



Jednota

THE UNION

USPA#273500 ISSN1087-3392



ATTENTION

THE JEDNOTA BENEVOLENT FOUNDATION, INC 2017 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its 2017 Scholarship Program.

THE COMMITTEE SHALL AWARD UP TO TEN ONE-TIME \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE CANDIDATES WHO BEST SATISFY THE AWARD CRITERIA.

- Any individual of Slovak descent and Catholic faith who attends an Approved Post Secondary Educational Institution is eligible for a Scholarship.
- Applicants will be required to describe accomplishments they believe would qualify them for recognition in general, and specifically, accomplishments in the areas of:
 - Scholarship
 - Leadership
 - Service to school, church and community
- Applicants will also be required to provide:
 - An official college transcript of grades and all standardized test scores achieved, including all ACT or SAT scores; (if applicable)
 - One (1) letter of recommendation authored by a teacher, counselor, administrator or an employment supervisor familiar with the applicant;
 - Examples of applicant's community involvement;
 - A list and description of leadership positions held by applicant;
 - A list of awards received by applicant for scholastic excellence, community involvement, or leadership ability;
 - A description of the applicant's academic or career objectives;
 - A statement demonstrating an applicant's need for education financing.

For applications, please contact:
Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc.

First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131
Phone 1-800-533-6682 - Fax 216-642-4310

E-mail: fcsu@fcsu.com - Website: <http://www.fcsu.com/membership-benefits/scholarships/>

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

*Family members of the Scholarship Committee are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.

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

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

SEPTEMBER 22 - 23, 2017

The Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada will be held on

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017 AT 9:00 A.M. &
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2017 AT 9:00 A.M.

The Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2017.

All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent to the Home Office prior to September 15, 2017.

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

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Have you put your Best Foot Forward?



Join other FCSU members in this national exercise program today!
See page 12 for details

Inside

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Editorial/Commentary..... | 2 |
| Branch Announcements..... | 14 & 17 |
| District Announcements..... | 15 |
| Slovak | 21-24 |

Don't get caught in the rough Aim for your financial security

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

ALSO AVAILABLE:
Park 2 **2.10%**
Park Free Plus **1.50%**



FCSU Financial—First Catholic Slovak Union
Contact your branch officer or the home office
6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH 44131, 800.533.6682
www.fcsu.com, annuity@fcsu.com



Insights and Viewpoints



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

August 20, 2017

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

The timeliness of today's scripture readings is all the more striking given that they were not hastily arranged in the past couple of years when immigration and the presence of "foreigners" in the U.S. have been a lively political concern, but rather they have stood together as readings for nearly half a century since the Lectionary

was revised in 1969. The issue of the rights of foreigners or migrants within a nation was a controversial one in biblical times and so it is no surprise that it is still controversial today.

The first reading comes from the opening of what is often called "third Isaiah", representing the third major section of that lengthy prophetic book. In the light of the return from the Babylonian exile, the prophet rejoices in his own salvation and ability to freely worship the Lord at long last, and desires that this joy be shared by all who believe in the Lord. This may seem like a natural wish but it is actually an expression of a deep and mature understanding of the relationship between God and man, and Israel's place in that relationship.

Speaking the word of the Lord Isaiah says: "The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord...I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be acceptable on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples" (Isa 56:1, 7). To feel the impact of these verses we must recall that the Temple in Jerusalem was not always considered a house of prayer for all nations, nor even for all Israelites. At times in the history of Israel those who were physically afflicted in various ways were not allowed into the Temple (see 2 Sam 5:8 and Matt 21:14), nor were foreigners admitted beyond the "outer court". Women were not allowed full access to the Temple either—but they could enter the outer court where the Temple treasury was located (see Mark 12:41-44).

With this picture in mind the power of Isaiah's words becomes clear: all peoples who truly sought the Lord and abided by his covenant could freely worship in the Temple, and more importantly could be counted among those redeemed by God. The gentile nations were thus grafted onto the ancient rootstock of Israel and the heritage of salvation that was first made known through Israel was opened to all who believed and remained faithful to the Lord. For his part the Psalmist affirms this when he cries out in today's responsorial: "O God, let all the nations praise you!" (Ps 67:2). Saint Paul adds his voice to the chorus by reminding his followers that while the people of Israel had not all received Jesus as Lord, it was through them that the gates of redemption were opened to the world, and on account of this God would redeem them in his own good time and manner, for as we hear in the second reading "the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable" (Rom 11:29).

The Gospel provides a final note to this brief reflection on the possibility of salvation for people of all nations. There Jesus admires the faith of the Canaanite woman, who was not only a foreigner but was from a nation that was among Israel's bitterest traditional enemies. The Lord tested her sharply before commending her for her belief in him: "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish" (Matt 15:28). The Canaanite woman saw her daughter healed that day: may we ask our Lord to heal us of any trace of a selfish mind or a cold heart, and rejoice in the company of the Lord together with all his faithful ones—friend and foreigner alike.



Fr. Edward Mazich,
O.S.B.

August 27, 2017

Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time

Matthew 16: 13 - 20

When I was a child I loved to have keys. It didn't matter if they were old car keys, house keys, a trunk key, or whatever, having a set of keys made me feel grown up. I notice to this day children with keys, and sometimes a parent handing a set of keys to a fussy toddler serves as a good pacifier. Keys give a sense of importance because having keys makes one important. Something of value is kept under lock and key. The person with a key has access to a place where others do not. The person with the key is entrusted with the responsibility of caring for whatever it is that is locked up. In the Gospel today Jesus entrusts Peter with the keys to the kingdom. In this case it is more the image and the message that it conveys than actual physical keys that is important. I don't think that the Pearly Gates are kept under lock and key. The image is that Peter is given the authority on earth, as leader of the apostles and ultimately the Church, to act in the name of the Lord. It is the keys that symbolize this, and this symbol did not end with the death of Peter, but has continued to symbolize the authority of the one who sits in the Chair of Peter as Pope. Both the Papal Seal and the Pope's Coat of Arms contain the image of two keys representing the authority given to him by none other than Christ Himself.



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

The authority of Peter and his successors is rather clear in this passage. Jesus gave Peter and the Apostles all the authority to "bind and Loose", but he speaks only to Peter when he tells him that he is entrusted with the keys. Bishops today are successors of the Apostles and they have the same authority to "bind and Loose", but it is only the Pope who holds the keys. The Bishops function in union with, and under the authority of, the Pope. This is referred to as the Hierarchy, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church describes it thus: "The Apostles and their successors, the college of bishops, to whom Christ gave the authority to teach, sanctify, and rule in his name." (CCC 873)

This is an awesome charge, and I am always impressed when a Bishop celebrates Mass and instead of inserting his name in the Eucharistic Prayer instead says, "For me your unworthy servant." The authority they have is an authority that humbles and calls them to service. To teach, sanctify, and rule (sometimes translated as govern) in the name of Christ are awesome tasks. When a bishop teaches it is not in his own name, or his own opinion, it is in the name of Christ. A bishop sanctifies us through his prayers, his service and his example knowing that we are always listening and watching. A bishop governs in the name of Christ and not at his own whim.

Upon reflecting on this Gospel passage, may we keep the Holy Father and our bishops in prayer. May they be given the graces and gifts they need to live out their calling in such a way as to truly reflect the mind of Christ. Our spiritual care is entrusted to them and this is a mighty weight upon them. May they walk with Christ who will help them with this mighty task and help them to be Good Shepherds. Finally, may we be blessed to be faithful members of the flock, attentive to the voice, presence and care of our Shepherds.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

| Issue Date | Copy Date |
|---------------------|------------------|
| WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13 | MONDAY, SEPT. 5 |
| WEDNESDAY, OCT. 4 | MONDAY, SEPT. 25 |
| WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18 | MONDAY, OCT. 9 |

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

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

JEDNOTA

(ISSN 1087-3392)

Catholic Bi-Weekly Issued 17 Times Annually

Publisher and Proprietor

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

FCSU Corporate Center

6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300

Independence OH 44131-2398

TERESA IVANEC, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com

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

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

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

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to:

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

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



Front, left to right: Patricia Vacchi, Lidia Marques, Judy Moleski, Gladys Servat, Linda Walker. Back row, left to right: Kathy Campbell, Judy Tessier, Betty Haddad, Nancy Kuykendall, Darlene Polk. Also inducted but absent: Pat Lifritz.

Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius Welcome New Associates

On May 7, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA welcomed 11 new SSCM Associates from the Diocese of Charleston, SC. Associate members share the faith, prayer, and in various ways, the Congregational spirituality, charism and mission of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius. The new Associates serve in many capacities with the Sisters missioned in Bluffton, SC, and Saint Helena Island, SC. All of the new Associates are active in a variety of volunteer ministries at St. Gregory the Great Church and/or School, and many also volunteer at the St. Francis Center at St. Helena Island and are involved in other charitable activities in the civic community.

Since the beginning of the SSCM Associate program in 1987 in Harrisburg, PA, Christian women and men continue to enter into this covenant relationship with the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius. SSCM Associates currently reside in California, Connecticut, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and South Carolina, and pray and serve with the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in many ways.

- Submitted by Sister Barbara Sable

Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SSCM, General Superior of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, signs the covenant agreement with new Associate Darlene Polk.



LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

Tips on Dealing with Unhealthy Anger

My friend Abby once told me, "Every person is made in the image and likeness of God, but some people hide it really well." Who could disagree? We've all encountered people in life or online who get on our nerves and even stir up genuine anger. Healthy anger moves us toward Christ-like love and positive action. Unhealthy anger turns into a seething hatred of "the other," whoever that might be.

Catholics aren't immune, with many "I'm a better Catholic than you because..." arguments going on. The bickering doesn't always result in civil, reasoned debate, but rather descends into personal insults. Why?

Social media allows us to experience community, which is a good thing. But when we mock a person or opinion we disagree with, it can produce a mob mentality where everyone piles on, creating a "dark glee," as Pope Francis describes the feeling we get when gossiping about someone. As humans, it's natural to fall into this trap. But as Christians, we're called to be better. Jesus said in Matthew 7:3, "Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?"

Sometimes, we justify our anger by noting that admonishing the sinner is a Spiritual Work of Mercy, and that Jesus could speak harshly, too. Jesus, however, was the Son of God, who knew people's hearts, minds, and souls. Since you and I don't have that ability, we need to be more diplomatic in admonishing the sinner, especially if it's someone on social media we don't personally know. After all, the goal is to change someone's mind, which requires the person you're talking with to be receptive to your ideas. When someone feels attacked, they become defensive, not receptive, so your chances of accomplishing something decrease.

So how can we deal with anger? If you read something online that you disagree with, say a prayer for the person to become more open to God's mercy and truth. In a supernatural sense, it will have more effect than a snarky online comment. And make sure the prayer is humble, not like the Pharisee's prayer from Luke 18 in which he praises himself for not being like the tax collector. If you do choose to respond, follow St. Paul's example from Acts 17, talking to the pagans in Athens. He praises them for being religious, instead of condemning them for worshiping idols. Then he introduces the ideas of the one true God and His Son, Jesus.

Also, consider Jesus's Parable of the Good Samaritan from Luke 10. This story has become neutered in the modern world to refer to anyone doing a good deed. But there is a lot more going on. The Jewish people hated the Samaritans because of religious differences, yet Jesus specifically chose to make one the hero of His story. The message, it seems, is that there is divine goodness even in the people you can't stand.

If being on social media leaves you angry, take a break. Reach out to people in the real world in a way that involves helping them and building them up. Those actions will produce a healthy joy and fulfillment. If you don't want to give up social media, choose your battles wisely, and engage in them with Christian civility and responsibility. And make sure that any anger you experience is short-lived and moves you toward positive action. The only person that long-term anger will change over time is you.

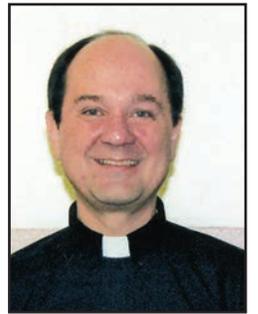
Message from the National Chaplain:

The 2017 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is progressing well. As many of you know, the funds raised in this annual Appeal are sent to the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius to assist with its day to day operations. The College is the residence of priests from Slovakia who are sent to Rome by their bishops for graduate studies. After receiving their degrees, these priests return to their dioceses to work as seminary teachers, Tribunal officials, and in other ministries.

While collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry at one time provided the bulk of the donations, today the Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors. If you have already made your donation to the 39th Annual Appeal, thank you.

If not, please consider doing so by filling out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated. As of July 15, the 2017 Appeal has raised \$15,249. Again, thank you for your goodness and generosity to the Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. Donations received before November 30, 2017 will be credited toward the 2017 Appeal.

Fraternally,



Rev. Thomas Nasta

**Fr. Tom Nasta
National Chaplain**

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, OH. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdivic, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Epiphany Parish, Sayre, PA. Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Swedesburg, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.

39th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Amount \$ _____

*Please make check payable to **Slovak Catholic Federation** and mail to:*

**Dolores Evanko, National Secretary/Treasurer
Slovak Catholic Federation
173 Berner Avenue
Hazleton, PA 18201**

Commemorate Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel in DC's National Shrine this Sept



On September 5, 1965, thousands of Slovak Catholics crowded into the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC for the blessing of a chapel dedicated to their patroness, Our Mother of Sorrows. The chapel was donated by the First Catholic Slovak Union, marking the 75th anniversary of its founding, and was blessed by Archbishop Egidio Vagnozzi, apostolic delegate in the United States. On September 12, 2015, the First Catholic Slovak Union commemorated the Chapel's 50th anniversary.

This year, Branch 856 of the Washington DC area is inviting everyone to come join them to honor the 52nd anniversary of the most-visited chapel in the National Shrine. Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, September 17, 2017, at 11:00AM. See the Branch 856 listing on page 17 of this issue for details.

Slovak Catholic Federation Seeks Contributors for the 2017 Good Shepherd/Dobry Pastier Annual

Dobry Pastier (The Good Shepherd), published annually by the Slovak Catholic Federation, is a compilation of articles which are of interest to Slovak-American Catholics. The Federation is seeking material for inclusion in the 2017 edition. While the scope of the annual is broad, encompassing the areas of heritage, history, religion, traditions, travel and personal experience, items of a solely political nature cannot be accepted. The deadline for all articles is October 1, 2017. Due to the publication schedule, items received after the deadline cannot be considered for this year's edition. The annual will be available for distribution in the latter part of 2017 or early 2018.

To facilitate the editing and printing of the Dobry Pastier/The Good Shepherd, the following guidelines are established for authors who would like their work to be considered for inclusion in the annual. Submissions and any questions can be sent to the editor, T. L. Wagner, at dobrypasterscf@gmail.com. General Information:

- All articles must be type-written, double-spaced, preferably in Microsoft WORD format in 12 point, Times New Roman font, or a similarly easy to read type. For the sake of ease in editing, please avoid capitalizing words or entire sentences needlessly, the excessive use of exclamation points, unnecessary quotation marks, etc. The article layout should be similar to that of pieces printed in daily newspapers and magazines.

- It is strongly preferred that English articles be e-mailed to T. L. Wagner, Editor, at dobrypasterscf@gmail.com. With current technology, it is faster and more cost effective to work from a digitally submitted text than having to re-type an entire hard copy.

- DO NOT SUBMIT SCANNED COPIES. It is virtually impossible for the editor or publisher to effectively modify scanned material to conform to the annual's printed format.

- If it is not possible for an article to be e-mailed, an original "hard copy" can be mailed to T. L. Wagner, 2215 Coronado Av-

enue, Youngstown, Ohio 44504-1308. The "hard copy" should either be typed or legibly hand-written by the author. Please do NOT send photo copies or any photographs. If photos are essential to the story and cannot be sent digitally, the editor will determine the most effective manner to obtain them and assure their proper handling.

- To be accepted for publication, articles should be between three and ten typewritten pages. Articles with less than three pages or more than ten pages will not be accepted.

Use of Photographs:

- If using photographs within the article, they must be included at the same time the article is e-mailed to the Editor. When sending images digitally, same them as separate JPGs to accompany the article. Please indicate where the photos are to be placed within the body of the article. It is absolutely essential that all persons, places and/or situations depicted in the photograph be clearly identified. It is helpful to provide more information than may seem necessary although it captions may be edited down.

- In the event that an article is e-mailed, but the photos are not included as attachments, please make the editor aware of the situation. The editor will contact the sender to determine the most effective manner to handle the photos. Again, it is necessary that the photos are properly identified and where they are to be placed within the article. Photos should always accompany the article for which they are intended if at all possible.

- Captions must be included with the photographs. Additional explanatory information may also be submitted. This allows the editor and subsequently the reader to better understand the relationship of the photo to the content of the article.

Articles in Slovak:

- Slovak articles can be e-mailed to T. L. Wagner, but a hard

copy, which includes all accents and appropriate punctuation, MUST also be mailed to editor's address. (Please indicate that the article was both mailed and e-mailed.) Frequently, accent marks, diacritical characters, and other special characters do not come through properly when e-mailed, including the punctuation format common to the Slovak language. Having a hard copy of the article, with the proper marks, will save valuable time and minimize errors.

As Editor, T. L. Wagner retains the right to correct grammatical errors, delete repetitious text, rearrange material for the sake of clarity, etc. The Editor also retains the right to determine the appropriateness of articles for the publication. Be assured that the Editor will NOT substantially change the author's idea and concept without first consulting the author.

The Communications/Membership Committee on behalf of the entire Slovak Catholic Federation National Board expresses our sincere thanks to all of the faithful contributors to The Good Shepherd. These contributions, year after year, ensure that the Slovak Catholic Federation is able to provide a quality annual that celebrates and preserves our Catholic faith, Slovak heritage, and sense of community. It allows our readers to stay in touch with what is happening within the Catholic Church, Slovakia and the Slovak-American community. Thank you.

Submitted by: T. L. Wagner, Editor,
The Good Shepherd/Dobry Pastier
dobrypasterscf@gmail.com
Office: 330.747.3777
Cell: 724.967.1539

SS Cyril & Methodius Sisters Celebrate Jubilees

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA, recently celebrated the Jubilees of some of their members. The Sisters celebrating jubilee anniversaries currently serve in the archdiocese of Chicago, IL, and in the diocese of Harrisburg, PA. The celebration included a Mass in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Liturgy was followed by a dinner to which the friends, family and community members of the Sister celebrants were invited.

