



Jednota

THE UNION

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Fr. Stephen Furedek
Our Founder

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

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NUMBER 5977

Message from the President

Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving 2018

Our Convention held in Cleveland in August 2018 was successful and productive. I was re-elected for my fourth 4-year term of office.

We have produced outstanding financial results over the past twelve years. The Board of Directors approved the proposed sale of most of our property in Middletown, PA.

The future of our Society is on solid ground. While the FCSU, as well as many fraternal organizations, are faced with challenges, we do so with a firm financial footing.

Our Society is based on Catholic and family values and will continue to do so in the future.

With some turmoil surrounding the Catholic Church and our polarized politics we intend to stand firm with the vision that our founder, Fr. Štefan Furedek, provided. Incidentally, we are in the process of refurbishing his life-size statue and moving it to our Home Office.

This will be completed in Spring of 2019.

May you and your family have a safe, blessed Thanksgiving and I wish you all a healthy and prosperous Thanksgiving.

To you and your family from my family and all of us in the First Catholic Slovak Union.



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 Members on Thanksgiving!

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

Advent Begins



December 2, 2018

Christmas Coloring Contest In This Issue



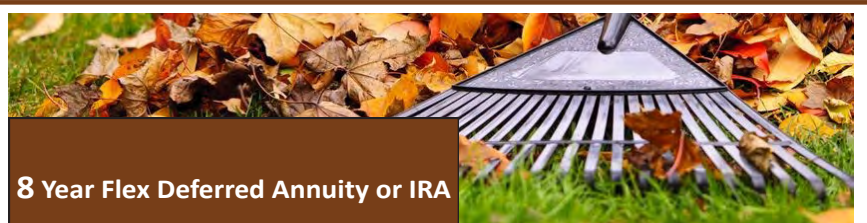
Hey, Kids.

Sharpen your crayons!
It's time once again for the
annual National Christmas
Coloring Contest.

See page 7 for details.

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8 Year Flex Deferred Annuity or IRA

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\$500 Minimum

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6 Year Fixed Annuity or IRA

3.35%

\$5,000 Minimum

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Insights and Viewpoints



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

November 18, 2018 – Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Daniel 12: 1 - 3; Hebrews 10: 11 - 14, 18
Mark 13: 24 - 32**

This Sunday is the last ordinary Sunday of Ordinary Time. Next weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King which marks the end of the Church year.

As we near the end of the Church year, the readings have us focus on the end of the world. These are readings that can move us to reflect back on the past year to recall the condition of our spiritual life then as compared to now. Is our spiritual life better now than it was a year ago? If it is, give thanks to God, and pray for the grace and mercy to continue to grow closer to Him. If it's not, ask the Lord for his mercy and grace, thank him for his patience, and call upon the Lord to bless you with the grace you need to change direction.

The readings are about the end times, and the judgement and chastisements that will come during those times. They are about the need to be attentive to the signs that point to the Second Coming. Yet, as Jesus speaks of signs to be watchful of, he makes it clear that no one knows the day or the hour, only his Heavenly Father. Every few years some individual or group seem to get the attention of the media with their calculations of the exact time of the Second Coming, and it seems that every month or so there is something on the internet indicating that the signs are all pointing to the end. The predicted days come and go, and we are still here.

The Church has never made an announcement calling all Catholics to prepare for a particular day. Being caught up in speculation and spending time in trying to figure out the exact day is an exercise in futility and a distraction from paying attention to what really matters in our relationship with the Lord. The point is that rather than trying to calculate the date and time and of the Second Coming; rather than getting so caught up in looking for signs, we need to look at ourselves and our relationship with the Lord. How is that relationship today? Is it better than it was yesterday? Last month? A year ago?

Each of the three readings gives us a brief instruction on how to prepare for the Second Coming.

In Daniel we are told that we should seek to be wise and lead others to justice. In Hebrews we are taught about the one offering for sins that Jesus made for us that leads to our being made perfect. This is meant to lead us to a personal experience of the forgiveness of our sins. In the Gospel Jesus tells us to be attentive to the signs of God's presence, and of His word.

These three brief instructions take time to make our own, probably a lifetime. It is a lifetime of growing in wisdom and leading others to justice. It includes experiences of joy and sorrow, of times when we walk in faith, and we stumble as we try to be attentive to God's presence. Most importantly, it is a lifetime of experiencing God's mercy. The lifelong recognition that we can't do it ourselves; we are not our own savior, only Jesus save us. This is the mercy all of us need as we look back at the past Church Year, and gaze ahead to the future. The mercy to forgive us of our sins and failures, and the mercy that motivates us to live each day in joyful preparation to greet the Lord when we meet Him face to face.



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

November 25, 2018 - Lectionary 161

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Many people I have encountered in recent years have shared concerns with me about the direction in which events in our world seem to be moving. I often tell them that the more we study the past the less we worry about the present and future. In the scripture readings on the feast of Christ the King we find great hope for the present and future precisely by looking to the past, and by considering the events that we know took place from the evidence of historical study, and whose significance we hold by faith.

We first learn that Christ has in fact already triumphed over sin, including all the grave sins we see in our world at present, and death itself—each of the feast's readings emphasize this—and has become our "King." Christ's death is witnessed by secular historians of the ancient world, and His resurrection is witnessed in the gospels and has become the foundation for the existence and belief of the Church over twenty centuries.

Once we accept Christ's acclamation as King, then we begin to understand that Christ's kingship is not like an earthly kingship, even if the biblical authors use such terms to describe it. This helps us to see how the discouragement we find in so many worldly events should be held in perspective by Christian believers, since our Lord's kingship "is not of this world" (John 18:36). His kingship was demonstrated not in some kind of military victory or palace intrigue, but rather through the mystery of His incarnation, passion, death, and resurrection, events which must always be considered in connection with each other.

When we understand Christ's kingship as one established through His perfect self-giving love, witnessed in these events, we see the antidote to every sin man has ever inflicted on man, and we behold a power that transcends that of any and all earthly rulers. By putting death itself to death, Christ gives all who believe in Him a share in his victory and indeed in His kingship—and eases the anxiety that preoccupies those who view life through strictly rational eyes.

For his part, Pilate did not comprehend our Lord's response to him when he questioned Jesus: "Are you the king of the Jews?" After Jesus answered: "My kingdom does not belong to this world....my kingdom is not here," Pilate pressed him, saying "Then you are a king?" (John 18:33, 36-37). In answering this second question with the words "You say I am a king," Jesus shows that His kingship and that which Pilate had in mind have nothing in common; and that He did not want His disciples' understanding of His eternal kingship to be corrupted by Pilate's ideas. The one is established through violence and fear, the other through peace and love.

Today's feast reminds us that Christ is indeed King, though one whose majesty is demonstrated when He gives of Himself completely to His people. Rulers like Pilate did not recognize this since he and his grasping and conniving ilk cling to power by exploiting and crushing their people.

Knowing this, we can move forward in our own day with peace and confidence, assured that He who triumphed over sin and death will give those who suffer their effects a share in His final victory, when, as we hear in Revelation, He will be acclaimed as: "the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth....who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, who has made us into a kingdom, priests for his God and Father" (Rev 1:5-6).



Fr. Edward Mazich,
O.S.B.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12	MONDAY, DEC. 3
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 9	MONDAY, JAN. 2
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 13	MONDAY, FEB. 4

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March For Life

Our Presence at the 46th Annual Right to Life March on Friday, January 18, 2019 in Washington, DC is extremely important. The First Catholic Slovak Union, together with the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, support the position of the Pro Life Movement.

The FCSU and FCSLA will once again be offering free transportation from the FCSLA Home Office in Beachwood, OH, for this very important trip. For the past several years we have filled two buses for this march. Again this year, we will reserve two buses for the March. Our organizations are proud to encourage our members along with many young students from area Catholic High Schools to participate. It is a very rewarding experience to actively participate and help relay this very important message of supporting the Right to Life mission.

Will you join us? Please call Kelly at the FCSLA home Office. Her phone number is 800-464-4642 EXT. 1051 or email her at Kelly@fcscla.org for details or questions and to reserve your seat on the bus before December 15th. The buses fill up quickly and seating is limited so do not wait until the last minute to reserve your seat. You can also go to our website www.fcscla.org for a tentative itinerary for the trip.

If you would like to attend and are unable to join those leaving from the FCSLA Home Office, please look online for information and transportation. Call your local church or diocese, they may be able to help.



Save the Date!

Slovenská Vilija

Traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Supper

Sunday, December 2, 2018

*Noon Mass with Vilija Following
Sponsored by Saint Andrew Abbey
the Slovak Institute and the
Cleveland Slovak Radio Club*

Pre-sale tickets required: \$20.00

*Featuring Lučina Slovak Folklore Ensemble
Accordionist Ralph Szubski
Fabulous Basket Raffle!*

*Call 216-721-5300 ext. 0 to order tickets by
Monday, November 26, 2018*



Thanksgiving Message from the National Chaplain

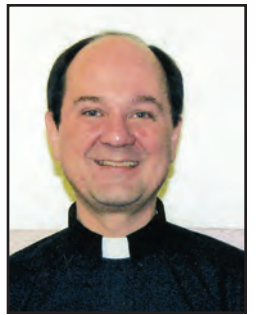
When her term of office expires at the end of this year, Chairperson of Auditors Karen Hunka will be embarking on a new stage in her life. She announced in the August 22, 2018 edition of the Jednota her intention to go overseas for 3 years and work as a lay missionary. The Board of Directors, along with all members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, offer her our best wishes and prayers.

The current Extraordinary Year for the Missions is the initiative of Pope Francis to heighten the awareness of the universal church that the willingness to leave one's home and "comfort zone" to go elsewhere and evangelize is not an obsolete task for the 21st century Catholic. Those who do so today follow in the footsteps of countless other men and women throughout the ages.

It is easy to forget that our land was once fertile ground for missionaries. Junipero Serra, John Neumann, Frances Cabrini, and Damien deVuster were sent from their European homeland to bring the Gospel to our shores. Jean de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues, Noel Chabanel, Anthony Daniel, Jean de Lalande, Charles Garnier, René Goupil, and Gabriel Lalemont, the North American Martyrs, did so, too, and ended up sacrificing their lives for the Gospel. Now and for all eternity these missionaries to the United States and Canada are recognized as saints of the Church.

While many of us will be spending Thanksgiving Day eating a special meal, watching a football game or two, and/or thanking God for personal favors received, it is also good for us to praise and thank the Lord for people today who are so on fire for Christ and his Church that they are driven to offer themselves to be missionaries, willing to be sent across the ocean to help win souls for Christ.

Fraternally,



Rev. Thomas A. Nasta

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

In Defense of Early Christmas Decorations

Department stores have started putting up Christmas decorations and the Hallmark Channel is running Christmas movies 24/7 through the end of the year. While the general response to scenes like this is a smile, there are some people who resent the early Yuletide imagery and even get a little angry. "It's too early!" they say. "It's not even Thanksgiving yet. And what about Advent?"

Not me, though. I say, "Bring on the Christmas decorations" early because they represent something more telling than people realize. There's no doubt that Christmas has become commercialized and department stores, coffee shops, and TV shows hope the red and green twinkly lights inspire you to add some fresh green cash to their registers and bottom lines. But if we look deeper, we'll find there's more to the appeal of festive decorations than spending money.

Take a look around. There's anger, divisiveness, and violence. Couple that with the struggles that people are enduring in their personal lives – be they medical, financial, mental, spiritual, etc. – and that points to a lot of troubled souls. As the theme song to "Cheers" says, "Taking a break from all your worries sure would help a lot."

Well, Christmas offers that break, and the "early adopters" represent that hunger for joy and peace and community. We want to feel good about life and the world, and Christmas decorations do that for us because, in my opinion, they appeal to the God-shaped hole in all of us.

If you look at the Old Testament, there are numerous verses about the power of God's light: "The Lord, my God, lights up my darkness" (Psalm 18:28). "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light" (Isaiah 9:2). And Hanukkah, of course, is known as the Jewish festival of lights. In the New Testament, a bright star presaged Jesus's birth (Matthew 2:2). When the angels told the shepherds of the Messiah's coming, "the glory of the Lord shone around them" (Luke 2:9). And Jesus eventually declares Himself "the light of the world" (John 8:12). In both Jewish and Christian tradition, light symbolizes God, while darkness signifies a separation from Him – or at least an inability to perceive Him.

So when we're drawn to Christmas lights, we're actually being drawn to the light of God, the One who promises us peace beyond all understanding, joy that will comfort our troubled hearts, and wisdom that will guide our paths. And anything that reminds us of that light – holly, ivy, ornaments, Christmas movies and music – awakens those feelings within us as well to varying degrees.

So how should Christians bothered by early Christmas decorations respond? Acknowledge the hunger for joy and peace that Christmas represents, and share how Jesus can help you find those things. Consider the struggles that person might be facing in life and how Christmas offers them a break from their anxiety. By no means should you give short-shrift to Thanksgiving. Gratitude is a hallmark of a meaningful life. And point out that as great as Christmas is on a secular level, getting closer to God during Advent can make it an even better, richer experience that could teach you how to keep a little of that Christmas spirit in your heart all year long.

So while it's only mid-November, feel free to break out the hot cocoa and enjoy the holiday sights and sounds around you. To quote Johnny Mathis, "We need a little Christmas right this very minute."



Hi, Kids & all Those Young at Heart:

So here I am once again, dressed in another holiday getup. All in good fun, of course, and totally worth it if I should be lucky enough to get some table scraps from the feast that is the favorite eating day of the year: Thanksgiving ☺

Wishing you and yours the best Turkey Day EVER – and here's a few fascinating facts to chew on with all the good fixings.



Your pal (tvoj priateľ'),
Chewy

10 Fascinating Facts about Thanksgiving

1. The first Thanksgiving was actually a three-day celebration.

Today, Thanksgiving is one day — maybe two if you count Black Friday. But apparently the Pilgrims wanted to party even harder. Governor William Bradford organized the feast, inviting the Plymouth colonists' Native American allies. But it was only until the Wampanoag Indian guests came and joined the Pilgrims that they decided to extend the affair.

2. It's unclear if colonists and Native Americans ate turkey at their feast.

There is truly no definitive proof that the bird we wait all year to eat was even offered to guests back in 1621. However, they did indulge in other interesting foods like lobster, seal, and swan.

3. While president, Thomas Jefferson refused to declare Thanksgiving as a holiday.

Presidents originally had to declare it a holiday every year. History says Jefferson refused because he strongly believed in the separation of church and state. Since Thanksgiving involved prayer, he thought making it a holiday would violate the First Amendment.

4. The woman behind "Mary Had a Little Lamb" is also responsible for Thanksgiving's recognition as a national holiday.

In 1863, writer and editor Sarah Josepha Hale, who penned Mary Had a Little Lamb, convinced President Abraham Lincoln to officially declare Thanksgiving a national holiday that reoccurred every year. She wrote countless articles and letters to persuade the president — and the rest is history!

5. A Thanksgiving mix-up inspired the first TV dinners.

In 1953, a Swanson employee accidentally ordered a colossal shipment of Thanksgiving turkeys (260 tons, to be exact). To get rid of them all, salesman Gerry Thomas came up with the idea of filling 5,000 aluminum trays with the turkey — along with cornbread dressing, gravy, peas and sweet potatoes. They were sold for 98 cents, and were a hit. Within one year, over 10 million were sold.

6. The turkeys pardoned by the President go on to do some pretty cool things.

President George H.W. Bush pardoned the first turkey in 1989, and it's a tradition that persists today. But what happens to the lucky bird that doesn't get served with a side of mashed potatoes? In 2005 and 2009, the turkeys were sent to Disneyland and Walt Disney World parks to serve as grand marshal in their annual Thanksgiving parades. And from 2010 to 2013, they vacationed at Washington's Mount Vernon state. Not bad!

7. Only male turkeys actually gobble.

You may have been taught in pre-school that a turkey goes "gobble, gobble" — but that's not entirely true. Only male turkeys, fittingly called gobblers, actually make the sound. Female turkeys cackle instead.

8. Most Americans like Thanksgiving leftovers more than the actual meal.

Almost eight in 10 agree that the second helpings of stuffing, mashed potatoes, and pie beat out the big dinner itself, according to a 2015 Harris Poll.

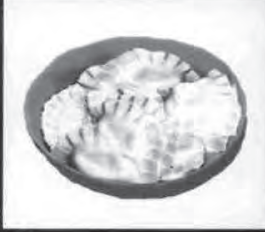


9. There are four places in the country with the name Turkey (plus two townships).

Louisiana's Turkey Creek is the most populous, with a whopping 440 residents. There's also Turkey, Texas; Turkey, North Carolina; and Turkey Creek, Arizona. Oh, and two townships in Pennsylvania named Upper Turkeyfoot and Lower Turkeyfoot. The U.S. Census also has identified another four called Cranberry, and a grand total of 34 dubbed Plymouth.

10. Black Friday is the busiest day of the year – for plumbers.

Thanks to all that food we gobble up on Thanksgiving, Roto-Rooter reports that kitchen drains, garbage disposals, and yes, toilets, require more attention the day after Thanksgiving than any other day of the year.




- Based on GoodHousekeeping post by Taylor Murphy, Aug 14, 2018. For more go to: <https://tinyurl.com/y99osqfc>

Celebrate Christmas...



... Slovak Style

By: Lawrence G. Kozlowski

SLOVAK

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The Embassy of the Slovak Republic cordially invites you to the opening of the exhibition

Here means Now / Tu znamená Teraz



EMBASSY OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC IN WASHINGTON DC
3523 International Court NW, 20008 Washington DC
RSVP: rsvp.washington@mzv.sk by November 10, 2018.

November 26, 2018
at 6:00 pm

The exhibition will run until December 20, 2018.

Petra Nováková Ondreičková
Jana Farmanová

Slovak contemporary painting



Volunteers who made the event possible (L -R) Front Row: Michele Mager, Sue Naelitz, Lilly Zilko, and Helen Zemanek. Back Row: Len Zilko, Joyce Zilko, Bob Katricak, and Marty Zemanek.



President Len with the kids



(L - R, last row) Rusty Groner, American Slovak Club Bowling Manager; and Leonard Zilko, President, United Slovak Societies, American Slovak Club, and FCSU Branch 228; welcome kids to the bowling alley.

A Happy Halloween at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, OH

On Sunday October 21, 2018, the children of the American Slovak Club in Lorain, OH, were treated to a spooktacular afternoon hosted by the United Slovak Societies. The kids enjoyed several hours of bowling in their Halloween costumes followed by a pizza and doughnut party. They especially enjoyed treat bags and mini pumpkins. A fine time was had by all and their parents as well.

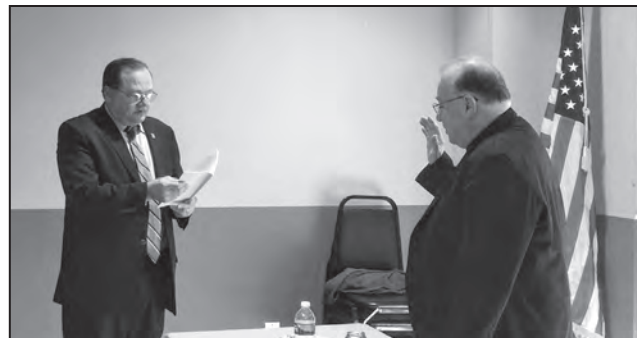
- Submitted by Michele Mager, Secretary-United Slovak Societies; Board of Director Member, American Slovak Club; and FCSU Branch 228 Member.

Happy Birthday Joan Skrkon

Branch 716's Secretary Joan Skrkon celebrated her birthday on October 14th at St. Nepomucene Church in New York City with a little help from (L) Fr. Richard Baker, church pastor, and her husband (R) Jan Skrkon, president of Branch 716.



