



# Jednota

THE UNION

USPA#273500 ISSN1087-3392



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

Volume 120

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2011

NUMBER 5843

The Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of  
THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION  
of the United States and Canada  
extend Fraternal Greetings and Best Wishes to all on this

## Memorial Day



Graves decorated with flags at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day.

Observed on the last Monday of May (May 30 this year), Memorial Day often marks the start of the summer vacation season. Formerly known as Decoration Day, this U.S. federal holiday commemorates U.S. soldiers who died while in the military. It was first enacted to honor Union and Confederate soldiers following the American Civil War, but after World War I it was extended to honor Americans who have died in all wars and today, serves as an occasion for more general expressions of memory as ordinary people visited the graves of their deceased relatives, whether they had served in the military or not.

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### 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 44134  
PHONE: 216-642-9406 \* FAX: 216-642-4310

**SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2011**

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 18, 2011, at 9:00AM (telephonically).

The Monthly Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, June 17, 2011.

All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth Arendt, and should be mailed for receipt at the Home Office prior to June 10, 2011.

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

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

### FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY AND IRA INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2011

Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.65% (3.585% apr)
With the "Cash Interest" Option	3.40% (3.344% apr)
Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA:	3.90% (3.826% apr)
New "Park 2 Annuity"	3.00% (2.956% apr)
New Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA - first year guarantee	3.00% (2.956% apr)
Maximum deposit is \$25,000.00	
New Six-Year Fixed Rate Deferred Annuity or IRA	3.40% (3.344% apr)
New Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	3.15% (3.102% apr)

If you have any questions about our Annuities or IRA's,  
please contact the Home Office at  
1-800-533-6682 or your local Branch Officer.

Fraternally, Kenneth A. Arendt

# Insights and Viewpoints

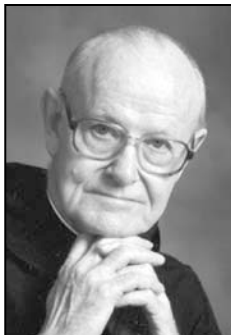


## St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies, Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.S.B.

**June 12, 2011**  
**Pentecost Sunday**  
**John 20:19-23**

### Gospel Summary

On Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the wonderful good news that the risen Lord has richly endowed us with his Spirit, first of all to convince us of his victory over sin and death, and then to enable us to continue his work of salvation by our own



Demetrius R. Dumm  
O.S.B.

love and concern for others.

As we can well imagine, the disciples were filled with fear and foreboding after the death of their master. But suddenly, Jesus is there among them, radiant with life. He shows them his terrible wounds, which have now become beautiful emblems of his love for them. He offers them his peace—that deep, calm, resonant sense of well-being, which is so different from their own fear and uncertainty. This peace becomes possible through the presence of his Spirit in them and in us.

And then Jesus tells them and all of us what possessing the Spirit will mean in our lives. Henceforth, we will need to be converted from our natural tendency to be self-centered, cautious and defensive to an attitude of confidence and trust as we share our newfound loving concern for others. This new way of living will be manifested first and foremost by our willingness to forgive others. This would be impossible if we did not enjoy the powerful presence of the Spirit who enables us to overcome our constant judgmental tendencies.

### Life Implication

As fragile human beings, we know the experience of living in fear and of being anxious and worried about many things, some of which exist only in our imagination. Jesus, having absorbed the ultimate violence, offers us his peace and thereby enables us to be confident and joyful in the face of uncertainty and threat. This represents a real experience of liberation from the paralysis of fear—a paralysis that often prevents us from doing beautiful and risky things, like giving cut flowers! A potted plant may seem more practical and “safe” but cut flowers bear a stronger message of the “risk” of real love.

With the Spirit's peace and joy comes the obligation to share our blessings with others. It was once thought that the command of Jesus to forgive or retain sins was addressed only to priests and referred only to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. But, in fact, this charge, in a less formal fashion, is undoubtedly addressed to all the followers of Jesus. We must all accept the wonderful and awesome responsibility of offering or withholding forgiveness. In this case, the sin of omission looms large and should make us all examine our consciences in regard to the many times that we may have persisted in the foolish comfort of nursing old injuries or have refused to make allowance for extenuating circumstances in the lives of those we call sinners.

In this regard, we should recall the very strong words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount: “Judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get” (Matthew 7:1-2). We all

know how much we hope to have a merciful judge and now we also know how to assure that happy outcome.

It is, of course, very difficult to live such an ideal forgiveness. And that is why Jesus offers us the Holy Spirit who, if given half a chance, will empower us to become the kind of gentle, caring and compassionate persons that can make a real difference in a world that desperately needs the witness of love and forgiveness. Let us all rejoice in this wonderful gift of the Spirit.

**June 26, 2011**  
**The Body and Blood of Christ**  
**John 6:51-58**

### Gospel Summary

When John records the words of Jesus that “the bread that I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh,” he is giving us his account of the institution of the Eucharist, which is noticeably absent from its normal location at the Last Supper. John's radical decision to move this account from the Last Supper (chapter thirteen) to chapter six can best be explained by his desire to provide no less than fifty verses of introduction to this central sacrament. In this introduction, he spells out in great detail the absolute necessity of faith for a fruitful reception of the Eucharist. And when John speaks of faith, he always means a personal decision to replicate in one's own life the unselfishness of Jesus, which is also the primary meaning of the Eucharist.

John then goes beyond the other gospels in spelling out the amazing consequences of both receiving and living the Eucharist. For Jesus goes on to say, “Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me”. This daring statement implies that the one who participates in the Eucharist will begin to share the very life of God—the life that courses between the Persons of the Trinity. Such a life laughs at death and makes our earthly life seem to be little more than sleepwalking.

### Life Implications

The gospel of John was written some sixty years after the resurrection of Jesus and deals with problems that inevitably occur when a fresh, new religion begins to settle into a routine of doctrine and ritual. In this way, the fourth gospel anticipates the perennial problems of a sacramental religion like Catholicism. And, of course, at the very center of this religion is the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ.

The problem is easily recognized. Jesus calls his followers to a radical conversion from the tempting but disastrous tendency to be self-centered. Jesus offers a new kind of life where the concerns and needs of others become a major factor in all one's decisions. Jesus himself modeled this ideal by giving his life for us. Small wonder then that the central sacrament of the Eucharist, representing his Body broken and his Blood poured out for others, should be the very heart and soul of Christian teaching and ritual.

Accordingly, the Christian church has surrounded this sacrament with elaborate ceremony and has made it the subject of fine art and music and poetry. The great danger is, of course, that we focus on these externals and fail to live the message of the Eucharist about behaving unselfishly. Unfortunately, it is quite possible to be very devout in one's reverence for the Eucharist and still live in a way that is self-centered, thoughtless and hardhearted. Today's splendid liturgy should not be allowed to obscure the real meaning of the Eucharist, which John sums up elsewhere with the words of Jesus, “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (15:12).

Finally, the invitation of Jesus to share, through the Eucharist, the very life of God is a wonderful challenge to enter into a mystical union with God that promises to drive all fear and anxiety out of our lives. It is infinitely consoling to realize that this is what God wishes for us and that only our cooperation is required. Unselfish love is difficult but the rewards are beyond imagining.

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8	MONDAY, MAY 30
WEDNESDAY, JULY 6	MONDAY, JUNE 27
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3	MONDAY, JULY 25

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

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

## JEDNOTA

(ISSN 1087-3392)

Catholic Bi-Weekly Issued 22 Times Annually

Publisher and Proprietor

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION of the United States of America and Canada**

FCSU Corporate Center

6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300

Independence OH 44131-2398

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**SUBSCRIPTION RATES: UNITED STATES - \$25.00 All other countries - \$30.00**

**PRINTED AT: SUSQUEHANNA PRINTING, 1 East Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17522**

Telephone: 216/642-9406 Fax: 216/642-4310

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to:

Jednota, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398

Periodical Postage paid at Cleveland, OH 44131 and additional mailing offices



(L – R) Bottom Row: FCSU National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Mrs. Maria Harcar, Mrs. Idka Rajec, Mrs. Nina Burianova, and FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec. (L – R) Top Row: Slovak Ambassador to the United States Peter Burian, FCSU National Treasurer George F. Matta, Mrs. Florence Matta, FCSU Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt, and Mrs. Theresa Arendt.

## Scenes from the Slovak Embassy

While in the Washington, DC area for a mid-year section meeting of the American Fraternal Alliance at the beginning of May, FCSU executives visited the Slovak Embassy. On May 4, 2011, Ambassador Burian and Mrs. Nina Burianova welcomed National President Andrew M. Rajec and Mrs. Idka Rajec, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. and Mrs. Maria Harcar, Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt and Mrs. Theresa Arendt, and National Treasurer George F. Matta and Mrs. Florence Matta.



(L – R) Michael Hricik, professor at Westmoreland County Community College; mother Geraldine Hricik; and Dr. Daniel J. Obara, president of WCCC.

## Michael Hricik Honored by Westmoreland County Community College

On the 40th Anniversary of Westmoreland County Community College (WCCC), 40 members of the alumni, staff, faculty, administration, board, community leaders and trustees were selected to represent the college. They are honorees who have made a significant impact on the college, or achievements in their respective professions.

Michael Hricik, a member of Branch 181, United, PA, was one of the "Fab Forty" celebrants. A professor of English at WCCC, he was chosen for his embodiment of service to the college through his active committee participation including leading the college team's "Achieving the Dream" initiative, assisting in the development of strategies to help academically underprepared students succeed, and serving as president of the WCCC Professional Association.

Michael is the son of Past President and President Emeritus of the First Catholic Slovak Union the late Thomas Hricik and his wife Geraldine. He and his wife Vicki have two sons, Mike and Paul.

Congratulations, Michael!



## Anne Marie Yurik, Branch 153, Wins First Place In Drawing Contest

Anne Marie Yurik, Member of Branch 153, District II. Her drawing for Children's Day sponsored by Benihana Restaurant of Wheeling, IL. won first place. For that she was awarded a dinner for 8 people. Her family enjoyed it very much.

Congratulations, Anne Marie!

Submitted by Rudolph Bernath, Regional Director - Region 7

## Report of Regional Director Joseph F. Minarovich – Region 1

Rev. Father, Mr. President, and Fellow Members of the Board:

Since the Convention, I have attended branch and district meetings. A district meeting was held at St. Joseph Slovak Catholic Church in Raritan, NJ hosted by Branch 290, St. John the Baptist. The meeting was very well attended.

I have had several high school students apply for the "Jednota" scholarship. I attended the board meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, and telephone meetings when called to do so. The members of branches have let me know that they thought the Convention was one of the best we had. I will be attending the Annual Board Meeting on March 28th and 29th.

I thank the members of branches in Region 1 for allowing me to represent them again. I will try to do the best for their welfare.

Sincerely,

**Joseph F. Minarovich**  
Regional Director – Region 1



## Report of Regional Director Damian D. Nasta – Region 2

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

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

In this past year, I performed all duties required of me as stipulated by the bylaws. I've attended all Board of Directors meetings which were held either in Cleveland, OH, in Pittsburgh, PA, or over the phone as a teleconference. In March 2010, I attended the monthly Executive Committee meetings in Cleveland, OH, at the invitation of the President. I attended both of the district meetings that my region held in Allentown, PA. At the district meeting in October 2010, our district held a sales seminar under the direction of our Vice president Andrew Harcar and our Executive Secretary Ken Arendt. This seminar was informative and several questions were asked by those in attendance.

I was unable to attend the bowling tournament but did attend and participate in the annual golf tournament in Belle Vernon, PA. It was an interesting weekend of extreme heat and cold rain.

In August 2010, I attended the convention in Cleveland, OH, where I was successfully re-elected for a fourth term as Regional Director for Region 2. While the convention itself was very productive, it was also very enjoyable due to the numerous events and activities scheduled before and after the convention.

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

Fraternally,

**Damian D. Nasta**  
Regional Director – Region 2



## Report of Regional Director Carl Ungvarsky – Region 3

My fellow members of Region Number 3, the Saints Cyril and Methodius District Number 17, Luzerne and Lakawanna Counties, PA, and Broome County NY, and members and officers of the FCSU, it has been an honor to serve you as Regional Director this past year.

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

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

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

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

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

I have also attended and participated in the District Picnic.

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

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

**Carl Ungvarsky**  
Regional Director – Region 3

## Report of Regional Director James R. Marmol – Region 4

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

After being elected as the Regional Director for Region IV at the 49th Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland, OH last year, this is my first annual report.

My term started on January 1, 2011, and I know that I have much to learn my freshman year. I am very excited to work with everyone at the national level and will look for additional help from my fellow board members to make proper decisions that will advance our organization over the next four years.

Prior to taking my official position, I attended the December 19th, 2010 board meeting by teleconference. It was my first experience with a web conference that used a web cam and web phone. After taking office I have contacted various officers of the five districts within my region to acquaint myself with them and to prepare a schedule to meet during their district meetings. Since then I have promoted fraternal activities at a local level and have shown by example some leadership qualities in being a top gun for insurance sales. I have been re-elected President of Branch 162 and will run for President of the Frank T. Holly, Jr. District at least one more time. On Monday, January 24, 2011, I attended the March for Life Rally in Washington, DC.

