



Catholic Fraternal

Jednota

THE UNION
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Snímka zo slávnostnej svätej omše v Levoči 3. júla 2022. Celebroval ju košický arcibiskup metropolita Bernard Bober. Foto: TASR – Milan Kapusta (A picture from the solemn holy mass in Levoča on July 3, 2022. It was celebrated by the Archbishop of Košice, Metropolitan Bernard Bober. Photo: TASR – Milan Kapusta)

The pilgrimage on Mariánska hora in Levoča culminated with a Holy Mass of Indulgence

The pilgrimage program began on Sunday 26 June, linked to the diocesan meeting of families, which followed the tenth World Meeting of Families in Rome.

Levoča, July 3 (TASR) - The traditional pilgrimage to the Mariánska hora in Levoča culminated on Sunday with a solemn indulgenced Holy Mass. It was officiated by Metropolitan Bernard Bober, Archbishop of Košice. The main motto of this year's pilgrimage was the idea of family love as a vocation and the way of holiness.

"Indeed, nothing is more important, more necessary and at the same time more vulnerable in these times of ours than family life," said the Archbishop in the introduction of his homily. The Mass was accompanied by a renewal of marriage vows.

The pilgrimage program began on Sunday, June 26, and was linked to the diocesan meeting of families, which followed the Tenth World Meeting of Families in Rome. This year, the site also celebrated 100 years since the consecration of the Basilica on Marian Hill by John Vojtaššák.

According to the moderator of the pilgrimage, Jozef Lapšanský, the attendance reached roughly 150,000 people on each of the two main days of the weekend. "If we evaluate the whole pilgrimage week from 26 June to 3 July, the total number of participants was 400,000," he told TASR. He said one of the dominant features of this year's pilgrimage was the huge interest in confession, with queues of people constantly forming in front of the confessionals.

The pilgrimage is held regularly on the occasion of the Feast of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary in July. Levoča is one of the oldest

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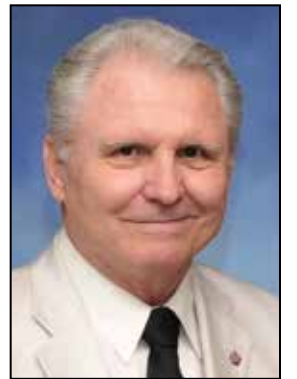
Message from the President 2022

The First Jednota Convention I attended was in Tampa, Florida, I believe in 1983. My branch (89-Milwaukee, Wisconsin) had attended only one prior Convention in 1958. At that time, we had well over 300 members. Past President Kristofik appointed me as Bylaw Chair for the 1986 Convention held in Pittsburgh. On the Three Rivers Cruise past President Tom Hricik introduced himself; this was my formal introduction into Jednota politics. I love the First Catholic Slovak Union and the principles it represents, love, fraternalism, the Catholic faith, and the Slovak culture.

I am an accountant and lawyer by training and experience. I have tried to treat people with respect and work for the best of the Society and have been elected and re-elected 4 times.

I think the financial results speak for themselves with record growth in both assets and surplus.

Back in 1993-94 the Society was facing a serious loss of surplus; so much so that the State of Ohio Insurance Department sent a letter warning the Society that changes must be made to reverse surplus losses, which according to the Department left only \$2 ½ million in surplus, or face the possibility of an assessment against members with the ultimate threat of merger or liquidation.



Andrew M. Rajec

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FCSU July Rates

8 Year Flex Annuity or IRA	3.70%
6 Year Flex Annuity or IRA	3.35%
6 Year Fixed Annuity or IRA	3.25%
Park 2 Annuity (not available in the state of NY)	2.25%
Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA- 1st year guarantee	1.75%
(new Park Free Plus max deposit \$25,000 per person)	
Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	2.50%
	(5 yrs +)

Find an Annuity That's Right for You

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First Catholic Slovak Union | FCSU Financial®

Contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office

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

Reflection

We celebrated the glorious feast of Corpus Christi (the Body of Christ) with all liturgical splendor on June 19th. Now on July 1st we honor the precious blood of Jesus and continue to dedicate the entire month in His honor this way.

We know that during Mass both the bread and the wine are consecrated separately to become the body and blood of Christ. As for a distinct veneration, Jesus requested us to honor His precious blood in the unique dignity of His death.

One request was to St. Gertrude with a prayer He dictated to her. He promised that each time this prayer was said, one thousand souls would be released from Purgatory. The prayer is:

Eternal Father, I offer you the Precious Blood of your Divine Son Jesus in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, for those in my own home and within my family. Amen

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus

Let us pray and trust in His mercy.

**Ježišova
vzácná krv**

**Ježišova vzácna krv -
Jesus' Precious Blood.**

Radost'ou Oplývám

Radost'ou oplývám, keď sa ja pozerám,
Ježišu môj
Na Teba v Sviatosti, plného milosti
O Bože môj!

SBOR

Nech je pochválená
Svätosť Tvojho mena,
Ježišu môj.

Ježišu, pred Tebou
S úctou a vebou na zem padám
Abys' ma požehnal a väčšiu lásku dal,
vrúcne žiadam.

Srdce ti darujem, Tebe sa venujem, Kriste
Pane!
Ty mi dáš milosti
A večné radosti, zmilovanie.

Daj myseľ pokojnú
Odvráť mor, hlad, vojnu, Ježišu môj!
Zachráň nás od škody
Od ohňa, od vody, o Pane môj!

Sister Maria Theresa, SS.C.M
(Editor's note: You may listen to the hymn
at the website: www.tinyurl.com/32f5bcjr)

WITH JOY MY HEART RESOUNDS

1. With joy my heart resounds,
As your great love abounds on the altar.
Here your love-gift I see,
Mercy so graciously now you offer.

Chorus:
I praise your holy Name,
Your Sacrifice acclaim,
Jesus, Savior.

2. Jesus, I humbly bow
Praise and adore you now, with grateful
love.
Blessings and strength I pray,
Be with me day by day sent from above.

3. My heart I give to you,
My mind and whole self too, my God and
Lord.
You bless me gen'rously,
With joy and clemency, merciful Lord.

4. Bless us with peace secure,
Safe from all wars, and sure of your great
care.
From dangers rescue us,
O'er land, sea, sky, we trust your presence
there.

Message from the National Chaplain

Earlier this year on May 10, the Vatican released the message of Pope Francis for the Second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The Day is observed on the fourth Sunday of July, for it is the closest to July 26, the feast day of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.

The pope uses "In old age they will still bear fruit" (Psalm 92:15) as this year's theme. Here is a sampling of quotes from his letter.

"Old age is not a time of life easily understood even by us who are already experiencing it. Even though it eventually comes with the passage of time, no one prepares us for old age, and at times it seems to take us by surprise."

"Along with old age and white hairs, God continues to give us the gift of life and to keep us from being overcome by evil."

"Old age is no time to give us and lower the sails, but a season of enduring fruitfulness: a new mission awaits us and bids us look to the future."

"The very fact that we [grandparents and elderly] allow ourselves to be cared for – often by people who come from other countries – is itself a way of saying that living together in peace is not only possible, but necessary."

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is so dear to the Holy Father's heart that the Apostolic Penitentiary decreed on May 30 that a Plenary Indulgence can be gained by Catholics who "devote adequate time to visit in person or virtually through the media, their elderly brothers and sisters in need or difficulty" on July 24.

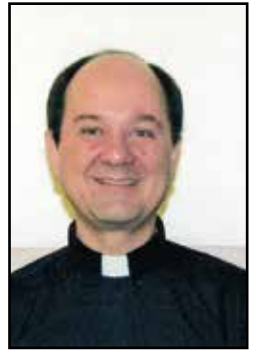
The Plenary Indulgence is also available to the sick elderly and all unable to leave their homes for a serious reason who unite spiritually to the events of the World Day by offering to God their prayers, pains and sufferings, especially while witnessing various celebrations associated with the World Day that are broadcast through various media.

A Plenary Indulgence removes all punishment related to or associated with sins a person has committed up to that point in his or her life that God has forgiven through the Sacrament of Penance.

In order to obtain the Plenary Indulgence in observation of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, a person is to carry out the above-mentioned conditions and also:

- Be in the state of grace, meaning be free from mortal sin;
- Have the intention to gain the indulgence;
- Pray an Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions of the Pope;
- Receive the Sacrament of Penance and Holy Communion within a short time (usually a week) before or after the doing the act or prayer of the indulgence;
- Be free from all attachment to both mortal sin and venial sin.

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal Continues in June

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is in its 44th year raising money to assist the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome with its day-to-day operations. 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, clergy with Slovak ancestry, and previous donors.

As of June 30, the 2022 Appeal has received \$25,694.87 from 182 donors. Among the 56 donations received from Catholic Slovak Fraternal Branches and Districts, Branch 3, Branch 19, Branch 35, Branch 45, Branch 85, Branch 112, Branch 162, Branch 173, Branch 213, Branch 320, Branch 382, Branch 450, Branch 746, Branch 853, District 17, and the Home Office of the First Catholic Slovak Union have donated a combined total of \$2,325. Donations to date have also been received from 6 parishes, 31 clergy and religious, and 89 individuals. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

All wishing to contribute to the 2022 Appeal 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, 2022 will be credited toward the 2023 Appeal. Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor

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NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY 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, August 10	Monday, August 3
Wednesday, Sept 14	Monday, Sept. 6
Wednesday, Oct. 12	Monday, Oct. 3

Correspondents who are announcing upcoming events should remember that the JEDNOTA is printed MONTHLY, and should take into account the extra time lost in the postal system. Therefore, please plan to have your announcements to us in ample time for them to be printed and received by the readership.

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Michael Kopanic, Editor; editor@fcsu.com
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
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FAX: 216-642-4310

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Insights and Viewpoints

Homily July 24, 2022 - Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Father Campion P. Gavaler, O.S.B.
Luke 11: 1 - 13

This Gospel gives us three lessons on prayer; How to pray, be persistent in prayer, and God's reception of our prayers. The Apostles had observed Jesus praying and asked him to teach them to pray. This is a beautiful request, it shows that as they spent time with Jesus they desired to be more like him. Jesus gave them the words to pray that we know as the Lord's Prayer. It is a prayer that is simple, to the point, and quite different than the way we might formulate a prayer. Often we begin our prayer with a specific need for praying and move to expressing how it is God can help us. It is common to begin a prayer with a statements like one of these; "God, I have a problem, help," "Lord, heal me," "Father, where are you? I need you." "I" and "me" tend to be the beginning of our prayers. With the Lord's Prayer we begin by acknowledging God and our hope of sharing in the kingdom, then we move into our needs. This prayer of Jesus provides us not only with the words to pray, but a model of how to formulate our own prayers' begin with God and then progress to our needs.

Jesus teaches us to begin prayer by acknowledging and honoring God, and His sovereignty over Heaven and Earth. We recognize God for who he is, Almighty Father. Then we acknowledge all that God has done for us in the past, like Mary did in her Magnificat, and then entrust our current situation to Him. We express our faith that he will continue to provide us our "daily bread." What is the "daily bread" that I seek in this prayer? Whether it be help in a small or large problem, health for someone or some gift to better live our Christian lives, we place it before the Father. With this request is our acknowledging the need for mercy, and our desire to be merciful. The prayer ends with a request for deliverance to help us in times of temptation and our personal spiritual battles. This formula Jesus gives us might be different than our natural inclination to begin by asking what I want, but Jesus teaches us in the Lord's Prayer that true prayer is God-centered and not self-centered.

The next lesson is that of persistence and patience in prayer. We need to avoid the temptation of expecting God to answer every prayer the way I want it answered. Prayer involves putting our timeline aside and trusting in God's time. God knows us intimately, and as Psalm 139 reminds us, it was God who knew us from the moment of conception. God knows what is best for us, and when it is needed. This challenges us not to give up when a prayer doesn't seem to be answered. If we become so set on how we want God to answer our prayer we can miss his answer to our prayer in ways we are not expecting.

The final lesson follows from the last one, don't try to dictate to God how to answer our prayer. The particular request might be like asking God for a knife or a serpent. We might think that a particular answer to our prayer will help us, when it could do more harm than good. God's response is to give us what we really need, what will ultimately lead us closer to him. This takes trust and openness on our part, and this can be unsettling or even scary in not knowing how things will turn out. St. Paul assures us that for those who trust God everything will work out for the good.

Pray by putting God first, with persistence and patience, with trust, and God will touch us in wonderful ways.

Father Killian Loch, O.S.B.

Dear Fellow Fraternal Members and Readers,

Dear Fellow Fraternal Members and Readers,

July (júl – pronounced "yule") marks the peak of the summer season, and Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M. instructs us through Slovak song on page 2, that the month is one of devotion to the Precious Blood of Jesus (Ježišova vzácna krv), which He shed to redeem our sins (hriechy) and that of all mankind. For Slovaks, it is also a month to celebrate Saints Cyril and Methodius' feast on July 5, and the month of historic pilgrimage to the Marian Hill (Mariánska hora) in Levoča that has continued to this day.

In the USA, the Vincentian Sisters of Charity established a shrine to Our Lady of Levoča shrine in Bedford, Ohio, which has also hosted pilgrimages over many decades. Slovaks and Slovak-American Catholics also offer special devotions on the feasts of St. Anne (July 26) and St. Mary Magdalena (July 22). To keep our faith an active and ongoing part of our culture, let us continue these traditions and even learn how Slovaks have traditionally celebrated them.

In June, our members enjoyed our two FCSU national picnics at Wiegand Lake in Novelty, Ohio, and Knoebels Amusement Park in Elysburg, PA. And remember to plan to attend Slovak festivals in July for the Annual Slovak Day at Kennywood Park in Pittsburgh and the Mahoning Valley Slovakfest at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish (St. Matthias Church grounds) in Youngstown, Ohio. Be sure to share photos and experiences for our August issue. Playing and working together makes us a stronger fraternal.

This issue features some our branch picnics and get-togethers as well as many photos from our national picnics. On my trip to Knoebels, I also visited the Jankola Library and Slovak Museum in Danville, and have a short article with photos, which may spark your interest to pay a visit there.

Our FCSU Convention will soon take place on the last weekend of July-early August, so let us hope that we can band together as fraternal brothers and sisters in cooperation to lead our society on a successful path in an increasingly secular world. We have managed to survive and prosper over 132 years, so let us make our ancestors proud of how we have retained our faith and our nationality's self-awareness.

We are so fortunate to enjoy the freedoms we have and Michael Parkovcin's story of how he risked his life to escape the chains of communist Czechoslovakia to live a full life in Canada. Our brother and sister Slavs in Ukraine are not so fortunate and strive to defend their right to live freely despite invasive Russian aggression. The Ukraine people should remain in our thoughts and prayers, and we should offer them any financial assistance we can. It is easy to forget them, but the war is dragging on.

As I noted in the last few issues, when submitting materials for the newspaper, please do not send me a pdf file. Pdf files are inflexible for editing and proper printing. A Word Doc is required, and if you send photos, upload them as .jpeg files. Please include captions by the number at the bottom of your Word document. This will lessen and mitigate an already heavy workload. I might add that most of you are fulfilling this request, and I am grateful!

I am thankful to all of you who have commended me in my new duties as the Editor and again I welcome your input on articles in the paper or any recommendations our members have.

Feel free to send a message to the editor by mail to the society or at the following e-mail address: editor@fcsu.com - Note this is a new e-mail.

With sincere fraternal regards, so úprimným bratským pozdravom,

Dr Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., editor (redactor)

e-mail: editor@fcsu.com "For God and Nation" (Za Boha a národ).



Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr

Celebrate the 99th Slovak Day in Pittsburgh on Thursday, July 21, 2022



Slovaks in Western Pennsylvania Prepare for 99th Annual Slovak Day Celebration

West Mifflin, PA – Come celebrate with the Slovaks of Western Pennsylvania on Thursday, July 21, 2022, for the 99th Annual Slovak Day in Kennywood Park. Events will focus on the culture, food and spirit that is uniquely Slovak.

