



Jednota

THE UNION

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Fr. Stephen Furedek
Our Founder

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

Volume 124

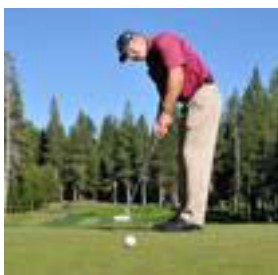
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2015

NUMBER 5922

Focus on Fraternalism



With the FCSU, there's always lots of fun events to attend – but you need to sign up now. Miss a deadline, miss a lot!



Get in the Swing of Things - July 18-19

One of the highlights of the summer season is attending the Jednota International Golf Tournament, where you have the opportunity to engage in friendly competition with other Jednota members for a chance to win numerous prizes. This year's tournament will be held Saturday, July 18th, and Sunday, July 19th, at the challenging and breathtaking Gold and Silver courses in Dubois, PA. Deadline: June 17, 2015.

For more info and entry forms, see pages 21 & 22 of this issue.

Celebrate Our Heritage – Attend Special, Society-wide Events



This year marks a number of milestones for the First Catholic Slovak Union, including the 125th Anniversary of our Society and the 100th Year of our founder Fr. Štefan Furdek's passing.

See pages 3 and 16 of this issue for details on celebrations in Cleveland, as well as other Regions and Districts



Sail the Ocean Blue – in Style November 15 - 22

Join the FCSU for its 2015 Membership Meet aboard the Carnival's Liberty Cruise Ship, on a 7 Day Caribbean Cruise. Deadline: June 26, 2015. Sign up by going to page 24 of this issue – and see how you can win it by going to page 23!!!

Not a member? Joining is easy, and automatic with purchase of any FCSU product.

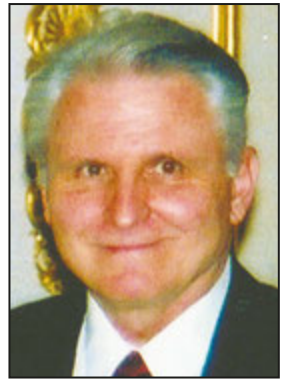
Go to www.fcsu.com to learn more about our fantastic life insurance policies and annuity products, and don't be left out of the fun!

Inside

Editorial/Commentary	2
FCSU Financials	4 - 6
Branch Announcements ...	10 - 11
District Announcements	16
Slovak	25 - 28

Father's Day Message 2015

Father's Day 2015 is near. While remembering and honoring our Fathers should be more than a once a year event, it is appropriate for them to have a special day. For Fathers past and present, we encourage you to remember them and pray for those deceased and appreciate those living. Many times we take for granted the love and sacrifice our Fathers make for us. Men generally don't express emotions as openly as women and can sometimes appear to be cold or indifferent. But those of us who are Fathers know that inside we love our children and families even though we may have difficulty in expressing it because of society norms. This Father's Day show your Father love and attention and give him a "big thank you" and a hug if you can.



Andrew M. Rajec

continued on page 3

Happy Father's Day Our Rates are a Hit!

8 Year Flex Annuity or IRA	3.60%
6 Year Flex Annuity or IRA	3.20%
6 Year Fixed Annuity or IRA	3.10%

Apply for a minimum \$25,000—6 or 8 Year Annuity and upon issuance you will be entered into a drawing for an all inclusive

7 Day FCSU Southern Caribbean Cruise for TWO!

Park 2	2.15%
Park Free Plus	1.90%



FCSU Financial—First Catholic Slovak Union

Contact your branch officer or the home office

6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH 44131, 800.533.6682

www.fcsu.com, annuity@fcsu.com



Jednota Bowlers:
see pages 13 – 15 for
2015 National Tournament Results

Insights and Viewpoints



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

**June 21, 2015 -
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mark 4: 35-41**

Whenever I read today's gospel passage I think of Katharina von Schlegel's sublime hymn *Be Still My Soul*. Schlegel wrote, in part:

*Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
To guide the future, as He has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing*



Fr. Edward Mazich,
O.S.B.

shake;

All now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know

His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

If you have heard this hymn I imagine that you are as moved by it as I am: through majestic language invoking images of nature it reflects on how we entrust ourselves with deep faith to Jesus, who we believe rules over life and death as much as he rules over the waves and winds. The response which Jesus finds among the disciples in the gospel is quite different, however: He reproves them for their lack of faith. Although the sovereignty of God over creation is powerfully described in the readings from the book of Job and the responsorial Psalm, and Jesus is portrayed as the heir to this domain in the gospel, the disciples remain fearful and unsure. Jesus himself seems frustrated by this, asking them: "Why are you terrified?"

The key to resolving this fear and lack of understanding is found in today's New Testament reading, where St. Paul tells us that we "are a new creation". Yes, we indeed believe that God and Christ are sovereign over the forces of nature—we witness him rendering placid the turbulent waters of the Sea of Galilee—but more importantly we also believe that Christ came to announce a Kingdom that encompasses and includes this world, yet goes far beyond it: he came not to prove his dominion over the creation which he already mastered, but to transform it and make it entirely new. This is what the disciples in the boat did not yet comprehend, even as they marveled over Jesus' command of the winds and waves. They were struggling to reconcile his feat of taming the primordial forces of the deep with what they knew of the earthly order, not realizing that the true marvel that faith reveals to us is the Kingdom of God which turns all earthly authority on its head and is powerful precisely in its weakness.

Helping us to find our place in Christ's new creation and to stand firm in faith, Paul tells us that in Christ "all have died" and therefore we should regard ourselves no longer according to the flesh (no longer limited to the order of creation as we perceive it). Going further Paul says that through our sacramental death with Christ we have all been transformed into a new creation in him—a creation that shares in the beauty of the present world but which leads into and finds its abiding home in a realm which is not subject to the decay and woundedness that is a natural part of the life we know here below, and which has been re-made in the glorious image of the risen Lord. This is what the eyes of faith hold up before us, and this is what the disciples in the boat were not yet able to grasp.

Christ's power over sea and sky is impressive, but pales in comparison to his command over life and death. As we stand in awe of the one "whom even wind and sea obey" let us

remember that it was in the waters, not of the Sea of Galilee but of the baptismal font, that we first came to share in the death of Christ, that we might one day share in his life—he who "guides the future, as He has the past, and makes all now mysterious bright at last".

**June 28, 2015 – Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Gospel – Mark 5: 21 - 43**

This week we come to the end of this section of Mark's Gospel in which we heard numerous parables and incidents from the ministry of Jesus that demonstrated the power of Jesus and the importance of Faith. This particular passage has a story within a story as it begins with the Synagogue official asking Jesus to heal his daughter, then the story of the Woman with the hemorrhages who touches the garment of Jesus and is healed. Both are full of images and lessons of the ministry and the power that comes forth from Jesus.

In other Gospel accounts Jesus does not seem to be popular with religious officials. Most of the time when they are mentioned in the Gospels they come across as adversaries of Jesus and not supporters of Jesus. Nicodemus, who is mentioned early in John's Gospel, comes under the cover of darkness so as not to be noticed by others. In this Gospel we have Jairus, the Synagogue official who is no doubt well known, coming to Jesus who is surrounded by a crowd. He pleads to Jesus, "My daughter is at the point of death, please come and lay hands on her, that she may get well and live." It was a plea from a desperate father who did not want to see his daughter die. It is the same plea made today by desperate fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, and so many others, for God to come and intervene in some serious and tragic situation.

Jesus went with Jairus to his home and on the way encounters the woman who has been suffering for twelve years. In a similar desperate act of faith she reaches out and touches the garment of Jesus, and she is healed. Jesus knows that power has gone out from him and asked who touched him, and when the women admitted that it was she, Jesus says, "Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction." Jesus and Jairus continue their journey, but before they arrive word reaches Jairus that his daughter is dead. Jairus begins to send Jesus on his way, but Jesus insists on continuing and proclaims, "The child is not dead but asleep." They reach the house that is now filled with mourners, and Jesus goes in and heals the girl.

Accounts like these in which Jesus says, "Your faith has healed you," can give the impression that it is our faith that heals. I have run into situations where parents with a gravely ill child sincerely prayed for healing, only to have the child die. At which point someone tells them, "your child died because you did not have enough faith. If you had true faith your child would have been healed." I am neither making up or exaggerating remarks like this, I have heard them said numerous times. The point is that it is not our faith that heals, it is Jesus who heals. Jesus lauds people for putting their faith in him. When we put our faith in Jesus we are opening our hearts to his presence. Jesus does not force himself into our lives, he comes when he is invited. Jairus invited Jesus to his home, the woman with the hemorrhage reached out to Jesus. Their faith led them to Jesus and in both cases Jesus healed. Why some people are healed and others are not is a mystery for we do not know the mind of God. We are called to have the faith to invite Jesus into our lives, and allow his will to be done.



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15	MONDAY, JULY 6
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12	MONDAY, AUG. 3
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9	MONDAY, AUG. 31

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

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First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
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Father's Day Message from the President

continued from page 1

On a business note, I am pleased to report that the Society as of the first quarter, March 31, 2015 again reached another new high in surplus at \$24,556,690 and assets at \$363,819,456. [Editor's note: see pages 4 – 6 for the FCSU's latest financial reports]

What does this mean to you, our Members?

First of all, financial strength is critical. Current Members and new Members want to feel confident their money is safe. As I have said many times and in the many places I have visited, "Many current members and prospective new members, especially younger people, are sophisticated investors and ask two main questions before they invest their hard earned money:

1. Is my money safe?
2. What rate of return can I receive?

If an organization can give a positive answer to these two questions, then the fraternalism or Slovak kinship are an added plus.

We appreciate the confidence you have expressed in us and will continue our best efforts to earn that confidence.

Tell your family and friends about our success and encourage them to invest in our various insurance and annuity products.

Faternally,

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Message from Our National Chaplain

Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive is the preparatory catechesis (teaching manual) for the World Meeting of Families to be held September 22-27, 2015 in Philadelphia. The catechesis contains 10 chapters, each concluding with four questions for reflection. One of the reflections from Chapter 5, Creating the Future, is offered here.

How does the marriage of a man and a woman differ from other close friendships?

We all have or ought to have friendships for our overall well-being. Our close friends are those with whom we have developed an intimacy that enables us to share thoughts, feelings, and other things with each other we would not or could not with others we come in contact with on a regular basis, for example, our neighbors or fellow workers.

We confide our personal joys, struggles, and sorrows with our close friends. We trust them to give us the right advice when we are in a situation that demands it. Also, we rely on them to remain with us in difficult times and not use social media as a means to ridicule or slander.


Each person may have several close friendships, but there is only one whereby a man and woman respond to God's call to begin a life together as husband and wife. The marriage of a man and woman is more than a close friendship between the two. It is the living out of a vow, freely entered into before God by each party, to love and honor each other for the rest of their lives. It is a relationship that is binding and remains until either the man or the woman dies.

Marriage is one of the seven sacraments of the church. Recall the classic definition of a sacrament, that it is an outward sign instituted by Jesus that gives grace. God's sacramental grace in marriage is given to a man and woman to guide, strengthen, and help them in holiness of life. Mere close friendships do not rise to that level.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain



You are cordially invited
to the *First Catholic Slovak Union's*
125th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, August 29, 2015
Renaissance Hotel - Gold Ballroom
24 Public Square, Cleveland, OH 44113

Program featuring

His Excellency Peter Kmec
Slovak Ambassador to the United States

~

Veselica Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Chicago

~

Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland

5:00PM Mass to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Jednota Founder, Fr. Štefan Furdek's passing
6:00PM Cocktail Hour
7:00PM Dinner & Program
DJ, Dancing and Open Bar to follow

\$40 FCSU Members (\$45 after July 31st) \$45 Guests (\$50 after July 31st)
\$275 per table of 8

ONLY 250 TICKETS AVAILABLE!

Cocktail attire kindly requested

For more information and/or to send payment please contact:
FCSU, 6611 Rockside Rd, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131
800-533-6682

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

HOME OFFICE (TELECONFERENCE)
6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD, SUITE 300
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131
PHONE: 216-642-9406 * FAX: 216-642-4310

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2015

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, 2015 at 9:30 A.M. (telephonically).

The Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, June 19, 2015.

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 to the Home Office prior to June 12, 2015.

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

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

Or, for questions, email Jednota Editor Teresa Ivanec @ fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com or call her at the Home Office, 1-800-JEDNOTA (533-6682), x 123.

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

Statement as of March 31, 2015 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & CANADA**
ASSETS

	Current Statement Date			4 December 31 Prior Year Net Admitted Assets
	1 Assets	2 Nonadmitted Assets	3 Net Admitted Assets (Cols. 1 - 2)	
1. Bonds.....	322,402,635		322,402,635	310,841,123
2. Stocks:				
2.1 Preferred stocks.....			0	
2.2 Common stocks.....	3,554,610		3,554,610	3,392,431
3. Mortgage loans on real estate:				
3.1 First liens.....	1,186,168		1,186,168	1,233,860
3.2 Other than first liens.....			0	
4. Real estate:				
4.1 Properties occupied by the company (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	967,181		967,181	982,322
4.2 Properties held for the production of income (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	724,005		724,005	733,770
4.3 Properties held for sale (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	723,607		723,607	697,050
5. Cash (\$.....18,477,646), cash equivalents (\$.....0) and short-term investments (\$.....0).....	18,477,646		18,477,646	18,176,699
6. Contract loans (including \$.....0 premium notes).....	1,090,561		1,090,561	1,095,600
7. Derivatives.....			0	
8. Other invested assets.....	10,281,821		10,281,821	10,084,740
9. Receivables for securities.....			0	
10. Securities lending reinvested collateral assets.....			0	
11. Aggregate write-ins for invested assets.....	0	0	0	0
12. Subtotals, cash and invested assets (Lines 1 to 11).....	359,408,234	0	359,408,234	347,237,594
13. Title plants less \$.....0 charged off (for Title insurers only).....			0	
14. Investment income due and accrued.....	4,378,850		4,378,850	4,170,118
15. Premiums and considerations:				
15.1 Uncollected premiums and agents' balances in the course of collection.....	32,372		32,372	18,837
15.2 Deferred premiums, agents' balances and installments booked but deferred and not yet due (including \$.....0 earned but unbilled premiums).....			0	
15.3 Accrued retrospective premiums.....			0	
16. Reinsurance:				
16.1 Amounts recoverable from reinsurers.....			0	
16.2 Funds held by or deposited with reinsured companies.....			0	
16.3 Other amounts receivable under reinsurance contracts.....			0	
17. Amounts receivable relating to uninsured plans.....			0	
18.1 Current federal and foreign income tax recoverable and interest thereon.....			0	
18.2 Net deferred tax asset.....			0	
19. Guaranty funds receivable or on deposit.....			0	
20. Electronic data processing equipment and software.....			0	
21. Furniture and equipment, including health care delivery assets (\$.....0).....			0	
22. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....			0	
23. Receivables from parent, subsidiaries and affiliates.....			0	
24. Health care (\$.....0) and other amounts receivable.....			0	
25. Aggregate write-ins for other than invested assets.....	550	550	0	0
26. Total assets excluding Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts (Lines 12 through 25).....	363,820,006	550	363,819,456	351,426,549
27. From Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts.....			0	
28. Total (Lines 26 and 27).....	363,820,006	550	363,819,456	351,426,549

Statement as of March 31, 2015 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**
LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS

	1 Current Statement Date	2 December 31 Prior Year
1. Aggregate reserve for life contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	278,636,000	274,860,000
2. Aggregate reserve for accident and health contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....		
3. Liability for deposit-type contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	47,598,878	42,849,920
4. Contract claims:		
4.1 Life.....	300,000	300,000
4.2 Accident and health.....		
5. Refunds due and unpaid.....		
6. Provisions for refunds payable in following calendar year - estimated amounts:		
6.1 Apportioned for payment.....	400,000	400,000
6.2 Not yet apportioned.....		
7. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts received in advance less \$.....0 discount; including \$.....0 accident and health premiums.....	313,450	286,400
8. Certificate and contract liabilities not included elsewhere:		
8.1 Surrender values on canceled contracts.....		
8.2 Other amounts payable on reinsurance including \$.....0 assumed and \$.....0 ceded.....		
8.3 Interest maintenance reserve (IMR).....	929,769	646,991
9. Commissions to fieldworkers due or accrued - life and annuity contracts \$.....0, accident and health \$.....0 and deposit-type contract funds \$.....0.....	19,212	28,595
10. Commissions and expense allowances payable on reinsurance assumed.....		
11. General expenses due or accrued.....	116,697	90,961
12. Transfers to Separate Accounts due or accrued (net) (including \$.....0 accrued for expense allowances recognized in reserves).....		
13. Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued.....	13,589	13,589
14. Unearned investment income.....		
15. Amounts withheld or retained by Society as agent or trustee.....	5,063,753	5,106,290
16. Amounts held for fieldworkers' account, including \$.....0 fieldworkers' credit balances.....		
17. Remittances and items not allocated.....		
18. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....	9,511	9,511
19. Liability for benefits for employees and fieldworkers if not included above.....		
20. Borrowed money \$.....0 and interest thereon \$.....0.....		
21. Miscellaneous liabilities:		
21.1 Asset valuation reserve.....	2,316,600	2,311,775
21.2 Reinsurance in unauthorized and certified (\$.....0) companies.....		
21.3 Funds held under reinsurance treaties with unauthorized and certified (\$.....0) reinsurers.....		
21.4 Payable to subsidiaries and affiliates.....		
21.5 Drafts outstanding.....		
21.6 Funds held under coinsurance.....		
21.7 Derivatives.....		
21.8 Payable for securities.....	3,122,474	
21.9 Payable for securities lending.....		
22. Aggregate write-ins for liabilities.....	422,835	372,835
23. Total liabilities excluding Separate Accounts business (Lines 1 to 22).....	339,262,767	327,276,867
24. From Separate Accounts Statement.....		
25. Total liabilities (Lines 23 to 24).....	339,262,767	327,276,867
26. Aggregate write-ins for other than liabilities and surplus funds.....	0	0
27. Surplus notes.....		
28. Aggregate write-ins for surplus funds.....	0	0
29. Unassigned funds.....	24,556,689	24,149,682
30. Total (Lines 26 through 29) (including \$.....0 in Separate Accounts Statement).....	24,556,689	24,149,682
31. Totals (Lines 25 + 30) (Page 2, Line 28, Col. 3).....	363,819,456	351,426,549

Statement as of March 31, 2015 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

	1 Current Year To Date	2 Prior Year To Date	3 Prior Year Ended December 31
1. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts.....	4,543,811	4,952,887	16,870,446
2. Considerations for supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....			
3. Net investment income.....	3,697,372	3,635,809	14,710,566
4. Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR).....	150,000	125,000	476,440
5. Separate Accounts net gain from operations excluding unrealized gains and losses.....			
6. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance ceded.....			
7. Reserve adjustments on reinsurance ceded.....			
8. Miscellaneous income:			
8.1 Income from fees associated with investment management, administration and contract guarantees from Separate Accounts.....			
8.2 Charges and fees for deposit-type contracts.....			
8.3 Aggregate write-ins for miscellaneous income.....	1,415	1,485	21,467
9. Totals (Lines 1 to 8.3).....	8,392,598	8,715,181	32,078,919
10. Death benefits.....	788,302	776,444	2,933,628
11. Matured endowments (excluding guaranteed annual pure endowments).....			
12. Annuity benefits.....	2,388,607	2,277,307	10,266,961
13. Disability benefits and benefits under accident and health contracts including premiums waived \$.....0.....			
14. Surrender benefits and withdrawals for life contracts.....	127,328	129,456	923,246
15. Interest and adjustments on contract or deposit-type contract funds.....	36,963	42,030	159,895
16. Payments on supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....			
17. Increase in aggregate reserve for life and accident and health contracts.....	3,776,000	4,119,000	13,021,000
18. Totals (Lines 10 to 17).....	7,117,200	7,344,237	27,304,730
19. Commissions on premiums, annuity considerations and deposit-type contract funds (direct business only).....	56,325	42,006	183,350
20. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance assumed.....			
21. General insurance expenses and fraternal expenses.....	842,028	758,179	2,867,853
22. Insurance taxes, licenses and fees.....	67,816	65,637	100,024
23. Increase in loading on deferred and uncollected premiums.....			
24. Net transfers to or (from) Separate Accounts net of reinsurance.....			
25. Aggregate write-ins for deductions.....	(40,171)	0	(151,245)
26. Totals (Lines 18 to 25).....	8,043,198	8,210,059	30,304,712
27. Net gain from operations before refunds to members (Line 9 minus Line 26).....	349,400	505,122	1,774,207
28. Refunds to members.....	68,057	65,566	405,722
29. Net gain from operations after refunds to members and before realized capital gains (losses) (Line 27 minus Line 28).....	281,343	439,556	1,368,485
30. Net realized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of0 (excluding \$....432,778 transferred to the IMR).....	13,586		690,629
31. Net income (Lines 29 + 30).....	294,929	439,556	2,059,114
SURPLUS ACCOUNT			
32. Surplus, December 31, prior year.....	24,149,682	22,681,611	22,681,611
33. Net income from operations (Line 31).....	294,929	439,556	2,059,114
34. Change in net unrealized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of \$.....0.....	137,297	419,965	(723,683)
35. Change in net unrealized foreign exchange capital gain (loss).....			
36. Change in nonadmitted assets.....		3,608	6,414
37. Change in liability for reinsurance in unauthorized and certified companies.....			
38. Change in reserve on account of change in valuation basis (increase) or decrease.....			
39. Change in asset valuation reserve.....	(4,824)	(6,179)	149,654
40. Surplus (contributed to) withdrawn from Separate Accounts during period.....			
41. Other changes in surplus in Separate Accounts Statement.....			
42. Change in surplus notes.....			
43. Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles.....			
44. Change in surplus as a result of reinsurance.....			
45. Aggregate write-ins for gains and losses in surplus.....	(20,394)	22,876	(23,428)
46. Net change in surplus for the year (Lines 33 through 45).....	407,008	879,826	1,468,071
47. Surplus as of statement date (Lines 32 + 46).....	24,556,690	23,561,437	24,149,682



2015 Easter Coloring Contest Winners



The Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District II For Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin

The Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District II has announced the winners of the 2015 Easter Coloring Contest. Prizes were awarded for First, Second, and Third places, and Honorable Mentions for ages 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. We wish to thank all of our young branch members of District II for their participation and their Creative drawings. The winning entries were chosen by the members of the Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District II.

