



Jednota

THE UNION

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

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NUMBER 5923



Sunday, September 13, 2015 MEMORIAL DEDICATION

On Sunday September 13, 2015 the new Memorial located on the Jednota Estates grounds in Middletown, PA will be dedicated.

The Memorial is to honor all deceased members, whether or not they were war veterans. However, special honor is given to all who were Jednota veterans of war since WWI to present.

The site is permanently dedicated for this purpose.

We hope to see as many members there as possible. Please see page 3 of this issue for details on the day, and to learn how you can make your reservation to attend.

Scenes from the First FCSU 125th Celebration

This year marks a number of milestones for the First Catholic Slovak Union, including the 125th Anniversary of our Society and the 100th Year of our founder, Fr. Štefan Furdek's passing.

See page 5 for scenes from the Pittsburgh Districts Celebration in June, and also pages 3, 14, 15 and 16 of this issue for details on upcoming celebrations in Cleveland, as well as other Regions and Districts.



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FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION *in collaboration with the* SLOVAK CATHOLIC FEDERATION

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE
BASILICA OF THE
NATIONAL SHRINE
OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**

*Saturday,
September 12, 2015*

See page 3 for a
Schedule of Events

*Photo courtesy of
Andrew P. Rajec*



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Insights and Viewpoints



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

July 19, 2015 - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Gospel Mark 6: 30-34

"I will appoint shepherds for them who will shepherd them so that they need no longer fear and tremble; and none shall be missing, says the Lord" (Jer 23:4).

Together with many of the prophets of the Old Testament Jeremiah often uses images of shepherds and sheep to illustrate

the inspired word he received from the Lord. This is only natural, since sheep herding was an essential part of life and culture in biblical times; everyone would have immediately identified with these images and so they conveyed their message effectively and vividly. The theme depicting God as a faithful shepherd continues in the responsorial Psalm, so widely known and loved, in which we pray together: "The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want" (Psalm 23:1).

In the gospel today the motif of the shepherd is also adopted by Jesus, who looks to the people of Israel as sheep entrusted to his care: "When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things" (Mark 6:34). Going beyond this, in the gospel of John Jesus amplifies and transforms the shepherd image for us by teaching his disciples that he is "the Good Shepherd", who will lay down his life for the sheep (John 10:11).

Here he reveals fully what it means to be a shepherd—to be willing to give up everything for the sheep. This can happen in a dramatic way, such as through an attack on the sheep by a predator—or in a more mundane way, through the shepherd's daily exhaustion brought about by labor and constant vigilance.

Pope Francis caused a stir shortly after he began his Petrine ministry on Holy Thursday of 2013 by reminding priests that they must take on the "odor of the sheep", living and working in the midst of their parishioners and not isolating themselves from the difficulties and realities that the faithful face. A few priests I know reacted to these words defensively, seeing Pope Francis' remarks as evidence that he was not in touch with what they are already doing. Most priests however took his encouragement well, seeing these words as an opportunity to reflect on their own roles as shepherds of God's people and discerning how they can more authentically resemble the Good Shepherd himself.

Much of my work as a priest takes place in a seminary, where I teach, serve as a formator and mentor, and also exercise an administrative capacity. Taking on the "odor of the sheep" in this situation means at least in part helping seminarians to recognize the challenges and questions that they face in their own journeys of faith, so that they will be able to identify with parishioners who confront similar difficulties, bringing the gospel to the Catholic faithful in a credible manner on account of having walked in the same shoes as many of those to whom they minister.

Earlier in the book of the prophet Jeremiah, the Lord spoke through the prophet, saying of the people of Israel: "I will give them shepherds after my own heart" (Jer 3:15). Let us pray that through the support of Catholics for their pastors and through the dedicated efforts of seminarians and priests on behalf of their parishioners, we may all move forward together in



Fr. Edward Mazich,
O.S.B.

our pilgrimage of faith, shepherds and sheep alike following in the footsteps of the one Good Shepherd who lays down his life out of love for his sheep, and who takes it up again "so that they need no longer fear and tremble" (Jer 23:4) but may enjoy life eternal.

July 26, 2015 – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Gospel – Mark 6: 1 - 15

This Gospel passage in Mark takes place after two significant events. The first is that word reached Jesus about the death of his cousin John the Baptist. He is the one who leapt in his mother's womb when Jesus' mother visited her after the Annunciation, who boldly prepared the way for Jesus and then humbly stepped aside as he pointed out Jesus, the lamb of God. The news of John's tragic death no doubt struck the tenderness of the humanity of Jesus. The second is the return of the Apostles from their first mission and their desire to tell Jesus all that had happened. So Jesus tells them that it is time to go on a retreat to a deserted place. There they could talk, mourn and pray.

The crowds had no time or respect for Jesus and the Apostles desire to go off alone. Jesus response to this is beautiful. He is tuned into the immediate need, that they needed food. The apostles point out the problems of where to get food for they were in a deserted place, and how to pay for it. The only food is five loaves of bread and two fish. Jesus took the loaves and fishes and gave thanks and distributed it. There was more than enough for the five thousand followers to eat, and they ended up with twelve baskets of leftovers.

This Gospel gives us two important lessons. The first is to accept the invitation of grace. There are times when we make all sorts of plans of what we are going to do, whether it be for a day or some long term plan for our lives, and something happens that forces us to change these plans. We can respond with frustration or even anger. Jesus had neither when the crowds changed his plans for a retreat, he responded by giving them his full attention and serving their most basic need. There is a lesson for us to do the same. Look upon the unexpected changes as invitations to grace and allow the Lord to work through us. This is not easy because it involves our accepting a change or changes we hadn't planned on, but when we accept these invitations of grace we experience God's presence in the most beautiful ways.

The second is trust. There are times in our lives when we are called upon to do some task or service that we don't think we are capable of doing. Using the parish as an example maybe you are asked if you would be a lector, or take communion to the shut-ins, or teach Religious Ed. Maybe it is to assume leadership in a parish group or be on some special committee. Your initial inclination could be that you aren't capable of doing it and you try to graciously decline. However, the pastor or other leaders persist in encouraging you to take this new thing on. Picture yourself as the loaves and fish and place yourself into the hands of Jesus and ask for his blessing, and say "yes". Just as there was more than enough to eat of the loaves and fish, when we place ourselves, and the little we have, into the hands of Jesus we can find ourselves doing things we never imagined we could do. This involves not only a particular place like our parish, but rather our heart and willingness to trust in every aspect of our lives. When we entrust ourselves to the Lord we might truly experience a miracle of multiplication of our time and talents in our lives.



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

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

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12	MONDAY, AUG. 3
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9	MONDAY, AUG.31
WEDNESDAY, SEPT 23	MONDAY, SEPT 14

Correspondents who are announcing events should allow ample time for them to be received by the readership, taking into account the publication schedule and the extra time in the postal system.

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Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com
First Catholic Slovak Union, Attention "JEDNOTA"
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Memorial Dedication

continued from page 1

Sunday, September 13, 2015 MEMORIAL DEDICATION

The schedule is as follows:

- 1:00 PM Field Mass celebrated by our Chaplain
- 1:30 PM Dedication of site and Memorial
- 2:00 PM Reception and social

Please join us rain or shine

If there is inclement weather the Mass and Dedication will be in-door. There is plenty of parking.

A light luncheon will be served after the dedication, so your reservation is kindly requested. Please call Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA (533-6682) by August 31, 2015 with the number of people attending.

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Jerry Costello for *The Christophers*

A Married Couple Makes Sainly History

Improbable as it may seem, the Church will finally get around—for the very first time—to declaring that a married couple are saints (with a capital S, that is). True, they are hardly an ordinary couple; their daughter, St. Therese of Liseux, is one of the Church's best known saints. But in October of this year, in conjunction with the Synod of Bishops on the family, Louis Martin and his wife, Marie-Azelie (Zelie), are scheduled to be added to the ranks of those named saints—the first husband and wife to be canonized together in Church history.

What was it that made the Martins such special people, that set them apart from the rest of us? After all, they seemed to have lived such routine lives. J.J. Ziegler, writing in *Our Sunday Visitor*, paints a portrait of a fairly successful couple who plied their trades from their home. Louis, who was a skilled watchmaker, and Zelie, a talented maker of fine lace (she lived all her life in the Alencon area of France, known for its lace), lived above a storefront they worked at together.

But there were a few special events in their lives that, in retrospect, make them stand out—such as the first time they saw each other. One day in 1858 they were walking across a bridge in Alencon, passing by each other. Louis was 34; Zelie was 26. And at that moment, Zelie heard a voice inside her. "This is the man," it said, "that I have prepared for you."

Both of them, growing up in France at a time of spiritual rebirth, had tried to enroll in religious communities, and both, somewhat mysteriously, were rejected. At 22, Louis sought admission to the Augustinians, but was turned down because he didn't know Latin. For the better part of a year he took lessons in that language from a priest, but finally abandoned the effort and went off to learn the watchmaker's trade. Zelie too was interested in religious life; at 19 she tried to enter the Daughters of Charity. But her attempt, like that of her future husband, would end in refusal, for reasons not entirely clear.

They married (only three months after that incident on the bridge, when Zelie had heard that "voice" from inside her) and began life as husband and wife. Their home was a center of prayer, devotion and affection. Each morning they attended Mass, and generally lived in an atmosphere of love and generosity. In time Zelie would give birth to nine children—including, of course, the future St. Therese. Some 244 letters, published in a book titled "A Call to a Deeper Love," reflect their devotion to each other.

And then there were the miracles on their road to sainthood—the healing of an Italian infant for their beatification, the healing of a Spanish girl (who had been expected to die) that paved the way to their canonization. "The doctors were totally amazed," said the priest who was postulator of their cause. Some years later, he continued, "she is completely healthy, like all girls of her age."

Now, as one headline writer had it, "history awaits" the canonization of the Martins. It will be good to have a married couple added to the ranks of saints, to be admired, to be cherished—and, yes, to pray to as well.

For a free copy of the *Christopher News Note*, *SECRETS OF A SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE*, write: *The Christophers*, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org jc 07/05/15



Midwest Pastoral Seminar Celebrates 30th Anniversary on September 20

Place: Garden Chalet Banquets
11000 South Ridgeland Avenue
Worth, Illinois

Time: 12:00 Registration

12:45 Speaker: Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB, of St. Andrew Svorad, a Slovak Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, OH. He will speak about their roots in Lisle, IL; their service in the Chicago area; and the establishment of the Abbey in Cleveland. Lunch will follow with a family-style meal.

Cost: \$25 by the deadline of September 10, 2015. Reservations received after September 10 will be \$30. Reservations in advance only. No tickets will be sold at the door.

To Reserve: Send to John Jurcenko,
7113 West Talcott Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60631

For Info: Call Geri Hletko at 708-387-7812 or
John Jurcenko at 773-763-0810.



THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
in collaboration with the
SLOVAK CATHOLIC FEDERATION

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

THE PILGRIMAGE TO THE BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE

OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Washington, DC

Saturday, September 12, 2015

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 11:30 AM | Pilgrims Arrive |
| 12:00 PM – 1:45 PM | Lunch on own and Cathedral tours |
| 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Confession in English & Slovak (Crypt Church) |
| 2:00 PM (Upper Church) | Welcome |
| 2:15 PM | Blessing and Distribution of Rosaries |
| 2:20 PM | Recitation of Rosary (English & Slovak) |
| 3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Mass celebrated by Cardinal Wuerl |
| 4:15 PM – 4:30 PM | Prayer of Blessing at the Shrine of Our Mother of Sorrows |
| 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM | Cocktail Reception to be hosted at the Embassy of the Slovak Republic |
| 7:00 PM | Pilgrims Depart |

To make your reservation, please contact the Home Office
by August 31, 2015 by calling 800.533.6682
**MANY DISTRICTS ARE ORGANIZING BUSES. CONTACT YOUR DISTRICT
OR BRANCH OFFICER FOR DETAILS.**

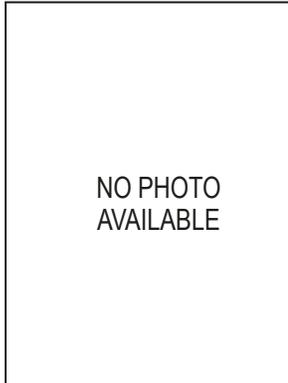
The Best of the Best!