The festivities begin at 12:30 p.m. with games and treats for the children. The Slovak kitchen will also be open serving all the traditional favorites. Music in the food pavilion will be provided by George Batyi and friends from 1 until 3:30 p.m. At 4 pm, The Eucharistic celebration will take place. This year's main Celebrant will be the Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, Bishop of Greensburg Diocese. Bishop Kulick, grew up in South-Western

PA., in Leechburg, PA., where he attended St. Martha's Slovak Parish. He takes great pride in his Slovak religious & cultural traditions. He was ordained and installed as the 6th Bishop of the Greensburg Diocese on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at a special Mass in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg, PA. He will be joined by Clergy from the Pittsburgh, and Greensburg, Dioceses. The Slovak Day festivities conclude with a performance by the Pittsburgh Slovaksians.

Everyone must have a ticket to enter the park. Ticket prices are as follows: for anyone under age 60 the price is \$30, if you are age 60 and over the price is \$27. There are no super senior discounts this year. To order tickets make a check payable to: W. PA SLOVAK DAY

Mail to: 234 ILION ST.
 PGH., PA 15207

Advance discount tickets is July 14, 2022 (postmark)

There is something for everyone at the 99th Annual Slovak Day in Kennywood Park: rides, games, food, ethnic vendors, music and entertainment. Join in the festivities on July 21st, and renew your Slovak spirit.

Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

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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. Hvozdic, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake, PA and Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, 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 Church, Pennel, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.

44th 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

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA MARCH 25, 2022 HOLIDAY INN CLEVELAND SOUTH

OPEN MEETING:

Reverend Thomas Nasta celebrated Mass at 8:30 AM in memory of our deceased officers and members.

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

ROLL CALL:

Kenneth Arendt, Executive Secretary, read the roll call with the following members present:
Rev. Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain – present
Andrew M. Rajec, National President – present;
Kevin Collins, National Vice President – present;
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary - present;
John Tokarsky, National Treasurer – present ;
Gregory Maurer, Chairman of Auditors – present;
Sabina Sabados, Regional Director, Region 1 – present;
Damian Nasta, Regional Director, Region 2 – present;
Martha Zavada-Wojcik, Regional Director, Region 3 – present;
James Marmol, Regional Director, Region 4 – present;
Michael Lako, Regional Director, Region 5 – present via telephone;
Thomas Ivanec, Regional Director, Region 6 – present;
Timothy Graves, Regional Director, Region 7 – present;
Milos Mitro, Regional Director, Regions 8 – present;
Gary J. Matta, General Counsel - present.

READING OF THE CALL:

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

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA:

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Annual Meeting and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by James Marmol and seconded by Damian Nasta to accept the agenda and to allow the President to change the order of the agenda, if necessary, as he presents each item on the agenda with appropriate comments or recommendations. Motion carried.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 11, 2021:

A motion was made by Sabina Sabados and seconded by Timothy Graves to accept the minutes of the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting held December 11, 2021, as presented. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OF COMMITTEES:

The President appointed the following committees:

DONATION COMMITTEE

James Marmol
Rev. Thomas Nasta

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Timothy Graves
Gary Matta

DONATIONS:

The President led a discussion on two large donations requests that he received to help aid the Ukrainian people; \$25,000 to Kosicky Eparchialny Urad, Kosice, Slovakia (Slovak Catholic Eparchy of Kosice) and \$25,000 to the U.S. Bishops' Fund for Catholic Church in Central and Eastern Europe, Washington, DC. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by James Marmol to approve the donations. Motion carried.

Reverend Thomas Nasta led a discussion on the Annual SS Cyril and Methodius Appeal. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Damian Nasta to donate \$1,000 to the Appeal. Motion carried.

All other donations were reviewed and acted upon.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE:

Reverend Thomas Nasta recommended a resolution offering our prayerful support of the people of Ukraine. A motion to adopt a resolution was made by John Tokarsky and seconded by Thomas Ivanec. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME:

The President read his welcome to the Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT:

President Rajec turned the meeting over to Vice President Kevin Collins, who recognized President Rajec. President Rajec read his 2021 Annual Report. The President's Annual Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

OUTSIDE AUDITORS REPORT:

Stephen Niedenberger, CPA, of the accounting firm of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP, joined the meeting. Mr. Niedenberger presented his annual report to the Board. He indicated the scope of his work found all FCSU financial reports in excellent order. Mr. Niedenberger answered

all the Board's questions to its satisfaction.

Mr. Niedenberger also presented the annual report of Jednota, Inc., and Jednota Properties, Inc., for the Board's review.

ACTUARIAL REPORT:

Edward DePersis and Nick DePersis of ENDePersis Fraternal Consulting, Inc., presented their Management's Discussion and Analysis Report and the actuarial report for 2021 from Edward Cowman of Miller & Newburg. Mr. Cowman was available to join the meeting and answer questions, if necessary. Mr. Edward DePersis stated that since each Board member received a copy of both reports, he will not read the entire report, but will just give the highlights. He gave a very extensive positive report for 2021. The FCSU continues to be a well-run profitable fraternal with outstanding financials as noted in our excellent RBC (Risk Based Capital) rating of 939.

With concurrence of recommendation of AQS the companies CARVM with 2021 financials. Most fraternal also use the CARVM method in compliance with state insurance regulations.

A report prepared by Edward Depersis regarding the FCSU pension plan was distributed to the Board for any questions. The report indicated the plan is in compliance with federal regulations.

Our Actuary, Edward Cowman, recommended that a dividend be paid in 2022 using the same format as used in 2021. A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by Milos Mitro to pay the dividend. Motion carried.

AQS REPORT:

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

Mr. White provided an explanation of the new investment opportunities that FCSU will be considering and answered the Board's questions.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2021:

Executive Secretary's Report
Kenneth Arendt presented the financial summary report for the year ending 2021 and answered the Board's questions.

The Executive Secretary also presented a comparison report between what was budgeted for 2021 and the actual expenditures.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati

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

Portfolio Custodian

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

Investment Updates

The President, Executive Secretary and Treasurer led a review on the investments and transactions with the UBS Fund, MAI Fund, and the Clutterbuck Fund.

Following the reports, the President and the Executive Secretary answered the Board's questions. The 2021 Executive Secretary's Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer John Tokarsky presented a detailed Treasurer's Report for 2021 summarizing all the financial reports. The Treasurer's Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

CHAIRMAN OF AUDITORS REPORT:

Chairman of Auditors Gregory Maurer presented the 2021 Auditors' Annual Report. The audit team was able to resume auditing in late 2021. An audit of the 2nd and 3rd quarter of 2021 was conducted in November 2021 and February 2022 respectively.

Mr. Maurer feels confident that the audit team will be able to successfully resume their audit schedule in calendar year 2022 and have created an audit schedule for the next 12 months. The team continues to follow regulations from the CDC and the state of Ohio.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

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

Continued on page 6

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022

HOME OFFICE, INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 9:00 AM and led the prayer.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
Kevin Collins, National Vice President
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
John Tokarsky, Treasurer (teleconference)
James Marmol, Regional Director (by invitation of the President) (teleconference)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE APRIL MEETING MINUTES:

The President presented the minutes of the April 22, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by Kevin Collins and seconded by Kenneth A. Arendt to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Larry White, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an extensive Investment Portfolio Transaction and Review Report to the Executive Committee via teleconference. 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 reviewed new investment opportunities in commercial mortgages and answered the Committee's questions.

UBS REPORT:

Sean Hardy, representing UBS, joined the meeting via teleconference. He reviewed our investment portfolio and led a discussion regarding new investments. Following his review, he answered the Committee's questions.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:Investment Updates

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

Financial Report

The Executive Secretary presented a detailed summary of the Financial Report for the first quarter of 2022 and answered the Committee's questions.

Portfolio Review

The Executive Secretary updated the 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 April 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 April:

Disbursements for the month of April 2022:		
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$	285,409.00
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$	46,944.27
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$	0.00
Trust Fund	\$	0.00

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

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW:Annuity Rates:

The President reviewed the current annuity rates and recommended that we raise the 6-year fixed annuity/IRA rate from 3.15% to 3.25% on June 1, 2022. The Committee agreed.

SALES AND MARKETING:

Vice President Kevin Collins presented a sales report to the Executive Committee. Following the report, he answered the Committee's questions.

The Vice President stated that he is working with the Home Office and an agency to develop a program to recruit more independent agents in the states that we are licensed in. The Home Office will continue to use email to recruit agents. As more information is available, he will present it to the Board.

The Vice President stated that he is looking into advertising on local radio stations. As more information is available, he will present it to the Board.

The Vice President stated that he has been in contact with Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, Pittsburgh International Airport and Akron-Canton Airport regarding ad campaigns. As more information is available, he will present it to the Board.

The President and Vice President stated that since no membership meet was held in 2020 or 2021, they are looking into the possibility of holding one in November 2022.

The Vice President gave an update on the fraternal activities. There will be two national picnics, Making Memories at Wiegand Lake Park in Novelty, Ohio on June 12, 2022 and at Knoebels Amusement Resort in Elysburg, Pennsylvania on June 25, 2022. Registration for the picnics will be required.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Treasurer John Tokarsky presented his monthly report to the Executive Committee. Each member of the Committee received a copy of the report in advance for his review. Following the report, he answered the Committee's questions.

MATCHING FUNDS:

The President stated that the information regarding the Matching Funds Program has been sent out to the Branches and Districts. The information is also available on our website. Anyone with questions is asked to contact the Home Office for further information.

CONVENTION:

The President and the Executive Secretary stated that the Home Office staff is making final preparations with the Holiday Inn – Cleveland South Independence, the host of our 52nd Quadrennial Convention. The President and Executive Secretary are working on the Convention Agenda and various activities.

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 Arendt and seconded by Kevin Collins to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The President closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

The pilgrimage on Mariánska hora in Levoča culminated with a Holy Mass of Indulgence

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places of pilgrimage in eastern Slovakia. The roots of the Marian cult go back to the 13th century.

Odpustovou svätou omšou vyvrcholila púť na levočskej Mariánskej hore Program púte sa začal v nedeľu 26. júna, prepojená bola s diecéznym stretnutím rodín, ktoré nadviazalo na desiate svetové stretnutie rodín v Ríme.

Levoča 3. júla (TASR) - Slávnostnou odpustovou svätou omšou v nedeľu vyvrcholila tradičná púť na levočskej Mariánskej hore. Celebroval ju košický arcibiskup metropolitá Bernard Bober. Hlavným mottom tohtoročnej púte bola myšlienka Rodinná láska ako povolanie a cesta svätosti.

"Naozaj, nič nie je v týchto našich časoch dôležitejšie, potrebnejšie a zároveň zraniteľnejšie, ako je život v rodine," uviedol arcibiskup v úvode kázne. Omša bola spojená s obnovou manželských sľubov.

Program púte sa začal v nedeľu 26. júna, prepojená bola s diecéznym stretnutím rodín, ktoré nadviazalo na desiate svetové stretnutie rodín v Ríme. Tento rok na mieste zároveň oslávili 100 rokov od konsekrácie baziliky na Mariánskej hore Jánom Vojtaššákom.

Podľa moderátora púte Jozefa Lapšanského dosiahla účasť po oba hlavné víkendové dni zhruba po 150.000 ľudí. "Pokiaľ hodnotíme celý pútnický týždeň od 26. júna do 3. júla, dovedna bolo všetkých účastníkov 400.000," uviedol pre TASR. Za jeden z dominantných znakov tohtoročnej púte označil obrovský záujem o spovedanie, keď sa pred spovednicami stále tvorili rady ľudí.

Púť sa koná pravidelne pri príležitosti júlového sviatku Navštívenia Panny Márie. Levoča patrí k najstarším pútnickým miestam východného Slovenska. Korene mariánskeho kultu siahajú až do 13. storočia.



Na snímke vpravo košický arcibiskup metropolitá Bernard Bober a vľavo diecézny administrátor Spišskej diecézy Ján Kuboš v Levoči 3. júla 2022. (In the picture, on the right, the Archbishop of Košice, Metropolitan Bernard Bober, and on the left, the diocesan administrator of the Spiš Diocese, Ján Kuboš, in Levoča on July 3, 2022.) Foto: TASR – Milan Kapusta

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

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Membership and Marketing

The Vice President distributed a written report to the Board of Directors. The report contained a listing of the top proposers of insurance and annuity sales, a detailed report of sales production by districts, and a five-year comparison report broken down by districts.

The Vice President stated that the Home Office is working with the marketing firm to develop online seminars or in person.

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

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:

Acting Director of Fraternal Activities Kevin Collins presented a summary of the 2021 activities to the Board of Directors.

The Bowling Tournament and the Regional Picnics were cancelled in 2021 due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

The following online contests were held during 2021: Kentucky Derby Hat Contest, FCSU NFL's Losers Pool, Hunting Contest, adult and child coloring contests, Christmas Tree decorating contest and ugly sweater contest. An online talent show was also held.

The following activities for 2022 were announced: the Bowling Tournament on May 13-14, 2022, the Golf Tournament on August 13-14, 2022, and two National Picnics: one at Wiegand Lake Park in Novelty, Ohio on June 12, 2022 and the other at Knoebles Amusement Resort and Golf Tournament in Elysburg, Pennsylvania on June 25, 2022.

The Director of Fraternal Activities Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND NATIONAL CHAPLAIN:

The Regional Directors and the National Chaplain presented their annual reports and answered the Board's questions.

The President questioned the wording of the Vice President's annual report and asked for clarification. The Vice President agreed to review his report and make changes. An updated report will be sent to the Board.

All reports will be printed in the Jednota newspaper.

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee

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

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

Pension Committee

The Executive Secretary gave an update on the current FCSU Pension Plan which was passed out to the Board of Directors for review. He stated that we are in full compliance with all federal regulations and answered the Board's questions.

Scholarship Committee

The Executive Secretary gave a report on the Scholarship Committee, which is comprised of three independent professionals led by Father Gerard Gonda OSB. Applications for the current FCSU scholarship program are being received and they will be sent to the Scholarship Committee. The Executive Secretary also gave a report on the Jednota Benevolent Foundation and answered the Board's questions.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL:

General Counsel Gary Matta gave his brief 2021 report and answered the Board's questions.

ACTUARIAL FIRM:

The President requested a motion to re-appoint Edward Cowman of Miller & Newberg as our Actuary. A motion was made by Kenneth Arendt and seconded by Gregory Maurer. Motion carried.

SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM FOR 2022-2023

The President reviewed the new Scholarship Program for the 2022-2023 school year. Information regarding the new scholarship program rules and requirements will be sent out to the Branch officers, published in our Jednota newspaper and posted on our website.

The President stated that he received partial funds for the Stephen C. Matula Scholarship. The scholarship program rules and requirements will be sent out to the Branch officers, published in our Jednota newspaper and posted on our website.

BRANCH REVIVAL COMMITTEE:

The President asked Thomas Ivanec to report on the Branch Revival Committee. He stated that the Committee plans to hold a meeting to further discussion recommendations and will present them to the Board.

APPOINTMENT OF EDITOR:

The President stated that he has appointed Michael Kopanic the new editor of the Jednota newspaper effective February 1, 2022. He stated that Mr. Kopanic's position is a full time position. A motion was made by Reverend Thomas Nasta and seconded by Milos Mitro to accept the new editor's appointment. Motion carried.

MATCHING FUNDS:

The President stated that a new matching funds program is available for the Branches and Districts. All the rules and requirements for the program will be published in the Jednota newspaper and posted on our website. Please contact the Home Office if you have any questions.

ACCEPTANCE OF ALL REPORTS:

A motion was made by Reverend Thomas Nasta and seconded by Martha Zavada to accept all the reports presented. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Middletown Memorial

The President stated that he has been in contact with the landscapers for the Memorial in Middletown, Pennsylvania. They will work on the overgrown shrubs and power wash the Memorial.

PAYMENT OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING:

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

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to adjourn. Motion carried.

Reverend Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Message from the President

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Under the leadership of then President Hricik, the Society stopped the bleeding of surplus and started to add surplus. Today we stand at record numbers.

However, recent reports by the Ohio Department and the Kroll Rating Agency (an independent company that rates the strength and stability of insurance companies) both identified weaknesses in the Society's structure and Bylaws.

Many (most of the fraternal of the FCSU's size or larger) have adopted revised or new bylaws that recognize the need for modernization and changes in the fraternal's bylaws and governance, this includes the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the GCU, GBU Life, Catholic Foresters, Catholic Financial, the National Slovak Society etc.