Ages 4-6



1st PLACE
Nickolas Jurcenko



2nd PLACE
Abigail Gizewicz

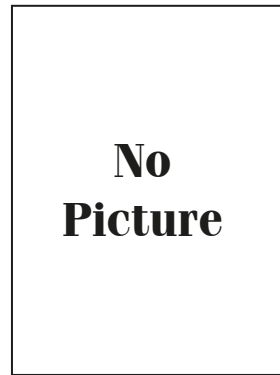


3rd PLACE
Peter Jurcenko

Ages 7-9



1st PLACE
Emma Graves



2nd PLACE
Anthony Palencia



3rd PLACE
Allison Gizewicz

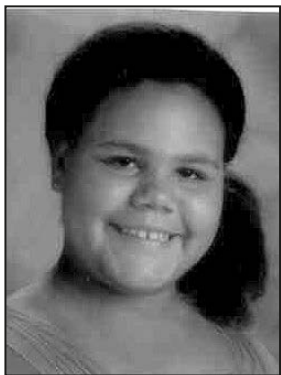
Ages 10-12



1st PLACE
Natalie Vaughn



2nd PLACE
Stephanie Novak



3rd PLACE
Riley McAllister



3rd PLACE
Sara Peters

Tie

Honorable Mentions

Ages 4 – 6

Alex Jurcenko, Alexia Bukala, John Turner, Maya Bobo, Logan Lazzara, and Ryan Riedmuller

Ages 7 – 9 None

Ages 10-12

Mary Karen Totoky, Ayden Fayta, Jonathan Fayta, Sharon McAllister, Evan Jurcenko, Regina Turner, Danielle Novak, Aleksandra Gizewicz, and Jack Foley

Congratulations to all!

Barbara Fayta, Chairperson, Easter Coloring Contest

Annual Summer Festival in Danville



The 42nd annual Summer Festival, sponsored by the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA will be held on Saturday, July 11. Activities will begin at 10:30 a.m.

The festival will feature a large Flea Market, a silent auction, home-made baked goods, handcrafted items, a book store, and Religious and Slovak articles. There will be a variety of ethnic foods such as Holubky and Halusky, as well as hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage, ice cream and much more. There will be a variety of games for children and adults plus special attractions like ponies, a "Bounce House", raffles, and bingo.

The Summer Festival has been a blessed opportunity for the Sisters to keep in touch with former students, their parents, and family members; to reconnect with friends they've made over the years, and to make new friends. The day never seems long enough for visiting with friends old and new.

Bus parking is available. The Festival will take place rain or shine, and will close with a Mass at 5:00 p.m.

For more information, please call: Sister Barbara Sable at: 570-275-3581, Ext. 302

- Submitted by Sister Barbara Sable



(L-R) Sisters Kate Morris, Madonna, a volunteer and John Vianney greet friends and prepare tickets for the Festival.



(L-R) Sisters Brigid, Joanne Marie, Carol Ann and Denise Marie pack home-made kolacky for sale at the Festival.

**Attention Members of the
Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District 14,
the Msgr. John E. Rura District 4, and the
Msgr Stephen Krasula District 16**



Want to learn more about the FCSU's excellent portfolio of insurance and annuity products?

SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

The First Catholic Slovak Union Membership and Marketing Committee will hold a sales seminar for the following districts in October:

- Sunday, Oct 4, 2015: District 4, the Msgr. John E. Rura District, and District 16, the Msgr. Stephen Krasula District, will hold a joint seminar for their members. See the Branch 746 notice on page 11 of this issue for details.

- Saturday, Oct 17, 2015: District 14, the Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District, will hold a sales seminar on this date, not in July as printed in error in the last issue of Jednota. Watch for details in upcoming editions of the newspaper.



Moj Tato (My Dad)

A Father's Day Poem by Chewy Čuvač

When I was but a tiny dog,
Living high up the mountainside,
You'd lead our little litter pack,
Through forests tall and wide.

Yet when we fetched in human games,
(tho you could catch things faster)
Every time the stick was thrown,
You let me "win" with Master.

Time's changed your handsome muzzle now,
Your snow-white fur is gray,
Your gait's become a little slow,
Your best command is "stay."

Oh, how I thirst for years gone by,
To be that carefree pup,
Re-living all my Slovak days,
Of you, and growing up.



Hi, Kids (And All Those Young At Heart):

It's me again. Your old pal Chewy.

Lookee what I found in my FCSU files from way back in '13. The above little ditty penned by yours truly. Pretty good for a canine, doncha think? It really captures how I felt – and still feel – about my Dad (or, in Slovak, moj Tato). Dad's are the best, aren't they?



Perhaps we'll meet one day and swap stories ...
Until then, keep your ears up and your tail waggin',
Tvoj priatel (your friend),
Chewy

Pro Musica - Magnolia



Experience the best Slovak childrens choir!

Repertoire includes classical compositions, adapted folk songs, modern hits, and traditional folk dances of the Zemplin region.

Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at 7:30pm

Synod Hall in Oakland
(Craig Street, next to St. Paul's Cathedral)

Ticket prices are \$20.00 for adults, \$7.00 for children 12 and under

All tickets must be paid in advance.

Groups discounts available. Checks payable to WPSCA, send to Manor Oak Two, Suite 500, 1910 Cochran Road Pittsburgh 15220.

Call Joe at (412) 531-2990 or (412) 956-6000 for more info.

Proceeds will be donated to Pro Musica - Magnolia.

Sponsored by:



Book Corner

Seeing the Signs spirituality of the ordinary
by Paul Kocak

These miniatures are one person's observations of daily life. They serve as invitations to stop, look, and listen to the world before us. In doing so, readers will find opportunities for spiritual reflection and meditation.



About the author:

Paul Kocak has written several books available at Amazon.com, including "Baseball's Starry Night," hailed by Doris Kearns Goodwin as "a magical book about a magical night." He has also authored "World Serious," a 2012 World Series homage to the San Francisco Giants, and "Tipp Hill Litanies," a poetry collection celebrating a Syracuse neighborhood. Paul is a member of the FCSU's Branch 19.

ISBN/EAN13:
0692399763 / 9780692399767
Page Count: 84
Binding Type: US Trade Paper
Size: 5" x 8"
Language: English
Color: Black and White

To order: visit Amazon.com and type in the book title

A Treasury of Slovak Folk Dress

By Helene Cincebeaux



A new book spotlighting the incredible variety in the folk dress of western, central and eastern Slovakia and celebrating the village people who created such enduring beauty was christened with slivovica at a book party in Piestany, Slovakia. A Treasury of Slovak Folk Dress Author and Branch 278 Member Helen Cincebeaux is flanked by friends holding her newest publication.

Softcover: 136 pages, 240 full color illustrations

Publisher: Best Printers (October 2014)
Language: English
ISBN: 978-0-692-22445-8
Product Dimensions: 8.3 x .4 x 10.8 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds
Price: \$28.00

To order: visit <http://www.our-slovakia.com/travel-books.html> or contact the author at helenezx@aol.com

Sunday, July 5, 2015

Annual Jednota - Monsignor Michael Shuba District Picnic



- Mass to be Celebrated at 11:00 am with lunch available for purchase at Noon hour.
- Games and Goodies for the Children and Adults !
- Admission to the park is \$8.00 per person over 12 years old!
- To be held at the Creditvale Park on Barbertown Rd , in Mississauga, Ontario

• For further details contact Mike Kapitan 416-543-4111 or Anne Mityro 905-279-8154
- Submitted by Anne Mitro, District Recording Secretary



District 2's May Outing

On Sunday, May 17, 2015, the Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2 held its Annual Brunch and Play outing at the Theatre at the Center in Munster, Indiana. After a delicious buffet champagne brunch, the 38 attendees watched the bittersweet musical "Big Fish". Thanks go out to District 2's Co-Director of Fraternal Activities Lynda Tanis for all the effort she put into organizing another successful fraternal activity.

- Submitted by Robert Tapak Magruder, District Recording Secretary

Summer Sports Roundup

Tichomir Miko

Welcome Back to the Hockey Republic!



Slovakia will organize the 2019 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship in Bratislava and Kosice from May 3-19, 2019 at the same venues that successfully hosted the 2011 Worlds for the first time in history of Slovakia as an independent country. Bratislava was also a host in 1959 and 1992 during the Czechoslovak era.

A city of 618,000 inhabitants, the Slovak capital of Bratislava has 4.2 million people in a 100-kilometre radius including Vienna. The arena of Slovan Bratislava has a capacity of 9,763 seats for hockey and two practice rinks under the same roof.

Kosice, located in the Eastern Region of Slovakia is the country's second-largest city with a population of 240,000. The secondary arena offers 8,347 seats and an additional ice sheet for practices.

In the presentation former Slovak star forward Miroslav Satan addressed the Congress: "The atmosphere was truly exciting in 2011 not only for players but for hockey fans from all around the world. All the country got the fever for two weeks and we were able to showcase Slovakia all around the world."

Future World Championships:

- 2016: Moscow & St. Petersburg, Russia
- 2017: Cologne, Germany & Paris, France
- 2018: Copenhagen & Herning, Denmark
- 2019: Bratislava & Kosice, Slovakia
- 2020: Zurich & Lausanne, Switzerland



Slovak Children's Choir Performing in Linden on Friday, July 3

St. Joseph's Club of Holy Family Parish in Linden in cooperation with First Catholic Slovak Union and Branch 746, and the Slovak-American Cultural Center (S-ACC) are hosting a concert for the children's choir, Pro Musica-Magnolia, one of the best and most famous choirs in Slovakia. The group was formed by combining Pro Musica (Michalovce, Slovakia) and Magnolia (Sobrance, Slovakia). These talented 38 children, beginning at age 11; will be performing in Linden, New Jersey in Msgr. Komar Hall, 2806 Parkway Avenue on Friday, July 3rd.

The concert will include both classical songs in both Slovak and English as well as display of many Slovak folk songs and dances. Following the concert, live music will be provided by Relax.

Advance ticket purchase is required. Tickets are \$50 for adults. Kindly contact Adriana (908) 510-0547 or Hanka (908) 494-4534 by June 15th! Tickets are limited!!!

- Submitted by Sabina Sabados, Branch 746 President

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 3P - HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of St. Joseph Society Branch 003P, will be held at 9:45 am On Sunday July 19, 2015 at the Faith United Church of Christ Hall, 21 Faith Drive, West Hazleton, PA. All members are invited to attend.

A breakfast buffet sponsored by the Pardeesville Christian Association will be provided at no cost for all branch attendees immediately following the meeting. Please call M. Koval at 570-454-0004 for details and directions if needed.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 6 - STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephens Society, Branch 006K, will hold its semi-annual meeting with activities for the children at 1:00PM on August 2, 2015, at Chippers Grill, 1733 N. Bloomington Street, Streator, IL. All members are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be followed by lunch and fraternalism with all. If you have any questions or plan to attend, please call Paul at 815-822-8851 or Bob 815-672-1764.

Paul Chismar, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 10 - OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, invites all Branch 10 members, and their families, to attend the annual Communion Mass and Breakfast on Sunday, June 28, 2015. The 8 a.m. Mass at Holy Cross Parish, Olyphant, will be celebrated for all living and deceased members of Branch 10, FCSU. Immediately following the Mass, a complimentary breakfast for members and their families will be held at the Regal Room, 212-218 Lackawanna Ave., Olyphant, PA. Reservations are requested, and may be made by phoning (570) 587-2175 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. no later than Friday, June 12, 2015.

**William A. Nalevanko,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

St. Joseph Society, Branch 19K, will have a special breakfast meeting on Sunday, June 28, 2015, at 9:30AM in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT.

Since our March meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, we were unable to recognize the Margaret Evancho Award winners. We cordially invite these winners, and also past winners, to this special meeting to recognize and honor Margaret Evancho who died this winter. We are hoping that our members will join us for this special meeting as a tribute to her.

We will meet again on Sunday, September 13, 2015. More information on this meeting will be provided in upcoming issues of Jednota.

In the meantime, we wish all the members of the First Catholic Slovak Union a safe spring and summer season.

Henry Zack, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 23 - JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

On June 28, 2015 at 2:00pm Branch 23 will hold a special meeting at Resurrection Hall R.C. at the corner of 6th Ave. and Chestnut St. (formerly St. Rochus Church Basement), Johnstown, PA.

Editor's note: please see a special invitation to this meeting from the FCSU National President on this same page.

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

We encourage you to attend two upcoming summer events. The Cleveland Slovak Radio Club will hold their annual picnic on Sunday, June 28th; The American Slovak Zemplin Club's picnic is on Sunday, July 19th. Both are at The American Slovak Sokol Camp, 2096 Royalwood Rd. in Broadview Hts, OH, from 12 to 8 PM.

Join your Jednota Branch 24 members and friends for delicious Slovak food, refreshments, music and dancing. Please help support our fine Slovak organizations.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 40 - STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Clement Society, Branch #40, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday July 26th at 1:00 P.M. at Chipper's Grill, 1733 North Bloomington St. Streator, Illinois. All members of Branch #40 are urged to attend the meeting. Lunch will follow. Please make reservations by calling (815) 672-6682 before July 24, 2015.

Maria Harcar, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 55 - BROOMALL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Semi-Annual Meeting of Branch 55 is scheduled to be held on Sunday, June 28, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at the home of the Secretary-Treasurer, Wesley Enhanced Living, 8401 Roosevelt Boulevard, Philadelphia. Mass will be at 11:00 a.m. followed by Lunch at 12:00 Noon. Lunch will be catered; therefore, we request that you RSVP by June 21st in order to make reservations at the Wesley.

Please bring non-perishable food for Aid for Friends in Need. All members are cordially invited to attend.

A short business meeting will be conducted to review the highlights of the past year, discuss plans for the balance of the year, and any other business that will come up. All members are cordially invited to attend. Please call the Secretary-Treasurer at 215.637.6530 for directions and to reserve lunch.

Helena T. Gaydos, President

BRANCH 181 - UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181 will hold its Annual Family Picnic on Sunday, June 28, 2015, at Pavilion #14, Mammoth Park, Mammoth, PA. Registration starts at 12 noon, with lunch to follow starting at 1:00PM. Each member is asked to bring a covered dish with some extra to share with guests. There will be entertainment for all. All members and guests are welcome to enjoy an afternoon with friends and family. A meeting will be held after the picnic.

Gerry Kovacina, Secretary

BRANCH 112 - MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 112, will host a meeting and family day at the park on Saturday, June 13 at noon at Knoebels Amusement Resort in Elysburg, PA. Please call Karen Sterling at 570-640-1796 for details.

Karen Sterling, Secretary

BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 153 will have its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, June 20, 2015. The meeting will begin at 11:30 am at the Chambers Restaurant, 6881 North Milwaukee Avenue, Niles, IL. There will be a luncheon after the meeting with no charge for branch members. All members are invited to share in fraternalism.

Please call me, if you plan to attend. (773) 763-0810.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2015, at 9:00AM at the Golden Corral Restaurant Conference Room, 129 Matthew Drive, Uniontown, PA.

Branch activities will be discussed and officers' reports will be given as well as upcoming events for the current year. All members and guests of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting and breakfast. Call for reservations by June 1, 2015, and for any address changes or questions to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH NUMBER 173 - GREATER WILKES-BARRE AREA, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Baptist Society, Branch Number 173, located in the greater Wilkes-Barre - Wyoming Valley Area, will hold its semi-annual meeting on June 21, 2015 at Norms, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, at 12:30pm.

General business will be discussed and the insurance, annuities and fraternal activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

If anyone knows the address of the following members of Branch 173, please contact the Branch Officers at 570-4032067 or 15 Grove St. Mountain Top, PA, 18707.

Christopher Brooke Arnold 111

Bernard Kubinec

Michelle L Galdun

Catherine Hardik

Joyce Hudak

Debora Karasek

Robert Karasek

Leo W Karasek

Michail Kovaleski

Anthony Kubinec

If you plan to attend please notify Dorothy A. Ungvarsky at 570-403-2067 so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

John A. Ungvarsky, President

BRANCH 213 - VALENCIA, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael's Branch 213 will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2015, at 1:30PM. It will be held at 2603 Eloquent Lane, Valencia, PA. Wishing all members of the FCSU a great summer. Happy Father's Day to all.

Joseph Belechak, Secretary

BRANCH 260 - CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold its next meeting at 1:30PM on June 21, 2015. The meeting will be held at Bedford Trails Golf Course & Restaurant 713 Bedford Rd, Coitsville Township, OH 44436. On the agenda: plans to attend the August 29th 125 Anniversary Celebration in Cleveland along plans for with the Summer Fest at St. Matthias.

Paul Ritz, President

BANCH 292 - WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 292, will hold their semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 21, 2015. The meeting will be held at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Avenue, Windber, PA, 15963 at 12:30 p.m. This meeting will be held in conjunction with our annual celebration of the feast of our patron, St. John the Baptist. A Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Windber, PA, that morning. All members are invited to attend both events. A dinner will be served.