(L - R) Newly elected officers of District 8: Msgr. Derzack, Chaplain; Stephen Roman, Auditor; Monica Fabian, Recording Secretary; Katherine Nowatkoski, President; Stephen Engle, Auditor; Karen Engle Sterling, Vice-President; and Gerald J. Fabian Financial Secretary.



Damian Nasta, Region 2 Director, administering the oath to Msgr. Thomas Derzack

Newly Elected District 8 Officers

District 8, the Rev. Stephen Furdek District, held their annual meeting on October 14, 2018. The event began with Mass at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, in Egypt, PA. Immediately following the Mass, a luncheon was served at the nearby VFW Post 7293.

- Submitted by Monica Fabian, Recording Secretary District 8



Elected Officers for District 7

The Rev. John Martvon District 7 held their annual meeting on Sunday, October 28, 2018 at Hoss's Steak and Sea House in Indiana, PA. Those elected into office are pictured above (L - R): Annette Fenimore as Chaplain, Pete Gerko as President and Treasurer, Theresa Cassatt as Vice President and Sharon Allison as Secretary and Auditor. Missing from the picture is Janet Mical who was elected as an auditor. The officers were sworn into their position by Regional Director, James Marmol.

- Submitted by James Marmol, Region 4 Director

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ~ HOLIDAY HOURS FOR 2018

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on the following days:



November 22 & 23, 2018 in observance of Thanksgiving Day



December 24 & 25, 2018 in observance of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day



January 1, 2019 in observance of New Year's Day

Christmas Oplatky – 2018



Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers, will be available this holiday season from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 22 until December 14, 2018.

The Oplatky, five to one package, are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$5.00 per pack. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$7.50 and upward depending upon the number of packets ordered and the cost of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to Jankola Library is expected before receiving an order.

For more information or to place an order contact Sister Catherine Labouré Bresnock, SS.C.M. at 570-275-5606 or write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 1002 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.

- Submitted by Sister Catherine Labouré Bresnock, SS.C.M.

Byzantine-Slovak Diaspora

Daniel Černý

As Prof. Stolarik once said, among the European nations, only the Irish have in their history a higher percentage of immigrants leaving their homeland than Slovaks. The mass immigration of Slovaks at the end of the 19th century or beginning of the 20th century is already gone, but even nowadays there are many of our compatriots leaving the land under the Tatra mountains. As it was in the past so it is now, and a majority of these immigrants are coming from Eastern Slovakia. Thus this population still has a high percentage of Byzantine Catholics (Greek Catholics).

In Canada, there is a separate Eparchy of Ss. Cyril and Methodius for Slovaks of the Byzantine rite, while in the US, Slovaks who adhere to the eastern rite are members of the Ruthenian Metropolitan church of Pittsburgh. Outside North America, there were many Byzantine Slovaks, who migrated to South America during the interwar period, but they are almost all gone now. However, there is quite a significant diaspora of Byzantine Slovaks in Western and Central Europe. Five communities are now recognized and celebrate liturgies on a regular basis.

Prague (Czech Republic) – The Parish of the Most Holy Trinity, located in Spálená ulica in Prague, is within the Apostolic Exarchate of Prague. This Byzantine Slovak parish has been in existence for only around 10 years, yet it already can claim several generations of parishioners. Many students who came here to study settled here and started their

families in Prague. In order to be closer to their children and grandchildren, many of parents settled here as well. This community is served by Mitred archpriest Kornel Baláž.

Munich (Germany) – This community in the capital of Bavaria traces its origins to June of 2013. The community has been served since its beginnings by Rev. Juraj Bujňák, and gathers in the Haidhausen district of the city. Currently, the liturgies are served not only in Munich, but also in Altötting (2nd Saturday of the month), Augsburg (3rd Saturday of the month) and Regensburg (4th Saturday of the month).

London (Great Britain) – The London mission is under the protection of the blessed Dominik Metod Trčka CSsR. Since the Pascha of 2018, the community - which was formed in London a few years ago – meets weekly at the Belorussian mission church. The mission priest is Rev. Martin Demo.

Brno (Czech Republic) – Liturgies for Byzantine Slovaks in Brno are celebrated in the downtown church of St. Mary Magdalene. The community started meeting in 2013, but the parish itself was erected in 2017. The liturgies are celebrated not only on Sundays, but also during the week. The parish is filled with young people and young families. This community is served by Rev. Ján Bilý.

Vienna (Austria) – The first liturgy in this community was celebrated in December of 2017. Slovaks studying at the International Theological Institute in Trumau are an essential part of celebrations in this community. Liturgies are held either at the chapel in Trumau or in the Ukrainian Greek Catholic



Bishop Ladislav Hučko visiting the Byzantine Slovak parish in Brno in April 2018. Courtesy of Patrik Smolnický

church of St. Barbara in downtown Vienna. Most of the liturgies are celebrated by Rev. Juraj Terek.

Besides these communities, one can find Byzantine Slovaks living all over the world. We know about our faithful living and praying in Italy, United Arab Emirates, Norway, Ireland and even in Iceland.

We should render praise and thanks to God for preserving in the faith our compatriots scattered across the earth. Many of them unite in prayer with the Church in Slovakia and pass the faith and the Cyrillo-Methodian inheritance to their children. It is a real blessing to be able to profess one's faith in a rite and language which is of one's own. Yet in order to be truly Christian, our parishes should as wells with living water, pouring through our people the good news of the Jesus Christ, and flowing out also to those all around them. Thus we will become true

missionaries like Ss. Cyril and Methodius.

We should pray that there will be more communities and parishes serving the spiritual needs of our people abroad and that a person from our own church will be appointed to coordinate the pastoral work among this faithful in the diaspora. Eventually, maybe an Apostolic Visitor could be appointed, when requested from the Holy See, who could be entrusted the souls of our fellow Byzantine Slovaks living outside Slovakia.

About the Author

Daniel Černý (1983) was born in Košice, Slovakia. He received his PhD from the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome, with a thesis on the Slovak Greek Catholics in Canada. He focuses in his writings on Slovaks and their diaspora, especially those of the Byzantine rite.

Scenes from Sept Slovak Catholic Pilgrimage in Garrison, NY

On Sunday, September 30, 2018, the St. Stephen Society, Branch 716 – with the support of St. John Nepomucene Church – held its Annual Slovak Catholic Pilgrimage to the Graymoor Spiritual Life Center run by the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement. After Mass celebrated by Fr. Martin Kertys, parochial vicar at St. John Nepomucene, lunch was served, courtesy of Branch 716, prepared by Branch 716 President Jan Skrkon.

- Submitted by Joan Mary Skrkon, Recording Secretary, Branch 716



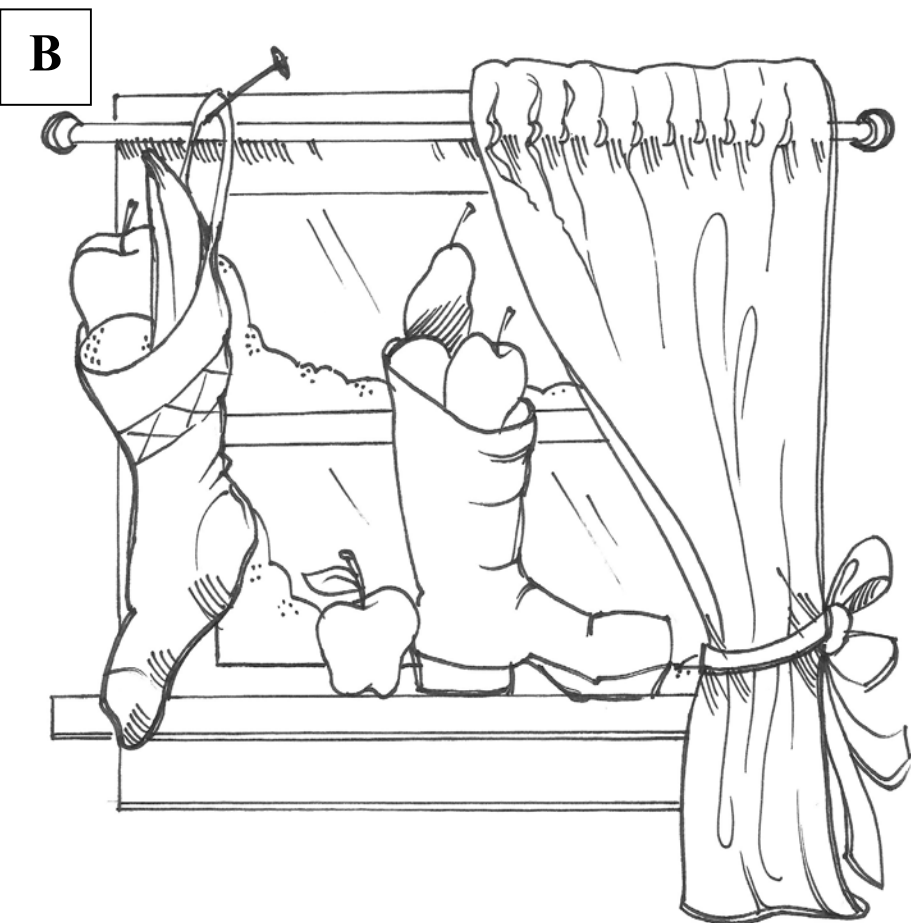
FCSU 2018 Christmas Coloring Contest

Svätý Mikulaš – December 6

St. Nicholas, as he is known to us, was very young when he became an orphan. His parents left him all of their many possessions. Because of this, he was determined to devote his life to works of charity, using the fortune he had inherited. He became a Bishop and has been honored as a saint since the sixth century. St. Nicholas is best known as the patron saint of children.

Every year, the children in Slovakia eagerly wait for a visit from Svätý Mikulaš. They put their boots or shoes out along the window sill before they go to bed on the night before his feast day. St. Nicholas travels on foot this night and visits every house. He is accompanied by an ugly, chain-rattling devil and an angel. Saint Nicholas reminds the children that Christmas is only a few weeks away and that they must behave themselves or they will not receive any presents for Christmas.

The next morning, good little children find their boots or shoes filled with candy, cookies, oranges, apples, nuts, or other fruits. The naughty children find a lump of coal or a potato left by the devil.



PRIZES

Winners in each Region and age group will receive the following:

- 1st Place – Jednota Long Sleeved T-Shirt and \$25.00
- 2nd Place - Jednota Long Sleeved T-Shirt and \$15.00
- 3rd Place - Jednota Long Sleeved T-Shirt and \$10.00
- Honorable Mention - \$5 Gift Card

RULES

1. Each age group is assigned a certain picture:
 4 – 6 year olds – picture A
 7 – 9 year olds – picture B
 10 – 12 year olds – picture C
2. Enlarged reproductions of picture A, B, or C will be disqualified.
3. Pictures may be reproduced for families with more than one child in a particular age group.
4. Children MUST be members in good standing of the FCSU in order to be eligible for prizes.
5. **Entries without a branch number filled in will be disqualified.**
6. Your child's completed entry form, colored picture, and a photo of your child must be postmarked by **December 31, 2018.**
7. Mail to:
 Kevin Collins
 Fraternal Activities Director
 628 Heather Brite Cr.
 Apopka, Fl. 32712

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____

Certificate Number: _____ Branch Number: _____
 (MUST be filled in)

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Shirt Size: Youth S M L XL Adult S M L

Please submit this form with your child's entry by December 31, 2018

Slovak Violin Virtuoso Filip Pogady Performed with New Jersey Festival Orchestra

On October 14 & 15, 2018, Slovak violin virtuoso Filip Pogady performed the Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1 with the New Jersey Festival Orchestra (NJFO) under the direction of Maestro David Wroe for the Orchestra's season opener. The October 14 concert took place at First United Methodist Church in Westfield, NJ, and the October 15 concert was performed at the Dorothy Young Concert Hall at Drew University in Madison, NJ. Filip's performance of the Bruch Concerto was dreamy and contemplative as well as passionate and powerful. Both performances elicited prolonged standing ovations from the audience, prompting Pogady to return to the stage with encores by Bach and Kreisler. The performance was made possible by the Slovak-American Cultural Center. Jednota members from Branch 746, 45, and 716 were in attendance. Thank you so much for coming to show your support!

After the Drew University performance, the Slovak community, together with New Jersey Festival Orchestra Board members and patrons, proceeded to beautiful Mead Hall, where they enjoyed a reception in the pre-Civil War mansion featuring wine, cheese and fruit, as well as specially baked Slovak pastries. Guests mingled with friends both old and new and enjoyed the warm atmosphere. Filip Pogady and Maestro David Wroe joined the guests to mingle with fans and take photos. Sabina Sabados, President of S-ACC, gave a short speech to thank the concert organizers and introduced Filip Pogady, who likewise expressed gratitude and excitement over the opportunity to perform with the NJFO. Tanya



Pulver, Treasurer of SACC, related the history of the organization of the concert, while Maestro David Wroe provided insight into the artistic process involved in putting the concert together. As the reception wound down, a small group of guests took Filip to dinner at a local restaurant. It was a wonderful day of beauty, music, and community.

We invite the members of the First Catholic Slovak Union to visit Filip Pogady's website (pogady.com) to read and hear more about this young Slovak virtuoso and the opportunity to purchase his first album, "Filip Pogady plays Tchaikovsky". The all-Tchaikovsky CD is a collaboration with the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Peter Valentovic and Slovak pianist Peter Fancovic. The CD is available in January but you can pre-order now by going to: pogady.com

- Submitted by Sabina Sabados,
Region 1 Director



Filip's breathtaking performance at The Concert Hall at Drew University with the New Jersey Festival Orchestra



Branch 746 members attended the concert and reception at Drew University



Branch 716 and 45 members from New York showed their support of the young virtuoso.



S-ACC Board members pictured with violinist Filip Pogady and Maestro David Wroe

Celebrating Thanksgiving in Slovakia with Wild Rice Stuffing with Apricots, Almonds, Sage

By Naomi Hužovičová

Ever since I can remember, my mom has made turkey stuffing with wild rice. In fact, I didn't even know that most people made stuffing with bread. In grade 8 Home Ec, we made stuffing during class. "Why are we getting out bread?" I wondered.

The quality of bread determines the texture of the stuffing, and I remember being disappointed at this soggy smoochy mass made of wonder bread, because I loved my mom's stuffing. While I'm sure a sturdy sourdough bread would be delicious, I'm partial to a rice stuffing.

The wild rice (or long grain brown rice) is slightly chewy, the almonds provide a creamy bite. Aromatic sage complements the bursts of sweetness from dried apricot. And it just happens to be gluten free, if that's an issue.

Now that I live in Slovakia, I've had to make concessions. Most years I actually make this stuffing with long grain brown rice, as North American wild rice is hard to get here. When I was given some wild rice, I saved it for Thanksgiving precisely for this dish.

My mom would sometimes put in water chestnuts as well, also in short supply here. At least now I can find celery stalks, which I couldn't a few years back.

This is the first year since I've moved to Slovakia that I've prepared a proper Thanksgiving (I celebrate Canadian Thanksgiving, which is October). I think it's because I'm out of the baby and toddler years and can actually think further ahead than just tomorrow. This year, I remembered about cranberry sauce during the summer and bought wild lingonberries sold by the roadside in mountainous areas of Slovakia. I invited our neighbors, to show them one of the few truly North American traditions that we have. Ok, I had to compromise a bit on the turkey – I couldn't find a whole turkey in enough time, so I stuffed a duck and baked turkey legs beside it. Close enough.

It was a veritable feast. While many of you may be trying to find new ways to liven up a classic meal, many of the dishes were unusual for our Slovak guests, and even my kids. "Mom, what's Thanksgiving?" Oops.

We make gravy differently, and the lingonberry (cranberry) sauce with orange, the rice stuffing, the apple pie and pumpkin squares were all new for them. I'm getting hungry.

Back to the wild rice stuffing – while this was my first year doing Thanksgiving, I make this stuffing every year for Christmas. Although turkey is not a Christmas meal for Slovaks, my husband's extended family has started having turkey for our meal together on Boxing Day (the 26th). It makes me and my American sister-in-law happy, and it's easier to bake one turkey than make 60 schnitzels one by one.

As with all my recipes, there are all kinds of variations you can make. One year I didn't have sage and used spruce needles I buzzed in the food processor. It was delicious. Some years I've used hazelnuts instead of almonds, or added dried cranberries too.

To make the wild rice and nuts easier to digest, and to make more of the nutrients bio-available, I like to soak the wild rice and almonds beforehand. It's not strictly necessary, but the rice will take longer to cook if you don't soak it. Soaking is a step, however, that takes no active time, cuts down on cooking time, and makes it easier to digest, so I try to remember.

Also, most stuffing recipes I see call for sautéing the onions first. Frankly, I have enough going on when preparing a big meal that I don't need to dirty one more pan. I've always

just mixed the onion raw and made sure I baked it long enough for it to be soft. Call me lazy, but it still tastes delicious.

This wild rice stuffing is part of my family's celebrations, and I would love if it became part of your celebration with loved ones as well.

About the author

Naomi is from Canada but lives in Slovakia with her Slovak husband and their children. She started the blog when her twins were a year and a half, and thus the name: Almost Bananas = almost crazy. Almost Bananas is where she shares about life in Slovakia, from recipes to traditions to places worth visiting.

Go to almostbananas.com to read more of Naomi's observations of life in Slovakia and to sign up for her free recipe book. To contact her directly, email her at almostbananas@gmail.com.

Naomi's Wild Rice Stuffing with Apricots, Almonds, and Sage

Aromatic sage, sweet dried apricots, creamy almonds and chewy wild rice (or long grain brown rice) make this stuffing a well-loved addition to your celebration.



Ingredients

- 2 cups wild rice or long grain brown rice
- 3 cups giblet broth or water
- 1 cup almonds
- 1 cup dried apricots
- 2 stalks celery
- 1 large onion
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 1/3 heaping cup fresh sage, finely chopped or 2 tablespoons dried
- 1/2 cup butter or schmaltz (chicken fat), only if not stuffing turkey but baking alone

Instructions

1. The evening before, cover both the wild rice (or long grain brown rice) and the almonds in separate bowls with a generous covering of water. Let them soak overnight.
2. If you have giblets (turkey innards and neck), you can put them to simmer with a pinch of salt and a quart of water to make a broth to cook the rice in (optional but tasty step). Simmer for several hours the evening before or the morning of.
3. To cook the rice, drain the water and put in a medium sized pot with 3 cups of giblet broth or water and a pinch of salt. Bring to a simmer, stir, and then let it cook over low heat for 20-30 minutes. If you do not soak the wild rice or long grain brown rice, it will take about 50 minutes to cook. If you use water, it is easier to cook the wild rice pasta style, simmering with extra water until al dente and then drain the excess water.
4. While the rice is cooking, chop the onion and celery, drain the almonds and roughly chop. Cut the apricots in quarters with scissors. Chop fresh sage or stir in dried sage. Add salt and pepper.
5. When the rice is cool enough to handle, add it to the rest of the stuffing ingredients. Mix well - this is easiest with your hands.
6. Stuff the turkey. I put in a handful or two, and then make a fist to pack it in tight. When the turkey is full, pull together the skin on both sides of the opening and use an embroidery needle and string to sew the skin together, enough to hold the stuffing in. If you don't have an embroidery needle, bring the skin together and tie together the legs overtop.
7. If you are not stuffing a turkey or other poultry, pour melted butter or schmaltz (chicken fat) over the stuffing, stir, and put in a casserole dish. Cover and bake until all the ingredients are soft, about an hour.
8. Enjoy the stuffing with your loved ones!

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

The 2018 CGSI Symposium

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

On September 29, 2018, the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International (CGSI) hosted a one day symposium at the Minnesota Genealogical Center. The Center in Mendota Heights is just a five minute drive from the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport. The event included a celebration of the CGSI's 30th anniversary since its founding in 1988.