Tops Guns through May 2015



NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Rebecca C. Tisak
First Place



NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Susan Louise Lang
Second Place



David A. Lang
Third Place



Audrey J. Balazik
First Place



Kimberly M. Meeker
Second Place



Linda M. Hanko
Third Place

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF INSURANCE SOLD

Name	Branch	Insurance
Tisak, Rebecca C.	313	200,000
Lang, Susan Louise	24	175,000
Lang, David A.	24	100,000
Krajsa, Michael J.	419	75,000
Sabados, Sabina	746	70,000
Speshock, Patricia A.	367	55,000
Marmol, James Robert	162	50,000
Petrus, Dorothy J.	670	45,000
Yuros, Joseph J.	35	40,000
Persun, Kathleen M.	831	40,000

TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF ANNUITIES/IRA SOLD

Name	Branch	Annuities
Balazik, Audrey J.	367	117,744.00
Meeker, Kimberly M.	166	100,000.00
Hanko, Linda M.	553	98,000.00
Deliman, Rosemary	417	77,646.80
Kelchak, George J.	581	65,000.00
Lako, Michael Eugene	2	51,130.00
Budis, John	746	50,000.00
Rajec, Andrew P.	89	40,029.49
Chupka, Theresa R.	173	40,000.00
Buchheit, Geraldine	410	38,213.00



Members of the FCSU's Pittsburgh District brought items such as these to the District's annual Father's Day Mass and Breakfast on June 21, 2015, to help paralyzed veterans.

Fraternal Update....

Did you know that more than 8,000 Jednota members served in the armed forces in WWII, and Slovak Americans contributed \$17 Million dollars' worth of war bonds? In recognition of this patriotic service, the US named four Freedom ships and 5 bombers to honor Slovak leaders.

In the April 22nd activities article, a fraternal challenge was introduced to help paralyzed vets stay safe on the road.

I am happy to report that the Pittsburgh District answered the challenge by collecting 4 boxes of items to be donated to the veterans. The members brought the items to the District's annual Father's Day Mass and Breakfast which was held at Holy Trinity Parish in West Mifflin on Sunday, June 21st. Congratulations and many thanks to the Pittsburgh District for their efforts in continuing to honor our Society's motto, "Za Boha a Národ"; "For God and Country." By participating in such an effort the Paralyzed Veterans of America will know that the First Catholic Slovak Union is grateful for their sacrifices.

How can you help?

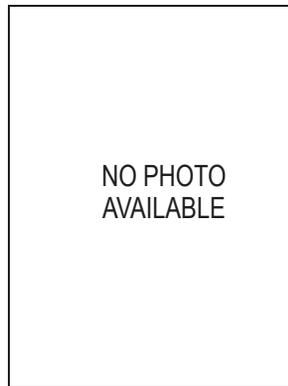
Have any unopened boxes of band aids or hand wipes, or maybe a small unused flashlights? If so share them with Paralyzed Veterans of America. This non-profit uses these items for roadside emergency kits for paralyzed veterans, who often drive solo on the road.

This is something every District, Branch and member can easily do. Next time you have a meeting in your branch or district ask everyone to bring one of these items. Then mail them to: Paralyzed Veterans of America c/o Sheila Skipper, 801 18th St. NW, Washington, DC 20006.

Feel free to learn more about the organization at www.PVA.org.

Let me know the results of your efforts. Send an e-mail to: rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com

Rudy Ondrejco
National Fraternal Activities Director

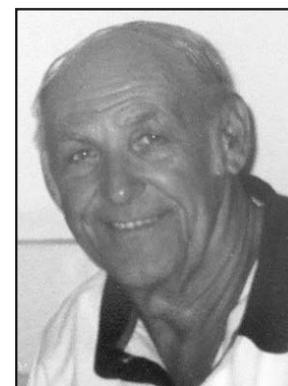


NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Susan Louise Lang
First Place



Audrey J. Balazik
Second Place



Albert R. Valo
Third Place

TOP PROPOSERS BY TOTAL POINTS

Name	Branch	Points
Lang, Susan Louise	24	221
Balazik, Audrey J.	367	193
Valo, Albert R.	587	180
Tisak, Rebecca C.	313	172
Smolleck, Michaelene T.	312	161
Graytok, Margaret A.	380	127
Hanko, Linda M.	553	124
Deliman, Rosemary	417	113
Meeker, Kimberly M.	166	100
Lako, Michael Eugene	2	95

Reminder...

All English and Slovak articles should be sent directly to the editor Teresa Ivanec, First Catholic Slovak Union, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398. The email address for articles is 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 Home Office, 6611 Rockside Rd., Suite 300 Independence, OH 44131-2398. Phone 1/800-JEDNOTA; fax at 216/642-4310 E-mail: info@fcsu.com

Branch 2, with Pittsburgh District, Celebrated 125 Years of the First Catholic Slovak Union in June

In 1860, the first immigrants began to arrive from what was then Austria Hungary. Our ancestors longed to be united and recognized not as Austro-Hungarians, but as Slovaks.

On February 24, 1889, the St. Michael Society of Allegheny City was established at a meeting in Crescent Hall on Ketchum and Petosky streets in Woods Run.

Wishing to stay loyal to their religious affiliation—Jan Bakoš and Martin Slanina represented the St. Michael Society at the first Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union in Cleveland, Ohio, on September 4, 1890. Jan Bakoš was elected Supreme Vice-President and Martin Slanina as Supreme Auditor. The St. Michael Society was established as Branch # 2.

The purpose of this newly formed “Jednota” was charity, propagation and support of Catholic principles and the promotion of the Slovak language and nationality.

The Pittsburgh District lodges were officially organized March 1, 1931. They organized baseball and bowling leagues, picnics and camping opportunities, especially for their youth members. The Communion Breakfast on Father’s Day to honor all fathers is a tradition which is still carried on every year in the District.

On Sunday, June 7, 2015, members, friends and guests joined with Branch 2, St. Michael Society and the Pittsburgh District to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The afternoon began in Slovak tradition with the celebration of Mass at the Embassy Suites Hotel, near the Pittsburgh International Airport. The main celebrant was Very Rev. Stephen Chervenak, (Branch 628) who was assisted by Rev. Gregory Madeja.

The offertory procession included several symbolic gifts. Bread and salt were offered by National Treasurer Emeritus, George Matta and his wife Florence. As a reminder of the strong faith of our people, Margaret Nasta, Pittsburgh District Recording Secretary, brought forth a cross. Miniature Slovak and American flags signifying our loyalty to our homeland and our new beginning in America, were presented by one of the youngest members in attendance: Cara Zemelman (3 yrs old, Branch 2). Coal and steel, two products which symbolized the labor of thousands of Slovaks in the coal mines, steel mills, and railroads were carried by George Lako, President of Branch 2. The procession concluded with National Secretary Ken Arendt, and National President Andrew Rajec offering the Bread and Wine.

Greg Collins, Branch 2 Fraternal Activities Director, and Dave Matta, Pittsburgh District President, served as lectors. Slovak hymns were sung during Mass led by an assembled choir of Branch 2 members.

Following the Liturgy, guests enjoyed mingling together over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

The banquet began with Michael Lako, Regional Director, welcoming all the attendees. Following the invocation and National Anthems, Gary Matta, FCSU General Counsel, proposed a toast in English, followed by a Slovak toast given by National Director of Fraternal Activities, Rudy Ondrejco.

George Matta II, National Treasurer, served as toastmaster for the afternoon. Proclamations were received from Allegheny County as well as the City of Pittsburgh. An inspiring speech by Robert Dvorchak, free-lance journalist and author of several books, followed. He commended the pioneers for their hard work and determination in overcoming many obstacles in order to establish societies such as our Jednota. He reminded everyone to be thankful for the sacrifices made by their ancestors so that their children and grandchildren could become doctors, lawyers, teachers, and engineers, etc. He revealed how his own family’s history was intertwined with the Jednota by wearing his grandfather’s badge from 1895, and his uncle’s delegate badge from the convention held in Cleveland in 1935.

Among the honored guests was Barbara Brekosky, wife of the late Regis Brekosky, who served the Jednota in various capacities over the last 30 years. Also, many family members of Andrew Holovanisin were present. Andy inspired many young people to become involved in the Jednota, including George Matta, Sr.

Remarks were then given by National President Andrew Rajec, followed by entertainment provided by the Pittsburgh Slovaks Dance Ensemble, with music for dancing by Mike Columbus afterward.

Many thanks to the individuals, societies, organizations, businesses, and friends who have generously helped to sponsor this event: FCSU Home Office...FCSU Branch 2...Slovak Savings Bank...

George Matta, II, FCSU National Treasurer...Gary Matta, FCSU General Counsel...Thomas P. Kunsak Funeral Home...Giant Eagle, Camp Home Road...Mike Lako, FCSU Region 5 Director...Western PA Slovak Day Association...Rudy's Auto Service...FCSU Pittsburgh District...FCSU Branch 35...FCSU Branch 38...FCSU Branch 60...FCSU Branch 254...FCSU Branch 276...FCSU Branch 320...FCSU Branch 380...FCSU Branch 580...FCSU Branch 618...FCSU Branch 628...FCSU Branch 738...FCSU Branch 213



Over the last 25 years, many changes have taken place as a result of advances in technology, the inter-marriage of various ethnic groups, and modern business practices. In spite of these changes, Branch 2 remains as the largest Branch in the Pittsburgh District with over 1,000 members. The Pittsburgh District and its Branches have always been generous to many Slovak Religious and cultural causes, and has provided the society with strong leadership on many levels. Numerous National Officers have served the Society in various capacities over the past 25 years:

Regis Brekosky, President
 Regis Brekosky, Vice-President
 George Matta, Sr., Treasurer
 Regis Brekosky, Regional Director
 Michael Mihalko, Regional Director

John Tirpak, Supreme Court
 Joe Yuros, Supreme Court
 Rudolf Ondrejco, Supreme Court
 George Matta, II, Supreme Court
 Margaret Perla, Pension Board
 Michael E. Lako, Pension Board

Theresa Ondrejco Zemelman, Fraternal Activities Dir.....Susan Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Dir.

- *George Matta, II, Treasurer
- *Gary Matta, General Counsel
- *Rudolf Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director
- *Michael E. Lako, Regional Director
- *Jerome Ferrance, Supreme Court
- *Ray Lako, Auditor

We gathered to celebrate 125 years of accomplishments resulting from the strong faith in God, willingness to work, honesty, integrity, and self-reliance of our forefathers. With the help of God and the intercession of St. Michael we pray we will be given the strength and wisdom to meet the challenges ahead as we proudly continue on our journey carrying with us the Slovak Catholic Spirit “For God and Country.”

- Submitted by Sue Ondrejco, Branch 2
 *Currently Serving





Branch 581's Semi-annual Meeting

Branch 581 held its semi-annual meeting on June 28, 2015 with a fraternal lunch at the Lake Park Restaurant in Hobart, IN. Present at the meeting was Father Joe Kelchek who is celebrating 65 years as a priest. Part of the agenda concerned donations; Branch 581, as other FCSU branches do, approved donations to their favorite charities. It is encouraging to see Slovaks helping others.

- Submitted by Rudy Bernath, FCSU Director Region 7

Luis Palos, Winner of 73rd Slovak Bowling Congress



Luis Palos of Lorain, OH, captured top honors in the Jednota All Events Bowling Sweepstakes at the 72nd Slovak Bowling Congress of American Tournament, held recently at Freeway Lanes in Warren, OH.

Luis' winning score was 2179. His actual series was 1819 plus 360 handicap pins over the nine game total.

Congratulations to Brother Palos. A sincere Jednota "thank you" to all participants. Hope to see you in the Spring of 2016 at Stonehedge Lanes in Akron, OH.

- Submitted by Joe M. Harkulich, Secretary

Plan ahead and leave a positive legacy behind

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

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

Don't leave a financial burden for your family or loved ones.

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The sooner you do, the less it costs!