During the upcoming year I will be making plans to visit local branches and Districts 3, 7, 9, 12 and 13 within my region and look forward to meeting fellow fraternal brothers and sisters.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to the previous Regional Director, George Sprock, for all of his hard work and dedication that he provided while serving this fraternal and its membership. I want to thank him, his wife Florence and all of his family members continued success, good health and prosperity in all their future endeavors.

Should you need any additional information, please contact me at my office at 724-439-3440 or my home by calling 724-437-0892 or sending me an email at [jrmarmol@verizon.net](mailto:jrmarmol@verizon.net).

Respectfully submitted,

**James R. Marmol**  
Regional Director – Region 4



## Report of Regional Director Regis P. Brekosky – Region 5

Report of the Region #5 Regional Director of the First Catholic Slovak Union as per Bylaws effective January 1, 2007, Section 9.05::

I have attended scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors, entire Board, called by President Rajec; also telephonic meetings called by the President. This makes a total of four meetings for the year. I also attended district meetings and lodge meetings held in my region.

At our district meetings, all information received from the home office is reviewed. Mini-seminars are held and both National Treasurer George Matta and myself give information on our products and answer any questions that the membership may have. Materials mailed to me by the home office also are discussed.

Information sent to my attention by Vice President Andrew Harcar as to district insurance sales and annuity sales also are discussed by the membership. All branches are kept up-to-date and are told what percentage of their sales quota they have reached and sales needed to complete their yearly sales goals.

A lot of personal time is needed for answering calls from the membership on information on insurance and annuity products, the current interest rates we pay, when interest rates change, when and how insurance certificates can be cashed in, beneficiary changes and filing death certificates, etc.

Some of the district functions attended:

- Pittsburgh District Father's Day Luncheon
- Slovak Day at Kennywood Park
- Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour Annual Dinner Dance (could not attend)
- Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress Annual Meeting, Mt. Pocono
- Golf and Bowling Tournaments.

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

A new lease with ACS has been completed and is good for another five years. We will begin negotiations with USAir. Their lease will be completed on December 31, 2011.

As Manager of Building No. 2 and President of Jednota Properties, Inc. it is my duty to keep in contact with our tenants as to their needs, see that the building is in good repairs, keep all utilities paid and kept current. As owners, the building must be kept in order and our tenants' needs are taken care of.

Jednota Properties Board of Directors is:

- Regis P. Brekosky, F.I.C., President
- Joseph Minarovich, Vice President
- Joseph Bielecki, Secretary
- Joseph Senko, Treasurer
- Carl Ungvarsky, Member

Respectfully submitted,

**Regis P. Brekosky, F.I.C.**  
President, Jednota Properties  
Regional Director, Region 5

## Report of Regional Director Henry Hassay – Region 6

### Father Nasta, President Rajec, and Members of the Board:

It has been a pleasure to serve you over the last sixteen (16) years. I am honored to have been re-elected to serve for another four (4) years at our recent 49th Convention in Cleveland, OH. I believe it was one of the best conventions I have had the privilege to attend.

I have represented my region by attending all annual and quarterly board meetings either held at a certain location or by phone. I have attended all district meetings as well as Slovak Fraternal Events.

I have been a strong opponent for joint ventures with other Slovak Fraternals and possible mergers with other fraternal societies.

I look forward to the next four years and pray our Society will continue to stay strong and grow.

Fraternally,

**Henry Hassay**  
Regional Director – Region 6

## Report of Regional Director Milos Mitro – Regions 8 & 9

### Executive Committee and Fellow Board members:

It has been a privilege and honor to serve as the Regional Director for Region 8 & 9

In 2010, I performed all duties required of me as stipulated in the bylaws.

I attended both the annual and semi-annual Board of Directors meetings as well as one Executive Committee meeting by invitation of the President held in Pittsburgh and participated in both quarterly teleconference meetings.

I have also attended the local annual meetings of Okres Msgr. Michael Shuba District and Branch 785 as well as their semi-annual meetings.

Personally I participated in fraternal activities of the Jednota by taking part in the International Bowling Tournament held in April 2010 in Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend the International Golf Tournament due to a family wedding.

For our local fraternal activities I assisted and participated in our annual summer Regional Picnic held in July 2010 in Mississauga, Ontario, which was well attended by our members and special invited guests, Executive Secretary K. Arendt and his wife Theresa and Executive Treasurer G. Matta and his wife Florence.

I also attended and participated at the Jednota International Convention in August which was held in Cleveland, OH.

I participated in our annual local Golf tournament which was held in September 2010 at Deerfield Golf Club.

Attended funeral services of our deceased members in Mississauga, Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,

**Milos Mitro**  
Regional Director – Regions 8 & 9

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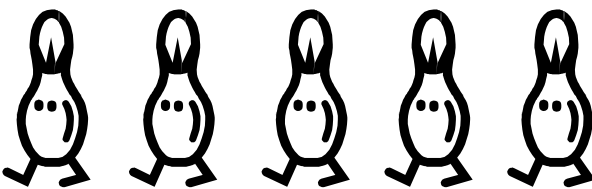
**If each member would sign up just one new member,  
we could double our Society immediately  
*THINK ABOUT IT!***

## 48<sup>th</sup> Women's International Jednota Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament Results

Place	Team Event	Total Pins
1	Leather & Lace	2201
2	Mon Valley #2	2151
3	Hot Honeys in the Money	2145
4	4 Striking Girls	2041
5	Mon Valley #1	2009
6	Canadian Ladies	1910

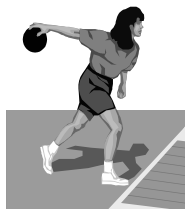
Place	Doubles Event		Total Pins
1	Erhardt	Sadler	1123
2	Lako	Kruly	1074
3	Rausch	Newman	1063
3	Miller	Neff	1063
5	Siesky	Ramsey	1061
6	Tomas	Bis	1049
7	Bright	Seese	1037
8	Mitro	von Friedl	1030
9	Mavrovich	Hunt	1013
10	Ciani	Hunka	1010
11	Shank	Barney	996
12	Ondrejco	Polack	915

Place	Singles Event		Total Pins
1	Oswald	Bridget	605
2	Bis	Mary	604
3	Soose	Sheila	594
4	Hunt	Eileen	591
4	Polack	Mary	561
6	Miller	Marti	558
7	Kruly	Ceil	557
8	Newman	Jessica	552
8	Sadler	Shannon	551
10	Lako	Carol	544
10	Tomas	Sharon	544
12	Erhardt	Katie	542
12	Barney	Beth	542
14	Forma	Anne	522
15	Siesky	Georgeann	507
16	von Friedl	Helen	506
17	Hunka	Karen	500
18	Ramsey	Jennifer	495
19	Mavrovich	Mary	490
20	Shank	Ginger	489
20	Ciani	Casey	473
22	Mitro	Anne	465
22	Bright	Tracey	458
24	Neff	Mikki	439
25	Rausch	Holly	435
26	Seese	Christine	428



Place	All Events Competition		Total Pins
1	Oswald	Bridget	1757
2	Kruly	Ceil	1708
3	Soose	Sheila	1695
4	Miller	Marti	1689
5	Hunt	Eileen	1646
6	Polack	Mary	1646
7	Sadler	Shannon	1641
8	Bis	Mary	1633
9	Tomas	Sharon	1608
10	Newman	Jessica	1603
11	Siesky	Georgeann	1600
12	Ciani	Casey	1584
13	Erhardt	Katie	1576
14	von Friedl	Helen	1575
15	Bright	Tracey	1530
16	Shank	Ginger	1528
17	Seese	Christine	1478
18	Ramsey	Jennifer	1471
19	Mavrovich	Mary	1466
20	Barney	Beth	1441
21	Mitro	Anne	1439
22	Neff	Mikki	1437
23	Rausch	Holly	1419

Place	Seniors Competition		Total Pins
1	Bis	Mary	604
2	Polack	Mary	561
3	Miller	Marti	558
4	Forma	Anne	522
5	von Friedl	Helen	506
6	Shank	Ginger	489
7	Neff	Mikki	439



### Bowling Poker Winners:

Pat Collins, Pittsburgh

Alex Dunn, Pittsburgh

Lynn Johnston, Mon Valley

50/50 Winner: Jennifer Ramsey, Mon Valley

### Women's Prize Amounts

Place	Teams	Doubles	Singles	All Events	Seniors
1	\$328.80	\$178.80	\$96.20	\$92.00	\$40.00
2		\$150.00	\$80.00		
3			\$70.00		
4			\$60.00		
5			\$50.00		

# 57<sup>th</sup> Men's International Jednota Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament Results

Place	Team Event	Total Pins
1	Mon Valley #7	2564
2	Tournament Trash	2518
3	Mine's in the Gutter	2488
4	Getting' Lucky Tonight	2469
5	The New Standard	2440
6	Canadian Boys	2404
7	Mon Valley #9	2385
8	Chuggers & Huggers	2368
9	Mon Valley #5	2356
10	Professors	2335
11	Mon Valley #8	2318
12	Mon Valley #4	2205
13	Mon Valley #6	2175
14	Mon Valley #3	2161

Place	Doubles Partners	Total Pins
1	Lako Silay	1391
2	Roberts Barron	1366
3	Sinagra Dunn	1353
4	Collins Hickler	1346
5	LeJeune Johnson	1343
6	Johnston Johnston	1326
7	Schwab Frolo	1304
8	Oswald Oswald	1298
9	Richnafsky Dunn	1295
10	Smith Smith	1225
11	Healey Tretinik	1204
12	Soose Burkhart	1202
13	Bruno Shank	1193
14	Lako Walko	1182
15	Jursa Forma	1165
16	Jursa Kapitan	1155
17	Lutes Hunt	1153
17	Sadler Smith	1153
19	Lako Roberts	1139
20	Mitro Tokarsky	1133
21	McKenna Polack	1117
22	Newman Rausch	1108
23	Duda Duda	1000

Place	Singles Competition	Total Pins
1	Hickler George	820
2	Roberts John	732
3	Lako Ray	727
4	LeJeune Dave	710
5	Forma Ed	703
6	Barron Joe	696
7	Smith David	696
8	Healey Larry	692
9	Tokarsky John	685
10	Sinagra Dave	681
11	Shank Clarence Sr.	668
12	Collins Pat	666
13	Johnson Stu	662
14	Hickler George	660
15	Johnston Lynn	659
15	Roberts John	656
17	Frolo Robert	655
17	Silay Tom	641
19	McKenna Joe	639
19	Jursa Joe	632
21	Smith Vernon C.	624
21	Dunn Alex	621
23	Walko Dan	620
24	Jursa Emil	620
24	Sadler Richard	616
26	Johnston Derek	612
26	Polack John	610
28	Lutes Donald Jr.	609
29	Schwab Randy	609
30	Newman Kyle	602
31	Bruno Donald Jr.	602
31	Oswald Howard	598
33	Dunn Alex	596
33	Tretinik Robert	596
35	Mitro Milos	589
36	Lako Ray	587
36	Richnafsky Nathan	587
38	Lako Mike	572
39	Smith Vernon E.	569
40	Hunt Zack	568
40	Burkhart Joe	562
40	Rausch David	557
43	Duda Ronald Sr.	526
44	Duda Robert	525
45	Kapitan Michael	489

Place	All Events Competition	Total Pins
1	Hickler George	2182
2	Roberts John	2104
3	Frolo Robert	2076
4	Sinagra Dave	2066
5	Lako Ray	2009
6	LeJeune Dave	1996
7	Johnson Stu	1990
7	Collins Pat	1990
9	Silay Tom	1988
10	Healey Larry	1985
11	Johnston Lynn	1979
12	Oswald Howard	1954
13	Smith David	1917
14	Dunn Alex	1913
15	Jursa Joe	1906
16	Barron Joe	1902
17	Tretinik Robert	1875
18	Richnafsky Nathan	1874
19	Forma Ed	1872
20	Smith Vernon C.	1857
21	Tokarsky John	1850
22	Johnston Derek	1840
23	Lutes Donald Jr.	1834
24	Polack John	1828
25	Shank Clarence Sr.	1824
26	Walko Dan	1822
27	Sadler Richard	1803
28	Jursa Emil	1793
29	Mitro Milos	1775
30	Bruno Donald Jr.	1774
31	Schwab Randy	1770
32	Lako Mike	1767
33	Rausch David	1755
34	Newman Kyle	1745
35	McKenna Joe	1724
36	Hunt Zack	1715
37	Smith Vernon E.	1691
38	Duda Ronald Sr.	1622
39	Kapitan Michael	1528
40	Duda Robert	1469



Place	Seniors Competition	Total Pins
1	Forma Ed	703
2	Healey Larry	692
3	Shank Clarence Sr.	668
4	McKenna Joe	639
5	Jursa Joe	632
6	Smith Vernon C.	624
7	Jursa Emil	620
8	Polack John	610
9	Duda Ronald Sr.	526
10	Kapitan Michael	489

Men's Prize Amounts					
Place	Teams	Doubles	Singles	All Events	Seniors
1	\$440.00	\$250.20	\$136.50	\$100.00	\$50.00
2	\$327.20	\$210.00	\$115.00	\$60.00	
3		\$170.00	\$105.00		
4			\$95.00		
5			\$85.00		
6			\$80.00		



Sweepstakes Winners:

John Tokarsky, Toronto  
 Mary Bis, Toronto  
 John Roberts, Monesson  
 Donald Lutes, Mon Valley  
 Tom Silay, Pittsburgh  
 Joe Burkhart, Pittsburgh



# Accent on Activities

May 2011



## 2011 International Bowling Tournament

The 57<sup>th</sup> Men's and 48<sup>th</sup> Women's International Jednota Ten Pin Handicap Bowling Tournament was held the weekend of April 29 - May 1 in North Brunswick, New Jersey. Bowlers from Mon Valley, Pittsburgh, and Toronto arrived at the Carolier Lanes to meet and compete in the tournament. Friday night, men's and women's teams tried to knock over the most pins. Saturday and Sunday, the men and women competed in doubles and singles events.

