



Jednota

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2019

NUMBER 5988

Father Štefan Furdek Comes Home to the FCSU



The FCSU Board of Directors & National Officers at the dedication ceremony of the Father Furdek statue at the Home Office on September 13, 2019. See details on page 11 of this issue.

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2019 National Photo Contest Begins – Enter Today!

See page 10 for details



2019 Benevolent

Scholarship extended to Thursday

October 31st.

See page 4 for details



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National Golf Tournament Result II
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Insights and Viewpoints



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

October 20, 2019 – Twenty-Ninth Sunday
of Ordinary Time

Luke 18: 1-8

This parable would make a great plot for a made-for-television movie. We have a widow who goes up against a dishonest judge. The widow is persistent in her desire for the judge to make a decision in her case. She initially waited a long time with no ruling by the judge. No doubt the judge



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

wanted this lack of a decision to discourage her from pursuing her case. Instead, she decides to pester him until he makes a decision. He finally gives in and makes a decision because her persistence is disrupting his lifestyle, and even has him wonder if she might act violently against him. These are not the purest motives for making a decision, but they were effective. The judge was not concerned about either justice or the widow. Jesus points out that if this dishonest judge can answer the woman's request how much more will God respond to our pleas for help.

The lesson for us is three-fold; be persistent in prayer, God's response to our needs is out of both love and justice, and we should follow the example of God and be responsive to the needs of others.

There are both needs and struggles in living our faith that can affect our relationship with God. One response is to minimize our faith so as to have very low expectations of what God can do for us. It is important to keep in mind that our Heavenly Father is the perfect, just judge who looks upon us with love and mercy. To be persistent is to never lose trust that God is listening to us and to continue to pray with high expectations that He is attentive to us. This persistence in faith takes moving beyond faith as a feeling to faith as a gift from God. It is meant to draw us closer to him, and not away from him. Persistence is believing that the needs we put before God will be answered in his time and way. In the letter to the Hebrews we heard that faith is, "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen." Persistence is continuing to pray even when the immediate results are unseen.

The second lesson in the parable is that God responds to our needs out of love. God does not act out of obligation, vengeance, or to quiet us so that we won't disturb him; God acts out of love for us. His love is the unconditional love with no strings attached. We are the ones who have the freedom to accept his love or reject it. He knows our hearts and knows more than we what is needed to bring us true, lasting, and eternal happiness. He sees the whole picture of our lives, while we live one frame at a time. This is not meant to minimize the reality of the anxiety or pain that our struggles might bring us. These are part of our human nature, but it is important to put these into perspective, that in the midst of these, God is lovingly present.

The third lesson can be approached with a few questions about who are we more like—God or the unjust judge. When people come to us with a need are we like the judge and put things off, only to help when we are tired of someone pestering us, or are we like God who looks upon the one in need with love? Hopefully we will work to respond as God does, out of love. The three lessons can help us in our own faith lives as we approach God with our prayers.

150 – 30th Sunday of the Year – October 27, 2019

An interesting contrast presents itself in this Sunday's scriptures: in the second reading, from the Second Letter to Timothy, Saint Paul uses the image of a successful athlete to describe his journey of faith. He says: "I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me," and later, "the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the proclamation might be completed and all the Gentiles might hear it" (2 Tim 4:7-8, 17).

While I am leaving out the full context for brevity, even in the broader passage it sounds as though Paul was doing God a favor through his ministry and expecting a crown as his reward. That is not, of course, what Paul was getting at, but his rhetoric makes us think whether vaunting one's strength and accomplishments was as common in Paul's time as it is in our own. How does this culture of self-glorification that we see so clearly in our famous athletes and entertainment stars affect our thinking and the movements of our hearts when it comes to our religious faith?

By comparison, in the first reading from Sirach, the responsorial Psalm, and the Gospel we see something quite different: instead of a spirit of boastfulness, the weakness and lowliness of many of the Lord's most faithful followers is noted. We read in Sirach: "The Lord is a God of justice who knows no favorites. Though not unduly partial toward the weak, yet he hears the cry of the oppressed. The Lord is not deaf to the wail of the orphan, nor to the widow when she pours out her complaint" (Sir 35:16-17). The Psalmist sounds the same note: "The Lord hears the cry of the poor" (Ps 34:7). It is important to remember, however, that we can only hear the cry of the poor—and we can only freely accept God's gifts of salvation and righteousness—when we are free from the illusions of grandeur and self-sufficiency.

In the Gospel from Saint Luke, Jesus himself develops this theme by extolling the humility of the tax collector, who realizes that it is by the mercy of God and not his own merit that he will find salvation: "whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 18:14). He also addresses the illusions that keep us from seeing our neediness, as Saint Luke points out in his introduction to Jesus' words: "Jesus addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else" (Luke 18:9).

Going back to Paul, he rejoiced not so much in his own achievements—though Paul did struggle with boasting—as in the way God's grace worked through him to achieve its divine purpose: "the Lord stood by me and gave me strength" (2 Tim 4:17). Like Paul, all of us have our moments when we are filled with self-importance and fail to see that it is the grace of God working within us that brings about our accomplishments, whatever they may be.

Today's scriptures teach us that when we avoid the illusions of pride that can cloud our judgment, we are naturally led to maintain a spirit of humility and thus to cooperate with God's divine grace, ennobling our own human nature in the process. Let it be our prayer that together with the tax collector in today's Gospel we might be at peace saying in our hearts: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13).



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.

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35 years since the visit of Saint John Paul II to Byzantine Slovaks in Canada

Daniel Černý

September 15th marks the feast day of Our Lady of Sorrows, the Patroness of Slovakia. Exactly on this day 35 years ago, Byzantine-rite Slovaks in Canada rejoiced about a very special visit. It was from (the now) Saint John Paul II, who after establishing the Slovak Eparchy in 1980, visited personally this bishopric and blessed the Cathedral of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, which was under construction. Canadian press and hierarchy were not in favor of this visit, yet the Holy Father decided to come and visit the Slovaks in Toronto and the surrounding area.

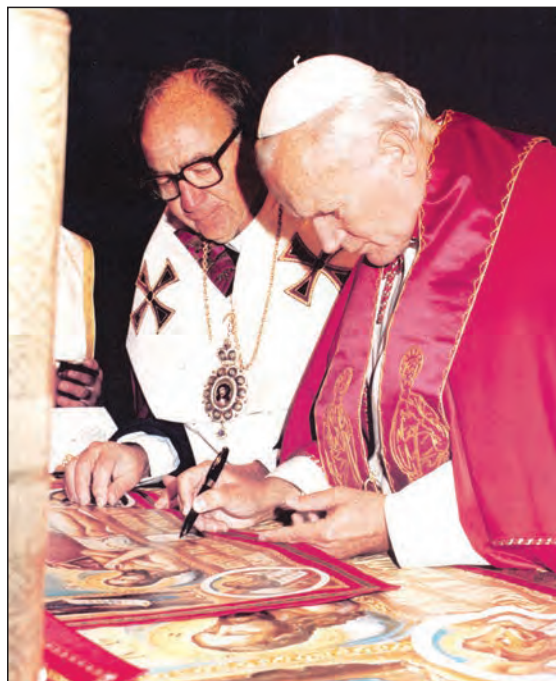
Pilgrims from 19 nations began gathering in the morning. Finally, during a beautiful sundown, the limousine carrying the Holy Father arrived. He was greeted by Bishop Michael Rusnak CSsR, who was followed by an official committee for this visit, along with representatives from various organizations, children in folk costumes, and the family of Mr. Stephen Roman. Without the generosity of Mr. Roman this visit would not have been possible. In his opening speech welcoming the Pope, Bishop Rusnák said the following: Our ancestors and our persecuted brethren in Slovakia are glorified by your presence here today. Despite our persecution, we have remained faithful to the See of Peter, There are renewed efforts in Slovakia to separate Byzantine Catholics from you. However, this first Slovak cathedral in the new world, blessed by your Holiness, will be a shining beacon of religious solidarity with our brothers beyond the sea. I speak on behalf of all the Slovaks of the Byzantine rite and assure you that we are with you and will remain with you... A very special sign was the attendance of all the Slovak bishops from the free world at the ceremony (Tomko, Kaľata, Hrušovský, Grutka and Hnilica). At the time, there were only three bishops in Slovakia (Gábriš, Pasztor, Feranec).

The pope then approached the structure and performed the blessing of the cornerstone and of the Cathedral and reliefs on its front wall. In what was to be the future sanctuary he blessed and signed seven antimensons (i.e. pieces of clothes with relics of saints inside used for celebration of the liturgy). In his speech that followed, he mentioned the heritage of Ss. Cyril and Methodius as well as the feast of the Transfiguration, the patron feast of the Cathedral. According to the words of the Pope himself this blessing was a renewal of the love and pastoral care of the Church of Rome towards this nation. The Pope also praised the eparchial magazine Maria. He concluded with the following words: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ. walk always in the light and power of the Risen Lord; be strong in hope and in the love of God and neighbor; persevere in your worthy Slovak traditions and your heritage of faith: „The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all“ (2 Thess 3:17). Amen.

After the gifts were being given to the Pope along with final farewells, the Pope departed as the crowd was still singing Hundred years to him (Sto lat). This visit was praised by almost all Slovak newspapers and periodicals, of course with the exception of those published in Slovakia - making this visit to Byzantine-rite Slovaks in Canada of very special significance. Despite the animosity of some, the Pope decided to come because, as he himself said: Slovaks are my people....

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. Since 2018 serves as Director of the Slovak Institute of History in Rome.



The Pope signing the antimensons inside the cathedral. Photo source: the book *Our Heritage of Faith*.

Message from the National Chaplain

Everyone today seems to have an opinion on immigration. The mere mention of the word evokes great passion among people. The current situation is viewed by two perspectives, one legal and the other moral. Today's article offers a legal point of view.

One needs to look at three laws passed by Congress in 1996 to more fully grasp the situation faced by those attempting to relocate to the United States. These laws are the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act, the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act.

The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act was intended to protect our nation's borders. This law:

- Imposes criminal penalties for racketeering, smuggling aliens into the country, and creating or using fraudulent immigration-related documents;
- Permits the deportation of undocumented immigrants who commit a misdemeanor or a felony;
- Requires immigrants unlawfully present in the United States between one hundred eighty (180) and three hundred sixty-five (365) days to remain outside the United States for three (3) years, unless they receive a pardon. Illegal immigrants who remain in the United States for more than 365 days are to remain outside the United States for ten (10) years unless a waiver is obtained. Those returning without a waiver are to wait ten (10) years until they could apply for one.

The Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act altered the use of the writ of habeas corpus, a court document whereby a prisoner or detainee is brought before a court to determine if one's imprisonment or detention is lawful. The writ can also be used to examine amount of bail, court jurisdiction, and any extradition processes used.

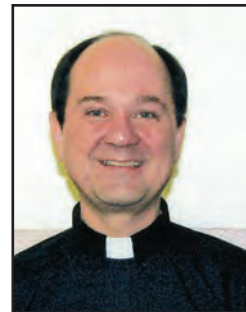
This law requires defendants to put all their claims into one appeal. Successive petitions by the same person are not permitted. It also determines habeas corpus claims to be successful only when convictions were contrary to "clearly established federal law" or an "unreasonable determination of the facts in light of the evidence."

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (also known as the Welfare Reform Act) eliminated a provision of the Social Security Act of 1935 that established Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). This was a federal grant program that for over sixty years enabled states to give cash welfare payments to children deprived of parental support or care because the parent was incapacitated, unemployed, absent from home, or deceased. Each state or territory could use its own criteria to define "need" and establish benefit levels, among other things.

The Welfare Reform Act also:

- Placed permanent limits on the amount of federal funding for welfare;
- Limits to five (5) years federal financial aid can be given to a family in its lifetime;
- Excludes legal aliens from receiving any Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

The moral viewpoint from a Catholic Christian perspective and Catholic Church teaching will be presented next month.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

First Catholic Slovak Union Seeks Qualified Internal Auditor

The unexpected passing of one of our elected FCSU auditors Michele Mager has caused me to place this notice in the Jednota. May God grant Eternal Life to her with our Lord.

The First Catholic Slovak Union is seeking a candidate to fill the position of Internal Auditor. Per FCSU Bylaws 6.05 (b)(3), this candidate shall be appointed by the National President, subject to approval by the Board of Directors at their next meeting which will be held in December 2019. The newly appointed Auditor will serve until the next Quadrennial Convention of the Society at which time all Auditors will be up for election. The next Convention will be held in 2022.

Requirements: an associate or higher accounting degree from an accredited college or equivalent accounting experience. A candidate for appointment to the position of Internal Auditor per FCSU Bylaws 7.06 cannot be an employee, a retired employee, or former employee of the First Catholic Slovak Union or its subsidiaries.

Duties: internal auditors' function under policies outlined in the Bylaws and established by the Board of Directors, under the supervision of the Chairman of Auditors as required.

Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter stating interest and qualifications to:

Andrew M. Rajec
National President
First Catholic Slovak Union
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
Independence, OH 44131

Deadline for application: all applications must be postmarked by **Nov. 25, 2019**.



The day and time for the 55th Anniversary Mass in honor of the Jednota Chapel has already been secured for next year. Mass will be celebrated on September 13, 2020, at 11:30AM in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC.

Save the date ... and look for more information in future issues of Jednota!



Attendees at the Sept 15 Mass honoring the 54th Anniversary of the Jednota Chapel



Slovak Embassy representatives Jozef Polakovic, Deputy Chief of Mission and Terezia Filipejova, Cultural and Public Diplomacy Counselor, flank Father Martin Vavrak



The Rev. Martin Vavrak, celebrant of the 11:00AM Mass



Sarah Francowic granddaughter of Katherine and Bernard Nowatkoski, carrying gifts with Katherine.



