



Catholic Fraternal

# Jednota

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## President's Mother's Day Message 2019

We are told that restaurants have their busiest day for Mother's Day.

The most popular need reservations two or more weeks in advance.

Mothers have a special place in our hearts, and obviously a special bond because of the birth relationship.

Each of us have a personal remembrance or remembrances of our Mother. For some it may be our Mother's special laugh or sense of humor. For others it may be her special kindness that she showed, or maybe her piety to God or the Blessed Virgin. Maybe it was the good example she set for us, or maybe it was as simple as her perseverance in life's daily struggles.

I remember my Mom as she struggled with a relatively rare debilitating major illness, scleroderma, which first appeared in her early 40's and resulted in her death at age 60.

Her illness progressed slowly and painfully with many doctor and hospital visits.

However, she accepted her cross and showed determination, faith and kindness to others.

I am sure all of you have memories of your Mother. This Mothers' Day remember your fondness memories, forgive old faults and if your mother is living, show her special kindness and love.

In closing, I would like to wish a happy, healthy and blessed Mother's Day to all our living Mothers, and for our deceased Mothers, may they rest in Eternity with our Lord.

I know you will be doing the same.

Fraternally,



Andrew M. Rajec

Andrew M. Rajec  
National President



The Officers and Members of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada extend their most sincere Fraternal Greetings and Best Wishes to all Mothers and Members on Mother's Day!

Thank you for keeping the traditions alive.

- Rev. Thomas A. Nasta ..... Chaplain
- Andrew M. Rajec ..... President
- Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. .... Vice-President
- Kenneth A. Arendt ..... Executive Secretary
- George Matta II ..... Treasurer



Book the 2019 FCSU  
Caribbean Cruise –  
Or possibly win it!  
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National Coloring  
Contest 2018  
Winners – Part II  
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*Happy Mother's Day*


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# Insights and Viewpoints



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

### 51 – 4th Sunday of Easter – May 12, 2019

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles Paul and Barnabas preach to the Jews at Antioch in Pisidia; this was one of their last stops together before they parted ways and Paul devoted his ministry to the Gentiles. In the early Church the divide between Jewish and Gentile Christians seen in Acts was strong at first but thankfully it faded over time. The unity that is at the heart of Christianity gradually healed the



Fr. Edward Mazich,  
O.S.B.

enmity between those who had converted to the faith from Jewish or Gentile backgrounds, and they all came to be identified simply as Christians.

We see a strong call to this sort of unity in faith in the words of the Psalmist: “We are his people, the sheep of his flock;” in today’s Gospel, where our Lord reminds us: “My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me;” and in the Book of Revelation, where John of Patmos writes: “I, John, had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb.” All the scriptures we hear today thus underline the critical nature of unity within the Living Body of Christ which is the Church.

Sadly, we have still divisions in the Church today, falling largely along lines of liturgical preferences, or between “social justice Catholics” and “cultural conservatives,” or amidst those who introduce political partisanship into the Church. Often when we find ourselves arrayed intentionally or unintentionally against fellow Catholics we do not as much reject what the “other side” supports as we hold different priorities—fashioning our own preferences into essential elements of Catholicity in the self-assured world of our opinions.

In the Acts of the Apostles Saint Luke reminds his readers several times that it was the Spirit of God that knit together the early Church and sustained its members, whether Jew or Greek in origin (see, for example, Acts 2). Eventually the same Spirit led these parties to come closer together as the Church became clearly separate from the synagogue and the contemporary pagan culture. Elsewhere in the New Testament (Gal 3:28) Saint Paul sounds the same theme, reminding us that when it comes to our faith, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is not male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Today, if we focus more on our common faith in Christ and on the unity between the Father and the Son extolled by our Lord in the Gospel, we will see that there is no place for division among Christians: neither enmity against those who are different from us in belief, nor against our own fellow believers. Breathing in deeply the gift of the Holy Spirit in the days of the Easter season will prepare us to do our part in honoring the Spirit on the feast of Pentecost and in being instruments of the same Spirit as we work to become channels of unity in the Body of Christ.

In our passage from Acts Paul and Barnabas recall the words of the prophet Isaiah in exhorting the crowd in Antioch: “I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth” (Acts 13:47; Isa 49:6). We too have been given a share in the light of Christ and have a corresponding responsibility to let it shine to the ends of the earth.

Embracing this light, let us take today’s scriptures as our inspiration in turning away from

sources of division and forging unity in their place, so that we can live up to our calling to imitate Christ, in whom all are made one.

### May 19, 2019 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

In the Acts of the Apostles we here of the travels of Paul and Barnabas. These two men were not part of the original twelve Apostles, but the experience the Apostles had with Jesus was not limited to the chosen twelve, and was passed on to those who followed them. We are told that Paul and Barnabas had finished their ministry in Lystra where Paul was stoned, thought to be dead and dragged out of the city. After this they returned to Antioch where they, “reported what God had done with them.” They did not focus on the rejection and persecution, but rather on the good fruit that came from their faithfulness to the Lord.



Fr. Killian Loch,  
O.S.B.

The Book of Revelation, also known as the Apocalypse of John, comes from a time of persecution and suffering in the early Church. God’s word to the Church at that time, as well as to us, is to continue to walk in faith and to trust in the presence of the Lord. The passage we hear this weekend comes from the next to last chapter and reminds us that despite the trials and suffering those who remain faithful will share in the Victory of Jesus. It is the victory of seeing a “new heaven and a new earth;” the victory of seeing the “new Jerusalem,” where God dwells. It is the victory that results in the end of suffering and death, for in Christ, all things are made new.

In the Gospel Jesus looks at the impending betrayal by Judas as preparation for his glorification that will come with the Cross and Resurrection. Without the resurrection we can look at the imperfections of life with its trials and tribulations as a hopeless path that ends with our deaths. With Christ’s resurrection this is turned around and all of our imperfections and sufferings are seen as part of the path to everlasting life. Jesus changes our identity to that of love and tells us, “This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” Our identity comes from who we are in relationship to Christ. His new commandment is; “As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.”

In all of this we are called not to focus on our sufferings and little persecutions, but rather on being faithful to the Lord and rejoicing in the fruit that comes from this faithfulness. We are called to look at life through the eyes of the resurrection in which everything is changed, and to allow the joy of the resurrection to be the source of our deep rooted and overflowing joy. We are called to accept the love the Lord gives to us, and to love one another with that same love. These three things are not always easy, but neither was the path of the cross to the resurrection, but if we walk the path with faithfulness, joy and love we will experience the glory of the resurrection more and more in our lives.

In the Church we celebrate the Easter Season for fifty days, in our lives let us work at celebrating Easter every day of the year. For the Risen Lord is with us always, and his love never ceases and his glory never diminishes. The Easter Season is a time for us to be renewed and restored in experiencing the greatness of God’s love for us. May the remainder of the Easter Season be a time of our renewal and prepare us to joyfully celebrate the presence of the Risen Lord throughout the rest of the year.

**Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com)**

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 14

Copy Date

MONDAY, JUNE 3

MONDAY, JULY 1

MONDAY, AUG. 5

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## Annual Report of the National Chaplain

Dear Board of Directors and Members of the FCSU:  
It is an honor to be your National Chaplain. I was happy to be present for and to participate in several events during 2018.

I attended all Board of Directors meetings either in person or by means of teleconference. Each session was opened and closed with prayer. Mass for the Board was offered at the March meeting, which was held in Cleveland, OH. At the invitation of the National President, I attended the March Executive Committee meeting in person and the December meeting telephonically.

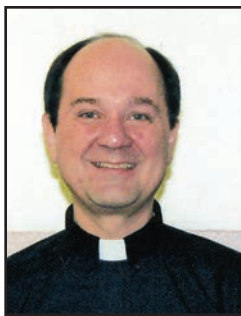
I was a lane sponsor and participated in the annual Bowling Tournament which took place in April in Erie, PA. I also celebrated Mass for the participants. In July I travelled to Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, PA for the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day Association's Annual Slovak Day and concelebrated the Mass. The next day I travelled to Blairsville, PA to participate in the annual Golf Tournament and celebrated Mass for all attending.

For the 51st Quadrennial convention held in August at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown Hotel, Cleveland, OH, I was responsible for preparing and coordinating all liturgical celebrations. Members of our Society who died since the last convention were remembered at a prayer service I led. My duties at the convention included beginning and closing each session with prayer and swearing in the newly elected officers just prior to the convention's adjournment. The convention delegates elected me for another term as national chaplain. The Board of Directors met immediately after the convention concluded and I opened and closed the meeting with a prayer.

In my role as First Vice President of the Slovak Catholic Federation, I fulfilled my primary responsibility by coordinating the annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. This Appeal raises funds to support the operating costs of the residence for priests from Slovakia pursuing post-graduate studies in Rome. I attended May's Board meeting in Danville, PA and September's meeting in Youngstown, OH. The day following September's Federation Board meeting, the biennial meeting of the Conference of Slovak Clergy took place. The Conference chose me as their Vice Chairman.

Throughout the year I have written articles that were published in the Jednota and have answered correspondence that was sent to me.

May our Lord continue to bless us in our all our endeavors.  
Fraternally,



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Reverend Thomas A. Nasta  
National Chaplain

## Annual Report of the National Vice-President

Reverend Father, President Rajec, and members of the Board of Directors...

As always, I want to start off my report by thanking the Membership and Marketing Committee which is comprised of Brothers Andrew Rajec, Kenneth Arendt, and George Matta II, for all the time and effort they spend with me on the problems and solutions that concern membership and marketing. Each member is very concerned with the growth and success of our Society.

Membership  
As you will see by our annual statement, the First Catholic Slovak Union had another good year. Our surplus increased 5.17% or 1,591,738 to 32,374,585. We will go into all the annuities and insurance statistics when we get into our marketing report.

Our existing sales force is doing a tremendous job for the First Catholic Slovak Union. The Membership and Marketing Committee would like to express their sincere thanks to those recommenders who consistently commend new or increased business during the year.

The future of our society looks very promising as we head into the New Year...with one exception...Membership!

We have a very urgent task facing us. You, as board members, know the most important phase of our society is new membership, which brings in premium income. Without sufficient premium income there is no way we can be an ideal fraternal society. I was looking at the statistics of other fraternal compiled by the NFCA. Almost every fraternal has the same problem as we... declining membership. We will talk about this later in Marketing.

Congratulations to the Society's TOP 10 Proposers by Amount of Insurance Sold for the year 2018.

1. Miriam Visnovsky
2. Marek Visnovsky
3. Sabina Sabados
4. Vicki Lynn Schaub
5. Arlo Meeker
6. Frances Tarquinio
7. Kenneth A. Arendt
8. Audrey Balazik
9. Richard Mizikar
10. Anna Korcak

Congratulations to the Society's TOP 10 Proposers by Amount of Annuity/IRA/Park Money brought in for the year 2018.

1. Joseph Lauko
2. Kenneth A. Arendt
3. Theresa Chupka
4. Roger Soltis
5. Stephen Gerko
6. Victoria Hricik
7. Kathleen Persun



Andrew R. Harcar Sr.

continued on page 4

## Message from the National Chaplain

Pope Francis has designated October 2019 as an Extraordinary Mission Month. In preparation for the commemoration, profiles of certain individuals who left their homeland for work in the vineyard of the Lord are being presented. This month's article is about Sister Dr. Mona Tyndall.

Sister Dr. Mona Tyndall was born in Ireland on April 21, 1921. After making her religious profession as a Holy Rosary Sister in County Cavan on August 28, 1942, she went to University College Dublin to become a medical doctor. Later, she travelled to England for further studies to qualify as an OB-GYN.

Her life as a missionary took her to Africa, first Nigeria in 1949 where she ministered to the sick. When a civil war broke out between Nigeria and Biafra in 1967, Sister Mona, together with fellow religious missionaries, cared for the overwhelming numbers of sick, wounded, displaced, starving, and dying as best as possible. Eventually, the Biafran secessionists were repelled by Federal Nigerian troops. These troops took possession of all Mission posts and had Sister Mona and the other missionaries, including their bishop, arrested and imprisoned. The personal intercession of Pope Paul VI is credited with their eventual release from prison. The missionaries were deported.

Sister Mona then found herself in the nation of Zambia, where she worked for the next several years in the health care ministry, with emphasis in maternity care. Her efforts in reducing overcrowding in hospitals and the number of women who died during childbirth won her the admiration and support of the Government of Zambia.

With the backing of Zambian government officials and financial aid from Ireland's Official Development Assistance, Sister Mona was able to collaborate with others in establishing ten maternal health clinics and the nation's first ambulance service. She also helped form a network of clinics in the rural areas of Zambia for distributing information on natural family planning and, later, on HIV/AIDS awareness.

Sister Mona retired from active missionary work in 1995 and returned home to Cavan, Ireland, where she was involved with bereavement ministry until her death on June 7, 2000 at the age of 79.

Reverend Thomas A. Nasta  
National Chaplain

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## Annual Report of the National Vice-President

continued from page 3

8. Robert Kopco
9. Susan Salko
10. Agnes Farcosky

Congratulations to the Society's TOP 10 Proposers by the Number of Insurance Policies Sold for the year 2018.

1. Norman Sajovie (16)
2. Vicki Lynn Schaub (11)
3. Audrey Balazik (7)
4. Monica Rura (7)
5. Sabina Sabados (7)
6. Anna Korcak (6)
7. Michael Lako (6)
8. Frances Tarquinio (6)
9. Sandra Greenblatt (5)
10. Richard Mizikar (5)

To each and every one who signed an insurance member and/or who sent in an Annuity/IRA/Park Money contract for the year 2018. My heartfelt thanks and congratulations for a Job Well Done!

**Marketing**

This past year the Membership and Marketing Committee...

- Is continuing to add more agents – as of December 2018, we have 300 agents under contract. We are instituting a program to recruit new agents in the states we are newly licensed. The home office is sending the independent agents monthly updates on our products.
- The committee attended the Bruce and Bruce Seminar in Pittsburgh. They supply us with information regarding pending state and NAIC regulations which may affect us.
- On May 17, 2018 attended ENDepersis Fraternal Consulting Seminar in Pittsburgh, PA
- Continuing our 2 marketing programs:
  - A.) "Final Expense Insurance" – It is coverage specific to the cost of the funeral.
  - B.) "Wealth Transfer – Wealth Management" – Through our single premium whole life policy the benefits avoid income tax \*avoid probate\* cash value growth.
- Advertising the Annuities, IRA and Roth products in our mailings, on the website and thru email.
- At all the festival booths – Information is provided on the FCSU and its insurance and annuity products. These booths are part of the on-going campaign to make the First Catholic Slovak Union more visible.
- On July 19, 2018, an information booth was set up at Kennywood Park in Pittsburgh.
- On September 2, 2018 – An informational booth was set up at the annual Cleveland Slovak Radio Club Festival held at St. Anthony of Padua Church Hall in Parma, Ohio.
- On September 23, 2018 – An informational booth was set up at the New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival. The festival was held in East Brunswick, New Jersey.
- Still has the incentive plan started in 2013 to help our recommender become a licensed insurance agent in the state you reside in. The FCSU will pay ½ the cost to obtain a life insurance license in your state. This includes the cost of the school and fees. Depending on your productivity, the FCSU will pay for ½ of your license renewal. If interested, contact one of our in-house agents for a list of license schools in your state. We do need more of our recommenders to be licensed. Look what happened in Pennsylvania. It will eventually hit all the states.
- We are continuing to advertise on Facebook with new material being added daily, as well as on the FCSU website and email, while including new advertising material in our home office mailings. Any branch or district planning a fraternal activity is to please contact the home office or the editor and we will advertise the event through Facebook, email and our mailings.
- Our marketing firm, in conjunction with our in-house marketing committee composed of Andrew P. Rajec, Beata Fedoriouk, and Terri Ivanec are developing a marketing strategy to better sell our products. They are also working on updating our presentation that will be used at our seminars. Our marketing firm is also working on a strategy to recruit independent agents in the states we are now licensed in.

**Activities**

Some of my activities in the year 2018 were: Attended all monthly Executive meetings as well as meetings called by the President. Wrote articles pertaining to insurance and had them published in the Jednota. Inform all Regional Directors of their districts insurance and annuity production on a quarterly basis. Attended various meetings and/or social functions. I am a director in the Indiana Fraternal Alliance and attend all their meetings. Attended the National Fraternal Alliance meeting. Attended a symposium by AQS, our asset manager. I chair the Membership and Marketing Committee. I am also a member of the Investment Committee.

At this time, I personally want to thank our Executive Committee and the Board of Directors for their help and encouragement. I would also like to thank the branch and district officers for their untiring commitment to our great society. Last, but not least, I want to express my sincerest thanks to our Home Office staff for their excellent help and cooperation given to me throughout the year.

Until next time,  
Good Luck and God Bless,

**Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.**  
National Vice President

## Annual Report of the National Treasurer

Dear Fr. Nasta, President Rajec, Executive Board Members and Board of Directors,

I am pleased to report that all financials and other reports required by the various states where the First Catholic Slovak Union is licensed to do business have all been properly filed by March 1, 2019.

The Society's 2018 year somewhat reflects the US economy. Both realized strong financial growth in most areas, some retrenchment, and debt paid down. Steady growth patterns were produced in 2018 due to the minimal increase of bond interest rates. Internationally financial markets dipped an average of 10% for the year but had no reports of any country in dire financial stress. The GDP for the nation was very favorable and the outlook for 2019 seems to be positive. Interesting the US became an energy exporter. With the US being less dependent on oil rich countries should help stabilize the financial markets. The Society in 2018 reduces its FHLB debt which resulted in an equal reduction in Assets and Liabilities. Cash on hand was lower at year end 2018 than prior December 2018 but still significant enough to meet the needs of the Society. The Society's portfolio trended to move to shorter maturity while maintaining the quality of the Bond investment of the Society as in previous years. Purchase of bonds with a less than ten year maturity range increased by approximately 7%, which could help the Society if Bond interest rates start to increase in the future. The high quality of the bond portfolio was maintained through 2018. The Executive Committee investment continued to trend away from Federal Government issued securities. This has been covered through year in other quarterly reports. During 2018 over \$36 million of securities were purchased will disposing of almost \$29 million. Total Invested Assets, not including cash, increased by \$6,344,000. Investment Income remained strong in 2018 even though premium income was lowered by 37.9%.

Positive results for 2018: Surplus increased by almost \$1,600,000, or 5.2% raising surplus to \$32,374,585. The Societies solvency rate increased to 109.2%. Hedge Funds and other Invested assets increased by \$7,210,059. The Hedge Fund value increased by \$1,9232,190 while represents less than 2% of the investment assets of the Society.

Total Hedge Fund-typed investments remain within the guidelines and regulations of the Ohio Insurance Department.

The Society investment portfolio has increased and remains well diversified with an emphasis on shorter maturity periods and higher yielding bonds that have been purchased. The Society continues to use the services of AQS to assist them in the purchase and guidance of security selection and purchases. The Society has seen a decline in the purchase of CMO's and Government securities over the last 12 months. The Society has slowed the amount it purchases, but continues to utilize low interest funds that are available as a result of their membership in the Federal Home Loan Bank. The 2018 economy did not have a negative effect on the Society's Investment Income.