Some people may be opposed to make these changes, but they are necessary for the First Catholic Slovak Union to survive and grow, which is I think, what we all want.

We have made great strides in the past 15 years.

As an example, under my leadership with the approval of the Board of Directors, we made the tough decision to sell most (minus 20 A plus the FCSU Memorial site) of the Middletown, PA property at a price of \$13 million, which was in excess of an appraised value of \$12 million with no real estate commission. In addition, we were able to resolve a lawsuit that clouded the sale of the property that existed for several decades, with approval of the Board.

The property and its future were in discussion since at least 1960 at past conventions.

Tough decisions sometimes make some people unhappy and cause some controversy.

However, once a decision has been made by the Board, all the Directors must speak with one voice going forward, for the benefit of the Society.

The Future

The Society is in position to build on a solid foundation. Our sales team is in place and with the cooperation of our Recommenders, our independent agents and all our members, I see the Society with a great future with capable leadership.

The issue of membership is high on the list of every fraternal society whether it's the FCSU, the Knights of Columbus or the Moose or VFW.

There is no magic solution.

We have formed a Branch Revival Committee to examine the issue, and they will report their recommendation after this Convention.

New generations grow up with new technologies and maybe some different priorities. For example, fewer people are going to Mass these days, especially young people. Some can point to COVID but the trend is clear.

ZOOM meetings are popular, connecting instantly. We are exploring ways to connect Members.

Our email database has steadily expanded.

The need for insurance will always be there. Unfortunately, COVID stopped Home Office visits to Branches and Districts. They will be resumed.

Insurance has become more of a commodity and new policies will be developed to meet these realities.

That said, one of our promises to Members is to protect their money.

As I have said frequently, "The Jednota invests their assets as I do with my own money, carefully and conservatively."

I believe that our founder, Fr. Štefan Furdek, looks down on us at this Convention and prays for our Society and for its members to make decisions out of love and respect for all its members.

We all respect that.

God bless the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Fraternally,
Andrew M. Rajec



The Bratislava Boys Choir

This year, the Bratislava Boys Choir commemorates the 40th anniversary of its founding. The celebrations also included a concert tour to the USA, one of the concerts they performed was in the Slovak Church of St. John of Nepomucene in New York May 15th 2022. The concert was performed by thirty members of the choir, guest soloist of the Slovak National Theater (SND) and choir voice pedagogue Miriam Garajová, pianist Martin Hríň with choirmasters Magdaléna Rovňáková a Gabriel Rovňák, Jr., the choir presented Slovak and world sacral and secular works.

Bratislava Chlapčenský Zbor

Bratislavský chlapčenský zbor si tento rok pripomína 40. výročie založenia. Súčasťou osláv bolo aj koncertné turné po USA, kde jeden z ich koncertov bol v slovenskom Kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku 15. mája 2022. Na koncerte vystúpilo 30 členov zboru, hosťujúca sólistka Slovenského národného divadla (SND) a hlasová pedagogička zboru Miriam Garajová, klavirista Martin Hríň pod vedením zbormajstrov Magdalény Rovňákovovej a Gabriela Rovňáka, Jr.; zbor prezentoval slovenskú a svetovú sakrálnu a profánnu tvorbu.

Želka Becková-Kucharovic

FCSU MEMBER PORTAL PAYMENT



Log in. Pay/Deposit. Done.

TWO NEW WAYS TO PAY/DEPOSIT!

OPTION 1

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (ACH)



LOG IN TO YOUR MEMBER PORTAL AND CLICK ON PAY NOW OR DEPOSIT TO PAY/DEPOSIT MONEY TO YOUR POLICY BY E-CHECK

OPTION 2

CREDIT CARD



LOG IN TO YOUR MEMBER PORTAL AND CLICK ON PAY NOW OR DEPOSIT TO PAY/DEPOSIT MONEY TO YOUR POLICY BY CREDIT CARD

✓ QUICK ✓ SAFE ✓ EASY



For assistance call us at 1-800-533-6682 ext. 129



Pittsburgh Branches Participate in Join Hands Day Activity

Join Hands Day officially is the first Saturday in May. It is a national volunteer day and annual event sponsored by the American Fraternal Alliance. It's a day in which people are encouraged to come together to volunteer, it's also a day in which young people and adults should come together to work as volunteers and provide support to one another.

Memorial Day is the day we remember the heroes who gave everything for the soldiers serving next to them and the people they left at home. Memorial Day is a day we are reminded of what combat veterans have given to this country, whether it's years of service, the first year of their marriage, or their lives.

This year FCSU members of St. Michael the Archangel Society, Br. 2 Northside, Pittsburgh, Br. 853 of Charleroi, and Assembly L-161 of the NSS, joined together with, St. Gabriel VFW Post 1365, and St. Cyril Boy Scout Troop #348, to place flags on the graves of Veterans in Christ Our Redeemer Cemetery, (formerly North Side Catholic).

Several afternoons and evenings were needed by the volunteers to place all 5,724 flags honoring Soldiers from Korea, WWI, WWII, and Vietnam, as well as the recent wars on terrorism.

Many thanks, to Carol Lako, wife of Regional Director, Mike Lako for coordinating the efforts from ordering and picking up the flags at the County Office, to organizing all the groups involved.

Submitted by Sue Ondrejco, Branch 2



It's Time for the Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest!

Members of the Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest committee are making plans for the annual Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest! It will take place on Sunday, August 14, 2022, at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish (St. Matthias Church grounds) which is at 915 Cornell Street and the corner of Florida Road and Shady Run Avenue on the southside of Youngstown, OH 44502.

Once again, there will be a Slovak-English Mass before the festival at 10:30am, followed at noon by our festival. We will have wonderful food including a Taste of Slovakia, including pirohy, holupki (holubky - stuffed cabbage), and so much more that can be ordered beforehand by calling the parish office (330-788-5082) or bought at the festival, klobasa and sauerkraut sandwiches and much, much more. There will be our great bake sale and our super basket raffle, along with a money raffle with all prizes being cash. The Del Sinchak Orchestra will play and there will be ethnic displays and vendors with Slovak items for sale. And you can enjoy the wonderful outside setting with tents to provide shade!

The Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest helps to support the education of our children, the Slovak churches, and the Slovak organizations of the Mahoning Valley through helping to preserve the heritage and customs that were brought to the valley by churches, parishes, organizations, and individuals of Slovak heritage. The Slovak community has played a large role in our community's history and this festival pays tribute to that role.

We hope that you all come enjoy this great day with us! We would love to see you!

Submitted by Loretta Ekoniak

Branch 785 in Ontario Celebrated its Bowling Season

On May 27, 2022, Branch 785 celebrated end of 2021-22 bowling season also 70th Anniversary of Jednota's Toronto Bowling. Mrs. Jara Ragan was congratulated as one of the original bowlers and wished many more bowling years.

Pictures reflect members of the board and 1st and 2nd price winners also many present and past bowlers.

**Submitted by Helen von Friedl,
Mississauga, ON CANADA**



Congratulations Sara Davies , Branch 320



Class of 2022

Sara Davies (Branch 320) has accomplished her academic studies at Frazier High School. Sara has committed to fall 2022 courses at California University of Pennsylvania. May Gods Blessing be with her now and forever.

Submitted by **Patty Davies (Auditor, Branch 320)**

Br 40 Scholarship Information

FOR GRADE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



You may be eligible to win a scholarship if:

- You are a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union's St. Clement's Society Branch #40 of Stretator, Illinois
- You are in high school and have applied for a fall term at a qualifying institution
- You are attending a Private Grade School

St. Clement's Society Branch #40 will be offering Scholarships to their youth members. They will be giving out one One-Time \$500.00 scholarship for college and one One-Time \$250.00 scholarship for a Private Grade School student.

These scholarships are solely funded by your local lodge Branch #40, not the national office.

For more information and an application, please call Theresa at 815-257-6142 (leave a message) or e-mail her at ttegraves@mchsi.com.

Applications must be postmarked by July 18, 2022.

Submitted by **Theresa Graves**

The Celebration of a 60 Years Wedding Anniversary

The Celebration of the 60 years wedding anniversary of Hanka and Milan Konkol, with members of the St. Joseph, Branch 844, Los Angeles took place on Saturday, Jun 18, 2022.

The celebrated couple was recognized by FCSU Prince Pribina District President Paul Skuben, who awarded them Certificate of Excellent Husband and Wife, which was co-signed by Secretary Dr. Maria Cyprich and NSS Branch president, John Dorusinec. A modest check was included with the Certificate.

The celebrants, Hanka and Milan Konkol, are shining examples for younger generations of living together through good and bad times.

Submitted by **Paul Skuben**



Celebrated couple receive Certificate of Recognition from FCSU District President Paul Skuben, accompanied by the family



Members of the St. Joseph, Branch 844, Los Angeles



Wedding Photo of the couple 60-years ago



Certificate of Excellent Husband and Wife

Vážená pani a pán,
Milan Konkol a Hanka Konkolová,

Pri príležitosti 60 výročia
vašej svatby

Príjmite prosím srdečné pozdravy od Slovenskej community, prostredníctvom členov Slovenských spolkov v Kalifornii. S radosťou spomíname na vás ako vzornú rodinu ktorá je príkladom pre mladšie generácie.

Udeľujeme Vám týmto titul „Vzorní manželia“

Spomíname na pekné chvíle strávené vo vašej spoločnosti a stretnutie s vami je vždy vítané.

Prajeme vám veľa dobrého zdravia do ďalšieho života.

Jún, Roku Pána 2022

Dr. Mária
Cyprich
Recording
Secretary

Ing Paul Skuben
Prezident
Prince Pribina
District
FCSU

John Dorušinec
Prezident
National Slovak
Society

COME PIG OUT!



SATURDAY, AUG. 20th

(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: \$30 (includes meat, sides, dessert, and water)
\$5 Kids meal (hotdog, chips, juice box)
Cashbar

ACTIVITIES -PRIZES-MUSIC Cash or credit accepted.

PETS AND COOLERS ARE NOT PERMITTED

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"



The 67th Annual Scout Convocation

The 67th Annual Scout Convocation was celebrated at Saint Paul Cathedral, Pittsburgh PA. with a Mass and Award Blessing Ceremony. The Most Reverend Mark A. Eckman (Auxiliary Bishop of Pittsburgh) and the Reverend Kenneth Matlovits (Scout Chaplain) were celebrants.



<https://diopitt.org/events/scout-convocation-3>



Bruce Higginbotham (Branch 320) was awarded Ad Altare Dei Emblem. The purpose of the Ad Altare Dei Emblem is to help a BSA Scout development in a fully Catholic way of life. The program is organized in steps based on the seven Sacraments.

http://www.scoutingbsa.org/programs/awards/religious_emblems/catholic/Ad_Altare_Dei.html



Bruce Higginbotham (BSA TR#1313) receiving his Ad Altare Dei Emblem from Most Reverend Mark A. Eckman.



(left to right) Patty Davies (Auditor, Brance 320,), Frances Tarquinio (Financial-Secretary – Branch 320), Rob Higginbotham (Branch 320), Most Reverend Mark A. Eckman (Auxiliary Bishop of Pittsburgh), Mary Anne Higginbotham (President - Branch 320), Bruce Higginbotham (Branch 320 – BSA TR#1313), Joseph Tarquinio (Vice President – District 12)

Submitted by Joseph Tarquinio (Vice-President, District 12)

Attention District 10 Members: Food, Fun – & Minor League Baseball – At Mercy Health Care Stadium in Avon, OH on Saturday, August 27, 2022



On Saturday, August 27, 2022, join other FCSU members in District 10 for a fun evening of all-you-can-eat, picnic-style dining followed by great seats for minor league ball as the Lake Erie Crushers take on the Washington Wild Things.

All branches in District 10 & their guests are invited to come. Tickets are \$31 for 11 and older; \$26 for children 4 – 10.

Discounted tickets for District 10 members may be available through your local branch, Check with your branch officer* for details. Non-members are welcome at regular ticket prices.

The all-you-can-eat choices, enjoyed picnic style, include:

- Hamburgers
- Hot Dogs
- Pulled Chicken
- Mac & Cheese
- Potato Salad
- Cookies
- Iced Tea/Lemonade/Water

Reserve Your Seats Today

Reservations must be made by **Monday, August 8, 2022**. Picnic seating is limited and subject to availability on a first-come, first-serve basis.

To reserve your tickets and for more information, please contact your local branch officer* or Ohio Regional Director Tom Ivanec at (440) 668-7797.

* Branch contact info can be found at.

<https://www.fcsu.com/branches/>

Highlights

- **Date:** Saturday, Aug 27, 2022
- **Place:** Mercy Health Care Stadium, Avon, OH
- **Includes:**
 - All-you-can-eat dining starting at 5:05PM will be enjoyed in the Corona Picnic Plaza on the third-base side.
 - Home box seat for Lake Erie Crushers v Washington Wild Things starting at 6:05PM
 - Ticket may be available through participating District 10 branches



With FCSU MATCHING FUNDS

FCSU Matching Funds Guidelines for Branches and Districts

1. The **Eligibility Form** should be completely filled out and submitted at least 30 days prior to the event.
2. The activity must be sponsored and planned by the branch/district (Br/D) submitting the activity. If more than one Br/D is involved only one Br/D may submit for the matching funds. Every Br/D is permitted to apply twice in a calendar year.
3. The Br/D officers/members are responsible for recruiting as many Br/D members to be involved in the activity. The Br/D officers may also invite other branches or districts, church members, a community or other organizations to participate in the activity.
4. After your Br/D has received approval for your activity, it should be publicized on our website, in our newspaper/magazine, direct mail to Br/D members, church bulletin, diocesan newspaper or local newspaper. The FCSU name should be prominently displayed at the site of the activity. Posters are available upon request from the Home Office.
5. The maximum amount matched by the FCSU is **\$600.00 per event**. The cause must be charitable or benevolent in nature. Phone or email the Home Office if you are not sure your charitable or benevolent cause qualifies.
6. Br/D that consider helping an established project at their church or in their community may submit the activity as a matching funds project, providing the Br/D sponsors the entire activity or in conjunction with the event a Br/D sponsors a raffle, bake sale, etc. and has a separate table or booth.
7. The Br/D officers are responsible for taking pictures and keeping receipts that should be submitted with the "Matching Funds Request for Payment Form".
8. **Matching Funds Request for Payment Form** must be submitted for payment no later than 30 days after the completion of the activity to the Home Office. Forms are available on www.fcsu.com/forms.



For any questions, contact the Home Office at 800-533-6682 ext. 114 or fcsu@fcsu.com



News From Slovakia

Bridget Brinková odchádza z postu americkej veľvyslankyne na Slovensku na náročnú prácu na Ukrajine

Bridget Brinková odchádza z práce zastupujúcej USA v Bratislave a je menovaná novou veľvyslankyňou na Ukrajinu. Jej hviezdna práca na Slovensku viedla k tomu, že ju Biely dom presťahoval na Ukrajinu v čase, keď krajina zažíva najnásilnejšiu európsku vojnu od konca druhej svetovej vojny. Prezident Donald Trump ju prvýkrát nominoval za veľvyslanku v marci 2019, aby nahradila Adama Sterlinga, ktorý na tomto poste pôsobil od roku 2016.

Pred príchodom na Slovensko pracovala Brinková v Národnej bezpečnostnej rade, kde radila prezidentovi v oblasti Egejského mora (Turecko, Grécko a Cyprus) a Kaukaz. Brink má bakalársky titul na Kenyon College v štáte Ohio a dva magisterské tituly na London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Hovorí trochu po slovensky, ako aj po rusky, srbsky a základne po gruzínsky a francúzsky. Nižšie si môžete prečítať jej rozlúčkový prejav, ktorý predniesla pri odchode zo svojho postu na Slovensku.

Prezident Joe Biden ako jej náhradu nominuje za nového mimoriadneho a splnomocneného veľvyslancu USA na Slovensku indického Američana Gautama Rana. Senát musí vymenovanie schváliť, aby sa vymenovanie dokončilo. Rana slúžil svojmu kariéromu členovi na najvyššej zahraničnej službe USA v hodnosti poradcu. V súčasnosti je zástupcom vedúceho misie na veľvyslanectve USA v Alžírsku a od augusta 2020 do februára 2022 bol chargé d'affaires ad interim. Predtým pôsobil ako zástupca náčelníka misie a chargé d'affaires ad interim v Veľvyslanectve USA v Lubľane v Slovinsku. Pracoval aj na štábe Národnej bezpečnostnej rady ako riaditeľ pre Afganistan a Pakistan a zástupca ministra pre politické záležitosti na veľvyslanectve USA v Naí Dillí.