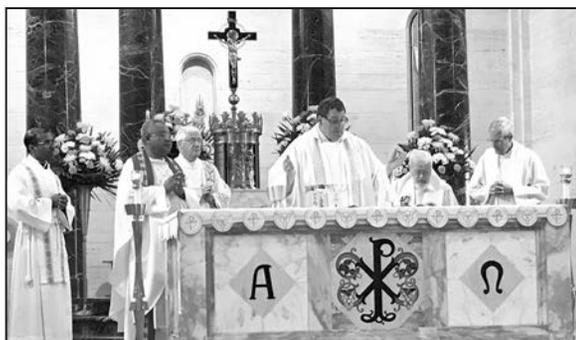
- Submitted by
Sister Barbara Sable, SS.C.M.



(L - R): Sisters Carol Ann Terlicher, Donna Marie Ivanko, and Margaret Dubas prepare for the entrance procession before the Jubilee Liturgy.

Celebrating anniversaries were: Row 1 (L - R): Sister Elizabeth Ann Matonak (60 years), Sister Mary Paul Kurator (65 years). Row 2 (L-R): Sister Maria Jana Polakova (20 years), Sister Barbara Sable (45 years), Sister Seton Marie Connolly (45 years), Sister Anne Renee Pennino (50 years), Sister Deborah Marie Borneman (20 years), Sister Rita Polchin (65 years). Absent from photo – Sister Maria Goretti Hudak (65 years).

(L - R): Pictured at the Liturgy are: Rev. John Cyriac, Chaplain at Maria Joseph Manor and Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, PA; Rev. Ignatius Madumere, OP, Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph Parish and Chaplain at Danville State Hospital, Danville, PA; Deacon Thomas Baranoski, Charleston, SC; Rev. Martin Moran, Dean of the Northumberland Deanery and Pastor at Divine Redeemer Parish, Mount Carmel, PA; Rev. Gerard Heintzelman, Rector of the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius and Chaplain at Maria Hall, Danville, PA; and Rev. Patrick Devine from the Diocese of Harrisburg, PA.



59th Convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation Set for September



Yours in Christ,

The 59th National Convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation will be Sunday, September 17, 2017 to Tuesday, September 19, 2017 in Youngstown, OH. The Convention will open with Mass to be celebrated on Sunday, September 17, 2017 at the Cathedral of Saint Columba, Youngstown, Ohio.

Following the Mass a banquet will be held at the Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel banquet hall. Cocktail hour begins at 5:30 pm with a buffet dinner at 6:30 pm. Cost per banquet ticket is \$25. Tickets will be available to purchase by calling 330-727-6726 and at the Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest on August 13, 2017.

On behalf of the Slovak Catholic Federation I am inviting you to share the Liturgy and banquet with us.

Very Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando

Branch 181's Michael Hricik Meets Congressman during US Capital Trip

Michael Hricik (L), is the son of FCSU Emeritus President, Tom Hricik and Geraldine Hricik. Michael visited the Capitol with the Pennsylvania State Education Association to advocate for education related issues. Hricik and his colleagues met with Congressman Murphy and his aide Sandy.

Michael is a Professor of English at Westmoreland County Community College in Youngwood, PA, entering his 25th year. He is also the President of the PSEA Higher Education Committee and on the Board of the organization. Michael is a graduate of King's College, in Wilkes-Barre which is a Holy Cross Fathers Catholic college. He also has master's degrees from San Diego State University and Chatham University.

He has been a lifelong member of Branch 181 in United. Michael is married to Victoria and both are employees at WCCC.



- Submitted by Michael Hricik

THANK YOU

Dear President Rajec:

I am writing to thank you and the Jednota for the scholarship awarded to my daughter, Jordan Heydit. She received \$1,250.00 from the Jednota this year as the "Top Female Candidate." We both are extremely grateful and appreciative and thank you for the award. I would like to share with you the events preceding her applying for scholarship.

I grew up in Carrolltown, PA, with a Slovak father and an Italian mother. My maiden name is Pecenak. My father was the treasurer of the Jednota in our district. Once a month, on Sundays, he would attend a Jednota meeting at our church, St. Benedict Catholic Church in Carrolltown. I grew up with three siblings. We all have life insurance policies with the Jednota and it was always a part of our lives. When my father passed away in 1983, my mother assumed his role as the treasurer of the Jednota.

When my daughter Jordan was born in 1999, my mother purchased a \$10,000 life insurance for her. In 2004, due to health issues, my mother moved in with me, my husband, my daughter, and my sister in Maryland. An avid newspaper reader, my mother always read the Jednota newspaper. Each year when the scholarships were awarded she would tell Jordan that when she was a senior in high school she should apply for the scholarship.

Unfortunately, my mother passed away in November 2013, at the age of 88, when Jordan was a freshman at Archbishop Spalding High School. This past March 2017, Jordan, a senior, finally applied for the scholarship that Nana had been telling her about since elementary school. We were overwhelmed, pleased, and surprised when Jordan opened her letter and realized she was the Top Female Candidate. Her Nana would have been so proud of her! And I'm sure she is smiling down from Heaven.

Again, thank you for this award; we are very thankful for it. Thank you to the Jednota for providing the opportunity to apply for scholarships as a high school senior. I am so proud of her!

Sincerely,

Judith M. Heydt



(L - R) Judith with her sister and a young Jordan pose with Jordan's grandmother (seated) -- and a couple of friends.



Jordan (C) at graduation, sporting six honor chords and her Eucharistic Minister cross



(L - R) Jordan and Judith

Branch 785 Helps Host Annual Communion Breakfast at SS Cyril & Methodius in Mississauga

On March 19, 2017 Sts Cyril and Methodius Slovak Parish in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, held their annual Communion Breakfast sponsored by the Rosary Society, the First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 785 and other fraternal groups such as the Slovak Catholic Sokol Assembly 227, the Canadian Slovak League Branch 7, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch 536.

- Submitted by Helen Von Friedl, Branch 785

Branch 153's Anna Jackson Receives Scholarship



Anna Jackson received a full tuition scholarship for her 8th year at Queen of All Saints School in Chicago, IL. She was awarded the scholarship based on her academic performance, her class participation, and being active in the Girl Scouts.

She is also sensitive to the needs of her fraternal twin Rachel who is non-verbal Autistic. Anna is a member of FCSU Branch 153 and is the granddaughter of FCSU Region 7 Director Rudy Bernath.

- Submitted by Rudolph W. Bernath, Region 7 Director





Part of George Beck's extensive collection of Civil War memorabilia.



George Beck shows members the antique piano in his collection.



Branch 764 members and others gather outside the home in Trumbull County before the tour.

Branch 764's Day of Discovery & Education

June 28th this year was a day of discovery and education for members of Branch 764 and members of the 50 Plus Club from Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish of Warren, OH, as they visited the home of George Beck, of Mecca in Trumbull County, OH. Beck, also a Jednota member, has been collecting memorabilia and items from the American Civil War and the Russian Civil War for many years and has an incredible collection and the knowledge to inform visitors of the history and usage of every item. Also included in Beck's collection are many icons and religious articles from Eastern Europe's cultures, as well as an antique player piano and everyday tools and utensils from life in the U.S. and Russia. The visitors gathered afterward for a luncheon and much discussion of the day's outing.

George Beck can be reached at 330-637-8379 for information on his collection and tours.

- Submitted by William Hrusovsky, Branch 764 President



A luncheon followed the tour.



People dancing the afternoon away.

Picnic goers enjoy an afternoon of Slovak food, entertainment and fraternalism.



Father Jamnický was the celebrant at the Mass.

Branch 89 Supports Slovak-American Picnic

A Slovak-American picnic was held on July 30, 2017 in Franklin, WI, (just south of Milwaukee). This picnic is supported by FCSU Branch 89. The picnic began with a noon Mass celebrated by Father John Jamnický who is a member of FCSU Branch 153. After Mass, the attendees enjoyed Slovak food, entertainment, and fraternalism.

- Submitted by Rudy Bernath, Region 7 Director



East River Catholics
 St. John Nepomucene
 St. John the Martyr
 St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
 Slovenský Kostol Sv. Jána Nepomuckého



SUNDAY OCTOBER 22ND 2017
12:30 PM - 6:00 PM
 ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE GYM
 406 EAST 66TH STREET

LIVE MUSIC & DANCING
TICKETS – \$40 18 and under \$5.00
 INCLUDES: MEAL, BEER, WINE AND SOFT DRINKS
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
 Call Lisa: 212-734-4613 Maria: 347-612-1934

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL TO

parishfin@eastrivercatholics.org

A Crash Course in Slovak: Useful Slovak Words and Phrases, Part II

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

In Part I of our Slovak lessons [Editor's note: published in the March 8, 2017 Jednota, page 7], we learned the Slovak alphabet and pronunciation, as well as some basic expressions such as greetings, courtesy phrases, and what to say when meeting people. It would be a good idea to first review part one, practice it, and then move on to what is here in Part II. And remember that these websites have an online list of the most commonly used Slovak words: <http://www.101languages.net/slovak/most-common-slovak-words/> or <https://slova.ee/en>.

Dictionaries

If one is traveling in Slovakia, it is also useful to have a good, small hard copy of Slovak dictionary. One may also buy a dictionary online, in hard copy on a site like Amazon.com, Alibris.com, or some similar site. The Alibris site lists some best-selling Slovak dictionaries and phrasebooks: <https://www.alibris.com/search/books/subject/Slovak-language>. One may also download a dictionary on a tablet or mobile phone.

Another way to help learn Slovak is using an illustrated children's dictionary. The Slovak Import Company offers a couple of choices at its website: <http://www.slovakic.com/slovak-dictionaries>.

One may also find Slovak dictionaries and translations online, and many of us are familiar with Google Translate: <https://translate.google.com/?tl=sk#sk/en/>. Google Translate is useful, and has improved, but it still too often translates words literally and sometimes misses the meaning, or even uses the wrong words, so one must be careful using it. It is a place to start and can translate most simple sentences.

But the best website is the following: <http://slovník.azet.sk/slovensko-anglicky/>. Or one might try <http://webslovník.zoznam.sk/>. The first site translates both ways, and if one has a smartphone, one may also find apps on the web to download, such as this free app which goes with an Android phone: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.bitknights.dict.english.free&hl=en>.

Wikitravel also offers a Slovak phrasebook online: http://wikitravel.org/en/Slovak_phrasebook.

If one is offline, one can still use an offline dictionary and there are several to choose from, but here are a couple choices. For Slovak-English, see <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=alldictdict.alldict.sken&hl=en>. For English-Slovak, go to this site to download: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.movinapp.dict.english.free&hl=en>.

For Slovak phrases offline, try this app: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.funlearn.phrasebook.slovak&hl=en>. Once on the site, Google will suggest some other free apps, and you may try what suits your needs best.

Days of the Week and the Calendar

Now let us continue with our list of important words and phrases to know when one is traveling in Slovakia. Slovak Radio International (RSI) lessons on YouTube which I noted in part 1 are among the most useful websites. If one goes to the website (www.rsi.sk) and then does a search "Learn English", it is possible to see the text of the programs on YouTube and view the videos. The site also contains many articles about Slovakia in English and features daily broadcasts in multiple languages. Lesson 4 deals with days of the week at this website: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NLG2FEoGDtQ>

week = týždeň (teezh-dyen)
weekend = vikend (vee-kend)
Days of the week = Dni týždňa (teezh-dnyah)
Monday = pondelok (pon-de-lok)
Tuesday = utorok (oo-toe-roke)
Wednesday = streда (streh-dah)
Thursday = štvrtok (shtver-toke)
Friday = piatok (pyah-toke)
Saturday = sobota (so-bow-tah)
Sunday = nedela (ne-dye-la)

Numbers

Numbers in Slovak are easy to learn once you know the first ten. Starting with the number 11, a "náhst" (naahst) is just added. The YouTube video of RSI will help and give examples: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WeOVVEinB0M>

number = číslo (chees-low)
numbers = čísla (chees-lah)

Cardinal Numbers

0 nula (noo-lah)
1 jeden (yeh=den)
2 dva (dvah)
3 tri (tree)
4 štyri (shtee-ree)
5 päť (pet)
6 šesť (shest)
7 sedem (se-dyem)
8 ose (o-sem)
9 devä (de-vet)
10 desať (de-sat)
11 jedenásť (ye-den-naahst)
12 dvanásť (dvah-naahst)
13 trinásť (tree-naahst)
14 štrnásť (shtir-naahst)
15 pätnásť (pet-naahst)
16 šesťnásť (shest-naahst)
17 sedemnásť (se-dyem-naahst)
18 osemnásť (oh-sem-naahst)
19 devätnásť (dev-vet-naahst)
20 dvadsať (dvah-dsaht)
30 tridsať (tree-dsaht)
40 štyridsať (shti-ree-dsaht)
50 päťdesiat (pet-de-syaht)
60 šesťdesiat (shest-de-syaht)
70 sedemdesiat (se-dyem-de-syaht)

Ordinal Numbers

zero = nultý (nool-tee)
first = prvý (pur-vee)
second = druhý (drew-hee)
third = tretí (treh-tee)
fourth = štvrtý (shtver=tee_)
fifth = piaty (pya-tee)
sixth = šiesty (shyes-tee)
seventh = siedmy (syed-me)
eighth = ôsmy (ows-mee)
ninth = deviaty (dev-yah-tee)
tenth = desiaty (deh-syah=tee)
jedenásť, -a, -e
dvanásť, -a, -e
trinásť, -a, -e
štrnásť, -a, -e
pätnásť, -a, -e
šesťnásť, -a, -e
sedemnásť, -a, -e
osemnásť, -a, -e
devätnásť, -a, -e
dvadsať, -a, -e



80 osemdesiat (owe-sem-de-syaht)
90 deväťdesiat (deh-vet-de-syaht)
100 sto (stow)
300 tri sto (tree-stow)
1000 tisíc (tee-seets)
1000 000 milión (me-lee-own)

Time

Telling time can be important in meeting schedules, taking trains, planes, etc. Slovak uses the above numbers, but are expressed somewhat differently than in English. See RSI Lesson 6 for some vi-

sual assistance: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91mrpNpFToQ>.

What time is it? = Koľko je hodín? (Koal-koh yeh-ho-deen)

Right now it is one o'clock. = Teraz je jedna hodina. (Te-rahz ye yed-nah ho-dee-nah)

It's one. = Je jedna. (Ye yed-nah)

Two o'clock = Dve hodiny (Dveh ho-dee-nee)

Over the number 5, the Slovaks always use the genitive plural, which for hour is "hodín" (ho-deen). Slovaks also use military time with 24 hours, but if one uses 1-12, one should state if it is evening.

Five o'clock in the evening = Päť hodín večer (Pet ho-deen veh-cher)

1800 hours (6 pm) = Osemnásť hodín (oh-sem-nahst ho-deen)

Quarter and half hours are a bit more difficult, because Slovak bases the time on the next hour. They use "štvrt", meaning a quarter. Thus, štvrt na osem (shtvert nah oh-sem) means, a quarter on eight, or 8:15. "Trištvrt na osem" is 8:45 (literally, three-quarters on eight).

Half hours are expressed with the Slovak word "pol" (pole), meaning half. Thus 7:30 would be stated "pol osmej" (pole os-may).

One can also simply read off the numbers in Slovak, as follows.

8:15 = osem pätnásť (oh-sem pet-nawst)

8:45 = osem štyridsať päť (oh-sem shtery-dsawht pet)

Months

Months are very similar in spelling to English, for in Slovak, they are also based on Latin roots, but Slovak does pronounce them differently. RSI does not cover the months, but one may find an online guide on this website: <https://slova.ee/en/learning/intro/date>.

January = január (yawn-you-aare)

February = február (fe-brew-aare)

March = marec (mah-rets)

April = apríl (ah-preel)

May = máj (my)

June = jún (yoon)

July = júl (yool)

August = august (aw-oo-goost)

September = september (sep-tem-bear)

October = október (awk-tow-bear)

November = november (no-vem-bear)

December = december (deh-tsem-bear)

What date is it today? = Aký je dnes deň? (Ah-kee yeh dnyes den?)

or Koľkého je dnes? (Coal-ke-ho yeh dnyes?)

Today is June 22. = Dnes je 22. júna. (Dnyes yeh dvaw-dsaht dru-heh-ho yoo-nah)

Conclusion to Part 2

Again, the above dictionaries, words, and phrases will serve as good learning tools for some of the first expressions you need to understand Slovak if you travel to Slovakia or wish to learn some basic Slovak.

I am open to any short particular questions or suggestions our readers may have, and feel free to e-mail me at my university e-mail: michael.kopanic@faculty.umuc.edu.

Recommended Sources

"Czech and Slovak," [pronunciationguide.info](http://www.pronunciationguide.info/Czech.html), <http://www.pronunciationguide.info/Czech.html> (accessed February 25, 2017).

Dratva, Tomáš, Základy slovenskej gramatiky pre dobrovoľníkov Peace Corps, Peace Corps, Slovakia, 1997, <http://home.elka.pw.edu.pl/~pnaigeba/slovincina/slovakgrammar.pdf> (Accessed March 20, 2017).

Google translate, <https://translate.google.com/#en/sk/> (Accessed Feb. 17, 2017).

Hlavac, Marek, "Slovak Language Lessons for Beginners," https://sites.google.com/site/marekhlavac/slovak_lessons_beginner_lesson1 (Accessed Feb. 25, 2017). You can download the entire Slovak course as a book in PDF format at the site. [italki.com](https://www.italki.com), <https://www.italki.com/home> (Accessed Feb. 17, 2017). (Converse in Slovak with a friend over the internet, teaching available).

LanguagePhrases.com, <http://languagephrases.com/slovak/alphabet-letters-in-slovak-language/> (Accessed Feb. 22, 2017).

"Learn Slovak," Learn 101, 2016, <http://learn101.org/slovak.php> (Accessed Feb. 25, 2017).

"Learn Slovak 5: Numbers," Radio Slovakia International, Published on Aug 29, 2014, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WeOVVEinB0M> (Accessed June 11, 2017).

"Learn Slovak 6: Telling the time," Radio Slovakia International, Published on Sep 5, 2014, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91mrpNpFToQ> (Accessed June 20, 2017).

Oakes, Dick, "Slovak Pronunciation Guide," 2014, <http://www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/alphabet/slovak.htm> (Accessed Feb. 25, 2017).

Radio Lumen (Catholic broadcasting, daily Mass at 12 pm EST), <http://www.lumen.sk> (Accessed Feb. 17, 2017).

Radio Slovak International, www.rsi.sk (Accessed June 12, 2017).

Slobodný vysielateľ (Free Broadcast), <https://slobodnyvysielac.sk/?v=7516fd43adaa> (Accessed Feb. 17, 2017).

Slovak 101, (Also contains some videos) <http://www.101languages.net/slovak/> (Accessed Feb. 17, 2017).

