



# Catholic Fraternal Jednota

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## September Reflections: Highlights of Blessed Mary's Life

**Sr. Maria Theresa Hronec, SSCM**

As I review the calendar year of saints, I find that each month honors one or more of Blessed Mary's titles or life experiences. These are beautiful reminders of her gifts, graces, and how she shares them with us.

September begins with her birthday on the 8th, and her name day of the 12th. Soon after, we grieve with her as Sorrowful Mother on the 15th. This follows the day we honor the Holy Cross on the 14th. Toward the end of the month her title Mother of Mercy is revered on the 24th.

The hymn O Nepoškvrnená – which I have translated into the English version, O Immaculate, for this September edition of Jednota – is beautiful in its simplicity, and highlights many of Mary's joys.

May she fill our days with joy as she blesses our lives with Jesus her Son.

O Nepoškvrnená

O Nepoškvrnená  
Panna vyvolená –  
Buď dnes pozdravená,  
Mária!

Zbor:  
Kráľovná anjelov!  
Pani nebestanov  
A Matka krestanov,  
Mária!  
Boh Otec s tebou je,  
Boh Syn ťa Matkou zve,  
Boh Duch zatieňuje,  
Mária!  
O pomoc vyzývam ťa,  
Tebe venujem sa,  
Ach neopúšťaj mňa,  
Mária!

O Immaculate

O Immaculate,  
Virgin preserved by God,  
Be daily praised and loved,  
Maria!

*Chorus:*  
Queen of angelic hosts,  
Sov'reign in heaven's home,  
Mother of Christian souls,  
Maria!  
Father God dwells with you,  
God's Son mothered by you,  
God's Spirit shines on you,  
Maria!  
Hear me plead for your aid,  
With you my trust is laid,  
Faithful, great help display,  
Maria!



The Virgin in Prayer, Giovanni Battista Salvi da Sassoferrato (1609 – 1685)

### Fall into Fraternal Fun



**With the FCSU!**

**Shrine Pilgrimage, p 4**  
**Benevolent Scholarship, p 4**  
**FCSU National Contests, p 14**  
**FCSU Golf Photos, pp 15 - 17**

### Inside

Editorial/Commentary.....2  
Branch Announcements.....12, 24, 27  
District Announcements..... 13

Articles in Slovak/English

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# Insights and Viewpoints



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

**September 19, 2021 – Twenty-fifth - Sunday in Ordinary Time**

In our culture it is common to speak of disorders in terms of the current dictionary definition; “an abnormal physical or mental condition.” They can cause distress in various ways and usually are treatable. In the letter of James he speaks of disorder in terms of the Christian community as the result of jealousy and selfish ambition. He contrasts a community that is disordered



Fr. Killian Loch,  
O.S.B.

to one that is ordered. A community that draws on Wisdom from above is ordered and the fruits of this are peace, gentleness, compliance, and mercy. As followers of Jesus we should be striving to live in ordered communities with our families, our parishes, our neighborhood, our work and beyond. This is a big challenge because where a community is present faults are present and at times can distract from and even dwarf all the good that is present.

How can we go about bringing order into a disordered situation? One way is to look at ourselves and acknowledge any jealousy or selfish ambition in our lives that is disordered. It is not always easy to admit faults like these, but they are there and can only be addressed when we take the responsibility of owning up to them. This is best begun by prayer asking the Holy Spirit to enlighten our minds to see those parts of our lives in need of reform. The fruit of this prayer will hopefully be the desire to change and improvement into our lives. From this desire comes the need to pray asking God for the ability to make the changes necessary for us to overcome these tendencies. These changes will have a positive effect on our various communities. If we take time to pray, reflect, plan and act and we could see amazing things happen.

Throughout the Gospels Jesus showed us the way to have a harmonious and grace-filled community. Jesus did so through humility and patience. In the Gospel today Jesus he presents a paradox to them. In order to be first one has to be last and a servant to everyone else. This is what James was echoing in the passage we heard from him. He saw this instruction as Jesus instructing that to be last is to put aside jealousy that and selfish ambition. Jesus is particularly focusing his teaching on the attitudes and qualities of leaders.

He gives us a new teaching, a new understanding and a new example of being a leader. The leader is to humbly serve and place all who are served ahead of him. Jesus is the ultimate model of this for he is the Son of God who humbled himself to be born into our world and be like us in all things but sin. Jesus, our Lord, took upon himself the death reserved for a criminal and did this so that by his dying we might have life. The paradox of Jesus' teaching in this passage is best understood in the paradox of the cross.

The example and teaching of Jesus is a call to humble service. A term that is currently popular in Church teachings is “Servant Leadership.” Those who are called to lead have the call to do so by service. For some of us this means a radical change in how we might view leadership, but it is a change that brings us more in line with the teachings and example of Jesus. How do we do this? It is best to begin with praying for a humble and contrite spirit. From there it is stepping back and humbling ourselves to serve those around us. This ultimately results in a community that is focused on serving and not jealousy or ambition.

**137 – 26th Sunday of O.T. – September 26, 2021**

Today's first reading comes from the little-read but fascinating Book of Numbers. This book got its title from the fact that a census of the people of Israel is taken twice during the book's narrative, but it includes much more than routine head counts. Numbers features colorful accounts of a talking donkey (22:22-35), a bronze serpent which has healing powers (21:6-9), manna from heaven (11:1-9), an exciting military reconnaissance mission (13:1-33), divine anger manifested through leprosy (12:10-16), sinkholes swallowing people alive (16:25-34), and divine fire consuming the rebellious Israelites (16:16-24, 35).



Fr. Edward Mazich,  
O.S.B.

Jesus himself refers to Numbers twice in his preaching, when he speaks of the bronze serpent in the Gospel of John (John 3:14-15; cf. Num 21:6-9) and when he warns his disciples against false oaths during his Sermon on the Mount (Matt 5:33; cf. Num 30:3).

We can likely all sympathize with today's teaching from Numbers, for, although it is very serious, it may remind us of events of our childhood when we first encountered a tattletale.

We hear the story of two Israelites who are moved by the Spirit to praise God through prophecy, but Joshua—a key figure in the Bible but at this point not yet experienced in life—runs to complain about them to Moses: “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp ... Moses, my lord, stop them!” Joshua is zealous for the Lord and wants to defend the integrity of the Lord's actions among the people of Israel, but he does not realize that God will not be confined by human understandings of what is right or of the way God “ought” to act.

The story continues with Moses giving the earnest but naïve Joshua a stern lesson: “Moses answered him, ‘Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the Lord were prophets! Would that the Lord might bestow his spirit on them all!’” (Num 11:27-29). Sometimes zeal gets the best of us, and even when we are motivated by good intentions we can end up carefully observing fine details while missing the larger picture, like Joshua did.

A similar moment is recorded in today's Gospel reading, where Jesus is resting with his disciples after a journey through Galilee. They have all seen Jesus healing and casting out demons in the preceding days and while they are deeply impressed they are defensive of his healing ministry, telling him: “Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us” (Mark 9:38). Jesus replies with greater gentleness than Moses did to Joshua, saying, “Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me, for whoever is not against us is for us” (Mark 9:39-40).

The zeal shown by Joshua and that of Jesus' disciples emerged from an earnest desire to protect the dignity of God's presence and power working among his holy people. Moses and Jesus understood, however, that God will be present as he wishes, offering his Spirit and healing power to those “within the camp” as well as to those who appear outside of it.

Jesus concludes his response to the disciples' complaint by saying, “Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward” (Mark 9:41). These words should serve as a reminder that God wills the salvation of all, whether they are already part of “the household of God” (Eph 2:19) or on their way—God willing, with our help.

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10	MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8	MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

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## FCSU Members Attend Annual Eparchial Pilgrimage at Mariapoch

The Shrine of Our Lady of Mariapoch is a beautiful, peaceful, wooded area to the east of Cleveland, OH, that exists to give honor to Our Lady. This year the Eparchy of Parma hosted its annual pilgrimage there the weekend of August 14 - 15, 2021, for the Feast of Dormition of the Mother of God. The pilgrimage was honored to have Most Rev. John Michael Botean, bishop of the Romanian Catholic Eparchy of St. George, Canton, OH, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy concelebrant and guest homilist. Members of the FCSU in attendance at the pilgrimage: (L - R) Branch 450 President George Carny, Maria Zapotokova, Milan Kobulsky (Branch 450), Acting National Vice President Andrew P. Rajec, Bishop Botean, Most Reverend Milan Lach, SJ, Bishop of the Eparchy of Parma (Branch 450), the Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Marek Visnovsky (Branch 24), Caroline Visnovsky (Branch 450), Mrs. Miriam Visknovsky (Branch 24), and Elias Visnovsky (Branch 450).

Earlier in the summer, Bishop Milan celebrated his 20th year of ordination. Congratulations Bishop Milan!

- Submitted by Miriam Visnovsky



## Message from the National Chaplain

The third Sunday of September each year is Catechist Sunday. The day offers an opportunity for each local parish community to recognize those who are engaged in the teaching of the Catholic faith, particularly Catholic school teachers, teachers in parish religious education programs, and people involved with the helping non-Catholics to learn about the faith. The following is a summary I composed of an Apostolic Letter issued *moto proprio* on May 20, 2021 by Pope Francis titled *On the Ministry of Catechist, Antiquum Ministerium*. A *moto proprio* is an edict a pope declares of his own initiative. In writing *On the Ministry of Catechist*, Pope Francis decrees a new instituted ministry for the Church, the Lay Minister of Catechist.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

The roots of the ministry of Catechist are found in New Testament. From the days of the infant Church to the present time, countless men and women, together with clergy and those in the consecrated life, have devoted their lives to catechetical instruction.

Francis notes the special interest in recent decades by popes, national conferences of bishops and individual bishops on the importance, value, and centrality of catechesis and continuing faith formation. Among the documents and publications he mentions are the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (*Dei Verbum*) and the Decree on the Church's Missionary Activity (*Ad Gentes*) from the Second Vatican Council, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, *Catechesis in our Time (Catechesi Tradendae)* by Saint John Paul II, and the General Catechetical Directory.

While admitting bishops are the primary catechists in his diocese with priests sharing that role, and also that parents are the first teachers of their children in the faith, Francis announced the time has come for formal recognition of lay men and women who believe they are called to the vocation of catechist.

Francis introduces Saint Paul VI's 1972 *moto proprio Ministeria Quaedam*, which suppressed tonsure, the four minor orders of porter, reader, exorcist, and acolyte, and the subdiaconate as steps seminarians took before they were ordained deacons and priests. The Ministries of Lector and Acolyte replaced what was suppressed. Although those preparing for ordination continue to be the ones most commonly receiving Lector and Acolyte, Saint Paul VI opened the door for lay men to receive them and for the possibility of other instituted ministries. Francis himself this past January 11 granted females permission to become Instituted Lectors and Acolytes.

A person seeking admission to the Ministry of Catechist is to:

- Be a person of strong faith and human maturity;
- Be an active participant in the one's parish;
- Have a welcoming personality;
- Live the life of a faithful Catholic;
- Receive suitable biblical, theological, pastoral and teaching formation; enthusiasm;
- Be a coworker with priests and deacons;
- Possess the skill of being able to transmit the faith, from teaching the basic fundamental teachings and beliefs of the Church, to preparing candidates for sacramental preparation, to offering ongoing formation in the faith.
- Be prepared to exercise the ministry wherever it is needed.

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments are to come up with and publish a formal ritual for the Institution of Catechists. Bishop Conferences are to determine the process of formation and admission to the Ministry. The pope does not offer a timetable for this new ritual to be written, published, translated, and implemented.

These are my personal thoughts and expectations on the practical implementation of this Apostolic Letter.

As the Instituted Lector is officially charged with proclaiming the Word of God in a liturgy and the Instituted Acolyte is officially charged with assisting the priest (serving) at Mass, the Instituted Catechist will be officially charged with teaching the Catholic faith to children in Catholic school and Parish Religious Education Programs, to individuals desiring to become Catholic, and to adult Catholics desiring to learn more about their faith.

It is my expectation a person desiring to become a Catechist would undergo a process similar to one desiring to become a Lector or Acolyte. The candidate would meet with his/her pastor to discuss the possibility. The pastor then writes a letter of recommendation to either the bishop and/or the place where the process of formal instruction and preparation (e.g. the local seminary) would take place. Near the completion of the process, the candidate personally petitions the bishop in writing for admission to the ministry. The bishop formally accepts the petition and "calls" the candidate in the name of the Church to the ministry. A ceremony is conducted by the bishop during Mass.

Like the Instituted Lector and Instituted Acolyte, the Instituted Catechist exercises this ministry for the good of the Church. This means he/she should be open to the possibility of doing this work in a parish other than one's own. Should the Instituted Catechist move, it would be highly advisable for him/her to make himself/herself known to the new pastor. If the move were to occur to another diocese, it would be appropriate for the Catechist to ask the diocese where one received the Ministry to send a letter of verification to his/her new pastor.

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta  
National Chaplain

## Attention:



## New suitability forms

Dear Branch Officers/Members;

The NAIC has released new recommendations for our annuity suitability forms. These recommendations have been adopted by the State Department of Insurance.

According to the State Department of Insurance we can **NO LONGER** accept the old suitability form with new annuity applications.

Please disregard any old annuity applications.

For **NEW ANNUITY APPLICATIONS and SUITABILITY FORMS** go to our website [www.fcsu.com/forms](http://www.fcsu.com/forms) and download the entire application.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 800 533 6682.

Thank you,

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary



## September Mass Planned at Jednota Chapel

Attention Jednota Members: we are happy to announce that there will be a Mass celebrating the 56th Anniversary of our Slovak Chapel in the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, on Saturday September 18, 2021, at 1:30PM in the Crypt Church. Please see Branch 856 announcement on page 27 for details.

Katherine Nowatkoski,  
President Branch 856

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

College Park Marriott Hotel & Conference Center  
3501 University Blvd E  
Hyattsville, MD 20783  
(301) 985-7300

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

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

Friday, September 17, 2021 - 8:30 AM Mass with meeting to follow

The Executive Committee Meeting will be held following the Board of Directors Meeting on Friday, September 17, 2021.

All correspondence relative to the Quarterly Business Meeting of the Board of Directors should be directed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt, and should be sent to the Home Office prior to September 10, 2021.

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

Andrew M. Rajec  
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary



**DON'T MISS OUT!**

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  - 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:**

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**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT OCTOBER 30, 2021**

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



## Dear First Catholic Slovak Union,

I am so humbled and thankful for the honor of receiving the top female scholarship award for the 2021-2022 school year. FCSU has always meant a lot of my family; we participated in the coloring and photography contests nearly every year, and looked forward to reading the winners in the newspaper. The First Catholic Slovak Union has made itself a clear model to be followed in an increasingly secular world. While maintaining the vision of being an insurance provider, the First Catholic Slovak Union has honed in on making members feel like family. Throughout my undergraduate and legal career I will strive to live the FCSU motto of "for God and nation," using my talents to better the lives of those around me, without forgetting to cherish the traditions and faith to which I owe everything. Thank you again; I pray God blesses you for your generosity.

S pozdravom,

Anna Wascovich

## Get FCSU In Your Inbox!



Stay up-to-date with the FCSU. Receive the current issue of Jednota right in your inbox – along with all the latest member info. It's free, easy and safe. We'll never share your email address! To sign up: <https://www.fcsu.com/contact/>



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## Region 1's Annual Picnic in the Park

Oh how sweet it is to finally meet in person - all 60 of us! Region 1's Summer Picnic, hosted by Branch 746, was held on Sunday, August 8, 2021 at the Al Kalla Park in Linden, NJ. After a long hiatus from in person events, Region 1 Jednota members gathered en masse on a beautiful sunny Sunday under the shade of the Linden trees to spend some quality time together and enjoy delicious Slovak food catered by Julie Rada Catering which included holupky, halusky, BBQ ribs, chicken cutlets, sausage and kraut, the obligatory picnic hot dogs, Slovak cucumber salad, watermelon and more!! The fun-filled afternoon began with a brief welcome by Region 1 Director Sabina Sabados. After enjoying some delicious home-made desserts and refreshing fruit, courtesy

of the ladies of Branch 746 and 45, the mood was set for singing of some traditional Slovak folk songs. The young (and young at heart) enjoyed the playground at the park and some special games while others indulged in some wine from Indian Trail Winery courtesy of Slovak winemakers Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Cuchran.

We were honored to have some special guests attend the Region 1 picnic which included: National President Andrew M. Rajec, who addressed the Jednota members, and Mrs. Idka Rajec; Acting National Vice President Andrew P. Rajec; the Very Rev. Mitred Archbishop Marek Visnovsky of the Eparchy of Parma, OH, and Mrs. Miriam Visnovsky and kids Caroline, Elias, and Marco. The afternoon concluded with

the awarding of the Jednota Branch 746 Scholarships to two talented young women who have demonstrated scholastic excellence and community leadership. The scholarships \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to Elizabeth Banas, who is studying business technology and finance at Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey and Kristina Mylnarova studying International Relations and History at Stony Brook University in New York. Congratulations!

A great big thank you to all the members and friends who attended the picnic and continue to enthusiastically support Jednota activities. Special thanks to members of Branch 45, 290 and 746!

- Submitted by: Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director



Four generations of Jednota members.



The Branch 746 Scholarship Committee presents Elizabeth Banas with a scholarship



# Region 1's Annual Picnic in the Park

continued from page 5



# Jednota Members: Have you Participated in our Memorial?

If you haven't yet participated in the Jednota Memorial, consider purchasing a brick to honor those who served in any wars and also to honor and remember ancestors and family members who have made and make our Society great. Dedicated in September 2015 by the First Catholic Slovak Union for our members and their families, the permanent site of 1 1/2 acres is located in Middletown, PA. The land was once occupied by the Jednota Orphanage, purchased at the urging of our founder Fr. Štefan Furdek for just such a purpose.

All those who purchase a "brick" or "bricks" in the granite panels found throughout the Memorial will receive a photo of the panel on which their brick or bricks are mounted. If you haven't yet ordered your "brick" you can go to <https://www.fcsu.com/about/jednota-memorial/> to download your order form or call the Home Office at 1-800-533-6682.

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



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# News From Slovakia

## SIAF 2021 označený výročiami, sa zúčastní 14 krajín

Bratislava 23. augusta (TASR) - Štrnásť krajín vrátane Slovenska sa zúčastní 2021 Slovak International Air Fest (SIAF), povedali na pondelňajšej tlačovej konferencii riaditeľ SIAF Hubert Stoksa a minister obrany Jaroslav Nad (OLaNO) s tým, že podujatie sa uskutoční na letisku Kuchyna v Malackách (Bratislavský kraj) 4.-5. septembra po ročnej prestávke spôsobenej pandémiou.

Plocha bude rozdelená na dve zóny-jedna pre očkované osoby s neobmedzenou kapacitou a takzvanú OTP zónu (iba pre očkovaných, negatívne testovaných a tých, ktorí sa zotavili z COVID-19) s kapacitou až 5 000 osôb.