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85th Annual Slovak-American Day in Milwaukee

Sunday, July 26, 2015

Croatian Park, 9140 S. 76th St., Franklin, WI

Holy Mass at Noon – Fr. John Jamnicky
2:30PM Program: Singing of the National Anthems

Presentation of Slovak Culture:

Wreath 93 Slovak Catholic Sokol Drillers
Tatra Slovak Dancers of Milwaukee

Children's Activities

Live Music for Dancing or Listening by the Ed Hause Band

Slovak food, bakery, and refreshments available

Slovak/Czech handmade ornaments, jewelry, crafts and artifacts

Complimentary golf cart transportation available at the park for the "Young at Heart"

Free admission to the park, \$1.00 raffle tickets for sale

For more information, please call Betty @ 414-425-6137 or Ralph at 262-893-2972

Everyone welcome! A very special invitation to Branch 89, Knights of Sts Mary and Joseph!

St. Matthew the Evangelist 8th Annual Summer Festival in August



St. Matthew the Evangelist Parish, Minersville, PA, will sponsor its 8th Annual Summer Festival on Sunday, August 16, 2015, at the South Cass Fire Company Picnic Grounds, Primrose, PA, from noon to 9:00PM.

Entertainment will include:

- 12:00 Noon – 4:00PM: John Stevens' Doubleshot
- 5:00PM – 9:00PM: The New Individuals

The festival will feature homemade food such as Pierogi, Halupki, Kielbassa, Halushi, Bleenie, Bean Soup, Sausage sandwiches as well as Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, French Fries, Funnel Cakes, Ice Cream and more. There will also be games, Bingo, Basket, Auction, etc.

Ample, free parking is available.

Everyone welcome!

For more information, please contact St. Matthew the Evangelist Rectory at 570-544-2211.

Annual July Pierogi Fest in Whiting IN



THE WHITING PIEROGI FEST is a three-day "street festival" in Whiting, Indiana, located about 20 minutes from Chicago, IL. It is presented by the Whiting Robertsdale Chamber of Commerce and draws almost 200,000 visitors each year. The Pierogi Fest is held the last full weekend in July, which means this year it runs July 24 – 26, 2015, from 11am to 10pm on Friday and Saturday and from 11am to 5pm on Sunday.

Jam packed with street vendors selling food, drinks and fun novelty items like t-shirts, the fest also features events like the Polka Dance Off, judged by Mr. Pierogi and Ms. Paczki.

Not only can you tap your toes to the live and pulsating music of polka bands each day, but you can sit and watch the beautifully costumed young men and women from different Slovak dance troupes –The Lúčina Slovak Folk Ensemble from Cleveland, OH; Šarišan Slovak Folk Ensemble from Detroit, MI; Veselica Slovak Folk Ensemble from Chicago, IL; and the Vychodna Slovak Dancers from Mississauga, Ontario – many of whom are FCSU members. Lúčina is directed by Tom Ivanec, Branch 24; Šarišan is directed by Milan Straka, Branch 743; and Vychodna's Executive Vice President of Cultural Events Dušan Dorich is a member of Branch 785.

The dancers perform from 2 – 4PM on Saturday and noon – 2PM on Sunday.

For more information, visit the official Pierogi Fest website: www.pierogifest.net or call toll free 1-800-659-0292



Photo courtesy of Neil Evans.

Neighbors have praised Stan Preneta (shown here with faithful companion for many years, Susie Q) for his efforts to beautify the neighborhood with an extensive garden filled with roses and other colorful annuals such as geraniums and begonias.

Branch 855's Stanley Preneta Honored By Independence with Home Beautification Award

On May 12, 2105, Branch 855 Member Stanley Preneta was honored by the city of Independence, OH, with a very special award. The proclamation, which was presented to him that same day, states: In order to encourage promote and recognize such care and dedication that individuals invest into their homes and properties into the future the City of Independence hereby establishes the City of Independence Stanley Preneta Home Beautification Award. Independence Mayor Kurtz further lauded Stan for his "extraordinary and beautification of his property ... He has done a wonderful job with his garden, and allowed the world, and the Independence people who drive by, to admire his artistry" (City Council News, June 2015, page 9).

Stan previously had been featured in the local magazine Independence Today, where the writer noted:

Preneta's work ethic shows in the amount of time and energy he now spends on his yard. He understands that many people do not have the time to garden because of their work schedules and other commitments. Gardening, he says, can be exhausting and expensive. As such, he said his main reason for maintaining such a large garden is to enhance the neighborhood and to make people happy (from "Stanley Preneta's green thumb livens up corner of Brecksville and Lafayette roads," by Linda Niro, Independence Today, October 2013, p. 5).

When he stopped by FCSU Headquarters recently, Stan explained that gardening was a pastime he learned from his mother; but it was only after retirement as a high school history teacher in 1987 and the move a few years later to his current home in Independence that he had the leisure time to pursue it so extensively. Stan grew up in the Slavic Village neighborhood of Cleveland, OH. After serving in the Korean War, Stan made good use of his GI Bill to earn a Bachelor of Science from John Carroll University and a Masters of Teaching from Western Reserve University. He spent his career at JFK High

School in Cleveland, OH, and moved to his present home in Independence which he had built in 1992. Soon after he settled into the neighborhood, he began planting the abundant roses and other flowers that would become his passion.

Stan is a member of the Western Reserve Rose Society and the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 855.

Message from Our National Chaplain

Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive is the preparatory catechesis (teaching manual) for the World Meeting of Families to be held September 22-27, 2015 in Philadelphia. The catechesis contains 10 chapters, each concluding with four questions for reflection. One of the reflections from Chapter 6, All Love Bears Fruit, is offered here.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

What do celibacy and marriage have in common?

At first glance, it is easier to examine the differences between marriage and celibacy. Two easily come to mind. A man and a woman in marriage become one with each other on several levels of their being. Their selfless giving of each other in an intimate way unites them not only physically, but also mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. A celibate abstains from such a union.

Family is a word closely associated with marriage. Married couples have children and raise a family. One normally associates celibacy with a person who is single and does not have a family of his own.

However, there are two similarities. Both marriage and celibacy involve persons entering a state of living of one's own free will through the pronouncing vows to that effect. Also, they both have Jesus in common. Jesus himself was celibate and whoever lives this life strives to imitate Jesus, who shared his love with all. The life-giving, ever faithful love Jesus has for his church is reflected in the life-giving, ever faithful love of a husband and wife in marriage

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain

Reminder For All Branches

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

14.01 General Rules

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

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6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131, 800.533.6682, www.fcsu.com, insurance@fcsu.com



Scenes from the Toronto Slovak Bowling League

Once again the season ends for the Toronto Slovak Bowling League on May 29, 2015, which has been in existence for 63 years! The League was established as a "5pin" bowling league, but over the years changed to "10pin". We still have one member who started with the original group in 1952, Jara Ragan.

All ages are welcome in the League. We just celebrated with Mary Bis, a milestone birthday her 90th on Friday May 29, 2015.

The pictures are just a few of the many members/bowlers we have and the awards that were won.

- Submitted by Anne Mitro, Branch 785 Secretary



TORONTO SLOVAK BOWLING LEAGUE 2014-2015 SEASON INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

PENNANT

1ST Stan Pella
Milos Mitro
Helen von Friedl
Jody Leavoy
Vlad Mitro

2nd Anne Mitro
George Banas
John Miziolek
Darleen Dvernechuk
Mike Blackwood

PLAY OFFS

SERIES 'A'

1st Jason Ubeika
Ann Fedurco
Mike Miziolek
Dan Zrobok

2nd Stan Pella
Milos Mitro
Helen von Friedl
Jody Leavoy
Vlad Mitro

SERIES 'B'

1st Jara Ragan
Mary Kovalik
Lenn Dworak
Rick Tonkovich
Jim Szabo

2nd Greg Gryś
John Tokarskyw
Irene Breen
Bill Goodyear

MEN

HIGH AVERAGE

1st Greg Gryś 222
2nd Dan Zrobok 191

WOMEN

Anne Mitro 158
Ivanna Teneycke 152

HIGH SERIES SCRATCH

1st Jason Ubeika 707
2nd Milan Zoldak 706

Jan Jursa 542
Christine Goodyear 528

HIGH SERIES WITH HANDICAP

1st John Tokarssky 798
2nd John Tutko 772

Marka Mihal 732
Lily Ubeika 726

HIGH GAME FLAT

1st Jeff Macko 245
1st John Mrozek 245
2nd Frank Bokor 235

Lydia Scybravy 211
Nellie Zeman 203

HIGH GAME WITH HANDICAP

1st Al Fedor 299
2nd Mark Doric 294

Mary Kovalik 288
Irene Goreman 284

Most Improved Bowler

Mark Doric +17

Maria Vacval +15

Youngstown to Hold 10th Annual Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest

Loretta Ekoniak

Wow, it is hard to believe, but what started out as a small festival at St. Matthias in Youngstown, OH, is about to hold its tenth annual festival which now is a valley event with participation from many Slovak churches, fraternal, organizations and individuals! And this year's festival which will be held on Sunday, August 9, 2015, on the grounds of St. Matthias Church, Our Lady of Sorrows Parish at 2800 Shady Run Rd, Youngstown, OH, 44502 is better than ever!



The day starts off with a Slovak/English Mass at 11:00am at St. Matthias Church (915 Cornell Ave across the lot from the festival) and continues after Mass in the parking lot and school hall until 9:00pm. Outside there will be Slovak food of all sorts available (and we are making much more to make sure we don't run out before everyone has a chance to sample their favorites!) There will be *halušky* (with real dumplings), *holubky* (stuffed cabbage), *pirohy*, *klobasa* and *kraut* (or as Father Martin insists, *kyslá kapusta!*), roast pork sandwiches, BBQ chicken and even hot dogs, fries and ice cream and of course Slovak beer, all served outside all day. Inside from noon until three we will be serving a "Taste of Slovakia" platters with breaded pork cutlet, *klobasa*, *kysla kapusta* (aka sauerkraut!), *holubky* and *halušky*.

There will be a great selection of Slovak bakery including *kolače* and *kiffles* (first come, first served!), and *palacinky* (crepes) along with Slovak crystal and other Slovak items for sale. There is also a great Slovak Heritage corner showing many beautiful items on display such as authentic Slovak *kroj* (folk costumes), maps, corn husk dolls, photos, books, embroidery and informational items. There is also a basket auction and a gas card raffle good for food or gas at Giant Eagle stores.



Musical entertainment will be provided by the Eddie Vallus band, the Del Sinchak Orchestra and Lučina Slovak folk dancers! The music starts after Mass outside and continues until about 8:30pm and includes room to dance!

So if you want to help celebrate the Slovak culture, just put the address in your GPS and come join us! And if you need more information just give me a call at 330.549.3760 or email me at loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com!

Professor Stanislav Kirschbaum Awarded One of France's Most Prestigious Honors

On Thursday, 25 June, the Consul General of France in Toronto, Monsieur Jean-François Casabonne Masonnave, awarded Professor Stanislav J. Kirschbaum, Chairman of the department of International Studies at Glendon College, York University in Toronto, the decoration that signifies his promotion on January 1, 2015 to the rank of Officer in the Order of Academic Palms of the French Republic. In 1994, Professor Kirschbaum was inducted in the order with the rank of Knight in recognition of his efforts to enhance academic relations between France and Canada. He was one of the founders of the Association France-Canada d'études stratégiques.



Since then, Professor Kirschbaum has been actively involved in its annual meetings, two of which he organized at Glendon College, and its publications, which now constitute a collection published by Editions Bruylant entitled "Collection études stratégiques internationales" of which he is one of the editors. In the letter he wrote to Professor Kirschbaum, the ambassador of France, Nicolas Chapuis, indicated that "in granting this distinction, the French Government sought to acknowledge your remarkable work and more particularly your contribution to the strengthening of exchanges and academic cooperation between France and Canada."

This award is not without a connection to Slovak Studies. In his work for the association, especially in its publications, Professor Kirschbaum made it a point to use Slovakia as a case study or example in his analyses of contemporary international issues in Eastern Europe that the association was examining. The academic publications of the association, in French, thus constitute a source of study on Slovakia to which the expert or the interested reader can turn. Professor Kirschbaum is also the author of *A History of Slovakia*. The *Struggle for Survival and Historical Dictionary of Slovakia* as well as numerous scholarly articles on Slovak history and Politics.