Saturday evening, Fr. Tom Nasta concelebrated Mass at the Our Lady of Peace Parish. At the conclusion of Mass, the bowlers attended dinner at Sir John's Restaurant. After a bountiful sit-down dinner, the current standings were announced and two special awards were presented to the men's and women's team who put their best foot forward and played with utmost enthusiasm, even though it wasn't reflected in their final scores. The winner of the "Better Luck Next Year Award" was Canadian Ladies and the winner of the "Don't Stand a Chance Award" was Mon Valley #3. A performance by a magician ended the evening's festivities.



Additional pictures from the 2011 Bowling Tournament are posted at

[http://www2.snapfish.com/snapfish/thumbnaillshare/AlbumID=7264268013/a=129316620\\_129316620/otsc=SHR/otsi=SALBlink/COBRAND\\_NAME=snapfish/](http://www2.snapfish.com/snapfish/thumbnaillshare/AlbumID=7264268013/a=129316620_129316620/otsc=SHR/otsi=SALBlink/COBRAND_NAME=snapfish/)



## 2011 International Golf Tournament

This year's golf tournament will be held Saturday and Sunday, July 16 - 17, at Oak Tree and Tam O'Shanter Golf Courses in Sharon, PA.

Registration forms have been mailed out in April. Registration forms can also be found at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com).



## CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Get your cameras ready! We will have a photography contest for all members.

In addition to the 12 - 18 age group, an over 18 age group will be added this year.

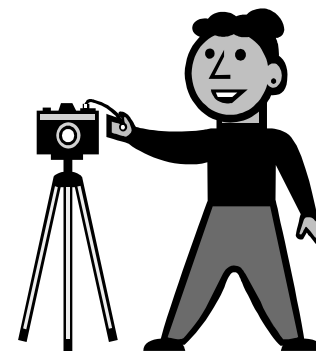
Submit your photo in one of the following categories:

- People
- Nature or Environment
- Travel or Destinations
- FCSU Fraternal Activity

Mail your entry to:

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

postmarked by October 1, 2011.



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

For each category and each age group, the following prizes will be awarded.

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

An Overall Winner will be awarded \$100

### Rules:

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

## Focus on Fraternalism

In honor of his service to the FCSU and our country, this Focus on Fraternalism, features the following from the Fayta Family to Mr. Arthur Fayta.

Arthur Fayta has been an active member of the First Catholic Slovak Union for 50 years. His involvement includes: Member of Branch 706 and treasurer for 47 years; Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District II Past Financial Secretary for 18 years; "Republic of Slovakia Christmas Tree" at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, Committee Member for 15 years; and representative of District II at the yearly "Indiana Slovak Day."

### ARTHUR J. FAYTA

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE IN THE 20TH ARMY AIR FORCE

from April 29, 1944  
to May 13, 1946

as a Staff Sargeant of the  
676th Bomb Squadron



Arthur flew in 18 missions over Japan, and was the radio operator on a B29 airplane. Their aircraft was named, "Lucky 13". He sent messages by voice and morse code.

He Received an Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, World War II Victor Medal, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, Distinguished Unit Badge with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Crew Members Wings, Marksman Medal, and Army Air Forces Technicians Radio Operator Badge.

*Our family is extremely proud and honored  
for your service in the United States Air Force.*

*Your Loving Family,*

*Barbara (wife),*

*Mark, Michael, Lori and Lynda (children)*

*Judy, Tina, Larry and Terry (spouses)*

*Adam, Chelsea, Alexander, A.J., Alexandra,*

*Julian and Ayden (grandchildren)*

Editor's note: Jednota wants to continue and encourage coverage about our members who have served in their country. Please look for additional details in upcoming issues of this newspaper.



Check out the redesigned  
FCSU website @ [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com).

Same great resource –  
now with a great new look!

Let us know what you think.  
We want to hear from you.

## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Radio host/producer, The Christophers

## The Real World of Motherhood

Though Rachel Campos-Duffy began her career in the public eye on MTV's reality series "The Real World: San Francisco" in 1994, she admits the network and media in general have traveled down a troublesome road during the intervening years. "There is a war, especially on young girls," said the mother of six children during a recent interview on Christopher Clo-seup. "There is a cultural pattern that is basically removing girlhood and pushing these kids into adolescence at a rapid rate."

Currently a stay-at-home Mom and parenting blogger who recently wrote the book "Stay Home, Stay Happy: 10 Secrets to Loving At-Home Motherhood," Campos-Duffy doesn't believe in isolating yourself from popular culture. In fact, she's a frequent guest host on the ABC series "The View" where she freely voices her Catholic, pro-life beliefs. She does, however, believe it's important for parents to be aware of what's going on in popular culture for the sake of their kids.

Campos-Duffy admits it's an uphill battle that often requires her to tell her children they can't watch a particular movie or TV show even though other parents allow their kids to do so. It helps if you "surround yourself with other families that share your values" and have conversations about why certain things are off limits. For instance, she doesn't let her kids watch "Hannah Montana," but used Miley Cyrus's public indiscretions as a jumping off point to discuss issues like young girls being influenced by a culture that tells them only their bodies are important.

Filtering popular culture isn't enough though, because eventually kids will be confronted with it anyway. Dialogue, education and faith-formation are, therefore, critical factors because they lay the groundwork for when that happens. Campos-Duffy explains, "If the foundation isn't there, if the confidence in one's faith and one's family is not there, (the kids) will sink. Often we'll see headlines and think 'Oh I can't believe these kids did this.' It's really important to have compassion because these kids are not coming out of a vacuum. There is a culture and a lack of family life and family values that is creating these situations. And I think they're screaming out to us that they want a family life."

Giving their kids a solid family life is the primary mission of Campos-Duffy and her husband, recently-elected Wisconsin Congressman Sean Duffy. In order to pass on the faith to their kids, the Duffys maintain a Catholic culture in their home. They have an altar in the family living room where they change the linens according to the liturgical season, and family prayer is a regular nightly ritual.

Running a household with six children can get chaotic and even overwhelming at times, so Campos-Duffy once lamented to a priest during Confession that her prayer life was dismal. The priest then told her that her "very life as a mother is a prayer" which completely changed her perspective: "He said that everything I did at home -- whether it was changing a diaper or wiping a nose -- whatever it was that I was doing was a prayer to God."

Campos-Duffy concluded, "For a busy Mom, I think it's understanding that prayer can be very short and immediate. Even (when)...we're running out the door, we just stop for a second. There's a holy water font right by the door and we bless ourselves and say 'Jesus, I trust in you.' And then, out the door. That can make all the difference."

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



# Reminder...

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

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

## Insights and Viewpoints

# Some Slovak Religious Music on the Web

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

The internet has made available to the world a plethora of information and entertainment from around the globe. While the information highway offers many uses, we can take advantage of the internet to increase our knowledge about both Slovakia and the Catholic faith we hold dear.

For instance, some web pages offer ways to learn Slovak, such as <http://www.101languages.net/slovak/>.

### Mass on the Web

Others let us hear the language and even attend Holy Mass on a daily basis through the web. Radio Lumen broadcasts Mass every day at 12 pm EST, and if one misses the time, Mass is kept in an archive marked "Emauzy" with the date of the broadcast.

Here is the website of Radio Lumen with the archive: <http://www.lumen.sk/live-detail.php?id=11>

In accessing a Mass, one must remember that Slovaks put first the date, then month, and finally, the year. Using dates, one may listen to Mass on Easter Sunday or any day one chooses.

### Trinity Group – A Modern Slovak Gospel Band

One way I have come to learn more Slovak songs and keep up with popular music when I am not in Slovakia is through listening and learning on the web. By hearing Mass and songs on Radio Lumen, I came across a modern gospel Slovak band by the name of Trinity Group. I first heard one of their songs several times, and thought it was one of the most beautiful songs about the Virgin Mary. I then did a Google and YouTube search to see if I could find the song and who sang it. I located the song at the following website:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHLUKm72hhE>

What struck me was that the song was not in Slovak, but the blog on the web indicated that the song was in Old Slavonic. A language specialist, Professor Votruba of the University of Pittsburgh, wrote me that it appeared to be an archaic form of Russian used before the Second World War. Regardless, the song is still popular in Slovakia. It is so beautiful and a marvelous tribute to the Virgin Mary, and so appropriate to listen to in the month of May.

After listening to about a hundred times, I decided I should share my joy with others, and I did some meticulous research to find out more about the band. It used to have its own website at [www.trinitygroup.sk](http://www.trinitygroup.sk), but that link no longer works, for the band has dispersed. But the Festival Lumen Network offered some information about the group, its origins, and its lead singer, Mária Čirová, who was 22 years old when the material posted to the website in 2010. She offered a brief though rather jagged history of the band.

### Trinity Group's Origins

Apparently, the Trinity Group first formed in 2004, and got its start in the western Slovak city of Trnava, about 35 miles from Bratislava. Just two people started the band, and then two more members joined. One married and became pregnant and had two babies, so another new member, Julo (Christian name, Filip), later replaced her in the band. Still she intermittently performed with the band. Yet another female member joined and also had a baby. Eventually as many six people joined the band.

Julo took care of production, sound, bass, arrangements and other details of the group's sound. His brother, Jakub Hitrich, played the drums. Aurel joined the group in 2006. Members Martin (33 years old) and Gabo play the guitar and perfected the harmony of the band.

### Mária Čirová, the golden voice

One cannot help but be taken aback by the beauty of Mária Čirová's tender and moving voice. Google.sk offered some brief information about her life and music career. She was born on May 31, 2008, in Dolné Lovčice, and later lived in Trnava and Bratislava. Gospel Music recognized her and the Trinity Group in 2006 for their album, *Na tisícich miestach* (At a thousand places).

She first achieved national notoriety in 2008 when she won the Eighth Annual Coca-Cola Popstar Competition. That same year in July, Mária Čirová released her first album, *Búrka* (The Storm, or The Tempest). Formerly with the group Komajota out of Prešov in eastern Slovakia, Martin Husovský became the leader of the group and it worked with the firm Creative Music House in Bratislava. The joke passed around that the album became christened with ice cubes, because *Doba ľadová* (The Ice Age) was the first song on the compact disk. Čirová composed the song and performed as leader singer for seven of the thirteen songs. Maroš Kachút produced it. Mária Čirová worked with Peter Graus, Slava Solovic, and Tomáš Zubák in putting it together. The majority of songs were in Slovak, except for one in Czech, *Rulety lásky* (The Roulette of Love), and the song "One," which was in English.



Slovakia's modern gospel band, The Trinity Group



Mária Čirová's today.

Using her rendition of the song *Búrka*, Mária Čirová's career then received worldwide attention when she competed in the 2009 Eurovision Song Contest. In one of the semi-finals held on February 20, 2009, she attained second place, after Tomáš Bezded. While the competition was still taking place, she came down with a serious virus and had to be hospitalized. Thus she did not succeed in securing a place at the World Finals held later in Moscow.

Nonetheless, Čirová was awarded the privilege of recognition by belonging to the *Zlatý slávik* (Golden Nightingale), a laurel granted to the most popular singers in the country. From 1962-1991, *Zlatý slávik* had published the magazine *Mladý svet* (Young World). Interestingly, the communists had banned the organization and its magazine in the 1970s for political reasons. *Zlatý slávik* began again in 1996-98, several years after the communists had fallen from power.

Today Mária Čirová belongs to a new group, Three Rabbits, which Adam Hamzic manages. She has webpages on MySpace.com and Facebook where one can hear her songs, or one may try YouTube with a search of her name. Her Facebook page lists some of her more recent songs: *Strácam* (I Lose), 2011, *Bez obáv* (Without Fear), 2010, and *Zbierka hriechov* (A Collection of Sins), 2009.