Net income rate of return remained the 2018 level. The current year's income released from the IMR is included as part of the net investment rate of return. The Society's net investment rate of return will rank in the middle among fraternal insurers due to the FCSU's higher investment expenses associated with the FHLB funds. Bonds make up 92.2% of the investment portfolio and +1.35% higher than last year. Investment grade bonds (NAIC 1 & 2) are 97.1% (+0.1%) of the bonds owed. The Society does not have any bonds in the two lowest bond rating categories and only 0.38% are in NAIC Class 4 bonds. Common stocks are at 0.8% of the invested assets and the Society owns no Preferred stocks. Common stocks include the Society's investment in Jednota Inc. which had an increase in 2018 of \$145,505. Cash and cash equivalent products were 4.1%, which is -3.8% lower of invested assets. As we have noted through the year, the diversification of the security classes, although modest in some areas, helps to stabilize the investment portfolio. The Society is in the position to take advantage of investment opportunities due to the amount cash on hand in the portfolio. The Society's annual statement reflects a decrease of 3.2% in assets but as reported earlier did not include the pay down of the FHLB. If the paydown was included the assets would reflect an increase of +1.8%.

Realized capital for 2018 are shown as \$97,832. The Society realized \$326,885 of capital gains on the sale of bonds, with \$363,096 being transferred into IMR as required by the regulations. Cash and other invested assets contributed \$134,043 of capital gains.

The bond gains continue to help to build the balance of the IMR which stands at \$1,030,876 at the end of 2018. The IMR funds will be released in annual increments each year. The unrealized gain on stocks \$164,194, were offset by unrealized losses on the Hedge Funds of -\$322,998.

The Asset Valuation Reserve (ARV) required by the regulations for the purpose of mitigating market swings, decreased by \$129,710 and increased surplus by the same amount. The decrease results from the bond quality improvement but also due to the loss on the other Investment securities. The AVR balance is at 99.6% of the 2018 maximum. Only the real Estate/Other Invested asset component is not at its maximum.

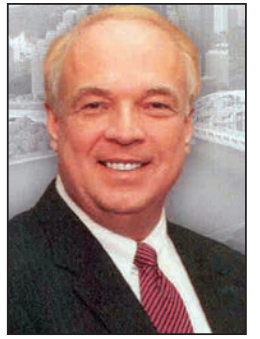
In 2018 \$461,105 of the prior years' bond/preferred stock profits were included as a part of income. In accordance with the regulations and the amortization schedules, this amount had to be released from the Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR). The Interest Maintenance Reserve requires that most profits or losses realized when a bond or preferred stocks are matured, called or sold, must be placed in the reserve and amortized to the original maturity date of the security. The Society primarily hold bonds for income and does not actively trade these securities.

In 2018, the Society purchased almost \$36,300,000 of securities, while over \$28,900,000 of securities were either matured, called, or sold. The combined total of \$65,200,000 equals 16.5% of the 2018 invested assets. The continuing large volume of activity results from the larger than normal number of calls, especially government sponsored entities such as FNMA, FHLMC, and pay downs by the GMAN's ect. The Society continues to be challenged to find replacement bonds of equal value and high interest rates while maintain the quality of the portfolio. Earning sufficient investment income to support the competitive interest rate of the Society's annuity products is a challenge to the Executive board.

The Society's Executive Board and the Board of Directors are faced with constant reinvestment activity and having to make the proper decisions that move the First Catholic Slovak Union of America and Canada in the right direction. Engaging certified and qualified firms to assist them in making these decisions.

UBS - The UBS portfolio as of January 31, 2019 is reporting that the overall account has returned a MTD of +277%. This account has an ending balance of approximately \$5,060,566.

UBS's analysis outlines that the FCSU is positioned well across a variety of hedge fund managers.



**George F. Matta II**

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

continued on page 5



# Annual Report of the National Treasurer

continued from page 4

The portfolio is structured that some funds will provide us with more alpha while two of the managers are focusing more on absolute return. All of the funds have a low correlation to bonds, while the largest investment has a low correlation to stocks.

Last quarter's performance was due to the high level of volatility in the market place and everything became highly correlated, causing lower performance and wondering if anything is working. They and I believe that over a full market cycle the portfolio will provide the Society the results that we are looking for with less risk associated.

Below is a recap of all the funds in the UBS accounts:

## Angelo Gordon:

- Multi-strategy fund that allocates capital across a range of Angelo Gordon investment disciplines
- Finished 2018 up 3.59%
- Position Amount - \$500,000
  - Trade Date – January 31, 2018
- They focus on generating consistent positive returns with minimal risk of loss.
  - They search out the most compelling risk/reward profiles which includes:
    - Opportunistic Corporate Credit
    - Distressed Debt
    - Liquid Credit
    - Residential and Consumer Debt
    - Real Estate Debt
    - Merger Arbitrage
    - Energy Lending
- Their goal is to generate consistent absolute returns with an emphasis on capital preservation
- Fundamentals-driven, diversified portfolio of over 200 well researched investments
- Historically, low correlation to stocks & bonds
  - Main driver for addition to the First Catholic portfolio
- Liquidity:
  - Quarterly liquidity with 90 days' notice
  - 1 –year lockup
  - 25% gate over 4 quarters

## Blackstone Alternative Alpha:

- Fund of Funds Hedge Fund – Currently 17 managers in the portfolio
- Finished 2018 down (5.13%)
- Position Amount - \$500,000
  - Trade Date – January 25, 2018
  - Dividend Reinvest – December 31, 2018 of \$1,052.08
  - Dividend Reinvest – December 31, 2018 of \$16,498.41
    - Investment Loss of (\$22,642.10)
- This is an equity focused fund that invests in equity based investment strategies
  - The fund aims to have a low beta (volatility) to equity markets and reduced volatility overall
- This fund has a historical downside to the equity markets around 49%
- The fund will provide some of the "pop" Andy referenced as evidenced by 2017 when it was up 7.29% and in 2013 when it was up 13.24%
- Some of the managers in the portfolio include:
  - Renaissance Technologies – Quantitative Strategies Manager
  - Elliott Management Corporation – Multi-Strategy Manger
    - Activist Investor – owns RPM locally
- Liquidity:
  - Quarterly tender offer as approved by the Board of Directors

## AlphaKeys Millennium Fund:

- Multi-Strategy Hedge Fund
- Finished 2018 up 3.22%
- Position Amount - \$500,000
  - Trade Date - July 26, 2013 "A" Share
- Position Amount - \$425,000
  - Trade Date – December 17, 2018 "B" Share
- The fund's objective is to achieve above-average capital appreciation by opportunistic trading and investing
- The five primary areas that the fund deploys capital are:
  - Relative Value Fundamental Equity
  - Statistical Arbitrage/Quant Strategies
  - Fixed Income
  - Merger Arbitrage/Event Driven
  - Commodities
- The original position with Millennium Fund is up 38%
- Committee made the decision to add an additional \$425k in December to "B" Share Class
- Liquidity:
  - Class A – has a quarterly (with 105 days' notice) subject to a 25% gate
  - Class B – has a quarterly (with 105 days' notice) redemption subject to a 5% gate
- Manager conference call scheduled
  - o 10:00 am – Thursday, March 28th

## Atlas Enhanced Fund:

- Multi-Strategy Hedge Fund – focused on absolute returns in all market environments
- Finished 2018 down (6.19%)
- Position Amount - \$1,020,000
  - Trade Date - August 25, 2015
- The fund has a historically low monthly correlation to the S&P 500 of .22
- Most of 2018 negative performance came from equities, a smaller amount can from macro managers
  - They remained heavy in equities through the balance of the year

- The largest drawdown came from healthcare, energy, and industrials
- The portfolio is overweight US equity – target of 50%
  - Target of 7% Asia
  - Target of 6% EU
- Looking at the historic returns in the past ten years last year was the only negative since 2008
  - 2008 the fund was down 1.41%
- This fund should provide a low correlation to stocks and it's absolute nature should help balance our other managers
- Liquidity:
  - Monthly with 45 days' notice

## Alkeon Captial (ACAP):

- Global Long/Short Hedge Fund
- Finished 2018 down (6.60%)
- Position Amount - \$1,515,000
  - Trade Date – January 26, 2018 - \$505,000
  - Trade Date – July 27, 2018 - \$1,010,000
  - Reinvested Dividend – November 30, 2018 of \$62,188.09
    - Investment Return of \$43,046.27
- Alkeon deploys 3 primary investment strategies across both of its long and short book
  - Short companies with the following:
    - Low barriers to entry
    - Poor management teams
    - Poor cash flow
  - Go long companies with the following:
    - High barriers to entry
    - Good management teams
    - Strong cash flow
- The fund is a global fund with a higher weighting to technology
  - As a result it will provide the "Pop" that Andy described in our July meeting
    - It will also have the highest correlation to equities of any of the hedge strategies in the portfolio
- Liquidity:
  - Quarterly tender offers as approved by the Board of Directors
    - The tender is mailed to clients each quarter
- Manager conference call scheduled
  - 2:30pm – Thursday, March 28th

## Amber Global:

- Liquidated Fund waiting on promissory note payment
  - Payout to occur in June of 2019
  - \$31,469

MAI Wealth Fund – the attached performance is through January 31, 2019 showed a positive +5.45%. Performance since inception ending January 31, 2019 is +4.45%.

The returns for the year ending December 31, 2018, show a negative return for the month of December, 2018 of -7.01%. Year-to-date performance ending December 2018 is a negative -3.32%. Performance since inception at +3.67%. MAI's performance for 2018 was about 3% lower than their targeted rate of return. The 4th quarter and particular the month of December showed a significant negative return ending for 2018. As reported, returns for the month of December 2018, reflects one of the largest negative months in the last four years of with a -\$92,255.27.

The objective of the Fund is to achieve performance through stock appreciation, dividend income, and premiums on options written. The Fund's investment strategy is to provide consistent returns, relative to the markets, generally by employing an actively managed option overlay strategy on a high quality, value based portfolio. The Fund will generally consist of about 30 underlying equities with above-average dividend yields that have consistently grown their dividends at attractive levels. The Fund expects to sell covered calls and cash secured puts. In order to avoid the use of leverage, it will maintain a significant cash and/or money market funds balance, typically 40-60% of partners' capital, in the event puts are assigned.

Clutterbuck Fund – Performance for the month of January 31, 2019 reflects a +1.699%.

Performance ending December 31, 2018 reported a year-to-date negative return of -5.751%. The Clutterbuck Fund is a negative -\$77,074 for the YTD ending December 31, 2018.

Recent market volatility and steep decline in virtually all asset classes had a major impact for the year ending 2018. Both December and the entire fourth quarter, there was a major global sell off in both the equity and fixed income markets. While Clutterbuck's objective is strong absolute returns, given that December saw most assets classes having one of their worst month's performance since the financial crisis.

Positive Contributions from the CF Special Situation Fund I, LP include:

- Capital Arbitrage positions that benefit from credit spread widening.
- Short positions in companies that they believe have unsustainable capital structure (too much debt), a broken business model or negative near-term catalysts being recognized by the market.

Offsetting the positive contributions this month:

- Fundamental long positions in the energy space which suffered from the decline in oil.
- Special Situations which got caught in the broader market sell-off. We believe these Special Situations will outperform in the medium to long run. They also have limited correlation to the broader markets.

## 2019 Outlook

Clutterbuck believe that their portfolio is well positioned given the volatile environment, and they are excited about the opportunities entering the New Year.

They have cash on hand to deploy and the majority of the negative contributors in 2018 are unrealized losses they believe provide attractive risk/reward investments headed into 2019. New ideas for the Fund are starting appear as single name bonds have dropped in some cases, loans have come down in price and offer a compelling risk/reward trade versus High Yield bonds, and certain company capital structure are mispriced as equity and credit markets have diverged over the past three months.

December is a good reminder that the Fund is a true Alternative Investment that is uncorrelated to the general market.

I have attended seminars throughout the past year that were presented by the Fraternal Alliance,

continued on page 6

## Annual Report of the National Treasurer

continued from page 4

The Greater Pittsburgh Fraternal Society and AQS (the FSCU's Professional Asset Management Firm) where discussions and presentations were presented that centered on trends in both the fraternal and final aspects of the Society world.

Respectfully and fraternally your,

**George F. Matta II**  
National Treasurer

## Annual Report of Fraternal Activities Director

Dear Reverend Nasta, President Rajec, Executive Officers, and Board of Directors;

The past two months have been very busy and exciting reviewing the 2018 events and planning the 2019 events.

2018 EVENTS:

CHRISTMAS COLORING CONTEST:

The 2018 Christmas Coloring Contest ended in December with the judging taking place in January 2019. The winners will be announced in the April 2019 Jednota Newspaper.

One of my concerns for the coloring contest, has been the decline in participation from the past years. The participation numbers for the past years are listed below:

YEAR:	# OF PARTICIPANTS:	Pre. Yr. Diff:	%:	Tot. Diff:	%
2014	144				
2015	130	-14	-9.7%		
2016	120	-10	-7.7%	-24	-16.7%
2017	129	+9	+7.5%	-15	-10.4%
2018	100	-29	-22.5%	-44	-30.6%

BY AGE (2018):

4-6 year old: (7) (9) (10) =26  
7-9 year old: (11) (12) (14) =37  
10-12 year old: (11) (7) (12) =30  
DQ'S: =7

One member suggested that I change the size of the picture to be colored for the 4 to 6 year old group. They suggested that it was difficult for that age to stay between the lines. That suggestion will be implemented in the 2019 coloring contest.

The 10 to 12 year old category was a very difficult category to judge. The judges had a difficult time picking the winners since all the pictures were outstanding. In fact the judges stated that they would help judge the 2019 contest, however they would not judge that age range again.

For that age range I am working on a Secret Santa idea. This would allow them to make friends in other regions and states or country. Also this would allow them to learn, i.e. - state flower or bird thru clues. This is just in the early stages of planning.

Another change I would like to make is only have 3 winners per age category. The contest now has 3 winners per region per age category. For the contest in 2018, you had some regions only having one contestant per category. This then meant you won that region, just by entering the contest.

BEST FOOT FORWARD WALKING PROGRAM: (STARTED JANUARY 2017)

There are 33 members enrolled in this program. However, 13 members have only turned in their walking minutes in the past. I have only received 3 members walking minutes update for the months of Sept. 2018 thru Jan. 2019.

I will be sending out their achievement awards by Sunday March 17th, 2019.

I suggest this program be restructured or eliminated. The only issue with eliminating this program is all the event specific (walking logo on item) incentives and gifts that have been purchased. These items include, hats, hip packs, water bottles and cooling towels.

2019 EVENTS:

March:

The first event that I will be introducing this year is MARCH MADNESS 2019. Please check the February Jednota Newspaper or online for the rules.

I am expecting over 1000 entries into this competition. This is the reason I am requiring entries to be mailed in versus emails. This would take a few hours to printout at the rate of 10-12 pages per minute. Also on the mail in entries, they will be attached to the envelope for any postmark date questions.

This event will be very competitive since the 1st PRIZE IS \$1000.00.

SUNDAY MARCH 31ST, 2019

I will be attending the semi-annual meeting for District 8 in Bridgeport PA.

(Please be patient on this day for updates on March Madness since I will be in meetings and traveling).

May:

The next event I will be introducing is:

"THE MOST EXCITING TWO MINUTES IN SPORTS" Kentucky Derby Hat Contest!

This event will take place on Saturday May 4th, 2019. Please check the March Jednota Newspaper or online for the rules.

JOINT BOWLING TOURNAMENT:

Friday May 17th and Saturday May 18th, 2019

The bowling tournament will be held with GCU and SCS in Pittsburgh, PA. The registration information is listed the February Jednota Newspaper.

OTHER ITEMS:

GOLF TOURNAMENT:

The golf tournament was scheduled to be held from Friday August 16th thru Sunday August 18th, 2019.

This was going to be another joint event with GCU and SCS. However just a few weeks ago, I was notified that we would be unable to participate in this years tournament. The reason that was stated, was the concern of having too many golfers since GCU and SCS has only rented one golf course per day. However they said we can be involved with them in 2020. At this point they will rent

two courses per day.

At this point I am working with the Fraternal Activities Committee on finding a location and still holding the tournament on Friday August 16th thru Sunday August 18th, 2019. Of course this will be determined by course and hotel availability.

2019 FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:

Sabina Sabados

Ralph Groner

Thomas Ivanec

Michael Lako

Greg Petrasek

John Tokarsky

I am looking forward to working with everyone on the com-

mittee and also other members in the Regions.

At some point, I would hope to be able to put a sub-committee together that has younger members of the First Catholic Slovak Union. This will enable us to target events and activities that they might find interesting and want to attend.

Finally my goal as the newly elected Fraternal Activities Director is to establish a new event each quarter for the 2019 year.

Ideas for the last half of 2019 that I am working on include: Secret Santa for the youth; NFL Losers Pool for the fall.

Once again, thank you everyone for your time and support.

I look forward to working with everyone!

Fraternally submitted,

**Kevin J. Collins, Fraternal Activities Director**



**Kevin J. Collins**

## Annual Report of National Chair of Auditors

The Internal Audit team consists of a Chairman and three Auditors, elected by the Convention. Our responsibility is to conduct audits of documentation, processes and procedures of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Quarterly audits are conducted allowing confirmation that numbers are precise and truthful. The audits are performed in accordance with the by-laws of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada, effective January 1, 2015. The necessary information to complete reviews are provided by the First Catholic Slovak Union. The final audit for the FY 2018 will be done March 25th and 26th, 2019.

Below is a list of the processes chosen for audit. Our responsibility is to report on the areas chosen thus our review would not necessarily disclose all weaknesses in the organizations internal controls.

THE AUDIT PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES INCLUDED, BUT WERE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Review expense vouchers submitted.
  - Ensure expense vouchers
    - contain required and relevant documentation
    - calculations are correct
    - approvals are obtained
    - checks are properly issued and documented
- Test death claims processed.
  - Ensure death claims
    - contain required and relevant documentation
    - are processed correctly according to FCSU
    - checks are properly issued and documented
- Test payroll and personnel procedures.
  - Ensure payroll and personnel
    - procedures are in place and functioning properly
    - calculations of earning, special payments, taxes and voluntary/involuntary deductions are accurate complete and timely
    - transactions are accurately reflected in the accounting system
- Test bank reconciliation process.
  - Ensure bank reconciliations
    - are performed in a timely manner
    - verify cleared and outstanding checks
    - account for deposits, transfers, withdrawals and bank fees
    - are reconciled to the accounting system
- Test certificate loan process
  - Ensure certificate loans
    - contain proper approvals and signatures
    - invoices are mailed in a timely manner
    - interest is calculated properly
- Review corporate credit card procedures
  - Verify proper internal controls are being utilized to ensure
    - relevant documentation present
    - approval follows designated chain of authority
    - mathematical calculations are correct



**Leonard Zilko**

### METHODOLOGY

Audit procedure programs written by the auditing team are used throughout the year to evaluate the key operations of the specific areas chosen to be audited. Discussion with management and staff, observation, and analytical testing is completed. All results are presented to the President and Executive Secretary prior to closing the audit.

**Leonard Zilko, National Chairman of Auditors**



# Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities

## *Another Successful Project*

In 2016, the Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Program acquired forty new cocktail/evening dresses at no cost through the efforts of Sharon Bench Zacur. Within the same time frame, Sandra Kay Bench was able to obtain 12 beautiful wedding gowns for virtually no cost. Four of the gowns were new, and the others had been worn one time. It was decided that the combination of the two would be shipped to Slovakia. The evening dresses were shipped to Spišská Nová Ves and were eventually auctioned at a city event with the proceeds donated to charity. The wedding gowns were shipped to Starý Smokovec where they were awarded to deserving Slovak women. The positive feedback was highly rewarding and it should be mentioned that the shipment of the gowns and dresses, was one of the many projects initiated by the sister cities program since its inception in 1997 with the late Steve Bacon as its founder.