"Air fest sa bude niesť v znamení výročí," povedal Stoksa. Medzi letecké tímy patrí talianska skupina Frecce Tricolori, ktorá deň pred festivalom taktiež pripravuje „ukážkový let“ nad Bratislavou, spolu so slovenskými bielymi Albatrosmi a Slovenskými Očovskými Bačmi. Stoksa tiež poznamenal, že premiéra najväčšieho vojenského dopravného lietadla Airbus A400M, ktoré bude vystavené na ploche, a bojového lietadla MiG-15 z Poľska bude „najväčšími trháčmi“ tejto akcie.

Minister zdôraznil, že air fest bol organizovaný v komplikovanej situácii, a to nielen kvôli pandémii, ale aj kvôli rekonštrukcii letiska Sliac (Banskobystrický kraj), kde sa festival zvyčajne koná. "Je to príležitosť robiť veci inak. Už samotný fakt, že máme 14 potvrdených krajín, dáva tomuto leteckému festivalu najširšiu medzinárodnú účasť v Európskej únii," uviedol.

"Bude prítomné všetko, čo môže lietať v našej krajine," uviedol Nad v komentári k účasti slovenských ozbrojených síl. Predstaví sa aj lietadlo Spartan a helikoptéry Black Hawk.

**2021 Riaditeľ Slovak International Air Fest (SIAF) Hubert Stoksa (foto TASR)**

**2021 Slovak International Air Fest (SIAF) director Hubert Stoksa (stock photo by TASR)**

## SIAF 2021 Marked by Anniversaries, 14 Countries to Take Part

Bratislava, August 23 (TASR) – Fourteen countries including Slovakia will participate in the 2021 Slovak International Air Fest (SIAF), SIAF director Hubert Stoksa and Defence Minister Jaroslav Nad (OLaNO) told a press conference on Monday, adding that the event will take place at Kuchyna Airport in Malacky (Bratislava region) on September 4-5 after a one-year break caused by the pandemic.

The area will be divided into two zones – one for vaccinated people with unlimited capacity, and a so-called OTP zone (only for the vaccinated, negatively tested and those who have recovered from COVID-19) with a capacity of up to 5,000 people.

"The air fest will be marked by anniversaries," said Stoksa. The air teams concerned include the Italian Frecce Tricolori group, which is also preparing a 'demo flight' over Bratislava on the day before the festival, along with the Slovak White Albatrosses and the Slovak Ocova Shepherds. Stoksa also noted that the premiere of the largest military transport aircraft, the Airbus A400M, which will be displayed on the ground, and a MiG-15 fighter aircraft from Poland will be the "biggest blockbusters" of the event.

The minister emphasized that the air fest was organized in a complicated situation, not only due to the pandemic, but also to the reconstruction of Sliac Airport (Banska Bystrica region), where the fest is usually held. "It's an opportunity to do things differently. The mere fact that we have 14 confirmed countries gives this air fest the broadest international participation in the European Union," he stated.

"Everything that can fly in our country will be present," said Nad, commenting on the participation of the Slovak Armed Forces. A Spartan aircraft and Black Hawk helicopters will also feature.

## 20 000 ľudí sa zaregistrovalo na akcie súvisiace s pápežovou návštevou počas prvého týždňa

Bratislava 22. augusta (TASR) - Organizátori návštevy pápeža Františka zaregistrovali po prvom týždni zatiaľ dvadsaťtisíc ľudí, pričom takmer polovica z nich je zaregistrovaná na podujatie v Sastine (Trnavský kraj), Tlačové oddelenie Konferencie biskupov Slovenska informovalo na svojom webe.

Štatistiky uvádzajú, že do Prešova na stretnutie so Svätým Otcem Františkom chce zatiaľ prísť 6 200 ľudí. so Svätým Otcem Františkom 6 200 ľudí. Registračný tím v Košiciach hlási takmer 4500 uchádzačov.

Pápež František má Slovensko navštíviť v dňoch 12. - 15. septembra. Má sa stretnúť s tromi najlepšími ústavnými činiteľmi krajiny a predstaviteľmi židovskej a rómskej komunity. V Sastine sa uskutoční svätá omša s homíliou prednesenou Svätým otcem. Pápež navštívi aj Bratislavu, Košice a Prešov.



**Pápež František (foto TASR/AP)**

**Pope Francis (stock photo by TASR/AP)**

## 20,000 People Registered for Events Related to Pope's Visit during First Week

Bratislava, August 22 (TASR) – Organizers of Pope Francis's visit have enrolled so far twenty thousand people after the first week of registration, with almost half of them being registered for the event in Sastin (Trnava region), the Slovak Bishops Conference's press office reported on its website.

The statistics show that 6,200 people want to come to Presov to meet with Holy Father Francis so far. The registration team in Kosice reports almost 4,500 applicants.

Pope Francis is set to visit Slovakia between September 12 - 15. He's scheduled to meet the country's top three constitutional officials as well as representatives of the Jewish and Roma communities. A Holy Mass with a homily given by the Holy Father will take place in Sastin. The pope will also visit Bratislava, Kosice and Presov.

## Miera nezamestnanosti na Slovensku stále klesá

Prievidza 20. augusta (TASR)-Miera nezamestnanosti na Slovensku sa medzimesačne znížila, uviedol minister práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny Milan Krajniak (Sme rodina) počas svojej pracovnej cesty v okrese Prievidza (Trenčín) región) v piatok.

Aktuálna miera evidovanej nezamestnanosti je 7,66 percenta, pričom počet voľných pracovných miest sa zvýšil na 73 575.

Miera evidovanej nezamestnanosti už štyri mesiace kontinuálne klesá. Počet voľných pracovných miest od začiatku roka rastie. „Očakávame, že trh práce bude v budúcnosti, v najbližších mesiacoch, stabilný. Neočakávame, že pokles nezamestnanosti bude rýchly, pretože dôsledky pandémie sú stále zrejmé, ale na základe toho vidíme, že ľudia, ktorí v postpandemickej situácii môžu prísť o prácu, budú mať príležitosť nájsť si novú,“ povedal Krajniak.

Minister ďalej uviedol, že v porovnaní s rovnakým obdobím júla minulého roku a napriek najnovšej vlne pandémie zima/jar sa znížil aj počet ľudí v hmotnej núdzi, a to asi o 5 000. „Mnohí z nich mohli získať takzvanú dotáciu SOS, ktorá sa však už nevypláca. Počet osôb v hmotnej núdzi od minulého leta neustále klesá, dokonca aj počas zimnej/jarnej vlny pandémie,“ povedal.



**Minister práce Milan Krajniak (foto TASR)**

**Labor Minister Milan Krajniak (stock photo by TASR)**

## Unemployment Rate in Slovakia Continues Downward Trend

Prievidza, August 20 (TASR) – The unemployment rate in Slovakia has gone down on a month-on-month basis, said Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Minister Milan Krajniak (We Are Family) during his working trip to Prievidza district (Trenčin region) on Friday.

The current rate of registered unemployment stands at 7.66 percent, while the number of available jobs has gone up to reach 73,575.

The registered unemployment rate has been falling continuously for four months. The number of available jobs has been growing since the beginning of the year. "We expect the labour market to be stable in the future, in the next few months. We don't expect the decline in unemployment to be rapid because the effects of the pandemic are still apparent, but based on this, we can see that people who may lose their jobs in the post-pandemic situation will have an opportunity to find a new one," said Krajniak.

The minister went on to say that compared to the same period in July last year, and despite the most recent winter/spring wave of the pandemic, the number of people in material need also decreased, by about 5,000. "Many of them were able to receive the so-called SOS subsidy, which, however, isn't paid out any more. The number of material-need beneficiaries has been steadily declining since last summer, even during the winter/spring wave of the pandemic," he said.





## Oslava životného jubilea pani Anny Maťašovej

Krásnych, požehnaných 90tich rokov sa dožila 11 júna 2021, naša drahá mamička, babička a prababička pani Anna Matašova z dedinky Lekárovce na východe Slovenska. Pri tejto príležitosti sa zišla celá rodina na oslave jej životného jubilea v reštaurácii Družba v Michalovciach, kde nechýbal ani súbor Lúčnica z Bratislavy, ktorý spestril našej jubilanke tento nádherný deň.

Anna prežila svoje mladé roky v New Jersey, USA a na rodnú hruď sa vrátila v roku 2006, spolu s manželom Michaelom, ktorý v roku 2013 odišiel do večnosti.

Anna je dlhoročnou členkou FCSU Branch 746.

Želáme jej touto cestou ešte raz, aby jej jeseň života bola pokojná, naplnená dobrým zdravím, radosťou a spokojnosťou, nech nebeský Otec a Panna Maria držia nad ňou ochranné ruky a nech sa ešte dožije mnoho blahých a požehnaných rokov! Veľa šťastia zdravia mamička Vám želajú dcéry s rodinami, vnúčatá a pravnúčatá!

## Anna Matas celebrates her 90th birthday

Wishing our dearest Mom, Grandma, and Great-grandmother Anna Matas of Branch 746 Linden, New Jersey a very Happy 90th birthday. Anna celebrated this diamond jubilee on 11 June 2021 in Slovakia surrounded by her loving family and a surprise performance by the famous professional Slovak folklore group Lúčnica from Bratislava. May our Lord continue to bless our dear Mom Anna and keep her in good health for many years to come!

- Submitted by Emília Filak, Branch 746, District 4 Vice President, FCSU Supreme Court member

## Reminder For All Branches

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

### 14.01 General Rules

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

## Focus on Fraternalism



Front row (R - L): Kathy Dunmire, Brenda Taladay, President Teresa Moore Cathy Eddy, Rose Szul. Back row: Debby Fennell. Missing from the photo: Karen McCullough and Rob Fennell.

## Branch 200 Supports Relay for Life

Branch 200 demonstrated FCSU Fraternalism in Action— by providing a food booth on Saturday, July 24, 2021, for a Relay for Life event held in the Ford City Park, PA. They made and served cabbage and noodles, hot dogs with all the fixings, zucchini bread and non-alcoholic beverages.

It was an absolutely beautiful day! Big “thanks” go out to all that worked so hard for this event.

- Submitted by Vicki Shaub, Branch 200 Secretary



## How Are You Helping?

What are you doing? Email Jednota at [fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com) and share what your branch, district or family is doing to help others.

## Branch 199 Awards Special COVID-19 Scholarships

Branch 199 recognizes the challenges that our young members have endured during the pandemic. So this summer, the branch encouraged those who completed High School, College, Technical School, or who received an Eagle Scout Award or Girl Scout Gold Award during 2020 and through the first half of 2021, to apply for a special Covid-19 stipend for their accomplishments during a difficult time. Two young members have now been awarded: Matthew Howard and Anthony “Mike” Pipak. Our congratulations go out to them, with best wishes for their continued successes during better times ahead!

- Submitted by Barb Patula, Branch 199 Secretary



(L - R) Branch 199 President Tom Pipak and Secretary Treasurer Barb Patula presented Matthew Howard with Covid-19 Branch stipend at a graduation celebration in Grove City, PA. Also pictured, Matthew's mother Jennifer Howard. Matthew will be attending Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA, majoring in biology and playing on the football team. Matthew's long term goal is to become a dentist/orthodontist.

Then in early August during the International Golf Tournament in Dubois, PA, Branch 199 President Tom Pipak (R) took the opportunity to present the special Branch 199 stipend to member Anthony “Mike” Pipak (L). Mike is a 2020 graduate of St Vincent College, Latrobe, PA, with a BA in history. Mike chose to write his senior thesis on the World War II Bataan Death March. He was inspired by the late John Emerick, his great-uncle and former member of Branch 199, who was a captive and survivor of the Bataan Death March where he spent 2 1/2 years in a Japanese prison camp. Mike is the Vice-President of Branch 199, and is in sales as he pursues his Master's degree with a long-term goal of working in the education/administration field.



# The Impact of My Mother's Homeland: My Father's Family (part 1)

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

Slovakia and Slovak culture has always exerted an influence on me and the siblings in my family, whether we realized it or not. But it impacted me the most because of my interest in history and culture. Why Slovakia? My mother was born there. The idea that she was raised in another country, spoke a different language, and then crossed the ocean as a young girl to America has always intrigued me, even as a child. Since acquiring a higher education, getting to know the Slovak language, Slovakia's history, and living Slovak culture has become my way of staying close to my late mother, the woman who loved me more than anyone ever would or could. This article is dedicated to her and my Slovak-American father.

I grew up in a Slovak-American household in Youngstown, Ohio, one of the leading centers of the steel industry in the USA. Since Slovaks comprised 15% of all steelworkers, Slovak immigrants flocked to steel cities and coal mining towns, where jobs were plentiful in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. As more Slovaks immigrated to America and most were improving their lot, a stampede of chain migration ensued; it half-emptied many of the villages of eastern Slovakia, where both sides of my family came from. It was more than coincidence that my mother married my father, for they both had their origins in the Spiš area and both spoke a Spiš dialect. And Spišaks moved in large numbers to Youngstown in particular, as immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe flocked to the city. The expansion of the steel industry after 1870 caused the city's population to skyrocket from approximately 8,000 residents to about 170,000 by 1930. Fittingly, about 15% of the city's population had Slovak ethnic background.

## My Paternal Family

The first of my ancestors to emigrate from Slovakia came from Austria-Hungary on the paternal side of my family. My grandfather, dzedo in Spiš dialect, Anthony Kopanic, was born in 1878 with the name Anton Kopaničák, which was Magyarized in the 19th century Hungarian records to read Antal Kopaniczak. He was one of ten children born to Ondrej and Elizabetha Kopaničák, but several died when infants. My great grandfather married her in May 1863, just a month after his first wife Mária died, probably in childbirth, since that was common at the time.

The Kopaničák family had German origins. A record which I found in the Levoča archives showed that after the 1848-49 revolution, when Slovakia was under Austrian administration, the family name was spelled Kopanitsch. My oldest aunt, Mary, told me that our family of "Saxons" migrated to Slovakia for religious freedom according to oral history she heard. If that was the case, this would have occurred in the late 16th or early 17th century. She also stated that my great grandmother from Žakovce, a German village (Eisdorf) at the foot of the Tatra Mountains, had Jewish origins and she converted to Roman Catholicism when she married. My great grandfather moved her to his hometown of Ruskinovce, a pastoral village nestled in the hills east of the High



Tatras. The village of about 540 inhabitants (ethnic German 78%), also called Rissdorf (Ruszquin in Hungarian), was founded in the 13th century and even achieved the status of a royal town. Most of the people worked in the nearby surrounding forest or pastured sheep and cattle.

The village of Ruskinovce no longer exists because in 1952, the communists decided to appropriate it and incorporate it as part of the Javorina military district. The communists and later the Soviet soldiers destroyed the medieval Catholic and the Lutheran churches and used the village for target practice. For this reason, what remained of our family resettled in other nearby Spiš villages and towns. I visited the site several times, including a 2002 visit with my father, and all that remains are the ruins of a cemetery and a small chapel built by former residents who were scattered after the annexation. They are still struggling to regain rights to their expropriated properties.

My dzedo (grandfather) always loved horses and fittingly served in the Austro-Hungarian cavalry. When he finished his four years of military duty, he obtained a job in Levočské Luky as a shepherd through a newspaper advertisement, according to my Aunt Mary Malley. He tended sheep near the village of Harichovce (Palma falva in Hungarian), just north of Spišská Nova Ves. There he met, and in 1903, married my baba (grandmother), Julianna Kovalčík, in the Church of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Harichovce. She was an only child in her family, as her brother died when he was little. Eleven months after they married, my Aunt Mary was born. In 1906, they had a son, Ján, and would go on to have 11 children in all, but three died as babies.

Seeking greener pastures at age 29, my grandfather decided to emigrate from his homeland and followed some cousins who had settled in the Pittsburgh area. Since chain migration among relatives was already widespread, one can assume that exchanged letters alerted him to the opportunities in the New World. My grandfather left the Austro-Hungarian port of Fiume (Rijeka, Croatia today) on the ship Slavonia and arrived with 27 dollars in his pocket at Ellis Is-

Dad and Mom's wedding in 1942

Dzedo & Baba Kopanic in the 1930s



land on October 10, 1906.

Similar to many other immigrant women, his wife did not join him until he saved some money and sent for her and the two children the following year. Unfortunately, my Uncle Ján died as a baby on the overseas voyage and was tossed into the Atlantic Ocean. But baba and Aunt Mary arrived safely in 1907, but went to a port other than Ellis Island.

The documents indicate that my dzedo's cousin Janoš Fabiny, who had immigrated in 1904, assisted in his getting settled and obtaining work in the forests near Etna and Sharpsburg, PA, and the 1910 census showed my grandfather working in the lumber industry. My Aunt Anna was born there in 1908. Then dzedo obtained a job at Youngstown Sheet and Tube steel mill and lived with his cousins, the Fabinys. But by 1911, they had moved to the heavily Slovak-populated Lansingville section of Youngstown, Ohio. They rented a place, and lived within walking distance on Poland Ave. They remained there until 1916 when he bought a plot of wooded land for \$1,000 on Burton Street (later renamed Karl Street) near Sharonline east of Youngstown in Coitsville Township. He wanted to be in the country so that he could have a small farm and raise livestock and have his beloved horses. My father was born there in 1918.

The house was a simple one constructed of stone and wood, and contained three rooms with wooden floors. Later they added three more rooms -- a kitchen, a furnace room, and a living room. Just as in Slovakia, they heated the home with wood from the forest land they owned, which they called burali.

I have no photos of my dzedo as a young man or my father as a child, because they were so poor. Their lives resembled those of Slovak-Americans trying to better themselves. The exception was that the family had some land, something which Slovaks highly value. My father's first memory in life was his dad grabbing a horse's mouth and jumping on the horse. Then he then took

his son on the horse and went to pasture to watch over their cows. His father was so skilled at riding that he did not even need a saddle. He just loved horses and had horses for riding and another medium-sized horse named "Diky" for plowing.

According to relatives, my dzedo was a very hard-working man and full of energy. He kept fit by walking 6 miles both ways every day to work, so that he could save the 10 cents required for the trolley fare. Later he obtained a job closer to home with Truscon Steel on Albert Street and worked in a foreman position for the firm making steel enforced concrete. Ironically, my father related that he earned less as a foreman than as a general laborer.

To make ends meet like many other Slovak homeowners, the family also kept a boarder, Charles Komporak, who had emigrated from Slovakia in 1913. Baba had to feed and clean for the boarder and for her own family. She cultivated a big garden and raised chickens for fresh eggs and chicken soup, a Slovak favorite. She also made her own butter and cooked everything from scratch. My father described her as very bossy, but he added that most Slovak women were like that. He noted a strong woman makes a man more prosperous. And usually the women were the glue that held the family together, and they commanded much respect. But she did drink too much. While dzedo was illiterate according to immigration records, baba had some primary school education and she regularly read Slovak newspapers. But she never learned English, and dzedo learned enough English as required to do his job.

