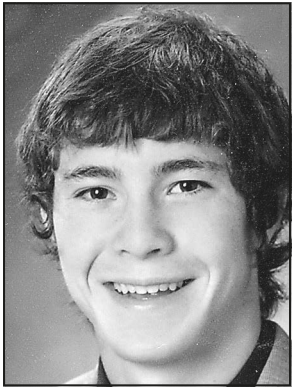
FIALKO, KATHLEEN
Parents: Linda Lechert Fialko & John Fialko, Branch: 040K ~ Streator, IL, College/University: Colorado State University, Major: Fish, Wildlife & Conservation Biology



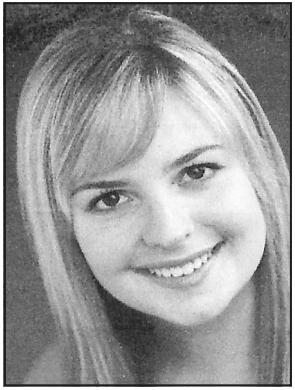
FREI, MATTHEW
Parents: Donna & Steven Frei, Branch: 55K ~ Philadelphia, PA, College/University: Gwynedd - Mercy College, Major: Pre-med, Biology



GALLAGHER, JANNA
Parents: Mary Jane & Joseph Gallagher, Branch: 10K ~ Olyphant, PA, College/University: University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, Major: Pharmacy



GEZO, ZACHARY
Parents: Joy & Lawrence Gezo, Branch: 831K ~ Tarentum, PA, College/University: Duquesne University, Major: Sports Marketing & Law



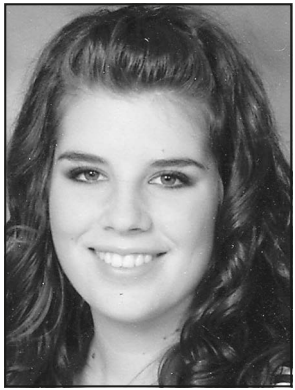
GREENE, MORGAN
Parents: Darlene & Steve Greene, Branch: 24K ~ Independence, OH, College/University: Indiana University, Major: Musical Theatre



GRIEBBE, KRISTIN
Parents: Mary & Christopher Griebbe, Branch: 615K ~ Harper Woods, MI, College/University: University of Michigan, Major: Pre-medicine



HANLON, ALYSSA
Parents: Cynthia and Joseph Hanlon, Branch: 004K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Daemen College, Major: Physical Therapy



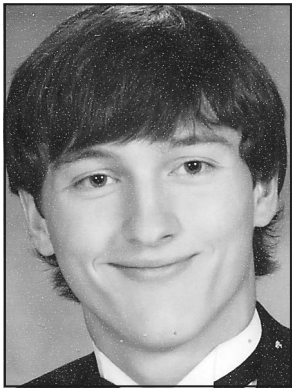
HANLON, LAUREN
Parents: Lynn and James Hanlon, Branch: 004K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: University of Pittsburgh, Major: French/Business



HANNOLD, CAITLYN RENEE
Parents: Karen and Timothy Hannold, Branch: 038K ~ White Oak, PA, College/University: Clarion University, Major: Biology/Chiropractic Medicine



HATZER, MEGHAN F.
Parents: Agnes and Patrick Hatzer, Branch: 040K ~ Streator, IL, College/University: One of the following: Eastern Illinois University, Bradley University, Northern Illinois University or Illinois State University, Major: Health Science - Speech Pathology or Pharmacy



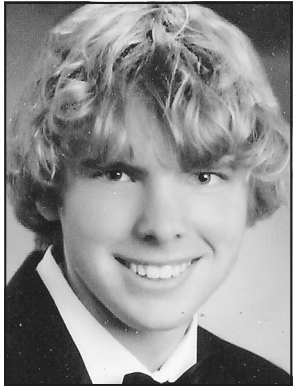
HUSEMAN, WESLEY
Parents: Dorothy and David Huseman Branch: 853K ~ Charleroi, PA, College/University: University of Notre Dame or Villanova University, Major: Civil Engineering



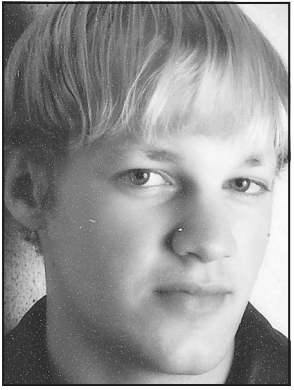
JURNAK, DANIELLE
Parents: Joyce and George Jurnak, Branch: 240P ~ Taylor, PA, College/University: Wilkes University, Major: Clinical Laboratory Technology



KEARNS, ALICIA
Parents: Jokay and Creighton Kearns, Branch: 567K ~ Allentown, PA, College/University: University of Oregon, Major: Pre-nursing/Human Physiology



KENDERES, KEVIN
Parents: Patricia and Michael Kenderes, Branch: 166K ~ Binghamton, NY, College/University: University of Scranton, Major: Biochemistry



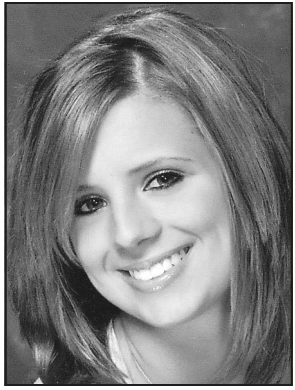
KIRCHNER, DANIEL DAVID
Parents: Judy and David Kirchner, Branch: 510K ~ Kenosha, WI, College/University: University of Platteville, Major: Crop and Soil Sciences



KULICK, AMANDA
Parents: Vickie and Albert Kulick, Branch: 701K ~ Delmont, PA, College/University: West Virginia University, Major: Forensic Sciences

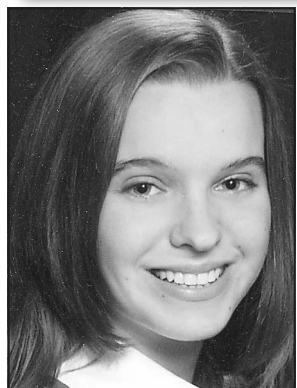


LAMBERT, JUSTINA
Parents: Nancy and Kerry Lambert, Branch: 796K ~Egypt, PA, College/University: The University of Scranton, Major: Psychology



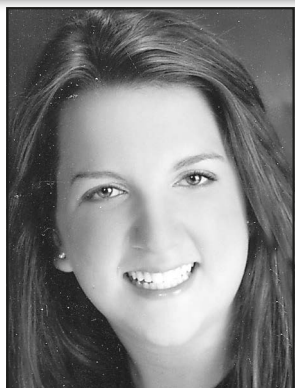
LESON, CHELSEA
Parents: Denise and Eugene Leson, Branch: 731K ~ Youngstown, OH, College/University: Akron University, Major: Athletic Training

2009 Jednota Scholarship Winners



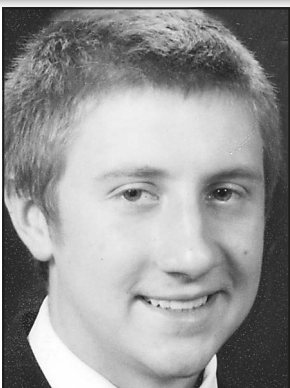
LIZBINSKI, KRISTYN

Parents: Christine and David Lizbinski, Branch: 294K ~ Tresckow, PA, College/University: Saint Joseph's University, Major: Biology



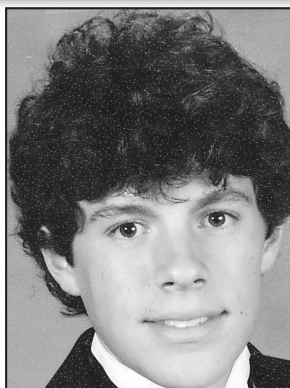
LUCHANSKY, KAITLYN

Parents: Anne-Marie and Mark Luchansky, Branch: 308K ~ Youngstown, OH, College/University: John Carroll University, Major: Pre-Optometry/Biology



LUMAS, MATTHEW J.

Parents: Theresa and Edward Lumas, Branch: 019K ~ Trumbull, CT, College/University: University of New Haven, Major: Mechanical Engineering



MARTINO, EVAN WYSE

Parents: Carole Wysocki and John Martino, Branch: 016P ~ West Wyoming, PA, College/University: Harvard College, Major: Economics or International Relations



MARX, ALEAH ANN

Parents: Lori and Jeffrey Marx, Branch: 002K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Slippery Rock University, Major: Elementary Education



MENDUS, PATRICK A.

Parents: Kathleen Dlugos and Kreg Mendus, Branch: 199K ~ Norvelt, PA, College/University: Oberlin College, Major: English literature/History/Library Science



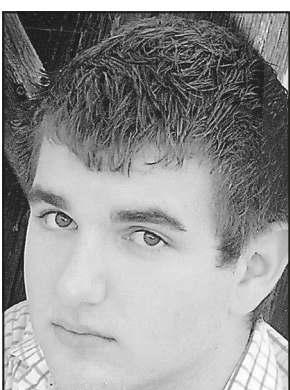
MIHAIOFF, NICOLE A.

Parents: Anne and Thomas Mihailoff, Branch: 002K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: University of Pittsburgh, Major: Accounting



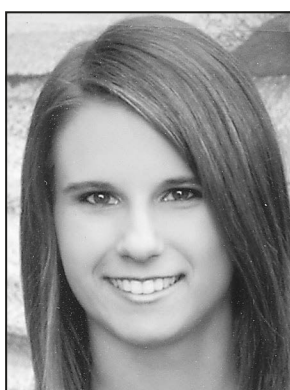
MONKS, LYDIA

Parents: Susan and Thomas Monks, Branch: 019K ~ Trumbull, CT, College/University: The University of Connecticut, Major: Education



MONZO, NICHOLAS A.

Parents: Cathy and Richard Monzo, Branch: 199K ~ Norvelt, PA, College/University: University of Pittsburgh, Major: Neuroscience



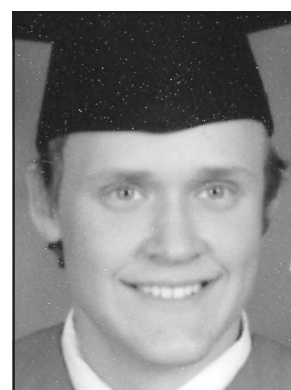
MOTUZA, JENNA

Parents: Linda and Richard Motuza, Branch: 855K ~ Cleveland, OH, College/University: Butler University, Major: Pharmacy



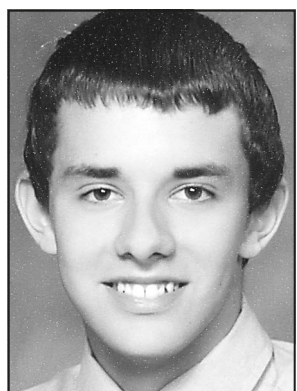
OPRIAN, CANDACE MARIE

Parents: Suzanne and John Oprian, Branch: 553K ~ Akron, OH, College/University: Kent State Stark University, Major: One of the following: Pre-med/Osteopathy/Veterinary/Culinary Arts



PAYNE, JOHNATHAN

Parents: Laurie and Kurt Payne, Branch: 055K ~ Broomall, PA, College/University: La Salle University, Major: Communications



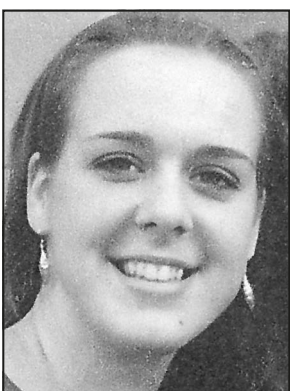
PEZEK, BLAISE

Parents: Sandra and John Pezek, Branch: 181K ~ Latrobe, PA, College/University: Mount Aloysius College, Major: Accounting



POHL, SUSANNE

Parents: Ann and David Pohl, Branch: 756K ~ Owosso, MI, College/University: Michigan State University, Major: Spanish/Business



POPOVICH, RACHEL

Parents: Cindy and David Popovich, Branch: 276K ~ McKeesport, PA, College/University: The Pennsylvania State University, Major: Undecided



PUSKAR, ALYSE

Parents: Monica and Stanley Puskar, Branch: 181K ~ Latrobe, PA, College/University: The Pennsylvania State University, Major: Nursing



RAMSEY, JOSEPH

Parents: Jill and Kenneth Ramsey, Branch: 153K ~ Chicago, IL, College/University: Fordham University, Major: Business - Banking/Finance



RICHARDS, MADISON

Parents: Dianne and Clark Richards, Branch: 456K ~ Hawk Run, PA, College/University: University of Cincinnati or Ohio University, Major: One of the following: Nursing, Nurse Practitioner, Physician's Assistant, Pharmacist



SCHNUPP, EMILY

Parents: Sandra and Joe Schnupp, Branch: 002K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Point Park University, Major: Advertising/Public Relations



SHEBBY, JENNIFER

Parents: Gloria and Len Shebby, Branch: 005P ~ Exeter, PA, College/University: Marywood University, Major: English



STAS, LEAH

Parents: Nancy and Edward Stas, Branch: 199K ~ Norvelt, PA, College/University: Westminster College, Major: Elementary Education



SULLIVAN, KATHLEEN

Parents: Mary and Michael Sullivan, Branch: 313K ~ Chicago, IL, College/University: University of Dayton, Major: Biology/Pre-med



SZELC, ALEXA

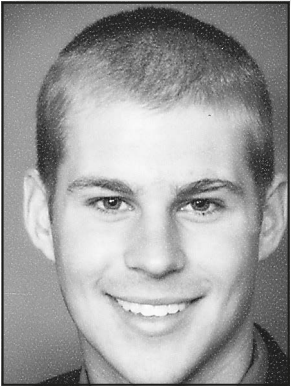
Parents: Susan and Robert Szelc, Branch: 410K ~ Uniontown, PA, College/University: Duquesne University, Major: Pharmacy



TRUMBETTA, AMBER M.

Parents: Eleanor and Thomas Trumbetta, Branch: 393K ~ Greensburg, PA, College/University: Saint Vincent College, Major: Accounting

2009 Jednota Scholarship Winners



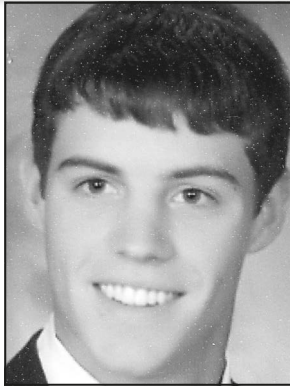
UHAS, MICHAEL D.