"Slovak Alphabet," slovakcooking.com, maintained by Luboš Brieda, <http://www.slovakcooking.com/2009/language/slovak-alphabet/> (Accessed Feb. 21, 2017).

"Slovak Alphabet," slova.ee/en/learning/grammar/pronunciation/abc (Accessed Feb. 21, 2017).

Slovak Dictionaries, Slovak Import Company, <http://www.slovakic.com/slovak-dictionaries> (Accessed June 22, 2017).

"Slovak Pronunciation Guide," [travlang.com](http://www.travlang.com), 2003, <http://www.travlang.com/languages/slovak/pronounce.slovak.html> (Accessed Feb. 25, 2017).

Slova.ee, <https://slova.ee/en/learning/intro/date> (Accessed June 22, 2017).

Useful Slovak phrases. Omniglot, 1998-2017, Simon Ager, Hosted by Kualo, <http://www.omniglot.com/language/phrases/slovak.php> (Accessed March 17, 2017).

Votruba, Martin, "Slovak pronunciation," University of Pittsburgh Slovak Studies Program, <http://www.pitt.edu/~votruba/qsonhist/slovakpronunciation.html> (Accessed Feb. 25, 2017).

Wikitravel Slovak Phrasebook, http://wikitravel.org/en/Slovak_phrasebook (Accessed June 22, 2017).

How Youngstown Sister Cities Hosted Slovak Mayor this Summer

Bernie Demechko, Youngstown Sister Cities Secretary

Sister Cities International was created at President Eisenhower's 1956 White House Summit on Citizen Diplomacy, where he envisioned a network that would be a champion for peace and prosperity by fostering bonds between people from different communities around the world. This year, Youngstown-Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities (YSC) is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Youngstown is a city in and the county seat of Mahoning County in Ohio – an area where many Slovak immigrants settled in the early part of the 20th century. Spišská Nová Ves, a town in the eastern region of Slovakia and is the largest in the Spišská Nová Ves District (Okres).

In honor of the anniversary of the agreement between the two cities, the YSC Board voted to sponsor a seven-day visit of Spišská Nová Ves Mayor Dr. Jan Volny, to Youngstown, OH. YSC President Jim Bench extended the invitation to Mayor Volny, as Jim has had the opportunity to meet with him many times in Spišská Nová Ves as part of the YSC Slovak Heritage Tours he and his wife Kay have led for years. Both Jim and Kay are members of Branch 181 and Jim is a member of the FCSU Supreme Court.

Mayor Volny accepted the invitation, and the visit was set for June 15 – 20, 2017. He would be coming with his interpreter Adnan Akram, who runs an English language school in Spišská Nová Ves and also holds several chairs in the city government, including the Commission for the Development of Culture. The Slovak travelers would be accompanied in the US by YSC Vice President Ken Shirilla who in his many travels across Europe, made sure to include an annual stop to Spišská Nová Ves and knew both men well.

An Official Presentation & Informal Meeting of Old Friends

An important reason for Mayor Volny's visit was for him to present to Youngstown Mayor John McNally two wood carvings of the crest of Spišská Nová Ves and the seal of Youngstown, OH, that form the centerpieces of two plaques that now hang in the entryway to Youngstown City Hall. Beneath the plaques, stamped in metal, is an explanation of the origin of Youngstown-Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities, its accomplishments, and names of its current Board of Directors.

YSC Director John Slanina commissioned carvings by a Slovak artisan two years ago. He went to Slovakia and hand-carried the plaques back to Youngstown to ensure against any possible shipping damage. John also coordinated their public presentation on Saturday, June 16th, in the Youngstown mayor's office. An exchange of more personalized gifts between the two city officials took place as well. Mayor McNally gave the Mayor Volny a key to the city and a City of Youngstown t-shirt. Mayor Volny, in turn, offered Mayor McNally gifts of a bottle of plum brandy (slivovica) and a palm-sized heart carved from a material indigenous to the area of Spišská Nová Ves – Travertine marble. This is the same material used centuries ago in the construction of a nearby UNESCO Heritage Site, Spiš Castle, and also in the more contemporary construction of the parliament building in the Slovak capital of Bratislava.



In FCSU Board Room (L – R) Standing: Beata Begeniova- Fedoriouk, Assistant to the FCSU National President; Andrew P. Rajec, FCSU's Director of Independent Agents; Ken Shirilla, Youngstown Sister Cities Vice President; Dr. Jan Volny, Spišská Nová Ves Mayor; Robert Kopco, FCSU Branch Coordinator; Miriam Visnovsky, FCSU Receptionist, Kenneth A. Arendt, FCSU Executive Secretary, Terezia Rozmus, Annuity Support; Jim Bench, Youngstown Sister Cities President and Director for Youngstown-Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Tours; and Adnan Akram, Mayor Volny's interpreter and member of the Spišská Nová Ves city government. Seated: (L – R) Loretta Ekoniak, Youngstown Sister Cities Director; Bernie Demechko, Youngstown Sister Cities Secretary; Gigi Bacon, Youngstown Sister Cities Director; and Kay Bench, Director for Youngstown-Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Tours.



Standing: Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt offers an overview of the FCSU during the June 21st visit of Mayor Volny and the Youngstown Sister Cities members to the Home Office.

After the public event, members of the YSC Board met at the home of YSC Director Gigi Bacon who had invited the Spišská Nová Ves visitors to enjoy a homemade luncheon and relax. Two hours of history telling took place, recounting how the sister cities program was initiated with founder, the late Steve Bacon carrying Articles of Incorporation from Youngstown to Spišská Nová Ves to be signed by (then) Mayor Rastislav Jacak in August 1991. It was determined that the primary need was for English teachers and so Youngstown Spišská Nová Ves facilitated the funding and paperwork to send five teachers to the area. Textbooks and workbooks soon followed. Over the years, the support has continued with shipments of sporting goods, equipment and many other items going to Spišská Nová Ves from the Youngstown area, or coordinated by YSC members.

The next day, June 17th, a festival held in downtown Youngstown to celebrate the ar-

ea's Slavic community – Simply Slavic – got underway. Both mayors cut the ribbon at noon to open the festivities. Entertainment included performances by the Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Greater Cleveland, as well as its children's ensemble Lúčinka, directed by Branch 24's Tom Ivanec and music by Harmonia, featuring Branch 24's Alex Fedoriouk on cimbalom and Beata Begeniova- Fedoriouk on vocals. Mayor Volny also graciously spent much of the event at a table meeting and greeting visitors to Simply Slavic as well as old friends like Branch 553's Sam Krempasky from Massillon, OH who was one of the first English teachers to Slovakia in 1992. Mayor Volny stayed at the festival until the closing with a large bonfire (vatra) being lit.

The following days were filled with many events, including a spectacular Sunday outdoor buffet courtesy of YSC longtime supporter Eddie Yasechko. He changed the date of an annual event held at Yasechko

The three wooden plaques which were carved in Slovakia and now hang in the entryway to Youngstown's City Hall: (L – R) the Seal of Youngstown and the Crest of Spišská Nová Ves flanked by a plaque explaining the Youngstown-Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities, its accomplishments for the past 25 years, and its current Board Members.



(L – R) FCSU Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt and Spišská Nová Ves Mayor Jan Volny exchange gifts on behalf of each their organizations.

Airfield for family, friends and members of the Classic Plane Club to accommodate Mayor Volny's visit. He and the accompanying members of YSC were feted along with 200 some other guests who dined al fresco and watched the two-seater planes fly in and land on the grassy runway. Later that afternoon, Ray Novotny, a Mill Creek naturalist for 30 years, gave a personal car tour of the 4.400 acre park in the city of Youngstown.

Mayor Volny expressed interest in seeing Niagara Falls, so a trip was arranged early in the week. He also was welcomed at several of the Slovak fraternal. While at the NSS in Pittsburgh, Sue Ondrejco, who also is a member of Branch 2, gave the visitors a tour of the building where they saw the carved wooden Bethlehem similar to the one in Banska Bystrica.

A Visit to the First Catholic Slovak Union

During their Wednesday June 21st visit to the First Catholic Slovak Union, Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt gave the visitors a tour of the headquarters. The mayor was impressed with the Home Office Museum filled with mannequins in various regional dress (okres kroj) and the display cases filled with member-donated collections of Modra pottery, crystal, cornhusk dolls, and other Slovak memorabilia. Our Executive Secretary gave a brief overview of the FCSU and Mayor Volny introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his city. Gifts were then exchanged. Pastry and beverages were served as the group had the opportunity to meet the Home Office staff, including several staff members who were fluent in Slovak and could converse with the mayor directly.

The concluding trip on the busy itinerary was to Cleveland's Calvary Cemetery where Mayor Volny's uncle was buried, like so many Slovak immigrants to the area in the last century. The FCSU's founder Father Furdek, for example, is laid to rest there as well. A moment of prayer and silence was held at the gravesite. Mayor Volny had brought soil from his garden in Slovakia and sprinkled it on the grave. He then buried a small marble heart in the soil.

Youngstown-Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities had the opportunity to wrap up the visit with Mayor Volny with a dinner. A special guest, Peter Sedlacko from Spišská Nová



At the Youngstown City Hall Presentation: (L – R) seated: YSC Directors Loretta Ekoniak, Ron Garchar, and Ray Novotny; standing: YSC Vice President Ken Shirilla, Spišská Nová Ves Mayor Jan Volny, YSC Secretary Bernie Demechko, Youngstown Mayor John McNally, YSC Director Gigi Bacon, YSC President Jim Bench, and YSC Director John Slanina.

(L - R) Slovak Mayor Jan Volny and Youngstown Mayor John McNally cut the ribbon to open the Simply Slavic Fest celebration in downtown Youngstown, OH, while YSC Vice President Ken Shirilla looks on.



Sister Cities Hosted Slovak Mayor

continued from page 9

Ves, attended. A Youngstown State University student and a member of the Youngstown Incubator of Entrepreneurs, he is studying bio-engineering and additive manufacturing to make 3D implants. YSC Director Gigi Bacon presented Mayor Volny with a check toward an historic plaque in Spišská Nová Ves' town square honoring the city's innovations in electricity in the 19th century (all the city buildings had electricity by 1894) and the 750th anniversary of the first official mention of the town in the 13th century. Jim Bench announced plans for a 20th Annual

here my whole life. I was out of town only when I served in the military and for my university studies. Really, I feel as though I've never left, and, with my wife Elizabeth and our daughters Jana and Mary, it is home.

Jednota: Have you always been in government?

Mayor Volny: No, after graduation from university, I became a teacher. Then I was an editor of a newspaper for a local mining association.

Jednota: How did you get into politics?

Mayor Volny: In 1991 I was appointed the Head of Culture, Youth, Education and Sports in the city's Municipal Office. In 1995 I became a Member of Parliament. My friends urged me to run for a seat on our regional council, and I was a member from 2001 to 2005. In 2006 I was elected mayor of the town.

Jednota: What would you like people to know about your city?

Mayor Volny: Many things have changed during my terms as mayor, including Slovakia joining the European Union (EU). I'm proud of all we've been able to accomplish: school reconstruction, extensive renovation in our infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, parking lots, not to mention our beautiful historic town square. We've really concentrated on developing tourism, promoting the attractiveness of our city and its history as well as the surrounding sites.

What is your impression from this trip to our area?

I was really impressed with how much people are involved in their heritage and preserving their ancestral ties to Slovakia with festivals and meetings and this wonderful museum you have here at the FCSU. Cleveland has a very personal tie for me, as well. My uncle immigrated here so many years ago and he never returned. It is very moving that I will have the opportunity to visit his gravesite while here and pay my respects to him on behalf of my family.



Youngstown-Spišská Nová Ves tour in 2018.

Youngstown-Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities would like to thank the First Catholic Slovak Union for its help in making the mayor's trip possible. And a special thank you to past tourists, Slovak and Slovak-American friends, who helped by offering their hospitality, time and efforts to make Mayor Volny's visit a truly memorable one.

Jednota: How long have you been the mayor?

Mayor Volny: This is my third term in office. It wasn't an easy decision to run again because it's a demanding position. I thought about perhaps a younger person would be right to take over at this point. But I talked it over with my family, and decided to run again.

Jednota: Have you lived in SNV a long time?

Mayor Volny: I was born in the nearby village of Spišské Podhradie but moved to Spišská Nová Ves with my family when I was three years old so I feel I can say I've lived

Slovak Catholic Federation Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter Pilgrimage of Faith



Saturday, October 14, 2017

Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius
Villa Sacred Heart
580 Railroad Street
Danville, Pennsylvania

Arrival 11:00 a.m.

Tours of the Basilica and Jankola Library and Museum

Liturgy 4:00 p.m.

Cost \$15.00
(includes lunch)

RSVP by October 2nd to Theresa Kluchinski

Call or Text 570-817-4657

Mail: 446 Mountain Oaks Drive

Laurel Run, PA 18706

ARE YOU PLANNING ON PASSING YOUR ASSETS TO LOVED ONES?



Then consider

WEALTH TRANSFER

Wealth management

through our Single Premium Whole Life Policy

Here are the benefits:

- Avoid income tax
- Avoid probate
- Cash value growth

Interested? Call 800.533.6682 today!



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



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

Branch 746 Annual Picnic

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, had their annual summer picnic on Sunday, July 16, 2017. The picnic took place at Alcala Park in Linden, NJ, where over fifty members came together to celebrate their Slovak heritage and enjoy a beautiful Sunday afternoon. Delicious Slovak food was served, of course, and everyone enjoyed themselves. Thank you to our branch members who came to support the event as well as members from Branch 290 (Raritan) and Branch 45 (New York City), Branch 716 (New York) who joined in the festivities! A special thanks to all those that worked hard to make the picnic a great success especially our chefs, Mr. and Mrs. Rada and son, Stephen Rada, and to all the ladies who brought delicious homemade Slovak desserts.



- Submitted by Sabina Sabados, Branch 746 President

Branch 746 picnic this year included members from Branch 290 (Raritan) and Branch 45 (New York City), Branch 716 (New York). Thank you for coming!



Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Hi, Kids
(and all those Young At Heart):

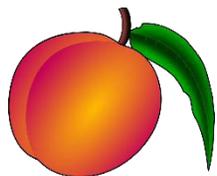
How's by you? Pretty warm where you are, I bet. Here, too. You know they say that August has the "dog days" of summer. But this here pooch isn't buying it. I think August is one cool month. Just look at all the celebrations goin' on in just 31 days!

Until next time, keep your ears up and your tail waggin' Tvoj priatel' (your friend)
Chewy

Did You Know? All of this is happening in the month of August:



- American Adventures Month
- Audio Appreciation Month
- Catfish Month
- National Eye Exam Month
- Family Fun Month
- Goat Cheese Month
- Happiness Happens Month
- Immunization Awareness Month
- National Back to School Month
- Panini Month
- Peach Month
- Romance Awareness Month
- Sandwich Month
- Water Quality Month
- What Will Be Your Legacy Month
- Win with Civility Month



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | | | | | 15 | | | | | 16 | | | | |
| 17 | | | | | 18 | | | | | 19 | | | | |
| 20 | | | | 21 | | | | 22 | | | | | | |
| | | | 23 | | | | 24 | | | | 25 | 26 | 27 | |
| | 28 | 29 | | | | 30 | | | | 31 | | 32 | | 33 |
| 34 | | | | | 35 | | | | 36 | | 37 | | | |
| 38 | | | | | 39 | | | 40 | | | | | | |
| 41 | | | | | | | 42 | | | | 43 | | | |
| 44 | | | | | 45 | | 46 | | | | 47 | | | |
| | 48 | | 49 | | | 50 | | | | 51 | | | | |
| | | | 52 | 53 | | | | 54 | | | | 55 | 56 | 57 |
| 58 | 59 | 60 | | | | | | 61 | | | | 62 | | |
| 63 | | | | | | | 64 | | | | | 65 | | |
| 66 | | | | | | | 67 | | | | | 68 | | |

Across

- 1 Milky gem
- 5 Apple variety
- 9 Egypt's capital
- 14 Sandwich shop
- 15 Atop
- 16 Trial's partner
- 17 Utah city
- 18 Mission
- 20 Set aside
- 22 Chess ending
- 23 Before shell or lion
- 24 Sweet potato
- 25 Apply gently
- 28 Baseball items
- 30 Kind of toast
- 32 Officiate, briefly
- 34 Olympic rings, e.g.
- 35 Blubber
- 36 Hang around
- 38 Street crossers
- 40 Divert traffic
- 41 Movie theater
- 42 Pea jacket?
- 43 Gaul
- 44 Wrap up
- 45 Room at the top
- 47 Took the bus
- 48 Chow down
- 50 Monopoly token
- 51 Novelist Rand
- 52 Pizzeria fixture
- 54 Jubilance
- 58 Endanger
- 62 Periphery
- 63 Hitching post?
- 64 Hosiery shade
- 65 Knocked off, in a way
- 66 Posh
- 67 Butcher's stock
- 68 Souvenir shop items

Down

- 1 Skunk's defense
- 2 French father
- 3 Saloon selections
- 4 Sedimentary rock
- 5 Tropical fruit
- 6 Abbey area
- 7 ___ Altos, Calif.
- 8 Critter
- 9 Small change
- 10 Packing heat
- 11 Dudgeon
- 12 Harry Potter's best friend
- 13 Food scrap
- 19 Took a chance
- 21 In medias ___
- 24 Eventually
- 26 Debated
- 27 Ladybug
- 28 Like Paul Bunyan's ox
- 29 To-do list
- 30 More, in Madric
- 31 Tire filler
- 33 Worry
- 34 Fine fabric
- 35 Plume
- 37 Defendant's plea at times
- 39 Thurman of *The Avengers*
- 40 Bird of myth
- 42 Barbecue site
- 46 Two-seater

- 47 Swedish shag rug
- 49 November birthstone
- 51 Native Alaskan
- 53 Diversify
- 54 Old Testament book
- 55 Like some threats
- 56 Arch type
- 57 Tidings
- 58 Pickle container
- 59 QB Manning
- 60 Polo Grounds legend
- 61 Hockey rink foundation

Annual Jednota Toronto Golf Tournament Saturday September 23, 2017

It's not too late to sign up!
This year's Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday September 23, 2017 at Deerfield Golf Club in Oakville, Ontario, sponsored by Toronto/Mississauga's District 19 and Branch 785 of the Jednota.



All men and women ages 16+ are welcome to play. Cost is \$75 per Jednota member which includes golf and power cart, food and beverages and prizes. Non-members are also welcome to play at a slightly higher cost.

This promises to be a fun day again with a 4-person team scramble format. Included with the golf will be prizes, food, snacks and beverages.