Dzedo grew as much as he could on his land and used to say that a good farmer only needs to buy flour, salt, and sugar. He made his own pivo (beer) and slivovica (plum brandy) and raised cattle for milk and meat. His love of horses continued and he kept as many as three. He was also very strict

continued on page 11

# The Impact of My Mother's Homeland: My Father's Family (part 1)

## Continued from page 10

with his children, used corporal punishment, and insisted they perform their chores. One time when my father was supposed to be watching the cows and instead was playing baseball in the field, dzedo gave him a beating that he never forgot. That generation viewed children as helpers and expected them to contribute money to the family budget as soon as they reached working age.

At the same time, dzedo could be very loving. My cousin Donald Copanic described him as "a gentle giant," for he was nearly 6 feet tall and much taller than most immigrants at the time. When he later had grandchildren, he would kiss the children and give them some money. He would then rub his moustache into the children's faces when he kissed them. I also remember him fondly and how he put us on his lap and treated us so kindly. He always gave me a penny and I thought the world of him. The only lasting memorabilia I have of him are a few photos after 1940 and his pocket watch, which I treasure to this day.

My father's neighborhood was not exclusively Slovak, but of mixed nationality; the Sharonline neighborhood at first consisted mainly of Irish and Italian immigrants, but Slavs also moved there in search of land. The closest neighbors included a Slovak, a Croatian, and a Hungarian; a German and Carpatho-Rusyn family lived a little farther away, as well as an African-American family.

Dzedo regularly conversed with his German neighbor in German. Neighbors helped one another like a big extended family, and if a child misbehaved, the parents would find out before the child even arrived at home and then get disciplined. Dzedo used to like to play cards with the neighbor named Kuma on Saturday nights, and they would imbibe some of his homemade pivo (beer). Every Saturday, the children would make homemade root beer, and my father noted

how much tastier it was than any commercial drink.

On Saturday nights they would listen to the radio at a neighbor's house. Eventually they bought a small old radio of their own. When my father earned more later, he bought his family a new bigger, freestanding radio, and also bought a refrigerator, and installed linoleum in the kitchen. Like many Slovaks, my father learned to be very handy and fixed what he could around the house.

Of course, at home they all spoke only Slovak within the family. My baba taught him "Dievča, Dievča čože to máš?" (Girl, girl, what's that you have?), the first song he learned. Dzedo sang many Slovak military songs in Slovak. One of his favorites was a work song seldom heard today, Na pondelok ráno (On a Monday morning). It is about a father and son working all week gathering and transporting hay, only to blow it on alcohol by the weekend and get a hangover!

At first, the family belonged to the Slovak parish of SS. Cyril and Methodius in downtown Youngstown. My father even started school there, but dzedo left the parish. Apparently, dzedo had a disagreement with the priest over my Uncle Anthony not being allowed to receive his First Communion because his son did not attend enough Sunday school sessions. So the family started going to the German parish of St. Joseph. My father also had to switch schools from the parochial school to Thornhill Elementary School on the East Side.

During the 1920s, the family was progressing economically until two events in 1929 disrupted the steady improvement. First, the Great Depression hit, and then the city of Youngstown decided to annex Sharonline. Many immigrants lost their jobs or only worked a couple days a week. Laborers would line up outside a factory and the bosses would select however many men they needed. There was no job security. To

make matters worse for the family, the incorporation of his farm into the city meant that dzedo was forced to sell most of his livestock all at once, and at Depression prices. Since so many residents had to sell all at once, livestock prices plummeted all the more sharply. To help balance his budget, dzedo tried to pay off more of the loan on his property, since he had saved enough. But the bank refused to allow this and preferred to rake in the interest charges while prices fell. Thus the hardships of the Depression exerted a lasting impact on the family and my own father's mentality. My father would later pay off the mortgage, which still amounted to \$600, when he joined the army.

Because of the Depression, my father never graduated from Scienceville High School, and dropped out of school when he finished tenth grade, but that was typical of many children of immigrants during that time. When he was 16 years old, he joined the Civil Conservation Corps (CCC), where he earned a dollar a day, most of which he sent to his parents to help make ends meet. The CCC fed him well and prepared him for the discipline of military service. On the mountains above Lewiston, Idaho, he worked in the forests fighting fires and assisted in constructing roads, and it was here that he learned to drive a truck.

When he returned home to Ohio, he co-founded a company, City Ash and Rubbish, and invested his money in the enterprise. At the time, there was no regular garbage collection in the city. They bought a truck and my father and his brother Anthony worked together picking up trash. He told me that he worked from 3 am to 9 pm weekdays, until about 5 pm on Saturdays, and never worked on Sundays, the Lord's Day. He always enjoyed free meals because even during the Depression, people threw away bottles and he turned them in for deposit to pay for his meals. Subsequently, his co-owner

would sell the company at a price of a million dollars without giving my father any of the proceeds. Around 1941, he obtained a job as a press operator at General Fireproofing in Youngstown, as demand for business furniture was rising. He earned enough money and saved so that he could even buy his own car, something not so common for young men at the time.

During this time, he used to dance quite a bit and enjoyed doing the polka, a Slovak favorite. He was one of the best dancers in the city and won a polka competition, so all the girls wanted to dance with him. He had several girlfriends, including a Slovak-American girl named Annie Kizar, but she did not want to marry him because of her experience with an alcoholic father, even though my father did not drink. Around the Christmas holidays, my father attended a Ukrainian church hall dance. There my mother caught the eye of my father, and he asked her to dance. They could easily communicate in the Spiš Slovak dialect, as my mother had immigrated just 5 years before. Six months later they would marry. They spent the rest of their lives loving and caring for one another and the family they raised.

In the meantime, Pearl Harbor was bombed, and like so many other young men, my father enlisted in the US Army in June 1942. He took his basic training in the swampland of Louisiana and then was sent to Camp Bowie at Fort Wolters near Fort Worth, Texas. My mother took the train to visit him there. When he returned home on leave before his deployment overseas, they married at Holy Name of Jesus Slovak Church on Youngstown's West Side on June 24, 1942. (to be continued)

*"Youngstown's East Side Reunion revives Sharonline," August 5, 2001 <http://www.vindy.com/news/2001/aug/05/youngstowns-east-side-reunion-revives-sharonline/> (Accessed Aug. 25, 2021).*

## The Immigration History Research Center: A Great Potential Resource for FCSU Members

**M. Mark Stolarik**  
Professor & Chairholder, Chair  
in Slovak History & Culture,  
University of Ottawa, Canada

After reading in Jednota about the passing of our Vice-President Andrew Harcar, I noticed that he hailed from Streator, Illinois. I wonder if members know that St. Stephen's parish in Streator is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, Slovak parish in America? This has been a subject of controversy since its founding in 1885. As I illustrated in my Ph.D. dissertation "Immigration and Urbanization: The Slovak Experience, 1870-1918" (Minnesota, 1974), pages 83-84 (published with the same pagination by AMS Press in New York, 1989), the founding pastors argued about who came first. The Rev. Ignác Jaškovič came to the USA in 1882 and celebrated masses for Slovaks at various locations in the Anthracite coal region of Pennsylvania. His parishioners built St Joseph's church in Hazleton, and he celebrated their first mass in the completed church building on December 6, 1885. Meanwhile, the Rev. Jozef Kosalko came to Streator in February of 1884 and celebrated his first mass in the com-

pleted St. Stephen's church on December 8, 1885. Only two days separated the celebration of their first mass in these two parishes.

Meanwhile, the earliest records of St. Joseph's no longer exist while those of Streator do. A fire struck St. Joseph's parish and rectory in 1906 and its records were lost. Streator was more fortunate. In 1970 I visited the late Msgr. George Dzuryo and he gave me his oldest parish records for deposit into the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota.

Thus, Slovaks in Streator, who would like to research their earliest family histories can find their marriage, birth and death records at the IHRC at the University of Minnesota.

Another aspect of the very rich collection of records at the IHRC are the approximately 40,000 inactive application-membership files of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) from between 1890 and 1913. In 1913 the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Ohio (as in other states) decided to regulate fraternal-benefit societies by forcing them to abide by actuarial tables and to charge their members premiums based upon their ages. This made the previous application-membership files obsolete. The FCSU then adopted new

membership-applications. Fortunately for historians and genealogists, the FCSU kept the old files in the basement of its headquarters in Cleveland, where Professor Timothy L. Smith and his graduate student Mark Stolarik discovered them, covered in coal dust, in 1967. After they cleaned off the coal dust, they shipped these records to the IHRC at the University of Minnesota, where they are available for research.

These inactive application-membership forms contain a wealth of information on early Slovak immigrants to the USA. Anyone who is interested in his/her Slovak ancestry, and whose ancestor was a member of the FCSU between 1890 and 1913, will find the following information in these files, which are organized alphabetically:

- The father's name
- His address
- His Jednota lodge number
- The name of his parish
- His date of birth
- His place of birth (village and county)
- The name of his parents
- His parents' address
- His marital status

- The name of his wife
- The village origin of his wife
- The names and numbers of his children
- The schools they attended (public or parochial)
- The father's occupation
- The father's height and weight
- The ages of his brothers and sisters
- The father's medical history

You will notice that most of this information pertains to immigrant fathers, but not the mothers. That's because before World War I the FCSU was a male organization. Slovak women were encouraged to join the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Union, founded in 1892. They kept their own records.

For those who would like to discover more about what kind of research one can do with these inactive FCSU records, feel free to consult my article "The Slovak Immigrant is Not Anonymous," published in the Jednota Annual Furdek (1971) on pages 99-105. I hope that you will find this article helpful and enlightening.

To access The Slovak Immigrant is Not Anonymous article, go to: [www.fcsu.com/resources](http://www.fcsu.com/resources)

# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 1 - LAKEWOOD, OHIO

The next branch meeting of the Saint Joseph Society will be held on November 7, 2021, at 1:00PM. This will be our annual Christmas party and also the election of officers and the election of delegates for the 2022 convention. Those interested in attending, please contact Rochelle Popovich at 216-789-6390 by October 20, 2021. Seating is limited so there is a need to comply with the deadline. All members are invited to attend

Marie A. Golias, Secretary

## BRANCH 6 - STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen's Society, Branch 06, will provide TICKETS to the play "The Cat and The Canary," at Engle Lane Theatre, Streator, IL, on October, 16, 2021. Attend a fraternal gathering with other members for this comedy chiller play. Members of Branch 06 must call Paul Chismar at 815-822-8851 by October 1, 2021, if you plan on attending. Information will be given at the time of your call.

Paul Chismar, Secretary

## BRANCH 7 - HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 7 will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 28, 2021, at 9:00AM at Holy Trinity Catholic Church Parish Hall, 52 Parish St. Ramey, PA, 16671. Election of officers will take place. All members are invited to attend the meeting.

Joseph C. Cervenak President

## BRANCH 19 - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19, will hold its regular meeting on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at 10:00AM at the home of Jacqueline Zack, 15 Brookhedge Rd, Trumbull, CT. At this meeting, we will plan our scholarship meeting for November 14, 2021.

We cordially invite our members to attend our meeting and take advantage of the opportunity to spend time with their fellow branch members. Please contact me at csteacher3@gmail.com if you plan on attending the meeting.

Deborah M. Nelson, Secretary

## BRANCH 23 - JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 23, St. Joseph Society, will hold its second annual meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at 5PM at Denny's Family Restaurant, on Theater Drive in Richland, Johnstown PA. Please know all members of Branch 23 are welcome to attend and your presence would be appreciated. We are still taking all precautions concerning the Covid Virus. Masks will be required and distancing will be kept as a rule.

At this meeting we will have elections of officers.

If you have any questions please call Theresa at 814 254 2532.

Theresa Cassat, Secretary

## BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

In keeping with continuing restrictions due to COVID-19 and for the safety and protection of our members, Branch 24 will hold a virtual meeting on Saturday, November 20, 2021. The meeting will begin at 11:00AM. At this meeting, Election of Officers will be held. Members can access the meeting by phone, smartphone, or computer. Please call Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at (440) 668-7797 by Friday, November 19, 2021, for instructions on how to participate in the meeting.

Bob Kopco, President

## BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Attention all Branch 24 members: the branch is starting a New Member Referral Program. Branch 24 is offering \$25 for each new member you refer who purchases an insurance policy or annuity through a licensed agent or the Home Office. A new member is someone who does not already own an FCSU product. To learn how to participate in this program, please call Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at (440) 668-7797.

Tom Ivanec, Fraternal Activities Director

## BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

Attention Branch 24 Members: come to the Sept 11 Slovak Heritage Society Pig Roast at the Slovak Sokol Campground in Broadview Hts, OH - and EAT FOR FREE. Non-member guests are welcome at the regular prices of \$25 for an adult food ticket and \$5 for a kid's meal. See page 13 for more event details. Contact Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797 to reserve your tickets or learn more.

Tom Ivanec, Fraternal Activities Director

## BRANCH 89 - MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Dear Members: Please join us for an outing to see the comedy play Run for Your Wife at 2:00PM on Sept 26, 2021, at Sunset Playhouse, 700 Wall Street, Elm Grove, WI, 53122. Members are free. Guests will pay \$17.85 per person for a ticket. All attendees are asked to meet in the Sunset Playhouse lobby at 1:45PM to receive their tickets. PLEASE NOTE: RESERVATIONS FOR THIS GROUP OUTING ARE REQUIRED ON OR BEFORE SEPT 14, 2021 BY CALLING MIKE NOVAK AT 414.445.5382. Please make checks payable to: KNIGHTS OF ST. MARY AND JOSEPH BR 89; and mailed to Mike Novak, 3237 N. 93rd Street, Milwaukee, WI, 53222.

Fraternal regards,

Mike Novak, President

## BRANCH 89 - MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Dear Members: Please join us for our branch meeting for fall 2021. Our Fall Breakfast Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 15, 2021, starting at 10:30AM. The location of the meeting is The Capitol Café, 14375 W. Capitol Dr, Brookfield, WI, 53222. Issues on the agenda: donations and activities.

Members are free. Guests are welcome but will pay for their own breakfast. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations are required by 8/12/2021. Please call Mike Novak, Branch 89 President, at 414.445.5382 to reserve your seat. All checks are payable to KNIGHTS OF ST. MARY AND JOSEPH BR 89. Mail to Mike Novak, 3237 N. 93rd Street, Milwaukee, WI, 53222.

Fraternal regards,

Mike Novak, President

## BRANCH 112 - MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 112 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 17, 2021 at A&C catering hall. The hall is located at 505 West Mahanoy St, Mahanoy City, PA; and the meeting will begin at 2:30PM.

The agenda will include election of officers, election of delegates to the 52nd Quadrennial Convention in Independence Ohio, ideas for new membership and a discussion of charitable donations.

All coronavirus mitigation practices still in effect at this time will be strictly enforced.

Please contact Karen Sterling by October 10, 2021 if you plan to attend the meeting by phone at 570-640-1796 or via email at karenenglesterling@hotmail.com.

Karen Sterling, Secretary

## BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

St Stephen Branch 153 will have its Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 23, 2021, at 11:30AM.

The meeting will be at Cucina Biagio in the Blue Room at 7319 West Lawrence Avenue, Harwood Heights, IL. If you plan on attending, please call Dorothy at 708 995 7378 before October 17th to reserve your place. It will be good to see everyone again.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

## BRANCH 162 - UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its branch meeting on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 6:30PM, at the Shoney's Restaurant, 285 McClellandtown Rd., Uniontown, PA. Please note the date and time change.

Officers' reports will be given, and upcoming branch activities will be discussed. The Donations Committee will make its recommendations and there will be a vote. Interim National Treasurer James Marmol will advise us of developments from the Home Office. Call Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983 before September 4th if you and your guest wish to attend the meeting.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

## BRANCH 166 - BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

Greetings members: St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166K, will hold its second semi-annual Business Dinner meeting on Sunday October 24, 2021 at 1:30PM. If you plan on attending please RSVP by October 5, 2021, to Morgan Dendler for information and location (607)206-7243. Dinner will be at no cost for members of the FCSU.

Judie Dendler, Secretary

## BRANCH 173 - WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 173 will hold its meeting on September 12, 2021, at Norms Restaurant, Wilkes-Barre, PA, starting at 12:30 PM. Please contact Dorothy Ungvarsky for details at 570-4032067.

Fraternaly,

John Ungvarsky, Secretary

## BRANCH 181 - UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

A combined meeting with Branch 181 - St. John the Baptist Society and District 3 - George Onda District members is planned for Saturday, October 9, 2021, at 6:00PM in the St. Florian's Social Hall in United, PA. The agenda will include upcoming activities and Election of Officers. Refreshments will be served. Guidelines for COVID-19 will be followed at the time of the meeting if necessary.

Vicki Hricik, Recording Secretary

## BRANCH 200 - FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 200 has planned the following dates for our branch meetings in 2021: Oct 7th, Nov 4th, and Dec 2nd. In the event any meeting could potentially be cancelled, please call Vicki Schaub @724-763-9229 ahead of time to verify or send your email address to vschaub123@gmail.com. Due to COVID-19 a few meetings were cancelled and a couple other dates were included in 2020. It is not always possible to advertise in the JEDNOTA due to deadline dates. Nomination of Officers is in November and Election of Officers in December. We encourage all members to participate. You do have a voice.

It has been a trying time in 2020 for all of us. I'm sure many are anxious not just for the end of the virus and everything returning to some kind of normal but for Spring bringing warmer weather and sunshine. Keep a positive attitude, take care

and God bless!

Fraternaly,

Vicki Schaub Fin. Secretary/Treasurer

## BRANCH 228 - LORAIN, OHIO

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 PM, and will be held VIRTUALLY until further notice. Contact Lisa at 440-773-1442 for specific instructions to attend virtually.

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 20, 2021. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors.

This past December's election results for Br. 228 officers were as follows: President - Luis Palos, Vice-President - Ryan Trifiletti, Financial Secretary - Lisa Trifiletti-Palos, Activities Director/Auditor - Theresa Arendt and Recording Secretary - Thomas Zuffa. Their terms expire December 31, 2021.

For representatives to the American Slovak Club Board of Directors, Luis Palos and Lisa Trifiletti-Palos were each elected to a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2023. Ryan Trifiletti was elected to serve the remainder of deceased Leonard Zilko's term which expires December 31, 2022. Rest in peace Len. We miss you.

Please continue to pray to our Lord God for a cure to all the problems of our world. And remember to give thanks to God for all His blessings.

Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary

## BRANCH 276 - MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 276 has scheduled Sunday, November 14, 2021, for the Fall meeting. The meeting will be held at 1PM at Eat & Park Restaurant on Route 30 in North Versailles PA, near Walmart and the Great Valley Shopping Center. We will hear officers' reports. We will also discuss district events and possible charitable donations. Officers for 2022 will be elected.