Edward T. Surkosky, FIC, President

BRANCH 266 - HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Semi-annual meeting of St. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266 will be held on Sunday July 19, 2015 at 9:45AM at The Faith United Church of Christ Hall, 21 Faith Drive, West Hazleton, PA. All members are invited to attend. A breakfast buffet sponsored by the Pardeesville Christian Association will be provided free to all branch attendees immediately following the meeting. For more information, and to get directions if needed, contact R. Lazar or any other branch officer.

Rich Lazar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 290 - RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

St. John the Baptist, Branch 290, will hold a meeting on July 9, 2015, starting at 7:30PM. Please call Joe for the location after 6PM at (908) 413-7177.

Joseph Minarovich, President

BRANCH 293 - LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, June 22, 2015, at 6PM at the home of the Financial Secretary. Anyone needing more insurance or services should call 570-645-4872 and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Fraternally,

Robert J. Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 313 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

We will be holding our annual meeting on Thursday, July 2, 2015, at 12:00PM. The meeting will be held at the home of Curtis Johnson, 16913 Creekside Ave., Tinley Park, IL 60487. Items on the agenda include: officers and discussion on the upcoming year. We are always looking for new members of our Society. Please check your beneficiaries on your policies. Please call Joseph M. Bugel for more information at (708) 349-7873.

Joseph M. Bugel, President

BRANCH 320- BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 320 members interested in attending the FCSU Membership Meet aboard the Carnival's Liberty Cruise Ship, November 15 - 22, 2015, should contact Fran at (724) 929-9788. A small stipend may be available.

Fraternally,

Frances Tarquinio, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 401 - E. VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA.

The Semi-Annual Meeting of Br. 401 is scheduled to be held Sunday July 12, 2015, 11:00a.m. at the home of Secretary, Patrick Froncek, 1223 Wysocki Ave., North Apollo, PA (phone:724-664-8216). All members are urged to attend.

Patrick Froncek, Secretary

BRANCH 410- UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, meeting will be held at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street in Uniontown, PA, at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 20, 2015.

All members are encouraged to attend.

**Geri Buchheit,
Financial & Recording Secretary
continued on page 11**

Attention Branch 23 Members: Special Invitation from the National President

Important: On June 28, 2015 at 2:00pm Branch 23 will hold a special meeting at Resurrection Hall R.C. at the corner of 6th Ave. and Chestnut St. (formerly St. Rochus Church Basement), Johnstown, PA.

At this Business Meeting we hope to elect new officers that will continue to service our members and keep our FCSU Branch improving and growing.

All members of Branch 23 are urged to attend. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Bob at the FCSU Home Office at 1 - 800-JEDNOTA (1-800-533-6682), extension 116.

Fraternally,

**Andrew M. Rajec
National President**

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 10

BRANCH 419 - WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 419 will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 21, 2015 at 1:00PM at Norm's Restaurant, Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Please bring a friend.

Thank you.
Fraternally,

Frank Wassil, President

BRANCH 425 - BARBERTON, OHIO

St. Mark's Society, Branch 425, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, July 19, 2015, at 2:00PM at the Slovak Society of Barberton, 887 West Tuscarawas St., Barberton, OH 44203. All members are welcome.

Jeannette M. Willis, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 425 - BARBERTON, OHIO

Important: to all members. There will be a meeting to discuss the future and possible sale of the JEDNOTA CLUB on Sunday, July 26, 2015, at 2:00PM at the Club at 887 W. Tuscarawas Ave., Barberton, OH. Please attend.

Fraternally,

August Lipovsky, President

BRANCH 484 - CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of the St. Joseph's Society, Branch 484, will be held Sunday, June 14, 2015, beginning at 1:30PM. It will be held at the home of the Financial Secretary Joseph E. Rura, 43 Rugh Road, Coral, PA.

On the agenda will be a discussion of the April 26 meeting of the Rev. John Martvon District and any other branch business. All members are welcome.

Joseph E. Rura, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 493 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493 in Chicago, IL, will have its Semi-Annual Meeting and Summer Luncheon on Saturday, August 22, 2015. Location: Bohemian Crystal Restaurant, 624 N. Blackhawk Dr., Westmont, IL. At 1:30 pm, attendees will gather for a period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments. The meeting will start at 2:00 pm, with a delicious family-style dinner following.

Members of the former Branch 163 in Joliet, IL, which was recently merged into Branch #493, are encouraged to attend the Semi-Annual Meeting and Luncheon, to become active in their new branch.

If you wish to attend, please call the branch financial secretary at (502) 244-6643 or (773) 558-5956 by Wednesday, August 19th, so that we'll have an accurate head count for the restaurant.

Sincerely,

**Robert Tapak Magruder,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 553 - AKRON, OHIO

The following events are scheduled:

June 20th - 45th: Annual Kielbasa Open at Mayfair Country Club -cost \$60 per person, \$240 for team. Call the Slovak J Club at 330-773-4978 to register your team - get your team and money in early to reserve your spot. If you can donate a door prize contact Linda Hanko at the club office. Events during the Open include:

- Breakfast Buffet 6:30 am to 8:00 am.
- Sausage Sandwiches at turn
- Luncheon Buffet after golf - along with door prizes, etc.

Don't forget our monthly Spaghetti dinner the first Wednesday of every month.

Finally, please note we are looking for anyone interested in forming a bowling league at our club, contact club manager for available dates at 330-773-4978.

Fraternally,

Sandie Klucar, Secretary

BRANCH 581 - GARY-WHITING, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel Gary-Whiting Branch 581 will hold its semi-annual meeting at the River Pointe Country Club, 6700 Country Club Rd., Hobart, IN, on Sunday, June 28, 2015, at 1 p.m.

The agenda will include the upcoming cruise (Nov. 17-22), annuity insurance and our yearly donations.

RSVP to Ann Buczek, 947-2793 or George Kelchak, 926-2410, if you plan on attending.

Ann Buczek, President

BRANCH 595 - MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Tatra Hall (Br. 595) is holding a yard sale August 13-15 from 9am - 5pm. Please bring any donations that you wish starting Monday August 10. There will also be food for sale.

Dollar Tuesdays \$1 beer and \$1 tacos.

Burritos every third Thursday of the month, to-go only \$7.00.

Call ahead to order 231-733-7525.

All events take place at Tatra Hall, 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI, 231-733-7525.

Fraternally,

Susan Hornik, Secretary

BRANCH 628 - MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of Branch 628, St. Michael Archangel will be held on Sunday, June 21, 2015, at 3:00 PM at the Eat 'N Park Restaurant in the Waterfront complex in Homestead. The agenda will include an update of branch activities and discussion of upcoming events.

Sylvia J. Velec, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 682 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

On Sunday, June 28, 2015, at 2:30PM, Branch 682 will hold a meeting at MRL, 290 N. Bridge St., Struthers, OH. On the agenda: plans for the upcoming Slavic Festival at the Annual Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest held at St. Matthias Church in Youngstown, OH, and the 125th Anniversary Celebration for the First Catholic Slovak Union held at the Cleveland Renaissance Hotel on August 29, 2015 in Cleveland, OH.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Andrew J. Hirt, President

BRANCH 731 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Members of Saint Joseph Branch 731 will meet on Sunday, June 14, 2015 at noon at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, OH. We will be planning our summer activities. Please plan to attend.

James Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 738 - WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 738 will be sponsoring a bowling outing for member's children from ages 7 to 15 to have this bowling outing we need at least 20 children to sign up. We can only accept the first 50 children that sign up.

Children attending the bowling outing will have to be accompanied by a parent or an adult who will be responsible for the child's behavior and safety.

The outing will be held at Playmore bowling Alley, West Mifflin, Pa. on July 12, 2015 at 1 pm. We will be serving pizza after bowling to everyone that participates in the outing.

To enroll your child please call with the child's name and age and the name of the person who will be responsible for the child's safety. Please response no later than June 28th. You may call Joseph Yackovich at 724-863-7502 or Barb Brekosky at 412-462-8685

We look forward to seeing everyone for this day of fun.

Pat Guidish, Secretary

BRANCH 746 - LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

Branch 746 has scheduled the following events

and outings this year:

On July 3rd, Pro Musica-Magnolia, a children's choir from eastern Slovakia, will be performing at Msgr. Komar Hall in Linden, NJ at 6:30 pm. There will be a buffet dinner and live music by Relax afterward. Tickets are \$50.00 for adults; \$30.00 for children. Proceeds will benefit the children of the choir.

In lieu of a summer picnic, there will be a bus trip to the Slovak owned and operated Sand Castle Winery in Erwinna, Pa. on Sunday, July 12th. Bus leaves from Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ at 10:30 am. The itinerary includes a pig roast lunch at the winery, a glass of wine with lunch, wine tasting of 12 different wines, a tour of the winery, and a stop at Liberty Village Premium Outlets in Flemington, NJ. The cost of this trip is \$75.00 for non-members; \$30.00 for members.

In order to join in the commemoration the 50th anniversary of the Slovak Chapel at the National Shrine on Saturday, September 12th, we have chartered a bus which will leave from Holy Family Church at 7:00 am. Mass will be celebrated at 3:00 pm. Upon arrival, there will be time to have lunch on your own, take a guided tour of the basilica, have confession, recite the rosary, and spend time in personal prayer. After mass, there will be a cocktail reception. Bus departs Washington, DC at 6:30 pm. Cost of bus transportation is \$40.00 for non-members; \$30.00 for members.

There will be an insurance seminar on Sunday, October 4th at Msgr. Komar Hall in Linden, NJ. The session will start after a brief branch meeting at 10:30 am. We will host a luncheon after the seminar.

On Saturday, November 7th, there will be a dinner-dance in honor of the 125th Anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Details are still being finalized.

Join us on November 21st for a Saturday matinee at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse for a showing of "A Playhouse Christmas Musical 2015." This musical revue features songs and dances, carols, humorous skits, and a live onstage orchestra. Lunch and dessert are included. Cost is \$80.00 non-members; \$60.00 members. Bus will leave Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ at 9:45 sharp.

To reserve your spot for any of these events, please call Mary Karch @732-572-2331.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 764 - WARREN, OHIO

Branch 764's next quarterly meeting will be held on June 17, 2015 at 12:30 at the Mocha House. The address is: 467 High Street, Warren, Ohio 44481.

We will be planning our summer activities and all members are urged to attend.

Joy Brunetti, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 844 - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Branch 844 will hold their Annual Father Day Mass on Sunday, June 21, 2015 at the St John Paul II Polish Center, 3999 Rose Dr, Yorba Linda, CA, 92888. Mass will begin at 4-00 PM, followed by a Slovak-style dish served in the cafeteria. We hope to see you all there and would like to wish everyone a very special and safe Father's Day.

Fraternally yours,

Milan Konkol, President

BRANCH 853 - CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 will hold a meeting on Saturday July 18 at McDonald's restaurant in Charleroi, PA, at 10:00am. Please leave a message with Branch president Monica Rodacy Boone at 412-341-1577 if you plan to attend. Branch members are urged to attend. Thank you.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President

BRANCH 856 - WASHINGTON, D.C. AND AREA

Branch 856 is asking all members to save the date: September 12, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

At that time we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of our beautiful Slovak Chapel, Our Mother of Sorrows at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

The celebrant for the Mass will be Cardinal Donald Wuerl. We would like to see many of the Branch 856 members in attendance. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638.

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

Slovak Picnic in June



Sponsored by the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club

Sunday, June 28, 2015

Noon until 8PM

American Slovak Sokol Camp

2069 Royalwood Road

Broadview Heights, OH

Featuring: Plenty of Slovak Food & Pastries

Music: by Anthony Culkar Band

Admission at gate: \$4.00

Updated Resource for Slovak-related Topics



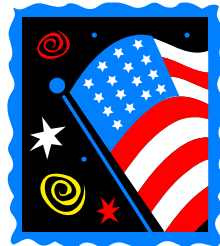
Interested in reading more about Slovakia? Now, thanks to Fr. Gerald J. Sabo, S.J., of John Carroll University, there is a central list of publications with Slovak-related topics.

This handy list includes ISBN numbers for those books published in Slovakia – which makes for easier identification when searching for them at the library or online. Websites for locating remaindered and used books, and where to purchase them, are included at the end of the file, as well.

Click here to download the PDF of titles.

To view or download a PDF of titles, go to www.fcsu.com

and click on Slovakia & the World.

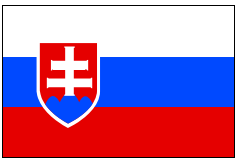


From the Desk of the Executive Secretary

Holiday Hours

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on Friday, July 3, 2015, in observance of Independence Day.

Slovak Picnic in Cleveland Ohio Sunday, July, 19, 2015



The American Slovak Zemplin Club will hold its annual picnic on Sunday, July. 19. 2015. Picnic will be held at the Slovak Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Road. (Between State and Broadview Rd.) Broadview Heights, OH.

Admission at the gate is \$4.00.

Festivities begin at 12 noon and continue until 8 P.M. Traditional Slovak specialties as well as American picnic favorites will be featured throughout the day. Home baked pastries - kolace will be available for sale. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by the popular Johnny Pastirik Band. The popular Slovak beer "Zlaty Bazant" will also be available. There will be 50/50 raffle boards, along with a playground for the kids, a soccer field, cornhole, and other activities to please everyone.

The committee cordially invites all Jednotars and Jednotarky. We are looking forward to seeing you. Come with your family and friends. Help us preserve our Slovak culture and heritage. For additional information call (440) 885-5702.

Fraternally,

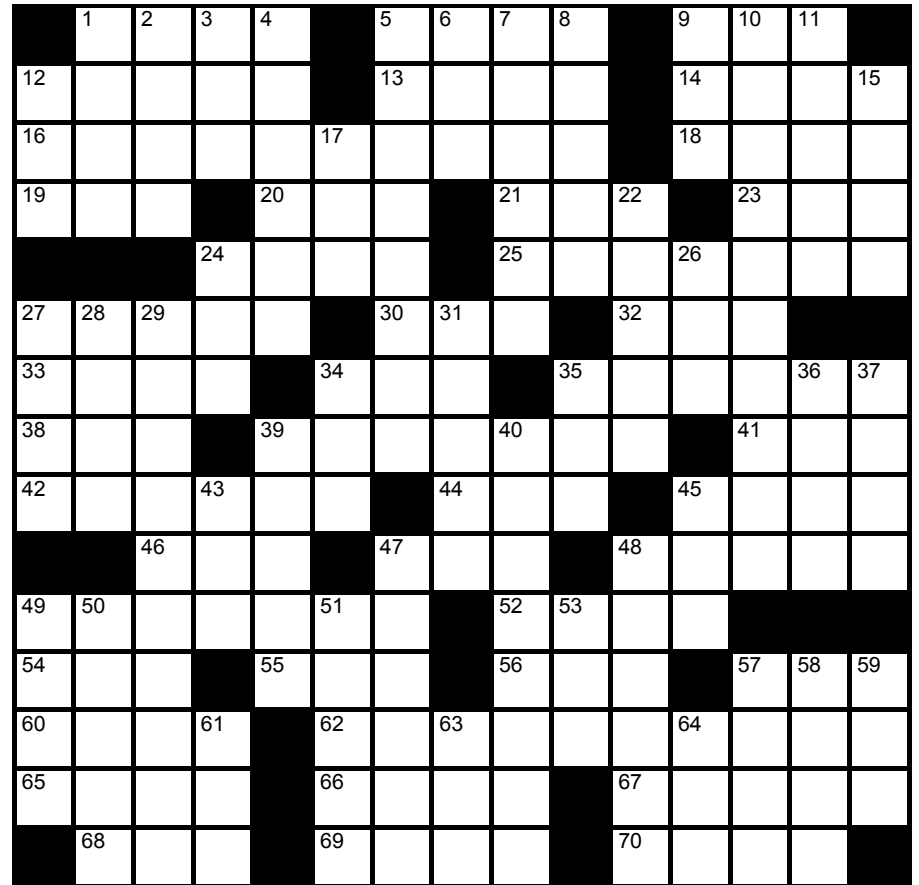
George Carny
President, American Slovak Zemplin Club
President, FCSU Branch 450

JEDNOTA

Publication Schedule for 2015

Publication Date	Deadline to Receive Materials
July 15	July 6
August 12	August 3
Sept 9	August 31
Sept 23	Sept 14
October 7	Sept 28
October 21	October 12
November 4	October 26
November 18	November 9
December 9	November 30

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Shot, for short
- 5 Sculpture
- 9 Attorneys' org.
- 12 Affirm
- 13 Paella pot
- 14 Limits
- 16 Tormentor
- 18 Novice
- 19 Summer drink
- 20 Lass, to some
- 21 Snagged
- 23 Triumphed
- 24 Parachute part
- 25 Making amends
- 27 Church instrument
- 30 Sea eagle
- 32 Heavy weight
- 33 Action word
- 34 Grand ___, Nova Scotia
- 35 More lamentable
- 38 Before cycle or valve
- 39 Squanderer
- 41 Spanish cheer
- 42 Machine movers
- 44 Lope
- 45 Cobblers' tools
- 46 Three (It.)
- 47 Windows forerunner
- 48 Strong point
- 49 *Arabian Nights* hero
- 52 Aquarium
- 54 ___ Quentin
- 55 He's a doll
- 56 Variety
- 57 Flowery verse
- 60 All over again
- 62 Football player
- 65 Cancún coin
- 66 Golf items

- 67 Less common
- 68 Reverse of NNW
- 69 Coin opening
- 70 Jewish month

Down

- 11 Chef's attire
- 12 Vacation spot
- 15 Ditty
- 17 After baggage or club
- 22 Enumerate
- 24 Subway alternative
- 26 Silent assent
- 27 Egg cell
- 28 Nevada city
- 29 Bravery
- 31 Kind of rocket
- 34 Faux ___
- 35 Cambodian coin
- 36 Fem. suffix
- 37 Musical symbol
- 39 ___ havoc
- 40 Most tarnished
- 43 Heavenly body
- 45 Petition
- 47 Boone or Webster
- 48 Turkish capital
- 49 Without delay, for short
- 50 Bowling divisions
- 51 Wallops
- 53 Priest's robe
- 57 Creole vegetable
- 58 Antlered animal
- 59 Go astray
- 61 Misery
- 63 *The Matrix* hero
- 64 Scoundrel

See Solution on Page 20

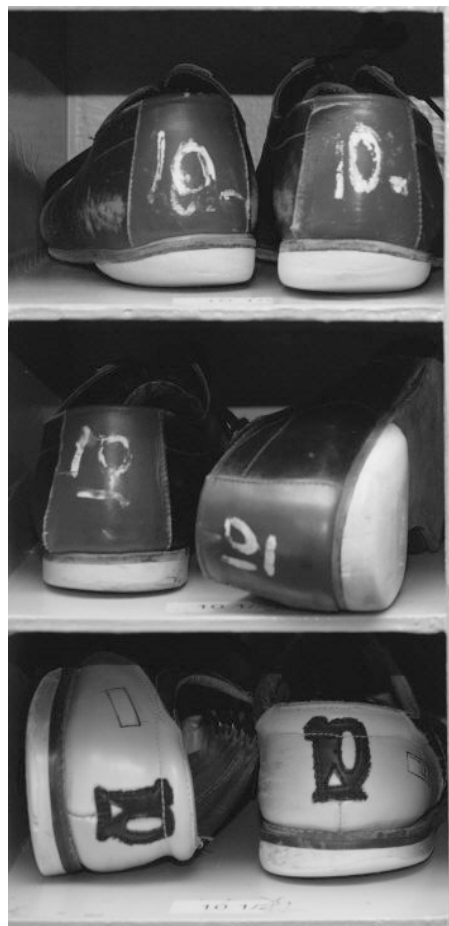
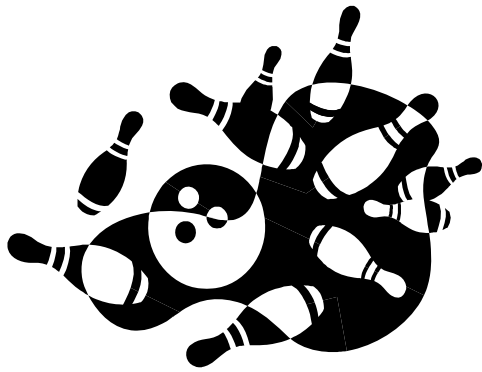
2015 National Bowling Tournament