Other surprises are also planned. Last year, the prizes included kielbasa and cash. What will they be this year? Come join us and find out!

We promise to make you remember again that golf is a fun game! For questions and to book your spot:

John Tokarsky, Fraternal Activities Director
(416) 948-6606
jednota-sports-toronto@outlook.com

JEDNOTA Publication Schedule for 2017

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Issue Date | Deadline to Receive |
| Sept 13 | Sept 5 |
| October 4 | Sept 25 |
| October 18 | October 9 |
| November 1 | October 23 |
| November 15 | November 6 |
| December 6 | November 27 |

See Solution on Page 17

IT'S NOT TOO LATE: BE A PART OF THE JEDNOTA MEMORIAL



The First Catholic Slovak Union dedicated a Jednota Memorial site in September 2016 for our members and their families. The site is on a permanently dedicated 3 1/2 acres of land of Jednota property fronting on Rosedale Avenue in Middletown, PA. The land was once occupied by the Jednota Orphanage, purchased at the urging of our founder Fr. Štefan Furdek for just such a purpose. A rebronzed "Dough-boy" statute is a key highlight of this Memorial, honoring those who served in any wars and also giving the opportunity for our Members to honor and remember their ancestors and family members who have made and make our Society great.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 9 | PAUL & MARY CUPA JURICEK-YURICEK BARDEJOV, SLOVAKIA | IN LOVING MEMORY OF MICHAEL KARCH XOXO | LOVING MEMORY OF MY WIFE VIRGINIA KIRIK VOLTER OF 55YRS 2016 |
| DEDICATED TO THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF BRANCH 166K | | IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF LOVING PARENTS SSGT U.S. MARINE CORPS WORLD WAR II FRANCIS A. SOLG CATHERINE M. SOLG | HOLLY FRANK T. JR. ELIZABETH G. |
| CHARLES RODACY BOONE KEYSTONE OAKS HS-PA CLASS OF 2018 | RODACY CHARLES & ELIZABETH CHARLEROI, PA | BOONE FAMILY RON MONICA & CHARLES SCOOBY & VELMA | BERTOVICH MICHAEL & MARGARET AND FAMILY |
| MAY THE SACRED HEART BLESS & PROTECT THE HARCHARIK FAMILY | IN LOVING MEMORY OF WONDERFUL PARENTS FRANK & ANNA CHMELA | NOWATKOSKI BERNARD KATHERINE BRANCH 856 | |
| IN LOVING MEMORY FRANCIS AND MARY SENGLAR | IN LOVING MEMORY JOSEPH-HELEN SANKNER SCRANTON, PA BR 382 | REMEMBERING MEMBERS OF BRANCH 05P PITTSION, PA | TILGHMAN A. MILLER JR. 30 YRS MARINE CORPS UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN |
| IN LOVING MEMORY OF ANDREW & DELORES LINKO | IN MEMORY OF GEORGE "NORGE" DORKO GERALDINE BONCHAK | IN HONOR OF JOHN P. YURICEK SR. WARREN, OHIO | |
| JOZEF ZUZANA STANKAY BRADDOCK, PENNA. ZA BOHA ZA NAROD | IN LOVING MEMORY OF ELIZABETH J. GERKO AUNT BETTY | IN LOVING MEMORY OF STEPHEN G. GERKO ELIZABETH T. GERKO | IN LOVING MEMORY OF EDWARD A & DOROTHY A (TURCHIK) FRENCK |
| IN GOD'S KEEPING ANTHONY & EVIE MACHAK | REMEMBERING DEPARTED MEMBERS BRANCH 721 BANNISTER, MICHIGAN | | DEDICATED TO THE LOYAL MEMBERS LIVING AND DECEASED REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT #8 PA, MD, D.C. |
| ARTHUR J. FAYTA OUR SLOVAK HERO WORLD WAR VETERAN | IN LOVING MEMORY EMIL & VERONICA BAYUS SR. BRANCH 1 | JOSEPH AND CECELIA PETRASEK AND FAMILY AKRON, OH BRANCH 553 | |

This is another of the latest panels to be completed. To view more complete panels, or if you haven't yet ordered your "brick" you can go to www.fcsu.com to Jednota Memorial to download your order form. Or you can request an order form by calling the FCSU Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.



Best Foot Forward Walking Program

The Best Foot Forward Walking Program is an exercise program that can improve overall health.

Benefits to You:

- ♦ Lower your risk of heart disease
- ♦ Reduce your stress level
- ♦ Improve your flexibility, strength, and stamina

Please note this IS NOT a race or a competition; it is just a way to get active and stay active. You participate at your own pace.

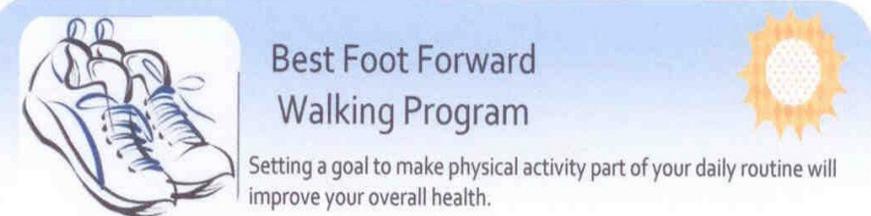
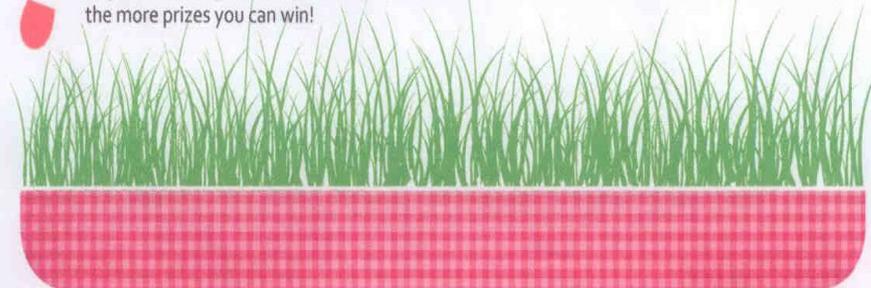
Rules:

1. The objective of the Best Foot Forward Walking Program is to reach milestones to be eligible for level awards. The pursuit of the milestones leads to a healthy way of life.
2. Participants MUST be members in good standing of the FCSU in order to be eligible for prizes.
3. A member can start the program at any time during the year.
4. Tally sheets should be sent in periodically throughout the year.
5. Walking minutes from January 1, 2017, and forward will be used to determine the milestones.
6. Awards will be given in October & April.
7. Awards will be based on the number of minutes you walked.
8. Pedometers may be used to track steps. (20 minutes of light cardiovascular activity = 1,000 steps).

1 STEP ONE
Register: Fill out the registration form and mail to:
Best Foot Forward
FCSU Activities
234 Ilion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
To receive your welcome kit.

2 STEP TWO
Just START WALKING!
Log your walking minutes. The more you walk, the more prizes you can win!

| Milestone | Award |
|--------------|------------------|
| 900 minutes | Hat |
| 1800 minutes | Hip pack |
| 2700 minutes | Water Bottle |
| 3600 Minutes | Ice/heat bandana |



Best Foot Forward Walking Program

Setting a goal to make physical activity part of your daily routine will improve your overall health.

Name: _____

Branch Number: _____

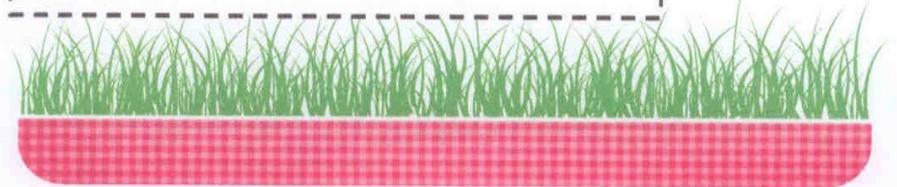
Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Mail to:
Best Foot Forward
FCSU Activities
234 Ilion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207



For additional sign up forms, tally sheet, and program details, go to <http://www.fcsu.com/events/>



From the Desk of the Executive Secretary – FCSU Holiday Hours

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on Monday, September 4, 2017, in observance of Labor Day.



Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren (0 -18) and receive

FREE \$10.00 GIFT CARD

with the certificate

Features:

- Pay one premium and have fully paid-up Insurance
- Issued in any amount (\$5000 or more)
- Excellent gift for children or grandchildren

MALE

NEWBORN

\$5,000 for \$410

FEMALE

NEWBORN

\$5,000 for \$345

AGE 5

\$5,000 for \$475

AGE 5

\$5,000 for \$410

AGE 10

\$5,000 for \$565

AGE 10

\$5,000 for \$485

AGE 15

\$5,000 for \$670

AGE 15

\$5,000 for \$570



CALL US

800-533-6682



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

LIFE IS PRECIOUS

Purchase Single Premium Whole Life Insurance coverage for your children or grandchildren (0 -18) and receive a **FREE \$10.00 Gift Card**

Features:

- Pay one premium and have paid-up insurance
- Issued in any amount of \$5,000 or more, subject to current FCSU Financial non-medical limits

Example:

| <i>Newborn Male</i> | <i>Newborn Female</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| \$5,000 for \$410 | \$5,000 for \$345 |
| \$10,000 for \$820 | \$10,000 for \$690 |

Reach out to us at 800.533.6682



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



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3 will hold their annual family picnic on Sunday, August 20, 2017. The picnic will be from 1:00PM until 4:00PM on the Sts. Cyril & Methodius school grounds. There will be games for the children, and refreshments and food for all members.

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3, Sts. Cyril & Methodius Society, will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, October 8, 2017, in Minneapolis, MN. The meeting will begin at 11:30AM in Father Dargay Hall, Church of Sts. Cyril & Methodius, 13th Avenue, N.E. & 2nd Street.

The agenda will include officers' reports, schedule of activities for 2018, and the election of officers.

A lunch will be available after the meeting.

Fraternally yours,

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 6K, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, August 20, 2017, at 12Noon at Streator Country Kitchen, 1309 S. Park Street, Streator, IL. All members of Branch 6K are invited to attend. Activities will be provided for the children. The meeting will be followed by a luncheon for all those who attend the meeting. Please call Paul at 815-822-8851 or Bob & Stella at 815-672-1764 before August 19th if you plan on attending.

Paul Chismar, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The Saint Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its next regular meeting on Sunday, September 10, 2017, at 9:30AM in the church hall of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT.

We will discuss our agenda for the rest of the year with our special breakfast meeting on November 12, 2017. At this meeting we will award our college-bound members with scholarships to help with their college expenses.

We cordially invite our members to attend our meetings conducted on the second Sunday of the month as follows: September 10, 2017; and November 12, 2017, with our annual meeting to be held on December 10, 2017 in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Hall.

Henry Zack, Secretary

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Attention Branch 24 members: the branch is once again offering its CHRISTMAS IN JULY MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION. For every WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE POLICY or ANNUITY you purchase or sell by November 1, 2017, Branch 24 will give you a complimentary ticket to the Vilija (Christmas Eve) Dinner sponsored by St. Andrew's Abbey every Christmas season.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (216) 524-0952. For more information about FCSU products and to download applications or forms, go to our website at www.fcsu.com. We hope you take advantage of this great opportunity and can join us at this year's Vilija.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 53 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

There has been a merger between Branch 053K Bridgeport, CT and Branch 019K Bridgeport, CT. All members of Branch 053K will now hold membership in Branch 019K. This merger has taken place as of June 06, 2017.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact:

JACQUELINE ANN ZACK
15 BROOKHEDGE RD
TRUMBULL, CT 06611-3212
(203) 268-4727

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, September 10, 2017, at 9:00AM at the Uniontown Country Club, 25 Bailey Lane, Uniontown, PA, 15401.

Officers' reports will be given and upcoming branch activities and events will be discussed. All members and guests of Branch 162 are invited to attend the meeting. Call for reservations by September 1, 2017, to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

Joanne, Marmol, Vice President

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 1, 2017, at 1:15 P.M., at Buffet Star, 4089 Old Vestal Road, Vestal, New York. On the agenda will be the Election of Officers and a discussion of District and Branch business. All members are encouraged to attend.

Please call Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by September 27, 2017, to make a reservation if you plan to attend. We hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, President

BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 199 will hold a meeting at 1:00PM on Sunday, September 17, 2017, at Jioio's Restaurant, Route 981, Latrobe, PA. Scholarship recipients are encouraged to attend the meeting and be recognized by Branch 199. All members are encouraged to attend.

Barbara Patula, Secretary

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 invites you to attend our monthly branch meetings which are held the 1st Thursday of every month (except June & July) in the upstairs Social Hall, 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. So for the rest of 2017: Sept. 7th, Oct. 5th, Nov. 2nd with Nomination of Officers, & Dec. 7th with Election of Officers.

We look forward to your presence at the monthly meetings held in the banquet hall directly following the BOD's meeting at 7pm. If you are not local to attend, please send your ideas to me @ vschaub123@gmail.com as we are compiling memorabilia for our 125th Anniversary in 2020.

Fraternally,

Vicki L. Schaub, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228, will hold an election of delegates to the 51st Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union at our meeting to be held on Monday, December 18, 2017 at 7 P.M. at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH. The Convention will be held in Cleveland, OH, from Saturday August 4th through Wednesday August 8th, 2018, at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown Hotel. We currently expect to be permitted to seat six (6) delegates at the Convention to represent our Branch and will also elect alternates to serve if a delegate is unable to attend the Convention. We hope to have all delegates and alternates decided upon at this meeting so the certification process can

begin immediately after the meeting.

Once again, I challenge our younger members to consider being a convention delegate and becoming even more involved in our organization. It is a truly special experience that is interesting, fun and gives a sense of accomplishment knowing that you are directly contributing to the operational direction taken by the FCSU for the next four (4) years. Please contact Tom Zuffa at 440-320-6523 or Len Zilko at 440-988-3236 if you are interested in becoming a convention delegate candidate and, of course, come to this very important meeting.

As a reminder, our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are scheduled. The Branch will hold its annual election of officers, by-law review and election of two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors at each December meeting. All meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held at the American Slovak Club. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. You are sure to find many items of interest.

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 254 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wenceslaus Society will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, September 17, 2017, at 11:30 AM at Panera's Restaurant in the Mt. Lebanon Galleria located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads, Mt. Lebanon, PA. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, contact Albina Senko at 412-343-5031.

Albina Senko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold a meeting on Sunday, August 20, 2017, at 1:00PM at the Bedford Trails & Golf Course Restaurant. On the agenda: general branch business. The next meeting will be held on Sunday, November 19, 2017, at 1:00PM at the Bedford Trails & Golf Course Restaurant. Election of officers will take place at this meeting, with induction of elected officers at the branch's Christmas meeting in December. All members are encouraged to attend. Please call President Paul Ritz to make your reservation (330) 840-0059.

Fraternally,

Paul Ritz, President

BRANCH 290 – RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

A meeting will be held of St. John the Baptist, Branch 290, on August 23, 2017 at 7:00PM. Call Joe at (908) 732-469-5256 to get the location of the meeting. Please try to attend.

Joe Minarovich, President

BRANCH 319 – MANSFIELD, OHIO

Attention Branch 319 members: the branch is actively seeking members to serve as officers for 2017. All branch officer positions are open. These include: President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, and Secretary.

Your guidance and direction in the operation of Branch 319 and its 66 members are greatly needed. If you are interested in accepting an officer position or would like more information about the general duties of a branch officer, please call Branch Liaison Bob Kopco at the FCSU Home Office: 1-800-533-6682, ext. 116.

Interested persons should respond no later than August 31, 2017.

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 410 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 410, will

hold a meeting on Thursday October 12, 2017 at 1:30 PM at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. All members of Branch 410 are invited to attend.

Call for reservations by Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 724-425-2576.

Geri Buchheit, Secretary

BRANCH 419 – WILKES BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Stephen the Martyr, Branch 419, will hold a regular meeting on Sunday September 17, 2017, at Norms Restaurant, Sherman Street, Wilkes Barre, PA, beginning at 12:30PM. Please attend as election of officers will be conducted (we need your help). Also normal branch business as well as suggestions for improving attendance will be discussed. Please bring a friend or a member. All are welcome. Lunch will served following the meeting.

Francis Wassil, President

BRANCH 425 – BARBERTON, OHIO

St. Mark's Society, Branch 425, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, September 17, 2017, at 1:00PM at the home of Paul J. Slota, 1371 Eastern Road, Rittman, OH. All members are invited to attend.

Jeanette Willis, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 567K Allentown, PA, and Branch 796K Egypt, PA. All members of Branch 567K will now hold membership in Branch 796K. This merger has taken place as of June 20, 2017.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact:

GIRARD LLOYD

4722 ABIGAIL LN

WHITEHALL, PA 18052-1958

(610) 844-7101

We wish to thank all the past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 633 – MT. MORRIS, MICHIGAN

Peanuts, Cracker Jack and the 7th inning stretch! Branch 633 will hold its annual Branch Activity at the Detroit Tigers game against the Chicago White Sox on September 18th, 2017. The game is scheduled for a 6:10pm start. We will meet as a group at the Will Call window on Witherell Street [in front of the stadium] at 5pm. For anyone interested in joining us please call 633 Branch President Rod Meloni at least one week in advance @ 248-444-9141 to make certain we can all sit together inside Comerica Park. We are looking forward to a great evening of fun and fraternalism.

Rod Meloni, President

BRANCH 633 – MT. MORRIS, MICHIGAN

Branch 633 KJ Sacred Heart of Jesus Society will hold its annual members meeting on October 15, 2017 at 1pm at the Deer Lake Inn, 7504 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346. We note here this meeting is of utmost importance as we will be voting to elect branch officers and also electing our convention representation in advance of the 2018 FCSU National Convention slated for Cleveland, OH. Our branch has expanded this year and we have several opportunities to elect new leadership. We encourage all members to prayerfully consider running for office. Please join us for fun, food and fraternalism and give a hearty welcome to our new members. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Branch 633 President Rod Meloni!@ 248-444-9141.

Rod Meloni, President

continued on page 17

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 1 – REV. MATTHEW JANKOLA DISTRICT – NEW ENGLAND

The Rev. Matthew Jankola District – District 1 – will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 10, 2017, at 11:00AM at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, now called the Rev. Matthew Jankola Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. We will discuss our activities of the past year. We also will plan our agenda for the coming year and our participation in the 2018 National Convention.

The election of district officers for the coming year will take place at this meeting. Members of the various branches are urged to attend this annual meeting.