As simple as it sounds, there were substantial hurdles which presented various obstacles. Even though the used gowns were in excellent condition, there were some challenges along the way which included some staining which had to be addressed. Board member Gigi Bacon along with Kay Bench concocted a home solution that when applied rendered the stains as completely dissolved. Inquiries to various cleaning establishments relative to the cleaning and sanitizing of the gowns was discouraging as the projected costs were high. An agreement was finally reached with a large cleaning establishment in Melbourne, Florida to clean and sanitize the gowns at an astonishing low price which was virtually a donation. The only stipulation was an agreement to hold the owner harmless for any damages. He then did the cleaning and sanitizing personally. It should be mentioned that the cost of transporting the gowns to Florida was a no cost factor for the Sister Cities Program. An added advantage was the fact there was a pickup center in Melbourne, Florida with direct transportation to New Jersey and the eventual port of departure. Thus, costs of shipping to New Jersey was eliminated. The total costs of the project, greatly diminished by the donated labor and volunteerism, made the project extremely cost effective and worthwhile.

In the late fall of 2018, another opportunity presented itself as notification was received relative to the availability of new evening gowns. Professor Mike Hricik, a good friend called with some interesting news. A guest speaker, Mr. Reed Pederson, owner of MB Bride and Special Occasion, had addressed the students at the college, and following his address was speaking informally with Mike. During the course of the conversation, Mr. Pederson related that he may have some new gowns that he would consider donating to a worthy cause. Professor Hricik immediately advised him of our program, which then resulted in a few phone calls and a subsequent visit to his establishment. What an awakening! The MB Bride and Special Occasion was beyond any expectation, as it was huge, beautifully stocked, highly organized, immaculately clean, and offering every conceivable service appropriate to a person's need. The owners, Maja and Reed were highly receptive and cordial during the



tour of their establishment. They were most generous of their time spending in excess of three hours with us, despite the obvious demands of their business. The gowns donated were beautiful and exceeded 300 in number.

Due to the high number of gowns, a decision was made to divide the shipment equally to five locations in Slovakia, and they were to be given to deserving Slovak women. Our program has many friends in Slovakia who were willing to accept and distribute the gowns. It entails more work, effort, and time than it appears. Two boxes were shipped to Justin Sedlak and his lovely wife Lubica in Pezinok where Justin serves as the Prednosta Okresneho Uradu. (Regional Director) Joseph Duraci, a longtime director of folk groups accepted the shipment in Trenčín, and great friend, and longtime tour guide for our heritage tours Viera Marecova accepted the responsibility for the shipment in Starý Smokovec for the villages in the Northern Spiš Okres. The fourth shipment to Levoce is scheduled for display and distribution in the lobby of the U Leva Hotel by the gracious couple Dr. Vladimír Petroci and wife Jana, owners of the hotel. The shipment to our sister city, Spišská Nová Ves was handled by the capable administrative staff in the Mayor's office, led by Public Relations Director, Maria Dutkova.

priest stated that many of the recipients could now attend spring proms that were unavailable to them in the past. It was a good idea to involve the priest in order to allay any suspicion, such as we had experienced with the wedding gowns previously mentioned. The Slovak mothers of the brides expressed concerns that the awarding of the gowns was a trick. They repeatedly exclaimed "why would anyone give away such beautiful gowns?" There were also other concerns and comments expressed, but too numerous for this article.

The evening gown project was accomplished with full co-operation of the sister cities board of directors with each member fully participating and with enthusiasm. A big word of appreciation is in order.

It is with gratitude that we acknowledge Reed and Maja Pederson for their generosity. They have made many Slovak women happy. Maja and Reed will accompany us on our heritage tour in July 15-29th 2019, and they will meet the aforementioned Slovaks who have assisted with the gown distribution. Once again, thank you to Professor Mike Hricik for immediately recommending our program. Not only is he a good friend, he is the son of our very good friend, the late Thomas Hricik, past President of the First Catholic Slovak Union (1994-2006).

The Youngstown Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities is a federally certified non profit organization. Board members are volunteers and receive no form of compensation or expense reimbursement. Sister Cities has been highly active with many past projects and more planned for the future. We are indebted to the National Slovak organizations for their continued financial and fraternal support.

### **About the author**

*James M. Bench is a Retired Professor from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He is the President of the Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Program and a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union Supreme Court. Both he and his wife Kay are members of Branch 181, United, PA.*

The positive feedback received regarding the gowns was highly rewarding, and justified the effort involved in the process. Viera Marecova for example related she had gone to her parish priest advising him of the availability of the gowns. He made announcements to his congregation and the response was very positive. Later the

## 2019 TOUR OF SLOVAKIA

# YOUNGSTOWN/SPIŠSKÁ NOVÁ VES SISTER CITIES TOUR



Mark your calendars—July 15-29, 2019, pack your bags, grab your passports and get ready to fly to Slovakia for the time of your life.

We are one big family on our tours. Everyone watches out for each other.

First class hotels, great food, entertainment, large roomy air-conditioned bus with rest room—best tour guide and bus driver in all of Slovakia.

We have people coming back for 7 and 8 times, so we must be doing things right. Visit family and friends, walk the streets of your ancestors, reconnect to your heritage.

Previous tour participants are willing to talk with you regarding the tour and their experiences.

For further information contact Kay and Jim Bench. This will be their 19th trip to Slovakia. Tour arrangements are being made by Paul Hudak, Adventure International Travel Inc. Phone 216 228 7171—800 542-2487 Jim Bench, Phone 724-858-5843 or Kay Bench Phone 724-771-7900.

Don't wait, space is limited, be ready for a fantastic time.





FCSU Branch 716 President Jan Skrkon and Branch 716 Secretary Joan Skrkon attended the annual meeting of the Slovak Catholic Falcon Assembly 182 at St. John Nepomucene in New York City on March 24th.

## A Busy March Continues for Branch 716



Then on March 31st, Branch 716 had its semi-annual meeting at St. John Nepomucene, with members enjoying a luncheon afterwards prepared by their president Jan Skrkon.



- Submitted by Joan Skrkon, Branch 716 Secretary



## District 2's Annual Spring Outing

On Sunday, March 24, 2019, the Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District 2 held its annual spring outing at the Center for Performing Arts in Munster, Indiana. Guests enjoyed a delicious brunch followed by the show Million Dollar Quartet, which featured songs by the famous music legends Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Elvis Presley. Everyone had a great time!

This article is in memory of Robert Magruder, District 2 Secretary. His commitment to the organization and Slovak spirit will greatly be missed.

- Submitted by Lynda Tanis, District 2 Co-Director of Fraternal Activities



### Ohio Region 6: Enjoy the Magic of Membership June 29<sup>th</sup> at Blossom Music Center

Join others in Region 6 – which includes District 10 & District 14 – for a spectacular evening of music, movies, and the magic of fraternalism. On Saturday evening, June 29, 2019, you, your family & friends can enjoy the acclaimed Cleveland Orchestra perform a live version of composer John Williams' notable score during a (giant!) screening of the first Harry Potter film.

<b>DATE:</b>	Saturday, June 29, 2019
<b>PLACE:</b>	Blossom Music Center, 1145 W Steels Corners Rd, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223.
<b>COST:</b>	\$26 per adult ticket for lawn seating; 2 free children's tickets (17 and younger) per 1 adult purchase.
<b>TIME:</b>	Performance starts at 7:00PM

We will be gathering on the lawn near the Blossom Grille starting at 4:30PM and (if you'd like) picnic together before the show. You can purchase food at Blossom or bring your own.

To get a map of the venue and learn more about what you can bring, go to: <http://www.clevelandorchestra.com/plan-your-visit/blossom-music-center/> and <https://www.clevelandorchestra.com/plan-your-visit/blossom-information/> (Guide to Blossom).

**TO ORDER:** Order lawn tickets up to the day of the concert directly from the Blossom Box Office at 330-920-8040 or go to <https://www.livenationvenue.com/blossom-music-center>

**WEATHER:** All Blossom Music Center events are performed rain or shine. Lawn ticket holders are welcome to sit in the General Admission areas in the covered Pavilion. These seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**NOTE:** After the show, save your ticket(s)! Special members-only deeper ticket reimbursement may be available through your branch. Contact your branch officer to learn if you may be reimbursed. If you do not know your branch officer, call Region 6 Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797 to find out your branch contact name and number.

## SAVE THE DATE

### FCSU National Golf Tournament

**Date:**  
Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Sunday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Location:**  
Cedarbrook Golf Course  
215 State Road 981  
Belle Vernon, Pa. 15012



Look for details in the next Jednota!



# Mother's Day Slovak Sayings - *Porekadlá ku Dňu matiek*

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

Mothers (*matky*) have always occupied a very special place in the hearts of Slovaks. Slovaks and Slovak-Americans have demonstrated their feelings for their moms in their sayings, proverbs, songs, actions, and above all, in the eternal devotion they have towards their mothers.

So that we might think about our mothers, both living and deceased, it is appropriate here to present some common traditional Slovak sayings (*porekadlá*) about moms. Sometimes they are just simple words of wisdom, which can be quite witty. Many of these *porekadlá* are in dialect, since they come directly from the hearts of the people who made them up.

One of the most common, is a simple comparison of mother and daughter, which was often used to make potential suitors aware of how their intended would turn out.

*Aká matka, taká Katka.* - Like mother, likewise little Kathy. Or, like mother, likewise the daughter.

Another variant of the above saying, which is more direct and includes looks and behavior, is the following.

*Taká nápadná je podobnosť dieťaťa a matky.* - So striking is similarity between a child and the mother.

## Mothers and Children

Many Slovak sayings about mothers reflect the close relationship that they had with their children. Whoever wanted a way to a mother's heart, would find it through her children.

*Vezmi decko za ruku, získaš srdce matky.* - Take a child by the hand, and you win the heart of the mother.

*Dieťa ide za matkou ako teľiatko za kravou.*

- A child goes behind its mother like a calf goes behind a cow.

Life experience has shown that children often only come to appreciate what a mother has done for them after they have their own children, as this *porekadlo* shows.

*Dievka sa iba vtedy materi odslúži, keď jej (materino) dieťa pridojí.*

- A girl will only repay her mother, when (their mother) suckles her own child.

The following *porekadlá* illustrate the love a mother has for her children, always loving them, thinking about them and praying for them. My mother always used to tell me that she was praying for me, and that helped get me through some of the tougher times in life.

*Každej materi je decko najkrajšie.* - For every mother, her child is the most beautiful.

*Materina modlitba zo dna morského vyníma.*

A mother's prayer removes one from the bottom of the sea.

*Matka je matka.* - A mother is mother.

*Matka sladká, kto ju má.* - A mother is sweet, whoever has one.

When a mother does have to use discipline, it is usually half-hearted and tempered by her love, and not as strict as a father. We see here that the rod is tempered by the loving desire



to nurture the child, and a mother applies punishment somewhat reluctantly.

*Materinská bitka je polovičatá.* - A mother's whipping is half-hearted

*Matka sladká, otec drak, nezriedka to býva tak.*

- A sweet Mother, a dragon father, that is often how it goes.

*V jednej ruke prút, v druhej chlieb.* - In one hand a rod, in the second had some bread.

Slovaks realized that children needed mothers. It did not mean that fathers were not necessary, but mothers had priority in raising children in traditional Slovak households and meant the most to keeping together families. And we all know that no one can raise a bunch of children like a mother can. Thus the sayings went.

*Skorej vychová jedna mať sedmoro detí, ako sedmoro detí jednu matku.*

- One mother will sooner bring up seven children, than seven children one mother.

*Keď umrie otec, sú deti len polosiroty; keď umrie matka, sú celé.*

When the father dies, the children are only half-orphaned; when the mother dies, they are full orphans.

## A Slovak Song to Mothers

Typically, Slovak children have loved singing songs to their mothers, and even today, all the grammar schools across Slovakia stage elaborate shows around Mothers' Day. Here is a typical Slovak song/poem which shows their appreciation for moms.

### Ďakujeme mama - We thank you mom

Ďakujeme mama, že ťa máme

Ďakujeme mama, že rada nás máš

Ďakujeme mama, že ťa máme

Že sa o nás všetkých s láskou verne staráš.

Raňajky na stole - desiata v taške

Sukienka, nohavice - pekné a vyžehlené

Veci tak obyčajné a predsa vzácne

Za všetko to - mama ďakujeme.

We are grateful mom, that we have you.

We are grateful mom, that you like us

We are grateful mom, that we have you.

That you care for us all with your faithful love.

Breakfast on the table- a lunch in the bag

A skirt, pants - pretty and ironed

Things so ordinary and yet so precious

For all this, we thank you mom.

Perhaps it is appropriate to end with one of my mother's most favorite sayings, which many other Slovak moms shared. It is short and to the point, and mom used it to send a message to us children.

*Bez práce nie sú koláče.* - Without work, there is no kolachy (great tasting pastries!).

My mother was telling us, that if we wanted anything, we had to work for it. Just knowing we understood this made our mom happy, and her joy became half the reward for our hard work. Though she passed away over 19 years ago, I am sure that she is very proud that I am writing this Jednota article from the bottom of my heart with her and all other Slovaks mothers in mind.

*Ďakujem pekne mame, za tvoju večnú lásku!* (Thanks so much mom, for your everlasting love!)

### Sources

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Editor's note: please see page 15,  
District 19 for details



**Sts. Cyril & Methodius  
Slovak Roman Catholic  
Parish**

**85<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Celebration**

**Sunday, May 12, 2019**

**10:30 am Mass**

**Celebrated by Cardinal Thomas Collins**

**Followed by luncheon at noon**

Luncheon Tickets: Adults - \$45 Youth 5-12 yrs - \$20 Children under 5 - Free  
Order tickets by May 5:  
Anne Mitro: 905-279-8154 Maria Mrva: 905-712-8707 Helen Panov: 437-580-3228



# Region 1 Members Brush Up on FCSU Products

Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ was bustling with Jednota activities on Sunday, March 31st as members of Branch 746 attended Slovak mass followed by a branch meeting to discussing 2019 activities. Special guests President Rajec and Mrs. Idka Rajec were warmly welcomed at the branch meeting and presented some ideas on activities which were successful in other regions. After the conclusion of the Branch 746 meeting, Jednota members and non-members alike eagerly listened to the dynamic presentation of Director of Independent Agents Andrew P. Rajec on various FCSU products including annuities and life insurance. The seminar concluded with a game of Jeopardy to test the uptake of the information presented and we passed with flying colors! The seminar was very informative and provided an excellent background for non-members to better understand our society. Everyone enjoyed the delicious Slovak food by Julie Rada Catering including holupky, gulas, chicken cutlets, and halusky! Our littlest members were most excited about the cake and Chewy Cuvac! In attendance were more than 60 people who appreciated the opportunity to meet and greet with President Rajec. The Regional seminar was advertised to District 1, 4, and 16 members. Thank you to Branch 41, 45, 290, and 746 members who came from long distances to participate! The day concluded with District 4 Msgr. John E. Rura District meeting where President Rajec updated members on the recent Board meeting and encouraged members to continue being active in the branch and be creative and innovative with activities in order to attract young members. Thank you to District 4 members who brought their donation for the local pantry.

Region 1 members would like to express their gratitude to President and Mrs. Rajec for making himself available to attend the seminar. A special thank you to Andrew P. Rajec for an



exceptional presentation capturing the attention of the audience and addressing important questions about FCSU products. We are excited to

continue to grow our Region by attracting new members!  
- Submitted by Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director

## Branch 670's Sunday Meeting in April



Branch 670 conducted a meeting on Sunday, April 8, 2019, at King's restaurant in Bentleyville, PA.



(L - R) Joseph Matinko, Branch 670 President, and scholarship winner Kayla Anderson with Patty Anderson and Craig Anderson. Kayla will be attending Duquesne University this fall to study pharmacy.



Branch 670 Joseph Matinko, and scholarship winner Kayla Anderson.

- Submitted by Cheryl Hyatt, Branch 670 Vice President

You are invited to the  
**REGION 1 PICNIC**  
Sun, Aug 4th at 1pm  
Al Kalla Park  
2801 Highland Ave  
Linden, NJ  
RSVP by July 30th to  
Mary Ann at 732-251-6035  
Members free!  
Non-members \$15



# United Slovak Societies Accepting Scholarship Applications



## Scholarship

The United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, Ohio, announces 2019 scholarship availability to graduating high school seniors who are entering college and are five year members of our local lodges that include: First Catholic Slovak Union #228, National Slovak Society Assembly 160, Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch #114 and Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union #77. The one-time scholarship application and rules may be obtained by visiting [www.americanslovakclub.com](http://www.americanslovakclub.com).

Deadline for completion is May 30, 2019.

Submitted by: Michele Mager, FCSU National Auditor, FCSU Branch 228 Member, Secretary-United Slovak Societies Board of Director Member, American Slovak Club- Lorain, OH

# Rediscover Your Slovak Roots on September's Slovakia Heritage Tour



The 2019 Slovakia Heritage Tour, from September 6-15, 2019, will once again offer Slovak-Americans a chance to connect with their family histories, go back in time to experience the food, music and culture they grew up in, and better understand Slovakia's intriguing history that led their ancestors to leave their families and lives in this beautiful land.

This 10-day, relaxed pace, small group tour takes you through Slovakia's beautiful countryside to experience the age-old traditions and join in the fun with Slovaks at wine, harvest and mining festivals. Wander country lanes in small villages at

this delightful time of year to travel. Linger in city cafes to sample pirohy, halusky, kolac, and other foods your grandmother made. Immerse yourself in history as you explore medieval towns, castles, outdoor village museums, and other landmarks without the tourist crowds of most European countries.

For more information and to discuss your personal family plans, please contact Judith Northup-Bennett at Slovakia Heritage Tours, 978-544-5144, and [slovakiaheritagetours@gmail.com](mailto:slovakiaheritagetours@gmail.com). Visit our web site: [www.slovakiaheritage.com](http://www.slovakiaheritage.com). Genealogical research, and ancestral village and family visits can be arranged.

## From the Desk of the Executive Secretary – Holiday Hours

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office

will be closed on Monday, May 27, 2019,

in observance of Memorial Day.