Every year the CGSI organizes either a one day symposium or a national conference that lasts several days. The CGSI will hold its next big event at the 17th Genealogical and Cultural Conference at the Marriott Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln, NE, Wednesday October 15 – Saturday October 19, 2019. It will feature 56 different presentations as well as cultural events and opportunities to interact with others pursuing their family histories.

The CGSI promotes family research and cultural/historical information about the lands and nationalities of the former Czechoslovakia. These include peoples with the following backgrounds in alphabetical order: Bohemian (Czech), Carpathian German (from Slovakia), German-Bohemian (Böhmisch), Hungarian (Magyar), Jewish, Moravian, Ruthenian (Rusyn), Silesian, and Slovak. It can greatly assist anyone who is seriously interested in researching his/her family history, as well as understanding more about the history and culture of the peoples.

The CGSI has a website with useful links to hook up to sources and people to pursue research. One may purchase books that the society has published, including Slovaks in America (see below). The Society also publishes a high quality, readable quarterly journal in English, *Naše rodina*, with informative articles. Members have access to past issues online at <https://www.cgisi.org> and can also receive hard copies of current issues. CGSI also hosts a Facebook website. For more information e-mail the CGSI at info@cgisi.org.

The CGSI is also now offering online classes in the Slovak and Czech languages. Dennis Ragan is the instructor for the Slovak courses, and he received very good reviews for the course that began earlier this year. One may e-mail the CGSI for more information at info@cgisi.org or call (651) 964-2322 to leave a message. Your call will be returned.

Presentations at the 2018 CGSI Symposium

There were 12 presentations at the CGSI Symposium in two different rooms. Full-length sessions lasted 1 hour and 15 minutes and there were 6 shorter presentations of 20 minutes each. For instance Marek Blahuš and Martin Kotačka discussed DNA testing and its use in genealogy, with a focus on what is now the Czech Republic. CGSI President Suzette Steppe spoke on "My Kids Aren't Interested – What Do I Do Now?" Since so many millennials are glued to digital and seem to be trashing what we leave behind, she offered suggestions on how we might protect our family research and history. Cathy A. Dailey's two talks on cemeteries underlined that besides the name, birth and death dates listed on a tombstone, other symbols, images, and architecture provide clues about our predecessors. In an enthusiastic lecture, librarian Debra Dudek showed some free websites that one cannot find on Ancestry.com. Professor Theofanis Stavrou shared his experiences from his time in the Soviet Union in 1968 and vividly explored how the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia stimulated the dissident movement in the USSR and elsewhere



A vinobranie celebration in one of the winegrowing regions in Slovakia.

in the Soviet Bloc.

This year's symposium also included six mini-lectures which lasted 20 minutes each. Robert Paulson, the founder of the German-Bohemian Heritage Society, provided a short historical overview of German Bohemians in one session and another on his travels to the homeland to learn where his family lived. Finally, Anna Cooková gave a Mini Czech Lesson, and Dr. Kopanic spoke about "Vinobranie: Celebrating Wine in Slovakia." The talk included an overview of Slovak wine growing regions, the most well-known Slovak wines, the customs around grape picking (*oberačka*), and the celebrations of the grape harvest in the past to the present.

Slovak Songs

One of the most interesting sessions concerned Slovak patriotic songs. John Palka presented "Songs, Poems, and Slovak Identity". Palka is the grandson of the prominent politician Milan Hodža, who helped create the First Czechoslovak Republic. Palka himself authored the book, *My Slovakia, My Family: One Family's Role in the Birth of a Nation*, which interweaves the personal stories of his ancestors with the history of the Slovak nation. To read more about the book at his website and purchase a copy visit <https://jpalka.com/family>.

In his presentation, Palka examined six Slovak songs and poems which played significant roles in the Slovak National Awakening of the 19th century, and then again, in Czechoslovakia. After some short biographies of some known authors, he played the music to these nationalist songs, and provided song sheets with Slovak text and English translations.

The first song was "Hej Slováci" (Hey Slovaks), which is quite familiar to most Slovak-Americans. The author, Samuel Tomášik (1813-1887), was born in Jelšavská Teplica; he later became a Lutheran pastor in Chyžné, a village in the southern Slovak region of Gemer. As a young man on his way to study theology in Germany, he made a stop in Prague and heard everyone speaking German. That disturbed him. Slovak national self-awareness was in its infancy stage, and the dearth of people using Slavic languages in their own land struck him as odd. His readings acquainted him with the German philosopher Herder, who argued that the heart and soul of a people resides in its speech, its spoken language.

The experience impacted Tomášik and he composed "Hej Slováci" in 1834. He remembered the Polish melody *Jeszcze Polska nie zginęła*, kiedy my żyjemy, for which Józef Wybicki penned the lyrics for in 1797 to boost the morale of Polish soldiers serving under Napoleon, two years after the last partition of Poland by Austria, Prussia, and Austria. Later



The author's talk on Slovak vinobranie – wine celebrations – at the recent CGSI conference

in 1926, it would become the national anthem of Poland. The first lines, "Poland has not yet perished", inspired Tomášik as he penciled this poem in his diary. Here is the first stanza.

Hej, Slováci, ešte naša slovenská reč žije,
Dokiaľ naše verné srdce za náš národ bije.
Žije, žije, duch slovenský, bude žiť naveky,
Hrom a peklo, márne vaše, proti nám sú vzteky!

Hey, Slovaks, our Slovak language lives on,
While our faithful hearts are beating for our nation.

Live long, live long, Slovak spirit, it will live forever,

Thunder and Hell, rages in vain against us!
Tomášik later changed the lyrics to include all Slavs. "Hey, Slavs" soon spread to become the rallying song for Slavic nationalism, as well as the Pan-Slavic movement to unite all Slavs, many of whom were under foreign rule. Its popularity spread as it was widely published in Slavic magazines and calendars. Slovaks and other Slavs sang it at political meetings and assemblies. It became the unofficial anthem of the Pan-Slavic movement. The Sokol ("falcon") physical education movement adopted it as their theme. Serbia and Montenegro used the song as their anthem before their split in 2006. During World War I, Slavic soldiers even sang it on the front line so that other Slavs would not shoot at their Slav brothers.

Slovaks consider Hej Slováci to be their unofficial anthem, especially American Slovaks, and it is even sung in homes and at ethnic gatherings. Even though the song "Nad Tatrou sa blýska" (Lightning over the Tatras) became the official Slovak part in national anthem of Czechoslovakia after World War I, many Slovaks still consider Hej Slováci as their other national anthem, especially nationalistic Slovaks, and particularly Slovak Americans. For instance, I had never heard Nad Tatrou sa blýska until I traveled to Slovakia in

1982, but people sang Hej Slováci at virtually every ethnic gathering I attended in the USA.

During World War II, the Tiso-led Slovak People's Party used Hej, Slováci as its song, and therefore, the communists looked with askance at singing the song or even humming the tune. Someone told my parents that one could get arrested for singing the song when they visited Slovakia in 1981, but I have not been able to verify that fact. Needless to say, when my parents were attending a wedding reception and my father started singing Hej, Slováci, everyone became quiet and one could hear a pin drop! My mother poked my father in ribs, and he stopped singing when he realized that he could get in trouble singing such a nationalist song.

One may listen to Hej Slováci on YouTube at this site: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFCKnxbwUvM>

Palko's riveting lecture also covered other songs, and space does not allow for a thorough review of each here; those are topics for a future article. But here is list of them, which include some Slovak folk songs with a national meaning not so apparent to those not familiar with Slovak culture.

Po nábreží konik beží - Along the shore a black horse runs

Bojovník, or Koniček môj hrdý, vraný - The fighter, or O horse of mine, all proud and black
Aká si mi krásna, ty rodná zem moja - How beautiful you are, O land of my birth

Kopala studienku - She was digging a well
Nad Tatrou sa blýska = There is lightning over the Tatras

Conclusion

Whatever one's interests in genealogy, the CGSI offers something from everyone from the beginner to a seasoned researcher. It is an organization to not only learn ways to discover more about one's family and learn fascinating information, but to also make many new friendships.

Besides the personal joy of finding out more about who we are, there are added benefits to attending a CGSI conference that are hard to put a price tag on. For now, and even after we pass away in this life, what better gift can leave our progeny and extended family than a history of where we came from. Genealogy is about discovering ourselves, and the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International offers a helping hand to start and/or continue that quest.

For further information, see the CGSI Genealogical Society website. It is well worth joining. See <http://www.cgisi.org/>.

Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International

P.O. Box 16225

St. Paul, Minnesota 55116-0225

Call (651) 964-2322 to record a question or to record a message.

E-mails - General questions: info@cgisi.org

A Good Book

Those interested in reading a good book about Slovak immigration to America may purchase a translated book entitled *The History of Slovaks in America* by Konštantín Čulen. Professor Michael J. Kopanic, Jr. and Steven G. Potach both edited the book, with an introduction by Professor Gregory Ference. Daniel C. Necas translated the original edition, and the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International published the edited book in English in 2007. One may write the CGSI if interested in purchasing it, or visit the website on other books available: <http://www.cgisi.org/store/item/40284>.

District 4's October Meeting Included Commemoration of the founding of Czechoslovakia in 1918

On a beautiful fall Sunday afternoon, October 28th, Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey held its meetings at Carpaccio Ristorante in Middlesex. The atmosphere was festive with delicious food and great company. There was a fruitful discussion on upcoming events which concluded with a decision to have a pre-holiday outing to see the newly released "The Nutcracker and the Four Realms" movie. For those that were not delegates, there was a recap of the successful Cleveland convention. Members also commemorated the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia in 1918 with a "Happy 100th Anniversary" cake!

A special thank you to Branch 290 who hosted the Okres meeting.

-Submitted by Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director



FCSU Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. Among Those to Greet Slovak President Andrej Kiska in Chicago



(L – R) Rosemary Macko Wisnosky, Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic in Chicago; Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President of the First Catholic Slovak Union; and Andrej Kiska, President of the Slovak Republic. Photo courtesy of Hunter Byington

Slovak President Andrej Kiska and Slovak Ambassador to the United States Ivan Korcok were in Chicago, IL, on Thursday, September 27th. They laid wreaths at the memorial of Czechoslovakia's first president Tomas Garrigue Masaryk to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of the joint state of Slovaks and Czechs.

"It was nice to come to the city where he (Masaryk) arrived exactly 100 years ago in May and where more than 150,000 Slovaks and Czechs waited for him. They were looking forward to the news and messages concerning the establishment of the Czechoslovak state," said Kiska.

The Slovak president also visited the University of Chicago, where he discussed with the students, he delivered speech to Slovak expats at Benedictine University and visited the Slovak Academy of Chicago, where children are taught Slovak on Saturdays.

"It's incredibly pleasing to find in the United States in the big city of Chicago Slovaks who have been living here for years and who are very proud to be Slovaks. ... I'm very glad that we have such a little Slovakia also in the middle of the United States," said Kiska.

- Story source: TASR



Slovak President Andrej Kiska was recently in Chicago, IL, where he addressed many audiences, including students at the University of Chicago, Slovak expats at Benedictine University, and those involved with the Slovak Academy of Chicago. Photo courtesy of Hunter Byington.

Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble Performed at Czechoslovakia 100th Anniversary Celebration

The Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Greater Cleveland was among the featured performers at a day of celebration commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Czechoslovakia in 1918. The day-long event, hosted by Sokol Greater Cleveland, was held on October 27, 2018, in Bohemian National Hall. The Hall is on the US National Register of Historic Places and is noted for being the place where the Cleveland agreement was signed on October 25, 1915, a document which formulated the provisions of what was to become the ideals and purposes of a common state for Czechs and Slovaks.



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



**SLOVAK RADIO
CULTURAL & SOCIAL CLUB
FUNDRAISER**

WHEN: FRIDAY: NOVEMBER 23, 2018

WHERE: PARMA TAVERN

5680 BROADVIEW RD

PARMA

TIME: 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

ADMISSION IS BY TICKET ONLY

TICKETS ARE \$25.00 PER PERSON

ALL YOU CAN EAT & DRINK!!!!

(Pizza, Sausage & Peppers, Chicken...Draft Beer, Wine, Pop...)

*****FUN WITH FRIENDS*****50/50*****FANTASTIC BASKETS*****



For Tickets/Information Please Contact:

Milan Kobulsky 440-897-3320

Henry Horvath 440-463-2009

Donna Oros 440-465-6412

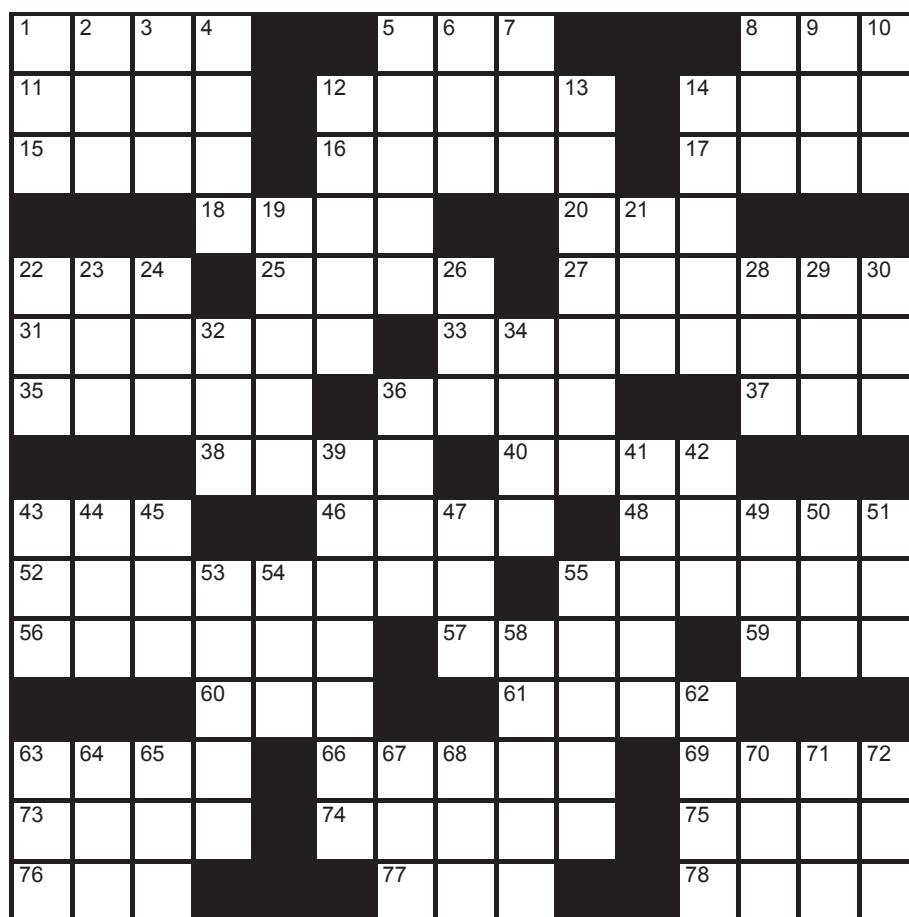
Milka Anderko 440-582-0114

Barbara Sutilla 440-864-4744

Marie Golias 216-338-8179

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS FUNDRAISING EVENT WILL GO TO SUPPORT THE SLOVAK RADIO CLUB ON 1490AM, EVERY SUNDAY AT 11:00AM – THE LONGEST RUNNING ETHNIC BROADCAST RADIO PROGRAM IN CLEVELAND OHIO. SOON TO BE CELEBRATING 80 YEARS!!!

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Stash away
- 5 Bishop's jurisdiction
- 8 Nautilus, for one
- 11 Fuzzy fruit
- 12 Nodules
- 14 Kind of package
- 15 Hankerings
- 16 Like some suspects
- 17 Battery fluid
- 18 Apiece
- 20 Mouse catcher
- 22 Road curve
- 25 Speaker's platform
- 27 Overnight bag
- 31 Humans, e.g.
- 33 Makes like a surgeon
- 35 Courageous
- 36 Incinerate
- 37 Feedbag morsel
- 38 Gaelic tongue
- 40 Bone (Prefix)
- 43 Physicians' org.
- 46 Potpie ingredients
- 48 Caribbean cruise stop
- 52 Questions after a space flight
- 55 Wave runner
- 56 *Seinfeld* regular
- 57 Quickly, in memos
- 59 Giant slugger Mel
- 60 Preceded
- 61 Level
- 63 Firewood, e.g.
- 66 Up to
- 69 Mine entrance
- 73 Table scraps
- 74 Compote fruit
- 75 Seat of Allen County, Kan.
- 76 Compass dir.
- 77 Wife of Saturn

78 Sandwich shop

Down

- 1 Heavens
- 2 Dead heat
- 3 Possess
- 4 Judicious
- 5 Kind of bar
- 6 Down Under bird
- 7 Clean air org.
- 8 Pouch
- 9 Spoonbender Geller
- 10 Fourposter, e.g.
- 12 *Indiana Jones* producer
- 13 Unkempt folks
- 14 Kind of lily
- 19 Viper
- 21 Conflict
- 22 Subside
- 23 Round Table title
- 24 Hot springs
- 26 Old French coin
- 28 Four-time Japanese prime minister
- 29 Yellow, for one
- 30 N.Y. minutes?
- 32 First lady
- 34 Major-leaguers
- 36 Burger meat
- 39 Accelerate
- 41 Brownish gray
- 42 Blunder
- 43 Fruit drink
- 44 Funnyman Brooks

- 45 Attorneys' org.
- 47 Botanist Gray
- 49 Tabloid topic
- 50 Put on the line
- 51 It may be framed
- 53 Small streams
- 54 Chemical suffix
- 55 Cruises
- 58 Mixes up
- 62 Police action
- 63 Antagonist
- 64 Still-life subject
- 65 Summer on the Seine
- 67 *The Matrix* hero
- 68 Pub fixture
- 70 Female antelope
- 71 In poor health
- 72 Clavell's ___ - Pan

See Solution on Page 20

JEDNOTA Publication Schedule for 2018

Issue Date	Deadline to Receive
December 12	December 3

JEDNOTA Publication Schedule for 2019

Issue Date	Deadline to Receive Information
January 9	January 2 to accommodate New Year's Day
February 13	February 4
March 13	March 4
April 10	April 1
May 8	April 29
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

Don't Miss Out!
Deadline is December 31, 2018

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



- 1st year premium waived on \$10,000 Term Insurance *
- \$14 annual premium
- Premium never increases
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 Independence, OH 44131
 800-533-6682
 fcsu@fcsu.com
 www.fcsu.com

All applications must be
 received in the Home Office
postmarked
by December 31, 2018.

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

BE A PART OF OUR JEDNOTA MEMORIAL

Jednota Memorial
Middletown, PA

THE REVEREND ŠTEFAN FURDEK
 Founder of the First Catholic Slovak Union
 Organizer of various other Catholic Slovak Societies
 and other organizations and causes such as
 the Slovak League of America
 and the Cleveland Agreement of 1915
 that ultimately led to
 the independent country of Slovakia
 Here in Fremont, Ohio County,
 November, September 3, 1883
 Died January 1, 1962, Cleveland, Ohio
 First Cemetery, P.O. Box 1174, Cleveland, Ohio
 "ZA BOHA A NAROD - FOR GOD AND NATION"

THE FOUNDERS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
 In September 1915, Slovak immigrants met at the request of Fr. Štefan Furdek in Cleveland, Ohio
 to form a fraternal organization and other similar fraternal societies and to provide mutual aid and
 assistance to their fellow Slovaks in the United States. They were joined by the First Catholic Slovak Union
 (FCSU) in the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States.