Laura Minese, Secretary

DISTRICT 3— GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT – WESTMORELAND COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 23, 2017 following the 5:00PM Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church, United, PA. We will meet in the Formation room of the former Convent. We will be planning our annual Stedry Vecer and checking out what must be done to prepare for our upcoming convention. It is important that we have a good turnout so these matters may be addressed. Refreshments will be served.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary.

DISTRICT 4 – THE MONSIGNOR RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at St. Joseph's Church Hall, 16 Somerset Street in Raritan, NJ. Branch secretaries asked to RSVP to Joe Minarovich @ 732-469-5256 by September 29th. Agenda will include plans for future events. Lunch will be served. Please bring non-perishable items for donation to a local food pantry.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 2 will host the next district meeting on Sunday, November 26 at 1 PM. The meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Parish Hall on Grant Street Extension in West Mifflin. We will discuss social and business activities for 2018. Officers for 2018 will be elected. Matters concerning the upcoming national convention, including election of the district delegate, will also be on the agenda.

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments. The April 19 issue has a list of the requirements for the Branch Stipend. The national convention is coming next year; be careful to fulfill all requirements for sending delegates.

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

** WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library; Meetings resume in October. Become a member of the WPSCA to get the newsletter listing all of their events.

** Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in spring and fall. Contact Bozena Hilko at bozi@comcast.net. Fall classes are directed toward intermediate and advanced students. Spring classes are for beginners.

** NSS Septemberfest at the National Slovak Society Museum, 351 Valley Brook Road in McMurray PA. See the famous animated wood carving – Saturday, September 23, 11 AM – 4 PM. Parking available nearby at St Benedict the Abbot Church.

** Slovak Heritage Day at the Pitt Cathedral of Learning – Sunday, November 5 – noon to 5. Slovak seminars, entertainment, food and vendors.

** Don't forget the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour – 3-4 PM, Sunday's – WPIT-AM 730. The program is also streamed live at www.wpitam.com.

** You can follow the Pittsburgh Slovaks and the Western PA Slovak Cultural Association on Facebook. The National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids also has a Facebook page. Check out your family's hometown in Slovakia. Even a small village may have a Facebook page.

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

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

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

** The CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International will hold its next meeting on October 18-21, 2017 in Pittsburgh. Your correspondent will be giving a presentation on Slovak Alias Names. Further information can be found at www.cgsi.org.

** FCSU insurance information and forms can be found at www.fcsu.com. Many interesting Slovak-related links may be found at fcsu.com/resources.

If anyone knows of additional Slovak events in Western Pennsylvania that they wish to be included in our

District 17's Annual Summer Picnic



SS. Cyril & Methodius District 17 of Broome County, NY, and Lackawanna County and Luzerne County, PA, will hold its Annual Summer Picnic on Sunday, September 10, 2017, from noon to dusk. District members and guests will gather at Pavilion 2 of McDade Park, Scranton, PA.

A catered lunch will be served at 12:30PM and will feature a variety of Slovak foods, snacks, beverages will be available throughout the afternoon. Branch 166K of Binghamton, NY, and Branch 382K of Scranton, PA, will sponsor a late-afternoon cookout with hamburgers and hot dogs grilled to order.

There will be drawings for prizes throughout the afternoon.

The cost of the event is \$15 per adult and \$7 per child, 12 years and younger. Reservations are required for the caterer and must be made by Thursday, August 31, 2017.

Contact Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, District Fraternal Activities Director, at 570-344-3854. Messages can be left on voicemail

district notice, they should email information to the secretary.

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary
manasta@verizon.net

DISTRICT 7 – THE REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT

All branches are invited to attend the district's second annual meeting, hosted by Branch 372, on Sunday, October 22, 2017, at 2:00 PM. It will be in the church hall of St. Michael Church, in Beaverdale, PA. Election of officers will be held at this time. There will be a luncheon served after the meeting. All district branches are welcome. It would be nice to see some new faces.

Sharon Allison, Secretary

DISTRICT 8 - THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its Semi-Annual meeting Sunday, October 15, 2017. Mass will be held at 10:30 AM at St. John Fisher (the old St. Andrew Church), located at 3rd & Cypress Sts., North Catasauqua, PA. 18032

Dinner and Meeting will be held at the Jednota Home, which is located at 5th & Grove Sts. North Catasauqua, PA. 18032. Dinner will be served at 12:00 PM (Noon). Meeting will follow directly after the dinner.

At this meeting we will have our election of officers for 2018, as well as discussion concerning the upcoming convention which is August 2018. Our delegates and members at large should consider or offer suggestions for any by-law changes which should be brought up at the convention. Other district business will be discussed.

Any questions, please call Monica Fabian at 610-417-0468 or email mfabian922@gmail.com. Thank you. God Bless.

Respectfully Submitted,

Monica Fabian, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 9 - FRANK T. HOLLY, JR. DISTRICT- UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Frank T. Holly, Jr. District will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 8, 2017, at 1:00 P.M.

It will be held in the meeting room of the Dairy Queen Grill & Chill located at 575 West Main Street. Branch members are invited to attend. A Dairy Queen social will take place following the meeting.

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – THE REV STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

The Rev. Stephen Furdek (District 10) will be holding their last meeting of 2017 on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 2:00PM at St. Charles Parish Hall, 5891 Ridge Road, Parma, OH 44129.

We will be holding election of officers for 2018. Come and participate in your District for FCSU. Take an active part in your District – learn what the group has to offer to you and your branch.

If there will be representatives from your branch attending please contact Linda Hanko and let her know how many will be attending so we may plan properly for refreshments.

You may contact Linda in the following ways:

Call the Slovak J Club at 330-773-4978

Her home at 330-706-0151

Via email @lhanko@neo.rr.com

Please confirm your attendance by Wednesday, October 4, 2017.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Linda M Hanko, Recording Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 14 – THE REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The election of officers for the Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District was held, December, 2016. The results are as follows: President, Barb Hosa; Vice President, Nancy Scavina; Treasurer, Selma Bolash; Secretary, Joe Scavina; Auditor, Jackie Bobby; Fraternal Activity Director, Paul Ritz. The following dates are the remaining scheduled district meetings for 2017: November 21, 2017; and December 19, 2017.

Joe Scavina/Secretary


VS


SLOVAK J-CLUB
485 MORGAN AVE.
AKRON, OH 44311
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 9TH
KICKOFF @ 7:30 P.M.

BRING YOUR FAVORITE SNACK TO MUNCH ON.
CHILI AND HOT DOGS PROVIDED!



Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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

| Branch: | Name | Branch: | Name | Branch: | Name | Branch: | Name |
|---------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| 002K | Albert Foytik | 280K | Richard F Maisel | 484K | Edward G Yoschak | 731K | Mary Frances Hurd |
| 002K | Amelia Franek | 293K | Agnes Marie Poshefko | 493K | George R Dzurko | 738K | William A Bruno |
| 005P | Norma E Zavada | 320K | Frank J Kieta | 493K | Charles W Mazalan | 746K | John Bilavsky |
| 019K | Veronica Scalzi | 320K | Elizabeth Sharp | 512K | Elinor J Campbell | 746K | Rose M Gochal |
| 023K | Gary F Reznak | 324K | Frank J Andras | 512K | Steve J Krivonik | 746K | Arlene E Hegedus |
| 038K | Henrietta J Grooms | 327K | Anna Marie Ross | 514K | Anne H Urbanski | 746K | Andrew Sakach |
| 038K | Edward M Morgo | 348K | Hermine Ann Maseda | 517K | Elizabeth I Matt | 780K | Aloysius I Sapak |
| 040K | Eugene F Bednar | 367K | Frank W Kavlick Jr | 543K | Mary E Peterson | 785K | Katherine Banas |
| 085K | Catherine Glowacki | 372K | John J Kovalik | 553K | Cyril G Begallie | 785K | George Tutko |
| 085K | Robert V Malinosky | 380K | Matthew L Gress | 553K | Lora C Eller | 796K | George C Kline |
| 112K | Aldona M Pribush | 382K | Thomas Edward Miller | 581K | Stephen Michael Ligda Sr | 855K | Richard Shenal |
| 153K | Joseph A Massura | 419K | Mary E Mickulik | 595K | Michael M Vrablic | 857K | Ellen Bak |
| 166K | Robert D Shave | 419K | Joseph M Novajovsky | 600K | Michael T Hogue | 900K | Clara Gambos |
| 240P | Mary M Conlon | 450K | Elizabeth Ann Kurnath | 633K | Barbara E Muzzy | 914K | Mary A Damiatu |
| 254K | John Joseph Cholko | 456K | Shirley E Zahuranec | 652K | Dorothy A Franko | | |

*Processed through the month of July

OBITUARIES

MICHAEL T. HOGUE BRANCH 600 – VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA



Michael T. Hogue, 61 of Saint Augustine, Florida, formerly of North Apollo, PA, passed away on Monday, March 27, 2017 in the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Born November 2, 1955 in Pittsburgh, Pa. he was the son of Veronica A. (Mago) Hogue and the late Edwin J. Hogue. Michael was a graduate of St. James Catholic School, and a graduate of

Apollo-Ridge High School and a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with degrees in Speech and Political Science. He worked as a sales representative for the Clarke Company in West Virginia for many years; and was most recently employed for Tri Factor in Jacksonville, FL. Michael enjoyed reading and was an avid Pittsburgh sports fan supporting the Steelers, Pirates and Penguins. He also coached Leechburg girls' basketball for several years. Michael was a member of Branch 600. In addition to his mother Veronica, Michael is survived by his daughter Alexandra and several aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by maternal grandparents Joseph and Elizabeth

Mago and paternal grandparents Bernard and Emma Hogue all of Leechburg, PA. Also his beloved Saint Bernard Bentley. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Saturday April 22, 2017, at 11:00am in Saint James Roman Catholic Church, Apollo, PA, with Father Thomas More-Sikora as celebrant assisted by Father John Euker and Father Michael Sciberras. Interment in Saint Catherine's Cemetery, Gilpin Township. Arrangements had been entrusted to Curran-Shaffer Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc. of Apollo, PA.

- Submitted by Katherine Nowatkoski, Godmother

Besides his parents, Joseph and Mary (Krivan) Bialik, Joe was preceded in death by four children, Joseph Bialik, Donna Zack, Mary Jo Bialik-Fitzer and George Bialik; two brothers, Steve Bialik and John Bialik and his infant sister, Mary Bialik.

Joe devoted his life to his family, he was a loving husband, father and grandfather and will be dearly missed by all.

Family and friends called on Saturday, May 27, 2017 before the Mass of Christian Burial at St. Dominic's Church.

- Submitted by Debbie Bentfeld

WILLIAM A. "STRUM" BRUNO BRANCH 738 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA



William A. "Strum" Bruno of Munhall, PA, formerly of Whitaker, PA, passed away on June 16, 2017, at the age of 78. Beloved husband of 26 years of Rita (Jakim) Bruno; son of the late Vincent and Mary Bruno; father of Amy Bruno, Anita (Andy Marshall) Bruno, Laura (Dirk) Wabrick; stepfather of T.J. Andrews and Anita (Ron) Janicki; brother of Robert Bruno, Nina (Ray) DeFazio, Vincent Bruno, and the late Richard Bruno; loving pap of Matthew Bruno, Bradley Ruggieri, Tom Andrews, Marissa Janicki, Emily Andrews, Sam Janicki, and Stephanie Andrews; great-grandfather of Logan Bruno; also survived by former son-in-law, Ron Ruggieri; and many nieces and nephews. Bill was a Veteran of the Army and was a Surveyor for Allegheny County. He served on the Whitaker Borough Council and also as Mayor. He owned Bruno's Barber Shop in Whitaker. He was an avid golfer. Bill was a devout Catholic and attended daily Mass. He had a very outgoing personality, a welcoming smile, and was a loyal friend and family man who will sadly be missed by all those who knew him. Bill loved and was loved beyond measure. Family and friends were received at the Savolskis-Wasik-Glenn Funeral Home, Munhall, on Monday, June 19, 2017, and Tuesday, June 20, 2017. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Wednesday morning, June 21, 2017, at St. Therese Church, Munhall.

- Submitted by Rita Mae Bruno

JOSEPH G. BIALIK BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO



A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Saturday morning, May 27, 2017, at St. Dominic's Church, Youngstown, OH, for Joseph G. Bialik, 87, who was called by The Lord, to join his two sons, two daughters and brothers in eternal rest.

He graduated from Ursuline High School in 1949 and served during the Korean Conflict in the U.S. Army. Joe was a lifelong member of the Teamsters Union working for Loblaw's, McNicholas and Findley Welding. He was an active and devoted member of St. Dominic Church, where he served as a weekly usher. He was an office holder with the Jednota Lodge where he formed his brotherhood. Joe was an avid reader who enjoyed fishing, boating and was a resourceful handyman who could fix anything.

Joe is survived by his beloved and cherished wife of 64 years, the former, Marian S. Malovec; a daughter, Debbie (George) Bentfeld; eight grandchildren, Ryan (Heidi) Zack, Jamie (Vito) Pavone, Stacey (Phil) Yergin, Ashley (Ben) Gibson, Lisa (Jason) Armbrurger, Joseph Bialik, Stephen Bialik, Jonathan Bialik and a great-grandson, Tyson Cole Armbrurger; two sons-in-law, Henry Zack and Max Fitzer; a daughter-in-law, Athena Bialik; a sister-in-law, Joyce Bialik; many wonderful cousins and special nieces and nephews.

Plan ahead and leave a positive legacy behind

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

According to a recent article in TIME magazine the cost of a funeral is between \$6,000 and \$15,000 with an average of \$7,775?

Don't leave a financial burden for your family or loved ones.

Inquire today about FINAL EXPENSE INSURANCE

The sooner you do, the less it costs!

Premium based on the Single Premium Whole Life rates
Call 800.533.6682 or visit www.fcsu.com



FCSU Financial - First Catholic Slovak Union
Contact Branch Officer or the home office

6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131, 800.533.6682,
www.fcsu.com, insurance@fcsu.com



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

BRANCH 706 – DYER, INDIANA

St. Anthony Society, Branch 706, held its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, June 17, 2017, at the house of Branch Treasurer, Barbara Fayta, in Dyer, Indiana. Barbara Fayta and Marion Fayta opened up the meeting with a group prayer.

Officers for 2017 were elected as follows: President, Mark Fayta; Vice President, Michael Fayta; Recording Secretary, Lynda Tanis; Financial Secretary, Lori Seida; Treasurer, Barbara Fayta. Other members and participants at the meeting included Judy Fayta, Marion Fayta, Larry Seida, and Terry Tanis.

Other items on the agenda: went over the duties of the Branch Officers; discussed the Easter Coloring Contest, organized and arranged by Barbara Fayta; reviewed the dates of events for the Christmas Tree meetings and setup at the Museum of Science and Industry later in the year, led by Mark and Judy Fayta; and reviewed the branch budget and added Financial Secre-

tary, Lori Seida, to the bank account.

The Branch will hold our second semi-annual meeting in November, date to be determined later.

Lynda Tanis, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 714 – DAYTON, OHIO

Attention Branch 714 members: the branch is actively seeking members to serve as officers for 2017. All branch officer positions are open. These include: President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, and Secretary.

Your guidance and direction in the operation of Branch 714 and its 64 members are greatly needed. If you are interested in accepting an officer position or would like more information about the general duties of a branch officer, please call Branch Liaison Bob Kopco at the FCSU Home Office: 1-800-533-6682, ext. 116.

Interested persons should respond no later than August 31, 2017.

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 731 –

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Members of Saint Joseph Branch 731 Youngstown, Ohio will meet on Sunday, September 24, 2017 at noon at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 754 – ELYRIA, OHIO

Attention Branch 754 members: the branch is actively seeking members to serve as officers for 2017. Currently, all branch officer positions are open. These include: President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, and Secretary.

Your guidance and direction in the operation of Branch 754 and its 199 members is greatly needed. If you are interested in accepting an officer position or would like more information about the general duties of a branch officer, please call Branch Liaison Bob Kopco at the FCSU Home Office: 1-800-533-6682, ext. 116.

Interested persons should respond no later than August 31, 2017.

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 777 – BEDFORD, OHIO

Attention Branch 777 members: the branch is actively seeking members to serve as officers for 2017. All branch officer positions are open. These include: President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, and Secretary.

Your guidance and direction in the operation of Branch 777 and its 83 members are greatly needed. If you are interested in accepting an officer position or would like more information about the general duties of a branch officer, please call Branch Liaison Bob Kopco at the FCSU Home Office: 1-800-533-6682, ext. 116.

Interested persons should respond no later than August 31, 2017.

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Attention all Branch 853 members:

Branch 853 members who are paying for an education program are eligible for the yearly Branch Educational Stipend. If you are interested in receiving an application, please email FCSUBRANCH853@gmail.com. All information needs to be provided by the applicant and be submitted by mail - no email applications will be accepted; incomplete forms will not be returned and will not be processed. Stipend will not be greater than the cost of the course. Branch 853 encourages all types of educational enrichment.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON DC AND AREA

Branch 856 will be having mass in honor of our Slovak Chapel, Our Mother of Sorrows, in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Michigan Avenue N.E. Washington, D.C. [Editor's note: see page 3 of this issue.] Mass will be at 11:00 A.M. Sunday September 17, 2017 in the Crypt Church. This will be the 52nd anniversary since the dedication in 1965. All members are encouraged to attend and all Slovaks living in area are invited to attend. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638 or Stephen Matula at 703-671-3013.

Katherine Nowatkoski Financial Secretary

Struthers, OH – Branch 259 Accepting Scholarship Applications



Attention Branch 259 members: a \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a member of Branch 259 who qualifies. For an application and additional information, please contact: Vivian Sedlacko at 330-755-8316 or Rosemarie Yugas at 330-755-9048.

Applications must be submitted to: 17 Wilhelm Street, Struthers, OH, 44471. The deadline for submission of applications in December 29, 2017.

Fraternally yours,

Vivian Sedlacko



Lihani family members at a recent reunion: (L – R) Rob, David, mother Emily, father John, and Brian.



An article from a 1984 edition of Jednota featuring three Lihani brothers in service to our country.

American - Slovaks in the Spotlight – Deja Vu

Thirty-three years ago, the JEDNOTA (10-3-84) printed a brief article with photos of the three Lihani brothers of Slovak heritage, who were in the U.S. military. After their service, ranging from 7 to 23 years, they have met on special family occasions—the latest meeting was in May of this year when they celebrated family anniversaries and birthdays. Among the latter was the 90th birthday of their immigrant father, John, who came to the USA from Slovakia in 1937, as a ten-year-old, accompanied by an older brother, and mother to rejoin their father.