## JEDNOTA Publication

### Schedule for 2019

Issue Date

Deadline to Receive Information

June 12

June 3

July 10

July 1

August 14

August 5

Sept 11

Sept 3

to accommodate Labor Day

October 9

Sept 30

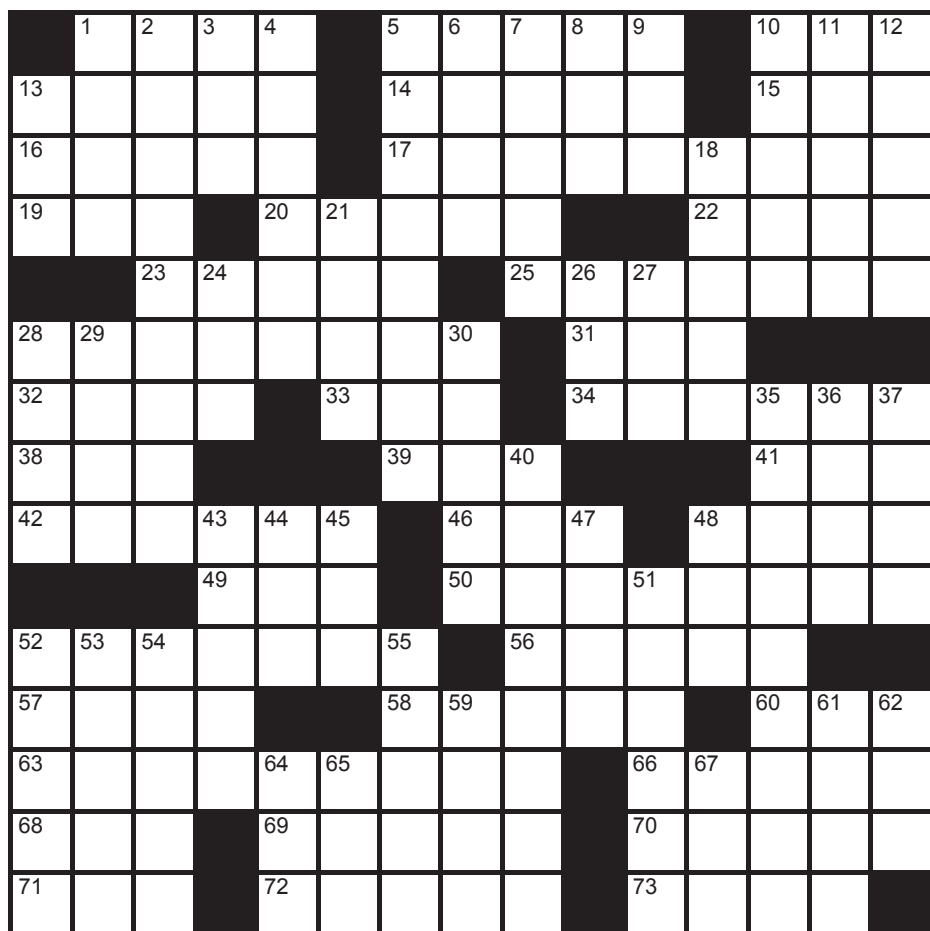
November 13

November 4

December 11

December 2

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



### Across

- 1 Whizzes
- 5 Seasonal visitor
- 10 Blubber
- 13 Watch part
- 14 Similar
- 15 Sine \_\_\_ non
- 16 French romance
- 17 Sells cheap
- 19 Chi follower
- 20 Valuable violin
- 22 Fabled racer
- 23 Planted
- 25 Freshened up
- 28 Supplant
- 31 Carol contraction
- 32 Wistful word
- 33 Delay
- 34 Certify
- 38 Go astray
- 39 \_\_\_ judicata
- 41 Pastoral place
- 42 Odium
- 46 Big \_\_\_, CA
- 48 Office fill-in
- 49 Marker
- 50 Island fears
- 52 Stockpiled
- 56 Email alternative
- 57 Misplace
- 58 Lifeless
- 60 Ultimate degree
- 63 NJ university
- 66 Fragrant oil of roses
- 68 Owned, once
- 69 *Psycho* motel
- 70 Some horses
- 71 Sailor's assent
- 72 Fashion
- 73 Central part

### Down

- 1 PIN takers
- 2 Flaky roll
- 3 \_\_\_ de vie
- 4 Urban problem
- 5 Police cruiser
- 6 Em, to Dorothy
- 7 Rock bottom
- 8 Philosopher Lao-\_\_\_
- 9 Ventilate
- 10 Type of bread
- 11 Freakish
- 12 Stationed
- 13 Gullible one
- 18 Dresser
- 21 Kind of ticket
- 24 Saturn's wife
- 26 LAX abbr.
- 27 Louse-to-be
- 28 Short run
- 29 Hipbones
- 30 Discharge
- 35 Primary
- 36 Rest area sight
- 37 Faucets
- 40 Movie genre
- 43 Out of bed
- 44 Dawn deity
- 45 Fitting
- 47 Essen's river

- 48 Crayola color
- 51 Legal witness
- 52 Top dog
- 53 Voracious eel
- 54 Parenthetical comment
- 55 Simple song
- 59 Coward of note
- 61 After septic or fish
- 62 Store posting (Abbr.)
- 64 "60 Minutes" network
- 65 Consume
- 67 Further

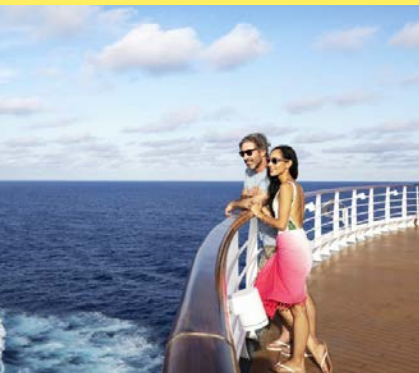
See Solution on Page 17





# CRUISE WITH the FCSU

Fort Lauderdale - Grand Turk - La Romana - Curacao - Aruba



**Nov 9-17  
2019**

Rainforests, crystal-clear waters, white-sand beaches are a few of the exotic treasures you'll experience on an 8 - Night Carnival Magic cruise. Price includes all port taxes, roundtrip airport transfer, prepaid gratuities, 2 nights of cocktail hours, afternoon at the beach, on board credit per cabin.

**CABINS**

**INTERIOR**

**\$959\***

**BALCONY**

**\$1,299\***

A \$250 non-refundable deposit is required to secure a cabin by May 31, 2019. Final payment due by August 17, 2019. \*Cost per person, double occupancy.

**BONUS**

**SIGN UP a NEW MEMBER and you and the new member each will be ENTERED into a DRAWING to WIN this CRUISE.**

Minimum \$1,000 deposit on 6 - or 8 - Year Annuity, \$5,000 Whole Life Insurance Policy, \$25,000 Term Life Insurance (Excludes JEP Policy). Begins February 1, 2019 and applications must be postmarked by August 31, 2019.

**CONTACT**

To book the cabin call the Home Office today at **800.533.6682** or visit [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com). For travel arrangements call Paul at Adventure International Travel Service, Inc. at **800.542.2487**





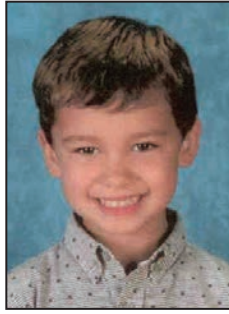
# 2018 JEDNOTA COLORING CONTEST RESULTS, PART II

## REGION 7

..... Age Group 4-6 .....



**First Place**  
Carolyn  
Riedmuller  
Oak Lawn, IL



**Second Place**  
Brent Oost  
Neenah, WI



**Third Place**  
Kellan Hacker  
Ponte Vedra  
Beach, FL

..... Age Group 7-9 .....



**First Place**  
Juliana Oost  
Neenah, WI



**Second Place**  
Nicholas Jurcenko  
Orland Park, IL



**Third Place**  
Maya Bobo  
Hanover Park, IL

..... Age Group 10-12 .....



**First Place**  
Birgita Hegg  
Portland, OR



**Second Place**  
Kaiden Hacker  
Ponte Vedra  
Beach, FL



**Third Place**  
Peter Jurcenko  
Orland Park, IL

## REGION 8

Age Group 10-12



**First Place**  
Sarah Hergel  
Toronto, Ontario,  
Canada



## Coloring Contest 2018 Honorable Mentions

REGION 1 - NONE

REGION 2 -  
Oliver Herman

REGION 3 - NONE

REGION 4

Bennett Hallam  
Brandon Robbins  
Charisma Diehl

REGION 5

Braden Skoloda  
Kayla Fibbi

REGION 6

Nadia Mansky  
John Valencik  
Joseph Valencik

REGION 7

Arianna Lazzara  
Alex Jurcenko  
Addison Gillen

REGION 8 - NONE

*Congratulations to all our winners,  
including those published in  
the April 10th issue of Jednota*



# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 1 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold its next meeting on August 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Sts. Cyril & Methodius Hall located at 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107 for our meeting. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, please call 216-338-8179.

**Marie A. Golias, Secretary**

## BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Jacqueline Zack, 15 Brookhedge Rd., Trumbull, Connecticut.

At this meeting, we will recognize the recipients of the Margaret Evancho award. Gift cards will be sent by mail to the following:

Matthew Proulx  
Lauren Elizabeth Serdy  
Matthew Robert Serdy  
Grace Marie Sherriff

This award was established in recognition of the many years Margaret Evancho dedicated to the youth of Branch 19.

We cordially invite our members to attend our meeting and take advantage of the opportunity to spend time with their fellow branch members.

**Deborah M. Nelson, Secretary**

## BRANCH 23 – JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 23 will hold its first Annual Branch Meeting. The meeting will be held 1:30 PM Sunday, May 19, 2019, at Denny's Family Restaurant on Theatre Drive, Johnstown PA. We encourage all members of Jednota Branch 23 to Attend. We welcome You!!

The meeting is always a good time to hear what the status of our Membership and the First Catholic Unions' situation is. You have an investment in this Company, come to see what it's all about.

The percentage rates of our company for annuities are very good. The insurance that is offered is very good. A good place to invest. We are a fraternal organization, we are family. Please Attend. If you have any questions you can call Theresa at 814-254-2532.

**Theresa Cassat, Secretary**

## BRANCH 60 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 - McKeesport will hold its semi-annual meeting Sunday, May 19, 2019 at the home of President Ann Wargovich (58 Lilmont Drive, Swissvale) at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be Officers' reports and other upcoming events. All members are urged to attend.

**Julie Perla, Secretary**

## BRANCH 112 - MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 112, Saint John the Baptist, will hold a semi-annual meeting and family day at Knoebels Grove in Elysburg, PA, on Friday, June 21 at noon. The agenda will include officers' reports and a discussion of branch and district activities. Following the meeting members will be able to enjoy lunch and the rides and shows in the park.

Please call Karen Sterling at 570-640-1796 by June 17 if you plan to attend.

**Karen Sterling, Secretary**

## BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St Stephen Branch 153 will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 15, 2019 at 11:30 am. The meeting will be at Cucina Biagio, 7319 West Lawrence Avenue, Harwood Heights, IL. A complimentary fraternal luncheon will follow the meeting. For directions, please call Dorothy at 773 763 0810.

**Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, June 9, 2019, at 8:30AM at the Ramada Restaurant, 700 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA, 15401.

Officers' reports will be given, and upcoming events and branch activities will be discussed. Regional Director James Marmol will advise us of developments from the Home Office.

All members and guests of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the brunch meeting. Call for reservations by June 1, 2019, to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983 as well as any changes for policies or address changes.

**Dolores Marmol, Secretary**

## BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

All Branch 181 members and guests are invited to the annual family picnic to be held at Mammoth Park, Mammoth, PA at Pavilion #13 on Sunday, June 30, 2019. Registration begins at noon and the picnic starts at 1:00 p.m. Each member is asked to bring their favorite covered dish. Beverages and main entrée will be provided by branch. Fun activities are planned for children.

A branch meeting will be held directly after the picnic. For more information or directions, please call 724-547-0803.

**Vicki Hricik, Secretary**

## BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 199 will host a "MEET, GREET and EAT" on Saturday, June 8th at 5:00 PM (immediately following the 4:00 PM Mass) at St. Cecilia Parish Social Hall, Whitney, PA. Stop in to enjoy "FREE PIZZA, SALAD & BEVERAGES". Looking forward to meeting you! Bring a guest! All are welcome! Contact Barb Patula at 724-423-4745 with questions! A Branch meeting will be held following the MEET, GREET and EAT to discuss future activities for 2019. Looking forward to meeting you on June 8th.

**Barb Patula, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

We invite all members to attend Branch 200's meetings held in the upstairs Social Hall @ 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. The Officers and Board of Directors meet @7:00PM with the members to meet directly following. The meeting dates for 2019 are as follows: 08/01/19, 09/05/19, 10/03/19, 11/07/19 with Nomination of Officers, and 12/05/19 with Election of Officers. There are no meetings in June or July.

We are asking our members to attend the meetings and we welcome any involvement you are willing to take.

Branch 200's 125th Anniversary is coming in 2020.

**Vicki Schaub, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 213 – VALENCIA, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michael the Archangel Branch 213 will have a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 1:00 P.M.

It will be held at 2603 Eloquent Lane, Valencia, PA. 16059. Members are asked to attend.

Respectfully,

**Joe Belechak, Secretary**

## BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228, has meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings start at 7PM and are held at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH. Delicious food is served by Theresa Arendt at the last meeting of each calendar quarter. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during each December meeting. The exact date for this year's election meeting is December 16, 2019. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. Once again, I ask that our members plan to attend our meetings whenever possible. It is pleasing to see the attendance at our monthly meetings slowly trending upward. Let's keep that trend going. Our District 10 officers are currently discussing ways to increase fraternal activities in our district. Attendance at our Branch 228 meetings can give you first-hand knowledge of items and events being discussed. All of this helps to promote comradery. Please attend the branch meetings to stay informed. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update on current activities. You won't be disappointed.

**Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 276 will hold its next 2019 meeting at 1 PM on Sunday, May 19 at the Twin Oaks Lounge in the Rainbow Shopping Center on Lincoln Way in White Oak, PA. We will discuss attendance at upcoming district events – Pirates baseball game and Fathers' Day Brunch. The Fall meeting, when officers for 2020 will be elected, has been changed to Sunday, November 10. The next district business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 8 at the Holy Trinity Church social hall in West Mifflin.

Fraternally,

**Margaret Nasta, President**

## BRANCH 290 – RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

St. John the Baptist Branch 290 will hold a meeting on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 starting at 6:30 pm for all members. The agenda will include officers' reports and a discussion of district and branch activities.

The location will be based on the number of members attending, so please call or text Steve Minarovch at (908) 507-0505 by June 1 if you plan to attend.

**Steve Minarovch, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 292 – WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, FCSU, Branch #292 KJ will hold their semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 23, 2019.

The meeting will be held at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Avenue, Windber, Pa. 15963 at 12:30 p.m. This meeting will be in conjunction with our annual celebration of our patron, St. John the Baptist. A Mass will be celebrated at SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Roman Catholic Church, Windber, Pa. 15963 (see church bulletin for date and time). All members are asked to attend both events. A buffet dinner will be held.

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

## BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

Anyone interested in attending the Pittsburgh Pirates v Milwaukee Brewers game on Friday evening (7:05PM start) on May 31, 2019, please call Frances Tarquinio at 724-929-9788.

**Frances Tarquinio, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 372 – BEVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 372 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Memorial Day, May 27, 2019. The meeting will start at 11:00AM in the St. Joseph Cemetery Chapel, 201 Stone Street, Beaverdale, PA, 15921. All members are welcome.

**Mary Kuzilla, President**

## BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a meeting on Sunday, May 19, 2019, at 4:00PM at the New City Buffet, 5142 State Rt. 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA. On the agenda: general branch business. All members are welcome.

**John Nalevanko, Secretary**

## BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 484KJ, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 23, 2019, at 2:00PM, at the home of Financial Secretary Monica Rura, 819 Power Plant Road, Coral, PA. Discussions will include scholarship applications, increased interest in annuities, "March Madness" results, and more. Information from the April district meeting will be shared.

**Monica Rura, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist, Branch 553 has scheduled the following events:

- May 18: 125 Club Reverse Raffle – If you are a member and have not received your paperwork for the event – contact the club

- June 1: "Senior Prom" – details to come in near future

- June 29: Kielbasa Open at Mayfair Country Club. \$70 per golfer/\$280 for foursome. Call the club at 330-786-9972 to reserve your spot. Suggest you call after 3 pm Monday-Saturday.

- 1st Wednesday Every Month – Spaghetti Dinner serve from 4:30pm – 7:00 pm

Thank you to our numerous, dedicated volunteers and patrons for making our Lenten Fish Fry's another successful event. Thank you for your continuing support.

**Linda M Hanko, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 581 - GARY-WHITING, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel, Gary-Whiting Branch 581, will hold its semi-annual meeting at the Lake Ridge Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Rd., in Hobart, IN on Sunday, June 23, at 1 pm. The agenda will include discussions on our donations for this year, officers' reports and other business pertaining to the branch.

RSVP to Ann Buczek, 219-947-2793 or George Kelchak, 219-926-2410

**Ann Buczek, President**

## BRANCH 587 – ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 587 will hold its semi-annual meeting on June 9, 2019. The meeting will start at 2:00PM at the home of Branch 587 President Joanne Fibbi, 1741 Hempstead Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15241. On the agenda: discussion/planning of future branch activities. For more information, contact John Fibbi at 412-760-3208 or john.fibbi@comcast.net.

**Joanne Fibbi, President**

## BRANCH 633 – MT. MORRIS, MICHIGAN

Branch 633 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, May 19, 2019 at 1pm at Kruse's Deer Lake Inn, 7504 Dixie Highway, Village of Clarkston, MI 48346. At this meeting we will hold officer elections. We ask all branch members to prayerfully consider taking a leadership role. In order to ensure we have enough tables set aside, please rsvp no later than Sunday May 12th with Branch 633 Treasurer Rod Meloni at 248-444-9141. We look forward to a great fraternal gathering!

**Rod Meloni, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 633 – MT. MORRIS, MICHIGAN

Branch 633 will hold its annual branch activity on Sunday, June 16, 2019. After considerable discussion among branch leadership about whether to attend another sporting event as a group, it was decided an outdoor barbecue is in order instead. We will gather at the Marshbank Park pavilion located at 2805 Hiller Road, West Bloomfield Township, MI 48324 at 1pm. Rain date will be June 23rd at the same time and location. In order to prepare enough food for everyone we ask you to put this on your calendar now and rsvp with branch treasurer Rod Meloni by Sunday June 9th. His phone number is 248-444-9141. We look forward to a great day of fun, sun, food and of course, friendly fraternalism.

**Rod Meloni, Secretary/Treasurer**

## BRANCH 706 – DYER, INDIANA

St. Anthony Society, Branch 706, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, June 15, 2019, at the home of Branch Treasurer, Barbara Fayta, in Dyer, Indiana. The meeting will start at 4pm, followed by dinner. Please email Lynda at lynda.tanis@comcast.net by May 31 if you wish to attend.

**Lynda Tanis, Vice President**

## BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Members of Saint Joseph Branch 731 will meet on Sunday, June 23, 2019. This meeting will be at 4:00 pm at the Cafe422, 8586 South Avenue, Boardman, Ohio. We hope to see you then.

**Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 756 – OWOSSO, MICHIGAN

St. Joseph the Guardian Branch 756 will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 23, 2019 at 10:30 am at Tim Horton's, 323 W. Main Street, Owosso. The agenda will include officers' reports and a discussion of upcoming branch activities. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

**Gary Gregoricka, President**

## BRANCH 764 – WARREN, OHIO

Branch 764 will hold a meeting on May 21, 2019, at 9:30AM at Kozy Kitchen Family Restaurant, 2723 Elm Road, NE, Warren, OH 44483. On the agenda: discussion and planning of summer and fall projects.

**William Hrusovsky, Secretary**

## BRANCH 785 - MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

Branch 785 invites all members to the 85th Anniversary of Sts Cyril and Methodius Church in the Mississauga/Toronto area of Ontario Canada. On Sunday May 12, 2019, his Grace, Archbishop of Toronto, Cardinal Thomas Collins will celebrate Mass at the church. A luncheon and performance by the Vychodna Dance group will follow. For tickets to the lunch please contact Anne Mitro 905-279-8154 or Helen Panov 437-580-3228 or Maria Mrva 905-712-8707.

**Sharon Tomas, Secretary**



## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### District 6 – The Pittsburgh District

The Pittsburgh District will host the annual Fathers' Day Brunch on Sunday, June 16 at the Holy Trinity Social Hall, 529 Grant Street Extn, West Mifflin. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Doors will open at 11:30 and food will be served at noon. You must RSVP – no tickets will be sold at the door. Ad booklet prices remain the same. A notice with prices for the brunch and ad booklet will be emailed to branch officers. For tickets contact Joanne Fibbi at 412/953-4721 (cell) or jfibbi@gmail.com. For the ad booklet contact Anna Ondrejco at 412/421-1204 or aondrejco@gmail.com.

Heavy rains ruined our plans to attend a Pirates baseball game last September. We have rescheduled for May 31: Pirates vs the Milwaukee Brewers at 7:05. If you paid for tickets, contact Anna Ondrejco for replacements. You can still get additional tickets. Check the notice on the FCSU/events web site.

Branch 60 will host the Fall Business Meeting on December 8 at the Holy Trinity Social Hall. More information will be available later.

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments.

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, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd, Mt Lebanon PA: June 3 – A Slovak-American Soldier in WW1. Meetings resume October 7 with a discussion of Slovak genealogy. Become a member of the WPSCA to get the newsletter listing all of their events.