Fraternaly,

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 10, 2021 at 1:00PM. Branch 290 will host the luncheon meeting at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, NJ 08846. In the event that we are not able to meet in person due to changes in state dining policy due to Covid, we will meet virtually using the Zoom platform. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0505 by October 3rd if you plan on attending. Agenda will include Election of Officers for 2022 and discussion of plans and activities for next year, including the upcoming 52nd Convention. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Mary Kapitan, District 4 Secretary

## BRANCH 313- CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 313 warmly welcomes the merger of Branch 493!! Members of the "former" Branch 493, are now officially members of Branch 313 and may participate in Branch 313 meetings! Branch 313 will hold its first annual meeting of 2021, on the date of September 14th at 11:30AM. The meeting will take place at Fox's Pizza, locat-

continued on page 24

# DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISTRICT 1 - REVEREND MATTHEW JANKOLA DISTRICT - BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The Reverend Matthew Jankola District will conduct its annual meeting on September 12, 2021 at 11:30AM, at the home of Jacqueline Zack, 15 Brookhedge Rd, Trumbull, CT. At this meeting, we will discuss plans for the coming year and hold the election of officers for the district. Please contact me at csteacher3@gmail.com if you plan on attending the meeting. We look forward to seeing our dedicated members.

Deborah M. Nelson, District Secretary

## DISTRICT 2 - REV. JOHN J. SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

The Rev. John J. Spitkovsky District will hold its Annual Meeting in person on Sunday, October 3, 2021, at the Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict, 5900 West 147th Street, Oak Forest, IL. Refreshments, Social and Fraternalism at 1:30 PM. The meeting will begin at 2:00 PM. Dinner reservations are required. Please call Dorothy Jurcenko (708) 995 7378 by Saturday, September 25th to reserve a place. It will be great to see everyone again!

John Jurcenko, President

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

The George Onda District of the First Catholic Slovak Union will hold its Annual meeting on October 9, 2021, after the 5PM Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church in United, PA. We will be meeting in the Social Hall of the church and continue to follow the CDC guidelines. On our agenda will be: possible future activity plans, branch news and the election of officers. Refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing everyone – even if it is behind a mask.

Linda L. Gonta, Secretary

## DISTRICT 4 – THE MSGR RURA DISTRICT – NEW JERSEY

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 10, 2021 at 1:00PM. Branch 290 will host the luncheon meeting at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, NJ 08846. In the event that we are not able to meet in person due to changes in state dining policy due to Covid, we will meet virtually using the Zoom platform. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0505 by October 3rd if you plan on attending. Agenda will include Election of Officers for 2022 and discussion of plans and activities for next year, including the upcoming 52nd Convention. 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

At the ZOOM District meeting held on Sunday, January 17, 2021, the following officers were elected President Robert Kristofik and Treasurer Joseph Rimarcik.

There were no candidates for the following positions: Vice-President; Secretary; Auditor (2) and Chaplin. If you are interested in becoming a District Officer please contact President Robert Kristofik at: rjk810@aol.com The District meets twice a year.

Fraternally,

Joseph Rimarcik, Treasurer

## DISTRICT 6 - THE PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District will meet on Sunday, November 21 at the Holy Trinity Church Hall of St Thomas the Apostle Parish, 529 Grant Street Extension, West Mifflin PA 15122. The meeting will start at 1PM. Officers for 2022 will be elected at the November meeting. We will also discuss the upcoming convention and other business matters. The meeting will be hosted by Branch 254. Please RSVP by email to Joe Senko [jtsenko@aol.com] or to the district secretary. We need an accurate count for planning.

The 52nd Jednota Convention is planned for July 30 to August 2, 2022 at the Holiday Inn in Independence, Ohio. Please be sure to follow all by-laws as you elect convention delegates.

Other announcements of local interest:

- WPSCA: Mt Lebanon Public Library 7PM – October 4: Emigration from Slovakia; November 1: Slovak Nativity Sets; December 6: Show & Tell

- NSS Heritage Museum September Fest: Saturday, September 25, 2021, 11AM-4PM. Slovak café, arts & crafts, demonstrations, & the Slovak cuvac.

- Fall Slovak classes: Tuesdays, 7 to 8:30, October 12 to November 30 – contact Joe Senko

- Slovak Heritage Day at Pitt: November 7 – Virtual event

As always, members are urged to check the Jednota for updates on FCSU business matters as well as contests and tournaments. This is the time to be sure your beneficiaries are up to date. FCSU insurance information and forms can be found at [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com). Many interesting Slovak-related links may be found at [fcsu.com/resources](http://fcsu.com/resources).

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary [manasta@verizon.net](mailto:manasta@verizon.net)

## DISTRICT 7 – THE REV JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT

District 7 will hold a meeting on October 24, 2021, from 2:00PM – 4:00PM at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, 185 Church Hill Road, Wilmore, PA. On the agenda: election of district officers and a discussion of delegates to the 2022 FCSU Convention. All members are encouraged to attend.

Peter Gerko, President

## DISTRICT 8 – REVEREND STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District 8 will hold its semi-annual meeting in Mahanoy City, PA on Sunday October 17, 2021. Mass is 10:30AM at St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish (600 W. Mahanoy St., Mahanoy City, PA 17948). Dinner and meeting are at Noon at A&C Catering Hall (505 W. Mahanoy St. Mahanoy City, PA 17948). Cost is \$18.00 payable to Karen Sterling. Please send the number of attendees and check to: Karen Sterling, 384 Beacon Circle, Boalsburg, PA 16827. Any questions please call Karen at 570-640-1796 between 1 and 4PM. Reservations required by October 1st.

Joanne Engle Austin, Secretary

## DISTRICT 9- THE FRANK T. HOLLY, JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District of Uniontown, PA, will hold a meeting on Thursday, November 11, 2021, at Shoney's Restaurant at 285 McClellandtown Road, Uniontown, PA, at 6:00PM. Members who attend will be asked to contribute \$5.00 toward their meal. Reservations need to be made by Tuesday, November 9, 2021, by contacting President James Marmol at 724-970-7642. All members are invited to attend.

Barbara Holly, Secretary

## DISTRICT 10 – THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT

District 10 will be holding the last meeting of 2021 on Sunday, November 14, 2021, at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311 at 3PM. This will be an in-person and virtual meeting. We will be electing officers for the 2022 year. If you are interested in serving - please send a letter of your intention to serve and the position you are interested in serving on the board. Send letter to Linda Hanko, 1473 Ries St, Barberton, OH 44203. Letters must be received by November 1, 2021.

If you are planning to attend the meeting in person, please contact Linda Hanko @ [lhanko@neo.rr.com](mailto:lhanko@neo.rr.com) or 330-706-0151. If you plan on attending the meeting virtually – please contact Tom Ivanec @ [tivanec@aol.com](mailto:tivanec@aol.com) or 440-668-7797 for details on accessing the meeting.

Looking forward to having you in attendance at the meeting.

Linda Hanko, Secretary

## DISTRICT 11 – THE MSGR. JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

The annual meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District 11 will be held on Sunday October 10, 2021 @ 2PM. The meeting will be held at the W. Rick's Taproom & Grill. The address is 269 Meridian Rd. Butler, PA, 16001. We encourage all members to please attend; any COVID restrictions in place at that time will be followed. No advanced notice of attendance is required. On the agenda will be planning for the yearly events as COVID restrictions will allow, and election of officers for the 2022 year.

Karen Greggs, Recording Secretary

## DISTRICT 12 – THE MONSIGNOR ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT

The Monsignor Andrew Hlinka District will hold the Annual Meeting on Sunday November 21, 2021 at 1PM. Additional information of the meeting and the location of the meeting will be provided in upcoming issues of The Jednota. A Zoom link will be sent to all Hlinka District members who attended the March 2021 meeting. Any District member interested in the Zoom link can contact District Secretary Monica RodacyBoone at [hlinkadistrictsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:hlinkadistrictsecretary@gmail.com) after November 1.

Some topics on the agenda will be discussions of the 52 Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU in Independence OH on July 30, 2022 to August 2, 2022; the election of the district delegate; and the annual election of district officers.

All Hlinka District members are asked to mark their calendar to attend the November meeting.

Monica Rodacy Boone, Secretary  
[hlinkadistrictsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:hlinkadistrictsecretary@gmail.com)

## DISTRICT 14 – REV JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Tailgate:

The YSU tailgate for September 25 discussed at the July meeting will not be held due to the rising case numbers of Covid-19 resulting from the Delta variant and low vaccination rates.

District 14 Upcoming Meetings:

• Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.; at the Fireplace, 2075 E. Western Reserve Rd. Poland. OH 44514.

• Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 6:00 P.M., the Annual Meeting for Election and Installation of Officers for 2022 at the Fireplace, 2075 E. Western Reserve Rd.. After the election of officers, we will elect the District Delegate for next Years' convention.

John J. Leskovyansky, Jr., President and Recording Secretary.

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

Prince Pribina District 15 will conduct its Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 18, 2021, at 11:00 AM. The meeting will be held at the Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA, 92831. On the agenda will be: preparation for 52nd Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland, OH, Holiday Inn, on July 30-August 2, 2022. Activities focused on membership drive, and preparation for All Saints and Souls Mass. All Branches in our area are encouraged to participate and hold concurrent semi-annual meetings. Lunch will follow at the restaurant.

Also please reserve the date December 11, 2021 for the annual meeting at the same location for the election of officers for next year.

Paul Skuben, President

## DISTRICT 16 – THE MSGR KRASULA DISTRICT

The annual meeting of the District 16 Msgr Krasula will be held on Sunday, October 24, 2021, in the Church hall of St. John Nepomucene Church, NYC, immediately following the 10:15 AM Slovak Mass. Agenda will include election of new officers, financial matters, and discussion of future activities. All members from District 16 are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Joan Skrkon, Recording Secretary

## DISTRICT 17 – LACKAWANNA & LUZERNE COUNTIES, PA; BROOME COUNTY, NY

Saints Cyril & Methodius District 17 will conduct its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, October 17, 2021. Branch delegates will gather for the 11:30AM Mass in St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 William Street, Pittston, PA. Following the Mass, a catered luncheon will be served in the Church Hall. The business meeting will convene afterward. The agenda will include election of officers, a discussion of donations, and an update from the Home Office.

A "Basket Raffle" will be held. Branches are asked to donate a basket (\$25 value) for the event.

All branches are urged to send representatives to this meeting. In keeping with CDC and local recommendations, masks will be required indoors.

Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., President

## COME PIG OUT!



**SATURDAY, SEPT. 11**

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

**~OPEN TO THE PUBLIC~**

**SPONSORED BY THE SLOVAK HERITAGE SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND**

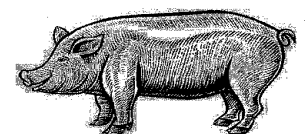
**~DOORS OPEN AT 3 PM~**

**~FOOD SERVED FROM 4PM TO 8PM~**

**WHERE: SOKOL FARM**

**2069 ROYALWOOD RD.**

**BROADVIEW HTS, OH 44147**



**COST: \$25 (includes meat, sides, dessert, and water)**

**\$5 Kids meal (hot dog, chips, & juice box)**

**Cash bar**

**ACTIVITIES ~PRIZES~MUSIC**

**Cash or credit accepted.**

**For advanced tickets call:**

**Limited tickets available at the door.**

**Tom Ivanec**

**440-668-7797**

**Joe Oros**

**440-334-8626**

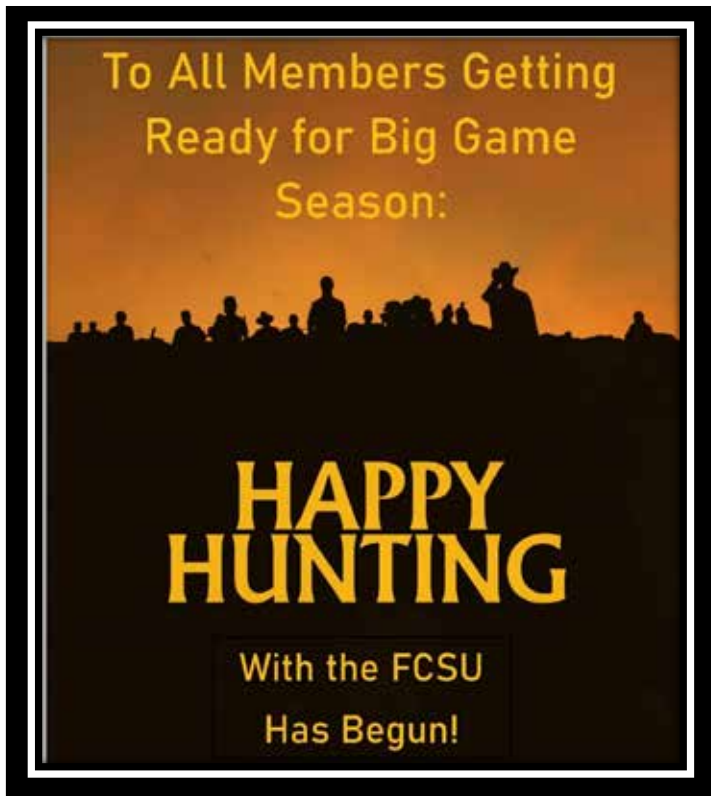
**Mike Anderko**

**216-396-2831**

**Susie Halley**

**440-263-1573**

**Contact us on Facebook at "Cleveland Slovak Social"**



**\* FIRST PRIZE – \$300 \* SECOND PRIZE – \$150 \* THIRD PRIZE - \$100**  
**FCSU Happy Hunting Contest 2021**

The First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) is launching an all-new contest for the hunters among us. The hunting season for moose and deer in North America generally starts September 1st. Seasons vary in length and start time depending on the game you are hunting, the hunting instrument used, and where you live. Please be sure to check with your local authorities. As you gear up to participate in your area of the country, be sure to enter the FCSU Happy Hunting Contest for your chance to bag more than your favorite game.

We call upon St. Hubert, the patron Saint of Hunters, to protect everyone entering the event. Happy hunting!

Kevin Collins, FCSU Fraternal Activities Director

PS: be sure to check out & follow all details as listed on this page →

**Attention ALL FCSU Members & Families:**



As we have been advertising, we are looking into creating another fun fraternal activity at the FCSU. It was originally a Pen Pal Program aimed at our youth, ages 5 – 17; but after input from many of you throughout our great Society, we are expanding our call out to solicit interest from all members. Starting an FCSU Pen Pal Program between our Jednotars and interested people in Slovakia could be a great way to establish lifelong friendships, increase language skills, and share insights about each coun-

try's unique traditions.

Initially, we would seek to set up regular communication between pen pals via email or regular mail – perhaps as early as Christmas 2021. But the program, if successful, could expand to some kind of Secret Santa exchange in the future. Such an endeavor involving gifts would have to be carefully managed, but may be a worthwhile addition to a vibrant pen pal program.

If you or your child might be interested in participating in an FCSU Pen Pal program, please email me at [kevinfcsu@outlook.com](mailto:kevinfcsu@outlook.com) by: October 1st, 2021. Please put in the Subject Line: FCSU Pen Pal Program. In the body of the email, please indicate the age, gender, and branch affiliation of the member interested in being a pen pal. Also include your name (if different than the pen pal) and the best way to contact you with more information, whether that is email, phone, or text.

Please note—sending this email does not translate into a commitment on your part. At this stage, we are only trying to gauge interest from our membership.

Fraternally,  
 Kevin Collins, Fraternal Activities Director

Contest Categories

The FCSU will be awarding cash prizes for the top three catches, based on the number of points on the rack, in one of two categories: Moose or Deer

Contest Timeframe

The FCSU Happy Hunting Contest runs from September 1 – December 31, 2021.

Contest Rules

1. You must be a member of the FCSU in good standing to participate.
2. Only one entry is allowed per FCSU member per category (deer or moose).
3. You must take a digital picture of your deer or moose outdoors, and before the animal is dressed. The preferred format for your digital photo is jpeg; pdfs can be accepted.
4. You MUST include a recent copy of the Jednota Newspaper in the picture with your catch.
5. In the body of the email, include ALL of the following information:
  - ✓ Your information: name, address, branch number, and best phone number to contact you if there are questions
  - ✓ Category Entering: Moose or Deer
  - ✓ Number of Pointers on your animal
  - ✓ Date of Interaction with the animal
  - ✓ Location of Interaction
  - ✓ Type of Hunting Instrument used: Bow and Arrow, Rifle, etc.
6. Optional: If you donate any of the meat to a homeless shelter or needy or neighbors etc., also note this with your entry.
7. Please see the box below for a checklist of the information needed to constitute a qualified entry. Contest winners will be posted on the FCSU website and published in Jednota.

Contest Deadline

Deadline to enter is January 5, 2022. Email [kevinfcsu@outlook.com](mailto:kevinfcsu@outlook.com) with your digital photo and entry information (see below). Email must be time dated by 5PM (EST) of the deadline day.

Info that MUST be submitted in your emailed entry along with your digital Big Game photo:

- \* **In the subject line:** put FCSU Happy Hunting Contest 2021
- \* **In the body of the email:** list the full names of all the members in your photo next to your animal. You MUST include your branch number and the branch number of all the people in the attached photo (if different from yours). You also MUST include the following information about your catch:
  - o Number of Pointers on the animal
  - o Location of Interaction with animal
  - o Type of hunting instrument used: Examples: Bow and Arrow, Rifle, etc.
  - o Optional: If you donate any of the meat to a homeless shelter or needy neighbors etc.
- \* Please also include your main mailing address where you would like your prize mailed, including City, State, Zip. Please also include a number where you can be reached if questions.
- \* **In the attached photo** (jpeg format preferred): A recent copy of the Jednota newspaper MUST be visible in the picture. All hunters in the photo, including yourself, MUST be members of the FCSU.
- \* Email to [kevinfcsu@outlook.com](mailto:kevinfcsu@outlook.com) by January 5, 2022, 5PM EST.

**Save the Date for 2022 National Bowling Tournament**



The 2021 National Bowling Tournament has been canceled due to COVID concerns and for the safety of our members. Look for details in Jednota about the National Bowling Tournament scheduled for May 13 - 14, 2022 - and save the dates!

# Scenes from Our Successful 2021 International Golf Tournament

Our FCSU/SOKOL/GCU International Golf Tournament was held on August 6th-8th, 2021, at the beautiful Treasure Lake Golf Resort, DuBois, PA. The wonderful weekend of fraternalism and sportsmanship started on Friday evening with a Hospitality "meet and greet" at Treasure Lake's Lakeview Lodge. FCSU golfers then enjoyed a Saturday and Sunday of golf on each of the resort's two 18-hole courses. An outdoor banquet buffet was held at an onsite pavilion on Saturday evening. Attendees enjoyed a delicious meal provided by local caterers Luigi's Villa.