While she is more popular and selling more music now, I found none of these popular songs compare with the beauty of the tribute she sang to the Virgin Mary.

### Presvjataja Mati (Most Holy Mother)

Here is the text of her rendition of *Presvjataja Mati* (Most Holy Mother), which one can hear on YouTube by following the link. The rough translation from this archaic Slavic language and any foibles are my own, but generally, it is fairly accurate.

It still moves me each time I listen, and I hope those of you with an internet connection will enjoy her voice as much as I have.

### *Presvjataja Mati*, sung by Mária Čirová with the Trinity Group

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHLUKm72hhE>

Presvjataja Mati  
Christa, o Marije  
Synu tvojemu,  
ruči blahaju,  
molitvu moju  
i zbavi matery žalu,  
lice neodvratí  
molijaštej o spasenije,  
Bohorodica  
Preslavnaja Mati Syna, o Marije  
zemlja i popel, pokajaniji,  
molitva moja  
i zbavi nas od zlej smerti  
sochrani vsich pod svuj krov  
so slezami smirenija  
spasi nas Bohorodica.

Most holy Mother of Christ, O Maria  
to your Son  
favors granting  
my prayer  
And intercede O Mother of sorrows  
the face does not return  
pray for salvation  
O Virgin  
Most holy Mother of the Son, O Maria  
soil and ash, repentences,  
my prayer  
and deliver us from an evil death  
protect us all under His roof  
with the tears of peace  
save us O Virgin.

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# 2011 Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament



July 16 and 17, 2011

Tam O'Shanter and Oak Tree Golf Courses

Sharon, PA



Registration Forms postmarked after May 27, 2011 will NOT be accepted.

## 1. Golfer Name

My Personal Information is the same as 2010\*\* (check the box)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Number \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate Number \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Golfer Name

My Personal Information is the same as 2010\*\* (check the box)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Number \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate Number \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* If you participated in the 2010 tournament and your personal information has not changed, you do not need to complete the rest of the information.

Notes: Golfers aged 62 and over will be placed into their appropriate flights based on handicap, then will tee off from the senior tees.

Handicap calculations will not include the 2010 results. The handicap allowed will be 75% of the average strokes over par for the last 8 years. 100% of the average strokes over par for the last 8 years will be used to divide into Flights.

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

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

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

Golfers must be members in good standing of the FCSU.

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

Fees (per person):

Full Golf Package*	2 rounds of golf with cart 2 nights lodging Friday night hospitality Sat. and Sun. breakfast Radisson drink coupon	Package Fee: \$ 245.00 Prize Fee: \$ 12.00 Tournament Fee: \$ 8.00 <b>TOTAL DUE: \$ 265.00</b>
Golf Only Package	2 rounds of golf with cart Friday night hospitality	Package Fee: \$ 100.00 Prize Fee: \$ 12.00 Tournament Fee: \$ 8.00 <b>TOTAL DUE: \$ 120.00</b>
Non-Golf Package*	2 nights lodging Friday night hospitality Sat. and Sun. breakfast Radisson drink coupon	Package Fee: \$ 140.00 <b>TOTAL DUE: \$ 140.00</b>
Saturday Night Dinner		<b>\$25.00</b>
Sunday Awards Barbecue		<b>\$15.00</b>

\*Also indicate:

Roommate Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Room Type: 2 Double Beds / 1 King Bed  
Smoking / Non-Smoking

Please make checks payable to "FCSU Activities" and mail this registration form with check to:

Susan Ondrejco  
234 Iliion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

### Saturday Night

(at Radisson Hotel, Sharon)

Meal includes:

Salad, Roast Sirloin of Beef, Chicken Marsala,  
Marinara Pasta, Green Beans Almondine, Herb  
Roasted Redskin Potatoes, Dessert

Cash Bar

Cost: FCSU Members \$25  
Guests \$40

### Sunday Afternoon

(at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course)

Meal includes:

Roasted half chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Buttered  
Corn, Italian bread and butter, Soft Drinks

Cost: Golfers and Guests \$15

## 2011 Golf Tournament Info Sheet

### Friday, July 15

- ◆ Hospitality Room, Tam O'Shanter Golf Course, 6 PM - 10 PM

### Saturday, July 16

- ◆ Registration begins at 9 am. Tee times start at 9:32 am\*.
- ◆ Oak Tree Country Club Golf Course
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm at the Radisson Hotel, Sharon.
- ◆ Banquet begins at 6:30pm at the Radisson Hotel, Sharon.

### Sunday, July 17

- ◆ Golf starts at 8:30 am, Tam O'Shanter Golf Course
- ◆ Awards Barbeque to begin at conclusion of tournament

\*Tee times on Saturday will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Seniors (ages 62+) will play from the senior tees, in their appropriate flight, based on handicap.

The round on Sunday is a shotgun start.

Your rooming information (if using the full golf package) will be completed by the Fraternal Activities Director. **You do not need to call the hotel.** It is very important to have your forms in on time since the rooming list is due to the hotel June 1.

Hotel check in time is 3 PM on Friday. Checkout time is 12 noon.

Reservations can be cancelled 2 weeks prior to arrival date. Any reservations cancelled less than 2 weeks before the tournament will not be refunded.

## PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH 2011

SPONSORED BY THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC  
FEDERATION

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011  
SAINT VINCENT ARCHABBAY, LATROBE, PA

### SCHEDULE of the DAY

- 11:00am Arrival of Pilgrims – welcome by SCF National President Fr. Philip Altavilla; and Archabbot Douglas, OSB Rosary led by representatives of the Conference of Slovak Religious
- 12:00noon – 1:00pm Lunch at Fred Rogers Center. \$10.00 per person includes Pear half with Shredded Cheddar and Dried Cranberry; hand-tossed Caesar Salad; Chicken Marsala; Whipped Potatoes with gravy; Green Bean Casserole; Pasta Asiago; Raisin Bundt Cake.
- 1:00pm to 3:00pm Campus tours available including the following: Saint Vincent Archabbey, Saint Vincent Crypt, Winnie Palmer Nature Reserve, Fred M. Rogers Center, McCarl Coverlet Collection, Saint Vincent Art Gallery, Archabbey Studios.
- 3:00pm Confessions
- 4:00pm Pontifical Mass in the Archabbey Crypt  
Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, D.D. Celebrant and Homilist  
(\* This Mass fulfills your Sunday obligation.\*)

### DEADLINE FOR PILGRIMS!

\* All those wishing to attend this Pilgrimage of Faith, either by bus (the bus leader informs Dolores) or if traveling as an individual/ family by car, **MUST** call Dolores Evanko (570) 454-5547 or email: [jje@intergrafix.net](mailto:jje@intergrafix.net) no later than AUGUST 22nd with the number of those attending.

We are pleased to invite you to the **FCSU National**

# Picnic

104 acres of beautiful grounds, with plenty to do for everyone: paddle boats, playgrounds, softball, sand volleyball, corn hole, basketball, soccer, horseshoes, swimming, and more. Food is served all day.

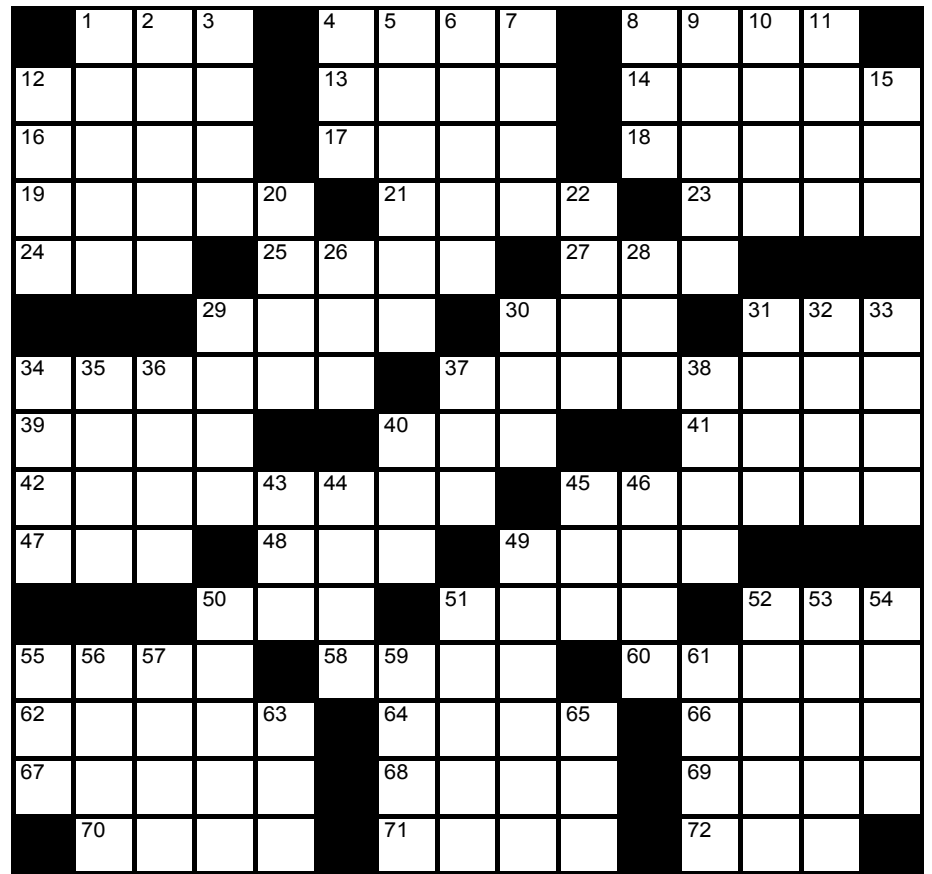
Wiegand's Lake Park  
9390 Kinsman Road  
Novelty, Ohio 44072

Watch the Jednota paper for more details!

**Sunday, August 14, 2011**

# Save the Date!

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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**Across**

- 1 Actor Kilmer
- 4 Egg-shaped
- 8 Skewer
- 12 Apiary
- 13 Lucy's mate
- 14 Unnatural
- 16 Celebes dwarf buffalo
- 17 Vipers
- 18 Coral reef
- 19 Fibbing
- 21 Crease
- 23 Opposed
- 24 Stale
- 25 Ajar
- 27 Bird of Minerva
- 29 Scientist Sagan
- 30 Hawaiian dish
- 31 Fmr. Chinese leade
- 34 Wagner heroine
- 37 Extroverted
- 39 Extinct bird
- 40 Insect
- 41 Afr. perennial
- 42 Courtliness
- 45 Tranquil
- 47 Distress signal
- 48 Empty completely
- 49 Wool weight units
- 50 Paycheck (Abbr.)
- 51 Warble
- 52 Breach
- 55 Assist
- 58 Cut of meat
- 60 Maternal
- 62 Energy type
- 64 Writer Truman
- 66 Leave out
- 67 Bearberry
- 68 Terminated
- 69 Hawaiian volcano goddess

- 70 Sob story
- 71 Congers
- 72 Winter hrs. in NYC

**Down**

- 1 Floor covering
- 2 Circumvent
- 3 Gaunt
- 4 Harem room
- 5 Watercraft
- 6 Poplar tree
- 7 Actress Bonet
- 8 Body of water
- 9 Floral leaf
- 10 Golf club
- 11 Slant
- 12 Nimbus
- 15 Samuel's teache
- 20 Prod
- 22 Debatable
- 26 Before (Prefix)
- 28 Hairpiece
- 29 Sabot
- 30 Place
- 31 Track event
- 32 Soon
- 33 S shaped moldir
- 34 Roman date
- 35 Aria
- 36 Lyric poems
- 37 Singleton
- 38 Paddles
- 40 Behave
- 43 Turk. title
- 44 Zero
- 45 Male offspring
- 46 Boundary
- 49 Tree decoration
- 50 Drag one's feet
- 51 Strainer
- 52 Contests
- 53 Canted
- 54 Tennis player Sampras
- 55 Residue
- 56 Footwear
- 57 Ms. Fitzgerald
- 59 Double-reed instrument
- 61 Slangy negative
- 63 Grain
- 65 Some dads (Abbr.)

## 88th Annual Slovak Day in July at Kennywood



The annual Slovak Day Festival will be held on Thursday, July 21, 2011 at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA.

Program highlights include:

- 12:30PM – children's games and treats
- 1:00PM – Slovak kitchen opens
- 2:00PM – children's folk dancing
- 3:00PM – introduction of guests
- 4:00PM – Catholic Mass
- 5:00PM – Slovak folk entertainment
- 6:00PM – Music for dancing

For ticket information, call Dolly at (412) 243-0438.

See Solution on Page 19



# NORWEGIAN SKY

## Enjoy a 4 Day Cruise in the Eastern Caribbean leaving from Miami, Florida

This magnificent cruise experience begins the moment you step onto the Norwegian Sky. On this floating resort you're in for an all-time fantastic vacation! Your first port of call is Grand Bahama Island, Bahamas and on to Nassau, Bahamas where you'll marvel at gorgeous white sand beaches. Next is Great Stirrup Cay, Bahamas, Norwegian's private island where you can enjoy a delicious surfside barbecue. What will you remember most?

