



# Jednota

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NUMBER 5786



Representing the FCSU at NFCA meeting were seated L-R Andrew P. Rajec, Idka Rajec and National President Andrew M. Rajec. Standing L-R are National Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt, National Treasurer George F. Matta, Florence Matta, Maria Harcar, and National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.

## Attendees "Focus on Fraternalism" at the 122<sup>nd</sup> NFCA Meeting

More than 350 fraternalists from around the country gathered in Washington, D.C. for the 122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA), held September 4-6, 2008. Themed "Focus on Fraternalism," the meeting addressed improving member societies and how to strengthen and enhance the perception of fraternal benefit societies in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

"We took advantage of the Washington location to emphasize to our member-societies the benefits of developing and maintaining relations

with our elected public officials," said NFCA Immediate Past Chair Katharine Rounthwaite, who presided over this year's meeting.

In a demonstration of the importance of this goal, on the first afternoon of the meeting, participants visited their representatives and senators on Capitol Hill. On the two days following, fraternalists were able to attend quality programs and explore many other topics that will help their societies grow and operate more efficiently.

Several speakers enlightened the attendees, including the Honorable David M. Walker, former Comptroller General of the United States and political analyst and columnist Charlie Cook. In addition to the general sessions, interactive workshops were held for participants covering topics on social media, recruiting and keeping younger members, board governance, quantifying fraternal outcomes, potential affinity programs and bridging the gap in distribution..

Several national officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union took part in this year's meeting.

### Inside

Editorial/Commentary .....	2
Branch/District Announcements. 7 & 13	
Minutes .....	11,13,15
Slovak .....	16-20
Youth .....	6

## Romanza Krajsa-Widow of JEDNOTA Editor Joseph C. Krajsa

Romanza (Fairman) Krajsa, the inspiring, persevering, quick with a warm smile, and ever encouraging Matriarch of the Krajsa family and known to so many in the Jednota society, went to her Lord peacefully at home with her sons Michael of Coopersburg, Pennsylvania with whom she resided, and George of Florida at her side on September 27, 2008.

Romaza, 86, was born in Raton, New Mexico October 26, 1921 on her father's horse and mule drive from their home in Missouri to sell his herd to the U.S. Army in Albuquerque. When mother was born along the trail, a Native American Indian by the name of Romanza took care of her ill mother and her at birth, hence her name and the origins of Romanza's generous spirit, incredible will



Romanza Krajsa

continued on page 6

## Accidental Death & Dismemberment

FCSU LIFE

### Fraternal Benefit

**NEW!**

#### "Fraternal Benefit"

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

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**Available August 1, 2008**

**Visit our website for additional information at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com)**

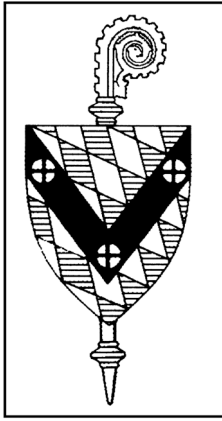
**\*\*Insurance is underwritten by Federal Insurance Company, a member insurer of the Chubb Group of Insurance Companies. Exclusions may apply. Insurance may not be available in all jurisdictions.**



Additional \*\*AD&D coverage up to \$500,000, for single or family, is available to our members at a special rate. Please contact our AD&D Administrator at 1-800-968-2071 for further information and rates.

Consider our past in planning your future... Established since 1890

# Insights and Viewpoints



## St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.D.B., Chapmion P. Gavaler, O.D.B.

October 26, 2008

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 22: 34-40

### Gospel Summary

In Matthew's gospel, Jesus is frequently involved in confrontational situations. This reflects the tensions in the church of Antioch between conservative Jewish Christians and more liberal converts from among the Gentiles. The Pharisees in this gospel represent in some sense a conservative

position that emphasizes observance of the law. They want to draw Jesus into their own interminable and sterile disputes about the relative importance of their numerous and detailed legal minutiae.

Jesus responds by quoting the essence of that great text from Deuteronomy (Chapter 6: verses 5 and 6) which as been justly called the heart of Israel's covenant commitment. In fact, when devout Jews today attach a mezuzah to their door posts, it contains this very text. And it does indeed sum up the divine revelation of the Old Testament. Its importance, therefore, can scarcely be overemphasized.

### Life Implications

We all recognize the importance of rules of conduct in our society. The alternative is chaos and the cruel law of sheer power. Laws are often derived from the accumulated wisdom of society. We have learned from hard experience that there can be no real freedom without an order that protects rights and assigns obligations.

At the same time, there are laws that are based on divine revelation and which we may very well not be able to discover by our own wits. The law that Jesus calls the first and greatest of all laws belongs to this category, It has two parts: love of God and love of neighbor.

Love of God always presupposes a prior experience of God's goodness, and God offers most of us abundant evidence of such goodness, usually mediated through the kindness of others and the beauty of creation. Nonetheless, the awareness of divine goodness may seem to disappear at times, such as at 9/11 or in the terrible consequence of Katrina. Love of God then becomes trust, which is especially pleasing to God, for even among humans it is a rare and precious gift. The experience of God's goodness that makes such trust possible causes us to be intensely aware of the gratuity of divine love. The proper response to such a discovery is wonder and gratitude.

Love of one's neighbor is profoundly influenced by one's loving relationship with God, because such human love, at its best, is also gratuitous. The other person is not loved simply because he or she is attractive. Rather, this love comes from the goodness of the one who loves and reaches out instinctively to anyone who is in need. After all, God did not love the Hebrew slaves in Egypt because they were beautiful or cultivated but simply because he is good and they were in desperate need. Such unconditional love, even among humans, creates freedom, confidence and beauty. A person who is loved in this way acquires an inner beauty, which manifests itself by a special personal sparkle. Perhaps that is because, even among humans, such love is really divine.

November 1 and 2, 2008

Feasts of All Saints and All Souls

Matthew 5: 1 through 12

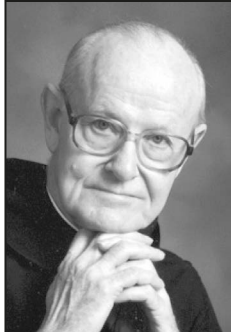
### Gospel Summary

The text of the Beatitudes in Matthew's gospel serves as the gospel for both All Saints and All Souls. This text is taken from Matthews's Sermon on the Mount and presents to us the moral ideals that Jesus offers to all Christians. This text is appropriate for both feasts because the recognized saints are celebrated for having achieved these ideals, just as the faithful departed are hopefully also saints who have not yet been recognized.

The Sermon on the Mount begins with the Beatitudes and in fact they strike the keynote for all that follows in the three entire chapters (5 to 7) of that Sermon. It is also true that the first Beatitude offers the key to the meaning of the seven remaining Beatitudes in Matthew's account.

The decisive word in this first Beatitude is the word, "poor." Its meaning is derived from a Hebrew word meaning "an afflicted one." Originally, it was applied to those Jews of the immediate pre-Christian era who were economically and politically powerless but who continued to hope in God even though he seemed to have abandoned them. They were often poor in the economic sense but their more basic poverty was in the realm of power and control.

Jesus makes the daring statement that these downtrodden ones should in fact be declared blessed, i.e. fortunate. What could possibly justify such a radical and apparently nonsensical conclusion? Jesus certainly does not intend to bless powerlessness as such. However, he does affirm the blessedness of those who, because they are powerless, are saved from the fatal illusion that worldly power can in fact give us the truly important and lasting gifts, such as, love, happiness and life itself. Being delivered from that disastrous illusion, they are then free to turn to God, who is ready and willing to give them the Kingdom. Matthew



Demetrius R. Dumm  
O.S.B.

specifies this as poverty "in spirit" because it is essentially an attitude of humility and trust in the goodness of God.

### Life Implications

The ideal presented here must not be mistaken for a misguided passivity or timidity in the presence of the challenges of this life. Rather, it liberates us from self-centered and self-serving efforts, which will ultimately prove unproductive, so that we may be present to others in a loving, caring and helpful way. This is summed up neatly in the seemingly paradoxical but very true statement, "The only gift we can keep is the one we give away!!!" Or, in gospel language, "What profit is there for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life" (Mark Chapter 8: verse 36)?

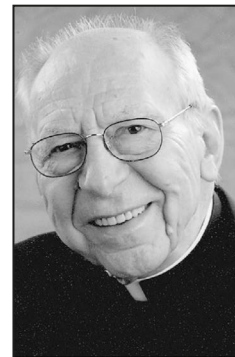
The remaining seven Beatitudes are really echoes of this primary one.

Those who "mourn" are those who have dared to become vulnerable, and to risk painful grieving, because they love. The "meek" have renounced power and violence as a means of acquiring happiness ... and thus are surprised by happiness. Those who "hunger for justice" have a passion for the reforms that will enable everyone to live and dream. Those who are

*continued on page 4*

## Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

### Corinth-3



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

Benedict XVI has called for a year of remembrance of the Apostle Paul in honor of the 2000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth, beginning June 29<sup>th</sup> of this year, the Feast of SS. Peter and Paul.

In observance, we have begun referring to Paul's writings in the New Testament with emphasis upon the personality of this apostle. In so doing, we pray that you will get to know Paul personally, that you will be attracted to read the full texts from which we quote, and that you will regard this series as a study of the Bible.

"If we have sown for you in the spirit, is it too much to expect a material harvest from you? If others have this right over you, is not our right even greater? But we have not used this right. On the contrary, we put up with all sorts of hardships so as not to place any obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ. Do you not realize

that those who work in the temple are supported by the temple, and those who minister at the altar share the offerings of the altar? Likewise the Lord himself ordered that those who preach the gospel should live by the gospel." (1Cor. 9:11-14)

"It is written in the law of Moses, 'You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out grain'." (1Cor. 9:8)

"Yet the preaching of the gospel is not the subject of a boast; I am under compulsion and have no choice. I am ruined if I do not preach it! If I do it willingly, I have my recompense; if unwillingly, I am nonetheless entrusted with a charge. And this recompense of mine? It is simply this, that when preaching I offer the gospel free of charge and do not make full use of the authority the gospel gives me." (1Cor. 9:16-18)

"I have made myself all things to all men in order at least to save some of them... like a Jew to the Jews... to those not subject to the law I became like one not subject to it... to the weak I became a weak person with a view to winning the weak." (1Cor. 9:22, 20, 21, 22)

"No test has been sent you that does not come to all men. Besides, God keeps his promise. He will not let you be tested beyond your strength. Along with the test he will give you a way out of it so that you may be able to endure it." (1Cor. 10:13)

"Eat whatever is sold in the market without raising any question of conscience. 'The earth

*continued on page 4*

# JEDNOTA

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# Apostleship of Prayer Intentions for October 2008

## General Intention

**Synod of Bishops.** That the Synod of Bishops may help all those engaged in the service of the word of God to transmit the truth of faith courageously in communion with the entire Church.

Pope Benedict XVI asks us to pray for this month's Synod of Bishops as they discuss how we can use the Bible to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world. The goal is that Catholics will spend time reading the Bible and, by doing so, grow in knowledge and love of God in unity with the whole Church. Strong in the Word of God, we may become courageous witnesses to the world.

Jesus promised the Apostles that the Holy Spirit would lead the Church into all truth (John 15:26). The Church sees the Word of God and the Tradition of the Church as the two great sources of this truth, and it is the Church's ultimate responsibility to codify the truths of our faith. Otherwise the meaning found in the Bible becomes subjective, with readers or groups of readers interpreting the Word of God in any way they wish.

Most Protestant denominations were born of such independent readings of the Scriptures. As a result most Protestants have no authority to establish the true meaning of the Bible, and their churches split and splintered thousands of times, each group claiming to have the true interpretation but with no authority to do so. Meanwhile, the Catholic Church has upheld one faith.

The doctrines of the Church actually illuminate Scripture.

Take the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Although a triune God is clearly implied by the Scriptures as a whole, especially in light of the New Testament, the doctrine of the Trinity was not proclaimed by the Church until the fourth century. That proclamation was based on Scripture, at least two centuries of tradition in the Church Fathers, and the need to counter the Arian heresy denying the divinity of Jesus.

Thus safeguarded from error, we Catholics benefit a great deal from reading the Scriptures, whether we do it publicly at Mass or privately. If we hear or read the Word in a prayerful manner, we receive faith, hope, and love, grow in unity with the church, and find new courage to proclaim the Gospel.

**Reflection.** How has the Bible enriched your faith? Can you think of ways to increase your time reading and praying the Scriptures?

## Mission Intention

**Participation in the Church's Universal Mission.** That in this month dedicated to the missions, every Christian community may feel the need to participate in the universal mission with prayer, sacrifice, and concrete help.

October is the month of the Rosary and the Missions. Pope Benedict asks us to pray this month that every Christian community may participate in missions through prayer, sacrifice, and concrete help. The Pope wants us to take missions seriously because he is aware of several grave threats to evangelization.

Some Christians have decided that evangelization must be modernized. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith calls it a "growing confusion" which misinterprets the "missionary command of the Lord" as a suggestion merely to present Christian ideas rather than preach repentance and Baptism into Christ. Some say that it is enough to try to help people act according to their own consciences without attempting to convert them to Christ, that it is enough to help people become more faithful to their own religions without attempting to convert them to the Catholic faith ("Doctrinal Note on Some Aspects of Evangelization," Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, December 2007).

But the Pope strongly contradicts these errors. In the same document cited above, we are reminded of the words of Jesus, who stated, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (Jn 20:21). By his Church, Christ wants to be present in every time and place on earth in order to reach every person so there may be "one flock and one shepherd" (Jn 10:16). "The Apostles, therefore, prompted by the Spirit, invited all to change their lives, to be converted and to be baptized... It is the same Lord Jesus Christ who, present in his church, goes before the work of the evangelizers, accompanies it, follows it, and makes their labors bear fruit: what took place at the origins of Christian history continues throughout its entire course."

The Pope calls the Church to recommit ourselves to evangelization. How shall we proceed? Let us do what the Apostles of Prayer have always done. Like St. Therese of Lisieux, who never set foot in a mission field, we direct our prayers to God on behalf of missionaries and those they seek to reach. We sacrifice our time and our money to support them. We speak to others about the importance of evangelization. We look for concrete ways to build up a missionary culture. We deeply respect the Pope's wisdom in making these requests of us.

**Reflection.** The Pope stresses the word "concrete" in this intention. How have you acted in concrete ways to support the missions? What might you do this month?

## From the Desk of the Executive Secretary An Important Message

September 18, 2008

Dear Members:

In response to the recent upheaval in our country's financial markets, please be assured that the First Catholic Slovak Union is on a solid financial foundation.

The First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) was incorporated in 1890 and has been a continuing successful operation for over 117 years. The Society is a member of the National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA). The NFCA was founded in 1886 and is the recognized leader of the Fraternal Benefit System; its member organizations work together to meet the challenges of a changing world.

The Society's strong financial condition continues in 2008, with high quality investments, solid certificate reserves, and a substantial surplus position that provides a stable financial base. Our stringent investment standards are reflected in a secure investment portfolio. Bonds constitute 86.2% of the Society's assets, and have an average maturity of 12 years. The Society enjoys excellent bond quality, with 88.9% of the bonds in the two highest NAIC rating classes. Preferred Stock now makes up 5.5% of invested assets and Common Stock 0.5% in an effort to diversify the portfolio and increase investment return. Other assets consist of mortgages (1.1%); real estate (1.4%); and all others (5.3%). The Society's net investment rate of return was 6.4%, which mirrors the five-year average of 6.4%. Surplus funds and other non-liability reserves total over \$19,276,000. These funds are available in case of market downturn, or an unforeseen emergency.

The FCSU is regulated by the Ohio State Insurance Department, as well, as the insurance departments in each state it is licensed. The Society files financial statements on a quarterly and annual basis using the prescribed industry forms and format. The FCSU statements are filed and reviewed by each state in which the Society is licensed. The Society's external auditors annually audit the financial operations of the Society and submit the required certified report to the insurance department.

Our Quarterly Statement was printed in our September 17, 2008 issue of the JEDNOTA newspaper and reflected a surplus of \$13,801,567 as of June 30, 2008 and assets worth \$207,046,082. The Society remains very strong.

We are confident in the First Catholic Slovak Union's ability to meet the promises in all of our certificates now and in the future and we point with pride to our long, sound service to our members and the public sector.