\*\* Slovak Day at Kennywood Park – Thursday, July 18, 2019; Tickets are available from Sue Ondrejco. You can see her at the Fathers' Day Brunch.

\*\* SeptemberFest at the NSS museum in MacMurray – Saturday, September 28. Free admission. Vendors, music, Slovak food.

\*\* Slovak beer tasting – October 7 – contact Joe Senko.

\*\* Slovak Heritage Day at Pitt – Sunday, November 3, 2019 – Noon to 4 PM. Free admission. Lectures on Slovak culture, Slovak entertainment, Slovak food, & many vendors.

\*\* 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; they start February 26. A summer class for children will start May 25, 2019.

\*\* 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. Plan a trip to see the animated, hand-carved Nativity.

\*\* The CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International will hold its next conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, October 15-19, 2019. "Nasa Rodina," their quarterly publication, has many interesting articles on Slovak history and genealogy. See www.cgsi.org. The 2019 Eastern European Family History Conference will be held August 5-9 in Salt Lake City. See feefhs.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 notice, they should email information to the secretary.

Faternally,

**Margaret A. Nasta, District Secretary**  
manasta@verizon.net

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

The Frank T. Holly, Jr. District of Uniontown, Pa will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 30, 2019, at 1:00 P.M. at the Dairy Queen Grill & Chill at 575 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

Regional Director, James Marmol, will brief the group on current events taking place at the Home Office. A Dairy Queen social will follow. All branch members are urged to attend.

**Barbara A. Holly, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 14 – THE REV JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Reverend Joseph L. Kostik, District 14, will hold its Semi-Annual meeting on Tuesday, May 21 at 6 pm at the Falcon Grill, 39 N. Canfield-Niles Road (Rt. 46) in Austintown. We will be discussing activities for the coming year and how to get our District members to be more active. Your input will be greatly appreciated. Suggestions and ideas are most welcome.

**Grace Kavulic, Recording Secretary**

### DISTRICT 19 - MONSIGNOR MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT

District 19 is pleased to announce and be part of the 85th Anniversary of Sts Cyril and Methodius Church in the Mississauga/Toronto area of Ontario Canada. On Sunday May 12, 2019, his Grace, Archbishop of Toronto, Cardinal Thomas Collins will celebrate Mass. A luncheon and performance by the Vychodna Dance group will follow. For tickets to the lunch please contact Anne Mitro 905-279-8154 or Helen Panov 437-580-3228 or Maria Mrva 905-712-8707.

**Anne Mitro, Secretary**

## Come to the Annual Summer Festival in Danville this July

The 46th annual Summer Festival, sponsored by the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA, will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2019. Activities will begin at 10:30AM and last until 5:00PM.

The festival will feature a large Flea Market, a silent auction, home-made baked goods, handcrafted items, a book store, Sisters' artwork, and Religious articles. There will be a variety of ethnic foods such as holupky, halusky and potato pancakes, as well as hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream and much more. There will be a variety of games for children and adults plus special attractions like raffles, and bingo.

This Festival will mark a special celebration: the 100th Anniversary of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. The Summer Festival has been a blessed opportunity for the Sisters to keep in touch with former students, their parents, and family members; to reconnect with friends they've made over the years, and to make new friends. The day never seems long enough for visiting with friends old and new.

Bus parking is available. The Festival will take place rain or shine, and will close with a Mass at 5:00 p.m. Tours of the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius and of Jankola Library will also be available.

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

- **JEDNOTA PLANS A TRIP TO THE FESTIVAL**
- The First Catholic Slovak Union - Jednota Districts 4 and 16 - are planning a trip to the Summer Festival in Danville, PA. On Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> the bus will leave from St. John Nepomucene in New York City at 8AM and make a stop at Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ, at 9AM. The bus will return to NYC via Linden the same day in the evening. The cost of the bus is \$10 for FCSU members and \$15 for non-members. The event is all day with picnic food, activities, and Holy Mass at the Basilica at 5PM. To make reservations for departure from St. John Nepomucene please contact Maria Bozekova at 347-612-1934. If you would like to depart from Linden please contact Mary Ann Ranahan at 732-251-6035. **Payment must be made at the time of reservation.**
- Seating is limited.
- - Submitted by Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director



# Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members

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

Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name	Branch:	Name
001K	John Richard Grega	152K	George Telnock	320K	Kathleen J Cannon	731K	Peter Nagy
002K	Eleanor Murgia	153K	Joseph J Straka	320K	Beatrice L Imbrogno	731K	Thresa Walters
003K	Joseph A Kronek	153K	Anthony J Valek	320K	Sarah Elizabeth McDonald	746K	Anne Majewski
019K	Robert F Bogardus	165K	Dorisanne Reed	367K	Mildred M Welc	746K	John K Orak
019K	Deanna Burruano	165K	Frederick Taylor	404K	Richard Louis Bednar	746K	Margaret Pastor
019K	Clare E Grinvalsky	166K	Rev Alfred Julian Bebel	425K	Roger L Tackett	746K	John F Sarnecky Jr
019K	Margaret A Munko	169P	Margaret K Mley	425K	Peter J Tholt	746K	Victor W Sloma
019K	Robert Pieger	169P	Elizabeth Slivosky	484K	Ann H Crawford	746K	Florence Vitcavage
035K	Thomas G Baligrocky	173K	Theresa Hrivnak	484K	Catherine Kulish	764K	James Wassel
040K	Mary Jo Cleary	181K	Michelle R Kobistek	510K	Joseph Scuglik	769K	Henry J Pochily
040K	Roger D Roy	181K	Lorraine Theresa Pustay	510K	Frank E Simo	780K	Stephen Radosa
040K	Shane Snyder	199K	Rev James R Macey Ed.d.	517K	Patricia McDonnell	796K	Jean Miller
055K	Bernice M Karnis	200K	Joseph Louis Hagofsky	553K	John J Liberko Jr	844K	George A Polak
085K	Stanley J Rzucidlo	228K	Steven G Luca	581K	Rev Joseph M Kelchak	855K	Margaret M Witkowski
102K	Josephine A Kosco	276K	Martha Vojtek	595K	Clement Michalek	900K	Armand James Mayzel
112K	Helen Pucklavage	292K	William Galish Jr	686K	Rudolph D Glogovsky	914K	Susan M Wrabel
112K	Simon J Waitkaitis Jr	293K	John Marczyk	731K	Edward T Hodos	921K	Junior P Bowman
132K	John Dennis Fragomeni	293K	John Vargovich	731K	Ethel J Macek		

\*Processed through the month of April

## OBITUARIES

### Anna Hunka, Daughter of Former Chair of Auditors Karen Hunka Passed into Eternal Life April 6, 2019

Anna Hunka, 28, originally from Mercersburg, PA died on Saturday, April 6, 2019. Anna was born on July 13, 1990, in Sellersville, Bucks County, PA, and graduated from Mercersburg Academy in 2008. She was an amazing talent and a kind soul. Anna was blessed with a beautiful voice and the ability to perform. Her friends spoke of her compassion and helping them through their rough times. Anna was described as "an amazing person and a fierce friend". One friend wrote, "another beautiful soul was sent to be with the angels".

Anna is survived by her husband Paul Dyhrman of Gardnerville, NV; mother Karen Sprock Hunka, former Chairman of Auditors for the First Catholic Slovak Union who is living in Damongo, Ghana; father Alois Hunka from St. Thomas, PA; and three brothers, Joshua of Greensburg, PA, Jacob (Kate) of Erie, CO, and Trevor of Greensburg; an aunt and several cousins. Anna was preceded in death by her grandfather George Sprock, former Regional Director of the First Catholic Slovak Union and grandmother Florence Sprock, of Branch 181. Anna also was a member of Branch 181.

A memorial Mass was held at St. Florian's Church, United, PA, on Saturday April 13, 2019 at 1:00PM with a reception following the Mass at the church's Community Hall.

- Submitted by Barbara Spencer



### Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop-emeritus of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese, Laid to Rest

The Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, retired Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, PA, passed away unexpectedly on March 20, 2019. He was 83 years old.

Bishop Joseph was a long-time member of the First Catholic Slovak Union in his native Banister, MI, Branch 721. He was a contributor to our publication over the years. He was active in the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation where he served as National President and Episcopal Moderator.

A native of Bannister, he was born there August 13, 1935, son of the late Michael and Alzbeta (Orchran) Adamec, both immigrants from western Slovakia. He attended Michigan State University and studied for the priesthood at the Pontifical Nepomucene College in Rome. He was ordained a priest on July 3, 1960. The following year, he completed studies and was awarded a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the Pontifical Lateran University.

Bishop Joseph was ordained for the Diocese of Nitra, Slovakia - the native diocese of his parents. The severe political situation in Czechoslovakia at the time prevented him from fulfilling his desire to serve the Church in the land of his family. Instead, he returned to the United States and began his ministry in his home diocese of Saginaw, MI.

In Saginaw, Bishop Joseph held a number of diocesan positions including chancellor and secretary to the bishop. He also served as pastor of parishes in Bay City and Saginaw. In 1985, Pope St. John Paul II named him a Prelate of Honor with the title of Monsignor.

On March 17, 1987, Pope St. John Paul II named Msgr. Adamec the Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, PA. He was ordained to the episcopacy and installed as the seventh Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown on May 20, 1987. Jozef Cardinal Tomko, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples was the principal consecrator and installing prelate.

Bishop Joseph served as ordinary of the diocese until his retirement on Jan. 14, 2011. He was the longest serving Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown. Since retirement, he resided in Holidaysburg, Pa.

Bishop Joseph was active in the work of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops serving on a number of committees including that of the Aid for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe which greatly assisted in the rebuilding of the Church in Slovakia and Eastern Europe following the fall of communism there. He took an active interest in the work of the American Slovak community, especially in the Slovak Catholic Federation where he was president and served as long-time episcopal moderator. He was a founder of the Conference of Slovak Clergy and was active in our Slovak fraternals. He participated in many Jednota conventions, jubilees and other activities. He continued a close collaboration with the Bishops of Slovakia and visited there on numerous occasions.

A viewing took place on March 25 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. The funeral liturgy was celebrated in the cathedral on March 26 with Cardinal Justin F. Rigali, Archbishop-emeritus of Philadelphia as principal celebrant. Also present and concelebrating was the Most Rev. Mark L. Barchak, current Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown as well as other bishops and priests. Interment followed in the crypt of the cathedral.

Bishop Joseph was a devoted servant of the Lord who throughout his priestly and episcopal ministry beautifully mirrored our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. He will be sorely missed. May he enjoy the beatific vision.

- Submitted by Daniel Tanzone, Branch 41

### BERNARD J. HUDOCK BRANCH 108 – CONNELLSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

Bernard J. Hudock, age 92, formerly of Elsinboro, NJ, passed away Sunday, February 4, 2018, in Friend's Home at Woodstown, NJ. Born in Conneltsville, PA, he was the son of the late Joseph M. and Catherine Verostko Hudock. Mr. Hudock was a veteran of the US Navy. Before his retirement Bernard was a mold maker for Anchor Glass. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus where he served as financial secretary, a former member of the Eagle's Lodge No. 1966 and a club champion of the Salem Country Club. Bernard enjoyed golf and bowling and was honored as Veteran of the Year in 2008, Elsinboro Twp. He is survived by his brother, Joseph Hudock (Mary Jane) of Elsinboro; his sisters, Carmela Beattie of Hockessin, DE, Pat Huggard of Ventnor and Mary Cath-



erine Taylor (Allen) of Washington Twp.; and several nieces and nephews. Bernard was predeceased by his wife, Marilyn Press Hudock; and sister, Genivieve Blades.

### ROGER L. TACKETT BRANCH 425 – BARBERTON, OHIO

Roger L. Tackett, 64, passed away Wednesday, January 23, 2019, after a brief fight with cancer.

Born in Barberton on August 13, 1954, he was a graduate of Barberton High School, Class of 1972. Roger retired from the Summit County Sheriff's Department as Lieutenant after 27 years of service. He was a member of National Lodge #568 F&AM and was active in the "Liars Club."

Roger enjoyed shooting, hunting and anything to do with the outdoors, relaxing on his porch swing and "puttering" in his garage.

Preceded in death by his parents, Audrey

continued on page 17





# OBITUARIES

and Janie Tackett and brother, Gregory Tackett; survived by his wife of 45 years, Carol; daughter, Crystal (Derek) Eller; grandchildren, Morganne Eller (fiancé, Brett McCourry) and Jarrett Eller; sister, Brenda (Don) Robinson; sister-in-law, Margie Tackett; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

- Submitted by Carol Tackett

**MARY E. (KUHAR) OSTINOWSKY BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA**



Mary E. (Kuhar) Ostinowsky-, 99, Twin Rocks, PA, passed away Oct. 21, 2018, at Windber Medical Center. She was born June 4, 1919 in Nanty Glo, PA. Daughter of the late Louis and Anna (Stretchko) Kuhar. Preceded in death by Husband Michael "Sitch" Ostinowsky, Granddaughter Shontelle Ostinowsky, brothers Louie and William, sisters Amelia Kuhar, Helen Kuhar, and Sandra Witt. Special family friend David Truscott. Mary is survived by her children: Michael (Donna) Ostinowsky, Ebensburg, PA; Thomas Ostinowsky, Ebensburg; James (Janet) Ostinowsky, Nanty Glo; Jack (Annette) Ostinowsky, Twin Rocks; Eugene Ostinowsky, Nanty Glo; Dennis Ostinowsky (Carole), Nanty Glo; Mary Kay (Greg) Soyka, Salem, OH; 14 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren; sister-in-law Lois Kuhar, Nanty Glo; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was a very active member of the former St. Charles Church, Twin Rocks and St. Mary's Church, Nanty Glo. She was a devout Catholic, who loved her faith and her God, and was never without her rosary. The family extends special thanks to the doctors and staff at Ebandjeff Clinic, Nanty Glo, as well as those in John Paul, II Manor, and Windber Woods.

**PETER J. NAGY BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO**



Peter J. Nagy, 64, of Cornersburg, OH, passed away Friday afternoon, February 15, 2019, of natural causes at his home.

Peter was born March 4, 1954, in Youngstown, and was the son of Peter J. Sr. and Loretta Vidis Nagy. He grew up on Bessemer Street on the city's west side and attended Holy Name of Jesus Elementary School nearby, where he was an altar server at the church. Pete was a 1972 graduate of Chaney High School and worked several jobs during his career. He was a hard worker and valued employee at the Moyers Pants Factory, Berkowitz & Sons, and at the Fairhaven Workshop in Niles.

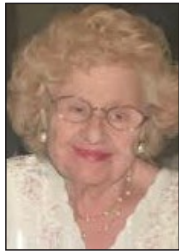
Pete enjoyed playing guitar with his friends, fishing with his father, and making his own fishing lures. He was an avid bowler and bowled in the St. Christine League at Wedgewood Lanes. Pete also enjoyed cooking and canning, and made delicious salsa and hot peppers. "Uncle Pete" as he was known to his family and friends, carried on the tradition of cooking bacon over a wood fire, which he used to make his fantastic bacon bread. He was a big fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers. He was a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Holy Name of

Jesus Church in Youngstown.

Mr. Nagy leaves his father, Pete Sr., with whom he made his home; his sister, Teresa Lord (Tim Sheppa) of Austintown, OH; his nephew and godson, Michael (Trisha) Lord of Sumter, SC.; his godmother, Rose Kohl; two great-nieces, Ayla and Anoura; and a great-nephew, Alex. Pete also leaves many cousins and friends who will also miss him dearly. His mother, Loretta, preceded him in death.

Pete was a kind and gentle soul who will always be remembered as a good-hearted person by all who knew and loved him.

**MARYANN MEDVETZ BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY**



Maryann (Popovich) Medvetz, passed away peacefully, into the loving hands of Jesus Christ, on Monday, January 21, 2019, surrounded by her loving family. She was 90.

Maryann was born in Jersey City, to the late Barbara and Joseph G. Popovich.

Prior to retiring in 2001, she worked on Wall Street before marrying her husband, then worked for the East Brunswick Board of Education, and also for the Middlesex County Courts, where she was a Certified Judicial Court III Clerk. She also served as a Democratic Judge Poll Worker for over 20 years. A lifelong Communicant of Corpus Christi R.C. Church, she was a Rosarian and a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota).

She was preceded in death by her devoted husband, William, at age 45, in 1972; her loving son, William Alan, at age 49, in 2006; her sister, Anne Hnath, in 2010, and brother, Joseph P. Popovich, in June 2016. Surviving are her son, Robert Medvetz of Daytona Beach, FL; two daughters, Barbara Medvetz of Daytona Beach, FL and Janis (Medvetz) Manney and her husband, Anthony, of East Brunswick; grandchildren Kyle and Leann Manney; four nieces, and two nephews.

Our gentle, loving and caring mother, who will always be in our hearts, kept our Catholic faith in God and Jesus Christ throughout our lives. We are eternally grateful and deeply love you Mom.

- Submitted by Barbara Medvetz

**EMILIA "MILLIE" DUCHI BRANCH 756 – OWOSSO, MICHIGAN**



Emilia "Millie" Duchi stepped into paradise Sunday, January 13, 2019 surrounded by her family.

She was born to Pauline (Klco) and Lucian Gregoricka on March 24, 1922 in Pobedim, Slovakia; baptized two days later in St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church. Her father came to the USA in 1929 followed by his family in 1932; they resided on Center Street in Owosso, MI.

Married John Walter Duchi November 6, 1943 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Owosso, MI. Survived by 3 children: John Steve, Owosso; Vicki Ann (Edward) Repik, Howell; and Sharon Kay (Douglas) Bloom, Coldwater; four grandchildren: Sharon Pauline (Kevin) Zielinski, Rachel Duchi Repik, Vanessa Lee Bloom, and Patrick John Bloom; great granddaughter, her namesake, Emily Rachel Zielinski; nine God children, one

honorary; her sister, Vicky Malik and sister-in-law, Elle Gregoricka both of Owosso; and many loving nieces and nephews.

Predeceased by her husband, John, on April 12, 1990; her parents; brothers, Jerry (Liz), Cyril, Joseph (Margaret) Gregoricka.

After her marriage, she became a lifelong mint and cash crop farmer alongside of her husband and son and homemaker.

Millie was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, its Altar Society and funeral min-

istry her entire life. She was also a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 756.

Whenever we would enter our parents' home, we would greet them with: "Pochvalem, Pan Jezis Kristus" and they would respond: "Naveky. Amen." Today, we say: "S'Bohom, Mama." May you rest in peace. Matt.25:21 "Well done good and faithful servant."

- Submitted by Vicki Repik

## Join us for the 15th Consular Tour of Slovakia And its Neighbors

July 13 – July 27, 2019



Visit the historic sites of three beautiful countries for the price of just one tour. Begin in Vienna where you will tour the city including a visit to the Schonbrunn Palace. Then onto Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, where we will see old town, St. Martin Cathedral, Primatial Palace, Devín Castle and many other historic sites. Along the way, we will visit the nearby towns where we will enjoy a wine tasting, folk music, a traditional folk wedding and the famous Červený Kameň and the Trenčín Castle. You will also have an opportunity to enjoy some spa treatments at Trenčianske Teplice. Some of the towns that we will see in Slovakia include the Tatras, Čičmany, Levoča, Kežmarok, Košice, Bardejov and Prešov. Other unique features of this tour include Demänovská caves, rafting on the Dunajec, another wine tasting in the Tokaj region and meeting with the Mayor of Prešov. A recent New York Times article on "52 Places to Go in 2019" lists the Tatra Mountains as #19. We will take you there.

While in Poland, we will shop in Zakopane, visit Auschwitz, Pope John Paul II former home, Shrine of St. Stanislaus, shrine of Blessed Faustina, Our Lady of Czestochowa and the Wieliczka salt mine.