JOIN  
**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION**  
**MEMBERSHIP MEET**  
 NOVEMBER 14 – 18, 2011  
 From

INTERIOR	OCEANVIEW	BALCONY
<b>\$449</b>	<b>\$479</b>	<b>\$669</b>

3<sup>RD</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> Guests – Rates from \$299

NCL reserves the right to charge a fuel supplement without prior notice should the closing price of West Texas Intermediate Fuel increase above \$65 per barrel on the NYMEX.

**\*All prices include cruise, meals, port taxes, airport transfers, gratuities, FCSU cocktail party and many FCSU extras!**

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



<u>DAY</u>	<u>PORT</u>	<u>ARRIVE - DEPART</u>
Mon.	Miami, Florida	5:00 pm
Tue.	Grand Bahama Island	8:00 am-5:00 pm
Wed.	Nassau, Bahamas	8:00am- 6:00 pm
Thu.	Great Stirrup Cay, Bahamas Norwegian's Private Island	8:00 am- 5:00pm
Fri.	Miami, Florida	7:00am

The Society is not responsible for airline delays or cancellations, please allow adequate time for transfers between the airport and pier. We strongly suggest you allow at least 3 hours before departure from Miami which is 5:00 pm.. The cruise is contingent on booking at least 25 cabins or 50 passengers; please do not make airline reservations before July 1st.

### ADVENTURE INTL TRAVEL

**P. O. Box 770410**  
 Lakewood, Ohio 44107  
 Phone: (800) 542-2487  
 Fax: (216) 228-7174  
[Paul@aits.webmail.com](mailto:Paul@aits.webmail.com)  
[www.adventure-intl-travel.com](http://www.adventure-intl-travel.com)





SLOVAK CANADIAN HERITAGE MUSEUM  
LE MUSÉE CANADIEN-SLOVAQUE DU PATRIMOINE  
MÚZEUM SLOVENSKO-KANÁDSKÉHO KULTÚRNEHO DEDIČSTVA

**The Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum**  
*invites you to attend*

## 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Benefit Fundraiser

*Purchase of a Building to House Permanent Museum*


**Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 2011 at 12.30 pm**  
St. Cyril & Methodius Church Hall  
5255 Thornwood Drive, Mississauga, ON L4Z 3J3

*SLOVAK CUISINE, includes Glass of wine  
Music - Entertainment - Door prizes*

Please reserve tickets with:  
Margaret 905-508-4871, Helen 905-771-9748, Luba 905-737-6463  
Mary 416-534-9828, or Joan 905-819-9637

*Admission \$35. Table of 8 - \$240. Children under 12 - \$12.*

## SIX YEAR FIXED RATE ANNUITY OR IRA 3.40% (3.344% APR)



**AVOID STOCK MARKET VOLATILITY  
RATE EFFECTIVE 05/01/2011**  
\*Interest rate Guaranteed for 6 years

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

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

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

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

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

***DON'T DELAY, ACT NOW!***

Contact our Home Office or your local branch for more information!

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION**  
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300  
P.O. Box 318013  
Independence, OH 44131-8013  
Call 1-800 Jednota or 1-216-642-9406


## FCSU LIFE Single Premium Insurance Spring Special!

<p><b>Newborn Male</b> \$5000 for \$290 \$10000 for \$580</p> <p><b>Male - age 5</b> \$5000 for \$340 \$10000 for \$680</p> <p><b>Male - age 10</b> \$5000 for \$400 \$10000 for \$800</p> <p><b>Male - age 15</b> \$5000 for \$480 \$10000 for \$960</p> <p><b>Male - age 20</b> \$5000 for \$545.00 \$10000 for \$1090.00</p>	<p><b>Newborn Female</b> \$5000 for \$250 \$10000 for \$500</p> <p><b>Female - age 5</b> \$5000 for \$290 \$10000 for \$580</p> <p><b>Female - age 10</b> \$5000 for \$340 \$10000 for \$680</p> <p><b>Female - age 15</b> \$5000 for \$405 \$10000 for \$810</p> <p><b>Female - age 20</b> \$5000 for \$470.00 \$10000 for \$940.00</p>	<p>Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren and receive a</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;"><b>FREE \$10.00 GIFT CARD</b></p> <p>to present with the certificate!</p>
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**Features:**

- Pay one premium and have fully paid-up Insurance
- Issued in any amount (\$5000 or more) subject to current FCSU LIFE non-medical limits
- Excellent gift for children or grandchildren





## “Park 2 Annuity” 3.00% (2.956% apr)

**Rate Effective May 1, 2011**

Under the “Park 2 Annuity”, you make a **one-time deposit of at least \$1,000.00** into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at a **guaranteed rate for two years**. Additional deposits are not allowed.

Features of the “Park 2 Annuity” include:

- ✿ The FCSU **guarantees your initial interest rate for two years**. After two years, your funds will continue to accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- ✿ The “Park 2 Annuity” can be converted to any of the FCSU Annuity Plans at any time.
- ✿ The “Park 2 Annuity” is not applicable to any settlement option or interest option.
- ✿ Withdrawal Privileges-Funds withdrawn during the first two years are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. The charge is 6% the first year and 5% the second year. You may, however, withdraw up to 10% of your ‘Beginning of the year balance’ with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- ✿ Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- ✿ Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- ✿ The minimum deposit is \$1,000.00.

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

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society Branch 1 will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sts. Cyril & Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please call 216.228.8179.

**Marie A. Golias, Secretary**

### BRANCH 10 – OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, First Catholic Slovak Union of Olyphant, Pennsylvania invites all Branch 10 members, and their families, to attend the annual Communion Mass and Breakfast on Sunday, June 26, 2011. The 8 a.m. Mass, at Holy Cross Parish at St. Patrick's Church, 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) 489-9819 between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. no later than Friday, June 17.

Church directions: [holycrossolyphant.org](http://holycrossolyphant.org)  
Restaurant directions: [regalroom.com](http://regalroom.com)

**William A. Nalevanko, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

St. Andrew Svorad Branch 24 encourages you to attend two upcoming summer events. The Cleveland Slovak Radio Club will hold their annual picnic on Sunday June 19; The American Slovak Zemplin Club's picnic will be held on Sunday July 17. Both will be at St Sava's Picnic

Grove at 2151 Wallings Rd, Broadview Hts., OH, from 12 to 8PM.

Why not join your fellow Branch members for some delicious Slovak food, music and dancing and help support our fine Slovak organizations?

**Bob Kopco, President**

### BRANCH 41 – YONKERS, NEW YORK

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41KJ, will hold its Semi-annual Meeting on Saturday, June 18, 2011, in the Rectory of Most Holy Trinity, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, NY, at 6:00PM, after the 5:00PM Mass. On the agenda will be our financial reports and suggestions will be discussed. We urge all members of Branch 41KJ to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41KJ, is sponsoring our Annual Communion Breakfast/Brunch on Trinity Sunday, June 19, 2011, following the 10:15AM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. It will be held at our Parish Hall, Trinity & Walnut Street, Yonkers, NY. The menu will consist of: juice, eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, pancakes, French toast, rolls, donuts, sugar-free cake, coffee, tea, and soda; cold cuts, roast beef, ham, salami, turkey, American and Swiss cheese, salads (potato, macaroni and coleslaw).

An outdoor procession, through the local streets, will precede the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 9:45AM.

Tickets are available for this parish event by contacting any of our Branch Officers: President Emeritus John Fialkovich at 914/965-7546; President Paul Fialkovich at 914/375-1650; Vice President and Recording Secretary Robert Lutz at 914/337-2026; Financial Secretary and Treasurer Albert Figura at 914/963-8229; and Auditor Robert Figura. Reservations and checks (payable to Jednota Branch 41 KJ) can be mailed to: Albert Figura, 92 Wicks Ave., Yonkers, NY, 10701.

Admission is \$18 for adults and \$5.00 for children under the age of 10. The deadline for reservations is Thursday, June 16, 2011. Latecomers pay \$20.00 at the door.

Reserve this date – June 19, 2011, Trinity Sunday – for this parish event sponsored by Branch 41 KJ. See you there.

Fraternally,

**Robert J. Lutz, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 112 – MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

A picnic meeting for Branch 112 will be held at Knoebles Grove in Elysburg, PA on Thursday, June 23 at 12PM. If you are interested in attending please call 570-544-6694 before June 10.

Drinks and picnic snacks will be provided.

**Karen Sterling**

### BRANCH 132 – WHIPPANY, NEW JERSEY

Branch 132 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 12, 2011, at 2:00PM at The home of the Branch President Susan Salko, Whippany, NJ. All members are invited to attend.

**Susan Salko, President**

### BRANCH 153 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St. Stephen Society, Branch 153, will hold its mid-year meeting on Saturday, June 18, 2011 at 12:00 noon at the home of President John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Ave., Chicago, IL. All members are invited to attend. There will be a fraternal luncheon following the meeting.

Please remember in your prayers the following members who have passed on to their eternal rest:

Lawrence Ogarek	Jacob Pavlik
Edward Koval	Adolph Rulak
Karol Capiak	Fred Uhrík

The officers of Branch 153 wish all Fathers a Happy and Peaceful Father's Day.

**Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181 will hold its annual family picnic

on June 26th from 12 noon to 6:00PM at Pavilion #14 at Mammoth Park, Mammoth, PA. The picnic will begin at noon. Lunch is to be served at 1:00PM. We are asking our members and guests to please keep this day open and to watch the Jednota for further information.

Thank you,

**Gerry Kovacina**

### BRANCH 213 – RENFREW, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael Branch 213 will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday June 12, 2011. It will be held at 3061 Kensington Court, Renfrew, PA, at 1:30PM. All members are asked to attend.

**Joseph W. Belechak, Secretary**

### BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, June 19, 2011 at 9:00AM at K2 Engineering Conference Room, 234 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, PA. Branch activities will be discussed, and officers' reports will be given. All members of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting. Any inquiries and updating information should be directed to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

**Dolores Marmol, Secretary**

### BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

St. Matthews Branch 260 will hold their semi-annual meeting Sunday, June 12, 2011 at Bedford Trails at 1:30PM. The meeting was rescheduled due to Father's Day. Members are urged to attend and participate in the discussion pertaining to important business that the Society will act upon. The viability of our Branch and Society depends on membership interest and also on members being more active. We have to improve our sales and increase our membership in order to survive. Hoping for a good attendance.

Fraternally submitted,

**Charles M. Terek, President**

### BRANCH 292 – WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, FCSU, Branch 292 K.J. will hold their Semi-Annual Meeting and celebrate the feast of their patron. This event will be held on Sunday, June 26, 2011, 12:30 p.m. at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Avenue, Windber, PA. A buffet dinner will follow the meeting. A Mass will be celebrated at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 604 Graham Avenue, Windber, Pa. at 8:00 a.m. on June 24, 2011. All members are asked to attend both events.

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

### BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of Ss. Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, June 19, 2011, at NOON at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. Since lunch will be prepared, please call Fran (724) 929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

**Mary Anne Higginbotham, President**

### BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380 Canonsburg, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 29, 2011, at 2:00PM at Wendy's in Canonsburg, PA. Welcome Branch 851 to Branch 380.

Fraternally,

**Margaret Graytok**

### BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of the St. Joseph's Society, Branch 484 will be held Sunday June 12, 2011 at 2:00 PM at the home of the Financial Secretary Joseph E. Rura, 43 Rugh Road, Coral, Pa. All members are welcome especially former members of Branches 421, 549 and 563.

Thank you.

**Joseph E. Rura**

## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District Annual Fathers Day Brunch will be held Sunday, June 19, at Holy Trinity Parish in West Mifflin. The event will begin with the celebration of Mass at 9:30 and wrap up by 1:00. There will also be a short business meeting to discuss the possibilities for district participation in local cultural events. Reservations are required. Branches should have received a notice from Host Branch 2 regarding prices for the brunch and ad booklet.

Branches are encouraged to look for ways to increase attendance. Possibilities are putting a notice in your church bulletin, offering to pay for the children's meals, etc. The deadline for reservations is June 10. If you need additional information, please contact Branch 2 at [smosr@verizon.net](mailto:smosr@verizon.net)

Branch 35 will host the Fall meeting on a date to be determined later following publication of the Steelers Fall schedule.

The district is collecting e-mail addresses from each branch in order to facilitate communications. If we don't already have your e-mail, please contact the district secretary at [manasta@verizon.net](mailto:manasta@verizon.net)

Fraternally,

**Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary  
Pittsburgh District**

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

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting at 1PM on June 12, 2011, at the Hampton Inn located at 698 West Main Street, Uniontown PA 15401. The First Catholic Slovak Union Officers will do a presentation regarding insurance and annuities (see p 15 of this issue for more details). District activities and insurance programs will be discussed.