Fraternally,

**Kenneth A. Arendt**  
Executive Secretary  
KAA/kd



## From the Desk of the National Secretary First Catholic Slovak Union Annuity & Ira Interest Rates

**Effective October 1, 2008 thru December 31, 2008**

The annual yield on existing Flexible Premium Deferred Annuities & Ira's is 5.00% (4.879% APR)

The annual yield on a new "Park 2 Annuity" is 4.25% (4.162% APR)

The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Options is 4.75% (4.641 APR)

The annual yield for new Settlement Options is based on 4.50% (4.402% APR)

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRA's, please contact your local branch officer or the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682

**Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary**

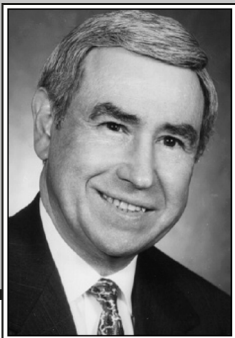


# MONEY MANAGEMENT

## & TAX TIPS

By Joseph T. Senko

Certified Public Accountant  
 Certified Financial Planner  
 Personal Financial Specialist  
 (AICPA)



### Sure-Fire Steps to Achieve Financial Goals

Would you like to pay off some high-interest debt, step up your retirement savings, or set aside enough for a vacation? Here are several wise steps you can take to turn your financial dreams into realistic goals.

**Create a Budget**

Lowering your debt or saving for your future will be difficult if you don't have a clear idea of your current finances and how you're spending money. Whether you use a software program or a sheet of paper, set down what you earn and what you spend. In the spending category, include regular items such as rent or mortgage, car payments, and other outstanding loans. Next, make accurate estimates about your variable expenses, such as food, transportation, entertainment, and clothing. Try to include those easily forgotten expenses, such as the cost of buying lunch at work or stopping for a bottled water or coffee.

**Look for Red Flags**

Now that you've listed what you spend each month, consider problem areas. Do you have high-interest loan or credit card balances? Are you spending a lot each month on take-out meals or entertainment? Consider whether you can make better choices. Just because you can afford certain expenses, that doesn't mean you are making the best use of your money. If you change bad spending habits or poor choices, you can preserve your cash and use it more wisely.

**Make Savings Automatic**

We all know that saving something each week is a good idea, but we often forget to do it. That's why enrolling in an automatic savings plan at your bank or a 401(k) plan through your employer is an excellent idea. Remember that you don't have to settle for a low-interest savings account. Some mutual funds accept initial deposits of as little as \$50 or will even waive the deposit requirement if you agree to save a certain amount each month. Many people aim to save whatever remains at the end of each month, but often find there's little or nothing left. When you designate an amount for automatic savings, it becomes a part of your regular budget and can't be forgotten.

**Choose Realistic Targets**

Paying off your debt is an excellent goal, but it may not be something you can accomplish this year. That's no reason not to try. You can make great progress if you set reasonable targets that are achievable and that will also make a difference in your financial life. If you resolve to reduce your debt by 25 percent this year, for example, you might be in a better position to make even greater positive change in your financial situation next year.

**Monitor Your Progress**

Your aspirations and financial situation may change as the months go by. As a result, review your goals and your progress toward them at least every six months to see how successful you have been. You may need to make changes in your targets, your savings rate, or other factors.

# 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, OCTOBER 29	MONDAY, OCTOBER 20
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12	MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26	MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

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

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5.00%

## FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY/IRA

Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity – Currently Earning 5.00% (4.879 APR)

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

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

**Features of the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity include:**

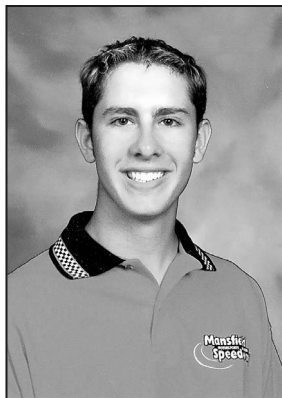
- The FCSU guarantees your deposits will accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- Your annuity continues to accumulate interest after you have stopped contributing and have begun to receive retirement income. The interest rate you receive on your annuity after settlement will never be less than 3.0%.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

## Coming Events

- October 26**  
 The Michigan District's Annual Meeting at St. Patrick's Ryan Church Hall, 4708 South Meridian Road, Merrill, Michigan. Dinner at 11:30 a.m. followed by the meeting t 12:15 p.m. Illinois.
- October 26**  
 Msgr. Joseph Tiso District's Annual Meeting at 2:00 p.m. at the C.U. Club, 912 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, Pennsylvania.
- October 26**  
 The Rev. John Martvon District's Annual Meeting at 2:00 p.m. in St. Francis Church Hall, Coral, Pennsylvania.
- November 2**  
 A meeting of the Rev. Stephen Furdek District at 1:00 p.m. at the Slovak "J" Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio.
- November 2**  
 A meeting of the Prince Pribina District at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 South Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. Mass at 3:00 p.m. followed by the meeting.
- November 2**  
 The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District's Annual Meeting at 1:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Sorrows Benedictine Convent, 5900 West 147<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Forest, I
- November 9**  
 A meeting of the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania.
- November 9**  
 Msgr. Stephen Krasula District's Annual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. in St. John Nepomucene Church Hall, 66<sup>th</sup> Street and First Avenue, New York City.
- November 9**  
 The Msgr. John E. Rura District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Hall, 16 East Somerset Street, Raritan, New Jersey.
- November 9**  
 A meeting of the Frank T. Holly Jr. District at 1:00 p.m. at the Meridian Point Apartments, 112 Confer Vista Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

# YOUTH ROUND-UP

Christopher Danielczuk of Goshen, Connecticut, is an outstanding student at Oliver Wolcott Technical High School in Torrington, Connecticut. A senior at OWTHS, Christopher dedicates his time to a variety of school and community service organizations. He has been inducted into the National Honor Society and recently participated in a Math League Competition where his Math Team captured First Place; Christopher was this year's OWTHS Leo Club's Youth Ambassador to the United Nations sponsored by the Torrington Lions Club District 23B. He traveled to and toured the United Nations in New York City, met several ambassadors and dignitaries, and had a special lunch with the ambassador of Finland. He was master of Ceremonies for the OWTHS Names Can Really Hurt Us assembly which focused on preventing bullying, harassment, and name-calling in school. This program worked in concert with the anti-defamation league. Christopher is specializing in Automotive Technology. A third year Honor student and President of his class, Christopher received recognition for his scholastic ability and community service.



Christopher Danielczuk

In addition to his academic accomplishments Christopher volunteers his time at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital and was recently recognized for contributing over 200 hours of volunteer service to the hospital. At school he helps out as one of Santa's helpers at our annual "Breakfast with Santa" by waiting on tables and serving meals to the participants. As a Leo Club member he helps with our "Canned Food Drive" collecting food for the needy and also assists in serving meals at the Torrington Lions Club District 23B Pancake Breakfast. He is a Boy Scout holding the rank of "Star" with Troop 35 in Goshen, CT. His sports activities include track and field, skiing, karate, and golf. He is very active in his church as an altar server and hospitality host making desserts or serving coffee after mass. At the Goshen Congregational Church, you will also find Christopher helping out making blueberry pies for the blueberry festival held every year in August. Christopher is involved in community theatre as an actor where he recently performed as the "Lonesome Polecat" in the Goshen Players presentation of the musical comedy production of "Lil Abner"; during the summer he volunteers as a camp counselor at Camp Coch organizing and playing games with the day campers. Christopher is interested in NASCAR racing and sometimes races in the DARE stock series at Stafford Motor Speedway in Stafford Springs, CT.

Outside of volunteering Christopher works several jobs that include working as a mechanic's helper at Litchfield Hills Motor Sports, a counter person at Bantam Fuel Company, and has started his own business called "Christopher's Pet Sitting Service" all of these responsibilities are balanced perfectly with his academics never allowing any area of his life to suffer. Christopher is a dedicated student who has potential for further academic growth. He plans to pursue a degree in Accounting or Human resources. He hopes to find the right college that allows him to combine academics, acting, sports, and auto racing. He thanks his parents for their support and encouragement and is grateful to all of his teachers, religious leaders, and friends for their guidance and enthusiasm.

Christopher is a member of Branch 19 in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Christopher's sister, Victoria, his father, Air Force National Guard Lt. Col. (Ret) Stanley Danielczuk, Aunt Christine Grzybala, her son John Grzybala, uncles Benedict and George Danielczuk, and grandmother Dorothy Danielczuk of Bridgeport are all members of Branch 19.

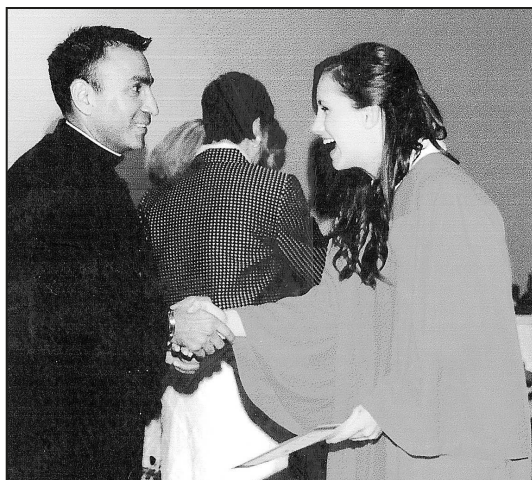


From the Jednota Files L-R Peter Smak, Helen Smak, Joseph Trojcek and Lubka Gregus are dressed in Slovak costumes for the 1973 March 14<sup>th</sup> celebration in Elizabeth, New Jersey.



Father Carlos Velasquez congratulates Brittany Palmer during eighth grade graduation ceremonies at Holy Spirit School in San Antonio, Texas. Brittany, who graduated with honors, delivered an address which highlighted memories shared by the class and thanked everyone who made their education possible. Brittany received the President's Fitness Award and the President's Academic Award. She also received the Flame Award Trophy for all-around excellence. In addition, she was awarded a \$250.00 scholarship.

Brittany is a member of Branch 75 in Shamokin, Pennsylvania.



## Romanza Krajsa-Widow of JEDNOTA Editor Joseph C. Krajsa

continued from page 1

power, determination and caring demeanor. After graduating from high school in Kansas City, Missouri, Romanza enlisted in the U.S. Navy serving as a first class photographer till the end of the war. In the Navy, she met her husband, Joseph C. Krajsa, and they were married in Allentown, Pennsylvania where they lived for 19 years before moving to Middletown, Pennsylvania. In addition to being a full time mother of four, she worked as an editorial assistant for the Jednota Press prior to her stroke at age 46. Known for her signature broad brim hats and warm enveloping blue eyes and smile, Romanza was the daughter of the late Gladden and Orpha (Belisle) Fairman and the devoted wife of 52 years to her late husband, Joseph C. Krajsa. She was also predeceased by her daughter, Maryagnes Krajsa, her son, Joseph J. Krajsa, and grandson, Scott Michael Krajsa, all of Middletown.

Romanza is survived by two sons, Michael, of Coopersburg, and George and his wife, Susan; grandchildren, Rebecca Krajsa LaGrasta (expecting a great grandchild in January) and Jordan of Davie, Florida, grandson Brad and his wife, Jill, great-grandchildren, Jack and Parker of Wyomissing, Pennsylvania; grandson Matthew and his wife, Staci, of Middletown, great grandchildren, Makenna, Micah, and Maya; and numerous nieces and nephews, all of whom visited her in the last two months with members of their families. She also leaves behind many, many people who are grateful to have shared her friendship, loyalty and love throughout her life. Her family would like to extend a "Special Thanks" to her family, friends, students and the many who affectionately called her grandma, her gracious care givers for their many kindnesses over the years, as well as the caring staff of Lehigh Valley Hospice.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of Matinchek and Daughter Funeral Home of Middletown. Friends were received at the Funeral Home on Tuesday, September 30 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. An additional viewing was held on Wednesday, October 1 in the Narthex of Seven Sorrows B.V.M. Church in Middletown, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at which time a Funeral Mass was celebrated. Interment was in the Middletown Cemetery. A reception was held following the services at the Spring Garden Center in Middletown.

Memorial donations may be made in Romanza's name to Seven Sorrows B.V.M. Church, Race Street, Middletown, PA 17057.

Michael and George Krajsa

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# DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT-CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 2, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the Slovak "J" Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio. The election officers for 2009 will be held at this meeting. Remember that in order to receive your stipend from the Home Office each branch must attend at least one meeting a year. Come and support your FCSU branch and the district.

Branch 553 will be sponsoring this meeting. To assist the Slovak "J" Club in preparing the buffet I request that you let me know the number of members from your branch who will be attending this meeting. To make reservations contact Linda M. Hanko at 1473 Ries St., Barberton, OH 44203, by Phone at 330/706-0151 or via email at lhanko@neo.rr.com.

Linda M. Hanko, Secretary-Treasurer

## MSGR. ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT-MONONGAHELA VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon in Donora, Pennsylvania. Members of the various branches in the District are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

## MSGR. JOSEPH TISO DISTRICT-ALLEGHENY-KISKI VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Msgr. Joseph Tiso District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the C.U. Club, 912 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, Pennsylvania. Delegates from all branches should call District Secretary Grace Charney at 724/763-1104 to confirm their attendance.

Grace M. Charney, Secretary

## REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT-BLAIR, CAMBRIA, INDIANA, SOMERSET AND BEDFORD COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

The Rev. John Martvon District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. in St. Francis Church Hall, Coral, Pennsylvania. All branches are reminded of section 405(g) of the bylaws which states that in order to qualify for the branch stipend in 2009 they must send a representative to at least one district meeting per calendar year.

On the agenda will be the election of officers for the coming year. We expect honored guests at this meeting so lets honor them with a good turnout.

Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary

## MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT-NEW YORK

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at St. John Nepomucene Church Hall, 66<sup>th</sup> Street and First Avenue, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, a discussion of next year's program, and the election of officers for 2009. Other business will also be discussed. We urge all District branches to send their representatives to this meeting. All members of the FCSU are also welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served by the host, the St. Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716.

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

## REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT-ILLINOIS, INDIANA AND WISCONSIN

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers on Sunday, November 2, 2008, at Our Lady of Sorrows Benedictine Convent, 5900 West 147<sup>th</sup> Street, Oak Forest, Illinois. A short period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments will begin at 1:30 p.m. followed by the meeting at 2:00 p.m. All District branches are encouraged to send delegates. A delicious catered meal will be served. In order to ensure an adequate supply of food and beverages, please contact District President John Jurcenko at 773/763-0810 if you plan to attend.

Robert Tapak Magruder, Recording Secretary

## MICHIGAN DISTRICT-MICHIGAN

The Michigan District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at St. Patrick's Ryan Church Hall, 4708 South Meridian Road (M30), Merrill, Michigan. A Thanksgiving Dinner will be served starting at 11:30 a.m. followed by the business meeting at 12:15 p.m. Branch 774 is the host for this meeting.

Please notify Irene Pacholka at 989/687-5419 by October 19 with the number of delegates attending from your branch.

Since this is our annual meeting, the election of officers will be on the agenda along with a discussion of new events for the coming year. Our District President Victor Jiompkowski encourages all branches to send delegates to represent their branch.

Anna Magusin, Secretary

## MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT-NEW JERSEY

The Msgr. John E. Rura District will hold its next Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's Hall, 16 East Somerset Street, Raritan, New Jersey. Branch 290 will be the host. Branch secretaries are asked to call Joe Minarovich at 732/469-5256 by November 1 with the number of delegates who will be attending. Refreshments will be served.

Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary

## FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT-UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the Meridian Point Apartments, 112 Confer Vista Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Representatives from the District branches are requested to attend.

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

## PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT-LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The Prince Pribina District will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 2, 2008 at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 South Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. A Slovak Mass will be celebrated for all deceased souls in the chapel at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will follow in the cafeteria. After the meeting, there will be a period of fraternal fellowship with coffee and donuts. On the agenda will be a financial report and a discussion of District fraternal activities and FCSU insurance products. All members are invited to attend. Branches in the area are requested to send representatives to the meeting.