Parents: Linda and David Uhas, Branch: 327K ~ Pottstown, PA, College/University: The Pennsylvania State University, Major: Elementary Education



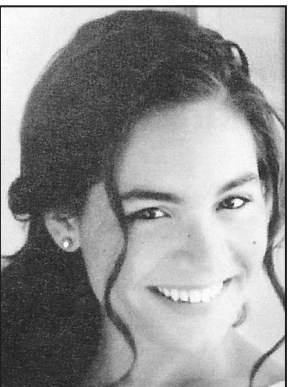
VAN LEUVEN, HOLLY P.

Parents: Janet and William Van Leuven, Branch: 005P ~ Pittston, PA, College/University: The University of Scranton, Major: English/Creative Writing



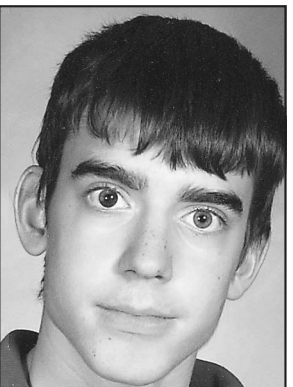
VAUPEL, MATTHEW

Parents: Marcia and Bill Vaupel, Branch: 628K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: The Pennsylvania State University, Major: Chemical Engineering



WALDSCHMIDT, CHELSEA ANN

Parents: Diane and Steven Waldschmidt, Branch: 002K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Bowling Green State University, Major: Journalism



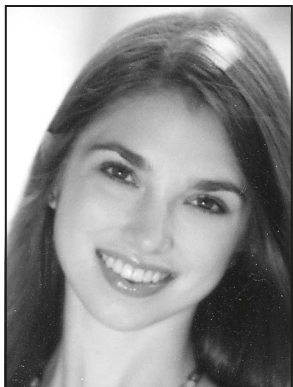
WANSER, AARON

Parents: Rita and George Wanser, Branch: 157K ~ Slatington, PA, College/University: State University of New York Delhi, Major: Architecture



WARGO, RACHEL

Parents: Deborah and John Wargo, Branch: 110K ~ Olyphant, PA, College/University: Keystone College, Major: Pharmacy



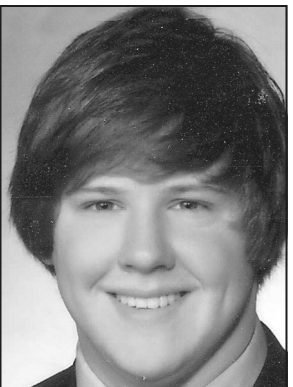
WIETCHY, LAUREN

Parents: Susan and Mark Wietchy, Branch: 743K ~ Sterling Heights, MI, College/University: Saginaw Valley State University, Major: Communications/Public Relations



WOJCIK, AMANDA

Parents: Carol and Randall Wojcik, Branch: 136K ~ Nuremberg, PA, College/University: Luzerne County Community College, Major: Psychology



ZELENY, JONATHAN L.

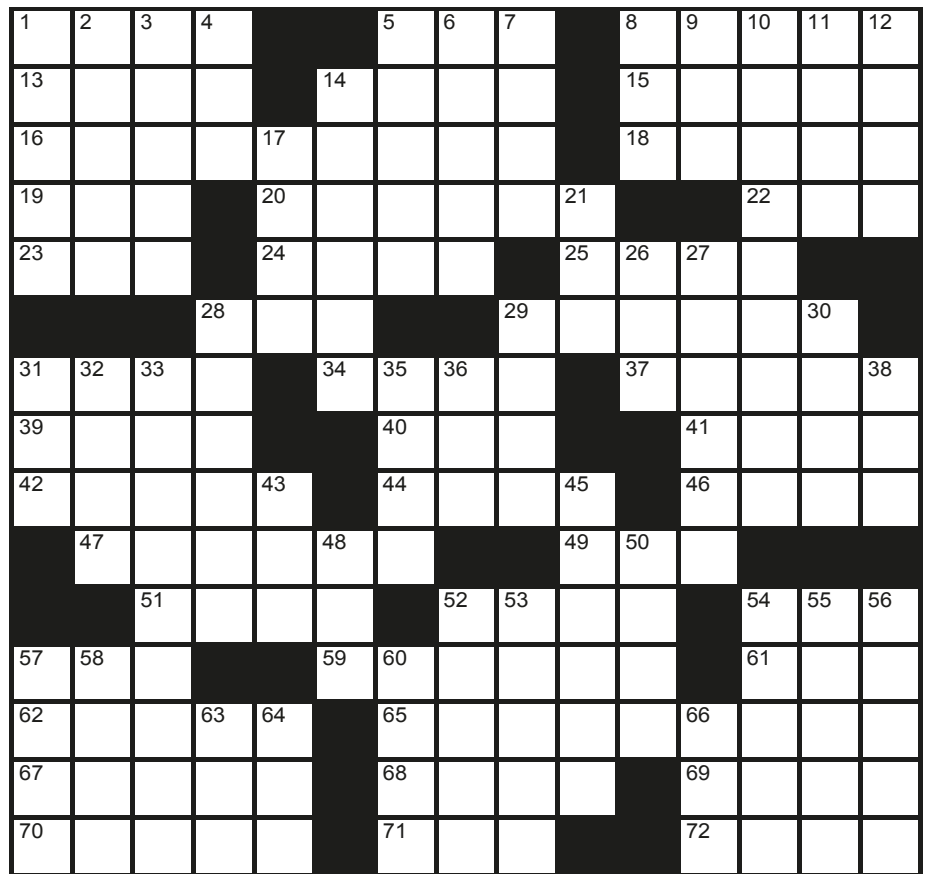
Parents: Janice and Gerard Zeleny, Branch: 002K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Alderson Broadus, Major: Music



ZELENY, MARISSA

Parents: Mary and Mark Zeleny, Branch: 002K ~ Pittsburgh, PA, College/University: Liberty University, Major: Spanish Teacher Education

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Paraphernalia
- 5 Request
- 8 Implied
- 13 Seaweed
- 14 Golf club
- 15 Electron tube
- 16 Treat roughly
- 18 Prospector
- 19 Fr. summer
- 20 Caught a baseball
- 22 Devotee
- 23 Stitch
- 24 Jackrabbit
- 25 Exude
- 28 Unrefined
- 29 Exit
- 31 Docile
- 34 Heroic tale
- 37 Washstand
- 39 Voiced
- 40 Existed
- 41 Old wives' tale
- 42 Speedy
- 44 Epochs
- 46 Biscuit
- 47 ___-eyed
- 49 Carney, for one
- 51 Boundary
- 52 She (Fr.)
- 54 Heel
- 57 Paycheck (Abbr.)
- 59 Installment TV show
- 61 Pigment
- 62 Mountain nymph
- 65 Overwhelming electoral victory
- 67 Mus. instrument
- 68 Residents (Suffix)
- 69 Roman poet
- 70 Handles
- 71 Weekday (Abbr.)
- 72 Acquires

Down

- 1 Contests
- 2 Intoxicate
- 3 Fmr. VP
- 4 Stadium cry
- 5 Passion
- 6 Figure out
- 7 Leg part
- 8 ___-o'-shanter
- 9 Cuckoo
- 10 Priest
- 11 Thought
- 12 Slender gull
- 14 Relations
- 17 Turk. title
- 21 Hound
- 26 Eyeball
- 27 Dogmatist
- 28 Trusted
- 29 Comfort
- 30 Father
- 31 High rocky hill
- 32 Saddle horse
- 33 Canadian emblem
- 35 Departed
- 36 One-liner
- 38 Modern
- 43 Mr. Hammarskjold
- 45 Side dishes
- 48 Thing, in law
- 50 Elec. units
- 52 Muse of poetry
- 53 Napery
- 54 Seasoning plant
- 55 Scrutinize the books
- 56 Exploits
- 57 College student, for short
- 58 Opera
- 60 Do away with (Abbr.)
- 63 Insect
- 64 Computer operating system inits.
- 66 Ship's record



See Solution on Page 20

FCSU LIFE



**PROTECT
YOUR CHILDREN
FOR ONLY
\$14.00
YEARLY!**

This is not a misprint. Read on to find out how.

YOUR FAMILY COMES FIRST.

Your family is the center of your life. You would do anything for them. We are offering you this economical opportunity to guard your children and help them on their way to financial responsibility.

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- Annual premiums are eligible for scholarships

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FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
of the United States and Canada
6611 Rockside Road
Independence, OH 44131-2398



**Jednota,
Monsignor Shuba District cordially
invite you to their**

Annual SLOVAK FAMILY DAY Picnic



On Sunday, July 26, 2009
Mass at the grounds starting at 12 noon

<p>Lunch to be served after the Mass</p> <p>Schnitzel \$8.00 Gulash \$ 6.00 Hot Dogs \$1.00</p> <p>BBO at 4pm</p>	<p>At Creditvale Park On Barbertown Rd, Mississauga</p> <p><i>Admission \$6.00 for adults Children under 12 is Free</i></p>
---	--

4.75%

**FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY
FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY/IRA**

Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity – Currently Earning 4.75% (4.641% APR)

Under the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity, you may make periodic payments into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at, or greater than, the guaranteed rate. You can open the account with as little as \$500.00 and make additional deposits (\$25.00 minimum) as your financial situation allows. Additional deposits are not mandatory.

At the retirement age you choose, the funds accumulated in the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity may be withdrawn using any of the FCSU's lump sum or periodic income settlement options.

Features of the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity include:


- The FCSU guarantees your deposits will accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- Your annuity continues to accumulate interest after you have stopped contributing and have begun to receive retirement income. The interest rate you receive on your annuity after settlement will never be less than 3.0%.
- Death Benefit-If you die prior to settlement, your beneficiary receives the full cash value of the annuity. If you die while receiving retirement benefits, the value of your remaining guaranteed benefits will be paid to your beneficiary.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Since annuities are meant to be long-term investments for providing retirement funds, funds withdrawn during the first six years of your contract are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. You may withdraw 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Your interest will be added to your account. You may, however, elect to have your interest paid directly to you on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually basis. This is called an Interest Option and the interest rate is slightly lower than if you left your interest to accumulate.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- Also available in a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA (subject to IRA Guidelines)

**CONTACT THE HOME OFFICE OR YOUR LOCAL BRANCH FOR MORE INFORMATION.
YOU CAN ALSO VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT FCSU.COM**

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4.25%

EFFECTIVE 4/1/2009

4.25% (APR 4.162%)

*Interest rate Guaranteed for 6 years



**6 YEAR
FIXED RATE**

Our **FIXED RATE 6-YEAR** annuity offers you the following benefits:

- A much higher interest rate than other current low rates available
- Rate is guaranteed for 6 years. No interest rate fluctuation or changes
- The power of annuity tax deferral.
- A safe, secure and competitive investment for your retirement (IRA) funds
- Opportunity to lock-in a competitive rate for 6 years and avoid the turmoil of stock market volatility

The **FIXED RATE 6-YEAR** annuity has the following features and terms:

- Interest rate fixed for 6 years
- 10% penalty free annual withdrawal (based on contract cash value at the beginning of each year)
- 6-year withdrawal penalty period: 1st year-6%, thereafter reduces 1% each year for next 5 years. Bank withdrawal penalties are much higher
- Not applicable to any settlement option annuity funds, or interest only annuities
- Annuity withdrawal prior to age 59 ½, subject to Federal Excise Tax Penalty
- Minimum deposit \$5,000

COMPARE OUR FIXED RATE 6-YEAR ANNUITY RATE TO YOUR LOCAL BANK RATES

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Call 1-800 Jednota or 1-216-642-9406

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FCSU!**

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Including:

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- Child Care
- Cobra Premium & Educational Expense
- Home Invasion
- Evacuation & Repatriation
- Spouse or Domestic Partner Employment
- Training Expense
- Permanent Total Disability Benefit

Quarterly Premium Rates

<u>Principal Sum</u>	<u>Single</u>	<u>Family</u>
\$100,000	\$12	\$18
\$200,000	\$24	\$36
\$300,000	\$36	\$54
\$400,000	\$48	\$72
\$500,000	\$60	\$90

Premiums can be paid with
Credit Cards, Debit Cards, or a Bank Account.

Special Fraternal Benefit

If a member or a new member (ages 30-65) is issued a minimum \$10,000 Whole Life, a 20-Pay Life, or a *Single Premium Policy, issued after August 1, 2008, FCSU will include, as a Fraternal Benefit, a single \$25,000 **AD&D Benefit at no additional charge for as long as a premium is being paid. Contact your local branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682 for further details.

*Single Premium Policies are eligible for the first 5 years
**Insurance is underwritten by Federal Insurance Company, a member insurer of the Chubb Group of Insurance Companies. Exclusions may apply. Insurance may not be available in all jurisdictions.