Okrem toho bol osobitným asistentom námestníka ministra zahraničných vecí, osobitným asistentom námestníka ministra zahraničných vecí pre európske a euroázijské záležitosti a pôsobil v Iraku, Pakistane, Afganistane a Spojených arabských emirátoch.

Rana má titul z ekonomie a medzinárodných vzťahov na Pensylvánskej univerzite, právnický titul na Vanderbiltovej univerzite a magisterský titul v odbore strategických bezpečnostných štúdií na Univerzite národnej obrany. Je ženatý a má dve deti. Rana hovorí hindsky, španielsky a gudžarátsky. (Veľvyslanectvo USA Bratislava, 27. mája 2022)

Source: www.tinyurl.com/jh276vhd



Caption: Veľvyslankyňa USA na Slovensku Bridget Brinková vľavo a prezidentka Zuzana Čaputová v roku 2019 (foto TASR) - US Ambassador to Slovakia Bridget Brink, left, and President Zuzana Čaputová v roku 2019 (photo by TASR)

Bridget Brink Is Leaving Her Post as U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia for a Challenging Job in Ukraine

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., editor

Bridget Brink is leaving her job representing the USA in Bratislava and is being appointed the new ambassador to Ukraine. Her stellar job in Slovakia led the White House to move her to Ukraine at a time when the country is experiencing the most violent European war since the end of World War II.

President Donald Trump first nominated her as ambassador in March 2019 to replace Adam Sterling, who had served in the post since 2016. Before coming to Slovakia, Brink worked for the National Security Council, where she advised the president on the Aegean region (Turkey, Greece, and Cyprus) and the Caucasus.

Brink holds a bachelor's degree from Kenyon College, Ohio and two master's degrees at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). She speaks some Slovak as well as Russian, Serbian and basic Georgian, and French.

Below you may read her Farewell Address which she presented upon her departure from her post in Slovakia.

As her replacement, President Joe Biden is nominating an Indian-American, Gautam Rana, as the new U.S. Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Slovakia. The Senate must ratify the appointment to finalize his candidacy.

Rana has served his career member in the U.S. Senior Foreign Service at the rank of Counselor. Currently, he is the Deputy Chief of Mission of the US Embassy in Algeria and was the Charge d'Affaires ad interim there from August 2020 to February 2022. Previously, he served as the Deputy Chief of Mission and Charge d'Affaires ad interim at the US Embassy in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

He has also worked on the National Security Council staff as Director for Afghanistan and Pakistan and the Deputy Minister Counselor for Political Affairs at the US Embassy in New Delhi. In addition, he had been a Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of State, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, and worked in Iraq, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the UAE.

Rana holds degrees in Economics and International Relations from the University of Pennsylvania, a law degree from Vanderbilt University, and a Master of Arts in Strategic Security Studies from the National Defense University. He is married and has two children. Rana speaks Hindi, Spanish, and

Gujarati.

Read more here. (U.S. Embassy Bratislava, 27 May, 2022)

Source: www.tinyurl.com/jh276vhd

Rozlúčkový prejav veľvyslankyne Bridget Brink

(Veľvyslanectvo USA Bratislava, 19. mája 2022)

„Je ťažké uveriť, že tri roky ubehli tak rýchlo. Pripravujúc sa na odchod zo Slovenska, som hrdá a poctená, že sa môžem obzrieť späť na všetko, čo sme spolu dosiahli. Naše puto ako partnerov, priateľov a spojencov NATO nikdy nebolo silnejšie.

Naše armády spolupracujú ako nikdy predtým, aby sa Slovensko a NATO stali bezpečnejšími.

Sme jednotní v spoločnom ciele podporovať Slovensko, pretože podporuje Ukrajinu a tých, ktorí utiekli pred Putinovou vojnou, ktorú rozpútal.

Podnikáme aj konkrétne kroky na riešenie dezinformácií, pričom uznávame, že ide o spoločný problém, ktorý si vyžaduje spoločné riešenia.

Naše komunity presadzovania práva budujú miestne kapacity na boj proti korupcii a dodržiavanie zásad právneho štátu.

Naša občianska spoločnosť, podnikateľské sektory a mimovládne organizácie naďalej spolupracujú na ochrane najzraniteľnejších, obrane ľudských práv a podpore slobody médií. Som obzvlášť hrdá na to, že minister zahraničných vecí Blinken vyznamenal Whirlpool Slovakia v Poprade za jeho inkluzívne náborové a školiace programy, ktoré sú vzorom pre región.

Spoločne podporujeme inovácie a investície v oboch krajinách novými spôsobmi s pôsobivými výsledkami. Lietajúce auto, ktoré som videla v Nitre a ďalšia generácia virtuálnej komunikácie v Košiciach, sú len niektoré príklady toho, kam naša spolupráca môže a bude smerovať.

Pri príležitosti konca svojho pôsobenia, mám pre Slovensko tri nádeje – že budete naďalej posilňovať svoju pozíciu na Západe, že Slováci sa spoja proti všadeprítomnému šíreniu dezinformácií, a že ochránite neuveriteľne krásne prírodné divy, ktoré Slovensko ponúka.

Ako som povedala, keď som prišla v roku 2019, tešila som sa na stretnutie so Slovákmi z každého regiónu Slovenska, od Skalice po Sninu a všade medzi tým. Mala som šťastie, že som tak mohla urobiť na mojich oficiálnych a neoficiálnych cestách po vašej krásnej krajine.

Na Slovensku záleží. Na jeho úspechu záleží. Na jeho budúcnosti záleží. Aj keď tu nebudem, na Slovensku mi bude vždy záležať. Ďakujem, že si bolo pre mňa a moju rodinu skvelým hosťom.

Slovensko bude mať vždy kúsok nášho srdca. Ja aj celá moja rodina Vám ďakujeme“

Veľvyslankyňa Bridget Brink

Video si môžete pozrieť na tomto odkaze –

<https://bit.ly/3PvNVAM>

Caption: Bývalá veľvyslankyňa USA na Slovensku Bridget Brink (Former U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia, Bridget Brink)



Ambassador Bridget Brink's Farewell Address as She Leaves Slovakia for a New Post in Ukraine

(U.S. Embassy Bratislava, 19 May 2022)

“It's hard to believe three years have gone by so quickly. As I prepare to leave Slovakia, I am proud and honored to look back at all we have accomplished together. Our bond as partners, friends, and NATO Allies has never been stronger.

Our militaries are working together like never before to make Slovakia and NATO more secure.

We are united in common purpose to support Slovakia as it supports Ukraine and those who have fled Putin's war of choice.

We are also taking concrete steps to address disinformation, recognizing this is a common problem that requires joint solutions.

Our law enforcement communities are building local capacity to fight corruption and uphold the rule of law.

Our civil society and business sectors and NGOs continue to collaborate on protecting the most vulnerable, defending human rights, and promoting media freedom. I was especially proud to see Secretary of State Blinken honor Whirlpool Slovakia in Poprad for its inclusive hiring and training programs which are a model for the region.

Together we are promoting innovation and investment in both countries in new ways and with impressive results. The flying car I saw in Nitra and the next generation of virtual communication in Kosice are just some examples of where our cooperation can and will go.

As I end my time here, I have three hopes for Slovakia – that you will continue to still further strengthen your position in the West, that Slovaks will unite against the pervasive spread of disinformation, and that you will protect the incredible great natural wonders Slovakia has to offer.

As I said when I arrived in 2019, I looked forward to meeting Slovaks from all across the country, from Skalica to Snina and everywhere in between. I've been lucky to do so, in my official and unofficial travels across your beautiful country.

Slovakia matters. Its success matters. Its future matters. And down the road, even when I'm not here, Slovakia will always matter to me. Thank you for being such wonderful hosts to me and my family. Slovakia will always have a piece of our hearts.

Ja aj celá moja rodina Vám ďakujeme“

From my family to yours – thank you

Ambassador Bridget Brink

You may watch the speech on this link – <https://bit.ly/3PvNVAM>

Source: <https://sk.usembassy.gov/ambassadors-brinks-farewell-address/>

2022 Jednota Scholarship Winners



2022 FCSU SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL (5-8)



SOLTIS & BOSAK FAMILY NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

BLASKO, ALAYNA
Branch: 581K; College: Indiana
University; Major: Nursing



DLUGOS, SAMUEL
Branch: 199K; Catholic
Grade School: Greensburg
Central Catholic Junior
High; Grade: 7



KRONISER, LAURALEI
Branch: 038K; Catholic
Grade School: Archangel
Gabriel Catholic School;
Grade: 6

MICHELE MAGER SCHOLARSHIP CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL



MUHA, ALEXANDER
Branch: 038K; Catholic Grade
School: St. Dominic Catholic
School Grade: 8



MILLER, ANNE
Branch: 900K; Catholic
Grade School: Padre Pio
Academy; Grade: 6



OOST, JULIANA
Branch: 313K; Catho-
lic Grade School: St. Mary
Catholic Middle School;
Grade: 6



SCHWAB, SAMUEL
Branch: 735K; Catholic
Grade School: St. John
Fisher School; Grade: 6

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



CARNY, SOPHIA
Branch: 450K; Catholic High
School: Walsh Jesuit; Grade:
Freshmen



DLUGOS, DANIEL
Branch: 199K; College: Mer-
cyhurst University; Major: Cyber
Security



BANAS, ANGELINA
Branch: 746K; Catholic
High School: Notre Dame
High School; Grade: Senior



DLUGOS, ABIGAIL
Branch: 199K; Catholic
High School: Greensburg
Central Catholic; Grade:
Freshmen



DLUGOS, ELIZABETH
Branch: 199K; Catho-
lic High School: Greens-
burg Central Catholic High
School; Grade: Senior

GRADUATE



MILLS, RACHEL
Branch: 162K; College: The
Ohio State University; Major: Op-
tometry



FAY, BRIDGET
Branch: 382K; Catholic
High School: Holy Cross
High School; Grade: Fresh-
men



FEDORIOUK, SOFIA
Branch: 024K; Catholic
High School: Padua Fran-
ciscan High School; Grade:
Sophomore



FOLEY, JACK
Branch: 153K; Catholic
High School: Notre Dame
College Prep; Grade: Junior



2022 Jednota Scholarship Winners



MONKS, PETER
Branch: 019K; Catholic High School: St. Joseph High School; Grade: Junior



MUHA, KATARINA
Branch: 038K; Catholic High School: Divine Savior Holy Angels High School; Grade: Senior



MUHA, KLAUDIA
Branch: 038K; Catholic High School: Divine Savior Holy Angels High School; Grade: Senior



NOBILI-PALM, JACOB
Branch: 670K; Catholic High School: Geibel Catholic Junior-Senior High School; Grade: Sophomore



POLLACK, JOHN
Branch: 019K; Catholic High School: John F. Kennedy Catholic Preparatory High School; Grade: Junior

COLLEGE

Top Male



SOLGA, LEO
Branch: 796K; College: The University of Pennsylvania; Major: PPE Politics, Philosophy and Economics

Top Female



MILLS, REBECCA
Branch: 162K; College: University of Pittsburgh; Major: Pre-Medicine



BAHU, ALEXA
Branch: 743K; College: The University of Alabama; Major: Pre-Med track, Biology Major



BITTLE, COLE
Branch: 855K; College: Penn State Altoona; Major: Rail Transportation Engineering



BRIERCHECK, ALEXANDER
Branch: 199K; College: Baldwin Wallace University; Major: Studio Art



BUTLER, REAGAN
Branch: 004K; College: The Ohio State University; Major: Undecided/exploration program



DEDONATO, GRACE
Branch: 019K; College: Sacred Heart University; Major: Doctor of Physical Therapy (6-year program)



DELLAROSA, NICHOLAS
Branch: 038K; College: University of Pittsburgh; Major: Engineering



DESOPPO, MATTHEW
Branch: 746K; College: University of Scranton; Major: Sport Management and Analytics



FIBBI, RACHEL
Branch: 587K; College: Baldwin Wallace University; Major: Pre-Physical Therapy



FIKE, ETHAN
Branch: 367K; College: Lock Haven University; Major: Pre-Physical Therapy track



GERKO, MELANIE
Branch: 372K; College: Vanderbilt University; Major: Medicine, Health and Society; Pre-Medicine



GUEVARA, KATHERINE
Branch: 038K; College: Salisbury University; Major: International Relations



HERSHBERGER, MORGAN
Branch: 410K; College: Seton Hill University; Major: Physician Assistant



HOFFMAN, SAMANTHA
Branch: 731K
College: Robert Morris University
Major: Medical Imaging



HOYT, STEFANIE
Branch: 322K; College: Penn State University; Major: Chemical Engineering



JABORNIK, SARAH
Branch: 746K; College: University of Hartford; Major: Visual Arts Painting and Drawing



JACKSON, ANNA
Branch: 153K; College: University of Illinois; Major: Science/technology and astronomy



2022 Jednota Scholarship Winners



JURCENKO, EVAN
Branch: 153K; College: The University of Maryland; Major: Aerospace Engineering



KARGOL, NATHAN
Branch: 796K; College: University of California; Major: Food Science



MEREDICK, AVERY
Branch: 173K; College: King's College; Major: Physician Assistant



MULLEN, KATRINA
Branch: 853K; College: West Virginia University; Major: Music Education



PELES, NOAH
Branch: 484K; College: Temple University; Major: Statistics



PORTER, MATTHEW
Branch: 764K; College: Bowling Green; Major: Data Analytics



PORTER, MICHAEL
Branch: 764K; College: Youngstown State University; Major: Accounting



SEFCHICK, TARA
Branch: 024K; College: Denison University; Major: Environmental Science



STIERER, RAYMOND
Branch: 587K; College: Grove City College; Major: Marketing/Business



VINCIGUERRA, VICTORIA
Branch: 315K; College: Westmoreland County Community College; Major: Diagnostic Medical Sonography



WARREN, EMILIA
Branch: 045K; College: Belmont University; Major: Accounting



TRADE/VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

CHAMRA, LYNDESA
Branch: 746K; College: Robert Fiance Beauty School; Major: Cosmetology



Book Corner

Fabulous New Book on American Slovaks



By M. Mark Stolarik, University of Ottawa

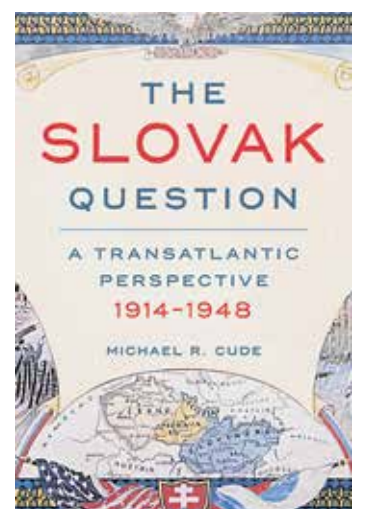
This morning the mailman delivered to my home a fabulous new book on American Slovaks. It is entitled *The Slovak Question: A Transatlantic Perspective, 1918-1948* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2022). Written by Michael R. Cude, an Assistant Professor of History at Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas, this book documents the important role that American Slovaks played in the development of Slovak national identity, the creation of Czechoslovakia in 1918, and the autonomy movement throughout its history. Slovak leaders in the United States always knew about this, but the general public did not, and many scholars of Czechoslovakia largely ignored it.

Michael Cude's book will restore the leading role of American Slovaks to its rightful place in the history of the ill-fated Czechoslovak Republic. When third or fourth generation American Slovaks ask their parents what their ancestors contributed to American society, the parents will be able to answer that they not only helped build American heavy industry, but also helped to liberate their ancestors from foreign rule. Thus, they played a major role, not only in American history,

but also in the history of their people in the homeland. I strongly recommend this book to all Slovak-American families. It will instill pride in their children and grandchildren.