Professor Kirschbaum, who obtained his doctorate from the Université de Paris, is a graduate of the National Defense College of Canada; Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada; Co-president of the Association France Canada d'études stratégiques; member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies; and was secretary of the International Council of Central and East European Studies from 1980 to 2010. He is a member of Jednota Branch 785.

**Attention Members of the
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SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

The First Catholic Slovak Union Membership and Marketing Committee will hold a sales seminar for the following districts in October:

- Sunday, Oct 4, 2015: District 4, the Msgr. John E. Rura District, and District 16, the Msgr. Stephen Krasula District, will hold a joint seminar for their members. See the Branch 746 notice on page 11 of this issue for details.
- Saturday, Oct 17, 2015: District 14, details to follow in upcoming issues of Jednota. so the rest of the copy from the second line forward now reads: hold a sales seminar on this date; details to follow in upcoming issues of Jednota.

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Fr. Kelchak continues to be 'instrument of Holy Spirit'

Anita Draper,
Catholic Herald staff

"My motto is, 'Don't retire! Inspire!'"

That's what Fr. Joseph Kelchak has been doing in his home in the Diocese of Gary, Indiana, since retiring from the Diocese of Superior in 1990. Approaching the 65th anniversary of his ordination, the 89-year-old priest's official job title is senior priest at St. John the Evangelist Parish in St. John, Indiana. Unofficially, he takes in a lot more territory, and hardly a weekend goes by when he isn't celebrating one Mass, if not more. He's been in 54 parishes in the Northwest Indiana diocese.

"I'm busy every Sunday," he said. "That's how retired I am."

"I've been helping all over," he added. "I'm having just a wonderful time."

In his 40 years in the Diocese of Superior, Fr. Kelchak was the pastor of parishes in Webster, Rhinelander, Barron and Centuria. He sat on the presbyteral council, diaconate board, pastoral council and liturgical commission and, perhaps most memorably, he chaired the Indian commission.

He recalls the abject poverty suffered by Ojibwe families. The log cabins, the dirt floors. No electricity. No running water. They harvested wild rice by hand; distributors paid 25 cents a pound and sold the rice for \$5.50 per pound. Unemployed, the men turned to alcohol.

Fr. Kelchak approached the bishop for funding to wire and plumb the cabins. Thursdays were his day off, and he drove to the Twin Cities to offer restaurateurs a deal: wild rice for a wholesale price of \$2.75 per pound, all paid directly to growers. He found money to purchase threshing and harvesting equipment. A woman from another tribe agreed to help revive the forgotten art of beadwork.

"I loved it," the priest said of his years here.

Spend any time around Fr. Kelchak, and you'll find he exudes love.

"God loves you, and I love you," is his signature parting remark. He also radiates joy; approaching the 65th anniversary, he'll tell you his life has been fulfilling and "wonderful."

"I'm so glad I'm a priest," he often says. "I can't imagine being anything else."

A Catholic school first-grader when he chose his vocation, Fr. Kelchak never looked back. The Holy Spirit helped him reach his goal, he said, and now the priest promotes devotion to "the forgotten God."

A side project is distributing prayer cards around this country and Latin America. Fr. Kelchak chose prayers to the Holy Spirit and had them printed in English; somehow word got out, and he regularly fields phone calls requesting the cards. A Peruvian woman wanted to give them to her family back home, so she translated them into Spanish.

"It's all the work of the Holy Spirit. I'm just an instrument," he added. "I think of the Holy Spirit as the forgotten God. I try to make sure he's not too forgotten."

After retiring in 1990, Fr. Kelchak returned to Indiana to be closer to family. He's glad for the chance to serve his home diocese, which also struggles with a shortage of priests and a surge in closed doors and parish clusters.

"It's terrible what's happening," he commented. "Well, what are you going to do? The demographics are changing."

Fr. Kelchak doesn't understand the lack of vocations to the priesthood, but he's confident "the Lord is taking care of his church." He thinks the lure of money leads men to ignore the call.

"If they knew what a wonderful life this is, we'd have so many vocations, we wouldn't know where to put them," he said. "They're getting sidetracked. Who knows how many unanswered vocations to the priesthood are out there?"

Heading toward his 90th birthday, Fr. Kelchak is no closer to actual retirement. For the past two years, he has been a district chaplain for the First Catholic Slovak Union, a role befitting his Slovak heritage. He's still studying, "despite my age," reading a steady stream of books on theology and spirituality. He offers counseling and spiritual direction to anyone in need, and he says Mass every day, either in a church or in his home chapel.

"I'm enjoying it. My health is good; so as long as my health is good, I intend to keep working," he continued. "I enjoy preaching. I get more and more jobs."

On May 27, Fr. Kelchak will celebrate the 65th anniversary of his ordination. He admits 1950 was "a long time ago."

The last of his classmates, he's surprised by his own longevity.

"I feel ancient," he said, laughing.

He wasn't going to do anything special to commemorate his jubilee, but he has been asked to celebrate Mass that night. He suspects a surprise is being planned.

For the past 20 years, the priest's family has been asking him when he's going to retire. His standard response is, "I'll retire the day after I die."

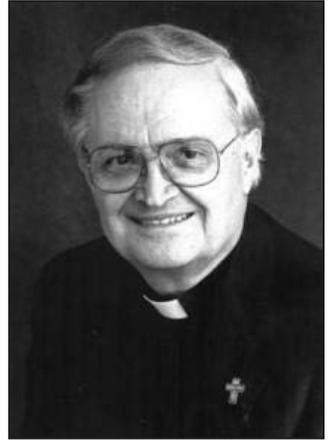
"I love people," he added. "I like to be with people. I enjoy what I'm doing."

"It's been a rewarding life, let me tell you," he continued. "It's just unbelievable how the Lord works."

That said, Fr. Kelchak isn't clinging to this life. When God calls him home, he added, "I'm packed and ready to go."

The preceding article appeared in the May 7, 2015 edition of the Superior Catholic Herald, publication serving the Catholic Diocese of Superior, Wisconsin. It is reprinted with permission.

- Submitted by Ann Buczek, Branch 581 President & Secretary, as Fr. Kelchak is also a member of Branch 581.



Fr. Joseph Kelchak

News From Slovakia

Around 600,000 Join Slovakia's Oldest Pilgrimage to Marian Hill in Levoca

Levoca, July 5 (TASR) - This year's pilgrimage to Marianska hora (Marian Hill) in Levoca (Presov region), which attracted 600,000 of the faithful over two days, was rounded off by a Holy Mass on this date celebrated by Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, Archbishop of Krakow and former Secretary to Pope John Paul II.

The pilgrimage centered around the 20th anniversary of John Paul II's visit to Slovakia as well as prayers for the institution of the family.

According to the moderator of the pilgrimage Jozef Lapsansky, Dziwisz spoke about his relationship with John Paul II, noting the former Pope's belief as early as in 1984 during the communist-era Czechoslovakia that he would visit Marianska hora one day.

Slovakia's oldest pilgrimage, linked to the Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady, has been taking place on Marianska hora since the Mongol invasion in the 13th century. The site saw the biggest pilgrimage ever in 1995, when it took place in the presence of John Paul II, with some 650,000 people attending.

Slovaks Living Abroad Meet in Bratislava to Mark Their Day

Bratislava, July 5 (TASR) - All Slovaks living abroad regardless of their status in their homeland are an integral part of the Slovak national community and culture, said vice-chairman of the Office for Slovaks Living Abroad (USZZ) Peter Prochacka in Bratislava on this date.

July 5 has been designated as the Day of Slovaks Living Abroad. It falls on the same day on which the country commemorates the significance of the two Apostles to the Slavs - Saints Cyril and Methodius.

In his address at a gathering at Bratislava's Sad Janka Krala park on Thursday, Prochacka expressed his wish that the Office and compatriots will collaborate ever more closely. "This

is a substantial element of our draft concept for state policy with respect to Slovaks living abroad, according to which these Slovaks don't merely receive funding passively, but act as a co-forming element in a dynamic partnership," said Prochacka.

Stanislav Bajaniak representing the World Union of Slovaks Living Abroad highlighted the need for a joint course of action in setting up a Memorial to Slovak Emigration in the park. He noted that the foundation stone has been in the park for 15 years now, and expressed his wish that the memorial will become a reality soon.

Bratislava councilor Milan Vetrak informed those present that the city council has adopted a proposal for placing the memorial - near the new Slovak National Theatre building.

President Kiska Is Awarded With 'Freedom of the City of London'

Bratislava/London, June 23 (TASR) - Slovak President Andrej Kiska was awarded prestigious honor 'Freedom of the City of London' on Tuesday in the City of London, Presidential Office press department informed TASR on the same day.

Among the recipients of this honor, the first of which is estimated to have taken place in 1237, are personalities such as Sir Winston Churchill, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Nelson Mandela, Margaret Thatcher, Princess Diana, Bill Gates, Placido Domingo, J. K. Rowling, Michael Caine and Morgan Freeman.

President Kiska said at the ceremony that he was glad, because this honor - an honorary freeman citizenship - statesmen don't get very often. He said that the honor represents the understanding that all successful people should think about philanthropy - how to give back to the society a part of what they received.

The awarding of the prestigious citizenship of the City, financial center of the United Kingdom, is one of the longest ongoing ceremonies in the world. The office states that President Kiska was awarded as a sign of growing importance of economic and political relations between the UK and Slovakia.

Prior to the ceremony, Kiska met with Lord Mayor of London, Alan Yarrow. The meeting was focused on economy development and British investments in Slovakia.

Fraternal Awards Available For Qualifying Young Members



One of the most important fraternal programs offered by the New Jersey New York Fraternal Alliance (NJNYFA) is its Youth Volunteer Award Program. Each year the NJNYFA chooses deserving young students from a member society such as the FCSU, based on their volunteer achievements with their society as well as the community at large.

Thanks to the generosity of the Recreation Farm Society, each award winner will receive \$500 with an additional \$500 award to their designated charity. The Youth Volunteer Award Committee of the NJNYFA will make the selection of the award recipients and all decisions are final. The award recipients will be announced at the 82nd Annual NJFC Convention to be held in Atlantic City, NJ, on October 8 – 9, 2015.

The deadline for submitting applications is (postmark) September 2, 2015. To get an application and the rules and regulations, please contact the First Catholic Slovak Union:

First Catholic Slovak Union
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
Independence, OH 44134
800-533-6682

Updated Resource for Slovak-related Topics



Interested in reading more about Slovakia? Now, thanks to Fr. Gerald J. Sabo, S.J., of John Carroll University, there is a central list of publications with Slovak-related topics.

This handy list includes ISBN numbers for those books published in Slovakia – which makes for easier identification when searching for them at the library or online. Websites for locating remaindered and used books, and where to purchase them, are included at the end of the file, as well.

To view or download a PDF of titles, go to www.fcsu.com and click on Slovakia & the World.