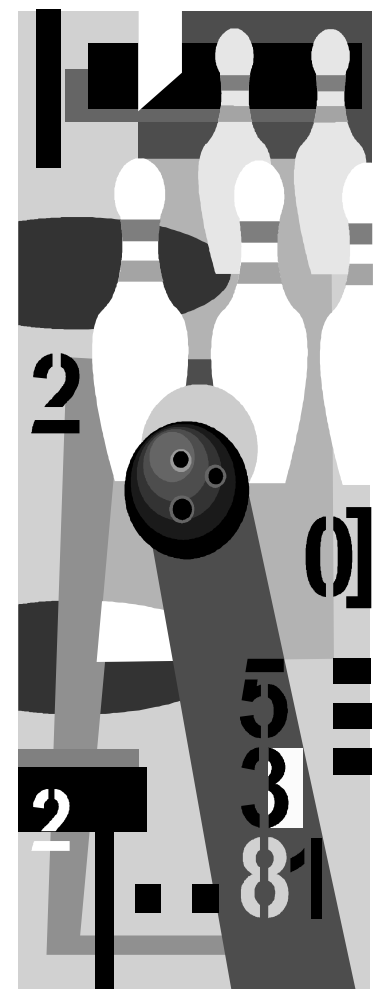
55th Men's International Jednota Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament Results

Place	All Events Competition	Total Pins
1	Bozik Joseph	2186
2	Hickler George	2185
3	Ashcraft Alan	2140
4	Roberts John	2093
5	Pallo Eugene	2075
6	Johnston Lynn	2072
7	Smith James Jr.	2051
8	Lutes Donald Jr.	2042
9	Dunn Alex	2029
10	Jursa Joe	2023
11	Smith Vernon C.	2016
11	Adamcik John	2016
13	Detwiler Charles	1996
14	Johnston Derek	1995
15	Smith Shane	1991
16	Beckinger David	1976
17	Sanders Brian	1974
18	Krasonic John Jr.	1972
19	Radic John	1970
20	Koncerak Steve	1965
21	Brown Kevin	1957
22	Gmerek Len	1951
23	Greene Dick	1944
24	Laird Thomas	1939
25	Rice David	1925
26	Prentice Douglas	1922
26	Duda Ronald Sr.	1922
28	Newman Kevin	1918
29	Dunham Kevin	1913
30	Augustine John	1910
30	Sinagra Dave	1910
32	Jamison Mike	1898
33	Pusatere Joseph Jr.	1896
34	Hynes William	1895
35	Siesky Jeff	1884
36	Chapman Bill	1879
37	Kozar Ronald	1875
38	Kapitan Mike	1870
38	Pusatere Joseph Sr.	1870
40	Richnafsky Nathan	1867
41	Gaydos Richard	1865
42	Walko Dan	1864
43	Sadler Richard	1862
44	Larson Michael	1859
45	Rybansky Fr. Eugene	1851
46	Joscak Ron	1850
47	Lako Mike	1843
48	LeJeune Jim	1842
49	Joscak Ed	1841
50	Naccarato Dean	1840
51	Klacka Paul	1835
52	Huber Jim	1834
53	Erhardt David	1831
54	Oswald Howard	1827
55	Joscak Dan	1826
56	Prpich Jack Jr.	1825
57	Mitro Milos	1823
58	Ward James	1820
59	Wiggins Timothy	1812
59	Kuma John	1812
61	Moravec Michael	1810
62	Pella Stan	1807
62	Painter Mathew	1807
62	Smith Vernon E.	1807
65	Sersen John	1804
65	Schwab Randy	1804
67	Tokarsky John	1801
67	Pallo Chris	1801
69	Jursa Emil	1795
70	Cervenka George Sr.	1790
71	Collins Pat	1782
72	LeJeune Dave Sr.	1780
72	Eller Terry	1780



Place	Singles Competition Cont.	Total Pins
68	Augustine John	599
68	Walko Dan	599
70	Pusatere Joseph Jr.	598
70	Geyer William	598
72	Tokarsky John	597
73	Mitro Milos	592
74	Kacsanek George	591
74	Detwiler Dean	591
76	Silay Ron	583
77	Kopanic Robert	581
77	Tretinik Robert	581
79	Pella Stan	580
80	Joscak Dave	579
81	Frolo Robert	578
82	Kapitan Mike	577
83	Shank Clarence Sr.	570
84	Oswald Howard	569
85	Newman Douglas	568
86	LeJeune Dave Sr.	566
87	Silay Tom	564
88	Cervenka George Sr.	556
89	Szabo Jim	555
89	Eller Terry	555
91	Ward James	552
92	Joschak Richard	550
93	Collins Pat	542
94	LeJeune Dave Jr.	541
95	Duda Robert	538
96	Arnold Weldon	537
97	Smith Vernon E.	535
98	Klacka Paul	520
99	Jursa Emil	510
100	Shank James	508
101	Koncerak Frank Jr.	505
102	Grys Greg	500
103	Brekosky Jim	453

Place	All Events Cont.	Total Pins
74	Detwiler Dean	1779
75	Tretinik Robert	1778
76	Koncerak Frank Jr.	1777
77	Geyer William	1774
78	Shank Clarence Sr.	1773
79	Nasta Fr. Tom	1771
80	Healey Larry	1759
81	Joschak Richard	1756
82	Forma Ed	1755
83	LeJeune Dave Jr.	1750
84	Silay Ron	1742
85	Romolock Harry	1738
86	Burkhart Joe	1736
87	Stasko Edward	1719
88	Joscak Dave	1715
89	Kacsanek George	1712
90	Hunt Zachary	1706
90	Lutheran Dave	1706
92	Kopanic Robert	1704
93	Szabo Jim	1676
93	Silay Tom	1676
95	Shank James	1671
96	Frolo Robert	1668
97	Cannon James	1655
98	Bright Richard	1653
99	Arnold Weldon	1627
100	Grys Greg	1621
101	Newman Douglas	1620
102	Duda Robert	1586
103	Brekosky Jim	1549
104	Lako Ray	1092



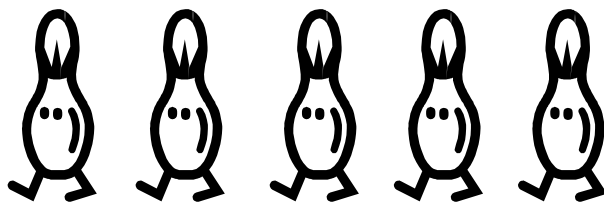
46th Women's International Jednota Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament Results

Place	Team Event	Total Pins
1	Br. 2's First Time Girls	2300
2	Four Striking Gals	2261
3	Mon Valley #2	2245
4	Mon Valley #9	2182
5	Canadian Ladies	2161
6	Mon Valley #6	2151
7	Ragan Girls	2149
8	Mon Valley #7	2127
9	Mon Valley #8	2123
10	Mon Valley #4	2119
10	Mon Valley #5	2119
12	Black-n-Gold	2111
13	Mon Valley #1	2069
14	Mon Valley #3	2039

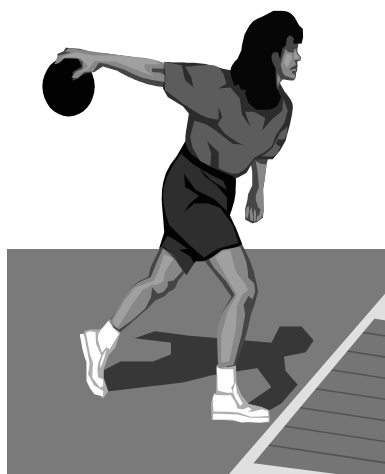
Place	Doubles Event		Total Pins
1	Tomas	Ricciuti	1192
2	Roberts	Newman	1167
3	Rice	Barney	1165
4	Hunt	Bulko	1140
5	Fisher	Sadler	1139
6	Erhardt	Erhardt	1133
7	Smith	Ramsey	1131
8	Welsh	DeMarco	1119
8	Bright	Boden	1119
10	Jursa	Grys	1114
11	Lako	Kruly	1111
12	Shortall	Siesky	1104
13	Goodyear	Kapitan	1092
14	Hrcka	Gorman	1082
15	Ashcraft	Robb	1052
16	Prentice	Bozik	1048
17	Ragan	Ragan	1035
18	Stasko	Pusatere	1032
19	Mitro	Szabo	1031
20	Miller	Neff	1020
21	Shank	Dotson	1016
22	Farquhar	Bickerton	1013
23	Kopanic	Kuma	1008
24	Salvino	Winterhalter	1001
25	Brown	Mavrovich	958
26	Bright	Seese	915
27	Raleigh	Hornak	901

Place	Singles Event		Total Pins
1	Kapitan	Ruzena	669
2	Roberts	Brea	666
3	Smith	Tina	633
4	Kruly	Ceil	627
5	Tomas	Sharon	626
6	Lako	Carol	620
7	Mitro	Anne	618
8	Kopanic	Blanche	612
9	Welsh	Mary Ellen	611
10	Jursa	Marilyn	591
11	Bright	Tracey	590
12	Prentice	Marna	586
13	Barney	Beth	585
14	Shank	Virginia	575
14	Newman	Jessica	575
16	Hunt	Eileen	572
17	Ashcraft	Debbie	570
18	Grys	Helen	560
18	Fisher	Kay	560
20	Seese	Christine	559
21	Szabo	Cathy	558
22	DeMarco	Marla	552
23	Bright	Kim	547
23	Bickerton	Bonnie	547
25	Ragan	Joelyn	541
26	Erhardt	Debbie	537
27	Hrcka	Helen	533
27	Sadler	Shannon	533
29	Bulko	Janet	531
30	Gorman	Irene	530
31	Rice	Nancy	529
32	Ramsey	Jennifer	528
33	Miller	Marti	526
34	Bozik	Kim	524
35	Ragan	Jara	516
35	Salvino	Tracey	516
37	Pusatere	Leslie	515
38	Ricciuti	Denise	513
39	Boden	Diane	508
39	Shortall	Amy	508
41	Mavrovich	Mary	507
42	Neff	Mikki	505
43	Goodyear	Chris	504
44	Dotson	Andrea	502
45	Stasko	Melissa	501
46	Robb	Bonnie	500
47	Winterhalter	Mary Beth	499
48	Kuma	Charlotte	497
49	Siesky	Georgann	490
50	Raleigh	Jennifer	484
51	Farquhar	Linda	478
51	Brown	Cindy	478
53	Erhardt	Katie	452
54	Hornak	Julie	425

Place	All Events Competition		Total Pins
1	Tomas	Sharon	1833
2	Smith	Tina	1812
3	Welsh	Mary Ellen	1808
4	Barney	Beth	1805
5	Roberts	Brea	1802
6	Kapitan	Ruzena	1787
7	Lako	Carol	1771
8	Sadler	Shannon	1765
8	Jursa	Marilyn	1765
10	Newman	Jessica	1758
11	Kruly	Ceil	1751
12	Mitro	Anne	1743
13	Bright	Kim	1729
14	Kopanic	Blanche	1672
15	Shank	Virginia	1660
16	Ashcraft	Debbie	1645
17	Bozik	Kim	1643
18	Ricciuti	Denise	1635
19	Fisher	Kay	1628
20	Grys	Helen	1624
21	Ragan	Joelyn	1622
22	Bulko	Janet	1610
23	Hrcka	Helen	1607
23	Gorman	Irene	1607
23	Shortall	Amy	1607
26	Rice	Nancy	1594
27	Prentice	Marna	1586
28	Salvino	Tracey	1582
29	Stasko	Melissa	1575
30	Goodyear	Chris	1570
31	Bright	Tracey	1568
32	Erhardt	Katie	1567
33	Erhardt	Debbie	1565
34	Siesky	Georgann	1561
35	Ragan	Jara	1559
36	Neff	Mikki	1558
37	Hunt	Eileen	1552
38	Miller	Marti	1548
39	DeMarco	Marla	1547
40	Farquhar	Linda	1543
41	Robb	Bonnie	1536
41	Bickerton	Bonnie	1536
43	Seese	Christine	1531
44	Winterhalter	Mary Beth	1530
45	Boden	Diane	1529
46	Szabo	Cathy	1524
46	Mavrovich	Mary	1524
48	Kuma	Charlotte	1523
49	Pusatere	Leslie	1504
50	Brown	Cindy	1471
51	Raleigh	Jennifer	1454
52	Dotson	Andrea	1432
53	Hornak	Julie	1401

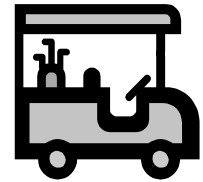


Place	Seniors Competition		Total Pins
1	Kopanic	Blanche	612
2	Welsh	Mary Ellen	611
3	Jursa	Marilyn	591
4	Shank	Virginia	575
5	Fisher	Kay	560
5	Grys	Helen	560
7	DeMarco	Marla	552
8	Hrcka	Helen	533
9	Gorman	Irene	530
10	Ragan	Jara	516
11	Boden	Diane	508
12	Neff	Mikki	505
13	Goodyear	Chris	504
14	Kuma	Charlotte	497
15	Farquhar	Linda	478





Accent on Activities



2009 International Golf Tournament

May 2009

We are proud to announce that the First Catholic Slovak Union and the Slovak Catholic Sokol will be having a joint Golf Tournament this year. The Golf Tournament will take place August 14 – 16, 2009, at the Clarion Oaks and Hi-Level Golf Courses in Clarion, PA. The Holiday Inn hotel is adjacent to the Clarion Oaks golf course and located in the picturesque community of Clarion, PA. The surrounding area offers a selection of restaurants, shopping centers and other local amenities.



Both golf courses offer our members spectacular golf facilities with a professional driving range, putting greens and a slope rating of 127. Clarion Oaks is an established course with 18 holes and is ranked one of the best courses in the region. The second course is Hi-Level Golf club also has 18 holes and a wonderful clubhouse with many amenities. Both golf courses have several individual holes that gracefully cut through the country hills. We are working closely with the resort and golf management, to host a wonderful fraternal, golf weekend.

The cost for this year's event is \$285.00 for golfers which includes your three (3) full rounds of golf with carts, two nights lodging at the resort, two (2) breakfasts, (Saturday and Sunday mornings), one (1) wonderful dinner, (Saturday night) a sponsored hospitality evening on Friday night, a complimentary host bar on Saturday night, your tournament entry fee and prize money. (All taxes and gratuities are included)

The non-golf weekend package rate is \$140.00 (inclusive), which includes meals and lodging. Finally, for our local members who may not require the entire hotel and meal package, there is a golf only package for \$145.00, which includes entry and tournament expense fees. These are outstanding packages for the service, quality of meals and golfing that one will enjoy throughout the weekend.

All meals will be served at the Holiday Inn hotel, as well as the Saturday night victory banquet. There will be a charge of \$25.00 for those members that would like to purchase additional banquet tickets for Saturday night only. The banquet will feature a wonderful 4 course sit down meal with host bar. All of this is part of your golf or non-golf package. Holy Mass of obligation will take place shortly before dinner at approximated 5:30 pm followed by a cocktail hour. A short program will follow dinner including the announcement of our tournament leaders and a welcome from our keynote speaker.

You can expect to see your registration forms in the mail later this month.

This is a historic event that we hope shows that Slovak Fraternalists can work together and build stronger relationships that will result in benefits for all members. Come and be a part of history at this year's Golf Tournament!



CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS, AGES 12 - 18!

Get your cameras ready! We are starting a photography contest for those members between the ages of 12 and 18.

Submit your photo in one of the following categories:

People
Nature or Environment
Travel or Destinations
FCSU Fraternal Activity

Judging will be done by an outside professional and all photos will be returned.