Rudolph Glogovsky, Regional Director

**STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION** of the "JEDNOTA" bi-weekly at Middletown, Pennsylvania, required by the Act of October 23, 1962.  
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(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)		
(3)	Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®		
(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail®)	452	531
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		15,400	23,914
(1)	Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		150
(2)	Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541		
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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		15,550	24,064
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 I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).  
 PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)

# Angel on Loan: The Story of Anthony Schwartz

By Erin Schwartz

*continued from October 1, 2008*

**June 15, 2006**

We arrived in St. Louis around one in the morning and got very little sleep before our CT appointment which was scheduled for 8:00 a.m. We were told that Anthony would need to be sedated for this but he was so calm and relaxed that he laid still the entire time and didn't need any sedation. Joe and I have never given him any kind of medication because at 6 ½ months, he had never been sick so we were a little nervous as to how he would react to it. Fortunately that day he didn't need it. After the CT scan we met my mom in the cafeteria who had just flown in from Cleveland to be there with us and had breakfast before our appointment with Dr. Carstens at 10:00. During this appointment we talked with Dr. O'Brien who decided that Anthony wouldn't need another appliance after his surgery and he gave us instructions on how to take care of the two teeth that he had already sprouted. We also met with an ENT and decided that there wouldn't be a need for Anthony to have tubes in his ears. We were very pleased with the news that we had already received. Things were going great. Then we talked with Dr. Anthony Admire who assisted with Anthony's surgery and Dr. Carstens. At this time we discussed how Anthony's lip, nose, and gum would be repaired and how to care for the tubes that he would wear in his nose for two months. The tubes would be an essential part in maintaining the structure in his nose after his surgery. We were instructed not to feed Anthony after midnight and he could have water or Pedialyte until 3 a.m. After all of our questions were answered we felt comfortable and confident and left the hospital. Now the countdown was on. There were only 24 hours until Anthony would have his new smile. We were excited but also scared. Our faith was in the hands of Dr. Carstens.

**June 16, 2006**

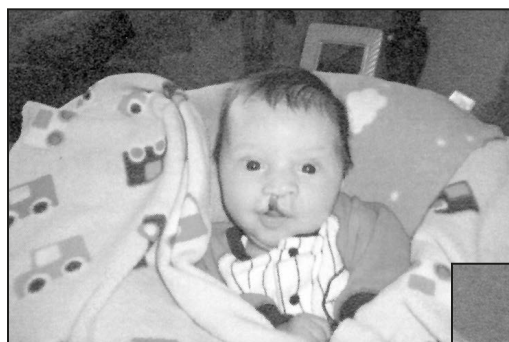
I will never forget the way I felt on this day. Anthony was up all night screaming because he was hungry and it was the hardest thing not being able to feed him. He looked at us as if he were saying, "Why aren't you helping me?" It was awful. Neither Joe nor I got any sleep that night. I don't think we would've even if we tried. We were so anxious about the surgery and how Anthony would do that it was hard to rest. We arrived at the hospital around 10:00 and the surgery was scheduled for 12 noon. Things were running slightly behind but the nurse came and got him around 12:30. Dr. Carstens spoke with us before the surgery and assured us that everything would be great. We knew it would be but we just wanted to fast forward the next 6 hours. I brought some of Anthony's favorite toys and put them in his crib so that when he woke up from his surgery he would see something familiar and wouldn't be scared. Before we left for the

OR we prayed for Anthony's strength and for the nurses and doctors that would be taking care of him. I carried him to the operating room doors and didn't want to give him to the nurse. I cried and kissed him and held him so tight and at that very moment I wanted to just turn around and say, "Forget it." I was happy with the way he looked and I didn't want him to go through all of this. I could've stood there all day just holding him but I knew that it was time. Joe held him for a moment as well as my mother but before they handed Anthony to the nurse I held him one last time and whispered a prayer for courage and strength in his ear and told him that I loved him more than anything on this earth. He cried as they walked him back to the operating room and I could do nothing but walk away.

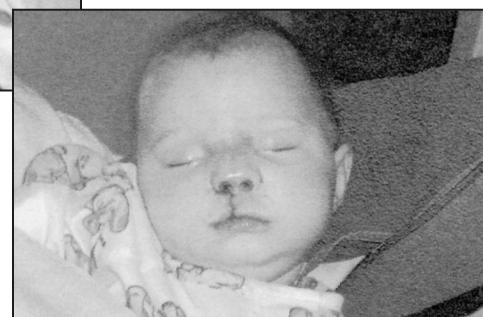
I made sure that the nurse called us every hour to let us know how he was doing. Dr. Carstens said that the procedure could take anywhere from 5 to 9 hours. As we waited in the waiting room I prayed to his Angels to watch over him and hold his hand because I couldn't be there to do it myself. I wondered what was happening each moment and counted the minutes to each hour phone call. Surprisingly enough the time went by rather quickly and we received a call around 5:30 p.m. saying that everything was done and Dr. Carstens was just finishing up. Well, "just finishing up" took over an hour and it was the longest hour I can ever remember. When we finally got the OK to walk to the OR doors I could hardly contain myself. All of our anticipation and anxiety would soon be laid to rest. We tried several times to picture what his new smile would look like but never could. The moment had come and they wheeled his bed before us. I took one look at my son and cried. I said, "That's not my Anthony." He was a little bruised and swollen and the smile that I had loved so much wasn't there. This was a very hard moment for us all. We knew that he looked great but he definitely did not look the Anthony that we all know and love. The Anthony that we knew was always smiling and so full of energy and life. He looked like he was hurting and I wanted to take it all away. Dr. Carstens came to speak with us and asked is we were happy with the results. Of course we were happy. We were just in shock because we had no idea what to expect. Anthony was staying the night in the hospital and we were staying with him. We couldn't leave his side for anything in the world. Once we settled into his room I held him for the first time since his surgery. I just looked at him gave him as much love and energy as I could. Then he opened his eyes and I said, "There he is." The light in his eye was the same and at that very moment I felt relieved that the surgery was over and that we still had our Anthony.

The night proved to be challenging. He was in pain and couldn't get comfortable. He drank a small amount from his bottle but nothing significant. We gave him Tylenol with Codeine but that didn't seem to be enough. Around 2 a.m. we asked the nurse to give him the morphine that was previously offered. Initially we didn't want to give it to him but we felt it would be best for Anthony. The morphine took the edge off for him and he was able to sleep for about 5 hours.

The next morning Dr. Admire and Dr. Carstens came to see us and they again showed us how to clean the tubes that he would be wearing in his nose for 2 more months. They also gave us some information about how to care for area around his lip. Instead of using



3 months old



Anthony's first post-op photo



2 years & 3 months

stitches which tend to leave visible scars, they used Dermabond. Dr. Carstens explained that it was like airplane glue. We were not allowed to put anything greasy on this area because it would cause the glue to lift before Anthony was done healing. They also answered the questions that we had and we set a post-op visit for Tuesday June 20<sup>th</sup>. After signing a few papers for the nurses we were on our way back to our hotel.

For the next few days Anthony was not himself. He was very sleepy and uncomfortable and it was hard to see him like this. He wasn't sleeping or eating well for the first few days and he became very swollen between the second and third day. We had trouble keeping his arm splints on because he got very clever with taking them off. At first he learned how to pull the right strings to untie them so we would just keep retying them. Then he found it easier to just grab them at the top and just yank them off. We retied those things a thousand times and after four days we gave up. He was supposed to wear them for 2 weeks but that didn't sound good to Anthony. We mostly held him so it wasn't difficult to keep his hands away from his face. In fact, I think he knew that it would hurt so he didn't really try.

**June 20, 2006**

This was the day of our post-op visit. The swelling had gone down and we could recognize our son again. Dr. Carstens and Debbie showed us how to get all of the build-up off of Anthony's nose and lip and we began to share with them what led us to St. Louis. We told them about the article we read about Quinn and how Dr. Carstens' use of BMP seemed to be the best choice for Anthony. It just so happened that Quinn and his mother were in the building that day for speech therapy and Debbie arranged a meeting for us. It was amazing to see Quinn and how wonderful he looked. It was because of him that we found Dr. Carstens. We thanked his mother Judee and told her what an inspiration Quinn was. We are so thankful that they were brave enough to take a chance on this new procedure.

Anthony is the first person in the state of Nevada to undergo this new procedure to repair a cleft lip/cleft palate. Our hope is that others read our story and are inspired to seek Dr. Carstens' help, whether it is parents of children with CL/CP or other doctors who want to learn how to perform this procedure using the BMP. I just can't imagine seeing Anthony go through as many as 20 surgeries over the course of his life. By having the BMP Anthony will be finished with his surgeries in only 9 more months. What a blessing it is to know that by the time he is 18 months old all of this will be behind him. I wouldn't change a thing about Anthony or the way he was born. The only thing we could do was make the right choice for his treatment and we believe with all of our hearts that we did. God did lend us an angel when he blessed us with Anthony and we feel that Anthony's experience is meant to help others. We don't look at this as a disability or a special need. This is an opportunity to help other families in the same position as us. God truly did give us Anthony for a reason and we must always remember that his cleft is not his special need; he is special because of his cleft.

**Epilogue-June 2008**

It's been two years since Anthony's initial surgery in June of 2006. Since this time, he has had his palate repaired by Dr. Carstens and an additional surgery to reinsert tubes into his ears. There have been several challenges along the way but overall, this has been an inspiring experience for us all. Anthony is everything you would expect a 2 ½ year old boy to be and more. Anthony's strength and character continues to amaze us every day and those who know him will agree that his is truly an incredible little person.

**Erin Schwartz is a member of Branch 228, Lorain, Ohio**

# News From Slovakia

## United States May Decide on Future of Visa Requirements in October

The U.S. government may be able to decide by the end of October whether Slovakia has met all the criteria necessary to have its tourist visa requirements cancelled, the American Embassy said recently.

One of the key criteria states that the number of rejected visa applications in the twelve months to September 30 must not exceed 10 percent.

The embassy further stated that Slovakia and the United States have yet to sign two agreements required for the abolition of visa requirements.

Elaborating on these agreements, the Interior Ministry said that one is an Agreement on the Exchange of Information from Screening Terrorists or suspected terrorists, while the other is on Intensifying Co-operation in Preventing and Fighting Crime. The two agreements are due to be discussed by the Government on October 1, 2008, and are expected to be formally signed in early October.

"By their signatures, Slovakia and the United States will confirm the fulfillment of all security criteria. Questions concerning the date for the final cancellation of visa requirements for Slovak citizens rest entirely with the American side. We should note that we've recorded encouraging signs," said a ministry spokesman.

TASR

## Slovaks Living Abroad to Receive 40 Million Crowns Each Year

Slovaks living abroad received 36 million crowns via the grant system of the Office for Slovaks Living Abroad in 2007, reads a report accompanying the so-called 'Conception of State Policy for Care of Slovaks Abroad to 2015, which was approved by the government recently.

The 739 applications submitted in 2007 requested a total of 177.3 million crowns, however. The number of applications have been rising steadily since 2002. As many as 546 applications were registered in the first round in 2008, with a total of 83.4 million crowns requested.

The government decided to assign a fixed amount of 40 million crowns per year in financial support for Slovaks living in other countries. This will cover cultural and educational activities, programs for youth and children, and publishing.

According to the report, approximately 2.2 million people living in more than 50 countries declare Slovak origins, although only Slovaks living in Central and South-Eastern Europe are officially recognized as ethnic minorities with their own systems of self-government and education. This applies to countries such as Serbia, Romania, Ukraine, Croatia, Hungary and Poland.

TASR

## Armed Forces Anniversary Observed in Bratislava

More than 550 soldiers, over 20 types of military land equipment and 12 types of air equipment took part in a military show to mark the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Slovak Armed Forces in Bratislava on Sunday, September 21.

Slovak President and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces Ivan Gasparovic said in his speech that Slovakia isn't only a passive consumer of security, but is also prepared to cooperate in creating a safer world. He also praised the work of Defense Ministry employees.

Land and air forces, training and support forces, medics and an honor guard paraded in front of Gasparovic, Parliamentary Chairman Pavol Paska, Defense Minister Jaroslav Baska, Interior Minister Robert Kalinak, MPs, army diplomats and other guests. The last such military show took place in Bratislava in 1995.

According to Baska, this weekend's show wasn't as large as the one 13 years ago because Slovakia became a NATO member in 2004. "Now we don't need such a robust army and our NATO allies will help us," he said.

"I expect and believe that we have only excellent soldiers. This is proved by the tasks they carry out in various foreign missions and at home," Chief-of-Staff of the Slovak Armed Forces General Lubomir Bulik told SLOVAKIA.

Over the past 15 years, Slovak soldiers have taken part in more than 20 foreign missions under the direction of the UN, NATO, EU and the OSCE. Approximately 11,500 Slovak citizens have been sent abroad, with 53 losing their lives. Slovakia currently has troops stationed in Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Afghanistan, Cyprus and Syria.

TASR

## More than One-third of Slovaks are Overweight

Almost half of Slovaks weigh more than is ideal, according to a survey published recently.

The survey, which was conducted by the GfK agency on a sample of 1,000 respondents between 18-79 years of age, showed that more than one-third of Slovakia's population are overweight while approximately 10 percent suffer from obesity, which occurs more frequently in men (56 percent of the total) than in women.

According to the study, 49 percent of the population is of ideal weight, while 2 percent, predominantly women, are underweight.

The survey also confirmed that weight problems and obesity occur more frequently as a person ages. Almost three-quarters of obese Slovaks are older than 45.

The study used the so-called body-mass index (BMI), a statistical measurement that compares people's weight and height.

TASR

## Government Approves New Version of Road Act

The government recently approved a new Road Act proposal after the first version was vetoed by President Ivan Gasparovic.

The new version leaves out an extended list of highways and roads that would, according to the first proposal, have been subject to special land expropriations.

The goal of the Act is to increase safety on highways and roads and to make drivers more disciplined.

The speed limit in villages and towns is to be reduced from 60km/h to 50km/h, for example, while vehicles will have to have their headlights switched on all year round. Apart from certain exceptions, drivers will be obliged to use winter tires when there is snow and ice on the roads.

The new Act also requires cyclists to wear helmets outside of towns and villages, while children under 15 will have to wear helmets at all times.

The new legislation also includes increased fines.

TASR

## Sramko: No Cause for Concern about Slovak Banks or Financials

No bank in Slovakia is showing any symptoms that could pose a threat to its clients, the senior central banker said recently in reference to the global financial crisis, which has engrossed Wall Street.

"Exposures to the risk groups are all minimal. Right now I see no reason for fear with respect to any one bank in terms of client deposits or other products," NBS governor Ivan Sramko said following the central bank's board meeting.

In the regulation of banks, he said there are many techniques that ensure sufficient liquidity. "There are applicable mechanisms that require banks to maintain a sufficient stand-by (funds), and swift access to enough liquidity to be able to meet their obligations without problems," Sramko said.

TASR

## REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

**Helen Hynick Preston  
Branch 240P  
Taylor, Pennsylvania**

Helen Hynick Preston, formerly of Taylor, Pennsylvania, died Sunday, September 21, 2008, at the home of her daughter. Her husband, Gerard J. Preston, died March 3, 2008.

Born and educated in Taylor, she was the daughter of the late John and Barbara Jurnak Hynick. For many years, Helen worked for Brooks Manufacturing, Old Forge. She was a lifelong parishioner of St. John the Baptist Church, Taylor. Her family was the center of her life and her dog, Molly, brought her much comfort, especially in the past six months. Helen was a compassionate and devoted wife, mother, sister and aunt, who will remain in her family's hearts for many years.

Surviving are a daughter, Margaret B. McCauley, with whom she resided and who was her best friend; nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

She was preceded in death by an infant son, Gerard; a brother, Steve Hynick; and a sister, Mary Summa.

Friends were received at the Semian Funeral Home, Taylor. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. John the Baptist Church by the Rev. Francis Pauselli, pastor. Interment was in the parish cemetery.

Stephen J. Kavulich

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we could double our Society immediately

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**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION**  
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# MINUTES OF THE JUNE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2008 • HOME OFFICE • INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**FIRST SESSION**

Saturday Morning, June 14, 2008

**OPEN MEETING**

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

**PRESIDENT'S WELCOME**

The President welcomed the Board of Directors of the FCSU and extended his welcome to the Board of Jednota, Inc. and Jednota Properties, Inc.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain;  
Andrew M. Rajec, National President;  
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President;  
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary;  
George F. Matta, National Treasurer;  
Karen M. Hunka, Chairman of Auditors;  
Susan M. Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director – absent, excused  
Gary J. Matta, General Counsel;  
Joseph F. Minarovich, Regional Director, Region 1 – present via telephone  
Damian Nasta, Regional Director, Region 2;  
Carl Ungvarsky, Regional Director, Region 3;  
George Sprock, Regional Director, Region 4;  
Regis P. Brekosky, Regional Director, Region 5;  
Henry Hassay, Regional Director, Region 6;  
Rudolph Glogovsky, Regional Director, Region 7;  
Milos Mitro, Regional Director, Regions 8 & 9.