Editor's note: In addition to purchasing the book, you may access a shorter summary of Michael R. Cude's research by reading his article at the following website: Cude, Michael, "The Imagined Exiles: Slovak-Americans and the Slovak Question during the First Czechoslovak Republic," *STUDIA HISTORICA GEDANENSIA*, TOM V (2014): pp. 287-305, file:///D:/1%20Jednota%20drafts/1%20future%20issue%20articles%20Jednota/Cude_The%20Imagined%20Exiles_Slovak-Americans%20and%20the%20Slovak.pdf (accessed June 18, 2022).

Also useful are Cude's articles in the *Slovakia* journal, "The Transatlantic Slovak Question in the Interwar Period," *Slovakia* (2019) 44, 82 & 83: 18-59, and Cude, Michael R. "Wilsonian National Self-Determination and the Slovak Question during the Founding of Czechoslovakia, 1918-1921." *Diplomatic History* 40 (1), 2016: 155-80. <https://search-ebscohost-com.ezproxy.umgc.edu/login.aspx?direct=true&db=edsjrs&AN=edsjrs.26376738&site=eds-live&scope=site>



Good Times at Knoebels

FCSU members got another chance for fraternal fun and fellowship at Knoebels Amusement Park in central PA on July 25, 2022. As America's largest free-admission park, it offered a wide variety of rides and a golf course for those who wished to tee off early in the morning.

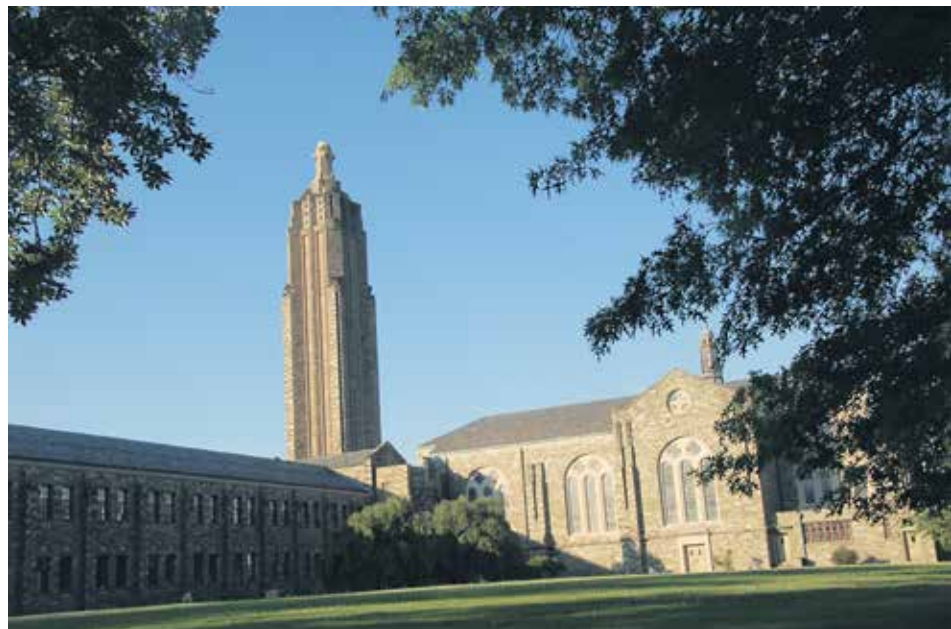
Outside the hotel on the night before, FCSU members enjoyed a tailgate party, complete with pizza and beer. A good time was had by all at the park, despite the very hot weather. Very refreshing was the beautiful 4:30 pm Mass offered by Fr. Thomas Nasta. It offered us a time to get out of the sun, relax for a while, and remember the Lord who has granted us all that we have.

All photos are by the editor, Dr. Michael Kopanic, Jr



Left to right - Melissa Casey, Eliza Casey, Wilhelmina Casey, Paul Nederostek, Katie Nederostek (seated)





The Jankola Library and Slovak Museum

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., editor

Before attending the FCSU at Knoebels Amusement Park, I visited the Jankola Library and Slovak Museum in Danville, PA on June 24, 2022. Knowing I would be nearby, I prearranged a meeting with the current library director, Sister Loretta Marie Hrubec, SS.C.M. in order to carry out some preliminary research on sources about Slovak folk customs.

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, who reside at the Sacred Heart Villa in Danville, maintain the Jankola Library and Slovak Museum. They aim “to promote and preserve Slovak intellectual and cultural life by providing books and reading material and exhibiting artifacts memorabilia that pertain to Slovak and Slavic history, language, literature, fine arts, spirituality and science for all people who honor and cherish the faith and heritage of their ancestors.”

History

In 1909, Father Matthew Jankola (1872-1916), an immigrant priest from Slovakia, founded the Congregation of Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Jankola wished to establish religious order of Sister teachers to promote and preserve the Catholic faith and Slovak culture. He believed that the education of Slovak Catholic youth was paramount. He also thought that Slovak orphans needed taken care of, as well as the elderly. Finally, he wanted to preserve the Slovak language and customs by instilling a love of them among youth, and he thought that understanding the language was paramount. In his honor, the Sisters chose to name the Library in his memory when it was later founded.

The origins of the Jankola Library and Slovak Museum date back to the mid-1940's. Over the years, people began sending the Sisters “collections of books, papers, and artifacts pertaining to Slovak history, poetry, and literature.” Sister Loretta Hrubec told me that the Matica slovenská, the Slovak Cultural Society in Martin, sent a huge collection of material as the communists were taking over the country after World War II, for fear that the materials would be lost or destroyed.

As materials from all over the world continued to accumulate, Sister M. Martina Tybor, SS.C.M. decided in 1968 to establish what has become the Jankola Library. An outstanding scholar, teacher, poet, translator, and author, she catalogued these valuable materials, making them searchable and available for the sake of preservation and public research use. Over the years, more materials have been added, and over a decade ago, Jednota's Slovak Archives and Museum sent its collection to the Library when it closed the printery in Middletown, PA.

Thus, the Slovak Museum's collection has also grown its holdings with many valuable artifacts. It features a large room with displays of Slovak kroj (folk costume), pottery, fine crystal and glassware, and musical instruments like the fujara and cymbal. A unique butterfly collection of Rev. Jozef Murgaš, the Slovak immigrant priest and scientist, shows his wide interests.

Over the years, Slovak fraternal societies have helped to fund and to sustain the Jankola

Library and Slovak Museum. Generous support came from the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota), the First Catholic Slovak Ladies' Association, the Ladies' Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, and individual Slovak Catholic Sokol donations. In addition, various corporate contributions, bequests, and memorials have also contributed to the Library and Museum's collection and its maintenance.

Directors of the Jankola Library and Slovak Museum

Sister M. Mercedes Voytko, SS.C.M. followed Sister M. Martina Tybor as Director of the Jankola Library from 1992 to 2007, and she gave my family a tour of the Museum, which she organized so magnificently. With the assistance of her sister, Ms. Catherine Voytko, they both painstakingly categorized and artistically exhibited many treasured items. Members of The Northeast Pennsylvania Slovak Heritage Society also volunteered their time, talent, and energy to give the Jankola Library and Slovak Museum a first-class appearance.

In September 2007, Sister M. John Vianney Vranak, SS.C.M. succeeded Sister Mercedes as Director of the Jankola Library and Slovak Museum. She attempted to broaden the range of services of the Library and Museum for scholars, researchers, and visitors. Sister M. Catherine Laboure Bresnock, SS.C.M. took over the director position in 2010.

Finally, in 2020 Sister Loretta Marie Hrubec, SS.C.M., a professionally trained Librarian, assumed the directorship. Although charged with many other responsibilities, she is working hard to maintain the quality of the collection and keep the library and museum open for visitors. If one wishes to use the library or visit the museum, it is best to contact her in advance, since she wears many hats. Both the Jankola Library and Slovak Museum are well worth a visit to anyone interested in Slovak culture.

Anyone who wishes to visit or donate materials should contact the Villa by mail, phone, or e-mail via one of the following methods:

Villa Sacred Heart
1002 Railroad St
Danville, PA 17821
E-mail: info@sscm.org
Phone: (570) 275-3581

Sources

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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					
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			52					53			54				
55	56	57				58	59				60		61	62	63
64						65				66		67			
68						69						70			
71						72						73			

Across

- 1 Torture device
- 5 Untrue
- 10 Holy man
- 14 Twirled
- 15 Live
- 16 Straddling
- 17 Workbench attachment
- 18 Heavenly host?
- 19 Egg container
- 20 Mill output
- 22 Slip in a pot
- 23 Analyze syntactically
- 24 Endorse
- 26 Skier's transport
- 28 Low-fat meat
- 31 Dress (up)
- 32 "___ do you do?"
- 33 Hit on the head
- 36 Came to earth
- 38 Sweater material
- 40 Chinese leader?
- 41 Arab ruler
- 42 Nagana carrier
- 45 Cheerless
- 47 Always, in verse
- 48 Likewise
- 50 Provincetown catch
- 51 Astute
- 52 Tailless cat
- 53 Sailor's cry
- 55 Loathe
- 58 Summer cooler
- 60 Bumpkins
- 64 Switch's partner
- 65 Virulent
- 67 Nasty
- 68 "Cast Away" setting
- 69 Boxing venue

- 70 Stallion's mate
- 71 Blow the whistle
- 72 Milk dispenser
- 73 Time for eggnog

Down

- 1 Invitation letters
- 2 Samoan capital
- 3 Crescent point
- 4 Leg parts
- 5 Government agency
- 6 Shade provider
- 7 Kind of blocks
- 8 Investigator
- 9 Pipe bend
- 10 Like some eclipses
- 11 Copycat
- 12 Trunk growth
- 13 ___ meridiem
- 21 Ceremony
- 23 Chess piece
- 25 Pan, e.g.
- 27 Fancy neckwear
- 28 Crème de la crème
- 29 Parson's home
- 30 Anesthetized
- 33 Strikes out
- 34 Cantilevered window
- 35 Dodge
- 37 Musical symbol
- 39 Jewel
- 43 Military award
- 44 A billion years
- 45 Fifth note of any musical scale
- 46 Sensory input
- 49 Shoe or school
- 50 Eyetooth
- 52 "Psycho" setting
- 54 Scrumptious
- 55 Somewhat
- 56 Pedestal
- 57 Sledding spot
- 59 Cut down
- 61 Swain
- 62 Countess's husband
- 63 Snick's partner
- 65 Ancient cross
- 66 Locomotive follower

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Fr. Ed Dougherty, M.M., The Christophers' Board of Directors
Becoming a Wounded Healer

The late Catholic priest Father Henri Nouwen wrote, "Nobody escapes being wounded. We all are wounded people, whether physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually. The main question is not 'How can we hide our wounds?' so we don't have to be embarrassed, but 'How can we put our woundedness in the service of others?'" This statement gets to the heart of a profound truth about Christ, who shows us how to turn woundedness into a healing power. Nouwen writes, "Jesus is God's wounded healer: through His wounds we are healed. Jesus' suffering and death brought joy and life. His humiliation brought glory; His rejection brought a community of love."

The world teaches us to hide our woundedness out of fear of being ridiculed or taken advantage of by others, but Christ shows us a different path. He shows us how woundedness can be utilized to bring about change and to help others who are suffering. Consider the difference we make in the lives of others when, rather than hiding our suffering, we share stories that reveal our own fragility. It makes people feel understood in their own suffering and able to open up about their problems. This is a dynamic that produces healing for everyone involved.

Our newest Christopher News Note "Becoming a Wounded Healer" details the story of psychologist Dr. Richard B. Patterson, who changed his life after reading Father Nouwen's book "The Wounded Healer." Dr. Patterson realized that he was an addict and needed to get clean, so he began to walk the hard road to sobriety, experiencing along the way the many layers of truth found within the wisdom expressed by Father Nouwen. In a piece for Franciscan Media, Dr. Patterson wrote, "What I've come to see is that wounded healers offer many things: knowledge, resources, and creative problem solving. But what they offer more than anything else is that most elusive, yet most important, spiritual and psychological experience: hope."

Wounded healers offer hope by showing people how to persevere. They are living witnesses to the resilience of the human spirit, and they are living witnesses to our ability to walk in the footsteps of Christ by turning the tables on suffering. The way we join Christ in this miraculous process of turning the tables on suffering is to use it for the benefit of others by allowing our wounds to be seen and allowing others to take inspiration from our will to embrace the gift of life even amid tragedy.

The concept of the wounded healer dates back to an ancient Greek legend of a god who received a wound that would not heal yet also would not kill him due to his immortality, and so, overflowing with compassion, he roamed the earth healing others. And Plato also referenced wounded healers, declaring that those who have suffered make the best physicians.

As is so often the case with the wisdom of the ancients, we see humanity's longing for the answers only Christ could provide, because it is in Christ that we see the most thorough transformation of defeat into victory, and we join in this same transformation when we lay our suffering bare for the healing of others.

We don't need to be perfect to reach out to people in their hour of need. We simply need the humility to recognize our own imperfections and to have those imperfections laid bare as we extend a helping hand. In this way, we show how compassion transforms us even amid our suffering.

See Solution on Page 23

Introduction to Sisters Monica and Nepomucene

What links Sisters Monica and Nepomucene is not that they were both born in Slovakia but that they both died on the same day and their funeral was celebrated together in the Maria

Hall Chapel in January 1983. Let us look at their individual lives and rejoice in their dedication to their spouse Jesus Christ in the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius for over sixty years.

Sister M. Monica



Barbara Buc was one of those individuals who always had aspirations to become a religious Sister. After coming to the U. S. from Slovakia, where she was born in Bobrov (Borove) in Orava, she and her family settled in Chicago. Since her brother was studying for the diocesan priesthood at St. Procopius College in Lisle, IL, Barbara thought she might stay in the area and join the Benedictine Sisters. Her brother's friend, Father Michael Bajor, changed the course of her life, though, when he showed her a photo of the first three Mary's that appeared in the JEDNOTA KALENDÁR. He asked her to consider joining the new congregation called the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius. He even contacted Michael Senko at the Jednota Printery to find out where to write for information about the young congregation. It was 1915 and Mother Mary

had just been elected Superior General. Mr. Senko sent the name and address of Mother Loretta, I. H. M., who was then Directress of Novices in Plymouth, PA. Within five days, Barbara received a letter of acceptance! Talk about the Providence of God! Barbara joined the Sisters and received the habit on August 2, 1916 at Mount St. Mary's in Scranton and received the name Sister M. Monica. She made her novitiate at St. Stephen's Convent in Plymouth, PA which served as the novitiate for the new congregation from August 3, 1913, until 1917. Throughout her life as a religious Sister Monica imitated her patron saint through her perseverance in prayer and trust in God.

We can attribute Sister Monica's happiness in religious life to the way she lived up to all her obligations. In her own words, "Acceptance of God's will is whatever assignment was given me brought its own deep peace and joy." Sister served as an elementary teacher and principal in Bridgeport and Torrington, CT, Hazleton, Jessup and Wilkes-Barre, PA, Binghamton, NY, Roseland, IL. and Whiting IN. Sister Monica also served at the Jednota Home in Middletown. Sister had a delightful disposition, a great sense of humor, and the ability to chuckle. Her many talents were useful in the convent and at school. She made many cut-work altar cloths, hundreds of Communion burses and tatted lace. Sister Monica also wrote plays, poems and speeches for pastors' feast days, graduations, Christmas, and other occasions that warranted a school assembly. Her hallmarks were enthusiasm, thoroughness, efficiency and best of all, compassion. She was the Lord's ray of sunshine. When she lost her hearing, she continued to be of service as a sacristan. During and after World War 2, when she was in Binghamton, she gathered clothing and sent it to the needy in Austria, France, and Italy.

Wherever she went, Sister Monica made deep and lasting friendships. Students she taught kept in touch with her long after they had left her care. Sister was determined to help not only the children, but their parents grow in the knowledge and love of God.

An outstanding example of her motherly influence: In June 1978, Sister Monica received a letter from a former orphan who called her "a dear friend to all of us who tried to make us feel as though we were one of your family." She continued by saying, "You have been and always will be my greatest inspiration—you will never know how dear and precious you are to me." The young woman recalled her time at Jednota by saying, "It was a great pleasure to clean your office," and ended by referring to "the little candy store in the rear."