(L - R) Katherine Nowatkoski, District 8 President and Marion Mistrik, recording secretary of Branch 856, pose with Father Vavrak.

Victor Sebo of Baltimore, MD, former President of Branch 61, with Katherine Nowatkoski



FCSU Celebrated 54th Anniversary of Jednota Chapel in Washington DC

On Sunday, September 15, 2019, Branch 856 of the Washington DC area coordinated a special 11:30AM Mass in honor of the 54th anniversary of the Chapel donated by the First Catholic Slovak Union in 1965. Mass was celebrated in Slovak in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. The Celebrant was the Rev. Martin Vavrak of St. Michael the Archangel Byzantine Catholic Church, Perth Amboy, NJ.

Members of the FCSU were in attendance, including: Branch 856 Secretary Marion Mistrik and District 8 President/ Financial Secretary Katherine Nowatkoski. Terezia Filipejova, Cultural and Public Diplomacy Counselor, and Jozef Polakovic, Deputy Chief of Mission, both from the Slovak Embassy in Washington DC also were in attendance. Maria Krutkova from Trenton, NJ, was the organist.

- Submitted by Katherine Nowatkoski

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers The Chicken Runs at Midnight

"The chicken runs at midnight" isn't a sentence you'll find in your Bible, but it is a divinely inspired statement that brought proof of heaven to Rich Donnelly, a grieving father who needed to find his way back to God. Rich grew up as a devout Catholic kid in Steubenville, Ohio, where he "was taught the right way," he told me during an interview. And for a while, Rich followed that "right way." He married his college sweetheart, Peggy, and they had four children: Bubba, Amy, Mike, and Tim.

Rich also found work in the field he loved best: baseball. He explained, "My dream was to be in the big leagues, and I thought...you had to do what big leaguers did. They drank, smoked, ran around at night...So that's what I did."

Rich's infidelity destroyed his marriage and damaged his relationships with his kids. Amy took it especially hard. It was Rich's second wife, Roberta, who started to get him back on track, and Amy came to forgive him. Then, in 1992, when Rich was third base coach with the Pirates, Amy was diagnosed with a brain tumor and given only nine months to live. Rich felt devastated. Surprisingly, Amy handled the news better than anyone. Rich said, "She had some kind of faith from God...She packed more caring, happiness, and consideration into nine months than I have in my 72 years."

The sentence that changed the Donnellys' lives came after Amy, her brothers, and her best friend were driving home with Rich after a playoff game. Amy said to her father, "When you get down in that crouch with a man on second, what are you telling those guys? The chicken runs at midnight or what?"

Everyone in the car cracked up laughing and asked Amy where she came up with that line. "I don't know, it just came out," she answered. From that point on, "the chicken runs at midnight" became the family's motto. And when Amy passed away, that was the epitaph they had etched on her tombstone.

In 1997, Rich was third base coach for the Marlins, and his sons, Mike and Tim, were batboys. The kids noticed that second baseman Craig Counsell had a strange batting stance that involved him flapping his left arm like a chicken. Secretly, they called him "the chicken." The Marlins made it to game seven of the World Series that year. In the 11th inning of a tie game, Counsell was on third base hoping to score the winning run. Rich was right next to him. The Marlins got a base hit and Counsell scored, winning the Series.

The team erupted in celebration! Then, Rich saw his son Tim screaming and pointing at the stadium clock. Rich turned around to see the time as 12:02am. Rich said, "Craig Counsell, the chicken, scored the winning run at midnight. A silly phrase that meant nothing five years ago had come to pass. Amy was there that night. There's no doubt in my mind. I never believed in miracles. I do now."

Rich now travels the country sharing this miraculous story. "At the same time," he concluded, "[I tell] people how dumb and egotistical I was, and tell them not to put their personal goals in the way of your family. I always wanted a wife, kids, and to be in the big leagues. I got everything I ever dreamed about. And I messed it all up. [The experience with Amy] made me want to go back to church every day."



The Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc has extended its deadline for accepting applications for its 2019 Scholarship Program to October 31, 2019.

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

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

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

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

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

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT OCTOBER 31, 2019

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

The FCSU at the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club's Annual Festival

On Sunday, September 1, 2019, the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club, under the direction of President Henry Horvath, hosted its annual Slovak Festival, a fundraiser for its hour-long Slovak radio program that airs every Sunday morning from 11:00AM to noon on WERE AM 1490. Several Radio Club officers are members of the FCSU as well, including its President Henry Horvath, Branch 855, First Vice President and Program Director Milan Kolbusky, Branch 450; Trustee Jana Chuba, Branch 1; 2nd Vice President Barbara Sutilla, Branch 855 President; Treasurer Karin Scally, Branch 855; and Trustee Vlado Cvicela, Branch 24.

The festival was held at St. Anthony of Padua Church Hall in Parma, OH, from 12:00 Noon – 8:00 PM, with homemade Slovak food and pastry, music for dancing and listening pleasure by the Anthony Culkar Band, the Wojtila Band, and Ralph Szubski. Vendors and sponsors included the First Catholic Slovak Union with Home office staffers Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents and Branch 89 Member and Terezia Rozmus, Annuity Department and Branch 24 Member, available throughout the day, offering information about the Society's insurance products and annuities. Many FCSU members helped with service and set up as well including: from Branch 1: Jana Chuba, Jozef Elias, Andrew Horvath; Jana Horvath; and Renee Kulik; from Branch 24: Maria Cvicela; Vlad Cvicela; Teresa Ivanec, Jednota Editor; Thomas Ivanec, Region 6 Director; Mary Lesko; Donna Oros; Johanna Oros; Joseph Oros; from Branch 450: Peter Anderko; Michael Anderko; Jozef Barnovsky; George Carny, President; George P. Carny, Secretary; Mike Carny, Financial Secretary/Treasurer; Mary Chura; Milan Kobulsky; and Adriana Scally, Vice President; from Branch 855: Henry Horvath; Karin Scally; Barbara Sutilla, President; Ann Sutilla.

The Festival's cultural program started at 3:00PM, with Tom Ivanec, acting as MC. George Carny, led the singing of the Slovak National Anthem. The featured performing group, directed by Thomas Ivanec, was the Lučina Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland, OH, and the troupe's children's group, Lučinka. A special performance on the Slovak overtone flute fujara was performed by Michael Anderko.



The Slovak Festival is an annual fundraising event for the Cleveland Slovak Radio Hour, the oldest continually broadcast Slovak radio program in America. Listeners can tune in on the radio at WERE AM 1490 or online by going to newstalkcleveland.com and click on Listen Live.



Members of both the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club and the FCSU (L – R): Ann Sutilla, Karin Scally, Jana Chuba, and Barbara Sutilla

(L – R) Cleveland Slovak Radio Club Officers and FCSU Members Henry Horvath and Milan Kobulsky carry flags in the procession to start the afternoon's cultural program.



(L – R) Two senior Lucina dancers Caroline Visnovsky, Branch 450, and Victoria Oros, Branch 24



Branch 450's Michael Anderko performs as featured fujara soloist.



Lucina dancer and Branch 24 Vice President John Moynihan



FCSU Home Office Staff at the 2019 Slovak Festival's FCSU booth (L –R): Miriam Visnovsky, Office Support; Beata Begeniova-Fedorouk, Assistant to the President; Terezia Rozmus, Annuity Specialist; and Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents.

Lucina dancers Matthew Oros and Lexi Glova, both of Branch 24



(L –R) Joe Oros, Branch 24 Treasurer with Johanna Oros, Branch 24 and Radio Club Member, provided much of the delicious homemade bakery on sale at the festival.



George Carny, Branch 450 President and longtime Cleveland Slovak Radio Club Member, leads the singing of the Slovak National Anthem



(L – R) Lucinka dancers Lily Halley and Henry Strekal of Branch 24 perform with Jessica Chuba and Joseph Chuba of Branch 450

Lučina Director, Region 6 Director, and Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Thomas Ivanec leads the singing of the National Anthem of the United States





FCSU Members at One World Day included: (L – R) Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents, FICF; Idka Rajec, Branch 89; Richard Schen, Branch 553; and George Balak, Branch 855.



(L – R) George Terbrack and Michael Anderko posing in front of Stefanik statue with Susie Cvicela Halley and her three daughters Madeline, Emma and Lilly, all Branch 24 members.

Cleveland Slovak Garden Hosts One World Day

**George R. Terbrack
Rev. Michael Brunovsky, OSB**

Cleveland, Ohio boasts the unique institution of Nationality Cultural Gardens that are found nowhere else in the United States. These gardens reflect the great diversity of the Cleveland population and its One World Day celebration annually brings these nationalities together in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

The tradition of this annual event first took place in 1946 and 1948, and were hosted these years in the Slovak Garden. The Cultural Gardens have expanded to over 36 nationalities represented. This year's celebration was held on Sunday, August 25 and began with the parade of nationality groups and the opening ceremony that contains the nationalization of new United States citizens. After this ceremony, each garden delegation returned to their own garden to provide cultural displays for the enjoyment of thousands of Greater Clevelanders.

Two weeks previously, members of the Slovak Garden gathered at the Benedictine Abbey of St. Andrew to make over a thousand kolače in some 5 different flavors. They were sold to the festival attendees and proceeds helped to benefit the garden fund. Also previous to the One World Day, a number of maintenance opportunities were hosted by the Slovak Garden Association to beautify the garden for the celebration. Volunteers from St. Andrew Abbey, Case Western Reserve University, the Cleveland Clinic, and University School, including others, have assisted this past year in the garden maintenance.

The beautiful Sunday afternoon in the Slovak Garden began in a café environment with cold beverages and kolače available to our guests. The Eastern European musical ensemble Harmonia serenaded the park with Slovak musical selections, dancing, and singing enjoyed by all who attended the event for the next four hours. During intermissions, Michael Anderko played the Slovak fujara, the shepherd flute that is unique to Slovakia, and educated the guests about the instrument. Also, Susan Cvičela Halley and her three daughters presented Slovak folk tales in original costume to the delight of the attendees.

To all who have never been to the Slovak Garden in Cleveland, it is one of the only national monuments outside of Slovakia open to the public and highlighting the journey of self-determination of Slovaks as a nation. The focal point of the garden is a twenty-two foot bronze and granite monument to Milan Rastislav Štefánik, the co-founder of an independent Czecho-Slovakia after World War I. An interesting note is that three great-nieces of Štefánik recently visited the monument and were impressed with the garden as a whole.

The One World Day presentation was made possible with a grant from Destination Cleveland. The preservation of the Slovak Garden has been made possible over the years by generous contributions of the First Catholic Slovak Union, The Slovak Heritage Society, the Cleveland Slovak Zemplin Club, The Cleveland Slovak Radio Club and the Benedictine Order of Cleveland. The Cleveland Slovak Cultural Garden is grateful for the continued support that has been given by these organizations. The Garden Association accepts memberships and continued participation by all who wish to express pride in their Slovak Heritage as a witness among the other nationalities of Cleveland. Interested parties are invited to contact the garden secretary, Rev. Michael Brunovsky, OSB at michael@cbhs.edu or president, George R. Terbrack, at jurajtrbrk@gmail.com.



Eastern European Congress President Laurel Tambozi dancing with Artem Fedoriouk, Branch 24.



Representatives from the First Catholic Slovak Union and other Slovak Fraternal organizations: (L- R) Marion Rubino, FCSU; FCSU Regional Director Martha Zavada; Theresa Kluchinski, LPSCU; Sister Michael Ann Orlik; Dolores Evanko, LPSCU; Daniel Tanzone, SCS; Margaret Jollimore and Gavin Jollimore, LPSCU. Absent from the photo: Theresa Chupka, Branch 173.



Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius Celebrate 100 Years in Danville



On Sunday, September 15, 2019 the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius celebrated 100 years in Danville, PA. A Eucharistic Liturgy was offered in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Villa Sacred Heart by the Most Reverend Bishop Ronald W. Gainer, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of the Diocese of Harrisburg, PA, joined by Bishop Gainer was the Most Reverend Robert E. Gugliemone, Bishop of South Carolina.

Attending the function and presenting a donation to Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M., General Superior of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius from FCSU Branches O5P and 173 were Martha Zavada, Regional Director and Marion Rubino, President of Branch O5P. The First Catholic Slovak Union also honored the occasion with a donation.

- Submitted by Martha Zavada Wojcik, Region 3 Director

Marion Rubino and Sister Marcine Klocko, stationed in South Carolina, high school classmates and former St. John the Baptist Slovak School, Pittston attendees renewed acquaintances.



Adele Zavada, a former student at St Cyril Academy and husband Sam Pennartz enjoy the festivities.

Michael Anderko, Branch 450, performing on the fujara, a traditional Slovak overtone flute



The popular folksong ensemble Harmonia performing with featured singer Beata Begeniova-Fedoriouk, Branch 24.

Volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain the beautiful Slovak Gardens with George Terbrack (L) one of the chairs of the Slovak Cultural Garden, include other members of the FCSU such as Bill and Patty Allen of Branch 24 along with their daughter Jenna Allen and her son John Allen McIntyre, also of Branch 24.



**The 2019 Lúčina Slovak Gala:
An Evening in the Heart of Europe**

Saturday, November 9, 2019
Holy Spirit Party Center
5500 W. 54th Street • Parma, OH 44129

Featuring:
The Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland
Lúčinka Children's Ensemble
Michael Anderko, Fujara Soloist
Vychodna Slovak Dancers of Mississauga, Ontario
DJ Denis

Tickets: \$50/Person
\$360/Table of 8
\$40/Person under 21

Limited Seating! Only 250 seats available. Advanced sales only.
No tickets sold at the door.