**ROLL CALL – Board of Jednota, Inc.**

George F. Matta, President  
Andrew M. Rajec, Secretary  
James B. Bacon, Member  
Rudolph D. Glogovsky, Member  
James R. Marmol, Member  
Edward U. DePersis, Member

**ROLL CALL – Board of Jednota Properties, Inc.**

Regis P. Brekosky, President  
Joseph F. Minarovich, Vice President – via telephone  
Joseph Bielecki, Secretary  
Joseph T. Senko, Treasurer  
Carl Ungvarsky, Member

**READING OF THE CALL**

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the June Meeting.

The President indicated the reason why he asked the Board of Directors of the FCSU, the Board of Directors of Jednota, Inc. & Jednota Properties, Inc. for a joint meeting. He stated that the goal of this joint meeting is to review an unsolicited "Letter of Intent" we received from a developer in the Middletown area. He also stated that he formed a committee consisting of the following members:

Rudolph D. Glogovsky, James Bacon, Regis P. Brekosky, Joseph Senko, Carl Ungvarsky, Karen M. Hunka. The Executive Committee of the FCSU will serve as advisors, and Gary J. Matta as resource advisor.

The purpose of this committee is to analyze the unsolicited offer from the developer and also to examine all options for the use of the property in Middletown, whether to develop it, or to sell or sell all or a portion of it.

The President stated that we are getting an appraisal from an independent appraisal company. This appraisal should be completed before the next Board of Directors meeting.

The President asked for a round-table, open discussion between the three Boards. He asked the newly appointed Committee to have a preliminary report within 60 days and a final report within 90 days to discuss this issue at the next Board of Directors meeting.

At this time the President excused the Boards of Jednota, Inc. and Jednota Properties, Inc. and continued with the meeting of the Board of the Directors of the FCSU.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING MARCH 14 & 15, 2008**

A motion was made by Rudolf Glogovsky and seconded by Damian Nasta to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA**

The President presented the agenda for the June Meeting and asked for its acceptance. At this time the President said that he would add the following items to the agenda:

- Letter from the Ohio Department of Insurance
- Offer from St. Stephen's Church in Streator, IL

A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by George Sprock to accept the agenda and allow the President to change the order of the agenda.

Motion carried.

The President lead a discussion regarding the election of the Board of Jednota, Inc. and introduced the following resolution (see below).

**ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS OF JEDNOTA, INC.**

The Board Members of the First Catholic Slovak Union reelect the present Jednota, Inc. Board of Directors.

Upon motion duly made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by George Sprock, the Board adopts the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the following be reelected as Members of the Board and Officers of Jednota, Incorporated, for a period of one year, March 14, 2008 to March 14, 2009 or until their successors are elected and qualify:

George F. Matta, President; Andrew M. Rajec, Secretary, Edward U. DePersis, Member; Rudolph D. Glogovsky, Member; James B. Bacon, Member; James R. Marmol, Member. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2008**Executive Secretary's Report

Kenneth A. Arendt presented the Financial Report for the first quarter of 2008 and answered the Board Members' questions. He stated that his report would be published in our Jednota newspaper. A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky to accept the Executive Secretary's report. Motion carried.

**TREASURER' REPORT**

Treasurer George F. Matta presented his report and answered the Board's questions. He then reported on the review of the offer for membership with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati. He stated that he had several conversations with James O'Toole, assistant to Vice President, regarding the questions asked by the members of our Board of Directors. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Carl Ungvarsky to authorize the Board of Directors of the FCSU to enter into agreement for membership with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by Rudolph Glogovsky to authorize the Executive Committee to enter into an investment relationship with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati in the amount of up to ten million dollars once the membership is finalized and if a profitable return can be realized by the FCSU. Motion carried.

At this time Mr. Ed DePersis stated that he and our General Counsel contacted the Ohio Department of Insurance to make sure that there will be no conflict with regulations. Ed DePersis further stated that we received an approval from the Ohio Department of Insurance to enter into membership agreement with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

**RECESS OF SESSION**

At this time the Board of Directors broke for lunch.

**SECOND SESSION**

Saturday Afternoon, June 14, 2008

**OPEN MEETING**

President Andrew Rajec opened the afternoon session with a prayer and called the meeting to order. The Executive Secretary took a visual roll call and stated that everybody is present except two members of the Board : Susan Ondrejco and Joseph Minarovich, both excused.

**MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING**

The Vice President reviewed the Production Report by Districts for the First Quarter of 2008 and answered the Board's questions.

The Vice President also led a discussion about expanding our marketing advertisement to television, radio, newspaper, etc.

Independent Agents

The Vice President also led a discussion regarding independent agents. He stated that we are advertising in two states: Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

He also led a discussion regarding hiring an In-house Agent whose responsibility would be to aid our Branch Officers and service Branches with no officers.

The Vice President also discussed the possibility of hiring a Marketing Manager who would help recruit Independent Agents and the marketing of our products.

At this time the Executive Secretary led a discussion concerning Portamedic (an outside medical company) with whom we have a contract to do medical examinations. The Executive Secretary stated that we have been successful with processing the applications of perspective members and answered the Board's questions.

The Vice President updated the Board of Directors about the seminars he has conducted and updated the Board of upcoming seminars.

The Vice President further stated that he is contact with Ed DePersis concerning developing new products; one of the products will feature a return on premium.

A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by George Sprock to accept the Vice President's report. Motion carried.

**DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVIES REPORT**

The President read the report from the Director of Fraternal Activities, Susan Ondrejco, who was absent and excused. The Board of Directors came up with several suggestions how to improve our Bowling and Golfing Tournaments. The suggestions are to be passed on to the Fraternal Director.

*continued on page 13*

# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 2- PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 2, will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 25, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the Slovak Civic Federation, 1200 Hodgkiss Street, Northside, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The election of officers for the coming year will take place. Refreshments will be served, so please call Recording Secretary, Regina Ondrejco, to make a reservation.

Hope to see many of you on Saturday, October 25, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the Slovak Club on the Northside.

**Regina Ondrejco, Secretary**

## BRANCH 3 AND BRANCH 226 - MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3 and Branch 226 will hold their Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 12, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Joseph Matlon, 4016 Washington Street N.E., Columbia Heights, Minnesota.

**Joseph Matlon, Publicity Committee**

## BRANCH 6P- PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Valentine Society, Branch 6P, will hold its Yearly Meeting on Sunday, October 26, 2008, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the home of Edmund W. Zigmund. All members are invited to attend.

**Edmund W. Zigmund, President**

## BRANCH 19- BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2008. All members are cordially invited to attend. A Mass will be offered at 8:30 a.m. in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport. Following the Mass, members are asked to return to the lower level of the church where our regular meeting will be held. Refreshments will be served in the church following the liturgy.

At the meeting the John A. Zahor Scholarships will be awarded to the following: Stephen Dolan, Alia Elnahas, Jessica Johnson, Peter Kapitanec, Matthew Mineese, Amanda Nelson and Jonathan Solek. The Andrew J. Imbro Grants will also be given at this time to the following: Stacy Andrejko, Dominic Berarducci and Sara Ann Pancurak. These funds are given to members for their college expenses in memory of John A. Zahor and Andrew J. Imbro in recognition of the many years they served Branch 19 and their deep interest in the young members.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 14, 2008, at 9:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, now named the Rev. Matthew Jankola Hall. The election of officers will also take place at this meeting.

We hope our members will take advantage of these meetings and join us.

**Henry Zack, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 38-DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38, will hold its Annual Meeting on Friday, December 5, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Florence Matta, 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, Pennsylvania. The agenda will include a recap of the Branch activities for the year, a discussion of plans for 2008, and

the election of officers. The Branch is once more gathering useful items to be sent to our troops in Iraq through our local veteran organizations. For any further information, please call 412/466-7460.

We wish our members and their families a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry and Blessed Christmas Holiday.

**Florence K. Matta, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 40- STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Clement Society, Branch 40, will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Cafeteria, Streator, Illinois. The presentation of scholarships will take place.

**Maria Harcar, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 60- MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 60, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 30, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of President Ann Wargovich, 58 Lilmont Avenue, Swissvale, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be officers' reports, the election of officers and a discussion of branch activities. All members are urged to attend.

The officers of Branch 60 wish our members Blessed and Happy Holidays.

**Margaret M. Perla, Secretary**

## BRANCH 75- SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the B.V.M. Society, Branch 75, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, December 7, 2008, at 10:30 a.m. at the residence of President and Financial Secretary Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, Pennsylvania. The fiscal end of the year reports and financial statements will be presented. The auditors' report will also be submitted and the nomination and election of officers for the coming year will take place. All members are requested to attend this semiannual meeting.

**Ronald M. Anderson, President & Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 96- CARROLLTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 96, will hold its next regular meeting on Sunday, October 12, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of President Stella Papson, 138 Sunset Road, Carrolltown, Pennsylvania.

**Stella Papson, President**

## BRANCH 112- MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 112, will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 5, 2008, at 3:00 p.m. at Gil's Catering Hall, 505 West Mahanoy Street, Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania.

All members are invited to attend the District Mass, Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, October 5 beginning at 11:00 a.m. Please contact Karen Sterling at 570/544-6694 if you would like to attend.

**Karen Sterling**

## BRANCH 153- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 153, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. at the home of President John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. On the agenda

will be the election of officers and a discussion of charitable donations. All members are cordially invited to attend. There will be a fraternal dinner after the meeting.

**Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 166- BINGHAMTON, CAPITAL AREA, PEEKSKILL, POUGHKEEPSIE AND SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Annual Meeting and Dinner on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at 1:15 p.m. at The Old Country Buffet, Town Square Mall, Vestal Parkway. The agenda will consist of Branch business and a discussion of the District meeting and picnic held in September. Members are encouraged to attend. Please call Sue Gabriel at 607/729-8034 or Arlo Meeker at 607/775-4896. Thank you and hope to see you at the meeting.

**Arlo Meeker, President**

## BRANCH 199- HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 199, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Francis Pipak. The election of officers will be held at that time. A good turnout is requested.

**Sophie Pipak, President**

## BRANCH 290- RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 290, will hold a meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. Please call Joe at 732/469-5256 after 6:30 p.m. for the location of the meeting.

**Joseph F. Minarovich, President**

## BRANCH 320- STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the next meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2008, at 12:00 noon at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. Since lunch will be served, please call Fran at 724/929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

**Mary Anne Higginbotham, President**

## BRANCH 362- BARTON, OHIO

Our Lady of Angels Society, Branch 362, held its regular meeting on Sunday, October 19, 2008, at 12:00 noon at 70830 Crescent Road., St. Clairsville, Ohio.

**John Wodarczyk, President**

## BRANCH 380- CANONSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380, will hold its Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Patrick Center, West Pike Street, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. The election of officers will take place.

**Margaret Graytok, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 382- SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 382, will hold its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 2, 2008, at 12:00 noon in Holy Family Church Hall, Scranton, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be officers' reports, correspondence, and a discussion

of branch activities. A report on District activities will be given. The election of officers for 2009 will also take place. Refreshments will be served. All members are urged to attend.

**Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President**

## BRANCH 401- VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 401, will hold a meeting on Saturday, October 25, 2008, at 11:00 a.m. at King's Restaurant, 315 Hyde Park Road, Leechburg, Pennsylvania. Please attend as your input may affect the future of the branch.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 22, 2008, at 11:00 a.m. at King's Restaurant. A new year is coming so let's hear from the members. The election of officers is also on the agenda as well as a discussion of any topic that may interest you.

**Rose Froncek, Secretary**

## BRANCH 425-BARBERTON, OHIO

The St. Mark's Society, Branch 425, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, October 12, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. at the Slovak Society of Barberton Club, 887 West Tuscarawas Avenue, Barberton, Ohio. All members are welcome to attend.

**Paul J. Slota, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 430- SIMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 430, held a meeting on Sunday, September 28, 2008, at the home of President Elizabeth M. Pisarcik.

**Elizabeth Pisarcik, President**

## BRANCH 450- CLEVELAND, OHIO

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 450, will hold its next meeting on Saturday, October 18, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jozef Valencik, 13501 Park Drive, Brook Park, Ohio.

**Margaret Valencik, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 493- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the B.V.M. Society, Branch 493, will hold its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers on Saturday, November 29, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at Mabenka's Restaurant, 7844 South Cicero Avenue, Burbank, Illinois. After the meeting, members will enjoy a delicious diner. All members are encouraged to attend. If you plan to attend, please call Robert Tapak Magruder at 502/244-6643 or 773/505-0117 by November 23, 2008.

The members of Branch 493 would like to acknowledge and congratulate three members who recently received their 50-Year Jednota Membership Pins: Joan Marie Churin, Leonard Dudas and James J. Letrich.

**Robert Tapak Magruder, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 553- AKRON, OHIO

Members of the St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 553, are invited to attend a Mass on Sunday, October 19, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Church, Akron, Ohio. We will meet in the church entrance at 9:45 a.m. and seat as a group.

After the liturgy, breakfast will be served to all bona fide members at the Slovak "J" Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron. Following

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

the breakfast, we will hold a lodge meeting. Please attend the Mass, breakfast and lodge meeting. Take an active role in your branch and its activities.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 7, 2008, for the annual Vilija at the Slovak "J" Club. Details will be announced soon.

**Linda M. Hanko, Secretary**

### BRANCH 587- ALTIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 587, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at Alexander's Restaurant, 720 Merchant Street, Ambridge, Pennsylvania. The election of officers will be held. All members are welcome to attend. For reservations call 724/375-2287 by November 5, 2008.

**Edith Valo, Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 567- ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 567, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. in St. John's Social Hall, 924 North Front Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Members are urged to attend and take an interest in their branch. Nominations of officers will be held. The plans for our pork and sauerkraut dinner will be finalized.

May God bless you and watch over you.

**Helen Fiala, Recording Secretary**

### BRANCH 670- DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the next meeting on Sunday, November 9, 2008, at 12:00 noon at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon in Donora, Pennsylvania. Members are urged to attend.

**Dorothy Petrus, President**

### BRANCH 706- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 706, will hold its Annual Meeting on Friday, October 24, 2008, at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Treasurer Arthur Fayta, 1544 Rokosz Lane, Dyer, Indiana. On the agenda will be discussions on new and existing membership as well as scholarships. The election of officers for 2009 will take place. Branch activities for the coming year will also be discussed. All members are invited to attend. If you plan to attend, please call Mr. Fayta at 219/864-8251.

**Shirley M. Uram, President**

### BRANCH 716- NEW YORK CITY

The St. Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. in St. John Nepomucene Church Hall, 66<sup>th</sup> Street and First Avenue, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, officers' reports, election of officers, and a discussion of plans for the coming year. All members are urged to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

**Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary**

### BRANCH 743- STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Social Hall, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan. On the agenda will be officers' reports, a 2008 financial report, approval of the 2009 budget, a discussion of branch activities and other business pertaining to the branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. The election of officers will also take place. Members are urged to attend the celebration of the Slovak Mass before the meeting at 11:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church. Please come and enjoy our annual Christmas meeting with your fellow branch members.

Members who need assistance with their

policy or need to change their address or beneficiary should contact the Financial Secretary of Branch 743, Joseph C. Rimarcik, 42909 Sussex Park Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48314-3087 or phone 586/254-0225.

On behalf of the officers of Branch 743, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

**Joseph C. Rimarcik,  
President & Financial Secretary**

### BRANCH 746- LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room of Msgr. Komar Hall at Holy Family Church, Linden, New Jersey. The agenda will include election of officers for 2009 and the planning of events for the coming year. A holiday get together will follow the meeting.

**Mary J. Kapitan, Secretary**

### BRANCH 855- PARMA, OHIO

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 855, will hold its Officers Meeting on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of the president, Mary Kolesar. On the agenda will be a discussion regarding the branch Annual Meeting in December. The date and time of the Annual Meeting will be announced soon.

**Linda L. Kolesar, Secretary**



## Board of Directors Meeting

*continued from page 11*

### CHAIRMAN OF AUDITORS REPORT

Chairman of Auditors, Karen Hunka, presented her report and answered the Board's questions. The Chairman stated that the Internal Auditors conducted a thorough audit of the First Quarter of 2008 and everything was in order. A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Damian Nasta to accept the Chairman of Auditors' Report. Motion carried.