4th Annual United Slovak Fraternal Men's Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament Results

Place	Team Event	Total Pins
1	It's Payday	2727
2	Mon Valley #7	2708
3	Mon Valley #10	2654
4	Mon Valley #13	2598
5	Barberton Jednota	2591
6	Mon Valley #8	2553
7	Takin' Ur Cash	2535
8	Mon Valley #9	2532
9	Jednota Branch 857	2529
10	Rolling in the Dough	2521
11	Kapitan's Limousines	2518
12	Mon Valley #4	2445
13	Ford City Strikers	2432
14	Mon Valley #6	2423
15	Huggers & Chuggers	2410
16	Mon Valley #12	2389
17	Mon Valley #11	2386
18	The Incredibowl Hulks	2383
19	The Professors	2376
20	Wild Things	2372
21	Oneida Services	2315
22	NSS #4 - Mixed	2304
23	Show me the MONEY	2298
24	Ten in Da Pitt	2227
25	Mon Valley #5	2226
26	G ² + 2	2055

Place	Doubles Partners	Total Pins
1	Rausch Newman	1424
2	Sadler Sadler	1408
3	Rice Arbogast	1369
4	Duda Shank	1361
4	Kendra Johnston	1361
6	Kapitan Zoldak	1357
7	Greene Helman	1344
8	Schwab Frolo	1342
9	Brashear Suhan	1329
10	Parnell Roebuck	1325
11	Forma Jursa	1308
12	Tokarsky Gryns	1301
13	Nasta Nasta	1279
14	Sinagra Dunn	1277
15	Outcalt Lutes	1274
16	Collins Hickler	1273
17	Barron Roberts	1271
18	Lako Beattie	1259
19	Walzl Silay	1243
20	Richnafsky Beckinger	1234
21	Silay Donovan	1232
22	Durcansky Durcansky	1225
23	Thayer Slota	1218
24	Lako Walko	1204
25	Dewar Helster	1203
26	Czarney Blazek	1201
26	Prpich Laird	1201
28	Kolecky Kolecky	1200
29	Nasta Mrva	1156
30	Smith Smith	1143
31	Smith Pesi	1141
32	Jursa Mitro	1134
33	Augustine Klacka	1112
34	Blum Elliott	1013

Place	Singles Competition	Total Pins
1	Beckinger David	763
2	Rausch David	750
3	Brashear Mark	744
4	Sabo Ron	740
5	Grotenthaller John	729
6	Suhan Jon	724
7	Helman Tom	720
8	Laird Tom	709
9	Dunn Alex	707
10	Zoldak Milan	704
11	Sadler Richard	702
12	Silay Ron	698
13	Gryns Greg	693
14	Frolo Robert	692
14	Roberts John	692
16	Lako Ray	689
17	Kapitan Michael	684
18	Kolecky Donald	680
18	Smith David	680
20	Slota Paul Jr.	679
20	Greene Dick	679
20	Shank Clarence Sr.	679
23	Dewar Kevin	675
23	Rice David	675
25	Forma Ed	671
26	Shank James	670
27	Nasta Edward	668
27	Nasta Damian	668
29	Arbogast Phil	659
30	Smith Vern E.	655
31	Jursa Emil	654
32	Horner Jack	652
33	Hickler George	651
34	Molchan Kevin	649
35	Buckley Jim	644
36	Hunt Zach	641
37	Nasta Andrew	640
38	Barron Joe	638
39	LeJeune Dave	634
40	Prpich Jack	633
41	Pesi George	631
41	Barton Dave	631
43	Outcalt Matt	629
44	Duda Ron Sr.	625
44	Kendra David	625
46	Walko Danny	622
46	Sadler Gary	622
48	Tokarsky John	617
49	Donovan Domenic	613
50	Mitro Milos	611
50	Johnston Derek	611
50	Oswald Howard	611
53	Lutes Donald	610
54	Mrva Milan	603
55	Smith Jim	602
56	Thayer Reginald	600
57	Burkhart Joe	597
58	Schwab Randy	593
59	Roebuck Wally	590
60	Lako Michael	588
61	Parnell Dwayne	587
62	Jursa Joe	586
63	Silay Tom	585
64	Beattie Jeff	583
65	Nasta Fr. Tom	574
66	Blum Greg	570
67	Richnafsky Nathan	568
68	Augustine John	567



Place	Seniors Competition	Total Pins
1	Zoldak Milan	704
2	Lako Ray	689
3	Kapitan Michael	684
4	Kolecky Donald	680
5	Greene Dick	679
5	Shank Clarence Sr.	679
7	Forma Ed	671
8	Jursa Emil	654
9	Buckley Jim	644
10	Barton Dave	631
11	Duda Ron Sr.	625
12	Mitro Milos	611
13	Mrva Milan	603
14	Jursa Joe	586

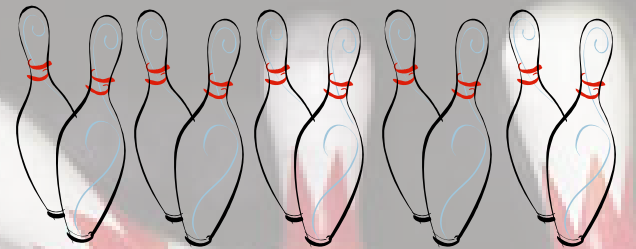


2015 National Bow



Place	All Events Competition	Total Pins
1	Beckinger David	2146
2	Sabo Ron	2132
3	Dunn Alex	2126
4	Brashear Mark	2110
5	Rausch David	2091
6	Silay Ron	2088
7	Frolo Robert	2072
8	Grys Greg	2071
9	Buckley Jim	2037
9	Molchan Kevin	2037
11	Sadler Richard	2033
12	Hunt Zach	2018
13	Arbogast Phil	2017
14	Kapitan Michael	2000
15	Smith Vern E.	1996
16	Suhan Jon	1994
17	Nasta Damian	1992
18	Helman Tom	1989
19	Hickler George	1988
20	Zoldak Milan	1986
21	Greene Dick	1984
22	Lako Ray	1977
23	Oswald Howard	1976
24	Newman Kyle	1975
25	Forma Ed	1969
26	Shank Clarence Sr.	1966
26	Duda Ron Sr.	1966
28	Kendra David	1957
29	Sadler Gary	1955
30	Donovan Domenic	1947
31	Dewar Kevin	1939
32	Lutes Donald	1932
33	Nasta Edward	1929
34	Slota Paul Jr.	1926
35	Horner Jack	1924
36	Laird Tom	1921
37	Barton Dave	1920
38	Rice David	1919
39	Schwab Randy	1905
40	Parnell Dwayne	1904
41	Jursa Emil	1898
42	Shank James	1893
43	Nasta Andrew	1886
44	Outcalt Matt	1880
45	Thayer Reginald	1870
46	Pesi George	1865
47	Prpich Jack	1864
48	Smith Jim	1860
49	Johnston Derek	1854
50	Kolecky Donald	1851
51	Beattie Jeff	1846
52	Smith David	1839
53	Nasta Fr. Tom	1837
54	Tokarsky John	1817
55	Barron Joe	1812
56	Roberts John	1795
57	Bright Richard	1793
57	Lako Michael	1793
59	Walko Danny	1774
60	LeJeune Dave	1764
61	Mitro Milos	1763
62	Richnafsky Nathan	1761
63	Silay Tom	1759
64	Roebuck Wally	1742
65	Mrvva Milan	1738
66	Ashcraft Alan	1723
67	Durcansky Rich	1716
68	Collins Pat	1711
69	Jursa Joe	1710
70	Czarney Mike	1701
71	Sinagra Dave	1693
72	Dunham Kevin	1692
73	Sulkowski Bernie	1691

Place	Singles Competition Cont.	Total Pins
69	Czarney Mike	565
70	Durcansky Rich	562
71	Ashcraft Alan	560
72	Kolecky Michael	559
72	Sulkowski Bernie	559
74	Helster Wayne	546
75	Newman Kyle	545
76	Sinagra Dave	542
77	Bright Richard	537
78	Klacka Paul	536
79	Collins Pat	533
80	Dunham Kevin	526



Place	Mixed Doubles	Total Pins
1	Roberts Molchan	1362
2	Hunt Hunt	1330
3	Kruly Barton	1310
4	Sabo Sabo	1263
5	Oswald Oswald	1251
6	Buckley Buckley	1250
7	Shank Shank	1243
8	Nasta Nasta	1195
8	Bright Bright	1195
10	Carini Horner	1190
11	Sinagra Grottenthaler	1182
12	DeMarco Dunham	1170
13	Dunn Sulkowski	1150
14	Henson Bowman	1134
15	Ashcraft Ashcraft	1127
16	Soose LeJeune	1114
17	Lako Burkhart	1089



Place	All Events Cont.	Total Pins
74	Kolecky Michael	1672
75	Helster Wayne	1660
76	Burkhart Joe	1562
77	Blum Greg	1560



Bowling Tournament

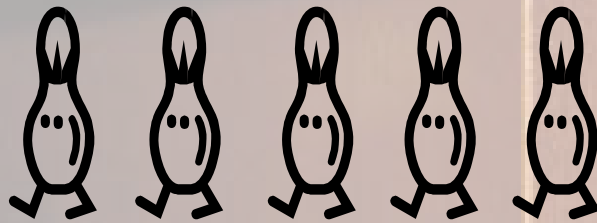
4th Annual United Slovak Fraternal's Women's Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament Results

Place	Team Event	Total Pins
1	The Ragan Girls	2375
2	Mon Valley #3	2370
3	Mon Valley #1	2352
4	Canadian Girls	2350
5	Three Striking Gals plus One	2326
6	Mon Valley #2	2215
7	The JEMs	2212

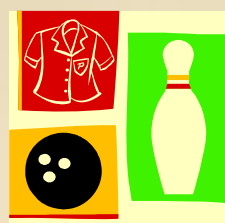
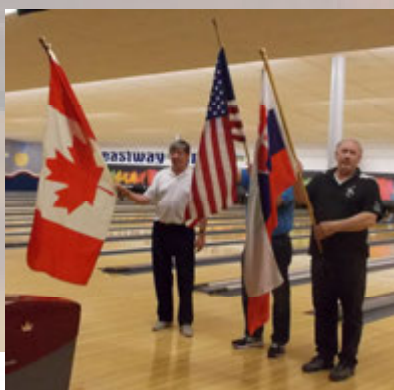
Place	All Events Competition	Total Pins
1	Szabo Cathy	2040
2	Sadler Shannon	2011
3	Molchan Ida	1962
4	Roberts Brea	1943
5	Rice Nancy	1885
6	Hunt Eileen	1880
6	Mitro Anne	1880
8	Lersch Jennifer	1868
9	von Friedl Helen	1867
10	Dunn Maurita	1850
11	Kruly Ceil	1821
12	Bright Tracey	1820
13	Hudak Debbie	1804
14	Jursa Jan	1801
15	Oswald Bridget	1794
16	Sabo Kim	1788
17	Ragan Jara	1784
18	Kolecky Inky	1779
19	Sadler Terri	1778
20	Carini Sue	1775
21	Buckley Sandy	1745
22	Ashcraft Debbie	1716
22	Lako JoAnne	1716
24	Smith Tina	1694
25	Arbogast Regina	1666
26	Soose Sheila	1664
27	Lutes Beth	1641
28	Ragan Joelyn	1640
29	Tokarsky Christine	1639
30	Schneider Amanda	1637
31	Shank Virginia	1633
32	Gorman Irene	1600
33	Nasta Nicole	1599
33	DeMarco Marla	1599
35	Bright Kim	1577

Place	Doubles Event	Total Pins
1	Mitro Szabo	1379
2	Sadler Sadler	1321
3	Molchan Smith	1303
4	Lersch Bright	1222
5	Rice Arbogast	1181
6	von Friedl Gorman	1146
7	Schneider Kolecky	1140
8	Lutes Hudak	1124
9	Jursa Jursa	1110
10	Ragan Ragan	1100
11	Tokarsky Ricciuti	1073

Place	Singles Event	Total Pins
1	Szabo Cathy	701
2	Bright Tracey	688
3	Roberts Brea	676
4	Lersch Jennifer	675
5	Sadler Shannon	674
6	Jursa Jan	666
7	Molchan Ida	660
8	Sinagra Cindy	638
9	Carini Sue	637
10	Rice Nancy	634
11	Hunt Eileen	629
12	Sabo Kim	625
13	Dunn Maurita	624
14	Kruly Ceil	623
15	Mitro Anne	622
16	Hudak Debbie	609
17	Ragan Jara	608
18	Soose Sheila	604
19	Lutes Beth	600
20	von Friedl Helen	589
21	Arbogast Regina	581
22	Buckley Sandy	575
23	Oswald Bridget	574
24	Smith Tina	568
25	Ragan Joelyn	559
26	Tokarsky Christine	553
27	Gorman Irene	552
27	Kolecky Inky	552
29	Ashcraft Debbie	549
29	Sadler Terri	549
31	DeMarco Marla	544
32	Lako JoAnne	542
33	Durcansky Sharon	525
34	Jursa Chris	519
35	Nasta Nicole	508
36	Shank Virginia	502
37	Schneider Amanda	493
38	Bright Kim	491



Place	Seniors Competition	Total Pins
1	Dunn Maurita	624
2	Mitro Anne	622
3	Ragan Jara	608
4	von Friedl Helen	589
5	Buckley Sandy	575
6	Gorman Irene	552
6	Kolecky Inky	552
8	DeMarco Marla	544
9	Durcansky Sharon	525
10	Shank Virginia	502



DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 2 – THE REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2 will be celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the 1890 founding of the First Catholic Slovak Union and remembering the 100th anniversary of our founder Father Furdek's death with a family-style dinner and program. The event will take place on Sunday, August 23, 2015, from 1-5 PM at the Garden Chalet, 11000 S. Ridgeland Avenue, Worth, IL 60482. Phone: (708) 361-0400.

All members and guests are welcome to attend. Reservations must be made by sending a check for \$25.00 per attendee, made out to REV. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT 2 to our District 2 Treasurer:

Pat LaPorte
9913 S. Massasoit Avenue
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

The deadline for reservations is August 10, 2015, but don't wait too long because seating is limited. We look forward to seeing you at the Garden Chalet. If you have any questions call the District 2 Recording Secretary Robert Tapak Magruder at (502) 244-6643 or (773) 558-5956.

Robert Tapak Magruder, District Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 738 will host the Fathers' Day brunch on Sunday, June 21. Karianne Barnes of Branch 628 will do the ad booklet. Members are asked to attend the 9:30 AM Liturgy at Holy Trinity Church in West Mifflin. Immediately following Mass, members are invited to the church hall for a meal and socializing. The cost of the brunch is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 & under. Reservations must be made in advance no later than Monday, June 15. No tickets will be sold at the door. To make reservations, please contact Joe Yackovich at 724-863-7502 or emailjryapril43@verizon.net. Checks should be made payable to Patty Guidish. You can pay at the church hall or send your branch check to Patty Guidish, 4569 Gates Dr., Munhall, PA 15120. Prices for the ad booklet are: full page \$75, half page \$40, quarter page \$25. This deadline is Sunday, June 7. Contact Karianne Barnes at kvehec@hotmail.com.

Please note: The district is also going to be collecting small, unused toiletry items for paralyzed veterans – wipes, small flashlights, disposable razors, etc. Please bring all donations to the brunch.

Branch 38 will host the annual winter meeting at a date to be determined later.

Branches are reminded to update their email addresses with the district secretary.

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

** WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library. Meetings resume in October.

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

** Slovak Choir Concert – WPSCA is bringing a group of 38 children from Slovakia for a concert at Synod Hall next to St Paul's Cathedral in Oakland at 7:30 PM, Tuesday, June 30. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$7 for children 12 & under. Tickets must be paid for in advance. Make checks payable to WPSCA and send to Manor Oak Two – Suite 500, 1910 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh PA 15220. If there are questions, contact Joe Senko at 412-531-2990.

** Johnstown Slavic Festival – Saturday, June 13 at the Heritage Discover Center in Cambria City, PA. For more information, contact daniel.kisha@gmail.com

** Slovak Day at Kennywood – Thursday, July 16, 2015. Tickets available at the district Fathers Day Brunch.

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

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

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

** The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is available to visitors Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations. See www.nsslife.org/Museum.php.

** The NSS Museum is acquiring an outstanding woodcarving of a Nativity Scene, similar to one seen only in Slovakia. It is expected to go on display later this year. The woodcarving was formerly located at the Slovak Folk Craft Store in Grove City, which closed at the end of 2014.

** The CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International is holding its 2015 meeting October 21-24 in Cedar Rapids IA. You can also visit the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. The 2017 meeting is planned for Pittsburgh. Further information can be found at www.cgsi.org.

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

** FCSU information and forms can be found at www.fcsu.com

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

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, District Secretary

DISTRICT 9 – THE FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District of Uniontown, PA has rescheduled its next meeting to Sunday, June 14, 2015 at 1PM in the K-2 Engineering Conference Room located at 234 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, PA. All district branches are invited to attend.

Barbara Holly, District Secretary

DISTRICT 11 - MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

Unanticipated family responsibilities and illnesses of officers prevented a quorum gathering for the 2015 Semiannual Meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District (District 11) scheduled on April 26. The meeting is rescheduled to Sunday, June 28, 2:00 PM at the C.U.Club, 910 Sixth Avenue, Ford City. When possible, Branches should designate their representatives to Grace Charney, District Secretary, at (724) 664-7185 by June 25; however, Branch members not previously identified are always welcome to participate in District meetings on a walk-in basis.

Reminders:

– Per FCSU By-Laws, Branch representation at either of the two District meetings each year is required to qualify for receipt of the annual Branch stipend.

– Up-to-date payment of District dues and attendance at District meetings are requirements for Branches to send delegates to the quadrennial convention.

– Branch representation at District meetings need not be by Branch officers; any beneficial member may represent his/her Branch.

Grace M. Charney, District Secretary

DISTRICT 14 – THE REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2015, at 6:00PM at St Matthias Church, located on Shady Run Road, Youngstown, Ohio. The agenda will be general district business including upcoming activities. All member branches are urged to attend.

Paul Ritz, Fraternal Activities Director

Editor's Note: see page 9 for District 14's October Sales Seminar.

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

District 17, in Region 3 of the FCSU, will celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the First Catholic Slovak Union and commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the death of Father Furdek on Sunday, October 25, 2015. A Mass will be celebrated at 12:15 P.M. in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, PA. A dinner will follow in St. Mary's Center, Scranton. Details and additional information will be announced in future issues of JEDNOTA.

Fraternally,

Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., District President

Branch 200 Scholarship Opportunities



Once again Branch 200, the C. U. Club, is proudly offering scholarships to any post high school graduate that will be furthering their education this fall. Applications may be picked up @ 910 6th Avenue, Ford City or contact Vicki Schaub @ 724-763-9229. Applications must be returned no later than July 1st. Recipients will be notified following August 6th Board of Directors meeting.