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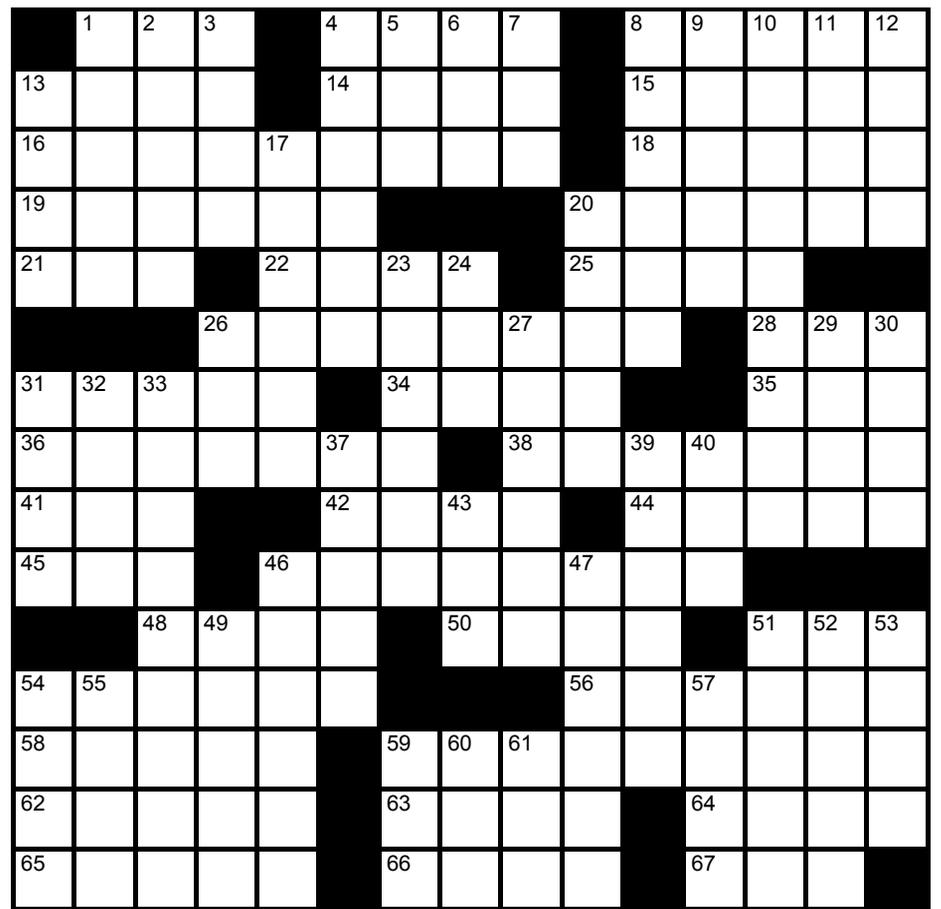
Or go to <http://www.fcsu.com/update-profile>

JEDNOTA

Publication Schedule for 2015

Publication Date	Deadline to Receive Materials
August 12	August 3
Sept 9	August 31
Sept 23	Sept 14
October 7	Sept 28
October 21	October 12
November 4	October 26
November 18	November 9
December 9	November 30

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Jokester
- 4 Ticket part
- 8 Mechanical man
- 13 Auction off
- 14 Grinder
- 15 Compadre
- 16 By definition
- 18 Bouncy dessert
- 19 Pressed
- 20 Young raptor
- 21 Hospital VIP's
- 22 *American Gigolo* star
- 25 Open carriage
- 26 Unfounded
- 28 Acquire
- 31 To no ___ (fruitlessly)
- 34 Scrabble piece
- 35 Poetic tribute
- 36 Cheap restaurant
- 38 ___ Jones
- 41 Miscalculate
- 42 Culminating point
- 44 Vow exchange site
- 45 Wee bit
- 46 Movie opening
- 48 Gully
- 50 Arduous journey
- 51 Poetic contraction
- 54 Chieftain, e.g.
- 56 Complain
- 58 Courtyards
- 59 Envious
- 62 Certain soft drinks
- 63 Medicinal plant
- 64 Bank claim
- 65 Come after
- 66 Smudge
- 67 Grab a bite

Down

- 1 Bizarre
- 2 Choir voices
- 3 Hidden valley
- 4 Sunglasses
- 5 Address book abbr
- 6 WWW address
- 7 Entertainer ___ George
- 8 East Indian aristocrats
- 9 Greek letter
- 10 Bearded animal
- 11 Gawk at
- 12 Tugboat sound
- 13 Meager
- 17 Wine and dine
- 20 City north of Cologne
- 23 Forget to use cut and paste
- 24 Yale student
- 26 Container
- 27 Magical drink
- 29 Author Ferber
- 30 Eye drop
- 31 Assist in crime
- 32 Actress Miles or Ralston
- 33 Anteaters
- 37 Less common

- 39 Gloomier
- 40 ___-de-France
- 43 Ambulance VIP
- 46 Request sweetener
- 47 More spine-tingling
- 49 Parting word
- 51 Leg bone
- 52 Cove
- 53 Viewed
- 54 Shoestring
- 55 Thames town
- 57 Blanched
- 59 Apply gently
- 60 Annex
- 61 Old French coin

See Solution on Page 20



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7 Day Southern Caribbean

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sun	San Juan		10:00 p.m.
Mon	St. Thomas	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Tue	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Wed	Barbados	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Thu	St. Lucia	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Fri	St. Kitts	8:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
Sat	St. Maarten	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Sun	San Juan	7:00 a.m.	

Departure Dates

Your departure date:
November 15, 2015

Itineraries are subject to change; port, sequence and scheduled times, and/or day. For the most updated cruise information, please contact your Travel Professional.

For more info contact:
Andy: 800.533.6682 ext. 112
Bob: 800.533.6682 ext. 116





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7 Day Southern Caribbean

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sun	San Juan		10:00 p.m.
Mon	St. Thomas	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Tue	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Wed	Barbados	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Thu	St. Lucia	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Fri	St. Kitts	8:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
Sat	St. Maarten	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Sun	San Juan	7:00 a.m.	

Departure Dates

Your departure date:

November 15, 2015

Itineraries are subject to change; port, sequence and scheduled times, and/or day. For the most updated cruise information, please contact your Travel Professional.

INTERIOR	OCEAN VIEW	BALCONY
From \$679	From \$729	From \$929
<p>Cruise rates are in U.S. dollars, per person and based on double occupancy. Taxes, Fees and Port Expenses range from \$38.42 to \$291.42, and are assessed on a per guest basis for all guests according to the itinerary. Offer is non-transferable, and has no cash value. Category restrictions and exclusions are capacity controlled and subject to change without prior notice. Offer is not combinable with any other discount or promotion, valid for new bookings only.</p> <p>Ships' Registry: The Bahamas, Panama & Malta.</p>		

JOIN US FOR THE FCSU MEMBERSHIP MEET

NOVEMBER 15-22, 2015
on Carnival's Liberty Cruise Ship

Space is limited in each category, make your reservation NOW!
Price includes: cruise, meals, airport transfers, gratuity & FCSU extras!

FOR TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS CALL PAUL at:

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P.O. Box 770410

Lakewood, OH 44107-0024

800.542.2487

paul@advintravel.com

www.advintravel.com



Interested in this cruise? You could win it!

See page 12 of this issue for details ...

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish in Minneapolis, MN, will hold their annual festival on Sunday, August 16, 2015, on the parish grounds.

The festival will begin at 11:00AM, and conclude at 5:00PM with the cash raffle drawing.

There will be Slovak and Spanish food available, along with games for children, a cake walk, pull-tabs, refreshments, and door prizes.

All Jednota members and their families and friends are invited. Members will be volunteering at the food and game booths. Members are invited to register at the Big Raffle Booth for a free cash raffle entry and a food/refreshment ticket.

This activity replaces our annual family picnic.

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 3P - HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of St. Joseph Society Branch 003P, will be held at 9:45 am On Sunday July 19, 2015 at the Faith United Church of Christ Hall, 21 Faith Drive, West Hazleton, PA. All members are invited to attend.

A breakfast buffet sponsored by the Pardeesville Christian Association will be provided at no cost for all branch attendees immediately following the meeting. Please call M. Koval at 570-454-0004 for details and directions if needed.

Mike Koval, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 6 – STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephens Society, Branch 006K, will hold its semi-annual meeting with activities for the children at 1:00PM on August 2, 2015, at Chippers Grill, 1733 N. Bloomington Street, Streator, IL. All members are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be followed by lunch and fraternalism with all. If you have any questions or plan to attend, please call Paul at 815-822-8851 or Bob 815-672-1764.

Paul Chismar, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 7 - HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 7, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, August 9, 2015, at 9:00AM at Christ the King Parish Center, 100 Brisbin Street, Houtzdale, PA. All members are encouraged to attend.

Marie Sedlak, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 19K, will hold its regular meeting on Sunday, September 13, 2015, at 9:30AM in the Church Hall of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT.

We will discuss our plans for the coming year. Our special breakfast meeting will take place on Sunday, November 8, 2015, when we will award our college-bound members with scholarships for their college expenses.

We cordially invite our members to attend our meetings held on the second Sunday of the month at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall. Our annual meeting will be

held on December 13, 2015.

Fraternally,

Henry Zack, Secretary

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

The American Slovak Zemplin Club's picnic is on Sunday, July 19th, at the American Slovak Sokol Camp, 2096 Royalwood Rd. in Broadview Hts, OH, from 12 to 8 PM.

Join your Jednota Branch 24 members and friends for delicious Slovak food, refreshments, music and dancing. Please help support our fine Slovak organizations.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 40 - STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Clement Society, Branch #40, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday July 26th at 1:00 P.M. at Chipper's Grill, 1733 North Bloomington St. Streator, Illinois. All members of Branch #40 are urged to attend the meeting. Lunch will follow. Please make reservations by calling (815) 672-6682 before July 24, 2015.

Maria Harcar, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 254- PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wenceslaus Society will hold its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, August 15, 2015, at 11:30am at Panera's Restaurant in the Mt. Lebanon Galleria located at the corner of Washington and Gilkeson Roads. Lunch will be provided. For reservations, contact Albina Senko at 412-343-5031.

Albina Senko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 266 - HAZLETON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Semi-annual meeting of St. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 266 will be held on Sunday July 19, 2015 at 9:45AM at The Faith United Church of Christ Hall, 21 Faith Drive, West Hazleton, PA. All members are invited to attend. A breakfast buffet sponsored by the Pardeesville Christian Association will be provided free to all branch attendees immediately following the meeting. For more information, and to get directions if needed, contact R. Lazar or any other branch officer.

Rich Lazar, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 320- BELLE VERNON, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 320 members interested in attending the FCSU Membership Meet aboard the Carnival's Liberty Cruise Ship, November 15 – 22, 2015, should contact Fran at (724) 929-9788. A small stipend may be available.

Fraternally,

Frances Tarquinio, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 372 – BEAVERDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 372, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, August 30, 2015, at 2:00PM. The meeting will be held at the home of President Michael Hudak, 829 Cameron Avenue, Beaverdale, PA. All are welcome.

Michael Hudak, President

BRANCH 410- UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch

410, meeting will be held at the Highland House, 92 West Main Street in Uniontown, PA, at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 20, 2015.

All members are encouraged to attend.

**Geri Buchheit,
Financial & Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 425 - BARBERTON, OHIO

St. Mark's Society, Branch 425, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, July 19, 2015, at 2:00PM at the Slovak Society of Barberton, 887 West Tuscarawas St., Barberton, OH 44203. All members are welcome.

Jeannette M. Willis, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 425 – BARBERTON, OHIO

Important: to all members. There will be a meeting to discuss the future and possible sale of the JEDNOTA CLUB on Sunday, July 26, 2015, at 2:00PM at the Club at 887 W. Tuscarawas Ave., Barberton, OH. Please attend.

Fraternally,

August Lipovsky, President

BRANCH 493 – CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 493 in Chicago, IL, will have its Semi-Annual Meeting and Summer Luncheon on Saturday, August 22, 2015. Location: Bohemian Crystal Restaurant, 624 N. Blackhawk Dr., Westmont, IL. At 1:30 pm, attendees will gather for a period of fraternal fellowship with refreshments. The meeting will start at 2:00 pm, with a delicious family-style dinner following.

Members of the former Branch 163 in Joliet, IL, which was recently merged into Branch #493, are encouraged to attend the Semi-Annual Meeting and Luncheon, to become active in their new branch.

If you wish to attend, please call the branch financial secretary at (502) 244-6643 or (773) 558-5956 by Wednesday, August 19th, so that we'll have an accurate head count for the restaurant.

Sincerely,

**Robert Tapak Magruder,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

August 22, 2015 - Wine Fest Extravaganza

Place: J Club, 485 Morgan Ave, Akron, OH 44311 Music of Jim Golen. Sample wine by the glass and purchase your favorites. Food- sausage sandwiches, cheese plates and finger food will be available for purchase.

Aug 12 - Bus trip to Mountaineer. For more information call: 330-773-4978 (leave a message)

We are looking for anyone interested in forming a bowling league at our club, contact club manager for available dates.

Don't forget our monthly Spaghetti dinner the first Wednesday of every month at the J. Club.

Sandie Klucar, Secretary

BRANCH 595 - MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

Tatra Hall (Br. 595) is holding a yard sale August 13-15 from 9am - 5pm. Please bring any donations that you wish starting Monday August 10. There will also be food for sale.

Dollar Tuesdays \$1 beer and \$1 tacos.

Burritos every third Thursday of the month, to-go only \$7.00.

Call ahead to order 231-733-7525.

All events take place at Tatra Hall, 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI, 231-733-7525.