The President led a discussion regarding a letter from the Ohio Department of Insurance regarding their 2006 examination. He stated that he and the Executive Secretary prepared a letter with responses to their questions that should be to their satisfaction. The President and the Executive Secretary answered the Board's questions.

### GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

The General Counsel presented a recent report concerning our agreement with our bond custodian Merrill Lynch and found everything to be in order. The General Counsel then answered the Board's questions.

### PRESENTATION OF STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Executive Committee. He stated in his report that the Executive Committee did meet monthly, and whenever necessary, to take care of business, in accordance with the Bylaws.

Scholarship Committee The Executive Secretary gave a report on Scholarship Committee. The applications for FCSU Scholarships have been processed and the Scholarship Committee chose the winners. The list and the pictures of the FCSU Scholarship winners were published in the Jednota newspaper and on our website and the winners were notified in writing.

The Executive Secretary also gave a report on the Jednota Benevolent Foundation. He stated that the program was publicized, applications were mailed, and the scholarship will be awarded in December. The Executive Secretary answered the Board's questions.

A motion was made by Regis Brekosky and seconded by Damian Nasta to accept the reports. Motion carried.

### SUBSIDIARIES REPORT

Jednota, Inc. The President turned the meeting over to the President of Jednota, Inc., George Matta. At this time he opened the joint meeting of the

Jednota, Inc. and Jednota Properties, Inc. At the close of their joint meeting he gave his report to the FCSU Board of Directors and answered their questions.

Jednota Properties, Inc. Regis Brekosky, President of Jednota Properties, Inc. presented his report and answered questions.

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

The Vice President led a discussion regarding the offer from St. Stephen's Church in Streator, IL to purchase their property. The Board was hesitant to make such purchase. Vice President Harcar will update the Board as more information becomes available.

### 2010 CONVENTION

The President stated that he and the Executive Secretary met with the Convention Plan-

ner. The President said that the planner was given outlines of our needs for the convention. He stated that we are waiting for the planner to report back with the best possible locations. The President and the Executive Secretary will update the Board with their progress.

### PAYMENT OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

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

### ADJOURN

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Andrew Harcar to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Father Albert Marflak, O.S.B. of the Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, Ohio celebrated the Mass for the Board of Directors.

Andrew M. Rajec  
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary

## Announcement

The First Catholic Slovak Union is pleased to announce that beginning in October we will be offering our Annuity and IRA contract holders the convenience of P.A.C.

P.A.C., or Preauthorized Charge Authorization, is a convenient way to ensure that contributions are made to your annuity or IRA account on a regular basis.

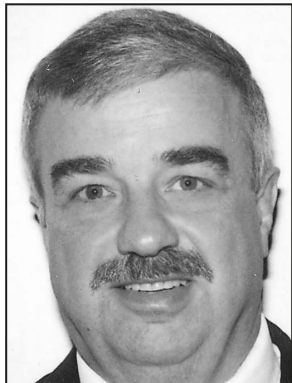
By completing and returning an Annuity and IRA Preauthorized Charge Authorization form, your contribution will be automatically transferred from your checking or savings account into your annuity or IRA. It's that simple!

If you are interested in taking advantage of this exciting new offer, please contact our office for a form or download one from our website, fcsu.com

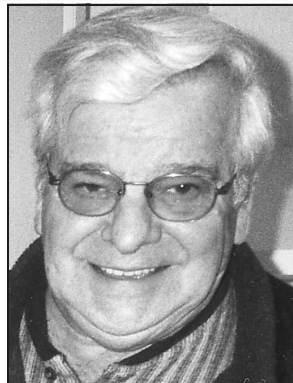
**First Catholic Slovak Union**  
6611 Rockside Road  
Independence, OH 44131  
1-800-533-6682

# The Best of the Best!

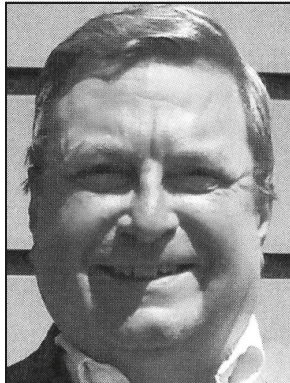
## Top Guns Thru August 31, 2008



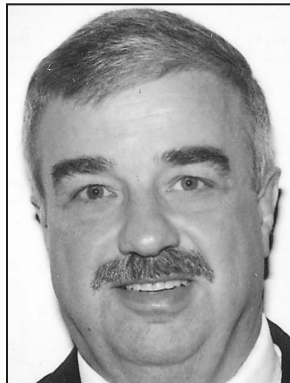
**Kenneth A. Arendt**  
First Place



**George A. Sprock**  
Second Place



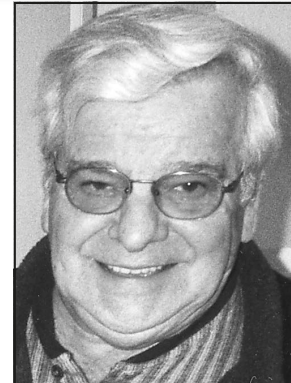
**Robert Joseph Kopco**  
Third Place



**Kenneth A. Arendt**  
First Place



**Joseph F. Minarovich**  
Second Place



**George A. Sprock**  
Third Place

### TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF ANNUITIES/IRA SOLD

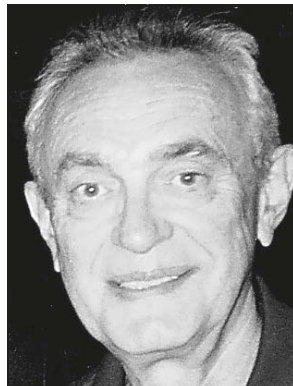
	Branch	Annuities
Kenneth A. Arendt, Vermilion, Ohio	228	\$349,713.35
George A. Sprock, Latrobe, Pennsylvania	181	\$161,668.98
Robert Joseph Kopco, Independence, Ohio	24	\$139,410.97
Thomas M. Hricik, Greensburg, Pennsylvania	181	\$120,856.34
Al Tipul, Columbia Station, Ohio	319	\$109,905.05
Albert R. Valo, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania	587	\$66,000.00
Rosemary Deliman, Philipsburg, Pennsylvania	417	\$60,000.00
Michael Leo Koval, Hazleton, Pennsylvania	3P	\$59,806.09
Roger T. Soltis, Massilon, Ohio	410	\$59,150.39
Thomas W. Hudak, Whitehall, Pennsylvania	796	\$58,639.92

### TOP PROPOSERS BY TOTAL POINTS

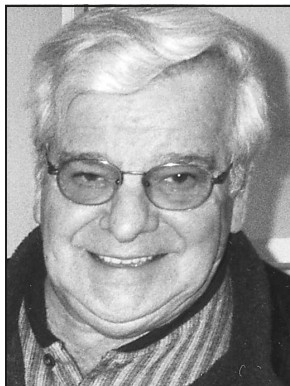
	Branch	Total Points
Kenneth A. Arendt, Vermilion, Ohio	228	347
Joseph F. Minarovich, Bridgewater, New Jersey	290	298
George A. Sprock, Latrobe, Pennsylvania	181	253
Sophie B. Pipak, Norvelt, Pennsylvania	199	219
Dorothy J. Petrus, Donora, Pennsylvania	670	198
Michael E. Lako, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	2	183
Robert Joseph Kopco, Independence, Ohio	24	138
Thomas M. Hricik, Greensburg, Pennsylvania	181	130
Edward P. Palushock, Havre De Grace, Maryland	3P	125
James Robert Marmol, Uniontown, Pennsylvania	162	118



**Sophie B. Pipak**  
First Place



**John A. Jurcenko**  
Second Place



**George A. Sprock**  
Third Place

### TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF INSURANCE SOLD

	Branch	Insurance Amount
Sophie B. Pipak, Norvelt, Pennsylvania	199	\$520,922
John A. Jurcenko, Chicago, Illinois	153	\$450,000
George A. Sprock, Latrobe, Pennsylvania	181	\$313,614
Dorothy J. Petrus, Donora, Pennsylvania	670	\$205,489
Michael E. Lako, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	2	\$152,000
Michael J. Slovenkai, Scranton, Pennsylvania	382	\$150,000
Joseph F. Minarovich, Bridgewater, New Jersey	290	\$130,000
Frances Tarquinio, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania	320	\$120,000
John J. Loftus, N. Catasauqua, Pennsylvania	157	\$110,000
Audrey J. Balazik, Uniontown, Pennsylvania	367	\$106,000



## George Onda District Annual Stedry Vecer

The George Onda District will hold its annual Stedry Vecer on Sunday, December 7, 2008, at the Bishop Connare Center, Route 30 East, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. The evening will begin with Mass at 4:00 p.m. in the chapel followed by a traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner. Door prizes will be awarded and the Pittsburgh Slovaks will provide the entertainment.

Tickets are \$16.00 for adults and \$11.00 for children 16 and younger. Tickets are limited so make your reservations early by calling Ed Mizikar at 724/423-2616. No tickets will be sold after December 1.

Please make plans to attend and help us keep this beautiful Slovak custom alive.

**Linda L. Gonta, Secretary**

## Slovak Self-Taught

By Slavo Moravek

Speak louder	Hovorte hlasnejšie	(hovortYe hlasnYeTshYe)
Speak slower	Hovorte pomalšie	(hovortYe pomalshYe)
Do you know Mr. N.	Poznáte pána N.	(poznÁtYe pÁna N)
Do you not know?	Nepoznáte?	(npozYeznÁtYe)
Is it True?	Je to Pravda?	(Ye to Pravda)
What is your name?	Ako sa voláte?	(Ako sa volÁteYe)
Where do you live/	Kde bývate?	(kdYe beevatYe)
What else?	Čo ešte?	(cho eshtYe)
What did you ask for?	Čo ste pýtali?	(cho stYe peetali)
When?	Kedy?	(kedi)
Is it possible?	Je to možné?	(Ye to mozYnÉ)
What is your trade?	Čo je vašim remeslom?	(cho Ye vasheem remeslom)
I want it	Chcem to	(Xtsem to)
I do not want it	Nechcem to	(nYeXtsem to)
What do you mean?	Čo myslíte?	(cho misleetYe)
What are you doing?	Čo robíte?	(cho robeetYe)
What for?	Načo?	(nacho)
Why?	Prečo?	(precho)
What is he doing?	Čo robí?	(cho robee)
Is it ready?	Je to hotové?	(Ye to hotovÉ)
Where is it?	Kde je to?	(kdYe Ye to)

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2008

### HOME OFFICE • INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**OPEN**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Members Attending:

Andrew M. Rajec, President  
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President  
 George F. Matta, Treasurer, absent and excused

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE JULY MEETING MINUTES**

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the July, 2008 Executive Committee meeting. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S STOCK AND BOND REPORT**

The Treasurer George Matta presented a written report (see enclosed). The Executive Committee reviewed the written report and the Treasurer answered their questions. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Executive Secretary presented the second quarter Financial Report and answered the Board's questions. The Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

**FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK**

The Executive Secretary reported that there was a request for additional information regarding the application for the membership with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati. The Executive Secretary supplied the requested information additional information.

**JEDNOTA NEWSPAPER**

The President updated the Executive Committee about the Jednota newspaper being sent to 25,000 households instead of the previous 14,000. The Executive Committee reviewed the overall cost and made a conclusion that even with the increased number of Jednota newspapers being mailed to 25,000 households, the total cost should not exceed that from last year.

**SALES AND MARKETING**

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

The Vice President stated that he is continuing in his effort to recruit more independent insurance agents in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Vice President also stated that we will be advertising more products in the Jednota newspaper and since we are sending the newspaper to more households, we will be reaching more members and informing them about our products.

**Seminars**

The Vice President updated the Executive Committee on future seminars. He stated that he will be in contact with the Regional Directors for organizing seminars in their districts.

The President led a discussion regarding the purchase of baseball caps with the Jednota logo and selling them to our members. We will advertise the caps once we receive them. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to accept the Vice President's Report. Motion carried.

**2010 CONVENTION**

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee about the progress of Experiment, represented by Jim Harmon, an event planner, on finding a suitable convention site. The Executive Secretary instructed Mr. Harmon to inspect more sites. The Executive Secretary will update the Executive Committee as more information becomes available.

**JEDNOTA ESTATES**

The President led a discussion concerning the progress of the Committee he appointed for the study of the Jednota Estates in Middletown, PA. The President stated that he has been in contact with Mr. James Bacon, Chairman of the Committee, and a full report will be given to the Board of Directors at the September 25 & 26, 2008 meeting.

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

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

**MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS**

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

Disbursements for the month of July 2008	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$162,351.57
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 64,137.17
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ - 0 -
Trust Fund	\$ - 0 -

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

**REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS**

Requests were reviewed and acted upon.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by George Matta to adjourn the meeting. The Vice President closed the meeting with prayer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Andrew M. Rajec  
 President

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Kenneth A. Arendt  
 Executive Secretary

#### JUNE AND JULY 2008 TREASURER'S REPORT PREPARED BY GEORGE F. MATTA NATIONAL TREASURER

**WACHOVIA SECURITIES**

AA3/A+	SUNTRUST BANK	6.00 09-11-17	100.00	6.00	400K
		NON CALL			

**BPU INVESTMENT MGT**

AA3/AA-	AMERICAN INTL GROUP	5.05 10-01-15	93.23	6.218	300K
		NON CALL			

**MERRILL LYNCH**

AAA/AAA	FED HOME LOAN	6.00 06-10-23	100.00	6.00	500K
		CALLABLE 06-30-09			

A+/A3	ALLIANZE CAP	8.375 PREFERRED	25.00	8.375	500K
		CALLABLE 06-15-12			

**SOLD**

BAA2/A-	SOLD	121,000 MBIA 6.40%	08-15-22 @ 42.875	=	51,848.50
BAA2/A-	SOLD	500,000 MBIA 5.70%	12-01-34 @ 34.125	=	170,622.50
BAA1/A-	SOLD	1,000,000 XL CAPITAL 6.375	11-15-24 @ 72.025	=	720,244.65
			1000 x 72.025	=	



Working the FCSU booth are National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. and National Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt

## FCSU Officers Attend Cleveland Radio Club Festival

Officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union attended the annual Cleveland Slovak Radio Club Festival held on Sunday, August 31, 2008, at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Parma, Ohio. The First Catholic Slovak Union operated a booth at the festival where information was provided on the FCSU and its insurance and annuity products.

# Príbuzní zosnulého filmového herca Paula Newmana žijú dodnes v Humennom

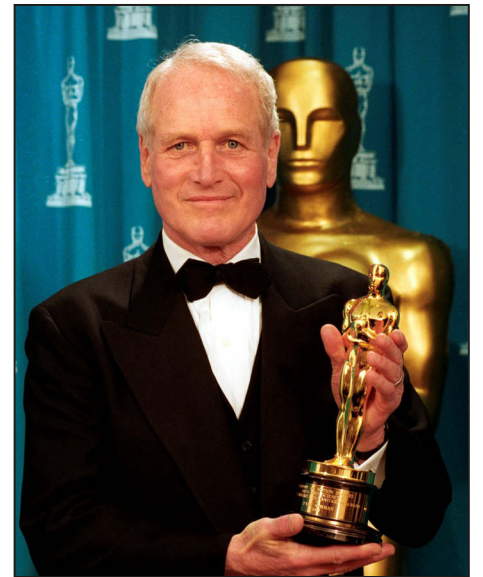
Bratislava (TASR) - Slávny hollywoodsky herec a režisér Paul Newman zomrel v piatok 26. septembra vo veku 83 rokov, keď podľahol rakovine pľúc. Oznamoval to 27. septembra hovorca filmovej legendy Jeff Sanderson. Paul Newman je držiteľom Oscara, Zlatého glóbusu, Emmy a získal i cenu na filmovom festivale v Cannes. Herectvu sa venoval už na škole. Po skončení strednej školy sa prihlásil k vojenskému letectvu. Neprešiel lekárskou prehliadkou, pretože mu diagnostikovali farbosleposť. Preslávil sa svojím druhým filmom Niekoľko milí na hore (1956), v ktorom si zahral rolu boxera Rockyho Graziana. V dráme Dlhé, horúce leto (1958) si zahral hlavnú úlohu podpaľača Bena Quicka a zoznámil sa so svojou budúcou manželkou Joanne. Nezabudnuteľnými však boli aj filmy ako Exodus, Sladký vták mladosti, Hombre a Frajer Luke. Osemdesiatročnému hercovi začiatkom tohto roka diagnostikovali rakovinu. Podľa medializovaných informácií mal pred sebou len niekoľko týždňov života. Po liečbe v New Yorku sa vrátil domov a podľa jeho slov

chcel posledné dni života prežiť so svojou manželkou Joanne Woodwardovou a najbližšou rodinou.