Fraternally,

**Barbara A. Holly, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 19 – MSGR. MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT- TORONTO

Semi Annual meeting to be held on Thursday June 16, 2011 at Sts Cyril and Methodius Church hall in Mississauga. Meeting to start at 7:30pm. Refreshments will be available.

**President Mike Kapitan**

### DISTRICT 20 -PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT - MONTREAL

The Prince Rastislav District - Montreal will hold their Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday June 12th after Mass at Sts Cyril and Methodius Parish Hall, Montreal, Quebec, immediately following the Church Banquet. Branches 784 and 810 are urged to send representatives.

**Alexander Dobrik, President**

### DISTRICT 20 - PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Prince Pribina District will hold a meeting on Father's Day, Sunday June 19, 2011. The celebration begins at 11:00 AM with a Concelebrated Slovak Mass by Father Pestun and Father Sochulak at St. John Bosco Chapel at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 S. Bellflower Boulevard, BELL-FLOWER, CA 90706. Father Sochulak is a Slovak missionary who is coming from San Bernardino and Father Pestun is coming from San Francisco.

The meeting will follow in the cafeteria. After the meeting will be a period of fraternal fellowship and a gourmet lunch; dessert and refreshments also will be served. All members are invited and all branches in our area are encouraged to send delegates to the meeting.

On the agenda will be: First Catholic Slovak Union Insurance program information, promotion and schedule of District fraternal activities.

Sincerely,

**Paul Skuben, President**

## Reminder For All Branches

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

14.01 General Rules

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

*continued on page 15*

# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

*continued from page 14*

**BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO**

The St. John the Baptist, Branch 553, will hold a lodge meeting on Sunday, June 5, 2011 at 2 pm. The meeting will be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311.

A discussion will be held on upcoming events for the year sponsored by the lodge. Refreshments will be served.

A special thanks to all volunteers that provide services for our monthly spaghetti night and for the Lenten fish fry's. Thank you to our loyal members who support us through attending the different meals. Your loyalty is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

**Linda M. Hanko, Financial Secretary**

**BRANCH 581 – PORTER, INDIANA**

The St. Michael the Archangel, Branch 581, will hold its regular luncheon-meeting at 1 p.m., Sunday, June 12, at the Lake Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Rd., Hobart, IN. Anyone interested in insurance for their children, grandchildren should call Ann, 219-947-2793 or George, 219-926-2410, as the branch will pay the first years premium. RSVP for luncheon-meeting Ann.

**Ann Buczek, President**

**BRANCH 587 – ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA**

Branch 587 Will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, June 13, 2011, at 1:00PM at the home of Albert Valo, 1835 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA. On the agenda will be the discussion of all policies and annuities. All members are welcome to attend.

**Edith Valo, Financial Secretary**

**BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN**

Branch 595 in Muskegon Heights, MI would like to announce our monthly pork and kraut dinners being served at the club. They will be held on the second Sunday of each month. This is a complete traditional dinner including dessert. Only \$6 for adults and children under 12 pay only \$4. We will be serving from noon until 3 p.m.

Our monthly breakfast is held the fourth Sunday of each month. We serve from 8:30 a.m. until noon. We serve a wide variety of breakfast items. The cost remains at \$6.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

We are located at the corner of Sixth Street and Sherman Boulevard in Muskegon Heights. Our phone number is 231 733 7525. Please contact us if you have any other questions.

Thank you,

**Donna Stone, Recording Secretary**

**BRANCH 686 – HUNTLEY, ILLINOIS**

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Branch 686 will hold its Semi-Annual meeting on June 12, 2011, at the home of its Financial Secretary, Rudolph D. Glogovsky, 12946 Bull

Ridge Drive, Huntley, IL at 1:30 P.M. The meeting site can easily be found just north of the I 90 interchange and north on Hwy 47. The important issue of membership and involvement thereof will be discussed along with insurance and annuity programs.

Congratulations to Len Jenels, and Ronald J. Glogovsky on being awarded their

50-year membership. Other membership 50 year pin awards will also be announced at the meeting. Those attending needing more information on the meeting site can phone 847-659-1580.

Fraternally,

**Rudolph D. Glogovsky, Financial Secretary**

**BRANCH 746 – EDISON, NEW JERSEY**

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, June 26, 2011 at 10:30 AM in the upstairs meeting room of the Msgr. Komar Hall of Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. The agenda will include discussion and planning the summer picnic and fall dinner-dance. Please bring your ideas. Refreshments will be served.

**Mary Kapitan, Secretary**

**BRANCH 785 – TORONTO, ONTARIO**

Semi Annual meeting to be held on Thursday June 16, 2011 at Sts Cyril and Methodius Church hall in Mississauga. Meeting to start at 7:30pm. Refreshments will be available.

**Recording Secretary, Anne Mltro**

**BRANCH 844 - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

The Los Angeles Branch 844 will hold their Annual Father's Day Mass on Sunday, June 19, 2011 at St. John Bosco High School located on 13640 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706. Mass will begin at 11:00AM. A delicious authentic Slovak lunch will be served after Mass. Come and join us in celebrating the Slovak Spirit of Father's Day.

Also, following the festivities, Branch 844 members will hold a meeting to review officer reports and discuss branch activities.

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, Secretary**

**BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA**

Branch 853 will hold a meeting of all members at the McDonald Restaurant on McKean Avenue, in Charleroi, Pennsylvania on Saturday July 2. The meeting will begin at 10:00am. Due to seating, please leave a message with Branch President Monica Rodacy-Boone at 412-341-1577 if you are planning on attending. Information regarding the FCSU national picnic will be discussed. Members are urged to attend.

**Monica Rodacy Boone, President**

**BRANCH 857 – LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

The Semi-Annual meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Branch 857 in Levittown, PA will be held on Wednesday June 8, 2011. The meeting will be held at 7:30PM at 15 Kraft Lane, Levittown, PA.

Fraternally,

**Damian D Nasta, Recording Secretary**

## Attention District 9 – Frank T. Holly District – FCSU Insurance and Annuity Presentation

The Frank T. Holly, Jr. District, District 9 will sponsor an insurance and annuity presentation by the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU). The presentation will take place on Sunday, June 12, 2011 at 1:00 pm at the Hampton Inn located at 698 West Main Street, Uniontown PA 15401. A light luncheon will be served that will include a sandwich, potato salad, vegetable and fruit trays, cookie dessert, snacks, and beverages. Reservations will be on a first come first serve basis for the first 30 people. Please call James Marmol, Regional Director and District President, at 724-437-0892 to make your reservation. A special invitation is extended to all members and guests of the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District, District 12 of the F.C.S.U. All other members and guests are cordially invited to attend this informative presentation. If you are interested in learning more about the F.C.S.U., annuities and insurance, please make plans to attend as soon as possible. Reservations will not be taken after June 6 or when the presentation becomes full.

Should you need any additional information, please contact me at my office at 724-439-3440 or my home at 724-437-0892 or sending me an email at jrmarmol@verizon.net. Please visit the home office's newly developed website at www.fcsu.com to learn more about the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Fraternally,

**James R. Marmol, Region 4, Regional Director President of the Frank T. Holly, Jr. District**

## Rev. Stephen Furdek Held Semi-annual Meeting in April

The Reverend Stephen Furdek District of Eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Washington, DC held their semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 10, 2011 at St. John the Baptist Church Social Hall in Allentown, PA. Due to Mass scheduling changes, there was no Mass prior to the meeting. A delicious luncheon was enjoyed by everyone shortly after 12 noon.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00PM by President Greg Harakal and was opened with a prayer in Slovak by Vice President Helena Gaydos.

Roll call was taken with nine officers and twenty-six delegates present.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted and approved. Financial reports from March 2011 were read and approved. The auditors reported the books in good condition.

Various topics were discussed or acted upon.

It was decided our annual meeting will be held in Levittown, PA. Details will follow at a later date.

The closing prayer was said by Msgr. Thomas Derzack. Refreshments were served afterwards.

**Loretta Dashner, Recording Secretary**

## Branch 382 Members: Your Help Is Needed

Branch 382 is trying to update their member list and addresses. If you have move or know a relative or another member that has moved, please send the new information to:

John J. Slovenkai, Sr.  
Financial Secretary  
FCSU Branch 382  
318 Fourteenth Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18504-2512

### Sts Cyril & Methodius Slovak Church and

Jednota, Monsignor Shuba District cordially invite you to their annual ....

## SLOVAK FAMILY DAY



**On Sunday, August 14, 2011**

**Mass at the grounds starting at 12 noon**

**Lunch to be served after the Mass**

**Schnitzel \$8.00**

**Gulash \$6.00**

**Hot Dogs \$1.00**

**BBQ at 4pm**

**At Creditvale Park**

**On Barbertown Rd, Mississauga**

**Admission \$7.00 for adults**

**Children under 12 is Free**

# Rev. Spitkovsky District II Semi-Annual Meeting

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District for Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin held its Semi-annual Meeting on Sunday, April 10, 2011, at Our Lady of Sorrows Benedictine Priory in Oak Forest, IL.

District II President John Jurcenko opened the meeting at 2:00PM. Spiritual Advisor Dorothy Jurcenko led an opening prayer. Sgt. At Arms Pete Turner led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Recording Secretary Robert Ľapák Magruder conducted the roll call. Twenty nine delegates, representing nine branches, were in attendance. Financial Secretary/Treasurer Barb Fayta gave the Financial Report. Region VII Director Rudy Bernath read his report. National Vice President Andrew Harcar gave a 30-minute presentation on insurance and annuity sales to increase membership in the First Catholic Slovak Union.

New Slovak Christmas Tree Committee Co-chairs Mark Fayta and Amber Miller reported on the district's Slovak Christmas Tree at the 2010 "Christmas Around the World" display in Chicago. Fraternal Activities Director George Kelchak discussed the upcoming dinner/theater outing to see "Nunset Blvd" and plans for a baseball outing in August. Barbara Fayta reported on the district's Easter Coloring Contest for children.

October 23, 2011, was chosen as the date for the District Annual Meeting & Election of Officers.

The meeting concluded at 3:38PM, with a prayer in Slovak by Ed Uram.

Attendees then enjoyed a delicious dinner.

**Robert Ľapák Magruder, District II Recording Secretary**

**FCSU National Vice President Andrew Harcar encourages attendees to sign up new members for our Society**



**District II Financial Secretary/Treasurer Barb Fayta discusses the 2011 Easter Coloring Contest**

**Fraternal Activities Director George Kelchak prepares to distribute tickets for the District II Dinner/Theater outing.**



**Val Vesely and Don Cummings of Branch 493**

**(R) President John Jurcenko converses with (L) Rudy and Anita Glogovsky after the meal.**



**Amber Miller, Co-chair of the district's Slovak Christmas Tree Committee, reports on ornament purchases for the tree.**



**Slovak Christmas Tree Committee Co-chair Mike Fayta listens intently during Regional Director Rudy Bernath's presentation**

## OBITUARIES

### **GILBERT YURUS BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**

Gilbert (Gil) David Yurus, 78, of Strabane, went to be with the Lord Easter Sunday, April 24, 2011.

He was born July 7, 1932, in Canonsburg, a son of the late Andrew and Anna Yarkosky Yurus. Mr. Yurus graduated from Canonsburg High School and Penn Commercial business school. Upon graduation, he was employed by U.S. Sen. Edward Martin. Afterward, he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, in Korea and later in Japan.

He had a long career as an engineering order analyst at McGraw Edison (Cooper Power Systems), Canonsburg.

Mr. Yurus served as a church organist, Eucharistic minister, commentator and lector and was on the parish council for St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church in Canonsburg.

He was a life member of Knights of Columbus Council 3291 of Canonsburg. He volunteered time and service with Pastoral Care and served as a Eucharistic minister at Canonsburg General Hospital. Mr. Yurus was a member of Czechoslovak Society of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post

191, American Legion Post 902, KSJK Lodge 153, Jednota First Catholic Slovak Union, Sokol, and SNPJ Lodge 38.

Early in his life, he was a professional musician, leading his own polka band and teaching piano and accordion. He hosted the Gil Yurus Polka Review on WKEG in Washington and on WARCO in Canonsburg for more than 28 years.

He loved spending time with his wife of 52 years and family, especially his grandchildren.

On May 10, 1958, he married Mary Ann Woyicki, who survives.

Also surviving are four children, Maureen (Frank) Castulik of St. Charles, Mo., Sharon (Frank) Korleski of Simpsonville, S.C., David (Samantha) Yurus of Rosharon, Texas, and Brenda (Tom) Chaillou of Calloway, Md.; and five grandchildren, Robert and Christina Korleski, Jonah and Ruby Chaillou and Alexander Yurus.

Deceased are his stepmother, Mary Potchar Yurus; a sister, Elona Yurus, who died in infancy; and a stepsister, Mary Ann Gordon.