In this multi-celebration in California, the veteran sons also celebrated their current status, still related to their former military experience: Brian (Lt.Col. USAF ret.) as deputy director of radar installations for the Dept. of Defense, Rob (Capt.USAF) as producer of documentary films on military affairs, and David (Lt.Cdr. US-NAVY) as international lawyer for space exploration.

The nonagenarian John, an eminent university professor of Romance linguistics and literature (at Yale, Pittsburgh, Kentucky, and South America), also taught, with his innovative text, "Transitional English for Everyone," at the Ministry of Defense of the Slovak Republic. So, on this occasion, it was appropriate to celebrate the reunion with a Slovak theme, including tasty Slovak dishes, and a gathering around the Slovak flag with participants.

- Submitted by Ron Lihani

Reminder For All Branches

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

14.01 General Rules

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

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA MARCH 17 – 18, 2017 • INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

FIRST SESSION:

Friday, March 17, 2017

OPEN MEETING:

Reverend Thomas Nasta opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. by celebrating a Memorial Mass for our deceased officers and members who passed away in 2016.

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

ROLL CALL:

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

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Rev. Thomas Nasta | National Chaplain |
| Andrew Rajec | President |
| Andrew Harcar, Sr. | Vice President |
| Kenneth Arendt | Executive Secretary |
| George Matta II | Treasurer |
| Karen Hunka | Chairman of Auditors |
| Sabina Sabados | Regional Director, Region 1 |
| Damian Nasta | Regional Director, Region 2 |
| Martha Zavada-Wojcik | Regional Director, Region 3 |
| James Marmol | Regional Director, Region 4 |
| Michael Lako | Regional Director, Region 5 |
| Henry Hassay | Regional Director, Region 6 |
| Rudolph Bernath | Regional Director, Region 7 |
| Milos Mitro | Regional Director, Region 8 |
| Rudolf Ondrejco | Fraternal Activities Director |
| Gary Matta | General Counsel |

READING OF THE CALL:

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Annual March 2017 Meeting.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME:

The President read his welcome to the Board of Directors.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 10, 2016:

A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by Sabina Sabados to accept the minutes of the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting of December 10, 2016, as corrected. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA:

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Annual Meeting and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by James Marmol and seconded by Rudolf Ondrejco to accept the agenda and to allow the President to change the order of the agenda, if necessary. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OF COMMITTEES:

The President appointed the following committees:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>DONATION COMMITTEE</u> | <u>RESOLUTION COMMITTEE</u> |
| George Matta II | Reverend Thomas Nasta |
| Rudolph Bernath | Gary Matta |
| | James Marmol |

AQS REPORT:

Larry White, representing AQS Asset Management, presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report to the Board of Directors by teleconference and Webex. Each member of the Board of Directors received a copy of the presentation in advance for his or her review. During and after the presentation, Larry White answered questions from the Board.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT:

President Rajec turned the meeting over to Vice President Harcar, who recognized President Rajec. President Rajec read his 2016 annual report. At the conclusion of the President's Report, a motion was made by Rev. Thomas Nasta and seconded by Damian Nasta for its acceptance. Motion carried. (The President's Report is to be published in the Jednota Newspaper).

OUTSIDE AUDITORS REPORT:

John Zivkovic, CPA, and Jeff Wolstoncroft, CPA, of the accounting firm of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP, presented their annual report to the Board. They indicated the scope of their work and noted no irregularities. They found all FCSU financial reports in excellent order. Mr. Zivkovic and Mr. Wolstoncroft answered all the Board's questions to their apparent satisfaction.

Mr. Zivkovic and Mr. Wolstoncroft also presented the annual report of Jednota Inc., and Jednota

Properties, Inc., for the Board's review.

RECESS OF SESSION:

The Board recessed for lunch.

SECOND SESSION:

Friday afternoon, March 17, 2017

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order and asked Reverend Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain, to offer the afternoon prayer. The Executive Secretary stated that all members were present.

ACTUARIAL REPORT:

Edward DePersis and Nick DePersis, of ENDePersis Fraternal Consulting, Inc., presented their Management's Discussion and Analysis Report and reviewed the actuarial report for 2016 from Edward Cowman of Miller & Newburg. Mr. Edward DePersis stated that since each board member received a copy of both reports, he will not read the entire report, but will just give the highlights. He gave a very extensive positive report for 2016. The FCSU continues to be a well run profitable fraternal with outstanding financials as noted in their excellent RBC (Risk Based Capital) rating of 853.

Mr. DePersis stated that the State of California requires a California Name Reservation Resolution from FCSU stating that we will operate under the name FCSU Financial® Life in California since our name is similar to another society operating in California. Once we receive approval we will operate under the name FCSU Financial® Life in California.

Our Actuary, Edward Cowman, recommended that a dividend be paid in 2017 using the same format as used in 2016. A motion was made by Rudolf Ondrejco and seconded by Andrew Harcar, Sr., to pay the dividend. Motion carried.

Mr. DePersis stated that for the FCSU to receive final approval from the IRS to act as a passive or non-passive nonbank trustee or custodian of health savings accounts and as a passive or non-passive nonbank custodian of Coverdell education savings accounts, the Board must pass a resolution stating that the FCSU will comply with all IRS regulations and procedures in administering the health savings account and the Coverdell education savings account. A motion was made by George Matta II and seconded by Rudolf Ondrejco. Motion carried.

AMERICAN FRATERNAL ALLIANCE:

Joe Annotti, President of the American Fraternal Alliance (AFA), by invitation of President Rajec, made a presentation to the Board of Directors. Mr. Annotti explained that the AFA is a trade association representing 62 fraternal societies in the United States. The purpose of AFA is to be a political advocate on the federal and state level for all fraternal societies. They keep fraternal societies up to date on regulation changes and also have educational programs available. One of the programs Mr. Annotti recommends is the Board Boot Camp. It is designed to educate the Board of Directors on its responsibilities to the society. A motion was made by Michael Lako and seconded by Rudolf Ondrejco to authorize the President to set up a presentation of the Board Boot Camp at the Home Office in the future. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2016:

Executive Secretary's Report
Kenneth Arendt presented the financial summary report for the year ending 2016 and answered the Board's questions.

The Executive Secretary also presented a comparison report between what was budgeted for 2016 and the actual expenditures.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Board of Directors which gave a complete update of the investments and all current transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

Portfolio Custodian

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

Investment Updates

The President and Executive Secretary led a review on the investments and transactions with the UBS Fund, MAI Fund, and the Clutterbuck Fund. Following the report, the Executive Secretary answered the Board's questions.

Following the reports, the Executive Secretary answered the Board's questions. The Executive Secretary stated that his 2016 Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

continued from page 18

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer George Matta II presented the Treasurer's Report for 2016 summarizing the financial reports. The Treasurer's Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

A motion was made by Rudolf Ondrejco and seconded by Milos Mitro to accept the Executive Secretary and the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

CHAIRMAN OF AUDITORS REPORT:

Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka presented the 2016 Auditor's Annual Report and answered the Board's questions. The Chairman led a discussion regarding travel vouchers that were submitted for payment. The Board of Directors agreed that any travel voucher submitted with supporting documentation and with approval of the President should be paid. The Chairman stated that the internal auditors conducted a thorough audit and found everything in order. The Chairman of Auditors' Report will be published in the Jednota Newspaper.

SUBSIDIARIES REPORT:

The President turned the meeting over to Andrew Harcar, Sr., President of Jednota, Inc.

Jednota, Inc.

The President of Jednota, Inc., Andrew Harcar, Sr., gave his report to the Board of Directors and answered all the Board's questions. Mr. Harcar also led a review of the financial report presented by CPA's John Zivkovic and Jeff Wolstoncroft regarding Jednota, Inc. and Jednota Properties, Inc.

Jednota Properties, Inc.

The President then turned the meeting over to James Marmol, President of Jednota Properties, Inc., for his report. After his report, he answered the Board's questions.

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

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, Henry Hassay made a motion to adjourn for the day and Michael Lako seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Reverend Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

THIRD SESSION:

Saturday, March 18, 2017

OPEN:

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and asked Reverend Thomas Nasta to open the meeting with prayer and reflection.

ROLL CALL:

The Executive Secretary took a visual roll call. He stated that everyone is present.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The President recognized the Vice President, who presented his annual report to the Board of Directors and answered the Board's questions. The report covered membership and marketing, seminars, agent recruitment, and information for the proposers to assist them in obtaining their state licenses. The Vice President stated we have over 270 active independent agents and we are continuing to recruit agents.

The Vice President stated he will begin to schedule seminars for 2017 once our marketing firm has completed its overview of our presentation.

Membership and Marketing

The Vice President distributed a written report to the Board of Directors. The report contained a listing of the top proposers of insurance and annuity sales, a detailed report of sales production by districts, and a five year comparison report broken down by districts. The Vice President stated he is working on the insurance quota for the districts.

The Executive Secretary stated our marketing firm has completed the development of our new website and is now working on an email campaign to recruit agents in the 27 states we are licensed in. They will also develop informational videos to educate our members on our current life insurance and annuity products. These videos will be available on our website and can be viewed at branch and district meetings.

The President stated we should develop a mission statement for FCSU. President Rajec stated he will think of ideas and present them at a future meeting.

The Executive Secretary stated we should have a training session for the Board of Directors on our wealth transfer and final expense products.

The Vice President's Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND NATIONAL CHAPLAIN:

The Regional Directors and our National Chaplain presented their annual reports and answered all the Board's questions. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by George Matta II to accept all the reports as presented. Motion carried.

All reports will be printed in the Jednota newspaper.

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:

Director of Fraternal Activities, Rudolf Ondrejco, presented to the Board of Directors a summary of the 2016 activities. He reported on the Bowling Tournament, Coloring Contest, and Photo Contest. He announced the Bowling Tournament for this year will be held April 21-22, 2017 in Belle Vernon, PA. The Golf Tournament will be held July 28-30, 2017 in Canton, Ohio.

Fraternal Activities Director Ondrejco suggested the following as ideas to involve the youth: youth bowling tournaments; fitness, including walking, running and biking; volunteer program, such as Join Hands Day; Slovak Festival dance groups; and host a Junior Fraternalist of the Year Contest.

Fraternal Activities Director Ondrejco stated that he would like to introduce a new fraternal activity for the FCSU called Best Foot Forward Walking Program. This program will be advertised in the Jednota newspaper, on our website and sent in the branch mailing. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by George Matta II to approve this fraternal activity. Motion carried.

The President said a calendar listing our fraternal events and the activities held at the Slovak Embassy would be a useful tool for our members.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL:

General Counsel Gary Matta gave his brief 2016 report and answered the Board's questions.

ACCOUNTING FIRM:

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by James Marmol to continue a one year contract with our accounting firm, Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood. Motion carried.

ACTUARIAL FIRM:

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Rudolf Ondrejco to reappoint Edward Cowman of Miller & Newberg as our Actuary. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee

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

Investments were made in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and with the investment policy adopted by the Board of Directors. All investments are approved by a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee members work very closely with the Society's Investment Advisor, AQS Asset Management.

Pension Committee

The Executive Secretary gave an update on the FCSU Pension Plan. He stated that we are in full compliance with all federal regulations and answered the Board's questions.

Scholarship Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Scholarship Committee, which is comprised of three independent professional educators. The applications for FCSU scholarships are being received and will be sent to the Scholarship Committee. The Executive Secretary also gave a report on the Jednota Benevolent Foundation and answered the Board's questions.

A motion was made by Michael Lako and seconded by Damian Nasta to accept the committee reports as presented. Motion carried.

DONATION COMMITTEE:

The Donations Committee made their report and all requests were reviewed and acted upon.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE:

Father Thomas Nasta gave the report on the Resolutions Committee. All requests were reviewed and acted upon.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President stated that a resolution should be presented to Reverend Thomas Nasta honoring him on his 35th anniversary of Priesthood.

A motion was made by Rudolf Ondrejco and seconded by Michael Lako to have the President appoint the By-Law Committee as soon as possible so that the current by-laws may be reviewed. Motion carried. So noted.

PAYMENT OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING:

A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Reverend Thomas 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, Sr. to adjourn. Motion carried.

Reverend Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017

HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and asked Vice President Andrew Harcar, Sr., to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President via teleconference
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President via teleconference
George F. Matta II, Treasurer via teleconference
Michael Lako, Regional Director via teleconference
(by invitation of the President)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAY MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the May 2017 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Kenneth A. Arendt and seconded by George F. Matta II to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The President extended his greetings to the Executive Committee and stated that he is still recovering from surgery and will attend the meeting by teleconference. President Rajec then turned the meeting over to Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

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

Larry White led a discussion regarding new investment opportunities that we may take advantage of in the future.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer gave a written report on the investment update to the Executive Committee and answered the Committee's questions.

The Treasurer led a review of the investment opportunities presented by Larry White of AQS, and led a discussion about the possible investments we may want to take advantage of.

The Treasurer asked the President to invite a representative from UBS to make a presentation to the Executive Board. The President stated he will extend an invitation to our representative and schedule him to present a report at a future meeting.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:Investment Updates

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

Portfolio Review

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

Mortgages and Overdue Mortgages

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

Monthly Disbursements

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

| | | | |
|--|----|------------|--|
| Disbursements for the month of May 2017: | | | |
| Death Benefits & Accumulations | \$ | 258,257.90 | |
| Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations | \$ | 29,890.26 | |
| Matured Endowments & Accumulations | \$ | 0.00 | |
| Trust Fund | \$ | 0.00 | |

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

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:Annuity Rates:

The President led an extensive review of the current annuity rates. It was decided the rates remain the same and be reviewed at the next Executive Committee meeting in July.

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President gave a production report on our agents. He stated we are still recruiting and adding new agents, and at present have 275 agents. The Home Office is sending the independent agents monthly updates on our products, in addition to frequent phone contacts.

The Vice President stated that the 1st quarter review of our website traffic with our marketing firm has shown that our top 5 pages that are viewed are: home page, forms, annuities, contact and newspaper. The in-house marketing team will work with the marketing firm on increasing traffic to other pages and to increase the average number of time spent on our site.

The Executive Secretary stated we have started an extensive recruitment program to increase our number of independent agents. Emails along with postcards are being sent to possible agents in the states we are licensed in to inform them who we are, our rates, and the products we offer. We are waiting to analyze the results and see how successful we are.

The Executive Secretary stated we have received IRS approval to act as a passive or non-passive nonbank trustee or custodian of health savings accounts and as a passive or non-passive nonbank custodian of Coverdell education savings accounts. The Home Office is in the process of setting up the plans by August 1st or no later than September 1st. A description of the plans will be sent to the Board of Directors.

The Vice President stated that there are still cabins available for the 2017 Membership Meet, a 7 day cruise to the Eastern Caribbean aboard Allure of the Seas being held November 12-19, 2017. He stated information is posted on our website, published in the Jednota, and has been mailed out to the branches.

MIDDLETOWN PROPERTY:

The Vice President gave an update on the property in Middletown. The Vice President stated we have received several offers which will be reviewed by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Secretary stated we have received a 45-60 day extension from our potential buyers so we will have time to fully review their offers.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President asked the Executive Secretary for possible dates for the national picnic. The Executive Secretary stated that being so late in the year, many properties are not available and we will have to look into possibly having the picnic in late September.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

Requests for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN:

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

Vice President Andrew Harcar, Sr., closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Address Changes?

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, cancellation, or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398;

Phone: 1/800-JEDNOTA (1/800-533-6682); Fax: 1-216-642-4310; or E-mail: FCSU@aol.com.

Správy zo Slovenska

V cyperskom Limassole otvorili pre Slovákov Honorárny konzulát SR

Slovenská veľvyslankyňa v Nikózii Oksana Tomová otvorila koncom júna nové sídlo Honorárneho konzulátu SR v Limassole. Honorárnym konzulom pre okresy Limassol, Larnaka/Paralimni a Pafos sa stal Angelos Gregoriades. Angelos Gregoriades je predsedom KPMG a Cypersko-slovenského obchodného združenia. Na slávnostnom prestrihnutí pásky sa zúčastnil aj Yiannakis Omirou, bývalý predseda Cyperského parlamentu. Okrem neho na recepcii boli prítomní aj hostia z radov cyperskej obchodnej komunity, členovia parlamentu, miestnej samosprávy, diplomatického zboru a ďalší.

Hutnícka fakulta TUKE v Košiciach mení po 65 rokoch svoj názov

Hutnícka fakulta Technickej univerzity v Košiciach (TUKE) po 65 rokoch od svojho založenia mení svoj názov na Fakultu materiálov, metalurgie a recyklácie. Nedávno o tom informoval prodekan pre vonkajšie vzťahy a marketing fakulty Dušan Oráč. „Sme hrdí na svoje bohaté tradície, ale zároveň sme presvedčení, že nový názov lepšie vystihuje všetko to, čo naša fakulta už dnes v oblasti výchovy študentov, ale aj vo sfére výskumu ponúka,“ vysvetlila dôvody zmeny dekanka fakulty Iveta Vasková. Nový názov začala fakulta oficiálne používať od 1. júla 2017. S tým súvisí aj vývoj jej nových webových stránok a jej troch ústavov.

Sobášov na Slovensku bolo minulý rok rekordne veľa

V roku 2016 sa uzavrelo takmer 30-tisíc sobášov, najviac od roku 1993. Sobášov bolo minulý rok rekordne veľa, vlni ich bolo takmer 30-tisíc. Ich počet rastie od roku 2013. Za nárastom sobášov vidia odborníci dozrievanie svadieb silnej generácie tzv. Husákových detí, svadby partnerov, ktorí už majú deti, ale aj opätovný príklon mladej generácie k tejto forme spoluzitia.

Zreštauujú najväčšie súsošie kalvárie z dielne Majstra Pavla

Súsošie kalvárie z dielne Majstra Pavla umiestnené v Kostole nanebovzatia Panny Márie v Spišskej Novej Vsi, zreštauujú vďaka grantu Nadácie VÚB. Súsošie tvoria sochy ukrižovaného Krista, Panny Márie a svätého Jána.

„Potvrdené! Predávajú nám šmejdy“.

Po vzore slovenského ministerstva pôdohospodárstva si aj české ministerstvo poľnohospodárstva dalo urobiť veľký prieskum kvality potravín a drogérie. Testovalo sa 21 výrobkov z Česka, zo Slovenska, Maďarska, Rakúska a Nemecka. Testy ukázali, že v krajinách bývalého východného bloku, kam patrí aj Slovensko, sa výrobky rovnakej značky predávajú v nižšej kvalite a niekedy aj s nižšou hmotnosťou.