Ticket includes:
Entertainment
Full-course dinner with 3 entrees & dessert
(vegetarian and gluten-free meals available if preordered)
Open Bar
Raffles & Gift Baskets throughout the evening
Followed by music for dancing and listening pleasure with DJ Denis
*Doors open: 6:00PM ** Dinner 6:30PM ** Program: 7:30PM*

For tickets, call: Tom Ivanec, 440-668-7797
Miriam Visnovsky, 440-638-9921

All proceeds to benefit the Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble,
celebrating their 38th Anniversary



First Catholic Slovak Union

Estate Planning Booklet



Your Personal Record Keeper

FREE

Estate Planning Booklet from the First Catholic Slovak Union

As National President Andrew M. Rajec and Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt state in the beginning of the Estate Planning Booklet from the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) - the very foundations of our Society have been built on values that honor and protect our loved ones. The FCSU portfolio of insurance and annuity products itself, they point out, is designed with the financial protection of loved ones in mind, as well.

Now, as a member of the FCSU, you can receive a valuable tool for free that allows you to help your loved ones once again. Inside the pages of this personal record keeper are easy ways to record and centralize all the pertinent information for processing your estate – from personal, medical and financial information to life insurance policies, real estate holdings and other assets to final wishes for your family.

To request your free copy of the First Catholic Slovak Union Estate Planning Booklet, please call at 1-800-JEDNOTA (533-6682).

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, PITT STUDENT SLOVAK CLUB & SLOVAK STUDIES PROGRAM PRESENT
THE 29TH ANNUAL

SLOVAK
HERITAGE
FESTIVAL

2019 THEME
YOU ARE FAMILY

SUN, NOV. 3, 2019 1-5 P.M.
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH (OAKLAND)
CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING COMMONS ROOM

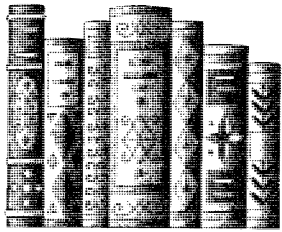
**FREE
ADMISSION**

FEATURING:

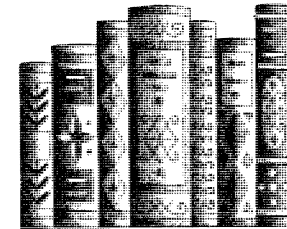
- ▲ ETHNIC FOOD (KLOBASA, HALUŠKY, HOLUPKI, PIROHY, PASTRIES & COOKIES)
- ▲ CULTURAL DISPLAYS & LECTURES SHOP
- ▲ SLOVAK AND EAST EUROPEAN IMPORT VENDORS (CRAFTS, GIFTS, FOOD & MORE)
- ▲ MUSICAL AND FOLK DANCE PERFORMANCES

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/SlovakHeritageFestival

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FESTIVAL CONTACT LYON ZEIBAK AT 412-708-6644 OR SLOVAKHERITAGEFESTIVAL@GMAIL.COM



Book Corner



Czechoslovakia: Behind the Iron Curtain: A History of Communism

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.
The University of
Maryland Global Campus

I would like to share a review I wrote about an upcoming book scheduled for publication by Global Slovakia in December 2019, *Czechoslovakia: Behind the Iron Curtain: A History of Communism*. The book paints a picture of life under communism from the perspective of two young scholars, Dr. Zuzana Palovic and Dr. Gabriela Bereghazyová.

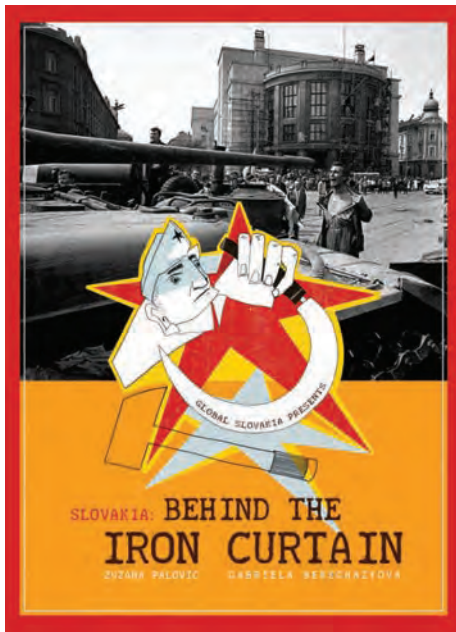
Both were born in Slovakia, but Dr. Palovic left the country as a young child during the communist era and grew up in Canada and the USA. On the other hand, Dr. Bereghazyová was raised in the period of the transition from communism, and witnessed firsthand the vestiges of communism that persisted in her childhood. After the two met while studying at the University of Surrey in the United Kingdom, they decided to embark on a mission to present Slovakia to the world, with the aim of building a brighter and promising future for this young state in Europe.

In the authors' own words, "Global Slovakia is a Slovak-based non-profit organization dedicated to sharing Slovakia with the English-speaking world. We provide cultural and educational programs sharing Slovakia's rich heritage beyond facts and figures. Our work is also aimed at encouraging business and tourist development and promoting reverse brain drain of Slovakia's talented workforce" One may read more about Global Slovakia at its website: <https://globalslovakia.com> and <https://globalslovakia.com/about/>.

This book follows two others which they recently published in both English and Slovak. The first work, *Slovakia: The Legend Of The Linden* (Slovensko: Legendy Lipy), offers a comprehensive overview of the history of Slovakia using the importance of the Linden Tree (lipa) and its heart-shaped leaf as a theme. One may purchase this book from the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library Store in Cedar Rapids, Iowa: 1400 Inspiration Place SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, Phone: 319-362-8500 <https://store.ncsml.org/product/slovakia-the-legend-of-the-linden/>

The second book, *The Great Return* (Veľký Návrat) tells the stories of 58 Slovaks who left their homeland, learned and worked in the West, and then returned, in the hope of assisting to further the transformation of their nation. Both books are available in e-book format: <https://globalslovakia.com/ebookstore/>. For a hardback format, go to Amazon.com: <https://www.amazon.com/Great-Return-Zuzana-Palovic/dp/1788080688> and <https://www.amazon.com/Slovakia-Legend-Palovic-Gabriela-Bereghazyova/dp/178808067X>.

Global Slovakia is also seeking donations to make the publication of their newest book on the communist era possible. There is an urgent need to reach a \$10,000 goal by late October in order to retain donations already pledged. To make a gift to this most wor-



thy cause, go to this website: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/globalslovakia/czechoslovakia-behind-the-iron-curtain?ref=4psi1d&token=14b543e1&fbclid=IwAR1qxJbLROlhpBi2giNSlAkGdEAP3x-tWwr4ewC-omoU9x9N2SkHTXO117HI>

Below is a review of this well-written and illustrated upcoming publication on Slovakia under the communist yoke.

Palovic, Zuzana and Bereghazyová, Gabriela, Czechoslovakia: Behind the Iron Curtain: A History of Communism, Bratislava: Global Slovakia, upcoming publication, 2019.

For the majority of the world, communism is something in the past which many people, especially our youth, know little about. It is the stuff of endless tomes about ideology, Cold War drama, vaunted dictators, faceless masses, and victims of the system. What is often missing is how communism actually affected the lives of ordinary people who had to endure life under totalitarian rule.

This book is different. The authors present the story in a readable narrative that aims at an audience of the general populace. The tone is informal, stimulating and entertaining, yet at the same time, retains a seriousness of purpose. It enlightens even the non-expert as to how communism emerged in Czechoslovakia and succeeded in maintaining its rule for so long.

The book is the result of over ten years of intensive research by Zuzana Palovic and Gabriela Bereghazyová. In addition to drawing from published works and archives, they interviewed people from a variety of social strata, ranging from grandparents, neighbors, and workers to businessmen, intellectuals, politicians, etc. Interviewees included people both stoutly for and against communism, including emigrés and even secret police. The result is a welcome contribution to help understand the ideology of collectivism and how it was put into practice, with very specific examples from real life stories and everyday situations.

Communists employed propaganda to broaden its appeal, making the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia the strongest in

any European country in free elections just after World War II. They garnered support by promising equality and social justice, and used mass demonstrations and threats to assist in seizing power in the February 1948 takeover. Once in power, they proceeded to indiscriminately trample on the human rights of anyone who did not go along with the Party Plan. No rival authority could exist in society. The Party nationalized small businesses, appropriated the land of farmers, and viciously attacked established churches and their clergy. The dreaded secret police (ŠtB or Štátna Bezpečnosť) and informers created an atmosphere of fear and suspicion. Schools and institutions tried to breed culpable youths into manikins who could spout off socialist slogans. While Party members and fellow-travelers benefited from the system, enjoying the perks of conformity, those who did not comply could suffer penalties ranging from exclusion from job and educational opportunities to imprisonment, hard labor, and even death.

When in 1968, Alexander Dubček attempted to humanize the application of socialist ideals, the Soviet-led invasion snuffed out any possibility of challenges to strict Party orthodoxy. While intellectuals and reformers suffered the brunt of "normalization" under the repression of Gústav Husák regime, the average person found ways to cope in the protected shell of their family, close friends, and the freedom of chatas (summer homes) and the woodlands on weekends. Only in nature and among trusted family and friends could they freely express themselves.

Short vignettes scattered throughout the book provide a close-up picture of many prominent figures, from artists and dissidents like the future post-1989 Czech president, Václav Havel, to hockey stars like the Slovak Šťastný brothers who defected to the West. But the regular person is not forgotten, the one who had to wait in long lines to get that rare choice cut of meat or an occasional bunch of bananas. Better yet, the way to obtain sought after items was to know someone on the inside of an enterprise.

Interestingly, the authors adroitly point out how Slovakia benefited more than the Czech lands under the communist yoke, especially after 1968. The communists helped modernize and industrialize Slovakia and gave the Slovak people a certain pride in their progress. At the same time, the traditionally strong religious faith of many Slovaks and Rusyns continually threatened the Party's attempt to inculcate a new moral ethos. On March 25, 1988 (sviečková demonstrácia - the Candle Demonstration), the violent police reaction to the Good Friday demonstrators marked the beginning of the unraveling of the totalitarian regime. Without the support of Gorbachev's USSR, the foundations of Czechoslovak communism were starting to crumble.

Finally, the authors concluded the study with an overview of the Velvet Revolution of 1989 (Samatová revolúcia in Czech), which Slovaks called the Gentle Revolution

(Nežná revolúcia). The November 1989 events that unfolded in Bratislava receive more thorough coverage than those that occurred in Prague, and this is welcome, since the general public is generally less familiar with them. Following the fall of the Berlin Wall, Czech students took to the streets on November 17, only to be met by brutal suppression. In both parts of the country, this awakened a response; dissidents and actors formed an alliance with students to challenge the regime, and their formerly passive parents backed their children. The fear of retaliation had evaporated in a few short days, and communist leadership would resign en masse. The December march of almost 200,000 to the Austrian border near Bratislava would reveal the euphoria of people who realized they were on the verge of a new era in their history.

Of course, the story did not end here, and decades of difficult transition followed, but telling that story remains the task for another future book.

This work is also richly decorated, which adds flair to the story. It includes 25 attractive and uniquely drawn illustrations by talented international artists and some quite poignant photos by some of the best Slovak and Czech photographers.

This book teaches some valuable lessons about the danger of totalitarianism to all readers, not just those interested in Czechs, Slovaks, or Czechoslovak history. It alerts us as to how fragile democracy can be, how precious are the freedoms we have, and why they must be guarded.

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., historian and Adjunct Professor The University of Maryland Global Campus

After reading a proof of the book, offering some recommended edits, and writing a review, I was asked to join the Global Slovakia team, and gladly accepted this honor. Here is my short bio from the Global Slovakia website.

Serving as a regional ambassador for Global Slovakia since September 2019, Dr. Michael Kopanic is an Adjunct Professor of History and Course Coordinator of Modern European History at the University of Maryland Global Campus, formerly UMUC. A specialist on Slovak history, he has spent his academic career learning, teaching, and writing about history, culture, and the Slovak language. He undertook his dissertation research in communist Czechoslovakia and lived there for nearly a year. He also has studied three summers at the Slovak language school at Comenius University in Bratislava, Studia Academica Slovaca.

His passion for Slovak culture flows from his love of history, combined with a desire to learn more about his ethnic roots. His Slovak mother emigrated from Czechoslovakia before World War II, and both his paternal grandparents also came from Spiš County prior to World War I. He grew up speaking

continued on page 9

Slovak CU Club Branch 200 Proudly Announces Scholarship Recipients

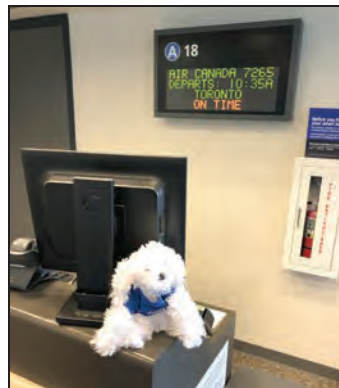
(L-R) Vicki Schaub, Branch 200 Financial Secretary; Olivia Wasilko of Kittanning, PA, is attending Westminster for a major in Psychology and a minor in French; Alexander McAuley of Adrian, PA, is attending Penn State Behrend for Mechanical Engineering; Haley Crissman of Kittanning, PA, is attending Robert Morris for Nursing BSN; and

Teresa Moore, Branch 200 President. Missing from the photo are:

Calista Hadden of Kittanning, PA, is attending Butler Community College for RN Nursing. Shane Stevenson of Kittanning, PA, is attending Penn State New Kensington for Civil Engineering. Each recipient received a \$1,000.00 award and we are proud to have been able to provide this to help alleviate a small portion of their expenses.