The total package price for this fantastic tour is just \$4,300 per person (double occupancy), the same as last year. This includes round trip airfare from either Pittsburgh or New York, two delicious meals daily, four star hotels, free admission to all the sites, air conditioned bus, a professional guide and more. Compare this itinerary with other tour packages. For a detailed copy of the daily itinerary or more information, contact Joe Senko at [jtsenko@aol.com](mailto:jtsenko@aol.com) or 412-956-6000.

## Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

	A	C	E	S		S	A	N	T	A		S	O	B		
S	T	R	A	P		Q	U	A	S	I		Q	U	A		
A	M	O	U	R		U	N	D	E	R		C	U	T	S	
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D	I	S	P	L	A	C	E		T	I	S					
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A	Y	E			S	T	Y	L	E			Y	O	L	K	



# Thanks to the Slovak Community For Your Support

The idea for a Slovak folk costume show was born after the 2018 Slovak Wedding show, "Svadba pod Tatrami". Mrs. Magda Vacval commented on the amount of lovely costumes that the museum provided for the actors in the wedding, that we should do a show just on costumes. The idea was further discussed between Alena Melas, SCHM president and Luba Henderson, SCHM treasurer, who also liked the proposal. We presented it to the SCHM board of directors for approval. To help with the production of the show we had then asked Mrs. Olga Turok, the director of the Slovak theater group "Skvosty" if her group would partner with us on this project.

It is always challenging to find a date in the community that suits everyone. Mrs. Anne Mitro was very helpful in scheduling the rehearsal and set up times at the church hall at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Mississauga. We thank Father Gregory for the use of the hall and his help and Mr. Ted Golla Jr. who helped to prepare the promotional poster and tickets.

The busy work started in February, 2019 for volunteers at the Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum as they began choosing a selection of costumes from the museum's collection. Some costumes are so old and delicate that they have to be stored in a specific archival way and are suitable for special displays only. Many people were asked to come to costume fittings on the weekends as you need to find the right size people to match the costumes. Costumes were prepared for a total of 28 models,

5 for the organizers, two had their own and six for the mannequins in the displays. Costume repairs were done by Eva Uhrinek and Alena Melas and a training session was given to Gabrielle Ceresna, Monika Slovak, Eva Uhrinek and Anka Švec as assistant costume dressers for the show. Assistants to the director were Marienka Vacval and Tanya Pastor. The script was written by Olga Turok and the costume descriptions by Alena Melas.

Our biggest challenge was with the ticket sales as it was already March when they became available. There was also confusion with whether the lunch was included or not in the ticket price. It was also a very short time to organize the volunteers who helped to prepare and serve the lunch. We would like to thank Jana Puškar, Helen Konečný, Marta Zjavka, Stan Pastor, Anne Mitro, Erika Kazik, Marta Saradin and Eva Magdolen for preparing the sausages on a bun, coffee and the making šišky. We had help with the hall set from the Wednesday morning group and Mr. Stanly Pella with the stage set up.

Another challenge was the logistics of how to get three coatracks of freshly starched and ironed costumes, display cases, bins with mannequins and boxes of display artifacts from the museum to the church. The SCHM board had approved that a cube truck be rented to help with the transport and Matthew Melas agreed to drive it. On Friday evening at the church volunteers helped to unload the truck and to set up the displays. After the performance, again volunteers helped to pack up the displays into Miško Uhrinek's van, then he and his son Martin helped to bring everything back to the museum.

The final dress rehearsal came on Saturday afternoon, the day before the March 31st. show. Everyone had another chance to dress in their costume and to go through the show including the music which was chosen by Olga Turok and Roman Vrba. Technical sound support was given by Mario Brazina. Special spot lighting was provided by Tibor Hapco.

Prior to the show, a raffle for a painting was organized by Helen Bucic and Luba Hen-



(L – R) Back row: Zuzka Bjel, Jennifer Barker, Martin Uhrinek, Kristianne Monsivais, Julianna Ceresna, Trinity Ceresna, Peter Brazina, Tanya Pastor. Front row: Evka Bjel, Magdalenka Bjel, Lubika Dan, Sona Pevna, Timika Dan, Marienka Vacval, Tibor Hapco, Joe Radvansky, Nicole Vacval, Luba Henderson, Olga Turok, Monica Slovak. Kneeling row: Misko Serecin, Isobel Uhrinek, Marian Uhrinek, Ian Uhrinek, Zanita Pastor, Zuzka Lukac, Deanka Vizmuller, Karinka Monsivais, Alena Melas, Austin Ceresna, Veronika Brazina. Photo credit: Silvia Radvansky

erson. Marienka Škrobáková won the painting of a girl in a Slovak costume done by Tibor Kovalik. A second piece of art was donated that day from Josef Vrba. Tickets at the door were sold by Magda Vacval and Luba Henderson. The show was recorded by Slovak Television, Tibor Hapco and Jerry Lukac. Photos for the museum's records and a possible 2020 calendar were taken by Joe and Silvia Radvansky, Jerry Lukac and Tibor Hapco. Facebook was updated by Joe Radvansky. Jerry and Zuzka Lukac also helped to promote the event. We would like to thank the news media, Kanadsky Slovak, Novy Domov and Jednota. Our big thank you goes to the Office of Slovaks Living Abroad for supporting The Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum.

The best part was that we had brought together people of all ages from 2 years to 93 years old, with special needs and with many talents. Thank you to all the models (see their names under the photo), who were so generous with their time coming to rehearsals. They were not only beautiful outside but they are also beautiful people inside. And of course the accordion played by Dusan Pevny with the sing along, gave the show that specific Slovak flavour we all love. We thank everyone who donated those costumes so that we could show them. More offers of costumes and other Slovak heritage items have been offered to us. New partnerships and future project have also been proposed.

But most of all, we would like to thank YOU, everyone who came and supported the Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum. Let's continue to work together as was done by those who came before us, who built the Slovak churches and organizations with a strong Slovak Spirit in our community. We all thank them for their legacy and we hope to keep and cherish it for future generations.

God Bless,

SCHM Board of directors



## The FCSU at April Board of Directors Meeting for Slovak Catholic Federation

The Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Federation (SCF) met at the home office of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in Passaic, NJ, for their semi-annual meeting on April 2. Our organization was represented by National President Andrew M. Rajec, standing far right; and National Chaplain, Rev. Thomas Nasta, seated second from the left. Shown seated (L- R): Michael J. Horvath, supreme president of the Slovak Catholic Sokol which hosted the meeting; and SCF officers Rev. Thomas Nasta, national first vice president; Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, national president; Dolores M. Evanko, national secretary-treasurer; Rev. Msgr. Thomas A. Derzack, national chaplain and Loretta Ekoniak of Youngstown, OH. The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 in Wilkes-Barre, PA, by the Rev. Joseph Murgas to coordinate the religious activities of Slovak Catholic fraternal, religious communities in their efforts to address the pastoral needs of American and Canadian Catholics of Slovak ancestry.

- Submitted by Dan Tanzone, Branch 41

**MARCH MADNESS COMES TO THE FCSU:  
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FABULOUS FINAL FIVE!**

Thanks to everyone who entered this year's first-ever FCSU March Madness Contest. We hope you had as much fun playing as we did watching the numbers grow as hundreds of our members got into the game and shared the Madness!  
Please join us in congratulating our 2019 winners, the Fabulous Final Five:

PLACE	FIRST	LAST	NICKNAME	BRANCH	RD. 1	RD. 2	RD. 3	RD. 4	RD. 5	RD. 6	TOTAL:
1	Betty	Rozzell		162K	23	28	24	16	16	32	139
2	Larry	Brazina		228K	22	20	24	24	16	32	138
3			John 62 PA	553K	24	26	20	16	16	32	134
4			Paperclip	785K	25	28	24	8	16	32	133
5	Nicole	Nasta	Lost Tiebreaker	857K	23	22	24	16	16	32	133

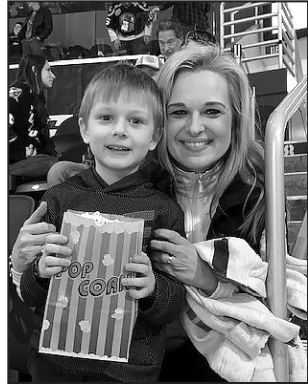
Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> PLACE \$1,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> PLACE \$750; 3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE \$500; 4<sup>th</sup> PLACE \$250; 5<sup>th</sup> PLACE \$50



# Hockey Night in Cleveland with District 10

On Saturday, March 23, 2019, at 7:00pm at Quicken Loans Arena in downtown Cleveland, OH, some 115 members and guests of District 10 of the First Catholic Slovak Union – including Branches 1, 24, 228, 450, 553 and 855 - watched the Cleveland Monsters win over the Hershey bears before a sold-out crowd. A fun evening of fraternalism was enjoyed by all, including many members with three generations in attendance – grandparents, parents and grandchildren. I personally want to thank all of our branches for making Hockey Night in Cleveland such a continuing success!

**Tom Ivanec, Region 6 Director**





# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2019

### KIMPTON AERTSON HOTEL, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

**OPEN MEETING:**

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 4:00 PM and asked Rev. Thomas Nasta to lead the prayer. The meeting was held in Nashville, Tennessee following the Board of Directors Meeting. The Board attended the AQS Symposium hosted by Larry White on Thursday, March 14, 2019.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President  
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President  
 George F. Matta II, Treasurer  
 Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain (by invitation of the President)

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES:**

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the February 2019 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., and seconded by George F. Matta II to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer and the Executive Secretary gave a full written report on the investment update to the Board of Directors at the Board of Directors Meeting held on March 15, 2019. Following the report, they answered the Board's questions.

**AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:**

Larry White, Byron White and Stephen Gonzalez, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report to the Board of Directors at the Board of Directors Meeting. Each member of the Board received a copy of the presentation in advance for his/her review. Mr. White and Mr. Gonzalez also led a discussion of the new investment opportunities that we may take advantage of. The President asked Mr. White to look for bonds suitable for the FCSU that do not conflict with our religious beliefs. Following the report, Mr. White and Mr. Gonzalez answered the Board's questions.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**Investment Updates

The Executive Secretary and Treasurer 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 Committee discussed the report and the Executive Secretary answered the 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 February for the Committee's review and answered their questions.

Monthly Disbursements

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

Disbursements for the month of February 2019:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 334,916.94
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 27,863.36
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

**SALES AND MARKETING:**

The Vice President gave a production report on our agents to the Board of Directors at the Board of Directors Meeting. He stated we are still recruiting and adding new agents, and at present have 300 agents. The Home Office is sending the independent agents monthly updates on our products. The independent agents are also in frequent contact with Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents. The Home Office continues an extensive Facebook ad recruiting campaign to recruit agents in the states we are licensed in. FCSU Commissions will be reviewed and compared against the competition.

The Executive Secretary stated that he is working on details for a referral program for recommenders to be introduced on July 1, 2019.

The Executive Secretary stated that the 2019 Membership Meet will be held November 9-17, 2019 aboard Carnival Magic. The 8 day cruise will depart from Fort Lauderdale and stop at Grand Turk, La Romana, Curacao and Aruba. More information will be published in the Jednota and posted on the fcsu.com website.

The Executive Secretary gave an update on the introduction of a bonus program for the agents effective February 1, 2019 – August 31, 2019. The bonus program features a free cruise for

2 at the FCSU Membership Meet if certain sales goals are met.

**ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:**

## Annuity Rates:

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

**MIDDLETOWN:**

The President updated the Board of Directors at the Board of Directors Meeting on the status of the rezoning of the property in Middletown. He stated that the township has approved the rezoning of the property. The President will keep the Board updated on any developments.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

The President led a discussion on developing a matching funds program for districts and branches to take advantage of. Details outlining the program will be available in the near future.

The President reviewed the fraternal activity report given by Fraternal Activities Director Kevin Collins. He stated we will have a joint bowling tournament this year with the Greek Catholic Union and the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Details of the event will be published in the Jednota and posted on the fcsu.com website.

The President stated there will not be a joint golf tournament with GCU and Sokols this year but anticipate one 2020. The FCSU will hold its own tournament in 2019. Kevin Collins will be in charge of the event.

**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.

Rev. Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec  
 President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
 Executive Secretary

## Deadline Extended to June 30, 2019

### 1st Year Premium Waived on Juvenile Enrichment Plan (JEP)



- 1st year premium waived on \$10,000 Term Insurance \*
- \$14 annual premium
- Premium never increases
- Guaranteed convertibility at any time up to age 25 (no medical examination required)
- College scholarships available
- Free newspaper subscription
- Youth activities



FCSU FINANCIAL®  
 First Catholic Slovak Union  
 6611 Rockside Rd, Suite 300  
 Independence, OH 44131  
 800-533-6682  
 fcsu@fcsu.com  
 www.fcsu.com

**All applications must be  
 received in the Home  
 Office postmarked  
 by June 30, 2019.**

*\*Higher amounts available - please contact your  
 Branch Officer or the Home Office  
 Standard underwriting applies.*



## Správy zo Slovenska

**Bratislava** - Aj v tomto roku môžu žiaci základných a stredných škôl využiť 150-eurový príspevok štátu na lyžiarsky kurz. Finančné prostriedky v celkovom objeme 13 miliónov eur už boli poukázané zriaďovateľom škôl, a to na základe počtu žiakov, ktorý nahlásili školy v Eduzbere v septembri minulého roka. Informoval o tom odbor komunikácie a protokolu Ministerstva školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu SR.

**Praha/Bratislava** - Budúca slovenská prezidentka Zuzana Čaputová navštívila dva týždne po svojom víťazstve v prezidentských voľbách súkromne Prahu. Večerala s poslancom TOP 09 a bývalým českým ministrom zahraničných vecí Karlom Schwarzenbergom, ktorý ju podporil v kampani, a zišla sa napríklad aj s riaditeľom Knihnice Václava Havla Michaelom Žantovským.

**Bratislava** - Jeden z 25 Slovákov trpí nádorovým ochorením. Má ho viac ako 226.000 ľudí na Slovensku, pričom ročne pribudne viac ako 34.000 nových prípadov. Ročne sa priemerne u nás diagnostikuje onkologické ochorenie 0,62 percenta mužov a 0,57 percenta žien. Vyplýva to z kvalifikovaného odhadu Národného centra zdravotníckych informácií (NCZI) za rok 2018. NCZI odhaduje, že v roku 2018 v SR pribudlo 34.272 nových onkologických pacientov. Medzi najrizikovejšie patrí u oboch pohlaví zhubný nádor hrubého čreva. Nádorové ochorenia postihujú viac ženy ako mužov. Na základe spracovaných údajov je na Slovensku viac ako 92.000 mužov a 134.500 žien s takýmto ochorením.

**Bratislava** - Antidopingová agentúra Slovenskej republiky (ADA SR) vykonala v roku 2018 vyše 400 odberov biologického materiálu. Spomedzi slovenských športovcov navštívili dopingoví komisári najčastejšie cyklistu Petra Sagana a biatlonistku Anastasiu Kuzminovú. Vyplýva to z výročnej správy agentúry. Informoval o tom odbor komunikácie a protokolu Ministerstva školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu (MŠVVŠ) SR.

**Košice** - Mesto Košice podá podnet na prokuratúru v oblasti usporiadania nároku rímskokatolíckej cirkvi, ktoré bolo prerokované na mestskom zastupiteľstve (MsZ) v septembri 2017. Má sa tak preveriť, či v procese výmeny pozemkov nebol porušený zákon alebo či verejne činná osoba nezneužila svoje právomoci. Vyplýva to z uznesenia, ktoré prijalo MsZ na svojom aprílovom zasadnutí v súvislosti s petíciou obyvateľov mestskej časti (MČ) Sídliisko KVP. Tí nesúhlasia s výstavbou približne 400 bytov na dotknutom území.

**Bratislava** - Pri zachraňovaní ľudských životov pomáha nová mobilná aplikácia 155.sk. Pripravilo ju Operačné stredisko záchrannej zdravotnej služby SR. Aplikácia dokáže lokalizovať miesto, kde sa volajúci nachádza. Pre nepočujúcich ponúka možnosť zaslať núdzovú správu. Predstavili ju nedávno na pôde Ministerstva zdravotníctva (MZ) SR.

**Bratislava** - Klub 500 nesúhlasí s návrhom Ministerstva školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu SR, ktorý stavia výučbu angličtiny na základných školách na úroveň voliteľného jazyka. Podľa návrhu rezortu školstva by riaditelia základných škôl mali sami rozhodnúť, ktorý jazyk sa bude vyučovať povinne. Informoval o tom výkonný riaditeľ Klubu 500 Tibor Gregor.

**Nitra** - Približne 25.000 voľných pracovných miest ponúkali záujemcom o prácu vystavovatelia na Veľtrhu práce - Job Expo, ktorý sa konal v Nitre. Počas dvoch dní sa na výstaviske stretlo 227 vystavovateľov, 169 slovenských a 58 zahraničných zamestnávateľov. Z celkovej ponuky voľných pracovných miest bolo 7940 od slovenských zamestnávateľov, viac ako 15.000 voľných pracovných miest na pracovných portáloch a 2252 zahraničných pracovných miest. Najväčší veľtrh pracovných príležitostí na Slovensku organizovalo Ústredie práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny. Súčasťou deviateho ročníka veľtrhu práce bola 21. medzinárodná burza práce European Job Days 2019.

**Slovensko** - 24. až 25. apríla navštívila delegácia japonskej vlády vedená jej predsedom Šinzóom Abem. Historicky prvú návštevu japonského premiéra na Slovensku schválila vláda. V rámci pracovnej návštevy na pozvanie predsedu vlády Petra Pellegriniho (Smer-SD) sa Abe stretne aj premiéromi krajín V4.

**Bratislava** - Bratislavu navštívil v apríli nový primátor Prahy Zdeněk Hřib. Je to jeho prvá oficiálna zahraničná pracovná cesta slovenskej metropoly, na ktorej sa stretol s primátorom Bratislavy Matúšom Vallom. „Bratislava je prirodzeným partnerským mestom Prahy, preto jedna z mojich prvých ciest viedla, logicky, sem. Praha a Bratislava majú veľa spoločného. Nielen historicky, ale aj ako oporné metropoly, hlavné mestá svojich štátov,“ uviedol na brífingu v Primaciálnom paláci Hřib.

**Bratislava** - Podnikateľom a právnickým osobám by sa od budúceho roka mala znížiť administratívna záťaž. Ministerstvo zdravotníctva (MZ) SR a Úrad verejného zdravotníctva (ÚVZ) SR pripravili opatrenia, ktorými chcú vyjsť v ústrety podnikateľskej obci na Slovensku. Okrem úpravy byrokracie by malo dôjsť aj k úspore finančných nákladov. Zmena by sa mala dotknúť 11.580 prevádzok.

**Bratislava** - Rezort školstva ráta s tým, že angličtina zostane naďalej dominantným cudzím jazykom v školách aj po zmene, ktorú chce rezort školstva od 1. septembra zaviesť. Uviedla to ministerka školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu Martina Lubyová (nominantka SNS) vo videu na sociálnej sieti. Žiaci by si po novom mali vybrať, ktorý cudzí jazyk sa budú učiť na prvom mieste, pričom doteraz to bola povinne angličtina.

**Bratislava** - Investície, vzájomné zmluvy aj takmer 100 rokov diplomatických vzťahov boli témami bilaterálneho rokovania predsedu vlády SR Petra Pellegriniho (Smer-SD) s japonským premiérom Šinzóom Abem počas historicky prvej návštevy šéfa japonského kabinetu na Slovensku. Partneri ocenili najmä zmluvu o sociálnom zabezpečení, ktorá vstupuje do platnosti v júli. „Na jej základe budú môcť jednoduchšie pracovať a byť zamestnávaní Japonci na Slovensku a Slováci v Japonsku s tým, že sa im vzájomne bude započítavať aj dôchodkové poistenie a vyplácať dôchodok,“ priblížil Pellegrini.