For each category, the following prizes will be awarded.

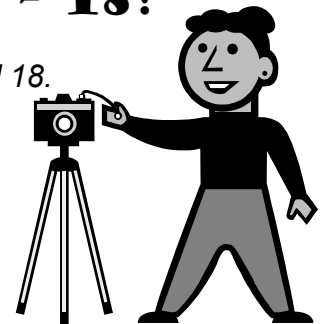
\$50 – First Place
\$30 – Second Place
\$20 – Third Place

An Overall Winner will be awarded \$100

Mail your entry to:

Susan Ondrejco
Photo Contest
234 Ilion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

postmarked by October 1, 2009.



Rules:

1. The photos have to be taken by the member submitting it (no computer generated photos, other than digital ones).
2. One Entry per Category
3. Any size photo up to 8" x 10", unmounted, in black and white or color is permitted. (No touched up or computer enhanced photos permitted.)
4. Name, address, Branch number, age, and where the picture was taken should be submitted on a **separate sheet of paper**. DO NOT MARK BACK OF PICTURE

2009 Regional Picnics



Watch for notices of the Regional Picnics in your area this summer. Requirements for reimbursement of your regional picnic are posted at www.fcsu.com. Your Regional Director also has the guidelines for reimbursement. If your picnic qualifies, your district could be entitled to \$5 per member in attendance.

2009 Golf Tournament Info Sheet

Friday, August 14

- ◆ Practice Round of Golf – You call the Pro Shop of the Course you want to play to set up a tee time
 - Clarion Oaks Golf Course (814) 226 – 8888
 - Hi-Level Golf Course (814) 797 - 1813
- ◆ Hospitality Room, Holiday Inn, Clarion. 6 PM – 10 PM

Saturday, August 15

- ◆ Registration begins at 7am. Golf starts at 8am.
- ◆ Clarion Oaks or Hi-Level Golf Courses
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm at the Holiday Inn, Clarion.
- ◆ Banquet begins at 6:30pm at the Holiday Inn, Clarion.

Sunday, August 16

- ◆ Golf starts at 8am, Clarion Oaks or Hi-Level Golf Courses

Hotel Information

Prices have been negotiated at the following hotel:
 Holiday Inn, Clarion
 45 Holiday Inn Road
 Clarion, PA 16214
 814-226-8850

As in the past, you must make your own hotel arrangements by contacting the hotel directly and leaving a credit card for all incidentals. The room rate is included in the package price and is based on double occupancy.

This year a block of 150 rooms have been reserved per night at the resort, on behalf of the organization.

2009 Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament



August 15 and 16, 2009
 Clarion Oaks and Hi-Level Golf Courses
 Clarion, PA

Registration Forms postmarked after July 9, 2009 will NOT be accepted.

Fees (per person):

_____ Full Golf Package –
 1 practice round of golf on August 14 with cart, 2 rounds of golf on August 15 and 16 with cart,
 2 nights of lodging, Friday night hospitality, Saturday breakfast and dinner, Sunday breakfast

Package Fee:	\$ 260.00
Prize Fee:	\$ 15.00
Tournament Fee:	\$ 10.00
TOTAL DUE:	\$ 285.00

_____ Golf Only Package –
 1 practice round of golf on August 14 with cart, 2 rounds of golf on August 15 and 16 with cart

Package Fee:	\$ 120.00
Prize Fee:	\$ 15.00
Tournament Fee:	\$ 10.00
TOTAL DUE:	\$ 145.00

_____ Non Golf Package -
 2 nights of lodging, Friday night hospitality, Saturday breakfast and dinner, Sunday breakfast

Package Fee:	\$ 140.00
TOTAL DUE:	\$ 140.00

_____ Banquet Only Fee: \$ 25.00
TOTAL DUE: \$ 25.00

Please make checks payable to "FCSU Activities" and mail this registration form with check to:
 Susan Ondrejco
 234 Iliion St.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15207

2009 Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament



August 15 and 16, 2009
 Clarion Oaks and Hi-Level Golf Courses
 Clarion, PA

Registration Forms postmarked after July 9, 2009 will NOT be accepted.

1. Golfer Name _____

Place me in the over 62 Division* (check the box)

My Personal Information is the same as 2008** (check the box)

Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email Address _____
 Branch Number _____
 Certificate Number _____ Sokol Member? Y N

2. Golfer Name _____

Place me in the over 62 Division* (check the box)

My Personal Information is the same as 2008** (check the box)

Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email Address _____
 Branch Number _____
 Certificate Number _____ Sokol Member? Y N

* You must be age 62 or over to enter this division.
 ** If you participated in the 2008 tournament and your personal information has not changed, you do not need to complete the rest of the information.

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

The handicap allowed will be 75% of the average strokes over par for the last 8 years. 100% of the average strokes over par for the last 8 years will be used to divide into Flights.

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

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

Golfers must be members in good standing of the FCSU.

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

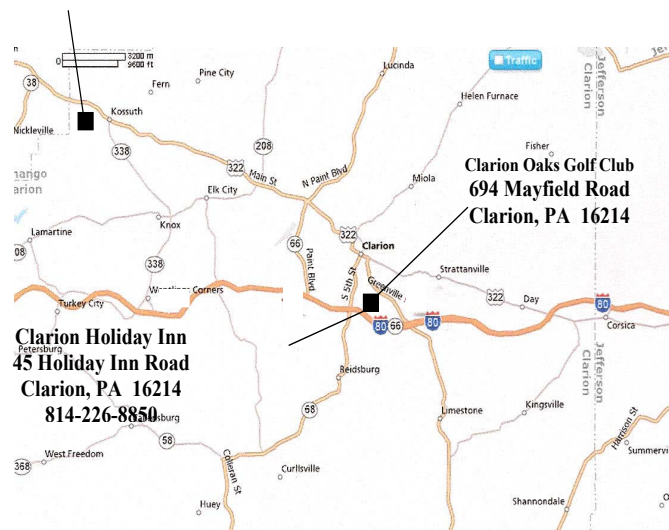
Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament

August 14th - 16th, 2009

Clarion Oaks and Hi Level Golf Resorts – Clarion, PA

Map and Directions (to the Clarion Holiday Inn)

Hi-Level Golf Course
 148 High Level Lane
 Kossuth, PA 16331
 814-797-1813



Clarion Oaks Golf Club
 694 Mayfield Road
 Clarion, PA 16214

Clarion Holiday Inn
 45 Holiday Inn Road
 Clarion, PA 16214
 814-226-8850

From the North/West (Cleveland):

Take I-77 S via the ramp to Akron. Take exit 146 to merge onto I-80 E toward Youngstown (Partial toll road). Take exit 218 to merge onto I-80 E (Partial toll road entering Pennsylvania) Take exit 62 for PA-68 E toward Clarion. Turn left at PA-68 W, Turn right at Holiday Inn Rd.

From the South (Pittsburgh):

Take I-579 N/PA-380 E. Merge onto I-579 N via the ramp on the left to Veterans Bridge. Take the exit onto PA-28 N toward Etna. Take the exit onto PA-28 N/US-422 E toward Kittanning/Indiana. Continue to follow PA-28 N. Turn left at PA-66/Wood St. Continue to follow PA-66. Turn left to merge onto I-80 W/PA-66 N. Take exit 62 to merge onto PA-68 W toward Clarion. Turn right at Holiday Inn Rd.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1- CLEVELAND, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold the next scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in Saint Cyril School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. Summer activities and business topics are on the agenda. All members are encouraged to attend.

Branch held election of officers at the regular business meeting. The following were elected: John M. Golias, President; Andrew Hudak, Vice President; Marie A. Golias, Secretary; Mary Dubber, Treasurer; and Joseph Hornack and Richard Korecko, Trustees. All the best is wished for them during their term in office.

Mary Dubber

BRANCHES 5, 240, 263, AND 419- OLYPHANT, NANTICOKE, DUPONT, AND WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branches 5, 240, 263, and 419 will hold a joint Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 19, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Joe Obester, 500 Brown Street, Duryea, Pennsylvania. All members are urged to attend. There will be a discussion of branch consolidation and other important branch business. A buffet will follow the meeting.

Joseph Obester, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 10- OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, invite all Branch 10 members and their families to the annual Mass and Communion Breakfast on Sunday, June 28, 2009. The 8:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Ghost Church in Olyphant will be offered for all living and deceased members of Branch 10. Immediately following the Mass, a complimentary breakfast for members and their families will be held at the Regal Room, 212-218 Lackawanna Avenue, Olyphant. Reservations are requested and may be made by calling 570/489-9819 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. no later than Friday, June 19.

**William A. Nalevanko,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 24- CLEVELAND, OHIO

Members of the St. Andrew Society, Branch 24, are invited to the American Zemplin Club Picnic on Sunday, July 12, 2009 and

the Slovak Radio Club Picnic on Sunday, August 2, 2009. Both will be held from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. at St. Sava Picnic Grove, 2151 Wallings Road (between State and Broadview Rds), Broadview Heights, Ohio.

Why not attend and meet with some of your fellow branch members? There will be plenty of Slovak food, music and dancing.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 38- DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Tuesday Evening, June 16, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of the Secretary/Treasurer, Florence Matta, 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, Pennsylvania. Members are encouraged to attend.

The annual Father's Day Luncheon will be held Sunday, June 21, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. at St. Barnabas Church Hall, Swissvale, Pennsylvania. Members wishing to attend are asked to please call Florence Matta at 412/466-7460 by June 17, 2009.

Florence K. Matta, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 90- OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 90, will hold a Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Michael P. Glinsky, 129 Grant Street, Olyphant, Pennsylvania.

Barbara Sochovka, Secretary

BRANCH 153- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 153, will hold its mid-year meeting on Saturday, June 20, 2009, at 12:00 noon at the home of John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. All members are invited to attend. There will be a fraternal luncheon after the meeting. The branch will pay for members and their spouse.

Please remember the following members in your prayers who have passed on to their eternal reward: Joseph Selsky, Edward Pavlak, Emil

Kerch, Ed Tybor, Ambrose Smith, Richard Mensik, Anne Pavlak, and Paul Jurcenko.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162- UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. at K2 Engineering C, 234 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Officers' reports will be given and branch activities will be discussed. All members are invited to attend. Call Dolores Marmol for more information.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 173- GREATER WILKES-BARRE-WYOMING VALLEY AREA, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Baptist Society, Branch 173, and Branch 232, located in the Wilkes-Barre and surrounding areas, will have their Semiannual Meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. at Norm's, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre. On the agenda will be a discussion of general business, FCSU insurance and annuities, and fraternal activities. If you plan to attend, please notify Dorothy A. Ungvarsky at 570/403-2067 no later than June 14, so arrangements can be made.

Dorothy A. Ungvarsky, President

BRANCH 181- UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 181, will hold its annual Family Picnic on Sunday, June 28, 2009, from 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m. in pavilion #14, located at the lower level ball diamond across from the dam in Mammoth Park. As in the past, there will be good food, games, and prizes. Every adult attending is asked to bring a covered dish with some extra to share. The meat and drinks will be provided by the branch. There will be games and gifts for the children.

To give the officers an idea of how much food to prepare, please call C. Pfeifer at 724/423-2983, Ed Mizikar at 724/423-2616, or George Sprock at 724/423-4199, if you plan to attend with the number of adults and children on or before June 20.

Come and enjoy an afternoon of friendship, fellowship, and fraternalism.

Gerry Kovacina

RANCH 199- HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 199, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Francis Pipak. A good turnout is requested.

Sophie Pipak

BRANCH 213- RENFREW, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael Society, Branch 213, will hold a Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. at 3061 Kensington Court, Renfrew, Pennsylvania. All members are asked to attend.

Joe Belechak, Secretary

BRANCH 240P- TAYLOR, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 240P, will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 21, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. at the residence of Stephen J. Kavulich, 41 Hedge Row Run, Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania.

Stephen J. Kavulich, President

BRANCH 260- CAMPBELL, OHIO

The St. Matthew Society, Branch 260, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 21, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Church, Rev. Cyril Adamko Hall. Important items pertaining to the portfolios, the upcoming convention, plans for the remainder of the year, as well as other business matters will be discussed. Members are urged to attend. We welcome their participation in whatever the Branch may undertake. We must keep our branch viable but it will take many more members to attend the meetings.

Charles M. Terek, President

BRANCH 292- WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 292, will celebrate the feast of its patron St. John the Baptist on Sunday, June 21, 2009 with a buffet at 1:00 p.m. at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Av-

enue, Windber, Pennsylvania. The Semiannual Meeting will also be held at this time.

A Mass will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of the branch on June 24, 2009, at 8:00 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Windber.

All members are asked to attend both events.

Edward T Surkosky, F.I.C., President

BRANCH 293- LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Katherine Drexel Church Social Hall, 124 East Abbott Street, Lansford, Pennsylvania.

Anyone needing insurance or service should contact Mr. Robert J. Lakata, 527 E. Bertsch St., Lansford, PA 18232, or leave a message at 570/645-4872.

Robert J. Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 320- STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 320, invite the members to attend the next meeting on Sunday, July 12, 2009, at 12:00 noon at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. Since lunch will be served, please call Fran at 724/929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

BRANCH 421- NANTY GLO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 421, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Lillian Stager, 124 Circle Drive, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania. There will be nomination and election of officers.

Lillian R. Stager, Secretary-Treasurer

BRANCH 484- CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph the Protector Society, Branch 484, will be held Sunday, June 14, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. in St. Francis Church Hall, Coral, Pennsylvania. Information from the Rev. John Martvon District Semiannual Meeting will be presented. All members are welcome. Any member who would like to be more informed about the Jednota or become a branch officer is especially encouraged to attend.

Joseph E. Rura, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 430- SIMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 430, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, August 16, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Elizabeth M. Pisarcik. Branch 430 held its last meeting on May 3, 2009 at the home of Elizabeth M. Pisarcik.

Elizabeth M. Pisarcik, President

BRANCH 581- GARY, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 581, will hold its regular Luncheon-Meeting on Sunday, July 12, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. at the Riverpoint Country Club, 8700 Country Club Road, Hobart, Indiana. On the agenda will be a discussion of future activities for the summer and fall. An outing to see the Railcats baseball team is being considered.