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Slovak CU Branch 200 sincerely wish them all the best!

- Submitted by Vicki Schaub, Branch 200 Financial Secretary



Chewy awaiting his flight to Slovakia on the 2019 Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Heritage tour. So excited!



Chewy getting ready to board with his travel buddy and new BFF FCSU National Auditor Greg Maurer.



The Captain sharing his hat with Chewy.



Chewy getting comfortable in first class. Nice!



The Flight Attendant welcoming Chewy on the plane.

Save the Date

The Slovak CU Branch 200

Celebrating our 125th Anniversary

Saturday, October 3, 2020



Watch for
FUTURE
DETAILS



Behind the Iron Curtain

continued from page 8

only English, but hearing the Slovak Spiš dialect spoken by his parents and extended family sparked his interest to pursue Slovak studies. Today he is fluent in Slovak and spoke only in Slovak with his two daughters from the time of their births.

Dr. Kopanic writes a regular column in the First Catholic Slovak Union's newspaper, Jednota and contributes to other fraternal publications. He has also written for the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International's (CGSI) quarterly publication, Naše rodina, and serves on the Board of the CGSI and the Czech and Slovak School of Pittsburgh. He has published numerous articles online, in scholarly journals, books, and encyclopedias. He frequently posts translations online and extended Slovak vocabulary definitions on the Facebook site, "Učíme sa po slovensky" (We are learning Slovak). He is planning to publish a series of his articles on Slovak traditional customs in book form.

One may view a partial list of some of his publications at: <https://umuc.academia.edu/MichaelKopanic>

Chewy Čuvač Joins Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Tour 2019

During the automobile trip to the pre-tour luncheon for the Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Heritage tour of Slovakia, the desirability of having Chewy Čuvač joining our tour was discussed. The panel consisting of Greg Maurer, James Bench and Kay Bench decided to contact the home office of the FCSU for approval and input. Following immediate approval, Greg Maurer, National Auditor for the FCSU agreed to be Chewy's roommate, guide, photographer and caretaker for the duration of the tour. James Bench, a longtime member of The Supreme Court of the FCSU and his wife, Kay who functions as the tour associate director constructed a tag for Chewy's collar to benefit those unfamiliar with Slovak dog talk. The tag read as follows: AHOJ! My name is Chewy Čuvač and I am the Ambassador for The First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada. My family comes from a long line of the breed known as the national dog of Slovakia and I am here with the Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Heritage tour of 2019. I am interested in meeting the wonderful people of this country as well as finding my canine relatives who came from Pribylina. If you know any of my relatives please contact my good friends Kay and Jim Bench with any messages or pictures at jmbench@yahoo.com or skbench@gmail.com

Chewy was especially excited when he met the Captain of the plane we would be flying to Canada, our first leg of the journey. Captain Don Heal was very gracious and posed with Chewy and put him at ease. The flight attendant was impressed with Chewy's good behavior and played with him. After landing in Canada Chewy had already become a seasoned traveler having slept most of the trip to Canada. In Canada while waiting for the next leg of the tour Chewy met the other members on the tour. Everyone wanted to help take care of him and make him feel at ease. He immediately became a member of our tour family.

Since Greg had opted to fly first class from Toronto to Vienna, Austria, due to the length of the trip and his extremely long legs, Chewy was now very comfortable and after filling his belly with doggy food he curled up for a long doggy nap. By now Chewy had become Greg's faithful guide and companion. A čuvač is an independent and protective (guard) dog. At long last, we arrived in Vienna, Austria and to loosen up our legs following the long plane ride we all did a short walking tour of Vienna followed by a bus tour. Then we were on our way to Bratislava, Slovakia. Stay tuned for the next article on Chewy in Bratislava.

- Submitted by James Bench, Branch 181 and Supreme Court Member

2020 Youngstown/ Spišská Nová Ves Sister Cities Heritage Tour of Slovakia

Come join us as once again as we tour our beautiful homeland of Slovakia. Walk the streets of your ancestors. Do a little research on your family, visit your ancestral village and perhaps find long lost relatives. Talk with your oldest living relatives, they have much to offer. This past year we had a reporter from Slovak radio who interviewed the tour participants and recorded them for Slovak International Radio and Slovak radio. Reserve your slot now. We have a 49 passenger bus, air conditioned, with rest room. Our tour is first class. We have the best guide in all of Slovakia and the best bus driver. We can give you names of tour participants that will tell you about our tour. Space is limited. The tour will be in July, 2020. Dates to be determined once festival dates are established. Approximate cost \$4000 depending on air fares. The cost includes first class hotels, 2 meals a day, entertainment, and admissions. Lunch on your own. For additional information call Jim Bench at 724-858-5843 e-mail jmbench@yahoo.com or Kay Bench at 724-771-7900 e-mail skbench@gmail.com Our tour cannot be topped for sightseeing, entertainment, fun, memories, and lasting friendships.

Sts. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Parish, Mississauga, ON presents

Oktoberfest

Featuring Direct from Slovakia
Zemplin Band

Saturday, October 12, 2019
Cocktails: 7:00 Dinner: 7:30

Tickets: \$50
Tickets available from
Anne Mitro: 905-279-8154 Jan Onderec: 416-568-8785 Maria Mrva: 905-712-8707
Deadline for tickets: October 9



2019 FCSU National Golf Tournament Results Part II



Barry	J	Halula		C		95	25	70	99	25	74	144	
Milan		Zoldak		C		110	30	80	101	30	71	151	
Robert		Kopanic	Sr	C		103	22	81	92	22	70	151	
Milos		Mitro		C		101	26	75	105	26	79	154	
Bruno		Felus		C		99	19	80	96	19	77	157	
John		Tokarsky		C		105	23	82	99	23	76	158	
Fr. Tom		Nasta		D		115	39	76	107	39	68	144	1st Place
Andrew		Nasta		D		119	36	83	98	36	62	145	Tied 2nd
Terry	A	Eller		D		110	35	75	105	35	70	145	Tied 2nd
Damian		Nasta		D		113	40	73	113	40	73	146	
Edward		Nasta		D		120	40	80	113	40	73	153	
Danielle		Lascher		W CAL		134	W Cal		123	W Cal		257	1st Place
Bob		Sorichetti		CAL		77	Cal	71	75	Cal	71	142	1st Place
George		Dillinger		CAL		79	Cal	72	72	Cal	71	143	2nd Place
Tyler		Dillinger		CAL		84	Cal	74	75	Cal	71	145	Tied 3rd
Jerry		Hromada		CAL		85	Cal	72	82	Cal	73	145	Tied 3rd
Bradley		Matta		CAL		81	Cal	74	83	Cal	72	146	
Anthony		Pipak	"Mike"	CAL		85	Cal	74	80	Cal	73	147	
Tom		Uhring		CAL		107	Cal	75	104	Cal	74	149	
Andrew		Kozusko		CAL		91	Cal	76	94	Cal	74	150	
Jack		Prich		CAL		109	CAL	76	95	CAL	75	151	
Donald		Handley		CAL		98	Cal	75	101	Cal	76	151	
Frank		Pipak		CAL		92	Cal	77	99	Cal	75	152	
Lewis	S	Dreier		CAL		98	Cal	77	90	Cal	76	153	
James	A	Saul		CAL		98	Cal	74	107	Cal	79	153	
Sam		Manna		CAL	Sat.	84	Cal		xxxxx	Cal			
Lou		Wolford		CAL	Sun.	xxxxx	Cal		96	Cal			
Gary		Matta		CAL	Sun.	xxxxx	Cal		Golfed	Cal			
Tyler		Shope		CAL	Sun.	xxxxx	Cal		Golfed	Cal			

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Get your cameras ready! We are having a photography contest for all members. There will be two groups: the 12 – 18 age group and an over 18 age group.

Photos will be judged in the following categories:

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

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

For each category, the following prizes will be awarded.

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

An Overall Winner will be awarded \$100

Rules:

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



From the Desk of the Executive Secretary –
Holiday Hours

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on Thursday, November 28 and Friday 29, 2019, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25, 2019 in observance of the Christmas holiday.



Mail your entry to:

Kevin Collins
Photo Contest
628 Heather Brite Cr.
Apopka, Fl. 32712

postmarked by December 1, 2019.

Father Štefan Furdek Comes Home to the FCSU



The Reverend Štefan Furdek was born in Trstená, Orava County, in (what is now) Slovakia on September 2, 1855. He came to the Cleveland, OH, area as a seminarian at the behest of the Cleveland Catholic Diocese and was ordained in 1882 to minister to the area's growing immigrant population from Central and Eastern Europe. Many of these immigrants worked in dangerous steel mills and factories. So in September 1890, at the request of Fr. Furdek, twelve Slovak immigrants met to find a way to provide insurance and other benefits to immigrant Slovaks and their families living and working in America. These men founded the First Catholic Slovak Union.

A statue of Fr. Furdek – which stood for many years on FCSU property in Middletown, PA – started its journey to the current Home Office of the FCSU in the Fall of 2018. It was subsequently rebronzed, a new base was commissioned, and the statue was placed at the entrance to FCSU headquarters in Independence, OH, on July of 2019. A dedication of the statue was conducted on September 13, 2019, with FCSU National Officers, Board Members, Home Office Staff, and guests in attendance. His Excellency the Most Reverend Milan Lach, SJ, Bishop of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma, OH, celebrated a blessing ceremony, assisted by FCSU National Chaplain the Reverend Thomas A Nasta, and the Very Reverend Marek Visnovsky, Protosyncellus (General Vicar) of the Eparchy.



[L – R] Father Marek Visnovsky, Bishop Milan Lach and Father Thomas Nasta bless the statue



The FCSU Board of Directors & National Officers at the dedication ceremony of the Father Furdek statue (L – R): Gary Matta, General Counsel; Milos Mitro, Region 8 Director; Damian Nasta, Region 2 Director; Martha Zavada, Region 3 Director; Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director; James Marmol, Region 4 Director; Thomas Ivanec, Region 6 Director; Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President; Andrew M. Rajec, National President; George Matta II, National Treasurer; Leonard Zilko, National Chairman of Auditors; Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary; Timothy Graves, Region 7 Director; and National Chaplain Thomas A. Nasta. Present but not pictured: Michael Lako, Region 5 Director.



FCSU National Officers, Board of Directors, Staff Members and guests attended the dedication on Sept 13, 2019

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA JUNE 15, 2019 INDEPENDENCE, OHIO (TELECONFERENCE)

OPEN MEETING:

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain – present via telephone;
Andrew M. Rajec, National President – present;
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., National Vice President – present;
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary - present;
George F. Matta II, National Treasurer – present via telephone;
Leonard Zilko, Chairman of Auditors – present;
Kevin Collins, Fraternal Activities Director – present via telephone;
Sabina Sabados, Regional Director, Region 1 –present via telephone;
Damian Nasta, Regional Director, Region 2 – present via telephone;
Martha Zavada-Wojcik, Regional Director, Region 3 – present;
James Marmol, Regional Director, Region 4 – present via telephone;
Michael Lako, Regional Director, Region 5 – present via telephone;
Thomas Ivanec, Regional Director, Region 6 – present via telephone;
Timothy Graves, Regional Director, Region 7 – present via telephone;
Milos Mitro, Regional Director, Regions 8 – present via telephone;
Gary J. Matta, General Counsel - present via telephone;

READING OF THE CALL:

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA:

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Quarterly Meeting and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., and seconded by Martha Zavada-Wojcik to accept the agenda and to allow the President to change the order of the agenda, if necessary, as he presents each item on the agenda with appropriate comments or recommendations. Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING MARCH 15, 2019:

A motion was made by Leonard Zilko and seconded by Sabina Sabados to accept the minutes of the Annual Board of Directors Meeting held March 15, 2019, as presented. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:Executive Secretary's Report

The Executive Secretary and Treasurer presented a detailed summary of the Financial Report for the first quarter of 2019. After the Executive Secretary's report, he answered the Board's questions. The Executive Secretary stated that the 2019 first quarter Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper. He also stated we are in the process of completing the second quarter financial report and, once completed, it will be sent to all directors.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati

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

The President led a discussion concerning the current interest rates available from Federal Home Loan Bank. A motion was made by George F. Matta II and seconded by James Marmol to authorize the Executive Committee to take an additional advancement from Federal Home Loan Bank. The Board has previously authorized advances up to \$50 million which limit still applies to FHLB collateral advances and are subject to certain requirements. Motion carried.

Portfolio Custodian

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

Investment Updates

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer and the Executive Secretary gave a full written report on the investment update and answered the Board's questions.

AQS REPORT:

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

PRESENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:Executive Committee

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

Investments

The Executive Secretary stated all investments were made in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and with the investment policy adopted by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee members work very closely with AQS Asset Management Company, and all investments are approved by a vote of at least three members of the Executive Committee.

Scholarship Committee

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

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The Vice President gave a production report on our agents to the Board of Directors. He stated we are still recruiting and adding new agents, and at present have 306 agents. The Home Office is sending the independent agents monthly updates on our products. The independent agents are also in frequent contact with Andrew P. Rajec, Director of Independent Agents. The Home Office continues an extensive Facebook ad recruiting campaign to recruit agents in the states we are licensed in. The Home Office is currently targeting agents in Wisconsin and Ohio.

The President stated that the Executive Committee is currently reviewing the commission rates paid to licensed agents.