THE JEDNOTA ORPHANAGE
 The orphanage of the First Catholic Slovak Union is part of the property in Middleburg Heights,
 Ohio owned by the First Catholic Slovak Union. It was built in 1915 and was used as an orphanage
 for the children of the First Catholic Slovak Union. It was later used as a school and is now a
 part of the First Catholic Slovak Union property. It was built on the site of the former
 orphanage of the First Catholic Slovak Union. It was built in 1915 and was used as an orphanage
 for the children of the First Catholic Slovak Union. It was later used as a school and is now a
 part of the First Catholic Slovak Union property. It was built on the site of the former
 orphanage of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

The First Catholic Slovak Union dedicated a Jednota Memorial site in 2015 on 1 ½ acres once occupied by the Jednota Orphanage, purchased at the urging of our founder Fr. Štefan Furdek in Middletown, PA. A rebronzed "Doughboy" statue is a key highlight of this Memorial, which has been developed to honor those who served in war and also give Members an opportunity to honor and remember ancestors and family members who have made and make our Society great.

3 EASY STEPS TO ORDER YOUR MEMORIAL GRANITE BRICK

1. Fill out this form with your message to be etched on your brick. You have three lines on each 4x 10 brick, and up to 20 characters per line INCLUDING spaces between the words. Each space counts as one character.
2. Include payment for your brick (check or money order made out to the First Catholic Slovak Union). Each 4x10 brick is \$100, 8X10 brick is \$200. You may purchase more than one brick. Contact the Home Office at 800.533.6682 for details.
3. Mail the completed form and your payment to the Home Office or pay at the convention registration desk:

FCSU Corporate Center
 c/o FCSU Memorial
 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
 Independence, OH 44131

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR CONTACT INFO:

YOUR NAME: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 PHONE NUMBER: _____

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society-Branch 1-will hold its next meeting on December 6, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Das Schnitzel Haus located at 5728 Pearl Road, Parma, OH, 44129. A brief meeting will be held before dinner. This is our annual Christmas party. Election of officers will be held at this time. All members are encouraged to attend.

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 2 - PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St Michaels Branch 2 will hold a meeting on Tuesday December 18 at 7pm at Kretzlers on Babcock Blvd to discuss upcoming fraternal activities and have election of officers. Please plan on attending this meeting, and RSVP to Joanne at 412-715-5577.

Joanne Lako, Secretary

BRANCH 3P - HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

Saint Joseph Society, Branch 003P, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday December 16, 2018, at 9:30AM in the church basement of Saint Joseph Church at 604 N. Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Refreshments will be served. Election of officers for 2019 will be conducted as well as plans for future activities for our branch. Please make an effort to attend.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 6 - STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephens Society, Branch 06K, will hold its annual meeting and election of officers for 2019 on Sunday, November 25, 2018, at 12 noon. The annual meeting will be held at: 1406 N. Baker St., Streator, IL, with a lunch provided by the branch following the meeting. All members are invited to attend; or those wishing to receive information on purchasing an insurance policy or annuity are encouraged to attend. Please call 815-822-8851 or 815-672-1764.

Paul Chismar, Secretary

BRANCH 7 - HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 7 will hold a meeting on Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 9:00AM at Christ the King Parish Center, 100 Brisbin St. Houtzdale, PA. Election of officers will take place. All members are invited to attend the meeting.

Joseph C. Cervenak, President

BRANCH 10 - OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, will hold its semiannual meeting, audit and election of officers at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 9, 2018, at the Regal Room, 216 Lackawanna Ave, Olyphant, PA. Branch 10 members interested in serving as an officer are asked to contact board president Daniel Spegar at 570-587-2175 no later than Friday, November 23.

William F. Nalevanko, Secretary

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24 will hold a meeting on Sunday, December 16, 2018, at 1:00PM at the Hungarian Business Club, 15805 Libby Road, Maple Heights, OH, 44137. The branch will hold election of officers at this meeting. Luncheon will be served directly after the meeting; for reservations, please call Tom Ivanec at (440) 668-7797.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24, St Andrew Svorad Society, is providing special members-only pricing for the St. Andrew Abbey Vilija Dinner to be held on Sunday, December 2, 2018 at St. Andrew Abbey 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, OH. Mass is at 12:00 (noon) with dinner to follow [Editor's note: please see page 3 of this issue for details].

Ticket prices are \$10 for branch members, \$20 for non-members. Reservations are required and available by calling Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797. Please make checks payable to Branch 24. The deadline is Tuesday, November 20, 2018.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 35 - BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michaels, Branch 35, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 16, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. at 1987 Centurion Drive, Forest Hills PA. The agenda will include election of officers for 2019, officer reports, a Convention report from delegates and discussion of branch and district activities.

Janet Sullivan, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 38 - WHITE OAK, PENNSYLVANIA

Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38, will hold its annual meeting on Monday, December 3, 2018, at 7:00PM at 3409 Eisenhower Court, White Oak, PA 15131. The agenda will include officers' reports and discussion on 2019 fraternal social activities. All Branch 38 members are urged to attend. Additionally, Branch 38 would like to congratulate Hannah Formica and Noah Formica, the recipients of the 2018 First Catholic Slovak Union Scholarship.

If anyone is interested in FCSU Annuities or Life Insurance, please call Florence Matta at 412-466-7460.

**Logan Haselhoff, President
Florence Matta, Secretary/Treasurer**

BRANCH 40 - STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Clement Society, Branch 40, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday January 20, 2019 at 2:00 PM at Chipper's Grill, 1733 North Bloomington St. Streator, Illinois. All members of Branch #40 are urged to attend the meeting. Election of officers will take place. Lunch will follow. Please make reservations by calling (815) 672-6142 before January 16th.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Graves, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 41 - YONKERS, NEW YORK

Holy Trinity Society Branch 41 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday December 18, 2018, at 7:00 PM at 80 Mohawk Rd., Yonkers, NY, 10710. The agenda will include: an overview of this past year's revival of the branch; election of officers; a discussion about the 2019 Patronal Feast day; a financial report; and other branch business.

Stephen J. Kubasek, Jr. President

BRANCH 45 - NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will be hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 12.00 p.m. after the Slovak Mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and First Avenue, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, officers' reports; a report on last year's activities; election of officers; and a discussion on events for the upcoming year. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Sincerely,

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 45 - NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew's the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold a meeting on Sunday, January 20, 2019, at 12:00 PM after the Slovak mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and 1th Avenue, New York City. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 75 - SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the B.V.M. Society, Branch 75KJ, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, December 9, 2018, at 10:00AM at the residence of Financial Secretary Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, PA, 17872. Agenda items include: the presentation of the fiscal year-end reports; nomination and election of officers for the coming year; and any additional branch business will be entertained. All interested members should make an effort to attend this semi-annual meeting.

Ronald M. Anderson, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 85 - BLAKELY, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Florian Society Branch 085K will hold its fall meeting on Tuesday, November 20, 2018, at 7:00PM at the Jessup American Legion Post, 411 Church Street, Jessup, PA. The agenda will include election of officers for 2019.

Stella Skovira, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 89 - MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Branch 89 will hold its Fall Communion Breakfast Meeting on Sunday, November 25, 2018, at the Capitol Café, 14375 W. Capitol Drive, Brookfield, WI, 53222. The meeting will begin immediately following a 9:00AM Mass at St. Margaret Mary Parish, 3970 N. 92nd Street, Milwaukee, WI, 53222. Issues for discussion at the breakfast meeting: 2019 activities and insurance dividends.

The cost for breakfast is free to members; guests are welcome, with a cost of \$15 per person. Please make a reservation by November 19, 2018 by calling Mike Novak at 414-445-5382.

Fraternal regards,

Mike Novak, President

BRANCH 112 - MAHANOEY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Branch 112 will take place on Sunday, December 2, 2018 at noon at OIP Restaurant in Frackville, PA. The agenda will include officer's reports, changes in the bi laws from the 2018 convention, election of officers and new business. All Branch 112 members are invited to attend.

Please call Karen Sterling at 570-640-1796 by November 25, 2018, if you plan on attending.

Karen Sterling, Secretary

BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Throughout the month of November, we remember our members who have passed on to their eternal reward. Please pray for the following members who have died during the past year:

Joseph Macicak
Frank Drinka
Irene Hutnik
Rudolph Bernath
William Jedlink
Edwin Rulak

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 157 - N.CATASAUQUA PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 157 is having a meeting in the upstairs hall.5th & Grove N.Catasauqua, PA. The date is December 16, 2018, at 11:00AM. The meeting will be the update of the convention, and the past District meeting. Also, there will be election of officers. Following the meeting will be the Christmas party for the children. Sign up by calling the Social Club @ (610)264-0740 the ages are 0 To 10 years of age. Another meeting will be on Wednesday December 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to the meeting bring new ideas. Branch 157 wishes everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving. If we don't see you at the meetings, we wish you a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Be safe while driving during the Holiday season. We liked to welcome the merger Branches of Slatington, Bethlehem and Reading.

Greg Harakal, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, December 9, 2018, at 8:30AM at the Park Inn by Radison Restaurant, 700 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA, 15401.

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

All members and guests of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the brunch meeting. Call for reservations by December 1, 2018, to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983 as well as any changes for policies or address changes.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 173 - WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Baptist Society, Branch Number 173, located in Northeast Pennsylvania Area, will hold its annual meeting on December 16, 2018, at Norms, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA, beginning at 12:00 pm. General business and activities of Branch 173 will be discussed, and insurance, annuities and fraternal activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union. In addition officers will be elected for the new year.

Please make every effort to attend and notify Dorothy A. Ungvarsky at 570-4032067, so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

John A. Ungvarsky, President

BRANCH 199 - HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 199 will hold a meeting for the sole purpose of "Election of Officers" on Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 3:30 PM at Christ, Our Shepherd Center (formerly known as Bishop Connare Center). Upon entering the building, members will be directed to the meeting/voting area. Membership is encouraged to attend and vote for the 2019 Officers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Patula, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 200 - FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 extends a warm "welcome" to those in the former Branch 280 who now hold membership in Branch 200. We hope to see you at our meetings, which are held the 1st Thursday of every month (except June & July) in the upstairs Social Hall, 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226.

Our meeting schedule for the remainder of 2018 is as follows: Dec. 6th with election of branch officers

We look forward to your presence at the monthly meetings directly following the BOD's meeting at 7pm. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by phone: 724-763-9229 or email: vschaub123@gmail.com

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 228 - LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228, holds 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 begin at 7 P.M. 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 meeting for election of branch officers is December 17, 2018. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors.

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 will enjoy the comradery.

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 259 - STRUTHERS, OHIO

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 259, will hold their annual meeting at the Bedford Trails Golf Course Restaurant in Coitsville, OH, on Sunday, December 9, 2018, at 3:00PM. We will have an election of officers for the coming year 2019 followed by a luncheon. Reservations can be made by calling 330-755-8316. We would like to extend our wishes for a Holy and Happy Holiday Season to all members.

Vivian Sedlacko, Secretary

BRANCH 260 - CAMPBELL, OHIO

The branch will hold a meeting on December 15, 2018, at 12:20PM at Savatore's Italian Grill, Austintown, OH. On the agenda: election of

continued on page 17

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 3---GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT---WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District will hold its annual Stedry Vecer on Sunday, December 2, 2018 at the Christ, Our Shepherd Center, Route 30 East, Greensburg, PA. The evening will begin with Mass at 4:p.m. in the Chapel. Our festive traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner will follow in the dining room. After the awarding of door prizes, the Pittsburgh Slovaks will entertain. Please plan to attend and help preserve this beautiful custom. Tickets are: \$25 for ages 12 to adult and \$10 for ages 3-11. Tickets are limited and must be reserved prior to November 21 by calling Vice President, Darlene Patty at 724-493-8712.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – MSGR. JOHN E. RURA DISTRICT

District 4 is sponsoring an informal get-together at the movies. We plan to see Disney's The Nutcracker and the Four Realms, a fantasy retelling of the classic "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King," about a young girl who is transported into a magical world of gingerbread soldiers and an army of mice. We will meet at the movie theater, AMC Aviation 12, 1200 South Stiles Street, in Linden, NJ 07036 on Sunday, December 2nd for an afternoon showing. If you are interested, please call Mary Kapitan @732-225-2658.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 38 will host the Fall Business Meeting on November 25 at 1 PM at Holy Trinity Social Hall, 529 Grant Street Extn, West Mifflin 15122. Officers for 2019 will be elected and activities for the year will be discussed. The Steelers play at Denver and the game does not start until 4:25.

Heavy rain from Hurricane Gordon ruined our plans to attend an afternoon Pirates baseball game in September. We will reschedule in the spring, possibly early May. Details will be announced as more information becomes available.

Branch 276 will host the Spring, 2019 business meeting in early April. Other branches are encouraged to host the Fathers' Day brunch and the Fall business meeting. If you have suggestions for other events, please contact Annie Ondrejco.

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:

** WPCSA 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: November 5: Transitioning from Slovakia to America; December 3: Slovak Show-N-Tell. Become a member of the WPCSA to get the newsletter listing all of their events.

** Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in spring and fall. Contact Bozena Hilko at bozi@comcast.net. Fall classes are directed toward intermediate and advanced students. Spring classes are for beginners. 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 2019 meeting in Nebraska. "Nasa Rodina," their quarterly publication, has many interesting articles on Slovak history and genealogy. See www.cgsi.org.

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

If anyone knows of additional Slovak events in Western Pennsylvania that they wish to be included in our district notice, they should email information to the secretary.

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

DISTRICT 11 – THE MONSIGNOR JOSEPH TISO DISTRICT

District 11 recently held our semi-annual meeting in Ford City, PA @ Branch 200's Social Hall. Due to the recent passing of our District Secretary, Grace Charney, who was a very active and devoted member, we are asking for members to step up to fill this position. Anyone interested, please contact me @724-763-9229 or email vschaub123@gmail.com. The District is in need of your attendance @ the 2 currently held meetings per year. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 28, 2019 @1:30pm. There was discussion on holding that meeting in the Natrona Heights area @ a restaurant. There would be NO cost to any member in attendance. RSVP's would be appreciated but not required. We are open for suggestions and welcome all who can take a couple hours out of your day to be a part of this meeting. We want to be active in all areas of our members from Branches 401 & 200.

Save the Date!!! There are plans to have a "1st Annual Winter Polka Party" Sunday, January 12, 2019. Details will follow in the near future.

Fraternally,

Vicki Schaub, Financial Secretary

DISTRICT 12 – THE ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, December 16, 2018, at 1:00PM, a meeting of the Andrew Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. The Convention and other general business will be discussed; and an election of officers will be held. Members of the district are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

DISTRICT 14 - REVEREND JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Reverend Joseph L. Kostik, District 14, Region 6 will hold a meeting on Tuesday, November 20th at 6 pm at the Falcon Grille, 39 N. Canfield-Niles Road (Rt. 46) in Austintown. We will be electing and installing officers at this meeting so please try to attend and bring a fellow member with you if possible. We will be discussing our Christmas Party and activities for the coming year. Suggestions are encouraged and welcome for 2019 activities.

Grace Kavulic, Secretary

DISTRICT 14 – REV. JOSEPH KOSTIK DISTRICT

District 14, Region 6, Rev. Joseph Kostik District will be holding its Annual Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 18, 2018, at 6 pm at Rachel's Restaurant, 54 Westchester Drive in Austintown, OH. The cost will be \$25.00 per person. Reservations must be made by December 1, 2018, by calling Sue Carney at (330) 770-6810. There will be no meeting, just an enjoyable evening with all members and guests of our Okres.

Grace Kavulic, Secretary

DISTRICT 15 – PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT – LOS ANGELES

The Prince Pribina District will hold an annual meeting on Saturday, December 15, 2018. The meeting will be held at 11:00 AM at the Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. On the agenda will be: officer reports and a financial report; election of officers for 2019; and a discussion of possible 2019 activities. All branch members in our area are encouraged to participate and attend their concurrent annual meeting.

Paul Skuben, President

DISTRICT 19 – THE MONSIGNOR MICHAEL SHUBA DISTRICT

On Sunday January 13, 2019, the annual meeting for Monsignor Michael Shuba District will be held at 1:30pm, at Sts Cyril and Methodius Church Hall. Address: 5255 Thornwood Dr, Mississauga, Ontario.

At this meeting the election of Officers for the District will be held, financial statements reviewed, and any new business discussed. Lunch will be available; please RSVP to Mike Kapitan at 416-543-4111

Anne Mitro, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 20 - THE PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT

The Prince Rastislav District of Montreal, Quebec, will hold its yearly meeting on November 18, 2018, immediately following the 11 o'clock Mass at Sts Cyril and Method Parish Hall.

The past year's events will be discussed including the reports of officers and future prospects for the District. It is important that members of Branches 784 and 810 be present in sufficient numbers as a new committee will have to be elected. The future of the District along with all future events will depend on the ability to elect a committee for the future.

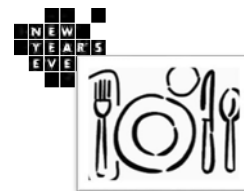
A light lunch will be served following the meeting.

Alexander S. Dobrik, President

Upcoming Events at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, OH

The United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club located at 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH, 44055 will host the following events:

Stedry Vecer, Traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner
Sunday December 2nd 5:30p.m. cocktails, 6:00p.m. dinner
Entertainment by Ed Klimczak
Advanced Tickets only \$20 the event is open to the public,
cash bar
Contact Len Zilko at 440/988-3236



Save the Date and stay tuned for further details
Silvester Steak Fry
Monday December 31st 5-9p.m.

The United Slovak Societies is comprised of the members of the local lodges in Lorain OH.

These Lodges include; St. Ann's Branch #114 of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, St. John the Baptist Lodge #228 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, National Slovak Society Assembly 160, Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111 and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union Branch #77.