Dohady o tom, že herec Paul Newman má korene na Slovensku, sa potvrdili už v roku 1990, keď sa herec počas návštevy Václava Havla v New Yorku zdôveril novinárom, že pochádza z Česko-Slovenska. Newmanova matka Terézia sa totiž narodila vo východoslovenskom meste Humenné. „Babička Paula Newmana sa volala Mária Hocmanová. Tá sa vydala za Michala Fecka a z manželstva sa narodila Terézia (matka Paula Newmana, pozn. red),“ prezradila sesternica Terézie Anna Sedlárová, ktorá doteraz žije v Humennom. Terézia po smrti svojej matky a neskôr aj babičky v ôsmich rokoch odišla do amerického Clevelandu za svojím otcom, ktorý už pred rokmi vycestoval za prácou. Po prvom nevydarenom manželstve sa vydala za Arthura Samuela Newmana. „Toho si veľmi pochvaľovala, bol to veľmi dobrý človek,“ spomína Sedlárová.

Po skončení druhej svetovej vojny začali od Paulovej matky chodiť balíky i listy. Rodine Sedlárovcov poslala asi

20 balíkov s potravinami, šatstvom a bielizňou. V jednom z nich rodina našla i vojenskú uniformu Paula Newmana s emblémom americkej armády na rukáve, ktorý si doteraz uchovali. Okrem toho Anna Sedlárová opatruje niekoľko fotografií interiéru clevelandského domu Newmanovcov aj s vlastnoručným podpisom Paulovej matky na rube každej z nich. Terézia niesla smrť svojho manžela Arthura veľmi ťažko, preto sa korešpondencia medzi rodinami na niekoľko rokov prerušila. No hercova sesternica z druhého kolena Brigita Sedlárová v 60. rokoch objavila v časopise Film a divadlo Newmanov portrét. „Veľmi mi pripomínal staršieho brata. Spomenula som si, že doma máme nejaké listy s menom Terézia Newmanová a nedalo mi to pokoj,“ vysvetlila. „Bola to odvážna myšlienka, no rozmýšľala som, či Paul skutočne nebude náš príbuzný,“ dodala. Brigita napísala list do Ameriky a onedlho prišla odpoveď priamo od Newmana. V liste vyjadril radosť, že našiel svoju rodinu. „Napísal, že je rád, že objavil príbuzných v Československu a že všetkých pozdravuje,“ ozrejmila. Ne-



Autor: TASR  
Na archívnej snímke z marca 1994 v Los Angeles herec Paul Newman drží čestného Oscara - Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award.

zabudol uviesť adresu svojej matky, ktorá žila v Clevelande, čím potvrdil dohady o príbuzenstve rodín. Aj napriek mnohým iniciatívam rodiny však Newman nikdy Slovensko nenavštívil.



## Vzácnny jubilant



Hadrián Radváni

Bývalý dlhoročný zamestnanec a podpredseda Spolku svätého Vojtecha (SSV), čestný podpredseda SSV Hadrián Radváni sa 16. septembra dožil 90. narodenín. Po roku 1989 bol iniciátorom obnovy členstva SSV, ktoré bolo počas komunistického režimu zlikvidované. Po obnovení členstva SSV sa stal jeho prvým členom. Hadrián Radváni je významný historik, popredný znalec Slovenského učeného tovarišstva a bernolákovcov, spisovateľ a publicista. Trnavská univerzita mu udelila čestný doktorát. V týchto dňoch SSV vydal jeho knihu Panna Mária Trnavská 1708 – 2008.

Celý kolektív SSV mu ďakuje za jeho mravčiu, plodnú, neoceniteľnú prácu pre Spolok svätého Vojtecha, Trnavu i celé Slovensko.



## Prešovský arcibiskup Ján Babjak odcestoval na Synodu biskupov do Ríma

Prešov (TASR) - Prešovský arcibiskup a metropolita Ján Babjak odcestoval 4. októbra na Synodu biskupov, ktorá sa bude niesť v duchu témy Božie slovo v živote a poslaní Cirkvi. Uskutoční sa od 5. do 26. októbra v Ríme.

„Synoda biskupov je zhromaždenie zástupcov biskupov z celého sveta, je to tiež trvalý inštitút biskupského kolégia Katolíckej cirkvi, ktorý ustanovil pápež Pavol VI. v decembri 1965. Úlohy a činnosť synody podrobne definuje Kódex kanonického práva a Kódex kánonov východných cirkví,“ uviedol hovorca arcibiskupstva Ľubomír Petřík. Dodal, že na zhromaždení sa stretne vyše 200 biskupov. Okrem metropolitu Babjaka ako stáleho člena sa synody zo SR ako delegát Konferencie biskupov Slovenska zúčastní aj bratislavský arcibiskup a metropolita Stanislav Zvolenský. Podľa Petříka cieľom synody je úzke spojenie medzi biskupmi a pápežom. Biskupi svojimi radami poskytujú pápežovi pomoc a posudzujú otázky týkajúce sa činnosti cirkvi vo svete.

Predchádzajúca synoda sa uskutočnila v roku 2005. Venovaná bola eucharistii.



arcibiskup Ján Babjak



## 40. výročie postavenia pomníka J. Palárikovi v Starom Tekove – 18. augusta 1968

Zodpovednosť za budúcnosť je vo vernosti tradíciám – tvrdí jeden súčasný politik.

Máme si uvedomovať vernosť Palárikovským tradíciám, čo nás navzájom spájajú a chcú nás nielen teraz ale stále viesť k príprave zodpovednej budúcnosti našich detí a vnukov, ba celého nášho drahého slovenského národa, k čomu sme Bohom povolaní!

Tak ako bol Pánom Bohom pre svoju dobu povolaný aj Janko Palárik. Biblia o kňazskom povolaní hovorí, že už v lone matky si nás Boh vyvolil. Palárika si Pán Boh povolal ku kňazstvu z kysuckej Rakovej, kde sa narodil a odkiaľ si do sveta – na dolniaky – odniesol vo svojom srdci materiálnu biedu a nevzdelanosť svojho utlačovaného slovenského národa. Čo mu po celý jeho bohatý a plodný kňazský život zostalo vždy na pamäti.

Svedčí o tom aj list, ktorý napísal Dr. Andrejovi Radlinskému do Viedne 2. decembra 1849 v Starom Tekove, kam sa dostal hneď po svojej kňazskej vysviacke v roku 1847 v Ostrihome. V ňom doslovne píše: „nie však menej po všestranom veci rozváženíu, a po druhom na jednu i na druhú stranu váhaniu predsa moja prvá myšlienka a láska k tebe a k národu slovenskému zvíťazila. Jedná sa tu aj o náš úverek ... aj o tvoju česť – ktorú brániť, aj o moju idem ktorú uskutočniť, aj o budúcnosť Cirkve slovenskej na Slovensku, ktorú organizovať, aj o záujmoch národa nášho, ktoré podporovať musíme i tuná každé od a podkladania sa je hriech, každé mlčania je zrada – nech sa stane čo sa má stať – nech sa robí čo chce, ja sa odvážim za právo a pravdu našu za vec národňu... Čo aj Ostrihomské a Pešťanské kňazstvo naše podujatia prekážať bude, snáď i Nitranskej a Zvolenskej diecezii sympatiu nájdeme.“ Katolícky kňaz Ján Palárik tak čierne na bielom potvrdzuje, svoju ohotu a odhodlanosť pracovať len stoj čo stoj pre svoj slovenský národ.

Lenže z Palárikovej odpovede Radlinskému vyplýva, že Palárik súhlasí s návrhom, aby rezignoval na svoju kaplánsku v Starom Tekove a odišiel za ním pracovať do Viedne „k pokračovaniu totižto v Pokladoch kazateľského rečníctva“ – časopisu, ktorý pre kňazov Radlinský založil a vydával. Palárikovi sa táto myšlienka pozdávala, ale bol si vedomý svojich kňazských úloh a povinností kaplána v starotekovskej farnosti, lebo „teraz v adventnom čase kaplánsku zanechať nemujem pre mnohé duchovné práce, ktorých vyhoveniu jeden kňaz nie je dostatočný, a druhého kňazského jednotlivca na nahlo neni k dostaniu – takéto náhle zanechania kaplánsku – bola by veľka neobzretnosť, ľahkomyselnosť a zneváženia povolania kňazského.“ Lenže človek mieni, Pán Boh mieni – a tak Palárik nerezignoval, neodíšiel do Viedne a tri roky zostáva na fare v Starom Tekove, odtiaľto odišiel znovu ako kaplán do Štiavnických Baní, Banskej Štiavnice a Budapešti, aby napokon zakotvil ako farár v Majcichove, kde v roku 1870 zomrel, a kde je aj pochovaný. Ten, ktorý miloval svoje kňazstvo, svoj ľud cítil zodpovednosť za svoju a našu budúcnosť. Dal jej všetky svoje sily. Lenže teraz je to na nás, čo pripravíme svojim deťom a vnukom do budúcnosti? Vyzývám vás preto: buďte zodpovední vo všetkom čo robíte! Buďte zodpovední tam kde ste! Buďte zodpovední čím ste! Buďte zodpovední kým ste! Nebuďte tak zodpovední ako muž, čo prišiel domov opitý a zhrozená žena sa ho pýta: Čo si dnes zase oslavoval? Pápeža – odpovedal muž. Ale veď dnes nie je Benedikta – namieta žena! To nie, hovorí muž, ale je šestnásteho.

Bratia a sestry! Boh nás rovnako ako aj Janka Palárika povolal k tomu, aby sme boli zodpovední a mysleli na našu budúcnosť. K tomu nám dáva aj svoju milosť. Spoločne si ju vyprosujeme!

Pavol Zemko

## Kultúrne dedičstvo Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí

Budovanie centrálnej databázy na Slovensku o Slovákoch žijúcich v zahraničí. Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, ktorý zo zákona o Slovákoch v zahraničí "koordinuje a zabezpečuje v rámci štátneho informačného systému dokumentačnú činnosť o Slovákoch v zahraničí, podporuje a spolupracuje pri zhromaždení, ochrane, vedeckom a odbornom zhodnocovaní hmotných a duchovných dokumentov so zameraním na Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí", vyzval jednotlivé inštitúcie na Slovensku, v ktorých odbornej náplni je aj činnosť zameraná na Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, na spoluprácu pri budovaní centrálnej databázy informácií o histórii, kultúre a spôsobe života Slovákov v zahraničí. Predmetom zamýšľanej databázy je zosumarizovanie informácií o fondoch s touto problematikou v archívoch, knižniciach, kultúrnych inštitúciách a vedeckých pracoviskách na Slovensku. Po spracovaní digitálnou formou bude slúžiť domácej aj zahraničnej odbornej i laickej verejnosti. Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí plánuje pripraviť projekt postupného budovania centrálnej databázy o dokumentačných strediskách, kultúrnych inštitúciách a spolkoch vo svete, ktoré vlastnia, zhromažďujú, prípadne spracúvajú problematiku slovenského hmotného a duchovného dedičstva.

Výzvu na spoluprácu prijali nasledovné inštitúcie: Matica slovenská, Bratislava; Slovenská národná knižnica Martin; Slovenské národné múzeum, Bratislava; Slovenský národný archív, Bratislava; Univerzitná knižnica, Bratislava.

(ÚSZZ)



## Koncert na počtu hudobnému skladateľovi Mikulášovi Schneiderovi Trnavskému

Už teraz môžeme oznámiť slovenskej verejnosti, že Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko v New Yorku usporiada koncert národnému umelcovi Mikulášovi Schneiderovi Trnavskému za jeho hudobnú tvorbu. Je to prejav vďačnosti za jeho piesne, ktoré sú objavom krás slovenskej hudobnosti.

Podujatie sa uskutoční v nedeľu 19. októbra 2008 o 2. hodine odpoľudnia priamo v kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého 66<sup>th</sup> Street and First Avenue, New York City.

Schneider Trnavský vytvoril diela trvalej hodnoty. Mnohé jeho piesne znarodneli a mnohé sa dostali do stáleho piesňového repertoáru. Z oficiálnych kultúrnych a umeleckých kruhov sa mu dostalo najvyššieho uznania a vyznačenia. Za zásluhy na poli cirkevnej hudby Pápež Pius II. mu udelil vyznamenanie: Rytier Rádu sv. Gregora.

Z viacerých zbierok piesní ktoré vytvoril majster Trnavský hodno spomenúť aspoň niektoré: Drobné kvety, Slzy a úsmevy, Zo srdca a Piesne o matke. Nutno spomenúť vydanie Jednotného Katolíckeho Spevníka, do ktorého zozbieral okolo 600 slovenských duchovných piesní. Toto dielo bolo považované v novinárskych referátoch ako monumentálny čin v slovenskej národnej kultúre.

Na koncerte budú vystupovať poprední umelci z Juilliard School of Music a Manhattan School of Music – 3 pravnučky skladateľa, sestry Hálkove a známa speváčka a herečka z muzikálov na Broadway a koncertov, Luba Greguš Mason. Mimo toho farský spevokol zaspieva niekoľko národných piesní. Po koncerte bude stretnutie spojené s osviežením v spoločenskej miestnosti sv. Jána Nepomuckého.

Výbor Kultúrneho strediska úctive povoláva slovenskú verejnosť z New Yorku a okolia. Vaša účasť a dobrovoľný príspevok pri vstupe kostola bude pre nás povzbudením do ďalších programov v budúcnosti.

Rudo L. Greguš



## Folklórny súbor PAS sa pripravuje na vystúpenie v Detve

Slovenský folklórny súbor PAS z Pittsburghu, PA sa plánuje na budúci rok zúčastniť na Medzinárodnom folklórnom festivale, ktorý sa koná každý rok v Detve na východnom Slovensku. Z toho dôvodu sa súbor snaží usporiadať vystúpenia, z ktorých zisk by pokryl ich výdavky spojené s účasťou na festivale.

Ich najbližšie vystúpenie bude v nedeľu 23. novembra v Carlow University v Pittsburghu, PA. Bližšie informácie na tel. č (412) 373-3873.



## Burger King príde na Slovensko

Na Slovensko príde ďalšia známa sieť občerstvenia. Spoločnosť AmRest Holdings, ktorá prevádzkuje viacero reštaurácií známych značiek rýchleho občerstvenia v strednej a východnej Európe, oznámila uzavretie dohody o spoločnom zámere s firmou Burger King Europe pre tri nové trhy: v Českej republike, na Slovensku a v Slovinsku. Teraz spoločnosť prevádzkuje 6 reštaurácií Burger Kingu v Poľsku a dve v Bulharsku. AmRest Holding je jedným z najväčších nezávislých prevádzkovateľov reštaurácií v strednej Európe.

## Plánované podujatia pri kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v N.Y.C.

1. Výročná členská schôdza Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 v nedeľu 26. októbra 2008 o 1:00 hod. odpoľudnia.
2. Výročná okresná schôdza Msgr. Krasul'u v nedeľu 9. novembra 2008 o 1:00 hod. odpoľudnia.
3. Tradičná Katarínska zábava v sobotu večer 29. novembra 2008 o 7:00 hod. večer. Poriadajú spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 a I. Zbor Slovenskej ligy v meste New York.
4. Mikulášske odpoľudnie pre deti našich farníkov v nedeľu 7. decembra 2008 o 1:00 hod. odpoľudnia. Poriada Farská rada a Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 v meste New York.
5. Štedrovečerná večera – Vigília v nedeľu 14. decembra 2008 o 1:00 hod. odpoľudnia. Poriada Farská rada a Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 v meste New York.



## Katarínska zábava v hale kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ a I. zbor Slovenskej ligy v NYC pozýva širokú slovensko-americkú verejnosť z blízka a okolia na tradičnú Katarínsku zábavu, ktorá sa uskutoční v sobotu 29. novembra 2008 o 7:00 hod. večer vo veľkej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v N.Y.C., 411 East, 66<sup>th</sup> Street. Do tancu bude hrať známa hudobno-spevácka skupina KONTAKTY. Vstupné je \$25.00 v čom je započítaná večera. Lístky na Katarínsku zábavu si môžete objednať u nasledovných osôb: Milan a Henrieta Dait tel.: (201) 641-8922; Jozef Bilik: (718) 463-2084; Mária Božeková (347) 612-1934.

## Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

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

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 26. októbra 2008 sa uskutoční o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia výročná členská schôdza v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City.

Program schôdze je zameraný na prípravu plánu činnosti na budúce obdobie. Budú prevedené voľby úradníkov na rok 2009 a bude tiež podaná finančná správa. Vyzývame všetkých členov aby sa tejto výročnej schôdze zúčastnili. Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie.

Ostávame s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta Daitová, tajomníčka

### Členská schôdza Okresu Princa Pribinu v Los Angeles, Kalifornia

Okres Princa Pribinu bude mať schôdzu v nedeľu 2. novembra 2008. Oslava začne o 15.00 hod. so slovenskou svätou omšou v kaplnke sv. Jána Bosku pri St. John Bosco School, 13640 S. Bellflower Bl. Bellflower, CA 90706. Pripomenieme si v modlitbách pamiatku Všetkých svätých a milovaných zosnulých. Po svätej omši sa bude konať schôdza Okresu Princa Pribinu s následným posedením s priateľmi pri káve a šiškách. Prosíme všetky spolky aby na toto zasadnutie Okresu vyslali svojich zástupcov. Program schôdze bude zameraný na finančnú správu, aktivity Okresu ako aj informácie o produktoch poistenia Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty.

Pavol Skubeň, predseda

### Výročná schôdza Okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasul'u IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že výročná členská schôdza Okresu Msgr. Štefana Krasul'u Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 9. novembra 2008 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City.

Prosíme všetkých predsedov spolkov, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Srdečne uvítame aj nedelegátov. Program schôdze bude zameraný na prípravu plánu činnosti a prevedenie volieb nových úradníkov na budúce obdobie. Taktiež bude podaná finančná správa.

Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripravia členovia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ v N.Y.C. Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová  
tajomníčka a pokladníčka

## Zahraniční Slováci získali vlni 36 miliónov, do budúcnosti dostanú viac

Bratislava (TASR) Slováci žijúci v zahraničí dostali vlni od štátu prostredníctvom grantového systému Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚSZZ) 36 miliónov Sk (1,2 milióna eur). Celková požadovaná suma v rámci 739 predložených žiadostí však dosahovala 177,3 milióna Sk (5,9 milióna eur). Podávanie žiadostí má pritom od roku 2002 (výnimkou je rok 2005) stúpajúcu tendenciu, v prvom grantovom kole v roku 2008 ich zaevidovali 546 v požadovanej výške 83,4 milióna Sk (2,8 milióna eur). V koncepcii štátnej politiky starostlivosti o zahraničných Slovákov do roku 2015, ktorú 17. septembra schválila vláda, sa preto navrhuje zabezpečiť v rozpočte Úradu vlády SR každoročne finančné prostriedky na tento účel vo výške 40 miliónov Sk (1,3 milióna eur). Podporiť majú kultúrne podujatia v domovských krajinách, akcie a aktivity orientované na krajskú mládež, vzdelávacie aktivity a projekty, nákup učebníc či odbornej a doplnkovej literatúry, detskej literatúry, audiovizuálnych materiálov a pomôcok. Pomôžu tiež vydavateľskej činnosti a krajským médiám a financovaniu prenájmov priestorov potrebných na realizovanie činnosti slovenských spolok a organizácií.

Z materiálu je tiež zrejmé, že v súčasnosti žije vo vyše 50 krajinách sveta približne 2,2 milióna osôb hlásiacich sa k slovenskému pôvodu. Status národnostných menšín, zakotvený v zákonoch, majú však len Slováci žijúci v krajinách strednej a juhovýchodnej Európy. Prevažne ide o menšiny s hlbokými kultúrnymi tradíciami, vlastnou národnostnou inteligenciou a s rozvetveným systémom spolkového života. Ojedinele majú aj vlastnú štruktúru samosprávy a viac či menej rozvinutý systém slovenského národnostného školstva (Srbsko, Rumunsko, Ukrajina, Chorvátsko, Maďarsko, Poľsko). „Treba zdôrazniť, že zachovanie a rozvoj týchto národnostných menšín je v prvom rade úlohou krajín, v ktorých Slováci žijú a ktorých sú občanmi,“ uvádza sa v koncepcii. Úlohou slovenskej strany a ÚSZZ bude intenzívne sledovať politiku štátov voči svojim národnostným menšinám, menovite voči slovenskej národnostnej menšine žijúcej a pôsobiacej v týchto štátoch. Na druhej strane ÚSZZ konštatuje, že voľný pohyb osôb vytvoril zo slovenského sveta dynamické, neustále a rýchlo sa meniace slovenské spoločenstvo pôsobiace v netradičných prístahovateľských krajinách, zhromažďujúce sa do nových organizácií a etablojúce sa vo významných profesiách a funkciách. Je preto nevyhnutné, aby SR reagovala na tieto skutočnosti operatívne a pružne, v záujme obojstranne prospešnej súčinnosti. „Všetky menšiny a komunity majú niekoľko jednotiacich prvkov, ale pre každú z nich je charakteristická aj jedinečnosť, neopakovateľnosť, a teda aj potreba diferencovaného prístupu,“ uzatvára koncepcia.

ÚSZZ je podľa zákona o Slovákoch žijúcich v zahraničí koordináčnym a výkonným orgánom, ktorý zabezpečuje proces tvorby a výkon štátnej politiky starostlivosti o krajanov. V spolupráci s inými orgánmi verejnej moci, fyzickými osobami alebo právnickými osobami realizuje opatrenia zamerané na podporu Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí.

### Vláda sa zaoberala aj o Slovákov v zahraničí

Odchodom ľudí do zahraničia ako vážnym demografickým problémom i problémom úniku mozgov sa nedávno zaoberala aj vláda. Prerokovala Koncepciu štátnej politiky starostlivosti o Slovákov v zahraničí do roku 2015. Podľa nej ročne odíde najmenej 15-tisíc ľudí a tento trend má pokračovať, posilnenie sa čaká po otvorení pracovných trhov v Nemecku a Rakúsku. Odchádzajú prevažne mladí muži s maturitou, najviac z Prešovského, Nitrianskeho, Žilinského a Košického kraja. Dlhodobu najviac ľudí odchádza do Česka, Veľkej Británie, Maďarska, Rakúska, Írska, Nemecka a Talianska. Zriedka pracujú na kvalifikovaných miestach, väčšinou robia v továrňach, na stavbách, v hoteloch a reštauráciách, doprave, skladoch a ako sezónni pomocníci v poľnohospodárstve. Koncepcia vláde odporúča podrobnú štatistiku, sledovanie migračných tokov a definovať migračnú doktrínu. Vláda by sa mala zamerať na ľudí s vysokoškolským vzdelaním a vytvoriť im podmienky, aby sa chceli vrátiť domov. V uznesení navrhuje vybudovanie Pamätníka slovenského vystaňovalectva do dvoch rokov, Slovenská televízia má od júna 2010 vysielat' pre Slovákov v zahraničí. Do konca roka 2011 by mala byť na Bratislavskom hrade expozícia dejín vystaňovalectva a života zahraničných Slovákov v rámci novej expozície slovenských dejín a života Slovákov. Stratégia má zabezpečiť každoročnú podporu projektov pre krajanov cez granty za 40 miliónov korún (1,33 mil. euro), čo je rovnako ako v tomto roku. Slovákom v Maďarsku by mali ísť ročne 3 milióny korún (99,582 euro) tak, ako v posledných rokoch.

## Vo Floride zomrel Juraj N. Kantor

V Port St. Lucie, Florida, zomrel po krátkej chorobe, vo veku 92 rokov známy slovenský národný činiteľ v Amerike Juraj N. Kantor. Počas svojho dlhoročného pobytu v New Yorku zastával mnohé funkcie v slovenských spolkoch. Bol predsedom 182. Zboru Slovenského katolíckeho sokola a podpredsedom 1. župy. V Slovenskej lige v Amerike bol aj členom Výkonného výboru, a v Združení slovenských katolíkov zastával funkciu podpredsedu. Po odchode do Floridy bol aktívny v Slovenskej záhrade, kde bol zvolený za podpredsedu a po ukončení svojej funkcie bol čestným podpredsedom. Posledná rozlúčka s Jurajom Kantorom bola 14. augusta vo Floride.

## Arcibiskup Ján Sokol sa dožíva 75 rokov

Trnavský arcibiskup Mons. Ján Sokol sa 9. októbra 2008 dožíva vzácneho životného jubilea - 75 rokov života. Za tento dar poďakuje všemohúcemu Bohu slávením ďakovnej svätej omše, ktorá sa uskutoční v sobotu 11. októbra 2008 o 10.00 hod. v Katedrále sv. Jána Krstiteľa v Trnave. Všetci, ktorí sa chcú spolu s otcom arcibiskupom zjednotiť vo vzdávaní vďaky Darcovi každej milosti za dar 75 rokov života pri slávení najsvätejšej Eucharistie sú srdečne pozvaní.

TK KBS informoval Sekretariát arcibiskupa



Arcibiskup Ján Sokol

## Americké centrum v Banskej Bystrici bude pokračovať vo svojej činnosti

Účelové zariadenie Štátnej vedeckej knižnice v Banskej Bystrici InfoUSA bude pokračovať vo svojej činnosti aj ďalšie tri roky. Obnovené Memorandum o porozumení, na základe ktorého americké informačné a kultúrne centrum bude v Banskej Bystrici pôsobiť, podpísali riaditeľka Štátnej vedeckej knižnice Oľga Lauková a riaditeľ Tlačového a kultúrneho oddelenia Veľvyslanectva USA v Bratislave Edward Kemp.

V americkom informačnom centre pribúda každý rok do fondu na základe dohody množstvo zaujímavých kníh, odborné publikácie i beletrie od významných amerických spisovateľov. Študenti majú záujem aj o fond dokumentárnych a hraných filmov. V tomto roku pribudnú aj nové americké časopisy.

V InfoUSA Banská Bystrica sa od jeho otvorenia v septembri 2005 uskutočnilo veľa rôznych podujatí. Edward Kemp z amerického veľvyslanectva povedal: „Sme veľmi šťastní, pretože táto spolupráca je pre nás veľmi dôležitá. Mali sme veľa akcií s touto knižnicou, napríklad výstavy, rozhovory so študentmi, telemosty a tak ďalej. Naše centrum v knižnici nie je len zbierka kníh, ale je pre nás a pre spoločnosť v Banskej Bystrici centrom vzdelávania.“

Pri príležitosti podpísania Memoranda o porozumení sa v knižnici uskutočnila aj vernisáž výstavy Reflection/obrazy americkej výtvarníčky Jessicy Perry, s ktorou spoluprevystavujú študenti Školy úžitkového výtvarníctva Jozefa Vydru v Bratislave.

SKS

### STARENKA

Janko Frniak Smrečianský

Nízka drevenička na Malom Borovom v kraji zabudnutom, v kraji rozprávkovom do chrámu volá zvon z ušľachtilej medi na drevenom prahu starenka si sedí.

Pozera na hory – Bože to je výška! Ruky zvráskované, modlitebná knižka v dvoch dlaniach zovretá v dobrej opatere a spokojné mača leží jej v zástere.

Kdeže pán môj, kdeže? Zvedavo sa pýta, keď na ceste k domu počestného víta, a hneď mu otvára bráničku do dvora. Stará som ja pán môj, stará som ja stvora, keby som tak mladšia bola šla by do Hút do kostola.

To breh strmý pán môj, nevládzem už hore a ďalej rozpráva v bázni a pokore – syna mám ďaleko za morom v Kanade má dom, deti, auto žije si v paráde. Rada by ho tu dnes rada by ho mala ...

Dečra tá sa zase za Čecha vydala. Šla by ju aj pozrieť neviem ktorou cestou vnučku tú nepoznám – už bude nevestou a muž dávno zomrel, slzu má pri viečku chodím na Všetech svätých zapáliť mu sviečku.

Každý rok keď prišli mrazy hen do mlyna na Oblazy tam sme šli po novú múku vždy ma držiaval za ruku.

Jaj, iste ste smädný dám Vám trochu mlieka.

Pustí na zem mača do chyže uteká, berie prázny hrnček a v plnej lopote chce podojiť kozu pri drevenom plote.

Nie to nie je treba! Pocestný ju hatí a nechtiac starenku do spomienok vráti. Mojim deťom pán môj, poviem Vám to smelo to mlieko od kozy to Vám im smredlo – možno že aj preto do sveta sa dali a mňa tu aj s kozou samotnú nechali.

Dlho mi Vám pán môj prevracali hlavu, že vraj aby išla kdesi do ústavu že mi dobre bude, že nebudem robiť že dcéra aj s vnučkou za mnou budú chodiť.

No nikdy ja pán môj od krásnych hôr venca nešla by leňošiť tam do starobinca mňa tu Pán Boh stvoril a tu aj dožijem pod lipou mám studňu, vody sa napijem, posúch si upečiem aj s koláčom celým tu s mačkou a s každým rada sa podelím.

Babka ja už pôjdem – počestný sa zberá musím sa tiež vrátiť domov do večera. Nech sa pán nehnevá, tárala som veľa veď som aj zabudla, že je dnes nedeľa.

Buďte s Pánom Bohom povie už potíšku znova sadá na prah, berie do rúk knižku a sama pre seba spokojne sa modlí za každého tvora aj za ten svet podlý.

No a v tom počestnom presvedčení rastie že až dnes pochopil čo je pravé šťastie!

## Krátké správy zo Slovenska

Na jednej z každoročných najväčších svetových výstav vín Mundus vini 2008 v nemeckom meste Neustadt an der Weinstraße získali račianski vinári zlatú medailu za Rizling rýnsky, slamové víno z roku 2006. Úspešným producentom je akciová spoločnosť Villa Vno Rača. Uvedené víno sa stalo aj šampiónom tohtoročných Vínnych trhov v Pezinku, ktoré sú nominačnou súťažou pre vysoko kvalitný domáci Národný salón vín SR. Na ôsmom ročníku hodnotilo počas dvoch víkendov 180 degustátorov 5,343 vzoriek vín zo 41 krajín celého sveta.

**Bratislavské** letisko koncom septembra oficiálne vyhlásilo tender na nový terminál v hodnote 2.8 miliardy Sk (92.94 milióna eur) bez DPH. Záujemcovia sa môžu hlásiť do 30. októbra tohto roka, výstavba by mala byť ukončená koncom februára 2012. Vyplýva to z údajov zverejnených v Úradnom vestníku Európskej únie (EÚ). Ako informovala PR manažérka a hovorkyňa letiska Dana Madunická, víťaz tendra by mal byť verejnosti známy v decembri. Rozhodujúcim kritériom tendra je najnižšia cena. Doplnila, že manažment Letiska M. R. Štefánika - Airport Bratislava (BTS), a. s., riadi všetky prípravné procesy v súlade so stanoveným harmonogramom. Nový terminál by mal zvýšiť kapacitu BTS na 3.5 milióna cestujúcich.

Aj keď program Leonardo da Vinci poskytuje dobré možnosti jazykovej prípravy v procese vzdelávania a pri nástupe do práce, v členských krajinách únie treba vyvinúť úsilie pre rozšírenie si jazykových vedomostí. Leonardo da Vinci (2000-06) bol grantový program Európskej únie na podporu medzinárodných projektov v oblasti odborného vzdelávania a prípravy, ktorý v novej podobe pokračuje ako súčasť Programu celoživotného vzdelávania (2007-13).

Od januára bude v platnosti zákon, ktorý zavedie novú štátnu dávku. Príspevok sa dotkne asi 180-tisíc zamestnancov, ktorí majú nízky príjem. S návrhom prišlo ministerstvo financií, ktoré získalo preň podporu rezortu práce aj odborárov. Mesačne dosiahne zamestnanecká prémie 200 korún (6.6 eura). Jej vyplácanie po mesiacoch je podľa ministerstva financií náročné, a preto sa rozhodlo ju vyplatiť naraz po ročnom zúčtovaní dane. Hoci nový zákon by mal platiť od januára 2009, prvé peniaze zamestnancividia až v marci 2010. Na prémie bude mať nárok každý zamestnanec, ktorého príjem dosiahne najviac 9,960 korún (330 eur) mesačne. Najvyššiu dvestokorunovú získajú ľudia zarábajúci od 4,450 korún (147.7 eura) po 8,900 korún (295 eur).