Friends were welcomed from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 27, 2011, and Thursday, April 28, 2011, in Salandra Funeral

Service Inc., Canonsburg, where a blessing service was held at 9:30 a.m. Friday, April 29, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. in St. Patrick Church, Canonsburg. Entombment then followed in Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Peters Township. Full military rites were accorded by VFW Post 191 of Canonsburg and American Legion Post 902 of Houston combined honor guard. The Christian Mothers and Guild of St. Patrick recited the rosary at 3 p.m. Thursday in the funeral home. Knights of Columbus services were held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the funeral home.

### **DR. JACOB C. NEUPAUER BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA**

Dr. Jacob C. Neupauer, 93, died peacefully at the Keystone House Thursday, April 14, 2011 in Philadelphia, PA, following an ongoing battle with cancer. Dr. Jacob C. Neupauer, known affectionately as Doc, was born in Egypt, PA on July 3, 1917, the son of Samuel and Sofia Neupauer. He was a leading pioneer in the development of the accordion and was a master teacher, performer, composer and had a full distinguished career. In addition to the accordion, his sub-

ject matter included woodwinds, harmony, theory, arranging / orchestration and conducting. Dr. Neupauer attended Muhlenberg University in Bethlehem, PA. He received his doctorate degree in music from Combs College of Music in Philadelphia, PA. He was the founder of the Neupauer Conservatory of Music which opened in Philadelphia in 1952 and the Philadelphia Accordion Orchestra and was on the advisory board of the American Accordionists Association serving several terms as president. He also was Dean of Studies at Combs College and conducted The Philadelphia Opera Guild. Dr. Neupauer contributed his talents and wisdom to Julliard and the Philadelphia Musical Academy. Dr. Neupauer composed several compositions including The Lehigh Valley Polka, Magic Fingers and Jeanette. Survivors: He is survived by his daughter Jeanette Parra and her husband Samuel Parra; six grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and two brothers George and Albert; and many dear friends. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 56 years, Catherine Neupauer Lizak and four brothers. A funeral service was held April 19, 2011 at 10 a.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Whitehall, PA 18052

# News From Slovakia

## Gasparovic: Slovakia Supports Liberalization of Visa Regime With Russia

Bratislava, May 4 (TASR) - Relations with Russia are one of the priorities of Slovakia's foreign policy, President Ivan Gasparovic said at a meeting with chairman of Russia's Federation Council Sergei Mironov on this date.

According to Gasparovic, Slovakia's membership of the EU and NATO hasn't harmed its relations with Russia, quite the contrary. "I'm convinced that the EU and NATO need to have positive co-operation with Russia," he said.

According to Mironov, Slovakia has an important status as a link between the EU and NATO on one side and Russia on the other.

Mironov told Gasparovic about Russia's efforts to remove visa obligations with the EU, and asked for Slovakia's support. "Slovakia fully supports removing the legislative barriers in the visa regime with Russia," responded Gasparovic.

## Czech and Slovak Cabinets to Hold Joint Sessions on Important Issues

Prague, May 5 (TASR) - Governments of the Czech Republic and Slovakia will hold joint sessions to deal with selected bilateral issues and agendas of their common interest, Slovak Premier Iveta Radicova and her Czech counterpart Petr Necas agreed in Prague, where Radicova left for a working trip on Thursday.

The first such a meeting should take place in Slovakia this autumn. "We're preparing a new element in the Czech-Slovak relations," commented Necas after meeting Radicova in Hrzansky Palace. "We have agreed on the date as well - October 28," added Radicova.

[October 28 represents an important milestone in the history of both countries - it was this day back in 1918 when the first Czechoslovak Republic was established. - ed. note]

According to Necas, the joint agendas could include that of dual citizenship, as well as important environmental, energy and military issues.

Continuing in her Prague program, Radicova also attended a conference devoted to the 60th anniversary of an American radio network Radio Free Europe broadcasting from Prague.

## Sefcovic: People May Be Frustrated, But EU Will Survive

Brussels, May 9 (TASR) - The concept of the European Union, which is celebrating the 61st anniversary of the signing of the Schuman declaration, will certainly survive, said Slovak EU Commissioner and European Commission Vice-president Maros Sefcovic on this date.

"Every time a discussion starts on how things would have been without the EU, we always come to the conclusion that they would have been much worse. Without the European Union, the voice of Europe would have become lost in global politics," said Sefcovic.

During the events to mark Europe Day, Sefcovic was asked some questions that couldn't be described as pleasant, but he was ready for this. "It's our duty to answer these questions. We have to be patient, because in view of the way in which the economic situation in Europe has worsened due to the deepest crisis in recent times, people have the right to be frustrated, they have right to ask questions, and our task is to offer solutions to them, to try to answer these questions for them and to react," said Sefcovic.

He also pointed to what he views as the key benefits that the EU has brought people: the removal of protectionism from the economy, freedom to study abroad and travel without visas.

According to Sefcovic, the most important current issue for the EU Commissioners is to preserve the eurozone. He rejects pessimistic scenarios, however. "I can't imagine the European Union without the European currency today. The euro has become the second-most important reserve currency in the world. We can see that despite all the discussion and turbulence, the euro is still getting stronger. Let's look back at the days when the euro was created. It was worth \$0.9. Now it ranges between \$1.3-\$1.4. This only shows how strong this currency is," he added.

## Radicova Discusses Decommissioning of Jaslovske Bohunice with EBRD

London, May 10 (TASR) - Prime Minister Iveta Radicova met on this date with European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) President Thomas Mirov to discuss

the financial support for Slovakia in the project of shutting down its nuclear power plant in Jaslovske Bohunice.

Decommissioning the power plant should cost more than €1.15 billion, not including the €264 million already invested by the Slovak Government. Currently, there is €446 million in the EBRD fund allocated for shutting down Jaslovske Bohunice, yet Slovakia needs another €425 million to get the job done.

Similar demands were put forward by Lithuania and Bulgaria. The final contribution from EBRD will largely depend on the discussions about the EU financial framework for 2014-20, which should allocate finances for the Bank as well.

According to Radicova, the Slovak Government appreciates the involvement of EBRD in decommissioning of the power plant, not only in the area of finances but also expertise.

Another issue discussed was the project JEREMIE, designed to support the creation of new jobs in the area of research and development. Slovakia will contribute €100 million to the program.

## Wreath-laying Ceremony at Slavin Marks Day of Victory over Fascism

Bratislava, May 9 (TASR) - A wreath-laying ceremony has taken place at the Slavin monument in Bratislava to mark the 66th anniversary of the victory over fascism and the end of WWII in Europe.

The ceremony dedicated to 7,000 Soviet soldiers who were killed during the liberation of Bratislava and were buried at Slavin was attended by Deputy Premier Rudolf Chmel, Defence Minister Lubomir Galko, officials from the Russian Embassy in Bratislava, other diplomats based in Slovakia and war veterans.

Minister Galko in his speech said that the events surrounding the liberation of Bratislava in 1945 are a milestone in Slovakia's history.

"The war claimed a disastrous 60 million lives. Despite the fact that the end of the war meant the defeat of fascism, our country wasn't really liberated, with the following decades of Communism leaving a scar on the fate of this country and its citizens. Despite the totalitarian regime, we managed to win freedom and democracy in November [1989]. The horrors caused by totalitarian regimes must remind us of the fact that peace and freedom shouldn't necessarily be taken for granted," said Galko.

## Dzurinda: I Couldn't Sleep After Match with Finland

Bratislava, May 8 (TASR) - Foreign Affairs Minister Mikulas Dzurinda said during his ministry's 'open house' event on this date that following Slovakia's defeat in the ice-hockey match against Finland on the previous Saturday night he couldn't get any sleep.

"I returned from Cyprus when the first period was running, and the first thing I saw was a nice score 1-0. But I knew it wouldn't be an easy game ... and I still believed that (Slovak goalie Jaroslav) Halak will make it safe and we would win that game," noted Dzurinda.

Despite the sad 1-2 score in the end, which erased any chances for Slovakia to move on in the tournament, Dzurinda thinks that Slovakia should look for positives in the future of the country's ice-hockey. "We need to say openly that one fabulous hockey generation has done a great job, and now's it's time to move on and work on the new generation," he said.

[Slovakia won the championship in Goteborg, Sweden in 2002 with many of the same players as this year. - ed. note]

Dzurinda later that same night was expected to award five Slovak ice-hockey figures at an event called 'Hockey Night' in Palugyay Palace in Bratislava. Former Slovakia coach Jan Filc, together with former hockey stars Peter Bondra, Peter Stastny and Vaclav Nedomansky, will receive awards for their exceptional presentation of Slovakia in the world. The same award will be given in memoriam to wife of the late Vladimir Dzurilla, long-time goalie for Czechoslovakia.

## IIHF Praises Slovakia for Ice-hockey Tournament Organization

Bratislava, May 8 (TASR) - According to the organizers of the ongoing ice-hockey tournament, the International Ice-hockey Federation (IIHF) has praised Slovakia for the well-managed organization of the event.

Director of the Organization Committee of the 2011 Ice-hockey World Championship Michela Grendelova at the same time expressed regrets over the electricity blackout incident during the Switzerland-France match in Kosice's Steel Arena, as well as the recent case in a Bratislava hotel where the Danish team was burgled.

"We're very sorry about that, but hotel security is something that hotels themselves are responsible for. We have called on all hotels where hockey teams are accommodated to tighten up their security measures," said Grendelova.

# Teaching in the Slovak Republic: Lessons Learned

By Nancy Meyer-Emerick

Although I had worked in Botswana on a USAID grant in 2002 and lived in Nicaragua in 1987, I had never seriously considered applying for a Fulbright Scholarship until December 2006.

After promotion and tenure at my home university I decided to expand my organizational behavior horizon by completing a Master of Positive Organizational Development and Change at Case Western Reserve University. One component of the program was a 10-day class in Multicultural Organizational Development in Belgium and the Netherlands. I was so enchanted with the experience that I decided that I wanted to live and teach in Europe.

I forged ahead with plans with the help of my university and several colleagues. My experience teaching in the Slovak Republic, home of my paternal ancestors, was extraordinary.

## Preparing to Live and Teach Abroad

I was notified in late December 2007 that I had successfully passed the review in Washington. I received official notification from the Fulbright Commission in Slovakia in late March 2008 via e-mail. The Commission provided me with an extensive handbook covering everything from visa requirements to traveling with family and pets. Compared with the experiences of some grantees in other countries, I appreciate how helpful the Slovak Fulbright Commission was in helping me to process the necessary documents from the United States.

At this point, I received the names of former Fulbrighters to the Slovak Republic, the contact information for a current Fulbrighter at the university where I would teach, and the name of another successful applicant who would also be there during the spring semester. The current Fulbrighter, who I will refer to as Bob, was a retired political scientist who had been invited to teach American studies at Prešov University for 1 year. He was accompanied by his wife, whom I will refer to as Gail, a retired professor of social work. The other successful applicant was a professor of special education, referred to in this article as Joel, whose wife, Betsy, would also be accompanying him to Prešov. We had a special bond from the very beginning because we were planning to bring our cats, who, coincidentally, were both 14 years old. We compared notes for months as we obtained all the documentation and medical procedures to insure our pets' safety. Because Bob and Gail had been living in Slovakia for many months they provided Joel, Betsy, and me with a tremendous amount of useful information about living arrangements and the university and answered even the simplest questions promptly. Needless to say, we all quickly became good friends.

I was very fortunate that my city has the second largest population of people of Slovak ancestry in the United States and also is home to two of the largest Slovak fraternal organizations and the Slovak Institute. In fall 2007, I began to study Slovak on Saturday mornings at a local church. A high point of my preparation occurred in December 2007 when I hired a Slovak genealogist via e-mail. He lived in Prešov and knew the village, Lipovce, where I thought my ancestral family lived. He found my uncle and cousin, and I began corresponding with them by hiring my Slovak language teacher to translate our letters. This was the first contact between our U.S. and Slovak families since 1965! Of course, my family here in the United States was thrilled. After our initial contact, I was able to correspond with my Slovak family in English via e-mail because the husband of one of my cousins had lived in Canada for several years and spoke fluent English. He translated my messages and relayed the information to our family in eastern Slovakia by phone.

I also discovered a month-long Slovak language and culture immersion program (Studia Academia Slovaca) at Comenius University in Bratislava, which I attended in August 2008, and which helped me acclimate much more quickly once I arrived for the semester. The Slovak Fulbright Commission generously paid my tuition for the program. I met my Slovak cousin and her husband and children while I was studying in Bratislava and spent time with them. My cousin's English-speaking husband helped arrange for me to meet more of my Slovak family in our village, 6 hours from Bratislava.



The village where Nancy was able to reunite with members of her Slovak family.



Nancy with her colleagues at the University of Prešov.