Though Sister Monica had countless happy memories her greatest joy remains the opportunity to be involved full-time in the Sacred Heart Enthronement Apostolate, especially with the oppressed people of Slovakia. Nothing could equal the joy she felt when they expressed their gratitude for the leaflets, Holy Hour booklets, badges, scapulars, rosaries, and books she had sent them. The promise made to Margaret Mary no doubt holds for Sister Monica also: "Those who

Sister M. Nepomucene



When Sister Nepomucene was a little girl in Slovakia, she was told that Sisters ate baked potatoes and slept on boards. She came to the conclusion, therefore, that it was out of the question for anyone from her village to aspire to become a Sister. The role of Divine Providence was evident in her life as it was in the life of Sister Monica. Anna Ondrisek was born in Krušetnice, Spiš, Slovakia, on July 2, which was also the birthday of Father Matthew Jankola, the founder of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius. At that time, also, July 2 was the feast of the Visitation. Perhaps that is why Anna chose Elizabeth as her Confirmation name.

As a petite seventeen-year-old, the only member of her family to immigrate to the U. S., she arrived in New York City before World War I and worked as a house-keeper/governess. During the following five years of war, she was not able to communicate at all with her family in Slovakia and feared that they would all be lost. Through all the difficulties of war, Anna always kept before her the desire to live a deep spiritual life and be instrumental in saving her soul and the soul of others.

And Divine Providence continued to intervene in her life: On December 8, 1917, she attended a service at St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City. In his reflection during the service, Bishop Koudelka extolled Our Lady's purity. It so impressed Anna that she requested to speak to him after Benediction. Msgr. Krasula, the pastor, overheard her request and suggested she inquire about the Sisters, who were then engaged in ministry in Middletown, Pennsylvania. Anna, thinking she could not enter the congregation until she became a member of the Third Order as other young girls from Slovakia had, spent two months before her entrance with the members of the Third Order.

Communication with Europe was still impossible, but nevertheless, Anna wrote about her plans and entrusted the letter to a friend who promised to send it when the lines of communication opened up. Though her parents' response to her news was unfavorable at first, later when they heard of her contentment and witnessed her joy in the photos she sent, they were delighted with her choice. Although she thought she would never again see her relatives, she had the opportunity to visit them on four occasions after 1959. "God's generosity is limitless," she declared, "especially when we surrender ourselves to His will."

Anna entered on February 2, 1919, and was one of the first novices received in the new Motherhouse in Danville, PA. Her patron saint as a religious, St. John Nepomucene, has been known as "a silent saint." Sister took her patron's virtues seriously and was quiet, retiring, prayerful and conscientious. She served the Lord unobtrusively for almost 65 years. For about 60 of those years, she provided for the Sisters' nutritional needs in convents in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. Cooking, cleaning, doing laundry and mangling clothes could have become monotonous but her prayerfulness and love of solitude added a contemplative dimension to these routine tasks. Her specialty was baked delicacies, and on Jubilee Days and Feast Days, the table held items she alone could make.

Sister Nepomucene died on the same day as Sister Monica, January 23, 1983. For seven months of each year, both were the same age and both were examples of prayerfulness and trust, both were true to the congregation's ideals and true imitators of their patron saints. Their funeral was celebrated on Wednesday, January 26 in the Maria Hall Chapel. Sister Monica's, grand-nephew, Father Robert Buday, O.S.B. from Lisle, IL celebrated the liturgy with concelebrants, Father Siegfried Eckert, C.S.Sp., Father Walter Sempko, Monsignor Alphonse Marcincavage, and Father Augustin Zan. Father Buday also gave the homily.

Escape to Freedom!

I was born in 1933 in Slovakia, a country in Central Europe. My family lived in the farm community of Papin, a village established in 1400 AD. I started school at the age of six and continued until age 15. I found employment at the local Notary Public's office to help my parents financially. The position required that I deliver legal documents by bicycle. My ambition as a youth

was to travel to Prague in the Czech Republic and find work on a construction site, in order to make better pay. Due to political change in Czechoslovakia in 1948, from a democratic society to a communist dictatorship, I was determined to escape to freedom. In 1950 at age 17 the opportunity to work at a forest cutting project came up in Czech territory near American occupied Germany, an area protected militarily by both sides, Germany, and the Czechoslovakia Socialist Republic (ČSSR).

On New Year's Day 1950, six of us guys travelled to the same region to work and study. There we waited for the opportune time to escape. Two weeks later the opportunity came. During the evening and in foggy conditions we escaped to freedom! How? On that Sunday afternoon we walked two km. Up the road to the pub. We spent the afternoon socializing there.

Knowing escape was risky - in fact, death was possible, but we continued to make plans to escape. With evening came time to leave the pub. Took the same road back. Observed that we six guys were not being followed. No one came toward us. One km. from the pub we made a dash for freedom. We ran bent over and moved as fast as possible. We continued running for about one km. through this pine forest. We ran as quietly as possible because we did not want to be shot at or taken back by the ČSSR military.

As we continued walking in a westerly direction, we observed a bright light about four km. away. It gave us the direction to follow, because in a forest and at night it is especially easy to lose one's sense of direction. Suddenly, we identified an American flag which confirmed we were safe and free in West Germany. Local police took us to a US military post to be registered as refugees and given a place to rest and sleep. The next morning a military guide took us by train to Valko Lager Refugee Camp in Nuremberg where we were registered and given accommodation. During WWII this was a POW camp. There were over 4,000 refugees there at that time, 1950. - Michael Parkovcin, Aurora, Ontario



BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 – LAKEWOOD, OH

The next branch meeting of the Saint Joseph Society will be held on July 24, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Those interested in attending, please contact Rochelle Popovich at 216-789-6390 by July 12, 2022. Social distancing will be observed so we need to know in advance if you will be attending. All members are welcome to attend. Wishing everyone a very happy Summer filled with health and happiness. Barbara Golias is now the Secretary of Branch 1.

Submitted Richard J Golias Jr,
President

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MN

The SS. Cyril and Methodius parish festival will be held on Saturday, August 13, from 12 noon until 4 p.m. All Jednota members are welcome.

Members, please call Jim for an update on news about Branch #3: (763) 789-9196,

Submitted by Jim Genosky

BRANCH 05P – EXETER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Evangelist Society, Branch 05P, will hold a meeting on Saturday, September 10, 2022, at 12:30 pm at Angelo's Restaurant and Pizza, Midway Shopping Center, 1000 Wyoming Avenue, Wyoming, PA. Pizza luncheon will be provided.

On the agenda will be a discussion of branch business and activities and the election of officers. Members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Members who want to attend the branch meeting should contact Marion Rubino, President, by September 8, 2022 at 570-693-0399.

Submitted by Mary Jo Rubino, Recording
Secretary

BRANCH 7 - HOUTZDALE, PA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 7 will hold a meeting on Sunday, August 14, 2022, at 9:00 A. M. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church Parish Hall, 52 Parish St. Ramey, PA 16671. All members are invited to attend the meeting.

Submitted by Joseph C. Cervenak,
President

BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

Attention Branch 24 Members: the Slovak Heritage Society is once again hosting a Pig Roast at the Slovak Sokol Campground in Broadview Hits, OH, on Saturday, August 20, 2022. See Pig Roast flyer in Jednota for details. Tickets are \$30 for an adult meal and \$5 for a kid's meal. Branch 24 Members can obtain adult meal tickets for \$15 per bonafide Branch 24 member in attendance that day. Does not apply to carry-out meals. Contact Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797 for more information.

Baseball! On Saturday, August 27, 2022, please join our FCSU members in District 10 for a fun evening of all-you-can-eat dining followed by great seats for minor league baseball with the Lake Erie Crushers in Avon, Ohio. See District 10 flyer in Jednota for more details. Guests are welcome at the full group price per ticket. Branch 24 Members: you can attend for free! All attendees must register in advance for this event. Contact Branch 24 Fraternal Activities Director Tom Ivanec at 440-668-7797 no later than August 8, 2022, for more information and to reserve your tickets.

Robert Kopco, President

BRANCH 40 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Clement Society, Branch #40 will hold

its semi-annual meeting on Sunday July 24th at Chipper's Grill 1733 N. Bloomington St. Streator, IL at 2:00 PM. All members are urged to attend the meeting. Lunch will follow. Please RSVP by calling (815) 257-6142 (leave a message) by July 22nd.

Theresa Graves, Financial
Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 132 – WHIPPANY, BOONTON, NJ

Branch 132 will have its remaining meetings as follows: August 21, October 23, and December 29. After all of the meetings we will have an activity. Our May meeting will follow with a trip to a local college.

Please continue to read the Jednota for all the exciting things that are happening in contests and the updates on annuities and insurance. Contact Sue if you are planning on attending the District meeting. Looking forward to our next meeting.

Submitted by Josie Copp Salko,
Secretary

BRANCH 199 – HOSTETTER, PA

Mark your calendars to the upcoming activities: Attention: Young and Young at Heart Branch 199 members are encouraged to spend the day at Waldameer and WaterWorld Amusement Park, Erie, PA (Presque Isle State Park) on Saturday, August 13, 2022.

Members will meet for fun and fellowship, including lunch, at Pavilion Tunnel II beginning at noon. Discount tickets are available by calling Barb Patula at 724-423-4745. Check the website Waldameer.com for park details.

Attention: Branch 199 Golfers and Wanna-Be-Golfers

You are encouraged to attend the 2022 International Golf Tournament at

Treasure Lake Golf Resort, DuBois, PA, August 12-14, 2022.

Branch 199 members are asked to call Barb Patula at 724-423-4745 to confirm your attendance. Additional info is available in the newspaper and at fcsu.com/events.

Submitted by Barb Patula,
Branch 199 Secretary

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PA

WANTED: Bowling towels needed for: 1984 to 1992 and 2003

Branch 200 is making a wall hanger or quilt for the years we know members bowled in the JEDNOTA Tournaments. There are probably more years prior to 1984 our members bowled but unsure of the years. Please call Vicki Schaub, Branch 200's Financial Sec./Treas. @724-763-9229 or e-mail vschaub123@gmail.com .

All Branch meetings are held the 1st Thursday of every month except June and July at 7:00 p.m. - August 4th, Sept. 1st, Oct. 6th, Nomination of Officers Nov. 3rd, and Election of Officers Dec. 1st.

Submitted by Vicki Schaub

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OH

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 will hold their next meeting on Monday, September 19, 2022, at 7 P.M. IN-PERSON at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, Ohio. The format/formats of future Branch 228 meetings will be discussed at this important meeting. 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 will begin at 7 P.M. regardless of a virtual or in-person format.

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 19, 2022. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors.

Once again, I ask that our members plan to attend our meetings whenever possible. FCSU Executive Secretary Kenneth Arendt attends each of our meetings. In addition, our Region 6 Director, Thomas Ivanec is a frequent attendee. Their reports not only give us current information about the ongoing concern of our organization, they provide a relaxed forum to ask a particular question you may have. The FCSU would like to see the fraternal activities of all districts and branches increase. Attending our Branch 228 meetings can give you first-hand knowledge of items and events being discussed as well as an opportunity for personal input. The meetings are fun and help to promote comradery so give us a try!

Submitted by Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording
Secretary

BRANCH 260 – CAMPBELL, OHIO

On Wednesday, July 20th, 2022, branch 260 will hold a meeting at Donivito's Restaurant in Struthers, Ohio at 5:00pm. On the agenda will be discussion on the upcoming convention. Additional meeting dates are as follows: Thursday, October 20th, 2022 at Donivito's Restaurant @ 5:00pm. On the agenda will be the election of officers. Friday, December 9th, 2022 at Alberini's Restaurant for our annual Christmas celebration directly after the meeting. God Bless!

Submitted by Carlie M. Peshek, Vice
President

BRANCH 320 – BELLE VERNON, PA

Any Branch 320 member interested in celebrating the 99th Annual Slovak Day at Kennywood Park, on Thursday, July 21, please contact Frances at (724) 929-9788 by July 8.

A 'ticket stipend' will be available for Branch 320 members. Check your Jednota for details.

Submitted by Frances Tarquino,
Financial Secretary

BRANCH 367 – FAIRCHANCE, PA

Saint Joseph Lodge #367 of Fairchance, PA 15436 will hold a meeting on Friday July 8th, 2022, at Mountain View Café, 1618 Georges Fairchance Road, Smithfield, PA 15478 at 12:30 PM. A discussion of plans for attending the FCSU convention, and future projects. All members are invited to attend.

Please call Kathryn Baranek, Secretary at 724-569-1006 or Audrey Balazik, President at 724-438-3887. Have a safe and happy summer.

Submitted by Kathryn Baranek

BRANCH 372 – BEVERDALE, PA

On October 2, 2022, at 11 a.m., Branch 372 will hold a meeting at St. Joseph's Chapel in St. Joseph's Cemetery. The purpose of the meeting is to advertise and promote the FCSU. If you wish to contact me, the e-mail address is BORDERGAL46@yahoo.com.

Submitted by Ruth Ann Gerko

BRANCH 382 – SCRANTON, PA

Branch 382 K Plans Summer Picnic SS. Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382 K of Scranton, Pennsylvania, will hold its Second Summer Picnic on Saturday, August 13, 2022, from 11:30 A.M. to dusk. Branch members and guests will gather at the Pavilion on the grounds of the Holy Family Social and Welfare Club in Covington Township, Pennsylvania.

Branch members and guests will be able to socialize and enjoy the natural beauty of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The cost of the event for Branch members is \$10 per person. The price for a guest is \$15 per

person.

A "Chilled and Grilled" lunch will be served. Members and guests will enjoy beverages and snacks throughout the afternoon. A late-afternoon corn roast will end the day.

To make reservations, contact Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, Branch Vice President, at 570.344.3854. Messages can be left on Voice Mail.

Your check guarantees your reservation. Checks should be made payable to FCSU Branch 382 K and mailed to: Elizabeth M. Slovenkai, 505 Emmett Street, Scranton, PA 18505-1016.

The deadline for reservations is Saturday, August 6, 2022.

Submitted by Elizabeth M. Slovenkai,
Branch 382 Vice President

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The deadline for reservations is Saturday, August 6, 2022.

Submitted by Elizabeth M. Slovenkai,
Branch 382 Vice President

BRANCH 410 – UNIONTOWN, PA

The SS. Peter and Paul, Branch 410 will hold a meeting on Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 1:30 PM at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

On the agenda will be information regarding the FCSU's 52nd Quadrennial Convention which will be held in the Holiday Inn at Independence, Ohio from July 30 to August 2, 2022. Call for reservations by Monday, July 11, 2022 at 724-425-2576. All members are invited to attend.

Submitted by Geraldine Buchheit,
Secretary

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OH

St. John the Baptist, Branch 553 invites all members to take advantage of our fraternal activities. Mark your calendar for the following activities. Come visit your organization at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. We have many opportunities for you and your family to support your Branch of FCSU and to learn the advantages of being a member.

Aug. 3 Wed. All You Can Eat Spaghetti – served from 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Aug. 6 Sat. Slovak Fest 3 pm – Closing – Cover Charge \$15.00 includes all the food

You can eat and live band in the PM
Stuffed Cabbage, Haluski, Pierogi, Sausage,

continued on page 20

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 19

Hot Dogs, Cold Salads

Aug. 17 Wed. Monthly Mystery Dinner – Served 4:30 – 6:30 pm

MUST HAVE RESERVATIONS – CALL CLUB – 330-786-9972 AFTER 3 PM

ON TUESDAY Aug. 16

Aug. 27 Sat. Lake Erie Crushers Baseball Game – Opportunity for family fun. District 10

And Branch 553 offer this opportunity to attend the game and picnic with your family. The cost for adults is \$31.00 and Children \$26.00. District 10 and Branch 553 will cover \$20.00 for the adult ticket and \$20.00 for the child tickets. Members will pay \$11.00 for the adult tickets and \$6.00 for the child ticket. Call the Club by Saturday, August 13th to sign up to participate and make arrangements to forward your payment to the club. 330-786-9972 after 3 pm

Aug. 28 Sun. Breakfast Buffet – Served 9:00 – 11:45 pm \$10.00

Sept 3 Sat. Ohio State VS Notre Dame 7:30 pm

Open at 11:00 AM for College Games

Oct. 10 Sat. Casino Night (proceeds to go to our roof fund once again) – Support your

Branch by donating items for prizes at this event. We need gift cards, lottery tickets, theme baskets, etc. Call club at 330-786-9972 after 3pm if you have questions or wish to donate.