**Bratislava** - V májových voľbách do Európskeho parlamentu (EP) by určite hlasovalo 20 percent ľudí na Slovensku. Vyplýva to z jarného eurobarometra Európskeho parlamentu 2019. V posledných eurovoľbách bola volebná účasť na Slovensku 13,05 percenta, čo bolo najmenej v Únii. Eurovoľby budú na Slovensku 25. mája.

**Bratislava** - Prezidentovi SR Andrejovi Kiskovi udelia v pondelok 29. apríla v Prahe Zlatú medailu Karlovej univerzity. Kiska sa počas pracovnej návštevy stretne aj s vedením mesta Praha, ktoré mu symbolicky odovzdá kľúč od mesta. Prezident navštívi aj výstavu 2x100 v Národnom múzeu v Prahe a udelí štátne vyznamenanie jeho generálnemu riaditeľovi Michalovi Lukešovi. Súčasťou návštevy bude tiež diskusia so študentmi Právnickej fakulty Karlovej univerzity.

**Bratislava** - Digitalizácia pomáha nielen zachrániť, ale i zachovať do budúcnosti obrovský potenciál kultúrneho dedičstva zhromaždený v pamäťových a fondových inštitúciách. Ministerka kultúry SR Ľubica Laššáková (Smer-SD) to zdôraznila v piatok pri príležitosti prezentácie výsledkov digitalizácie v stánku Slovákia na technologickom festivale IXPO v Bratislave 26. - 28. apríla. Prezentácia sa týka dosiahnutých výsledkov počas ôsmich rokov trvania realizácie a udržateľnosti 13 národných projektov zameraných na digitalizáciu a sprístupňovanie pamäťových a fondových inštitúcií.

Výber zo slovenskej tlače

## Svätyňa v Hronskom Beňadiku bude v júni povýšená na Baziliku minor



Svätý Otec František, v zastúpení kardinálom Róbertom Sarah – prefektom Kongregácie pre Boží kult a disciplínu sviatostí, udelil titul Bazilika minor Farskému kostolu – Diecéznej svätyňi v Hronskom Beňadiku. Slávnostné vyhlásenie tohto povýšenia bude 28. júna 2019, teda v piatok na Slávnosť Božského Srdca Ježišovho.

TK KBS

## Archivári a historici si konferenciou pripomínajú osobnosť Štefánika

Dvojdňová archívno-historická konferencia o Milanovi Rastislavovi Štefánikovi sa konala v polovici apríla v prednáškovej sále Univerzitnej knižnice Bratislava (UKB). Pod názvom Veľký malý muž Milan Rastislav Štefánik ju pri príležitosti 100. výročia jeho tragickej smrti organizuje Ministerstvo vnútra (MV) SR.



“Osobný fond Štefánika je vďaka rozsahu, rozmanitosti a významu dokumentov jednotlivca ojedinelý v našom archíve. Je snom i nočnou morou archivára. Ten sa borí aj s odbornou terminológiou z astronómie, výpočtami a poznámkami, navyše vo francúzštine. Zachovalo sa množstvo raritných dokumentov, aj také, ktoré vtedy mohli byť považované za banálne a po sto rokoch majú svoju hodnotu. Najstarší zápisník je z roku 1896, ale najhodnotnejšie sú z obdobia 1905 – 1913. Sú v nich aj nákresy jeho technických vynálezov,“ uviedla v úvodnej prednáške Miriam Kuzmíková zo Slovenského národného archívu (SNA), ktorý obsahuje písomné dokumenty, fotografie, osobné, zberateľské, umelecké a iné predmety.

Tiež prezradila, že Štefánikov archív bol dlho neprístupný, čiastočne uvoľnený po Pražskej jari 1968, no po normalizácii začiatkom 70. rokov opäť v nemilosti štátnej moci. Až po roku 1989 nastal veľký záujem o tento osobný fond, ktorý je roztriedený na viac častí. Jeho štvrtinu tvorí korešpondencia usporiadaná abecedne podľa osôb a inštitúcií. Chronologicky sú zoradené vedecké expedície, pri ktorých plnil aj diplomatické úlohy.

“Najpodstatnejšia časť zo Štefánikovho archívu sú jeho posledné štyri roky života, významná politická a vojenská aktivita. Kvôli tomu je aj táto konferencia,“ dodala Kuzmíková.

Historici a ďalší odborníci z MV, SNA, viacerých pracovísk Slovenskej akadémie vied, Literárneho archívu Slovenskej národnej knižnice v Martine a iných archívov hovoria aj o pôsobení Štefánika na Sibíri v Rusku, jeho prínose k záchrane národa, o Štefánikových sochách a pamätníkoch či o jeho brilantnej diplomácii pri zrode Československa.

Program konferencie spestruje film “Štefánik. Príbeh hrdinu. Vlast” a expozícia vo výstavných priestoroch UKB s názvom Veľký malý muž Milan Rastislav Štefánik v archívnych dokumentoch SNA. Prezentuje verejnosti najzaujímavejšie exponáty, Štefánikov skutočný príbeh, ale najmä ho predstavuje ako človeka a až potom ako astronóma, vojenského letca, diplomata a politika.

TASR

## R. Raši prijal exporadkyňu amerických prezidentov pre kybernetickú bezpečnosť

Podpredsa vlády SR pre investície a informatizáciu Richard Raši (Smer-SD) prijal 30. apríla exporadkyňu amerických prezidentov Baracka Obamu a Georgea W. Busha pre kybernetickú bezpečnosť Melissu Hathawayovú. TASR o tom informovala Silvia Tannhauserová z odboru komunikácie a protokolu Úradu podpredsedu vlády SR pre investície a informatizáciu (ÚPVII). Slovensko podľa Hathawayovej urobilo významný pokrok, aby si zachovalo svoju kybernetickú obranu.

V rámci indexu kybernetickej pripravenosti Slovenska je SR na 46 mieste, informovala Tannhauserová. „Naším problémom je najmä podfinancovanie kybernetickej bezpečnosti v minulosti. V správe, ktorú s kolegami z Pootomackého inštitútu, kde v súčasnosti pôsobí, tiež Slovensku vyčítala, že na kybernetickú bezpečnosť vynakladáme málo peňazí z eurofondov. Pozitívne však zhodnotila vypracovanie Stratégie digitálnej transformácie Slovenska, ktorú ÚPVII pripravil, aktivity na podporu vzdelávania v oblasti kybernetickej bezpečnosti či prilákanie zahraničných investorov do kybernetického sektora,“ informovala Tannhauserová o hodnoteniach odborníky.

Vicepremiér podľa nej zdôraznil, že za posledný rok Slovensko urobilo veľký krok v oblasti kybernetickej bezpečnosti, keď prijalo zákon o kybernetickej bezpečnosti a rozbehlo národný projekt riadenia incidentov kybernetickej bezpečnosti vo verejnej správe v hodnote 44 miliónov eur, a ďalšie desiatky miliónov eur plánuje investovať do kybernetickej bezpečnosti v tomto roku.

TASR



## Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

### Slovenská liga pripravuje spomienkovú slávnosť k 100. výročiu Štefánikovej smrti

Slovenská liga v Amerike si pripomenie v nedeľu 19. mája 2019 100. Výročie tragickej smrti generála Milana Rastislava Štefánika. Slávnosť sa bude konať v spoločenskej hale slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomúckeho v New Yorku (First Ave a 66th St.) Začne sa o 1:00 hodine popoludní. Slávnostným rečníkom bude profesor historik Dr. Michael Kopanic. Slávnosť bude obohatená hodnotným umeleckým programom. Slovenská liga pozýva slovenskú verejnosť, aby si prišla uctiť pamiatku národného hrdinu M. R. Štefánika.

### Vyšlo ďalšie číslo Slovakie

Začiatkom roka 2019 vyšlo tlačou nové číslo historickej publikácie Slovenskej ligy v Amerike – Slovakia 2019. Publikácia obsahuje mnoho zaujímavých článkov, hlavne z čias, keď sa rodila druhá Slovenská republika. Slovakii 2019 si možno objednať za \$10.00 (vrátane poštovného) na adrese: Slovak League of America, 205 Madison Street, Passaic, NJ 07055.

### Konvencia slovenských organizácií

V roku 2019 budú mať svoje štvorročné konvencie dve slovenské organizácie. Slovenský katolícky Sokol bude mať svoju 33. Konvenciu v dňoch 3. až 7. augusta 2019 v hoteli Cleveland Airport Mariot na adrese 4277 W. 150th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44135. Na konvencii sa zídu približne 200 delegátov z miestnych spolkov.

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (Ženská Jednota) bude mať svoju štvorročnú konvenciu v dňoch 3. až 6. októbra 2019 v hoteli Tampa Marriot Waterside Hotel & Marina, 700 S Florida Ave, Tampa, FL 33602. Na konvencii sa zídu približne 300 delegátov z miestnych spolkov. Sídlo organizácie je na adrese 24950 Chagrin Blvd. Cleveland, Ohio, 44122.

## Alternatíva k EÚ existuje, ale nikto si ju pre Slovensko neželá

Alternatíva k členstvu v Európskej únii existuje, ale nikto si ju pre Slovensko neželá. Na úvod diskusie Slovensko v EÚ po roku 2019 to povedal predseda vlády Peter Pellegrini (Smer-SD). Pripomenul, že krajinám, ktoré „ostali visieť medzi západom a Ruskom“, sa darí oveľa menej ako Slovensku.

„Bez nášho členstva v EÚ a NATO nikdy nebudeme mostom medzi východom a západom, nebudeme nikdy novým Švajčiarskom ani centrom nejakej novej mravnosti v medzinárodných vzťahoch. Pretože, ak by sme boli sami, budeme len ľahkou korisťou, izolovaným ostrovom, s ktorými si veľké mocnosti budú robiť, čo chcú,“ vyhlásil premiér na úvod diskusie GLOBSEC-u na pôde Ekonomickej univerzity v Bratislave.

Aj ekonomické ukazovatele podľa Pellegriniho jasne ukazujú, ktorým smerom sa má slovenská zahraničná politika orientovať. Hovoril napríklad o vývoze SR, z ktorého 85 percent smeruje do krajín EÚ, len 2 až 2,5 percenta do Ruska a ešte menej do rastúcej Číny. „Je to dané aj tým, že EÚ a USA reprezentujú spoločne 48 percent nominálneho svetového HDP,“ poznamenal Pellegrini.

Pellegrini tiež pripomenul, že vzhľadom na to, čo poskytuje, je EÚ pomerne lacnou záležitosťou. Na fungovanie EÚ podľa premiéra každý Európan prispieva asi 400 eur ročne, teda približne jednu kávu denne. Dostáva za to prístup na obrovský európsky trh, vyjednávaciu silu a v spolupráci s NATO aj mier a bezpečnosť.

Okrem toho Európska únia podľa Pellegriniho pomohla vytvoriť tlak na Slovensko, aby sa pred vstupom do nej zlepšovalo. Priznal, že pred krajinou stále stoja výzvy, napríklad korupcia, zlepšovanie súdnictva, podnikateľského prostredia a vzdelávania. Nevyhnutná je tiež podľa neho ďalšia integrácia v rámci EÚ. Prívil by tiež, ak by sa viacročný rozpočet EÚ stanovoval podľa priorit a nie podľa množstva peňazí v ňom.

Na záver svojho prejavu Pellegrini vyzval na účasť na voľbách a na odstránenie takzvaného slovenského paradoxu. Slovensko má totiž veľmi pozitívne vnímanie EÚ, ale najnižšiu účasť v eurovoľbách. Tá podľa premiéra vytvára priestor antisystémovým silám, ktoré idú proti únii.

TASR

## M. Lajčák na pracovnej návšteve vo Washingtone, DC

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Sullivan potvrdil záujem USA o rozvoj dialógu a spolupráce s krajinami strednej Európy na bilaterálnej úrovni, ako aj po línií V4. Ministri vyšehradského zoskupenia prezentovali snahu o ďalšie posilnenie transatlantickej väzby, zdôraznili pripravenosť čeliť hybridným hrozbám a agresiami a potvrdili nespochybniteľnosť ochrany východnej hranice NATO. Partneri akcentovali význam transatlantickej väzby, vrátane úzkej spolupráce medzi EÚ a USA a ocenili pozitívnu úlohu, ktorú USA zohrali pri transformácii krajín regiónu.

Návšteva M. Lajčáka vo Washingtone potvrdila tendenciu zintenzívňovania stykových aktivít medzi Slovenskou republikou a Spojenými štátmi americkými, ktorých doterajším vyvrcholením bola návšteva ministra zahraničných vecí Spojených štátov amerických Michaela Pompea v Bratislave vo februári tohto roku. Stretnutia s predstaviteľmi administratívy a Kongresu USA vytvorili ďalšiu príležitosť na prezentovanie Slovenskej republiky ako ambiciózneho a angažovaného aktéra na medzinárodnej scéne, osobitne v rámci Európskej únie a v regióne strednej Európy a ako spoľahlivého partnera a spojencu v rámci NATO.

MZV SR

## Maticné pracoviská a odbory celého Slovenska excelentne pracujú v oblasti krajankej problematiky aj na regionálnej úrovni



V roku 2018 Krajancké múzeum posilnilo informovanie o možnostiach spolupráce s krajanmi aj smerom k členskej základni MS. Na žiadosť predsedu MS, Mariána Gešpera, pripravilo informačný blok budúcej vízie práce s krajanmi na regionálnych úrovniach a doposiaľ ho prezentovalo krajanckým radám v Trnavskom, Trenčianskom i Žilinskom kraji. Informácie odzneli aj na grémiu krajských rád a školení nových zamestnancov Matice slovenskej. V tomto trende bude KM pokračovať aj v ostatných krajoch počas roku 2019.

KM má ambíciu prácu regionálnych zložiek MS zosystematizovať, posilniť a následne ju prezentovať na oficiálnych fórach štátnych orgánov Slovenskej republiky s cieľom jej hmotnej podpory. V posilňovaní vzájomných prepojení smerom do zahraničia Matica slovenskej pomáha najmä Rada pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí pri MS, ktorá je ohniskom návrhov krajankej spolupráce s maticiarimi.

Počas roku 2018 Matica pracovala so Slovákami v zahraničí aj na regionálnej úrovni. V Banskobystrickom kraji s krajanmi v zahraničí spolupracovali veľmi intenzívne D MS Banská Bystrica a MO MS Zvolenská Slatina, ktorí pripravili koncertné vystúpenia pre krajanov zo Srbska a Chorvátska. Navštívili nielen krajanov vo Vojvodine, ale i MO MS Rijeka v Chorvátsku. MO MS Zvolenská Slatina v spolupráci s obcou Zvolenská Slatina pripravili tradičný Slatinský jarmok za účasti FS Vreteno z Kysáča. S krajanmi pracovalo aj OP MS Hrušov. Členovia MO MS Hrušov sa zúčastnili Mládežníckeho folklórného festivalu v Čerpotoku (RO) a tiež pripravili Hontiansku parádu a jej krajancký dvor, za účasti FS Morena (Londýn) a SKUS Jednota zo Šidu (Srbsko). Riaditeľka D MS Fiľakovo a D MS Lučenec bola prítomná na akcii Slovákov v Českej republike, v Slovenskom dome v Prahe, kde spoločne s FS Jánošík krajancky podporili podujatie FOLKLORNÍ MEJDLLO BY SLOVAKFOLKLORE. Momentálne sa na KM obrátil MO MS Podzámčok so žiadosťou o pomoc pri naštartovaní spolupráce s krajanmi z Rumunska a Maďarska.

V Bratislavskom kraji spolupracuje s krajanmi z Vojvodiny MO MS Rača, kde sa vzájomná spolupráca realizuje najmä výmennými pobytmi. Významná je aj dlhoročná spolupráca MO MS Petržalka, ktorý sa zameriava na spoluprácu s krajanmi z maďarského Piliša.

V Trnavskom kraji sa spoluprácou s krajanmi z Maďarska zaoberá D MS Galanta a MO MS Galanta. V roku 2018 sa venovali najmä témam reemigrácie a tiež digitalizovaním archívov z tohto obdobia. D MS Galanta na jeseň pripravil jubilejné stretnutie spolku Slovákov z Maďarska na Slovensku, ktorý si pripomenul svoje 20. ročné trvanie.

V Nitrianskom kraji spoluprácu realizuje najmä D MS Nitra, ktorý v roku 2018 pripravoval aktivity prevažne s krajanmi žijúcimi v Chorvátsku. DMS Nitra bol prítomný na 25. výročí MS Osijek a 36. ročníku prehliadky slovenského folklóru v Chorvátskej republike, spoločne s MO MS Dražovce. Pri 25. výročí MS v Osijeku sa do spolupráce zapojili MO MS Nitra – Janikovce a MO MS Čakajovce. Dom pripravil aj výstavu pre SKC Našice.

Krajanovia z Chorvátska boli prítomní aj na Slovensku. MS Soljani bola účastníka na slávnostiach v Krnči, v spolupráci MO MS Krnča. V septembri sa členovia MS Osijek zúčastnili slávností založenia MO MS Čakajovce a na Cyrilo-metodských slávnostiach a Pribinových slávnostiach Nitra. Na jeseň 2018 MO MS Továrniky pozval KUS Zvolen – Kulpín na divadelné vystúpenie do Topolčian a Bojne. V Nitrianskom kraji spolupracuje s krajanmi aj MO MS Nové Zámky, ktorý zastrešil účasť FS Maticiarik na krajanckom folklórnom podujatí v Oradei (RO). Dlhoročnú spoluprácu s krajanmi z maďarského Piliša zastrešuje aj MO MS Šurany.

Z Košického a Prešovského kraja celoročne spolupracujú s krajanmi z Ukrajiny pracovníci z D MS Michalovce a tiež OP Vranov nad Topľou. Ich spolupráca sa realizuje osobnou účasťou na jednotlivých podujatiach Kultúrno-oblastnej organizácie Matica slovenská v Užhorode a v kooperácii pri pripravách jednotlivých podujatí. V Prešovskom kraji sa rozbieha za pomoci KM MS spolupráca MO MS Stará Ľubovňa so Slovákami z poľského Kačvina.

V Žilinskom kraji s krajanmi systémovo spolupracuje MO MS Trstená, ktorý počas roku 2018 pripravil v spolupráci s krajanmi v Poľsku viaceré podujatia, napr.: výmenné podujatie „Oživenie tradícií a zvykov našich predkov“, vystavené podujatie pri príležitosti 60. výročia založenia časopisu Život v Poľsku, výstavu detských výtvarných prác zo spišských a oravských škôl pod názvom: „Obálka časopisu Život v slávnostnom šate). Na spolupráci sa podieľa aj D MS Žilina, ktorý prezentoval činnosť KM vernisážami výstav Predstavuje sa KM MS a Cesta slovenskou Amerikou. Taktiež organizuje súťaž školských a triednych časopisov Proslavis s krajanckou účasťou.

KM MS ako ústredné pracovisko MS pre krajanckú problematiku v oblasti prezentácie krajanov na Slovensku počas roku 2018 zabezpečilo účasť krajanov na hlavných podujatiach MS: na Slovesnej jari (krajan z Českej republiky), účasť krajanckých súborov na NMS 2018 (Remetské poštáre a Turianska dolina z Ukrajiny) a tiež účasť krajanov na Národnom zraze Mladej Matice (krajanovia z Ukrajiny).

V najbližšej dobe má v pláne informácie o aktuálnych možnostiach spolupráce s krajanmi prezentovať aj ostatným Krajanckým radám MS a prácu maticiarov so Slovákami v zahraničí systematizovať do čo najvyššej možnej miery.