Vicki Schaub, Branch 200 Financial Secretary

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

First Catholic Slovak Union-Jednota Celebrates Their 125th Anniversary

*Come join US for an **Afternoon Boat Cruise***

Sponsored by Okres Monsignor Michael Shuba & Br 785

On The Enterprise 2000

On Sunday August 23, 2015 - 1:00 pm until 6:00 pm

Food, Drink and Music by Dusan Drobny

For Tickets Contact:

Mike Kapitan 416-543-4111 or Anne Mitro 905-279-8154



Tickets purchased before Aug 9, 2015

Members \$25.00

Non Members \$40.00

Tickets Purchased AFTER August 9, 2015

Members \$35.00

Non Members \$50.00

Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
001K	Mary T Barle	055K	George A Bradigan Sr	312K	William Banks	716K	Virginia M Giaco
001K	Robert W Koroly	055K	Roseanne J Bradigan	312K	Andrew T Yuschak	716K	John M Hudec
001K	Charles J Lesko	055K	Joan M Green	320K	Mary Muzina	746K	Joseph J Burgess
001P	Joseph J Polcha Iii	075K	Joseph G Novasatka	362K	Edward Ofat Sr	746K	John A Pribula Jr
001P	Ronald Reznick	086K	Andrew George Hresko	367K	Frances M Horvat	746K	John W Rezanka
002K	Jeffrey A Miller	112K	Lanea J Dibello	367K	Sharon Mirt	746K	John J Tamasik
002K	Robert C Seli	153K	Anna J Kurinec	380K	Linda S Santi	746K	John J Tamasik
004K	Suzanne Cuncic	156K	Charles P Bednarik	381K	Mary E Tluchowski	748K	Anna M Brelowski
006K	Mary Elizabeth Harris	157K	Anna K Harakal	388K	Margaret F Bebin	754K	Marie D Verkin
006K	Peter P Tapocik	169P	Joseph J Slivosky	404K	Christine Ann Osmulski	764K	Samuel D Sekel
007K	Ambrose C Mura	173K	Robert A Baloga	410K	Tina M Mc Fadden	796K	Irene M Kovalcik
019K	Joseph M Halko	173K	Margaret Ann Stapleton	410K	James Michael Vlasich	831K	Eleanore Kovach
019K	Matthew Kovacs	221K	Joseph John Patay	419K	Mary Ann Caruso	831K	Lawrence P Kulik
019K	Michael J Kovalsky	238K	Ann Skibinski	425K	Agnes A Billi	831K	Stephen J Magoc
024K	Edward J Davis	240P	John S Macheska	425K	Evelyn M Maxim	855K	Ann Boymer
024K	Dolores A Jankura	254K	John R Redmerski	484K	John B Gresh	855K	Paul E Gaydar
024K	Gala Savol	260K	Bernard J Koches Sr	553K	Lillian Mae Pachipka	900K	William John Kutosky
038K	Milan Vandriak	280K	Martin J Kovac	553K	John J Saloiye Jr	900K	Rev Louis J Wilimek
040K	Dorothy Boisso	292K	George R Hamzik	618K	Bernard J Turcovsky		
040K	Elizabeth Brimhall	293K	James Norbert Sofranko	682K	Ann T Diprizio		
040K	Aloysius P Timko	308K	Mary M Vitikas	706K	Stephen A Fayta		

*Processed through the month of May 2015

OBITUARIES

JOHN F. PITLECK, JR.
BRANCH 3P -
MINNEAPOLIS,
MINNESOTA



John F. Pitleck, Jr., age 93 of Minneapolis, MN, passed away April 11, 2015. He was preceded in death by his parents, John Sr. and Anna Pitleck; wife, Bernice; sisters, Dorothy and Mary Ann. Survived by his children, Tim (Kuhwa) Pitleck, Thomas Pitleck, Terese (James) Hallgren, Nancy (Gerald) Keymes; 6 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; sister, Margie (Dwayne) Osier; and many nieces and nephews. John worked for the Tennant Company of Golden Valley for 34 years. He served in the United States Navy during WWII on the Destroyer 34 USS Eisele. John was a long time member of the VFW (Quarter Master Mallon Post) where he held many offices throughout the years; and was a longtime parishioner at St. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church in Minneapolis, where he helped celebrate the church's 100th Anniversary. John also was an active member of the First Catholic Slovak Union and served as Treasurer of the (former) Branch 226.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 11 a.m. on Friday, April 17, 2015, at St. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, Minneapolis. Visitation was held from 5-8 p.m. on Thursday, April 16, 2015, at Kapala-Glodek Funeral Home, Minneapolis, and one hour prior to the Mass on Friday at the church. Interment with full Military Honors followed in the St. Mary's Cemetery in Minneapolis.

- Submitted by Terese Hallgren

JOSEPH J. SLIVOSKY
BRANCH 169P -
JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Joseph J. Slivosky, 88, of Westmont, PA, passed away March 21, 2015 at Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center. Born April 13, 1926 in Johnstown, PA, son of John and Anna (Mizzi) Slivosky. Preceded in death by parents, sister, Mary Mesaros;

and brothers, Frank, John, William and Edward Slivosky. Last survivor of his immediate family. Survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Elizabeth "Betty" M. (Mley) Slivosky, Westmont; and son Richard, married to former Linda Roethlein, Mars, PA. He is also survived by grandchildren, Andy and Lauren Slivosky, both of New York, and numerous nieces and nephews. A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, Joe was a member of the Greatest Generation. He retired in 1990 as president of Conemaugh Engraving Co. Joe was President of First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 169P, and a member of Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church, where a funeral Mass was concelebrated at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2015, by the Very Rev. Mark S. Begly, VF and Rev. Andrew Stanko. Committal was in the Grandview Mausoleum. Friends were received from 2 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, 2015, at Francis G. Ozog Funeral Home Inc., Johnstown.

EDWARD E. SMETANKA
BRANCH 410 -
UNIONTOWN,
PENNSYLVANIA



Edward E. Smetanka, 93, of Barling, AR, entered into rest on Sunday, February 1, 2015 in Fort Smith, AR. He was born February 8, 1921 in Weirton, VA, to the late Andrew and Elizabeth (Hardin) Smetanka. He was a truck driver and a member of Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church. He was a member of Paratrooper 101st Airborne called Screaming Eagles and an Army Veteran of WWII. He is survived by his wife Rose Smetanka of Barling, AR., two sons Michael Smetanka of Indiana and Allen Smetanka of California, two step sons Anthony Hudson of Little Rock, AR. and Gary Hudson of Barling, AR. and six grandchildren. Rosary was at 10:00 a.m. with Memorial Mass following on Saturday, February 7, 2015, at Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Barling, AR. Interment was at St.

Mary's Cemetery in Barling, AR. Arrangements were under the direction of Lewis-Roberts Funeral Chapel in Fort Smith, AR.

- Submitted by Rose Smetanka

EDWARD HANIS
BRANCH 595 -
MUSKEGON HEIGHTS,
MICHIGAN



Edward Hanis, age 84 of Grand Rapids, MI, died peacefully at home surrounded by his family on January 28, 2015. He was preceded in death by his parents George Hanis and Anna (Fekette) and eight siblings. He is survived by his loving wife of 49 years Judie, and three sons, Ed (Beverly) of Lansing, MI and their children Annie, Nathan, and Michelle and one great grandchild Mya, Mark (Jennifer) of Allen, TX and their children Trey and Sarah, Chad (Laura) of Grand Rapids, MI and their children Megan and Katie; and many nieces and nephews. Ed was born in Muskegon Heights, MI on March 4, 1930. He worked several jobs before starting a career with Meijer Inc. where he retired after 26 years. He was a hardworking man who valued family above all else. He enjoyed traveling with his wife and family, was an avid Notre Dame Football fan and loved the game of golf. He touched countless lives and will be missed by all that knew and loved him. Ed's family would like to thank Laurel Mercer and Steve Johnson of Faith Hospice for their kindness and care given to Ed and compassion for the family. Mass of Christian Burial was offered Saturday, January 31, 2015, 11:00 a.m. at St. Robert of Newminster Church, Ada, MI, the Rev. Leonard Sudlik presiding. Visitation was held Friday, January 30, 2015, 5 - 8:00 p.m. with the Rosary recited at 5:00 PM at the O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel, Grand Rapids.

- Submitted by Susan Hornik, Branch 595 Secretary

STEPHEN A. FAYTA
BRANCH 706 -
ORLAND PARK, ILLINOIS

Stephen A. Fayta, age 85, late of the East Side formerly of South Chicago, IL, passed away Wednesday, March 25, 2015. Devoted son of the late Arnold and the late Mary Fayta. Loving brother of William (Marion) and Arthur (Barbara) Fayta. Dearest uncle of Marianne Fayta Borsay, Donna Rossman, James Fayta, Mark Fayta, Michael Fayta, Lori Seida, Lynda Tanis, and the late John Fayta. Stephen is also survived by many great nieces and nephews. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Korean War, and retired employee of Veterans Supply Co. He was an active parishioner of St. George Church and longtime devoted parishioner of St. John the Baptist Slovak Church of South Chicago. Former member of Anchorage Base Hockey Team and Past Commodore of Calumet Yacht Club. Steve enjoyed bowling, hockey, skiing, boating, and sailing. Visitation was held Monday March 30, 2015, from 10:00 a.m. until time of service at 12:00 noon at the Elmwood Funeral Chapel, St. John, IN, with Rev. Joseph Kelchek officiating. Interment was at St. John Cemetery, Hammond, IN.

- Submitted by William Fayta

ELIZABETH GUYSKI
BRANCH 756 -
OWOSSO, MICHIGAN



Elizabeth Guyski, age 88 of Henderson, MI, passed away Friday, March 6, 2015 at Sparrow Health System.

A Mass of Christian burial was held 11am Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at St. Joseph Catholic Church with Fr. Dave Fisher officiating. The family will receive friends at Nelson-House Funeral Home, Owosso, MI, on Monday from 2 to 8pm with a Rosary prayed at 6pm.

Elizabeth was born June 6, 1926 in Du-

Traditional Funeral Customs in Slovakia, Part 2

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

The first installment on funeral and death customs in Jednota took us through the Middle Ages. Part 2 will cover the evolution of traditional customs during the modern era, since the Reformation of the 16th century. The approaching death of my father, Michael Kopanic, Sr., inspired the first article, and his recent passing on May 2, 2015, moved me to finish Part 2.

The traditions and ceremonies revolving around death in Christianity reflected both the mourning of a loved one and the realization that death leads to new life in Christ for believers. Slovaks showed a tremendous respect for their dead and faithfully observed meticulous customs associated with death and dying. Their customs exhibited a mixture of fear, symbolism, mysticism, and sadness.

Customs associated with death and dying very much represented a social as well as a religious occasion. The Slovaks viewed death as part of the process of life, which should continue the family name and maintain his/her estate and lands. The ceremonies also aimed to ensure that the dying person would attain an appropriate place in the next world and protect the family against evil spirits.

Death Customs

When a family knew that one of its members was approaching the end, ceremony and propriety were very important. Close members of the family and good friends would gather around the dying person. One was not supposed to cry loudly, because people believed that such lamentations would prolong the suffering of the dying person.

As noted in part one of this article, after a death people would sometimes see a white dove representing the recently deceased, but sometimes it could be a fly or a bee; such appearance meant that the soul of the deceased remained close by. The cock-a-doodle-do (kikiriki) of a hen (sliepka) rather than a rooster (kohút), or the cooing of an owl might also signal a death. Sometimes unexpected occurrences were associated with the deceased's spirit, such as a flower blossoming in the autumn, or a candle or light suddenly going out. The breaking of glass or a sharp noise might also signal the presence of the recently deceased.

A reader wrote me that a white dove appeared at a family's window on the death of a son during World War II. When my father recently died, our cousin in Slovakia told me that a door suddenly slammed hard about the same time of his death, a signal by his spirit that he was still present with our family there.

Many believed the soul departed after the first night, or that the spirit of the person would return to the world for a variety of reasons. For this reason, the family would leave foods on the windows on memorial holidays, or donate foods and charitable gifts to the needy. These customs combined with prayer would help the soul attain peace and eternal salvation.

Preparing the Deceased for Burial

Once deceased, church bells would ring and the family would dress the deceased in fine clothes, make funeral and cemetery arrangements, and construct a coffin. The



Women dressed in traditional black in Slovakia.



A modern gravesite in Slovakia

elderly women (staré baby) of the family assumed responsibility for dressing the deceased. They would first put coins or small pieces of glass in the eyes of the deceased. Then they would tie the chin with ropes and be sure the arms and legs lay in an acceptable position.

Often people prepared the clothes they would be dressed in long before his/her death. In former times, Slovaks were buried in their best folk costumes, but in more recent times, that has evolved into wearing their best darker clothes.

The family devoted meticulous attention to what went into the coffin, which became used most often after the 18th century. Items commonly placed in a coffin included a coin, to help him or her make ritual payments, or for transportation into the next world. When a master died in central Slovakia, half a coin would go to his heir and half put on the path to his home.

A man often would be buried with his favorite items, such as a pipe, tobacco, a stick, and a bottle of distilled liquor. Women more often had a prayer book, a rosary, holy pictures, and sewing materials. In some places, the family would never put plumage, straw, or hay in a coffin, for it was believed that could lead to a bad harvest. The body was put in a white sheet (plachta) and sewn to the sheet, with a hole cut out for the deceased's face.

If a person had unresolved debts or law suits pending, the family put parsley or poppy seeds in the coffin to prevent the deceased from coming back. Such customs survived into the 20th century.

After the dressing of deceased, they would lay him or her on the ground on top of straw or on canvas, depending on the local custom. Straw symbolized the dusk of life and

the return of the body to the earth. Ashes from ashes, dust to dust. In death, people believed that the powers one obtained at birth and at baptism would once again return to the ground from whence it came.

A ceremonial watching over the deceased coffin would follow, and continue until the funeral took place. If the deceased did not become stiff or change colors, the family would perform certain rituals to prevent the dead from returning. For instance, the women might put a bundle of blessed items in the coffin, and add a rose or hawthorn branches near the feet of the deceased.

While the church bells announced the death to the community, the family also made sure that the animals of the household, and especially the bees, knew of the passing. A new master would rule the household, and he had to introduce himself to the all creatures as the new boss. The presentation of new seeds would also symbolize the passing of the torch to a new gazda.

The mourning family would not perform any sort of work. The women would not cook or sew, and the fields lay unattended. Much like today, friends and relative provided foods for the grieving family.

The funeral would usually occur on the third day after death. In the meantime, the family maintained a 24 hour watch over the body. In eastern Slovakia, young people watched over the coffin until midnight, at which time adults took over the night-watch. A candle had to burn during the entire watch, and bread and water was placed on the table for the spirit.

As recently as the 1950s, some plays depicted certain individuals trying to reawaken the dead. Others involved parodies of funerals and a few even hinted at some erotic symbolism.

Women assumed the role of mourners for the deceased and they were the so-called plačky na pohrebe (mourners at the funeral). Families would even hire plačky, who were oftentimes relatives of the deceased. The ceremonial weeping would recall the contributions and character of the person who passed away. Sometimes they would sing sad songs or recite verses about parting with the deceased.

The night before a funeral, would include a vigil for the deceased. People would stop by the person's house to pay their respects and take part in a ceremony, which included the reading of prayers and the recitation of the Holy Rosary.

Finally, the coffin would only leave the house through a special hole dug out under the main door. In some localities where people feared one could become a vampire, they could take additional actions to ensure the soul remained at peace.

Usually, young male family members carried away the coffin in their arms in a funeral procession, and peasants hardly ever used a bier. If the coffin had to travel a long distance, it went by wagon, or on a sledge. That custom continued well into the 1930s.

The Funeral

Family and friends would go to church in the morning and attend a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated by a priest. Sometimes, especially for important personages, someone in the family or a close friend would deliver a eulogy to the deceased, called a smútočná reč (literally, a mourning speech).

If a child was less than 7 years of age, a funeral was more simple, since the child's understanding never fully developed. One must keep in mind that often nearly half of all young children died in previous times, when medical care was not so advanced. An innocent spirit who was baptized was destined for heaven, thus giving some reason for a certain joy. But a priest did not celebrate a church ceremony for the very young, but rather a school master, an organist, or a sexton. Small children were not made a coffin but were often buried in the same graves as their closest relatives. A mother would not attend the funeral of a child so that she would not put a curse on her other children.

On the other hand, an older youth received a burial with more symbols of celebration, and were often buried in a wedding dress and the very best clothing. The wedding procession for older youth included such items as a bride's crown, a plume, a wedding flag, a wedding cake, or other similar items. Close friends and family of the youth dressed as if they were bridesmaids or young men in a wedding party.

If a young woman lost her intended husband, she would walk with the procession behind the coffin dressed in a bride's clothing. In southern Slovakia, two brides would follow the coffin of a young man, one dressed in black, the other in white. Since such a young person did not get to live a full life, the ritual stressed a stronger sense of sadness.

The procession would proceed to the gravesite where the body was interred after a series of blessings by the local priest.

continued on page 19

Traditional Funeral Customs in Slovakia, part 2

continued from page 18

Kar - The Funeral Luncheon

Following the funeral, much like today's luncheon after a burial which we are familiar with, a family hosted a funeral feast, known as a kar (pronounced like "car") or kar po pohrebe (Luncheon after a funeral). People believed that the deceased soul also attended the feast, so they made sure that people ate their full and came away with a good feeling about the deceased and the family.

Typical foods at a kar varied according to location and the nature of the deceased. In mountainous areas, people typically served bread, salt, and curd or cheese, and then washed it down with pálenka (homemade brandy) or slivovica (plum brandy), which is a very powerful and potent beverage. If a single girl or young man died, the kar was usually much more elaborate and involved a much bigger affair, almost resembling a wedding feast.

When a farmer (gazda) died, the family would butcher a cock; if a farmer's wife (gazdina) passed away, they would kill a hen. The kar took place at a person's home in former times, but more recently, as in the USA, the kar more frequently occurred in restaurants or banquet halls. (Most churches in Slovakia do not have halls to host such events as our churches do here in the USA.) The foods offered became more varied as people no longer lunched at someone's home.

Gravesites

In Slovakia, people used three different

types of gravestones and markers. Up until the mid-20th century, Catholic Slovaks marked their deceased with crosses, often made of wood for the poorest peasants, but also some carved from stone for those who could afford it. Protestants used stone tables at their grave sites, and Calvinists used columns. Each marked the years the deceased lived, and sometimes appropriate epithets would be engraved. Most common was "Nech odpociva v pokoji" (May they rest in peace), which is also found at the graves of many early Slovak-Americans. Typically, gravesites older than 200 years did not receive maintenance.

Long after the Funeral

The period of the mourning for the deceased lasted in varying amounts of time depending on local customs. But a widow always dressed in black for the rest of her life after she lost her husband, a sign of lifelong devotion and respect to her late spouse.

Even today, remembering the dead continues to be an annual commemoration each November 2, on All Souls Day, called Dušičky in Slovak (pronounced Doo-sheech-kee). On November 1, a holy day of obligation, practicing Catholic Slovaks attend Holy Mass for All Saints Day (Sviatok všetkých svätých), and many then go again to Mass again on All Souls Day, in order to pray for their deceased family members and friends.

As dusk approaches on November 1st, Slovaks remember their deceased loved ones (zosnulí) by visiting their grave sites and adorning them with flowers, wreaths, and lit candles throughout the night. The vil-

lages and towns light aglow with sparkling light streaming from the cemeteries on All Saints evening. In the past, people symbolically placed food on their table for the deceased (mŕtvi), and placed moss (rašelníky), pine-branches (vetvičky), and pine-wreaths (vence) at the graves of the dead.