The Executive Secretary stated that the final arrangements are being made for the 2019 Membership Meet November 9-17, 2019 aboard Carnival Magic.

The Executive Secretary stated that they are constantly working on branch mergers. The Regional Directors will become more involved in the placement of these branches.

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:

Director of Fraternal Activities Kevin Collins reported on the joint bowling tournament that was held with the Greek Catholic Union and the Slovak Catholic Sokol on May 17-18, 2019 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He stated they had a very successful tournament with over 180 bowlers. They look forward to having joint bowling and golf tournaments in 2020.

The Director of Fraternal Activities stated that the golf tournament will be held on August 17-18, 2019 in Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. All information regarding the tournament will be published in the Jednota and posted on the FCSU website.

The Director of Fraternal Activities presented a new contest called the NFL Loser's Pool. Rules and information regarding the contest will be published in the Jednota and posted on the FCSU website.

The Director of Fraternal Activities stated that he will continue to have the Christmas coloring contest and will introduce the idea of an adult coloring contest.

The Director of Fraternal Activities may also introduce a gingerbread contest. He is still working on the details and will present it at the next Board of Directors meeting.

The Director of Fraternal Activities introduced the possibility of organizing a ski trip in January 2020. He is still working on the details and will present it at the next Board of Directors meeting.

The Director of Fraternal Activities proposed the idea of organizing a national dance contest through a 3rd party website. He is still working on the details and will present it at the next Board of Directors meeting.

The Director of Fraternal Activities stated he received an excellent response to the Kentucky Derby hat contest and plans to have it again in 2020.

The President asked the Director of Fraternal Activities to look for possible sites to host regional picnics in 2020.

Regional Director Thomas Ivanec presented a report on the activities being held in District 10. He stated that they held a Pierogi making class hosted at the Slovak J Club in Akron, Ohio. Instructors Milka Anderko and Maria Cvicela taught the class how to make pierogi and shared their special recipe. They look forward to hosting more cooking classes in the future.

Regional Director Thomas Ivanec is also arranging for District 10 members to attend a minor league baseball game and a hockey game.



2020 Officers of District 3

Recently elected officers of District 3, the George Onda District are (L-R) President William Patty, Vice President Darlene Patty, Financial Secretary/Treasurer Stephen Gonta, and Recording Secretary Linda Gonta. Photo courtesy of Greg Maurer.



The Monks of
St. Andrew Abbey
invite you to our 2019

**VILIJA - SLOVAK
CHRISTMAS EVE SUPPER**
Sunday, December 8th
12:00 PM (Noon) Mass
Dinner Following

Held at the Abbey Church and
Benedictine High School Cafeteria

Tickets to this event are **ADVANCE SALES ONLY**
TICKETS **WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.**

TICKETS \$25.00 PER PERSON - ADVANCE SALES ONLY

**Please send a check or money order along with a self
addressed stamped envelope made out to:**

Saint Andrew Abbey - Vilija: 2900 Martin Luther King Jr.,
Drive, Cleveland, OH 44104

Your tickets will be mailed out to you.

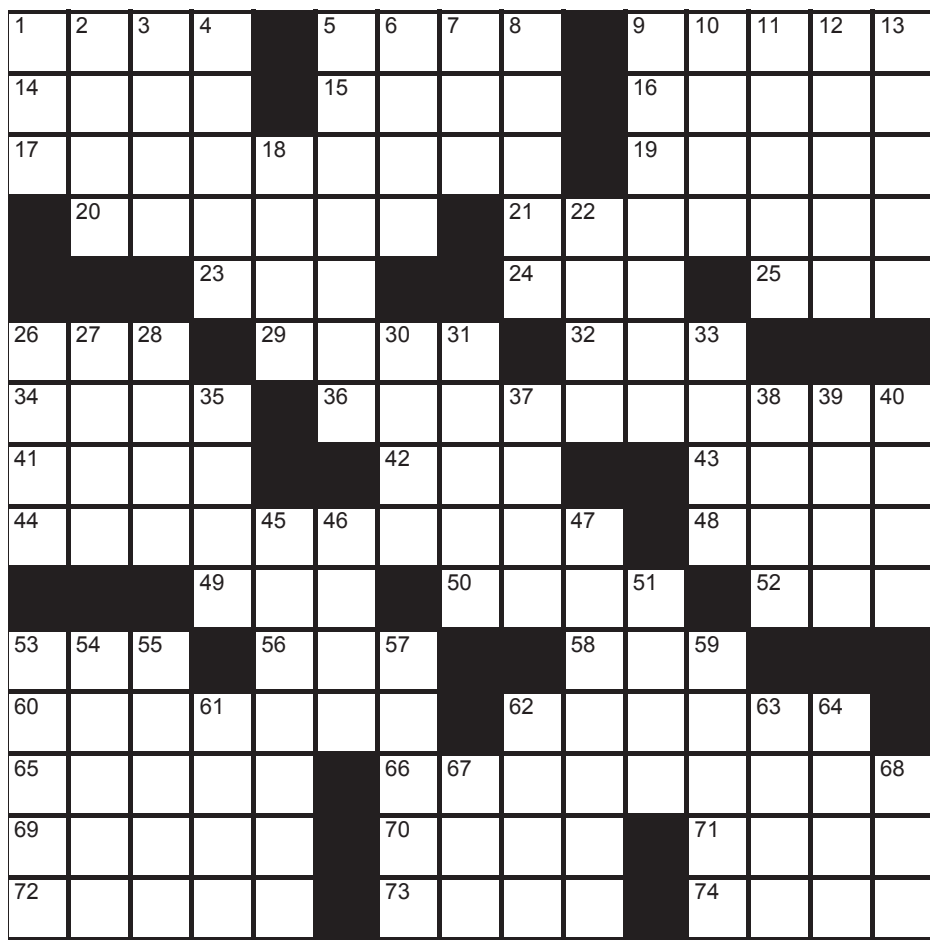
**TICKET ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2019**

For more information call 216.721.5300 ext. 0
(Monday through Friday 8:00am until 3:30pm)

Entertainment:

Lučina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Greater Cleveland
Ralph Szubski, Accordion Master
Slovak Pastries * Exhibits * Slovak Items of Interest

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Shell game
- 5 Tourist guides
- 9 Capital of Ghana
- 14 Others, to Ovid
- 15 Fictional terrier
- 16 Church section
- 17 Bad place for a change of mind
- 19 Recycle
- 20 Illinois River city
- 21 Bovril, e.g.
- 23 A Bobbsey twin
- 24 Menu phrase
- 25 Store posting (Abbr.)
- 26 G.I.'s mail drop
- 29 Singer Seeger
- 32 In times past
- 34 Jack of *Dragnet*
- 36 Bring to life again
- 41 Buffalo's county
- 42 Turkish honorific
- 43 Kind of table
- 44 Frown upon
- 48 Positive
- 49 Pa. neighbor
- 50 Barbershop call
- 52 Trendy
- 53 Back on board
- 56 Modern (Prefix)
- 58 Embrace
- 60 Haiphong locale
- 62 Cereal topper
- 65 Top dog
- 66 Copycats
- 69 Hipbone bone
- 70 Charades, e.g.
- 71 Girasol, e.g.
- 72 Pigeon's perch
- 73 Heidi's home

74 Depend

Down

- 1 *Casablanca* pianist
- 2 Paper holder
- 3 Assistant
- 4 Kind of jar
- 5 Jack-tar
- 6 Perplexed
- 7 School org.
- 8 Brazilian dance
- 9 A lot of plot
- 10 White hat wearer
- 11 Refined
- 12 Stair part
- 13 Vicinities
- 18 Pitfall
- 22 Brio
- 26 Impressed
- 27 Persian spirit
- 28 Kimono sashes
- 30 Eye drop
- 31 Encourage
- 33 Table scraps
- 35 Bit of sweat
- 37 Gutter site
- 38 Starch
- 39 Poi source
- 40 Ogled
- 45 Nom de plume
- 46 Entreaty
- 47 Breathes out
- 51 Yellowfin, e.g.
- 53 Benefit
- 54 Girl, in France
- 55 Lukewarm
- 57 Alpha's opposite
- 59 Swamp snapper
- 61 Hoodlum
- 62 Can be found in the road
- 63 Slangy denial
- 64 Shrinking Asian sea
- 67 Bien's opposite
- 68 Artful

See Solution on Page 17

JEDNOTA Publication Schedule for 2019

Issue Date

Deadline to

Receive Information

November 13

November 4

December 11

December 2

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 - LAKEWOOD, OHIO

The Saint Joseph Society-Branch #1 will hold its annual Christmas party on November 24, 2019 at The Market which is located at 1137 Linda Street Rocky River, Ohio 44116 at 1:00 p.m. A brief meeting will be held prior to the brunch. At this time, election of officers will be held and other business matters will be discussed. Those interested in attending, please contact Rochelle Popovich at 216-789-6390 by November 3, 2019. The restaurant needs to know no later than November 3, 2019 due to seating arrangements.

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

BRANCH 2 - PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

St Michael's Branch 2 will be having a meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, at 7 pm at Eat N' Park on Ohio River Blvd, 15202. Election of officers will take place at this meeting. Please RSVP to Joanne at 412-715-5577.

Joanne Lako, Secretary

BRANCH 3 - MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3, Sts. Cyril & Methodius Society, will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2019, in Minneapolis, MN. The meeting will be held at 11:30AM in Father Dargay Memorial Hall, Church of Sts. Cyril & Methodius. The agenda includes: reports of officers; merge or dissolve Branch 3; or elect new officers. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Fraternally,

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 5P - EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Evangelist Society, Branch 05P, will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2019, at 1:00PM. The meeting will be held at the home of Marion Rubino, President, 67 9th St. Wyoming, PA. On the agenda will be a discussion of branch business, activities, and the election of officers. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Please call Marion Rubino if you plan to attend 570-693-0399.

Marion Rubino, President

BRANCH 6 - STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The annual meeting and election of officers of St. Stephen Society Branch 06K is scheduled to be held on Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 12 noon at 1406 N. Baker St., Streator, IL. Following the meeting and election of officers the branch will provide a lunch for all in attendance. The branch encourages members to attend and to call 815-822-8851 or 815-672-1764 if you plan to attend.

Paul Chismar, Secretary

BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its Annual Meeting and Breakfast on Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. A mass will be offered for our deceased members at 8:30 a.m. at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Following the mass, our members are invited to return to the church hall in the lower level of the church for our annual meeting and breakfast.

At this meeting, the John A. Zahor Scholarship will be awarded to the following college freshman: Roman Achille and Samantha Piroh.

This scholarship was established in recognition of the many years Mr. Zahor served as president of the St. Joseph Society and his commitment to the education of its young members.

In addition, the Andrew J. Imbro Grant will be given to the following college juniors: Michael Agoglia, William Hiza III, Patrick Jezierny, Logan McDonald, Bridget Monks, Patrick Monks, Rachel Radwill, Courtney Skolka, and Alexis Zahor.

Also at this meeting, the election of officers will take place and the distribution of our annual donations will be discussed.

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

Deborah M. Nelson, Secretary

BRANCH 23 - JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 23K, St. Joseph Society, is holding a

meeting on Sunday, Nov. 10 2019, at 1:30PM. The meeting will be at Denny's Family Restaurant, Theater Drive. Johnstown, PA. If you have any policies with Jednota, First Catholic Slovak Union, then you are a member, and you are encouraged to come. If you don't know if you ARE a member please call me. If you would like to become a member, we welcome you and will let you know how to become part of our Family. There is so much to talk about. Our Current Rates are great! There will be Election of Officers at this meeting. A lunch will be served.

Any questions please call Theresa Cassat at (814) 254-2532.

Theresa Cassat, Financial Secretary

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 8, 2019 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 13 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, Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director, at 1-44-668-7797. Please make checks payable to Branch 24. The deadline is Wednesday, November 13, 2019.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Branch 24 will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 24, 2019, at 1:00PM at the HBT 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 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at (440) 668-7797.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Attention Branch 24 members: the branch is once again offering its CHRISTMAS IN JULY MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION. For every WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE POLICY or ANNUITY you purchase or sell by November 1, 2019, Branch 24 will give you a complimentary ticket to the Vilija (Christmas Eve) Dinner sponsored by St. Andrew's Abbey every Christmas season.

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

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 35 - BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Michaels Branch 35 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 20, 2019, at 1:00PM at 100 LeGrande Drive, Pittsburgh, PA. The agenda will include election of officers for 2020, discussion of branch and district activities and officers' reports.

Janet Sullivan, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 38 - WHITE OAK, PENNSYLVANIA

Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm at Steel Cactus Bethel Park: 1001 Cool Springs Drive Unit 6, Pittsburgh, PA 15102. The agenda will include officers' reports and discussion on 2019 and proposed 2020 fraternal social activities. At this meeting, branch members will also elect officers. All Branch 38 members are urged to attend.

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 45- NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 1, 2019 at 12:30 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 60 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 60 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 10, 2019 at the home of President Ann Wargovich (58 Lilmont Drive, Swissvale) at 1:00 pm. On the agenda will be officers' reports, election of officers, planning of the Pittsburgh District meeting, and other upcoming events. All members are urged to attend.

Julie Perla, Secretary

BRANCH 89 - MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Please join us for our Branch 89 Fall Breakfast meeting on Sunday, November 3, 2019. The meeting time is 10:30AM. Members are free. Guests are welcome but will pay for their own breakfast. Cost is \$15 per person. The location: the Capitol Café, 14375 W. Capitol Drive, Brookfield, WI, 53222. Please call to make your reservation by 10/30/2019 to Mike Novak, President: 414-445-5382. On the agenda: 2019 activities.