Fraternally,

Susan Hornik, Secretary

BRANCH 746 – LINDEN, NEW JERSEY

In order to join in the commemoration the 50th anniversary of the Slovak Chapel at the National Shrine on Saturday, September 12th, we have chartered a bus which will leave from Holy Family Church at 7:00 am. Mass will be celebrated at 3:00 pm. Upon arrival, there will be time to have lunch on your own, take a guided tour of the basilica, have confession, recite the rosary, and spend time in personal prayer. After mass, there will be a cocktail reception. Bus departs Washington, DC at 6:30 pm. Cost of bus transportation is \$40.00 for non-members; \$30.00 for members.

There will be an insurance seminar on Sunday, October 4th at Msgr. Komar Hall in Linden, NJ. The session will start after a brief branch meeting at 10:30 am. We will host a luncheon after the seminar.

On Saturday, November 7th, there will be a dinner-dance in honor of the 125th Anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Details are still being finalized.

Join us on November 21st for a Saturday matinee at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse for a showing of "A Playhouse Christmas Musical 2015." This musical revue features songs and dances, carols, humorous skits, and a live onstage orchestra. Lunch and dessert are included. Cost is \$80.00 non-members; \$60.00 members. Bus will leave Holy Family Church in Linden, NJ at 9:45 sharp.

To reserve your spot for any of these events, please call Mary Karch @732-572-2331.

Mary Kapitan, Secretary

BRANCH 788K – ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN

There has been a merger between Branch 788K and 595K. All members of Branch 788K will now hold membership in Branch 595K.

This merger has taken place as of July 07, 2015.

If you should need any service on your policy, or new or additional insurance, please contact:

DOUGLAS R ZUIDEMA

3030 LEON ST

NORTON SHORES, MI 49441-3614

(231) 755-4155

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
continued on page 15

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 will hold a meeting on Saturday July 18 at McDonald's restaurant in Charleroi, PA, at 10:00am. Please leave a message with Branch president Monica Rodacy Boone at 412-341-1577 if you plan to attend. Branch members are urged to attend. Thank you.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President

BRANCH 853 – CHARLEROI, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 853 members are invited to attend an afternoon of Frontier League baseball when the Washington Wildthings play the Florence Freedoms on August 2.

Game starts at 2:35pm.

The cost is free to all Branch 853 members.

Cost of the tickets for non-branch members will be \$12.

Tickets are on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Branch 853 members come and enjoy the afternoon.

To get tickets, please call Monica at 412-341-1577.

Monica Rodacy Boone, President

BRANCH 856 – WASHINGTON, D.C. AND AREA

Branch 856 is asking all members to save the date: September 12, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

At that time we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of our beautiful Slovak Chapel, Our Mother of Sorrows at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

The celebrant for the Mass will be Cardinal Donald Wuerl. We would like to see many of the Branch 856 members in attendance. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638.

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

Scenes from Chicago-area FCSU Meetings

- Submitted by Rudy Bernath Director Region 7.



Branch 313 held their annual meeting at the home of Curtis Johnson in Tinley Park, IL on July 2, 2015. Members discussed the upcoming FCSU 125th celebration at the Garden Chalet in Worth, IL. Many of the members plan to attend. After the meeting the members enjoyed a fraternal luncheon at a nearby restaurant (L – R): Liz Bernath; Recording Secretary & Treasurer Curtis Johnson; Vice President Kenneth Jurinak; (seated) President Joseph Bugel; Auditors Marge Dickinson and Jennifer Carlton; and Member Darlene Johnson.



Branch 153 President John Jurcenko leading the Branch 153 meeting.



Members of Branch 153 listen to President John Jurcenko explain upcoming events for the branch.



Members listen as details are discussed for FCSU's District 2's plans to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the FCSU on August 23, 2015.

First Catholic Slovak Union-Jednota Celebrates Their 125th Anniversary

Come join US for an Afternoon Boat Cruise

Sponsored by Okres Monsignor Michael Shuba & Br 785

On The Enterprise 2000

On Sunday August 23, 2015 - 1:00 pm until 6:00 pm

Food, Drink and Music by Dusan Drobný

For Tickets Contact:

Mike Kapitan 416-543-4111 or Anne Mitro 905-279-8154



Tickets purchased before Aug 9, 2015

Members \$25.00

Non Members \$40.00

Tickets Purchased AFTER August 9, 2015

Members \$35.00 Non Members \$50.00

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

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 1 – THE REV. MATTHEW JANKOLA DISTRICT, NEW ENGLAND

The Rev. Matthew Jankola District 1 will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, September 13, 2015, at 11:00AM at Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall (now called the Rev. Matthew Jankola Hall), 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT. We will discuss our activities of the past year. We will also plan our agenda for the coming year. The election of officers will take place at this meeting.

Members of the various branches are encouraged to attend this annual meeting. We are looking forward to seeing many members of District 1 at this meeting.

Jacqueline Zack, Secretary

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

Branch 38 will host the Fall meeting of Pittsburgh District to be held on Sunday, November 29, 2015 at Holy Trinity Church in West Mifflin, PA. Officers for 2016 will be elected at this meeting. Other details of the agenda are still being planned. This notice will be updated when more information is available.

The district is considering hiring a bus to attend the September anniversary celebration of the dedication of the Mother of Sorrows Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. More details will be available soon.

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

** WPSCA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library: September 14 – Velvet Revolution to the European Union, October 5 – Summer School in Slovakia, November 2 – Slovak Music and Songs, December 7 – Show and Tell/Bring Your Slovak Memorabilia.

** Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in spring and fall. Contact Joe Senko for information about reservations and fees (412-956-6000). The Fall classes will be directed toward intermediate and advanced students. The Spring classes will be for beginners.

** Tour of Slovakia with the Senko's – August 23 to September 2, 2015 – Includes Vienna and Budapest. Contact Joe Senko for information about the itinerary.

** Don't forget the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour – 3-4 PM, Sunday's – WPIT-AM 730. This year the annual Slovak Radio Hour banquet will be held on Sunday, October 11 at the Westwood Golf Club.

** Slovak Heritage Day at the Pitt Cathedral of Learning will be held Sunday, November 1 from noon to 5 PM.

** Various Slovak programs and courses are available through the University of Pittsburgh Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. See www.slavic.pitt.edu

** If you're interested in study abroad, Slovakia has a number of major universities; some have programs taught in English. Check out www.slovakia.com/study-in-slovakia/

** The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is available to visitors Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations. See www.nsslife.org/Museum.php.

** The CzechoSlovak Genealogical Society International is holding its 2015 meeting October 21-24 in Cedar Rapids IA, the site of the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. The 2017 meeting is planned for Pittsburgh. Further information can be found at www.cgsi.org.

** FCSU information and forms can be found at www.fcsu.com

Anyone with additional Slovak events in Western Pennsylvania that they wish to be included in our district notice should send information to manasta@verizon.net

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, Secretary, Pittsburgh District

DISTRICT 9 - FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly, Jr. District will sponsor a bus trip to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Mother of Sorrows Chapel. The trip will take place on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2015. The bus is expected to leave St. Mary's parking lot in Uniontown, PA at 7 am with a breakfast stop at your expense and is estimated to return to Uniontown about 10 pm. Reservations are requested to plan for on-site events such as a tour of the Basilica, a rosary, confession, a Slovak Mass and possibly a light reception. [Editor's note: please see page 3 of this issue for a schedule of events] Reservations will be on a first come basis and can be made by calling Patty Speshock at 724-564-5764 or 724-317-3763 before August 20, 2015. F.C.S.U. members are asked to provide a \$20 fully refundable deposit when attending and Guests are asked to pay \$20. The charter bus holds 54 people and a minimum of 30 is needed, otherwise the trip will be canceled.

James Marmol, President

DISTRICT 17 -SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS DISTRICT - BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK AND LACKAWANNA AND LUZERNE COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

District 17, in Region 3 of the FCSU, will celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the First Catholic Slovak Union and commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the death of Father Furdek on Sunday, October 25, 2015. A Mass will be celebrated at 12:15 P.M. in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, PA. A dinner will follow in St. Mary's Center, Scranton. Details and additional information will be announced in future issues of JEDNOTA.

Fraternally,

Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., District President

OBITUARIES

MARGARET EVANCHO BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT



Margaret Evancho, dedicated member and former officer of Branch 19, St. Joseph's Society, passed away on February 18, 2015, at St. Joseph's Manor in Trumbull, CT. She was the daughter of Anthony and Mary Spodnik, born in Nizny Slavkov on June 26, 1914. Her father left Slovakia in 1913 for the United States hoping to find work and save enough money to bring his wife and daughter to America. Unfortunately, WWI broke out and the family was unable to be reunited until Margaret was five years old. She attended Sts. Cyril & Methodius School in Bridgeport, CT, where the family resided. Margaret went to work at age 15 in order to help support the family.

She married Geza Hudy, her first true love, in 1937. They spent 16 happy years together until Geza passed away suddenly in 1953 from a heart attack. In 1958, Margaret married George Evancho, a widower with a five year old son Jimmy. Margaret adopted Jimmy and was the happiest mother alive. She moved from Connecticut to Oneida, PA, and made many new friends there, especially at St. Joseph's Church where she as a daily communicant. George passed away in 1986. With her dear son Jimmy living in Georgia and with her advancing age, she decided to return to Connecticut to be closer to her brothers and sisters. In 2009, at age 95, Margaret was failing and had several falls in her home. Her last fall occurred while her niece, Mary Anne Levin, was visiting from Florida. After this fall, the doctors advised that Margaret could not live alone, and she took up residence at St. Joseph's Manor in Trumbull. She again made many friends with her uncomplaining style. As time progressed, she was no longer ambulatory, and was confined to a wheelchair; yet she maintained a happy exterior, accepting

her tribulations. She had a very strong faith, and a love for the Blessed Mother and the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Before her 100th birthday in June, 2014, Margaret spent much of her day asleep, and eating poorly. However, after a large family reunion in honor of her birthday, she seemed rejuvenated and miraculously began eating solids again. Mary Gerics, her devoted sister, reported that she began to eat everything on her plate. She continued her strength until about two weeks before her passing. She was ready to go and be with the Lord, and died peacefully.

Margaret leaves to mourn her: her dear son James and his wife Lois and her beloved grandsons William and James, granddaughters Krissie Green, Ashley and Jamie Evancho; and many great grandchildren. Margaret is also survived by her loving sisters Mary Gerics and Theresa Kuruc; and nieces and nephews: Joseph and Susan Gerics, Greg and Kathy Gerics, Robert Gerics, Mary Ann and Gary Levin, David Gerics, Joanne and Rob Lorys, Michael Kuruc, Raymond and Lynn Kuruc, George Kuruc, Diane and Ralph Fico; and many grand nieces and nephews who loved her dearly and that love was equally returned.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her beloved husband George, a sister Anna and brothers Anthony and John. Her funeral was held at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish with Msgr. Joseph Pekar officiating at the Mass. Rose Andrejko, the soloist, sang many of Margaret's favorite hymns.

We all miss Margaret and remember her for her simplicity. We know that she is resting peacefully and enjoying her heavenly rewards for a wonderful and giving life.

Z Bohom – odpocivaj v pokoji
- Submitted by Mary Gerics

MICHAEL D. KNIZNER, SR. BRANCH 367 – FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

Michael D. Knizner Sr., "Big Mike," 73, of Marianna, died Thursday, January 29, 2015,
continued on page 17

Attention All FCSU Members in Illinois, Indiana & Wisconsin: Come Join District 2 in a Special Celebration August 23

The Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District 2 will be celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the First Catholic Slovak Union and remembering the 100th Anniversary of Father Furdek's death.

The dinner and program will take place from 1:00PM – 5:00PM on August 23, 2015, at the Garden Chalet, 11000 So. Richland Ave., Worth, IL, 60482. A cash bar will be available.

All members of the FCSU are invited to this 125th Anniversary Celebration. Guests are welcome too.

Reservations may be made by filling out the form below and sending it with a check for \$25.00 per attendee made out to the Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District 2, and mailed to:

Ms. Pat LaPorte
9913 So. Massasoit Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

The deadline for reservations is August 10, 2015 but don't delay. Seating is limited.

We look forward to seeing you at the Garden Chalet.