I also had the honor of finally presenting the FCSU Traveling Cup to Lynn Johnston for his winning performance at the past 2019 International Golf Tournament.

It was good to see National Officers at the event: National President Andrew M. Rajec, was in attendance at the Saturday evening banquet with his wife Mrs. Idka Rajec and son Andrew P. Rajec, Acting National Vice President. Region 2 Director Damien Nasta and National Chair of Auditors Greg Maurer golfed both days. Region 6 Director Tom Ivanec, volunteered his help throughout the event. His wife, Jednota Editor Terri Ivanec, also helped take pictures.

I am very appreciative of the many branches and members who supported the tournament with their sponsorship. And, of course, my sincere thanks to all our golfers for participating in the 2021 International Golf Tournament. I hope you had a good time. I certainly enjoyed getting to spend time with all of you. I value your interest and feedback for making next year's event even better.

Fraternally,

Kevin Collins  
National Fraternal Activities Director

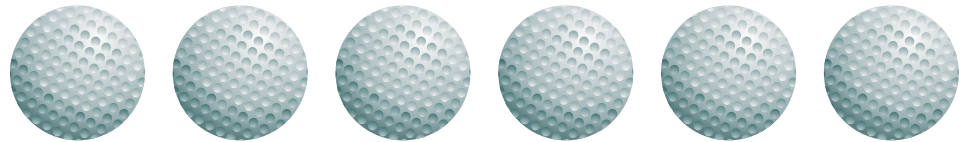


## Saturday

Hole 7: GCU: Tom Hoenninger  
Hole 17: FCSU: Martin Finklestine

## Sunday

Hole 4: GCU: Matt Hoenninger  
Hole 12: FCSU: David A. Schmucker



## FCSU Hole Sponsors

- ★ Kenneth A. Arendt - Executive Secretary
- ★ District 11 - serving PA
- ★ St. John the Baptist Branch 112 – Mahanoy City, PA
- ★ St. Wendelin Branch 162 – Uniontown, PA
- ★ Branch 181 – United, PA
- ★ Branch 857 – Levittown, PA
- ★ Slovak J. Club – Akron, OH
- ★ Greg Petrasek, District 10 President, Branch 553 – Akron, OH
- ★ Debra Speck, Branch 553 President – Uniontown, OH
- ★ John Tokarsky, Branch 785, District 19 – Mississauga, ON
- ★ Capt. & Mrs. William Ungvarsky (Ret.) - in memory of Ungvarsky Family Members
- ★ Fr. Marek, Miriam, Caroline, Elias, and Marco Visnovsky – Branches 24 & 450 Cleveland, OH



(L – R) Enjoying the Hospitality spread of hot hors d'oeuvres and other tasty treats: Frank Pipak, Tom Pipak, Mike Pipak, and Greg Maurer.

(L – R) About to join in the fun of Friday night's Hospitality "meet & greet": Terry Eller, Tom Ivanec, Kevin Collins, and Bud Dreier.



(L – R) Region 6 Director Tom Ivanec helps Fraternal Activities Director Kevin Collins welcome and check in FCSU golfers on the first day of the tournament.



FCSU golfers gather for a group photo to complete the opening ceremonies of the tournament on a beautiful Saturday morning at Treasure Lake's Gold Course.



(L - R) Tom is joined by Tim Kozusko leading our FCSU golfers on a rousing version of Hej Slovaci.



Tom leads the singing of the North American National Anthems, by FCSU members to kick off the first day of the tournament.



David Degol, Anthony Nastasi, Martin P. Finklestine, Sr., and Bruno Felus



Thomas Pipak, Frank Pipak, Anthony "Mike" Pipak, and Robert Patula, Jr.



Robert Kopanic, Sr., Clarence Shank, Terry A. Eller, Lewis "Bud" Dreier, Sr.



John Grottenhaler, Joe Barron, Rusty Groner, and Greg Maurer



Tim Kozusko, James Yokopenic, and Stephen Yokopenic



Michael Bolby, David A. Schmucker, William Kasan, Sr., and Anthony Menich



Stephen D. Vargo, Steve Vargo, Todd Vargo, and Daniel Vargo

Patrick Quinn and Barry Halula



John E. Pastorek, Jr., John D. Pastorek, Sr., Anthony Coval, and Donald Handley

All golfers on the course pictured left to right



# 2021 International Golf Tournament



Andrew Kozusko, Alexander Kozusko, William Quinn, and John Rosa



James Saul; Paul Simkovich; Derek Johnston; and Lynn Johnston



Damian Nasta, Nichole L. Nasta, John Tokarsky, and Edward C. Nasta



Timothy Quinn, Ronald P. Harr, and John Metarko



David Sinagra, Jeffrey Beattie, Joseph R. Burkhart, and David Barton



The Slovak J Club in Akron, OH, was one of the many sponsorship signs throughout the two 18- hole courses of Treasure Lake Golf Resort.



(L – R) Lynn Johnston gets a preview of the FCSU Traveling Cup by Kevin Collins presented formally to him at the Saturday evening outdoor banquet for his performance at the 2019 International Golf Tournament.

**Congratulations**



David Degol, Branch 372, Region 4, for winning The FCSU Traveling Cup for the 2021 golf tournament!

David shot a score of:  
2 Day Scratch Total: 154  
2 Day Handicap Total: 144



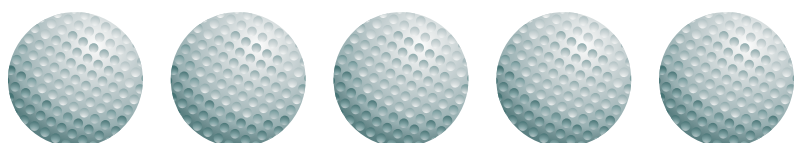
(L – R) Andrew P. Rajec, Acting National Vice President, and Greg Maurer, National Chair of Auditors



Members enjoying a catered banquet at the Silver Course Pavilion in Treasure Lake Resort.



President Rajec addresses the crowd.



Look for golf scores on the FCSU website at: [www.fcsu.com/events/](http://www.fcsu.com/events/)

# Immigrant Sisters of SS Cyril & Methodius

It is no secret that immigrants have provided our nation with a strong and blessed support. Our Sisters who emigrated from central Europe have contributed mightily not only by their spiritual presence but also by the works they have performed in convents, parishes, schools, hospitals, homes for the elderly and by their very presence which has brought joy and comfort to all with whom they came into contact.

Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SSCM

## Sister Redempta



Not surprisingly, Stephanie, the daughter of Stephen and Katherine (Kovarik) Tomancik, had always aspired to become a Sister. She was taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph in Binghamton, NY, and often volunteered to help the Sisters who lived at St. Mary's Orphanage. When she made known her plans to join the Sisters of St. Francis in Syracuse, NY, God and Father Cyril, her pastor, revealed his (and God's) plans. Since Father Cyril had suspected Stephanie had an interest in religious life, he took the initiative and when she announced her plans to go to Syracuse, declared, "You're going to go to Danville. I have already talked to Mother Pius about you." Though at first her parents objected, they relented when they realized she was serious about becoming a religious. According to plan, Stephanie met with Mother Pius on August 27 and twelve days later on September 8, 1928, she entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. She was received as

a novice on December 28, 1928.

Stephanie was the oldest of seven children born to Stephen and Katherine Tomancik. No doubt they welcomed her with great joy on March 27, 1910, in Kopčany, Slovakia, and named her after her dad. The Tomanciks later made their home in Binghamton, and became parishioners of Saints Cyril and Methodius Church where Stephanie attended school. She later received her high school diploma from St. Cyril Academy. Stephanie became a naturalized citizen in her home town of Binghamton with the rest of her family.

A major milestone in her life was her Profession Day, December 22, 1930. Another memorable experience was her visit to Velehrad where she walked the roads Saints Cyril and Methodius had used on their mission of evangelization.



Sister Redempta (seated left among friends) had a gift for reaching out to others

Sister's greatest source of fulfillment was preparing children for their first Holy Communion. She had always taught the primary grades and had had countless opportunities to teach them of God's presence and to help them develop an awareness of this great gift. It was a joy to learn that some of her former first graders became priests and religious.

Sister was well known for her generosity and self-sacrifice. She often expressed gratitude to God for enabling her to perform

the daily tasks, "the hum-drum duties" as she called them, all for Him.

Sister also possessed an openness to growth and change. A warm, friendly individual, she never hesitated to embrace new experiences and welcomed opportunities to learn and to share her life with others. She had a gift for reaching out to others in new circumstances, for example, becoming involved in prison ministry in the Diocese of Charleston. Her approach to prayer was expansive. She gave credit to many individuals for helping her expand her spiritual journey. Her ministry to those in new forms of prayer like the Cursillo movement and Kairos benefited from her wisdom and willingness to share her insights. The Kairos movement provided retreat experiences for incarcerated women. The Cursillo was designed to strengthen one's faith and enables individuals to live the faith more fully. Sister was grateful, first of all, to her parents for their support on her spiritual journey. Later she was thankful to her spiritual director in Charleston, the Reverend Lawrence McInerney, for introducing her to centering prayer. Father McInerney, by the way, was once taught by some of the Cyrilites. The former Abbot Anthony of Mepkin Abbey helped Sister become better acquainted with centering prayer by supplying her with tapes.

Naturally Sister continued the devotions she learned early in life, like the Rosary, saying, "Our Lady never fails me." She especially cherished the devotions her mother taught her, including a Slovak prayer she learned when she was only five years old. Our community motto, "Your Kingdom Come," was also a guiding force as she ventured into the Cursillo movement or conducted directed meditations for women prisoners in the Kairos movement.

Sister Redempta began teaching full-time in the novitiate and continued until 1980, also serving as principal. Later she began a new ministry in the schools as tutor, remedial teacher and teachers' aide. Not only was she an educator but a mentor to all those she guided spiritually. She once told them, "Our Lord loves to have us chat with Him. Sometimes try not saying anything. Just sit in a quiet nook. This is when He'll invite you to come closer." She also stressed the importance of reading Scripture, keeping in mind St. Paul's injunction, "I can do all things in Him who strengthens me."

Sister Redempta died at age 91 on the Feast of the Archangels, Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. On the Feast of the Guardian Angels, October 2, she was laid to rest in the Sisters' cemetery after a funeral celebrated at Maria Hall where she had retired in 1996. The celebrant and homilist was Reverend Cyril Rable, Maria Hall chaplain.

## Ten Ways to Love



1. Listen without interrupting. ❤️ Proverbs 18
2. Speak without accusing. ❤️ James 1:19
3. Give without sparing. ❤️ Proverbs 21:26
4. Pray without ceasing. ❤️ Colossians 1:9
5. Answer without arguing. ❤️ Proverbs 17:1
6. Share without pretending. ❤️ Ephesians 4:15
7. Enjoy without complaint. ❤️ Philippians 2:14
8. Trust without wavering. ❤️ 1 Corinthians 13:7
9. Forgive without punishing. ❤️ Colossians 3:13
10. Promise without forgetting. ❤️ Proverbs 13:12

As posted on SSCM Facebook page

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL

## St. Andrew Abbey Benefit

to support the mission  
and work of our monks

SATURDAY • OCTOBER 2

MASS AT 4 P.M.

DINNER AT 6 P.M.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION

9183 BROADVIEW ROAD

BROADVIEW HEIGHTS, OHIO 44147

Bring the entire family for an evening of food, fun,  
and prayer while benefitting the monks of  
St. Andrew Abbey!

For sponsorship inquiries, ticket information, or  
questions, please contact Ashley Arko at  
(216) 721-5300 x280 or arko@cbhs.edu

# Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal Continues in September

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is in its 43rd year raising money to assist the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome with its day-to-day operations. Today, the Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors in addition to collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry. A direct mailing asking for donations was sent in January to local district and branch leaders from the four Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations, members of the Slovak Catholic Federation, and previous donors.

As of August 27, \$22,477.50 has been received from 201 donors. Along with the Home Office of the FCSU, the following Branches have made donations: Branch 1, Branch 3, Branch 19, Branch 35, Branch 40, Branch 45, Branch 85, Branch 89, Branch 112, Branch 153, Branch 166, Branch 173, Branch 181, Branch 213, Branch 254, Branch 276, Branch 320, Branch 382, Branch 450, Branch 484, Branch 587, Branch 746, Branch 764, and Branch 853. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the 2021 Appeal but did not receive a letter asking for a donation is asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. Gifts received after November 30, 2021 will be credited toward the 2022 Appeal. Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

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

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14						15						16		
17						18						19		
			20		21		22				23			
24	25	26		27		28				29				
30			31		32				33					
34				35		36		37				38	39	40
41					42			43			44			
45				46			47			48				
			49				50		51		52			
53	54	55				56				57		58		
59					60				61		62			
63				64				65		66		67	68	69
70				71						72				
73				74						75				

43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta, National First Vice President  
Slovak Catholic Federation  
Our Lady of Grace Church  
225 Bellevue Avenue  
Pennel, PA 19047-4052

**Across**

- 1 Confuse
- 6 Honshu city
- 11 Neighbor of Mo.
- 14 Jeans material
- 15 Kicked off
- 16 Large amount
- 17 Hindu mystic
- 18 Key material
- 19 \_\_\_ Quentin
- 20 Foreman's superior
- 22 Conclude
- 23 Istanbul native
- 24 Insult, in slang
- 27 Contest effort
- 29 Concert venue
- 30 Move slowly
- 32 Sedona maker
- 33 Swelter
- 34 Zeno, notably
- 36 Sleep spoiler
- 38 Routing word
- 41 Half man and half horse
- 43 Sharing
- 45 Rough stuff
- 46 Conflict
- 48 Kidney-related
- 49 Like Falstaff
- 50 Porker
- 52 Bingo relative
- 53 Ham's need
- 56 Where to get a fast buck?
- 58 Produce duds
- 59 Parsley or sage
- 60 An Everly brother
- 61 Crayola color
- 63 Baseball stat
- 64 The brainy bunch
- 66 Certain sorority woman

**Down**

- 70 Service award
- 71 Noble gas
- 72 Wedding helper
- 73 Casual attire
- 74 Haughty response
- 75 Lady
- 1 Much spam
- 2 Condensation
- 3 Chain letters?
- 4 Peru's capital
- 5 Author Zola
- 6 Samurai's sash
- 7 More than one
- 8 Torment
- 9 Certain Iranian
- 10 "\_\_\_ more?"
- 11 Matter of debate
- 12 Memorize
- 13 Sri \_\_\_
- 21 Octopus's defense
- 23 "Don't give up!"
- 24 Old dance hall
- 25 Lay to rest
- 26 British biscuit
- 28 Pageant crown
- 29 Combat gear
- 31 Best seller
- 33 To and \_\_\_
- 35 Chocolate source
- 37 Greenfly, e.g.
- 38 Creepers
- 39 Fatuous
- 40 Luminous

- 42 Final (Abbr.)
- 44 Albanian coin
- 47 Patron
- 49 Little lie
- 51 Obtain
- 53 Scarlett's love
- 54 Eagle's nest
- 55 Cover, in a way
- 56 Sonata section
- 57 Loose hemp or jute fiber
- 60 Student overseer
- 62 Discovery grp.
- 64 "\_\_\_ Miniver"
- 65 Aardvark's morsel
- 67 High degree
- 68 Stew vegetable
- 69 Pitcher's asset

## 2021 JEDNOTA Publication Schedule

**Issue Date**

**Deadline to**

**Receive Information**

**October 13**

**October 4**

**November 10**

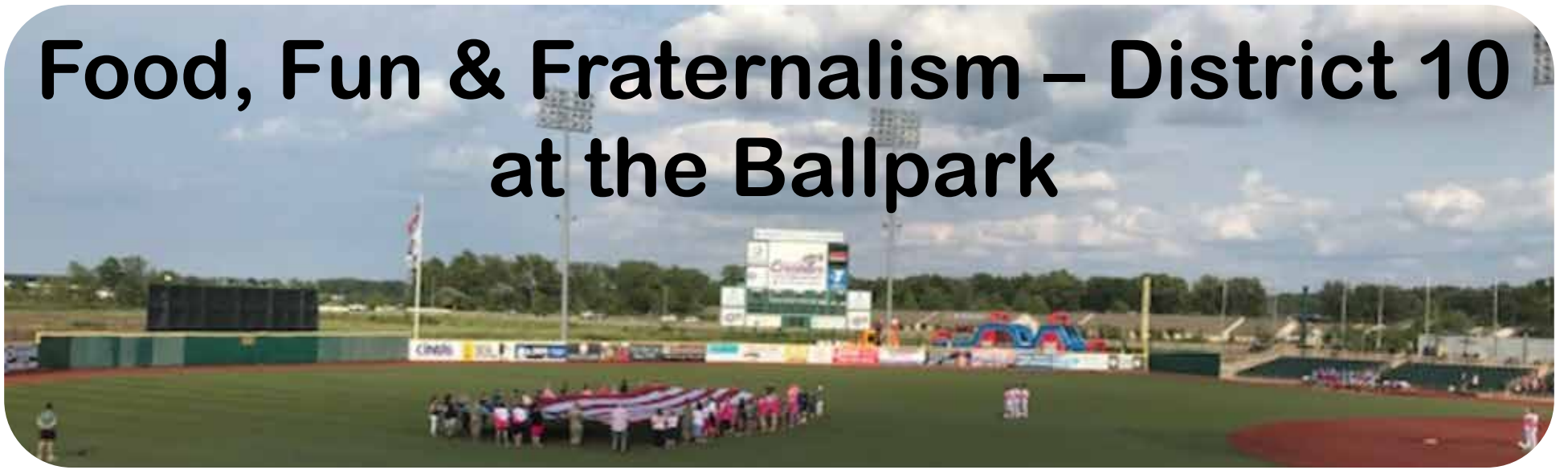
**November 1**

**December 8**

**November 29**

*See Solution on Page 23*

# Food, Fun & Fraternalism – District 10 at the Ballpark



On a balmy Saturday evening of July 31, 2021, seventy-seven FCSU members in District 10 and their guests met at Mercy Health Care Stadium in Avon, OH, as the Lake Erie Crushers took on the Florence Y'Alls. Participating branches from the district were: 1, 24, 228, 450, 553, and 855. We were delighted to have National Officers and their families join us - National President Andrew M. Rajec and his wife Idka, and Acting National Vice President Andrew P Rajec; Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt and his wife Theresa, and their family. Also joining us were two ballpark aficionados from Branch 580 who traveled all the way from PA for the fraternal event. It was a fun evening of all-you-can-eat, picnic-style dining followed by great seats for the minor league game. Lucky members also won a special \$10 raffle prize for extra treats at the park. To top off the evening, the Crushers won!