Fraternal regards,

Mike Novak, President

BRANCH 112 - MAHANAOY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The annual meeting of Branch 112, Mahanoy City, PA will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at noon. The meeting will be at Palermo's Restaurant on the Minersville Pottsville highway. The agenda will include officers reports, old and new business and election of officers. A lunch will be served after the conclusion of the meeting. Please contact Karen Sterling at 570-640-1786 by December 1 if you plan to attend.

Karen Sterling, Secret

BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St Stephen Branch 153 will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, October 12, 2019. It will begin at 11:30AM at Cucina Biagio, 7319 West Lawrence Avenue, Harwood Heights, IL. Officers will be elected at this meeting. A complimentary fraternal luncheon will be served. You must have a reservation, if you plan to attend this meeting. Please call Dorothy at 773 763 0810 before October 5.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, December 8, 2019, at 11:30AM at Bogey's Restaurant, 374 Duck Hollow Road, Uniontown, PA, 15401.

Officers' reports will be given, as well as the upcoming Christmas projects and donations. Future branch activities will be discussed. Regional Director James Marmol will advise us of developments from the Home Office. The annual election and installation of officers will take place.

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

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 181 - UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

All members are encouraged to attend the St. John the Baptist Society Branch 181 meeting on Saturday, November 2, 2019, immediately following the 5PM Mass at St. Florian R.C. Church in United, PA. The meeting will be held in the St. Florian's Social Hall. The election of officers and finalizing plans for the District 3 Vilija will be on the agenda. Refreshments will be served. For more information or directions call Vicki at 724-547-0803.

Vicki Hricik, Secretary

BRANCH 199 - LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 199 will sponsor a luncheon meeting on Sunday, November 10th at 1:00 PM at Sharkey's Cafe, Route 30, Latrobe, PA 15650. Election of Officers for 2020 will take place. All members of

Branch 199 are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Patula, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 200 - FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Congratulations to Paul Klacka who took 2nd place and Jack Augustine who took 3rd place bowling in the Armstrong County Senior games. Jack Augustine and Ed Skukelak recently loaned me some historical information on Holy Trinity Parish book from 2001 and the CU Sokol baseball team from 1922-July 1931. I also have made copies of the "Dedication and Souvenir Banquet Program" booklet from September 5, 1954. Branch 200 was organized by Jacob Matava Sr, Frank Sporny Sr. and George Ondrechowski on October 11, 1895. I have also made a copy of "Sokol, Slovak, Czech Folk Songs" booklet. Branch 200 would truly appreciate any historical information and/or pictures any member would like to donate or loan to Vicki to make copies. Phone: 724-763-9229 or email vschaub123@gmail.com.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Vicki Schaub Financial Secretary

BRANCH 200 - FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

We invite all members to attend Branch 200's meetings held in the upstairs Social Hall @ 910 6th Avenue, Ford City, PA 16226. The Officers and Board of Directors meet @7:00PM with the members to meet directly following. The remainder of the 2019 meeting dates are as follows: 11/07/19 with Nomination of Officers, and 12/05/19 with Election of Officers. We are asking our members to attend the meetings and we welcome any involvement you are willing partake.

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

Vicki Schaub, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 213 - VALENCIA, PENNSYLVANIA

The second semi-annual meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Branch 213 will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. It will be held at 2603 Eloquent Lane, Valencia, PA, 16059. All members are asked to attend. Election of officers will be on the agenda as well as an overview of the activities and contributions of the branch.

Joe Belechak, Secretary

BRANCH 228 - LORAIN, OHIO

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

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 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 8, 2019, at 1:00 PM. We will have an election of officers for the coming year 2020, followed by a luncheon. Reservations can

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BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

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

Branch 260 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, October 20, 2019, at 1:00PM at Salvatore's Italian Grill Restaurant in Austintown, OH. On the agenda: general branch business. A luncheon will follow directly after the meeting.

Charlie Peshek, Vice President

BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

Branch 260 will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 8, 2019, at 1:00PM at Salvatore's Italian Grill Restaurant in Austintown, OH. On the agenda: election of officers. A luncheon will follow directly after the meeting.

Charlie Peshek, Vice President

BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 276 will hold its next 2019 meeting at 1 PM on Sunday, November 10, 2019, at the Twin Oaks Lounge in the Rainbow Shopping Center on Lincoln Way in White Oak, PA. Officers for 2020 will be elected. We will also discuss other branch and district business matters. The next district business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, 2019, at the Holy Trinity Church social hall in West Mifflin. Members are urged to check both the Jednota and the FCSU web site for updates on FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments.

Fraternally,

Margaret Nasta, President

BRANCH 290 - RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

Attention Branch 290 Members: the next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, NJ 08846. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0505 by October 10th if you plan on attending. Agenda will include recap of 2019 events including the Regional picnic and bus trip to Danville. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Mary Kapitan, District Secretary

BRANCH 312 – BAGGALEY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 312 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 20, 2019, at 1:00PM at the home of Branch President Mark Smolleck, 1121 Monastery Dr, Latrobe, PA, 15650. For more information, call 724-539-8326.

Michaelene Smolleck, Secretary

BRANCH 313- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 313, St. John the Baptist Society, will be holding a semi-annual meeting on Monday, October 14, 2019, at 11:30AM. The meeting will be held at "Doc's Smokehouse BBQ", located at 19081 Old LaGrange Road #105 in Mokena, IL. The meeting will be followed by a fraternal luncheon. The agenda for this meeting, will include the Election of Officers. Branch members are welcome to attend. If interested, please contact Branch 313 President, Marge Dickinson at (708)226-8157.

Branch 313 would also like to congratulate all of our members that have received their "50 Year Pin" this year. Thank you for your loyalty.

Jennifer Carlton, Financial 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, November 17, 2019, at 11:00AM, at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA. There will be an election of officers at this meeting. Since a light brunch will be prepared, 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 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Saints Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382K, will conduct its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 3, 2019. Officers and members will gather at noon in the VFW, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, PA.

The agenda will include reports of the executive officers and representatives to the District 17 meeting. Members will also discuss future branch activities. Information from the home office will be disseminated. Election of officers for 2020 will be held. Refreshments and socializing will follow. All members are urged to attend.

Frank M. Slovenkai, Jr. is branch president. Other officers include Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, vice president; Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., treasurer; Michael J. Czankner, recording secretary; and John J. Slovenkai, Sr., financial secretary.

Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Vice President

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 393 will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2019, starting at 5:00PM, with dinner directly following the meeting. The meeting will be held at Gianni's II Restaurant & Lounge, 4816 State St #30, Greensburg, PA, 15601. On the agenda: election of officers. If you plan on attending, please call John at 724-396-6256 and leave a message with your name and the number of people attending.

John Nalevanko, President

BRANCH 401 - EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Anthony of Padua, Branch 401K of East Vandergrift, PA, invites all branch members to attend the 2019 Annual Meeting to be held at 6:30PM on Thursday, December 5, 2019, at the Hillview Tavern located at 1517 Hancock Ave., Apollo, PA, 15613. Members are encouraged to attend as your input is vital and welcomed. In addition to general branch business, election of 2020 Branch 401 officers will be conducted.

Fraternally,

Patrick Froncek, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 410 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul, Branch 410, will hold a meeting on Monday, November 18, 2019, at 2:30 at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA. Election of officers for the year 2020 will take place. Call for reservations by Thursday, November 14, 2019, at 724-425-2576. All members are invited to attend.

Geraldine Buchheit, Secretary

BRANCH 419 - WILKES BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Stephen the Martyr, Branch 419, will hold a meeting on Sunday November 10, 2019, at Norms Restaurant, Sherman Street, Wilkes Barre, PA, beginning at 12:30PM. On the agenda: general branch business and discussion of the upcoming election of officers. The next branch meeting will be held on Sunday, November 17, 2019, at Norms Restaurant, Sherman Street, Wilkes Barre, PA, beginning at 12:30PM. Election of branch officers will take place at this meeting. All are welcome. Lunch will be served following each meeting.

Francis Wassil, President

BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 450 will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, November 23, 2019.

The meeting will be held at 11:00 AM, at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, 5500 West 54th Street, Parma OH, 44129 (between Brookpark and Snow Rd). On the agenda will be officers' reports, the 2019 financial report, 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

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DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 3 –THE GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT – WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District invites you to attend its annual Stedry Vecer on Sunday, December 1, 2019. Begin the evening with Mass at 4PM in the Chapel of the Christ Our Shepherd Center, Route 30 East, Greensburg, PA. Then proceed to the dining area for the beautiful customary Christmas Eve meal complete with kolače for dessert and wine. Door prizes will be awarded and then return to the chapel for entertainment by the Pittsburgh Slovaks. Tickets are limited and are \$25 ages 12 and over and \$11 ages 3 to 11 and available by calling Vice President Darlene Patty at 724-493-8712. No tickets will be available after November 25.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

DISTRICT 4 – THE MSGR RURA DISTRICT

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, NJ 08846. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0505 by October 10th if you plan on attending. Agenda will include recap of 2019 events including the Regional picnic and bus trip to Danville. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 5 – THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT

The Michigan District will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, October 20, 2019, at the Deer Lake Inn located at 7504 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346 (that is exit 93 on I-75, and just 1 mile west of I-75).

Our meeting will begin at 12:45PM. Lunch will be served at 1:00PM. The business meeting will follow the lunch. On the Agenda will be Officer Reports and New Business which includes 2020 FINANCIAL BUDGET, ELECTION OF OFFICERS for 2020.

Branch 633 is hosting this meeting. Please notify Dianna Rimarcik at (PHONE NUMBER) 248-714-9620 with the number of delegates attending from your branch no later than October 12th so the restaurant can be notified of the number of attendees expected. If you are unable to confirm prior to the event but wish to attend, a \$20.00 fee will be collected at the restaurant. Those making advance reservations will NOT be charged.

****Please remember, a branch delegate must attend at least one District meeting in order to be eligible for compensation from the Home Office.

Dianna Rimarcik, Secretary

4945 Wavewood Dr.

Commerce twp., MI 48382

248-714-9620

DISTRICT 6 – THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 60 will host the Fall Business Meeting on December 8, 2019, at the Holy Trinity Social Hall. The meeting will include planning of events for 2020. District officers will be elected for the next year. RSVP to Julie Perla by December 1. Phone 412/672-1510 or email perlagirl@comcast.net. The Steelers are playing the Cardinals in Arizona with the kick-off at 4:35.

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments. This notice is also posted on the FCSU District 6 web page.

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

** WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd, Mt Lebanon PA. October 7: Slovak Genealogy; November 4: Velvet Revolution; December 2: Snow-N-Tell. Become a member of the WPSCA to get the newsletter listing all of their events.

** Slovak beer tasting – Saturday, October 12 – Slovak Sokol Hall 6-10 PM. Contact 412/243-3734 or apav-lak@gmail.com for ticket prices and availability.

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

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

** "Notes of Slovakia" has programs in English and Slovak. You can find them on Facebook or at notesofslovakia.com.

** 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.

** The Carpatho-Rusyn Society maintains a web page at www.c-rs.org.

** 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 hand-carved Bethlehem scene with 80 animated figures.

** The CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International will hold its next conference in Lincoln, Nebraska, October 15-19, 2019. "Nasa Rodina," their quarterly publication, has many interesting articles on Slovak history and genealogy. See www.cgis.org. The Eastern European Family History Society holds annual conferences in Salt Lake City. See feehs.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 7 – THE REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT

The Annual meeting of the Rev John Martvon District 7, will hold its meeting on October 27, 2019, the last Sunday in October, from 2-4PM. Hosted by Branch 372/ Beaverdale. It will be held at The Homestead Inn, 1939 Forest Hills Drive, Elton PA, 15934. All members including Southfork and Gallitzin are welcome to attend. Officers will be chosen at this meeting. Your input is greatly appreciated. Please mark the date on your calendar. Always happy to see new faces.

Sharon Allison, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 8 – THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

District 8- Rev. Stephen Furdek - will be having its annual meeting October 13, 2019. Mass will be held at 10:00AM, at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, 4456 Main St, Egypt, Whitehall Township, PA. 18052.

Immediately following the Mass, a luncheon will be served, concluding with our annual meeting. The cost of meal will be \$17.50 per delegate. The location for the luncheon/meeting will be held at the VFW Post 7293, 5209 Springmill Road Whitehall PA. 18052.

All branches are encouraged to attend District 8 meetings. Also, it is important all delegate forms be returned promptly by September 30, 2019. There will be no exceptions. Thank you.

Any branch dues can be paid prior to the meeting or at the meeting. We have a few branches who have not yet paid the district dues. They can mailed to Gerald Fabian 4137 Wilson St, Whitehall, PA 18052-1615.

Any questions regarding the meeting please contact Monica Fabian at mfabian922@gmail.com.