Within the past few years, the addresses of a few members have been listed as "unknown". The lost members of Branch 581 are: Michael Benyo, Helene Foss, Joseph Hinda, John Mandula, David Medved, Elizabeth Rektorik, Mary Vrska and Joseph Vrska. If you have any information on these "lost members", please contact the Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA, or Ann Buczek, 8981 Norris Dr., Hobart, IN 46342, so updates can be recorded.

Ann Buczek, President

BRANCH 587- ALQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 587, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Albert Valo, 1835 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

Edith Valo, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 670- DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the St. Anthony of Padua Soci-

ety, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the next meeting on Sunday, June 28, 2009, at 12:00 noon at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon in Donora, Pennsylvania. Members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 731-YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 731, is planning a baseball outing to cheer on the Mahoning Valley Scrappers baseball team. The game is on Wednesday, July 15, 2009, at the Eastwood Field, Niles, Ohio. The Scrappers will host the Staten Island Yankees at 7:00 p.m.

Branch 731 members attending will receive a complimentary box seat ticket and refreshments. Nonmembers are welcome to join us at a cost of \$20. The deadline for reservations is Tuesday, June 30, 2009. Please call Grace Kavulich at 330/539-4886 for your tickets.

Jim Bobby, Secretary

BRANCH 743- STERLING HEIGHTS/DETROIT, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, is sponsoring a Detroit Tiger Baseball Game outing on Tuesday, August 4, 2009 at 7:05 p.m. against the Baltimore Orioles. Members will be in section 213 (upper deck-1st base side). This is also a Tiger promotion night, and the first 10,000 fans get a Tiger 2009 All-Star poster. The individual price for each ticket is \$15.00, however your cost will be only \$8.00. We have initially ordered only 40 tickets for this promotion. Therefore, there is a limit of 4 tickets per household. The deadline for ordering tickets is June 18. All purchases up to 40 tickets will be honored. If we do not sell all the tickets we will contact all ticket purchasers after June 18 affording them the opportunity to increase their purchase. However, there will be no refunds after June 18. Tickets will be mailed to you the first week in July. Send your check payable to FCSU-Branch 743 before June 18 to: Joseph C. Rimarcik, 42909 Sussex Park Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087. Be sure to include your phone number and email address when ordering. Go Tigers!

Joseph C. Rimarcik, President

BRANCH 785- TORONTO, ONTARIO

The St. John Society, Branch 785, will hold its Semiannual Meeting with the Msgr. Michael Shuba District on Thursday, June 18, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, Mississauga, Ontario.

Milos Mitro, Regional Director

BRANCH 856- WASHINGTON, D.C., MARYLAND, AND VIRGINIA

Our other of Sorrows Society, Branch 856, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Monday, July 27, 2009, at the home of Financial Secretary Katherine Nowatkoski, 12127 Westwood Hills Drive, Oak Hill, Virginia. On the agenda will be a discussion of the District meeting, our branch lunch, and other business. Members are encouraged to attend. Please call Stephen Matula at 703/671-3013, or Katherine Nowatkoski at 703/860-1693. Hope to see more members at this meeting.

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 857- LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 857, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at 15 Kraft Lane, Levittown, Pennsylvania.

The officers of Branch 857 extend to all wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer.

Damian D. Nasta, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2009 • HOME OFFICE • INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

President Andrew Rajec called the Special Meeting of the Executive Committee of the First Catholic Slovak Union to order at 1:00 P.M. The President stated that this meeting concerns the annuity rates for the second quarter of 2009.

ROLL CALL

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call with the following members present at the Home Office:

- Andrew M. Rajec, National President;
- Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary;
- and the members present by telephone:
- Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President;
- George F. Matta, Treasurer.

The President led a discussion regarding the establishment of annuity rates effective April 1, 2009 for the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to establish the rates as follows :

First Catholic Slovak Union Annuity & IRA interest rates effective April 1, 2009:

- The annual yield on existing Flexible Premium Deferred Annuities & IRA's is 4.75% (4.641% APR).
- The annual yield on a new "Park 2 Annuity" is 4.25% (4.162% APR).
- The annual yield on a new six year Fixed Rate Annuity & IRA is 4.25% (4.162% APR).
- The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Option is 4.50% (4.402 % APR).
- The annual yield for new Settlement Options is based on 4.25% (4.162% APR).

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the special meeting.

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary



Gems of Slovak Music in Washington, D.C.

by Jan Šimko, Washington, D.C.

Shortly after the memorable April 22, 2009 "invasion" of Washington, D.C. by a group of young virtuosi from the Bratislava Conservatory of Music, on May 12, a duo of Slovak virtuosi again delighted us with an outstanding performance at the Slovak Embassy. They were the tenor of the Opera of the Bratislava Slovak National Theatre, Ondrej Šaling, accompanied by the Slovak virtuoso pianist, Daniel Buranovský. While the mature singing wielded by tenor Šaling has so far not been well known here, Daniel Buranovský's piano mastery has been fully appreciated in our area, and also paid due tribute in several articles of mine printed in the Slovak-American press.

Tenor Šaling linked his high-level singing mastery to Buranovský's piano virtuosity. Both musicians raised their superb performances, combined and individually, to a high level; indeed they demonstrated their musical mastery throughout. This met with loud applause from the very appreciative audience, thrilled by the exceptionally high level of musical artistry displayed for them, especially that of tenor Šaling. It was as if he held his glorious voice in his palms, shaping it the way a visual artist shapes a piece of clay into an object of art.

The concert was nicely balanced both as to its informative-educational element and its musical-aesthetic components. In the first part, we heard songs and compositions by Slovak composers, certainly unknown to the vast majority of the non-Slovak audience, yet so much more appreciated by the Slovak listeners for their being only seldom heard here and, what is more, in such a superb performance.

First heard were works by the "nestor" of the Slovak folk song, Mikuláš Schneider Trnavský. Their romantic music evoked earlier times but it well imparted that period's mood. Somewhat more modern-sounding was the piece by Tibor Andrašovan of the "younger" generation. The climax of the first part was reached in the works of Eugen Suchaň, founder of the Slovak modern school of music. Aesthetically-musically we were most moved by excerpts from his epoch-making composition, "Metamorphoses." No sooner did we hear the opening sounds than we were struck by their neo-impressionism, which makes them musically so captivating. Buranovský also charmed us by his bravura rendering of four excerpts.

Tenor Šaling then treated us to superb renditions of excerpts from operas by Mozart, Donizetti, and Tchaikovsky (Lenský's melancholy aria before the duel). The pianist then inserted his bravura rendition of List's "Liebestraum," No. 3, after which the tenor intoned well-known Italian songs, such as "O sole mio," as was the custom of the late Luciano Pavarotti at the close of his performances. While the latter embellished them with effective stage gestures, tenor Šaling concentrated on the bravura rendition of these popular songs. His vocal performance, centering on the concert and a musically clear rendering of these popular songs, deserve credit for his first-rate vocal presentation in no respect inferior to Pavarotti, except for the latter's proverbial "charm." Šaling excelled with the penetrating force and the intonational purity of his beautiful voice.

In conclusion, Tenor Šaling touched the "soft cord" in Slovak emigrants in the audience, by singing the moving song about the longing of emigrants for their native land:

"Zaleť, vtáčik..." (Fly, bird, into my native land).

This unforgettable concert sparkled with high quality in all respects.

FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY

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Realm of Slovak Genealogy



Ray Plutko

Adding Some LIFE to Those Boring Pages”

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of feature articles addressing the realm of genealogy. It is one specifically designed for Slovak descendants and is so structured to serve as an introductory course for the novice, meet the needs of the advanced researcher— or, if nothing else, the curious.)

Well, how are those chapters progressing in the writing of your family history? No doubt you have an abundance of numerical information in the forms of dates/months/years, addresses, Social Security digits, and what seems like an endless list of priceless data.

Bravo, bravo, bravo! In fact, a curtain call is in order for your commitment and tireless efforts. But if I might be so bold as to suggest, make certain to inject some “life” into those dull pages. What were some of their traditions both here in the United States and the Slovak homeland? What about their social life? What were some of the stories they passed along?

With these as challenges, the following insights just might provide some prompts as you chronicle your Slovak ancestral past.

What Social Life?— The vast majority of our grandparents experienced little in the way of a social life upon immigrating into the United States— just making ends meet of the highest priority. That is, with the exception of grandpap's and grandma's Saturday night excursions. As for grandpap, it was the card game at the boarding house across from the steel mills, while grandma headed to the Bingo Hall. As for the latter, I have a vivid memory of her playing 16-plus cards while I struggled with 2 . . . and making runs to the refreshment stand for some *Nehi* orange soda and pretzels. Bingo was actually introduced at carnivals in Pittsburgh and the surrounding towns in the early 1920s and a few years later the game became the social event in town halls nationally.

Selecting a Date— Well, let's not sidestep all that genealogical data completely. If you are really astute, have you noticed that virtually all marriage dates in Slovakia between the years 1860-

1910 took place in the months of January and February (up to Ash Wednesday)? Rationale: Slovakia was an agricultural setting and there was little to attend in the fields during the winter period, with the recent harvests ensuring a full wedding feast. However, this practice is since far removed as the cultural norms today have shifted marriage dates most commonly to June through early November. Now how's that for research!

Prized Possessions— If one looks closely at the photographs of Slovak immigrants arriving from the “Old Country” in the early 1900s, a prominent feature amongst all those makeshift suitcases were their pillows and comforters— better known as *perina* (feather quilt). Most often these articles were gifts from aunts/grandmothers for a female's dowry and each acquisition was indeed the result of a “labor of love.” Generally a Slovak housewife would save poultry feathers plucked from geese and ducks over time and when an ample supply was accumulated, several others would join to tear the feathers and down off the quills. Just in case you are wondering, to prepare a pillow would require 10-12 geese to be plucked, while a comforter would take 40-50! Indeed a labor of love.

Ideal Gifts— When visiting relatives or friends in Slovakia it has always been customary to take a gift(s). Wine and flowers are perfect choices, but if presenting flowers a few words of caution— do so in odd-number groupings (except for 13 which is considered unlucky) and shy away from chrysanthemums and calla lilies as they by tradition are reserved for funerals.

Limited Job Market— During the period of 1865-1914 it is estimated a quarter of a million Slovaks emigrated to “Amerika” in search of stable work. However, few were educated and came from a confined agricultural workforce, thus limiting their range of employment opportunities. As a result the majority of males were siphoned off into the steel mills, coal mines, and railroads at the tune of an average 65 cents per hour! Unmarried females found work as hotel maids, domestic servants, and seamstresses. Needless to say, more than one “Mass Card” is in order for the sacrifices they endured on our behalf.

Hopefully, these random vignettes and thousands of others of our Slovak ancestors provide you with a compelling challenge to add some life to those stark pages. There's a story to be told here and if you don't shoulder the burden there's also a certainty that it will be lost forever— their place in the historical context of time and yours to follow.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: In hopes of assisting with your family research, available now is a detailed historical summary and comprehensive map for any single village in Slovakia at \$5 plus \$1 postage per each request. When ordering, further specify the largest nearby town and/or county where located. Make check payable to Ray Plutko, 6862 Palmer Court, Chino CA. 91710-7343.)

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

MSGR. MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT-ONTARIO, CANADA

The Msgr. Michael Shuba District will hold its Semiannual Meeting with Branch 785 on Thursday, June 18, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, Mississauga, Ontario.

Milos Mitro, Regional Director

GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT-WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of Branch 181 would like to extend an invitation to all its members and guests to attend our Summer Picnic. The picnic will be held on Sunday, June 28, 2009, at pavilion #14 at Mammoth Park, Mammoth, Pennsylvania. The pavilion is located at the lower level ball field across the road from the dam.

The day will begin with a Mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Florian Church, 4261 State Route 981, United, PA. Mass intention will be for all living and deceased members of Branch 181. The picnic will begin at 12:00 noon with lunch to be served at 1:00 p.m. There will be entertainment by the Slovaks. All members and guests are asked to bring a covered dish to be shared by all. The meat and drinks will be provided by the Branch. There will be games and prizes for the children and door prizes for the adults.

Come and enjoy a day of friendship, fellowship and fraternalism. In order to give the officers an idea of how much food to prepare, please call C. Pfeifer at 724/423-2983, E. Mizikar at 724/423-2616 or George Sprock at 724/423-4199 if you plan to attend. Please specify the number of children and adults before June 20, 2009. Please note this year's picnic is on Sunday. For further information call Gerry at 412/216-5527.

Teri Cramer

MSGR. ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT-MONONGAHELA VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 28, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon in Donora, Pennsylvania. Members from the District branches are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT-MONTREAL, CANADA

The Prince Rastislav District will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 28, 2009, after the High Mass in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Parish Hall, Montreal, Quebec. Branches are encouraged to send representatives. Branch activities will be discussed.

Alexander Dobrik, President

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT-PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Pittsburgh District will hold its annual Father's Day Luncheon on Sunday, June 21, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. at St. Barnabas Church Hall, Swissvale, Pennsylvania. Branch 60 will

be hosting the luncheon. Branch 2 will handle the program booklet. Branch 2 will be sending a notice regarding reservations, fees and deadlines to each branch. Please let them know who will be attending as soon as possible.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on Father's Day.

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT-PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will host the Father's Day Brunch on Sunday, June 21, 2009, at St. Barnabas in Swissvale. Branch 2 will handle the ad booklet.

The Annual Meeting is planned for Sunday, November 29, 2009 at Holy Trinity in West Mifflin. Branch 628 will be the host.

The officers of the Pittsburgh District would like to welcome Karianne Barnes as the new District vice president. We also wish all FCSU members a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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

Počuje ma niekto?

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Slávnosť v Divadle u Greškov v Tajove moderovala Soňa Sváčová. Prvým bodom programu bol veľmi vydarený telemost medzi Tajovom a mestom Wilkes-Barre, Pa., kde pôsobil otec Jozef Murgaš 33 rokov a odkiaľ prvý raz, 23. novembra 1905, zaznelo v éteri počuté slovo, ktoré zachytili v meste Scranton, Pa. Na otázky moderátorky odpovedali profesor Philip Tuhý, predseda výboru Spolku slovenského dedičstva vo Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



Katolícka púť v Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, N. Y.

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na Katolícku púť v nedeľu 16. augusta 2009 do Marian Shrine, Salesians of Don Bosco, West Haverstraw, New York 10983; Tel.: (845) 947- 2200. Pre tých, ktorí by chceli využiť možnosť svätej spovede, budú tak môcť urobiť pred svätou omšou. V programe Katolíckej púte je naplánovaná svätá omša o 11:00 hodine dopoludnia. Obed o 12:30 hodine odpoľudnia a Ružencová procesia o 2:30 hodine odpoľudnia.