- Submitted by Thomas Ivanec, Region 6 Director



(L-R) Branch President Barbara Sutilla with Branch Member Karen Davis and Branch Treasurer Ann Sutilla ready to greet other 855 branch members outside the ball park gate



(L – R) Branch 24's Strekal family enjoying the pregame picnic: Justin, Henry, Elias, Frances, and Cora



(L – R) Branch 228 families share a picnic meal: Natalya Zilko, Stephen Zilko, Christina Zilko, Jamie Zilko, Thomas Zuffa, and his wife Jeanette, and Lilly Zilko



(L – R) Branch 553's family: Andrew Victory, Georgia Victory, William Victory, District 10 President Gregory Petrasek; Scarlet Grey Victory; Bianchi Victory, and Roberta Petrasek



(L – R) Branch 24 Member Christine Kiggins with her husband Harold



(L – R) The Carny Family from Branch 450: Sofia, Tammy, Branch President George, Sr., George, Jr., Jessica, Stella, Richard, and Charlotte



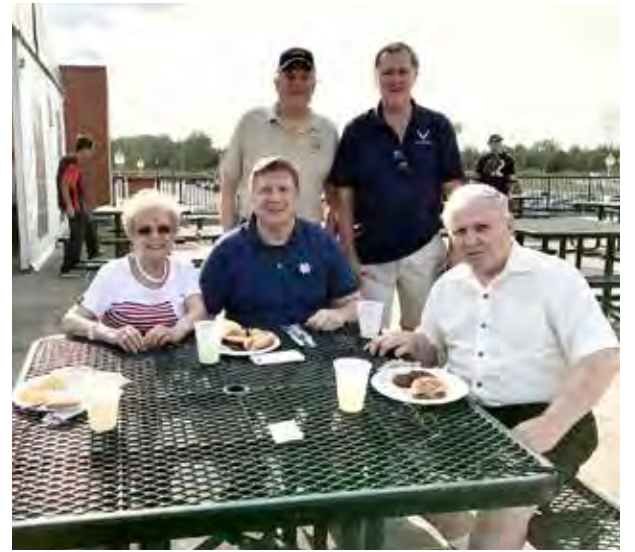
(L – R) From Branch 1: Owan Argosa, Branch President Richard Golias, Ethan Argosa, Branch Secretary Marie Golias, Branch Vice President Rochelle Popovich, and Ava Argosa.



(L – R) The Oros Family from Branch 24: Joseph Oros, branch treasurer; Matthew Oros, Donna Oros, and Thomas Oros



(L - R) Branch 228 showed up in force! (Front row) Logan Maderia, Kathy Trifiletti, Nathan Palos, Natalia Zilko, Stephen Zilko, Lilly Zilko, and Jonathan Hellinger. (Back Row) Will Arendt, Kevin Arendt, Branch President Luis Palos, Branch Financial Lisa Trifiletti-Palos, Jamie Zilko, Christina Zilko, FCSU Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt, Theresa Arendt, Jeanette Zuffa, and Branch Recording Secretary Tom Zuffa.



(L - R) (Seated) Mrs. Idka Rajec, Acting National Vice President Andrew P. Rajec, National President Andrew M. Rajec (Standing) Region 6 Director & Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Thomas Ivanec, Branch 1 President Richard Golias



(L - R) Region 6 Director Thomas Ivanec flanked by Branch 580 Members Paul and Beth Svirbel



(L - R): Branch 855 Members: (Seated) Ann Ward, Edward Ryba, Marilyn Lucas, John Shedlock (Standing) Edward Lucas, Carissa Alabise, Tom Lucas, Ben Daley, Branch Fraternal Activity Director Stephanie Sutilla, Branch Treasurer Ann Sutilla, Branch President Barbara Sutilla, Kelly Shedlock, and Barbara Shedlock

# Winner, winner, chicken dinner!



Will Arendt helps draw another winner in the special membership raffle



Fran Strekal holding a winning ticket



(L - R) Ken Arendt congratulates raffle winner Joseph Oros, with Tom Ivanec



Tom Lucas holds up his winner



Two rows of winners! Top (L): Greg and Roberta Petrasek Bottom (R): Henry Strekal



(L - R) Tracy Miller and Doug Davis with Branch 855's Karen Davis, were among the lucky raffle winners

# 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	Richard M Ziska	254K	Richard Michael Peremba Sr	484K	Albert Hromulak Sr	746K	Margaret M Juran
005P	Joseph M Yakalavich	260K	Myrtle M Bartos	510K	John Hosmanek	746K	Lillian P Reseter
019K	Barbara A Olex	260K	Eleanor Shevetz	553K	Joan Jurkowski	746K	Marlene Yuhas
024K	William Joseph Novotny	293K	William Vavro	553K	Marian Elizabeth Ray	746K	Joseph F Zawada
024K	Paul J Vadovski Jr	313K	Kristen L Alheim	553K	Betty Jean Smith	746K	Dillon McCormick
035K	Ann Kobylanski	368K	Katherine Verostek	553K	Helen Yakubik	764K	Maryann Hauser
038K	Audrey Ann Mihalko	373K	Thomas M Adams	581K	Jerome Otawka	796K	Wilma M Kustra
045K	Dorothy A Feldman	373K	Anna Uhrinek	628K	John T Draganosky	831K	Ellen Yakopec
045K	Marie M Pitarch	393K	John Andrew Kolonosky	652K	Madeline B Bennett	831K	Doris J Janoviak
112K	Veronica M Sabol	401K	Terry L Gustafson	670K	Agnes B Verbich	855K	Kathleen D Sixel
162K	Robert Phillips	401K	Avis D Zidek	731K	Paul R Belle Sr	855K	John W Moran
181K	William M Murray	403K	Martin Thomas Gorman Sr	731K	Mike Soroka		
181K	Joshua D Sprock	404K	Robert Brasko	743K	Catherine M Bielicki		
199K	Paul M Ferrett	410K	Gary G Brumley	746K	Robert G Halmi		

\*Processed through the month of August

## OBITUARIES

### DOROTHY AGNES TAPOCIK MOHR BRANCH 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

Dorothy Agnes Tapocik Mohr, born January 8, 1930 in Springfield, IL, passed on June 7, 2021 in Orange, CA. She is survived by the love of her life for 70 years, Norris J. Mohr aka Digger. They left the Midwest and created a fruitful life in Southern California.

She was the daughter of Slovakian immigrants, Joseph, a coal miner and Amelia, a St. Aloysius church custodian. Dorothy had 10 brothers and sisters. Dorothy and Joe were pioneers coming to Southern California in the 1950's. Preceding her in death were Agnes, Agnes, (two sisters), Joe, Paul, Frank, Bernie. She is survived by Sr. Anita Tapocik, Mary Stankavich, Margaret Doan (Bob) and John Tapocik (Claudette), all who followed to California.

The true joy of Dorothy's life was her faith and family and she was guided by the principles of God, Country, Family and Notre Dame! She has three daughters, Nancy Mohr, Palm Springs, CA, Mary Kelly Mohr, DDS (Connecticut) and Karen Mohr Sunshine (Notre Dame, IN). Her true joy and legacy is reflected in her grandchildren and great grandchild. Veronique Klemow (Aaron), Connecticut, Caroline Mohr Sunshine (Michigan), John Thomas Sunshine (Texas) and Christopher Sunshine (United States Air Force) and great grandson Henry Klemow (Connecticut).

Dorothy had numerous nieces and nephews and took great pride in being an Aunt, mentor and friend. She was passionate about her Catholic faith and a long time parishioner at St. Frances of Rome in Azusa, California and later in life at St. Theresa's in Palm Springs, California. She was a hard working woman and cherished her years working at Santa Anita Race Track in Arcadia, California.

Most of all "Dottie" as Joe called her will be remembered as being the love of his life. Their relationship was a true testament to the vow of matrimony. They married October 13, 1951 and at the time of death had

been married 69½ years.

- Submitted by Mary Kelly Mohr

### AUDREY A MIHALKO BRANCH 38 – WHITE OAK, PENNSYLVANIA

Audrey A Mihalko, age 91 of Clairton, PA, passed away on Friday, July 2, 2021 in Jefferson Hospital. Born March 21, 1930 in Clairton, she was a daughter of the late Joseph and Anna (Dora) Mayzel. Audrey was a member of Triumph of the Holy Cross Parish, St. Clare of Assisi Church, and the former St. Joseph's Parish, where she served as a Eucharistic Minister and Lector and was a member of St. Joseph's Women's Guild. She was also a former officer of Jednota (First Catholic Slovak Union) Branch 454, Sisters' Place in Clairton, a volunteer at Meals on Wheels, and a member of the Wilson Civic Center. In her spare time, Audrey enjoyed crocheting and needlepoint and was an excellent cook and baker. Most importantly though, she was an amazing Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother, and all-around woman and lady. Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years Michael F. Mihalko, Jr., who passed away July 28, 2007; her sons Michael W. Mihalko, who passed away August 9, 2007 and Ronald J. Mihalko, who passed away December 15, 2010; and her brothers Joseph, Armand, and Frank Mayzel. Audrey is survived by her daughter Carol A. (Robert) Mathews of Clairton; her son Mark F. (Cary) Mihalko of South Park; her daughter-in-law Cathy Mihalko; her grandchildren Kelly Mathews Perony, Misty Ward, Sarah Kurzeja, Steven Mihalko, Robert Mathews, Katelyn Mathews, Justin Martin, and Kevin Mathews; her thirteen great-grandchildren; her sisters Elsie (Naz) Rondinelli, Evelyn (Tony) Frataroli, and Anna Marie (Terry) Cevetan; her sisters-in-law Gloria (Sal) Barela and Barbara (Joseph) Mayzel; and also nieces and nephews.

- Submitted by Mark F. Mihalko

### MARIE A. LAKATOSH BRANCH 157 – CATASAWQUA, PENNSYLVANIA

It is with great sadness that the family of Marie A. Lakatosh (nee Desjardins), of Williamsburg, VA, announces her passing on June 28, 2021 after 87 years, she was a loving wife to Donald, Sr. and mother to two children. She served in the military and was a registered nurse for over 20 years.

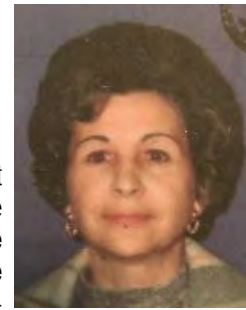
She is preceded by her parents, Lorenzo and Laura Anne Desjardins and her husband Donald, Sr. Marie will be eternally remembered by her son, Donald, Jr., (Kara) of Knoxville, TN and daughter Laurie Ann of Williamsburg, VA and four grandchildren, Andrew (Dominika) of Atlanta, GA, William (Olivia) of Edgemont, SD, and Emma and Robert of Knoxville, TN and three siblings, Fernande (Rene) Bujold, Hector (Joy) Desjardins, and Harry (Victoria) Desjardins of Canada, and numerous nephews, nieces and cousins.

- Submitted by Laurie Anne Lakatosh

### ROBERT J. KNAPP BRANCH 254 – PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Robert J. (Bob) Knapp was laid to rest at the family's gravesite at St. Mark's cemetery in McKees Rocks, PA, on April 9, 2021. Bob died September 17, 2020 at Rutland Regional Medical Center, Rutland, Vermont in the presence of his wife, Marlene Knapp.

He was born on March 24, 1936 in McKees Rocks, PA to John A. and Mary A. (Cuprik) Knapp. He went to St. Mark's Grade School, St. Mary's High School and received a Business Degree from Duquesne University. The Army stationed Bob, a first Lieutenant, at Rothwesten, Germany where he met the love of his life. Back in the Rocks, Bob and



Marlene married at St. Mark's Church. The Knapp's "Variety Store" influenced Bob's decision to have a career with Sears Roebuck & Co., spanning 35 years as Manager of a Catalog Store, Several Retail Stores and Contract Sales.

Looking through Bob's senior high school yearbook, he stated what he disliked most: Summer. Not surprising, since he later found his second love, downhill skiing, in Cortland, N.Y. What quickly followed was a "Knapp" Family of avid skiers who enjoyed traveling to National Giant Slalom Competitions like "The Equitable Family Ski Challenge" and Bob competing solo with "Nastar" or "Schlitz".

After retirement, Bob moved with Marlene in 2002 from Niskayuna, NY to Killington, VT to be able to ski just about every day during the winter season. When he couldn't ski anymore his new passion became Rutland's "Radio Auction" where he made countless donations to especially "The Epilepsy Foundation".

Surviving are his wife, Marlene Knapp of Rutland, VT; his daughter, Renee Knapp of Cologne, Germany; a brother, John Knapp (Antoinette) of Naples, FL; and two sisters, Clare Knapp and Evelyn Knapp both of Kennedy Twp., McKees Rocks, PA; and a niece, Amy (Dan) Gindikin of New York, NY.

Despite COVID 19, Robert and Marlene were very proud to celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary on July 16, 2020 with their daughter, Renee.

- Submitted by the Knapp Family

### JOSEPH J. HOVANEC BRANCH 292 – WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

Joseph J. Hovanec, 91, Windber, PA, passed away June 22, 2021. Son of Adam and Susan (Ulatsky) Hovanec, he was born February 18, 1930 in Windber. Joseph was preceded in death by his parents; brother, John Hovanec; and sister, Margaret DeBarro. He is survived by his sister, Mary, wife of Paul Katch, and brother, Andrew Hovanec, Baltimore, MD; numerous nieces and nephews; and one great niece and one great

continued on page 23

# OBITUARIES

continued from page 22

nephew. Joseph was a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran, having served in the Korean War, and was retired from United Metals. Joseph belonged to SS. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, Windber where he was a very active member.

- Submitted by Andrew Hovanec

**THOMAS M. ADAMS  
BRANCH 373 -  
WEIRTON,  
WEST VIRGINIA**

Thomas Michael Adams, San Antonio, Texas, died May 7, 2021 after an unexpected and brief illness. He was 89.



Tom was born at home on December 5, 1931, in the poor Slovak neighborhood of Toronto, OH, the third of eight children of George and Anna Karaffa Adams. From his immigrant family, Tom learned family traditions he would treasure throughout life, the value of hard work, and love for God, family, and America. Their love for freedom and this country were impressed upon Tom.

When he was nine, Tom's family moved to Brockway, PA, where his dad worked at the clay plant and his mother was a housekeeper and renowned cook. Tom worked many jobs to help support the family.

At age 13, Tom left home to prepare for the Catholic priesthood with the Maryknoll Fathers, an American missionary society, and was ordained into the priesthood, June 1958. As a priest, Tom worked mostly on promotions for Maryknoll in the United States and spent a year in Bolivia and Chile. His final assignment was to the foreign stu-

dent center in New York. He took a leave of absence for health reasons, and later Pope Paul VI granted his request for laicization.

Many considered Tom a "Renaissance man" for his interest and aptitude in so many things. He was an excellent athlete, playing baseball, basketball, football, and tennis, winning many tournaments. He was constantly inventing and innovating, and held 14 U.S. Patents.

In the 1960s he attended the University of Texas at Austin where he earned his second Master's degree and working as an instructor pilot. He was real estate sales manager for a resort community called Horseshoe Bay, TX, and founded multiple companies, including two in Horseshoe Bay that would subsequently be run successfully by his sisters Barbara and Andrea, and their spouses. In recent decades Tom returned to being a flight instructor, and in 2019 earned a lifetime achievement award for flying: The "Wright Brothers Master Pilot" award.

Tom married Jean Gratton in 1968. For 53 years they were blessed by marriage to one another, and raised two daughters, Mikaela and Paula. Tom and Jean helped in the establishment of two Catholic parishes in Texas, one in Horseshoe Bay and one in San Antonio. Tom also founded Kaepa, Inc. Kaepa shoes would become one of the most popular and best-selling brands of athletic shoes in Texas and southern states in the 1980s. Tom is survived by his wife Jean; daughters Mikaela Rios (Ron) and Paula Hilliard (Steve); grandchildren Kateri, Nathaniel, Ava and Jill; brothers, Richard Adams of Brockway, Cornelius "Doc" Adams of San Antonio, and John Adams of Brockport, NY; and sister, Barbara Shields of Horseshoe Bay, TX; and beloved relatives.

Besides his parents, Tom was preceded in death by siblings, Monsignor George Adams

of Brockway, Mary Catherine Keeney of Littlestown, and Andrea Reitan of Horseshoe Bay, TX.

- Submitted by Jean Adams

**JOHN T. DRAGANOSKY, JR.  
BRANCH 628 -  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA**

John T. Draganosky Jr. of Munhall, PA, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on June 23, 2021, at the age 77. John was born in Pittsburgh; the son of the late John T. and Anne (Borsh) Draganosky Sr. Beloved husband of Patricia (Kazimer); Cherished father of Patricia (Tig) Brown, Gretta (Ed) Lutz, John (Melissa) Draganosky, Bridget (Darin) Marcinko and Rachel (Brian Cunningham) Draganosky; Special grandfather to Isabella, Sasha, Zachary, Matthew, Emma, A.J., Alexis, Kamryn, Kayla and Cassius. John was a U.S. Coast Guard Veteran, serving in the Vietnam War, and a retired steelworker for LTV Steel. He liked to bowl, golf, watch the Steelers and Penguins games, but he especially liked to spend time with his family.

- Submitted by Patricia Draganosky

**GEORGE B. FERENCHAK -  
BRANCH 731 -  
YOUNGSTOWN,  
OHIO**

George B. Ferenchak, age 70 of Hartwell, GA, passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 17, 2021, at Rainey Hospice House.



George was born May 16, 1951 in Youngstown, OH, the son of the late Cyril Ferenchak and Wilma Novak Ferenchak. He grew up on the Southside of Youngstown, and graduated from St. Matthias School, Cardinal Mooney High School (Class of

1969), and Youngstown State University. He married Nancy Longden on February 14, 1987. George was retired from the Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta, GA. He resided and worked in Stone Mountain, GA. for many years before retiring to Lake Hartwell.

Left to cherish George's memories are his wife Nancy; sisters Margaret Ferenchak of Youngstown, OH, Theresa (David) Kantz of Wexford, PA, and Paulette Smith of Canfield; brothers Gregory Ferenchak of Paris, TX, and Michael Ferenchak of Indianapolis, IN; sister-in-law Carolyn Ferenchak; nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and many friends. George was preceded in death by his parents and brothers Kenneth (Carolyn) and Cyril (Marta).

- Submitted by Paulette Smith

**BARBARA A. CZANKNER  
BRANCH 796 -  
EGYPT,  
PENNSYLVANIA**

Barbara A. (Beck) Czankner, 78, of Northampton, PA, died July 23, 2021, at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Muhlenberg Campus, Bethlehem, PA. She was the wife of Albert J. Czankner since July 21, 1962. Born in Hackensack, NJ, she was a daughter of the late Louis and Mabel (Thomas) Beck.



Barbara was employed as a line worker/assembly for the former Western Electric Co., Allentown. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Allentown. Barbara enjoyed attending the Ukrainian Club, Allentown, and the Coplay Saengerbund.

Survivors: her husband, two grandchildren, three great grandchildren, brother Barry, in Easton, PA; and two nephews. She was predeceased by son Randy L. in 2011, and a brother, Ronald.