Respectfully Submitted,

Monica Fabian, Recording Secretary

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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	Margaret Rusnak	157K	Frances Danchak	200K	Joseph R Kunst	743K	Nick Cornak
003P	John R Salazer	157K	Richard Michael Kostival	233K	Joseph P Fremer	743K	Michael J Romanchik
003P	Dorothy Yashur	157K	Joseph B Sopko	259K	Patricia J Guidos	746K	Michael Kiyak
004K	Richard M Gasparik	162K	Paul E Baloga	348K	Thomas Andrew Hunt	746K	James F Kovacs
005P	Martin Leo Curry	162K	Jerome L Griglak	382K	Joan Marie Ksiazek	746K	Kathleen B McNeany
005P	John V Morris Jr	162K	Elmer J Sasko	404K	Ronald J Bednar Sr	746K	Joseph J Nedelsky
006K	Donald Armstrong	162K	Edward Valyik Jr	404K	Mary L Sokora	746K	Joseph Paul Pluta
024K	Gary Liptak	165K	Marge Mary Ferko	429K	Albert M Gladis	746K	Thomas Sensakovic
024K	Mary Nemeth	166K	Josephine Balch	484K	Vasil Fisanick	764K	Anne Wassel
024K	Raymond J Repko	166K	Rudolph W Gaspar	553K	Gloria Galloway	796K	Valeria Bernardo
038K	Victoria Ann Tomco	166K	Francis Hanyak	553K	James Kasper	796K	Andrew P Figura
075K	Ronald M Anderson	169P	Helen Mateljan	553K	Bob J McCaig	831K	Alfred E Bordell
075K	Magdalen M Benish	173K	Steven W Price	553K	Richard F Muha	855K	Marlene A Schultz
083K	Frank J Furto	173K	Maureen Smith	553K	Stephen P Vargo	900K	Wayne Raymond Birescik
085K	Francis J Fetcho	181K	James J Brodak	667K	Margaret Pnakovich	916K	Donna S Cavan
108K	Dorothy Demorow	199K	Gervase S Gumbita	670K	Marie Colucci	916K	Michael B Cavan
153K	Edward J Bonk Sr	199K	Ronald Hudak	670K	Mary Patik	924K	Frances A Gentile
153K	Robert M Kostolansky	199K	Raymond L Pavlik	682K	Veronica A Misalko		

*Processed through the month of September

OBITUARIES

RONALD M. ANDERSON

BRANCH 75 – SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Ronald M. Anderson, 77, of Shamokin, PA, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2019, at his residence.

He was born Dec. 2, 1941, in Shamokin, a son of the late Michael M. And Mary (Palko) Anderson. Ron was a lifelong resident of the Shamokin area.

He attended St. Mary Elementary School and was a graduate of Shamokin High School, Class of 1959. He advanced his education enrolling in McCann School of Business and later graduated from Bloomsburg University.

Ron proudly served in the U.S. Air Force, entering active duty in 1964. During his enlistment, he served with the 91 Combat Support Group, SAV. He received an honorable discharge in 1968, from Glasgow AFB, Montana.

Ron was married June 29, 1991, in St. Mary's Church, Shamokin, to the former Christine Gladek, who survives.

He was employed as an auditor with the PA Department of Revenue.

He was a member of the former St. Mary's Church, Shamokin, now Mother Cabrini Church, the Lithuanian Club, St. Francis Home Association, Knights of Columbus and was the Financial Secretary of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

He loved fishing and gardening and was an avid Penn State football fan, having had season tickets for more than 30 years.

Ron is survived by his wife, Christine; a step-daughter, Virginia Pawelczyk and her husband, Ken, of Shamokin; and step-son, Stephen Jacoby and his wife, Christine, of

Shamokin; four grandchildren, Veronica Yoder, Kenneth Pawelczyk, Cameron Jacoby and Gabriella Jacoby; a sister, Mary Ann (Anderson) Barrett and her husband, T. Robert Barrett, of Frackville, PA; a brother, Michael P. Anderson, of Shamokin; and several nieces and nephews.

- Submitted by Christine Anderson

FRANK J. FURTO BRANCH 83 – MT. PROSPECT, ILLINOIS

Frank J. Furto, 97yrs. departed peacefully from this life, August 17, 2019, at his home surrounded by his family.

Frank is survived by four daughters: Kathleen, 'Kathy' (late Dick) Pucel, Susanne (Tim) Brody, Marilyn (Paul Jr.) Rak, Francine (Frank Frigo) Blackburn. Nine cherished grandchildren: Shane (Edna) Pucel, Aaron (Sarah Weiske) Pucel, Mira Brody, Ian Brody, Tiffany (Drew) Mucci-Heitman, Gwen Rak, Syndey Rak, Dan Blackburn & Rachel (Joey) Carlson. Two great-grandchildren: Sadie & Reed Carlson. One sister Margaret Prombo; one brother Anthony Mican; two sisters-in-law Helen (late Thomas) Furto & Bernice (late Benedict) Furto. Preceded in death by his wife, Ann (Hanis), his parents, Joseph & Mary Furto, brothers & sisters, Thomas (Helen), Marie (in infancy), Agnes (late George) Beno, Mary (late John) Ferak, Joseph (late Frances), John (Carol) Furto, Theresa Furto & Benedict (Bernice) Furto. One grandson Jason Pucel.

Born in Joliet, Frank was a lifelong resident. He graduated from Joliet High School, and soon thereafter went to basic training for the US Army and was deployed to the European Theater in World War II. He served as an infantryman from 1943 until honorable discharge in 1946. Returning home Frank met Ann Hanis and was married for 64 yrs. Frank had a lifelong career working at the Texaco refinery in Lockport as a supervisor until his retirement. He would join Ann in dancing, bowling and occasional trips throughout the United States. A lifelong Chicago Cubs fan, he enjoyed watching the

team and was thrilled to see their World Series victory in 2016. After Ann's passing in 2016 he continued to enjoy the company of Smokey, his black and white cat. Though often underfoot, Frank doted on him assuring he had plenty of food and water and an occasional dish of milk.

ANN KACSANEK BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

Ann Kacsanek, 90, passed away Saturday, July 27, 2019 at Aultman Compassionate Care Center, Canton, OH.

Ann was born October 16, 1928 to George and Anna (Kanza) Klinchak in Akron, OH, and had been an Akron area resident her entire life. She received a Bachelor Degree in Education from the University of Akron. She was a Fifth, Seventh and Eighth Grade teacher at St. Francis de Sales School for over 22 years and she had been the Financial Secretary of the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota) Branch 553 for 20 years. She attended numerous conventions with her husband, Joe, events she took very seriously.

Ann was a member of Queen of Heaven Catholic Church. She enjoyed reading, traveling and music.

Ann was preceded in death by her husband of 44 years, Joseph in 1992; son-in-law, Ralph Speck and brothers-in-law, Andrew and George Kacsanek. She is survived by her children, Debra Speck and Joseph E. Kacsanek, Jr.; sister, Irene (William) Zimmerman; brother-in-law, Ed Kacsanek; sister-in-law, Johanna Kacsanek; grandchildren, Hope Lewis, Dennis (Lisa) Buchanan, Joseph (Kristen) Kacsanek III, Elizabeth (Ben) Owens, Georjette (Brian) Thomas, Paula

(Bob) Danish and Ralph (Lindsay Venham) Speck; great grandchildren, Gavin, Peyton, Benjamin, Natalie, Karter, Matthew, Keagan, Britt and Connor.

- Submitted by Debra Speck

ANDREW P. FIGURA BRANCH 796 – EGYPT, PENNSYLVANIA

Andrew P. Figura, 89, Defiance, passed away Friday, Aug. 16, 2019, at Cedarcrest Manor, Washington, MO.

Andrew, a former plant manager, was born April 10, 1930, in Co-play, PA, to Andrew Figura and wife Barbara. He was a Christian in the Catholic faith. Andrew proudly served our country in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association. While in the Air Force, Andrew was an airplane mechanic on the B-36. Being an outdoorsman, he loved fishing and gardening. In his spare time, Andrew also enjoyed polka music, fireworks and woodworking. He will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Andrew is survived by his special friend, Elsie Tanzos; two sons, John A. (Julie) Figura, Defiance, MO, and Andrew M. (Mae) Figura, Willow Springs, MO; two daughters, Carol J. (Terry) Bolton, O'Fallon, MO, and Barbara L. (Kevin) O'Sullivan, Farmington, MO; two sisters, Mary Govala-Walker, Allenton, PA, and Elaine Petock; and three grandchildren, Jacob Pendley, Natalia and Lillie Figura.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Andrew and Barbara Figura; two brothers, Stephen and Francis Figura; and four sisters, Anna Mizgerd, Katherine Daniello, Helen Marcovicci and Celia Thornton.



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

A great source for the latest information about our Society - and events in the greater Slovak community.

Is your FCSU profile up to date?



Help us serve you by making sure we have all your latest information on file - address, phone, email, beneficiary

Call the Home Office and Update Your Profile Today at:
1-800-533-6682 (JEDNOTA)

Or go to <http://www.fcsu.com/update-profile>

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 484KJ, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 8, 2019, at 2:00PM at the Eat'n Park Restaurant, 2301 Rt. 286 So., Indiana, PA. The agenda will include election of officers, reports, payment of bills, donations, scholarship recipients, membership and general discussion of branch issues.

We wish our members and all families and friends a beautiful fall season, a Blessed Christmas, and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

Monica Rura, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist, Branch 553 will be meeting on Sunday, November 3, 2019 at 3 pm at The Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. We will be electing officers to serve on the Board of Directors in 2020.

If you are interested in serving on the board please send a letter of intent to run to: Sandie Klucar, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, c/o Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. Please indicate in your letter the position you are interested in serving the organization on the board. Letters must be received by Saturday, October 26, 2019.

The New Roof has been installed. We need the help of all members to pay off the loan we incurred to facilitate these much needed repairs. Any and all support from you the members will be greatly appreciated. One way to support the effort is by attending our "Raise the Roof" Casino Night. Other ways are to patronize the club events – Spaghetti Night, Wednesday Dinners, Bus trips and by personal donations.

Mark your calendars:

10/16 Seafood Dinner served from 4:30 – 7:00 pm \$10.00 Only 90 dinners will be served. No ticket sales at the door. Call the club to reserve your tickets.

10/29-30 Overnight Casino Trip to Meadows – Cancelled

10/30 Casino Trip to Mountaineer – coffee and donuts 8:00am; bus leaves 8:30 am. Call Joan Lewis 330-730-8285 if interested

11/3 Lodge Meeting 3 pm at club (see above)

11/20 Pork Chop Dinner

12/7 Scotch Doubles

12/15 Annual Vilija Celebration – 4:00 pm

Cost \$20.00 per person

Call Linda Hanko to reserve tickets, no sales at the door.

Jan.15 Monthly Wednesday Dinner

Jan 18 Winefest

Feb.15 50-60's Dance featuring Larry Alltop

1st Wednesday of every month Spaghetti Dinner served from 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Hope to see you at the meeting and listed events.

Linda M Hanko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 587 – ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 587K will hold its semi-annual meeting and Christmas luncheon on Sunday, December 1, 2019, beginning at 2:00PM. The meeting will be held at Harold's Inn, 2134 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001. On the agenda: election of officers for 2020. The deadline for reservations in November 20, 2019. Please contact Joanne Fibbi at 412-953-4721 or jfibbi@gmail.com to reserve your seating and indicate the number of adults and number of children attending.

Joanne Fibbi, President

BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 will hold a branch meeting on Saturday, December 14, 2019, at 2PM at Tatra Hall, 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI. On the agenda: election of branch officers. All members are welcome.

Mindy Redmon, Vice President

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, November 17, 2019, at noon

at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. General business will be discussed and there will be an election of officers. Members of Branch 670 are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 716 FCSU, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 17, 2019 after the Slovak Mass at 1:00PM in downstairs hall of St. John Nepomucene Church, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, activities of past year, election of officers for 2020 and discussion of plans for the coming year. All members are urged to attend. Light refreshments will be served after meeting.

Joan Mary Skrkon, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 721 – BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

Jednota Branch 721 will have their meeting on Sunday, December 1, 2019 at 2:00PM. It will be at the home of Julius Remenar, Financial Secretary, located at 8900 S. Mason Road, Bannister, MI. Election of officers will be done at this time. All members are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Branch 731 members will celebrate Mass at 11:00 am on Sunday, December 22, 2019 in commemoration of our deceased members. The Liturgy will be at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio.

At noon, following the Mass for the deceased, we will have our annual meeting for the election of officers for 2020. We will be at Saint Matthias Church on Sunday, December 22, 2019 for this meeting also.

As a Branch 731 member, if you purchased a ticket for the Disney on Ice performance scheduled for December 29, 2019 at 5 pm, please call Grace Kavulich at (330) 530-7454. We need to know how many Branch 731 members will be at the performance. In order to be reimbursed the \$15 member amount, you will need to call Grace and then bring your ticket to Saint Matthias Church on December 29, 2019 at noon following Mass. We look forward to seeing you.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 743 – STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 743 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 01, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. On the agenda will be Officer's Report, a 2019 financial report, approval of the 2020 budget, discussion of branch activities, and other business pertaining to the Branch and the First Catholic Slovak Union. **The election of 2020 Branch Officers will also take place.** Members are urged to attend the celebration of the Slovak Mass before the meeting at 11:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, 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 and gender.

Joseph C. Rimarcik, President and Financial Secretary

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

Please also note that the next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2019 at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the meeting at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, NJ 08846. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0505 by October 10th if you plan on attending. Agenda will include recap of 2019 events including the Regional picnic and bus trip to Danville. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 746, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 12:30 PM at AMICIS RISTORANTE, 1700 W. Elizabeth Avenue, Linden, NJ. The agenda will include election of officers, including the new position of Branch Fraternal Activities Director. There will also be discussion and planning of next year's activities. A Christmas luncheon will follow the meeting (\$35.00 for non-members). Please call Mary Ann Ranahan @732-251-6035 by November 27th if you plan on attending. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 756 – OWOSSO, MICHIGAN

St. Joseph the Guardian, Branch 756, will hold its Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 3, 2019, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, located at 1259 E. Main Street, Owosso, beginning at 10:45AM. The agenda will include information from the Fall District Meeting, local branch officer reports, and an Election of Officers for the upcoming year. FCSU members and guests are invited to join us for Chicken Dinner in the main hall following the meeting. We hope to see you there!