Upozorňujeme, že tí ktorí majú záujem cestovať na túto púť autobusom nech sa prihlásia u brata Jozefa Bilika. Autobus bude pristený pri kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v meste New Yorku. Bližšie informácie o púti vám podajú na tel. číslach Jozef Bilik: (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová: ((201) 641- 8922.



Štátna tajomníčka MZV SR Diana Štrofová v New Yorku

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Slovenskej ligy v Amerike a Slovensko-amerického kultúrneho centra v New Yorku informovala o súčasnej situácii na Slovensku a dopadoch ekonomickej krízy, ako aj o pripravách na voľby do Európskeho parlamentu. Štrofová sa poďakovala a vyjadrila všestrannú podporu americkým Slovákom v ich snahe o udržiavanie slovenského dedičstva, tradícií a kultúry v USA. Podľa odhadov v zahraničí žijú asi dva milióny Slovákov, z toho v USA je najväčšia komunita – približne 800.000.

Predseda Svetového združenia Slovákov v zahraničí (SZSZ) Vladimír Skalský informoval účastníkov stretnutia o cieľoch tejto zastrešujúcej organizácie krajanských spolkov. Upozornil, že Slováci v zahraničí môžu pomôcť Slovensku nielen pri šírení kultúry a udržiavaní tradícií, ale majú možnosti v oblasti ekonomickej spolupráce. Skalský požiadal štátnu tajomníčku MZV SR o podporu na úrovni EÚ v rámci diskusie o vytvorení portfólia starostlivosti o Európanov. Štrofová vyjadrila podporu vyriešeniu otázky vysielania slovenskej televízie aj na území USA, ktorá patrí medzi prioritné požiadavky amerických Slovákov. Na stretnutí sa hovorilo aj o otázkach financovania a možnostiach využívania slovenských grantových systémov krajanskými organizáciami, možnostiach zahraničných Slovákov zúčastniť sa na voľbách v SR, ako aj záchrane kultúrneho dedičstva amerických Slovákov. Milan Čuba, člen výkonného výboru Slovenskej ligy v Amerike a generálnej rady SZSZ informoval o 120. výročí založenia najstarších slovenských novín vychádzajúcich v USA – Slovákov v Amerike.

Dvojdnovú pracovnú cestu do New Yorku v piatok (miestneho času) ukončila Štrofová rokovaniami na pôde OSN s Dmitrijom Titovom, námestníkom generálneho tajomníka OSN pre právny štát a bezpečnostné inštitúcie na Odbore mierových operácií Sekretariátu OSN a súčasne predsedom Medzi-agentúrnej pracovnej skupiny pre SSR, a stretnutím s Jordanom Ryanom, námestníkom generálneho tajomníka OSN a súčasne námestníkom administrátora Rozvojového programu OSN a riaditeľa Úradu pre prevenciu konfliktov a obnovu.



Garážový vynález dobýja svet

Pokračovanie zo str. 22

Investovať sa oplatí

Podľa Bartolomeja Janeka máme stále málo domácich technologických firiem, ktoré rozvíjajú vlastný výskum a vývoj, dokážu výsledky zaviesť do výroby a svoje produkty aj úspešne uviesť na trh a predávať. „Príde zahraničný investor, postaví fabriku a potom jedného dňa, keď mu už pobyt na Slovensku nevyhovuje, ju zavrie a presťahuje výrobu inde. Keď máte vlastný vývoj a výrobu, riadenie firmy vo vlastných rukách, je oveľa väčší predpoklad, že nebudete uvažovať o úniku, že sa s problémami pobijete. Bez silnej podpory štátu to však nepôjde,“ hovorí muž v montérkach.

Príbeh sa nekončí

Aj keď štátne stimuly nabrali v poslednom čase dynamiku, stále to nestačí. Do školstva, vedy a aplikovaného výskumu investujeme v porovnaní s vyspelými štátmi stále málo.

„Určite tu cítite pozitívne trendy. Pomohol nám aj vstup do EÚ, ktorá poskytuje rôzne benefity. Pravda, výskum v oblasti aplikovaných technológií je finančne mimoriadne nákladná a zároveň veľmi riziková záležitosť. Práve preto si vyžaduje masívnu podporu štátu. Pozrite sa na Japonsko. Technológie nedováža, ale exportuje. Ak chceme vo svete niečo znamenať, inej cesty niet.“

Mikuláš Jesenský

(Článok bol uverejnený v tlačenej vydání SME, 2. 5. 2009. Redakcia JEDNOTY ho uverejňuje so súhlasom autora v plnom znení).

a Magdaléna Benish, ktorá sa zaoberá históriou i aktuálnymi otázkami vo vzťahu k Rev. Jozefovi Murgašovi. Účastníci sa živo zaujímali o činnosť Spolku slovenského dedičstva. Profesor Philip Tuhý fundovane odpovedal na otázky a potvrdil, že projekt digitalizácie materiálov týkajúcich sa otca Jozefa Murgaša bude ukončený do roku 2014 k 150. výročiu jeho narodenia.

Magdalena Benish odpovedala aj na veľmi nepríjemné otázky týkajúce sa rozhodnutia biskupa Scrantonskej diecézy zatvoriť kostol Božského srdca Ježišovho v roku 2010, na ktorý sa viaže silné puto veriacich vo Wilkes-Barre, Pa., lebo tento kostol vybudoval Rev. Jozef Murgaš zo zbierok slovenských veriacich.

Konferenciu pozdravili starosta obce Tajov Peter Spevák, arcibiskup Banskobystrickej diecézy Rudolf Baláz a predseda Samosprávneho kraja Milan Murgaš, ktorý dobre pozná mesto Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a Scranton, Pa., pretože pôsobil niekoľko rokov na Scrantonskej univerzite. Prítomných pozdravil aj zástupca Veľvyslanectva USA na Slovensku, ktorý sa zaslúžil o putovanie Pittsburskej dohody po Slovensku. Tú podpísal aj Rev. Jozef Murgaš.

Na temu “Jozef Murgaš v službách Banskobystrickej diecézy” vystúpil s veľmi zaujímavou prednáškou vdp. ThDr. Gabriel Brendza PhD. Pôsobivo zhodnotil život otca Jozefa Murgaša na Slovensku až po jeho odchod do USA a tak obohatil prítomných o doteraz nepublikované informácie z archívnych materiálov.

Veľmi zaujímavé boli tiež prednášky RNDr. Miroslava T. Morovicsa na temu “Jozef Murgaš v stredobode záujmu slovenskej históriografie” a Ing. Vladimíra Murína na temu “Odkaz Jozefa Murgaša mládeži”.

S pozdravným prihovorom vystúpili aj manželka Anna a Jozef Birošovi, ako delegáti a členovia Spolku slovenského dedičstva vo Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a zároveň aj členovia Klubu Jozefa Murgaša a Jozefa G. Tajovského v Bratislave. Jozef Biroš, rodák z Wilkes-Barre, Pa., je hrdý, že bol pokrstený otcom Murgašom a ako trojročný sa zúčastnil pohrebu otca Jozefa Murgaša spolu so svojou matkou a osemročným bratom Cyrilom. Na konci prihovoru povedal: “Som hrdý na to, že som Slováčok”. Pozdrav konferencii sme odovzdali aj od Msgr. Františka Beedu, ktorý pôsobil v kostole Božského srdca Ježišovho vo Wilkes-Barre, Pa. viac než 15 rokov. Otec Beeda sa zaslúžil o zbierku na pamätnú tabuľu na Hlavnej pošte v Bratislave, ktorú odhalil spolu s vnučkou brata Rev. Jozefa Murgaša, profesorkou Blankou Kolibiarovou, v septembri roku 2008.

Prítomným som vysvetlila úsilie farníkov vo Wilkes-Barre, Pa. zachrániť nádherný neogotický kostol, ktorý postavil za pomoci farníkov otec Jozef Murgaš. Naše snahy vyústili viacerými petíciami do Rima. Tiež som informovala, že v dňoch 26.-30. apríla 2009 sa konala konvencia Slovenského katolíckeho združenia, ktorého zakladateľom bol práve otec Jozef Murgaš. Z konvencie bola odoslaná petícia biskupovi Scrantonskej diecézy na záchranu pamiatok tohto kostola viazucich sa k osobe otca Murgaša, osobitne obrazov, ktoré osobne namaľoval. Taktiež som informovala o spomienkovej slávnosti na cintoríne v Dallas, Pa., dňa 11. mája 2009, kde k hrobu otca Jozefa Murgaša bol položený veniec. Za účasti okolo 50 ľudí tam mal príhovor prof. Philip Tuhý a generálny konzul SR v New Yorku pán Igor Pokojný. Rev. Betts sa odmodlil litanie k najsvätejšiemu Srdcu Ježišovmu a zaznela pieseň “Odpočinutie večné daj mu o Pane” a mohutne zaznela aj hymnická pieseň “Hej, Slováci, ešte naša slovenská reč žije”. Album z tejto slávnosti sme dali kolovať medzi účastníkmi konferencie. Článok z tejto udalosti bol uverejnený v slovenských novinách v USA.

Na záver oficiálneho programu konferencie sa uskutočnila umelecká dramatizácia čítania z knihy Jozefa Vranku “Z doliny prerástol hory”, doplnená spevom a hrou na fujare. Život a dielo Jozefa Murgaša priblížil vynikajúci recitátor Juraj Sarvaš.

Po skončení programu nasledovala recepcia s veľmi dobrým pohostením. Nasledovala návšteva Pamätnej izby Jozefa Murgaša a jeho symbolického hrobu. Ešte sa chcem podeliť s vami, milí čitatelia, s ďalšou príjemnou udalosťou. Starosta obce Chrenovec-Brusno, pán Jozef Trgina, nám odovzdal obrazový materiál z odhalenia pamätnej tabule v ich obci, kde tiež pôsobil otec Murgaš. Jozef Vranka, autor knihy “Z doliny prerástol hory” obohatil knižnicu Slovenského dedičstva vo Wilkes-Barre, Pa., svojim dielom.

Na záver možno povedať, že všetci, čo sa zaslúžili o veľmi hodnotný a vydarený program, môžu byť spokojní, že odvedli kus dobrej práce a tak vzdali česť svojmu rodákovi, nášmu veľikánovi, otcovi Jozefovi Murgašovi, ktorý preslávil Slovensko vo svete. Vďaka vám všetkým.

Anna a Jozef Biroš



Členovia klubu Jozefa Murgaša s recitátorom Jurajom Sarvašom (druhý zľava), Branislav Longauer, delegáti z USA Anna Birošová, Jozef Biroš a Jozef Vranka, autor knihy “Z doliny prerástol hory”.

Biskup Rudolf Baláz bol v priamom spojení telemostom z Tajova do Wilkes-Barre kde hovoril s Prof. Filipom Tuhým.



Svätú omšu v kostole sv. Jána Krstiteľa celebrol otec Jozef Petrik.



Na snímke sú členovia tanečnej zložky folklórneho súboru ZOBOR. V úzadí stojí hlavná pokladníčka Cook okresu, Maria Pappas.

Maria Pappas pozdravuje folklórny súbor Zobor zo Slovenska

Hlavná pokladníčka Cook okresu v štáte Illinois, Chicago, Maria Pappas usporiadala nedávno recepciu v priestoroch svojho chicagskeho mestského úradu, na ktorom pozdravila vzácnych hostí zo Slovenska, bývalého arcibiskupa bratislavskej arcidiecézy, Jána Sokola a známy akademický folklórny súbor, ZOBOR. Na podujatí boli odovzdané ocenenia za vynikajúci prínos v slovensko-americkéj komunite, predsedovi Slovenského svetového kongresu v zahraničí Jánovi Vacvalovi a predsedovi Slovenskej aliancie v Chicagu, IL, Alojzovi Jurčíkovi.

V kultúrnom programe vystúpila tanečná zložka akademického folklórneho súboru Slovenskej poľnohospodárskej univerzity v Nitre, ZOBOR, ktorý patrí medzi najstaršie folklórne súbory na Slovensku. Zriaďovateľom FS ZOBOR, ktorý bol založený v roku 1956, je Slovenská poľnohospodárska univerzita v Nitre. Tvorí ho ľudová hudba, dievčenská spevácka skupina a tanečný súbor. Členmi týchto zložiek sú v prevažnej miere študenti oboch nitrianskych univerzít.

FS ZOBOR uskutočnil počas svojej existencie stovky vystúpení doma a v zahraničí (Turecko, Taliansko, Rakúsko, Španielsko, Portugalsko, Čína, USA, Holandsko, atď.), zúčastňuje sa folklórnych prehliadok, súťaží a slávností regionálneho i celoslovenského charakteru. V posledných desiatich rokoch k najvýznamnejším zahraničným reprezentačným aktivitám patria vystúpenia na celosvetovej výstave EXPO 98 v Lisabone a EXPO 2000 v Hannoveri, z domáciach podujatí udelenie cien na Celoštátnej súťažnej prehliadke programových blokov 2000 v Liptovskom Hrádku, na Akademickom Zvolene 1999 a 2001, titul laureáta festivalu Akademická Nitra 2002 a udelenie ceny na medzinárodnom súťažnom folklórnym festivale vo Wisle v Poľsku (Dni kultúry Beskydských Goralov) v roku 2003.



ÚSZZ a SNM predstavili Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí digitalizačný systém

Bratislava (TASR) – Cieľom dvojdňového seminára organizovaného v Bratislave Úradom pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚSZZ) a Slovenským národným múzeom (SNM), ktorý sa konal 21. a 22. mája, bolo predstaviť jeho účastníkom celoslovenský projekt Centrálny evidencie múzejných zbierok (CEMUZ) s využitím Elektronického systému evidencie zbierok (ESEZ). „Chceli by sme do tohto systému zapojiť múzeá a dokumentačné strediská Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí,“ uviedla riaditeľka odboru kultúry ÚSZZ Ľubica Bartalová. Predsedníčka ÚSZZ Vilma Prívarová dodala, že v rámci seminára ide aj o výmenu poznatkov zo spracovania dokumentov so zástupcami inštitúcií Slovákov zo zahraničia. „Bude ešte obsahovať aj ukážky ako spracovávať a digitalizovať materiály a vstupovať do on-line systému,“ doplnila s tým, že je totiž dôležité, aby do databázy vstúpili aj partnerské inštitúcie v zahraničí a boli tak poprepájané.