Slovaks honor their dead (zosnulí) on this sacred night, and the thousands of candles create a spectacle to behold. In many places, the ceremony continues for a week, not just on All Saints Day and All Souls Day, but every day, from November 1 until November 8. Both young and old alike pay honor to the deceased, and unlike many other European countries, such customs continue among all generations in Slovakia. Many Slovaks, even those who have moved to the cities, still place a high value on their religious and village traditions.

Honoring the deceased in one family represented an important component of Slovak culture and reaffirmed a belief in God and the continuity of the family. For Slovaks, respect for the deceased has remained in important custom and many have tried to retain parts of the ritual and customs which modernization and Western youth culture have attempted to push aside. Thus a motley mixture of old and new customs characterize contemporary Slovak funeral rituals.

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OBITUARIES

continued from page 17

rand, the daughter of Istvan and Elizabeth (Takach) Benko.

She graduated from Durand High School and married Joseph Guyski Sr. on October 26, 1946 in Owosso; he predeceased her on March 20, 2007.

She loved her beloved cat Gladys, bowling, word search puzzles and bingo. Elizabeth's loved ones will always cherish memories of her love of family; family was truly her pride and joy and especially those memories of hearing her giggling with the girls.

She was secretary for St. Joseph Catholic School from 1977 to 1987.

Elizabeth is survived by her children Joe

(Sue) Guyski, Jerry (Diana) Guyski, Linda (Dick) Miles and David (Michele) Guyski Sr.; grandchildren Jenae (Gary) VanEffen, Dan (Becky) Guyski, Jacob Guyski, Elizabeth (Chris) Chambers, Karen Guyski (Kevin Duffy), Sarah Miles, David Guyski Jr, (Hailey Humphrey) and Matthew Guyski; great-grandchildren Hailey, Tyler and Brendan Van Effen; brother Albert Benko; many nieces, nephews and other loving family and friends.

She was predeceased by her husband Joseph, parents, brothers Steve Benko, Joe Benko and Julius Benko, sister Ethel Schlaack.

Annual July Pierogi Fest in Whiting IN



THE WHITING PIEROGI FEST is a three-day "street festival" in Whiting, Indiana, located about 20 minutes from Chicago, IL. It is presented by the Whiting Robertsedale Chamber of Commerce and draws almost 200,000 visitors each year. The Pierogi Fest is held the last full weekend in July, which means this year it runs July 24 – 26, 2015, from 11am to 10pm on Friday and Saturday and from 11am to 5pm on Sunday.

Jam packed with street vendors selling food, drinks and fun novelty items like t-shirts, the fest also features events like the Polka Dance Off, judged by Mr. Pierogi and Ms. Paczki.

Not only can you tap your toes to the live and pulsating music of polka bands each day, but you can sit and watch the beautifully costumed young men and women from different Slovak dance troupes –The Lúčina Slovak Folk Ensemble from Cleveland, OH; Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble from Detroit, MI; Veselica Slovak Folk Ensemble from Chicago, IL; and the Vychodna Slovak Dancers from Mississauga, Ontario – many of whom are FCSU members. Lúčina is directed by Tom Ivanec, Branch 24; Šarišan is directed by Milan Straka, Branch 743; and Vychodna's Executive Vice President of Cultural Events Dušan Dorich is a member of Branch 785.

The dancers perform from 2 – 4PM on Saturday and noon – 2PM on Sunday.

For more information, visit the official Pierogi Fest website: www.pierogifest.net or call toll free 1-800-659-0292

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FCSU Financial - First Catholic Slovak Union

Contact Branch Officer or the home office

6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131, 800.533.6682,

www.fcsu.com, insurance@fcsu.com



MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2015 • INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN:

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 9:00am and asked Vice President Andrew 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 II, Treasurer (via teleconference)
 Sabina Sabados, Regional Director (By invitation of the President)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MARCH MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the March 2015 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

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

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

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

INVESTMENT UPDATES:

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

PORTFOLIO REVIEW:

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

MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES

The Executive Secretary presented the report for the month of March 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 2015:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 399,390.73
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 51,449.93
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President presented a written detailed sales production report to the Executive Committee on the different regions and the report of our independent agents. This report is always mailed to our Regional Directors for their information. The Vice President stated we are still continuing to recruit new agents and now have 200 agents. The Executive Secretary stated we are beginning a program to recruit new agents in the states we are newly licensed. Following the report, the Vice President answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The Vice President stated he is scheduling seminars for 2015 and asked the Regional Directors to contact him with available dates for their regions.

The Vice President stated we are accepting reservation for the Membership Meet Cruise which will be November 15-21, 2015. For additional information or to make reservations, contact the home office or refer to the FCSU website.

The Executive Secretary stated we continued advertise on Facebook with new

material being added daily, as well as on the FCSU website and email, while including ad material in our home office mailings.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President led a discussion on the Jednota Middletown Memorial and stated construction is almost completed since the weather has improved. The President stated September 13, 2015 is the tentative date for the dedication to be held in Middletown, Pennsylvania. The President informed the Committee the memorial brick orders are still being sent into the home office.

The President stated the final plans for the joint celebration of the 125th anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union and the 100th anniversary of the death of our founder, Rev. Stephen Furdek, are almost complete. The event will take place on Saturday, August 29, 2015. The contract with the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel has been signed and the last minute arrangements are being made. His Excellency Peter Kmec, Slovak Ambassador to the United States, will be the main speaker. Veselica Slovak Folklore Ensemble from Chicago and Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland will be the entertainment for the evening. Reservations may be made by contacting the home office. The celebration has been publicized in the Jednota newspaper and on our website. The Executive Committee will continue to receive updates on the progress. Celebrations of our 125th anniversary are in the planning stages for Pittsburgh and Linden, New Jersey, and in the early stages for Chicago and Scranton, Pennsylvania.

The 50th anniversary of the dedication of the chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC will be held on September 12, 2015 in conjunction with the Slovak Catholic Federation Pilgrimage. The Executive Committee will be kept informed as details are completed. The Board of Directors semi-annual meeting will be held in conjunction with this event on September 11-12, 2015.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

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

ADJOURN:

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

The President asked Vice President Andrew Harcar to close the meeting with prayer.

 Andrew M. Rajec
 President

 Kenneth A. Arendt
 Executive Secretary

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 12

	A	M	M	O		B	U	S	T		A	B	A		
S	W	E	A	R		O	L	L	A		C	A	P	S	
P	E	R	S	E	C	U	T	O	R		T	Y	R	O	
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	S	S	E		S	L	O	T		A	D	A	R		



Tee Time: Jednota International Golf Tournament July 18 - 19

Golf is one of the few sports that provides not just a chance to relax, but at the same time a chance to talk in a more relaxed atmosphere and enjoy each other's company. One of the highlights of the summer season is attending the Jednota International Golf Tournament, where you have the opportunity to engage in friendly competition with other Jednota members for a chance to win numerous prizes.

This year the tournament will be held Saturday, July 18th, and Sunday, July 19th, at the challenging and breathtaking Gold and Silver courses in DuBois, Pennsylvania.

The Silver and Gold courses are PGA rated and are located 1 mile off Interstate 80.

The 18-hole "Silver" course at Treasure Lake is more open and friendlier to the beginning golfer. There are 70 sand traps and water hazards on flat, wide open fairways. The greens are well-manicured. Designed by Tom Palumbo, the Silver golf course opened in 1983.

The Gold Course has been featured as one of the best and most affordable courses to play in Pennsylvania by Golfer's Digest. This course is very narrow and wooded making it ideal for the golfer who welcomes a challenge. There are 55 sand traps and hazards. This course was also designed by Tom Palumbo.

Friday evening golfers and guests are invited to attend the Hospitality room at the Hampton Inn, Saturday Evening the Social will be held at the Best Western Conference Center. There are a block of rooms reserved at both properties. When making reservations you must say you are with the "FCSU Golf Group". Deadline for reservations is June 17th, 2015.

If you would like more information, you can send an email to me at: rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com or call me at 412-421-7967

Fraternally,

Rudy Ondrejco
National Fraternal Activities Director

First Catholic Slovak Union

*2015 Annual Golf Tournament
July 17 - 19, 2015*

Deadline for entry forms and hotel reservations is June 17th

Enclosed please find the following information for the 2015 Annual Golf Tournament:

1. Golf Entry Form
2. Rules & Regulations

Friday: Fraternal Hospitality Night – 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

We will kick-off the weekend on Friday evening with Hospitality Night beginning at 6:00 PM at the Hampton Inn DuBois. Our evening will begin with food, refreshments, socializing.

Hotel - We have rooms booked at:

Hampton Inn DuBois (20 rooms)	Best Western Plus (30 rooms)
1582 Bee Line Hwy	82 North Park Place
DuBois, PA 15801	DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-1000	814-371-6200
Room Rates: \$112.50 + tax per night	\$92.65 + tax per night

Please reference FCSU Golf when making your reservations to ensure you receive these rates.

Saturday: Individual Competition

We will begin with a shotgun at 8:00 AM. Please make sure to arrive at the course no later than 7:00 AM.

Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes

Mass: Mass will be held at 5:30 PM at St. Michael the Archangel Parish
15 Robinson St. DuBois, PA

Banquet: Buffet dinner at 6:30 PM at the Best Western DuBois
Roast beef and stuffed pork chop are the buffet entrée choices with accompaniments.

Sunday: Individual Competition-Round 2:

We will begin with a shotgun at 8:00 AM. Please make sure to arrive at the course no later than 7:30 AM.

Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes

Awards BBQ: Lunch will begin at 1:00 PM at the Treasure Lake Pavilion
Hamburgers and hot dogs, Corn on the Cob, Fruit Salad, Cookies, Iced Tea and Lemonade

We are looking forward to a great fraternal weekend and hope that you can share it with us. If you have any questions contact Rudy Ondrejco at (412) 421-7967 or rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com

First Catholic Slovak Union National Golf Tournament

Men's And Women's Official Rules and Regulations

1. The tournament is open to all members and the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU).

2. United States Golf Association (USGA) and host golf course rules will govern play. Improve your lie anywhere, except for hazards. Out of bounds shot, drop where ball went out and 1 stroke penalty

3. Handicaps will be determined as follows:

A. All golfers will compete as determined by handicap. The golfer's first handicap will be determined after he has completed 54 holes of play in the FCSU National Golf Tournament. The handicap will be recalculated each year based on 54 holes of FCSU

National Tournament play. From the latest 5 rounds, the highest and the lowest will be discarded and 90% the average of the remainder will be the handicap assigned for the tournament. 90% of an official USGA handicap may be substituted if a golfer does not have an FCSU Tournament handicap. The maximum handicap will be 40 strokes for 18 holes.

B. Any golfer who has not completed 54 holes of tournament play in the FCSU National Golf Tournament will be entered in a separate division using the FCSU version of the Callaway scoring system.

C. Male golfers, competing in the 18-hole event, age 65 or over and with a handicap larger than 10 may use the forward tees.

D. Any male golfer competing in the 9-hole event may hit from the forward tees.

4. Classifications:

A. A medal play champion will be determined in each of the following Divisions:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Men's A flight (0-10) | 5. Women's Flight |
| 2. Men's B flight (11-17) | 6. Callaway Flight |
| 3. Men's C flight (17-30) | 7. 9-hole Senior Flight |
| 4. Men's D flight (31 +) | |

B. Winners will be determined by low net score in each flight after 36 holes of medal play or 18 holes of play in the senior flight.

5. The division between the men's A-D flights may be adjusted to equalize the flights. A second women's flight may be added if entries warrant such addition.

6. In case of tie for first place in any Flight, tie will be broken by match of cards using gross score starting on #1 handicap hole followed by #2 handicap hole, #3 handicap hole and so forth until the tie is broken.

7. All other ties will split the applicable prize money. (e.g., two people tied for second will split second and third place prize money. Three people tied for second would split second, third and fourth place prize money.)

8. The prize list will be determined by the tournament manager using the money contributed by the contestants and matching money contributed by the FCSU for all golfers. As nearly as possible, there will be one prize for each four entries.

9. The tournament manager will schedule pairings. Both Saturday and Sunday schedules will be e-mailed to participants prior to the tournament.

Entries absolutely close on June 17, 2015



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

A great source for the latest information about our Society - and events in the greater Slovak community.

**First Catholic Slovak Union
2015 National Golf Tournament
July 17 – 19, 2015**

**Gold and Silver Golf Courses
DuBois, PA**

Deadline for Entry Forms is June 17, 2015

	Sat. Banquet (X)	Sunday BBQ (X)	9 Holes Only* (X)	Name	Address	Phone or E-Mail	Branch and Certificate Number
1							
2							
3							
4							

*For women or seniors age 75+. 9-hole players must play together; no 18-hole player and 9-hole player foursomes allowed.

GOLFERS (fees are listed per person):	
18-Hole Players	\$70.00
9-Hole Players	\$50.00
Tournament Fee	\$ 8.00
Prize Fee	\$12.00
Saturday Banquet	\$15.00
Sunday BBQ	\$15.00

NON-GOLFERS:	
Please Choose ALL that apply & indicate number attending	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Will attend Hospitality Night @ \$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Guest Banquet Dinners @ \$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	FCSU Member Banquet Dinners @ \$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Will attend Sunday BBQ @ \$15.00

Mail Entry Fee Payable to: FCSU Activities Mail to: FCSU Golf 234 Ilion St. Pgh. PA 15207
--

Room accommodations provided by

Hampton Inn DuBois (20 rooms)
1582 Bee Line Hwy
DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-1000

Best Western Plus (30 rooms)
82 North Park Place
DuBois, PA 15801
814-371-6200

Room Rates: \$112.50 + tax per night

\$92.65 + tax per night

Indicate you are with FCSU GOLF

Check in time: 3 PM

Check in time: 2 PM

Deadline for Reservations is June 17, 2015

\$ _____ **TOTAL INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM**

Golf rules and entry forms also can be downloaded by going to <http://www.fcsu.com/fraternal-events>

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Insurance coverage for your children or
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3 TOP PRIZES!

GRAND Prize: AN ALL INCLUSIVE

7 DAY FCSU SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE FOR TWO

First Prize: \$500

Second Prize: \$250

Begins March 1, 2015 and applications must be postmarked by August 31, 2015. Winners will be notified in September.

7 Day Southern Caribbean

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sun	San Juan		10:00 p.m.
Mon	St. Thomas	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Tue	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Wed	Barbados	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Thu	St. Lucia	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Fri	St. Kitts	8:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
Sat	St. Maarten	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Sun	San Juan	7:00 a.m.	

Departure Dates

Your departure date:
November 15, 2015

Itineraries are subject to change; port, sequence and scheduled times, and/or day. For the most updated cruise information, please contact your Travel Professional.

For more info contact:
Andy: 800.533.6682 ext. 112
Bob: 800.533.6682 ext. 116





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7 Day Southern Caribbean

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sun	San Juan		10:00 p.m.
Mon	St. Thomas	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Tue	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Wed	Barbados	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Thu	St. Lucia	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Fri	St. Kitts	8:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
Sat	St. Maarten	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Sun	San Juan	7:00 a.m.	

Departure Dates

Your departure date:

November 15, 2015

Itineraries are subject to change; port, sequence and scheduled times, and/or day. For the most updated cruise information, please contact your Travel Professional.

FOR TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS CALL PAUL at:

Adventure International Travel Service, Inc.

P.O. Box 770410

Lakewood, OH 44107-0024

800.542.2487

paul@advintravel.com

www.advintravel.com



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Ships' Registry: The Bahamas, Panama & Malta.

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NOVEMBER 15-22, 2015
on Carnival's Liberty Cruise Ship

Space is limited in each category, make your reservation NOW!
Price includes: cruise, meals, airport transfers, gratuity & FCSU extras!

\$250 deposit per person, due before June 26, 2015
Final payment due by August 1, 2015



Interested in this cruise? You could win it!
See page 23 of this issue for details ...

Správy zo Slovenska

Zhorený chrám vstáva z popola

Bazilika minor, Mariánska hora s liečivou vodou, miniatúry drevených kostolíkov, relikvie svätcov. To sú len niektoré zaujímavosti, ktoré lákajú gréckokatolíckych veriacich do Lutiny v Sabinovskom okrese. Teraz pribudne nová atrakcia. Stavajú tu kópiu dreveného chrámu, ktorý v roku 1908 vyhorel. Bude sa týčiť na skale, kde nedávno objavili starodávny kamenný kríž. Originál chrámu postavili okolo roku 1760.

FILM: Slovenská snímka bodovala na festivale stredoškolských filmov v Atlante

Krátky hraný film A Limine mladej scenáristky, režisérky a strihačky Paulíny Ščepkovej zvíťazil v sobotu 2. mája 2015 v kategórii Best International Narrative na festivale stredoškolských filmov The Lovett School High School Film Fest, ktorý v americkej Atlante organizuje umelecká škola The Lovett School podporujúca mladé talenty. A Limine je šesťminútový hraný film, ktorý divákovi približuje osud starej panej, ktorá žije životom aj svojho zosnulého manžela. Nedokáže totiž prijať fakt, že už je sama a nemá nikoho, a preto sa stará o svojho manžela, hoci s ňou nie je. Po úspechu v Atlante ju 6. júna čaká uvedenie na 10. ročníku súťažnej prehliadky Santa Monica International Teen Film Festival. V sekcii Mladí autori film zaradil do svojho programu aj 21. medzinárodný festival lokálnych televízií Zlatý zóbrák, ktorý sa bude v júni konať v Košiciach a ukrajinskom Užhorode.

TMR sa púšťa v Tatrách intenzívne do rozvoja kongresovej turistiky

Intenzívnejší rozvoj tzv. kongresového a konferenčného turizmu v tatranských hoteloch je jedným z hlavných strategických zámerov najväčšieho prevádzkovateľa horských stredísk v Nízkych a Vysokých Tatrách, akciovej spoločnosti Tatra mountain resorts (TMR). Kongresový turizmus vyžaduje veľmi dobrú infraštruktúru vrátane dopravnej dostupnosti. Slovensko je napriek kvalitným hotelom a pestrej ponuke ďalších doplnkových služieb stále doslova nepobozkanou destináciou, hoci Tatry poskytujú priam ideálny priestor a podmienky. Cieľom na Slovensku je nielen prispôbiť sa súčasným trendom, ale byť aj v tejto oblasti lídrom na slovenskom trhu. Sieť desiatich tatranských hotelov s viac ako 2500 lôžkami v rozmedzí 80 km má už aj centrálnu eventovú oddelenie.

L. VÁŽNY: Slovensko zrejme nedočerpá 273 miliónov eur z eurofondov

Slovensko pravdepodobne príde o 273 miliónov eur z eurofondov. To je podľa podpredsedu vlády SR Ľubomíra Vážneho (Smer-SD) suma, ktorú štát nevyčerpá z európskych peňazí vyčlenených na uplynulých sedem rokov. Ako pripustil na zasadnutí parlamentného výboru pre európske záležitosti, strata ďalších okolo 300 miliónov eur hrozí na korekciách najmä pre chyby vo verejnom obstarávaní. Opozícia preto zvažuje dostať túto tému mimoriadne do pléna.

Pre nezrovnalosti v projektoch je dnes pozastavená približne jedna miliarda eur v piatich OP. Ide o eurofondy určené na vzdelávanie, informatizáciu spoločnosti, konkurencieschopnosť, výskum a pre regióny. Aká bude výška korekcií, teda peňazí, ktoré Brusel Slovensku nepreplatí, bude podľa Vážneho známe do konca júna. Očakáva, že to bude okolo 300 miliónov eur.

Ako uviedol, definitívna suma eurofondov zo starého obdobia, o ktoré štát príde, bude zrejme až začiatkom roka 2017. Stále totiž prebieha asi 3000 projektov, ktoré sa môžu fázoval. Zároveň peniaze, u ktorých je riziko nedočerpania, možno do konca septembra presunúť do finančných nástrojov Jessica určeného na zatepľovanie budov či Jeremy na podporu malého a stredného podnikania. Štát do nich môže dať zhruba po 200 miliónov eur z rizikových operačných programov, ktoré sa môžu čerpať až do marca 2017.