**- Submitted by Michèle S. Mager
Member, FCSU Branch 228
Secretary, United Slovak Societies
Member, Board of Directors, American Slovak Club**

**For news about Slovakia, Financial Tips, and more,
find us on:  Facebook.
Visit www.facebook.com/FirstCatholicSlovakUnion**

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	Irene B Betz	085K	Joseph F Hudzik	276K	Marie J Hewston	670K	Dolores Hruby
001K	George A Paluf	085K	Helen Wilkes	276K	Marion Long	731K	Helen A Vukovich
001K	Richard Tocek	086K	Richard P Mondock Sr	320K	Rose Marie Helfrich	743K	Dorothy T Stark
003K	Marcella A Erickson	153K	Lucille M Dritelein	348K	Freda Ann Kovalan	746K	Elizabeth Jankovich
005P	Regina A DeAngelo	153K	Edwin J Rulak	367K	George P Bohna	746K	Marie Martini
005P	Sherry A Severnak-Locascio	157K	Johanna K Fleming	382K	Mary Farinola	746K	Robert L Mattis
005P	John Vitanovec Jr	157K	Robert F Noctor	401K	Edward M Minarcin	746K	Robert W Siewarga
019K	Ann Frances Alfano	157K	Francis A Rohal	401K	Mark Pacuch	769K	Mary Ann Pochily
019K	Maryann Louise Holko	162K	Edward Lewis Kovach Sr	401K	Rosanne Todd	780K	Mary Katherine Gustin
019K	Edward Luchansky	166K	Stephen Petrovcin	410K	Karen MacLeod	796K	David Heimbach
023K	John Mariscotti	173K	Thomas D Check	419K	John S Gasper	796K	David J Vlahovic
023K	Dorothy A Tarachko	173K	Leo W Karasek	430K	John A Vojick	831K	Paul J Dubac
038K	John Goda	181K	Richard E Kuhn	484K	Francis G Hancharik	831K	William H Negley
038K	Shirley McCollum	181K	Sophie Zamborsky	553K	Frank Cielensky	856K	Gary Johnson
055K	Anna H Bruner	199K	Helen Hvizdos	553K	Thomas Kalivoda	900K	Janese C Barrett
055K	Bernadine K Schoenewald	199K	Mary J Schnupp	553K	Joseph J Krupar	900K	Sue Ann T Canty
055K	Lawrence J Trisch	228K	Christine F Garton	553K	Robert S Sichman	900K	Dr Andrew Mesaros
060K	Anna Mae Eicholtz	228K	Dolores Miller	70K	Rozanne Barczak	919K	Sonia C Millimet
085K	Sadie M Barkovitz	228K	Richard Yepko	670K	Debra Ann Dillon	926K	Russell C Bordeaux

*Processed through the month of October

OBITUARIES

LEONARD W. FENIMORE BRANCH 23 – JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA



Leonard W. Fenimore, 95, Johnstown, PA, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Sept. 13, 2018. Born in Canonsburg, PA, in 1923, and moved to Johnstown in 1946, son of Dominic and Mary Fenimore. Preceded in death by parents; grandchildren, Aaron and David Cassat; great grandchildren, Sky Ciccarella; Shane Fenimore; Also preceded in death by wife, Emily (Lesso) Fenimore, married 59 1/2 years. Survived by 10 children, 21 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren; numerous loving relatives and wonderful friends. He was a decorated WWII veteran and served willingly as a paratrooper in the 11th Airborne Division for over three years as Army Staff Sergeant, stationed in the Pacific Theatre in WWII. Awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for invasion and being wounded, he also received the Arrowhead Device, a one-time decoration service medal for 28 combat parachute drops. He prayed the rosary at Resurrection Church and at the White Star Convalescent Home. He was the oldest altar server in Pennsylvania for three churches; Saint's Stephen, Casimir and Emerich for years. He lived in Cambria City, PA, and worked as a welder at U.S. Steel. He was a District Committee man for the Democratic Party, for 29 years. He won on America's Funniest Home Videos for singing a song for 'his Emily.' He liked to shoot pool. He loved Westerns on TV and attended countless sporting events and birthdays for his grandchildren. He also served at church fish fries, festivals, ministries and visited hospitalized and homebound patients. Len was the best loving Dad, husband and Pappy in the world. He wanted everyone to know that he had a wonderful life. "The good Lord blessed me with a wonderful wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and he blessed me all of my life to take care of

them." He was a Member of Branch 23 and always attended meetings until he couldn't anymore.

- Submitted by Theresa Cassat

GRACE M. CHARNEY BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA



Lt. Col. Grace M. Charney, 68, of Ford City, PA, entered into eternal life Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018, at the V.A. Pittsburgh Healthcare System, University Drive Campus. She was born to Michael "Kaiser" and Mary (Stolar) Charney on Dec. 9, 1949. She attended Holy Trinity Parochial School and graduated from Ford City High School in 1967. She continued her Education at Slippery Rock State College, earning her Bachelor's degree in education in 1971. In 1973, Grace joined the Air Force and, during her 20-year military career, she served our country at bases in Europe, North America and the Philippines, ultimately being promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1990. From 1990 to 1993, she served in the Tactical Intelligence Cell, NORAD, Cheyenne Mountain AFB, Colorado, until her retirement. Grace's military awards and honors included the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, the National Defense Medal with Bronze Star, and the Humanitarian Service Medal with Silver Star. Returning to Ford City upon her retirement, Grace vigorously immersed herself in numerous community activities including the Ford City Kiwanis Club, the Ford City Borough Council, and the Ford City Public Library Board. Grace was an active member of Branch 200 and an officer in District 11. She loved bowling and had served as secretary of the Jednota Bowling League and as a board director for the Ford City Women's Bowling League. Grace also participated in the annual Crop Walk, a food drive for the local food bank. She freely gave her time to the American Legion Post 654 and the

American Legion Auxiliary. Grace served as the president of the Ford City Area Hall of Fame. She was also very active with Summerfest. An avid singer, Grace was an alto member of many local choirs, ensembles and choral groups including Christ, Prince of Peace Parish where she was a member and served as Sunday morning videographer and coordinator of an annual Living Rosary Service.

Grace is survived by her brothers, Zigmund F. (Marcia) Charney, of Fairfax, Va., Raymond P. Charney, of Ford City, and William J. Charney, of Hackettstown, N.J.; and her sister, Elizabeth C. Cieri, of Morris Plains, N.J. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Joseph J. and Andrew M. Charney.

Friends were welcomed Monday, Oct. 15, 2018, at Welch Funeral Home, Ford City. Prayers of transfer were said Tuesday morning, Oct. 16, 2018, in the funeral home, followed by a Mass of Christian burial at Christ, Prince of Peace Church, with Father Raphael Glinkowski, O.S.P., as celebrant. Interment followed in Holy Trinity Cemetery, with military honors accorded by the Armstrong County Honor Guard.

- Submitted by Vicki Schaub,
Branch 200 Financial Secretary

FREDA KOVALAN BRANCH 348 – CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA

Freda Ann Kovalan, 86, of Clarksburg, WV, passed away on Saturday, June 30, 2018, at the Meadowview Manor in Bridgeport, WV. She was born at Sistersville, WV, on September 6, 1931, a daughter of the late Jules and Jennie (Andre') Charles. Ms. Kovalan was preceded in death by her husband Edward D. Kovalan on December 16, 1992.

In addition to her parents and husband, Freda was preceded in death by one brother, James Charles, and four sisters: Elizabeth Brady, Virginia DeGardeyn, Marguerite Rexroad, all of Clarksburg and Mary Whitehead of Mansfield, OH.

Freda is survived by three nephews and one niece: Bill Brady of Clarksburg, Jerry

Rexroad of Clarksburg; Jennie Carpenter and husband Gary of Clarksburg; and Wayne Whitehead and wife Marjorie of Mansfield, OH. Also surviving are numerous great-nieces and nephews.

After graduating as Valedictorian of the Victory High School Class of 1949, Freda worked at Westinghouse as a typist and clerical worker for many years. A very active member of Holy Rosary Catholic church in Clarksburg and then Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Stonewood, WV, Freda was also a member of the Belgium Heritage Club and the First Catholic Slovak Union as well as the Chestnut Hills Garden Club. She loved traveling, gardening, sewing, and attending WVU Football games with her husband and friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial celebrated on Friday, July 6, 2018 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Stonewood, WV, was followed by interment at Holy Cross Cemetery in Clarksburg.

ANNA RAGAN BRANCH 784 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

We have lost a Pioneer and Pillar of Branch 784 on October 16, 2018, at age 93. A relentless supporter of branch activities. Anna was the wife of Michael Ragan who served as Director of Region 8, Montreal, from 1961 until his sudden passing in 1994.

Anna was a stalwart supporter of Branch 784, a parishioner of Sts. Cyril and Method Parish, and a member of the Rosary Society. After her husband's death, Anna devoted her time to becoming a proficient and popular chef for Sts. Cyril and Method. Her preparation of parish dinners to hundreds became highly regarded.

She leaves behind to mourn: her daughter Anne and son-in-law Gerald Boyce, grandson Christopher as well as great grandsons Lucas and Andrew, and members of Branch 900. She also leaves behind her brother Michael Tkac (Ann) and many nieces and nephews.

She will be sorely missed by all.

Submitted by Alice Dobrik,
Branch 784 President

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

branch officers for 2019.

Fraternally,

Carlie M. Peshek, Vice President

BRANCH 266 – HAZELTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Saint Peter and Paul Society Branch 266 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 16, 2018, at 9:30AM in the church basement of Saint Joseph Church at 604 N. Laurel Street in Hazleton, PA. Refreshments will be served. Officers will be elected for Branch 266 for 2019. Plans for future activities of the branch will be discussed. All members are invited to attend.

R. Lazar, Secretary

BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Branch 276 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, November 18, 2108, at St. Patrick's Church Hall on 32nd Street in McKeesport, PA, at 1:00PM. On the agenda will be the discussion of the National Convention which was held in Cleveland, OH, in August. We will also discuss coming events for the new year. Election of officers for the new year will take place at the meeting. All members are urged to attend.

Nancy Gerdich, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 290 – RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

Branch 290 will hold a meeting on Wednesday December 5, 2018 at 6:30 PM. On the agenda: election of branch officers for 2019.

Please call or text Steve Minarovich at (908) 507-0505 for the location if you plan on attending.

Steve Minarovich, Branch Secretary

BRANCH 312 – BAGGALEY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 312K will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, November 18, 2018, at 1:00PM at the home of Branch President Mark Smolleck, 1121 Monastery Drive, Latrobe, PA, 15650. For more information, call 1-724-539-8326.

Michaelene Smolleck, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of SS Peter & Paul Society, Branch 320, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, December 16, 2018, at 11:00AM at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. There will be an election of officers, and the Convention, along with general business, will be discussed. Since a light brunch will be provided, please call Fran at (724) 929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending. Members of Branch 320 are urged to attend.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

BRANCH 367 - FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph, Branch 367, will hold a meeting on Thursday, December 27, 2018, at 2 PM. All members are invited to attend. The meeting will be held at O'Gillies Pub, 200 E. Asken Street, Uniontown, PA 15401. Election of officers for 2019, the 51st FCSU convention in Ohio and activities that were completed for the year will all be discussed. Any member planning on attending please call President, Audrey Balazik 724-438-3887 or Secretary, Kathryn Baranek 724-569-1006. We would like to wish our members and their families a Happy Thanksgiving, a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

Kathryn Baranek, Secretary

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, welcomes all members of the former Branch 823. The branch will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 18, 2018, at 2:00PM at the New City Buffet, 5142 State Rt. 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA. On the agenda: a discussion of the 2018 Convention held in Cleveland, OH, based on this recent merger. All members are welcome. For reserva-

tions, please call Mary Ann Nalevanko at 1-724-834-6386 by November 16th.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Secretary

BRANCH 425 – BARBERTON, OHIO

Branch 425 will be holding its annual meeting on Sunday, December 23, 2018, at 1:00PM. Election of officers will take place. Location: 1371 Eastern Road, Rittman, OH. RSVP to 330-825-3534.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannette Willis, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 450, will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, December 1, 2018.

The meeting will be held at 11:00AM, at Holy Spirit Church Hall. 5500 West 54th Street, Parma, OH, 44129.

On the agenda will be officers' reports. Financial report for 2018. Discussion of branch activities and other business pertaining to the branch. The election of branch officers will take place at this meeting.

All members are urged to attend. Refreshment will be served after meeting.

Fraternally,

George P. Carny, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 484KJ, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 16, 2018, at 2:00PM in the home of Financial Secretary Monica Rura, 819 Power Plant Road, Coral, PA 15731. The agenda will include election of officers, reports, payment of bills, donations, membership and general discussion of branch issues. May all enjoy a beautiful and colorful fall, and a very Blessed and Faith-filled Christmas.

Monica Rura, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the BVM Society, Branch # 493 in Chicago, will hold its Annual Meeting and Christmas Luncheon on Saturday, November 24, 2018. Attendees will gather at 1:30 pm for a period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments. The meeting will start at 2:00 pm. After the meeting, attendees will enjoy a delicious Christmas Luncheon. Location: Mabenka Restaurant, 7844 S. Cicero Avenue, Burbank, IL.

If you plan to attend, please notify the branch financial secretary at (773) 558-5956 or (502) 244-6643 by Wednesday, November 21 so we can give an accurate head count to the restaurant beforehand.

**Robert T'apa'k Magruder,
Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist, Branch 553, will be holding the final lodge meeting for 2018 on Sunday, November 18th at 2:00PM. The meeting will be held at the Slovak "J" Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. Anyone interested in serving on the Board of Directors must send your written intentions stating the position you are interested in filling to the Nominating Committee at the above address. Letters must be in by November 12, 2018.

Upcoming events at the Slovak "J" Club:

1st Wednesday of every month – Spaghetti served from 4:30 – 7:00 pm

Saturday's club opens at 11:30 am – come watch your favorite college teams

Sunday's club opens at 12:00 pm – come support the Browns

10/28 Sunday – Browns/Halloween Party

11/10 Saturday – Wine Festival featuring Jim Golen and George's famous sausage sandwiches

11/24 Saturday – Ohio State VS Michigan – Tailgating event

12/16 Sunday – Annual Vilija Celebration 4:00 pm - \$15.00 per person

Any questions – call the club at 330-786-9972. Respectfully submitted,

**Linda M Hanko,
Recording/Financial Secretary**

BRANCH 581 – GARY-WHITING, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel, Branch 581, will meet on Sunday, December 16, 2018, at the Lake Park Restaurant, 7 East Old Ridge Rd., Hobart, IN. The agenda will be election of officers, the upcoming play in Munster and discussion of our trip to the convention. RSVP Ann Buczek, 219-947-2793 or George Kelchak, 219-926-2410.

Ann Buczek, Secretary

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HTS, MICHIGAN

Sunday, December 2 – Polka Dance 3-6pm; food available for purchase.

Sunday, December 16 – quarterly meeting, election of officers will take place. Meeting will begin at 2pm. All branch 595 members are encouraged to attend.

Refreshments every Tuesday and Thursday are .50 off.

Hours are Mon-Fri 1pm-8pm, Sat 12noon-8pm.

Come down and enjoy yourself. All events will take place at Tatra Hall 2526 Sixth Street, Muskegon Heights, MI 49444 231-733-7525

Susan Hornik, Secretary

BRANCH 628 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of Branch 628, St. Michael Archangel will be held on Sunday, December 23, 2018 at 3:00 PM at Penn Hebron Garden Club, 237 Jefferson Road, Penn Hills, PA. The agenda will include the election of new officers for 2019 and a summary of events and issues during 2018.

Sincerely,

Sylvia J. Vehec, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of St. Anton of Padua, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the branch's next meeting on Sunday, December 16, 2018, at noon, at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. There will be election of officers. In addition, the Convention, along with other general business, will be discussed. Members of Branch 670 are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The next meeting of Branch 682 members will take place at the District 14 Christmas party on December 18, 2018 at 6pm. The party will be held at Rachel's Restaurant & Catering, 54 Westchester Dr. in Austintown, OH 44515. As we have the highest level of attendance at this function we will be holding election of branch officers for the 2019 fiscal year.

The next regular meeting for Branch 682 is scheduled for Noon on Thursday, January 3, 2019, at Materials

Research Laboratories, 290 N Bridge St. in Struthers, OH 44471. The meeting will include the assembly of the branch annual report.

Drew Hirt, President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 716 FCSU, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 18, 2018, after the Slovak Mass at 12:30 PM in the Meeting Room, in the downstairs hall at St. John Nepomucene Church, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, also a report on the year's activities, election of officers for 2019, and a Convention report from delegates. Also discussion of plans for the upcoming year 2019 will take place. All Members are urged to attend and participate. After the Meeting adjourns, a hot lunch will be served.

Joan Mary Skrkon, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 721 – BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

Branch 721 will have their fall meeting on Sunday, December 2, 2018, at 2:00PM. It will be held at the home of Julius Remenar, Financial Secretary. His home is located at 8977 S. Mason Road, Bannister, MI. Election of officers will be held. All members are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

On December 16, 2018 members of Saint Joseph Branch 731 will celebrate Mass at 11AM for our deceased branch members. The election of officers for 2019 will be held at an annual meeting following the Mass. The Mass and annual meeting will be held at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Avenue, Youngstown, OH.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 738 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 738K Munhall, PA and Branch 038K White Oak, PA.

All members of Branch 738K will now hold membership in Branch 038K.

This merger has taken place as of October 2, 2018. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact:

FLORENCE K MATTA
3409 EISENHOWER DR
WHITE OAK, PA 15131
(412) 466-7460

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

Fraternally,

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 2, 2018, at 1:00PM. On the agenda will be Officer's Report, a 2018 financial report, approval of the 2019 budget, discussion of branch activities, and other business pertaining to the Branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. The election of 2019 Branch Officers will also take place.

Members are urged to attend the celebration of the Slovak Mass before the meeting at 11:30AM at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI.

The annual meeting will follow the Slovak Mass in the Church Social Hall. Please come and enjoy our annual Christmas meeting with your fellow branch members.

Members who need policy assistance in regards to a change of address or to change a beneficiary should contact the Financial Secretary of Branch 743, Joseph C. Rimarcik, 4945 Wavewood Dr., Commerce Township, MI 48382. Phone 248-714-9620.

I can also provide you a no obligation quote for insurance coverage for any family member including grandchildren with just a birth date.

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

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 1:00 PM in the Tuscan room at Luciano's Restaurant (1579 Main Street, Rahway, NJ). The agenda will include election of officers, including the new position of Branch Fraternal Activities Director. There will also be discussion and planning for next year's activities. A Christmas luncheon will follow the meeting (\$35.00 for non-members). Please note that Luciano's has a new parking lot which is located at 107 Monroe Street, around the corner from the restaurant, about a block away (a sign is posted). Kindly call Mary Ann Ranahan @732-251-6035 by December 7th if you plan on attending. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 764 – WARREN, OHIO

Branch 764 will hold its next meeting on November 27, 2018, at 9:30AM at the Kozy Kitchen Café, 2723 Elm Road, NE, Warren, OH. On the agenda: election of officers for 2019 and a feastday dinner discussion. For more information, contact Bill at 330-372-1948 or email hrusovskyw@embarqmail.com.

William Hrusovsky, Secretary

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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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BRANCH 784/810 - MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Branch 784/810 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 18, 2018, immediately following the 11 o'clock Mass at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish hall.

We urgently request the attendance of members of the branch, as yearly elections are on the agenda.

A report of the activities for 2018 including reports of officers will be held at the meeting. Any future activities will depend on the election of the new committee.

Alice Dobrik, President

BRANCH 785 - MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO

On Sunday, January 13, 2019, the Annual Meeting for Branch 785 will be held at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 5255 Thornwood Dr. Mississauga, Ontario. Discussions on upcoming activities and well as Election of Officers for Branch 785 will take place at this meeting. Lunch will be available at 1:30 p.m. Meeting will follow. Please R.S.V.P. Milan Zoldak (647-350-0604) if you will attend.

The executive would like to extend best wishes to all members for and Very Merry Christmas. We hope to see everyone in the New Year!

Fraternally yours,

Sharon Tomas, Secretary

BRANCH 844 - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Branch 844 will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, December 15, 2018, at the Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. The meeting will start at 11:00 AM with an agenda as follows: officer reports and a financial report; election of officers for 2019; a discussion of possible 2019 activities; and initiating a membership drive with a focus on highlighting benefits of joining the FCSU. All members in our area are encouraged to participate.

Milan Konkol, Secretary

BRANCH 853 - CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853, will hold its Annual Meeting and Christmas Party on Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 11:30am at Speers Street Grill in Belle Vernon, PA.

All members attending will be treated to lunch. Non-branch members cost of the lunch will be \$25. Reservations are required for a seating count. Please leave a message at 412-341-1577 by Dec 13, with your name, phone number, and how many branch, and non-branch members will be attending.

Along with celebrating the birth of Our Lord, we will hold a meeting after lunch.

Election will take place for the branch officers for 2019.

Branch 853 extends to all, wishes for a safe, happy and Holy Christmas Season.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President

BRANCH 855 - PARMA, OHIO

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 855, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 18, 2018. The meeting will be held at 1:30PM at St. Charles Borromeo Church Parish Activity Center [Borromeo Room], 5891 Ridge Road; Parma, Ohio 44129. The agenda includes the election of officers and discussion of activities for 2019. Please contact Linda Kolesar at 440-886-0206 by November 9, 2018, if you plan to attend.