Zuzana Pavelcová



## Pre návštevníkov hokejového šampionátu sú pripravené aj výlety

Rôzne aktivity v Košickom kraji budú sprevádzať blížiac sa majstrovstvá sveta v ľadovom hokeji, ktorých dejiskom budú okrem Bratislavy aj Košice. Pôjde napríklad o súťaž o sledovanie zápasu slovenskej reprezentácie na Spišskom hrade či vo vínnej pivnici na Tokaji, živé hokejové sochy i výlety na rôzne miesta v kraji.

Fanúšikovia budú môcť stretnúť spomínané živé sochy počas prvého hracieho víkendy v Košiciach, no uvidia ich aj návštevníci podujatia Urban 2019 to pri otvorených tokajských pivniciach v sobotu (27. 4.).

Krajská organizácia cestovného ruchu (KOCR) Košice Región Turizmus pripravila v súvislosti so šampionátom aj špeciálne výletné produkty. „Vnímame, že tieto formáty zápasov sú iné, ako boli v roku 2011 - a teda každý z tímov tu odohrá približne sedem zápasov, tak vieme, že pomedzi to si fanúšik môže zvoliť aj nejakú alternatívnu formu trávenia voľného času. Pripravili sme viachodinové výlety, jednoduché výlety,“ povedala výkonná riaditeľka Košice Región Turizmus Lenka Vargová Jurková. Pre zahraničných fanúšikov ubytovaných v Košiciach sú pod názvom Get inspired by Košice Region nachystané štyri výletné produkty, a to na Spišský Hrad, do rožňavského pivovaru, na Tokaj a do termalparku na Širave. Pripravený je tiež výlet Plnou parou za svetovým dedičstvom. „Nostalgický vlak potiahne smerom k Dobšinskej ľadovej jaskyni pravý parný rušeň Ventilovka z roku 1926,“ dodala.

Pre hokejových nadšencov budú v ponuke aj rôzne spomienkové predmety vyrobené v limitovanej edícii. Medzi ne patrí i puk so špeciálnym hokejovým motívom Košického kraja, špecialitou bude aj regionálne pivo Lapačka. Ďalším pamätným predmetom, ktorý Košice Región Turizmus nachystal, je zábavný hokejový anglicko-východniarsky slovník Do you speak Ponashom?

TASR

## Na Slovensku vznikol film o Božom služobníkovi Jánovi Vojtaššákovi

Na Slovensku vznikol nový dokumentárny film o Božom služobníkovi Jánovi Vojtaššákovi. Jeho názov je „Vojtaššák“. Vznikol v koprodukcii Lux communication, Spišského biskupstva a Televízie Lux.

Svoj takmer 90 ročný život prežil biskup Vojtaššák v pohnutej dobe poznačenej vojnami a zmeňami režimov. V každom čase neohrozene obraňoval základné práva Katolíckej cirkvi a slovenského národa. Preto sa stal tŕňom v oku mnohých neprajníkov. Komunistický režim ho v roku 1951 už ako 73 ročného odsúdil na 24 rokov väzenia. Vo väzení a nútenej izolácii sa trápil 15 rokov. Propaganda ho sústavne diskreditovala, potupovala a znevažovala.

To otvorilo priestor jeho jednostrannej kritike, ktorá deformovala a v mnohom až do súčasnosti deformuje obraz biskupa. Ján Vojtaššák zomrel v povesti svätosti a dodnes k nemu veriaci nielen zo Spišskej diecézy, ale aj z celého Slovenska prechováajú veľkú úctu. V roku 1990 bol úplne rehabilitovaný zo všetkých vykonštruovaných obvinení. V roku 1996 začala Spišská diecéza proces jeho blahorečenia.

Film sa začína myšlienkou biskupa Jána z roku 1921, ktorá vystihuje jeho životný odkaz. „Veľká časť ľudstva dnes nemiluje Boha, nechce ho poznať, a preto leží na človečenstve všelijaká pokuta. Duch hmotárstva vyhasil v ľudských srdciach posledné iskričky lásky k blížnemu. A hoc aj poskromne je tej pravej viery v Boha, môj slovenský katolícky ľud, ktorého som synom, a za ktorý časné i večné dobro všetko podujmem, musí ostať verný tomu dedičstvu, ktoré sv. Cyril a Metod našim praotcom zanechali.“ V dokumente je následne priblížený životopis biskupa Vojtaššáka. Jeho osobu potom opisujú viaceré osobnosti ako kardinál Jozef Tomko, spišský biskup Štefan Sečka, historici prof. Emília Hrabovec a prof. Róbert Letz, poľský historik Arkadiusz Adamczyk a historik Českej akadémie vied Jaroslav Šebek. Z knázov vystupuje napríklad postulátor kauzy blahorečenia Peter Jurčaga či Jozef Krištof zo Štátneho sekretariátu Svätej stolice.

Vo filme je využitých množstvo archívnych fotografií TASR, Slovenskej tlačovej kancelárie z rokov 1939 – 1945 či archívne materiály Ústavu pamäti národa a Spišského biskupstva.

„Keď nás oslovila Spišská diecéza, aby sme natočili dokumentárny film o biskupovi Vojtaššákovi, dosť sme sa tejto kontroverznej témy zľakli. Trvalo nám rok, kým sme sa presvedčili, že Vojtaššák bol OK, že to čo o ňom šíria jeho neprajníci, je značne pokrútená verzia histórie,“ spomína režisér a autor scenára Marek Poláček z LUX communication. Za kameru, strih a výber hudby zodpovedal Filip Šimor.

„Príbeh Jána Vojtaššáka z čias druhej svetovej vojny totiž veľmi šikovne zneužila komunistická propaganda a spišského biskupa vykreslila ako toho najväčšieho zločinca. Mnohé obvinenia z monster procesu 50-tych rokov sa ziaľ šíria dodnes,“ hovorí režisér.

„Na príbehu biskupa Jána ma najviac šokovalo, že ho uväznili už ako 73 ročného starčeka a 12 rokov ho trápili po tých najhorších väzniciach Československa. Nedokázal som si jednoducho predstaviť, že by napríklad uväznili môjho 76 ročného otca a bili ho, dávali mu robiť desiatky drepov, posmievali sa mu, trápili ho hladom a zimou. Alebo by mu nedovolili celé noci ľahnúť si a ak aj áno, tak na holý vlhký betón,“ dodáva v rozhovore pre TK KBS Marek Poláček.

TKKBS

## ÚSZZ v roku 2018 podporil dotáciami 543 projektov Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí

Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚSZZ) v roku 2018 podporil 543 projektov krajských spolkov dotáciami vo výške 1.137.889 eur. Úrad o tom informuje v Správe o štátnej politike vo vzťahu k Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí o poskytnutej podpore krajských komunit. Správu predložil ÚSZZ v utorok (30.4.) do medzirezortného pripomienkového konania.

Najviac podporených projektov sa týka oblasti kultúry (328 projektov z 21 krajín podporených sumou 776.688 eur), v oblasti vzdelávania, vedy a výskumu poskytol úrad 250.451 eur pre 147 projektov krajanov v 25 štátoch sveta. Vydavateľskú činnosť podporil ÚSZZ sumou 81.500 eur, ktorú prerozdelenil medzi 53 projektov v 17 štátoch. Dotáciami vo výške 33.450 eur prispel i na realizáciu 18 mediálnych výstupov, tlačových i elektronických médií.

Najviac podporených projektov v každej zo spomínaných oblastí pochádza z činnosti krajskej komunity v Srbsku, v prípade kultúrnych, vzdelávacích a vydavateľských aktivít to bola viac ako tretina všetkých podporených projektov (v oblasti kultúry 123 z 328, v oblasti vzdelávania 51 zo 147, pri vydavateľskej činnosti 18 z 51 podporených projektov).

Práve v súvislosti so Slovákami v Srbsku konštatuje ÚSZZ „vážny zásah do podstaty slovenskej národnostnej menšiny vo Vojvodine“. Poukazuje pritom na fakt, že pretrváva záujem Slovákov z Vojvodiny o vydanie osvedčenia Slováka žijúceho v zahraničí (v roku 2018 bolo vydaných 1708 osvedčení), s čím súvisí migrácia za prácou na Slovensko. Osvedčenie totiž jeho držiteľovi umožňuje v SR požiadať o prechodný pobyt a získať prácu bez ďalších administratívnych povolení. „Podľa Sčítania v roku 2011 žilo v Srbsku 52.750 osôb slovenskej národnosti, aktuálne odhady hovoria o poklese o cca 7000 osôb,“ informujú predkladatelia Správy.

Podľa oficiálnych údajov žije v zahraničí približne 1.070.000 ľudí hlásiacich sa k slovenskej národnosti, podľa odhadov samotných krajanov je ich o približne 600.000 viac. Ide o autochtónne slovenské národnostné menšiny v krajinách strednej a východnej Európy, slovenské komunity v zámorí a slovenské komunity v západnej Európe formované hlavne v dôsledku novodobej emigrácie. Z týchto troch skupín v súčasnosti podľa zistení ÚSZZ narastá počet slovenských imigrantov v zámorí (najmä v USA), ktorí tam prichádzajú za prácou či štúdiom.

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## Veľvyslanci Francúzska a Nemecka navštívili mesto Košice

Veľvyslancov Francúzska a Nemecka v SR prijal v utorok 30. apríla počas ich návštevy Košíc primátor Jaroslav Polaček. Veľvyslanci Christophe Leonzi a Joachim Bleicker na stretnutí vyzdvihovali nevyhnutnosť vzdelávania mládeže, a to hlavne jazykového. V rámci dvojdnového programu v Košiciach zavítali aj na Evanjelické gymnázium Jana Amosa Komenského pri príležitosti osláv 25. výročia založenia tejto školy, ktoré má nemeckú i francúzsku jazykovú sekciu.

Témou rozhovoru s primátorom boli i priestory Francúzskej aliancie v Košiciach, pre ktoré veľvyslanec aj v spolupráci s mestom hľadá lepšie umiestnenie pre výraznejšie zviditeľnenie francúzskej kultúry. Hovorili aj o prebiehajúcich Dňoch Ukrajiny 2019 v Košiciach, kde vedenie mesta deklarovalo vôľu posilniť nielen kultúrnu, ale i ekonomickú spoluprácu so Zakarpatskou Ukrajinou.

Polaček pozval oboch veľvyslancov na zápasy ich krajín so Slovenskom počas hokejových majstrovstiev sveta v Košiciach, pozvanie prijal francúzsky veľvyslanec. Informoval o tom košický magistrát.

Súčasťou utorokového programu diplomatov bola aj návšteva slovensko-francúzskej bilingválnej sekcie Gymnázia M. R. Štefánika, priemyselného parku v Kechneci či otvorenie výstavy Sloboda a identita pri príležitosti 30. výročia pádu železnej opony.

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## Traja slovenskí vedci môžu absolvovať výskumný pobyt v Berkeley

Úrad podpredsedu vlády SR pre investície a informatizáciu (ÚPVII) má stále otvorenú výzvu, do ktorej sa môžu hlásiť vedci, výskumníci a doktorandi a absolvovať výskumný pobyt na Technickej fakulte univerzity v Berkeley (UC Berkeley).

Kalifornská univerzita v Berkeley je jednou z najlepších verejných vysokých škôl na svete, patrí do najlepšej päťky. ÚPVII bude vyberať z výskumných projektov, ktoré sú zamerané na dopravné systémy, informatizáciu v doprave či na automobilový výskum. „Semester na kalifornskej univerzite v Berkeley bude pre našich vedcov určite veľmi dobrou skúsenosťou a veľkým prínosom. Verím, že poznatky, ktoré na univerzite získajú, odovzdajú ďalej spoločnosti či ďalším generáciám,“ povedal podpredseda vlády SR Richard Raši.

Podmienkou je, že do výzvy kandidáta nominuje vysoká škola. Školy takto umožnia svojim doktorandom či zamestnancom absolvovať semester na prestížnej Technickej fakulte univerzity v Kalifornii. Vďaka tomu môžu urýchliť a zdokonaľiť svoj výskum v špičkových laboratóriách. Každá jedna vysoká škola, ktorá navrhne svojho kandidáta, tak urobí na základe vlastného interného výberového procesu. Úspešný kandidát dostane dotáciu maximálne 93-tisíc eur. Z tejto sumy je 50-tisíc dolárov určených na školné na UC Berkeley a zvyšné náklady na pobyt, ktorý bude trvať maximálne sedem mesiacov.

Žiadosti bude posudzovať komisia na ÚPVII. Hodnotiť bude relevantnosť projektu v danej oblasti, ako aj pozitívny prínos pre samotného výskumníka, jeho alma mater a celkovo pre Slovensko. V tomto prípade ide napríklad o kompatibilitu projektu so strategickými plánmi Slovenska v oblasti vedy, výskumu a inovácií. Vyslanie mladých výskumníkov do Berkeley je pokračovaním úspechu z minulého roku. ÚPVII v septembri 2017 podpísal so Žilinskou univerzitou a UC Berkeley Memorandum o porozumení a dvoch slovenských vedcov poslal na pobyt do USA.

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# Jednota



ÚRADNÝ ORGÁN PRVEJ KATOLÍCKEJ SLOVENSKEJ JEDNOTY V SPOJENÝCH ŠTÁTOCH A V KANADE

Ročník 128

STREDA, 8. MÁJA 2019

Číslo 5983

## Krásny Deň Matiek



Druhá májová nedeľa už tradične patrí všetkým mamám. Byť mamou, či už fyzickou alebo duchovnou je najkrajšie povolanie v živote každej ženy. Matka a otec, ktorý privítajú na svete nový život, tým spolupracujú s Bohom na veľkom diele stvorenia. Toto poslanie je krásne a náročné zároveň. Deň matiek je špeciálny čas povedať našim mamám ako ich máme radi, čo pre nás znamenajú a vyjadriť im našu vďačnosť za všetko, čo pre nás urobili!

**Ďakujeme všetkým mamám za ich lásku a obetavosť a na príhovor našej Nebeskej Mamy im vyprosujeme, aby boli vždy naplnené dobrom, radosťou, nádejou, a aby vždy prinášali život, život fyzický aj duchovný! Krásny deň matiek!**

## Predseda vlády SR P. Pellegriniho prijme americký prezident Trump *Premier Pellegrini to Visit USA and Meet US President Donald Trump*

Predseda vlády SR Peter Pellegrini navštívi Spojené štáty americké. Vo Washingtone ho v piatok 3. mája 2019 v Bielom dome prijme prezident Donald Trump. Premiér Peter Pellegrini (Smer-SD) verí, že na stretnutí s americkým prezidentom Donaldom Trumpom otvorí aj tému ciel.

“Slovensko je piaty najväčší vývozca áut do USA. Pevne verím, že otvoríme aj túto otázku. Som zástanca toho, aby sme nie zavádzali clá, ale aby sme možno znížili clá na nulu na industriálne výrobky nielen smerom z USA do EÚ, ale aj opačne, čo by mohlo zvýšiť obchodnú výmenu a vytvárať ďalšie pracovné miesta,” uviedol Pellegrini.

Do Bieleho domu ide podľa vlastných slov na pozvanie amerického prezidenta Trumpa. Návšteva sa uskutoční aj pri príležitosti 30. výročia Nežnej revolúcie a 15. výročia vstupu Slovenska do NATO.

Na stretnutí budú hovoriť aj o plnení záväzkov a vyzbrojovaní slovenskej armády. V súvislosti so záväzkami v NATO Slovensko na júlovom samite v Bruseli deklarovalo, že do roku 2020 vyčlení 1,6 a do roku 2024 dve percentá HDP na obranu. Trump vtedy vyčítal viacerým členom Aliancie, že nedostatočne plnia svoje záväzky a vyjadril pranie, aby výdavky na obranu boli vyššie.

Pellegrini a Trump majú hovoriť aj o tom, ako budú pokračovať rokovania o Dohode o obrannej spolupráci s USA. “Ale počas rokovania tému neuzavrieme,” zdôraznil premiér.

Ministerstvo zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR v súčasnosti s USA rokuje o obrannej spolupráci bez účasti rezortu obrany. Podľa Koaličnej rady má rezort diplomacie dohodnúť pre Slovensko výhodné podmienky. SNS naďalej trvá na požiadavke, že v novej zmluve nesmie byť ani slovo o prítomnosti Ozbrojených síl USA na Slovensku.

Ministerstvo obrany (MO) SR rozhodlo v marci, že sa nebude ďalej zúčastňovať na rokovaní o Dohode o obrannej spolupráci s USA, čo prekvapilo rezort diplomacie. Kritizovali ho aj prezident SR Andrej Kiska a niektorí opoziční aj koalíční poslanci. Predseda SNS Andrej Danko následne vyhlásil, že nikto neodmietol financie z USA na opravu slovenských letísk, lebo žiadne ponúknuté neboli. Rezort vysvetlil, že najprv je potrebné dokončiť rokovania o predmetnej dohode.

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## M. Lajčák na pracovnej návšteve vo Washingtone, DC

Minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí Slovenskej republiky Miroslav Lajčák sa 4. apríla 2019 zúčastnil v rámci pracovnej návštevy Washingtonu na zasadnutí ministrov zahraničných vecí členských krajín NATO pri príležitosti 70. výročia podpísania Severoatlantickej zmluvy. Šéf slovenskej diplomacie vo svojom vystúpení zdôraznil všeobecnú nezastupiteľnosť Aliancie v systéme transatlantickej bezpečnosti, ako aj osobitne pre obranu Slovenskej republiky. Slávnostný moment akcie podčiarklo aj 15. (v prípade SR), resp. 20. výročie vstupu viacerých členov do NATO.

Spojenci, okrem slávnostného pripomenutia si úspešného účinkovania obrannej spolupráce v rámci Severoatlantickej aliancie na politickej a bezpečnostnej mape sveta od roku 1949, potvrdili aj nespochybniteľnosť transatlantického spojenectva, americkej angažovanosti v európskej obrane, ako aj rastúce obranné kapacity NATO. Aliancia podľa spojencov predstavuje vďaka technologickej prevahe prevenciu pred prípadným ozbrojeným útokom na svojej východnej, či južnej hranici. Ako konštatovali súčasní členovia NATO, rovnako i prístupujúca krajina Severné Macedónsko, Aliancia je pripravená plniť svoje základné úlohy, ako sú kolektívna obrana, krízový manažment, či kooperatívna bezpečnosť. Ministri zahraničných vecí vydali pri príležitosti dnešného slávnostného zhromaždenia spoločné vyhlásenie.

Z iniciatívy americkej strany sa taktiež uskutočnilo stretnutie ministrov zahraničných vecí krajín Vyšehradskej štvorky s námestníkom ministra zahraničných vecí USA Johnom Sullivanom, ktoré za V4 primárne viedol M. Lajčák z pozície šéfa diplomacie krajiny, ktorá aktuálne predsedá tomuto stredo európskemu regionálnemu zoskupeniu. Partneri sa primárne venovali otázkam bezpečnostného a obranného charakteru, ako aj aktivitám V4 vo vzťahu k svojmu susedstvu, osobitne k západnému Balkánu a k Východnému partnerstvu. J.

Pokračovanie na str. 22



On April 4, 2019, Slovak Minister of Foreign Affairs Miroslav Lajčák participated in a meeting of foreign ministers of NATO members in Washington, D.C.

## Odhalenie kópie obrazu Madona s anjelmi z Popradu

Na snímke detaily kópie obrazu Madona s anjelmi z Popradu z roku 1484 vystavenej v Kostole svätého Egídia v Poprade, 10. apríla 2019. Autorom kópie je reštaurátor Ján Gildein z Popradu

A copy of the Madona found in a Poprad church dated from 1484 was unveiled on April 10, 2019.



FOTO TASR - Oliver Ondráš