- Submitted by Albert Czanker



## Attention All Branch 855 Members: Let's get creative!!!

- All members of Branch 855 are invited to share their pumpkin carving skills.
- From October 15 – October 30 snap a picture of yourself with your carved pumpkin creation
- Send your picture along with your name to fcsu855@gmail.com or by text to 440-409-9405
- Submissions must be made by October 30th
- Everyone from Branch 855 who joins in the fun receives a \$15.00 gift card AND their picture in the Jednota!!

- Submitted by Stephanie Sutilla, Branch 855 Fraternal Activities Director



## Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 19

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# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## continued from page 12

ed at 9655 W 143rd Street, Orland Park, Illinois 60462...and will be followed by a complimentary fraternal luncheon. All former members of branch 493 are welcome to attend. To RSVP please contact 313 President, Marge at (708)226-8157, before September 7th.

\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*

Due to the Pandemic, and as a safety precaution, we kindly ask that all attending to please wear a face mask for the meeting portion. Hand sanitizer will also be available to use. We also ask that if you do not feel well, please stay home and take care...we look forward to seeing you next time!

Jennifer Carlton,  
Financial Secretary and Treasurer

## BRANCH 312 – LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 312 will hold its semi-meeting on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at the home of Branch President Mark Smolleck, 1121 Monastery Dr, Latrobe, PA, 15650. The meeting will begin at 1:00PM. For more information, you can contact Branch Secretary Micki Smolleck at 724-539-8326.

Michaelene Smolleck, Secretary Treasurer

## BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Saints Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382K, will conduct its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 7, 2021. Officers and members will gather at 12:30PM 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 also will discuss future branch activities and the Annual Report for 2021. Information from the Home Office will be disseminated.

Attendees will discuss the 2022 Quadrennial Convention set for July-August in Independence, OH.

Election of officers for 2021-22 will be held.

Refreshments and socializing will follow. All members are urged to attend. In keeping with CDC and local recommendations, masks will be required indoors.

Frank M. Slovenkai, Jr is the 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

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold its second branch meeting for the election of officers on Sunday, September 12, 2021, at 4:00PM at the New City Buffet, 5142 State Rt. 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA. All members are welcome. Any precautions for COVID-19 that may still be in practice at the time of the meeting will be taken.

To make your reservations for the meetings, please call John Nalevanko at 1-724-396-6256.

John Nalevanko, President

## BRANCH 401 – EAST VANDERGRIFT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Anthony of Padua, Branch 401 of East Vandergrift, PA, invites all branch members to attend the 2021 Semi -Annual Meeting which will be held at Anna's Cucina Rustica, 118 Carolina Ave, Vandergrift, PA on Saturday, November 13th, 2021, at 4:30 pm. This meeting will accept nominations for 2022 officers. Members are always encouraged to attend as your input is vital and welcome.

Fraternally,

Kathy Froncek, Secretary

## BRANCH 410 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society Branch 410 will hold a meeting on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 1:30PM. The meeting will be held at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

At this meeting election of officers for the year 2022 will be held. For reservations call 724-425-2576 by November 26.

On the agenda will be information regarding the FCSU 52nd Quadrennial Convention which will be held in the Holiday Inn at Independence, OHIO from July 30 to August 2, 2022.

All members are invited to attend.

Geraldine Buchheit, Secretary

## BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 450, will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 20, 2021, at 11:00AM. The meeting will be held at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, 5500 West 54th Street, Parma, OH, 44129.

On the agenda will be officers' reports, a financial report, discussion of branch activities for members for 2022, and other business pertaining to the branch. Hockey Night in Cleveland is back! (Scheduled for Saturday, April, 09, 2022. more info coming.) The election of branch officers will take place at this meeting.

The meeting will be held in the big Hall; please bring your mask. We urge all members to attend. We look forward to seeing everyone.

Stay healthy and God Bless you all!

George Carny, President

## BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

St. Joseph Society, Branch 484KJ, will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, December 12, 2021, 2:00PM, at the Eat'n Park Restaurant, 2301 Rt. 286 So., Indiana, PA. Agenda will include: election of officers, reports, payment of bills, donations, scholarship recipients, discussion of delegates to next year's 52nd Quadrennial Convention, COVID-19 pandemic issues in our area, and general branch and business issues.

All pandemic mitigation practices still in effect at this time will be enforced for the health and safety of all.

Fraternally,

Monica Rura, Financial Secretary

## BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist Branch 553 wishes to thank all the volunteers that assist with dinners and other special events the organization sponsors. We could not function as well as we do without you.

March your calendars:

Wednesday Spaghetti night - 10/6; 11/3; 12/1 Served 4:30 - 7:00PM

3rd Wednesday Dinners 10/20; /17; 12/15 Served 4:30 - 6:30PM

Saturday 10/16 - Casino Night - watch for further details

Sunday 11/14 - Last Lodge Meeting for 2021. Election of officers for 2022. Meeting will be held at the club at 2PM. Anyone wishing to serve on the board of directors must submit a letter stating their intentions of running for a specific job. Letters are due by 11/1/21 - please address them to Nominating Committee, Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311

Sunday 12/5 Annual Vilija Celebration - watch for further details

Interested in Bowling on a league? Thursday Mornings at 11AM our 55 and over Mixed League is looking for regular bowlers and subs. Call Linda Hanko @330-706-0151 or email lhanko@neo.rr.com. League play starts 9/9.

Every other Saturday Night Mixed League looking for bowlers and subs. League starts 9/11. Call the club at 330-786-9972 after 3 pm for further details.

Spaghetti Dinners no longer require a reservation.

3rd Wednesday Dinners call 330-786-9972 after 3PM to place reservation.

Linda Hanko, Secretary

## BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Branch 595 will hold three branch meetings for the remainder of the year. The first two regular meetings will be held on Sunday, October 10, 2021, and Sunday, November 7, 2021 respectively, with agendas of general branch business. The third meeting will be held on Sunday, December 5, 2021 at which time branch officers will be elected. All three meetings will start at 1:00PM in Tatra Hall, 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI. Members are welcome. All appropriate COVID-19 protocols still in place at the time of the meetings will be observed. At this time, we are not planning any of the holiday events we have traditionally held at the Hall. We hope to resume our normal schedule of events as soon as it is safe to do so.

Mindy Redmon, Recording Secretary

## BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

Save the Date: Branch 670 will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 21, 2021, beginning at 11:30AM. Additional information regarding the meeting and the location will be provided in upcoming issues of the JEDNOTA. Upon request a Zoom link can be provided to any member not attending in person.

Items on the agenda will be discussions regarding the 52nd Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU, the election of branch delegates, and the annual election of branch officers. Branch members are urged to attend.

Maureen Massafra, Recording Secretary

## BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Saint Joseph Branch 731 will celebrate Mass for deceased members of our branch on November 11, 2021. The Liturgy will be held at 12:10PM at The Cathedral of Saint Columba, 915 West Rayen Avenue, Youngstown, OH. Our annual meeting for the election of officers for year 2022 will be held on Sunday, November 14, 2021 at 5:00 pm. The meeting will be at Café 422, South Ave, Boardman, OH.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

## BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The St. Stephen Martyr Society Branch 716 will hold its annual meeting on November 14, 2021, after the Slovak Mass in St. John Nepomucene Church hall in New York City. The agenda will include election of officers for 2022, financial report and discussion on upcoming activities for the Branch. All members are invited to attend, refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Joan Mary Skrkon, Recording Secretary

## BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Saint Joseph Branch 731 will meet on September 12, 2021, at 5:00PM. The meeting will be held at Café 422, South Ave, Boardman, OH. The purpose of this meeting is to elect delegates to the FCSU National Convention in 2022. Aside from choosing delegates, proposed activities will be discussed. Also, the annual meeting for the election of officers will be on November 14, 2021.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

## BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

Branch 746 members are encouraged to attend the celebratory Holy Mass on the occasion of the 56th anniversary of the Chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows at the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. The Holy Mass will be held in the Crypt Church on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at 1:30 PM. Branch 746 members who would like to attend by car, please contact Mary Ann Ranahan @ 732-589-1608 for information on partial reimbursement of travel expenses.

Branch 746 will hold a meeting on Friday, October 22, 2021 at 5:00 PM in the basement meeting room of Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. The meeting agenda will include discussion of plans for the Christmas party and activities for 2022, including the upcoming Convention. For those who cannot attend in person, you will have the opportunity to participate via Zoom (or dial in number). Light refreshments will be provided. Following the meeting, there be Holy Mass at 7:00 PM on the occasion of the 99th Anniversary of Branch 746. Please RSVP to Joanne Tkach Polt @ 732-762-3148 by October 18th if you plan on attending.

In addition, Branch 746 members are reminded of the following events and meetings:

Friday, October 1st at 7:00 PM - First Friday Adoration and Holy Mass at Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ Mass is offered for the intention of all Branch 746 members living and deceased.

Sunday, October 10th at 1:00 PM - District 4 meeting and luncheon at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road, Middlesex, NJ.08846. In the event that we are not able to meet in person due to changes in state dining policy due to Covid, we will meet virtually using the Zoom platform. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0505 by October 3rd if you plan on attending. Agenda will include Election of Officers for 2022 and discussion of plans and activities for next year, including the upcoming 52nd Convention. 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

Holy Mass has been offered for Branch 746 members living and deceased at Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ. The Masses will be in Slovak. If you are able, please join in person on the following dates:

Friday, October 1, 2021 at 7pm

Friday, October 22, 2021 at 7pm (In commemoration of the 99th anniversary of Branch 746)

Friday, November 5, 2021

- Sabina Sabados, Region 1 Director

## BRANCH 844 – LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 844K, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday September 18, 2021, at 11:00AM at the Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831.

The agenda will focus on membership drive, preparation for All Saints and Souls Mass, and preparation for 52nd Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland, OH, Holiday Inn, on July 30-August 2, 2022, Luncheon will be served directly after the meeting.

Milan Konkol, Secretary

## BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853, will hold its Annual Meeting and Christmas Party on Sunday, November 28, 2021, at noon at Speers Street Grill in Speers, PA. All

continued on page 27





## Branch 855's Virtual Ice Cream Social

Branch 855 sponsored its first ever "End of Summer Ice Cream Social" this August. And, in a nod to the times in which we live, it was held with a virtual twist! All branch members were invited to snap a picture of themselves enjoying a scrumptious ice cream treat any time from August 15 – August 22, 2021. The ten members who joined in the fun got the pleasure of a cool summer refreshment, a \$5.00 gift card, and their pictures in Jednota.

We hope to sponsor an Ice Cream Social again next year, with even more of our members joining in –perhaps in person!

- Submitted by Stephanie Sutila, Branch 855 Fraternal Activities Director



Branch Treasurer  
Annie Sutila



Branch President  
Barbara Sutila



Gretchen Vander  
Heyden



Jeffrey Sutila



Marilyn Hudak



Rick Sutila



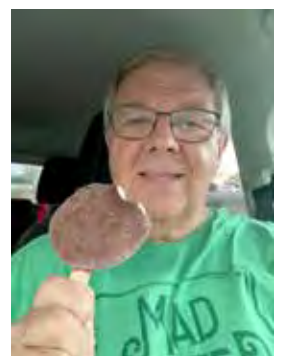
Sean Sutila



Timothy Vander  
Heyden



Branch Fraternal  
Activities Director  
Stephanie Sutila



Tom Hudak

## Scenes from Branch 785's Virtual Meeting in July



On July 7, 2021 Branch 785, Mississauga, Ontario, held their Semi-Annual General meeting by Zoom due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Some had problems accessing by video but they still participated telephonically. With Covid-19 restrictions in Ontario beginning to loosen, we are hopeful that the next meeting will be in person!

- Submitted by Helen von Friedl, Branch 785



**September** has been dedicated as Life Insurance Awareness Month since 2004 by Life Happens, an organization dedicated to educating consumers on financial products and topics.

Explore all the insurance products available to you from the First Catholic Slovak Union: [www.fcsu.com/products/life-insurance/](http://www.fcsu.com/products/life-insurance/)

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- Click Create User

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- Enter the 4 digit code and click OK
- Congratulations! You've created your account!

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- Verify your phone number/TEXT
- View your policies



For assistance call us at

**1-800-533-6682**



## There's so much to do with the FCSU: benefits of membership

When you sign up for an FCSU insurance or annuity product, you become our member. Among the many great benefits of FCSU membership: the opportunity to participate in fun events, enter contests, apply for scholarships, and so much more. Just what you can do with the FCSU? Visit [fcsu.com/community](http://fcsu.com/community) – and

**JOIN US TODAY!**

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



The Home Office will be closed on **Thursday, November 25, 2021, and Friday, November 26, 2021, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.**

## LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

### A Christopher Prayer for 9/11

On September 11th, 2001, The Christophers' headquarters was in midtown Manhattan, so I took the subway to the Rockefeller Center stop and walked through the building's lower level. Outside a newsstand stood a large crowd, staring at a TV screen on which the Today Show aired video of the first plane hitting one of the Twin Towers. There was confusion as to whether the crash was an accident, but to me it looked like a deliberate hit.

When I got to The Christophers' office a few blocks away, the second plane had hit, and everyone knew this was no accident. Our staff was told we should make our way home. Subways shut down because no one knew if more attacks were coming, so walking was the only option. Being that I lived in Queens, I headed toward the 59th Street Bridge with several co-workers. We quickly discovered the streets were jammed with thousands of other New Yorkers trekking to their homes as well. Though everyone undoubtedly felt shaken, the crowd's mood was peaceful, friendly, and supportive. There was a unique feeling of mass solidarity.

None of us were fully aware of the hell that was unfolding downtown because these were still the days of flip phones, not streaming smartphones. Your best source of news on the go was a transistor radio. As everyone walked over the bridge, I heard a plane flying overhead and grew nervous that it was another terrorist, who would fly into the bridge. Thankfully, it was a military jet protecting the city. Arriving home safely that day was a massive relief, a relief that many others wouldn't feel because their lives had been extinguished in an act of hate.

On the 20th anniversary of 9/11, I can't help but think of the dead, but also of the ways in which we choose to live. Specifically, the prayer of Father Mychal Judge, the FDNY chaplain killed on the ground while ministering to survivors, comes to mind: "Lord, take me where You want me to go, let me meet who You want me to meet, tell me what You want me to say, and keep me out of Your way."

And to his prayer, I add one I wrote myself to commemorate the day: "Giver of Life, on this day, we remember and pray for all the souls who died due to the shocking acts of violence committed on September 11th, 2001: the innocents on the planes and at work in the Twin Towers and Pentagon, the heroic passengers onboard Flight 93, and the selfless first responders who, while trying to save lives, lost their own, either on that day or in the ensuing years from 9/11-related illnesses.

"Lord, we pray also for the families and friends the victims of 9/11 left behind. Though their grief might have eased over time, the hole in their lives remains. Help them find joy in the memories of their loved ones, not just sadness at their absence.

"Finally, Prince of Peace, guide us to live as people of peace, grounded in Your command to love God and our neighbors above all else. It is easy to succumb to the temptations of anger and hatred when wrongs are committed against us. But these all-consuming emotions lead to a dead end. Help us instead to find the beauty and goodness You placed in this world and to follow the words of Scripture: 'Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good (Romans 12:21). Amen."

#### While We Have Time, Let Us Do Good

So much time has passed since the attack on our nation, and we should pray that healing has entered the lives of all survivors. We must also never forget those we lost that day, the heroism of first responders, and the heroism of all those who have put their lives on the line ever since to protect our nation from future attacks.

The Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers 5K Run & Walk has been at the forefront of keeping these heroes alive in our hearts. This event has been held annually on the last Sunday in September ever since 2002, when 1,500 people gathered to retrace the steps of FDNY firefighter Stephen Siller, and it has grown since then into one of the top 5K runs in America.

The Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation—which hosts the 5K Run & Walk, along with 70 other events in their "Run, Walk, Climb" series—has grown and thrived because of the tremendous spirit of the family of Stephen Siller, a father of five whose story is one of exceptional bravery.

On September 11, 2001, Stephen had just gotten off duty at Brooklyn's Squad 1 when he heard over his scanner that a plane had hit the North Tower of the World Trade Center. He called his wife and told her he was returning to the firehouse to get his gear so that he could head to Manhattan to do whatever he could to help out. Arriving at the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel only to find a traffic jam, Stephen got out of his car, strapped 60 pounds of gear on his back, and raced on foot through the tunnel and to the towers, where he made the ultimate sacrifice while saving others.

The following year, Stephen's family organized The Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers 5K Run & Walk, a charity event that raises money for first responders and catastrophically injured veterans. Since that time, their foundation has raised \$250 million for American heroes and their families, and they've educated over half a million people with their 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit. This year, to mark the 20th anniversary of 9/11, Frank Siller, Stephen's older brother, set off in early August on a nearly 600-mile walk from the Pentagon to Ground-Zero in Manhattan to honor all those who lost their lives on that tragic day.

In 2019, The Christophers were honored to present our Leadership Award to Frank for the work he and his family have done through their charity to help first responders and Gold Star families, as well as their efforts to build smart homes for injured veterans. In his remarks upon receiving our award, Frank said, "My parents had seven kids. We were very poor, but we were never too poor to do something good for our neighbors." He also mentioned how his parents regularly quoted St. Francis of Assisi, saying, "While we have time, let us do good," a quote Siller and his siblings have adopted as the mantra for their foundation.

The Siller family's response to their unspeakable loss in the tragedy of 9/11 exemplifies how we are all called to respond to suffering in this world—and especially to the loss of loved ones. While we mourn their loss, we must also take inspiration from the good they have done. And we must remember, "While we have time, let us do good."

# District 12 Welcomes Back Members in Style!

The Monsignor Andrew Hlinka District welcomed its members back in style on August 8, 2021, for the first in-person gathering since 2019. Twenty one people attended the event which highlighted all of the celebrations which the District members missed during the past year. District members renewed friendships, enjoyed a delicious meal and relaxed during the brief afternoon rain. Welcome Back District 12.

- Submitted by  
Monica Rodacy Boone, Secretary



Hlinka District members



Patty Davies and Teresa Matinko (seated); Joe Tarquinio and Larissa Rathway (standing)



Kendyll Wiggins, Destyni Murray, Marianne Rodacy and Maureen Masafra playing badminton



Enjoying the afternoon



Ron Boone, Marianne Rodacy, Dorothy Rudenic, and Kathleen Jakala



Nicole Hyatt at the buffet



Larry Healy and Darla Hubert

## BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 24

members attending will be treated to lunch. Non-branch members' cost will be \$25. Reservations are required for a seating count. Please leave a message at 412-341-1577 with your name, phone number, and how many branch, and non-branch members will be attending. If for any reason, Pennsylvania has reinstated Covid restrictions, the meeting will be held though Zoom.