Fraternally,

Linda Kolesar, Secretary-Treasurer

BRANCH 856 - WASHINGTON, DC AND AREA

Branch 856 will hold their semi-annual meeting on Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 1:00 pm at the home of Secretary Marion Mistrik 4513 Gladys Drive Bethesda, MD, 20814. Would like to see more members at our meetings. Discussion on activities for coming year 2019. Again our branch is planning a Mass in September in honor of our Slovak Chapel Our Mother of Sorrows that is in Basilica in Washington, DC. Would like to thank the people from NY and NJ who faithfully have been coming to celebrate this day to our Blessed Mother patroness of Slovakia. Wishing all member of Branch 856 a Very Merry Christmas and a Healthy Happy New Year. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638 or Katherine Nowatkoski 919-651-0363.

Katherine Nowatkoski,
Financial Secretary/Treasurer

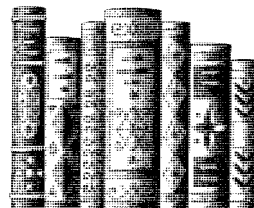
Branch 746's Open Invitation to New Members



Branch 746 extends a warm welcome and special Christmas party invitation to all members in the newly merged branches: Branch 324K, Branch 381K, and Branch 514K.

See Branch 746 Announcement on page 17 for details.

Please join us!



Book Corner

Dissecting American Life

Observations with Scalpel
and Tweezers



Paul Kocak

Dissecting American Life: Observations with Scalpel and Tweezers Paperback –2018

- by Paul Kocak
- Paperback \$5.38
- To order on Amazon, go to:
<http://amzn.to/1TwAn5o>

A companion piece to his earlier book Cones of Uncertainty and Envelopes of Tension, this compilation of essays captures slices of American life today. Originally composed as blog posts, these observations may bring chuckles, chortles, or guffaws, but no LOLs. (Does anyone ever really LOL?)

About the Author

Paul Kocak, a member of Branch 19 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, is the author of several books, including Baseball's Starry Night, acclaimed by Pulitzer Prize author Doris Kearns Goodwin as "a magical book about a magical night." This is his tenth book.

Slovak Filmmaker Debuted The Oath to Audiences in Youngstown



On November 10th, 2018, independent Slovak film-maker, Dušan Hudec presented his latest film, The Oath, at The Fr. Snock Center in Youngstown, OH.

Many of you will remember Mr. Hudec's film, The Final Mission, which he also showed in Youngstown in 2015. That film was about American fliers shot down over Slovakia during WWII. This new film also is about events taking place during WWII but it concerns events in the Pacific theater. The Oath is the story of Michael Strank, a US Marine Corps sergeant who was born in

Slovakia, moving to the U.S. as a three year old child. Sgt. Strank was the leader of the detail that raised the American flag on Mt. Siribachi on Iwo Jima, an event forever immortalized in Joe Rosenthal's photograph.

Mr. Hudec spent close to four years on research for this film, finding the last surviving veterans who knew Strank personally, interviewing his surviving sister in Johnstown, PA, combing the National Archives for material, and producing both a Slovak and English version of his film so that Michael Strank would not be forgotten. This film certainly will make sure of that. If your group is interested in hosting a screening of The Oath (or Final Mission) please contact me: loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com or 330-549-3760

Loretta Ekoniak

loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com

President American Slovak Cultural
Association of the Mahoning Valley
"working to preserve our
Slovak heritage"

Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum Annual Board Meeting includes FCSU Members



Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum board members (L to R) Standing: Joe Radvansky and Anne Mitro, both also members of the FCSU's Branch 785; Helen Bucic, Anne Smith, Luba Henderson, and Mary Sirotnik. Seated: Alena Melas, president.

work and continued commitment to support the museum and keep it functioning so well. It takes a lot of planning to coordinate and plan events as sometimes two events are on the same day in different places and we need volunteers to be at both. It is very interesting and satisfying work if you are interested in history and genealogy. The museum is looking for more help with research, display set-up, exhibit attendants and other committee support positions. The museum executive is also looking for a secretary and three more board positions to fill. If you would like to help in one of these positions or even just a little bit on a committee or have any questions, they can be directed to Alena Melas 416-721-7652 or 289-553-1762 slovakmuseum@gmail.com.

- Submitted by Alena Melas, Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum president

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



Receiving Lifetime Servant Leadership Awards from Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M. (second from right) General Superior of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius; Dr. Richard Sciotti (L) for elder care; Sister Angela Pikus and Margaret Kob (2nd and 3rd from L) for evangelization; Mr. Carl Romanski (R) for education. Brother Michael Gosch, CSV (Not in picture,) for ecumenism,

Sisters of SS Cyril & Methodius Honor Recipients with Servant Leadership Awards Sister Barbara Sable, SS.C.M.

On October 28, 2018, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA awarded the Servant Leadership Award to 35 outstanding high school juniors and seniors from the dioceses of Harrisburg PA, and Bridgeport, CT. The ceremony took place at the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. Over the past 16 years, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius have honored over 1,100 teens in the Dioceses of Bridgeport (CT), Charleston (SC), Chicago (IL), Gary (IN), Harrisburg (PA), Milwaukee (WI), Pittsburgh (PA), St. Louis (MO), Scranton (PA), Syracuse (NY), and Trenton (NJ) with the Servant Leadership Award.

The Servant Leadership Award recognizes distinguished high school juniors and seniors who are joyful witnesses, compassionate proclaimers, and enthusiastic builders of the Kingdom of God. The focus of the award is on teens who remain active in their faith and parish beyond Confirmation, and who actively serve in their parish, school and community. Receiving the award were: John Ayres, Alex Cerminaro, Maura Consedine, Victoria Corado, Frances Czeponis, Samantha Darrup, Patrick Elter, Joseph Alexander Frasca, McKenna Geisel, Gina Gratti, Amy Grosser, Maison Grow, Colin Holcombe, Zachary Honabach, Danielle Hooper, Sarah Ickowitz, Margaret Karpinski, Grace Kearns, Lauren Elizabeth Koppen, Lauren Koranda, Kade Anthony Matter, Sarah Moore, Sophia Mucciolo, Katherine Lucy Negro, Nicholas Anthony Norce, Emily Olszewskie, Mary Elizabeth Richardson, Sarah Rodriguez, Maria Schiano, Thomas Schultz, Anthony Starvaggi, Justin Michael Wilga, Olivia Young, Lilian Alexis Yuschack, and Anthony Zimmerman.

At the ceremony the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius also honored four adults who received the Father Matthew Jankola Lifetime Servant Leadership Award in the ministries of evangelization, education, elder-care and ecumenism.



Student recipients of the 2018 Servant Leadership Award.



Christmas

Craft/Bake Sale

December 1 – 2, 2018

St. John Byzantine Catholic Church
201 E. Main St., Uniontown, PA

Sat. Dec. 1 : 12 Noon-5 PM
Sun. Dec. 2 : 10AM 1 PM

Upstairs School Hall

Crafts Cookbooks Candy
Baked Goods Decorations
Nativity Display Raffles

Sponsored by: St. John Ethnic Craft Club & St. John Social Ministry

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE FREE ADMISSION
For more information: 724-438-6027
(M-F 9AM- 3PM Leave message)





Farnosť a Slovenská komunita sv. Šimona Apoštola
Vás pozýva na

**“SLOVENSKÚ ŠTEDRÚ VEČERU
S VIANOČNÝMI KOLEDAMI”**

V nedeľu 9 decembra 2018
Kostole sv. Šimona - 5135 S. California Avenue

\$25 - Dospelí \$10 - deti od 5-12 rokov

Lístky si musíte zakúpiť v predpredaji na
telefónnom čísle 773/436-1045 Ext. 1

THE SLOVAK COMMUNITY AT ST. SIMON PARISH
IS HOSTING THE TRADITIONAL
“CHRISTMAS EVE SUPPER”
KNOWN AS “ŠTEDRÁ VEČERA” OR “VILIA”



ST. SIMON GYMNASIUM
5135 S. CALIFORNIA AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60632
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018
DOORS OPEN 1:30PM - DINNER SERVED AT
ADULTS \$25 2 CHILDREN 5-12 \$10

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE
BY CALLING THE PARISH OFFICE AT
773-436-1045 EXT. 1
BEFORE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND
NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR!

BRANCH REQUIREMENTS FOR 2018 BRANCH STIPEND

The following are requirements to complete in order to qualify for your branch stipend:

Bylaw Section 4.05 FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

“By the end of March of each year, the Home Office shall pay each local branch \$5.00 per member, per year, not to exceed \$8,000.00, provided the local branch has fulfilled the following requirements:

- (a) Published, announced and conducted two (2) semiannual meetings, one (1) of which shall be an annual meeting held for the election of officers. Meeting attendance (sign in) sheets or copies shall accompany the reports submitted to the Executive Secretary.
- (b) Submitted an annual report to the Executive Secretary on a provided form, by February 15th of the following year.
- (c) Submitted a financial report to the Executive Secretary on a provided form, by February 15th of the following year.
- (d) Hosted, sponsored, promoted, or attended at least one (1) fraternal activity in the past year.
- (e) Produced at least one (1) new contract in the previous calendar year. Branches with two hundred fifty (250) or more members must produce at least two (2) new contracts.
- (f) Provided the Home Office, on a continuing basis, current addresses of members and completed change of beneficiary forms, death reports, and such other documents as required by the Home Office.
- (g) Sent a branch representative to attend at least one (1) district meeting per calendar year. Those in attendance at the district meeting may vote to provide a branch with an excused absence.
 1. Members attending a district meeting shall sign an attendance sheet evidencing their presence at the event. No later than February 15th the District shall notify the Executive Secretary of those branches failing to meet this attendance requirement of article “g” above.
 2. The Executive Secretary shall publish no later than May 1st in the Official Organ those branches failing to meet the requirement of section 4.05.
- (h) Maintained good standing within its district by paying current fiscal year dues and any dues that may be outstanding from previous years.
- (i) The requirements of this Section must be met by the branch to receive payment of any other compensation.

Bylaw Section 14. RULES GOVERNING LOCAL BRANCHES

14.01 General Rules

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

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018 HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 1:00 PM and asked Vice President Andrew Harcar, Sr., to lead the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
 Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
 George F. Matta II, Treasurer

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AUGUST MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the August 2018 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. and seconded by Kenneth A. Arendt to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report by telephone and WebEx to the Board of Directors at the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting held on September 21, 2018. Each member of the Board received a copy of the presentation in advance for his/her review. Following the report, Mr. White answered the Board's questions.

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:

Annuity Rates:
 The President led a review of the current annuity rates which were increased effective August 1, 2018. It was decided the rates remain the same and be reviewed at the next Executive Committee meeting in October. Agent commissions will be reviewed.

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 Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting held on September 21, 2018 and the Executive Committee. Following the report, they answered the Board's questions.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Investment Updates
 The Executive Secretary and Treasurer submitted a written report to the Board of Directors at the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting held on September 21, 2018 and 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 August 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 August:

Disbursements for the month of August 2018:

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 245,156.01
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 36,280.25
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 Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting held on September 21, 2018. 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. Agents now produce over 70% of annuity sales. The Home Office has started an extensive Facebook ad recruiting campaign to recruit agents in the states we are licensed in. Commissions will be reviewed against the competition.

The Executive Committee decided to extend the JEP program's first year free initiative until December 31, 2018.

The Executive Committee is reviewing the current commission rates paid to licensed agents.

We will continue to advertise our new annuity rates on our website, thru emails, and mail to all branch officers.

The Executive Secretary stated that the Executive Committee is looking into offering a 5% post mortem fraternal benefit on all new issued insurance policies. A full report will be given at the Executive

Committee Meeting in October.

CONVENTION:

The Executive Secretary said that he is in the process finalizing the Convention costs. A final report will be emailed to the Board of Directors for their review.

MIDDLETOWN:

The President gave a full report regarding the sale of the property in Middletown to the Board of Directors at the Quarterly Board of Directors meeting on September 21, 2018.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The Executive Secretary stated that the Executive Committee Meeting will be held October 19, 2018.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

Requests for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN:

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

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

Andrew M. Rajec
 President

Kenneth A. Arendt
 Executive Secretary

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

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2018

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

SATURDAY, December 15, 2018 at 9:00 A.M. (telephonically).

The Executive Committee Meeting will be held following the Board of Directors Meeting on Saturday, December 15, 2018.

All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent to the Home Office prior to December 7, 2018.

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

Andrew M. Rajec
 National President

Kenneth A. Arendt
 Executive Secretary

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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Správy zo Slovenska

Štrbské Pleso – Prezidenti krajín Vyšehradskej štvorky po dvojdnovom samite na Štrbskom Plese vyhlásili, že migrantom treba pomáhať v krajinách ich pôvodu. Zároveň v súvislosti s rastúcou xenofóbiou, extrémizmom a nacionalizmom v Európe zdôraznili potrebu obhajovať projekt Európskej únie.

Košice – Neformálne stretnutie lídrov parlamentov krajín Vyšehradskej štvorky sa v piatok večer a v sobotu 13. októbra konalo v Košiciach. Začala sa ním aj parlamentná dimenzia slovenského predsedníctva v zoskupení Slovenska, Česka, Poľska a Maďarska. Podľa predsedu Národnej rady SR Andreja Danka v duchu motto Dynamický Vyšehrad pre Európu je zámerom venovať sa najmä otázkam, ktoré sú spojené s budúcnosťou európskej integrácie, rozširovaním Európskej únie o štáty západného Balkánu, ako aj úlohou národných parlamentov.

Poprad – Najmladším spomedzi 13 kandidátov na post primátora Popradu je 34-ročný manažér Jozef Hrubovčák. Svoj boj v novembrových komunálnych voľbách prirovnáva k súboju Dávida s Goliášom a tvrdí o sebe, že je kandidát ľudu. „Mojím cieľom je zmeniť smerovanie mesta, zlepšiť jeho pozíciu v regióne a dať priestor novým nápadom a víziám v samospráve,“ uviedol Hrubovčák.

Bratislava/Phnom Penh – Detský domov House of Family v Kambodži získal od slovenskej vlády šek v hodnote 20.000 eur. Odovzdal mu ho spolu s darčekom pre deti minister financií SR Peter Kažimír (Smer-SD), ktorý bol na návšteve Kambodžského kráľovstva.

Bratislava – Do Národného onkologického ústavu (NOÚ) pribudol nový CT prístroj najvyššej piatej kategórie. V rámci centrálneho obstarávania ho zabezpečilo Ministerstvo zdravotníctva (MZ) SR za 1,79 milióna eur. K vynovenému CT pracovisku pribudla aj nová prístavba. Zrekonštruované centrum v utorok otvorila ministerka zdravotníctva Andrea Kalavská (nominantka Smeru-SD) spolu s generálnym riaditeľom NOÚ Tomášom Alschermom.

Bratislava – Slovenskí vojaci sa v nadchádzajúcich týždňoch zapoja do najväčšieho vojenského cvičenia NATO. Informovala o tom hovorkyňa Ministerstva obrany (MO) SR Danka Čapáková. Podľa nej ide o najrozsiahlejšie cvičenie Aliancie od konca studenej vojny. Zúčastní sa na ňom do 45.000 vojakov.

Bratislava – Ministerstvo zdravotníctva predložilo do medzirezortného pripomenkového konania návrh realizácie výstavby novej univerzitnej nemocnice, ktorá by mala sídlieť v Martine. Stáť by mala približne 200 miliónov eur. Koncept počítá s tým, že nová univerzitná nemocnica v Martine (nUNM) poskytne pacientom 403 lôžok.

Bratislava – V Bratislave sa stretnú odborníci, ktorí sa zaoberajú výskumom rakoviny. Biomedicínske centrum (BMC) Slovenskej akadémie vied (SAV) organizuje od stredy 17. októbra výročnú konferenciu medzinárodnej spoločnosti pre výskum metabolizmu rakoviny. TASR o tom informoval Boris Urbančík z BMC SAV.

Brusel/Bratislava – Česká a slovenská komunita žijúca v Belgicku si v pondelok večer 29. októbra 2018 v Bruseli pripomenula 100. výročie vzniku Československa. Podujatie s názvom Národy sebe pripravili krajské platformy Inspiration Tcheque a Czech Fun Club.

Bratislava – Návrh ústavného zákona na zastropovanie dôchodkového veku na 64 rokov by mal počítať do budúcnosti aj s vývojom udržateľnosti verejných financií. Po skončení rokovania vlády to naznačil premiér Peter Pellegrini (Smer-SD), podľa ktorého by mohla existovať možnosť, že by vlády mohli v budúcnosti prehodnocovať nastavenie zákona.

Brusel/Bratislava – Európania si cenia členstvo v Európskej únii (EÚ) viac než kedykoľvek predtým. Vyplýva z výsledkov najnovšieho prieskumu Eurobarometra, ktoré boli nedávno zverejnené len niekoľko hodín pred samitom EÚ v Bruseli. Prieskum verejnej mienky Eurobarometer bol uskutočnený v septembri a ukázal jednoznačne rastúcu podporu členstvu v EÚ -rekordných 68 percent. Podľa výsledkov tohto prieskumu Európania viac než kedykoľvek predtým považujú členstvo v EÚ za dobrú vec (62 percent). Ide o najvyššie číslo za posledných 25 rokov. Až 68 percent Európanov si myslí, že ich krajina z členstva v Únii profituje, čo je najvyššia hodnota od roku 1983. V prípade Slovenska prieskum naznačil, že 51 percent jeho občanov považuje členstvo v Únii za dobrú vec a až 77 percent si myslí, že členstvo v EÚ je pre krajinu prínosné.

Bratislava – Do projektu Saspro, ktorý sa skončí v decembri, sa zapojilo 38 vedcov. Podľa slov predsedu Slovenskej akadémie vied (SAV) Pavla Šajgalíka ide o aktuálne najúspešnejší projekt odlivu mozgov, aký momentálne vo výskumnom priestore funguje, uviedol počas tlačovej konferencie v Bratislave. Z celkového počtu zapojených účastníkov projektu je takmer polovica Slovákov, ktorí sa vrátili zo zahraničia robiť vedu späť na Slovensko. Šajgalík podotkol, že vedcov so slovenskými koreňmi bolo 16.

Bratislava – Zoltána A., jedného z obvinených v prípade vraždy Jána Kuciaka a jeho snúbenice Marty Kušnírovej, v stredu priviedli členovia Zboru väzenskej a justičnej stráže (ZVJS) na pojednávanie na Okresný súd (OS) Bratislava V. Obvinený z vraždy čelí tiež obžalobe z trestného činu krátenia dane a poistného vo veľkom rozsahu. V tomto prípade mu hrozí sedem až dvanásť rokov odňatia slobody.

Bratislava – Skutočnosť, že minister zahraničných vecí SR Miroslav Lajčák (nom. Smeru-SD) sa v kuloároch spomína ako nový generálny tajomník Rady Európy, je výrazom ocenenia jeho aktivít na poli zahraničnej politiky a je to skvelá vizitka pre Slovensko. Uviedol to hovorca rezortu Boris Gandel. O takýchto kuloárnych informáciách referoval na sociálnej sieti prezident SR Andrej Kiska, ktorý sa stretol so súčasným šéfom Rady Európy Thorbjörnorn Jaglandom. Jeho mandát sa končí na budúci rok.

Bratislava – Pri príležitosti 100. výročia vzniku Československa a zároveň 25 rokov od nadviazania diplomatických vzťahov medzi Slovenskom a Bulharskom darovalo bulharské veľvyslanectvo Slovensku 100 kusov damascenských a ďalších dekoratívnych ruží z bulharského Údolia ruží v oblasti medzi mestami Kazanlak, Karlovo a Strelcha. Vysadili ich v pondelok 29. októbra v záhrade Prezidentského paláca v Bratislave. „Týmto ružami vyjadrujeme vrúcny vzťah, ktorý majú Bulhari voči Slovákom,“ povedala bulharská veľvyslankyňa na Slovensku Jordanka Chobanova.