Fraternally,

John Jurcenko, District 2 President

Rudy Bernath, Region 7 Director

RESERVATION FORM FOR DISTRICT 2'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ON AUGUST 23, 2015

Please include the following information with your check made out to the Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District 2 for \$25.00 per attendee.

Member
Name(s) _____

FCSU
Branch(s) _____

Name of Guest(s) to be seated with: _____

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.

<u>Branch</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Name</u>
001K	Anthony Joseph Panehal	166K	Michael R Lonce	368K	Edward J Straub Sr	743K	George A Kendro
003K	John F Pitleck Jr	166K	Irene J Sigler	380K	James J Spilak	743K	Carl J Nemcok
005P	Suzanne Giordano	169P	Paul James Smolar	382K	Carmella A Keating	746K	John Ganyo
006K	Lorraine Jordan	173K	Elizabeth J Sobeck	414K	Thomas M Knis	756K	Elizabeth Guyski
023K	Margaret A Uhrinek	175K	Floyd J Kremp	419K	Theodore J Morio	764K	Edward H Hancin
035K	Elizabeth P Ulyas	181K	Joseph A Novak	419K	Sophie D Varazin	764K	Mary C Parise
038K	Mildred G Mierzyeski	200K	Frances Ann Jurbala	484K	Robert Paul Voytek	796K	Edward J Strisovsky
038K	Cheryl Ann Perrone	233K	Rita J Cantafio	553K	Frank A Balchak	831K	Helen Z Lamrey
040K	Mary L Council	240P	Justin L Kavulich	553K	Donald David Olenick	831K	Helen C Mitroka
040K	Ruby L Ondek	259K	Jerome P Macala	581K	Michael T Golden Sr	855K	William F Jopko
085K	Richard C Adamchick	260K	Stephen J Toth	595K	Aloysius J Ribbecky	855K	Mary A Kolesar
086K	Matthew E Brodak Jr	280K	Leon J Baranowski	618K	Donald J Surincik	855K	Pauline B Pesosky
090K	Thomas J Sochovka	292K	Cynthia S Wells	628K	Dorothy Rita Donato	855K	Marcella T Turchan
090K	John M Valtos	293K	Frank John Hunadi	636K	Steve R Mravec	855K	George J Zadzora
096K	Ethel L Haluska	312K	Louis E Harr	652K	Dorothy M Wisniewski	856K	Marie Gloria Capone
112K	George J Lesko	313K	Anna M Mikula	670K	Mildred Kovacic	856K	William J Prusak
112K	Cecilia O'brien	320K	Caroline J Terrana	682K	Fred Latessa	856K	William J Prusak
153K	William Charles Zibrida	320K	Frank Varga	701K	Agnes A Pawlak	857K	Cynthia M Hechinger
162K	Margaret Hoferka	322K	Kathleen Ann Zeok	716K	Rudolph L. Gregus	862K	Edward F Sherlock
162K	Cynthia Richnafsky	330K	Michael I Kapala	731K	Leonard J Bellej	916K	Dorothy Mucha
166K	Rose Marie E Buonomo	353P	Mildred Capparell	731K	Paul T Gonda	916K	Raymond Skora
166K	Veronica Clements	367K	Rose Marie Wilkinson	733K	John A Kohar		

*Processed through the month of June 2015

OBITUARIES

continued from page 16

in Washington Hospital.

He was born July 30, 1941, in Washington, a son of the late Michael M. and Jenny Malinski Knizner.

Mr. Knizner was a 1959 graduate of Bethlehem-Center High School and attended California College for a year.

He worked at Central Steel Wire in Chicago, IL, for 10 years; Bethlehem Mines for 18 years as a coal miner; Presbyterian Senior-Care center for 10 years as a maintenance worker; and Pryor Bus Line, until retiring in 2012.

Mr. Knizner was in the U.S. Army from 1963 to 1969, during the Vietnam War, and was stationed in Alaska.

He was a member of St. Oliver Plunkett Parish, Sts. Mary and Ann Roman Catholic Church, Marianna, PA.

Following graduation from high school, he played professional baseball for the Colorado Delta Blues and the Atlanta Braves farm team. He played softball on several ball teams around the Marianna area until the 1980s.

He was a lifelong member of American Legion Post 744, Marianna, where he was a past commander. He was also a member of Marianna Lyceum and bowled there for many years.

Mr. Knizner loved the Steelers, attending three Super Bowls, Pirates, fishing and camping with his grandchildren. He also enjoyed dancing polkas with his mom and loved his dog, Buddy.

Surviving is his wife, Virginia Goughenour Knizner, whom he married December 3, 1977. They celebrated 37 years of marriage.

Surviving are a son, Michael D. (Amber Hall) Knizner Jr. of Marianna; daughter Melissa (David) Stilwell of Marianna; four grandchildren, Brianna Stilwell, Geneva Knizner, David Stilwell Jr. and Bailey Knizner; a brother, Thomas "Doc" (May) Knizner of Marianna; sister Carolyn (Bob) Noska of Ohio; sister-in-law JoAnne Knizner of Canonsburg, PA; father-in-law Glenn Goughe-

nour of Marianna; sister-in-law Linda (John) Rice of Amity; brother-in-law James (Linda) Goughenour of Marianna; and many nieces and nephews.

Deceased, in addition to his parents, are a brother, Richard Knizner; and grandson Michael Daniel Knizner III.

Family and friends were received from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, January 31, 2015, and from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, February 1, 2015, in Nichol Funeral Home, Marianna, where funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Monday, February 2, 2015, with the Rev. Paul Grunebach officiating. Interment followed in Horn Cemetery, Marianna. Full graveside military rites were accorded by American Legion Post 744 of Marianna.

**EDWARD J. STRAUB
BRANCH 368 –
WILKES BARRE,
PENNSYLVANIA**

Edward J. Straub, 67, a longtime resident of Dorrance Township, PA, and formerly of Ashley, PA, was guided home by angels to be with the Lord on Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

He was the devoted husband of Marie A. Stec Straub and they would have had 44 years of marriage on June 19, 2015. "Ed and Marie," as they were known, met as teenagers and have been blessed with a long and full life together.

Born and raised in Ashley, he was the son of the late Edward S. and Anna Enosh Straub. Edward graduated from Ashley-Sugar Notch High School in 1966.

He retired from Fairchild Semiconductor in Mountain Top, PA, after 44 years on the job.

He was a member of Our Lady Help of Christians, Wapwallopen, PA. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus, Fourth Degree Council 6440, Mountain Top. Ed was also a longtime member of the Coles Creek Hunting Club, Benton, PA.



Edward was very active and had many hobbies, including playing softball, walking in the woods and hunting trips with his son and brother, working in his garden and then canning all of his home-grown vegetables. He loved vacationing with his wife. Though he had many accomplishments, the one he took the most pride in was that of raising his children and managing his household.

Preceding him in death was a brother, Andrew F. Straub Sr., on Feb. 23, 2010.

In addition to his wife, Marie, he is survived by his daughter, Lindalee Kaleta and her husband, Kevin, Hobbie; son, Edward J. Straub Jr. and his wife, Jacqueline, Dorrance Township; four grandchildren, Samantha, Michael, Daniel and Cheyenne; and sister, Rose Ann Dunbar and her husband, Francis, Hanover Township. Several nieces and nephews, and his "furry four-legged" friends, Drago, Brandy and Pixie, also survive.

Funeral services were held at 9:15 a.m. Saturday, March 28, 2015, from George A. Strish Inc. Funeral Home, Ashley.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 10 a.m. in Our Lady Help of Christians/St. Mary's Church, Wapwallopen. Interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Wapwallopen.

Friends called from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2015 and from 8 a.m. until the time of service on Saturday, March 28, 2015.

**FRED LATESSA
BRANCH 682 –
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO**

Prayers were offered at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 30, 2015, at the Fox Funeral Home, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated by the Rev. Joseph A. Fata at 10 a.m. at St. Luke Church, for Fred LaTessa, 85, who passed away peacefully Monday morning, April 27, 2015, at his home, with his loving family by his side.

Fred was born Sept. 9, 1929, in Youngstown, OH, a son of Charles and Mary Masko LaTessa.

A lifelong area resident, Fred was a Wilson High graduate and worked at Electric Equip-

ment for 33 years, retiring from the parts department. He was a charter member of St. Luke Church, where he worked the festivals and bingo. Fred also was a member of the church choir and the Holy Name Society. He loved to garden and work in his yard. He was a Marine Sergeant in a tank crew, serving in combat operations, in Korean Theater.

Besides his wife, the former Jane A. Metzinger, whom he married Sept. 10, 1955, he leaves to cherish his memory, also, Donald (Lisa) LaTessa of Boardman, OH; a daughter, Mary (Rob) Marshall of Youngstown; a sister, Jane Kitanoff of Youngstown; a sister-in-law, Nora LaTessa of Youngstown; six grandchildren, Adam Sanders, Lisha Sanders, Hunter Sanders, Kristin LaTessa, Brett Marshall and Brittany Marshall; and six great-grandchildren.

Besides his parents, Fred was preceded in death by five brothers, Louie LaTessa, Charles LaTessa, Bill (Ann) LaTessa, Ray (Betty) LaTessa, and Ed (Millie) LaTessa; and two sisters, Irene (John) Teno and Ruth Tribe.

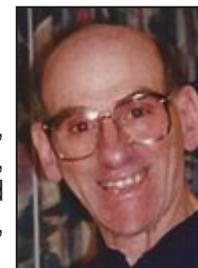
Friends called from 4 to 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 29, 2015, at the Fox Funeral Home, Boardman.

Fred's family wishes to thank Hospice of the Valley, Wade Park Veterans Hospital, Veterans Belmont Avenue Clinic and his nurse Nancy Rolfe for their care and compassion given to him.

- Submitted by Joseph Scavina, Branch 682, who adds: The officers of the St. George Society, Branch 682, offer deepest sympathy to the family of our friend and member Fred Latessa. May he rest in peace.

**WILLIAM PRUSAK
BRANCH 856 –
WASHINGTON, DC**

William J. Prusak, 78, of Springfield, VA, formerly of Clymer, died Sunday, February 15,



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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA MARCH 20-21, 2015 • INDEPENDENCE, OHIO

FIRST SESSION:

Friday, March 20, 2015

OPEN MEETING:

Reverend Thomas Nasta opened the meeting at 8:45 a.m. by celebrating a Memorial Mass for our deceased officers and members who passed away in 2014.

President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and asked Reverend Thomas Nasta, National Chaplain, to offer the opening prayer. The President asked the Board to join in singing the Anthems of the United States, Canada, Slovakia, and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

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

Rev. Thomas Nasta	National Chaplain
Andrew Rajec	President
Andrew Harcar, Sr.	Vice President
Kenneth Arendt	Executive Secretary
George Matta II	Treasurer
Karen Hunka	Chairman of Auditors
Sabina Sabados	Regional Director, Region 1
Damian Nasta	Regional Director, Region 2
Martha Zavada-Wojcik	Regional Director, Region 3
James Marmol	Regional Director, Region 4
Michael Lako	Regional Director, Region 5
Henry Hassay	Regional Director, Region 6
Rudolph Bernath	Regional Director, Region 7
Milos Mitro	Regional Director, Region 8
Rudolf Ondrejco	Fraternal Activities Director
Gary Matta	General Counsel

Following Roll Call President Rajec introduced the new Board Members as follows: George Matta II, Treasurer; Sabina Sabados, Regional Director, Region 1; Martha Zavada-Wojcik, Regional Director, Region 3; Michael Lako, Regional Director, Region 5; and Rudolf Ondrejco, Fraternal Activities Director.

READING OF THE CALL:

The Executive Secretary then read the Call to the Annual March 2015 Meeting.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 13, 2014:

A motion was made by Andrew Harcar, Sr. and seconded by Damian Nasta to accept the minutes of the Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting of December 13, 2014, as presented. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA:

President Rajec presented the agenda for the Annual Meeting and asked for its acceptance. A motion was made by Damian Nasta and seconded by James Marmol to accept the agenda and to allow the President to change the order of the agenda, if necessary. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS OF COMMITTEES:

The President appointed the following committees:

DONATION COMMITTEE

George Matta II
Rudolph Bernath

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Reverend Thomas Nasta
Gary Matta
James Marmol

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME:

The President read his welcome to the Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT:

President Rajec turned the meeting over to Vice President Harcar, who recognized President Rajec. President Rajec read his 2014 annual report. At the conclusion of the President's Report, a motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Milos Mitro for its acceptance. Motion carried. (The President's Report is to be published in the Jednota Newspaper).

