Dear Fellow Fraternal Members and Readers,

In September (September – pronounced “sep-tem-bear”), we look back at an eventful summer with many fraternal activities and our National Convention. In case you are not aware of it, our beloved president, Andrew Rajec, who has successfully guided the FCSU over the last 16 years, has decided to retire and withdrew his candidacy for a further term as president. We wish him a happy and healthy retirement and are grateful for all he has done for our fraternal, putting the society on a firm financial foundation, and his undaunting promotion of Slovak culture. In our monthly Reflection, Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SSC.M., mentions two feast days to the Blessed Virgin Mary (Pan-na Mária) and presents a translation of the hymn “Mária, Mária.” We should also remember that September 15th is the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, the patroness of Slovakia. Slovaks refer to the day as the Sviatok Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, the Feast of the Seven Sorrows of the Virgin Mary. In Slovakia, her feast day is a national holiday in Slovakia, a holy day of obligation, and most businesses are closed.

We also remember and pay tribute to Cardinal Jozef Tomko, the Slovak priest who spent a lifetime serving the Catholic Church, the missions, and his native Slovakia, which he loved so much. Most people have little idea of how important Cardinal Tomko was, as he rose higher than any Slovak ever did in the Vatican. He was the right-hand man of several popes, particularly St. Pope John Paul II, and headed the worldwide missions of the Church. He was held in such high esteem that three popes called on Cardinal Tomko to hear their confessions and give them ashes on Ash Wednesday, even though the Cardinal said he was unworthy of such an honor; he performed his duty. When he passed away at age 98, he was the oldest member of the College of Cardinals.

Jozef Rydlo presents a summary of some of his achievements which the mainline media even in Slovakia failed to highlight. His leadership proved pivotal in founding the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome. It started training priests during the dark days of communism, and published millions of books and religious literature which the totalitarian regime had prohibited. To this day, our chaplain Fr. Nasta continues the Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal to maintain the institution which Bishop Grutka of Gary, Indiana, had launched funding for in the 1960s.

Father Gerard (Martin) Gonda, O.S.B. of the Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland presents us with a timeline of the history of the Abbey, which is commemorating the 100th anniversary of its founding. In addition, Fr. Gregory Vaniscak, O.S.B., who in the 1920s organized the establishment of the Cleveland Benedictines and the high school which catered to the children of Slovak immigrants, is being honored by his hometown of Lemešany, which is creating a park that is named in his honor.

The September issue also features a host of photos which I took at the international fraternal golf tournament at Treasure Lake, near Dubois, PA. In addition, there are additional pictures from the National Bowling Tournament in May, the FCSU’s 2022 Convention and many branch picnics.

This month also my article, originally scheduled for August publication, on how one may take courses on learning to play the fujara and koncovka during summers at McDaniel College in Westminster, MD. Take advantage of such opportunities, as they are rare and precious.

Remember also to use the prayers in Slovak and English to help you learn the language.

In Memoriam: The Passing of Jozef Tomko

by Jozef Rydlo, Slovak historian, politician and university educator.

The current interest in the personality of Cardinal Jozef Tomko is understandable. Even less understandable is the apparent superficiality of the information reflected in both print and the electronic media. Various analysts, commentators and news reporters and their guests focus almost exclusively on the activities of Jozef Tomko only when he was a “cardinal”. They approach his activities only in the context of the Catholic Church at the international level. Of course, the activities of the Slovak Cardinal had a worldwide impact and we Slovaks are obviously continually feel a sense of pride that “one of us” has achieved such success in the world and lived to such a long life. In our national history, Jozef Tomko is the first Slovak to achieve such a high position in the world that he literally moved the destinies of millions of believers as papa rosso (the red pope). [Papa rosso refers to the cardinal who heads the Vatican’s Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. The term reflects the fact that cardinals wear scarlet robes and exerts his greatest influence in missionary countries. – Editor]
Reflection

On September 8, we celebrate the birthday of God’s mother, Mary. Then on September 12, we honor her holy name, Mary. Another special Marian feast is on September 24 when we honor her as Mother of Mercy.

For my name I prefer the Slovak form, Mária—beautiful in its simplicity, yet it resonates worldwide in various forms, combinations, cultures, countries, languages. How many have you encountered?

Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M.

Spievniček (Songbook) — Mária, Mária

Mária, Mária, nad stinko jasmieje,
Nad mesiac svetejšia—nad hviezdy
Krasnejšia,
O Mária! Meno tvoje četn—nech je
Osľušené,
Od nás pozdravené, O Mária!

Mária, Mária, pros Boha večného,
Otca, Syna Jeho, i Ducha Svätého,
O Mária! Buď pri nás v žalosti,
V potrebe, ukol, dla svojej milosti, O
Mária!

Mária, Mária, pros Ježíša Syna,
By nám naše vina večne nekôdliš, O Mária,
Vypros na výsosti, nad hriechom lutosti
Pralev skrušenost, o Mária!

[V roku 1853 mešťanosta Anton Krajčovič založil fundáciu pútnického miesta Topoľčany za účelom prehĺbenia úcty k Panne Márii prostredníctvom spevu mariánskej piesne. Každý deň pred ranným zvoncom sa podobná pieseň z veže farského kostola na oslavu nebeskej Matky spievala tato pieseň.

In 1853, the burgher Anton Krajčovič established the foundation of a pilgrimage site at Topoľčany in order to deepen reverence for the Virgin Mary through the singing of a Marian hymn. Every day before the morning bell rang, a song similar to this was sung from the tower of the parish church in praise of the Heavenly Mother. —Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., PhD., editor.

Translation

Maria—more brilliant than the sun,
—more radiant than the moon,
—your beauty dims the stars, O Maria!
Your sacred holy name,
—be honored and revered
—by all with joyful praise, O Maria!

Maria—please intercede with God,
—Our Father with His Son,
—Spirit, Trinity One, —O Maria!
Be with us when we grieve,
—our losses and our needs,
—with mercy give relief, O Maria!

Maria—ask Jesus your own Son,
—to pardon all we’ve done,
—with His most gracious love, O Maria!

The Sign of the Cross in Slovak (Znamenie kríža)

Prežehnanie - The Blessing - Znamenie kríža
V mene Otca, i Syna, i Ducha Svätého. Amen
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
You may listen to the fundamental prayers in Slovak at this website: www.tinyurl.com/3w-jyhn2z

Since early in the history of Christianity, the faithful have practiced making the sign of the cross. St. Basil the Great (c. 329-379) wrote that the first apostles themselves taught the sign of the cross. The very first references to the sign of the cross noted that it was a long-established custom and they encouraged believers to make it properly. It is a practice that commences most every Catholic religious ceremony and prayers.

The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows - Sviatok Sedembolestnej Panny Márie

The Church this month honors Our Mother of Sorrows, Patroness of the Slovak people. Devotion to the Sorrowful Mother of God dates from the 11th or 12th century, depending upon the source.

The feast started as a local observance of Our Lady of Compassion (from the Latin ‘to suffer with’) and eventually was placed on the Roman Missal in 1482. Pope Benedict XIII (1724-1730) in 1727 designated the Friday before Palm Sunday as the day for the feast’s observance.

Meanwhile, another feast honoring the Seven Sorrows of Mary was developing. By 1668, this feast was being celebrated on the Sunday after the Feast of the Holy Cross, continued on page 3

Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal Continues in September

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 August 30, the 2022 Appeal has received $27,093.87 from 195 donors. Among the 61 donations received from Catholic Slovak Fraternal Branches and Districts, Branch 3, Branch 19, Branch 35, Branch 40, Branch 45, Branch 85, Branch 112, Branch 153, Branch 162, Branch 173, Branch 213, Branch 320, Branch 450, Branch 746, Branch 853, District 17, and the Home Office of the First Catholic Slovak Union have donated a combined total of $2,450. Donations to date have also been received from 6 parishes, 32 clergy and religious, and 96 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.

continued on page 3
Homily September 18, 2022 –
Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

The passage this weekend is known as The Parable of the Dishonest Steward. A steward was responsible for the management of his master’s possessions. It seems that this steward squandered those possessions, rather than investing them to increase the value. He was serving two masters: his employer and himself. As usually happens with those who defraud, he was caught. The steward was told to prepare a full account of his work for the employer, for his service was about to come to an end. When the steward calls in the debtors, he reduced their debts. This act is not seen as cheating his master whom he had already made money on, nor is it an act of good will or charity. In addition to squandering his masters’ money his dishonesty may also have been the high amount of commission that he added to their debts. By removing the commission, he was preparing for his dismissal so that he would be well liked by the debtors, and hopefully would find work with one of them.

The first lesson is this; do not follow the example of the steward in his dishonesty. When it comes to your serving the Lord, we are to do so wholeheartedly and with total commitment. We cannot be both faithful stewards of the Lord, and self-serving. We cannot serve two masters, whether it be the Lord and some other individual, group or ourselves. We can only be faithful to one master, and for the Christian our Master is the Lord. Who is the Master whom we are serving? Is it the Lord, or have we allowed other people or things to dominate us in such a way that we have made them masters of our lives, thus straddling between the Lord and some other master.

The second lesson is do learn from the steward’s clever dealing with the debtors. In the midst of undoing his crooked ways he cleverly repays the debtors. Regardless of the motive, this took creativity. Jesus calls us to work at ways that will make us better stewards and draw others to him. This might move us from being comfortable and away from our daily routine, and lead us to new experiences of living God’s presence.

Finally, he tells us that if we can be trusted with small matters, then we can be trusted with larger ones. Sometimes it is better to start small to gain knowledge and confidence. For some this might be increasing daily prayer, for others volunteering, and still for others generosity towards the Lord’s work. Whatever it is, may we be faithful stewards of the Lord.

We live in an era in which we can become very devoted to, celebrities, collectables, or some other hobby or activity. We can be so devoted that we spare no expense in traveling to events, purchasing memorabilia, decorating our vehicles and homes with signs and banners, all to show our support for a particular interest. In doing this are we elevating these interests to a level in which we become so pre-occupied and committed that they take away time and resources that rightly should be given to the Lord? If we are guilty of this, are we not like the dishonest steward in the Gospel, squandering what truly belongs to the Lord? This is a question that is good for us to ponder.

Father Killian Loch, O.S.B.

Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows

continued from page 2

September 14. In 1814, the Seven Sorrows of Mary was officially inserted in the Roman calendar and in 1913, Saint Pius X (1903-1914) established September 15 as the feast day. For a number of years the Church had two days set aside to honor the Sorrowful Mother of God. This ended in 1969 when the church calendar underwent a reform. The feast of Our Lady of Compassion was suppressed.

People over the centuries have turned to Our Mother of Sorrows to intercede for them before her Son. Blessed Pius IX (1846-1878) in 1849 approved this prayer to the Sorrowful Mother.

Hail Mary, full of sorrows, the Crucified is with you; 
Tearful are you among women, 
and tearful is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. 
Holy Mary, Mother of the Crucified, Grant tears to us crucifiers of your Son, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Zdravas Mária, plná bolestí, Ukrižovaný je s tebou; máš láska k nám z mladého života, Ježiš. 
Svätá Mária, Matka Ukrižovaného, 
Ukrížovaný je s tebou, Ježiš. 
Ukrížovaný je s tebou, Ježiš. 
Amen.

(Translation into Slovak by Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.)

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

THINK ABOUT IT!

Dear Fellow Fraternal Members and Readers

continued from page 1

guage, something I started several months ago. As Jozef Rydlo wrote: “Noviny Jednota sú dnes posledným majákom Slovenskej Amenity, všetkých Amerických Slovákov.” (The Jednota newspaper is today the last beacon of Slovak America, of all American Slovaks).

In ending, I would invite readers to let me know any additional features in the newspaper. One member said she would like to see more recipes, for instance, so I invite you to send in how you make your favorite Slovak dishes. Sometimes each family did it a little differently.

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, s úprimným bratským pozdravom,

Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., editor (redaktor)
e-mail: editor@fcsu.com

“For God and Nation” (Za Boha a národ).

Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

continued from page 2

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, OH. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdovic, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harvey’s Lake, PA and Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, PA. Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Parish Vicar with Senior Priest status at Our Lady of Grace Church, Penndel, 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
Penndel, PA 19047-4052

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Ok
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
FRIDAY, JULY 15, 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  
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
Kevin Collins, National Vice President (teleconference)  
John Tokarsky, Treasurer (teleconference)  
Gregory Maurer, Chairman of Auditors (teleconference)  
(by invitation of the President)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE JUNE MEETING MINUTES:
The President presented the minutes of the June 11, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting.  A motion was made by Kenneth A. Arendt and seconded by Kevin Collins to accept the minutes as presented.  Motion carried.

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

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 Clutterbank 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 second 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 June for the Committee’s review and answered their questions.

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

Death Benefits & Accumulations $241,294.00  
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations $50,030.10  
Mature 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 led a review of our current annuity rates.  After further discussion, the Executive Committee decided that the rates will remain the same and be reviewed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

TREASURERS REPORT:
Treasurer John Tokarsky presented his monthly report to the Executive Committee.  Following the report, he answered the Committee’s questions.

SALES AND MARKETING:
Vice President Kevin Collins presented an extensive sales report to the Executive Committee.  Following the report, he answered the Committee’s questions.

SALES AND MARKETING:
The Vice President updated the Executive Committee on the status of the ad campaign for the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport and the Pittsburgh International Airport.  He will advise the Board when the campaign is finalized.  He is also working on radio ads for local radio stations in Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

The Vice President gave an update on the fraternal activities.  He stated that the International Golf Tournament will be held August 12-14, 2022 at Treasure Lake in Dubois, Pennsylvania.

MATCHING FUNDS:
The Executive Secretary 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.

OFFICE UPDATE:
The Executive Secretary stated that the Home Office finalizing all the details for our 52nd Quadrennial Convention in Independence, Ohio.  The hospitality rooms and committee rooms have been assigned.  The final delegate packet has been mailed out.  All voting will be done electronically.

The President asked Gregory Maurer for an update on the delegate certification.  Mr. Maurer stated that after further review a letter was mailed out to the branches who did not qualify and the steps they must take to be seated as delegates to the convention.

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 John Tokarsky to adjourn the meeting.  Motion carried.

The President closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec  
President  
Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary

Global Slovakia webinar on Slovak Folk Cuisine on Demand

To view the webinar, go to fcsu.com/events
**Statement as of June 30, 2022 of the FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & CANADA**

**ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Bonds</td>
<td>489,050,689</td>
<td>489,050,689</td>
<td>463,037,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Stocks:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Preferred stocks</td>
<td>2,450,000</td>
<td>2,450,000</td>
<td>2,106,577</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.2 Common stocks</td>
<td>2,178,608</td>
<td>2,178,608</td>
<td>2,106,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mortgage loans on real estate:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 First liens</td>
<td>32,114,809</td>
<td>32,114,809</td>
<td>28,193,816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Other than first liens</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Real estate:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Properties occupied by the company (less $ encumbrances)</td>
<td>482,944</td>
<td>482,944</td>
<td>492,761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Properties held for the production of income (less $ encumbrances)</td>
<td>300,375</td>
<td>320,038</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3 Properties held for sale (less $ encumbrances)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Cash ($) and short-term investments ($ )</td>
<td>15,253,729</td>
<td>15,253,729</td>
<td>15,945,623</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Contract loans (including $ premium notes)</td>
<td>1,174,617</td>
<td>1,174,617</td>
<td>1,182,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Derivatives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Other invested assets</td>
<td>8,200,099</td>
<td>8,200,099</td>
<td>9,650,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Receivables for securities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Securities lending reinvested collateral assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Aggregate write-ins for invested assets</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>550</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Subtotals, cash and invested assets (Lines 1 to 11)</td>
<td>553,006,420</td>
<td>553,006,870</td>
<td>525,178,395</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Title plants less $ charged off (for Title insurers only)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Investment income due and accrued</td>
<td>6,070,264</td>
<td>6,070,264</td>
<td>5,650,289</td>
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<td>15. Premiums and considerations:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.1 Uncollected premiums and agents' balances in the course of collection</td>
<td>81,868</td>
<td>81,868</td>
<td>108,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.2 Deferred premiums, agents' balances and installments booked but not yet due (including $ earned but unbilled premiums)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.3 Accrued retrospective premiums ($ contracts subject to redetermination ($ ))</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Reinsurance:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.1 Amounts recoverable from reinsurers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.2 Funds held by or deposited with reinsured companies</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.3 Other amounts receivable under reinsurance contracts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Amounts receivable relating to uninsured plans</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.1 Current federal and foreign income tax recoverable and interest thereon</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.2 Net deferred tax asset</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Guaranty funds receivable or on deposit</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Electronic data processing equipment and software</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Furniture and equipment, including health care delivery assets ($ )</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Receivables from parent, subsidiaries and affiliates</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Health care ($ ) and other amounts receivable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Aggregate write-ins for other than invested assets</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Total assets excluding Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts (Lines 12 to 25)</td>
<td>559,158,552</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>530,937,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. From Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Total (Lines 26 and 27)</td>
<td>559,158,552</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>530,937,088</td>
</tr>
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Statement of June 30, 2022 of the **FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA**

**LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<th>December 31 Prior Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Aggregate reserve for life contracts</td>
<td>$24,797,212</td>
<td>$25,771,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Aggregate reserve for accident and health contracts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Liability for deposit-type contracts (including $ Modco Reserve)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Contract claims:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Life</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Accident and health</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Policyholders' dividends/refunds to members</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Provision for policyholders' dividends, refunds to members and coupons payable in following year - estimated amounts:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1 Policyholders' dividends and refunds to members apportioned for payment (including $ Modco)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2 Policyholders' dividends and refunds to members not yet apportioned (including $ Modco)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3 Coupons and similar benefits (including $ Modco)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Amount provisionally held for deferred dividend policies not included in Line 6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts received in advance less $ discount; including $ accident and health premiums</td>
<td>43,416</td>
<td>44,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Contract liabilities not included elsewhere:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.1 Surrender values on canceled contracts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.2 Provision for experience rating refunds, including the liability of $ accident and health experience rating refunds of which $ is for medical loss ratio rebate per the Public Health Service Act</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.3 Other amounts payable on reinsurance, including $ Modco</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.4 Interest Maintenance Reserve</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.5 Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Commissions to agents due or accrued-life and annuity contracts</td>
<td>$64,661</td>
<td>$112,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and deposit-type contract funds</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Commissions and expense allowances payable on reinsurance assumed</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. General expenses due or accrued</td>
<td>$74,881</td>
<td>$71,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Transfers to Separate Accounts due or accrued (net) (including $ allowances recognized in reserves, net of reinsured allowances)</td>
<td>18,776</td>
<td>18,776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued, excluding federal income taxes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.1 Current federal and foreign income taxes, including $ on realized capital gains (losses)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.2 Net deferred tax liability</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Unearned investment income</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Amounts withheld or retained by reporting entity as agent or trustee</td>
<td>6,268,698</td>
<td>6,192,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Amounts held for agents' account, including $ Modco Reserve</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Remittances and items not allocated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Liability for benefits for employees and agents if not included above</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Borrowed money</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Dividends to stockholders declared and unpaid</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Miscellaneous liabilities:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.01 Asset valuation reserve</td>
<td>3,819,242</td>
<td>3,724,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.02 Reinsurance in unauthorized and certified ($ ) companies</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.03 Funds held under reinsurance treaties with unauthorized and certified ($ ) reinsurers</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.04 Payable to parent, subsidiaries and affiliates</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.05 Drafts outstanding</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.06 Liability for amounts held under uninsured plans</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.07 Funds held under coinsurance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.08 Derivatives</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.09 Payable for securities</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.10 Payable for securities lending</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.11 Capital notes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and interest thereon</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Aggregate write-ins for liabilities</td>
<td>1,463,032</td>
<td>1,314,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Total liabilities excluding Separate Accounts business (Lines 1 to 25)</td>
<td>511,870,099</td>
<td>484,279,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. From Separate Accounts Statement</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Total liabilities (Lines 26 and 27)</td>
<td>511,870,099</td>
<td>484,279,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Common capital stock</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Preferred capital stock</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. Aggregate write-ins for other than special surplus funds</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Surplus notes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Gross paid in and contributed surplus</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Aggregate write-ins for special surplus funds</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. Unassigned funds (surplus)</td>
<td>87,267,903</td>
<td>46,657,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. Less treasury stock, at cost:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.1 shares common (value included in Line 29 $ )</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.2 shares preferred (value included in Line 30 $ )</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. Surplus (Total Lines 31+32+33+34+35-36)</td>
<td>47,267,903</td>
<td>46,657,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. Totals of Lines 29, 30 and 37</td>
<td>47,267,903</td>
<td>46,657,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. Totals of Lines 28 and 38 (Page 2, Line 28, Col. 3)</td>
<td>559,158,002</td>
<td>533,937,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts</td>
<td>Current Year To Date</td>
<td>Prior Year To Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34,173,227</td>
<td>34,006,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Considerations for supplementary contracts with life contingencies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Net investment income</td>
<td>11,207,634</td>
<td>8,412,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR)</td>
<td>197,264</td>
<td>202,042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Separate Accounts net gain from operations excluding unrealized gains or losses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance ceded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Reserve adjustments on reinsurance ceded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Miscellaneous Income:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.1 Income from fees associated with investment management, administration and contract guarantees from Separate Accounts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2 Charges and fees for deposit-type contracts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3 Aggregate write-ins for miscellaneous income</td>
<td>18,353</td>
<td>71,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Totals (Lines 1 to 6.3)</td>
<td>45,686,476</td>
<td>62,693,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Death benefits</td>
<td>1,753,249</td>
<td>1,746,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Matured endowments (excluding guaranteed annual pure endowments)</td>
<td>11,660,385</td>
<td>8,978,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Annuity benefits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Disability benefits and benefits under accident and health contracts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Coupons, guaranteed annual pure endowments and similar benefits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Surrender benefits and withdrawals for life contracts</td>
<td>293,238</td>
<td>232,799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Group conversions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Interest and adjustments on contract or deposit-type contract funds</td>
<td>(63,490)</td>
<td>163,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Payments on supplementary contracts with life contingencies</td>
<td>72,094</td>
<td>71,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Increase in aggregate reserves for life and accident and health contracts</td>
<td>27,281,123</td>
<td>49,621,411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Totals (Lines 10 to 19)</td>
<td>40,924,506</td>
<td>60,764,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Commissions on premiums, annuity considerations, and deposit-type contract funds (direct business only)</td>
<td>6,848,799</td>
<td>1,090,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance assumed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. General insurance expenses and fraternal expenses</td>
<td>3,348,996</td>
<td>3,348,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Insurance taxes, licenses and fees, excluding federal income taxes</td>
<td>72,094</td>
<td>71,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Increase in loading on deferred and uncollected premiums</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Net transfers to or (from) Separate Accounts net of reinsurance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Aggregate write-ins for deductions</td>
<td>(418,743)</td>
<td>(443,237)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Totals (Lines 20 to 27)</td>
<td>43,556,476</td>
<td>63,467,069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Net gain from operations before dividends to policyholders and federal income taxes (Line 9 minus Line 28)</td>
<td>2,330,002</td>
<td>(773,972)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Dividends to policyholders and refunds to members</td>
<td>151,530</td>
<td>150,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. Net gain from operations after dividends to policyholders, refunds to members and before federal income taxes (Line 29 minus Line 30)</td>
<td>2,178,472</td>
<td>(924,526)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Federal and foreign income taxes incurred (excluding tax on capital gains)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Change in reserve on account of change in valuation basis, (increase) or decrease</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Net realized capital gains (losses) (excluding gains (losses) transferred to the IMR) less capital gains tax of $ transferred to the IMR</td>
<td>(109,928)</td>
<td>(144,412)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. Net income (Line 33 plus Line 34)</td>
<td>2,068,344</td>
<td>(1,068,938)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CAPITAL AND SURPLUS ACCOUNT

| 36. Capital and surplus, December 31, prior year                                  | 46,657,607          | 43,771,595         | 43,771,595                  |
| 37. Net income (Line 35)                                                         | 2,068,344           | (1,068,938)        | 2,880,203                   |
| 38. Change in net unrealized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of $  | (1,342,497)         | 763,669            | 629,675                     |
| 39. Change in net unrealized foreign exchange capital gain (loss)                 |                     |                    |                             |
| 40. Change in net deferred income tax                                             |                     |                    |                             |
| 41. Change in nonadmitted assets                                                 |                     |                    |                             |
| 42. Change in liability for reinsurance in unauthorized and certified companies  |                     |                    |                             |
| 43. Change in asset valuation reserve                                              | (95,034)            | (264,431)          | (623,887)                   |
| 44. Change in treasury stock                                                     |                     |                    |                             |
| 45. Surplus (contributed to) withdrawn from Separate Accounts during period       | 0                   |                    |                             |
| 46. Other changes in surplus in Separate Accounts Statement                       |                     |                    |                             |
| 47. Change in surplus notes                                                      |                     |                    |                             |
| 48. Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles                         |                     |                    |                             |
| 49. Capital changes:                                                             |                      |                    |                             |
| 50.1 Paid in                                                                    |                     |                    |                             |
| 50.2 Transferred from surplus (Stock Dividend)                                   |                     |                    |                             |
| 50.3 Transferred to surplus                                                      |                     |                    |                             |
| 51. Surplus adjustment:                                                          |                      |                    |                             |
| 51.1 Paid in                                                                    | 0                   |                    | 0                           |
| 51.2 Transferred to capital (Stock Dividend)                                     | 0                   |                    | 0                           |
| 51.3 Transferred from capital                                                     |                     |                    |                             |
| 51.4 Change in surplus as a result of reinsurance                                 |                     |                    |                             |
| 52. Dividends to stockholders                                                    | 0                   | 0                  | 21                          |
| 53. Aggregate write-ins for gains and losses in surplus                           | (717)               | (6)                | 21                          |
| 54. Net change in capital and surplus for the year (Lines 37 through 53)         | 630,396             | (569,706)          | 2,086,012                   |
| 55. Capital and surplus, as of statement date (Lines 36 + 54)                    | 47,287,903          | 45,201,889         | 45,637,607                  |
Branch 181 Held its Annual Family Picnic

The 125th Plus 2 Anniversary of the St. John the Baptist Society – Branch 181 of United, PA was celebrated at the Annual Family Picnic on Sunday, June 26, 2022.

The anniversary celebration was to be held in 2020 but had to be delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic mandates. We were blessed with a beautiful Sunday at Mammoth Park to reunite with our fraternal members and guests.

Bishop Larry J. Kulick of the Diocese of Greensburg and Protector of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) attended and led us in prayer before the start of the delicious picnic lunch.

FCSU Officers attending included Executive Secretary Ken Arendt, Vice President and Fraternal Activities Director Kevin Collins, General Counsel Gary Matta, Chairman of Auditors Greg Maurer, Regional Director (Region 4) James Marmol, and Regional Director (Region 2) Damian Nasta.

Lucky registered branch members won door prizes, and everyone enjoyed the festivities.

We look forward to gathering again in 2023!

Submitted by Vicki Hricik, Branch 181 Recording Secretary
Branch 181 Held its Annual Family Picnic

Members of Branch #199 gathered at Waldemere Park, Erie PA on Saturday, August 13, 2022. A great time was had by all in attendance.

Branch 199 Picnic Held at Waldemere Park
Branch 853 Achievements at the Washington, PA County Agricultural Fair

On August 15, 2022, six members of Branch 853 enjoyed the day at the Washington County Agricultural Fair in Washington, Pennsylvania. Member Michael Bertovich’s agriculture knowledge and insights enhanced the event. Ron Boone’s fly-fishing skills won First place Blue ribbons and prizes this year as well as in numerous past years. Marianne Rodacy’s perfections in painting and crafts continued her winning experiences. Susan Painter’s winning canned good entries secured her the Ball Preserving Award Ribbon. Monica Boone’s perfections in sewing prevailed for the 16th year in a row. Charles Boone’s talents earned him winning ribbons in both crafts and baking. Friend of the branch, John Argento, shared their happiness and everyone enjoyed a fun filled day. Congratulations and continued success to these Branch 853 members.

Submitted by Monica Boone

Branch 55 Members at the Jednota Picnic at Knoebels on June 25

Laurie Payne with Daughters Laura Lynne and Lilyanna at BBQ lunch

Above: President Andrew Rajec with Laura Lynne
Lilyanna Payne Zip lining down Camelback Mountain

Kurt Payne with Daughters Laura Lynne and Lilyanna

Mass at Picnic

F.C.S.U. donation to St. Mary Nativity R.C. Church in Uniontown, PA

Region IV Regional Director, James Marmol, presented the check to Pastor Father Anthony J. Klimko. Many members of Branch 162 are from St. Mary’s, which is a Slovak based church. The church is in the Diocese of Greensburg, PA and has the great fortune of having Bishop Larry J. Kulick as its spiritual leader. Both Father Klimko and Mr. Marmol wish to thank the First Catholic Slovak Union Board of Directors for their financial support to help make needed repairs and improvements to the church.

Submitted by Jim Marmol, Region IV, Regional Director

F.C.S.U. 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, doosan 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

Double Your Impact
With FCSU MATCHING FUNDS

For any questions, contact the Home Office at 800-533-6682 ext. 114 or fcsu@fcsu.com
Slovenská vláda je teraz v menšine a hrozí jej rozpad - The Slovak Government now is in a Minority and in Danger of Dissolution

Zostávajúci ministri za SaS podali demisiu.

Ministerka spravodlivosti Mária Kolíková, minister školstva Branislav Groehling a minister zahraničných vecí Ivan Korčok, líder SaS Richard Sulík, Justice Minister Maria Kolikova and Education Minister Branislav Groehling announcing the resignations of the SaS ministers in Bratislava on September 5, 2022 (photo by TASR)

Jednotá, Wednesday, September 14, 2022

translation了好整个文本

The Remaining SaS Ministers Have Resigned.

Bratislava, 5 September (TASR) - The remaining three ministers of the Slobooda and Solidarita (SaS) podali in Bratislava on Monday, September 5, 2022 at their press conference on the same day.

Justice Minister Maria Kolikova, Education Minister Branislav Groehling and Foreign Minister Ivan Korčok followed party leader and former Economy Minister Richard Sulik. The SaS leader noted that all SaS ministers have resigned since Monday.

"What Slovakia is experiencing under the leadership of Igor Matovic cannot be called anything other than a subversion," Sulik stressed and recalled the reasons for the SaS leaving the government. According to Sulik, the partners have had two months to arrange themselves and show that they care about their country. The SaS leader repeatedly criticized Finance Minister Matovic, mentioning his conflicts, incompetence, cooperation with fascists, violation of the legislative process and disruption of public finances.

Sulik went on to say that Prime Minister Eduard Heger (OLANO) was a hope for change, but he allowed himself to be bullied by Matovic, adding that after two years he was leaving a government in which he had done a good job. "We are leaving a lot of good work and we are proud of it," he stressed, adding that they were leaving for the opposition. "We will be a constructive, professional but also tough opposition," he noted.

Sulik rejects accusations that he is running away from responsibility. He would like to stay at the head of the ministry and continue his work. According to him, it would be enough if Matovic left and Sulik would return to finish the work he has been doing. As for further work in parliament, Sulik announced a meeting of the SaS parliamentary club for Tuesday (8 September). He will then report on his actions regarding individual laws, including the issue of shortening the electoral term.

Asked about the motion of no confidence in Matovic, he replied that they would discuss their actions. If such a motion emerges, they will personally vote in favor of it and will also try to convince his party colleagues. "It would be illogical if we were to leave the government because Igor Matovic is a member of it, and then we would not vote for his ouster," Sulik said.

Heger thanked the Czech Republic and Poland for Protecting Slovak Airspace

Praha/Varšava/Bratislava 28. augusta (TASR) - Slovenský premiér Eduard Heger (OLANO) podal demisiu. Čo sa deje v politickom vývoji v krajinách na východnom Slovensku v posledných mesiacoch?


Premier Eduard Heger (foto TASR)

Heger thanked Defense Minister Jaroslav Nad and his team for their work. "I look forward to their further work in the parliamentary committee," Sulik said.

Heger also thanked Defense Minister Jaroslav Nad and his team for their work. "I would like to see them continue their work. We are looking forward to their further actions. If such a motion emerges, we will personally vote in favor of it and will also try to convince our colleagues," Sulik said.

Asked about the motion of no confidence in Matovic in parliament, he replied that they would discuss their actions. If such a motion emerges, they will personally vote in favor of it and will also try to convince his party colleagues. "It would be illogical if we were to leave the government because Igor Matovic is a member of it, and then we would not vote for his ouster," Sulik said.

Heger thanked the Czech Republic and Poland for Protecting Slovak Airspace

Premier Eduard Heger thanked the Czech Republic and Poland for their commitment to protect the Slovak airspace up to the end of the crisis.

"With this step, they've confirmed that Slovakia has great friends in their neighbors, indeed, and a lot of support. At the time when Ukraine faces a brutal Russian invasion, it's important to have our skies secured. For that, they have my extensive gratitude," Heger posted on Facebook.

The agreement on the so-called air policing was put in ink by Defense Minister Jaroslav Nad, his Czech counterpart Jana Černčová and Polish minister Mariusz Błaszczak at the Malacky-Kuchyna air base on Saturday (August 27).

The first batch of F-16 fighter jets is slated to arrive in Slovakia in 2024, to replace Russian MiG-29s.

Cena elektriny na Slovensku opäť láme rekordy

Bratislava 16. augusta (TASR) - Zdražovanie elektrinej eнерgie pokračuje extrémne rýchlo. Na pražskej burze PXE sa v pondelok (15. 8.) elektrina podľa Predpriemsoľavosti sovis s dňa 15. augusta na 504 eur/megawatt hodín. V sezónnám smysle rekordom by mala byť elektrina v kolatečnom období.

Slovenský premiér Eduard Heger (OĽANO) sa poďakoval Česku a Poľsku za ochranu slovenského vzdušného priestoru do dodania stíhačiek F-16. Na sociálnej sieti v tejto súvislosti vyzdvihol vzájomné partnerské vzťahy, hovorí o silnom priateľstve.

"Pomoci s ochranou našich vzdušných časťov sa práve pod vedením Jara Naďa dostala naša MiG-29, radosť mi vynásobila preto v tom čase, keď Ukrajina čelí brutálnej ruskej invázii, je to pre nás osobitné, hovorí o silnom priateľstve."

Heger sa poďakoval Česku a Polsku za ochranu vzdušného priestoru

"With this step, they've confirmed that Slovakia has great friends in their neighbors, indeed, and a lot of support. At the time when Ukraine faces a brutal Russian invasion, it's important to have our skies secured. For that, they have my extensive gratitude," Heger posted on Facebook.

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The first batch of F-16 fighter jets is slated to arrive in Slovakia in 2024, to replace Russian MiG-29s.

The Price of Electricity in Slovakia is Again Rising

Bratislava, August 16 (TASR) - The price of electricity continues to rise extremely fast. On Monday (15 August), electricity for Slovakia for delivery next year was sold at 504 euros per megawatt-hour (MWh) on the Prague PXE exchange, having broken the psychological 400 euro/MWh threshold only on 1 August. A year ago, electricity was trading at a price of around EUR 70/MWh. Record prices were also recorded in Germany and Hungary, for example.

The price of the reference contract for electricity in Germany for delivery next year on the European energy exchange EEX was revised by 0.3 % to 475 euros/MWh. The price has doubled in the past two months alone.

Asked about the motion of no confidence in Matovic in parliament, he replied that they would discuss their actions. If such a motion emerges, they will personally vote in favor of it and will also try to convince his party colleagues. "It would be illogical if we were to leave the government because Igor Matovic is a member of it, and then we would not vote for his ouster," Sulik said.

The Price of Electricity in Slovakia is Again Rising

Breaking Records

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The price of the reference contract for electricity in Germany for delivery next year on the European energy exchange EEX was revised by 0.3 % to 475 euros/MWh. The price has doubled in the past two months alone. The reason for the rising price of electricity is concern over whether Europe will produce enough electricity during next winter, as countries in the region struggle with gas supply shortages caused by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. Another factor is France’s nuclear capacity outages, which will limit French electricity export options in the coming months, as well as high temperatures and drought on the continent. Natural gas prices in Europe also continued to rise.

The benchmark gas contract for August delivery on the Amsterdam exchange rose by as much as 3.9%.
Learning Slovak Culture at Common Ground on the Hill

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Editor

During July I had the opportunity to take classes at “Common Ground on the Hill,” a summer folk music and arts class — at McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland. The classes I took included Beginning Fujara and Koncovka, and another on Bohemian, Moravian, and Slovak Folk Music. In 2002, I had purchased a small fujara, but had never learned how to play it, so this was an opportunity to learn. It turned out to be a wonderful experience that expanded my knowledge of the fujara and Slovak/Moravian culture.

The courses were taught by Bob (Bohuslav) Rychlik, an emigre from Czechoslovakia, who came to the USA by escaping from the communist country in 1983 when his job was in danger for political reasons. After emigrating, he became interested in getting back to his roots as he found himself drifting away from his home country’s culture. After the 1989 revolution that overthrew communism, he rediscovered his heritage through folk music, particularly by playing the fujara. You may hear some background about Bob and the fujara at: TEDx Fujara and Freedom - https://youtu.be/rAvmk0247TI

Rychlik first came to him in 1999, when he revisited his homeland and received “an unexpected gift from a Slovak friend.” He wrote – “it changed my life!” He fell in love with the instrument’s rich sound which reminded him of his distant homeland.

Since then, Rychlik has become one of the premier players of the fujara outside of Slovakia, performing at numerous venues, including the Library of Congress and the Kennedy Center. He has also offered courses for 13 years to help others learn to play through McDaniel College’s summer educational programs in culture and the arts. The course in fujara playing is not available anywhere anywhere else in the USA, and it is open to beginners or advanced students.

Rychlik owns several fujaras, and lends them to students, who usually would not have their own. He works individually with each student to ensure they all learn at their own pace and provides handouts with music and simple songs to start out playing. For instance, we practiced first on basic songs like “Amazing Grace” and “Here Comes the Bride,” and he gave us the music to try some easy Slovak folk songs.

In the past, most of his students did not have a Slovak Heritage background, and in Rychlik’s words, “they learned to play and loved the instrument and we had together a very good time!”

The summer program of Common Ground on the Hill was only virtual, online for two years due to the covid virus, but in-person classes resumed this year while still offering some online. Being there is always better though. There are also folk concerts every day on the campus, and people jam together after the evening concerts or during the day. If you would like to find out more, go to the website: http://www.commongroundonthehill.org/index.html

The Fujara

The fujara is a large wind instrument which originated in central Slovakia as a sophisticated folk shepherd’s overtone flute. It has a unique design and is long, ranging from 5’3” to 6’6”. It can be tuned in A, G, or F and has three finger holes on the lower part of the main body. Its sound is quite unique and produced by blowing into a fipple, a mouthpiece which is blown through a thin channel cut through a block which pushes a stream of air to the larger hole at the end of the instrument. The air goes to the fipple through a smaller parallel pipe, called vzkolchvadlo in Slovak (meaning “air channel”). One plays the fujara in a standing position and it can be braced against either thigh, depending on one’s preference. It does take some time to get accustomed to finding the most comfortable position to hold it. Its distinct and striking sound has attracted the attention of music lovers worldwide. Appropriately in 2005, UNESCO added the fujara to its list of “The Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.”

The Koncovka

In addition to teaching how to play the fujara, Rychlik also offered instructions on how to play the koncovka and lends one to each of his students. The koncovka is a shorter duct-blown overtone fipple flute about a yard long. Like the fujara, Slovak shepherds also traditionally played this instrument while guarding their flocks. It has one finger hole, which one can cover, and one may also open and close the bottom hole of the koncovka to make unique sound. The koncovka plays two different harmonies of notes by opening or closing the end hole. In class, the instructor provided students with a koncovka to use and practice at in their dormitory rooms. It blends especially well with other folk instruments and added some spice to jam sessions, including some blues recordings which the instructor had recorded.

A Fujara Sample

To hear Bob Rychlik playing the fujara, one may visit the presentation which he made at the Library of Congress, which can be seen and heard on Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Y5fonktBzQ

Folk Songs of Bohemia, Moravia, and Slovakia

The other class I took involved learning and singing traditional folk songs of former Czechoslovakia. Most of the songs we learned were from Slovakia and Slovácko, i.e., Moravian Slovakia (Moravské Slovensko), a cultural area in southeast Czechia. Known for its wine, folk costumes, and traditions, the people speak an Eastern Moravian dialect which is mixture of the Slovak and Czech languages. Up to the 20th century, many ethnographers considered Moravian Slovaks as politically belonging to the Bohemian Crown, “but ethnographically and culturally to the Slovak ethnic group” (Wikipedia). Thus, the music reflects the rich mixture of Slovak and Moravian themes and language.

I found I knew some of the Slovak folk songs, but not all, and recognized the tunes of some but did not know the lyrics or title of the songs. Even some of the songs of the Slovácko region were familiar and are commonly sung in Slovakia. By providing words as well as musical scores, I could later also try these on the fujara. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the course, and we quickly learned to sing with gusto and enthusiasm.

Both courses proved well worth taking and I highly recommend that our readers consider looking into enrolling next summer when Common Ground on the Hill at McDaniel College will again offer such a rare opportunity to become enriched more in our Slovak as well as other folk cultures.
Sister M. Germaine Kalnash-Oros

Mary Kalnash-Oros was born in Eger, Slovakia on August 15, 1897, and after immigrating to the U. S. resided in Rant- shaw, PA. From earliest childhood she recalled the lesson that her parents taught her: love God above all things and your neighbor as yourself. They also had great reverence for the priesthood and religious life which they passed on to their daughter. When Mary was five or six, she complained to her mother that she couldn’t be a priest. Wisely her mother assured her she did not have to be a priest to serve God.

Mary learned from others what religious life was all about. For instance, during summer vacations Sister Antonia who was a student at Mount St. Mary’s where the young Sisters received their early training told her about life in formation. Later Mother Pius and Sister Augustine, who were among the first Sisters assigned to Shamokin when the mission opened in 1914, continued to encourage her. Mary felt she should not delay entering because she was getting older (all of 17). How delighted she was when on August 19, 1915, she was finally able to begin her religious training.

Experiencing her religious profession brought Sister Germaine great joy. For over fifty years she had the opportunity to prepare children for the reception of the sacraments. For eight of those years, Sister took care of the boys at Middletown. Sister was also a capable seamstress and was able to upholster furniture and sew draperies. Sister Germaine had two memories that were particularly significant. She remembers seeing Guglielmo Marconi leaving the Sacred Heart rectory after Father Joseph Murgus had given him his wireless broadcasting technology. She also recalls very vividly being within ten feet of Pope Paul VI when he visited New York City in 1964. Another memorable occasion occurred in 1976 when she participated in the Eucharistic Congress held in Philadelphia.

Sister Germaine was most grateful for all the achievements of the congregation during her 63 years as a member: “Everyone has worked together to provide what we share today.” She urged those following her in religious life to remember it is the Lord who calls them. “You have not chosen me, I have chosen you.” She continued with these words, “Prove your love by sacrifice, prayer, union with God.” Sister Germaine experienced the results of living out these words.

Sister Germaine died at age 86 on Saturday, October 25 at Maria Hall. Her funeral was celebrated on Tuesday, October 28 at Maria Hall with the chaplain, Msgr. Alphonse Mar- cincavage, as main celebrant. The concelebrants were Father Eckert, CSSP, Father Friel, OSFS, and Father Zan.

**Jednota Crossword Puzzle**

**Puzzle**

The work from home trend that exploded during the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way many companies now approach their workday, as well as the degree to which employees are engaged in their work.

A famous story of unknown origin tells of a philosopher who stood before his students holding a jar.

![Solution on next page](https://www.jednotanews.com/solutions/2022/09/14/jednota-crossword-solution-2022-09-14.png)

**Light One Candle**

Fr. Ed Dougherty, M.M., The Christophers’ Board of Directors

Serving God is Top Priority

The work from home trend that exploded during the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way many companies now approach their workday, as well as the degree to which employees are engaged in their work.

A famous story of unknown origin tells of a philosopher who stood before his students holding a jar, which he first filled with rocks. When the rocks reached the top of the jar, he asked his students if it was full. They said it was full, but then the philosopher started dropping small pebbles in amongst the rocks, shaking the jar so the pebbles would find their way into all the crevices, until the jar looked full again. Next, the philosopher took sand and poured it into the jar, and it found its way into even smaller crevices until everyone agreed that the jar was full.

Then, the philosopher said to his students, “This jar represents your life. The rocks are the most important things: family, friends, loved ones, and the values we hold dear. If everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles represent secondary things that matter to our wellbeing, like our work and the essentials that sustain us. And the sand is everything else. The small stuff.”

The philosopher concluded, “If you put the sand into the jar first, there is no room for the pebbles or the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you.”

This bit of wisdom has helped many people realize how to prioritize what matters most in their lives, and it is reminiscent of Christ’s words, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

These words of Christ found their way into the beliefs of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, who taught that serving God should be our first priority. The things of this world should only be utilized to achieve that end, and we should rid ourselves of the things of this world to the degree they detract from that goal.

These lessons create a great starting point for establishing priorities and creating our own routines in life. Start with the things that matter most, and you will be driven to achieve all you need to accomplish in your day. Prioritize prayer, and you will find inspiration to tackle the most challenging tasks. Make time for family, and you will find the fulfillment to sustain you throughout the rigors of the workday. Put first things first, and all things will follow. As Christ said, “Serve first for the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

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See Solution on Page 24
Brief interview with Madam Oleksandra Panchuk – Ukraine young mother and refugee in Slovakia

Q. 1. Could you please share some biographical information?

My name is Oleksandra Panchuk known in brief as Sasha and I am 31 years old. I am from Vinnytsya, a town in central Ukraine and I am married to Valentyn. We have one daughter, Anastasia and she is 7 years old. My profession is that of a nurse at the military airfield.

Q. 2. Could you please tell us what happened to you on February 24, 2022, when the Russian-Ukraine war started?

On the night of February 24, at 4:30 a.m., an emergency phone call woke me up. My niece called me from Kharkiv saying: “Sasha, we are being bombed! This is war.” On this day, I was on duty at the military airfield. In the morning when I went to work, a rocket fell nearby and there was an explosion. I fell on the floor ... Everything was like a nightmare to me. Sincerely, I feel incredible pride for our Ukrainian military soldiers who have the courage and strength to protect our land. On the other hand, it is very hard and painful to get to know that many of these soldiers are dying on the front in defending our country. Their children remain orphans, wives become widows, and mothers lose their sons.

Q. 3. Why did you decide to leave your country and family?

I had no option as I knew what was going to happen and I had to safeguard my daughter. My husband works in Africa, and I immediately contacted him asking for his counsel. He also agreed that I should leave Ukraine as soon as possible to safeguard our daughter Anastasia.

Q. 4. Had you ever been in Ukraine and could you find refuge in Slovakia?

My daughter and I took a bus from Vinnytsya to Warsaw and then a Ukrainian friend of mine from Warsaw arranged for us to travel to Slovakia where we found refuge and full support at the Capuchin Friars house and at the volunteer organization Ukrainian House in Slovakia.

Q. 5. How long have you been finding refuge in Slovakia?

We arrived in Slovakia on Wednesday, March 9, 2022, and we have been staying at the Capuchin Friars house for these last six months together with other Ukrainian families who are also hosted by the Capuchin Order.

Q. 6. How did you feel throughout this terrible experience?

Since I left Ukraine, I cried every night as I left behind my other family, friends, and my job. My life and my future are shattered and this is the reason why I will still cry sometimes.

Q. 7. How do you feel now that you found refuge in Slovakia?

I feel very safe with the Capuchins in Slovakia, and I am very grateful to the Capuchin Order and to the Slovak government. However, my heart is in Ukraine, and I want to go back home when this terrible war is over.

Q. 8. How do you feel for Ukrainian soldiers?

I work as a nurse with Ukrainian soldiers, and it breaks my heart knowing that they have to fight for our country. I already experienced the death of many Ukrainian soldiers back in 2014 and it is very painful for me, I feel really proud for our Ukrainian military soldiers who have the courage and strength to protect our land. On the other hand, it is very hard and painful to get to know that many of these soldiers are dying on the front in defending our country. Their children remain orphans, wives become widows, and mothers lose their sons.

Q. 9. Till now have you lost any family relative of yours in this war between Ukraine and Russia?

No, luckily, I lost nobody from my family. My husband’s parents were living in Kharkiv city and as they were both in more remote places, unfortunately, both my parents in Vinnytsya.

Q. 10. What are your feelings for the Russian soldiers?

I do not know how I would react, but I cannot feel love for them. Actually, I feel nothing. My mum was born in Russia, but my father is Ukrainian. My family cannot understand the feelings of Russian people about this war, but they are surely biased by the Russian media. My uncle lives in Russia and we are shocked by his feelings versus this war as he is also biased by the Russian media.

Q. 11. How would you react if you meet with Russian people?

At the beginning of the war, I was very angry with them, very...I understand that they received misinformation from the Russian media on this war. The longest I can stay with Russian people about this war, but they are surely biased by the Russian media. My uncle lives in Russia, but my father is Ukrainian. My family cannot understand the feelings of Russian people about this war, but they are surely biased by the Russian media.

Q. 12. What are you personal thoughts about this war in Ukraine and Russia?

I will frankly say that Russia will never change because history repeats itself. Our war with Russia has been ongoing since 2014 and I personally know many Ukrainian soldiers who died in service especially when trying to evacuate our country’s people. With a broken heart I say that now these dead soldiers left their children orphaned and wives widows. (While saying these words, Madam Oleksandra was shedding tears of despair)

Q. 13. May I ask you a personal question please? Do you believe in God?

Yes, I do believe in God.

Q. 14. So what is your personal prayer to God Almighty?

I confess that I pray to God every night, begging Him to save my country, our people, our children, our soldiers, and our future. I pray that humanity never makes such mistakes again.

Q. 15. Do you want to say to the countries who are offering lots of financial support to Ukraine?

I humbly call on the whole world to help us persevere in this difficult struggle for our existence. I know that there are many country people who perceive our misfortune as if it were theirs. I am highly grateful to everyone who cares for us and truly with everyone peace and tranquility.

Q. 16. Do you want to express any special thanksgivings at the end of this interview please?

I want to express special thanks to Slovakia and its caring people. Also special thanks to the Capuchin Friars house in Slovakia who take care of us as if we were their family relatives. MUCH OBLIGED!!!

Addendum:

Vinnitsya (Ukrainian: Вінниця), is a city in western Ukraine, located on the banks of the Southern Bug. It is the administrative centre of Vinnitsya Oblast and the largest city in the historic region of Podilia. Administratively, it is incorporated as a town of oblast significance. It also serves as an administrative centre of Vinnitsya Raion, one of the 6 districts of Vinnitsya Oblast, though it is not a part of the district. It has a population of 370,601 (2021 est.). The city’s roots date back to the Middle Ages. It was under Polish control for centuries until the Russian Empire annexed it in 1793. During the 1930s and early 1940s the city was the site of massacres, first during Stalin’s purges and then during the Holocaust in Ukraine and the Nazi occupation. A Cold War-era airbase was located near the city.

Kharkiv (Ukrainian: Харків), also known as Kharkov, is the second-largest city and municipality in Ukraine. It is located in the Kharkiv region, in the northeast of the country, it is the largest city of the historic Kharkivshchyna region. Kharkiv is the administrative centre of Kharkiv Oblast and of the surrounding Kharkiv Raion. The latest population was 1,433,886 (2021 est.). Kharkiv was founded in 1594 as Kharkiv fortress, and after these humble beginnings, it grew to be a major centre of industry, trade and Ukrainian culture in the Russian Empire. At the beginning of the 20th century, the city was predominantly Russian in population, but as industrial expansion drew in further labour from the distressed countryside, and as the Soviet regime moderated previous restrictions on Ukrainian cultural expression, by the eve of World War II the greater part of the population was officially identified as Ukrainian. From December 1919 to January 1934, Kharkiv was the first capital of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Kiev (Kyiv) is a major cultural, scientific, educational, transport and industrial centre of Ukraine, with numerous museums, theatres and libraries, including the Annunciation and Dormition Cathedrals, the Derzhprom building in Freedom Square, and the National University of Kiev. Industry plays a significant role in Kiev’s economy, specialised primarily in machinery and electronics. In March and April 2014, security forces and counter-demonstrators defeated efforts by Russian-backed separatists to seize control of the city and regional administration. Kiev was a major target of the Northeastern Ukraine offensive in Russia’s invasion of Ukraine that began in February 2022. In May, Russian forces were pressed back toward the international border, but the city remains under intermittent Russian fire.

Article written by Martin Azzopardi sdc, B.A. (Hons) Theol. & Human Studies, P.G.C.E., M.A. (Mellit.) Senior Teacher, St. Margaret College, Secondary School, Verdala, Cospicua, Malta and Deputy President of the M.A.S.C. Faculty of Theology, University of Malta
BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 1 – LAKEWOOD OHIO
The next meeting of the Saint Joseph Society will be held on November 20, 2022, at 1:00 pm. This will be our annual Christmas party and the election of officers meeting.

BRANCH 6 – STREAT, IL
The St. Stephen’s Society, Branch 06K, is having a fraternal gathering for its members on Sunday, October 2, 2022. Members will enjoy a comedy play, “GET SMART” at 2pm. At Engle Lake Theater, 1012 Co Lombus Rd., Streat, IL. The members attending will have their ticket paid for by the branch. Please contact Paul Chismar (815) 822-3282 if you plan to attend or have any other questions thank you.

Submitted by Paul Chismar, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 7 – HOUTZDALE, PA
The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society Branch 7 will hold a meeting on Sunday, November 27, 2022 at 3:00 A.M., at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 780 Railroad St., 52 Parish St., Ramey, PA 16671. Election of officers will take place. All members are invited to attend the meeting.

Submitted by Joseph C. Cervenak, President

BRANCH 23 – JOHNSTOWN, PA
Branch 23 will hold our 2nd Annual Branch meeting on Sunday, Oct. 9, 2022 at 1:30 P.M. Denny’s Family Restaurant is in Richland, Theater Drive. Come to hear about what took place at the 52nd Quadrennial Convention. Our delegates who attended the Convention will be glad to answer any questions you may have. This will be very interesting to hear about.

We will have Elections at this Branch meeting for Officers prior to our annual meeting, please note.

This is a reminder that the 7th Annual Johnstown Slavic Festival will take place at the Heritage Discovery Center in Cambria City on Sept. 16-17. This is a big event. This free event features some of the best Slavic food, entertainment, and beer. We will have our “Jednota Booth” to promote the FCSU. Branch 23 and District 7 have been setting up a booth each year. As a member, please consider volunteering to be with us representing FCSU.

Help us spread the Good News of our great faith to our local youth. A very good investment at this time!!!!. If you don’t know, where to put your money to make your meal, check out our Anniversary Rates!!!!

Please Come Join us. Be part of this cool, fun group of people. We welcome You!!!! Any questions please call Theresa Cassat at 814-254-2532.

Submitted by Theresa Cassat, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 38 – WHITE OAK, PA
Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38 will hold a branch meeting on Monday, September 19, 2022, at 7:00 pm. In addition to discussing information from the FCSU National Convention, Branch officers will be elected. Out of an abundance of caution and with concern for all of our members, this Branch 38 meeting will be held virtually. Any member interested in attending this meeting should contact Logan Hasselhoft, Branch President, by calling 412-956-9441. He will then email LHASELHOFF@gmail.com, to set up the virtual meeting invitation and details. All Branch 38 members are encouraged to attend. Thank you for your continued support of Branch 38.

Brandon Kowalski, Vice-President of Branch 38, Florence Matta, Secretary/Treasurer of Branch 38

Submitted by Logan Hasselhoft, President of Branch 38

BRANCH 45 – NEW YORK, NY
The St. Matthew the Evangelist Society, Branch 45, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 4, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. after the Slovak mass at St. John Nepomucene Church, 66th Street and 1st Avenue, New York City. On the agenda will be a financial report, officers reports, a report on last year’s activities, election of officers, and a discussion on events for the upcoming year. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Submitted by Maria Jurasa, Financial Secretary

ROČNÁ SCHÓDZA SV. MATÚŠA ČIŠLO 15KJSV

Predložila Maria Jurasa, finančná tajomníčka

BRANCH 60 – MCKEESPORT, PA
Branch 60 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, October 30, 2022, at the home of President Ann Wargovich (58 Lilmont Drive, Braddock). The meeting will begin at 11:30 AM. The agenda will include: installation of officers, discussion of the convention and charitable donations. Please call Dorothy at (708) 995 7378 before October 16 to reserve a place at the meeting.

Submitted by Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PA
The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its branch meeting on Sunday, September 25, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., at the Uniontown Country Club, 25 Bailey Lane, Uniontown, PA. Officers’ Reports will be given and branch activities will be discussed. The Donations Committee will make its recommendations, the results of the convention will be discussed, and Regional Director, James Marmol, will advise us of developments from the home office. Call Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983 before September 20th for reservations for you and your guest to attend the meeting.

Submitted by Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH 166 – BINGHAMTON, NY
Greetings Branch 166! It’s been a busy and fast Summer! Our Delegates attended the FCSU Quadrennial Convention in July August, a wonderful time was had by all! We will be having our Semi-Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 6, 2022, at 2 pm at Saint Cyril’s Parish Hall 148 Clinton Street Binghamton, New York we will be having an election of officers. We will also be celebrating our member’s Birthdays. Lunch will be provided for members in attendance at no cost. Please RSVP to Morgan Dendler (607)206-7243 by October 25, 2022 (To ensure we have enough food ordered). Your attendance is greatly appreciated!

Submitted by Judie Denderler, Secretary

BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PA
A meeting of The St. John the Baptist Society – Branch 181 will be held on 6 pm on Saturday, October 8, 2022 in Croatian Craft Pizza. It is located at 4433 State Route 30, Latrobe, PA 15650. RSVP is required to accommodate all members planning to attend. Please call Vicki (724-547-0803) or Darlene (724-728-9868) by October 1, 2022, to reserve a seat.

The meeting agenda will include upcoming activities and Election of Officers. Please note - To qualify as a delegate for an upcoming convention you must attend 1 meeting per year – every year prior to the convention which would be a total of 4 meetings over the 4 years. Also, to participate and be active in fraternal activities such as the branch picnic and the Villa, etc.

Submitted by Vicki Hricik, Branch 181 Recording Secretary

BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PA
BRANCH 200 – FORD CITY, PA WANT ED: Bowling towels needed for: 1984 to 1992 and 2003 Branch 200 is making a hole hanger or quit for the years we know members bowed in the JEDNOTA Tournaments. There are probably more years prior to 1984 our members bowed but unsure of the years. Please call Vicki Schaub, Branch 200’s Financial Sec./Treas. @724-783-9229 or e-mail vschaub123@gmail.com.

All Branch meetings are held the 1st Thursday of every month except June and August.

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

Submitted by Vicki Schaub

BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OH
The October 2022, Sacred Heart of Jesus Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 will hold their next meeting on Monday, September 19, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. IN-PERSON at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, OH. The October 2022 meeting of 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 Arrendt attends each of our meetings. In addition, our Regional Director, Thomas C. Frencic 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 continued on page 20
The FCSU, Slovak Catholic Sokol, and Greek Catholic Union held their annual International Golf Tournament at Treasure Lake on August 12-14, 2022. The weekend commenced with a “meet and greet” hospitality social at the Treasure Lake Lodge. On Saturday and Sunday, golfers played the 18-hole Gold and Silver courses.

On Saturday, the FCSU chaplain Rev. Thomas Nasta celebrated Holy Mass at an outdoor pavilion at the Silver Course. Afterwards, all enjoyed a scrumptious meal catered by Luigi’s Villa from DuBois.

A special thanks goes out to all the organizers and participants who made the event possible. Enjoy the photos taken by yours truly, the editor, Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, Jr.

**Treasure Lake Golf Results**

Congratulations for closest to the pins on Sunday go to:

**Silver Course:**
- Hole 4: Joe Weber
- Hole 12: Mike Nemcheck (FCSU)

**FCSU 2022 Prize Money:**

**“A” Flight**
- Michael Bolby, tied for 3rd Place: $105.00
- John Rosa, tied for 3rd Place: $105.00

**“B” Flight**
- Anthony Coval, tied for 7th Place: $60.00

**Callaway Flight**
- Jerry Hromada, tied for 4th Place: $90.00
- John E. Pastorek, Jr., tied for 4th Place: $90.00
- Terry Treskovitch, tied for 7th Place: $60.00
- Gary Matta, Tied for 10th Place: $50.00

**Senior Flight**
- Anthony Nastasi, 2nd Place: $150.00
- John Metarko, 6th Place: $80.00
- Martin P. Finklestine, Sr., 7th Place: $70.00

Thanks again! Kevin J. Collins, Vice President
Tournament at Treasure Lake, Dubois, PA

Group photo, Treasure Lake Gold Course, Sat Aug 13, 2022

Kevin Collins seeing off golfers at Gold Course

Fr. Nasta giving Holy Communion

Fr. Nasta sermon at Mass at Silver Course pavilion

Friday Hospitality at Treasure Lake, Damian Nasta, Nicole L. Nasta, Rev Thomas Nasta, Dr. Michael Kopanic, Kevin Collins, Ed Nasta

Gary Matta, General Counsel FCSU
Have a Great Round!

John Pastorek, Jr., Dr. Michael Kopanic, Jr., John D. Pastorek

Friday Hospitality Reception at Treasure Lake

Rusty Groner, Ed Nasta, Rev Thomas Nasta, Nicole Nasta, Damian Nasta

Derek Johnston, John Metarko, Scott Harr, Tim Quinn - FCSU Br. 670

Derek Johnston swinging away

Ryan Burfield teeing off

John Tokarsky showing his form

Treasure Lake Golf photographer and editor, Dr. Michael Kopanic, Jr.
## Women's Flight Summary

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18 Golfers

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20 Golfers

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24 Golfers

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18 Golfers

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20 Golfers

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

For applications, please contact:
Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc.
First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, Ohio 44131
Phone 1-800-533-6682 – Fax 216-642-4310
E-mail: fcsu@fcsu.com – Website: http://www.fcsu.com/membership-benefits/scholarships/

APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MIDNIGHT OCTOBER 31, 2022

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

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**JEDNOTA, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022**

**2022 International Golf Tournament**

**FCSU National Picnic,**
Saturday, June 24, 2022

Location: Frogbridge
7 Yellow Meeting House Rd.
Millstone Township, N.J. 08510

**2023 International Golf Tournament**

Dates: August 18-20, 2023
Location: Kensington Golf Club
4171 Westford Place, Canfield, Ohio 44406

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“Save the Date” for these 2023 Fraternal Events

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**International Bowling Tournament.**
Date: Friday-Saturday May 19-20, 2023
Location: AMF Airport Lanes
3754 Genesee Street
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

**FCSU National Picnic,**
Saturday, June 24, 2022

Location: Frogbridge
7 Yellow Meeting House Rd.
Millstone Township, N.J. 08510

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**Annual Picnic**

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**2023 International Golf Tournament**
Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Submitted by Mary Kapitan

BRANCH 312 – LATROBE, PA
On Sunday, October 23, 2022, Branch 312x will hold its semi-annual meeting at 1 pm in the home of Branch President Mark Smolack, 1211 Monastery Dr., Latrobe, PA 15656. For further info, phone 724-583-8326.

Submitted by Micki Smolleck, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 313 – CHICAGO, IL
Our 2nd Semi-Annual Branch Meeting for the 22 year, will be held on September 27th at 11:30 AM. The meeting will take place at, “Southfork Family Restaurant” at the location of, 14631 South LaGrange Road, Orland Park, Illinois 60462. Included in this meeting’s agenda will be discussion of this year’s F.C.S.U. Convention. We will conclude with Branch 313’s Election of Officers. A complimentary fraternal luncheon will follow the meeting. We kindly ask that those attending to please wear a face mask. Hand sanitizer will be available for use at the table. Members interested in attending this meeting, please contact Branch President, Marge Dickinson at 708-228-8157, by September 13th, to reserve a place at the meeting.

Submitted by Jennifer Carlton, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 372 – BEAVERDALE, 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
Saints Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382 KJ of Scranton, Pennsylvania, will conduct its Annual Fall Meeting on Sunday, November 20, 2022. Officers and members will gather at 12:30 PM, in the VFW, 110 Chestnut Street, Dunmore, Pa.

The agenda will include a report by the Branch delegates to the 2022 Quadrennial Convention of the FCSU as well as reports from the executive officers and the representatives to the District 17 meeting.

A report of the August 13 Branch Picnic will be presented. Members will also discuss future branch activities and the Annual Report for 2022. Information from the home office will be disseminated. Election of officers for 2022-23 will be held. Refreshments will be served. All members are urged to attend.

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

Submitted by Elizabeth M. Slovenkajr, Vice President

Branch 401 – EAST VANDERGRIFT, PA
St. Anthony of Padua, Branch 401 of East Vandergrift, PA, invites all branch members to attend the 2022 Semi-Annual Meeting which will be held at 4 pm on Sunday, October 23, 2022, at Flavio Restaurant, 212 N Warren Ave, Apollo, PA 15616. Members are encouraged to attend as we will be electing new officers for 2023 and your input is always welcome.

Submitted by Kathy Froncek, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NJ
Branch 746 encourages members to gather at the Washington, DC Pilgrimage at the National Basilica on Saturday, September 17, 2022. Rosary recitation begins at 11:00 followed by Mass at 1:30pm. District members who attend can contact Steve Minarovich at 908-507-0505 for travel reimbursement.

Submitted by Mary Kapitan

BRANCH 450 – CLEVELAND, OH
The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 450, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, November 19, 2022, at 11:00 AM.

The meeting will be held at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church Hall, West 54th Street, Parma, OH 44129.

On the agenda will be officers report, discussion of plans and activities for next year and our business pertaining to the branch. The election of branch officers will take place at this meeting. We encourage all of our members to attend.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Please look forward to seeing you at the meeting. For more information please call: (408)-865 -5702

Submitted by George Camny, President

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OH
Mark your calendars for up-coming events for Branch 553 members to be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. Contact the Club at 330-786-9972 after 3 pm.

All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinners – Served 3:40 pm to 7:00 pm; Adults $10.00, Children $8.00

October 8, 2022: Monthly Mystery Dinner – served 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm – Call Club for Reservations

Sept. 21, Oct. 19

Sunday Breakfast Buffet Served 9:00 am to 11:00 am; Cost is $8.00

Oct. 27, 2022: Casino Night – Saturday, October 15, 2022, at the Slovak J Club from 6pm-10pm. Praise Tickets $10.00 Day of the Event $15.00. Admission includes finger food and there will be a CASH Bar. Proceeds for the Roof Fund.

Nov. 6 – Sunday – Lodge Meeting 2 pm
This will be the last Lodge Meeting for 2022. The meeting will be held at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. This meeting is to elect new officers for the Branch for 2023. The meeting will start at 2 pm. If you wish to serve on the Board of Directors for the upcoming year you must submit a letter to the Nominating Committee, c/o of the Slovak J Club. Letter must be received by October 29, 2022. The letter should contain your intention to run for a position. You must name the position in your letter – President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary or Auditor (3 positions available).

Nov. 12 – 12 Club Banquet – details to be announced at a later date.

Please take advantage of these opportunities to support and serve you Branch 553. Hope to see you at these events.

Submitted by Linda M Hanko, Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OH
Our annual meeting for the election of officers is on Sunday, November 6, 2022, also at 5:00 pm. Both meetings will be at Café 422, South Avenue, Boardman, OH. On Veterans Day, Friday, November 11, 2022, our annual Mass for our deceased members will be at the Cathedral of Saint Columba, 159 West Rayen Avenue, Youngstown, OH at 12:30 pm.

Submitted by Jacquelyn Bobby, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OH
Our next regular meeting for Branch 682 is scheduled for November, 2022. Our next meeting will be held at St. Joseph the Guardia, Sunday, Oct. 2022, at Materials Research Laboratory, 290 N Bridge St, in Struthers, OH 44471. The meeting will include discussion of sponsored projects/programs for the remainder of the year.

Submitted by Drew Hirt

BRANCH 731 – YOUNGSTOWN, OH
Our annual meeting for the election of officers is on Sunday, November 6, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. at Café 422, 8586 South Avenue, Boardman, Ohio. On Veterans Day, Friday, November 11, 2022, our annual Mass for our deceased members will be at the Cathedral of Saint Columba, 159 West Rayen Avenue, Youngstown, OH at 12:30 pm.

Submitted by Jacquelyn Bobby, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NJ
The Slovak Heritage Festival will take place on Sunday, September 25, 2022, at the Meadowlands Farms (555 Cranbury Road, East Brunswick, NJ 08816). Greek Catholic Service/Mass is at 10:30am; cultural program and entertainment will follow. There will be exhibits and Slovak food. Admission is $15 for adults. Parking is free.

The annual Slovak Pilgrimage at the Marian Shrine in West Haverstraw, NY will take place on October 23, 2022.

An outdoor Slovak Mass will be celebrated at 11:30am. Priests will be available for confession before the mass. The day will conclude with the recitation of the Rosary along The Rosary Way. There will be light refreshments available for purchase. If interested, please register with Fr. Stefan Chanas at 212-754-4613 or Maria Bozeko at 347-812-1934. Cost is free for branch members.

Branch 746 is celebrating our centennial! You are cordially invited to join us as we commemorate 100 years as JEDNOT 746 encourages members to gather at the Washington, DC Pilgrimage at the National Basilica on September, 17, 2022. Rosary recitation begins at 1:00 pm, followed by Mass at 1:30pm. District members who attend can contact Steve Minarovich @ 908-507-0505 for travel reimbursement.

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 22, 2023. If you plan on attending, Agenda will include Election of Officers for 2023, as well as a re-cap of the Ohio Convention, and discussion of plans and activities for the next year.
DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 will be at 5900 West 147th Street in Oak Forest, IL. Fraternal Social begins at 1:30 PM. This meeting 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) 985-7378 by September 24.

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

Submitted by John Jurcenko, District 2 President

DISTRICT 4 - MSGR. RURA DISTRICT, NJ

District 4 and Branches 290 and 746 encourage members to gather at the Washington, DC Pilgrimage at the National Basilica on Saturday, September 17, 2022. Rosary recitation begins at 1:30 pm. Followed by Mass at 1:30pm. District members who attend can contact Steve Minervino at 908-507-0550 for travel reimbursement.

The next semi-annual meeting of the Msgr. Rura District of New Jersey will be held on Sunday, October 23, 2022, at 1:00 PM. Branch 290 will host the luncheon meeting at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Round Brook Road, Middletown, NJ 08846. Please RSVP to Steve at 908-507-0550 to attend if you plan on attending.

Agenda will include Election of Officers for 2023, as well as a recap of the Ohio Convention, and discussion of plans and activities for the next year. Please bring non-perishable food items for donation to a local food pantry. Lunch will be served after the meeting.

Submitted by Mary Kapitan, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 - PITTSBURGH, PA

The Pittsburgh District extends its congratulations to the following members elected to office at the national convention: Brad Matta, Region 5 Director, Joanne Fabbri, National Activities Director, Gary Matta, General Counsel, and Ray Lakso, Auditor. The have a few branches that have not yet paid their annual assessment to the national office. Please pay your assessments to Jo Austin at jeaustin89@gmail.com or call 315-789-3877.

Any questions regarding the meeting, please contact Jo Austin at jeaustin89@gmail.com or call 315-789-3877.

Submitted by Monica Rura (742) 478-8181.

DISTRICT 6 – THE REVEREND STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT, NY

District 6, the Reverend Stephen Furdek District, will hold its semiannual meeting on October 2, 2022. Mass will be held at 11:30AM at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, 4464 Main St, Egypt, Whitehall Township, PA, 18052.

Immediately following the Mass, a luncheon will be served, concluding with our annual meeting. The location for the luncheon/meeting will be held at the VFW Post 7293, 5209 Springdale Road, Whitehall, PA, 18052.

All branches are encouraged to attend this meeting. On the agenda: discussion of convention 2022 finances, and election of officers for 2023.

All delegate forms/credentials must be received by September 18, 2022. Must: $20 per person. Forms will be sent to each Branch Financial Secretary.

We will have a brief officer report and then the district presidents. Any branch can be called upon to report. Any branch can be called upon to report. Any branch can be called upon to report. Any branch can be called upon to report.

RSVP to: President Patrick Fronek pfroche007@yahoo.com 724-236-4246
Secretary Karen Greggs kgreggs39@gmail.com 724-372-0690
Treasurer Vicki Schaub vschaub123@gmail.com 724-763-9229

Submitted by John J. Leskowsky, Jr., President

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

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

- Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 6:00 P.M., Temple:

**Mr. Lion Roast**

**Dinner and Dancing**

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. (Annual Meeting for Election and Installation of Officers for 2022), Place: 1198 Wayne Ave., Indiana, PA, from 1:30 to 4:30 pm.

**DISTRICT 15 - PRINCE PRIBINA, LOS ANGELES, CA**

The Prince Pribina District will hold a semi-annual meeting on Saturday October 22, 2012. The meeting will be held at 11:00 AM at Slovak American Center, 1690 Placentia Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831. On the agenda will be: an update on Bylaw changes adopted by 52nd Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland on July 30 – August 2, 2022; a tribute to the deceased Fr. Aloysius Pestun, SDB; activities focused on the 35th anniversary of the founding of the District. The Pig Roast is for District 11 Beneficial members and guests.

Submitted by Paul Skubin, President of the Prince Pribina District

DISTRICT 11 - MSGR. JOSEPH TISO DISTRICT, PA

The November Annual meeting will include election of officers for the year 2023.

**CORRECTION TO SEPTEMBER 25, 2022, PIG ROAST:**

RSVPs were required by August 14, 2022.

The Pig Roast is from 1-6 pm, and 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 Tap and Gun Club, 592 Pony Farm Road, 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 22, 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 Fronek pfroche007@yahoo.com 724-236-4246
Secretary Karen Greggs kgreggs39@gmail.com 724-372-0690
Treasurer Vicki Schaub vschaub123@gmail.com 724-763-9229

Submitted by John J. Leskowsky, Jr., President
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.

Odpúšťuňte večné daj in, Pane, a svetlo večné, nech in svetli. Duše všetkých verných zomrelých, pre milosrdenstvo Božie, nech odpúšťuňtv 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.

JOSEPH J. YUROS, BRANCH 35 - BRADDOCK, PA

Joseph J. Yusko, age 96 of Forest Hills, PA, passed away on July 28, 2022. Joe was born August 18, 1925, in Pottstown, PA to Joseph and Anna (Krupa) Yusko. He was the brother of Stanley (late Helen R Domurat) Yusko, died peacefully on September 6, 2022, in Apollo; and Janet (Pete) Sullivan of Forest Hills, PA. He was the treasured grandfather of Maribeth (Michael) Colbaugh of Level Green, PA; Patricia (Joseph) Wojnar of Greensburg, PA; and the dear great-grandfather of Allyson and (Chrissy) Wojnar and Eric Wojnar; Lindsay (Jason) Perry and Patrick Sullivan. Joe was the great-grandfather of Alyson and Beckett Perry, Sophia and Caleb Vecchio, and Thomas Wojnar.

After arriving in Pittsburgh, Joe began employment with the H.J. Heinz Co., where he worked for nearly 39 years until his retirement in 1967. Throughout his life, Joe was dedicated to giving back and serving others. He was a 66-year member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Council of Pittsburgh, a non-profit organization that serves more than 100,000 individuals in need each year. On October 17, 2021, Joe was presented a non-profit organization that serves more than 100,000 individuals in need each year. On October 17, 2021, Joe was presented with a Citation upon the celebration of his 95th birthday. The Citation mentions his dedicated employment with Heinz, his volunteer efforts with Heinz retirees, devoted service to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and his delivering of meals with the Meals-on-Wheels program in Forest Hills. Joe was also the past treasurer of the Forest Hills chapter of AARP.

The First Catholic Slovak Union was a significant part of Joe’s life. His father originally joined the FCSU in 1908, leading the Yusko family to over 110 years and counting of continuous membership in the Society. Joe’s parents were officers of the former Senior Branch 126 in Pottstown, PA from the 1940’s to 1960’s. After moving to the Pittsburgh area, Joe joined Branch 35 in Braddock, PA, where he served for nearly 60 years as the Financial Secretary and Treasurer of the branch. Joe also served as the Financial Secretary and Treasurer of the Pittsburgh District for many years and, in 2016, received a Distinguished Service Award from the branch under his “retirement.” Joe was an active member of the former Jednota Bowling League, having participated in many bowling tournaments and serving as the treasurer of the league. Additionally, during the 1980’s and 1990’s, Joe served as a National Officer through several consecutive terms on the Supreme Court of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Joe was dedicated to his Catholic faith. He was an active member of St. Maurice Church (now part of St. Joseph Worker Parish) and was a friend to many, especially the Vincentians at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, PA and the Marianists at the University of Dayton in Dayton, OH. In his spare time, Joe enjoyed gardening, music, and all sports—especially baseball and the Pittsburgh Pirates. He was also known among his family and friends for his sense of humor, always with a joke to tell. Family and friends were received at the Jerry Jaroslav Krupa, 65, of Middlesex, FL, passed away on Sunday, August 7, 2022. Jerry was born in Valašská Bela, Slovakia, on February 5, 1957, and had 5 brothers and sisters. He lived a long and in-
In Memoriam
Rev. Aloysius Preston, SDB, 1928-2022

Beloved Father Aloysius J. Pestun, SDB, +94, on this date, July 22, 2022, joined our Risen Lord in eternal life, was born on Slovakia on October 28, 1928, in the town of Šulekovo, Slovakia. He graduated from Tarentum High School in 1946 and then attended the University of Pittsburgh. He was a member of the First Slovak Catholic Union (FCSU) as a machinist. He was a press photographer for the Valley News. In addition to the FCSU, he also belonged to the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. He was a former member of the Holy Name Society.

Marty and his family enjoyed their family hobby, photographing weddings. He will be fondly missed and lovingly remembered.

Marty leaves behind to cherish his memory his loving wife of 62 years, and his prima-

care giver, Nancy Ann Heinick Martonik who he married on August 22, 1959, their daughter, Maria A. (Paul) Worst of Butler; his grandchildren, John (Bethany) Worst, Christopher (Becca) Worst, Kimberly (Eric) Lawrence, and Julie Worst; his great grand-

criminal; Lucas and Lily Worst, Clara Worst, Stetson, Colton, and Scarlett Lawrence; his brother in law, Jake Ross; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Marty was preceded in death by his sisters, Agnes Santalarici and Patricia Ross.

Friends were received at the Boylan Fu-

eral Home, Renfrew, PA 16053. A Mass of Christian Burial was officiated by the Rev. Fr. Dan Waruszewski. Marty was laid to rest at Butler County Memorial Park in Butler.

The family would like to express their appreciation to April Moore, Marty’s Health Aide for her care and compassion during Marty’s illness.

Submitted by Nancy A. Martonik

IN MEMORIAM
Abbey Founder Honored in Slovakia

It is certainly true that every Benedictine monastery and educational institution has an international character because the Benedictine order is over 1500 years old and is located in every corner of the globe. However, St. Andrew Abbey has a unique connection over the ocean and in the little town of Lemešany in the Prešov region of eastern Slovakia.

It was in this picturesque town that John Vaniscak was born July 24, 1884. While tending sheep as a boy, he dreamed about becoming a “shepherd of souls” in the future as a priest. God’s providence would help him to cross the ocean and join his uncle in Johnstown, Pennsylvania around the turn of the century. There he met several American-Slovak priests who helped him to enroll at St. Procopius College in Lisle, Illinois. The rest is history as it has been related in the last three issues of “Ora et Labora.” John became “Fr. Gregory” and is considered the primary founder of St. Andrew Abbey.

In July of 2020, Fr. Peter Lazor, the pastor of the parish of St. Martin in Lemešany wrote to St. Andrew Abbey explaining that the parish recently built a new church and rectory, and the town is creating a park that would be named in honor of Fr. Gregory Vaniscak, OSB, their native son. He asked for photographs of Fr. Gregory from which a bust could be commissioned for the park.

Fr. Michael and Fr. Gerard sent Fr. Lazor a number of articles in Slovak and in English about Fr. Gregory as well as a number of photos. They included photos of the famous bronze bust of Fr. Gregory that was created for St. Andrew Abbey by the noted immigrant Italian artist Ugo Graziotti in 1949. It now stands outside the Advancement Office at the abbey.

Despite delays due to the COVID closures, the bust and the park were completed and dedicated by Archbishop Bernard Bober of Košice, Slovakia on July 2, 2022. He also dedicated the new church and blessed the new rectory. However, Fr. Lazor went even further in honoring Fr. Gregory by publishing a beautiful booklet of his life and accomplishments complete with photos of the current Benedictine campus in Cleveland as well as historical photos. Funds generated by the sale of the booklet will be used to help renovate the old historical church in the village.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of this booklet should contact Fr. Lazor by e-mail at: farnostlemesany@gmail.com. The booklet is 20 pages long and is in Slovak.

In Memoriam Rev. Aloysius Preston, SDB, 1928-2022

continued from page 23

Father Pestun had planned to travel to the September 2022 beatification of Salesian Father Titus Zeman. Read about Fr. Pestun's escape from communism at this website: https://tinyurl.com/384y78d3.

Fr. Pestun was ordained priest on June 13, 1959, which is also the Feast of St. Anthony of Padua.

“Fr. Al” SDB, as everybody knew him, served since time immemorial, as a Salesian priest. As associate pastor and a popular confessor, he spent a short time at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in San Francisco before retiring. In the year 2009, Fr. Al Pestun SDB, celebrated 50 year jubilee of his priesthood and after retirement moved to Salesian community of Corpus Christi in San Francisco.

The Salesian community of Corpus Christi gathered at the San Francisco General Hospital with Fr. Al and his niece and nephew prayed together and gave their farewell as the medical staff turned off the extraordinary machines.

“Fr. Al’s loving-kindness towards everyone and his faithfulness towards his priestly duties, will continue to be a lasting example of what it means to love God and neighbor until the last breath. Fr. Al will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace” – Nech odpočívaj v pokoji (Rev. Thomas Anthony Thodukulam, SDB).

Submitted by Paul Skuben, edits and additions by Michael Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 13
In Memoriam : The Passing of Jozef Tomko

In the fall of 2022, the Slovak Church lost one of its most influential leaders with the passing of Jozef Tomko, a priest who dedicated his life to the service of the Slovak people. Tomko was born on January 17, 1924, in Žiar nad Hronom, Slovakia. He was ordained a priest on July 23, 1950, and continued his studies at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he earned his doctorate in canon law. Tomko was known for his commitment to the Slovak cause and his efforts to promote Slovak culture and language.

Tomko served as a priest in various parishes in Slovakia and later in the United States, where he was deeply involved in the Slovak community. He was a founding member of the Slovak Institute of Saints Cyril and Methodius, an academic institution of Slovak cultural, especially scientific, workers, and that he was one of its first full members and was at the cradle of the annual academic journal Slovak Studies, which is still published today, almost half a century later.

Tomko was a tireless advocate for the Slovak language and its rightful place in the national consciousness of the Slovaks. He believed that the Christian worldview was a source of strength and identity for the Slovak people, and he worked tirelessly to promote it through his writing and teaching.

In his memorial service on September 23, 2022, at Holy Family Church in Linden, New Jersey, members of the Slovak community gathered to remember this holy man and the miracles performed at his hands. St. Pio of Pietrelcina, who is the namesake of the St. Pio Assisi Parish in Linden, offered a eucharistic blessing to those in attendance, and the stained-glass cost is $45 and the suncatcher is $10 for the afternoon for branch members.

Submitted by Monica Boone
Benedictine Monks Celebrate 100 years in Cleveland

The Benedictine Monks of Saint Andrew Abbey have been celebrating their Centennial in the Diocese of Cleveland all this year. The first Benedictine monk to arrive in Cleveland was Fr. (later Abbot) Stanislaus Gmuca, OSB who came from St. Procopius Abbey in Lisle, Illinois on February 5, 1922.

The major Centennial celebration will be on Sunday, September 18, 2022. Bishop Edward Malesic of Cleveland will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 3:00 PM in the Church of the Assumption, 1832 Broadway Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio. Homilist will be Bishop Roger Gries, OSB, fourth abbot of Saint Andrew Abbey and retired auxiliary bishop of Cleveland. After the Mass, there will be a reception and gala banquet at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Rockside Road in Independence, Ohio.

Here is a timeline of the events that brought the Slovak Benedictine monks to Cleveland:

1904 ……….The first Slovak-American student, John Vaniscak of Johnstown, Pennsylvania enrolls at St. Procopius High School in Lisle, Illinois. It was a high school (and college) founded for Czech-American boys by the Czech Benedictine Monks of St. Procopius Abbey (outside of Chicago). Francis Gmuca would be the second Slovak-American student in 1907.

1911 …………The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Its purpose was to establish bonds between the various Slovak organizations in the United States. Another purpose was to promote the education of the children of Slovak immigrants.

1914 …………The Slovak Catholic Federation expresses an interest in helping to establish secondary schools for Slovak-American students. The prior of St. Procopius Abbey reads about this in a Slovak newspaper (Jednota) and proposes that the Slovaks stay at St. Procopius High School which would build a separate building for Slovak studies on their property. This idea was promoted at the national convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation in 1914 and more Slovak boys enrolled at St. Procopius.

1918 …………As a consequence of the defeat of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in World War II – the country of Czecho-Slovakia is created. Almost from the start there is tension between the majority Czechs and Slovaks. This carries over to the U.S. and gives new impetus for the creation of a Slovak high school independent of St. Procopius Academy.

1921 …………The young priest, Fr. Gregory (John) Vaniscak of St. Procopius Abbey informs his abbot (Abbot Valentine Kohlbeck) that the Slovak Catholic Federation wants to first help to found a Slovak Benedictine monastery in the U.S. and already contacted Bishop Schrembs of Cleveland who likes the idea and is willing to give a parish to Slovak monks sent from St. Procopius Abbey. In November, the idea is presented to the monks of St. Procopius Abbey who initially are critical. However, since Abbot Valentine sat next to Bishop Schrembs and speaks at the convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation and conveys to Abbot Valentine that Bishop Schrembs' brother was a Benedictine monk, he slowly persuades the community.

1922 …………In January, the monks of St. Procopius meet and vote to accept the offer of St. Andrew Parish in Cleveland to start a priory here. On February 5, Fr. Stanislaus (Francis) Gmuca arrives at St. Andrew's Parish. Later two more monks come from St. Procopius. Also, the Sisters of Saint Cyril and Methodius in Darville, Pennsylvania open St. Cyril's Academy for Slovak Girls with the help of the Slovak Catholic Federation. Fr. Gregory Vaniscak, who was assigned to St. Michael's Slovak Parish in Chicago after his ordination, speaks at the convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation and conveys to Abbot Valentine that Bishop Schrembs is disappointed that the monastery in Cleveland is developing so slowly and the leadership of the Federation wants progress on opening a high school.

1923 …………Slovaks in Cleveland organize the Slovak School Guild (later called the Slovak Catholic Educational Institute) to hold fundraisers to help finance the opening of a high school for boys by the Cleveland Benedictine monks.

1924 …………Abbot Valentine tells Fr. Stanislaus to find a site for constructing a bigger church and school. Fr. Stanislaus examines the options and decides to stay at St. Andrew's and build there. Fr. George Luba, who would become the first principal of Benedictine High School arrives from St. Procopius.

1925 …………The monks of St. Procopius Abbey vote to move the community in Cleveland toward independence status.

1926 …………The Abbot Primate (the head of the Benedictine order in Rome), who is visiting Chicago, comes to Cleveland with Abbot Valentine and meets with Bishop Schrembs who helps finalize all the plans for the new priory and high school in Cleveland. The new church and school at St. Andrew's are dedicated.

Branch 382 K Summer Picnic

SS. Cyril & Methodius Society, Branch 382 K of Scranton, Pennsylvania, held its Second Summer Picnic on Saturday, August 13, 2022, on the grounds of the Holy Family Social and Welfare Club in Covington Township, Pennsylvania. Several Branch members arrived early to perform set up tasks; others stayed late for clean-up duty.

Attendees gathered at the Pavilion to chat and exchange news and to play board games and cards. The stellar summer day lent itself to ball games, fishing and wandering the grounds to enjoy the natural beauty of Northeastern Pennsylvania. A catered lunch of Slovak foods was served. During the warm afternoon, attendees enjoyed beverages and snacks. Later in the afternoon, grilled chicken and hot buttered corn-on-the-cob were offered. The overwhelming comment was: ‘What a great day!!’

Submitted by Elizabeth Slovenkai
Annual Slovak Heritage Society Pig Roast 2022

The Slovak Heritage Society of Greater Cleveland held its annual Pig Roast on August 20, 2022, at the Slovak Sokol Campground in Broadview Heights, OH. Some 90 people – including many who are also members of the First Catholic Slovak Union from Branches 1, 24, 228, 112, 450 and 855 – attended. Everyone enjoyed a meal of delicious roast pork which was prepared by Tim Scally, Slovak Heritage Society President and Branch 450 Member, Mark Cvicela, Branch 24 member, and brother Tom Scally. They also prepared the traditional Slovak side dish živánska, which included, sausage, bacon, potatoes, and peppers, while Slovak Heritage Society and Branch 855 Member Milka Anderko prepared another traditional side of sauerkraut and sausage that all enjoyed. Other sides for the all-you-can-eat roast pork meal: corn on the cob, macaroni salad, and potato salad. Children 10 and under had hot dog, chips, and juice box. Every meal included choices among tasty desserts baked and plated by Branch 24 Treasurer and Slovak Heritage Society First Vice President Joe Oros. Karin Scally, Slovak Heritage Society Corresponding Secretary and Branch 855 Vice President, ran the kitchen and was helped by Joe Oros, Tom Ivanec, Branch 24 member, Maria Cvicela, Branch 24 member, Anita Anderko, Branch 855 member, Adriana Anderko, Branch 450 member, and Ariel Benewiat. Bartenders included Justin and Fran Strekal, both Branch 24 members, Tim and Tom Scally, and National Vice President and Executive Secretary Elect, Kevin Collins. FCSU Branches 24 and 855 offered half-priced tickets to their members who attended, which was a total of 34 members this year.

We were pleased to have national officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union with us again this year: National President Elect and current Executive Secretary Ken Arentd and his wife Theresa as well as Executive Secretary Elect and current National Vice President Kevin Collins.

Many thanks go out to everyone who helped make our annual Pig Roast another success this year – those who worked so hard preparing for and working at it, and all those who came out to support it and enjoy a great afternoon of good food and good company. Together, we are keeping our wonderful Slovak traditions alive!

- Submitted by Tom Ivanec, Slovak Heritage Society President and FCSU Region 6 Director
ATTENTION BRANCH 855 MEMBERS:

Time to start thinking about all things pumpkin! Mark your calendars to show off your pumpkin decorating skills.

- From October 15 – October 30 snap a picture of yourself with your painted or carved pumpkin creation
- Send your picture along with your name to fcsu855@gmail.com or by text to 440-409-9405
- Submissions must be made by October 30th
- Everyone from Branch 855 who joins in the fun receives a $20.00 gift card AND their picture in the Jednota!

Let’s get creative!!!
The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, September 15

September 15th is the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. Slovaks refer to it as the Svätok Sedembolestnej Panny Márie, the Feast of the Seven Sorrows of the Virgin Mary. In Slovakia, her feast day is a national holiday in Slovakia, a holy day of obligation, and most businesses are closed.

The identification of the sorrowful Mother with the Slovak nation stems from a miracle which occurred long ago in the 16th century. Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows started in Šaštín, a town western Slovakia. In 1564, the Virgin Mary as Our Lady of Sorrows appeared to Angelika Bakčová while she was praying for help to deal with some personal trials in her life. In thanksgiving for hearing her prayers, Pani Bakčová commissioned an unknown artist to sculpt a wooden statue at the place of the apparition.

Soon word spread of her vision, and the faithful from nearby towns and villages began to visit the site as a place of pilgrimage. Before long, pilgrims from far away heard of the apparition and started to make longer journeys to Šaštín to pay homage to Our Sorrowful Mother. A Marian Chapel was built to house the statue in the 16th century, and in 1748, a basilica which was continually adorned over the centuries. Today it is the home of one of largest and most popular shrine in Slovakia for Christians - the Monastery and Church of the Seven Sorrows of the Virgin Mary (Kláštor a kostol Sedembolestnej Panny Márie). Even Papes visit it, including St. Pope John Paul II in 1995 and Pope Francis in 2021.

One of the most popular hymns dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows is "Tie šaštínske zvony" (The Bells of Šaštín), and most every Slovak Catholic knows it by heart. Below is the hymn followed by my translation. Since I lack the skill of rhyming hymns which Sister Hronec has, I found her splendid translation from the September 26, 2012 issue of Jednota. Please continue to pray to the Virgin Mary for her recovery from her fall which I wrote about in the August issue.

You may also watch a procession and listen to the song online from a 2014 pilgrimage. The crowd was so huge that the service took place outside the basilica. The song is found in Jednotný katolícky spevnik (The Uniform Catholic Hymnal) JKS hymn #405, at the following Youtube site: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-vZ1bmAnyE

The Bells of Šaštín

1. Šaštín bells ring your song, joyfully call us here;
   Patroness of our land, we honor and revere.
   Mother Sorrowful, hear our nation’s praise.
   Trusting in your care, now our prayers we raise.
   Thousand times, “Hail,” we pray, guide us in every way.
   With joy we hear your voice, ‘tis Mary’s welcome-call.
   Gladly we come, respond, hastening one and all,
   To this wondrous place, children young and old,
   This your glorious shrine, which we now behold.
   Our Slovak nation sings, receive the thanks we bring.

2. Our Šaštín shrine now glows with one majestic pearl –
   Our Patroness who reigns, her royal throne endures.
   Loving Mother/Queen, hear us as we come.
   Our nation begs for peace, may your love never cease.
   O Šaštín bells peal forth, echo for all to hear.
   Our nation now prays, may the song we raise.

3. Our Šaštín shrine now glows with one majestic pearl –
   Our Patroness who reigns, her royal throne endures.
   Loving Mother/Queen, hear us as we come.
   Our nation begs for peace, may your love never cease.
   Our nation now prays, may the song we raise.

4. Our prayerful hearts are glad, your hopeful sound is here.
   Every hill and plain rings with joyous praise.
   May each town resound with the song we raise.
   O bless our land we pray, this day and every day.

Translation by Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M. ©2012

Our Lady of Sorrows, in Šaštín, a town western Slovakia

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Ján Francisci

Unikátnty historický dokument mapujúci život a dieľ Ján Francisciho

Pozrite si unikátny historický dokument mapujúci život a dieľ Ján Francisciho z autorské dielne tajomníka Jána Semana. Pamatujte, že tento dokument bol vytvorený v rámci ROKU ODKAZU STÚROVA v roku 2020 v rámci projektu "Zoznámte sa s Slovenskom". Jednotný katolícky spevnik (The Uniform Catholic Hymnal), JKS hymn #405, at the following Youtube site: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-vZ1bmAnyE

A unique historical document mapping the life and work of Ján Francisci

Look at a unique historical document mapping the life and work of Ján Francisci from the author’s workshop of secretaries, Ján Seman and Pavel Parenčiš. They created this on the 200th anniversary of his birthday.

In 2022, the Matica slovenská commemorates the 200th anniversary of the birth of personalities of the national revival, personalities who have significantly influenced Slovak history as part of the YEAR OF THE LEGACY OF ŠTÚR’S FOLLOWERS.

The first captain of Slovak volunteers was born on June 1st 200 years ago. He was a prominent national awakener, revolutionizer, editor, novelist, translator, and leading figure of the Slovak national movement in the second half of the 19th century. He collaborated with Ludovít Štúr and Štefan Marek Daxner, Slovak, Ján Samuel Francisci-Rimavský (*1822 - †1905).
The FCSU, GCU, NSS & SCS Combined to hold a NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT on Friday, May 13-14, 2022. The event took place at Brookgate Lanes, 14950 Snow Rd. in Brook Park, Ohio. To view more pictures go to www.fcsu.com/events.
According to the VA, the WWII veterans are dying at a rate of over 200 veterans a day with the average age of the veteran being mid 90’s. I want to make sure that our Slovak American veterans who served in World War II, that their service is not forgotten. This is how we, together as Slovak-Americans, will do it. You have two ways to take part in this event.

1. We want your Slovak American WWII veteran’s service story. Donations accepted but not required. Submit a typed story of your WWII Slovak-American veteran that you want remembered. Disclose as little or as much information about their war experiences.

Since this is geared towards the Slovak-American exhibit, please include from what area your veteran or his/her family immigrated. Copies of photos of your veteran would be appreciated. Photos could be of your veteran in uniform or photos taken where they served or during their service, discharge or other papers. Please no vital numbers or Social Security Numbers.

2. Donate to the Museum in memory of your Slovak-American Veteran. Checks payable to the Eldred WWII Museum. The checks can be sent to Charles Boone so that all the checks can be delivered at one time, or checks can be sent directly to the museum. Eldred WWII Museum, 201 Main St Eldred, PA 16731

Donate any amount. If you donate $25 in memory of your WWII Slovak-American veteran. The veteran’s name and military service line will be engraved on a name plate for a plaque.

**DONATION DEADLINE:**   December 1, 2022

Eldred WWII Museum has final decisions on any matters in question.

All donations will be taken to the Eldred Museum for a single presentation.

Charles Boone, WWII Slovak American Museum,
2670 Crosby Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216

**SUBMIT YOUR WWII VETERAN’S STORY:** No donation required, but you can donate if you want.

Send your story and/or your check donation (payable to Eldred WWII Museum) to Charles Boone, WWII Slovak American Museum, 2670 Crosby Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216

All donations will be taken to the Eldred Museum for a single presentation.

Eldred WWII Museum has final decisions on any matters in question.

We will take all the donations and the stories to the Eldred Museum for a formal presentation the week of December 7, 2022. Email Charles with questions: slovakamericanww2exhibit@gmail.com

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**What Kind of Letter Did Our Ancestors Write to the Old Country?**

Jerry Siman (go slovensky, i.e., in Slovak, Jaroslav), a lifelong member of Jednota, clipped this article from 30 years ago, and asked that we publish it again. It is a curious and comical mixture of Slovak and English, and one might notice that it lacks Slovak diacritical marks.

But this resembles the way some of the first generation talked when they were from Slovakia and just knew the eastern Slovak dialect and bits and pieces of English that they used in their everyday lives. When I used to stay with my baba (grandmother) for a week, when my mother needed me out of the way to get some peace, I remember baba saying: “Idzeme do obchodu,” or the standard literary Slovak, “Ideme do obchodu.”

I remember reading some of my mother’s letters when I did research in communist Slovakia for a year, and she wrote more grammatically correct than this because she finished the 8th grade in Slovakia. But even she interjected and Slovakized some English words, did not always capitalize when needed, and wrote sentences which lacked proper punctuation.

One needs to know a bit of Slovak to fully comprehend the humor. And only the Good Lord knows how much of it the people in Slovakia would have understood!

The article below was submitted by Jerry Siman, a FCSU Pension Board Trustee. He was elected to be a Pension Board Trustee for the 7th time at the last convention. – Dr. Michael Kopanic, Jr., Editor

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**A Slovak letter to starého kraju – A Slovak letter to the Old Country**


First den OK. Ja weigh my food. I ja countujem calories. Druh den, ja weighujem mojo food, i countujem moja calories i chwějum moja nádes do two o’clock in the afternoon, ked’ ja chwějum moju soap opera na T.V. Ja getting so hungry. Moj stomach growling. Ja chwějum so much celery mojo zubi almost worn out.


A ja habedam, I hbedam, a nemožem fine-ovac na calorie-latt prohi. Neška je Friday, a to ja človek može zic bez prohí na Friday? Ja videla moju next door neighbor, tota co mi recomendovala diet doctora, že to to ja gotta do. Ona poviedla, že to ja možem mat jednu prohu ale nemožem mat my half slice bread nor tablespoon potatoe that day.

Ja panikovala! Ja rushing around the house, i damam, i damam, idamam, že to je somarovi diet.

Ja podem do discount store i kupim bigger slackes, a zbojíum moja človeka. Ja turnovala off TV show “As The World Turns”, a damam naj turnuje bez me. Ja podla do kitchen, takaova prohu od freezer where ja hindovala od husbanda, ja fry some onions i butter a ja eat šicko žebi husband nefind out.

Ja taka happy — diet ne pre mne. No ta finišujem ten letter.

Bude zdrave!    
Ostavam    
Fluza, Helena

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**32nd Annual Slovak Heritage Festival**

**Sunday, November 6, 2022, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

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As always, it's free for all. Street Parking is free on Sundays, most park in Soldiers and Sailors across the street for a flat rate fee.
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