Part of the cultural immersion course was our choice of one of four 3-day tours of Slovakia. I chose the tour that included a tour of a cave near our village. My Slovak family suggested that I tour the cave and then have the bus driver drop me off in front of our church on the main street in the village. I will never forget the moment when I stepped off the bus into my aunt's open arms, both of us crying with joy. She had been dreaming that someone in America was looking for them, and there I was. I spent the weekend with them, visiting the cemetery where my ancestors were buried, the village, our church, Prešov, and the university. Fortunately, we liked each other! During my visit they decided that I would live with one of my cousins in Prešov when I came back to teach. The arrangement was for me to teach her English while she taught me Slovak. They took me to the flat where I would live, and on the last evening I met my cousin for the first time, both of us laughing at our broken Slovak and English sentences. They even approved of my cat, an extraordinary gift because having pets in the home is still unusual in that part of Europe. When I returned to the United States after the immersion course I prepared for my return to Slovakia with gratitude knowing that the Fulbright had provided me with the beginning of a deep connection to the people and culture of my ancestral homeland.

## Arrival in Slovakia

I was able to arrive in Prešov 3 weeks before classes began, but because the university was essentially closed during that time I did not have an office on campus until the first week of the semester. When I arrived I was asked if I preferred to share an office or to have one of my own. I chose to share an office with three colleagues who came in daily (two were doctoral students and one a new PhD) and two others who came in once a week for their classes. I became good friends with these people and I cannot imagine what I would have done without their companionship. At least one of my colleagues was usually there to answer my questions about classes, the students, the culture, and so on. My department chair was also very supportive and stopped by our office every day.

We had a small area in our office where we had coffee and tea together each day and sometimes celebrated birthdays and other achievements. Most of my colleagues were fluent in English, which was helpful both personally and professionally. My colleagues naturally spoke Slovak in the office but would occasionally check in with me to translate their conversation to English. I did not mind that they were talking in Slovak. I continued to study the Slovak language at home and on campus with international students who were in the Erasmus program. My American Fulbright colleague Joel and his wife Betsy also took the classes. Working in the office helped with my immersion into Slovak language (of which I only knew some) and culture, and I especially enjoyed the feeling of being considered a colleague rather than a visitor. Because I had the good fortune to live with relatives, my American Fulbright colleagues would sometimes have me ask my Slovak family about unusual aspects of Slovak culture and customs, so my situation benefited all of us.

## Living in Slovakia

I adopted numerous behaviors to "fit in" to the culture in my new home. At first I even hesitated to read at bus stops or on the bus because I saw few people reading and I thought I would immediately be identified as a foreigner. I also dressed as much like the locals as I could.

In this stage I discovered how difficult it could be to accomplish simple things that would have taken little energy at home, such as finding the right-size plug for my kitchen sink, which involved trips to several shops. Initially, I was too embarrassed to ask my Slovak colleagues and family where to find simple items, but then I became so frustrated with wasted time that I lost my shyness. Eventually, I managed to function rather well in Slovak culture, or so I thought, until shortly before leaving when Betsy and I spent several hours at Slovak Customs attempting to get their unnecessary approval to mail my three boxes of belongings back home!

*continued on page 19*

# Teaching in the Slovak Republic

*continued from page 18*

Although I was fortunate to spend weekends with my Slovak family in the village, I did so at the expense of not traveling on the weekends or experiencing more of the local region and culture. I made this trade off willingly. My American Fulbright colleagues took full advantage of our excellent location in Central Eastern Europe and traveled quite a bit during our school breaks and on weekends. I also followed my family's routine, which involved spending many wonderful hours with the children, walking the countryside, and experiencing Slovak and European television. Had I been on my own I would have been traveling, reading, and, yes, working on the weekends, as is my practice at home. One of my cousins even teased me about studying Slovak when we were all watching TV, reminding me that it was the weekend!

I did travel to Bratislava to visit my cousin and her family one weekend but took my cat on the 6-hour train ride with me because I did not have anyone that thought could take care of her. I also took her there toward the end of my stay to present a paper at a conference. I do not regret the decision to bring her to Slovakia. She was good company and because she was so old I think leaving her with family in the United States would have been an even more difficult transition for her.

Of course, my experience would have been different if I had not been living with family, but by the time the semester was winding up, my new Slovak friends were asking me if I would visit their homes on the weekend and suggesting places we should travel. My Slovak department chair was so concerned about how little I had seen that he personally took me and an English-speaking colleague to see the wooden churches in Bardejov and a famous health spa. The next week he took me and my brother, who was visiting from the United States, and my Slovak colleagues on a private tour of an old salt mine. As I had learned in Botswana and Nicaragua, the best way to get to know a country is to not live with people from your own country but to reach out and meet the local people. I would not trade the time I spent with my Slovak family for any other experiences, but I know that I would have cherished my time in Slovakia without them too because I had made so many new friends.

### Return to the United States

Since I returned home, I have given four lectures specifically about my time in Slovakia at my university and at Slovak fraternal organizations and continue to communicate with my Slovak family and colleagues on a nearly daily basis. I have added more international material to my organizational behavior, public administration, and environmental policy courses and shared my Slovak insights with my students. I am more dedicated to helping international students and colleagues adjust to life in the United States because of my Fulbright experience. Since returning to the United States, I work in my office at the university nearly full time, rather than at home, in recognition of the benefits of being around my colleagues as I was in Prešov.

I continue to work with our local Slovak community to educate Slovak Americans about life in modern Slovakia. As a member of the Slovak Studies Association and the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society, I will remain in contact with my academic colleagues studying in these areas.

I continue to collaborate with individuals in my host country and hope to establish a permanent relationship between my host and home institutions. I hope to recruit Slovak students and faculty to come to my university. I have begun promoting student and faculty exchanges, in part through the submission of this article that I hope will encourage more of



Nancy with Michal Razus, the genealogist who found her family in Lipovce.

my colleagues and students to live abroad.

This abridged article reprinted with permission of SAGE Publications.

### About the Author

Nancy Meyer-Emerick is a professor at the Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University. She remains in touch with her extended family in Slovakia, and is active in the greater Slovak-American community of Cleveland, OH.

## Answer to Puzzle

*Solution to Puzzle from page 11*

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Nancy's Slovak family included (L – R) Ferko, Adam, and Leo, picture here on Easter Monday.

## Reminder...

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

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

# Award Winning, Beatles Tribute Band from Slovakia, "The Backwards" Announce 2011 U.S. Tour with Stops in Pittsburgh and Johnstown plus Special Media Event June 3

"After 30 years, I have again heard the sound of The Beatles," - Louise Harrison, sister of the late George Harrison (1998, NYC).

Two-time Beatlefest NYC winners, "The Backwards," a Beatles tribute band from Kosice, Slovakia have announced their 2011 U.S. tour. Two Pennsylvania shows are planned in Pittsburgh and Johnstown after headlining at Abbey Road on the River in Louisville, KY Memorial Weekend. The tour will conclude in New York City and Clifton, NJ (event details to be determined). New tour material includes songs from The Beatles' Rubber Soul and Revolver albums in which they perform on authentic instruments as the Beatles' including a real Indian sitar.

The Backwards began their career in Kosice, Slovakia in 1996 when two young teens decided to form a band to portray one of the music industry's iconic bands. They interpret the music note for note made famous by the Beatles with a complete sound and sense to detail and take no artistic liberties. The natural chemistry portrayed on stage between band members mimics that of Paul and John. Technically, they were attire of each Beatles era, have collected and insist on using the exact replicas and equipment used by the Beatles on stage whenever possible. The Backwards have performed to sell-out crowds in the U.S. from San Diego, Chicago to Pittsburgh.

"They are the Beatles," said Robert Daniel, their U.S. manager who has worked with the band since 1997 and boasts that their natural physical resemblances and artistry are far superior to others he has seen. To back this claim, The Backwards, is the first band to twice win top prize at the International Beatlefest NYC in 1998 and again in 2003 defeating thirty-six bands for this title. The band also has headlined in various productions including the 92nd St. Y Annual Gala Fund-raiser in New York City with Melissa Manchester and has performed at the world-famous Cavern Club in Liverpool.

## PA TOUR SHOW DATES INCLUDE:

Saturday - June 4, Pittsburgh PA

7 p.m. - Sokol Club; 2912 E. Carson St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203

This show is sponsored by the Western PA Slovak Cultural Association (WPSCA)

Tickets are \$20 (advance sales only) and may be purchased via Eventbrite at <http://backwardspgh2011.eventbrite.com/>, from a WPSCA board member or by calling (412) 956-6000. Seating is limited, the last show was a complete sell-out. Food and drink concessions available. Inquiries, please email: [backwardspgh2011@yahoo.com](mailto:backwardspgh2011@yahoo.com).

## Sunday - June 5, Johnstown PA

7 p.m. (Doors open at 5 p.m.) - Aces Banquet Hall, 318 Chestnut St., Johnstown PA 15906

Tickets are \$15 (in advance and at the door). Purchase or reserve your tickets either via Eventbrite at <http://backwardsjtown2011.eventbrite.com> or by calling Aces at (814) 536-4176. Inquiries, please email: [backwardsjtown2011@yahoo.com](mailto:backwardsjtown2011@yahoo.com). All ages show, under 21 must be accompanied by an adult. Food and drink concessions available.

## OTHER APPEARANCES:

### FRIDAY - June 3, Johnstown PA

5-7 p.m. - Meet and Greet Media Event during the opening reception for "Imagine" - a Beatles Inspired Exhibit at The Venue of Merging Arts (VOMA) 305 Chestnut St., Johnstown, PA 15906. All Western PA regional media and bloggers are encouraged to attend. The band will perform a brief set at 7 p.m. for the VOMA Teen Open Mic Night immediately following the exhibit opening reception.

### Friday - June 10, Clifton NJ

Time and Place To Be Determined (TBA)

### Saturday - June 11, New York NY

Czech/Slovak Miss America Pageant - Public Performance

Czech/Slovak Cultural Center, New York (Manhattan), NY

For more information on The Backwards and their touring schedule details and updates, visit <http://www.thebackwards.com> and for the Abbey Road on the River festival on Memorial Weekend visit [www.abbeyroadontheriver.com](http://www.abbeyroadontheriver.com).

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF  
THE UNITED STATES & CANADA  
6611 ROCKSIDE ROAD, SUITE 300  
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131  
1-800-JEDNOTA

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### PRIVACY – PERSONAL FINANCIAL AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

Protecting the privacy of your personal financial and medical information has always been and will continue to be a matter of top priority for us. When used in this notice, the following terms have the meaning shown.

Public Information means information that is lawfully available to the general public from: Federal State or local government records; widely distributed media; or, disclosures to the general public that are required to be made by Federal, State or local law.

Non-Public Information means personally identifiable financial and medical information. It also means any list, description or other grouping of individuals, and publicly available information pertaining to them, that is derived from any personally identifiable information that is not publicly available.

Consumer Reporting Agency means an entity, which regularly provides reports (Consumer Reports) including information regarding an individual's: general reputation, character, personal characteristics or mode of living and financial status. The information may be obtained through interviews with the individual or third parties such as the individual's: business associates, family members, friends, neighbors, acquaintances or financial sources.

We obtain information about you from the following sources:

- information you provide to us in an application or other form;
- information about your transactions with us (such as premium payments, loans, claims, etc.), or others; and
- information that we may receive from a Consumer Reporting Agency.

We do not disclose any personal, Non-Public Information about you to anyone, except as permitted or required by law. We will not disclose personal medical information about you, except as permitted by law or as you may authorize.

We restrict access to your personal, insurance and medical information to those of our employees who need to know that information in order to provide insurance or service to you. We are, and will continue to be, vigilant in the safeguarding of your personal, financial, and medical information. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards to comply with Federal and State regulations regarding the safeguarding of Non-Public Information.

It is our sincere desire to maintain complete, accurate and up-to-date records. You may contact us to access, as provided by law, information included in your file. We will promptly correct any error in our information. To protect your privacy, you will need to identify yourself by providing us with your name, date of birth and social security number.



**CELEBRATING OUR**

## **SLOVAK CATHOLIC CULTURE**

**SUNDAY ~ MAY 29, 2011**

**ST. ANDREW SVORAD ABBEY ~ 2900 M L KING DRIVE**

**1:00 PM MASS IN HONOR OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

**2:00 PM LUNCH ~ 3:00 PM PRESENTATION**

**MARION SHRINES OF SLOVAKIA**

**CO-SPONSORED BY: THE BENEDICTINE MONKS; FCSU - BR. 24 & BR. 1;**

**THE SLOVAK INSTITUTE; SCF - CLEVELAND CHAPTER;**

**FCSLA - BR. 530; LPSCU - BR. 209; SCS - BR. 303**

**A BOUNTIFUL LUNCH OF HOME-STYLE SLOVAK FOOD & BAKERY  
DONATION; \$14.00**

**FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS CONTACT**

**SUSAN LANG: (216) 896-0957 ~ MARIE GOLIAS: (216) 228-8179**

**JOSEPH HORNACK: (216) 721-5300 EXT.294 ~ [slovakinstitute@cbhs.net](mailto:slovakinstitute@cbhs.net)**

**FR. ALBERT: (216) 721-5300 EXT.209 ~ [albertmarflakosb@yahoo.com](mailto:albertmarflakosb@yahoo.com)**