„Kto sú Slováci, ktorí žijú v Česku?“

Česko láka veľa študentov zo Slovenska, kvalifikovaní ľudia a študenti potom u našich západných susedov zostávajú. Zároveň v Českej republike klesá počet slovenských robotníkov, ktorí si dokážu podobné peniaze zarobiť doma. Veľkú časť našej komunity tvoria mladí úspešní ľudia s vysokou školou, ktorí majú lepšie platené zamestnanie a navyše zarábajú viac ako domáci.

Nitra plánuje nahradiť naftové autobusy MHD za elektrobusy

Mesto Nitra plánuje nahradiť naftové autobusy zabezpečujúce mestskú hromadnú dopravu ekologickými vozidlami. Podľa slov primátora Jozefa Dvonča mesto vyčlenilo v Integrovanom regionálnom operačnom programe pre potenciálneho dopravcu 5 miliónov eur na nákup elektrobusov alebo CNG autobusov s pohonom na stlačený zemný plyn. Pri elektrobusoch počítajú s tým, že by sa v meste budovalo približne 50 dobíjajúcich staníc.

Symbol Tour navrhol Slovák

Ceny - krištáľové poháre pre víťazov Tour de France vyrába česká dielňa Ajeto podľa návrhu slovenského dizajnéra Petra Olaha z českej Škody. Vyrobia až dvadsať pohárov, z ktorých vyberú štyri najlepšie. Päť týchto pohárov už získal Peter Sagan za zisk zeleného dresu.

Firmy nahrádzajú školstvo

Firmy v Česku musia pre nedostatok ľudí odmietat' zákazky. Takémuto stavu chcú investori na Slovensku predísť. Lídri v súkromnom vzdelávaní sú firmy pôsobiace v automobilovom priemysle. Najnovšie bakalárske vysokoškolské štúdium, rozbieha najväčšia domáca automobilka Volkswagen Slovakia. „Najlepší absolventi pilotného projektu budú mať garantované pracovné miesto v pilotnej hale. Naším cieľom je zároveň, aby študenti počas praxe v treťom ročníku zistili, čo ich najviac zaujíma a kde sa v budúcnosti vidia v rámci automobilového priemyslu“, priblížila hovorkyňa automobilky Volkswagen Lucia Kovarovič Makayová.

Ministerstvo kultúry chce prilákať filmárov, zriadi Národnú filmovú agentúru

Ministerstvo kultúry chce na Slovensko prilákať filmárov. V druhom polroku 2017 plánuje vytvoriť Národnú filmovú agentúru. Vznikne v spolupráci s Audiovizuálnym fondom a jej hlavnou úlohou bude prezentácia Slovenska ako filmovej krajiny, do ktorej sa producentom oplatí prísť realizovať výrobu filmu či jeho časti. Ďalšími úlohami agentúry bude spájanie zahraničných a slovenských filmových profesionálov či vytváranie príležitostí na realizáciu filmových projektov na Slovensku.

Vysokoškoláci i doktorandi sa môžu stať „tieňom“ zamestnanca OSN vo Viedni

Poslucháči magisterského, inžinierskeho i doktorandského štúdia majú aj v tomto roku možnosť bližšie spoznať prácu zamestnancov Organizácie Spojených národov (OSN) vo Viedni. O možnosti prihlásiť sa do projektu Shadowing programme 2017 informuje na sociálnej sieti Slovenská asociácia pre OSN. Program sa uskutoční v termíne od 24. októbra do 24. novembra. Záujemcovia mohli kontaktovať Slovenskú asociáciu pre OSN najneskôr do 10. augusta ako aj počet miest bol imitovaný.

Vlaňajší rok bol pre cestovný ruch na strednom Slovensku rekordný

Aktivity Oblastnej organizácie cestovného ruchu (OOCR) Stredné Slovensko spolu s globálnymi trendmi a rastúcou kvalitou služieb v cestovnom ruchu, pomohli k tomu, že uplynulý rok v tomto regióne bol pre cestovný ruch rekordný. Konštatoval to Jiří Pěč, výkonný riaditeľ OOCR Stredné Slovensko v Banskej Bystrici. Počet návštevníkov vzrástol o viac ako 12 %, mesto Banská Bystrica bolo na tom ešte lepšie s nárastom o viac ako 24 %. Počet prenocovaní v regióne sa zvýšil o takmer 12 % a v Banskej Bystrici dokonca o viac ako 27 %. Podľa neho pozitívny trend zaznamenali aj tržby ubytovacích zariadení.

Výber zo slovenskej tlače



Na Nitrianskom hrade zriadili pamätnú miestnosť kardinála Jána Ch. Korca

V priestoroch Biskupského paláca na Nitrianskom hrade zriadili Pamätnú miestnosť kardinála Jána Chryzostoma Korca (1924 – 2015).

Práce na vybavení miestnosti prebiehali od marca tohto roka. Podľa slov riaditeľky Diecézneho múzea v Nitre Veroniky Pleštinskej, „dramaturgia tohto priestoru je do značnej miery podriadená veľkosti miestnosti. Ide o výber darov, ktoré otec kardinál počas svojho života nadobudol, sú tu aj niektoré jeho osobné veci, napríklad okuliare, bez ktorých sme si ho nevedeli predstaviť. Sú tu veci, ktoré sa týkajú jeho života keď znášal komunistické prenasledovanie“.

Návštevníci uvidia aj dobové fotografie, známu „rušičku“ odpočívacích zariadení, časť kardinálskeho oblečenia, jednoduché kalichy, slúžiace na celebráciu svätých omší počas jeho prenasledovania, samizdaty jeho kníh, autentické rukopisy z poznámok a mnoho iných exponátov. „Veľmi pútavo sú usporiadané veci, s ktorými on disponoval, ktoré dostával a ktoré vykresľujú jeho život“, povedala Veronika Pleštinská.

Pamätnú miestnosť môže verejnosť navštíviť v rámci vopred ohlásenej organizovanej prehliadky Nitrianskeho hradu, a to pod vedením sprievodcov. Biskupstvo zatiaľ pre túto miestnosť nechystá denné otváracie hodiny.

TK KBS

Ranogotický kostol sv. Martina v Čeríne



FOTO TASR - Branislav Račko

Na snímke hlavný oltár s gotickými nástennými maľbami v kostole sv. Martina v Čeríne 3. júla 2017. Kostol pochádza zo začiatku 14. storočia a je postavený v gotickom slohu. Pravdepodobne ho dal postaviť Pavel de Körtös okolo roku 1315. Upravovaný bol v 15., 17. a 18. storočí. Gotická architektúra objektu sa zachovala, v niektorých prípadoch aj s detailami v plnom rozsahu. Hodnotu objektu znásobujú známe gotické nástenné maľby a maľovaný ranorenesančný drevený strop lode. Samotná architektúra a stredoveké fresky sú predmetom neustáleho umeleckého a vedeckého záujmu zo strany kunsthistorikov a reštaurátorov.

Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

40. slovenský festival v New Jersey

Jubilejný 40. festival slovenského dedičstva v New Jersey sa bude konať v **sobotu, 16. septembra** v Middlesex County Fairgrounds v obvode mesta East Brunswick, NJ. Hoci festival bude po prvý raz v sobotu, program ostáva nezmenený. Prítomní budú aj významní hostia zo Slovenska. Park bude otvorený od 10. hod., bohoslužby budú o 11. hod. a kultúrno-zábavný program na javisku bude o 2. popoludní. V zábavnom programe vystúpi ľudový súbor Limbora z New Yorku, viaceré detské súbory a aj na Slovensku populárne speváčky Beata Dubašová a Nika Karch. Do parku je prístup pomerne jednoduchý. Vezmite exit 9 z NJ Turnpike, smerom na 18 South a potom na Cranbery Rd. South. Adresa parku je 655 Cranbery Rd, East Brunswick, NJ. Vstupné je \$10.00, deti do 14 rokov majú vstup voľný. Parkovanie je voľné.

Združenie slovenských katolíkov bude mať 59. konvenciu v Youngstown, Ohio

Združenie slovenských katolíkov v USA a Kanade bude mať svoju 59. konvenciu v Youngstown, Ohio v **dňoch 18. a 19. septembra t.r.** ZSK vydá pri tejto príležitosti Pamätnicu. Zaujímaví, ktorí by chceli mať svoje meno na strane pozdravov, môžu poslať šek na adresu: Theresa M. Kluchinski, 71 South Washington St., Wilkes Barre, PA 18701 v obnosoch: platinový pozdrav \$100, diamantový \$75, zlatý \$58, strieborný \$25 a bronzový \$10. Šeky majú byť vystavené na Slovak Catholic Federation.

Aktivity v Slovenskej záhrade vo Winter Park, Florida

Slovenská záhrada (SZ) v mestečku Winter Park, v blízkosti Orlanda, je v tomto čase jediným centrom slovenského života vo Floride. Každoročne usporiada niekoľko kultúrnych a spoločenských podujatí, ktoré prilákajú Slovákov aj zo vzdialenejších miest vo Floride, ba aj z iných amerických štátov.

Na **sobotu 14. októbra** majú na programe Slovakfest-zabíjačku s bohatým výberom slovenských pochúťok. Na **sobotu, 9. decembra** pripraví vedenie SZ bohatú predvianočnú večeru (viliu) s tradičnými štedrovečernými pochúťkami. Začiatok o 2. hod. popoludní. Slovenská záhrada pozýva na tieto podujatia širšiu slovenskú verejnosť, vrátane sezónnych návštevníkov zo „severu“. Informácie o týchto podujatiach a o členstve v SZ možno dostať na tel. č. 407-677-6894, alebo cez e-mail: slovakgarden@centurylink.net

Predstavili knihu

“60 rokov Slovenskej katolíckej misie vo Francúzsku”

V aule Teologickej fakulty Trnavskej univerzity so sídlom v Bratislave sa v stredu 12. júla uskutočnila prezentácia knihy Mons. Imricha Tótha “60 rokov Slovenskej katolíckej misie vo Francúzsku”. Predstavenie pripravili fakulta v spolupráci so Slovenským ústavom v Ríme a Úniou slovenských spisovateľov, umelcov a kultúrnych tvorcov žijúcich mimo územia Slovenska.

Novinku predstavili P. Ján Ďurica SJ a profesori Emília Hrabovec a Jozef Rydlo. Páter Ďurica zdôraznil prínos

slovenských kňazov pre udržanie katolíckej a národnej identity slovenských utečencov, ktorí opustili Slovensko v rokoch 1945, 1948 i po roku 1968 a ktorí vybudovali napríklad Slovenský ústav s. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme, Stredisko Slovenských jezuitov v Kanade alebo Svetový kongres Slovákov.

Cirkevná historička prof. Emília Hrabovcová načrtla osudy slovenskej komunity vo Francúzsku počnúc dvadsiatimi rokmi minulého storočia a objasnila ako došlo k založeniu SKM vo Francúzku. Dr. Jozef Rydlo načrtnol ako slovenské misie vznikali, podal prehľad misií a misionárov, ktorí sa od čias pápeža Pia XII. až podnes v západoeurópskych štátoch venovali a venujú dušpasterskej činnosti slovenských emigrantov. Konštatoval, že tieto aktivity dosiaľ neboli zmapované. Zdôraznil, že kniha Mons. Tótha je po viac ako polstoročí prvou knihou opisujúcou činnosť najstaršej katolíckej misie v Európe.

Prvou a dosiaľ jedinou knihou bola publikácia Exsul familia Slovacorum, ktorú napísal v roku 1962 Mons. Štefan Náhalka, zakladateľ dnešného Pápežského slovenského ústavu sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Ríme. Vyjadril nádej, že po tejto monografii uzrú tlačiarenskou čiernou deň dejiny ďalších misií a misionárov. Na záver predstavil svoju knihu a priblížil svoju misionársku činnosť a jej význam v súčasnosti Mons. Imrich Tóth osobne.

Slávnostný rámec podujatia rámcovala nielen účasť hostí, vojenského ordinára Mons. Františka Rábeka, emeritného trnavského arcibiskupa Mons. Jána Sokola či bývalého predsedu Národnej rady SR Pavla Hrušovského, ale aj prítomnosť primátorky mesta Vrbového Emy Maggiovej, ktorá na prezentácii udelila Pamätnú medailu mesta Vrbového rektorovi Slovenskej katolíckej misie v Paríži za rozvíjanie národného a duchovného života Slovákov vo Francúzsku.



TK KBS

Košický arcibiskup Bober v Cliftone, NJ

Košický arcibiskup - metropolita, Bernard Bober na sviatok Nanebovzatia Panny Márie, 15. augusta 2017 slúžil svätú omšu v Kostole sv. Cyrila a Metoda, 235 Ackerman Ave. v Cliftone, New Jersey. Svätá omša sa konala z príležitosti 10. výročia založenia Oratória St. Philip Neri v Tappan, NY. Po svätej omši bola v kostolnej hale recepcia.

Oratórium bolo založené 1. augusta 2007 a dnes má jedenásť kňazov. Šiesti z nich sú zo Slovenska a pôsobia aj v slovenských farnostiach, Sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku, Sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Cliftone, NJ a Sv. Michala v Trentone, NJ.



Oltár z dielne Majstra Pavla slávi 500. výročie

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

če, ktorý sa považuje za najväčšieho stredovekého umelca Slovenska,“ uviedla Zuzana Beregházyová z Mestského úradu v Levoči. Široký je 6,72 metra a vznikol v rokoch 1507-1517.

V oltárnej skrini sa nachádzajú tri hlavné sochy a predstavujú Madonu s dieťaťom, sv. Jána a sv. Jakuba. V jeho dolnej časti je situované zobrazenie poslednej večere. Bočné steny tvoria pohyblivé krídla, ktoré sú zo zadnej strany zdobené tabuľovými maľbami a z prednej strany reliéfmi.

Oltár, hoci je zasvätený patrónovi mesta a kostola sv. Jakobovi Apoštolovi, je v podstate oltárom apoštolov. V povojnových rokoch bol reštaurovaný, nakoľko ho napadla červotoč a hrozilo i jeho zrútenie. V rokoch 1952-1954 ho bratia Kotrbovci zreštaurovali, pričom od svojej inštalácie bol po prvý raz rozobratý. Posledný veľký zásah na umeleckom diele sa začal v roku 2012. Trvalo takmer tri roky, kým pamiatka dostala pôvodný vzhľad. Na reštaurátorské práce bolo použitých takmer 300.000 eur, z ktorých zhruba 220.000 eur zaplatila nemecká nadácia Messerschmitt Stiftung a zvyšok financoval Rímskokatolícky farský úrad v Levoči. Chrám bol v roku 2009 zapísaný do Zoznamu Svetového dedičstva UNESCO ako súčasť súboru Levoča, Spišský hrad a pamiatky okolia.

TASR

Slávnosť Nanebovzatia Panny Márie

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Prečo som dnes začal úvahou o smrti, pretože Slávnosť Nanebovzatia Panny Márie je oslavou nehybného života. Smrť je daňou za hriech, ale tá na ktorú sa dnes upierajú naše oči, nikdy nezhréšila. Východní otcovia používajú pre označenie jej odchodu z tohto sveta termín „uspenie“. Chcú tým vyjadriť, že Mária nezomrela ako umierame my, ale pretože ustavične chodila s Bohom, ako praotec Henoch a prorok Eliáš, Boh si ju vzal. Jej smrť nebola rozpadom jej bytosti, ale prechodom do Božieho sveta.

Rímsky katechizmus takto definuje túto skutočnosť: „Napokon bola Nepoškvrnená Panna – uchránená nedotknutá od akejkoľvek škvrny dedičného hriechu – po skončení pozemského života vzatá s telom i dušou do nebeskej slávy a Pán ju povýšil za Kráľovnú vesmíru, aby sa tak plnšie pripodobnila svojmu Synovi, Pánovi pánov a víťazovi nad hriechom a smrťou.“ Nanebovzatie presvätej Panny je výnimočnou účasťou na zmŕtvychvstaní jej Syna a anticipovaním vzkriesenia ostatných kresťanov.

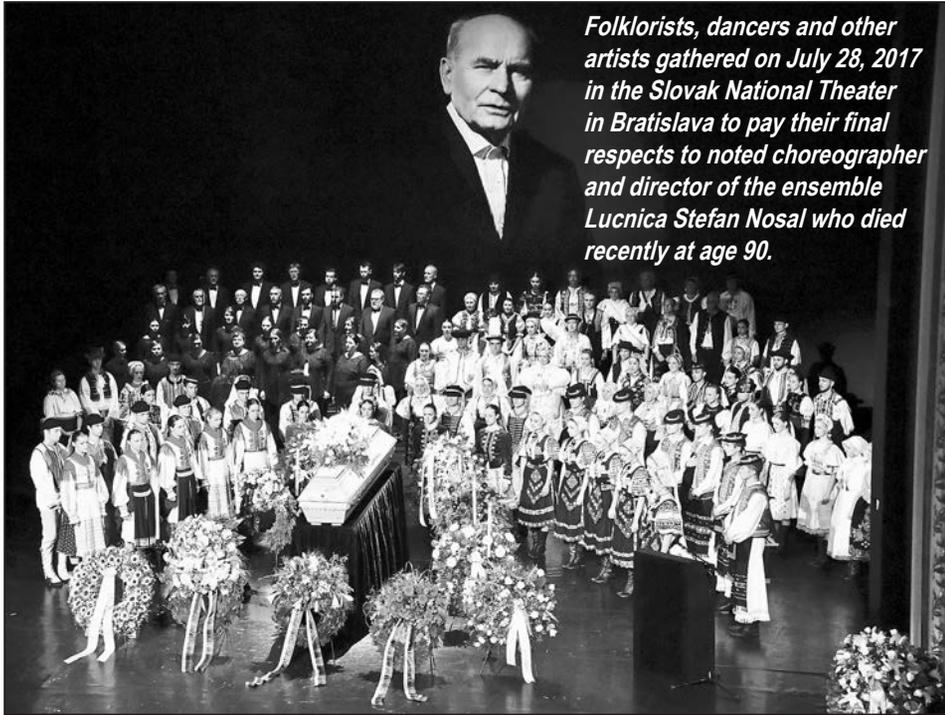
Východná liturgia hovorí: „Pri svojom pôrode si zachovala panenstvo, pri svojom usnutí si neopustila svet, Bohorodička: dosiahla si prameň života, ty, ktorá si počala živého Boha a svojimi modlitbami oslobodíš naše duše od smrti.“

Mária do svojej bytosti prijala Božie Slovo. V nej sa Slovo stalo Telom a jej telo sa stalo chrámom Ducha Svätého. A aj z tohto dôvodu jej telo nepodľahlo porušeniu, ale bolo Duchom Božím uchvátené k trónu Toho, ktorý je Život. Vo svojom živote nosila Život a preto smrť nad ňou nemala moc. Sv. Hildegarda z Bingenu, nazývala pannu Máriu zvláštnym výrazom: „Virgo viridans!“ Doslova by sme to mohli preložiť ako Panna stále zelená, teda Tá, ktorá je úžasne vitálna, lebo jej život nekončí smrťou.