Cyklistika: Sagan v 1. etape Okolo Kalifornie druhý, triumf Cavendisha

Slovenský cyklista Peter Sagan obsadil 11. mája 1. etape pretekov Okolo Kalifornie druhé miesto. V záverečnom špurte bol od neho rýchlejší jedine Brit Mark Cavendish, ktorý ťažil z práce kolegov vo svojom tíme Etixx - Quick-Step. Úvodná etapa merala 204,3 km a trasa viedla okolím mesta Sacramento. "Keď mám byť úprimný, nebol som pokojný, pretože na trati sa odohrávali dramatické situácie. Ale vďaka mojim spolujazdcom som sa mohol sústrediť len na šprint. Na konci nám to celkom nevyšlo tak, ako sme si predstavovali. Mark Renshaw musel ísť dopredu skoro, ale zvládol to veľmi dobre. Keď Sagan prehral bitku o moje zadné koleso, vedeli sme, že bude musieť dlhšie jazdiť na vetre. Ja som nechcel vyštartovať ani príliš skoro, ani príliš neskoro. Mark ma dostal do výbornej pozície 200 metrov pred cieľom, preto som šťastný, že som opäť vyhral etapu v Sacramente. Zajtra by sme chceli dosiahnuť ďalšie víťazstvo," citoval portál www.cycling-info.sk slová Cavendisha, ktorý zaknihoval 10. sezónny triumf. Saganov krajan Martin Velits skončil na 112. mieste, ďalší Slovák Michael Kolář finišoval 129.

TURIZMUS: Liptov má za sebou jednu z najdlhších a najlepších zimných sezón

Nedávno skončená zimná turistická sezóna v Liptove bola historicky jednou z najdlhších a najúspešnejších. Zhodli sa na tom členovia Oblastného združenia cestovného ruchu (OOCR) Región Liptov. Popri vyťaženosti lyžiarskych stredísk sa to prejavilo aj vo vyššej návštevnosti akvaparkov. Najväčšie slovenské lyžiarske stredisko Jasná zaznamenalo podľa Bohuša Hlavatého zo spoločnosti Tatry mountain resorts nárast tržieb o 23 %. "Výrazný nárast počtu predaných skipasov cez externých ubytovateľov je veľmi pozitívnym dôkazom prehlbujúcej sa spolupráce subjektov cestovného ruchu," skonštatoval. O 12 % vzrástol počet prepravených turistov piatimi linkami liptovských skibusov. "Až 81.200 cestujúcich svedčí o tom, že táto služba má opodstatnenie a približuje našu vybavenosť alpským strediskám," dodala riaditeľka OOCR Darina Bartková s tým, že Liptáci chystajú množstvo novínok aj na letnú sezónu.

RegioJet pridá nové vlaky

Namiesto troch párov vlakov štyri. Tak bude vyzerat cestovanie žltými expresmi českého podnikateľa Radima Jančuru už o niekoľko týždňov. Ten chce už od polovice júna nasadiť na trati Bratislava - Žilina - Košice nový pár svojich vlakov. Spoločnosť RegioJet chce nimi jazdiť cez víkend v nočných hodinách, konkrétne vo štvrtok, v piatok a v nedeľu. "Chceme cestujúcim ponúknuť úplne nový koncept nočného cestovania na železnici," vysvetlil dôvody svojho rozhodnutia majiteľ RegioJetu Radim Jančura. Nové vlaky z Bratislavy do Košíc a späť vyrazia niečo pred polnocou. Do svojej cieľovej stanice dorazia skoro ráno. Cesta tak bude trvať približne päť hodín. Zmení sa však fungovanie vlaku. Počas niekoľkých hodín bude vo vlaku napríklad nočný pokoj, keď bude bezpečnosť cestujúcich kontrolovať bezpečnostná služba. Odborníci tento krok zo strany RegioJetu považujú za jednoznačný: "Ide o posilňovanie pozície na slovenskom železničnom trhu," povedal šéf Inštitútu pre dopravu a hospodárstvo Ondrej Macko, ktorý má blízko k opozičnej SDKÚ-DS. Ako povedal bývalý šéf Železničnej spoločnosti Slovensko Pavel Kravec, nové spojenie bude silnou konkurenciou ostatným dopravcom.

Správy čerpané z TASR a slovenských časopisov

Putovanie po regiónoch Slovenska

(Pokračovanie)

Ponitrie

Región v Podunajskej nížine obklopený Nitrianskou pahorkatinou a Pohronským Inovcom.

Strediskom je starobylá Nitra, ktorá bola osídlená slovanskými kmeňmi už v 6. storočí. Hrad z 11. storočia nad mestom sa stal sídlom panovníkov Veľkej Moravy a je najvýznamnejšou pamiatkou mesta. Tu sídlil aj knieža Pribina, ktorý dal postaviť prvý kostol na Slovensku a pozval sem solúnskych bratov. V 16. - 17. storočí Nitra často trpela nájazdmi Turkov. V r. 1663-64 mesto i hrad dobyli a takmer úplne zničili.

Najhodnotnejším objektom mesta je biskupská katedrála pozostávajúca z 3 kostolov. O meste sa zachovala pieseň *Nitra milá, Nitra...* pripomínajúca jej smutné obdobie po rozpade Veľkomoravskej ríše. Pre výstižný dej ju uvádza v plnom znení:

Nitra milá, Nitra, ty vysoká Nitra!

Kdeže sú tie časy, v ktorých ty si kvitla.

Nitra milá, Nitra, ty slovenská mati!

Čo pozriem na teba, musím zaplakati.

Ty si bola niekdy všetkých krajín hlavou,

v ktorých tečie Dunaj, Visla i Morava.

Ty si bola sídlo kráľa Svätopluka,

keď tu panovala jeho mocná ruka.

Ty si bola sväté mesto Metodovo,

keď tu našim otcom kázal božie slovo.

Teraz tvoja sláva v tóni skrytá leží:

tak sa časy menia, tak tento svet beží.

V meste sa každoročne konajú Slovenské dožinky, poľnohospodárska výstava Agrokomplex a autosalón.

V Nitre bol už v 9. storočí kláštor benediktínov. Legendárneho pustovníka Svorada pripomínajú Svoradova jaskyňa a Svoradov prameň.

Blízka obec Chotín je pozoruhodná archeologickými vykopávkami a nálezskami skýtskych pamiatok. Známe sú aj chotínske ručné výšivky, najmä čipky.

V obci Gýmeš zaujmú historikov zrúcaniny hradu zo 14. st. ktorý je výraznou dominantou širokého okolia. Zrúcaniny gotického hradu z 13. st. v Hrušove, ktorý stojí na kamenom vrchu Skalka, sú tiež výraznou pamätihodnosťou obce.

V Kostolnoch pod Trábečom môžeme obdivovať románsky kostol sv. Juraja z 12. storočia, ktorý je najstaršou predrománskou architektonickou pamiatkou na Slovensku. Pozoruhodný je aj kostol sv. Michala Archanjela z 12. st. v Drážovciach, ktorý sa vypína nad obcou.

Viacere obce majú názvy tento región, napr. : Nitrianske Pravno, Nitrianska Blatnica, Nitrianska Streda.



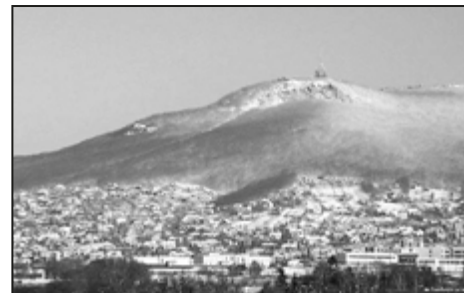
Nitra – hradná katedrála.



Svoradova jaskyňa – vchod.



Kroj Nitrianske Pravno.



Zobor týčiaci sa nad Nitrou.

Andrej Štelmák Sliač, Slovakia

Archívny fond Krajanského múzea Matice slovenskej – „Austrália“

Archívny materiál, dokumentujúci dejiny Slovákov v Austrálii, predstavuje vo fondoch Krajanského múzea Matice slovenskej približne 5338 položiek. Niekoľko z nich odzrkadľuje dejiny Slovenskej katolíckej misie v Melbourne, početná časť z nich reflektuje históriu Slovenského spolku L. Štúra v Melbourne, ďalšia časť predstavuje archívny materiál Jána Vrtielku. Niekoľko škatúl je zaradených pod názov „všeobecné“ a zvyšok austrálskeho fondu tvorí archív týkajúci sa dejín Združenia austrálskych Slovákov.

Fond venovaný Slovenskej katolíckej misii v Melbourne je tvorený prevažne liturgickými oznamami a listami duchovnej správy Slovákov v Austrálii (r. 1969 – 1985). Väčšia časť austrálskeho fondu je venovaná slovenskému spolku L. Štúra v Melbourne. Nájde tu fond slovenského evanjelického zboru v Lavertone, materiál k Australian Red Cross Society, k The Consul General of Czechoslovakia, množstvo fotografií a rôznych informácií k rozhlasovej stanici 3EA v Melbourne, k slov. tanečnej skupine Spolku L. Štúra, či k požiaru v St. Macedone. Niekoľko archiválií je venovaných Caveatu – prvému slov. kat. kostolíku pri Melbourne.

Medzi inými tu nájdeme aj bohatú fotodokumentáciu zbierku: fotky choreografa J. Ševčíka v Austrálii, fotky z výstavy ručných prác, zo slávnostného otvorenia Slov. domu 26.12.1981, z otvorenia slovenského zjednoteného turického chrámu, fotografie krajanov na poľovačke, dokumentáciu z Detvy r. 1989, fotografie austrálskej skupiny spolku L. Štúra a mnohé fotografie zo spolkového života.

Ďalšou položkou vo fonde je osobná zbierka austrálskeho krajanu J. Vrtielku. Tvorí ju najmä vlastná korešpondencia, rôzne novinové výstrižky a drobné tlačé, rukopis bakalárskej práce – Slovaks in Adelaide: Three waves of Slovak Immigration into South Australia, materiál

k životu Slovákov v Austrálii: Slováci v Melbourne a vo Viktórii, Slováci v Adelaide a South Australia, Slováci v Sydney a NSW, Slováci vo Wollongongu, Careate.

Archívne škatule s názvom „všeobecné“ ukrývajú najrozličnejšie dokumenty viažuce sa k životu a činnosti Slovákov v Austrálii (Berky Music Academy; Československý klub v Melbourne; Československý krúžok v Sydney – stanovy, dokumenty k zasadnutiam, dokumenty k členskej základni, spisový materiál, fotografie; Slovenská baptistická cirkev – fotografie, Slovenská umelecká asociácia, program austrálskeho rozhlasu a televízie, fotografie z návštevy folklórneho súboru austrálskych krajanov v ČSSR, fotografie z vystúpenia folklórneho súboru Laverton, Vict., Austrália, fotografie z návštevy Ing. Karkuša v Austrálii 24.1.1987, materiál k spolku L. Štúra v Melbourne, materiál k posviacke chrámu v Lavertone a mnohé iné).

V KM MS sa nachádza aj bohatý dokumentačný materiál k Združeniu austrálskych Slovákov. Nájde tu rôzne drobné tlačé, články zo Slovenského štítu r. 1968 – 1991, fotografie z návštevy predsedu MS v slovenskej v Austrálii, z kongresov austrálskych Slovákov (pozvánky, plagáty, proprac. materiál, ekumenický kalendár, úradný dokumentárny materiál, osobný dokumentárny materiál, korešpondenciu medzi Deziderom Brucháčom a F. Fugom, Andrejom Brázdom, Eduardom Kabátom, Martinom Kvetkom, korešpondenciu s redakciou Hlasy Čechov a Slovákov v Austrálii (predtým Hlas domova).

Zbierka predstavuje osemnásť archivačných škatúl, ktoré čakajú na svojich bádateľov. Bohatý fond austrálskych Slovákov ponúka širokej verejnosti i našim krajanom možnosť nahliadnuť do dejín austrálskych Slovákov.

Zuzana Pavelcová

Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

Letný festival v Danville, PA

42. Letný festival, ktorý usporiadajú Sestry Sv. Cyrila a Metoda, bude v sobotu 11. júla vo Villa Sacred Heart v Danville, PA. Začiatok bude o 10.30 hodine a trvať bude do 5.00 hodiny, kedy bude v Bazilike svätá omša. Počas dňa bude Flea Market, na predaj budú knihy, ručné práce, domáce slovenské a americké jedlá a koláče. Pre deti budú pripravené rôzne hry. Bližšie informácie: Sestra Barbara Sable, tel. č. 570-275-3581. ext. 302.

Koncert detského súboru zo Slovenska v Linden, NJ

V piatok 3. júla o 6.30 hodine bude v Msgr. Komar Hall, 2806 Parkway Ave. v Linden, NJ koncert detského speváckeho súboru Pro Musica-Magnolia zo Slovenska. Po koncerte bude nasledovať večera a bude hrať skupina Relax. Bližšie informácie a rezervácie vstupníka: Adriana, tel. č.: 908-510-0547, Hanka: tel. č.: 908-494-4534.

Rakúšania ocenili kňaza Antona Srolca

Rakúšania 22. mája vo Viedni ocenili slovenského katolíckeho kňaza Antona Srolca. Stal sa laureátom ceny Leopolda Kunschaka - za prácu v sociálnej oblasti a aktivitu v oblasti ľudských práv počas komunistického režimu. Na pôde rakúskeho parlamentu spolu so Srolcom vyznamenali napríklad aj bývalého predsedu Európskej rady Hermana Van Rompuya.

Cenu za Srolca prevzal z rúk rakúskeho vicecancellára a spolkového ministra vedy, výskumu a hospodárstva Reinholda Mitterlehnera jeho brat Michal Sroholec. Podľa jeho slov ide o ocenenie Antonovej celoživotnej námahy. "Pre mňa, o 12 rokov mladšieho brata, bol vždy vzorom. A ten vzor platí až do dnešných dní," uviedol Michal Sroholec. Ako dodal, jeho brat obetoval pre ľudí celý svoj život. "To sa mi na ňom páči," dodal. Ocenenie zo zahraničia nebolo podľa Michala Srolca neočakávané. "Rakúšania niekedy lepšie ocenia naše osobnosti ako my u nás doma. Ale zrejme sú to aj dlhodobé podmienky, tá tradícia a ekonomická stabilita Rakúska je iná, že jednoducho to váženie hodnôt je možno lepšie, ako je to u nás," dodal.

Cenu Leopolda Kunschaka udeľujú od roku 1965 v oblasti humanitných vied, spoločenských vied a ekonomiky a je pomenovaná po rakúskom politikovi Leopoldovi Kunschakovi (1871-1953). V minulosti ju získali napríklad Joseph Ratzinger, Jean-Claude Juncker, či v roku 2014 Mikuláš Dzurinda



TASR



Otvorili novú budovu Stáleho zastúpenia SR pri EÚ

Šéf slovenskej diplomacie Miroslav Lajčák 18. mája oficiálne otvoril dočasnú budovu Stáleho zastúpenia Slovenskej republiky pri Európskej únii v Bruseli. Prenájom novej budovy potrvá tri roky a tieto priestory budú slúžiť najmä potrebám predsedníctva SR v EÚ v druhej polovici roka 2016.

Po troch rokoch sa slovenská diplomacia z prenajatých priestorov vysťahuje do pôvodného objektu Stáleho zastúpenia, ktorý je od roku 1998 majetkom SR a z dôvodov havarijného stavu prejde počas tohto obdobia rozsiahlou rekonštrukciou a modernizáciou.

Lajčák zdôraznil, že Stále zastúpenie by nemalo sídlit' viac ako tri roky v novej budove. To je najkratšie obdobie, ktoré pri podobných zmluvách belgické zákony pripúšťajú. Dovtedy chcú pôvodnú budovu zrekonštruovať na potreby modernej doby, pričom rekonštrukčné práce vyjdú slovenskú stranu oveľa menej než kúpa novej budovy.

„Je to významný míľnik v rámci príprav na naše predsedníctvo v Európskej únii. Toto bude naše hlavné zázemie, náš kapitánsky mostík, z ktorého bude Slovensko riadiť procesy v EÚ,“ povedal Lajčák po prestrihnutí pásky v novej budove.

Podľa jeho slov bude v nových priestoroch pôsobiť do 190 slovenských diplomatov a expertov, čo je takmer dvojnásobný počet súčasného personálu v Bruseli. V tejto budove sa bude odohrávať ťažisko operatívnych aktivít súvisiacich s výkonom predsedníctva. Pripomenul, že počas tohto obdobia budú Slováci predsedat' okolo stovke pracovných skupín a expertných forém.

„Dúfam, že aj po mnohých rokoch sa bude pre nás táto budova spájať s pozitívnymi emóciami, že to bolo úspešné predsedníctvo,“ uviedol Lajčák. Zdôraznil, že aj napriek tomu, že rozpočtové možnosti SR sú skromné, dočasné sídlo Stáleho zastúpenia bude spĺňať všetky podmienky na výkon predsedníctva v EÚ a bude dôstojným zázemím pre slovenskú diplomaciu.

TASR



Na Slovensku vznikne od júla register všetkých adries

Štát bude mať od júla pohromade presné údaje o všetkých adresách v krajine. Zhromaždí ich v registri, ktorý vznikne na základe zákona o registri adries z dielne ministerstva vnútra. Právnej norme dal zelenú prezident SR Andrej Kiska. Vytvorenie registra súvisí so zavádzaním elektronických služieb na Slovensku.

Register má priniesť presnú evidenciu všetkých adries na Slovensku. V lete má byť podľa plánov rezortu spustený Informačný systém Registra adries. Buduje sa v rámci Operačného programu Informatizácia spoločnosti financovaného z Európskeho fondu regionálneho rozvoja. Zákon o registri adries vytvára legislatívny rámec pre jeho fungovanie.

Register adries bude obsahovať informácie o všetkých adresách a adresných bodoch bytových a nebytových budov, bez väzieb na osoby, ktoré disponujú právami k týmto budovám. Má byť referenčnou štátnou evidenciou, ktorá opisuje umiestnenie vchodov bytových a nebytových budov, a to slovným označením, ako aj vizualizáciou na mape Slovenskej republiky. Údaje v registri budú slúžiť pre potreby verejnej správy, najmä zložiek integrovaného záchranného systému.

V jednom balíku s návrhom zákona o registri adries ministerstvo vnútra novelizovalo aj zákon o občianskych preukazoch. Cieľom je, aby bolo možné elektronicky požiadať o vydanie nového občianskeho preukazu pri skončení doby jeho platnosti alebo pri zmene trvalého pobytu. Cez internet by sa v budúcnosti mala dať nahlásiť aj strata alebo krádež občianskeho preukazu.

TASR

2. ročník Prehliadky slovenského folklóru v NYC



Pokračovanie zo str. 28

Prvým účinkujúcim bol Andrew Pulver, dvanásťročný operný spevák slovenského pôvodu. Zaspieval najobľúbenejšiu pieseň svojej starej mamy: Keby som bol vtáčkom od Mikuláša Schneidera - Trnavského. Sasha Santiago predstavil tvorbu Petra Breinera, Slovák žijúceho v NY. Peter Breiner skomponoval orchestrálnu suitu, ktorá vychádza zo slovenských folklórnych piesní. Premiéra jeho "Slovenských tancov" bude vo februári budúceho roka v Slovenskom národnom divadle v Bratislave.