Fall Bowling Leagues will be forming, call 330-786-9972 after 3 pm to reserve your spot on your favorite Evening league. If interested in bowling on Thursday morning at 11:00 am on the Over 55 League, please call 330-706-0151 Linda Hanko to sign up or if you have questions. Hope to see you at one of these events.

Respectfully submitted by **Linda M Hanko**,
Financial Secretary

BRANCH 756 – OWOSSO, MICHIGAN

St. Joseph the Guardian, Branch 756, will hold a summer meeting on Sunday, August 21, 2022, at 10:45 am. The meeting will be held at Tim Horton's, 323 W. Main Street, Owosso, MI.

The agenda will include the Officers Reports and discussion of upcoming branch activities. All members are encouraged to attend.

Submitted by **Rita Gregoricka**,
Branch Secretary

BRANCH 853 – CHARLERIO, PA

Attention 853 members!

Any member interested in attending a summer Slovak heritage event, such as American Slovak Day at Kennywood Park, in West Mifflin, PA please contact the branch president at fcsbranch853@gmail.com for financial assistance for park entry.

Any Branch 853 member who is interested in attending Knoebels Amusement Park in Elysburg, PA, please contact the branch president at fcsbranch853@gmail.com for the location of where we are planning to meet at the event.

Any Branch member interested in attending the Washington County Agricultural Fair in Washington, PA on August 15, 2022, please contact the branch president at fcsbranch853@gmail.com for tickets.

Any Branch 853 member needing assistance with their policy, please contact the branch president. All members are urged to review their policy and update them when necessary for address changes, beneficiary changes or others so that the policy is up to date.

Submitted by **Monica Rodacy Boone**,
Branch 853 President

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

Additional branch news:

Branch 746 members are encouraged to attend Friday Holy Masses at 7:00pm (in Slovak) at Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ offered for the intention of all Branch 746 members living and deceased. Masses will be offered in 2022 as follows: June 10th, July 1st, August 5th, September 2nd, October 7th, November 4th, and December 2, 2022.

Jednota Branch 746 Scholarship deadline is

April 30th. If you are currently accepted and/or enrolled in full-time college, post-secondary educational institution, or vocational school and active in Branch 746 or want to become active, you may be eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship. For more information on the application criteria and requirements go to: <https://www.fcsu.com/membership-benefits/scholarships/>.

Activities: Branch 746 will also be organizing a trip to the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA to see King David on Saturday, September 10, 2022, at 11am. If you wish to obtain additional information, please reach out to Mary Ann.

Members are reminded that mass will be offered for the intention of Branch 746 members living and deceased on the following dates: June 10, July 1, August 5, Sept 2, Oct 7, Nov 4 and Dec 2. We encourage you to attend.

Submitted by **Mary Kapitan**, Secretary

BRANCH 853 – CHARLERIO, PA

Attention 853 members

Any member interested in attending a summer Slovak heritage event, such as American Slovak Day at Kennywood Park, in West Mifflin, PA or the Simply Slavic Festival Youngstown OH please contact the branch president at fcsbranch853@gmail.com for financial assistance for park entry.

Any Branch 853 member who is interested in attending either of the national picnics in Novelty, OH or Knoebels Amusement Park in Elysburg, PA, please contact the branch president at fcsbranch853@gmail.com for the location of where we are planning to meet at the event.

Any Branch member interested in attending the Washington County Agricultural Fair in Washington, PA on August 15, 2022, please contact the branch president at fcsbranch853@gmail.com for tickets.

Any Branch 853 member needing assistance with their policy, please contact the branch president. All members are urged to review their policy and update them when necessary for address changes, beneficiary changes or others so that

the policy is up to date.

Any Branch 853 member interested in submitting Bylaw changes/amendments to the Convention, please email your suggestions to FCSU Branch853@gmail.com by June 25, 2022 - so they can be submitted timely.

Submitted by **Monica Rodacy Boone**,
Branch 853 President

BRANCH 855K – CLEVELAND, OH

SATURDAY August 20, 2022 EVENT:

Attention Branch 855 Members: the Slovak Heritage Society in Cleveland Ohio is once again hosting a Pig Roast at the Slovak Sokol Campground in Broadview Hits, OH. See Pig Roast flyer in Jednota for details. Tickets are \$30 for an adult meal and \$5 for a kid's meal. All adult Branch 855 members who want to attend will receive a \$15.00 discount on their ticket. All Branch 855 members who qualify for the kids' meal will receive that free of charge. This does not apply to carry-out meals. Contact Stephanie Sutilla at fcsu855@gmail.com or 440-409-9405 with any questions.

SATURDAY August 27, 2022 EVENT:

Play Ball! Attention Branch 855 Members please join our FCSU members in District 10 for a fun evening of all-you-can-eat dining followed by great seats for minor league baseball with the Lake Erie Crushers in Avon, Ohio. See District 10 flyer in this issue of Jednota for more details.

All Branch 855 members can attend for free! All attendees must register in advance for this event. No discounted tickets provided at the door.

Contact Stephanie Sutilla at fcsu855@gmail.com or 440-409-9405 no later than August 8, 2022 for more information and to reserve your tickets.

Submitted by **Stephanie Sutilla**, Fraternal
Activities Coordinator

St Anne Prayer

Modlitba svätej Anny (Prayer of St. Anne)

Drahá svätá Anna, chválim Boha a ctím si Ťa za to, že si dostala milosť byť matkou Panny Márie a babou nášho Pána Ježiša Krista. Mnohí, ktorí Ťa prosili o pomoc, pocítili šťastné účinky tvojej dobroty a mocného príhovoru. Povzbudený touto myšlienkou Ťa pokorne prosím, ó, dobrá svätá Anna, vypočuj moju modlitbu a vybav mi moju prosbu.

(Potíchnu vyslov svoju prosbu.)

Ó, milujúca svätá Anna, ktorej srdce je vždy plné ľudského súcitu s tými, ktorí sa nachádzajú v ťažkostiach, bolestiach alebo úzkostiach, zľutuj sa nado mnou a udeľ mi svoju priazeň, ako si to urobila pre iných v toľkých úžasných prípadoch na väčšiu Božiu slávu. Pomôž mi, aby som poznal, miloval a nasledoval Ježiša tým, že budem starostlivým občanom a aktívnym členom jeho Cirkvi a dosiahnem nebo, aby som tam s tebou chválil Boha na veky vekov. Amen

Prayer of St. Anne

Dear Saint Anne, I praise God and honor you for having been given the grace to be the mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary and grandmother of our Lord Jesus Christ. Many who have implored your help have felt the happy effects of your goodness and powerful intercession. Encouraged by this thought, I humbly implore you, O good Saint Anne, to hear my prayer and obtain for me my request.

(Silently mention your petition.)

O loving Saint Anne, whose heart is ever full of human sympathy for those in trouble, pain or anxiety, have pity on me and grant me your favor as you have done for others in so many wonderful cases for the greater glory of God. Help me to know, love and follow Jesus by being a concerned citizen and an active member of His church and to reach heaven, there, to praise God with you forever and ever. Amen.

<https://www.minorbasilicastannebm.com/st-anne-pray-for-us>



Saint Anne with Virgin and Child Source: Wikipedia

Spomeň si, svätá Panna Mária - The Memorare, in English and Slovak

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Spomeň si, svätá Panna Mária, že nikdy nebolo počuť, žeby bol niekto opustený, kto sa utiekal pod tvoju ochranu, teba prosil o pomoc a žiadal o tvoje orodovanie.

Povzbudený touto dôverou aj ja sa utiekam k tebe, Matka, Panna panien; k tebe prichádzam, pred tebou stojím ako úbohý a kajúci hriešnik. Matka večného Slova, neodmietni moje slová, ale ma milostivo vypočuj a vyslyš. Amen



Spomeň si, svätá Panna Mária

Spomeň si, svätá Panna Mária, že nikdy nebolo počuť, žeby bol niekto opustený, kto sa utiekal pod tvoju ochranu, teba prosil o pomoc a žiadal o tvoje orodovanie. Povzbudený touto dôverou aj ja sa utiekam k tebe, Matka, Panna panien; k tebe prichádzam, pred tebou stojím ako úbohý a kajúci hriešnik. Matka večného Slova, neodmietni moje slová, ale ma milostivo vypočuj a vyslyš. Amen.

Fill out your Forms Online! Save your Time!

Now you can fill out the FCSU forms online at <https://www.fcsu.com/forms>

Fill them out, print, sign and

mail them to the Home Office.

Take advantage of our Faster, More Readable and Time Saving Feature.



DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT #1 - REVEREND MATTHEW JANKOLA DISTRICT BRIDGEPORT, CT

Submitted by Deborah M. Nelson, Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 2 - REV. JOHN J SPITKOVSKY DISTRICT

The Annual Meeting of the Rev. John J Spitkovsky District will be held on Sunday, October 2 at 2 PM at the Missionary Sisters of St Benedict. It is at 5900 West 147th Street in Oak Forest, IL. Fraternal Social begins at 1:30 PM. At this Meeting, we will have Election of Officers and will present highlights of the Convention. Dinner will be served after the Meeting. Make your reservation with Dorothy at (708) 995 7378 by September 24.

Bring a prize for the raffle. Bring your mask. Hand Sanitizers will be available.

Submitted by John Jurcenko, District 2 Presiden

DISTRICT 4 – MSGR. JOHN RURA, NEW JERSEY

Msgr. Rusa District 4 invites members to attend the annual Pilgrimage to the National Basilica in Washington , DC on Saturday, September 17, 2022. Holy Rosary recitation begins at 1:00 PM, followed by Holy Mass at 1:30 PM. District branches are strongly encouraged to attend. Please contact Steve Minarovich @908-507-0505 for details on partial reimbursement of travel expenses.

Submitted by Mary Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 11 – MSGR. JOSEPH TISO DISTRICT, PA

Note there is a date change for District 11 meeting in August:

August 21, 2022 -Meeting will be held at the CU Club, Ford City

November 6, 2022- Meeting will be held at Villa Blanca, 2740 Leechburg Rd. Lower Burrell, PA 15068- The November Annual meeting will include election of officers for the year 2023.

CORRECTION TO SEPTEMBER 25, 2022, PIG ROAST:

RSVPs are required by August 14, 2022.

The Pig Roast is from 1-6 pm, Jack Tady will play from 2-6 pm.

The Pig Roast is for District 11 Beneficial members and guests.

The 1st Annual Family Picnic will be held on September 25, 2022, at the Pony Farm Trap and Gun Club, 592 Pony Farm Rd. Kittanning, Pa. 16201. Pork, Hot dogs, corn on the cob, tableware, soft drinks, and water will be provided. Please bring a covered dish or dessert if attending. RSVP with a total headcount by August 14, 2022. Event is a BYOB.

Entertainment by well-known Jack Tady and the Tady Bears Polka Band. They have played at Branch 200 with a wonderful turnout. Fun was had by all whether dancing or just enjoying the music. Outdoors we will have cornhole, badminton and any other activity you would like to bring. Bingo will also be indoors when the band isn't performing.

RSVP to:

President Patrick Froncek patrickf007@yahoo.com 724-236-4226

Secretary Karen Greggs kgreggs39@gmail.com 724-372-0690

Treasurer Vicki Schaub vschaub123@gmail.com 724-763-9229

Submitted by Karen Greggs, Secretary, District 11

DISTRICT 14 YOUNGSTOWN OHIO - THE REV JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

Following are the currently Scheduled District Meetings for Calendar Year 2022:

1. Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.; Fireplace. (Convention Related Update)
2. Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.; Fireplace
3. Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. (Annual Meeting for Election and Installation of Officers for 2022); Fireplace
4. Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. (Short Meeting and Christmas Dinner); Location TBD

Appropriate social distancing and masking protocols will be followed as long as the Covid-19 issue remains. Dates and locations may change for the same reason. An Additional meeting might be scheduled if needed for convention or fraternal activities.

Meetings will be held at The Fireplace 2075 E. Western Reserve Rd. Poland, OH 44514; unless otherwise specified, indicated, or announced. Alternate location will be The Falcon Grille; 39 N. Canfield-Niles Rd., Austintown, OH 44515.

Sincerely,

John J. Leskovyansky, Jr., President

Home: (330) 549.3788

Cell: (330) 559.5981

DISTRICT 7 – REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT, PA

The Rev. John Martvon District, will hold its meeting on Sunday, October 23, 2022, at Hoss's Steak and Seafood, 1198 Wayne Ave., Indiana, PA, from 1:30 to 4:30 pm.

Branch 484 will be hosting this meeting. The election of district officers will take place, and we expect a very interesting discussion of this year's 52nd Quadrennial Convention. In addition to these, the Ukraine situation and many other important matters will need to be discussed. Please try to attend. Enjoy the summer and upcoming fall season.

Submitted by Monica Rura (724) 479-8181.

Summer Fun at Wiegand Park

On June 12, 2022, FCSU held its first National Picnic since Covid near Novelty, OH. All enjoyed a great time, and the food was super, especially the homemade halušky and potato salad. What else would one expect from a family Slovak-American roots that managed the park!

The event kicked off with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Thomas Nasta, the Jednota chaplain. Luckily, the weather was gorgeous despite our predictions for thunderstorms and hail. Father told us that he said a special prayer for favorable weather, and he obviously has the Lord's ear. We need to keep that good chaplain in our society!

All photos are by the editor, Dr. Michael Kopanic, Jr.



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

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.

Odpočinutie večné daj im, Pane, a svetlo večné, nech im sviati. Duše všetkých verných zomrelých, pre milosrdenstvo Božie, nech odpočívajú v pokoji. Amen
Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
001K	Michael Jakubisin	040K	Kay Warden	200K	Edward L Baynar Jr	553K	Margaret C Ditto
001K	Loretta Murphy	055K	Carol A Starecky	200K	Allen R Simmons	628K	John J Elash
002K	Liselotte Christine Marquardt	075K	Edward F Shamus	215K	Thomas Tutko	670K	Dennis M Feltz
002K	Edward J Spirko	085K	Vincent Cory Lamoreaux	228K	Thomas C Urbanek	733K	Irene Zawoysky
002K	Joseph F Meder	089K	Donald W Toth	228K	Andrew Zag	743K	Frank Kocis
002K	Mary Beck	153K	Thomas Ogarek	260K	Dorothy Alice Buranich	746K	James Markovic
005P	Joseph Sitar	157K	Thomas J Babyak Jr	266K	Edward Gaydos	746K	Robert J Haborak Sr
005P	John Pechal	157K	Thomas Joseph Galgon	292K	David D Single	746K	Michael Petrusky
019K	Richard J Grich	162K	Thomas F Elias	292K	Marcella Novotny	746K	Arlene M O'Gorman
019K	Frances M Samsel	162K	Patrick E Krokus	367K	Joseph Ludrosky	764K	George L Dubasik
019K	Evelyn L Tomala	166K	Jeanne Guidici	373K	John Michael Batcho	796K	Louise S Nederostek
023K	Veronica Martin	173K	William R Michaels	404K	Victor J Hiryak Jr	831K	Anna Brown
035K	Mary F Legin	181K	Joseph S Burik	404K	Betty B Lorince	855K	Kevin S Breen
038K	Marcy Cloherty	181K	Shari A Santella	410K	Deborah A Churilla	855K	Madonna McTaggart
038K	Joseph C Takacs	181K	Rita A D'Angelo	450K	Joseph Stephan Valencik	855K	Diane M Matuska
038K	Margaret A Christopher	199K	John Firment	484K	Edward A Horchar Sr	900K	Laura Lee Kenderes

* Processed in the month of June 2022

OBITUARIES

KEVIN S. BREEN, BRANCH 855 – CLEVELAND, OH

Kevin S. Breen, age 59 of Westlake, Ohio, passed away peacefully March 26, 2022, while surrounded by family. Kevin is survived in life by his devoted



parents Ken and Rose (Nee Humenik) Breen. Dear brother of Bonnie (James) Di-Marino, Fr. Ken, Margaret (Robert) Weitzel, John (Cathy), Rosemarie (Jeff) Anderson, Brian (Lisa), Callen, and Mark (Lisa). Cherished uncle of 24 nieces and nephews and 10 grand nieces and nephews.

The family received friends in celebration of Kevin's life at Humenik Funeral Chapel in Brook Park, 44142 on Wednesday March 30, 2022. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at St. Ladislav Parish in Westlake. Interment occurred at Holy Cross Cemetery.

Submitted by Rose Marie Breen

SUSAN E. (LYNCH) BUDAY, BRANCH 831 TARENTUM, PA

Susan Elizabeth (Lynch) Buday, 85, of Buffalo Township, passed away peacefully Monday, April 18, 2022, at Amber



Woods at Harmar Village. Sue was born on May 18, 1936, in Natrona Heights, to the late Dorothy (Robb) and Alvin Lynch Sr. She was the widow of Ronald A. Buday, who passed in 2004.

Sue attended Tarentum High School, where she met and married her sweetheart, Ron. They built their home in Buffalo Township and were lifelong residents there. They hosted many neighborhood block parties every summer, a tradition that has continued to live on the neighborhood today. Sue graduated from Allegheny Valley Hospital School of Nursing and was a registered

nurse at AVH for over 30 years.

After her retirement, she volunteered as a Red Coat at AVH in various departments. She was a faithful member of Guardian Angels Parish in Natrona Heights. Her hobbies included crocheting, walking, camping, boating, baking, card parties and reading. She prided herself in her family the most and that was her true love for life.

Sue is survived by her son, Dennis (Chris Ann) Buday, of River Forest; daughter, Dorene (Keith) Irlbacher, of Catawba Island, Ohio; two grandchildren, Marissa (Joe) Andrasy and Matthew (Jessie) McGuire; and seven great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother, Alvin (Mary Jane) Lynch Jr.; and her sister, Sandy (Bob) Natchie. In addition to her parents and husband, Sue was preceded in death by her daughter, Denise Buday-McGuire; her brother, David Lynch; and her stepmother, Evelyn Lynch.

Family and friends were received on April 21, 2022, at the REDMOND FUNERAL HOME INC., 524 High St. in Freeport. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Guardian Angels Parish in Natrona Heights on April 22, with Father John B. Lendvai officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Transitions Hospice, 200 Cedar Ridge Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15205, and/or Elms at Amber Woods, 715 Freeport Road, Cheswick, PA 15024. To send a condolence, visit www.redmondfuneralhomeinc.com.

Submitted by Dennis A. Buday

DOROTHY BURANICH, BRANCH 260 COITSVILLE, OH

Dorothy Buranich, age 97, received her angel wings on April 5, 2022. She passed peacefully at her home. Many of her close friends at Wooddale Apartments of Sun City, preceded her passing. After many falls at Wooddale, she moved her residency to her son's and daughter-in-laws home, in Glendale,



Arizona in 2019.

Dorothy was the seventh child of Michael and Mary Hovanec's eight children in Campbell Ohio. Born paternal twin, Dorothy was the last surviving sibling. This saddened her deeply. Dorothy attended the former St. Elizabeth's parochial School and Church in Campbell Ohio. She was honored to be the May Queen crowning the Virgin Mary's statue. Dorothy attended Campbell Memorial High School and graduated in 1942.

Dorothy met Louis J. Buranich Jr., at the Polish Dance Hall in Youngstown, Ohio. They wed in August 1947. Louis had just finished serving his country in the Navy, serving as the ship's cook in the South Pacific theater. Louis Jr., was the youngest son of (6) six siblings. Louis preceded Dorothy, passing in 2002, having celebrated 55 years of marriage.

Louis retired from the Youngstown Ohio Police Department as a sergeant, in 1983. Dorothy and Louis moved to Phoenix Arizona in 1983, to be with their two sons, Thomas (Marilyn) and Louis III (Vickie). Dorothy loved to bake Slovak Cookies and Koláče at Christmas and Easter seasons. She leaves five grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. Her soft touch and presence will be missed by all. She was a good listener and always made you feel comfortable knowing her.

Dorothy was proud to be a member of both the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Union (FCSLA) and the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU). Dorothy and Louis were members of St. Christine's Catholic Church in Youngstown Ohio. She has been a member of St. Clements of Rome Catholic Church in Sun City since 1983.

Submitted by Louis J. Buranich III

PETER NAGY, BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Peter Nagy, 91, passed away peacefully Monday morning, March 21, 2022 at his home after a long and fulfilling life.



Peter was born September 21, 1930, in Youngstown, a son of the late Peter and Zofie Batary Nagy and was a lifelong area resident. He proudly served in the United States Navy from 1947 to 1951.

Pete worked as a laborer at US Steel Ohio Works for 7 years and then began his 31-year career with the United States Postal Service as a clerk and retired in 1989. After his retirement, he enjoyed walking in Mill Creek Park every morning where he would greet others with a friendly "hi" or "hello". He was a member of the American Legion Post 301 and the Postal Clerks Union 443.

Pete was proud of his Hungarian Heritage and was raised as a member of the American Hungarian Reformed Church. For the past 40 years, however, he attended the 7 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Christine Church.

Mr. Nagy enjoyed reading the Bible and also enjoyed bowling. He received a longevity award for his many years of dedication to the sport. Pete will always be remembered as a man with admirable qualities, quick wit and his willingness to help others in need.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his daughter, Teresa Lord (Tim Sheppa) of Austintown; his grandson, Michael (Trisha) Lord of Columbia, SC., whom he had a special relationship with and always enjoyed being with. They especially enjoyed cooking Hungarian bacon over the fire. Pete also leaves three great grandchildren, Ayla, Alex, and Anoura Lord; several nieces and nephews including Susan Nagy of Virginia whose special steel mill artwork he admired and many extended family members.

His wife, Loretta Vidis Nagy, whom he married in 1953 passed away in 1985. A son, Peter J. Nagy, two brothers, Alex and Steve Nagy and a sister Sophie Takach also preceded Pete in death.

Family and friends paid their respects at Kinnick Funeral Home in Youngstown. Funeral services were on March 25, 2022 at the funeral home. Interment followed at Calvary Cemetery in Youngstown where Pete was laid to rest next to his wife.

Submitted by Teresa Lord

FRANCES M.

OBITUARIES

continued from page 22

SAMSEL, BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CT

Frances "Pookie" M. Samsel, age 63, of Stratford, passed away peacefully on April 27, 2022, after a courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease, in Lord Chamberlain Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, with her loving family by her side.



Frances was born on September 6, 1958, in Bridgeport and was the daughter of the late Joseph and Frances E. Samsel. She worked for SNET/AT&T after graduating college until her retirement in April 2013. Pookie's greatest passions were baking and spending time with her cherished family. Friday Night pizza gatherings were her favorite! And she especially enjoyed hosting her extended family on Christmas and Easter.

She also cherished our multiple Slovak and Polish holiday traditions. She was very devoted to her lifelong parish, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church in Bridgeport including holding leadership positions in the Sodality and Ladies Guild.

She is survived by her loving sister Kristine G. Samsel and Aurora Joaquim of Huntington, many beloved cousins, cousin in laws, nieces and nephews, godchildren, and aunts and uncles. She was predeceased by her parents Joseph and Frances E Samsel. Funeral services were held on May 3, 2022, at the Galello-Luchansky Funeral Home in Stratford and at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church in Bridgeport, where a Requiem Low Mass was celebrated by Rev. Canon Stein. Interment followed in Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

The family wishes to acknowledge and thank all her very special caregivers as well as her multiple care providers at the Institute of Neurodegenerative Disease in New Haven CT, Bridgeport Hospital, and Lord Chamberlain Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Stratford CT.

Submitted by Kristine G. Samsel

JOSEPH C. TAKACS, BRANCH 38 – WHITE OAK, PA

Joseph C. Takacs, of West Mifflin, passed away on April 2, 2022, at the age of 68. He was the son of the late Joseph and Mathilda (Olack) Takacs; special uncle to Bridget, Brent, and Bailee; also survived by cousins, Bob Lucas, Chuck Lucas, Mary Ann Rafalski, Jack Kapsar, Henry Mikula, Lois McManis, Bobby Olack, Sylvia Olack, Joan Kraft, Ann Marie Wargo, Kathy Smalstig, Donna Donaldson, Robert Horgos, Debbie Kwolek, Donald Prakup, and Gene Horgos.



Joe had been a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, where he was a member of the Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity. He was an equipment planner with UPMC.

Family and friends were received at the SAVOLSKIS-WASIK-GLENN FUNERAL HOME in Munhall, PA. A Funeral Mass

was held on April 7 at Resurrection Church of the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, West Mifflin. Interment followed at St. Elias Byzantine Catholic Cemetery, West Mifflin. In lieu of flowers, a memorial contribution may be made to a charity of your choice. Condolences may be left at www.swgfuneralhome.com.

Submitted by Kathleen Smalstig

EVELYN L. TOMALA BRANCH 19 BRIDGEPORT, CT

Evelyn L. Tomala, 98, passed away Monday, May 16, 2022, at her home. She was the beloved wife of 57 years of the late John (Bucky) J. Tomala.



Mrs. Tomala was born in Torrington, CT on November 18, 1923, daughter of the late Andrew and Mary (Sherpenski) Lazauski, and had been a lifelong area resident. She was a communicant of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, of Our Lady of Hope Parish, where she served her parish as a member of the Altar Society, Choir, and a CCD teacher. Mrs. Tomala often volunteered to work at local elections for the Town of Harwinton. She was a member of the Harwinton Senior Center, the Harwinton Sundowners, and enjoyed watching UConn Men's and Women's basketball. Evelyn will be remembered as a special mom who truly enjoyed caring for her family.

Survivors include a daughter, Gail Tomala and her husband, Peter Behuniak, of Glastonbury; a son, Michael Tomala and his wife, Kerry Sheehan-Tomala, of Harwinton; two grandchildren, Tabitha Tomala of NC, and Alex Behuniak of Glastonbury; and several nieces and nephews. Evelyn was predeceased by four brothers and two sisters.

The family would like to express their sincere thanks to Michele, Evelyn's caregiver of 15 years, for her continued love, support, and care.

Funeral services were held Friday, May 27, 2022, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Harwinton. Burial was private. Gleeson-Ryan Funeral Home, 258 Prospect St., Torrington, took care of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Our Lady of Hope Parish, P.O. Box 285, New Hartford, CT 06057, or Meals on Wheels NWCT, c/o 88 E. Albert St., Torrington, CT 06790, or Foothills VNA, 33 Union St., Winsted, CT 06098.

Submitted by Michael Tomala

IRENE VENGER ZAWOYSKY, BRANCH 733 – ALIQUIPPA, PA

Irene Venger Zawoysky, 92, of Crescent, passed away peacefully on Friday, May 27, 2022, with her loving family by her side. She was born April 13, 1930, in Czechoslovakia to the late Joseph and Barbara (Predajna) Venger. She grew up in Polomka, Czechoslovakia, and came to western PA when she was 19.



She learned English, got married and raised a family. Anyone who tasted her apple

strudel or lady locks, slept under her beautiful afghans, or viewed her multiple types of needlework knows what a great loss this is to the world. She lived her life for her family and friends, and will be greatly missed by her 3 children, Robert "Zeke" Zawoysky (Terri), Hopewell, Mary Zawoysky, Crescent, and George Zawoysky, Rochester, daughter-in-law, Terri Miller, Aliquippa; her 3 grandchildren, Matthew Zawoysky (Brooke), Charlotte, NC, Dayna Lewallen, Cincinnati, OH, Valerie Bloom (Craig), Monaca, PA; and 6 great grandchildren, Hayden and Teagan Zawoysky, Grant and Reese Lewallen, and Heath and Quinn Bloom.

Irene was predeceased by her parents, and her brother, Joseph Venger, and sister, Emily Hrablay. In lieu of flowers, please donate to St. Catherine's Parish of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus grouping (mshj.org) or the World Central Kitchen (wck.org). We thank the many doctors, physician assistants, Gallagher home health and hospice nurses, EMTs and Crescent Police who helped her through her last years.

Friends were received on May 31 at the John Syka Funeral Home in Ambridge, where prayers were offered, followed on June 1, by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Catherine Siena Parish of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus grouping in Crescent. Entombment followed at Mt. Olivet Cemetery Mausoleum.

Submitted by Mary Jane Zawoysky

JOSEPH S. BURIK, BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PA

Joseph S. Burik, 92, of Mt. Pleasant, PA, passed away Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at Excelsior Health Westmoreland Hospital, Greensburg, PA, surrounded by his family.



He was born March 9, 1930, in Hostetter, PA to the late Andrew and Anna (Butala) Burik. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife Mary E. (Lucotch) Burik; and an infant daughter Mary; He was the last surviving member of the Burik family. He is survived by five children Joseph J. Burik (Beth) of Greensburg, Lawrence J. Burik (Barbara) of Fullerton, CA, Chris Anne Taylor (David) of Greensburg, Dymphna M. Novak (David) of Greensburg, Caroline Walor (Thomas) of Mt. Pleasant; Nine grandchildren Jonathan Taylor (Sarah) of MD, Megan Lange of NY, Jacqueline

Zarnich (Nick) of Coraopolis, Natalie Gordon (Craig) of Greensburg, Bradley Walor (Shanna) of Greensburg, Emily Trent (Garrett) of Tyrone, Craig Walor of Erie, Victoria Roberts (Mike) of Eighty-Four, PA, and Jessica Yeager of Carlisle, PA; thirteen great-grandchildren Blake, Cash and Zuri Gordon, Cole and Emilia Taylor, Colton and Tucker Trent, Bentley, Theo and Oscar Zarnich, Asa Roberts, Braxton and Caden Walor; a brother-in-law Mike Lucotch (Audrey) of Greensburg; a sister-in-law, Rita Lucotch of Mt. Pleasant, as well as numerous nieces and nephews with whom he had a special bond.

He served his country as a member of the U.S. Air Force in Korea conflict receiving 2 bronze service stars. He retired with 38 years of service from PPG South Greensburg plant as a Maintenance Technician. He was a member of St. Florian Roman Catholic, United, PA; he was very active in all aspects of St. Florian Church and school; a life member of the Hecla Sportsmen's Club; member of the United Slovak Club; and the First Catholic Slovak Union Jednota Branch 181.

He had such a zest for life. His goal was to live to 100. His love of his family was of the greatest importance to him. He was involved with all his children, grandchildren, and great-grand children's lives. He kept his Slovak heritage alive by making his Easter basket food and getting it blessed and working with mom making halupki with his special canned tomatoes from his garden. He loved his garden and being outside. He enjoyed golf and watching it on TV. He took great pride being in the Air Force and loved airplanes. He instilled in his family and everyone he met a strong work ethic, the love of God and serving the church.

Rest In Peace Pappy Joe. You will be missed. We love you. Friends and family were received Sunday, April 24, 2022, at Jay A. Hoffer Funeral Home, 2245 Mt. Pleasant Road, Norvelt, PA 15674. A funeral Mass was celebrated on Monday, April 25, 2022, at St. Florian Roman Catholic with Rev. John Sedlak as celebrant. Burial was at Forty Martyrs Cemetery, United, PA. Military honors were rendered at graveside by the Armbrust Veterans Association. The family requests that memorial donations in Joseph's name be made to St. Florian Roman Catholic, P.O. Box 187, United, PA 15689, where the family plans to donate a lasting memorial in his name.

Submitted by Vicki Hricik

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 17

R	A	C	K		F	A	L	S	E		L	A	M	A		
S	P	U	N		D	W	E	L	L		U	P	O	N		
V	I	S	E		A	N	G	E	L		N	E	S	T		
P	A	P	E	R		I	O	U			P	A	R	S	E	
					S	I	G	N			T	B	A	R		
E	M	U			T	O	G			H	O	W		B	O	P
L	A	N	D	E	D					A	N	G	O	R	A	
I	N	D	O										E	M	I	R
T	S	E	T	S	E					S	O	M	B	E	R	
E	E	R			T	O	O			C	O	D		S	L	Y
					M	A	N	X		A	H	O	Y			
A	B	H	O	R		F	A	N		R	U	B	E	S		
B	A	I	T		T	O	X	I	C		M	E	A	N		
I	S	L	E		A	R	E	N	A		M	A	R	E		
T	E	L	L		U	D	D	E	R		Y	U	L	E		

FEATURES:

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- Premium never increases
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Deadline:
December 31, 2022

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



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

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