Mária bola vzatá do neba, ale tuší aspoň trošku moderný kresťan, čo to je nebo. Túži po nebi tak, ako túžil jeho stredoveký predchodca. Nebo to je miesto radosti na všetkých úrovniach ľudskej bytosti, raduje sa telo, plesá duša i duch. Ľudia, ktorí prežili klinickú smrť hovoria o tom, že ľudská duša má úžasnú schopnosť prijímať stále väčšiu blaženosť od Boha. Mystici hovoria, že „žiadny tvor by neuniesol toľko slávy a blaženosti, keby k tomu nebol uschopený božou mocou. Na zemi boli svätí, ktorí zakúsili niečo z nebeskej blaženosti a museli zvolieť: „Bože, už stačí táto radosť! Moje srdce už nemôže vydržať viac.“ Je to radosť z dovŕšenia lásky medzi Bohom a tvorom. Len zo skúsenosti svätých si môžeme aspoň trochu uvedomiť to, čo presahuje každú našu skúsenosť.

Sv. Ján Damaský takto komentuje udalosť Nanebovzatia: „Patrílo sa, aby ta, ktorá si pri pôrode zachovala neporušené panenstvo, zachovala si taktiež telo bez akéhokoľvek porušenia. Bolo dôstojne a správne, aby snúbenka, s ktorou sa Otec zasnúbil, bývala v nebeských izbách. Bolo dôstojné a správne, aby tá, ktorá videla svojho Syna na kríži a prijala vo svojom srdci meč bolesti, ktorému unikla pri pôrode, nazerala na Neho ako sedí vedľa Otca. Bolo vhodné, aby Matka Božia mala to, čo má Syn, a aby bola všetkými tvormi uctievaná ako Božia Matka a služobnica.“

Frantiskani.sk



Folklorists, dancers and other artists gathered on July 28, 2017 in the Slovak National Theater in Bratislava to pay their final respects to noted choreographer and director of the ensemble Lucnica Stefan Nosál who died recently at age 90.

FOTO TASR - Pavol Zachar

Z poslednej rozlúčky s choreografom a umeleckým vedúcim súboru Lúčnica profesorom Štefanom Nosálom v historickej budove Slovenského národného divadla v Bratislave 28. júla 2017.

Zomrel nestor slovenského folklóru Štefan Nosál

Profesor Štefan Nosál zomrel v sobotu 22. júla 2017 večer v Bratislave vo veku 90 rokov. Jeho život je spätý s celou históriou umeleckého súboru Lúčnica. Od roku 1949 v Lúčnici pôsobil ako tanečník, v roku 1951 sa stal umeleckým vedúcim a hlavným choreografom súboru Lúčnica. Vytvoril viac ako 100 choreografií a celovečerných programov. Okrem Lúčnice pôsobil Nosál desiatky rokov aj na Vysokej škole múzických umení (VŠMU) v Bratislave.

Smútok nad stratou nestora slovenského folklóru vyjadrili aj ďalší najvyšší ústavní činitelia. Premiér Robert Fico (Smer-SD) skonštatoval, že odišla nezabudnuteľná postava slovenského folklóru s obrovským osobným prínosom. Predseda parlamentu Andrej Danko (SNS) v reakcii na správu o Nosáľovom úmrtí povedal, že slovenská kultúra stratila vzácného človeka.

Uznanie nad Nosáľovým dielom vyjadril i minister kultúry Marek Maďarič (Smer-SD), ktorý poukázal na to, že Štefana Nosála charakterizoval výnimočný talent, súčasťou ktorého bola usilovnosť, pokora a múdrosť. „Aj preto bol vo svojej práci a živote taký nespochybniteľný, všetkými prijímaný a obdivovaný,“ uviedol minister.

Na poslednej rozlúčke odzneli i piesne z Podpoľania – rodného kraja Štefana Nosála. Báseň Milana Rúfusa, rodinného priateľa Nosáľovcov, zarecitoval Štefan Bučko.

Folklórna únia na Slovensku vyhlásila 22. júl za Národný deň smútku slovenského folklóru. Okrem minúty ticha na pamiatku profesora Štefana Nosála na začiatku poslednej rozlúčky únia vyzvala, aby bol úvod folklórnych vystúpení či spoločenských stretnutí venovaný spomienke na túto osobnosť.

TASR

Bábkaršú Bystricu zaradili medzi 26 najlepších divadelných festivalov

Vlajší medzinárodný festival Bábkaršá Bystrica TOUR, Dvojité impulz, organizovaný Bábkovým divadlom na Rázcestí (BDnR) v Banskej Bystrici, medzinárodná porota európskej festivalovej platformy EFFE (Europe for Festivals, Festivals for Europe) vybrala ako jeden z 26 najlepších umeleckých divadelných festivalov.

Vyberalo sa spomedzi 715 európskych festivalov ocenených značkou kvality EFFE Label a Bábkaršá Bystrica sa stala laureátom ako jediný festival zo Slovenska. EFFE Label je európske ocenenie pozoruhodných festivalov rôznych umeleckých smerov prínosných pre svoju komunitu, svet umenia a celú Európu.

Európska Festivalová Asociácia (EFA) zverejnila výber festivalov pred niekoľkými dňami a vyzdvihla ich neobyčajnú umeleckú kvalitu, zmysluplnú prácu, uvedomenie si záväzkov spoločenského pôsobenia festivalov v umení a ich dosah na región, v ktorom pôsobia. Laureáti sú zároveň zaradení do súťaže o cenu EFFE Award. Cena bude odovzdaná 18. septembra 2017 počas Salónu umeleckých festivalov v Bruseli za účasti zástupcov a



Ilustračná snímka.

zástupkyň ocenených festivalov, eurokomisára pre kultúru Tibora Navracicsa, členov a členiek EFFE poroty a EFA rady a európskych médií.

Medzinárodná festivalová komisia ocenila smerovanie banskobystrického festivalu a vysoko ohodnotila ciele, ktoré dlhodobo sleduje. V nasledujúcich týždňoch bude 26 ocenených festivalov predstavených na webovej stránke EFFE.

TASR

Súťaž Prečo mám rád slovenčinu, prečo mám rád Slovensko... oslávila prvú štvrtstoročnicu

Lipka ma nesie k Tebe, Slovensko...

„Silná vôňa kvetov včielky láka a z prachu ich krídel slovenský med nám dávaš. Mnohým vtákom, ale aj pocestným si ochrana od náhleho dažďa a v lete silného slnka. Cez obed si viem sadnúť pod jej korunu a nadýchať sa vône, ktorú vánok z jej kvetov rozsieva. Vtedy mi najľahšie myslami odletieť do kraja, z ktorého ju priniesli...“ (práca ocenená Cenou Matice slovenskej, Barbara Kanisek, ZŠ „Josip Kozarac“ Josipovac Punitovački, Chorvátsko)

Tvorivé súťaženie o najkrajšie vyznanie adresované slovenskej reči a krajine v tomto roku doviedlo strieborné jubileum. Tenká nitka tkaná odhodlaním a úsilím hŕstky tvorivých zakladateľiek súťaže, podporená snahou prekonať nejednu prekážku, sa postupne premenila na hrubú striebornú cvernu, ktorá spája mladé slovenské talenty celého sveta a dáva im priestor písať o svojom jazyku, domove i cite k slovenskosti.

Nové Zámky dňa 2. júna 2017 otvorili svoje brány už po 25. krát žiakom a študentom základných a stredných škôl na Slovensku. Súťaž si však nesie svoje špecifikum a podporuje aj mladú generáciu krajanov. Kategória prác Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí ani tento rok nezaostala, a aj v tomto roku do nej prišlo rovných 136 súťažných prác. Súťažila nielen Európa, ale i zámorie. Práce na adresu Krajanského múzea Matice slovenskej prišli z USA, Veľkej Británie, Cypru, Chorvátska, Maďarska, Rumunska i Srbska. Rok čo rok sa kvalita žiackych prác zlepšuje. Porote zloženej z pracovníčok Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí a Matice slovenskej sa úloha určiť, kto za svoje vyznanie dostane nielen ocenenie, ale i niekoľkodňový pobyt na Slovensku, sťažuje.

Slávnostný program vyhlásenia súťaže, nad ktorým prebral záštitu predseda NR SR, Andrej Danko, sa začal pri soche Antona Bernoláka v Nových Zámkoch. Hymna, presvedčivý a precitovaný recitačný prednes Juraja Sarvaša, i krátke príhovory a položenie vencov k sochám prvého kodifikátora slovenského jazyka, vytvorili dôstojnú platformu pre slávnostný ceremoniál, ktorý sa odohrával v priestoroch cisársko-kráľovskej jazdiarne. Za účasti významných hostí sa počas kultúrneho programu žiakom odovzdali hlavné ceny, osobitné ceny poroty, čestné uznania i osobitná cena Matice slovenskej, ktorá v tomto roku putovala do Chorvátska, žiačke Barbare Kanisekovej.

V závere ceremoniálu ŠPÚ vyhlásil ďalší, 26. ročník súťaže, ktorá je uznávaným pojmom medzi literárnymi súťažami na Slovensku.

Čas jubilej je i časom bilancovania. Nie je pochyb o tom, že súťaž má svoje opodstatnenie, zmysel i hodnotu. Naše poďakovanie patrí všetkým tým, ktorí sa pričínili o jej dlhoročné fungovanie i postupné etablovanie medzi množstvom iných súťaží. Súťaži želáme, aby sa časom strieborná cverna jej vývoja zmenila na ešte pevnejšiu – hrubú, zlatú reťaz.

Zuzana Pavelcová



Súťaž Miss Folklór 2017 predvedú kroje i party

Spojenie krásy, talentu a tradícií je hlavnou myšlienkou tretieho ročníka súťaže Miss Folklór 2017. Z kastingov, ktoré sa uskutočnili na folklórnych festivaloch, vzišla finálová zostava 11 folkloristiek a tú nedávno organizátori predstavili na Donovaloch. Práve tam sa 15. septembra uskutoční finále, na rozdiel od uplynulých ročníkov, kedy sa konalo v amfiteátri vo Východnej.

Ako informovala riaditeľka súťaže Barbora Palovičová, bývalá členka umeleckého súboru Lúčnica, medzi 11 finalistkami sú aj tri dievčatá zo srbskej Vojvodiny, ktoré zaujali tradičným tancom, spevom i muzikálnosťou. Vojvodinské Slovenky budú reprezentovať regióny Pančevo, Báčsky Petrovec a Nový Sad. Talentované dievčatá zo Slovenska zase rozmanitosť jednotlivých našich regiónov ako Tekov, Šariš, Liptov, Abov či Horehronie. Predvedú typické kroje, archaické svadobné party, ale i zvyky a tradície..

Pri súťaži Miss Folklór nerozhoduje fyzická krása, ideálne miery 90-60-90 ani výška nad 170 centimetrov či vek, keďže prihlásiť sa mohli dievčatá do 28 rokov. Nemusia byť už aktívne členky folklórnych súborov, stačí, ak nosia folklór stále v srdci a vedia ho odprezentovať spevom, tancom, prípadne ovládaním hudobného nástroja.

Vo finále na Donovaloch diváci nevidia žiadnu promenádu v plavkách.

Región Horehronia bude v súťaži reprezentovať 26-ročná Banskobystričanka Ivana Pašovičová, ktorá sa po siedmich rokoch vrátila z austrálskeho Sydney. Kedysi tancovala v detskom súbore Matičiarik.



Ilustračné foto.

TASR



Slávnosť Nanebovzatia Panny Márie

Dňa 15. augusta sa veriaci schádzajú na Slávnosť Nanebovzatia Panny Márie. Možno nám ten sviatok pripadá zvláštny a on skutočne aj zvláštny je. Zvykli sme si počas svojho života na realitu smrti natoľko, že hoci nám pripadá ako čosi vrcholne nezmyselné a kruté, predsa ju prijímame ako bežnú skutočnosť. Smrť je však najväčšou záhadou tak pre jednoduchého človeka ako aj pre lekára, filozofa a teológa. Prečo sa zrazu zmysluplný rozvoj života zastaví a začne upadať? U rastlín a zvierat si môžeme povedať: „Dosiahli svoj vrchol“, doslúžili a skončili.“ U človeka je však problém smrti komplikovanejší. Človek, ktorý konečne zmúdreľ, ktorý vytvoril pekné vzťahy, ktorý je šťastný vo svojej rodine, ktorý miluje a je milovaný, nechce zomrieť. Keď človek po ťažkej námahe konečne zmúdreľ a nadobudol si cenné skúsenosti, prichádza smrť a odníma mu rozum. Keď si človek vybudoval pekné a blaživé vzťahy k ľuďom, prichádza smrť a zhasína jeho horúce srdce. Smrť nám akosi nedáva zmysel, aspoň z ľudského pohľadu nie. Aj keď sa počas svojho života stretne s ňou v mnohých podobách, vždy sme ňou akosi zaskočení a chápeme ju len ako nutné zlo, proti ktorému sa v srdci búrime. A je to správne, pretože Boh stojí na strane života, Boh sám sa predstavuje ako Život. Božie Slovo nám hlása, že Boh stvoril človeka k neporušiteľnosti, i v tomto zmysle má byť človek obrazom Boha. Kniha Múdrosti hovorí, že Boh smrť neučinil a nemá záľubu v smrti živých, ale závišťou diavla prišla na svet smrť.

Pokračovanie na str. 22

40. slovenský festival v NJ bude v sobotu, 16. septembra

Jubilejný 40. festival slovenského dedičstva v New Jersey sa bude konať v sobotu, 16. septembra v peknom parku Middlesex County Fairgrounds v obvode mesta East Brunswick, NJ. Tento park má všetky potrebné zariadenia na úspešný festival a je centrálnější situovaný s ohľadom na slovenské komunity.

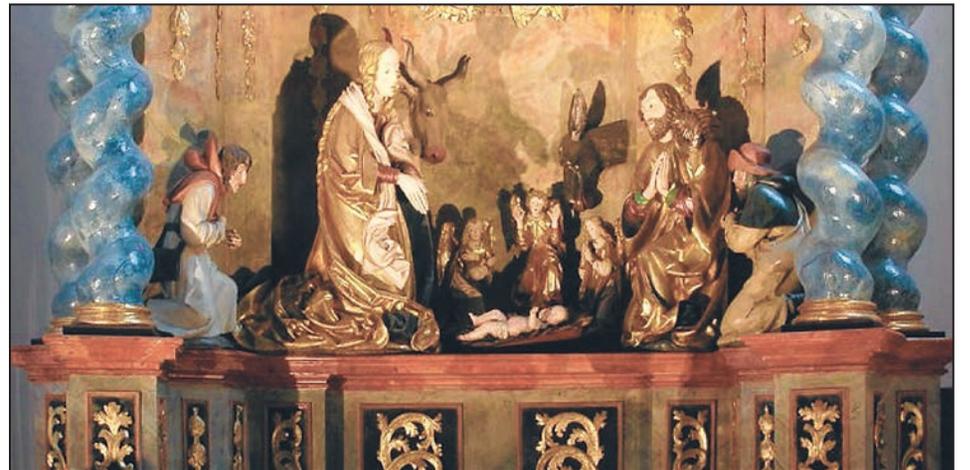
Hoci festival bude po prvý raz v sobotu, program ostáva nezmenený. Prítomní budú aj významní hostia zo Slovenska a program spestria aj populárne moderné slovenské speváčky.

Park bude otvorený od 10. hod., bohoslužby budú o 11. hod. a kultúrno-zábavný program na javisku bude o 2. popoludní. V zábavnom programe vystúpi ľudový súbor Limbora z New Yorku, viaceré detské súbory a aj na Slovensku populárne speváčky Beata Dubašová a Nika Karch.

Do parku je prístup pomerne jednoduchý. Vezmite exit 9 z NJ Turnpike, smerom na 18 South a potom na Cranbery Rd. South. Adresa parku je 655 Cranbery Rd, East Brunswick, NJ.

Vstupné je \$10.00, deti do 14 rokov majú vstup voľný. Parkovanie je voľné.

Oltár z dielne Majstra Pavla slávi 500. výročie



Oltár Narodenia od Majstra Pavla.

This year marks the 500th anniversary of the completion of the main altar in the church of Saint James in Levoča by Master Paul.

Oltár Majstra Pavla, ktorý je umiestnený v Bazilike sv. Jakuba v Levoči, v tomto roku oslavuje 500. výročie svojej inštalácie. Vyvrcholením osláv bolo podujatie *Večer s majstrom* priamo v bazilike v sobotu 22. júla, ktorým si poctili dielo tohto rezbára.

V Bazilike sv. Jakuba sa nachádza viacero oltárov, z ktorých najcennejší je práve hlavný oltár z dielne levočského rezbára. „Oltár vysoký 18,62 metra je najvyšším neskorogotickým oltárom na svete. Zhotovený je z lipového dreva v dielni Majstra Pavla z Levo-

Pokračovanie na str. 22



Múzeum moderného umenia Andyho Warhola (MMUAW) v Medzilaborciach.

The Museum of Modern Art of Andy Warhol in Medzilaborce held a "Week with Andy" recently during which a genealogical tree of Andy Warhol was presented.

V múzeu v Medzilaborciach predstavili rodokmeň Andyho Warhola

Múzeum moderného umenia Andyho Warhola (MMUAW) v Medzilaborciach pripravilo počas leta pre verejnosť Týždeň s Andym. Päťdňové podujatie sa začalo v pondelok 7. augusta, kde bola naplánovaná aj inaugurácia rodokmeňa Andyho Warhola.

Počas celého týždňa, v múzeu prebiehali prednášky venované rôznym témam. Rozprávalo sa o živote, smrti, ale aj tvorbe svetoznámeho umelca, ktorého korene siahajú do neďalekej obce Miková v Stropkovskom okrese.

Múzeum moderného umenia Andyho Warhola vzniklo v Medzilaborciach pred vyše 25 rokmi. Je historicky prvé svojho druhu na svete a doteraz jediné v Európe. V stálej expozícii o pôvode kráľa pop-artu sú prezentované jeho podobizne z detstva, jediný exemplár platne s nahrávkou spevu jeho matky Júlie, ale aj košielka, v ktorej ho krstili, a iné. Súčasťou stálej expozície MMUAW v Medzilaborciach je od vlaňajška aj výstava Pop-art vs. Street-art.