On-line pripojenie do systému je výhodné aj podľa generálneho riaditeľa SNM Petra Marákyho. Ako uviedol, pomáha to najmä vytvoriť a následne udržiavať kontakt so vzdialenými dokumentačnými centrami alebo múzejnými pracoviskami Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. „Preto sme sa po dohode s úradom rozhodli pripraviť inštruktáž na stretnutí so zahraničnými spolupracovníkmi a umožniť im prostredníctvom internetu využívať toto programové vybavenie, čím sa s nami zladia po stránke technologickej a technickej, ale aj po metodologickej,“ vysvetlil Maráky. Fakty o kultúre a živote Slovákov v zahraničí sú nevyhnutnou súčasťou dokumentov o živote Slovákov a Slovákov, preto Maráky oceňuje, že už desiatky slovenských múzeí využívajú programové vybavenie CEMUZ-u.

Na seminári s názvom Záchrana kultúrneho dedičstva Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí a databáza informácií o tejto problematike II. sa zúčastnili zástupcovia z ôsmich krajín „slovenského zahraničia“, ktorí sa na druhý deň zúčastnili odborného výkladu pod vedením lektorky SNM Viery Majchrovičovej s praktickými ukážkami spomínaného on-line spracovania zbierok pomocou informačného systému ESEZ.

Garážový vynález dobýja svet

Slovák Bartolomej Janek, autor revolučnej prevodovky

Tvoriví ľudia s dobrými nápadmi sa nerodia každý deň. Prevrtné vynálezy, ktoré prinášajú osoh pre ľudstvo, už vôbec nie. Štatistiky dokazujú, že revolučné riešenia v ktorejkoľvek oblasti ľudskej činnosti uzrú svetlo sveta raz za tridsať až päťdesiat rokov. Prešovčan Bartolomej Janek sa zaradil medzi najlepších európskych vynálezcov. Na Úrade priemyselného vlastníctva SR v Banskej Bystrici registrujú množstvo patentových prihlášok. Často však ide len o vylepšenie toho, čo už jestvuje, alebo kuriozity bez možnosti akéhokoľvek uplatnenia. Patent však môže získať len svetová novinka, ktorá sa dá priemyselne využiť. Medzi najúspešnejšie slovenské vynálezy patrí nenápadný produkt prešovskej spoločnosti Spinea. Firma patrí medzi špičku výrobcov ložiskových prevodoviek.

Vďaka prevratnému technickému riešeniu a vynikajúcim vlastnostiam sa stali reduktory TwinSpin žiadaným artiklom svetových lídrov vo výrobe robotov, v leteckom priemysle, producentov medicínskych prístrojov, obrábacích, tlačiarenských, textilných strojov, teda v každej oblasti, kde sa vyžaduje presnosť na stotiny či tisíciny milimetra. Autorom revolučnej prevodovky je Prešovčan Bartolomej Janek.

Vynálezca a technický riaditeľ spoločnosti vymenil začiatkom mája sivú montérkovú bundu za oblek. Na pražskom hrade bol medzi nominovanými na prestížne ocenenie Európsky vynálezca roka.

Robot epileptik

Pred viac ako tridsiatimi rokmi, po absolvovaní štúdia na Vysokej škole technickej v Košiciach, nastúpil Bartolomej Janek do prešovského VUKOV-u ako konštruktér. Už vtedy bol zreteľný celosvetový trend automatizácie a robotizácie výroby. Dušou matematik a fyzik, ktorý sa v dizertačnej práci zamerával na dynamiku zložitých mechanických systémov, rozmyšľal, ako odstrániť základný nedostatok vyvinutých robotov. „Predovšetkým mali zlé dynamické vlastnosti, boli nepresné, mali problémy s polohovaním. Aj keď sme používali japonské prevodovky, robot sa pri práci triasol ako epileptik. S takým veľa nenarobíte,“ spomína na „pravak“ nápadu jeho autor. Pripomína časy, keď práčku museli držať dvaja ľudia, aby z kúpeľne neutiekla. Uvedomil si, že je to všetko o prenose krútiaceho momentu.

Vízia

Problém, ako eliminovať nežiaduce vlastnosti zariadení, od ktorých sa očakáva maximálna presnosť, ho prenasledoval vo dne v noci. Mladému inžinierovi, výskumnému pracovníkovi v odbore vývoja pohonov pre roboty, problém nedal spať. Výzva bola preňho dvojnásobná. V Európe sa v tom čase nevenoval vývoju a výrobe ložiskových reduktorov nikto a japonské prevodovky neboli podľa jeho predstáv. Niekedy v roku 1985 už mal víziu. Chýbala mu však konkrétna predstava o konštrukcii, technickom riešení, výrobe zariadenia, ktoré by splňalo najprísnejšie kritériá. O rok neskôr prišla istá japonská firma na trh s novým riešením reduktora. „V podstate to bolo len vylepšenie jedného európskeho patentu z roku 1931. Aj toto zariadenie však malo nedostatky. Predovšetkým jeho výkon bol dosť nízky.“ Zariadenie malo plniť podľa jeho predstáv zároveň dve funkcie – ložiska a otáčkového reduktora, teda prevodovky. Nápad nosil v hlave päť rokov, až kým úplne nedozrel.

Opačnou cestou

Potom to náhle prišlo. Pochopil, aký transmisný princíp použiť. „Matematicky som vypočítal, ako by sa dal transformovať, prenášať výkon motora, poskladala sa mi mozaika súvislostí, ktoré boli rozhodujúce. Uvedomil som si, že nedostatky používaných reduktorov sa dajú prekonať len úplne novým, originálnym riešením transmisného systému. Pustil som sa opačnou cestou, akou išli Japonci. Konštrukcia súčasných reduktorov, ktoré vyrábame, je zásadne iná. Ale samotný princíp je rovnaký.“ Nebolo to jednoduché, keď chcel dosiahnuť presnosť na tisíciny milimetra. Jedinečné riešenie vylúčilo klzné trenie, ktoré znižuje výkon. Medzi akýmikoľvek súčiastkami reduktora dochádza len k valivému treniu. Dosiahol cieľ - zdvojením komponentov prevodovky sa z fyzikálneho i praktického hľadiska navzájom rušili neželateľné dynamické účinky. Dvojičky komponentov v prevodovke boli neskôr základom obchodného názvu výrobku TwinSpin.

Garážový experiment

Dva roky vyrábala funkčný model. Prípravu financoval z vlastného vrecka. Nechal vyrobiť špeciálne súčiastky zo špeciálnych materiálov, pozháňal meracie prístroje. Model skúšal doma v garáži na drevenom ponku. „Bola to otcova dielňa. Na drevenom ponku laborovať s produktom, ktorý je určený pre veľmi fajnové veci, akosi nejde. Skúšali sme to vo veľmi improvizovaných podmienkach. Ale iné možnosti neboli. Problémy som mal s elektronikou, meracie prístroje neboli lacné, napriek tomu sa dal urobiť určitý záver, či to celé má nejaký zmysel.“

Janek spomína na garážový model vynálezu

Počas funkčných skúšok musel dlhodobo odcestovať do Talianska. S otcom každý deň telefonoval, hlásil mu namerané charakteristiky. Reduktor nabeľhal bez väčších problémov niekoľko tisíc hodín. „Mal som pocit, že to naozaj funguje, že na modeli sa dajú demonštrovať vlastnosti, ktoré som od neho očakával. Moja predstava sa potvrdila.“ Funkčný model, na ktorom si overil svoje výpočty a víziu, sa záhadne stratil. „V tom čase ani mňa, ani nikoho z môjho okolia nenapadlo, aké to môže mať pokračovanie, neprikladal som tomu vážnosť. Dnes zisťujeme, že ten prototyp začína mať historickú hodnotu. Chvalabohu, zachovala sa aspoň dokumentácia. Takže je len otázka času, kedy vyrobíme repliku prvého reduktora, ktorý som zostrojil.“

Revolúcia

Skôr ako sa začala sériová výroba, reduktor patentovali na Slovensku. Potom ho v roku 1994 zaregistrovali v Nemecku, neskôr vo Švajčiarsku, Švédsku i v Japonsku. Vynálezca si vybral najuznávanejšie patentové úrady, ktoré nový produkt dokonale prelustrovali a porovnali s inými patentovanými výrobkami tohto druhu. Certifikáty sú zárukou, že ide o jedinečné, originálne, doslova revolučné technické riešenie, ktoré nebolo použité nikde na svete. „Nemôže sa teda stať, že o pár rokov nám niekto zamáva akýmsi papierom pred nosom, že také čosi tu už bolo a my sme len prevzali o zdokonalili nápad niekoho iného,“ hovorí Janek.

„Garážový projekt“ predstavili v roku 1997 na Medzinárodnom strojárskom veľtrhu v nemeckom Hannoveri. Záujem bol obrovský. „Zrazu sa objavil pred naším stánkom nejaký Japonec. Stál tam hodinu, dve, prezeral si reduktor z každej strany, listoval v technických údajoch. Pozvali sme ho a ponúkli slovenským pivom. Predstavil som sa mu ako autor technického riešenia reduktora. On na to: Volám sa Yamada, som autor reduktora našej firmy. Dodnes sme konkurentmi so všetkým, čo k tomu patrí. Navzájom sa však rešpektujeme.“ Keď máte vlastný vývoj a výrobu, je oveľa väčší predpoklad, že sa s problémami pobijete.

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

Výrobca pánskych oblekov, sák a nohavíc Ozeta Neo, a.s. prepustí v Topoľčanoch 180 svojich zamestnancov. Prepúšťanie sa dotkne 120 výrobných pracovníkov a 60 administratívnych a režijných zamestnancov. Hromadné prepúšťanie sa začne 22. júna, výpovedné lehoty začnú pracovníkom plynúť od 1. júla tohto roka. Ozeta vyplatí prepusteným zamestnancom na odstupnom zhruba 200,000 eur (6 miliónov Sk). Ozeta Neo patrí od roku 2003 do skupiny spoločností finančnej skupiny Penta. Podľa slov hovorca Penty Martina Danku je hlavným dôvodom prepúšťania pokles zákazkovej náplne až o 30% v porovnaní s minulým rokom. Druhým dôvodom je znížená konkurencieschopnosť fabriky z dôvodu vysokého odvodového zaťaženia. V textilnej fabrike, ktorej 95% produkcie smeruje na export, zostane pracovať 494 zamestnancov. V súčasnosti časť zamestnancov nepracuje a poberá 60% náhradu mzdy.

Holding slovenských stavebných firiem by mal postaviť v Líbyi nový hotel za 150 miliónov eur (4.52 miliardy Sk). Základy dohody o realizácii tohto projektu boli položené na obchodnej misii slovenských podnikateľov. O tom, že skupina slovenských podnikateľov prezentovala svoje možnosti a schopnosti uchádzať sa o realizáciu objednávok v Líbyi, informoval nedávno ministra hospodárstva SR Juraj Kiesel, poverený riadením Slovenskej agentúry pre rozvoj investícií a obchodu (SARIO) Pri príležitosti medzinárodného veľtrhu LIBYA BUILD 2009, ktorý sa konal od 18. do 21. mája a bol zameraný na oblasť stavebníctva, stavebných konštrukcií ako aj interiérového a exteriérového vybavenia stavieb, zorganizovala agentúra SARIO v spolupráci s Ministerstvom hospodárstva (MH) SR a Zastupiteľským úradom (ZÚ) SR misiu slovenských podnikateľov. Na obchodnom fóre podnikateľov dostalo príležitosť predstaviť sa 13 výrobných firiem zo Slovenska.

Tretina lekárni na Slovensku zrejme zanikne. Európsky súdny dvor totiž vyhlásil, že lekáre vo vlastníctve neodborníkov ohrozujú pacientov. Na základe tohto rozhodnutia sa teraz očakáva, že všetky členské štáty Európskej únie také vlastníctvo lekárni zakážu. Slovenská lekárska komora verí, že tak urobí aj minister zdravotníctva Richard Raši. Slovenské ministerstvo zdravotníctva ich zruší najskôr o päť až desať rokov. Na Slovensku je približne 1,900 lekárni, z nich 35 percent vlastní neodborníci bez bielych plášťov.

Európsky parlament (EP) prisľúbil pomoc pre kalamitou zničené Tatry. Poslanci EP neskôr finančnú pomoc v sume 5.67 milióna eur schválili. Slovinci v EP už zriadili v Belgicku osobitný účet, na ktorý je možné posielat' finančné príspevky pre Tatry. Vytvorili tiež internetovú stránku (www.newtatras.net), ktorá prinášala informácie o katastrofe aj o možnosti ako prispieť k obnove Tatier. Výbor EP pre priemysel, výskum a energetiku na svojom mimoriadnom zasadnutí schválil návrh na zvýšenie príspevku Európskej únie na financovanie odstavenia jadrovej elektrárne v Jaslovských Bohuniciach. Pôvodne navrhovanú sumu 237 miliónov eur EP navrhuje zvýšiť na 400 miliónov eur, ktoré by mali byť vyplatené v priebehu rokov 2007-2013.

Podpredseda vlády SR pre vedomostnú spoločnosť, európske záležitosti, ľudské práva a menšiny Dušan Čaplovič absolvoval 27. mája audienciu u pápeža Benedikta XVI., ktorému zopakoval pozvanie na návštevu Slovenskej republiky. Najvyšší predstaviteľ katolíckej cirkvi by podľa Čaploviča mohol navštíviť Slovensko v roku 2012 v rámci príprav na 1150. výročie príchodu sv. Cyrila a sv. Metoda na Veľkú Moravu, ktoré bude o rok neskôr. Slovenský vicepremiér odovzdal pápežovi dar slovenského ľudu - presnú kópiu pozláteneho ozdobného terčíka z prenosného oltára z Bojnej v okrese Topoľčany, ktorý pochádza z prvej polovice 9. storočia a je najstarším dokladom kresťanstva v strednom Podunajsku.