**Rektori** viacerých univerzít by sa mali obzerať po novom mieste. Najmenej štyri verejné a ďalšie súkromné školy chce totiž vláda dotlačiť k tomu, aby splynuli s inými. Školy by sa mali spájať do univerzitných celkov, ktoré by poskytovali štúdium na vyššej úrovni a viac sa venovali vede. Zároveň chce minister školstva Mikolaj ušetriť náklady na vedenie, úradníkov. Vylúčené nie je ani zrušenie niektorých študijných programov, ktoré sa na fakultách v jednom regióne opakujú. Rektori sú proti. Podľa nich chýba analýza, ktorá by potvrdila, že ide o dobrý krok. V súčasnosti je na Slovensku dvadsať verejných, tri štátne a desať súkromných vysokých škôl. Z nich až 17 sú univerzity.

**Slovenská** ekonomika zaznamenáva v posledných rokoch rýchly rast. Nezostáva len pri makroekonomike, darí sa aj obyvateľstvu. Aj keď väčšina bežných pracovníkov sa zatiaľ o priemernej mzde 20,146 korún môže len snívať, pribúda medzi nimi čoraz viac ľudí, ktorí nežijú od výplaty k výplate a možno ich považovať za milionárov. Pochádzajú z radov úspešných priemyselníkov, športovcov, umelcov, vrcholných zamestnancov veľkých firiem, ale pozitívne je, že ich čoraz častejšie dopĺňajú aj drobní podnikatelia. Otázkou však je, ako správne definovať milionára. Podľa metodiky milionárskej dane je na Slovensku 60,000 ľudí s nadštandardnými príjmami. To znamená, že „Každý stý Slovák je oficiálne milionár“.

**Mesto** Skalica sa predstavilo britskej verejnosti počas prezentácie začiatkom októbra na slovenskom veľvyslanectve v Londýne. Okrem kultúrnych a turistických lákadiel, prezentovalo aj ekonomické aktivity a možnosti na spoluprácu v oblasti malého a stredného podnikania. Na podujatí sa zúčastnili vicepremiér Dušan Čaplovič a skalický primátor Stanislav Chovanec. Išlo o prvú takúto prezentáciu slovenského regiónu vo Veľkej Británii, pričom veľvyslanectvo pripravuje ďalšie akcie. Podujatie sprevádzala ľudová hudba zo Skalice, víno a kulinárske špeciality vrátane tradičného skalického trdelníka.

**Slovenská** hudobná skupina Cigánski diabli sa stala prvým slovenským umeleckým telesom vystupujúcim na prestížnom medzinárodnom festivale Kypria 2008 na Cypre. Podujatie, na ktorom sa zúčastňujú špičkoví umelci a umelecké skupiny z mnohých krajín, sa koná vo viacerých mestách a je najväčšou udalosťou v oblasti umenia na stredomorskom ostrove. Organizátorom festivalu a súčasne zodpovedným za výber umeleckých telies je cyperské ministerstvo vzdelávania a kultúry. Oba spoločné koncerty Cigánskych diablov - 30. septembra a 1. októbra, čo je deň cyperského štátneho sviatku - v sprievode Cyperského symfonického orchestra prebehli pod taktovkou slovenského dirigenta Petra Breinera, pôsobiaceho v súčasnosti v New Yorku. Vypredaných vystúpení sa zúčastnili vysokí vládni predstavitelia, zástupcovia diplomatického zboru, krajanovia a ďalší hostia. Koncerty sa tak, z iniciatívy a za organizačnej spolupráce slovenského veľvyslanectva v Nikózii, stali výraznou kultúrnou prezentáciou a potrebným i vhodným doplnením celkového obrazu Slovenska.

**Diaľnica** medzi Bratislavou a Košicami vrátane tunelových úsekov by mala byť uvedená do prevádzky v roku 2012, resp. v prvom polroku 2013. Konštatoval to 5.

októbra minister dopravy Ľubomír Vážny (Smer-SD). Exminister dopravy Pavol Prokopovič (SDKÚ-DS) však upozornil na to, že tempo výstavby diaľnic na Slovensku je pomalé, pretože súčasná vláda rok a pol spala.

**Približne** 165 tisíc ľudí zo Slovenska pracuje v súčasnosti v zahraničí. Podľa analytikov Slovenskej sporiteľne v prvom polroku 2008 ubudlo ľudí pracujúcich v zahraničí. Ešte v poslednej štvrtine minulého roka ich podľa odhadov bolo v zahraničí 186 tisíc. Ľudia, tradične odchádzajúci za prácou najmä do Čiech, Veľkej Británie, Maďarska a Rakúska, sa vrátili späť najmä z odvetví obchodu, sociálnej pomoci a výpomoci v domácnosti. Naďalej sa však zvyšuje zamestnanosť pracovníkov zo Slovenska v zahraničí v odvetviach priemyslu a stavebníctva. Analytici Slovenskej sporiteľne predpokladajú, že rast zamestnanosti generovaný tvorbou domácich pracovných miest bude pokračovať aj v ďalších rokoch. Očakávajú však, že spomaľujúci ekonomický rast, ako aj bariéry na trhu práce (veľký počet dlhodobo nezamestnaných) povedú k pomalšiemu rastu zamestnanosti.

**TASR a slovenské časopisy**



FOTO TASR - Štefan Puškáš

**Kultúrne podujatie s názvom Global Village, ktoré je súčasťou Európskeho roka medzikultúrneho dialógu, sa uskutočnilo v piatok 3. októbra 2008 v Shopping Palace Bratislava. Podujatie Global Village, teda "Globálna dedina", je určené pre všetkých tých, ktorí chcú za 30 minút precestovať svet. Jeho cieľom je prezentácia krajín, ich kultúry a zvykov a takisto snaha o vzájomné pochopenie zmysľovania rôznych národov.**



## Obsitnik odovzdal čestný certifikát o americkom občianstve M. Stranka

Jarabina (TASR) – Veľvyslanec USA v Slovenskej republike Vincent Obsitnik 26. septembra počas spomienkovej akcie v Jarabine odovzdal starostovi obce Mikulášovi Kaňovi čestný certifikát o americkom občianstve ich rodáka a vojnového hrdinu Michala Stranka. Ten sa stal známym hlavne vďaka slávnej fotografii reportéra Associated Press Joesa Rosenthala, na ktorej zachytáva vztyčovanie americkej vlajky na sopke japonského ostrova Iwo Jima počas II. svetovej vojny. Strank sa však konečného dobytia ostrova nedožil, pretože padol 1. marca 1945 po zásahu šrapnelom počas prípravy útoku. „Nazdávam sa, že by sme nemali zabúdať na históriu ani na našich rodákov, ktorí preslávili obec doma i vo svete. V roku 2001 pribudli na pamätníku hrdinom II. svetovej vojny aj mená padlých na iných frontoch. Medzi nich patrí aj Michal Strank,“ uviedol starosta. Napriek tomu, že tento rodák z východného Slovenska dostal za svoje činy počas vojny niekoľko vyznamenaní, objavili sa pochybnosti o tom, či mu bolo počas života vôbec udelené štátne občianstvo USA. O týchto pochybnostiach hovorili už pred niekoľkými rokmi predstavitelia obce s predošlými veľvyslancami USA.

V minulom roku počas odhaľovania pamätnej tabule na rodnom dome Stranka americká strana prisľúbila pomoc pri objasnení tejto skutočnosti. „Udelenie štátneho občianstva je všade vo svete a predovšetkým v Spojených štátoch považované aj za akt uznania spoločnosti. Preto sme radi, že sa táto skutočnosť potvrdila,“ dodal Kaňa. O tom, že v obci v Starobovnianskom okrese sa na rodákov nezabúda, svedčia aj vystavené portréty hrdinov a významných osobností v kultúrnom dome. Okrem toho sa tam nachádza aj olejomalba s rozmermi 4 x 1.5 metra, ktorú vytvoril na základe spomínanej slávnej fotografie z Japonska akademický maliar Mikuláš Dic.

Americký vojnový hrdina Michal Strank patrí k významným rodákovi obce Jarabina. Ako šesťročný odišiel v polovici 20. rokov, spolu so svojimi rodičmi, do Spojených štátov, kde vyštudoval strednú školu. V roku 1939 sa prihlásil do americkej námornej pechoty. Za svoje hrdinské činy počas II. svetovej vojny mu v USA udelili niekoľko vyznamenaní, medzi nimi aj Purpurové srdce. Je pochovaný na Arlingtonskom národnom cintoríne, kde leží aj väčšina amerických prezidentov.

O. Štefan Furdek  
Náš zakladateľ

## Percento zamietnutých žiadostí o víza do USA je už len jednociferné

Bratislava (TASR) - Počet zamietnutých žiadostí Slovákov o víza do USA by mal byť už pod desiatimi percentami. Po stretnutí s veľvyslancom USA v SR Vincentom Obsitnikom 1. októbra to pripustil prezident Ivan Gašparovič. Práve splnenie poklesu zamietnutých žiadostí pod desaťpercentnú hranicu je poslednou podmienkou, aby USA voči Slovensku zrušili víza. „Som presvedčený, že sa domov vrátim s potvrdením, že sa vízová povinnosť bude rušiť. Ale odkedy, to dnes neviem povedať,“ uviedol Gašparovič na margo svojej cesty do USA, na ktorú ide na základe pozvania prezidenta Georga Busha. Slová slovenskej hlavy štátu potvrdil aj Obsitnik. „Nepoznám teraz presný údaj o percente zamietnutých žiadostí, ale dúfam, že je to jednociferné číslo, teda Slovensko sa kvalifikuje,“ poznamenal.

Gašparovič zároveň spresnil, že počas cesty do USA, na ktorej ho bude sprevádzať aj minister kultúry Marek Maďarič, minister zahraničných vecí Ján Kubiš a šéf rezortu vnútra Robert Kaliňák, chce s Bushom hovoriť aj o medzinárodnej politike. „Bude to problém Afganistanu, Gruzínska a účasti SR v boji proti terorizmu. V Pittsburghu sa zase stretnem s predstaviteľmi krajskej obce a možno aj s predstaviteľmi niekoľkých univerzít,“ konštatoval. Práve medzi bratislavskou Slovenskou technickou univerzitou a vysokou školou rovnakého typu v USA by podľa neho mohla vzniknúť užšia spolupráca. Práve tento týždeň vláda na mimoriadnom zasadnutí schválila dva dokumenty zamerané na boj proti terorizmu, ktoré majú Slovensko priblížiť k zrušeniu vízovej povinnosti zo strany USA. Išlo o Dohodu o výmene informácií zo skríningu teroristov alebo osôb podozrivých z terorizmu a Zmluvu medzi SR a USA o zintenzívnení spolupráce pri predchádzaní a boji proti trestnej činnosti.

## Slovensko ďakuje

### Konferencia v Bratislave: Slovenčina v slovenskom zahraničí

Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (USŽZ) pripravuje na 6. - 8. novembra t.r. konferenciu v Bratislave na tému Slovenčina v slovenskom zahraničí. Bude sa konať v City Hotel Bratislava a s ňou sú na ňu pozvaní zástupcovia slovenských spolkov a časopisov v zahraničí. Záštitu nad konferenciou prevzal premiér SR R. Fico.

Na otvorení konferencie sa zúčastnia viacerí členovia vlády, poslanci slovenského parlamentu a odborníci zo zainteresovaných ministerstiev a inštitúcií.

Hlavným poslaním konferencie je prezentácia poznatkov a skúseností v oblasti komunikácie a vzdelania v materinskom jazyku v prostredí slovenských komunít vo svete. Závery konferencie poskytnú platformy a podklady pre ďalšie smerovanie štátnej politiky Slovenskej republiky vo vzťahu k Slovákom v zahraničí.

Zatiaľ čo ústrednou témou bude „slovenčina v slovenskom zahraničí“, konferencia bude rozdelená do troch hlavných tematických okruhov:

1. Formy výučby slovenského jazyka v jednotlivých krajinách;
2. Komunikácia v slovenskom jazyku v rodinnom spoločenskom a cirkevnom živote;
3. Slovenský jazyk v krajských tlačových a elektronických médiách a ich vplyv na udržiavanie národného povedomia.

Súčasťou konferencie bude aj slávnostný gala večer v historickej budove Slovenského národného divadla v sobotu 7. novembra pod názvom SLOVENSKO ĎAKUJE. Gala večer bude aktom vyjadrenia vďaky Slovenskej republike krajinám, ktoré v rôznych emigrantských vlnách prijali slovenských občanov a pomohli im vytvoriť podmienky pre ich ďalší plnohodnotný život v ich krajinách.

Na gala večer, ktorý sa koná pod záštitou prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča, budú pozvaní veľvyslanci a vedúci zastupiteľských úradov zainteresovaných krajín, ako aj predstavitelia výkonnej a zákonodarnej moci SR a tiež predstavitelia krajských spolkov a organizácií. Celý program, na ktorom vystúpia špičkoví umelci zo Slovenska a zo slovenského zahraničia, bude prenášať slovenská televízia.

## SR bude zo zahraničia získavať slovaciká múzejnej a galerijnej hodnoty

Bratislava (TASR) - Minimálne 100,000 eur (3.013 milióna Sk) ročne plánuje ministerstvo kultúry prideliť Slovenskému národnému múzeu, Slovenskej národnej galérii a Slovenskej národnej knižnici na získanie slovacík zo zahraničia. Vyplýva to z návrhu stratégie nákupu slovacík múzejnej a galerijnej hodnoty, ktorý schválila vláda. Uvedené inštitúcie by mali zmapovať výskyt takýchto predmetov v zahraničných zbierkotvorných inštitúciách, predovšetkým v bývalých krajinách Rakúsko-uhorskej monarchie. Po ich zaevidovaní budú tieto údaje prístupné aj verejnosti. Rovnako majú za úlohu monitorovať, či sa takéto predmety nachádzajú na trhu so starožitnosťami a umením v európskych aukčných domoch, ako aj v súkromnej držbe.

Taktiež sa bude v budúcnosti prostredníctvom databáz Národnej ústredne Interpolu (NÚI) priebežne overovať výskyt nelegálne vyvezených alebo odcudzených slovacík a možnosť ich legálneho získania. Slovensko by si malo zároveň vybudovať priame kontakty so svetoznámymi aukčnými domami, ktoré by informovali o zamýšľaných aukciách takýchto predmetov. K nim patrí napríklad Sotheby's, Christie's či Dorotheum. Okrem toho sa zmapuje najvýznamnejšie obdobie, kedy sa slovaciká dostali mimo územia SR. Výskum bude zameraný hlavne na susedné štáty, krajiny bývalej Juhoslávie, Rumunsko, Bulharsko, USA, Kanadu, Argentínu, Švajčiarsko či Rusko. Ministerstvo pripomína, že v minulom storočí sa mnoho diel dostalo za hranice Slovenska po rozpade Rakúsko-Uhorska. Vyvezené však boli aj v súvislosti s čulým obchodným kontaktom, diplomatickými cestami či vysídľovaním obyvateľstva.

MK rovnako upozornilo na fakt, že od roku 1990 sa SR stala významným tranzitným územím pre vynútenú migráciu z Balkánskeho polostrova a ázijských krajín. Mnohé z takýchto predmetov vznikli za hranicami SR, keďže ich autori boli nútení opustiť svoju krajinu pred prvou svetovou vojnou a v medzivojnovom období. Ďalšia vlna odchodov sa uskutočnila po roku 1945, 1948 a 1968. Svoju úlohu zohrala aj evakuácia občanov nemeckej národnosti pred postupujúcim frontom na sklonku druhej svetovej vojny, ako aj povojnové vysídlenie minoritných obyvateľov na základe Benešových dekrétov.



FOTO TASR - Štefan Puškás

Na stretnutí prezidenta SR s veľvyslancom USA v SR Vincentom Obsitnikom v stredu 1. októbra 2008 v Bratislave sa obaja zhodli, že počet zamietnutých žiadostí Slovákov o víza do USA by malo byť už pod desiatimi percentami. Práve splnenie poklesu zamietnutých žiadostí pod desaťpercentnú hranicu je poslednou podmienkou, aby USA voči Slovensku zrušili víza. Na snímke veľvyslanec USA v SR Vincent Obsitnik (vľavo) odovzdal dar prezidentovi SR Ivanovi Gašparovičovi.