If unable to attend, please contact us at 989-277-8959 with any policy or address changes.

Gary Gregoricka, President

BRANCH 784 – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Branch 784 Montreal will be merging with Branch 785, Toronto. Branch 784 will hold a farewell to Montreal Banquet on October 27, 2019, at the St. Cyril and Method Parish Hall following the 11o'clock Mass. All current members of Branch 784 are invited to attend. This will be catered. We ask that members planning to attend to advise the following at least two weeks prior to the event: Anne Boyce 514-685-4236 – Anne Chandik 514-684-0177; Helen Corej 514-747-5600; or Julie Zemanovich 450-424-1279

Our sincere thanks to all past officers for their dedication throughout the years.

Alice Dobrik, President

BRANCH 844 – LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 844K will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at 2:00PM. Please call the branch office for the direction to the location of the meeting at 714 524-5539. The branch will hold election of officers at this meeting and Branch business and plan of activities for the following season will be discussed. Luncheon will be served directly after the meeting.

Milan Konkol, Secretary

BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

All Branch 855 members are invited to participate free of charge in the following fraternal events (non-members welcome at the regular price): Sat, Nov 9 Lucina Slovak Gala, Holy Spirit Party Center, Parma, OH (details on p 7 of this issue); or Sun, Dec 8 Vilija (Slovak Christmas Eve meal) St. Andrew Abbey, Cleveland, OH (details on p 13 of this issue). Tickets are limited and available on a "first come, first served" basis. To place your order or for more info, please call Barbara at 440-864-4744.

All branch members also are encouraged to attend the upcoming District 10 meeting on Sunday, October 27, 2019 at the Slovak J Club in Akron. Details are on page 15 of this issue.

Barbara Sutilla, President

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON DC AREA

Branch 856 will hold their annual meeting for 2019 on October 15, 2019 at 1:00PM at the Tyson Pimmit Library 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA, 22043 Members are encouraged to attend. Would like ideas on what you are interested in your branch doing. Report on district meeting that was held in Egypt, PA. Discussion on next year's celebration of the 55th anniversary of our Slovak Chapel in Washington, D.C. More information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 919-651-0363.

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 13

S	C	A	M		M	A	P	S		A	C	C	R	A				
A	L	I	A		A	S	T	A		C	H	O	I	R				
M	I	D	S	T	R	E	A	M		R	E	U	S	E				
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L	E	D	G	E						A	L	P	S		R	E	L	Y

June Board Meeting Minutes

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OUTSIDE AUDITORS:

The President stated that the Executive Committee reviewed 3 proposals from different accounting firms to be our new accountants. One CPA firm stated they could not be cost competitive and declined to submit a written proposal. After reviewing the proposals and with recommendation from the Chairman of Auditors Leonard Zilko, the Executive Committee authorized the President to stay with the accounting firm of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP for two more years.

MISCELLANEOUS:

2019 Fraternalist of the Year

George Kascanek from Branch 553K was chosen as Fraternalist of the Year for 2019. He was recognized for his outstanding service to FCSU, the Slovak J Club in Akron, and Branch 553K.

The President stated that he will send out notices to accept recommendations for the 2020 Fraternalist of the Year.

Father Furdek Statue

The President stated that the process of moving the Father Furdek statue from Middletown, Pennsylvania to the Home Office in Independence, Ohio is almost complete. A dedication ceremony of the statue will follow the Board of Directors meeting in September.

The President stated that there is a possibility of having the December Board of Directors Meeting in Florida. He is looking for possible sites to host the meeting.

The Executive Secretary stated that he is looking to get wind breakers and polo shirts for the Board of Directors.

MIDDLETOWN PROPERTY:

The President stated that he speaks with Attorney John Feichtel frequently regarding the sale of the

property and everything is moving forward to close the deal on November 1, 2019.

SUBSIDIARIES REPORT:

The President stated that a joint meeting of Jednota Properties, Inc., and Jednota, Inc., took place on May 17, 2019 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

James Marmol, President of Jednota Properties gave an update on the property and answered the Board's questions. The reports of Jednota, Inc., and Jednota Properties, Inc., are informational in nature to the parent FCSU Board.

Mr. Marmol stated that Jednota Properties, Inc., voted to declare a dividend of \$150,000.00 to the FCSU.

RATING:

The President stated he is in the final stages to sign a contract with Kroll Bond so that FCSU may receive a rating.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

Requests for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

PAYMENT OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING:

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

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Thomas Ivanec and seconded by Sabina Sabados to adjourn. Motion carried.

Reverend Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2019 HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN MEETING:

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

ROLL CALL:

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

ACCEPTANCE OF THE JULY MEETING MINUTES:

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

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Investment Updates

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

Portfolio Review

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

Mortgages and Overdue Mortgages

The Executive Secretary presented the report for the month of July 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 July:

Disbursements for the month of July 2019:

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$	212,245.20
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$	42,260.84
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.

The Executive Secretary presented the financial statement for the 2nd quarter and answered the Committee's questions. The financial statements will be printed in the Jednota newspaper.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer and the Executive Secretary gave a full written report on the investment update to the Executive Committee. Following the report, they answered the Committee's questions.

The President stated that the Executive Committee will meet with representatives from Clutterbuck, MAI and UBS to get an update on our investments. A review of the meeting will be presented at the Board of Directors Meeting next month.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction Report via teleconference to the Executive Committee. Each member of the Committee received a copy of the presentation in advance for his review.

Mr. White reviewed the possible bonds or other securities we can use as collateral for future Federal Home Loan Bank advances.

The President stated we will review the current rates of Federal Home Loan Bank to see if we can take advantage of any future advancements.

SALES AND MARKETING:

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

The Executive Secretary stated that the final arrangements are being made for the 2019 Membership Meet November 9-17, 2019 aboard Carnival Magic.

The President stated that he and the Executive Secretary met with Ed DePersis in Pittsburgh to get an update on converting the 2010 CSO's over to the new 2017 CSO's before January 1, 2020. They also discussed if it is necessary to raise our agent commission rates to increase life insurance and annuity sales.

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:

Annuity Rates:

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

MIDDLETOWN:

The President stated that he is in frequent contact with the attorney representing the buyers of our property in Middletown. He stated that he has been informed by the buyer that

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DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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DISTRICT 9 - THE FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District of Uniontown, PA will hold a meeting on Sunday, October 13, 2019, at 1:00 P.M. at the Uniontown Dairy Queen Grill and Chill, 575 West Main Street. Regional Director James Marmol will brief the group of current events taking place at the Home Office. All members are urged to attend. A Dairy Queen social will follow.

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

DISTRICT 10 - THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District 10 will be meeting on Sunday, October 27, 2019 at 3 pm at The Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. At this meeting we will be electing officers for 2020 and discussing future events.

Mark your calendars:

Dec. 8 - Vilijas at American Slovak Club, Lorain, OH and at St. Andrew Abbey, Cleveland, OH

Look for more details in upcoming issues of Jednota

Dec. 15 - Vilija at Branch 553 St. John the Baptist, Akron, OH

Cost \$20.00 per person. Contact Linda Hanko for tickets

March 28, 2020 - District 10 Hockey Game with Cleveland Monsters at the Q in Cleveland, OH

Please contact Linda Hanko at 330-706-0151 or lhanko@neo.rr.com if you plan to attend the meeting.

Hope to see you there.

Linda M. Hanko, Secretary/Treasure

District 11 – MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

The semiannual District 11 meeting will be held Sunday, November 17 @ 2pm. This meeting will take place @ Rachel's Roadhouse, 27 Franklin Village Mall, Kittanning Pa.16201. Lunch will be provided @ no cost for members who attend. Any benefical member is welcome to represent his/her branch at District meetings with or without formal identification by the Branch or to the District Secretary of intent to attend the meetings. We encourage members to attend, your input in invaluable.

Agenda: nomination and election of 2020 officers; and topic of discussion for upcoming events, including the Polka Party to be held in January of 2020. Questions may be directed to Karen Greggs @ 724-372-0690 o rby email @ patrickf007@yahoo.com.

Fraternally,

**Karen Greggs, Recording Secretary
Grace Kavulic, Secretary**

STRICT 12 – THE MSGR ANDRE HLINKA DISTRICT

On Sunday, November 17, 2019, at 1:00PM, a meeting of the Andre Hlinka District will be held at Kings Restaurant in Bentleyville, PA. 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 13 – THE JOZEF CARDINAL TOMKO DISTRICT

District 13's semi-annual meeting will be held October, 13, 2019, following a complimentary luncheon at 1:30 at Cozy Corners 401 Sarah Street in Osceola Mills, PA, 16666.

Members from District 13 Branches are requested to attend. There will be election of officers for 2020. Please call or fax Rosemary Deliman at 814 342 5592 if you are unable to attend.

**Rosemary Deliman, Secretary
E-mail: rosemarydeliman@me.com
Cell: 814 496 2702**

DISTRICT 14 – THE REV JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Reverend Joseph L. Kostik, Region 6, District 14 will hold its Annual meeting on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at the Falcon Grille located at 29 N. Canfield-Niles Road (Rt. 46) in Austintown. This meeting will be for the Election of Officers and Installation of Officers for the coming year. We will also discuss meeting place changes and the calendar for the year 2020. Please make every effort to attend and be a member of the District decision making.

Grace Kavulic, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 14 – THE REV JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Reverend Joseph L. Kostik, District 14, Youngstown, OH will be hosting its Annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 6PM at the Magic Tree, 7463 South Ave. in Boardman, OH. The cost is \$25 for Adults and \$15 for children 10 and under. Reservations are required and must be paid by December 1, 2019. Contact and mail payments to: Sue Carney, 6810 Blue Ridge Dr., Poland, OH 44514. Make checks payable to Rev. Joseph Kostik District. Include your Branch number and how many persons are attending. Should you need to reach Sue please call (330)770-6810. Thank you and we hope to see you on December 17. Grace Kavulic, Secretary and Sue Carney, Chair of the Christmas Party Committee.

Grace Kavulic, Secretary

DISTRICT 15 –THE PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT – LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

District 15 will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 16, 2019. Hospitality will begin at 1:30PM and the meeting will begin at 2:00PM. Please call the district office at 714 524-5539 for directions to the location of the meeting.

The district will hold election of officers at this meeting and share Blessings received at the Corpus Christi Mass Celebration in Trenčianske Teplice, Slovakia on June 20, 2019. Greetings from retired Consul General of the Slovak Republic will be conveyed and future events and activities will be discussed at the meeting. All branches are asked to send representatives. We are looking forward to meeting you and sharing fraternalism over a delicious luncheon.

Paul Skuben, President

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District 16 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, November 24, 2019 after the Slovak Mass in the Rectory of St. John Nepomucene Church. On the agenda will be a financial report, future activities for 2020 and election of officers for 2020.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting. All Members are urged to attend and voice their opinions and concerns.

Joan Mary Skrkon, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 17 – STS CYRIL & METHIDIUS DISTRICT – LUZERNE & LAKAWANNA COUNTIES, PA, & BROOME COUNTY, NY

The district's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, October 27, 2019, at St. John's The Evangelist Church Hall, William and Church Streets, Pittston, PA. We will be included in the Mass celebrated at 11:30AM for those who can attend; the Mass will be followed by lunch at 12:20PM, with the meeting immediately after.

Jednota updates, summer activities held, and upcoming activities will be discussed. Election of officers will take place and everyone has the opportunity to hold a position. Are you active in your branch? You may be nominated from the floor. Share your gifts of talent, interest in the Jednota, and its growth and benefits. COME AND KEEP FRATERNALISM ALIVE. Make friends through your presence.

District dues – are you up-to-date?

Hope to see you on Sunday, October 27th. Reservations are not necessary. Call Michael Slovenkai, District President, at (570) 342-7562 if you have any questions.

Fraternally,

Theresa Chupka, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 20 – PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT – MONTREAL, QUEBEC

District 20 – Prince Rastislav District will be merging with District 19 - Msgr. Michael Shuba District – Toronto. All current members of District 20 are invited to attend a farewell to Montreal Banquet hosted by Branch 784. The banquet will be held on October 27, 2019, at the Sts Cyril and Method Parish Hall following the 11o'clock Mass. This will be catered. We ask that members planning to attend to advise the following at least two weeks prior to the event: Anne Boyce 514-685-4236 – Anne Chandik 514-684-0177; Helen Corej 514-747-5600; or Julie Zemanovich 450-424-1279

Our sincere thanks to all past officers for their dedication throughout the years.

Alexander Dobrik, President

June Board Meeting Minutes

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they are confident, barring unexpected events. The transaction is on schedule to close by the end of the year.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The Executive Secretary gave an update on the FCSU Golf Tournament being held at Cedarbrook Golf Course on August 17-18, 2019 in Belle Vernon, PA. He stated that the tournament will have over 60 golfers. Fraternal Activities Director Kevin Collins will give a final report of the Golf Tournament at the Board of Directors Meeting next month.

RATING AGENCY:

The President stated we have contracted with Kroll Bond Rating Agency to obtain a rating for our Society. The process will begin at the end of the year.

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.

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

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION of the "JEDNOTA"

Name of editor: Teresa Ivanec
Owner: First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada
Publisher: First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada
Known bondholder, mortgages, or other security holders holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities: None

13. Publication Title		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below	
JEDNOTA		9-11-19	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		21,800	20,891
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	21,200	21,275
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	0	0
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	0	0
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	600	175
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		21,800	21,450
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	100	100
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		100	100
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		21,900	21,550
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		100	100
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		22,000	21,650
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		99.54%	99.93%

* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership

If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the Oct 9, 2019 issue of this publication. Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner

(Signature)

Date

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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