To, čo Pankrác, Servác a Bonifác, teda traja zmŕznutí muži zameškali, dobieha máj vo svojom finiši. Do Tatier sa vrátila zima a vo vyšších polohách to 30. mája 2009 vyzeralo ako v decembri či januári. Na Štrbskom Plese o šiestej hodine ráno sa pohybovala teplota vzduchu okolo nuly. Paradoxne teplota vody v Štrbskom plese bola podstatne vyššia. Na hladine dosahovala 14 až 15 stupňov Celzia. Teplomer v aute ukazoval v podhorí osem stupňov, ale so stúpajúcou nadmorskou výškou teplota rapídne klesala až takmer k nule. Od približne 1100 metrov sa po chladnej noci beľal snehový poprašok, ale v okolí Štrbského Plesa už bolo niekoľko centimetrov nového, mokrého snehu. Ochladenie je výrazné. Prvý letný deň v tomto roku zaznamenali na popradskom letisku 18. mája, kedy meteorológovia namerali maximálnu dennú teplotu 26.3 stupňa Celzia, čo už je letný deň.

Bratislavský závod nemeckej automobilky Volkswagen bude od roku 2011 vyrábať vozidlá piatich značiek. V súčasnosti z jeho liniek schádzajú modely Volkswagen, Audi, Škoda a Porsche, o necelé dva roky k nim pribudne aj Seat. Nový rodinný model, ktorého produkciu 1. júna v spoločnosti slávnostne ohlásili, sa totiž bude vyrábať pod tromi koncernovými značkami Volkswagen, Seat a Škoda. Volkswagen sa na Slovensku zameriaval najmä na výrobu športovo-úžitkových vozidiel ako Volkswagen Touareg, Porsche Cayenne a Audi Q7, vlni ich podiel na celkovej produkcii dosiahol 90 percent. V minulom roku sa v továrni spustila výroba automobilu Škoda Octavia, nový model s označením Up! vedenie koncernu prideleno bratislavskému závodu v apríli.

Po bývalej prvej dáme Slovenska Irene Schusterovej 25. mája pomenovali jednu z najobľúbenejších miestností pacientov Detského kardiocentra Národného ústavu srdcových a cievnych chorôb (NUSCH), a. s. Je ňou herňa pre deti. Stalo sa tak pri príležitosti prvého výročia úmrtia manželky exprezidenta SR Rudolfa Schustera a slávnostne odhalili aj pamätnú tabuľu. Nadácia Ireny Schusterovej sa významným spôsobom pričínila o zlepšenie starostlivosti o deti s vrodenými chybami srdca z celého Slovenska vybudovaním modernej jednotky intenzívnej starostlivosti na kardiokirurgickom oddelení detského kardiocentra v Bratislave. Jednotka intenzívnej starostlivosti bola vybudovaná v rokoch 1999 až 2004. Na spomienkovej slávnosti sa zúčastnili aj exprezident Rudolf Schuster s dcérou Ingrid, synom Petrom a dvoma vnučkami. Pozvanie prijala aj manželka predsedu vlády SR Svetlana Ficová. Schusterovci odovzdali detským pacientom kardiokirurgického oddelenia vecný dar - plazmový televízor a DVD prehrávač.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Rozlúčka s Dr. Hinterbuchnerom

Svoju životnú púť vo veku 86 rokov po dlhšej chorobe dokončil 1. mája 2009 Dr. Ladislav Hinterbuchner. V profesionálnom živote bol až do odchodu na dôchodok prominentným neurológom a profesorom klinickej neurológie na University of New York a bol šéfom neurologického oddelenia na dvoch nemocniciach v Brooklyne, NY. Bol tiež aktívnym členom viacerých profesionálnych asociácií a niekoľko termínov zastával funkciu predsedu Lekárskej asociácie v Brooklyne.

V slovenskom živote bol mnoho rokov známy ako popredný činiteľ Svetového kongresu Slovákov v Spojených štátoch, kde zastával okrem členstva v predsedníctve aj funkciu podpredsedu pre USA. Dôležité funkcie zastával aj v Slovenskej lige v Amerike, kde bol viac termínov členom Výkonného výboru a na poslednom kongrese v roku 2006 bol zvolený za prvého podpredsedu. Ako skúsený parlamentár prepracoval stanovy Slovenskej ligy. Ním predloženú verziu schválil kongres SLvA v roku 2006.

Dr. Hinterbuchner bol tiež funkcionárom v Slovensko-americkom kultúrnom stredisku v New Yorku.

Za svoju profesionálnu činnosť získal viaceré odborné ocenenia a pocty. Jeho prácu v slovenskej komunite v Amerike ocenila komisia zložená z predsedov popredných slovenských organizácií v Amerike, ktorá ho navrhla na udelenie pocty Ellis Island Medal of Honor, ktorú dostal v roku 2000.

Dr. Hinterbuchner pochádzal z obce Zlatá Baňa na východnom Slovensku. Vyrastal však vo Viglaši, v Holiči a Šaštine na Záhorí. Medicínu vyštudoval na Lekárskej univerzite v Bratislave. Bol aktívny v študentskom hnutí, ktoré po roku 1945 malo protikomunistický charakter. Ako predseda Spolku slovenských medikov sa dostal do sporu s prominentmi komunizmu, čím bola ohrozená jeho profesionálna kariéra. Preto hneď po skončení medicíny sa úspešne pokúsil o útek do Rakúska a koncom roka 1948 emigroval do Spojených štátov.

Pohreb Dr. Hinterbuchnera sa konal 7. mája z katolíckeho kostola v Rye, N.Y. za účasti viacerých predstaviteľov Slovenskej ligy a Slovensko-amerického kultúrneho strediska, ako i mnohých rodinných priateľov a spolupracovníkov v inštitúciách, v ktorých pracoval. Pochovaný je na Resurrection Cemetery v Rye, N.Y. Záušnú sv. omšu odsľúžil a pohrebné obrady odbavil farár slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku. Dr. Hinterbuchnera prežíva manželka Dr. Katie Hinterbuchner, ktorá odišla pred niekoľkými rokmi do dôchodku z pozície profesorky a predsedníčky rehabilitačného oddelenia na New York Medical College.

SvA

Deň rodiny 2009 v Bratislave



FOTO TK KBS - Peter Zimen

Na snímke slávnostná svätá omša z príležitosti Dňa rodiny – Family Day 2009 v Katedrále sv. Martina 16. mája v Bratislave.

Bratislava (TK KBS) - Uvoľnená a radostná atmosféra ovládla v sobotné popoludnie 16. mája Námestie SNP v Bratislave. Sviatok rodín priťahoval nielen pozornosť Bratislavčanov, ale podujatie navštívili rodiny z celého Slovenska. Polovičnú zľavu na vlak, ktorú poskytla ZSSK, využilo viac ako 800 ľudí, iní prišli osobnými autami alebo autobusmi. Family day prišli pozdraviť aj bratislavský arcibiskup Stanislav Zvolenský a biskup Západného dištriktu ECAV na Slovensku Milan Krivda so svojou rodinou. Hlavný program obohatili speváci a hudobné zoskupenia, Súrodenci Jendruchovcí, Mária Podhradská s programom pre deti, Adriana Bartošová, FestaBang a Close Harmony Friends. Na záver podujatia sa zhromaždeným rodinám prihovorili v mene organizátorov umelci, manželka, mladí ľudia, politici, novinári, podnikatelia prostredníctvom vyhlásenia: "Rodina tvorí dôležitú súčasť života každého z nás. V prostredí rodiny sa delíme so svojimi radosťami, ale aj bolesťami a sme schopní prekonať životné prekážky. V rodine dozrievajú predstavy mladého človeka o živote a formuje sa základný rebríček hodnôt dôležitý pre celý život. Rodina je školou ľudskosti, v ktorej sa učíme vzájomnej láske a úcte a službe slabším. Preto je rodina nenahraditeľná.

Rodina založená trvalým manželstvom jedného muža a jednej ženy, ktorú tvoria spolu s ich deťmi, je prirodzenou a základnou bunkou spoločnosti. Rodina vytvára ideálny priestor pre život, rozvoj detí a rast vzájomnej lásky partnerov. Rodina je na Slovensku najdôležitejšou hodnotou, o čom svedčia nielen prieskumy verejnej mienky, ale aj množstvá harmonických rodín. Rodina je miestom odovzdávania základných životných skúseností, ekonomického bohatstva, kultúrneho, sociálneho i duchovného cistenia. V rodine je budúcnosť ďalších generácií. V poslednom čase sme svedkami mnohých priamych i nepriamych, premyslených i nezámerých útokov na manželstvo a rodinu. Miera rozvodovosti je najhoršia v histórii, mnohí stratili predstavu o tom, čo je to rodina. Množia sa prípady neúspešných rodičov, ktorí vychovávajú nešťastné deti, nepripravené na založenie vlastnej rodiny. Napriek ťažkostiam, ktoré dnešné rodiny zažívajú, rodina zostáva kolískou šťastia človeka. To si žiada vytvárať spoločnosť priateľskú rodine.

O. Stefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

Spomienkový koncert na počesť Trudy Check Tuhy

Spolok slovenského dedičstva v severovýchodnej Pennsylvánii usporiadal nedávno na počesť známej slovensko-americkéj aktivistky nebohej Trudy Check Tuhy, spomienkový koncert. Predstavili sa na ňom mladí talentovaní umelci - študenti Bratislavského štátneho konzervatória 14-ročný huslista Karol Daniš spolu s jeho 16-ročným bratom pianistom Nobertom Danišom a barytonista Pavol Kubáň, ktorí podali diela svetoznámych skladateľov. Na počesť Trudy Check operný spevák Pavol Kubáň otvoril koncert zaspievaním „Angelicus“ medzi inými aj pieseň „Vínko, vínko...“ ako aj vybrané piesne z nahrávky Spolku slovenského dedičstva. Koncert bol jedným zo zastávok konzervatoristov dvojtýždňového turné v rôznych mestách severovýchodu Spojených štátov.

Na snímke pri štátnej vlajke Slovenskej republiky a portréte svojej nebohej manželky Trudy Check Tuhy stojí na Spomienkovom koncerte, predseda Spolku slovenského dedičstva Philip R. Tuhy.



Na kostole sv. Jána Krstiteľa v Tajove je pamätná tabuľa pripomínajúca život a dielo Rev. Jozefa Murgaša. S miestnym kňazom dp. Mgr. Jozefom Petrikom je Anna Birošová s manželom Jozefom Birošom.

Počuje ma niekto?

Pod týmto výstižným názvom sa konala 21. mája 2009 spomienková slávnosť pri príležitosti 80. výročia úmrtia kňaza, vedca, umelca a rodoľuba Jozefa Murgaša v jeho rodisku, v obci Tajov.

Slávnosť zorganizovala obec Tajov, Farský úrad v Tajove, Štátna vedecká knižnica v Banskej Bystrici v spolupráci so spoločnosťou Fórum pre komunikačné technológie CTF v Bratislave a Klubom Jozefa Murgaša a Jozefa G. Tajovského v Bratislave.

Podujatie sa konalo pod záštitou predsedu Banskobystrického samosprávneho kraja Milana Murgaša a charge d' affaires Keitha A. Eddinsa z Veľvyslanectva USA v Slovenskej republike.

Pokračovanie na str. 21

Štátna tajomníčka MZV SR Diana Štrofová v New Yorku

New York/Bratislava (TASR) - Štátna tajomníčka Ministerstva zahraničných vecí SR Diana Štrofová absolvovala 21. a 22. mája dvojdňovú pracovnú cestu v New Yorku. Vystúpila na medzinárodnej konferencii Žena – tvorivá osobnosť tretieho tisícročia a rokovala s námestníčkou Ministerstva zahraničných vecí ČR Helenou Bambasovou a námestníčkou generálneho tajomníka OSN a osobitnou poradkyňou pre rodové otázky a posilnenie postavenia žien Rachel Mayanjaovou. Štrofová mala na programe aj účasť na seminári v OSN k posilneniu spolupráce EÚ a OSN v krízovom manažmente s dôrazom na reformu bezpečnostného sektora.

Vo svojom vystúpení pred podnikateľkami zdôraznila potrebu zintenzívnenia hospodárskej spolupráce a vyzdvihla rastúcu úlohu žien v medzinárodnom ekonomickom sektore. Šiesty ročník konferencie Žena – tvorivá osobnosť tretieho tisícročia sa koná pod záštitou ministrov zahraničných vecí SR a ČR. Na podujatí okrem Slovenského veľvyslanectva vo Washingtone D.C. a Generálneho konzulátu SR v New Yorku spolupracuje aj Ministerstvo hospodárstva SR prostredníctvom obchodného oddelenia v New Yorku.

Štrofová sa stretla v New Yorku s krajanmi

Stretnutím so zástupcami krajanských organizácií v USA začala druhý deň pracovnej cesty v New Yorku štátna tajomníčka Ministerstva zahraničných vecí SR Diana Štrofová. Predstaviteľov Svetového združenia Slovákov v zahraničí,

Pokračovanie na str. 21

Spomienka na otca

Pamätám na to dávnodávne aprílové ráno,
na otcov mocný stisk mojej mladej ruky,
keď ma privinul k svojej hrudi a povedal:
Nežiaľ synku, veď ja sa vrátim v piatom roku,
buď dobrý, poslúchaj svoju starostlivú mamku.
Sadnul na vlak, bolestne zavolať z bohom
a odišiel do Nového sveta za mäkkším chlebom
a slzy rosili starú zem pod slovenským nebom.

Päť rokov minuli i ďalšie k ním pribúdali,
otec sa nevátil, len domov odkázal:
Nie ja tam, ale vy tu žíte v pokoji a mieri,
pokiaľ svet neohlúši Európa horí.

Vítajte! Ženo, deti v dobrej zemi slobody,
snáď dá Boh, že sa ešte domov vrátíme,
keď minie zloba a za stôl nová nádej sadne.

Matka po domove túžila, návratu sa nedožila,
svojeť, dom a úrodné polia viac nespatriła,
mrcha choroba jej nádejný život skrátila.
Otec odišiel, do lona rodiny viac sa nevrátil,
tam v jeho domovine osud život mu skrátil.
Hľa, aká to života nevyspytateľná ironia,
matka tu a otec tam už dlhé roky prachnivia.

Krajan môj, pohľadni na otcov hrobný pomník
a pod ním na symbol s javorovým listom,
bo tam odpočíva v tvrdej zemi rodnej hrudi
tvoj navrátený rodný brat z ďalekej Kanady.

Štefan Hreha