Washington – Sté výročie vzniku Československa si rôznymi podujatiami pripomenuli aj Slováci v Spojených štátoch amerických. Krajania v meste Pittsburgh, ktoré zohralo významnú úlohu pri zakladaní Československa, zasadili pri tejto príležitosti Strom slobody a demokracie. Lipu stříbristú zasadili na kopci Flagstaff Hill v populárnom parku Schenley s výhľadom na mesto a má pripomínať vznik nezávislého a demokratického štátu.

Výber zo slovenskej tlače

Vo Vatikáne uviedli publikáciu o Slovensku a pápežskej diplomacii 1945-1965

O ťažkej dobe pre Cirkev na Slovensku po nástupe komunistizmu, kedy sa zaskvela aj mučenícka osobnosť spišského biskupa Božieho služobníka Jána Vojtáššaka, sa hovorilo 7. novembra vo Vatikáne pri prezentácii publikácie „Umlčiavaná Cirkev a pápežská diplomacia v období 1945-1965“.

Publikácia s talianskym titulom „Chiesa del Silenzio e diplomazia pontificia 1945-1965“ prináša príspevky z rovnomennej odbornej konferencie historikov konanej v roku 2016 v Benátkach. Prezentáciu 7. novembra na pôde Pápežskej univerzity Urbaniana otvorili spišský biskup Mons. Štefan Sečka a vedúci Fakulty kánonického práva sv. Pia X. v Benátkach prof. Giuliano Brugnotto.

Programu moderoval predseda Pápežského výboru pre historické vedy prof. Bernard Ardura OPræm. S príspevkami vystúpili emeritný prefekt Kongregácie pre evanjelizáciu národov kard. Jozef Tomko a dvaja historici, prof. Gianpaolo Romanato z Univerzity v Padova a HEDr. Luboslav Hromják z Katolíckej univerzity v Ružomberku.

Nad podujatím organizovaným v spolupráci Pápežského kolégia Nepomucenum a Pápežského slovenského kolégia sv. Cyrila a Metoda prevzali záštitu veľvyslanci Slovenskej republiky a Českej republiky pri Svätej stolici.



TK KBS, RV

PREČO MÁM RÁD SLOVENČINU, PREČO MÁM RÁD SLOVENSKO

Ministerstvo školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu Slovenskej republiky, Ministerstvo kultúry Slovenskej republiky, Štátny pedagogický ústav, Vydavateľstvo SPN – Mladé letá, Matica slovenská, Vydavateľstvo Matice slovenskej, Spolok slovenských spisovateľov, Jazykovedný ústav Ľudovíta Štúra Slovenskej akadémie vied a Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí

vyhlasujú 27. ročník celoslovenskej literárnej súťaže s medzinárodnou účasťou

PREČO MÁM RÁD SLOVENČINU, PREČO MÁM RÁD SLOVENSKO.

Cieľom súťaže je rozvíjať systematický a hlbší záujem žiakov o slovenčinu, jej ťubozvučnosť a výrazovú bohatosť, o významné udalosti zo života Slovákov, o významných dejateľov slovenského národa, o kultúrne tradície a súčasné dianie formou slohových prác, pokusov o umelecké vyjadrenie myšlienok v podobe prozaických žánrov a básní. Tento ročník sa bude niesť v znamení 175. výročia založenia spolku Tatrin v Lipovskom Mikulášu, 150. výročia založenia slovenského gymnázia v Kláštore pod Znievom a 100. výročia založenia Univerzity Jána Amosa Komenského v Bratislave. V roku 2019 si pripomenieme výročia významných slovenských osobností: 190. výročie narodenia Jána Botta, 170. výročie narodenia Pavla Országha-Hviezdoslava, 110. výročie narodenia Margity Figuli, 110. výročie úmrtia Samuela Cambela, 100. výročie úmrtia Milana Rastislava Štefánika, 100. výročie narodenia Vojtecha Zamarovského, 100. výročie narodenia a 25. výročie úmrtia Ladislava Mňačka, 100. výročie narodenia a 15. výročie úmrtia Márie Ďuričkovej, 80. výročie úmrtia Eleny Maróthy-Šoltésovej, 55. výročie úmrtia Márie Rázusovej-Martákovej, ako aj 90. výročie narodenia dolnozemskeho slovenského spisovateľa Pavla Mučajho, riaditeľa a profesora slovenského gymnázia v Báčskom Petrovci, a 70. výročie narodenia Ondreja Štefánika, významnej osobnosti slovenského literárneho a kultúrneho života Slovákov v Rumunsku.

Do súťaže sa môžu zapojiť žiaci všetkých typov a druhov základných a stredných škôl na území Slovenskej republiky a všetkých typov a druhov základných a stredných škôl, vzdelávacích centier a víkendových škôl a organizácií Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí.

Súťažné práce sa budú posudzovať v štyroch kategóriách:

- v1. kategórii práce žiakov 1. stupňa základných škôl,
- v2. kategórii práce žiakov 2. stupňa základných škôl a žiakov 1. až 4. ročníka osemročných gymnázií,
- v3. kategórii práce žiakov stredných škôl,
- v4. kategórii práce žiakov zo zahraničia.

Posudzované budú len originálne práce autorského charakteru.

Do celoslovenského kola postúpi maximálne päť súťažných prác v každej kategórii z jednej školy napísaných v slovenskom jazyku. Každá súťažná práca musí byť vyhotovená v štyroch exemplároch. V záhlaví každého exemplára súťažnej práce musia byť nevyhnutne tieto identifikačné údaje: meno a priezvisko žiaka, vek, trieda, súťažná kategória, názov súťažnej práce, meno a priezvisko učiteľa, mejlová adresa učiteľa, presný názov a adresa školy, mejlová adresa školy a ostatné údaje v súlade s prihláškou do súťaže (uvedené v texte záhlavia). Školy a ostatní prihlasovatelia zodpovedajú za to, že zaslané práce sú prácami súťažiacich žiakov, neboli už posudzované v tejto súťaži a v iných súťažiach, ako aj za dodržanie všetkých súťažných podmienok. Pri nedodržaní súťažných podmienok sa práce nezaradia do celoslovenského kola súťaže.

Organizačný poriadok súťaže a text záhlavia (prihláška do súťaže) sú uverejnené na internetovej stránke Štátneho pedagogického ústavu www.statpedu.sk (v sekcii súťaže, Prečo mám rád slovenčinu, prečo mám rád Slovensko) a na internetovej stránke Ministerstva kultúry Slovenskej republiky www.culture.gov.sk (v sekcii pôsobnosť ministerstva, v kapitole štátny jazyk, v časti súťaž Prečo mám rád slovenčinu).

Slovenskí krajanovia chcú, aby sa mladá generácia zaujímala o svoje korene

Zástupcovia slovenských krajanov z Rumunska, Srbska, Írska, Spojených štátov amerických, Sýrie a mnohých ďalších krajín prišli v piatok 26. októbra do Bratislavy, kde sa konala konferencia s názvom Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí 2018. Každé dva roky ju organizuje Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚSZZ), zúčastňuje sa jej viac ako 80 zástupcov spolkov, organizácií a inštitúcií zahraničných Slovákov a tiež osobností z 20 štátov.

Účastníkov konferencie privítal svojím príhovorom predseda ÚSZS Ján Varšo, ako aj predseda Svetového združenia Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí Vladimír Skalský. Témou stretnutia boli Generačné výzvy pri posilňovaní národného povedomia Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. Podľa Skalského takáto výzva znamená zabezpečiť výmenu generácií, teda pokračovanie krajanových snáh.

„Musíme nájsť témy a formy, ktoré mladú generáciu ku krajanovému životu pritiahnu, vytvoriť podmienky pre jej vlastnú iniciatívu, napríklad v oblasti vzdelávania detí či v kultúre,“ priblížil Skalský. Pripomenul tiež, že práve vznik Československa pred sto rokmi bol generačnou výzvou, v ktorej slovenskí krajanovia podľa neho mimoriadne obstáli. „Obstáli tí v Amerike pri podpise Clevelandskej a Pittsburskej dohody i pri lobovaní v prospech Washingtonskej deklarácie. Ale nielen tak. Krajanom bol vlastne i Milan Rastislav Štefánik, ktorý svoje výnimočné dielo vykonal v zahraničí,“ pripomenul Skalský.

V úvode konferencie si 20 osobností prevzalo Pamätnú medailu ÚSZZ. Ocenení podľa úradu významne prispeli k upevňovaniu národného povedomia, rozvíjaniu spolkového krajanového života, podpore slovenskej vzdelanosti a kultúrnej identity Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. Pamätnú medailu získal napríklad Ivan Miroslav Ambruš, rodák z rumunského Nedlaku, ktorý vedie Kultúrnu a vedeckú spoločnosť Ivana Kraska. Spoločnosť sa venuje rozvoju a propagácii slovenskej literatúry tvorenej v slovenskom zahraničnom svete.

Počas konferencie sa konala aj fotografická výstava Slovenský svet, na ktorej sa predstaví 109 fotografií. ÚSZZ verí, že tento ročník prinesie nový impulz v komunikácii so Slovákami žijúcimi predstavilo zahraničí. Účastníkov v piatok večer prijal aj slovenský šéf diplomacie Miroslav Lajčák, ktorý nad podujatím prevzal záštitu.

TASR

Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

Ročná schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ

Oznamujeme našim členom, že ročná schôdza sv. Matúša číslo 45 IKSJ v New Yorku bude v **nedeľu 2. decembra 2018** o 12:00 hodine (po slovenskej svätej omši) v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 1st Avenue a 66th Street. Na programe budú podané správy úradníkov, finančné správy, zhodnotenie činnosti za uplynulé obdobie potom budú nasledovať voľby do nového výboru, ktorý vypracuje program činnosti na ďalšie obdobie. Úctivo Vás žiadame, o účasť na tejto výročnej členskej schôdzi.

Mária Jurášiová – pokladníčka

Členská schôdza spolku sv.

Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New York City

Oznamujeme členom nášho spolku, že sa uskutoční schôdza sv. Matúša č. 45 IKSJ v New Yorku po slovenskej svätej omši v **nedeľu 20. januára, 2019** o 12:00 hodine v osadnej hale slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na Prvej Avenue a 66-tej ulici. Láskaovo žiadame našich členov o aktívnu účasť na tejto schôdzi.

Mária Jurášiová – pokladníčka

Slovenský ples v Royal Manor, Garfield, NJ

Slovensko - Americké Kultúrne Stredisko oznamuje verejnosti, aby si zaznamenali v kalendári konanie "Slovenského plesu", ktorý sa uskutoční v **sobotu, 23. februára, 2019**. Organizátori pripravujú zaujímavý program a bohatú tombolu. Bližšie informácie na adrese: slovakamericanc.org; Vstupenky na tel. číslo Zuzka: 973-357-1209; Tanya: 908-377-2446.

Sabina Sabados, predsedníčka

Výročná schôdza okresu Princ Pribina, Los Angeles, Kalifornia

Okres Princ Pribina bude mať výročnú schôdzu v **sobotu 15-teho decembra 2018**. Výročná schôdza začne o 11:00 hod. v Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. Na programe sú správy funkcionárov a finančná správa, voľba funkcionárov na rok 2019 a plán aktivít na rok 2019. Členovia všetkých spolkov v okolí sú pozvaní a doporučuje sa základným organizáciám v Okrese IKSJ vykonať súčasne výročné voľby.

Paul Skuben, predseda

Výročná schôdza Spolku číslo 844 IKSJ, Los Angeles Kalifornia

Spolok číslo 844 IKSJ v Los Angeles, Kalifornia usporiada výročnú schôdzu v **sobotu 15. decembra 2018** v Slovensko-americkom centre 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. Schôdza sa začne o 11:00 hod. Na programe sú: správy úradníkov a finančná správa, voľba funkcionárov na rok 2019 a plánovanie aktivít na rok 2019. Vyzývame všetkých členov v našom okrese, aby sa zúčastnili tejto schôdze.

Milan Konkol, tajomník

Jankolova knižnica ponúka tradičné Vianočné oplátky

Tradičné slovenské vianočné oplátky sú opäť k dispozícii túto sviatočnú sezónu od Sestier SS. Cyrila a Metoda v Jankolovej knižnici a Slovenské múzeum v Danville, Pa. Objednávky prijímajú od 22. októbra do 14. decembra 2018. Oplátky stoja \$5,00 za balík. Okrem toho, za manipuláciu a poštovné je \$7,50. Ďalšie informácie sú k dispozícii v Jankolovej knižnici alebo u Sestry Catherine Laboure Bresnock, SS.C.M., riaditeľka tel. 570 275-5606 alebo napíšte do Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.

Sestra Catherine Laboure Bresnock, SS.C.M.

V Turčianskom Sv. Martine pred 100 rokmi prijali Deklaráciu slovenského národa

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

31. 10. 1918, č. 128B., str. 1, publikovala Slovenská národná knižnica (SNK) na svojom webe.

Účastníci deklaračného zhromaždenia pred 100 rokmi prijali Deklaráciu slovenského národa nezávisle od udalostí z 28. októbra 1918, keď v Prahe bola vyhlásená Československá republika (ČSR), o čom poprední verejní činitelia na Slovensku vtedy nemali informácie.

V Turčianskom Svätom Martine sa vyše 200 zástupcov z takmer všetkých oblastí Slovenska zhromažďilo, aby spoločne uvažovali o niektorých hľadiskách pripravovanej deklarácie, najmä o stupni jednoznačnosti prihlásenia sa k československému štátu. Na slávnostnom zasadnutí katolícky kňaz, politik a popredný predstaviteľ slovenského národného hnutia Andrej Hlinka vyzval slovenský národ na jednotu a svornosť. Účastníci stretnutia prijali návrh deklarácie, ktorú vypracoval evanjelický kňaz, verejný činiteľ, politik a náboženský spisovateľ Samuel Zoch. Popoludní pokračovalo zhromaždenie vo svojom zasadaní v obchodnej sále Tatrabanky, na ktorom sa opäť zišlo takmer 200 ľudí. Najskôr sa na návrh Matúša Dulu dotvorila Slovenská národná rada, do ktorej zhromaždenie zvolilo 25 členov na čele s 12-členným výkonným výborom.

V jej mene prijalo zhromaždenie Deklaráciu slovenského národa, ktorej návrh predniesol Zoch. V deklarácii sa odmietlo právo uhorskej vlády konať v mene slovenského národa. Vyhlásila Slovenskú národnú radu za jeho jediného oprávneného zástupcu hovoriť a konať v jeho mene a žiadala preň právo na sebaurčenie na základe úplnej nezávislosti, ako aj uzatvorenie okamžitého mieru. Celý obsah Martinskej deklarácie vyjadroval myšlienku spoločného štátu Slovákov a Čechov. Oficiálne sa v nej zrušil zväzok Slovenska s Uhorskom, utváral a potvrdzoval sa nový zväzok s českým národom. Stala sa jedným z základných dokumentov zrodu česko-slovenského štátu a prispela k jeho konštituovaniu.

Vo večerných hodinách sa členovia výkonného výboru dozvedeli, že Rakúsko-Uhorsko kapitulovalo a v Prahe vyhlásili Československú republiku. Nové fakty sa odzrkadlili v zmenách v pôvodnom texte Martinskej deklarácie, najmä v tom, že rakúsko-uhorský minister zahraničných vecí Július Andráši (Gyula Andrássy) uznal požiadavky prezidenta Spojených štátov amerických Thomasa Woodrowa Wilsona. V súvislosti s týmito doplnovacími aktmi sa hovorilo o tzv. tajnej klauzule Martinskej deklarácie.

Slovenská národná knižnica (SNK) pri príležitosti 100. výročia Martinskej deklarácie priniesla aj ďalšie informácie o nej v materiáloch pod názvom Pocta Martinskej deklarácie.

SNK informovala aj o tom, že Martinská deklarácia má webovú stránku. Na nej je komplexný prehľad všetkých podujatí, ktoré so 100. výročím Martinskej deklarácie a vznikom Československa súvisia.

TASR

Krajanovia v Pittsburghu zasadili Strom slobody a demokracie

Sté výročie vzniku Československa si rôznymi podujatiami pripomenuli aj Slováci v Spojených štátoch amerických. Krajanovia v meste Pittsburgh, ktoré zohralo významnú úlohu pri zakladaní Československa, zasadili pri tejto príležitosti Strom slobody a demokracie.

Lipu striebřistú zasadili na kopci Flagstaff Hill v populárnom parku Schenley s výhľadom na mesto a má pripomínať vznik nezávislého a demokratického štátu.

Práve v Pittsburghu podpísali 30. mája 1918 zástupcovia Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Českého národného združenia a Zväzu českých katolíkov s budúcim československým prezidentom Tomášom Garrigueom Masarykom Pittsburskú dohodu, dokument o súhlase s politickým programom spojenia Čechov a Slovákov v spoločnom štáte.

Na podujatí sa zúčastnili desiatky krajanov, ktorým sa prihovoriť honorárny konzul SR Joe Senko a honorárna konzulka ČR Carol Hochmanová. Žiaci českej a slovenskej školy v Pittsburghu zaspievali českú a slovenskú hymnu a ich učiteľka Jitka Benediková napiekla pre prítomných perníčky v tvare lipového listu.

Podobné podujatie zorganizovali aj krajanovia v Chicagu, ktorí zasadili lipu pri pamätníku T.G. Masaryka v parku Midway Plaisance pri Chicagskej univerzite. Lipa podľa nich pripomína nielen založenie nezávislého štátu, ale aj úzke vzťahy Masaryka s Chicagskou univerzitou a pretrvávajúce dobré vzťahy medzi českou a slovenskou komunitou v Chicagu a jej domovskými krajinami.

Vo Washingtone si výročie pripomenulo Veľvyslanectvo SR v USA položením venca k soche prvého československého prezidenta. Na podujatí sa zúčastnil veľvyslanec Ivan Korčok i bývalí veľvyslanci Spojených štátov na Slovensku Theodore Russell a Theodore Sedgwick.

Korčok pri tejto príležitosti uviedol, že vznik Československa je udalosťou, ktorú si treba pripomínať okrem iného aj preto, že Slováci a Česi mohli v októbri 1918 po prvý raz prevziať zodpovednosť za vlastný osud. Pripomenul tiež úlohu Slovákov v USA pri zakladaní Československa i podporu Spojených štátov.

„Som hrdý na to, že dnes reprezentujem Slovensko v krajine, v ktorej naši krajanovia viedli politický boj za našu slobodu, v ktorej Milan Rastislav Štefánik regrutoval dobrovoľníkov do Československých légii a ktorej prezident (Thomas) Woodrow Wilson sa stal jedným z najvplyvnejších obhajcov slobodného a nezávislého Československa,“ povedal Korčok.

Dodal, že nesmieme zabúdať na to, že založeniu Československa predchádzali roky úsilia oddaných ľudí, ľudí s odvahou, zručnosťami a víziou – lídrov, ktorí odmietali útlak a bojovali za ideály modernej demokracie, ktorá ani v súčasnosti nie je samozrejmosťou a musí byť naďalej chránená a rozvíjaná.

TASR

Slávnostné sadenie „Stromu slobody 2018“ v New Yorku

Pri príležitosti stého výročia vzniku Československa sa Generálny konzulát Slovenskej republiky zúčastnil 25. októbra 2018 na sadení „Stromu slobody 2018“ v Stuyvesant Square parku v New Yorku. Tradícia výsadby lipových stromov mala osobitný význam v roku 1918, kedy boli zasadené tisíce líp na pri príležitosti zrodu Československa. Sadenie lipy sa uskutočnilo v spolupráci s organizáciami Bohemian Benevolent & Literary Association, Friends of Czech Greenways NYC, Stuyvesant Park Neighborhood Association, Inc., NYC Department of Parks a Generálnym konzulátom Českej republiky v New Yorku.