Along with celebrating the birth of Our Lord, we will hold a meeting after the lunch. Branch officers for 2022 will be elected, along with the election of delegates for the 2022 Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU. The Convention will be held in Independence, OH, from Saturday July 30, through Tuesday, August 2, 2022, at the Holiday Inn Cleveland South located on Rockside Rd.

All branch members are urged to attend.  
Monica Rodacy Boone, President  
FCSUBranch853@gmail.com

### BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

Branch 855K Holy Name of Jesus Society\* will hold its last meeting of the year on November 17, 2021, at 6:00PM at Creekside Restaurant, 8803 Brecksville Rd, Brecksville, OH, 44141. We will hold our election of officers at this meeting. Topics of discussion will include the upcoming 2022 Convention along with branch activities for 2022 and charitable donations. We will follow the guidelines set by the state of Ohio and the restaurant regarding any pandemic restrictions. Reservations required – please email fcsu855@gmail.com or call/text Karen Habian at 216-409-9812 by November 5, 2021.

Looking forward to seeing you,  
Stephanie Sutilla, Fraternal Activities Director  
\*Branch 855K will have a pumpkin carving contest in October. See page 23 for details.

### BRANCH 855 – PARMA, OHIO

Attention Branch 855 Members: come to the Sept 11 Slovak Heritage Society Pig Roast at the Slovak Sokol Campground in Broadview Hts, OH – and EAT FOR FREE. Non-member guests are welcome at the regular prices of \$25 for an adult

food ticket and \$5 for a kid's meal. See page 13 for more event details.

Please contact Branch President Barbara Sutilla BY TEXT at 440-864-4744 or BY EMAIL at fcsu855@gmail.com to reserve your tickets by August 31st.

Stephanie Sutilla,  
Fraternal Activities Director

### BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC AND AREA

Branch 856-K is happy to announce that there will be a Mass celebrating the 56 Anniversary of our Slovak Chapel in the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on Saturday September 18, 2021 at 1:30PM in the Crypt Church. The reason for the change is the Shrine is preparing for many celebrations for the 100th year of the founding and beginning of building of the shrine. At this time there is a limited number of people that can be in attendance and social distancing and masks are required. (Those requirements are as of this date May 28,2021).I was told by representative from shrine that by September restriction could be lifted. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638 or Katherine Nowatkoski at 919-651-0363.

Katherine Nowatkoski, President

### BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, DC AND AREA

In keeping with the recommendations from the home office of the FCSU, we have scheduled our next meeting as a virtual one on Zoom, unless restrictions change. It is set for October 23, 2021 at 1:00PM. We encourage our members to join in. These Zoom meetings are convenient in that you can attend from your own home. For information on how to join the meeting call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638. There will be a discussion of the district meeting, financial report, and election of officers for 2022.

Katherine Nowatkoski, President

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2021

### HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**OPEN MEETING:**

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and asked James Marmol to lead the prayer.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President  
 Andrew P. Rajec, Acting Vice President  
 Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
 James R. Marmol, Acting Treasurer  
 Kevin Collins, Fraternal Activities Director (by invitation of the President)  
 (via teleconference)

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MEETING MINUTES:**

The President presented the minutes of the June 19, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by James R. Marmol and seconded by Andrew P. Rajec to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:**

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

Mr. White also presented new investment opportunities that the Committee will review and take under consideration.

**ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:****Annuity Rates:**

The President led a discussion regarding the interest rate changes effective August 1, 2021.

- Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA -- 3.70% APY
- Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA -- 3.35% APY
- with the "Cash Interest" Option -- 3.10% APY
- New Six-Year Fixed Rate Deferred Annuity or IRA -- 3.15% APY
- New "Park 2 Annuity" -- 2.25% APY
- New Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA—1st year guarantee -- 1.75% APY

The Executive Secretary stated that a notice regarding the interest rate changes will be published in the newspaper, on the website, and in our monthly newsletter. Andrew P. Rajec will send updates to our agents.

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

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Executive Committee on the investments and transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), UBS, MAI Fund, and Cluttbuck Fund. 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 June 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 June:

**Disbursements for the month of June 2021:**

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 353,230.56
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 47,206.09
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

**SALES AND MARKETING:**

The President stated that he is planning to introduce a new insurance product before the end of the year. More information about this product will follow at a later date.

The President stated that he hopes to schedule a membership meet in 2022, but everything

is dependent on the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Details will be published in the Jednota newspaper and on our website.

**CONVENTION:**

The Executive Secretary stated that the Home Office staff is making preparations with the Holiday Inn – Cleveland South Independence, the host of our 52nd Quadrennial Convention. The Executive Secretary is working on the Convention Agenda and activity schedule. More details will follow.

**HOME OFFICE UPDATE:**

The President and the Executive Secretary gave an update on the Home Office operations. The Executive Secretary stated that the Home Office is still following the recommendations of the CDC. The office is open with limited hours to maintain day to day operations. Any guests are asked to call before visiting.

**FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:**

Fraternal Activities Director Kevin Collins stated that he is planning activities for the 52nd Quadrennial Convention. Mr. Collins gave an update on the International Golf Tournament to be held August 6 – 8, 2021 at Treasure Lake Golf Resort in DuBois, PA with the Greek Catholic Union and the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Mr. Collins stated that a National Picnic will be held June 12, 2022 at Wiegand Lake Park in Novelty, Ohio.

**QUARTERLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:**

The President stated that the September Board of Directors Meeting will be held at the College Park Marriott in Hyattsville, Maryland so that the Board may attend Mass in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC on Saturday, September 18, 2021 to celebrate the 56th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Shrine honoring Our Mother of Sorrows, Patroness of Slovakia. Information regarding this event is published in the Jednota newspaper and posted on our website.

**BRANCH/DISTRICT QUALIFICATIONS:**

The Executive Secretary encourages all branches to refer to Bylaw 11.03 and 11.04 in preparation for the 52nd Quadrennial Convention. If they have any questions, they should contact the Home Office. The Executive Secretary stated that information regarding the election of delegates will be sent out to the branches and districts in September.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

The President stated that he received a phone call to help two nuns from Slovakia whose visas recently expired. The nuns are in the United States providing care to other nuns in nursing homes. The nuns asked for help in getting their visas extended. The President referred them to an Immigration Attorney in Pittsburgh.

**BRANCH REVIVAL COMMITTEE:**

The President stated that the Branch Revival Committee led by Thomas Ivanec will hold a teleconference prior to the September Board of Directors Meeting.

**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 James R. Marmol to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The President closed the meeting with prayer.

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

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

## Address Changes?

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, cancellation, or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398; Phone: 1/800-JEDNOTA (1/800-533-6682); Fax: 1-216-642-4310; or E-mail: fcsu@fcsu.com.

Statement as of June 30, 2021 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & CANADA**  
**ASSETS**

	Current Statement Date			4 December 31 Prior Year Net Admitted Assets
	1 Assets	2 Nonadmitted Assets	3 Net Admitted Assets (Cols. 1 - 2)	
1. Bonds.....	412,215,770		412,215,770	398,930,917
2. Stocks:				
2.1 Preferred stocks.....	2,250,000		2,250,000	500,000
2.2 Common stocks.....	2,205,725		2,205,725	2,066,768
3. Mortgage loans on real estate:				
3.1 First liens.....	8,922,666		8,922,666	966,976
3.2 Other than first liens.....			0	
4. Real estate:				
4.1 Properties occupied by the company (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	502,578		502,578	512,395
4.2 Properties held for the production of income (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	339,701		339,701	359,364
4.3 Properties held for sale (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....			0	
5. Cash (\$.....54,810,008), cash equivalents (\$.....0) and short-term investments (\$.....0).....	54,810,008		54,810,008	39,547,813
6. Contract loans (including \$.....0 premium notes).....	1,170,219		1,170,219	1,169,065
7. Derivatives.....			0	
8. Other invested assets.....	9,923,639		9,923,639	8,964,590
9. Receivables for securities.....			0	
10. Securities lending reinvested collateral assets.....			0	
11. Aggregate write-ins for invested assets.....	0	0	0	0
12. Subtotals, cash and invested assets (Lines 1 to 11).....	492,340,306	0	492,340,306	453,017,888
13. Title plants less \$.....0 charged off (for Title insurers only).....			0	
14. Investment income due and accrued.....	4,888,834		4,888,834	4,583,834
15. Premiums and considerations:				
15.1 Uncollected premiums and agents' balances in the course of collection.....	50,886		50,886	46,755
15.2 Deferred premiums, agents' balances and installments booked but deferred and not yet due (including \$.....0 earned but unbilled premiums).....			0	
15.3 Accrued retrospective premiums (\$.....0) and contracts subject to redetermination (\$.....0).....			0	
16. Reinsurance:				
16.1 Amounts recoverable from reinsurers.....			0	
16.2 Funds held by or deposited with reinsured companies.....			0	
16.3 Other amounts receivable under reinsurance contracts.....			0	
17. Amounts receivable relating to uninsured plans.....			0	
18.1 Current federal and foreign income tax recoverable and interest thereon.....			0	
18.2 Net deferred tax asset.....			0	
19. Guaranty funds receivable or on deposit.....			0	
20. Electronic data processing equipment and software.....			0	
21. Furniture and equipment, including health care delivery assets (\$.....0).....			0	
22. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....			0	
23. Receivables from parent, subsidiaries and affiliates.....			0	
24. Health care (\$.....0) and other amounts receivable.....			0	
25. Aggregate write-ins for other than invested assets.....	550	550	0	0
26. Total assets excluding Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts (Lines 12 through 25).....	497,280,576	550	497,280,026	457,648,477
27. From Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts.....			0	
28. Total (Lines 26 and 27).....	497,280,576	550	497,280,026	457,648,477

Statement as of June 30, 2021 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**  
**LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS**

	1 Current Statement Date	2 December 31 Prior Year
1. Aggregate reserve for life contracts \$.....0 less \$.....0 included in Line 6.3 (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	415,388,625	365,767,214
2. Aggregate reserve for accident and health contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....		
3. Liability for deposit-type contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	25,966,730	34,827,372
4. Contract claims:		
4.1 Life.....	300,000	300,000
4.2 Accident and health.....		
5. Policyholders' dividends/refunds to members \$.....0 and coupons \$.....0 due and unpaid.....	400,000	400,000
6. Provision for policyholders' dividends/refunds to members and coupons payable in following calendar year - estimated amounts:		
6.1 Policyholder's dividends/refunds to members apportioned for payment (including \$.....0 Modco).....		
6.2 Policyholder's dividends/refunds to members not yet apportioned (including \$.....0 Modco).....		
6.3 Coupons and similar benefits (including \$.....0 Modco).....		
7. Amount provisionally held for deferred dividend policies not included in Line 6.....		
8. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts received in advance less \$.....0 discount; including \$.....0 accident and health premiums.....	43,507	39,580
9. Contract liabilities not included elsewhere:		
9.1 Surrender values on canceled contracts.....		
9.2 Provision for experience rating refunds, including the liability of \$.....0 accident and health experience rating refunds of which \$.....0 is for medical loss ratio rebate per the Public Health Service Act.....		
9.3 Other amounts payable on reinsurance, including \$.....0 assumed and \$.....0 ceded.....		
9.4 Interest Maintenance Reserve.....	839,053	921,860
10. Commissions to agents due or accrued - life and annuity contracts \$.....0, accident and health \$.....0 and deposit-type contract funds \$.....0.....	181,391	101,745
11. Commissions and expense allowances payable on reinsurance assumed.....		
12. General expenses due or accrued.....	31,834	33,278
13. Transfers to Separate Accounts due or accrued (net) (including \$.....0 accrued for expense allowances recognized in reserves, net of reinsured allowances).....		
14. Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued, excluding federal income taxes.....	19,006	19,006
15.1 Current federal and foreign income taxes, including \$.....0 on realized capital gains (losses).....		
15.2 Net deferred tax liability.....		
16. Unearned investment income.....		
17. Amounts withheld or retained by reporting entity as agent or trustee.....	6,344,341	6,296,008
18. Amounts held for agents' account, including \$.....0 agents' credit balances.....		
19. Remittances and items not allocated.....		
20. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....	9,511	9,511
21. Liability for benefits for employees and agents if not included above.....		
22. Borrowed money \$.....0 and interest thereon \$.....0.....		
23. Dividends to stockholders declared and unpaid.....		
24. Miscellaneous liabilities:		
24.01 Asset valuation reserve.....	3,364,751	3,100,321
24.02 Reinsurance in unauthorized and certified (\$.....0) companies.....		
24.03 Funds held under reinsurance treaties with unauthorized and certified (\$.....0) reinsurers.....		
24.04 Payable to parent, subsidiaries and affiliates.....		
24.05 Drafts outstanding.....		
24.06 Liability for amounts held under uninsured plans.....		
24.07 Funds held under coinsurance.....		
24.08 Derivatives.....		
24.09 Payable for securities.....		1,000,000
24.10 Payable for securities lending.....		
24.11 Capital notes \$.....0 and interest thereon \$.....0.....		
25. Aggregate write-ins for liabilities.....	1,189,388	1,060,987
26. Total liabilities excluding Separate Accounts business (Lines 1 to 25).....	454,078,137	413,876,882
27. From Separate Accounts statement.....		
28. Total liabilities (Lines 26 and 27).....	454,078,137	413,876,882
29. Common capital stock.....		
30. Preferred capital stock.....		
31. Aggregate write-ins for other-than-special surplus funds.....	0	0
32. Surplus notes.....		
33. Gross paid in and contributed surplus.....		
34. Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds.....	0	0
35. Unassigned funds (surplus).....	43,201,889	43,771,595
36. Less treasury stock, at cost:		
36.1 .....0.000 shares common (value included in Line 29 \$.....0).....		
36.2 .....0.000 shares preferred (value included in Line 30 \$.....0).....		
37. Surplus (Total Lines 31 + 32 + 33 + 34 + 35 - 36) (including \$.....0 in Separate Accounts Statement).....	43,201,889	43,771,595
38. Totals of Lines 29, 30 and 37.....	43,201,889	43,771,595
39. Totals of Lines 28 and 38 (Page 2, Line 28, Col. 3).....	497,280,026	457,648,477

Statement as of June 30, 2021 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**  
**SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS**

	1 Current Year to Date	2 Prior Year to Date	3 Prior Year Ended December 31
1. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts.....	54,006,658	14,689,335	46,423,786
2. Considerations for supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....			
3. Net investment income.....	8,412,938	8,415,790	20,225,043
4. Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR).....	202,042	199,351	382,409
5. Separate Accounts net gain from operations excluding unrealized gains or losses.....			
6. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance ceded.....			
7. Reserve adjustments on reinsurance ceded.....			
8. Miscellaneous Income:			
8.1 Income from fees associated with investment management, administration and contract guarantees from Separate Accounts.....			
8.2 Charges and fees for deposit-type contracts.....			
8.3 Aggregate write-ins for miscellaneous income.....	71,459	1,575	4,986
9. Totals (Lines 1 to 8.3).....	62,693,097	23,306,051	67,036,224
10. Death benefits.....	1,746,127	1,626,175	3,771,531
11. Matured endowments (excluding guaranteed annual pure endowments).....			
12. Annuity benefits.....	8,978,478	8,731,003	14,293,721
13. Disability benefits and benefits under accident and health contracts.....			
14. Coupons, guaranteed annual pure endowments and similar benefits.....			
15. Surrender benefits and withdrawals for life contracts.....	232,799	267,710	488,503
16. Group conversions.....			
17. Interest and adjustments on contract or deposit-type contract funds.....	185,506	86,733	396,297
18. Payments on supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....			
19. Increase in aggregate reserves for life and accident and health contracts.....	49,621,411	9,977,360	40,205,932
20. Totals (Lines 10 to 19).....	60,764,321	20,688,981	59,155,984
21. Commissions on premiums, annuity considerations and deposit-type contract funds (direct business only).....	1,090,015	255,049	860,087
22. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance assumed.....			
23. General insurance expenses and fraternal expenses.....	1,984,382	1,860,203	3,205,008
24. Insurance taxes, licenses and fees, excluding federal income taxes.....	71,588	68,690	115,530
25. Increase in loading on deferred and uncollected premiums.....			
26. Net transfers to or (from) Separate Accounts net of reinsurance.....			
27. Aggregate write-ins for deductions.....	(443,237)	(439,345)	(731,800)
28. Totals (Lines 20 to 27).....	63,467,069	22,433,578	62,604,809
29. Net gain from operations before dividends to policyholders and federal income taxes (Line 9 minus Line 28).....	(773,972)	872,473	4,431,415
30. Dividends to policyholders and refunds to members.....	150,554	147,920	429,586
31. Net gain from operations after dividends to policyholders, refunds to members and before federal income taxes (Line 29 minus Line 30).....	(924,526)	724,553	4,001,829
32. Federal and foreign income taxes incurred (excluding tax on capital gains).....			
33. Net gain from operations after dividends to policyholders, refunds to members and federal income taxes and before realized capital gains or (losses) (Line 31 minus Line 32).....	(924,526)	724,553	4,001,829
34. Net realized capital gains (losses) (excluding gains (losses) transferred to the IMR) less capital gains tax of \$.....0 (excluding taxes of \$.....0 transferred to the IMR).....	(144,412)	3,424,790	(449,472)
35. Net income (Line 33 plus Line 34).....	(1,068,938)	4,149,343	3,552,357
<b>CAPITAL AND SURPLUS ACCOUNT</b>			
36. Capital and surplus, December 31, prior year.....	43,771,595	42,148,006	42,148,006
37. Net income (Line 35).....	(1,068,938)	4,149,343	3,552,357
38. Change in net unrealized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of \$.....0.....	763,669	(3,056,107)	(2,717,292)
39. Change in net unrealized foreign exchange capital gain (loss).....			
40. Change in net deferred income tax.....			
41. Change in nonadmitted assets.....		1,459	1,946
42. Change in liability for reinsurance in unauthorized and certified companies.....			
43. Change in reserve on account of change in valuation basis, (increase) or decrease.....			
44. Change in asset valuation reserve.....	(264,431)	1,019,305	892,881
45. Change in treasury stock.....			
46. Surplus (contributed to) withdrawn from Separate Accounts during period.....			
47. Other changes in surplus in Separate Accounts Statement.....			
48. Change in surplus notes.....			
49. Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles.....			
50. Capital changes:			
50.1 Paid in.....			
50.2 Transferred from surplus (Stock Dividend).....			
50.3 Transferred to surplus.....			
51. Surplus adjustment:			
51.1 Paid in.....			
51.2 Transferred to capital (Stock Dividend).....			
51.3 Transferred from capital.....			
51.4 Change in surplus as a result of reinsurance.....			
52. Dividends to stockholders.....			
53. Aggregate write-ins for gains and losses in surplus.....	(6)	(146,925)	(106,303)
54. Net change in capital and surplus (Lines 37 through 53).....	(569,706)	1,967,075	1,623,589
55. Capital and surplus as of statement date (Lines 36 + 54).....	43,201,889	44,115,081	43,771,595

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