Program pokračoval rytmickým cigánskym tancom v podaní súboru Limboráčik z Českej a slovenskej školy z NY. Pod vedením Martiny Finkovej, Dany Podžuban a Romana Lewkovicza sa žiaci neskôr predviedli aj Čardášom, tanečným pásmom Vandrovali hudci a Prekáračkami. Detský folklórny súbor Slnovrátkov z Hillsborough, NJ vystúpil s tradičnými chorovodami s názvom Nesieme Vám nové leto. Spevom a tancom privítali prichádzajúce letné obdobie (hudobný doprovod a hlasová výučba: Mária Daňková, choreografia: Zuzana Maziarz). Srdece publika si získali aj deti zo Slovenskej komunity v Trenton, pôsobiacej pri Kostole sv. Michala v NJ. Dve spevácko-tanečné čísla nacvičili pod vedením Dagmar Sabovej, Sylvie Warywodovej a Gabiky Porubskej. Domáca Slovenská škola pri Kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého zaspievala najmilšie slovenské piesne, ktoré nacvičili spolu so svojimi učiteľkami: Renátou Bukovičovou a Zuzanou Zemanovou. O spustenie programu sa postaralo aj Slovenské centrum detí Lipka pri Kostole sv. Rodiny v Linden, NJ. Pani učiteľka Marianna Fečová, p. uč. Ingrid Mažariková a p. uč. Jarmila Hrehová nacvičili scénu O dvanástich mesiačikoch. Výberom detských hier z pokladnice ľudovej slovesnosti si škola Domovinka pripravila pestré vystúpenie obohatené o hru na husle v podaní žiačky Viktórie Holubecky. Domovinka bola založená pri Kostole sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Clifton, NJ. Na príprave programu sa podieľali: p. Martina Szotaková, p. Erika Klepancová a p. Vlado Horanica. Širokým výberom piesní z ľudovej a slov. populárnej hudby sa môže pochváliť detský spevácky zbor Hlas. Bol založený pri Českej a slovenskej škole v NY a pracuje pod taktovkou pani Andrey Valčuhovej a pani Janette Parvakis. Zaspievali vybrané piesne zo svojho repertoára za hudobného doprovodu ľudovej hudby Pajtáši z NY.

Na záver účinkujúce deti spojili svoje hlasy a zaspievali spoločne ľudovú pieseň "Kopala studienku" za doprovodu Márie Daňkovej a Radoslava Lesaya. Tým si pripomenuli, že práve melódia tejto piesne slúžila ako základ pre vznik slovenskej štátnej hymny.

Publikum oceňovalo výkony detí veľkým potleskom. V hale kostola vládla veselá nálada vďaka pestrému programu, úžasnej podpore v hľadisku aj ľudovej hudbe Pajtáši. Výberom zo slovenských jedál si hostia mohli vychutnať pravú slovenskú atmosféru počas celého popoludnia.

Tento prejav úcty a lásky k folklóru i tradíciám si uchovávame aj vďaka obetavej práci ľudí, ktorí pri organizačnej príprave, či nácvičení detí vkladajú do celého procesu kúsok zo seba, aby potešili ostatných. Podporou takéhoto podujatia si S-AKS plní svoje poslanie a rozširuje krásu a rôznorodosť našej kultúry aj za hranice slovenskej komunity.



R. Jindrák vystrieda v Bratislave L. Klausová

Z vedenia českého ministerstva zahraničných vecí odchádza námestník Rudolf Jindrák, ktorý by mal vystriedať Liviú Klausová na poste veľvyslanca ČR na Slovensku. Informoval o tom nedávno spravodajský server Lidovky.cz.

Kariérny diplomat Rudolf Jindrák, niekdajší dlhoročný veľvyslanec ČR v Nemecku, v súčasnosti pôsobí ako námestník šéfa českej diplomacie Lubomíra Zaorálka pre právnu a konzulárnu sekciu. Podľa internetového vydania denníka Lidové noviny jeho odchodom prichádza vedenie českého MZV o svojho najskúsenejšieho člena.

Jindrák už podal demisiu na svoju funkciu, k jej dôvodom sa však odmietol vyjadriť. Špekuluje sa, že k jeho rozhodnutiu mohli prispieť personálne zmeny v centrále českej zahraničnej politiky, kam sa v poslednom čase dostalo viacero ľudí bez diplomatických skúseností, či rastúca nedôvera vo vzťahu medzi Zaorálkom a Jindrákom.

Podľa Zaorálkovej hovorkyne Jindrák po dohode s ministrom definitívne skončí na pozícii námestníka v priebehu niekoľkých týždňoch až mesiacov.

Ešte pred koncom tohto roka by mal podľa servera Lidovky.cz Jindrák odísť do Bratislavy ako nový ambasádor ČR na Slovensku. Tam vystrieda Liviú Klausová, ktorá pôsobí na poste od decembra 2013. Manželka (71) exprezidenta ČR Václava Klauza sa bude musieť koncom tohto roka vzdať veľvyslanckej funkcie vzhľadom na nový český služobný zákon, ktorý stanovuje hornú vekovú hranicu pre výkon štátnej služby na 70 rokov.

Pred odchodom na Slovensko by mal Jindrák ešte krátkodobo pracovať ako poradca premiéra ČR Bohuslava Sobotku.

TASR

Deň otvorených dverí na veľvyslanectvách krajín EÚ v USA

Pokračovanie zo str. 28

V rámci stánkov s propagačnými materiálmi o prírodných krásach SR, turistike, ale aj o investíciách sa mali hostia možnosť porozprávať so zamestnancami slovenského zastupiteľského úradu. Záujem bol aj o kolo rozhovorov s veľvyslancom Petrom Kmecom o politike, ekonomike a histórii SR, ako aj o americko-slovenských vzťahoch a medzinárodnom dianí vo svete. Ľudovo umelecká tvorba bola predstavená v podobe maľovania kraslíc krajanmi z Baltimoru a ukážky paličkovania. Veľký ohlas mala aj ochutnávka tradičnej slovenskej kuchyne.

MZV SR



Cenu Európskej únie umenia si prevzal evanjelický kňaz Dušan Tóth a jeho manželka

Pokračovanie zo str. 28

Dušanovi a Valérii Tóthovcom odovzdali aj Pamätnú medailu Martina Rázusa.

Medzi mnohé významné aktivity manželov Tóthovcov patrí založenie Torontského slovenského divadla, ktoré v súčasnosti vedie Dušan Tóth, ako aj Kanadskej základiny pre umenie a divadlo. Scenáristicky pripravili pásmo Naše Slovensko približujúce slovenské ľudové zvyky v tancoch a piesňach, ktoré potom Valéria Tóthová našťudovala s 260 mladými ľuďmi slovenského pôvodu z celej Kanady. Predstavenie sa konalo na Festivale slovenskej mládeže v Pensylvánii. Spoločne režírovali a uviedli mnoho divadelných hier pre české a slovenské Nové divadlo v Toronte či Torontské slovenské divadlo a ďalšie divadelné scény. Za hru Ivana Stodolu Bačova žena získali najvyššie ocenenie na Kanadskom mnohokultúrnom divadelnom festivale. S divadelným súborom prezentovali túto hru v mnohých kanadských mestách. Za réžiu hry Jozefa Škvoreckého Boh do domu dostali v roku 1987 najvyššie vyznamenanie pre amatérske divadlo The Elsie Award.

Pri príležitosti 40. výročia okupácie Tóthovci požiadali slovenského dramatika Viliama Klimáčka o napísanie hry pre Torontské slovenské divadlo o živote utečencov z bývalého Československa. Hru Horúce leto '68 spoločne režírovali a po premiére v Toronte ju predstavili aj slovenskému publiku v Trnave, Nitre, Martine a v SND v Bratislave.

Pred niekoľkými rokmi sa manželka Tóthovci rozhodli produkovať dokumentárne filmy o živote a diele úspešných Slovákov žijúcich vo svete. Uviedla ich aj Slovenská televízia. Je medzi nimi napríklad Portrét Valeriána Stražovca, nositeľa troch Emmy ocenení, Portrét Yuri Dojča, fotografa svetového formátu a iné. Teraz dokončujú Portrét Štefana B. Romana, zakladateľa Svetového kongresu Slovákov.

TASR



Automobilka si vyberá medzi Slovenskom a Poľskom

Na Slovensko by mohla ísť najväčšia investícia za posledné roky. Zatiaľ nemenovaná svetová automobilka si momentálne vyberá miesto na umiestnenie závodu, ktorý by mohol zamestnať 8000 ľudí, informoval 20. mája v televíznych novinách RTVS.

O investíciu sa pôvodne údajne uchádzali takmer všetky krajiny v regióne. Tento týždeň však mala automobilka zoznam zúžiť na Slovensko a Poľsko. Podľa zdrojov RTVS ponúklo Slovensko investorovi priemyselný park v Nitre, kde je k dispozícii požadovaný 400-hektárový pozemok.

„Nerád by som predbiehal, pretože toto sú vážne strategické veci pre Slovensko. Je to investícia takého rangu, ktorá keby sa podarila, myslím že by bol každý spokojný,“ reagoval primátor Nitry Jozef Dvonč.

Informácie nechcel komentovať zastupujúci minister hospodárstva Peter Kažimír (Smer-SD) ani Slovenská agentúra pre rozvoj investícií a obchodu (SARIO). Medzi Slovenskom a Poľskom by sa vedenie automobilky malo definitívne rozhodnúť v lete, dodáva RTVS.

TASR

Slováci skončili v USA vo FIRST LEGO League tretí

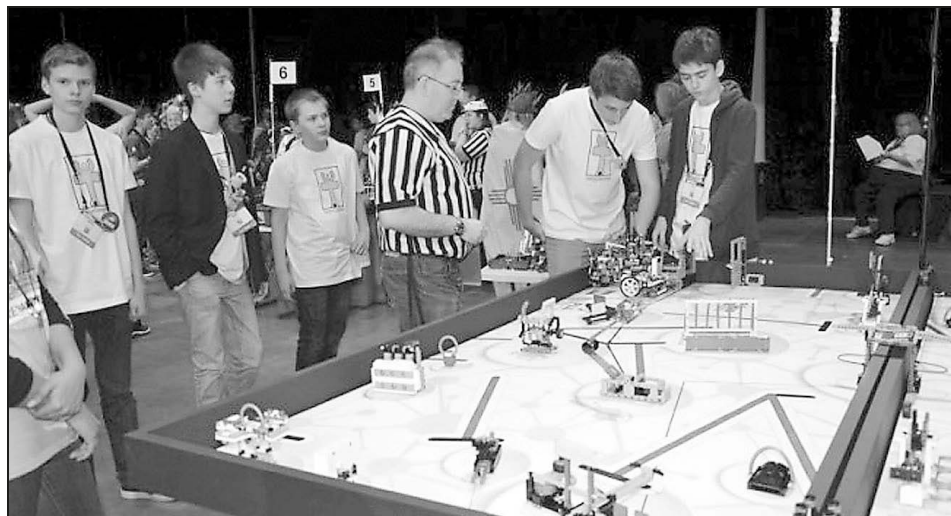


FOTO: SAP Slovensko

Mladí Košičania uspeli vďaka svojmu projektu.

Tretie miesto na FIRST LEGO League World Festival 18. mája 2015 v americkom St. Louise. Študenti z tímu TalentumSAP ho vybojovali vo finále robotickej súťaže, v ktorej sa stretlo 105 družstiev – tie najlepšie spomedzi 27-tisíc tímov z 80 krajín. Mladí Košičania uspeli vďaka svojmu projektu, v ktorom vyvinuli šermiarsky nástroj na detekovanie správneho vykročenia nohy. Ten spolu s inteligentným terčom vyhodnotí nielen reakčný čas výpadu, ale aj správne bodnutie.

Súťaž prebiehala v štyroch kategóriách - Robot Game, Robot Design, Team Work a Project. TalentumSAP postúpil do celosvetového finále s robotom zo stavby Lego Mindstorms, ktorý musel zvládnuť predpísané úlohy na terénom stole.

Aj v tejto kategórii získali uznanie odbornej poroty, ktorá okrem iného vyzdvihla excelentnú stratégiu pri zostrojení robota a nezávislosť tímu.

„Takéto podrobné hodnotenie sme doposiaľ nikde nedostali, veľmi to pomôže počas príprav na ďalšie súťaže,“ vysvetlila mentorka družstva Angelika Haneszová. Tá dovedla chlapcov do St. Louise cez výhru v regionálnom kole v Debrecíne, priamu nomináciu získali vďaka štvrtému miestu v stredo európskom finále v Mnichove. „Veril som, že dovlím si povedať náš tím uspeje aj v Amerike. Ale to, čo dosiahli, naozaj prekonallo moje očakávania. Musím všetkým jeho desiatim členom, ako aj pani Angelike Haneszovej poďakovať za vynikajúcu reprezentáciu nielen našej spoločnosti, ale aj celého Slovenska. Sú dôkazom, že nadšenie a tvrdá práca dokážu vychovať špičkových študentov a odborníkov i v našich podmienkach,“ povedal Richard Guga, generálny riaditeľ spoločnosti SAP Slovensko, ktorá družstvo Nadácie Talentum Cassoviensis podporuje.

Na FIRST LEGO League World Festival 2015 sa zúčastnilo 50 tímov zo Spojených štátov amerických a ďalších 55 družstiev z Európy, Ázie, Južnej Ameriky, Austrálie a Južnej Afriky. Členmi TalentumSAP sú: Oliver Davitko, Zoltán Hanesz, Juraj Mičko, Bendek Kukoricás, Ján Luby, Maxi Pándy, Michal Pándy, Zoltán Szitás, Ádám Urbán a Oszkár Urbán. Pre viac informácií navštívte web stránku súťaže First Lego League. Bližšie informácie o tíme nájdete na adrese www.talentum.net.

TASR



FOTO TASR - Branislav Račko

Na snímke príprava tradičného jedla Čipkárskô počas 16. ročníka súťaže vo varení čipkárskoho guláša v obci Brusno 30. mája 2015.

The annual traditional "Cipkarsky Gulash" cooking contest was held on May 30, 2015, in Brusno.

O. Štefan Furdek
Náš zakladateľ

Deň otvorených dverí na veľvyslanectvách krajín EÚ v USA



9. ročník Dňa otvorených dverí vo Washingtone, D.C. na veľvyslanectvách členských krajín Európskej únie v USA.

An EU Open House was held in Washington, D.C. on May 9, 2015.

FOTO: MZV SR

V sobotu 9. mája sa vo Washingtone, DC konal 9. ročník Dňa otvorených dverí „EU Open House“ na veľvyslanectvách členských krajín Európskej únie v USA. Podujatie organizuje Delegácia EÚ v USA v spolupráci so zastupiteľskými úradmi členských krajín EÚ a ide o najväčšiu akciu roka zameranú na propagáciu kultúry, tradícií, ale aj ekonomiky a politiky jednotlivých krajín Európskej únie. Zastupiteľský úrad SR vo Washingtone pripravil pre 3500 návštevníkov zaujímavý program zameraný na propagáciu automobilového priemyslu, kultúry, turistiky, ľudového umenia a tradičnej kuchyne. V súvislosti so 70. výročím ukončenia 2. svetovej vojny mali hostia možnosť pozrieť si výstavu „Pamätníky obetiam 2. svetovej vojny na Slovensku“.

Tematicky bol program rozdelený do viacerých blokov a to na showroom áut vyrábaných na Slovensku (Audi Q7, Volkswagen Touareg); prezentácia Aeromobilu; prezentácia tradičného ľudového nástroja Fujary; prezentácia slovenského folklóru v podobe tanečných vstupov detského folklórneho súboru z Washingtonu, DC „Sokolík“ a súboru „PÁS“ z Pittsburghu; prezentácia slovenských vín Víno Belko – Terra Scelench, ktoré sa snažia preraziť na americkom trhu; prezentácia slovenskej Double Cross vodky vyvážanej na americký trh; a pripravený bol aj kvíz o Slovensku s možnosťou výhry zaujímavých cien.

Pokračovanie na str. 27

Cenu Európskej únie umenia si prevzal evanjelický kňaz Dušan Tóth a jeho manželka

Známy evanjelický kňaz Dušan Tóth a jeho manželka Valéria, ktorí v roku 1968 museli odísť z bývalého Československa a emigrovali do Kanady, si nedávno prevzali v Bratislave Cenu Európskej únie umenia (EÚU) z rúk prezidenta EÚU Petra Vašíčka a člena prezídia Patrika Běťáka.

Európska únia umenia je medzinárodným združením umelecky a kultúrne aktívnych fyzických i právnických osôb, ktorú založili v roku 1999 v Bruseli a od začiatku udeľuje európsku cenu za umeleckú a kultúrnu činnosť, ako i európsku cenu za podporu umenia a kultúry. Sídlo organizácie je v Českej republike.

Dušan Tóth ako evanjelický kňaz a jeho manželka Valéria ako sudkyňa kanadského utečeneckého tribunálu vo svojich zodpovedných pracovných pozíciách roky pôsobili v súlade so svojimi morálnymi hodnotami. Okrem toho vo voľnom čase sa venovali mnohým kultúrnym aktivitám a šírili slovenskú kultúru v zahraničí.

V rámci slávnosti odovzdania Ceny EÚU manželom Tóthovcom v Zičihó paláci v Bratislave sa uskutočnila aj prezentácia dvojalbumu Dušan Tóth: Meditácie. Z pôvodných 992 zamyslení dvojalbum ponúka tridsiatku takých, ktorými chcel D. Tóth Božím slovom presvietiť ťažké a zložité okamihy života. Pre slovenských poslucháčov rozhlasovej stanice Slobodná Európa bol v rokoch 1971-1992 svetielkom nádeje, poslom pravdy, povzbudzovateľom vo viere. Pôsobivé príhovory nestratili aktuálnosť ani po 40 rokoch. Aj predložený výber v pôvodnej zvukovej podobe z obdobia 80. a 90. rokov minulého storočia je určený všetkým, ktorí túžia po duchovnej vzpruhy. Vydavateľom nahrávky Meditácie je Spolok Martina Rázusa (design - Martin Činovský, jazyková úprava - Marta Činovská, text - Slavomíra Očenášová-Štrbová).

Účastníkov slávnosti pozdravil aj starosta mestskej časti Bratislava - Staré Mesto Radoslav Števíčik. V kultúrnom programe vystúpila klavirna virtuózka Elena Letňanová s dielami Johanna Sebastiana Bacha, Fryderyka Chopina a slovenského skladateľa Mira Bázlika. Herec František Kovár predniesol text z poviedky Valérie Tóthovej O ríši vtákov a nielen o nej.

Pokračovanie na str. 27



2. ročník Prehliadky slovenského folklóru v NYC

Prehliadka slovenského folklóru sa konala v hale Kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC, otvorila ho hlavná organizátorka programu Zuzana Maziarz z Hillsborough, N.J. Za tým duchovný otec Štefan Chanas sa prihovril host'om aj účinkujúcim. Sabina Sabados – predsedníčka S-AKS krátkym príhovorom predstavila činnosť kultúrneho strediska. Zuzana Andreánska, v mene Generálnej konzulky SR v NY Jany Trnovcovej, privítala prítomných hostí a poďakovala učiteľom aj účinkujúcim za vynaložené úsilie.

Pokračovanie na str. 26



Slovensko-Americké Kultúrne Stredisko v New Yorku zorganizovalo 17. mája 2015 vo farskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC Prehliadku slovenského folklóru v podaní detí a mládeže so slovenskými koreňmi, na ktorej sa zúčastnilo približne sto účinkujúcich.

Anjeličku môj strážničku

Anjeličku môj strážničku,
stráž mi môjho ocka.
Mám ho rád. Keď ho vidím,
zasvietia mi očka.

Viem, čo bude keď mi občas
položí dľaň na vlásy.
Tvrdá bude od roboty.
Ale mäkká od lásky.

Milan Rúfus