MZV SR

Tradičný klobásový festival v Dúbravke

Na tohtoročnom festivale mali možnosť návštevníci vidieť, ako sa robila tradičná starodúbravská, dolnozemska, teda čabianska či petrovecká, ale aj záhorácka či liptovská klobása,“ uviedol organizátor podujatia Lubo Navrátil, správca Dúbravského múzea.

V súťaži sa predstavilo desať družstiev. „Okrem domácich Dúbravčanov boli medzi súťažiacimi zastúpené aj mestské časti Lamač, Petržalka, Devínska Nová Ves a Nové Mesto,“ informoval Navrátil. O výsledku rozhodovala sedemčlenná porota. Návštevníci podujatia mohli ochutnať nielen samotné klobásy, ale aj klobásové hamburgery či starodúbravskú zabijačkovú kapustnicu. Novinkou bola súťaž v rýchlostnej konzumácii klobásy. Podujatie je súčasťou interaktívneho programu Dúbravského múzea, počas festivalu bola pre návštevníkov sprístupnená jeho expozícia.

TASR



Tradičný klobásový festival, na ktorom súťažili trojčlenné družstvá o najlepšiu klobásu, sa uskutočnil v priestoroch Dúbravského múzea v Bratislavskej Dúbravke v utorok 30. októbra 2018.

Nový stodukát je venovaný storočnici ČSR a Milanovi R. Štefánikovi

V rámci lokálneho platidla košický dukát pribudol 29. októbra do obehu strieborný stodukát. Symbolicky pripomína 100. výročie vzniku Československej republiky. V projekte alternatívneho platidla, ktorý v roku 2015 spustilo združenie Košický dukát na výmenu tovarov a služieb, ide už o šiestu mincu rôznej nominálnej hodnoty.

Autorom návrhu stodukátu je medailér Branislav Rónai. Na averze mince je mapa Československa v pôvodných hraniciach so symbolom republiky a košickým dómom, na reverze portrét Milana Rastislava Štefánika spolu s jeho sochou, ktorá v minulosti stála v centre Košíc. Na hrane mince je Štefánikovo motto: „Pravde veriť, pravdu žiť a pravdu brániť.“ Nápis na hrane je unikátom v medailérskej tvorbe na Slovensku.

Vyrazených bolo 200 číslovaných kusov mincí v proof verzii. „Košický stodukát v čistom striebre vydávame pri príležitosti 100. výročia vzniku Československej republiky. Na averznej strane je zobrazené Československo v podobe, ako vzniklo v roku 1918, a na reverznej strane je generál Milan Rastislav Štefánik. Okrem toho, že bol zakladateľom Československej republiky, v minulosti sa na námestí v Košiciach nachádzala jeho socha, ktorá sa, bohužiaľ, stratila. My sme si dovolili aspoň takouto formou si ho uctiť,“ povedal Vladimír Gürtler, predseda združenia Košický dukát na výmenu tovarov a služieb. Stodukáty vyrábajú v Mincovni Kremnica, každý má hmotnosť 31,1 gramu a priemer 40 milimetrov.

Košické dukáty už vyšli v nominálnych hodnotách jeden, dva, päť, desať, 50 a 100. Alternatívna mena s kurzom 1:1 voči euru pri platbách má podporiť rozvoj lokálnej ekonomiky. Počet prevádzok a poskytovateľov služieb, ktoré s ňou fungujú, je podľa Gürtlera naďalej zhruba 30 až 35. Ich zoznam je na webstránke www.kosickydukát.sk. Mince poskytuje združenie svojim členom, možné je ich získať aj cez internet alebo Mestské informačné centrum v Košiciach.



Na snímke predseda OZ Košický dukát Vladimír Gürtler.

FOTO TASR – František Iván

On October 29, 2018, 100 silver dukat coins were issued in Kosice to commemorate the centennial of the Czechoslovak Republic.

Minister P. Gajdoš rokoval s Prahe s americkým rezortným kolegom

Modernizačné projekty, plnenie záväzkov voči NATO či zvyšovanie výdavkov na obranu boli témou rokovania ministra obrany SR Petra Gajdoša (SNS) s americkým ministrom obrany Jamesom Mattisom v Prahe 28. októbra 2018. V českej metropole sa stretli pri príležitosti 100. výročia vzniku Československej republiky. TASR informovala hovorkyňa ministerstva obrany Danka Capáková.

„Spojené štáty americké sú našim strategickým partnerom a rozhodnutie modernizovať našu taktickú bojovú letku práve americkými stíhacími lietadlami F-16 vzájomné vzťahy ešte posilnilo. V súčasnosti pokračujeme v rokovaní o konečnej podobe zmluvy,“ poznamenal Gajdoš. Amerického rezortného partnera zároveň informoval o ďalšej modernizácii v zmysle dlhodobého plánu rozvoja obrany do roku 2030, s dôrazom na 3D radary a obstaranie novej pozemnej techniky.

Americký minister obrany sa zaujímal o stav pripravovaného kontraktu na nákup stíhacích lietadiel. Potvrdil, že Spojené štáty sú v zmysle zmluvy pripravené na zabezpečenie výcviku pilotov a príslušného technického pozemného personálu. Ocenil tiež zvyšovanie výdavkov na obranu, ktoré bude v budúcom roku vo výške 1,73 percenta HDP, čo predstavuje medziročný nárast o viac ako 500.000 eur. „Ste dôkazom toho, že aj malá krajina môže priniesť veľké správy,“ povedal Mattis.

Témou spoločného stretnutia bolo aj 100. výročie vzniku spoločného štátu Čechov a Slovákov.

TASR

Krajanský „Život“ – 60. ročný

Centrum slovenskej kultúry v Novej Belej v Poľsku sa počas tretieho októbrového víkend stalo doslovným „centrom“ slovenského diania Horného Spiša a Oravy. Krajanské periodikum Život dovŕšilo 60. výročie od svojho prvého vydania. Šéfredaktorka časopisu Agáta Jędrzejczyková v spolupráci so Spolkom Slovákov v Poľsku pripravili výnimočné podujatie, v ktorom sa do zážitkového celku snúbila umelecká, kultúrna i vedecká zložka.

„Život je kultúrno-spoločenským časopisom, venovaným otázkam slovenskej národnostnej menšiny žijúcej v Poľsku, najmä na územiach Spiša a Oravy, kde žijú autochtónni Slováci. Môžeme smelo povedať, že mesačník je svojráznym svedkom doby, ktorú odráža na svojich stránkach. Práve

15. júna toho roku uplynulo 60 rokov od vydania prvého čísla spomínaného kultúrno-spoločenského časopisu, venovaného problematike slovenskej národnostnej menšiny žijúcej v Poľsku. Prvý výtlačok nášho časopisu vzbudil v krajanoch nesmiernu radosť a nádej, že konečne majú svoj vytúžený tlačový orgán v materinskom jazyku a prostredníctvom neho sa budú riešiť aj páčivé otázky slovenskej národnostnej menšiny a na jeho stránkach budú môcť vyjadrovať svoje názory. Krajania boli od začiatku odhodlaní urobiť všetko preto, aby si svoj časopis udržali. Výsoké počty odberateľov v jednotlivých obciach znamenali, že si krajania Život od začiatku veľmi obľúbili a mali záujem o jeho udržanie. Výbory miestnych skupín Spolku si zobrali na zodpovednosť zabezpečovanie predplatného a udržanie stáleho počtu odberateľov. Ich členovia chodili po domoch a zbierali predplatné na celý rok. Neobišli v obci nikoho, takže vďaka nim časopis odoberala skoro každá rodina na Orave a Spiši. Predplácali si ho nielen slovenské, ale aj poľské rodiny. Mnohí objednávali tento časopis aj pre svojich príbuzných do iných oblastí Poľska i zahraničia – na Slovensko, do Čiech, Nemecka, USA a Kanady,“ hovorí jeho šéfredaktorka.

Podujatie začalo medzinárodným vedeckým seminárom *Mediálne dimenzie slovenského života v zahraničí*. Konferenciu pozdravil veľvyslanec SR v Poľsku Dušan Krištofik, generálny konzul SR v Krakove Tomáš Kašaj, riaditeľ Slovenského inštitútu Adrián Kromka, predseda SSP Jozef Čongva a šéfredaktorka periodika Agáta Jędrzejczyková. Počas dvoch blokov (Život s krajanmi – krajania so Životom a Krajanské médiá v Európe) odzneli takmer dve desiatky príspevkov venujúcich sa krajanskému periodiku Život a krajanským periodikám v Európe. Do konferencie odborne prispeli pracovníci univerzít, šéfredaktori periodík zo Srbska, Švédska, Česka i Rakúska, dnešný i minulý spolupracovníci Života, členovia redakčných rád a osobnosti prepojené s krajanským dňom v Poľsku. Za Maticu slovenskú bol pripravený príspevok na tému krajanskej problematiky v mediálnom svete Maticy slovenskej.

Po ukončení konferencie vo výstavných priestoroch centra sa otvorili dve výstavy: výstava *Život s krajanmi, krajania so Životom* zrkadlila 60. ročnú históriu periodika; druhá výstava – *Obálka časopisu Život v slávnostnom šate* prezentovala výtvarné práce žiakov. Riaditeľ Slovenského vydavateľského centra v Báčskom Petrovci Vladimír Valentík pripravil prezentáciu Slovenského svetového kalendára, ktorý mapuje činnosť krajanov celého sveta.

V nedeľu krajania usporiadali slovenskú omšu v tamojšom kostole sv. Kataríny a pripravili slávnostnú akadémiu. Špecifikom je, že krajanské periodikum Život si do Novej Belej prichádzajú prebrať dobrovoľníci – doručovatelia, ktorí periodikum osobne roznášajú do krajanských rodín. Dnes Život vychádza v náklade 2100 kusov.

Bodkou za podujatím bola slávnostná akadémia, počas ktorej Matica slovenská udelila Životu Cenu MS – bronzovú medailu za jeho nepretržité vydávanie a za mimoriadny prínos v oblasti udržiavania a podporovania slovenského jazyka a prezentáciu slovenskej kultúry medzi Slováckmi žijúcimi v zahraničí. Zároveň redakcia ocenila aj Maticu slovenskú ďakovným listom za dlhoročnú aktívnu spoluprácu, ústretovosť, priazeň a podporu pri naplňaní poslania redakcie Život.

Zuzana Pavelcová

Krypta pod katedrálou je unikát, patrí k najväčším na Slovensku

Keď pred pár týždňami uložili do krypty v Katedrálnom chráme sv. Jána Krstiteľa pozostatky zosnulého biskupa Dominika Kaľatu, išlo od roku 1989 iba tretí pohreb v týchto historických podzemných priestoroch. V čase totality sa do krypty nepochovávalo, bola terčom ničenia, zo susediacich kasární sa do nej prebúrali vojaci. No v uplynulých storočiach išlo o prestížne miesto posledného odpočinku výnimočných osobností.

„V katedrálach chrámoch na celom svete sú v súčasnosti väčšinou pochovávaní iba diecézni či emeritní biskupi. Výplývajú to z predpisov Kódexu kánonického práva,“ povedal pre TASR hovorca Arcibiskupského úradu v Trnave Dušan Kolenčík. Aj na Slovensku sa preto pohreby do chrámových krypt uskutočňujú len v prípade biskupov.

Krypta v Katedrále sv. Jána Krstiteľa v Trnave patrí k najväčším podzemným priestorom sepulkárneho (náhrobného) charakteru na Slovensku. Podľa historičky Zuzany Dzurňákovej z Trnavskej univerzity, ktorá sa dlhodobo venuje pôsobeniu jezuitskej rehole v univerzitnom prostredí v 17. storočí v Trnave, zaberá celý priestor pod svätyňou a hlavnou loďou kostola. „Ak zoberieme do úvahy rozmery chrámu – dĺžku 61 metrov, šírku 28,1 metra a šírku svätyne 14,8 metra, tak je možné túto hrobku právom považovať za unikát, a to nielen z hľadiska jej veľkosti, ale i významu,“ konštatovala Dzurňáková.

Vstup do krypty je situovaný uprostred svätyne v jej prednej časti. Pôvodne bola v podlahe osadená kamenná doska, datovaná rokom 1700 a mala pripomínať rod Esterházy, ktorého predstaviteľ, palatín Mikuláš Esterházy, mal najväčšie zásluhy na výstavbe kostola ako súčasť Trnavskej univerzity (v roku 1637). Následne v nej boli v priestore pod svätyňou pochovávaní

členovia toho významného uhorského šľachtického rodu. „V roku 1641 pochovali do krypty s neobyčajným prepychom palatinovu manželku Kristínu Náriovú. Dobové správy popisujú, že steny kostola boli potiahnuté čiernym súknom, v interiéri kostola stál impozantný katafalk, okolo ktorého horelo vo dne i v noci 1100 pozlátených a umelecky prevedených lampášov. V septembri 1645 zomrel aj sám zakladateľ a donátor chrámu Mikuláš Esterházy a s rovnako veľkou pompou uložili jeho telesné pozostatky do krypty,“ informovala Dzurňáková. Následne tu našli miesto svojho odpočinku aj štyria synovia palatína Mikuláša – Ladislav, František, Gašpar a Tomáš, ktorí padli v bitke s Turkami 26. augusta 1652 pri Vozokanoch, a ďalší členovia rodiny.

Zaujímavosťou podľa Dzurňákovej je, že jezuiti prisľúbili pochovávanie príslušníkov tohto rodu až po štvrtú generáciu za obety, ktoré priniesol pri výstavbe chrámu. Okrem nich sa tam nachádzajú aj hroby členov rádu. Najviac vo verejnosti známym spomedzi pochovaných je podľa Kolenčíka kňaz, misionár a mučeník Ján Simonides, ktorý bol pre svoje presvedčenie zavraždený v roku 1674. V rokoch 2006 a 2008 pochovali do podzemia biskupov Umlčanej cirkvi Pavla Mária Hnilicu a Petra Dubovského.

Kolenčík uviedol, že keďže sa v krypte aj do budúcnosti počíta s pochovávaním, Trnavská arcidiecéza chce kryptu postupne opraviť. „Podobne, ako sa to už udialo s interiérom i exteriérom katedrály, samozrejme, ako to naše finančné prostriedky dovoľia,“ dodal hovorca arcidiecézy. Krypta býva pre verejnosť sprístupnená pri zvláštnych príležitostiach.

TASR



Radostné a požehnané sviatky Vďakvyzdaní



želajú všetkým našim členom
hlavní úradníci a členovia Zboru riaditeľov IKSJ

Kiska si v Bratislave a Prahe pripomenul 100. výročie Československa

Ako povedal, Milan Rastislav Štefánik patril právom spolu s Tomášom Garriguom Masarykom a Edvardom Banešom k zakladateľom Československa. „Bez osoby Milana Rastislava Štefánika by Československo ako také určite nevzniklo. Jeho podiel na vzniku Československa je obrovský. To, že zorganizoval Československé légie, ako keby prvú československú armádu, dalo obrovskú legitimitu všetkým rokovaniam, ktoré potom nasledovali.“

Následne sa prezident Kiska presunul do Českej republiky, kde položil spoločne s českým prezidentom Milošom Zemanom veniec k Národnému pamätníku na Vítkove. Veniec položil aj k hrobu prvého československého prezidenta Tomáša G. Masaryka v Lánoch.

Prezident Kiska sa zúčastnil aj na slávnostnom udeľovaní štátnych vyznamenaní Českej republiky na Pražskom hrade a príhovorom pri príležitosti stého výročia na následnej slávnostnej recepcii.

Prezidenti Slovenska a Česka sa 30. októbra 2018 zúčastnili aj na spoločných oslavách stého výročia podpisu Martinskej deklarácie v Martine. Položili veniec k pamätnej tabuli na budove bývalej banky Tatra, v ktorej bol dokument podpísaný, zúčastnili sa na oficiálnom obede a vystúpili s príhovorom na slávnostnom programe v Slovenskom komornom divadle. prezident.sk

President Andrej Kiska placed a wreath in Bratislava in memory of General Milan Štefánik on the occasion of the centennial of the Czechoslovak Republic on Sunday October 28, 2018.



Pri príležitosti 100. výročia vzniku Československej republiky položil prezident Andrej Kiska v nedeľu 28. októbra veniec k pamätníku M. R. Štefánika a československej štátnosti v Bratislave.

V Turčianskom Sv. Martine pred 100 rokmi prijali Deklaráciu slovenského národa

Pred 100 rokmi v Turčianskom Svätom Martine účastníci deklaračného zhromaždenia, ktoré zvolal politik a advokát Matúš Dula, prijali 30. októbra 1918 Deklaráciu slovenského národa, známu aj pod názvom Martinská deklarácia. Tento deň - 30. október - sa od roku 1993 na Slovensku slávi ako pamätný deň podľa zákona Národnej rady (NR) SR o štátnych sviatkoch, dňoch pracovného pokoja a pamätných dňoch a v znení neskorších predpisov. Výnimočne v roku 2018 tento deň však bude jednorazovým štátnym sviatkom.

O tom, že 30. október 2018 sa stane jednorazovým štátnym sviatkom, rozhodli poslanci NR SR 12. septembra tohto roku, keď 96 hlasmi schválili novelu zákona o štátnych sviatkoch. Prezident SR Andrej Kiska podpísal novelu zákona o štátnych sviatkoch 4. októbra. Jednorazovým štátnym sviatkom si Slovensko pripomenie 100. výročie prijatia Deklarácie slovenského národa.

„Zastupitelia všetkých slovenských politických strán, shromaždení dňa 30. októbra 1918 v Turčianskom Sv. Martine a organizovaní v Národnú Radu slovenskej vetvy jednotného česko-slovenského národa, trvajú na zásade samourčovacieho práva národov prijatej celým svetom. Národná Rada vyhlasuje, že v mene česko-slovenského národa bývajúceho v hraniciach Uhorska, je jedine ona oprávnená hovoriť a konať.“ To sú úvodné slová z Deklarácie slovenského národa, ako ju v úplnom znení podpísali Karol Anton Medvecký, tajomník Slovenskej národnej rady, a Matúš Dula, predseda Slovenskej národnej rady. Fotokópiu Deklarácie slovenského národa, zverejnenú v Národných novinách, roč. XLIX,

Pokračovanie na str. 22



Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajčák welcomed a delegation of Slovaks Living Abroad at a conference in Slovakia on October 26-27, 2018.

Minister Lajčák prijal Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí

Minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR Miroslav Lajčák 26. októbra 2018 prijal v Palugayayovom paláci krajanov, ktorí sa v dňoch 26. a 27. októbra 2018 zúčastňujú na „13. Stálej konferencii - Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí“. Tú organizuje Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí a záštitu nad ňou prevzal práve šéf slovenskej diplomacie. M. Lajčák v príhovore akcentoval, že vždy pripisoval význam rozvoju vzťahov Slovenska s krajanovou komunitou. Zároveň ocenil jej aktívny prístup k uchovávaniu národnej identity a kultúry. „Vďaka patrí vám všetkým, ktorí ste aktívni, oboznamujete občanov svojich krajín so slovenskou kultúrou, zvyklosťami, tradíciami a tým prezentujete našu krajinu v tom najlepšom svetle,“ povedal minister. V súvislosti s aktuálnym rokom výročia ocenil významný podiel Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí na týchto dejinných udalostiach a zdôraznil, že aj vďaka nim je dnes Slovensko rešpektovaným členom medzinárodného spoločenstva. „Slovenská republika chce byť aj naďalej nápomocná vo všetkých oblastiach života krajanových komunit, rozvíjať doterajšie vzťahy i formy spolupráce a taktiež aktívne pristupovať k novým výzvam v rámci našich vzájomných vzťahov,“ uviedol M. Lajčák. Informovali o tom z tlačového odboru Ministerstva zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR.