



# Jednota

THE UNION

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Fr. Stephen Furedek  
Our Founder

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

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## The Waiting Line for 2082 Starts Here

By Ray Plutko

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of feature articles addressing the realm of genealogy. It is one specifically designed for Slovak descendants and is so structured to serve as an introductory course for the novice, meet the needs of the advanced researcher—or, if nothing else, the curious.)

Ten minutes for 10 questions, and then the lengthy wait begins.

Over the past weeks each household in

the United States (and Puerto Rico) has been asked to participate in the official 2010 Census, a process designed to count each individual by providing basic information about the persons living in every house and apartment throughout the land.

The census forms were initially mailed to households in mid-March, with a targeted return of no later than April 1st—the official enumeration date. And for those failing to respond, “foot soldiers” (census takers) are now replicating decades of old by visiting those missing addresses for a personal response to the 10 questions that comprise the 2010 U.S. Census.

Speaking strictly as a genealogist, what a wealth of information! However, there is a slight catch in gaining access to the treasure trove of data. . . one must wait until the year 2082—72 years hence as protected by Title 44 of the United States Code, which stipulates that the information may then be used for family and other types of historical research. Considering my present age, I strongly suspect I will not be waiting in line when they signal the unveiling of the 2010 Census data.

Currently, our research efforts with census data are limited to the same 72-year restriction, with the 1930 Census the most recent available under the Freedom of Information Act. The initial census for the United States was taken in 1790 and has been duplicated every 10 years since.

The 1790-1840 census formats simply listed the names of the head of each household. However, few Slovaks would have need for these tallies as the majority of our ancestors immigrated to the United States during the enumeration years of 1890 through 1930.

The 1900 Census is significant in that it gives the exact month and year of birth as well as the year of immigration to the United States— each excellent directional maps of where to search next; the 1910 version, and one of the most widely used for Slovak re-

*continued on page 9*

## From the Desk of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt

Are you a new or recent policyholder with the First Catholic Slovak Union? Did you know your policy also is your invitation to join thousands of like-minded people all over the United States and Canada? For details, read on.

### The Many Benefits of Jednota Membership for FCSU Policyholders

As reported by our president and myself in the last issue of the Jednota, the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU) continues to be fiscally strong. Despite continued financial turmoil on Wall Street and in financial centers around the world, our policyholders enjoy an investment portfolio that continues to produce income at an excellent rate while providing the convenience of flexibility and the peace of mind that goes with security.

The First Catholic Slovak Union is one of the oldest Slovak fraternal societies in the United States, founded 120 years ago in 1890.

Yet, just as Jednota translates from Slovak into “union,” so being a policyholder with the First Catholic Slovak Union, or Jednota, entitles you to more than an excellent life insurance or annuity product. You automatically become a member in this unique “union,” which offers many additional benefits

### FCSU-supported Slovak cultural programs and fraternal activities

When you become a policyholder, you become a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, with immediate access to a whole host of FCSU-sponsored cultural programs and fraternal activities. With our busy lives, and the many demands on our time and energy, it is all too easy to dismiss the idea of “more activities.” But I would encourage you to think again. As our members who have worked tirelessly to develop and implement them know, the activities that FCSU membership offers are special, in that they are tailored



Kenneth A. Arendt

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## Attention Slovak Americans – Make Sure We Are Counted

By John Karch

For those Slovak Americans who have not yet filled out the 2010 CENSUS Form, I urge them to indicate their Slovak Heritage on the Form.

The opportunity to do so is in question 9 on Race. The U.S. Census Bureau confirms that U.S. citizens can indicate their HERITAGE on the last row of boxes in question 9.

In filling out my own form, I PRINTED clearly:

Heritage – Slovak

Such information is important for both Legislative and Executive branches of government nationally and locally, and will definitely be included in the final report

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**FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY & IRA**

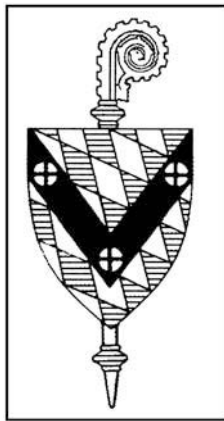
**INTEREST RATES EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2010**

Six Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA's	4.40% (4.306% apr)
with the "Cash Interest" Option	4.15% (4.066% apr)
Eight Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity or IRA	
Single deposit of \$10,000.00 or more—1st yr guarantee	5.60% (5.449% apr)
Single deposit of less than \$10,000.00—1st yr guarantee	4.65% (4.545% apr)
new "Park 2 Annuity"	3.75% (3.682% apr)
new Park Free Plus Annuity or IRA—1st yr guarantee	3.50% (3.440% apr)
new six-year fixed rate Deferred Annuity or IRA	4.00% (3.922% apr)
New Settlement Options are based on an interest rate of	3.90% (3.826% apr)

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRA's,  
please contact your local branch officer or the Home Office!

Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary

# Insights and Viewpoints



## St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies Father Campion P. Gavaler; Father Demetrius R. Dumm O.S.B.

April 11, 2010

Second Sunday of Easter

John 20:19-31

### Gospel Summary

It is surely an understatement to say that the disciples were filled with joy as Jesus appeared to them, alive and well, on that first Easter day. It will take years for them to draw out all the wonderful implications of this dramatic moment in their lives but

for now it is sheer joy. Jesus then gives them a mandate to bring peace to the world by translating their happiness into the difficult but rewarding gift of forgiveness.

The story of "doubting Thomas" is presented as a warning to those of us who have trouble trusting the spiritual side of life. Thomas is called the "twin," possibly because he had a striking physical resemblance to Jesus, but he discovers that this does not give him any advantage at all. What counts now is a spiritual relationship. We often assume that those who knew Jesus in the flesh had a great advantage over the rest of us and we may even envy them. In fact, however, the risen Lord is far more present to us now in the Spirit than he ever was in the flesh.

Finally, the author of the gospel reminds us that everything he has written is intended, not primarily to give us information about Jesus, but rather to bring us to faith in him and thereby to lead us to real "life in his name."

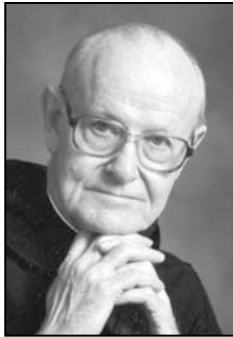
### Life Implications

The last verses of this gospel passage are among the most challenging passages in the entire gospel. In the first place, we are told that the whole gospel of John is intended to bring us to "believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God." This does not mean simply that we accept the fact that Jesus is the fulfillment of Israel's hopes and, much more than that, the very Son of God, equal to the Father and the Holy Spirit. To believe in Jesus means also that we accept the message, found in his words and in his example, of total self-giving for the sake of others. When we truly accept this message, we pledge ourselves to live and love as much as possible Jesus did.

What is the consequence of such a radical way of living? It enables us to participate in the very life of Jesus. As the gospel puts it, the whole purpose of believing is that "you may have life in his name." This statement is far more daring and revolutionary than we may think. For it means that, through love of others, we begin to participate in the love and life of God. To love unselfishly is to love as God loves, and that means sharing in God's life, insofar as mere creatures can do so.

In other words, we are invited to share in a life that is far superior to the fragile, uncertain life of our mortal existence. This new life is given in baptism but it must be nourished by our commitment to loving service and by our participation in the Eucharist, the ultimate sacrament of love and concern for others.

St. Paul expresses the same conviction when he writes those wonderfully consoling words: "Therefore, we are not discouraged; although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day" (2 Cor 4:16). This inner renewal is nothing less than the growth of God's life within us.



Demetrius R. Dumm  
O.S.B.

April 18, 2010

Third Sunday of Easter

John 21:1-19

### Gospel Summary

Simon Peter and his companions after fishing all night catch nothing. At dawn as they approach shore, someone on the shore whom they do not recognize directs them to cast out their net. When the net is filled with a large catch, the beloved disciple recognizes Jesus, now risen from death, and says to Peter, "It is the Lord." When they reach shore, they see a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus invites them to eat with him. He takes bread and gives it to them and in like manner the fish. Jesus then asks Peter three times if he loves him, and says to him in turn, "Feed my lambs... Tend my sheep... Feed my sheep." Jesus then speaks of the kind of death Simon Peter will undergo, and says to him, "Follow me."

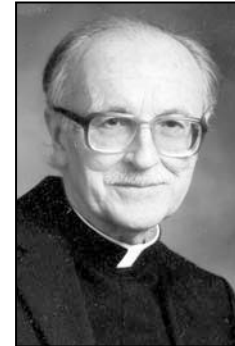
### Life Implications

Friendship with Jesus is the one essential thing of life, regardless of any other circumstance—sickness or health, poverty or wealth, low or high position in society or church. That is the supreme truth John wants to tell us in his gospel. The good news is that Jesus desires our friendship, and offers it to all who welcome him in faith. We can identify with many of the persons Jesus encounters in the gospel—the Samaritan woman, Martha and Mary, Lazarus (at whose death Jesus wept), Peter, Mary Magdalene, the beloved disciple. The gospel also warns us not to identify with those who reject friendship, and even betray friendship with Jesus. Jesus can also call us his friends because he has told us everything he has heard from his Father (Jn 15:15). The titles that we use to address Jesus (Messiah, Lord, Son of God), however orthodox and exalted they may be, are inadequate to express the full meaning of Jesus for us unless they include "Beloved Friend."

A personal, loving relationship with the Risen Lord clearly was a distinguishing characteristic of John's community. Sad experience, however, soon revealed that individual relationships with Jesus were not sufficient to hold the community together. We can see from the First Letter of John that various individuals, claiming to speak with the Spirit of Jesus, began to teach false doctrines. Eventually they formed splinter groups that separated people from the community. In our gospel passage today, John shows us that individual friendships with Jesus must be complemented by authority within the community. The Risen Lord commissions Peter to serve that function.

That authority that Jesus gives, however, must be exercised out of deep friendship with him. "Do you love me?" Jesus asks Peter the crucial question three times as he commissions him to tend and to feed his sheep. The principle, of course, applies not only to the successor of Peter, but to everyone who exercises authority in the church, from the family to the chancery. Only in this way does human authority become an expression of the authority of Jesus, the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep.

In today's gospel passage, John also links friendship with Jesus with his real presence at our Eucharistic meal. The meal Jesus shares with his disciples together with the feeding of the large crowd (John 6) and the Last Supper Discourse reveal the meaning of the Eucharist for us. Jesus, the Risen Lord, truly is with us at our sacred meal—speaks to us, prays with us, leads us in self-giving to the Father, gives himself to us as our bread and wine. He calls us his disciples and his friends: the life implications remain the same. Jesus also says to us: "If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet" (John 13:14). The way we will fulfill his request to follow him as disciples in service of others is unique and particular for each of us. We can count on the Spirit of Jesus to guide us in discerning what that service will be.



Campion P. Gavaler,  
O.S.B.



## Beneficiary Changes

Please keep your policies up to date!

To change your beneficiaries you can download the  
*member service request form* from our website at

[www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com) then mail to the Home Office at

6611 Rockside Rd, Suite 300, Independence OH 44131

# JEDNOTA

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## Report of the National Vice-President

PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, MARCH 20 – 21, 2010

Reverend Father, President Rajec and members of the Board of Directors...

As always, I want to start off my report by thanking the Membership and Marketing Committee, which is comprised of Brothers Andrew Rajec, Kenneth Arendt and George Matta, for all the time and effort they spend with me on the problems and solutions that concern membership and marketing. Be assured that they are very concerned with the growth and success of our First Catholic Slovak Union.

As you will hear from the reports of our president, secretary and treasurer we had a good year financial. Our assets rose over 33 million and our surplus increased over 4 million dollars. Our annuity procurement is doing great, but our insurance sales could use some help from our recommenders and branch officers

The Membership and Marketing Committee knows that our existing recommenders can't keep up with the declining trend. For this reason, we are actively recruiting insurance agents. To date, we have 35 independent agents who signed our contracts.

Last year we hired an in house agent to help us with agent recruitment as well as servicing our inactive branches. He's been doing a good job for us. We are also considering hiring an agent to help us in the field with recruitment and retention

We will go over this and many other items when we get into the marketing segment of our board meeting.

The Membership and Marketing Committee would like to express their sincere thanks to those recommenders who consistently recommend new or increased business during our campaign.

Now it gives me great pleasure to give you our "Top Guns" for last year ~ our societies "Best of the Best."

Congratulations to the Society's Top 15 producers by Amount of Insurance Sold for the 2009 Membership Campaign.

1. Mark Marmol
2. Dorothy J. Petrus
3. Anna Magusin
4. Michael P. Kolesar
5. Audrey J. Balazik
6. John A. Jurcenko
7. Carl J. Ungvarsky
8. Joseph M. Bugel
9. Edward T. Surkosky
10. Albert R. Valo
11. Andrew C. Herman
12. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
13. Dorothy A. Torretti
14. Joseph C. Rimarcik
15. Michael J. Slovenkai

Congratulations to the Society's Top 15 producers by Amount of Annuity/IRA/Park Money Brought In for the 2009 Membership Campaign.

1. Thomas Podrasky
2. Kimberly Meeker
3. Kenneth A. Arendt
4. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
5. George A. Sprock
6. Joseph E. Rura
7. Albert R. Valo
8. Joseph T. Scavina
9. Roger T. Soltis
10. Joseph M. Bugel
11. Florence K. Matta
12. James T. Genosky
13. Al Tipul
14. Joseph T. Lauko
15. Carl J. Ungvarsky

Congratulations to the Top 15 Insurance/Annuity producers by Total Points for the 2009 Membership Campaign.

1. Carl J. Ungvarsky
2. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
3. Thomas Podrasky
4. Kenneth A. Arendt
5. Kimberly Meeker
6. George A. Sprock
7. Albert R. Valo
8. Dorothy J. Petrus
9. Joseph E. Rura
10. Audrey J. Balazik
11. Joseph T. Scavina
12. Joseph M. Bugel
13. Florence K. Matta
14. James T. Genosky
15. Roger T. Soltis



National Vice President  
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.

Congratulations to the Society's Top 15 producers by The Number of Policies Sold for the 2009 Membership Campaign.

1. Dorothy Petrus
2. Audrey J. Balazik
3. Joan S. Magee
4. Joseph C. Rimarcik
5. Dorothy A. Torretti
6. Michael E. Lako
7. George A. Sprock
8. Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.
9. Carl J. Ungvarsky
10. Joseph Bugel
11. Patricia Conner (Tie)
12. Joseph Scavina (Tie)
13. John A. Jurcenko (Tie)
14. Michael L. Koval (Tie)
15. Bernard Skovira (Tie)

To each and everyone who signed a member and/or sent in an Annuity/IRA/Park Money contract for the year 2009...my heartfelt Thanks and Congratulations for a Job Well Done!

### Marketing

This past year the Membership and Marketing Committee did the following...

\* In January of 2009 – hired an in-house agent to help with agent recruitment as well as servicing our inactive branches.

\* Applications for licensing have been submitted to thirteen additional states.

\* After further review of the scholarship requirements, the committee voted that all members purchasing a single premium JEP policy are now eligible for the FCSU scholarship if they meet all requirements.

\* Implemented the new "Park Free Plus" Annuity. The "Park Free Plus" offers a first year interest rate of 3.5. This initial interest rate is guaranteed for the entire first year of the annuity policy. At the first anniversary date of the policy, the annuitant has 15 calendar days to elect this option: Withdraw the full value of the accumulated annuity funds (Principal plus interest) without incurring a surrender charge! If this option is not taken, the annuity will continue for an additional 5 years. The interest rate at that time will be based on the interest rate established by the society on its flexible premium deferred annuity.

*continued on page 5*



## Report of the National Treasurer

GEORGE F. MATTA

### REVEREND FATHER, PRESIDENT RAJEC, AND BROTHER AND SISTER OFFICERS

I am pleased to report that all the financials and other reports as required by the various states where the First Catholic Slovak Union is licensed to do business have all been properly filed by March 1, 2010.

In 2009, this time last year, we heard how the practice of sub-prime mortgages was having a devastating effect on not only the U.S. economy, but also the economies throughout the world. Financial institutions, formerly highly rated banks were in trouble. Banks were being closed or were being taken over by larger and stronger banks. Numerous governments have initiated steps to stabilize monetary areas.

Our Society was not immune to the widespread drop in the stock market as well as the bond market. On December 26, 2008, The Securities Valuation Office established the rating and market value on the big three automakers, Lehman Brothers and others at bankruptcy status 6, which meant instead of carrying the value of those bonds at book value, now must be carried at market value. As a result the Society suffered a reduction in its surplus in 1998 of slightly over \$4,000,000.00 from \$13,112,264 to \$9,059,592.

Surplus – 12-31-06 = \$11,555,594

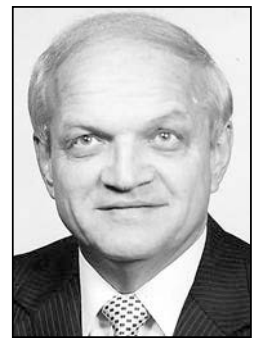
Surplus – 12-31-07 = \$13,112,264 an increase of \$1,557,670

Surplus – 12-31-08 = \$ 9,059,592 a loss of \$ 4,071,572

Surplus – 12-31-09 = \$13,169,012 an increase of \$ 4,109,420

Against this backdrop, the Society made decisions and changes that strengthened its investment procedures and promoted increased sales resulting in a favorable growth year for the FCSU. A very positive \$ 4,109,420 increase in Surplus.

Net investment income was strengthened by a diversified investment program which produced an increase in 2009 by (20.2%) in spite of economic concerns in the world. Further complicating the situation, a large number of Government Agency bonds, with attractive rates, and the limited availability of quality bonds with higher yields has affected income as



George F. Matta

*continued on page 5*

## Report of The Internal Audit Team

### FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

### REPORT TO MANAGEMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2009

The Internal Audit Team conducted audits of different processes of the First Catholic Slovak Union for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. The audits were performed in accordance with the bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada, effective January 1, 2007.

#### THE AUDIT PURPOSE/OBJECTIVES INCLUDED, BUT WERE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Review expense vouchers submitted.
  - o Ensure expense vouchers
    - contain required and relevant documentation
    - calculations are correct
    - approvals are obtained
    - checks are properly issued and documented
- Test death claims processed.
  - o Ensure death claims
    - contain required and relevant documentation
    - are processed correctly according to FCSU
    - checks are properly issued and documented
- Test payroll and personnel procedures.
  - o Ensure payroll and personnel
    - procedures are in place and functioning properly
    - calculations of earning, special payments, benefits, taxes and voluntary/involuntary deductions are accurate complete and timely
    - transactions are accurately reflected in the accounting system
- Test branch stipend processing.
  - o Ensure stipend requests
    - contain required and relevant documentation
    - Annual report
    - Financial report
    - verify at least 2 published announcements including one for election of officer
    - submitted by February 15
    - contract(s) obtained
- Test annuities application process.
  - o Ensure the annuity
    - application contains required documentation
    - recommender receives appropriate points
    - interest is calculated correctly according to the contract
- Review Branch allocation of Delegates procedure.
  - o Ensure all Delegate Certifications
    - are properly allocated to each Branch
    - are submitted in a timely fashion
    - have complied with all requirements listed in the FCSU Bylaws dated January 1, 2007
- Test new insurance application process.
  - o Ensure that insurance applications
    - contain required and relevant documentation

- are approved according to appropriate procedures
- have timely and accurate medical examinations when appropriate

- Test accuracy of annual statement
  - o Ensure financial transactions
    - are recorded properly within the accounting system
    - are subsequently recorded accurately on the annual statement
- Review corporate credit card procedures
  - o Verify proper internal controls are being utilized to ensure
    - relevant documentation present
    - approval follows designated chain of authority
    - mathematical calculations are correct
- Review Bylaws of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States of America and Canada, effective January 1, 2007
  - o submit recommendations to bylaws committee six months prior to next convention

#### METHODOLOGY

Audit procedure programs, written by the audit team, were used throughout the year to evaluate the key operations of the specific areas audited. Discussion with management and staff, observations, and analytical testing was performed.

#### OVERALL EVALUATION:

No indications of irregularities or abuse were discovered during the audits performed for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. The audit team finds that the Home Office operates effectively and with high standards. Controls are adequate and have been properly maintained thus keeping errors to a minimum.

#### AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT #1

##### Subject: Credit Card Payments

Receipts for expenditures are not always supported by documentation. If a receipt is to be sent "after the fact" such should be noted on the statement and every effort made to attach the receipt before the statement is filed

#### AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT #2

##### Subject: Travel Expense Vouchers

Inadequate information is given, generally no "to and from" street addresses shown to verify reasonable mileage. Home office continues to make changes to expense vouchers when necessary. Closer attention should be paid by those individuals submitting expenses for reimbursement.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Bardar  
Karen M. Hunka-Chairman  
Raymond G. Lako  
John J. Leskovyansky, Jr.

# R

## eminder...

All English and Slovak articles should be sent directly to the new editor Teresa Ivanec, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398. The new E-Mail Address for the articles will be fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com. Articles may also be sent by Fax at 216/642-4310. Teresa Ivanec can be reached by phone at 216/642-9406 or 1/800-533-6682.

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

## NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, APR 28	MONDAY, APR 19
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12	MONDAY, MAY 3
WEDNESDAY, APR 26	MONDAY, APR 17

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

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:  
Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com  
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"  
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398  
FAX: 216-642-4310



## Report of the National Vice-President

### PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, MARCH 20 – 21, 2010

*continued from page 3*

\* Implemented an 8 year flexible premium deferred annuity with a bonus interest rate for the first year. This new annuity program started on January 1, 2010. For more information call your branch officer or the home office

\* Started a Presidential Campaign with insurance and annuity incentives. For the 2010 convention we will have a year long Presidential Campaign. It will run from August 1, 2009 to the Presidential Banquet in 2010. There will be special convention prizes – drawings totaling 4,450.00 for those who signed at least 2 new insurance members. Drawings totaling 4,450.00 will also be awarded for every 10,000 in annuities brought in. Go the FCSU's web site and click on announcements for more information.

\* On May 16, 2009 – held a district presidents meeting and seminar for those districts in the Eastern United States.

\* On June 14, 2009 – held a sales seminar at the Hilton, 10 Drury Lane in Oak Brook Terrace, Illinois. Members from the Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District and Michigan District were invited to attend.

\* On July 16, 2009 – set up an informational booth at the annual Slovak Day in Kennywood Park near Pittsburgh. Copies of the Jednota newspapers and information on FCSU products were distributed. The annual event draws large crowds each year from Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio and West Virginia.

\* On August 2, 2009 – held a sales seminar at the Holiday Inn in Bentleyville, Pennsylvania. Members of the Rev. Andrew Hlinka District were invited to attend.

\* On August 9, 2009 – set up an informational booth at the Annual Fest Celebration held at the Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickcliffe, Ohio. Jednota newspapers and pamphlets on FCSU products were passed out.

The Fest is a day-long celebration of Catholic Faith, families, games, prayer, mass and fireworks that is open to the public without admission charge. This time it brought together over 30,000 catholic teens and families from around eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland.

\* On September 6, 2009 – attended the annual Cleveland Slovak Radio Club Festival held at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Parma, Ohio. Operated a booth at the festival where information was provided on the FCSU's insurance and annuity products.

\* On September 27, 2009 – set up a booth at the New Jersey Slovak Festival. The festival was held at the New Jersey Arts Center in Holmdel, New Jersey.

\* On October 11, 2009 – held a sales seminar at Bock's Dining and Tea Room in Philipsburg, Pennsylvania. Members from the Jozef Cardinal Tomko District were invited to attend.

\* On October 15 – 17, 2009 – set up an informational booth at the CGSI Conference at the Holiday Inn in Independence, Ohio. The First Catholic Slovak Union served as a major sponsor of this cultural event. Newspapers and brochures on the FCSU and its products were distributed to the attendees.

\* On October 25, 2009 – held a sales seminar at SS Cyril and Methodius Church Hall in Winber, Pennsylvania. Members of the Rev. John Martvon District were invited to attend.

\* On November 14 -21, 2009 – held a successful membership meet aboard Carnivals "Liberty". Members and guest enjoyed a seven night Eastern Caribbean Cruise. Awards were given out to some of the society's top recommenders.

#### Activities

Some of my activities in the year 2009 were: Attended all monthly executive meetings as well as meetings called by the president. Letters concerning Marketing/Seminars were sent to the recommenders. Wrote articles pertaining to insurance and had them published in the Jednota. From April through December "Top Guns" were sent to the printer. Attended various branch and district meeting and/or social functions. Attended the Illinois Fraternal Congress meeting in Springfield, Illinois. Am a director in the Indiana Fraternal Congress and attended their meetings. Attended Bruce and Bruce seminar in Pittsburgh. Attended the 100th Anniversary celebration of Branch 595 in Muskegon Heights, Michigan. Represented the society at Indiana Slovak Day in Merrillville, Indiana. Attended a Slovak reception in Chicago by Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas. Attended and chaired 5 seminars in Illinois and Pennsylvania. Attended festivals and set up booths in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Illinois. Inform all Regional Directors of their districts insurance and annuity production on a quarterly basis. I also chair the Membership and Marketing Committee.

At this time, I personally want to thank our executive committee and the Board of Directors for their help and encouragement. Many thanks to the branch and district officers for their untiring commitment to our society. Last, but not least, I want to express my sincerest thanks to our home office staff for the excellent help and cooperation given to me throughout the year.

Until next time  
Good Luck and God Bless,

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr

## Branch 89 Museum Outing in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The Knights of St. Mary & Joseph Branch 89 will have an outing to the Milwaukee Public Museum on Sunday, April 18, 2010 at 1:00PM sharp to see the Dead Sea Scrolls and The Bible Exhibition. This is a timed entry, so attendees need to be there at 12:30 so the group can go into the exhibit at the scheduled hour (1:00PM).

Tickets must be purchased in advance for groups, so you must make an advanced reservation to attend this event by April 7, 2010. Please call President Michael Novak at 414-445-5382 to reserve your spot.

Tickets for members are free; guests are welcome but must pay the face value of the ticket, or \$26 per attendee. Make checks payable to: Knights of St. Mary & Joseph Branch 89. Mail checks to: Mike Novak, 3237 N. 93rd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53222.

Mike Novak, President

## Report of the National Treasurer

GEORGE F. MATTA

*continued from page 3*

many of the called securities had more favorable yields. To offset the reduction in income, a decision was made to utilize low interest funds available from the Federal Home Loan Bank and use those low interest rates to Arbitrage for investment in securities that pay a higher interest rate. The services of an investment subsidiary of Key Bank was engaged.

A Federal Home Loan Bank, located in Cincinnati, provides the FCSU with Available rates during the months for different maturities and at different rates. In order to participate in acquiring low interest rate funds from the FHLB one must be a member; this can be accomplished by purchasing shares of FHLB Common stock. The amount of stock required is in relation to the amount borrowed from the Fed Home Loan Bank.

As reported earlier, funds are borrowed from FHLB at very low rates of interest, and invested and managed by Victory Capital Management, a subsidiary of Key Bank. Victory Capital manages fund known as Absolute Return Credit (ARC). The FCSU first engaged Victory Capital in April 2009 with significant results of 19% return. The net investment rate of return for our entire portfolio is a very respectable 7.1%. The FCSU rate of return will rank near the top among fraternal and commercial insurers. The Society's average investment return for the past five years is 6.47%

#### INVESTMENT INCOME

INVESTMENT income continues to provide the strength for the Society. Following is the investment income enjoyed during the past five years

2005	---	\$ 12,055,609
2006	---	11,746,609
2007	---	12,354,669
2008	---	12,339,378
2009	---	14,998,285

Bonds make up 83%, an increase of 3.3% of the investment portfolio. Investment grade bonds are 89.7%, an increase of 1.6%. Preferred stocks dropped to 2.8%, 1.6% lower of the portfolio. All preferred stocks owned by the Society, but two, are in the top NAIC rating grades. The Society had a \$33,758,387 increase in assets, an increase of 16.8%.

The Unrealized capital gains resulted from the increase in valuation of the Annual Statement value of Ford Motor, General Motors, GMAC and Lehman Brothers bonds. A GMAC Preferred Stock resulted in an almost \$56,160 gain. Surplus not bonds which are carried at market value had an unrealized capital gain of over \$506,279. The improvement of the Common Stock Market gained the Society \$142,905 of unrealized gain, as a result of change in market value.

The total unrealized capital gains were almost \$2,200,000. The Society may continue to experience unrealized gains as market values improve and the economy recovers.

Capital losses in 2008, both realized and unrealized, were offset by the release of the Asset Valuation Reserve (AVR) totaling \$2,202,503. While this benefited the Society in 2008, substantial contributions were required in 2009 to rebuild its balance which is determined by a formula based on the quality of securities owned.

The 2009 AVR requirement for 2009 is \$2,278,782. The balance is now \$2,514,121.

In 2009, \$54,446 or prior years' bonds/preferred stocks profits were included as a part of income. This amount was released from the Interest Maintenance Reserve. The IMR requires that most profits or losses realized when bonds or preferred stocks are matured, called, or sold, must be placed in this reserve and amortized to the original maturity date of the security. The Society holds bonds for income and does not actively trade, although the FCSU has on occasions accepted profitable tender offers that we felt would improve the Society's portfolio. The total IMR is now \$1,399,399, a portion of which will provide average annual income to the Society of approximately \$150,000 for the next 10 years.

The Society purchased over \$92,400,000 of securities in the year 2009, while almost \$58,500,000 of securities were matured, called or sold. These transactions do not include the FHLB funds obtained and invested primarily with the Victory fund. The large volume of activity was necessitated by the continuing large number of calls, especially government sponsored entities such as FNMA, FHLMC. The difficulties are to find replacement bonds of equal value and the best interest rate available.

#### PREMIUM INCOME

	LIFE INSURANCE	ANNUITIES/IRA	TOTAL
2006	\$1,356,060.00	\$3,369,327.00	\$4,725,387.00
2007	1,455,479.00	4,238,394.00	4,693,973.00
2008	1,465,268.00	6,560,316.00	8,025,584.00
2009	1,327,244.00	16,348,878.00	17,676,121.00

As you review the improvements in returns in investments, new products that have been introduced, response from our recommenders and sales agents, and office personnel and recoveries from the losses in 2008, it certainly was an outstanding job by all. We encourage you all to provide us with the same effort in 2010.

Respectfully submitted

George F. Matta  
National Treasurer  
March 10, 2010

## Report of the Fraternal Activities Director

### Fr. Nasta, President Rajec, and Members of the FCSU Board,

The monthly ur\_space.jrs page has been published throughout the year. It includes games, challenges, trivia, and culture. Due to the positive response, this monthly column will be continued this year.

The 2009 Bowling tournament was held the weekend of April 24-26 in Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. There were 175 bowlers in the tournament and approximately 55 people for the banquet. The banquet was held at the Ice Gardens Banquet room in Belle Vernon. After dinner, the group enjoyed dancing and karaoke with Accents Unlimited. The "Don't Stand a Chance" and "Better Luck Next Year" Awards were presented at the banquet to the men's and women's team in last place. Saturday and Sunday Sweepstakes were added benefits, once again, to the Singles and Doubles competitions. The bowler who met certain criteria for each game was awarded a chance to win an extra cash bonus.

The 2009 Golf tournament was held the weekend of August 14-16 in Clarion, Pennsylvania. Eighty golfers participated in the weekend-long festivities. This event was the first joint golf tournament with the Sokols. Overall, based on the comments I received, the Jednota golfers felt that the increased number of participants made for a more inviting competition. From the participants' point of view and the executive officers point of view the event was successful. Since nothing like this had ever been done before it was a learning experience. From a planning standpoint, there are plenty of opportunities for improvement.

The 2009 Coloring Contest was again met with enthusiasm from our young members. We received 133 entries. Congratulations to all the entrants and especially to all the winners. An analysis of the number of entries over the past five years shows that most of the participation is in the 7-9 year-old age group, followed by the 4-6 year-old age group. The monthly ur\_space.jrs page will be geared towards these age groups.

Plans for all scheduled events for this year are well underway.

The 56th Bowling Tournament will take place the weekend of April 30 – May 2 at Eastway Lanes in Erie, Pennsylvania.

The Golf Tournament will take place July 24-25, 2010, at the Cedarbrook Golf Course in Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania.

In conclusion, I thank the Members of the Board for supporting the various activities throughout the year, and I encourage all of you to promote participation in activities at all levels, of our organization. Please feel free to contact me if I can help to coordinate or promote any activities in your area.

Fraternally submitted,

**Susan Ondrejco**  
Director of Fraternal Activities



## Report of Regional Director - Region 1

### Reverend Father, Mr. President and Fellow Members of the Board:

I could not attend the June Meeting due to my accident. I attended the Telephonic Meeting on December 19, 2009.

The New Jersey Fraternal Congress held their Convention on October 8 and 9, 2009. The Youth Leadership Awards were presented to two members of Branch 290. It was very satisfying to have two members of "Jednota" win this award.

I attended the "Okres" Meeting on November 15, 2009 held at St. Joseph's Church; Raritan, New Jersey Branch 290 was the host branch.

Many of my activities were held back due to the accident. I hope and pray that I can take up where I left off seven months ago.

Respectfully submitted,

**Joseph F. Minarovich**  
Regional Director 1



## JEDNOTA GOLF LEAGUE NOTICES

Thursday Jednota Golf League, Bedford Trails Golf Course. The season begins on April 29, 2010, with available start times: 8:00 - 8:30 AM and/or 2:00 - 2:30 PM. New members are still welcome to join by calling Paul Ritz at 330-744-2377. (Look for new scoring system this season)

Friday Jednota Golf League, Knoll Run Golf Course. The season starts April 30, 2010, 4:30-5:30 PM. New members are still welcome to join by calling Paul Ritz at 330-744-2377.

**Paul Ritz, Secretary**



## Report of Regional Director - Region 2

March 2010

### Rev. Thomas Nasta, President Andrew Rajec and fellow members of the FCSU Board of Directors

It has once again been a privilege and an honor to serve as the Regional Director for Region 2.

In this past year, I performed all duties required of me as stipulated by the bylaws. I've attended all Board of Directors meetings which were held either at the Home Office in Independence OH, in Pittsburgh PA, or over the phone as a teleconference. In May 2009, I attended one of the monthly Executive Committee meetings in Pittsburgh, PA at the invitation of the President. I attended one of the district meetings that my region held in Allentown, PA. I missed the other district meeting due to a prior commitment, but provide a detailed report which was read to all the delegates in attendance. I was unable to attend the bowling tournament but did attend and participate in the annual golf tournament in Clarion, PA. It was a pleasure to meet and golf with members of the Slovak Sokol at the combined golf tournament. I look forward to more joint fraternal ventures in the future. It was my intention to attend the funeral of past president Tom Hricik this past January, but the threat of bad weather and illness prevented me from attending.

My regular work schedule keeps me very busy, but I do keep on top of my responsibilities as a board member. I try to keep in contact with my branches through the mail and at district meetings and will continue to do so in the future.

Fraternally,

**Damian D Nasta**  
Regional Director – Region 2



## Report of Regional Director - Region 3

### REPORT OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR

#### Carl Ungvarsky REGION NUMBER 3

My fellow members of Region Number 3, the Saints Cyril and Methodius District Number 17, Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties, PA, and Broome County, NY, and members and officers of the FCSU, it has been an honor to serve you as regional director this past year.

I have participated in every annual and semi-annual meeting of the First Catholic Slovak Union. At each of these meetings I have voted for the betterment and goals established by the founding fathers of our Society. I have attended and participated in all District meetings and functions and promoted "JEDNOTA" with our members and potential members.

I have attended and participated as a member of the FCSU at the Slovak Flag Raising Ceremony at the Luzerne County Court House.

As a member of Properties, Inc., a for-profit subsidiary of our organization, I actively participated in each meeting for the best profitable use of this valuable asset of the FCSU.

In this period of attrition of our older members and declining membership of all fraternal societies, it has been my aim to help rebuild membership and enhance the fiscal solvency of the FCSU.

At each meeting of District No. 17, I have reported to the members and officers any action from the national board meetings, spoke of ways to promote the FCSU and answered any questions. I am always available to any members or branch officers to help in filling out forms or any other general society business. As an insurance and annuity licensee, I have outlined the latest insurance forms and rates at each meeting and have promoted both the insurance and annuity programs of the FCSU to our members.

At each district meeting I read the correspondence from the Executive Secretary or other national officers that was sent to each branch to be sure each member attending has the latest and most useful information about the FCSU. By doing this I hope to promote an active discussion or questions about this correspondence and therefore reinforce the subject that the national officers wish to convey and hopefully have a more informed and active member or recommender.

I have also attended and participated in the District Picnic.

If each of us would sign up a new member this year among our family and friends, together we can build our Branches, District, and the FCSU.

I stand ready and available to help in any way to serve the best interest of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

**Carl Ungvarsky**  
Regional Director - Region 3



## Branch 45 Spring Dance Party in NYC

St. Matthew's Evangelist Society, Branch 45, kindly extends an invitation to its Spring Dance Party on Sunday, April 25, 2010. The dance will be held after the Slovak Mass at 12:30PM in the church hall of St. John Nepomucene on East 66th Street, New York City. Admission is \$25.00 and includes: lunch, coffee, and Slovak-style homemade cookies. During the dance party, a raffle will be drawn and children from the Slovak school will have a special performance. Music will be provided by the well-known Slovak band Kontakty, under the leadership of Joseph Jurasi. We are looking forward to your attendance.

**Maria Jurasi, Financial Secretary**

## Report of Regional Director - Region 4

March 10, 2010

Dear President Rajec, Executive Officers, and Board of Directors,

As in the past, I attended all the Board of Director's meetings held throughout the year at the home office in Independence, Ohio as well as participated in the two scheduled teleconference meetings. I attended my home district, George Onda District, meetings as well as other District meeting for which I was invited.

As an active member of St. John the Baptist Branch #181, I attended meetings and was available to answer questions and concerns presented to me. The annual picnic this year was again a success and I was present for part of the day.

Even with the economic downturn, two thousand and nine was a fruitful year for Region 4 and I kept busy preparing paperwork associated with sixteen new insurance policies, seventeen annuities, and unfortunately far too many death claims.

God Bless,  
Fraternally,

George A. Sprock  
Region 4 Director



## Report of Regional Director - Region 7

March 3, 2010

To: Andrew Rajec

President

First Catholic Slovak Union

From: Rudolph D. Glogovsky

Director

Region 7

Re: Annual Director's Activity Report

As Director of Region 7, Districts 2, 5, & 15, the following details my activities for the past year to date. First and foremost, I serve as Financial Secretary of Branch 686. During the past year, we lost one member (Steve Vican, condolences) and gained 3, and one member applicant pending for an increase in branch membership of approximately 4%. Many thanks for the efforts of Branch 686 President, Mark Davis, Secretary Theresa Davis, and Anita Glogovsky, Treasurer. Teresa Davis works actively in Genoa City, Wis., recruiting members for Branch 686. I have also sent a membership and marketing program, with a list of 253 seniors (of Slovak and Slavic ancestry) residing in Del Webb's Sun City, Huntley, Illinois, to the Executive Secretary of the FCSU, K. Arendt, in a designed pilot program to Slovak and Slavic Del Webb's Sun City senior residents and awaiting action and approval from the Executive Secretary for a JEP Insurance Program (Sun City Seniors sponsoring their Grandchildren) and an Insurance and an Annuity and FCSU Insurance products presentation.

I also attended all Districts 2 meetings, attended District 5's Annual Meeting in November, 2009, in Merrill, Michigan and received an invitation from Maria Pappas, City of Chicago Clerk, attending Cook County Slovak Day on May 5, 2009. Those representing District 2 at this event were my wife, Anita Glogovsky, Vice-President of the FCSU Andy Harcar and his wife, Maria, and Rudy Bernath and his wife.

I attended all meetings of the FCSU, in Independence, Ohio, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and two telephonic meetings.

I have also sent all Region 7 communications and FCSU reports to Paul Skuben, President, District 15, in California. In closing, with all FCSU members contributing, our beloved First Catholic Slovak Union will grow and prosper.

Rudolph D. Glogovsky  
Director  
Region 7



## Report of Regional Director - Regions 8 & 9

March 2010

Mr. President

Executive Committee and Fellow Board members.

It has been a privilege and honour to serve as the Regional Director for Region 8 & 9. In 2009 I performed all duties required of me as stipulated in the bylaws.

I attended both the annual and semi-annual Board of Directors meetings as well as one Executive committee meeting by invitation of the President held at the home office in Independence, Ohio and in Pittsburgh and participated in both quarterly teleconference meetings.

I have also attended the local annual meetings of the Okres of Msgr. Michael Shuba District and Branch #785 as well as their semi-annual meetings.

Personally, I participated in fraternal activities of the Jednota by taking part in the International Bowling tournament held in April 2009 at Belle Vernon Pennsylvania and the first joint Golfing tournament of Jednota and Sokol held at Clarion Lakes in August 2009.

For our local fraternal activities, I assisted and participated in our annual summer Regional picnic held July 2009 in Mississauga, Ontario, which was well attended by our members and special invited guests, Fraternal Activity Sport Director Sue Ondrejco and her family.

I also participated in our annual local Golf tournament which was held in September 2009 at Deerfield Golf Club

I played an active role in the SS. Cyril & Methodius Slovak Church 75th anniversary and attended funeral services of our deceased members in Mississauga, Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,

Milos Mitro  
Regional Director – Region 8 & 9

## Report of Regional Director - Region 5

Report of the Region #5 Regional Director of the First Catholic Slovak Union as per bylaws effective January 1, 2007, Section 9.05

I have attended scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors except the meetings of March 13 & 14, absent and excused.

Regular meetings were held in the home office on March 13th, the Renaissance Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA, on Sept. 11. Meetings by conference calls, via telephone, were held June 20, and December 19, 2009.

Whenever possible, I attended district meetings. Mini-seminars were presented by myself and our National Treasurer, George Matta. New products and annuities were introduced. Materials mailed to me were also discussed. Attending district meetings is still the best way to get information on sales and the organization. Quarterly totals in sales and of their yearly quota are of interest to the branch members.

A lot of my time is spent on the telephone answering questions such as what insurance and annuity products we sell, the % of interest we pay, when do interest rates change, when their certificates or annuity can be cashed in, etc. Many calls are received on changing of beneficiaries and filing of death certificates

Some of the functions I have attended during the past year:

Pittsburgh District Okres, First Catholic Slovak Union, Father's Day Luncheon, Sunday, June 21, World of God Parish, St. Barnabas Worship Site, Swissvale.

86th Slovak American Day, Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day Association, July 16, 2009, Kenywood Park, West Mifflin, A.

Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour, Twenty-seventh Annual Dinner Dance, Saturday, October 3, 2009, Slovak Catholic Sokol Center, Southside, Pittsburgh.

98th Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress, Nemaocolin Woodlands Resort, Farmington, PA, October 25,26,27, 2009.

The First Catholic Slovak Union Membership Meet Cruise on Carnival Cruise Line's Liberty, November 14 – 21, 2009.

Golf tournament, First Catholic Slovak and Sokols, August, 2009. Played.

Regis P. Brekosky  
Region 5 Director



## Report of Regional Director - Region 6

March 1, 2010

To: F.C.S.U. President Andrew Rajec/Rev.Nasta/Fellow Directors

From: Henry Hassay Director Region 6

Re: Annual Directors Report

Dear Mr. President, Rev. Nasta, Fellow Board members

Since our last annual meeting, I have stayed tuned in to all the happenings on the Board Level. I am delighted that we, as Directors, have finally contracted to have Professional Investment guidance as to our investments. I was never impressed with Merrill Lynch of Pittsburgh.

I am proud to say that a few years ago, I recommended Key Bank of Cleveland to replace Merrill Lynch as custodian of our securities. Our President at that time, Mr. Hricik, thought it would be a good idea to explore the possibility.

The Key Bank team made an appointment with our Home Office. Upon their arrival someone other than Mr. Hricik told them we were not interested and we were happy with Merrill Lynch. They were not extended the courtesy to allow them to speak. I was embarrassed and ashamed of this type of conduct.

During our January telephonic meeting, our Treasurer, Mr. Matta, said he was impressed with Key Bank's performance and suggested that the entire Board of Directors have a tour of Key Bank; I am so elated.

I have been and still am an advocate of mergers or consolidations with our other societies, primarily to reduce our expenses which are duplicated by the same vendors to all the societies. I believe that this can be achieved without monetary injury to any and all employees and board members. I, for one, would be willing to sacrifice my position for the betterment of our members

I have been very outspoken on these issues. I am sure all my fellow board members will attest to this. I have been trying to initiate an informal meeting with the Directors of the Sokol, Ladies-Jednota, and/or any other society worthy of consideration.

I continually strive to serve our society by attending all meetings on the national level in person or telephonically. Locally, I attended various activities, in Akron, Campbell, etc. I am always available.

I am happy that the joint golfing event with the Sokols was successful. I have been a constant proponent of comingling this even for many years. Members of the Sokols thought it was a good idea years ago. Our Fraternal process is similar to our Federal Congress and Senate with Health Care.

Our recommenders are a very important element of our society; we must preserve this by constantly serving them so that they can better serve our members, and new members. It is important that we expand our outside sales force to be more professionally competitive.

Our pastors could help us increase our membership by supporting us from the pulpit. Today they are reluctant to do this for fear of offending other Parish Fraternal. If we could consolidate or merge, it would be easier for them to help.

Respectfully,

Henry Hassay  
Director, Region 6



## From the Desk of the Executive Secretary, Kenneth A. Arendt

continued from page 1

to our shared interest in Slovak culture and Catholic fraternal life. From bowling leagues, bowling and golf tournaments to traditional Slovak cultural programs – there is something for everyone to enjoy; something that supports, enriches, and helps carry on our traditions and our faith.

### Branch- and district-level meetings and social functions

Every new policyholder is assigned to a branch. You can find your branch number on the third page of your insurance policy. The name of your branch contact is listed on your premium notice, or can be found by visiting [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com), clicking on Branch Info, and entering in your branch number. I hope you will find out more about your branch, and take the opportunity to interact with other members on a local level. I cannot stress the importance of this enough. During the early years of our Society, it was our branches that helped build strong Slovak communities by founding hundreds of Catholic parishes in the United States and Canada. Today, with the dispersion of most ethnic enclaves, and the closing of many neighborhood churches, it is through our strong "union" of hundreds of branches that our Slovak heritage will live. Many FCSU branches, as well as the larger regional districts, sponsor social outings to museums, plays, and sporting events. Others host Christmas Eve dinners, Easter luncheons, dances, communion breakfasts, and much, much more. I urge new members to seek out their local affiliate, ask about activities, participate, and suggest ideas for more or different branch or district events. It is through continued association with others who share our Catholic values and Slovak culture that both will endure – now and for generations to come.



## WPSCA Presents Slovak Wine Tasting



Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association is presenting a private Slovak Wine Tasting for its members and their guests. On Saturday, May 8, WPSCA will compare three wines from Slovakia (one red and two white) with similar wines from other Central European countries. The tasting will be held at Gypsy Café, located at 1330 Bingham Street, at the corner of 14th Street, in the South Side of Pittsburgh, starting at 1PM. Parking is available in the rear City Theatre portion of the City Theatre/Schwartz Market parking lot across the street from the café on Bingham Street. Please do not park in the front Schwartz Market section of the lot. View the restaurant's website [www.gypsycafe.net](http://www.gypsycafe.net) for directions.

Various cheeses and Slovak appetizers will be served with the wines. Violinist George Batyi and an accordionist will be on hand to play Slovak melodies during the tasting. The Slovak wines featured are Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Pinot Grigio.

The price for the event is \$25 per person payable in advance. Attendance is limited to 50 members and guests on a first come, first serve basis. For reservations, call Pam at 412-531-2990 during the day, or Albina at 412-343-5031 in the evening. Send your checks to WPSCA, Manor Two, Suite 500, Pittsburgh, PA 15220.

### Scholarship information and opportunities

Every year, the First Catholic Slovak Union grants 75 scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are enrolled in a college or university. It also supports the Jednota Benevolent Foundation, Inc., which annually awards up to 10 one-time \$500 scholarships. Your membership, which is automatically assigned with each policy, entitles you to application information about these scholarships. More information is available by going to our website, [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com), and clicking on Scholarships.

### Bi-weekly, bi-lingual "JEDNOTA (Union)" newspaper

Each policyholder also gets a subscription to this newspaper. The FCSU's bi-weekly, bi-lingual Jednota has been published continuously since 1891, and is read not only by members, but also by people interested in Catholic and Slovak life throughout the United States and around the world. During the communist era, the Jednota Press was one of the few places in the world that printed Slovak Catholic literature. The newspaper served as a key vehicle for the FCSU to tirelessly and vigorously champion the fight for Slovak independence, a fight that culminated in the birth of the Slovak Republic in 1992. As the official organ of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Jednota exists today to publish news and information about and for our members, and is an excellent way of learning more about the Society and highlighting your local events and activities. Archives of the Jednota can be accessed by going to [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com), and clicking on Newspaper.

Much of this information is well known to our longstanding members who have dedicated themselves to supporting the First Catholic Union. To our most recent policyholders who are now members, we say "Vitajte; welcome." We value your interest, input, and participation in the First Catholic Slovak Union. Together we will keep it strong.

For more information on the First Catholic Slovak Union's services and products, go to [www.fcsu.com](http://www.fcsu.com).



## Studia Academica Slovaca

The prestigious "Studia Academica Slovaca" (SAS) has been an educational program organized by Comenius University in Bratislava for the past 46 years. This year, SAS will run from August 1st to August 21st 2010, with a curriculum aimed at all those studying the Slovak language and culture, and all Slavists in general. This intensive program is especially geared toward university or college professors, experienced teachers, postgraduates and advanced undergraduates of Slovak and Slavonic studies, as well as writers, translators and all others interested in the Slovak language and culture. The program also offers the opportunity to study the basics of the Slovak language at any level of proficiency, including beginners, with the goal of helping students improve and extend their Slovak language competence, as well as increase their level of expertise in Slovak literature and culture. More information about SAS is available at [www.fphil.uniba.sk/sas](http://www.fphil.uniba.sk/sas)

Application for the course should be submitted online at "[www.e-slovak.sk/apply/](http://www.e-slovak.sk/apply/)", by May 15, 2010.

To promote participation from the U.S., the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic offers 3 scholarships for participants from the U.S. to the SAS program. (Scholarship does not cover travel and insurance)

### Scholarship application

Applications for the SAS scholarship should be submitted to the Embassy of the Slovak Republic, 3524 International Court, NW, 20008 Washington, DC. Deadline for the scholarship applications is the April 15th, 2010. Application may have a form of a general letter, fax (202-237-6438) or email ([terezia.sajgalikova@mzv.sk](mailto:terezia.sajgalikova@mzv.sk) – please use as a subject code Studia Academica Slovaca) expressing interest to receive scholarship for the Studia Academica Slovaca that includes applicant's:

Date of Birth, Address of Permanent Residence, Address of Temporary Residence, Nationality, Citizenship, Current Employment, Telephone contact, Fax (if available), E-mail contact, Indication whether candidate received SAS scholarship in the past, Current skills in Slovak language (proficiency, intermediate, beginner), character of use of Slovak language - including indication to which of the priority groups (explained further) applicant belongs.

Properly submitted applications will be confirmed by the Embassy. If your application has not been confirmed within 3 days following submission, please contact the Embassy without delay.

Applicants for SAS scholarships will be selected according to following priorities (Priority Groups).

1. University or college professors, experienced teacher, postgraduate and advanced undergraduate of Slovak and Slavonic studies in the U.S.,
2. Writers, translators, journalists, artists using Slovak language in the U.S.,
3. U.S. Businessmen and employees of the U.S. based companies active in the Slovak Republic,
3. Members of the Slovak American organizations and families,
4. All other with interested in Slovak language and culture.

Within the same group, priority will be given to those:

1. whose work is perceived as most beneficial for promotion of the Slovak language and culture in the U.S. or for the promotion of strong Slovak-U.S. relations,
2. who are in the most need of financial assistance (i.e., students, postgraduates, etc.)
3. who haven't received a SAS scholarship in the past.

Previous application for scholarship has no positive or negative influence on the decision making process.

All applicants will be informed about a decision on their application by April 25, 2010. Successful candidates will then individually apply online using a special scholarship code provided by the Embassy. Candidates who do not qualify for a SAS scholarship will still have the opportunity to apply as a self-paying participant in the program. Note: if you are applying for a scholarship, please do not apply online prior to a decision being rendered on your eligibility. An applicant who applies online without an assigned special scholarship code will be automatically processed as a self-paying applicant.

## "Park 2 Annuity" 3.75%

(3.682% apr)

Rate Effective March 1, 2010

Under the "PARK 2 ANNUITY", you make a ONE-TIME DEPOSIT OF AT LEAST \$1,000.00 into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at a GUARANTEED RATE FOR TWO YEARS. Additional deposits are not allowed.

Features of the "Park 2 Annuity" include:

- The FCSU GUARANTEES YOUR INITIAL INTEREST RATE FOR TWO YEARS. After two years, your funds will continue to accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- The "Park 2 Annuity" can be converted to any of the FCSU Annuity Plans at any time.
- The "Park 2 Annuity" is not applicable to any settlement option or interest option.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Funds withdrawn during the first two years are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. The charge is 6% the first year and 5% the second year. You may, however, withdraw up to 10% of your 'Beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- The minimum deposit is \$1,000.00.

Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications  
Visit our web site at [FCSU.com](http://FCSU.com)





# 50th Anniversary Celebrated

Mr. & Mrs. Severnak



1960



2010

Jack & Beverly Severnak of West Wyoming, PA, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The couple was married on April 9, 1960 by the late Rev. Bednarchik in St. John the Baptist Church, Pittston, PA. Their attendants were Jerry Mondlak & Elaine Macy. Mrs. Severnak is the former Beverly Matza, daughter of the late Lawrence & Margaret Matza of West Wyoming, PA. Mr. Severnak is the son of the late George & Mary Severnak of Port Griffith, A.

The couple has four daughters, Sherry & her husband Carmen, Easton, PA; Susan & her husband Joe, Plains, PA; Sandy and her husband Randy, Mountain Top, PA; and Sharlene & her husband Brian, Mechanicsburg, PA. The couple is blessed with 5 grandchildren, John, Mia, Mary, Joshua & Benjamin.

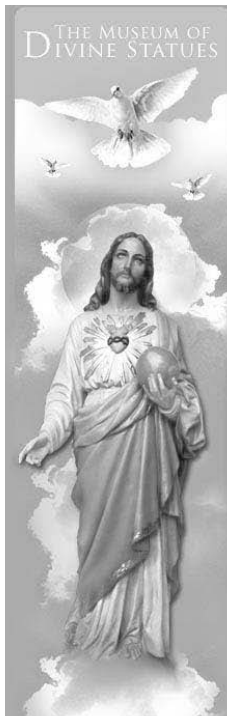
They are both members of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 5, Exeter, PA. During the years, Jack served as President, Financial Secretary & Trustee for Branch 7, Pittston, PA.

A mass in their honor was held at St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston, PA. The couple celebrated the occasion with family & friends.



## Museum of Divine Statues in Cleveland, OH

The Museum of Divine Statues is a non-profit that was founded to rescue, restore and display ecclesiastical statues in a reflective and respectful setting. Restoration artist Louis McClung repaints and restores the works of art back to their original splendor, and then displays them in a contemplative atmosphere. Visitors have the opportunity to learn details about each statue's history, as well as the symbols with which each is depicted. The Museum of Divine Statues currently has statues from many churches that have closed in Cleveland. For more, go to [www.museumofdivinestatues.org](http://www.museumofdivinestatues.org).



## The Waiting Line for 2082 Starts Here

*continued from page 1*

search, includes birthplace of parents, year of immigration, citizenship status, language spoken, occupation, and if the home is rented or owned; the 1920 Census is the only form to request the exact year in which a person was naturalized, and the first census to ask the "mother tongue" of each household member and their parents. The later is a great insight if one's language is listed as "Slovak" and underscores its worth as the country of birth often created confusion when listed as Austria-Hungary.

The 1930 Federal Census provides the home address, the name of each person living in that house on 1 April 1930, the date the census commenced. Thus, any baby born after this date in the same 1930 year would have to wait to be counted – and identified – in the next census 10 years later!

The 1930 Census also names the head of the house and the relationship to him/her of all others living there. You'll learn if the house was owned or rented, if the family had a "radio set," and if they lived on a farm. You'll learn the "marital condition" of each resident and their age when they married. You will see if they attended "school or college" since 1 September 1929 and whether those being counted could read and write.

Compared to previous enumeration years, the 2010 Census version appears to be lacking in both scope and depth—at least from through the lens of one conducting Slovak research. After all, 10 questions are just 10 questions and they didn't even ask me if I owned a "radio set."

There are some excellent on-line resources for prior census records (through 1930) and any of the following will reap their dividends:

- [www.census-online.com/links/](http://www.census-online.com/links/)
- [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
- [www.cyndislist.com/na.htm](http://www.cyndislist.com/na.htm)
- [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

And just in case you were wondering, the "foot soldiers" were paid 2½ cents per household in 1900, while the average rate in collecting those missing participants for the current 2010 Census is \$16 per hour.

About the author: For those doing family research, author Ray Plutko has available a detailed historical summary and comprehensive map for any single village in Slovakia at \$5 plus \$1 postage per each village request. When ordering, further specify the county, if known, and/or

the largest nearby town where located. Make check payable to Ray Plutko, 6862 Palmer Court, Chino, CA 91710-7343.



## Lorain United Slovak Societies Making Scholarships Available

The United Slovak Societies of the American Slovak Club, Lorain, Ohio is proud to make \$500 scholarships available to qualifying members of the St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228 of Lorain, Ohio. The applicant must be a graduating high school senior who will enter a college or professional school in the fall of 2010. Additional qualifications must include membership in the FCSU for the past five (5) consecutive years, achievement of a 3.5 out of 4.0 grade point average and the application must be signed by the principal or guidance counselor of the graduate's high school. Applications and rules can be requested by contacting the: American Slovak Club, Attn: Scholarship Chairperson, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Ohio 44055. You may also contact Tom Zuffa at (440) 282-2966. Applications need to be returned by May 31, 2010.

This is an excellent opportunity to receive financial aid to help fund your education and we hope to see our members take advantage of it.

**Thomas B. Zuffa**  
Recording Secretary  
St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge, Branch 228

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

All English and Slovak articles should be sent directly to the new editor Teresa Ivanec, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398. The new E-Mail Address for the articles will be [fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com). Articles may also be sent by Fax at 216/642-4310. Teresa Ivanec can be reached by phone at 216/642-9406 or 1/800-533-6682.

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2010

### HOME OFFICE INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

**OPEN**

President Andrew M. Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. and asked Vice President Harcar to lead the prayer.

**ROLL CALL**

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President  
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary  
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President  
George F. Matta, Treasurer  
Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director, by invitation of the President

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE JANUARY MEETING MINUTES**

The Executive Secretary presented the Minutes of the January 2010 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by George Matta and seconded by Andrew Harcar to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S STOCK AND BOND REPORT**

The Treasurer submitted a written monthly report which was reviewed by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer answered all questions of the Committee.

The President led a discussion reviewing our current interest rates and, after discussion, a decision by the Executive Committee was made and the following annuity and IRA interest rates will become effective as of March 1, 2010:

The annual yield on a Flexible Premium Deferred Annuities & IRA's is 4.40% (4.306%APR).

The annual yield on a Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity 8 year is:

- Deposit of \$10,000 or more will be 5.60% the first year (5.449% PR).
- Deposit of less than \$10,000 will be 4.65% the first year (4.545% PR).

The annual yield on a Park Free Plus Annuity is 3.50% (3.440% APR) - \$100,000.00 maximum – up from \$50,000.00 in February.

The annual yield on a new Park 2 Annuity is 3.75% (3.682% APR).

The annual yield on a new six year Fixed Rate Annuity & IRA is 4.00% (3.922% APR).

The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Options is 4.15% (4.066% APR).

The annual yield for new Settlement Options is based on 3.90% (3.826% APR).

These new rates will be published in the Jednota newspaper.

**FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK OF CINCINNATI – VICTORY ASSET MANAGEMENT**

The Executive Secretary submitted a written report to the Executive Committee which gave a complete update of the investments with Key Bank Corporation and updated the Executive Committee on all current transactions with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

**PORTFOLIO CUSTODIAN**

The Executive Secretary updated the Executive Committee on our portfolio custodian, Key Bank. He stated everything is in order and working well. The Executive Secretary further stated that we have completed our reconciliation of our custodian's year-end report and found everything in order.

**AQS ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC. REPORT**

Mr. Larry White from AQS Asset Management, LLC. joined the Executive Committee meeting via telephone and presented his report via Web-ex with the following agenda:

- Portfolio metrics and distribution
- Cash on hand and projections
- Market Data
  - Current Markets
  - Fed Fund Futures
  - FOMC Calendar
- Credit Actions
- Transactions
- CIT Exchange MV vs. Original Book
- Ford Positions
- Commentary

After his presentation Mr. White answered the Executive Committee's questions.

**SALES AND MARKETING**

The Vice President reviewed our sales production report in different Regions and answered all questions presented. The Vice President also reviewed the sales production report of our independent agents, noting that we are continuing to add agents, and answered

the Executive Committee's questions.

The Vice President led a discussion regarding our 8-year annuity product. The Executive Committee decided that the first year bonus on deposits of \$10,000.00 and greater will be 5.60% for the first year. The Vice President stated that we are in process of advertising the new annuity product in the Jednota newspaper, our website, thru branch mailings, etc.

The Vice President further stated that he is in process of setting up District and Branch seminars and is urging the Regional Directors and District Presidents to contact him as soon as possible if they would like to have a sales seminar within their respective region or district.

The Executive Secretary stated that there was a removal of 285 members from our Canadian Branches. This was done as a result of a required reconciliation prior to our upcoming Convention of our Canadian policies with Unity Life of Canada. The 285 members who were removed either died or ceased making their premium payments to the Canadian insurer who took over the block of business.

The Executive Secretary further stated that we will advertise our IRA and ROTH products in all our monthly mailings.

**2010 CONVENTION**

The President updated the Executive Committee on the progress of finalizing the events and entertainment for the delegates and guests who will attend the 49th National Convention. He stated further that he is gathering information on dance groups, musicians, speakers etc. and once everything is further along, he will update the Executive Committee. Mr. Thomas Ivanec, long-time President of the Cleveland folk dance group Lucina and a Jednota member, has kindly volunteered to handle the contacting and arrangements for the musicians and dance groups because of his many contacts and years of experience.

The President and the Executive Secretary stated that the Home Office is in process of finalizing the program and list of activities for children attending the Convention and that they are working closely with Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director.

The President also stated that we will have a memorial service for deceased Officers and Members right before the Convention Mass on Sunday, August 15, 2010.

**JEDNOTA PROPERTIES**

The President updated the Executive Committee on the progress of the Leasing Agreement with ACS and stated that there are still some issues to be resolved before the contract can be signed. He hopes everything will be resolved in the near future. He will update the Executive Committee when the new Leasing Agreement will be finalized.

The President updated the Executive Committee on the maintenance of Building No. 2 in Middletown, PA. He stated there were some issues with the snow removal from the parking lot on our property in Middletown, PA and that an outside firm had to be called to help Steve Nease, maintenance personnel, with final snow removal. The President further stated that there are still some issues with Steve Nease and proper maintenance of our buildings in Middletown, PA.

The President further stated that the refurbishing work on our Printery Building is almost completed with few a things to be finished when the weather war s.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Executive Secretary stated the Home Office will continue to advertise our products through the monthly branch mailings and insert advertisements in the monthly billing as well as in the Jednota newspaper.

**MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES**

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

Disbursements for the month of January 2010:	
Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 214,978.44
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 13,439.86
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

*continued on page 11*

# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

continued from page 10

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

**REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS**  
Requests were reviewed and acted upon.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Andrew Harcar and seconded by George Matta to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Vice President closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec  
National President

Kenneth A. Arendt  
Executive Secretary



## Book Corner



### Igor Grossmann-A Unique Slovak

Igor Grossmann is an important Slovak who, through his artistry with a camera, has preserved our Slovak history. The photographs of Igor Grossmann transport the viewer back into a time where life was simpler for Slovaks. The pictures are full of joy, passion, and wistfulness. Celebrations, work, weddings, funerals all tell a tale of a way of life that is now lost. Dr. Grossmann has captured this time for us to savor. The images of a beautiful Slovak mountain village and its people are forever held in time. The traditional ways of farming, buildings blended into scenery, ordinary family,

and festive times are beautifully presented for our enjoyment.

Originally from Zilina in northwestern Slovakia, Igor Grossmann worked as a pharmacist in the mountain villages and was able to indulge his inclination to view the world through a camera lens. In 1966, he quit his work as a pharmacist, put his passion for photography first and began his quest to document a cultural identity.

Igor Grossmann's starkly beautiful black-and-white photographs capture the essence of Slovak village life in a mountainous region of Central Europe at the moment of encounter between the old ways and the new day of European development, when centuries of tradition were about to give way to the modern age. This is a striking survey, a powerful visual tool documenting what was about to be altered forever by the technologies of the second half of the twentieth century...a yesteryear culture that will never come again.

**-Midwest Book Review  
May 2000**

"Images Gone with Time is a photographic record about the struggle of a people for their daily bread, about love and joy in a culture redeemed with difficult, paid for with great effort— where the sense of obligation and duty was the primary virtue — and also about the tasteful, artistic imagination of the farming society, which spins beauty from wood, colors, cloth, and reverie. But at the same time it is also a Grossmann event— a happening of extraordinary empathy, respect and affection

toward something as 'simple as home,' with a fidelity to memories as an irreplaceable part of our identity. The carefree and foolish carnival joy of Shrovetide springs forth from the photography found on the front dust jacket. Exuberant riotousness, unbridled play. But, for this book the bewitched physician took out from his box of photographs also scenes of the most sorrowful moments of this closed-up community. The harmony between the documentary and the artistic is as characteristic for Grossmann's photography as for this Images Gone with Time. It is actually a photographic 'carved Bethlehem-crèche' of the Slovak world, which is physically no more. Its status as a legacy is indeed very special.

This black and white photography book represents stunningly beautiful embroidery of images and ideas about Slovakia since before the mid-twentieth century. It also consists of the skillful verbal- iconic articulation of the meaning and beauty and dignity— indeed even the noblesse — of everyday life and destiny of a modest people. The ambition of those who participated was to examine — with affection — and to recall the times when plowing was truly difficult work and working hard was still a socially revered virtue."

— Dr. Emma Nezinska

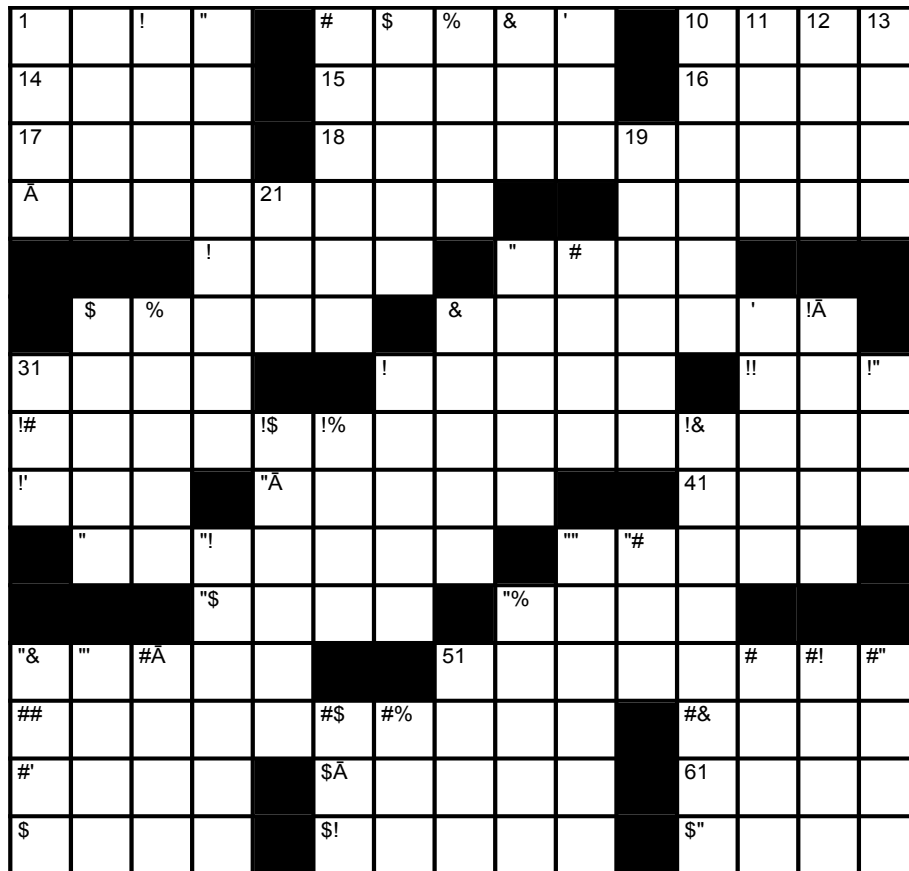
(Translated from the Slovak by Gerald Sabo, SJ)  
Slovo, Bratislava  
March 29/April 4, 2000

152 pp, 125 art photographs, Hardbound, ISBN 978-0-8651-436-9 \$45.00/ April, 2010, only \$15 \$7 shipping and handling for first book, \$1 for each additional book  
Donna Schmitz, DSchmitz@Slovakculture.org  
SAICF 1572 Baskin Rd., Mundelein, IL 60060

You are invited to view Dr. Grossmann's photographs in a slide show at <http://www.slovak.org/gallery/grossmann>

Original remaining photos, one-of-a kind or limited edition, are available as gifts to donors who make a tax-deductible donation to SAICF: \$200 - unsigned \$300 - signed

# Jednota Crossword Puzzle



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See Solution on Page 18



# Treasure Tours Now Forming For Summer 2010

Jednota member Helene Cincebeaux will lead four summer tours of Slovakia and neighboring countries for Treasures Tours. Helene is Editor of Slovakia magazine and Slovak Pride and Director of the Slovak Heritage & Folklore Society International,

The trips feature cultural immersion in Slovak history, village life and folklore and have a 98% success rate in reuniting travelers with long-lost family. Visits to ancestral villages can be arranged with a car, translator and advance genealogical services. People from 47 states and 10 countries have traveled with Helene over the past 21 years; many come back, over and over.

Trips include hotels with private bath in room, two large meals a day, bus transport, castle and museum visits, historic towns, quaint villages, crafts people's homes and festive gatherings. It's a chance to step back in time and glimpse the life of your ancestors. All trips are "land only" but round trip airfare can be arranged. Also a Prague addition is available.

**Immersion in Slovak Villages & Castles - June 25 - July 4 \$1,999 (leave US on June 24)**

Meet at Vienna airport, on to fairy-tale Bojnice Castle and Folk Festival in Helpa; village visits to a bell collector, a doll maker, sheepskin coat maker. Marvel at an ancient wooden church that is a UNESCO Treasure; dine in a medieval castle; visit a lace-making village and a 3 generation lace-making family's home; immerse in a remote village with home/farm visits and a party with the mayor. Climb Spis Castle and feast at a Pirohy Party. Two nights stay in a historic Curia next to a castle. Tour Tokaj wine caves; open a dower chest in a Liptov village; feast on pampusky; see a 400 year old painted wooden church and majestic Orava Castle. Marvel at treasures in the Slovak Ethnographic Museum in Martin. Photo beautiful Beckov Castle atop a volcanic rock and tour medieval Cerveny Kamen Castle for beautiful furniture and legends.

**Treasures of Slovakia Trip - July 9 - 18 \$1,999 with glimpses of Poland and Austria (leave US on July 8)**

Our 22nd year in a row for this popular trip. Begin with medieval Cerveny Kamen Castle and on to central Slovakia. Tour Banska Bystrica, visit Detva Folk Festival with rousing performances and over 100 crafts people.

Historic Kezmarok comes alive for the International Crafts Festival as the streets are filled with ceramic, glass, textile, wood, leather and metal artists and naive painters. Visit an alpine resort in the High Tatras, meet a sheepskin coat maker and his 4 generation family; ride a raft in Pieniny Park; enjoy a Goral dinner in charming Zakopane, Poland. Immerse in the Zdiar Museum and Stara Lubovna's outdoor skansen; have a Rusyn feast and see a private museum; learn about Spis and Rusyn village life. Visit UNESCO Treasure Bardejov, its famed icon museum and a 200 year-old icon-filled wooden church. Touch the heart of Spis, Saris and Abov in Levoca, Presov and Kosice. Explore dramatic Spis Castle, dance at a village party. Feast in a family vineyard. Tour a Celtic castle ruin, and take a guided tour of Bratislava's Old Town; on to Vienna to stroll the lanes and dine on wiener schnitzel.

**Five Countries - Five Cultures - July 18 - 26 \$1,999 Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, Czech Republic & Austria (leave US on July 17)**

Meet at Vienna airport, on to Budapest and a guided tour of the city; next day to Miskolc to swim in the unique cave pools at Tapolca, night lights tour to admire the waterfall in the heart of town and enjoy the outdoor cafes. Tour UNESCO treasure Aggtelek Cave, on to dramatic Krasna Horka Castle and charming Kosice. Enjoy Michalovce famed museum, Humenne's Castle and a pottery workshop, pick your plate off the wall! Stroll Presov's historic square and on to Poland, thru the dramatic Tatra Mts. to Krakow; option to tour Wieliczka Royal Salt Mine and Auschwitz Camp. Continue on to Czech Republic's Straznice, heart of folk culture, sample wines and meet an egg decorator. Then on to Austria where you'll cruise the castle-studded Wachau River Valley. Charming Melk Monastery and Durnstein with its ancient ruins and apricot specialties.

**Romantic Central European Castles - July 26 - Aug. 3 \$1,999 Slovakia, Hungary, Czech Republic and Austria (leave US on July 25)**

Motor through the scenic countryside to Budapest; guided tour to Heroes Square, Castle Hill and Old Town, admiring the magnificent architecture; find treasures at the historic market and enjoy a special dinner spotlighting Hungarian foods, folk music and



The younger generation takes part in the Helpa Folk Festival, photo by Helene Cincebeaux at the Helpa Festival, June 2009

dance. To Bratislava to stroll the Old Town and visit Devin Castle and a ceramic artist's workshop with dinner in a quaint inn. Then Prague, the City of 1,000 Spires, beckons. Guided tour of the Old Town, Jewish Quarter, Prague Castle & Gardens and famed Charles Bridge. Dine in a historic wine cellar and another evening on a dinner cruise on the Vltava River. To Vienna, the heart of world music, feast on traditional schnitzel on a flower-filled terrace under the vineyards. See the historic sites in Old Vienna, enjoy a concert and marvel at the dramatic night lights tour.

For a colorful trip flyer with day by day itineraries, call Helene Cincebeaux toll free at 888/529-7150 or 585 342-9383 or write to 151 Colebrook Dr, Rochester NY 14617 or e-

mail helenezx@aol.com. You can also check out the web site [www.Our-Slovakia.com](http://www.Our-Slovakia.com) or [www.Treasurestours.com](http://www.Treasurestours.com).

If you would like a sample copy of the Slovakia magazine published by the Slovak Heritage & Folklore Society International for the past 24 years, send \$2 to Helene at the address above.

To list your surnames in the Slovak Pride data base (now more than 28,500 listings) send your info to Helene at the address above. You can access the Slovak Pride list at [www.SlovakPride.homestead.com](http://www.SlovakPride.homestead.com) or buy it in a book "Slovak Pride" which has all the listings and 40 additional pages of maps and articles; cost is \$20 plus \$3 postage. You are welcome to submit your Slovak surnames too!

## “Kde Je Slovak Tam Je Spev” – Where There Is A Slovak, There Is Song

This time-honored Slovak saying was alive the reverence of devotion at the 10th Annual Slovak Lenten Hymn Sing and Križová Cesta held by the Slovak Heritage Society of North-eastern Pennsylvania.

Over 80 people attended the inspirational even on a Sunday afternoon in March in Holy Trinity Church, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania. The Rev. John Albosta, Slovak Heritage Society Chaplain, presided at the Križová Cesta and Benediction.

Before each of the fourteen stations, the traditional hymn "Krestania Sem Prospiechajte" was sung. Prayers were led by Magdalen Benish, Plains, Service Coordinator; Mary Chupka, Anna Hendershot, Peter Kmec, Mary Migatulski, Helen Savinski; and Philip R. Tuhy, Society Chairperson.

A special surprise visitor to the occasion was a young man from Slovakia, Peter Kmec, who is studying at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. "It was a pleasure to all in attendance to see and hear this young man participate with the leading of prayers of two stations, in Slovak, as well as singing of the six Lenten hymns," Ms. Benish

commented.

Leading the congregation in singing was Bernadette Yench, Wilkes-Barre, who said, "The Hymn Sing affords the opportunity for our English-speaking faithful to appreciate the wealth of Slovak hymnology. English translations of all the Slovak hymns were provided along with Station booklets; however, something usually is lost in the translation."

Hymns included: "O Srdce Kamenne" (O Heart of Stone) and "O Človečeo preč mňa tak sužujes?" (Oh my people, why do you torment me so?).

Organist for the Hymn Sing was Helen Savinski Nylon, while Joseph Kowatch served as cross bearer and Anna Hudock and Theresa Chupka were candle bearers.

The Slovak Heritage Society of NEPA began the Hymn for Lent in 1996, and hopes to continue every year, encouraging public attendance. Society Chair Tuhy stated that the Society has cassettes or CDs of the Lenten Hymn Sing or Passion-Ressurrection. Interested persons should go to [www.shsnepa.org](http://www.shsnepa.org) or write: SHSNEPA, P.O. Box 5004 Sta A, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18710-5004.

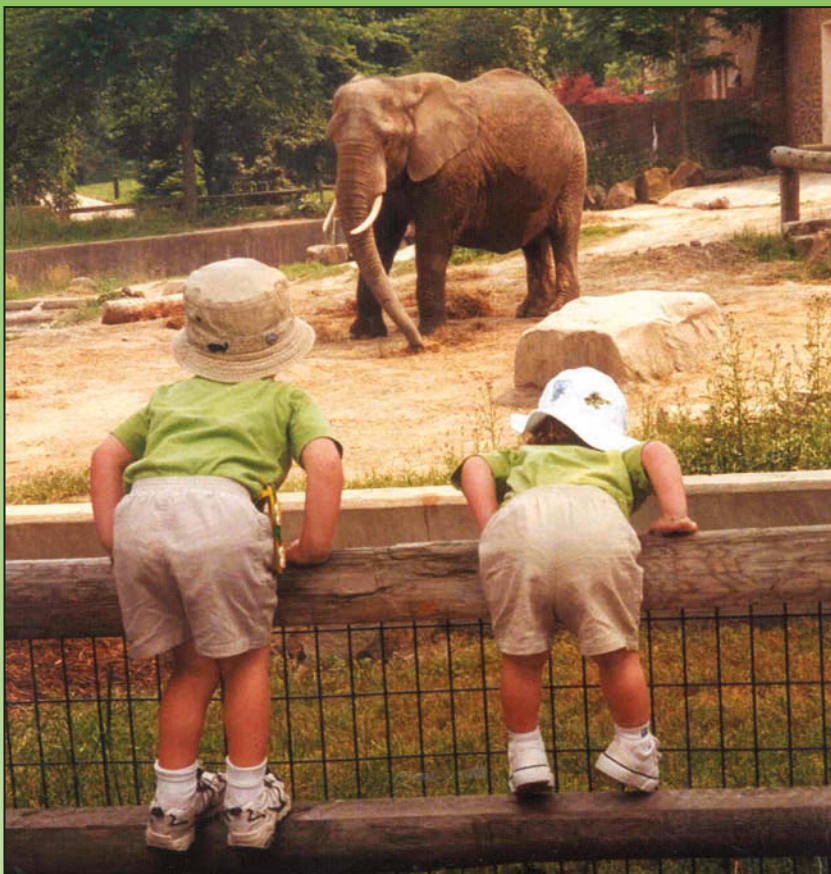


# 49th INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

THE RENAISSANCE HOTEL  
24 PUBLIC SQUARE  
CLEVELAND, OHIO, 44113  
PHONE: 216-696-5600; FAX: 216-696-0432

*SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2010 through WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2010*

## 49th International Convention Preview: Things To Do While In Cleveland



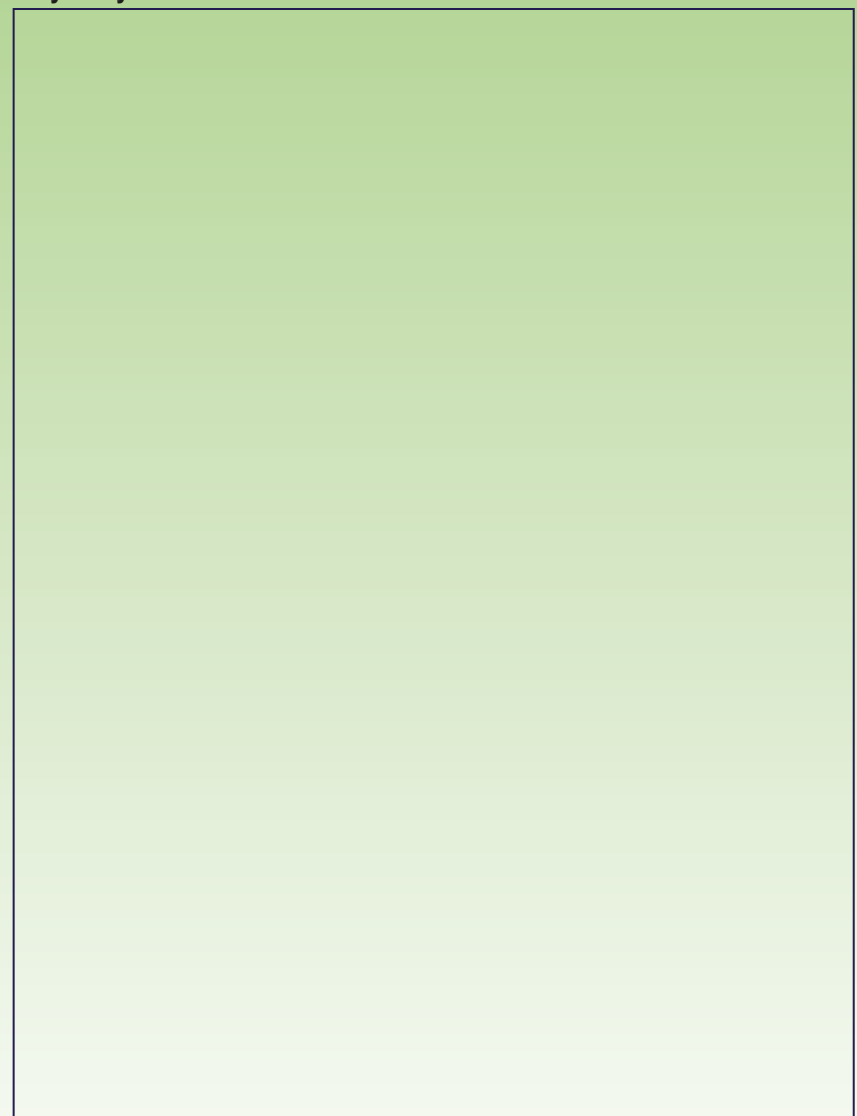
The Cleveland Metroparks Zoo & RainForest is home to more than 3,000 animals representing 600 species. Explore 168 acres to see exotic animals in naturalistic habitats all year long not far from downtown Cleveland.



The Cleveland Museum of Art is celebrated world-wide for the superb breadth and quality of its comprehensive collection with more than 40,000 works of art spanning 5,000 years. Collections include Asian art, Egyptian galleries, pre-Columbian works, Medieval and Armor Court, Old Master paintings, Impressionist masterpieces and Contemporary Art which features ""Marilyn x100"" by Andy Warhol.



The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad allows you to experience the adventure and nostalgia of one of the oldest, longest, and most scenic excursion railways in the country. Journey through the heart of beautiful Cuyahoga Valley National Park riding comfortably in vintage climate-controlled coaches from the 1940s and 50s.



Playhouse Square Center is the nation's second largest performing arts center with more than 10,300 seats. Five beautifully restored theaters set the scene for lavish Broadway productions, the Cleveland Opera, the Ohio Ballet, the Great Lakes Theatre Festival and hundreds of concerts throughout the year.



# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Branch 3, SS Cyril and Methodius Society, will hold a meeting to elect delegates to the Convention on Sunday May 2, 2010. The meeting will be at 1:00PM at the home of the financial secretary at 1001 – 42 ½ Ave, N.E., Minneapolis, MN. All members are invited.

**James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 24 – CLEVELAND, OHIO

St. Andrew Svorad, Branch 24, will hold a short meeting on Sunday, May 23, 2010, at St. Andrew Abbey following the 1:00PM Mass/luncheon (for details on this event, see "Celebrating Our Slovak Catholic Culture" article in this edition of the Jednota). The Branch 24 agenda will include a discussion about our upcoming convention. Lunch will be complimentary for our members, but reservations are still required. To make a reservation, or for more information, contact Branch 24 Activities Director Susan Lang at 216-896-0957.

Veselú Veľkú Noc!

**Bob Kopco, President**

## BRANCH 41 – YONKERS, NEW YORK

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41 KJ, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday May 1, 2010, in the Parish Hall of Most Holy Trinity, Trinity and Walnut Streets, Yonkers, NY, at 6:00PM, after the 5:00PM Mass. On the agenda will be: our Trinity Sunday Communion Breakfast to be held June 6, 2010, and the 100th Anniversary of Most Holy Trinity Church. Most important will be the election of delegates from Branch 41KJ to the 49th International Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States and Canada. We urge all members of Branch 41 KJ to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

**Robert J. Lutz, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 55 – PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

A special meeting of Branch 55 K.J. is scheduled to be held on Sunday, April 18, 2010 at 2:00p.m. at the home of Vice President, Steven J. Gerba, 188 DiMarco Drive, Philadelphia, PA, for the election of Delegates and Alternates to serve for the 49th Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union to be held August 14 – 18, 2010 in Cleveland, Ohio. Refreshments will be served. All members are cordially invited to attend. Please call the Vice President at (215) 637-6530 or the President at (610) 356-7956 for directions.

**Josephine E. Gerba, Secretary-Treasurer,**

## BRANCH 60 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch60 will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 16, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of President Ann Wargovich, 58 Lilmont Avenue, Swissvale, PA. On the agenda will be office's reports, discussion of branch activities and the upcoming convention. All Members are urged to attend.

**Margaret M. Perla, Secretary**

## BRANCH 61K – BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

There has been a merger between Branch 061K Baltimore, MD and Branch 856K Herndon, DC. All members of Branch 061K will now hold membership in Branch 856K. This merger has taken place as of April 08, 2010. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Katherine Nowatkoski, 12127 Westwood Hills Dr, Oak Hill, VA 20171-1512, (703) 860-1693.

We wish to thank all the past officers for

their dedication and efforts through the years performed in the spirit of fraternalism.

**Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary**

## BRANCH 75 – SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the B.V.M. Society, Branch 75, will hold its regular monthly meeting on Sunday, May 2, 2010 at 10:30AM at the residence of the President and Financial Secretary, Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin St., Shamokin, PA 17872. The election of two (2) delegates and one (1) alternate delegate will take place to represent Branch 75 at the 49th Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union to be held at the Renaissance Hotel in Cleveland, OH, from Saturday August 14, 2010 – Wednesday August 18, 2010. The regular monthly meeting agenda items also will be taken up. Other non-agenda items may be discussed. All members are required to attend this regular monthly meeting.

**Ronald M. Anderson,  
President and Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 108 – CONNELLSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 108K will hold a meeting for the election of delegates to the Convention and any new business on April 17, 2010 at 11:00AM at 1916 Second Street, S. Conneltsville, PA 15425.

**Thomas E. Kocis, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 112 – MAHANAY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 112, will hold a meeting on Saturday, May 1, 2010 at 1PM at 86 Spring Street, Pottsville, PA. The meeting will be for the election of officers for 2010. Please call 570-544-6694 for directions.

**Karen Engle Sterling**

## BRANCH 166 – BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph The Guardian Society, Branch 166K, will hold its semi-annual meeting and dinner on Sunday, April 18, 2010, at 1:15PM at the Country Buffet, Town Square Mall, Vestal Parkway, Vestal, NY. The agenda will consist of branch business and the selection of delegates to the National Convention, Saturday, August 14, 2010 – Wednesday, August 18, 2010, at the Renaissance Hotel in Cleveland, OH. We hope to see all members at the meeting. Please call Sue Gabriel at 607-729-8034 or Arlo Meeker at 607-775-4896 by April 14, 2010.

**Arlo Meeker, President**

## BRANCH 181 - UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 181, will hold a meeting on Saturday, May 1, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. in the Formation Building of St. Florian Church in United, PA. This will be a special meeting to nominate and elect delegates to attend the 49th Convention of the FCSU to be held in Cleveland, Ohio August 14–18, 2010.

**Gerry Kovacina, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 199 - NORVELT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch #199 will meet at the home of Sophie Pipak on Sunday, May 2nd at 1:00 PM. The meeting will be for the purpose of electing delegates to the convention being held in August 2010.

**Sophie Pipak**

## BRANCH 228 – LORAIN, OHIO

The St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Lodge,

Branch 228 will hold their next meeting on Monday, May 17, 2010 at 7 P.M. at the American Slovak Club on 30th and Broadway in Lorain, Ohio. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month except for the months of January, February, July and August when no meetings are held. All meetings begin at 7 P.M. and are held at the American Slovak Club. The branch will hold its annual election of officers and bylaw review during the December meeting as is done each December. At that time, we will also elect two (2) representatives to serve on the American Slovak Club Board of Directors. Anyone interested in running for branch office and / or ASC board representative should contact the branch officers and attend the December meeting. The 49th International Convention of the FCSU is being held this year so there is a tremendous amount of activity occurring. This will be one of the primary topics of discussion at our branch meeting. It is a great time for our younger members to attend the branch meetings to discover the issues and help us map out the future of our organization. Visit the websites for the FCSU at fcsu.com and the Slovak Club at americanslovakclub.com for an update. See you at the Club!

**Thomas B. Zuffa, Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 233 – BROCKPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. George Society, Branch 233, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, May 16, 2010, at 2PM at the residence of Irene Halko, 5119 R 219 (by the Brockport Post Office) in Brockport, PA 15823.

**Irene Halko**

## BRANCH 254- PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The Wenceslaus Society, Branch 254, will hold a meeting on Sunday, May 2, 2010, at noon at Panera's restaurant in the Galleria located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads, Mt. Lebanon, PA. The purpose of the meeting is to elect delegates for the convention. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, contact Albina Senko at 412/343-5031.

**Albina Senko, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 276 – MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 276 will hold an additional meeting on May 2, 2010, at 1:00 PM at the school hall at St Martin de Porres parish in McKeesport, PA. The purpose of the meeting is to elect delegates from Branch 276 to the 49th FCSU Convention to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 14-18, 2010.

**Margaret Nasta, President**

## BRANCH 290 – BRIDGEWATER, NEW JERSEY

A meeting of Branch 290 St. John the Baptist will be held on April 21, 2010, at 7:30PM. Election of delegates will be held. Please try to attend. Call Joe after 6PM at (732) 469-5256 to get details.

**Joe Minarovich**

## BRANCH 320 – STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

SS Peter & Paul Society Branch 320 will hold a meeting on April 28, 2010, at the home of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, PA 15012. The purpose of the meeting is the election of delegates to the 49th FCSU Convention in Cleveland. Refer to qualifications of delegates in the Bylaws Section 11.03. Anyone interested in being a delegate and/or to make a reservation for the meeting, contact Fran Tarquinio at (724) 929-9788.

**Frances Tarquinio, Secretary**

## BRANCH 362 – ST. CLAIRSVILLE, OH

The Our Lady Of Angels Branch 362 will

hold a annual meeting on Sunday April 18, 2010 at 1:00 P.M. at 70820 Crescent Rd . St. Clairsville' Ohio. The election of officers will be held at that time.

**John Wodarczyk President**

## BRANCH 367 – FAIRCHANCE , PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Branch 367 will hold a special meeting to elect delegates to the national convention on April 6, 2010 at4:30PM at Bogey's Golf Club, Uniontown, PA.

For more information, contact Audrey Balazik, 316 Shadyside Road, Uniontown, PA 15401 (724) 438-3887.

**Audrey Balazik**

## BRANCH 380 – CANONSBURG, PA

The St. Ignatius Society, Branch 380, will hold a meeting on April 25, 2010 at the Wendy's in Canonsburg at 2:00PM. On the agenda: the election of delegates to the National Convention.

**Margaret Graytok**

## BRANCH 450- CLEVELAND, OHIO

St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 450, will hold a meeting at the home of Jozef Valencik on Monday, May 3, 2010 at 7:00 PM. The address is 13501 Park Drive, Brook Park, OH. All members are encouraged to attend. We plan to elect the delegates for the 49th Quadrennial Convention, which is being held in Cleveland, Ohio this year. Please contact Jozef or Margaret Valencik at 216-676-0497 if you have any questions. Thank you.

**Margaret Valencik , Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 484 – CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph's Society Branch 484 will hold a Special Meeting April 30, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Financial Secretary, Joseph E. Rura, 43 Rugh Road, Coral, Pa. On the agenda is the election of officers and delegates to the FCSU 49th Convention. All members are welcome.

**Joseph E Rura, Financial Secretary**

## BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

St. John the Baptist, Branch 553, will hold a lodge meeting on Sunday, April 18, 2010 at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311. The meeting will begin promptly at 12:30 pm. This meeting is being held to confirm delegates to the FCSU Convention.

Please take an active roll in your lodge and attend this meeting.

**Linda M. Hanko,  
Recording Secretary**

## BRANCH 565K – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

There has been a merger between Branch 565K Donora, PA and Branch 670K Donora, PA. All members of Branch 565K will now hold membership in Branch 670K. This merger has taken place as of January 21, 2010. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Dorothy J Petrus, 545 Castner Ave, Donora, PA 15033-1814, (724) 379-5881.

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

**Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary**

## BRANCH 567 – ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The most Sacred Heart of Jesus Branch 567 KJ will have a regular meeting on Thursday, April 29, 2010, at 1:00PM in the church social hall, 924 N. Front St., Allentown, PA. The meeting will be held to elect our delegates for the FCSU Convention, which will be held in



# BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 2010. We thank all those who supported us in our nut and poppy seed rolls sale. We wish everyone a Blessed Easter.

**Rosalie Favere, Recording Secretary**

**BRANCH 577K – JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

There has been a merger between Branch 577K Johnstown, PA and Branch 023K Johnstown, PA.

All members of Branch 577K will now hold membership in Branch 023K. This merger has taken place as of January 26, 2010. If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact: Janet Mical, 445 Tioga St, Johnstown, PA 15905, (814) 536-7952.

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

**Kenneth A. Arendt, National Secretary**

**BRANCH 595 – MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN**

Branch 595 has monthly breakfast on the fourth Sunday of every month through May. Breakfast features 11 hot items, coffee, milk, juices and a sweets table to top off the meal. The cost is \$6.50 for adults and \$3.25 for children, and is offered from 8:30 a.m. until noon. It is "all you can eat," and the best breakfast in town!

The polka parties are held the first Sunday of each month (except Easter) through May. There is a free will offering at the door and food and beverages for purchase. Please join us for these events! We are located at the corner of Sixth St. and Sherman Blvd., in Muskegon Hts. For more

information call: 231-733-7525.

**Donna Stone, Recording Secretary**

**BRANCH 633 – FLINT, MICHIGAN**

The Sacred Heart of Jesus, Branch 633, will hold its first meeting of this year on Saturday April 17, 2010, at 1PM at Old Country Buffet, Courtland Mall, in Burton, MI. On the agenda: election of delegates to the 49th Convention in August. All members are asked to attend.

**Eva Craine, Secretary**

**BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA**

Branch 670 will hold a meeting on April 28, 2010 at the home of Dorothy Petrus, 545 Castner Avenue, Donora, PA 15033. The purpose of the meeting is the election of delegates to the 49th FCSU Convention in Cleveland. Refer to qualifications of delegates in the Bylaws Section 11.03. Anyone interested in being a delegate and/or to make a reservation for the meeting, contact Dorothy Petrus at (724) 379-5881.

**Dorothy Petrus, President**

**BRANCH 682 – YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO**

Branch 682 will hold a special meeting for the election of delegates to the National Convention in Cleveland at 2:00PM on April 18, 2010 at Material Research Lab, 290 North Bridge Street, Struthers, Ohio.

**Andrew J. Hirt, President**

**BRANCH 716 – NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

The Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, will hold its membership meeting on Sunday, April

18, 2010 at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall, St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East, 66th Street, New York City. On the agenda will be election of delegates to the 49th Convention in Cleveland, OH from August 14 – 18, 2010. All members are urged to attend this meeting.

**Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary**

**BRANCH 738 – MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA**

Branch 738 will be holding a special meeting for elections of an additional delegate and an alternative delegate to the next convention. This meeting will be held Tuesday April 20th, 2010 at 6:30 pm at the VFW Hall Whitaker Way Munhall, Pa. All members are invited to attend.

**Pat Guidish, Secretary**

**BRANCH 764 - WARREN, OHIO**

SS Cyril & Methodius Branch 764 will hold a meeting on April 18, 2010 at Christ Our King Social Hall, 1000 Tod Avenue, Warren, OH at 12:15PM. We will be discussing plans for a Spring/Summer event. All members are urged to attend this meeting.

There has been a merger with Branch 759K Newton Falls, OH and Branch 342 Warren into Branch 764 due to the consolidation of Branches. We welcome these members and look forward to meeting them. This merger has taken place as of February 23, 2010. We wish to thank all past officers for their dedication and efforts through the years.

Branch 764 officers for 2010 are: President, Bill M. Hursovsky Vice President, Fred Brunetti Treasurer, George Yuricek

Recording Secretary, Joy Brunetti

If you should need service on your insurance policy or need new or additional insurance or an annuity please contact Fred Brunetti, 5528 Mennonite Road, Mantua, OH (330) 240-4142 or George Yuricek, 1190 Beachwood Ave. SW, Warren, OH 44485 (330) 394-8249.

**Joy Brunetti Recording Secretary**

**BRANCH 785 – MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO**

Will hold a semi annual meeting to elect delegates for the Convention. This meeting will be held on Wednesday May 5, 2010 at 7pm, located at Sts Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church hall in Mississauga.

**Anne Mitro, Recording Secretary**

**BRANCH 831 – TARENTUM, PENNSYLVANIA**

The next regular meeting of Br. 831 will be held on May 3 at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Kathleen Persun, 158 Davidson St., Tarentum, Pa. The election of delegates will be held at this meeting. The Officers for 2010 are: Matthew Kuniak, President; Melvin Persun, Vice President; Kathleen Persun, Secretary; Rose Kuniak, Treasurer.

**Kathleen Persun, Secretary**

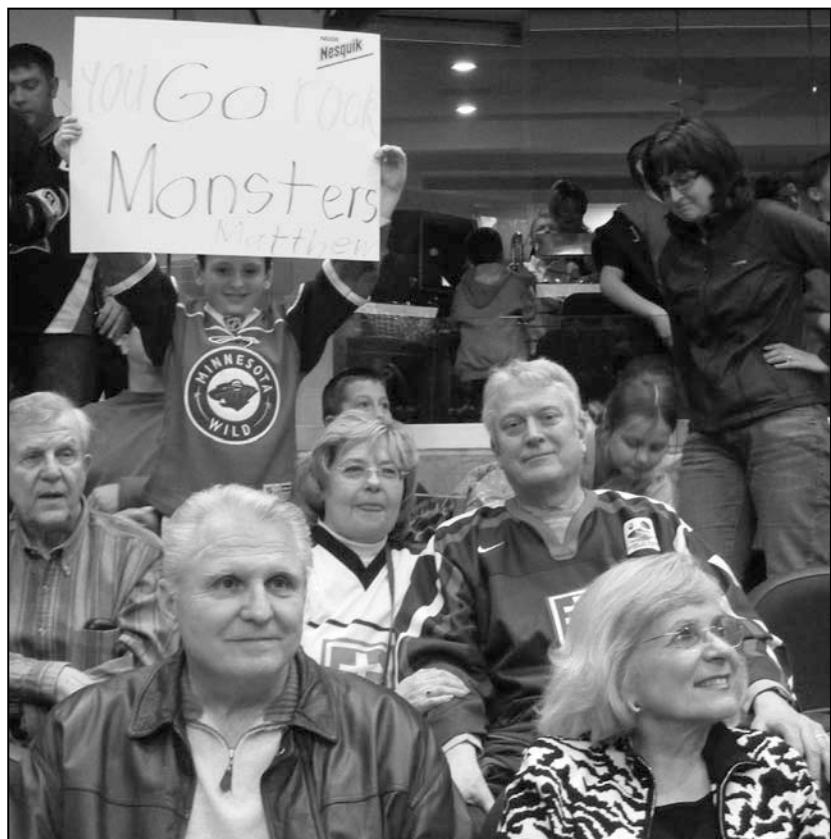
**BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA**

The next meeting of Branch 853 will be held on Saturday May 1 at 9:00am at the McDonald in Charleroi, PA. The election of delegates for the Convention will take place at this meeting. All branch members are urged to attend.



## Branch 24 & FCSU Board of Directors Meet Monsters, Have Fun

Branch 24 members and guests attended a Hockey Night as the Lake Erie Monsters took on the Abbotsford Heat, Saturday, March 20th, 7:30PM, at the Quicken Loans Arena in downtown Cleveland. Several members of the FCSU Board of Directors, in town for a Board Meeting that day, also attended. The Monsters won 3-2, and a good time was had by all.



Top row: Matthew Scally holds sign while Dana Glova (standing) and her children look on. Second row: Branch 24 members and guests Andy Konkoly, Terri and Tom Ivanec



Branch 24 members and guests (L – R) Frances Strekal, Justin Strekal, Anna Ivanec, Robert Gibson, John Ivanec, and Branch 24 President Bob Kopco



FCSU members (L – R) Region 2 Director Damian Nasta, Chaplain Father Tom Nasta and Anne Mitro enjoy the hockey game.



## DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT - FORD CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Semi-Annual Meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District will be on Sunday, April 25, 2010, at the C.U. Club, 912 Sixth Avenue, Ford City, Pennsylvania, at 2:00 PM.

Delegates from all branches should call okres Secretary Grace Charney at (724) 763-1104 to confirm their attendance

This notice is also a reminder to Branches that representation at District meetings and up-to-date payment of District dues are requirements for eligibility for your annual membership reimbursements from Headquarters and to send delegates to this year's Quadrennial FCSU Convention.

**Grace M. Charney, Secretary**

### DISTRICT 14 - REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold its next meeting Tuesday April 20, 2010. 7:00 PM at the St. Matthias church rectory. On the agenda will be discussions concerning the convention and summer activities. All Branches are urged to attend.

**Carla Peshek, President**

### DISTRICT 6 - PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Local Branch 580 will host the semi-annual meeting of the Pittsburgh District of the F.C.S.U. on Sunday, April 18, 2010. The meeting will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. in the Holy Trinity Parish Hall, 529 Grant Avenue Extension, West Mifflin, PA 15122. All branches are expected send representatives. The meeting will include officers reports and discussion of F.C.S.U. business, including the upcoming national convention. We need to select dates for the district delegates meeting as well as the Annual District Meeting in November.

A Family Easter Party will be included with the Spring meeting. This is a new event for the district and members are encouraged to bring their children and grandchildren. Please RSVP to Flo Matta at 412-466-7460 or George Matta at 412-672-5330.

The district Father's Day brunch on Sunday, June 20, will be hosted by Branch 628 while Branch 2 will handle the ad booklet. Further details will be announced.

The officers of the Pittsburgh District wish all members a happy and holy Easter Season.

**Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary**

### MSGR. ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT - MONONGAHELA VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of the Andrew Hlinka District is to be held on April 28, 2010, at the home of Dorothy Petrus, 545 Castner Avenue, Donora, PA 15033. The purpose of the meeting is the election of delegates to the 49th FCSU Convention in Cleveland. Refer to qualifications of delegates in the Bylaws Section 11.03. Anyone interested in being a delegate and/or to make a reservation for the meeting, contact Dorothy Petrus at (724) 379-5881.

**Frances Tarquinio, Secretary**

## ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ Seventh Annual Anniversary Banquet in Kent, Ohio

The Kent-Dudince Sister City Association will hold its Seventh Annual Anniversary Banquet on Sunday, May 16, 2010 (originally scheduled for May 2, 2010). The Banquet will be in the Kent Elks Lodge Hall, Elks Lane, State Route 59, which is located behind the Twin Star Bowling Lanes at 2245 State Route 59. Doors open at 1:00PM for a Social Hour, followed by dinner at 2:00PM and a program at 3:00PM. Music will be provided during the social hour and dinner by the Johnny Pastirik Band featuring orchestra members Johnny Pastirik, Len Jacko and Ken Javor. The program includes a performance by the PAS Folk Ensemble of Pittsburgh, PA and the Slovenske Mamicky of Greater Cleveland Vocal Ensemble with members Milka Anderko, Maria Cvicela, and Monica Smid. Dancing will follow the program.

Tickets are \$15.00 per person, and are sold in advance only. Ticket orders with directions will be mailed. Please be sure to include names of all guests. Make checks payable to:

Kent-Dudince Sister City Association  
1544 Vine Street  
Kent, OH 44240

For more information, call President Rudy Bachna at (330) 673-3255.

## ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ SEMINARS

The following seminars are finalized

Sunday, April 25, 2010, Michigan District Slovak Mass 11:30 a.m. at SS Cyril and Methodius Church—District Meeting 1:00 p.m. seminar to follow in the Heritage Room. The address is 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan 48314. There will be a lunch after the seminar.

Saturday, May 01, 2010, Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District and Akron Branch 533—Lunch 12:00 p.m., seminar to follow. Place of seminar to be determined by Kostik District.

More seminars are being scheduled!

Branch Officers and Recommenders will be sent a schedule before the seminars. If you plan on attending, please contact the home office at least 3 days before your scheduled seminar so we can get an attendance count.

The Membership and Marketing Committee would like to see a larger turnout from members interested in learning more about our insurance and annuity products.

Please form a car pool and attend the seminars that will be scheduled in your area.

Until Then,

Good Luck and God Bless!

**Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.  
National Vice President  
Membership and Marketing Chairman**

### REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT - BLAIR, CAMBRIA, INDIANA, SOMERSET AND BEDFORD COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

The Rev. John Martvon District will hold its semiannual meeting on Sunday, April 18, 2010 at St. Benedict's Church Hall, Main Street, Carrolltown, PA, beginning at 2:00PM. St. John the Baptist Society Branch 96 will be the host. Please note the date change. Mass will be held earlier in the day for the living and deceased members of the district.

Dues for 2010 will be accepted from branches that have not paid previously. Let's have a good turnout and enjoy the Spring drive to the meeting after a snowy winter.

**Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary**

### MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT 16 - NEW YORK CITY

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District 16 will hold its Membership Meeting on Sunday, May 2, 2010, at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall, St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 66th Street, New York City. On the agenda will be the election of delegates for the 49th Convention in Cleveland, OH, from August 14 - 18, 2010 as well as the financial report and discussion of next activities. We urge all District branches to send their representatives to this meeting. All members of the FCSU are welcome. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

**Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary**

### REV. STEPHEN FURDEK - DISTRICT 10

Rev. Stephen Furdek, District 10, will be meeting at 1:30 pm, on Sunday, April 18, 2010 at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, Ohio 44311. This meeting is being held to discuss convention delegates.

If you have any questions or concerns please call Linda Hanko @ 330.706.0151 or via email at lhanko@neo.rr.com.

Please take an active roll in your district and attend this meeting.

**Linda M. Hanko, Recording Secretary/Treasurer**

### SS. CYRIL AND METHDIUS DISTRICT 17 - LUZERNE AND LACKAWANNA COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA AND BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK

The SS. Cyril and Methodius District will hold its semi-annual meeting Sunday, April 25, 2010 at Holy Family Church, Gibson & Washington Streets, Scranton, PA. Auditors will meet at 12:30PM, followed by the meeting at 1:00PM.

All members of the various branches are invited to attend. All Branches are requested to bring their District dues up-to-date at this meeting. Choosing of a delegate to represent the District at the 49th International Convention in Cleveland will take place. Refreshments will be served.

Questions or concerns may be directed to President Michael Slovenkai, 570-342-7562; Vice President Arlo Meeker, 607-775-4896; or Treasurer/Financial Secretary Dorothy Ungvarsky, 507-403-2067.

**Theresa Chupka, Recording Secretary**

### GEORGE ONDA DISTRICT - WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The George Onda District will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 17, 2010 following the 5 PM Mass at St. Florian Roman Catholic Church, 4261 Route 981, P.O. Box 187, United, PA 15689. We will meet in the Formation Room. We ask for your attendance as we will be discussing the upcoming convention, district business and updates on the branches. Refreshments will be served.

**Linda L. Gonta, Secretary**

### MICHIGAN DISTRICT - MICHIGAN

District 5, The Michigan District, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 25, 2010. The place of the meeting will be at SS. Cyril & Methodius Church located at 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan.

Our day will begin with a Slovak Mass at 11:30 AM, followed by refreshments served in the Fr. Mikus Hall. Our meeting will begin at 1:00 PM. In the Heritage Room, a luncheon will be served after the meeting. Branch 743 will host this meeting. Please call Joseph Rimarcik at (586) 254-0225 by April 21, 2010 with the number of delegates attending from your branch.

On the agenda: important information about the convention (delegates should attend), and also district business. We hope many of you will join us for the day.

**Anna Magusin, Secretary**

## ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ ◆◆◆ U.S. Commercial Service Helps American Companies with Slovak Roots

The U.S. Commercial Service is an agency of U.S. Department of Commerce. The office, which is part of the U.S. Embassy in Bratislava, Slovakia, was created to provide an excellent source of customized services for U.S. companies that seek new customers for their products and services in Slovakia. The U.S. Commercial Service offers a variety of very free and low-fee services that help U.S. companies expand into the Slovak marketplace.

For more, go to [www.buyusa.gov/slovakia/en](http://www.buyusa.gov/slovakia/en)



# Rest in Peace, Our Departed Members\*

The First Catholic Slovak Union has a Mass said for each of our deceased members at St. Andrew Abbey in Cleveland, Ohio.



Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name	Branch	Name
001K	James A Gresko Sr	173K	Ferdinand C Caccia	369K	Helen Hepner	652K	Wilma Mary Wardell
001K	Bernard Hrusovsky	181K	Elizabeth M Kepchia	401K	Glenn Dixon	667K	Ludmilla (mildred) Kokosko
006K	William F Dunkleberger	181K	John P Pavick Jr	410K	Frances A Cerny	670K	Michael R Boros
006K	Lawrence W Hozie	181K	William J Smail	410K	John Paul German	670K	Ernest A Popp
007K	Mary M Yebernetsky	199K	Cecilia A Kissel	414K	Francis L Koshan	721K	Christina M Palus
019K	Joseph M Mino	200K	Richard Kunst	419K	Joseph F Popple Sr	731K	Albert A Drapcho
024K	Mary Louise Glavan	213K	Della Regrut	450K	Daniel F J Dula	738K	John Ondo
024K	Cheryl A Maulorico	228K	Michael Raccio	484K	Louis J Fabian	746K	John M Americk
055K	Theresa Fierko	228K	Steve Zilko	484K	John E Sobota	746K	Michael Evan
055K	Margaret E Melito	232K	Michael J Gregory	510K	Margaret C Knudsen	756K	Glenna J Zwolensky
055K	Robert A Roncase Sr	240P	James Kavulich	512K	Mary Ferrett	762K	John C Geffert
060K	Lisa Gayle Ocilka Slack	259K	Laura Smithson Bax	512K	Paul A Ferrett	762K	Andrew J Vrabell
060K	Irene Zyra	259K	Michael Novotny	512K	Thomas A Ferrett	764K	Charles J Manofsky Sr
085K	Mary T Pepsin	260K	Albert J Dud	512K	Marian C Laffi	764K	Valerie Theresa Martinez
085K	Francis Sember	294K	Bertha Sparks	543K	Emma Ann Cerven	796K	Bernard G Hudak
089K	Anna Riecan	308K	Kathryn Koneval Eberl	553K	Louis A Cirjak	831K	Victor W Bordell
090K	Thomas C Ksiazek Sr	312K	Genevieve Planinsek	553K	John S Deock	831K	Michael E Frena
090K	Rev Robert E Onze	320K	Joseph A Semancik	553K	Rosemary J Falatok	831K	Joseph Pastorek
114P	Jennie Ledzinsky	322K	Jennie Louise Kosko	553K	Ann Pecko	831K	Valentine G Sedlak
128K	John Jatcko Jr	324K	Chester Mogelesky	553K	Frederick L Zenne	855K	Andrew J Balbin
157K	Michael J Regec	333K	Rev John A Kuzilla	567K	Frank L Mayernik	855K	Joseph B Frolo
157K	Dorothy M Sikkar	333K	Rachel Marie Petkac	580K	Timothy Robert Jackson	855K	Eleanor Pekarcik
162K	Teresa M Solly	356P	Robert A Shurilla	584K	Edward A Panik	855K	Julia Valus
166K	Victor Tokos	367K	Karen L Bogdan	584K	William Strbavy	890K	Jane S Ourand
169P	Stephen B Hudak Jr	368K	Andrew F Straub Sr	595K	Judith A Zuidema		

\* Processed in the month of March 2010

## Obituaries

### Feno F. Busi

#### Branch 484

#### Coral, Pennsylvania

Feno F. Busi, 93, of Brunswick, OH and formerly of Cleveland, passed away on Saturday, February 20, 2010 at Diplomat Nursing Home in North Royalton, OH. He was born February 6, 1917 in Josephine, PA to Louis and Angelina Busi. He was a United States Army veteran serving in WWII and was wounded in Le Havre, France, on D-Day. He was a maintenance worker in the manufacturing industry in Cleveland, OH.

He was a member of St. Ambrose Roman Catholic Church, Brunswick, OH, and Branch 484 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Coral, Pennsylvania. He married Helen Rura in 1945 and moved to Cleveland from Coral, and subsequently to Brunswick in 1986.

He and Helen have three sons: Donald (Cathy), Rick (Eva), and Ed (Barb). He was blessed with eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He also is survived by his wife, Helen; his brother Vince (Helen) Busi; sisters Louise (James) Antoniak, and Mary Myers. He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers Ben, Robert and John.

Friends were received at the Carlson Funeral Home, Brunswick, and a Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday, February 25, 2010 at St. Ambrose Parish Church with Rev. Father Gregory Olszewski as celebrant. Interment followed in Eastlawn Memory Gardens.

### Louis J. Fabian

#### Branch 484

#### Coral, Pennsylvania

Louis J. Fabian of West Seneca, NY, died February 13, 2010. He was a member of Queen of Heaven Church, The Carriers Social Club, and Branch 484, Coral, PA, of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

Beloved husband of Mary Ann (nee Miran-

da); dearest father of Linda (Thomas) Handley; Louis J. (Shelley); Lisa (Christopher) Roy; David (Susan); and Christopher (Tiffany); cherished grandfather of 12; brother of Margie, Theresa, Bernadine and the late John, Frank, Mary and Joseph; also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Friends were received Monday February 15 and Tuesday February 16 at the Hoy Funeral Home, West Seneca, where prayers were said Wednesday February 17, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at Queen of Heaven Church. Interment was in Roswell Park.

### Ruth Cecilia Geletka

#### Branch 484

#### Coral, Pennsylvania

Ruth Cecilia (Clawson) Geletka, 94, of Indiana, PA, formerly of Blairsville, PA, passed away Wednesday, February 24, 2010 at The Communities of Indian Haven, IN.

A daughter of William and Jessie (Jones) Clawson, she was born May 10, 1913, in Greensburg, PA. Mrs. Geletka lived most of her life in Blacklick Township, Indiana County, PA.

She was a member of Our Lady of Assumption Roman Catholic Church, Coral, PA, and Branch 484 of the First Catholic Slovak Union. She worked 25 years for the Blairsville-Saltsburg Schools, retiring in 1984.

Surviving are: son Mark Geletka and his wife Phyllis, of Indiana; two daughters-in-law, Joyce Geletka of Bridgeton, NJ, and Sylvia Geletka of Bentonville, AK; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and a sister in FL.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband, William Edward Geletka, in 2005; three sons, William E., jr., in 1995, Anthony in 2003, and Robert Geletka in 2008; a grandson, Robert E. Geletka; five brothers, Harry, John, Henry, James, and William Clawson, and a sister Margaret Walck.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Saturday February 27 in Our Lady of Assumption Church, Coral, PA, with Rev. Father Terry Hercik as celebrant. Interment was in St. Francis Cemetery, Coral.

### Virginia Ann Peles

#### Branch 484

#### Coral, Pennsylvania

Virginia Ann Peles, 45, of Deptford, NJ, passed away Friday, February 19, 2010.

She was born in Blackwell, OK, and she lived briefly in Pennsylvania before moving to New Jersey 37 years ago. At an early age, Virginia developed a passion for nursing and helping others. As a member of Hammonton High School, Class of 1982, she was a candy stripper at Kessler Memorial Hospital and a volunteer at the Hammonton Rescue Squad.

She was a member of St. Martin DePorres Roman Catholic Church in Hammonton, the Altar Rosary Society, and Branch 484 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Coral, PA.

Virginia worked as an instructional EMT in Paoli, PA, and later as a paramedic in Philadelphia. She was featured in the Philadelphia Inquirer for assisting a mother for delivering her child in the back of a moving ambulance. She was a member of the Deptford Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad and most recently volunteered at Up Your Alley in Glassboro, NJ, transporting disabled residents.

She is survived by her mother, Virginia, of Hammonton; brother Harry Peles of Hamilton, NJ; sister and brother-in-law Mary and Mark Charlton of Medford Lakes, NJ; sister and brother-in-law Marsh and Chris McCarthy of Long Branch, NJ. She loved spending time with her three nephews and her many friends.

Services were held in Hammonton, NJ, and burial was in SS Peter and Paul Byzantine Cemetery, Chest Township, PA.

### John Edward Sobota

#### Branch 484

#### Coral Pennsylvania

John Edward Sobota, 86, of Graceton, PA, died February 14, 2010, at his home.

The son of Steve and Kathryn Sobota, he was born July 9, 1923, in Bradenville, PA. He was a WWII US Army veteran, and received the Purple Heart for injuries in the Italian campaign. He was a member of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Coral, PA. He was retired from PMC Corp. in Homer City, PA, after 31 years of employment.

He was a founding member of the Graceton-Coral Sportsmen's Club, and he was a member of the Red Barn Sportsmen's Club, the Homer City American Legion Post 493, and Branch 484 of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

He is survived by: his wife of 61 years, Margaret Sobota; one son, Mark and wife Denise of Baltimore; three daughters, Kathleen Dimond and husband Dr. John of Kittanning, Bernadette Mutz and husband Stanley of Homer City, and Darlene Bazala of Indiana; one step-sister, Ann Deptola of Homer City; a sister-in-law, Doris Sobota, of Blairsville, PA; 10 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one son Edward Sobota; three sisters, Sue Timko, Ann Opatka, and Mary Mlecik; two brothers, Vince and Steve Sobota; three step-brothers, Steven Joe, and Andy Mlecik; and one step-sister Mary Gnibus.

Friends were received Wednesday February 17 at the C. Frederick Bowser Funeral Home, Homer City, PA. A blessing service was held Thursday morning at the funeral home, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Assumption Church, Coral, with the Rev. Father Terry Hercik as the celebrant. Interment followed in St. Francis Cemetery, Coral, with rites by Branch 484 and American Legion Post 493.



## Obituaries

### Msgr. Edward V. Rosack



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward V. Rosack, Apostolic Administrator of the then Byzantine Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, died Tuesday, March 2, 2010, at Jefferson Hospital. He was born on December 23, 1925.

After 50 years in the priesthood, he retired in June of 2004, having served on the staffs of Bishops Daniel Ivancho, Nicholas T. Elk Elko, Stephen J. Kocisko and Thomas V. Dolinay successively in various capacities: Vicar General, Consultor, Chancellor, Defender of the Bond of Marriage in Informal Cases, Director of Vocations, Chairman of the youth commission and ad hoc committees. In addition to writing for the bishops, he composed the "Pastor's Index to the Code of Canons of the Eastern (European) Churches.

He served as editor, "Currents Events" columnist, and editorial writer for the diocesan/archdiocesan newspaper, "The Byzantine Catholic World." He also wrote the "Reflections On Our Christianity" column for the Jednota.

For 24 years, he served on the Board of Directors of the GCU and regularly wrote an article in its publication as well as its "Marriage Prep" booklet and "Scriptural Guidance for Daily Living" in celebration of the 100th anniversary.

From 1960 to 1962, he was administrator of St. Mary's Church in Bradenville, PA, and from 1973 to 2004, he served as pastor of St. Mary's Church in Ambridge, PA, where he was an active participant with the church's "Project Pirohy."

For Beaver County, PA, he founded the Logstown Associates Historical Society on October 21, 1987, and incorporated it on October 29, 1991. At the Byzantine Catholic Seminary he was a commuting faculty member, then resident prefect and faculty member. He was associated with the organization of the ecumenical group, Christian Associates of Western Pennsylvania. He conducted the organizational work and served as Director of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

He has chosen to be laid to rest in the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies in recognition of his service in the Signal Corps of the United States Army during World War II.

His family coat of arms states, "To serve is to live." He did both.

Memorial donations can be made to the Logstown Associates Historical Society, 931 Maplewood Ave., Ambridge, PA 15003, 724-266-3971.

Arrangements were handled by the BLAIR-LOWTHER FUNERAL HOME INC.

### MARGARET "Margita" PASTIRIK

MARGARET "MARGITA" PASTIRIK (nee-Bobovnick) age 88, loving mother of John (Cherry) Pastirik, of N. Olmsted and Fr. Joachim Pastirik OSB, of St. Andrew Abbey and member of Branch 24, dear grandmother of John (Mary) Pastirik, devoted great grandmother of Emma, Owen and Anna entered into rest Saturday, March 20, 2010, at Southwest General Hospital. She was

preceded in death by her husband, John Pastirik; one brother and four sisters. Friends were received Tuesday, March 23, 2010, at the Joseph Misencik Funeral Home, 12500 Madison Ave, Lakewood, OH, from 3 - 9 P.M., where closing prayers were also held Wednesday, March 24, 2010, at 9:30 a.m., followed by a 10 a.m. Mass at Ss.Cyril and Methodius Church, Lakewood. Interment was in Holy Cross Cemetery, Cleveland.

### Emil L. Rusinak Branch 493 Louisville, Kentucky

Emil L. Rusinak, Vice President of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch #493 in Chicago, IL, passed away unexpectedly at the age of 77 on October 12, 2009. Emil was a lifelong Jednota member. He grew up in the neighborhood around Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Catholic Church (which closed in 1990) in Chicago's Ukrainian Village neighborhood on the west side. He served our country as a member of the US Army during the Korean War. Emil served as the treasurer of American Legion Post (Slovak) # 1110 for many years. He worked for the Chicago Transit Authority. Emil was the beloved husband of Beverly (nee Emerson), devoted father of Gary (Susan), Thomas, and Linda (Gregory) Becker, loving grandfather of seven, and great-grandfather of one. After his original FCSU branch, the Cadets of St. Andrew, KJ #647, merged with Branch # 493 in 2003, Emil agreed to serve as vice president of the consolidated lodge. He signed up five new members during his tenure, to keep our society alive and well for the future. Emil was also the longtime finance officer of the St. Rene Seniors Group. Visitation was held at the Palos-Gaidas Funeral Home in Palos Hills, IL, with the Mass of the Resurrection at St. Rene Goupil Church on Chicago's southwest side. Interment was at Abraham Lincoln National Veteran's Cemetery in Illinois. We will miss his loud outspokenness at our branch and district meetings.

### Louis C. Coutu Branch 493 Louisville, Kentucky

Louis C. Coutu, age 69, of Carol Stream, IL, a member of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch #493 in Chicago, passed away after a long struggle with brain cancer on October 30, 2009. Louis married into the Sovcik family from Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church in Chicago's West Town neighborhood. He was the loving husband of Andrea; the loving father of the late Clement; and Louis, Andrew, and Andrea; and the loving son-in-law of Bernie and Mary Sovcik. His parents were the late Wilfrd and Mersellus; his siblings are Louise (Howard) Kuebker, John (Mary Ellen) Coutu, Margaret (Lloyd) Cannady, and Wayne (Sheri) Frost. Louis worked for many years for the State of Illinois. Mass of the Resurrection for Louis took place on November 2, 2009, at St. Isidore Catholic Church in Bloomingdale, IL, with interment at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside, IL. Louis' children Louis, Andrew, and Andrea are all past FCSU scholarship winners.

Her earthly days having come to an end her Lord and Savior called Donna J. Sedz-mak to Himself on Thursday March 18 with her family at her side.

### Donna Sedz-mak Branch 731 Poland, Ohio

Donna was born on June 5, 1941 the only child of John and Mildred Alacia Holesko. She passed March 18, 2010. She was a 1959 graduate of Wilson High School. Upon graduation she joined the Isaly Dairy Company as a payroll clerk rising to the position of secretary to the Vice- President of Finance.

She served her community as a founding and active member of FOCUS (Friends Offering Compassion, Understanding and Support) breast cancer survivors support group. She was a Reach to Recovery volunteer for the American Cancer Society

Donna served her parish church of Saint Michael's of Canfield as chair of its first Marriage preparation program, as a lay minister of The Eucharist and visiting the homebound.

She was a member of Jednota St. Joseph Branch 731 and Boardman chapter of the Red Bonnet Babes of the Red Hats Society.

Donna with her husband traveled extensively throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. She loved to cruise. The highlight of her travels was attending Mass offered by Pope John Paul II as an invited guest during his visit to Levoca, Slovakia on July 3 1995, which was the birthplace of her paternal grandparents. She enjoyed spending her last ten winters at her home in Naples, Florida and loved the beaches of Wiggins

Pass, Vanderbilt and Barefoot and the community of Westgate at Imperial where she was a member of the social committee.

Donna enjoyed playing cards with her friends who were members of the ELFS (Everlasting Friends) a club she and her high school classmates formed upon graduating from Wilson and whose members recently celebrated 50 years of being together.

She was a source of strength, support and encouragement to her husband during the years he chaired various leadership positions in Rotary District 6650 Youth Exchange Program.

Donna leaves her husband Joseph P. who she married on October 12, 1968. She leaves a daughter, who came to her in 1996 as a Rotary Exchange student from Slovakia and whom she loved as her own, Zuzana Tomkova of Washington, DC, her sisters in law Barbara Oddis of Canfield and Mariellen Whitt of Heathrow, Florida, her brother in law and sister in law Al and Judy DeVincen-tis of Boardman, her nephews William (Kris) Oddis and Rico (Devon) DeVincen-tis and her great- nephews Benjamin and Pierce and great- niece Madi. A brother in law Richard Whitt predeceased her.

Friends called Sunday from 5 to 8 PM and Monday from 9 to 9:45AM at St. Michael's Church of Canfield on State Route 46. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10AM on Monday by Father Terry Hazel. Entombment was at Immaculate Conception Mausoleum in Calvary Cemetery.

## Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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## Address Changes?

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

# News From Slovakia

## Foreign Ministry Notes Anniversary of Slovak-Hungarian Treaty

Bratislava, March 19 (TASR) - It is 15 years on Friday since the signing of the Treaty on Good Neighborly Relations and Friendly Co-operation between Slovakia and Hungary, Slovakia's Foreign Ministry noted on the same day.

"The signing of the treaty in Paris on March 19, 1995 wasn't only a significant two-sided act, but without any doubts it also had a broad international effect in the context of the re-uniting Europe," said ministry spokesman Peter Stano.

The Slovak ministry views the treaty as the fundamental document for developing bilateral co-operation between Slovakia and Hungary.

"The treaty has been an expression of our countries' resolution to be part of the European Union built on the principles of freedom, democracy, justice, equality and guaranteeing human rights. The fifteen years of the existence of this treaty have proven it justified and viable. Similarly as at the time of the signing, it also shows today that Slovakia cares about constructive dialogue with all its neighbors and partners so that our relations will be a contribution rather than a burden for European politics," added Stano.

## Lajcak Visits Tserovani Internally Displaced Persons Camp in Georgia

Tbilisi, March 17 (TASR) - Slovak Foreign Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak in Georgia on Wednesday visited the Tserovani Internally Displaced Persons Camp, which is being funded from Slovakia's development aid program, ministry spokesman Peter Stano told TASR on the same day.

Slovakia funds courses of English and computer skills at the camp. "I wanted to check how effective our development aid is at first hand," said Lajcak, who was accompanied at the camp by Georgian Minister for Refugees Koba Subeliani.

"It's our moral duty to help people in need, and as development aid contributors we want to continue in this," said Lajcak, who was given an appraisal by his Georgian partners.

Lajcak noted that Slovakia helps people who lost their homes in the military conflict between Georgia and Russia in the summer of 2008. As early as in August 2008, Slovakia responded to the crisis in Georgia with humanitarian and material aid for local people worth more than €85,000.

Georgia is among the group of the priority countries within the 2009-13 Slovak Aid program.

## Lajcak Sets Forth Slovakia's Goals in Formation of EU's Diplomatic Corps

Brussels, March 22 (TASR) - When vying for posts within the EU's European External Action Service (EEAS), Slovakia will take a shot at positions where the country has a comparative edge vis-a-vis fellow EU member countries and thus stands a good chance of eventually occupying the posts, Slovak Foreign Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak said following a meeting of foreign affairs ministers of EU-member countries in Brussels on Monday.

Discussion devoted to the EU's new institution, which is being established following the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon on 1 December 2009, was led by the bloc's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton. EEAS is projected to serve as a foreign ministry and diplomatic corps for the Union.

"The debate has moved on and is now being held at a political level. The member states insist that a geographical balance and equality in representation by member states, the Commission and the Council of Europe be maintained. I believe that this isn't being questioned by anybody. However, opinions vary on what kind of tasks EEAS should perform at the consular level," said Lajcak.

In Slovakia's bid to occupy particular positions, Lajcak said that "we have people who have linguistic skills to work in the former Yugoslavia or the former Soviet Union."

## President Content with Cabinet's Work Bar Handful of Minor Missteps

Bratislava, March 17 (TASR) - President Ivan Gasparovic on Wednesday expressed his satisfaction with the work of the Government, which, bar a few minor problems, has managed to stay true to its Manifesto, TASR learnt on the same day.

Speaking at a review of the Government's term in office (scheduled to end in June in preparation for a general election on the 12th) that was also attended by Prime Minister Robert Fico, Parliamentary Chairman Pavol Paska and Government members, Gasparovic touched on what he views as missteps.

"You've replaced many ministers; there's been trouble at some ministries. Citizens and the Opposition see this, and foreign countries are aware of it, too," he said. At the same time, however, he said that ministerial changes are commonplace in other countries, too.

In turn, Gasparovic praised cooperation between the country's top three constitutional officials - namely himself, the premier and the parliamentary chairman. "Our relations were at the base of resolving some problems. Continuity between the three constitutional officials is a precondition for a strong social government, and I believe that this will be the case in the future as well," he said, adding that there's still scope for further improvement.

"I have reservations regarding the Parliament and perhaps some ministries, as well as when it comes to the process of submitting legislative drafts. I want to seek solutions in this area in the future," added the president. He also predicted that he will look for the solutions alongside a government that will be led by Smer-SD party chairman Fico again, but pledged that his endeavors in seeking solutions won't be disrupted even if it's not Smer that will form the next Government.

Gasparovic also highlighted the way in which the Cabinet has tackled the economic crisis. "I'm sure that measures that the Government has taken in order to stop this massive global crisis from spreading were justified and yielded results," he added.

## Unemployment Still Slightly Below 13 percent

Bratislava, March 18 (TASR) - Slovakia's unemployment rate rose slightly again in February 2010, going up by 0.08 percentage points month-on-month to reach 12.97 percent, the Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Center (UPSVar) announced on Thursday.

According to Peter Zeman from the UPSVaR Director's Office, the situation on the Slovak labor market is beginning to stabilize. "What is positive as well is a drop in unemployment rates at the regional level, which has been recorded in as many as 27 districts," said Zeman.

The highest rate in February was observed in the district of Rimavska Sobota (Banska Bystrica region), where 33.93 percent were out of work. The lowest rate was recorded in Bratislava I District (2.78 percent).

Zeman also welcomed the fact that the number of people registering themselves as jobless at job centers is diminishing compared to the recent past. A total of 26,340 people joined the lists of the unemployed in February, down by 9,376 month-on-month and by 10,038 year-on-year.

Conversely, the number of those leaving the lists went up by 5,399 y-o-y.

## Kia to Begin Building New Engine-Producing Facility in April

Bratislava, March 18 (TASR) - Kia Motors Slovakia is slated to build a new plant for producing car engines near the company's existing engine plant in Teplicka nad Vahom (Zilina region), company spokesman Dusan Dvorak told TASR on Thursday.

The investment costs are expected to amount to over €100 million, with 270 new jobs created. The construction work on the new hall is to be launched on April, with serial production of new engines at the new facility to begin in late 2011.

"The annual capacity of the new facility will be 150,000 engines. They will be earmarked for exports to the Czech Republic, where the sister car-maker Hyundai will put them in the Kia Venga, the Hyundai i30 and in another projected car model," said Dvorak.

"I'm glad we've attracted the €100-million investment for Kia Motors Slovakia in the construction of a new engine-making plant, which will increase our annual output to 450,000 car engines," said Kia Motors Slovakia president and CEO In-Kyu Bae. "We thereby reaffirm our intention to develop Kia's activities in Slovakia on a long-term basis," he asserted.

Kia Motors Slovakia has produced a total of 540,000 cars since December 2006. The Kia cee'd model made up around 80 percent of the overall number, with the Kia Sportage accounting for the remaining 20 percent. The company kicked off serial production of the Hyundai ix35 in January 2010.

The company produced a total of 243,000 engines in 2009, an annual increase of 37 percent.

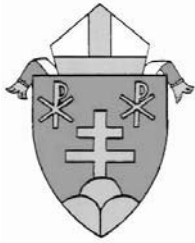
## Slovak Companies to Take Part in Gas Projects in Serbia

Bratislava, March 19 (TASR) - Slovak companies will take part in the construction of the Aleksandrovac-Novı Pazar regional gas pipeline and underground gas reservoirs in Serbia, according to an agreement signed on Friday by representatives of Serbian gas company SRBIJAGAS, Novi Sad and Slovak company NSG Technology, Gbely, which was brokered by the Slovak Investment and Trade Development Agency (SARIO).

The two projects will cost more than €300 million. The construction work on the 175-kilometre long gas pipeline should begin next year, with the volume of the investment expected to reach €46 million. The rest of the aforementioned total sum, €254 million, will be invested in the construction of gas reservoirs with a total capacity of 1 billion cubic meters. This project is a long-term one, however, and the companies involved don't know yet when construction will be launched.

Serbia was the most severely hit country during the gas crisis in early 2009, which was caused by a dispute between Russia and Ukraine and also affected Slovakia. "There's only one gas reservoir in Serbia, which, moreover, is under the majority ownership of (Russian gas giant) Gazprom. This is inadequate when it comes to energy security. These projects are therefore very important for our country," said Serbia's Mining and Energy Ministry State Secretary Dusan Mrkac.

Slovakia's Economy Ministry and Serbia's Mining and Energy Ministry in December signed a protocol on co-operation in the sphere of energy.



## Celebrating Our SLOVAK CATHOLIC CULTURE

St. Andrew Svorad Abbey is hosting another event in our series: "Celebrating Our Slovak Catholic Culture".

Cosponsors are: the Slovak Catholic Federation, Cleveland Chapter; St. Andrew Svorad, Br. #24, and St. Joseph, Br. #1 of the FCSU, Jednota; The Slovak Institute of Cleveland.

The theme of this celebration is: "To remember, honor and pray to the martyrs and confessors of our Catholic faith and for all who sacrificed and suffered during the godless Communist rule of our beloved homeland of Slovakia".

The date is Sunday, May 23 with Mass at 1:00 PM at St. Andrew Svorad Abbey Church, 2900 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Cleveland OH 44104. A bountiful lunch follows immediately at the Abbey, of favorite Slovak food prepared by Bill Hricovic of Tom's Country Place and bakery provided by Lucy's Sweet Surrender of Buckeye Road at 2:45 PM. A presentation and discussion on the event's theme will be given.

The cost will be \$12.00 to be paid before the event. Information and reservations can be made by contacting Marie Golias 216-228-8179, Susan Lang 216-896-0957 after 6:00 PM, Sean Koltiska 440-666-9046, Joseph Hornack 216-721-5300 ext. 294, or Fr. Albert Marflak, OSB 216-721-5300 ext.209. Reservations are due by May 18th.

Checks are to be made out to St. Andrew Abbey and may be sent to Fr. Albert, OSB or given to any of the above contacts.



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## Annual Summer Festival in Danville

For the thirty-eighth consecutive year the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius are hosting their annual Summer Festival in Danville. This annual event has been a time for former students, family members, present and former employees, business associates and a variety of friends to renew acquaintances and be introduced to new friends.

Those who have come year after year appreciate the peace-filled, friendly atmosphere. It just seems to them that "everyone belongs here."

Indeed, there is something for everyone at the Danville Summer Festival held on the beautiful grounds of Villa Sacred Heart, the home of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius since 1919. Former students, now parents or grandparents come to tell the Sisters about their families; classmates and former neighbors meet to update, wherever you turn someone begins a sentence with: "Remember when...?" Even those who come for the first time are bound to meet someone. Invariably some new friends are made and some new business deals are cut.

Indeed, there is something for everyone at the Sisters Summer Festival in Danville. Of course, the food is something to satisfy everyone's tastes: Ethnic foods, hot dogs, hamburgers, waffles with ice cream and strawberries, and freshly squeezed lemonade are among the most popular items.

The Flea Market has become one of the most popular in the area and has received accolades for its attractive, orderly arrangements. Religious articles, handcrafted items, books and articles from and about Slovakia are available. Home made bread, baked by the Sisters, will also be available.

Games abound. Eventually, everyone is bound to win something.

Join us once again and invite friends who have never been in Danville to "Come and see" what the Sisters have accomplished with God's help and the generosity of their benefactors.

The 2010 Festival will be held

• Saturday, July 10

• 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Eucharistic Liturgy (for Sunday) at 5:30 p.m.

ALL are welcome! Invite your friends. Have a great day!



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- Withdrawal Privileges-Since annuities are meant to be long-term investments for providing retirement funds, funds withdrawn during the first six years of your contract are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. You may withdraw 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Your interest will be added to your account. You may, however, elect to have your interest paid directly to you on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually basis. This is called an Interest Option and the interest rate is slightly lower than if you left your interest to accumulate.
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# Spomienková oslava slovenskej štátnosti v New Yorku

Pokračovanie zo str. 24



Na snímke zľava: Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy v N.Y. C.; Jozef Juráši, predseda Spolku sv. Matúša IKSJ; Nina Holá, tajomníčka Slovenskej ligy v Amerike; Jozef Bilik, predseda Spolku sv. Štefana IKSJ; Milan R. Dait, predseda I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy v N.Y.C. a Dr. Ľudovít Pavlo.

23. januára 1946 PKSJ v Amerike uverejnila text memoranda, ktoré bolo predložené generálnemu zhromaždeniu Organizácie spojených národov: „... aby Organizácia spojených národov priznala Slovákom právo na zriadenie samostatného slovenského štátu“.

29. marca 1946 Pán Churchill vo svojom prejave vo Fultone nazval Československo: „... je vlastne koncentračným táborom, v ktorom trpia 3 milióny Slovákov, ktorých spojenci zapredali Benešovi. Jedinou záchranou slovenského národa, dnes mohol byť už len kontrolovaný plebiscit, v ktorom Slováci by mohli slobodne rozhodnúť, či chcu žiť v spoločnom štáte s Čechmi, alebo chcú slobodu a samostatnosť v rámci európskej konfederácie“.

31. júla 1946 Český národný súd vyniesol rozsudok nad členmi protektorálnej česko-moravskej vlády. Na doživotie odsúdil A. Hrubého, J. Kejči 25 rokov, J. Kamenický 5 rokov a R. Bienert 3 roky väzenia, J. Kalfus bol oslobodený. Toto uvádzam ako kontrast k rozsudkom nad zákonnou slovenskou vládou Slovenského štátu, kde sa mnohokrát siahlo na rozsudky trestov smrti.

14. augusta 1946, ako prvý bol na smrť odsúdený bývalý predseda vlády SR profesor Vojtech Tuka a bol popravený obesením dňa 28. augusta 1946 /rozhodla o tom vláda ČSR ešte pred vnesením rozsudku !!!/ napriek tomu, že po štvornásobnej mozgovej porážke bol neschopný akéhokoľvek pohybu a museli ho na vozíku priviesť pod šibenicu a priamo z vozíka popraviť.

V januári 1947 Beneš vyhlásil: „Samostatné Slovensko v budúcnosti v žiadnom prípade Česi nemôžu prijať. To je životný problém pre existenciu Čechov, ako národa“.

V marci 1947 Slovenská liga v Amerike organizovala veľkú akciu na záchranu života a cti prezidenta Slovenského štátu. Vydala brožúrku v Angličtine: Pravda o Slovensku a jeho dejinách, najmä o Slovenskom štáte 1939 – 1945 a o osobe Dr. Jozefa Tisu, lebo podľa nej: „... žiaden Tisov čin neznamená zradu na slovenskom národe“.

15. apríla 1947 Národný súd v Bratislave vyniesol rozsudok trestu smrti povrazom nad prvým prezidentom Slovenského štátu Dr. Jozefom Tisom. Do Prahy prišlo 315 žiadostí o milosť z toho 29 zo zahraničia. Veľvyslanec Veľkej Británie v Prahe Philipp Nichols bol prvý, ktorý intervenoval u ministra spravodlivosti P. Drtina, aby sa zasadil o omilostenie Dr. J. Tisu. Drtina navrhol aby sa Slovenská národná rada vyjadrila k milosti, ale komunistickí ministri presadili, aby tento návrh bol zamietnutý, z 23 prítomných členov vlády bolo 17 za zamietnutie a iba 6 za milosť. Prezident Beneš mal ústavné právo konať nezávisle od vlády, ale on milosť Dr. J. Tisovi odmietol a tak bol prvý slovenský prezident na dvore Justičného paláca v Bratislave popravený obesením dňa 18. apríla 1947 a na druhý deň o 1:00 polícia dala pochovať telo Dr. Jozefa Tisu v jednom z troch vopred pripravených hrobov na Martinskom cintoríne.

Osud prezidenta Dr. Tisu bol spečatený takmer 4 roky predtým, keď Beneš žiadal v decembri 1943 ministra zahraničných vecí Molotova o pomoc ZSSR proti politikom Slovenského štátu. Molotov sa ho opýtal, že koho chce zlikvidovať a on odpovedal: „Tuka, Šaňo Mach, Tiso, tiež Gašpar, Medrický, Čatloš, ten také musí visieť a jini“.

S obavou pred masovou reakciou slovenského národa, tento zločin českých centralistov Benešových táboru, ako i predákov komunistickej strany československa s ich slovenskými kolaborantami, všetké ozbrojené sily boli v najvyššej pohotovosti. Na Morave boli koncentrované celé divízie a na železničných staniách Slovenska boli pripravené súpravy vlakov pre prípadné deportovanie vzbúrencov.

Švajčiarsky časopis Vaterland v úvodnom článku takto komentoval Tisovu popravu: „Prvý a hlavný v uvodzovkách zločin Tisov bol, že nechcel padnúť do záhuby s celým českým národom, ale chcel zachrániť Slovensko v terajších politických okolnostiach. Tisova hrdinská smrť je ako záloha pre budúcu Slovenskú republiku“.

Keď prišla správa o poprave Dr. Tisu do Ameriky, značná časť amerických novinárov a aj niektorí politici verejne odsudzovali postup Československej vlády. Poslanec Alvin Ó Kanski v americkom parlamente prehlásil: „... najväčšou tragédiou je mlčanie nášho amerického prezidenta a nášho amerického štátneho departmentu vo chvíli, keď sa vraždilo ... to čo Washington spravil pre Ameriku, to Tiso spravil pre Slovákov“. Rakúsky týždenník Die Furche komentoval Tisovu popravu: „V týchto dňoch dokončili na dvore bratislavskej väznice jednu zo smutných tragédií, ktoré tak často postihujú bojovníkov za slobodu“.

Od 14. septembra 1947 sa započalo „odhalovanie“ protištátnych sprisahání proti republike s obvinením, že chceli obnoviť Slovenský štát a začali sa vynášať tresty smrti, doživotné a vysoké tresty odňatia slobody – za túžbu Slovákov po sebaurčení svojho národa a svojej štátnosti.

Vo Viedni založili niekoľkí členovia Slovenskej tajnej ochrany, hnutie nenásilnej spoločenskej ochrany proti bolševizmu a proti šíriacemu sa strachu z teroru a obnovenie slovenskej štátnosti tzv. Biele légie, kde niektorí členovia boli koncom decembra 1948 zatknutí a súdení

v Bratislave kde odsúdili A. Púčika, A. Tunegu, E. Tesára na doživotné väzenie a 48 ich bolo odsúdených od 6 mesiacov do 30 rokov. JUDr. Raša sa odvolal proti ich trestom. Najvyšším súdom v Prahe boli zvýšené tresty: Albert Púčik, Anton Tunega a Eduard Tesár na trest smrti. „Ludovít Galik na doživotné väzenie a pre zvyšok tresty odňatia slobody v súhrne 442 rokov a 6 mesiacov. Takmer všetci skončili v jachymovských baniach.“

Ďalších zatkli a odsúdili, v Bratislave 22. mája 1949. Augustin Lednický bol ako vedúci skupiny odsúdený na trest smrti a popravený, dvaja 21 roční Milan M. Biščo a Štefan Erlach na doživotné väzenie, Anton Petrek 25 rokov väzenia a Ján Ganišin 15 rokov väzenia. Po obnovenom súde 6. septembra 1990 boli všetky rozsudky zrušené – všetkých uznali za nevinných, čo však nevrátilo naspäť životy, a utrpenie pri mučeniach a väznení.

4. marca 1951 americký denník New York Times písal: Slovensko nikdy nebolo príliš šťastné v spojení s Čechmi a Moravou v umelom štáte Československo. Vláda Masaryka a Beneša odsúdila Dr. Vojtecha Tuku v roku 1922 na 15 rokov pre separatizmus. Benešová a Gottwaldová vláda pre tú istú príčinu v 1947 monsijnora Tisu a za to isté teraz idú súdiť Clementisa. (osúdený na trest smrti).

2. októbra 1952 v Košiciach boli odsúdení ďalší príslušníci Bielej legie na trest smrti: Ján Rešetka, Michal Mihok, Bohumil Grúber a Dr. Bodnár. Stanislav Hadač na doživotné väzenie, Ján Minárik na 25 rokov, Jozef Ležák na 18 rokov a M. Matej na 15 rokov väzenia.

Koncom roku 1948 Komisia Spojených národov pre vyšetrovanie vojnových zločinov uzavrela publikovanie mien osôb, ktoré boli menované ako vojnoví zločinci, kde sa nenachádza ani jedno meno občana Slovenského štátu!!!

14. marca všetky slovenské organizácie v Amerike vydali ohlas na 25. výročie vyhlásenia Slovenského štátu.

Slovenská liga vyhlásila: 14. marec zostáva mimoriadne dôležitou zastávkou v slovenských dejinách... po dlhých storočiach poroby slovenský národ znovu bol pánom svojich osudov, ale i preto, že od 14. marca 1939 niet tej sily, ktorá by vedela vymazať z duše povedomých Slovákov túžbu po samostatnosti a po vlastnom demokraticky spravovanom štáte.

Prvá katolícka Jednota: „Každý národ je hrdý na svoju minulosť. Každý národ má právo na svoj samostatný štát. Každý národ má svojich mučeníkov. Aj Slováci majú byť pyšní na svoje zápasy v minulosti, nevynímajúc amerických Slovákov. A nik nevymaže z mapy Európy Slovensko, ktoré sa hlási o svoj samostatný štát a iste ho raz zase bude mať“.

20. februára 1982 vláda ČSSR splatila dlhy, ktoré spôsobil Beneš na financovaní svojej zahraničnej činnosti od 1938 do 1945 v prepočítanej slovenskej mene po 1.1.1993 v hodnote 6. miliard SK, načo vláda USA vrátila časť českého a slovenského pokladu – 18.4 tony zlata v hodnote 247 miliónov US dolárov. Zlato si privlastnila Praha.

V 1990 prezident v šľapajach Masaryka a Beneša v slovenskej otázke (kde bolo Slovensko dobré len na hospodárske vykorisťovanie) presadil takzvanú „konverziu“ zbrojárskeho priemyslu na SLOVENSKU, ale nie v ČECHÁCH. Výroba poklesla z 13.3 miliard Kčs na 1.8 miliard Kčs t.j. o 90.6%. Desať tisíce pracovníkov na Slovensku stratilo zamestnanie. Naviac Havel dal odmontovať špeciálne stroje na výrobu tankov a diel, ktoré premiestnil do Čiech, kde chcel vyrábať tieto zbrane v tajnej dohode s iným štátom, ktorý po prezradení od toho odstúpil.

Z uvedeného stručného prehľadu je zrejme, že Slováci nedosiahli slobodnú a demokratickú Slovenskú republiku 1.1.1993 len rokovaním medzi Klausom a Mečiarom. To bolo už len zavrchenie dlhého boja Slovákov za sebaurčenie, ktoré trvalo niekoľko storočí a mnohí pre to obetovali svoje životy. Na to by sme nemali zabúdať !!!

Češ a sláva tým čo zaslútili a obetovali svoje životy a slobodu pri boji na ceste k sebeurčeniu slovenského národa a slovenskej štátnosti!

V ďalšom programe odzneli básne: „Slávnostne“ od Ľuda Bešeňovského a: „Reč krásna, svätá“ od Štefana Dubiela. Recitovala Henrieta H. Daitová. Program spestril slovenský spevák Rado Lesay s prekrásnou slovenskou piesňou: „Keby som bol vtáčkom, letel by som za les pozrieť sa čo robí mamička moja dnes ...“

Na záver tajomníčka Slovenskej ligy v Amerike Nina Holá vyhodnotila podujatie na ktorej bola účasť Slovákov z New Yorku, New Jersey, Connecticut a Pennsylvánie.

Na začiatku boli oficiálne štátne hymny USA a Slovenskej republiky a na záver: „God Bless America“ a „Hej Slováci“ ktoré zaspieval Rado Lesay za doprovodu Jozefa Jurášeho.

Nakoniec chcem v mene všetkých poriadajúcich a prítomných účastníkov Osláv poďakovať všetkým účastníkom, slávnostnému rečníkovi Milanovi R. Daitovi, Nine Holej za vyhodnotenie podujatia, pánu farárovi Rev. Martinovi Svitanovi, Štefanovi Chanasovi ako i za pomoc pri poriadaní podujatia manželom Bilikovým, Marienke Božekovej, našim spevákom Radovi Lesayovi a Jozefovi Jurášimu ako aj Jankovi Škrkoňovi, ktorý pripravil dobré jedlá, ktoré boli podávané pri oslave.

Henrieta H. Daitová  
Tajomníčka I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy v NYC

## Posledný odkaz Dr. Jozefa Tisu

„V duchu tej obety, ktorú prinášam, odkazujem slovenskému národu, aby bol svorný a jednotný v sledovaní veľkej zásady „Za Boha a národ“ – vždy, všade a v každom ohľade.“

Je to nielen jednoznačný smysel slovenských dejín, ale aj výslovný príkaz Boží, ktorý ako prirodzený zákon stvoril a do národa a každého jeho príslušníka vštepil.

Tomuto zákonu slúžil som celý svoj život, a preto sa považujem za mučeníka v prvom rade obrany kresťanstva proti bolševizmu, ktorého sa musí národ nielen v duchu svojho kresťanského charakteru, ale aj v záujme svojej ďalšej budúcnosti všemožne chrániť.

Ako si prosím od Vás, aby ste si v modlitbách svojich spomínali na mňa, tak i ja budem za Vás prosieť vševládneho Boha, aby národu slovenskému v jeho životnej borbe za Boha a národ žehnal, aby národ slovenský bol vždy verným a oddaným synom Cirkvi Kristovej.“

V Bratislave, 18. apríla 1947  
DR. JOZEF TISO



## Oznámenia spolkov a okresov

### Členská schôdza Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ v New York City

Oznamujeme všetkým členom Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, že v nedeľu dňa 18. apríla 2010 o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia sa uskutoční členská schôdza v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66<sup>th</sup> Street v New York City.

Na schôdzi bude prevedená voľba dalegátov na 49. Konvenciu IKSJ, ktorá sa uskutoční v dňoch 14. – 18. augusta 2010 v Clevelande, Ohio.

Vyzývame všetkých členov, aby sa tejto dôležitej schôdzi zúčastnili.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

### Členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu, č. 16 IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu Spolok č. 16 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu dňa 2. mája 2010 o 1:00 hodine v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City.

Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní.

Program schôdze bude zameraný na voľbu delegáta na 49. Konvenciu IKSJ v Clevelande, Ohio, ktorá sa uskutoční v dňoch 14. – 18. augusta 2010. Po schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie.

Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

## Slovensko stojí na križovatke ako chrániť svoje kultúrne dedičstvo

Najsilnejšia opozičná strana SDKÚ-DS je proti vývozu slovenského kultúrneho písomného dedičstva do Nemecka s cieľom jeho ošetrovania tak, ako to plánuje ministerstvo kultúry (MK). Na tlačovej konferencii to v marci uviedol predseda poslaneckého klubu SDKÚ-DS Stanislav Janiš.

Slovensko podľa jeho slov stojí na križovatke ako chrániť kultúrne dedičstvo, ktoré je dnes v archívoch či knižniciach. "Ide o milióny kníh a archívnych materiálov. Sú dve cesty, ako Slovensko naloží so svojim písomným dedičstvom," tvrdí opozičný poslanec. Prvou je riešenie MK, ktoré ho chce naložiť na kamióny, odviesť do Nemecka a tam ho ošetriť za desiatky miliónov eur a na tieto služby použiť eurofondy.

Druhá cesta, ktorú preferuje SDKÚ-DS, je postaviť na Slovensku funkčnú technológiu a zriadiť komplexnú fabriku na konzervovanie písomného dedičstva a následne ho digitalizovať. "Teda eurofondy nepoužívať v Nemecku a tvoriť tam pracovné miesta, ale využiť ich na Slovensku," povedal. Strana preto preferuje vybudovanie Integrovaného konzervačného centra (IKC) vo Vrútkach. "Chceme centrum, ktoré sme schopní postaviť z peňazí z Operačného programu Informatizácia spoločnosti do dvoch rokov. Kultúrne dedičstvo predsa bude potrebné chrániť aj po tom, ako sa minú eurofondy," vysvetlil Janiš. Navyše vybudovanie IKC má priniesť 80 nových pracovných miest a ďalšie desiatky majú vzniknúť po celom Slovensku v rámci obslužných činností.

Lokalitu Vrútok Janiš odôvodnil tým, že Slovenská národná knižnica dostala v minulom volebnom období po armáde zadarmo priestory v tomto meste. V nich s pomocou nórskeho fondu vybudovala časť digitalizačného centra, ktoré už v súčasnosti funguje. "Je to v centre Slovenska aj národného kultúrneho dedičstva. Kompletne vypracovaný projekt IKC dostal aj minister, uprednostnil však obrovský tender a vývoz kníh za hranice SR. Chráňme si svoje dedičstvo doma, veď toto je vlastenectvo v praxi," dodal.



## 22. výročie sviečkovej manifestácie v Bratislave

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

čase asi 2,000 ľudí s horiacimi sviečkami a modlitbami, ktorú napokon štátna polícia neskôr násilne rozohnala.

Táto spomienka pritiahla pozornosť médií a niekoľko desiatok ľudí. Niektorí si túto spomienku špeciálne uctili tým, že priniesli sviečky, ktoré tu na mieste zapálili.

Spomienka sa konala pod záštitou primátora hlavného mesta Andreja Ďurkovského. Hostami tohtoročnej spomienky boli František Mikloško, jeden z iniciátorov manifestácie a biskup Václav Malý z Prahy, signatár Charty 77. Prítomný bol aj bratislavský arcibiskup Stanislav Zvolenský.

Program začal o 17.00 hodine spomienkovým zhromaždením, ktorému predchádzal zvukový záznam zo sviečkovej manifestácie z roku 1988. Ďalej program pokračoval o 18:00 hodine svätou omšou v Dóme sv. Martina. Túto svätú omšu celebroval arcibiskup Stanislav Zvolenský, koncebroval a kazateľom bol biskup Václav Malý, ktorý prišiel z Prahy. Po svätej omši pokračovalo modlitbové zhromaždenie Večeradlom, ktoré sa konalo opäť na Hviezdoslavovom námestí.

Na záver si účastníci akcie pozreli film o sviečkovej manifestácii pod názvom Quo vadis, spojené s diskusiou s arcibiskupom Václavom Malým.

TK KBS

## Slovenský reprezentačný ples v New Yorku

Pokračovanie zo str. 24



Predsnička plesu Sabína Sabadoš a podpredseda SAKS-u Matúš Čulen odovzdali pianistke Eve Virsíkovovej kyticu ruží a pamiatkový darček.

Medzinárodne známa slovenská pianistka Eva Virsíková bola slávnostným hosťom plesu. Vystupovala už vo viacerých mestách Európy a Ameriky, vrátane vystúpenia v Moskve. Na plese prítomným zahrala skladby Eugena Suchoňa, Fréderika Chopina a Franza Liszta, za čo ju obecenstvo odmenilo vďačným potleskom.

Ďalší prihovor mal veľvyslanec SR vo Washingtone Peter Burian v ktorom ocenil aktivity SAKS-u a slovenskej komunity v USA a jej spoluprácu s veľvyslanectvom. Písomné pozdravy účastníkom plesu zaslali prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič a predsedníčka Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí Vilma Prívarová. Na plese boli predstavení aj ďalší hostia, medzi nimi šéf Stálej misie SR pri OSN veľvyslanec Miloš Koterec, generálny konzul SR v New Yorku Igor Pokojný, generálna tajomníčka Slovenskej ligy v Amerike Nina Holá, honorárny konzul SR v Pittsburghu Jozef T. Senko, podpredseda Svetového združenia Slovákov v zahraničí Ján Holý a známy rozhlasový moderátor a propagátor slovenskej hudby Greg Whiteside.

Ples pokračoval v dobrej nálade pri hudbe a speve kapely Express do neskorých hodín večera. V tradičnej tombole hostia vyhrali hodnotné ceny, medzi ktorými boli aj dva obrazy akademického maliara, Daniela Borgányiho, ktorý ich osobne priniesol zo Slovenska, ďalej letenka do Viedne a ďalšie.

Slovensko-americkému kultúrnemu stredisku od slovenskej verejnosti patrí ocenenie za každoročné usporiadanie týchto reprezentačných plesov v New Yorku.



## Slovenské ľudové slávnosti v Chicagu 2. mája 2010

Slovenská národná aliancia v Chicagu, Illinois srdečne pozýva slovenskú verejnosť na v poradí už 9. Slovenské ľudové slávnosti, ktoré sa uskutočnia v prvú májovú nedeľu dňa 2. mája 2010 v Community Center, 7900 Oketo Avenue, Bridgeview, Illinois 60455. Slávnosti sa začnú slovenskou svätou omšou, o 12.00 hodine naobed ktorú bude celebrovať slovenský kňaz otec Marek Sitár. V kultúrnom programe sa predstavia domáce folklórne skupiny: Veselica, detský súbor Veselica, spevácky zbor a vystúpia deti slovenskej školy. Zo Slovenska sa prisľúbili: slovenský folklórny súbor Borievka z Košíc, Peter Stašák zo Slovenskej televízie, predsedníčka Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, Vilma Prívarová a ďalší. Návštevníkov festivalu bude čakať bohaté občerstvenie: slovenské pivo Zlatý Bažant, slovenská zabijačka: šunka, jaternice, tlačienka a domáce klobásky. Vstupné pre dospelých je \$20, seniorov \$10, deti a mládež zdarma. V piatok 30. apríla 2010 o 3:30 hodine poobede v Downtown Chicago bude stretnutie s pokladničkou daňového úradu Cooks County, Máriou Papas. O bližšie informácie volajte Alojza na tel. číslo: (773) 744 – 8401.

## Po Veľkej noci

Chvála a vďaka Ti vzkriesený Kríste,  
Tvoja ohavná smrť, nám doniesla naše vykúpenie isté  
a otvorila nebeské brány, pre všetkých, čo v Teba veria,  
ktorí pre Teba žijú, a ich duchovným chlebom je viera.  
Zhliadni na svoj ľud, požehnaj jeho prácu,  
nech nikdy, nepozná ošklivosť hriechu a jeho zradcu.

Daj Pane, nech Vzkriesenie Tvoje, je cestou do neba,  
odmeň tých, čo žijú a veria, len v Teba.  
Daj, tieto milosti, aj nášmu, slovenskému ľudu,  
nech spravodlivou cestou kráča a neupadne do bludu.  
Daj Pane, nech naša Prvá Katolícka Slovenská Jednota, nikdy nezahynie.  
Vypočuj, naše vrúcne prosby a daj nám Tvoje Požehnanie.

Jozef Smák

## Jarná tanečná zábava v New York City

Spolok sv. Matúša č. 45 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty Vás pozýva na Jarnú tanečnú zábavu, ktorá sa uskutoční v nedeľu dňa 25. apríla 2010 po svätej omši o 12:30 hodine v osadnej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého 411 East 66<sup>th</sup> Street, New York City. Vstupné je \$ 25.00. V cene vstupenky je započítané hlavné jedlo, káva a koláč. V priebehu zábavy bude losovaná tombola a predstavia sa aj deti zo slovenskej školy. Zabávať Vás bude hudobná skupina Jozefa Jurášeho – Kontakty. Tešíme sa na Vašu účasť.

Mária Jurášiová, pokladníčka

## Krátke správy zo Slovenska

• **Slovenská ekonomika** v tomto roku podľa Národnej banky Slovenska (NBS) vzrastie o 3.2 %. Vyplýva to z aktuálnej strednodobej predikcie centrálnej banky, ktorú predstavil jej guvernér Jozef Makúch. Ešte v decembri NBS očakávala, že po výraznom vlnajšom prepade hospodárstva o takmer 5 % produkcia SR v tomto roku vzrastie o 3.1 %. Centrálna banka je tak naďalej optimistická ako ministerstvo financií ktoré predpovedá tohtoročné oživenie na úrovni 2.8 %. Výkon slovenského hospodárstva vlni výrazne ovplyvnil prepád zahraničného dopytu pod vplyvom globálnej hospodárskej krízy. Súvisiace výpadky príjmov štátu sa podpísali aj pod prehĺbenie deficit verejných financií ktorý medziročne vzrástol trojnásobne na 6.3 % hrubého domáceho produktu (HDP). Pre tento rok sa vláda zaviazala znížiť schodok na 5.5 % a do roku 2012 ho chce dostať opäť pod hranicu 3 % povolenú európskymi rozpočtovými pravidlami.

• **Kde a ako budeme bývať** je názov programu, ktorý podporuje spoločnosť U. S. Steel Košice celkovou sumou 6,700 eur. V rámci tohto programu koncom marca viceprezident spoločnosti Miroslav Kiral'varga odovzdal diplomy siedmim vybraným školským environmentálnym projektom. Dlhodobým cieľom grantového programu Kde a ako budeme bývať je zvyšovať povedomie žiakov základných škôl v oblasti starostlivosti o životné prostredie a rozdeľovať finančné prostriedky školám Košického samosprávneho kraja (KSK) na projekty, ktoré podporia deti a mládež v aktívnej činnosti v prospech životného prostredia v mieste, kde žijú. Program je určený pre základné školy Košického kraja a v tomto 7. ročníku sa o podporu uchádzalo 17 základných škôl.

• **Tradičné Veľkonočné trhy** sa konali aj toho roku na Hlavnom námestí v Bratislave. Predajcovia v 20 stánkoch ponúkali široký sortiment výrobkov a suvenírov súvisiacich s oslavou veľkonočných sviatkov a symbolov jari. Boli tam remeselníci a ľudoví umelci z rôznych regiónov Slovenska a po prvý raz aj predaj kraslíc spojený s ukážkou ich zdobenia. Návštevníkom boli k dispozícii veľkonočné vajčká zdobené rôznou technikou, veľkonočné ozdoby a dekorácie z prútia, šupolia, keramiky, skla, dreva, korbáče, rapkáče, pišťalky. Nechýbali figúrky z keramiky, textilu, dreva, slovenská ľudová majolika, vyšívane a tkané obrusy, paličkovane a račianske vystrihované dečky, medovníky, zdobené perníky, sladké obľátky plnené karamelom v tvare vajčiek, zajačikov, sviečky z včelieho vosku s motívami Veľkej noci, darčkové balenia sviečok, medu i medoviny.

• **Až 98.7 %** z vlnajšej produkcie spoločnosti Volkswagen Slovakia smerovalo na export. Hodnota vývozu predstavovala 2.93 miliardy eur. Najväčším exportným trhom sú krajiny Európskej únie (EÚ), pričom len Nemecko sa na objednávkach vozidiel podieľalo 39.5 %. Nasledujú Čína s podielom 13.2 %, USA 6.4 % a Rusko s 5.4-% podielom. Podľa slov predsedu predstaviteľstva a. s. Volkswagen Slovakia (VW SK) Andreasa Tostmanna na výročnej tlačovej konferencii práve čínsky trh je veľmi perspektívny. Medziročný nárast vývozu do tejto krajiny dosiahol 7.3 %. Výrobné portfólio VW SK v súčasnosti tvoria vozidlá Volkswagen Touareg, Audi Q7 a Octavia. V súvislosti s prípravou na produkciu vozidiel radu New Small Family sa výroba Octavií v bratislavskom závode v máji skončí. Ešte v tomto roku sa začne v Bratislave vyrábať novinka Volkswagen Touareg Hybrid, vyznačujúca sa úspornosťou a ďalšími technologickými vylepšeniami.

• **Vojský kaplán** Ordinariátu Ozbrojených síl (OS) a Ozbrojených zborov (OZ) SR kpt. Jozef Paluba pôsobil pri slovenskom kontingente vojenskej mierovej misie UNFICYP na Cypre pripravil vo vojenskom tábore vo Famaguste pôsobivé slávenie Kvetnej nedele. Do vojenskej kaplnky sv. Cyrila a Metoda vstupovali so skutočnými palmovými ratoľstami nielen slovenskí vojaci, ale aj africkí študenti väčšinou z Nigérie študujúci na medzinárodnej univerzite vo Famaguste, informoval o tom kancelár a hovorca Ordinariátu OS a OZ SR Tibor Ujllacký. Súčasťou anglicko-slovenskej omše boli aj černošské spirituály a temperamentný liturgický tanec. Slovenskí vojaci spolu s africkými študentmi tak zaujímavosť oslávili Deň mládeže (28. marca) a zároveň dôstojne vstúpili do Veľkého týždňa. Popri duchovnej službe našim vojakom sa slovenskí vojenský kapláni už niekoľko rokov venujú aj africkým študentom. Na univerzite v moslimskej časti Cypru tvorí 80 študentov z Afriky malú skupinu, nemajú tam žiadnu možnosť katolíckych sv. omší, takže sú veľmi vďační za tie naše a umožňujú tak slovenským vojenským kaplánom pôsobiť ako skutoční misionári. Účasť afrických kresťanov na omšiach vojenského kaplána Palubu vo Famaguste je nielen duchovným a liturgickým zážitkom ich spontánnej radosti z oslavy Boha, ale aj príkladom života viery pre našich vojakov takisto odlúčených od vlastného prostredia, uviedol Ujllacký.

• **Gréckokatolícka farnosť** v obci Nacina Ves a Spolok svätého Cyrila a Metoda z Michaloviec sa od roku 2009 podieľajú na projekte, ktorého hlavným cieľom je sprístupniť širšej verejnosti historické nástenné maľby z prvej polovice 15. storočia, ktoré boli v roku 2004 znovuobjavené počas rekonštrukcie strechy gréckokatolíckeho chrámu v obci Lesné, okres Michalovce. Ich spoločné úsilie bolo podporené prostriedkami nadácie a Košickým samosprávnym krajom spolu v hodnote viac ako 12,000 eur. Vzácné maľby podrobili výskumu ešte v 80. rokoch minulého storočia. Potvrdilo sa, že pochádzajú z 15. storočia, no na dlhý čas sa im nevenovala väčšia pozornosť. Opätovne sa o fresky začali zaujímať pamiatkari v roku 2004, kedy boli podrobené reštaurovaniu a nadobudnuté poznatky o ich histórii boli zároveň popravené a spresnené. Základný a neukončený výskum z čias komunizmu sa tak dočkal svojho pokračovania. Pri románskom chráme v Lesnom sa pred niekoľkými desaťročiami našli aj základy stredovekej sakristie a ostiária - kostnice.

• **Na železničnej stanici** v Spišskej Novej Vsi sa 1. apríla predpoludním zrazili dva vlaky. Informovali o tom z dispečingu Hasičského a záchranného zboru (HaZZ) v Spišskej Novej Vsi. Podľa aktuálnych informácií dispečera HaZZ si tragédia vyžiadala minimálne tri ľudské životy. Vo vagóne bolo desať ľudí zranených, z toho jeden ťažko. K nehode došlo krátko po 11.30 h, kedy do stojaceho osobného vlaku narazil zozadu elektrický rušeň Železničnej spoločnosti CARGO Slovakia. Pri náraze sa jednou osou vykoľajil jeden vagón osobného vlaku. Prebiehajú záchranné práce a príčiny nešťastia sa vyšetrojú. Informovala o tom hovorkyňa Železníc SR Martina Pavlíková.

• **Pedagógom** Trnavskej univerzity "udreli" do očí podozrivo vyspelé myšlienky v seminárnych prácach študentov. Po skopírovaní textu a preverení cez internetový vyhľadávač zistili, že ide o podvod. Potvrdilo sa, že z internetu kopírovali do svojich prác celé pasáže bez uvedenia zdroja. Šesť študentov univerzity v Trnave skončilo pred disciplinárnym senátom a všetci sa ku kopírovaniu priznali. Študentov univerzita potrestala podmieneným vylúčením - ak by to zopakovali, budú musieť školu opustiť. Ministerstvo školstva SR spustí centrálny register záverečných prác tento rok. Niektoré univerzity už uviedli do činnosti "vlastný" antiplagiátorský softvér.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

## Niektó to rád slovenské



Anna Birošová spolu so Stanislavom Štepkom počas ich stretnutia pred začiatkom predstavenia.



Jozef Biroš spolu s autorom divadelnej hry, Stanislavom Štepkom.



Na snímke účinkujúci na záver divadelného predstavenia.

Pod týmto názvom je ukryté ďalšie bohatstvo talentu hry Stanislava Štepku a zároveň hlavného predstaviteľa v úlohe Jozefa Murgaša, ktorú uvádza Radošinské národné divadlo v Bratislave.

Podľa návštevy divadelného predstavenia sme vyhľadali pána Štepku, aby som mu predstavila manžela, ktorý pochádza z Wilkes-Barre. Pochválila som sa, že manžela pokrstil Rev. Jozef Murgaš ako aj sa zúčastnil spolu s rodičmi a starším bratom na jeho pohrebe. Zároveň sme mu ukázali originál listu Rev. Jozefa Murgaša s jeho vlastnoručným podpisom, adresovaný manželovi otcovi, Štefanovi Birošovi. Stanislav Štepku si so záujmom pozrel i niekoľko fotografií kostola, ktorý postavil Rev. Jozef Murgaš so svojimi farníkmi, škola a cintorín, kde je aj Jozef Murgaš pochovaný.

Počas rozhovoru sme mu predstavili činnosť Spolku slovenského dedičstva vo Wilkes-Barre, ktorého sme aj my členmi. Hlavnou úlohou Spolku je šíriť bohatstvo talentu nášho slávneho rodáka z Tajova, Jozefa Murgaša. V Bratislave pripomína túto významnú osobnosť pamätná tabuľa na budove hlavnej pošty, o ktorú sa zaslúžili svojou zbierkou naši Slováci z USA.

Pán Štepku nás predstavením upozornil, že hra nie je životopisom Jozefa Murgaša. Touto hrou chcel docieľiť, aby si slovenská verejnosť, aj formou muzikálu uvedomila, akou veľkou osobnosťou bol Jozef Murgaš, ktorého význam na Slovensku nie je dodnes docenený. Bolo veľmi vtipné, keď pán Štepku vyzval manžela, aby ako rodák z Wilkes-Barre vyslovil názov mesta, lebo jemu, hlavnému predstaviteľovi hry, to robilo problémy.

Samotná hra je úžasná so všetkým, čo k tomu patrí. A pretože Wilkes-Barre mi je veľmi blízke, najmä kostol Božského Srdca Ježišovho, kde sme boli aj sobášení Mons. Františkom Beedom, predstavovala som si počas sledovania hry slávnú faru pri kostole, kde sa rodili myšlienky nášho génia. Viaceré z nich, spolu 12, boli patentované. Najvýznamnejší Murgašov vynález bol v oblasti bezdrôtovej telegrafie kde získal prvenstvo pred Talianom Marconim. Ano, v tejto časti hry mi priam naskakovali zimomriavky, lebo som si uvedomovala, aký neľahký život mal náš slovenský rodák v boji s mafiou a Marconim v USA. Smutné je i to akého sklamanie sa dočkal r. 1921, pri návrate do Česko-Slovenska, keď mu zamietli jeho žiadosť o miesto stredoškolského profesora, lebo vraj na to nemá vzdelanie.

Ani sa nečudujem, že práve tejto hre Stanislava Štepku *Niektó to rád slovenské*, udelil Literárny fond *Cenu za pôvodnú literárnu tvorbu za rok 2008* a Radošinské národné divadlo dostalo ocenenie za uvedenie tejto inscenácie. Radošinské národné divadlo je vlastne v tomto smere „národným divadlom“, lebo celá jeho tvorba je pôvodná, reflektujúca život slovenskej dediny i mesta, určená pre najširšie vrstvy divákov. Predstavenie, ktoré sme videli umocnilo v nás presvedčenie, že autor hry si naozaj zaslúži porovnanie so slávnym francúzskym dramatikom Moliérom.

Vďaka vám, Majstre Stanislav Štepku, za tú poklonu pred obrazom Rev. Jozefa Murgaša v závere hry, za všetkých nás Slovákov.

A ešte môj sen, ktorého by som sa rada dožila. Bola by som šťastná, keby sa pri príležitosti 150. výročia narodenia Jozefa Murgaša r. 2014 odohralo toto predstavenie v Tajove. V tom roku sa ukončí digitalizácia všetkých materiálov súvisiacich s osobou Jozefa Murgaša, na ktorej spolupracuje Spolok slovenského dedičstva vo Wilkes-Barre s obcou Tajov. Dúfame, že v Tajove bude mať kde Radošinské národné divadlo vystúpiť a Tajovčania tak nadviažu na úspešný telemost, ktorý pripravili pri príležitosti 80. výročia úmrtia svojho slávneho rodáka.

Anna Birošová

Members of the Presov folklore group Dubrava continue the custom of sprinkling water on the girls on Easter Monday, April 5, 2010. This annual ritual of sprinkling water on all 20 girls of the village takes an entire day.



FOTO TASR - Milan Kapusta, 5. apríla 2010

Mládenci z prešovského Folklorneho súboru Dúbrava (FS) na Veľkonočný pondelok polievajú svoje kolegyně vždy vonku, bez ohľadu na to, aké je počasie. Keďže v súbore majú takmer 20 dievčat, dnešná polievačka sa pravdepodobne skončí až tesne pred zotmením. Polievači dnes ako prvú navštívili Ivanu Pazderovú v Solivare a pri muzike na dvore dievčinu obľali niekoľkými vedrami vody. Pravdepodobne nebola dostatočne mokrá, preto ju zobrali za záhradu a musela zniesť ešte niekoľko litrov vody z miestneho potoka.





# Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník Jednota



ÚRADNÝ ORGÁN PRVEJ KATOLÍCKEJ SLOVENSKEJ JEDNOTY V SPOJENÝCH ŠTÁTOCH A V KANADE

Ročník 119

STREDA, 14. APRÍLA, 2010

Číslo 5819



Slovensko-americké kultúrne stredisko v New Yorku (SAKS) usporiadalo 13. februára, 18. slovenský reprezentačný ples. Konal sa v posledný fašiangový víkend v prestížnej inštitúcii NY Athletic Club. Na snímke sú niektorí hostia na plese. Sediaci (zľava): podpredseda Svetového združenia Slovákov v zahraničí Ján Holý, veľvyslanec SR vo Washingtone Peter Burian, gen. tajomníčka Slovenskej ligy Nina Holá, manželka veľvyslanca Nina Burianová a predsedníčka plesu Sabína Sabadošová. Stojaci zľava: veľvyslanec SR pri OSN Miloš Koterec, honorárny konzul SR v Pittsburghu Jozef T. Senko, generálny konzul v New Yorku Igor Pokojný s manželkou Katarínou, členka exekutívy Slovenskej ligy Štefánia Siegelová a podpredseda SAKS-u Matúš Čulen.

## Slovenský reprezentačný ples v New Yorku

18. slovenský reprezentačný ples sa začal tradičnou recepciou o 6.00 hodine, ktorá poskytla účastníkom príležitosť na rozhovory a stretnutia po určitom čase. Po recepcii sa účastníci presunuli do banketovej sály, kde bola pripravená bohatá večera pri pekne vyzdobených stoloch. Účastníkov plesu privítala predsedníčka plesu Sabína Sabadoš, ktorá moderovala ďalší program spolu s podpredsedom SAKS-u Matúšom Čulenom.

Pokračovanie na str. 22

## 22. výročie sviečkovej manifestácie v Bratislave

Slovensko si pripomína 22. výročie sviečkovej manifestácie. Bratislavská akcia z 25. marca roku 1988 vstúpila do dejín ako jeden z najvýznamnejších verejných prejavov odporu voči komunistickému režimu v bývalom Československu. Manifestáciu za náboženskú slobodu a ľudské práva zorganizovali pred dvoma desaťročiami ľudia z tajných a vtedajšom mocou prenasledovaných katolíckych spoločenstiev. Požadovali vymenovanie katolíckych biskupov pre neobsadené slovenské diecézy, úplnú náboženskú slobodu a tiež dodržiavanie ľudských práv. Na polhodinovú manifestáciu na Hviezdoslavovo námestie v Bratislave prišlo v tom



FOTO TK KBS/ Peter Zimen

Výročie Sviečkovej manifestácie veriacich 25. marca 1988.

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## Spomienková oslava slovenskej štátnosti v New Yorku

I. Zbor Slovenskej ligy v New Yorku usporiadal v nedeľu dňa 14. marca o 1:00 hodine odpoľudnia v spoločenskej hale Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 411 East, 66<sup>th</sup> Street v New York City Spomienkovú oslavu slovenskej štátnosti, za spolupráce Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, Spolku sv. Štefana a Spolku sv. Matúša Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty, Slovenského katolíckeho Sokola a ostatných fraternalistických slovenských spolkov.

Oslava bola zahájená slovenskou svätou omšou za prvého prezidenta Slovenského štátu Msgr. Dr. Jozefa Tisu. Slávnostným rečníkom na tejto spomienkovej oslave bol predseda I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy v NYC Milan R. Dait, ktorý svoj obsiahly referát zameral výlučne na boj za práva na sebaurčenie slovenského národa po II. svetovej vojne, až do vyhlásenia Slovenskej republiky 1. 1.1993. Uviedol zaujímavé skutočnosti, ktoré mnohým sú takmer neznáme:

5. apríla 1945 v Košiciach na zasadaní Národnej rady vyhlásili Program prvej vlády Národného frontu Čechov a Slovákov, ktorý ratifikova úplné podriadenie Sovietskému zväzu (ZSSR) ako na poli vojenskom, tak i medzinárodne politickom. Pôvodne povojnová Česko-Slovenská republika mala byť federatívnou republikou dvoch samostatných národov – Čechov a Slovákov, ale na zasadaní komunistov 30. mája sa slovenskí komunisti vzdávajú boja za toto usporiadanie, čo malo za následok úplné podriadenie sa Čechám. Toto bol začiatok plnenia Benešových politického programu a jeho strany (Memoranda o Slovensku) na úplné asimilovanie Slovákov. Ich program? „... politika musí smerovať k tomu, aby Slovenský národ bol po všetkých stránkach oslabený tak, že nebude môcť pomýšľať na vytvorenie samostatného štátu“.

Spolu so sovietskou armádou, prišla i NKVD a podľa ich zverejnených archívov bolo zo Slovenska od jesene 1944 do jari 1945 deportovaných takmer 70,000 Slovákov do sovietskych trestných táborov, z ktorých asi tretina zahynula, lebo nevydržala útrapy vyšetovania a neľudské transporty do trestných táborov na Sibiri. Ďalším odmietla pražská vláda návrat z trestných táborov ZSSR, pričom slovenské poverenie bolo vylúčené z rozhodovania o tejto selekcii.

Armáda Svobodu, povolala a mobilizovala slovenských vojakov a dôstojníkov a potom ich vydala do rúk NKVD a táto ich deportovala do sovietskych trestaneckých táborov. Toto bolo prevádzané na základe toho, že slovenskí vojaci a príslušníci domobrany boli považovaní za nepriateľské vojsko, na rozdiel od vojska Protektorátu Čechy a Morava !!!

V apríli 1945 Slovenská liga v Amerike predložila kongresu Spojených národov a organizácii svetovej bezpečnosti dokument v ktorom žiadala: „... aby slovenskému národu bolo dovolené rozhodnúť o svojom osude slobodnými voľbami pod dozorom výboru Spojených národov ...“

Pod vedením a vzorom NKVD, boli na Slovensku zriadené takzvané zaisťovacie tábory napr. v Novákoch od jari do 16. novembra 1945 zomrelo 188 osôb z toho 113 detí mladších ako 7 rokov.

Podľa dokumentu Hlavného veliteľstva VB – 6 oddelenie utvorilo na Slovensku 49 táborov, sústreďovacích v Petržalke, pracovných Patronka, Nemšová, Sv. Jur, Podbánske, Nové Zámky a ďalších 43 zaisťovacích táborov na Slovensku, kde bolo väznených 22,515, z toho 9,872 mužov, 8,014 žien a 4,629 detí.

4. októbra 1945 americké ministerstvo zahraničia odmietlo výhrady britskej vlády proti vydaniu slovenských politických osobností Československu, čo sa stalo 27. októbra 1945 a o 2 dni v putách dovezli z Prahy prezidenta Slovenského štátu Dr. Jozefa Tisu a uväznili ho v Bratislave.

28. augusta 1945 Prvá katolícka slovenská jednota (PKSJ) adresovala prezidentovi a kongresu USA rozsiahle memorandum o práve Slovákov na samostatnosť.



Slávnostný rečník Milan R. Dait

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