OUTSIDE AUDITORS REPORT:

John Zivkovic, CPA, of the accounting firm of Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, LLP, presented his annual report to the Board. He found all FCSU financial reports in excellent order. Mr. Zivkovic answered all the Board's questions. A motion was made to accept the report by James Marmol and seconded by Karen Hunka. Motion carried.

ACTUARIAL REPORT:

Edward DePersis and Nick DePersis, of Bruce and DePersis, presented the actuarial report for 2014. Mr. Edward DePersis stated that since each board member received a copy of the report, he will not read the entire report, but will just give the highlights. He gave a very extensive positive report for 2014. Our Actuaries, Bruce and Bruce, recommended that a dividend be paid in 2015 using the same format as used in 2014. A motion was made by Michael Lako and seconded by James Marmol to pay a dividend in 2015 using the same format as used in 2014. Motion carried.

RECESS OF SESSION:

The Board recessed for lunch.

SECOND SESSION:

Friday afternoon, March 20, 2015

OPEN MEETING:

President Andrew Rajec opened the afternoon session with a prayer and called the meeting to order. The Executive Secretary stated that all members were present.

AQS REPORT:

Larry White and Byron White, representing AQS Asset Management at the invitation of the President, presented their power point report to the Board of Directors. Each member of the Board of Directors received a copy of the presentation in advance for their review. During and after their presentation, Larry and Byron White answered questions from the Board.

Larry White then led an extensive discussion on our Investment Policy. Mr. White is not suggesting any changes in our policy and recommends we maintain our present Investment Policy. A motion was made by George Matta II and seconded by Karen Hunka to maintain our present policy. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President stated a member of our society is interested in making a presentation to the Board to handle our investments. Following the presentation, a motion was made by Michael Lako and seconded by Milos Mitro to have the President send the member a letter of thanks for his presentation and decline the offer that was made and to not make any changes in our Asset Manager. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2014:Executive Secretary's Report

Kenneth Arendt presented the financial summary report for the year ending 2014 and answered the Board's questions.

The Executive Secretary also presented a comparison report between what was budgeted for 2014 and the actual expenditures.

Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati

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

Portfolio Custodian

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

Investment Updates

The President and Executive Secretary reviewed the Matin Patterson Fund (MPAM), UBS Fund, and MAI Fund, and the Executive Secretary gave a complete transaction report for the month.

Following the reports, the Executive Secretary answered the Board's questions.

The Executive Secretary stated that his 2014 Financial Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper. A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Milos Mitro to accept the reports. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer George Matta II presented the Treasurer's Report for 2014. The Treasurer's Report will be published in the Jednota newspaper. A motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Kenneth Arendt to accept the report. Motion carried.

CHAIRMAN OF AUDITORS REPORT:

Chairman of Auditors Karen Hunka presented the 2014 Auditor's Annual Report and answered the Board's questions. The Chairman stated that the internal auditors conducted a thorough audit and found everything in order. The Chairman of Auditors' Report will be published in the Jednota Newspaper. A motion was made by Milos Mitro and seconded by Henry Hassay to accept the report. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS

The President presented a report outlining all donations granted in 2014. He stated all donation requests should be in writing and then they will be reviewed.

SUBSIDIARIES REPORT:

The President announced due to the retirement of George Matta, President of Jednota Inc., and Regis Brekosky, President of Jednota Properties, Inc., that he has appointed Vice President Andrew Harcar, Sr. as the new President of Jednota Inc., and Regional Director James Marmol as President and Property Manager of Jednota Properties, Inc. The Board agreed with the appointments.

The President turned the meeting over to Andrew Harcar, Sr., President of Jednota, Inc.

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Meeting of the Board of Directors

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Jednota, Inc.

The President of Jednota, Inc., Andrew Harcar, Sr., gave his report to the Board of Directors and answered all the Board's questions.

Jednota Properties, Inc.

The President then turned the meeting over to James Marmol, President of Jednota Properties, Inc., for his report and answered the Board's questions.

The reports of Jednota, Inc., and Jednota Properties, Inc., are informational in nature.

There being no further business, Henry Hassay made a motion to adjourn for the day and Damian Nasta seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Father Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

THIRD SESSION:

Saturday, March 21, 2015

OPEN:

Reverend Thomas Nasta opened the meeting with Mass at 8:30 a.m. President Andrew Rajec called the meeting to order at 9:00a.m.

ROLL CALL:

The Executive Secretary took a visual roll call. He stated that everyone is present.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The President recognized the Vice President, who presented his annual report to the Board of Directors and answered the Board's questions. The report covered membership and marketing, seminars, agent recruitment, and information for the proposers to assist them in obtaining their state licenses. The Vice President stated we have over 200 active independent agents and we are continuing to recruit agents. The Vice President also reviewed his 2015 seminar schedule and is trying to accommodate branches and districts. The Vice President asks for the Regional Directors' assistance in scheduling seminars in their regions.

Membership and Marketing

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

The Vice President stated he is reviewing the commission schedules to be assured they are in line with our competitors. He also stated he is exploring the possibility of hiring a local marketing firm to assist in marketing our products. He is planning to develop new insurance goals for each district and distribute these goals to all Regional Directors.

The Executive Secretary stated we are continuing to improve our Power Point presentation and have it available for our seminars.

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

A motion was made by George Matta II to accept the Vice President's report and seconded by Reverend Thomas Nasta. Motion carried.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND NATIONAL CHAPLAIN:

The Regional Directors and our National Chaplain presented their annual reports and answered all the Board's questions. All reports will be printed in the Jednota newspaper.

A motion was made by Reverend Thomas Nasta and seconded by Rudolf Ondrejco to accept all the reports as presented and the motion was carried.

DIRECTOR OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES REPORT:

Director of Fraternal Activities, Rudolf Ondrejco, presented to the Board of Directors a summary of the 2014 activities. He reported on the Bowling Tournament, Coloring Contest, and Photo Contest. He announced the Bowling Tournament for this year will be held May 1-3, 2015 in Erie, Pennsylvania. The Golf Tournament will be announced once a final location has been chosen.

President Rajec stressed the interest to continue to have joint ventures with the other Catholic Fraternals especially the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

ACCOUNTING FIRM:

The Board was informed that our accounting firm, Hosack, Specht, Muetzel & Wood, is under a three year contract. The firm has been asked to submit a new proposal to cover the next three years.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL:

General Counsel Gary Matta gave his 2015 report and answered the Board's questions.

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee

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

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

Pension Committee

The Executive Secretary gave an update on the FCSU Pension Plan. He stated that we are in full compliance with all federal regulations and answered the Board's questions.

Scholarship Committee

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

Donation Committee

The Donations Committee made their report and all requests were reviewed and acted upon.

Resolutions Committee

Father Thomas Nasta gave the report on the Resolutions Committee. All requests were reviewed and acted upon. He requested a resolution for the Pastoral visit of the Pope in September. Father Nasta will prepare the resolution and forward it to the home office.

A motion was made by Reverend Thomas Nasta and seconded by Rudolf Ondrejco to accept all the reports as presented and the motion was carried.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President updated the Board on the Jednota Middletown Memorial and stated it is 2/3 completed. The President announced that Sunday, September 13, 2015 is the tentative date for the dedication to be held in Middletown, Pennsylvania. The President informed the Board the memorial brick orders are still being sent into the home office.

Celebrations of our 125th anniversary are in the planning stage and coming together very well. The dates are as follows: Pittsburgh-June 7, Chicago-August 23(tentative), Toronto-August 23 (tentative), Scranton-October 25 (tentative), New Jersey-November 7, and the main celebration will be Cleveland-August 29th. The President is encouraging all branches within these districts to participate in their event. Notices will go out to all branches informing them of the dates and asking for their support. The location for the joint celebration of the 125th anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union and the 100th anniversary of the death of our founder, Rev. Stephen Furdek, will be the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio. His Excellency Peter Kmec, Slovak Ambassador to the United States, will be the main speaker. Veselica Slovak Folklore Ensemble from Chicago and Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland will be the entertainment for the evening. Reservations may be made by contacting the home office. The celebration will be publicized in the Jednota newspaper and on our website.

The 50th anniversary of the dedication of the chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC will be held on September 12, 2015 in conjunction with the Slovak Catholic Federation Pilgrimage. The President stated we are still working out details with the Federation to incorporate Slovak into the readings for Mass and also to include Slovak hymns. The full schedule will be published in the Jednota to encourage attendance. The Board will be kept informed as details are completed. The Board of Directors semi-annual meeting will be held in conjunction with this event on September 10-11, 2015.

PAYMENT OF BILLS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING:

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

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Henry Hassay and seconded by Rudolf Bernath to adjourn. Motion carried. Reverend Thomas Nasta closed the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

OBITUARIES

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2015, while visiting friends and relatives in Florida. Born April 8, 1936 in Clymer, VA, he was a son of the late George Prusak and Anna (Potochick) Prusak.

A 1954 graduate of Clymer High School, he furthered his education at St. Francis College in Loretto, VA, where he earned a degree in business. He worked for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) in Washington, DC.

Bill was a US Army veteran having served during peacetime.

He is survived by the following siblings: Bernard Prusak and wife, Evelyn, North Olmsted, OH; Elizabeth Prusak, Fairview Park, OH; Irene Krupsky, Long Beach, CA; Carl Prusak & wife, Patricia, North Olmsted, OH; and Tom Prusak & wife, Karen, Allen Park,

MI. He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Irene Prusak and two very good longtime friends: Edward Pavelko and Frank Petro. Other survivors include his many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Bill was preceded in death by his siblings: Marie; George; Ann; Michael; John; Helen; Margaret and Johnie.

A graveside funeral service was held Monday, March 2, 2015 at the Church of the Resurrection Cemetery, Clymer. Service arrangements were with the Rairigh-Bence Funeral Home of Clymer.

- Submitted by Katherine Nowatkoski, Branch 856 Financial Secretary who adds: Bill, as he was known to all, served as auditor of Branch 856 for many years. He enjoyed all things Slovak. He will be missed by all.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2015 • PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

OPEN:

President Andrew Rajec opened the meeting at 9:00am and asked Vice President Andrew Harcar to lead the prayer. The Executive Committee Meeting was held in conjunction with the Bruce and Bruce Seminar which was held on Thursday, May 21, 2015.

ROLL CALL:

Members attending: Andrew M. Rajec, President
Kenneth A. Arendt, Executive Secretary
Andrew R. Harcar, Sr., Vice President
George F. Matta II, Treasurer
Damian Nasta, Regional Director (via teleconference by invitation of the President)

ACCEPTANCE OF THE APRIL MEETING MINUTES:

The Executive Secretary presented the minutes of the April 2015 Executive Committee Meeting. A motion was made by George Matta II and seconded by Andrew Harcar, Sr. to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

AQS MANAGEMENT, INC.:

Stefan Gonzales, representing AQS Management, Inc., presented an Investment Portfolio Transaction Report. Larry White, also representing AQS Management, Inc., joined the presentation via web ex and telephone. Each member of the Executive Committee received a copy of the presentation in advance for his review. Following the report, both Stefan Gonzales and Larry White answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The President led a lengthy discussion on our current annuity rates. It was decided to keep the rates the same and review them again at the June meeting.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**INVESTMENT UPDATES:**

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

PORTFOLIO REVIEW:

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

MORTGAGES AND OVERDUE MORTGAGES

The Executive Secretary presented the report for the month of April for the Committee's review and answered their questions.

MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS

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

Disbursements for the month of April 2015:

Death Benefits & Accumulations	\$ 130,210.03
Cash Withdrawals & Accumulations	\$ 38,460.30
Matured Endowments & Accumulations	\$ 0.00
Trust Fund	\$ 0.00

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer presented a written report. He had previously talked to representatives of MPAM, UBS, MAI, and Clutterbuck and expressed his comfort with their knowledge and management of our investments and suggested we may want to increase our investment with them.

SALES AND MARKETING:

The Vice President presented a written detailed sales production report to the Executive Committee on the different regions and the report of our independent agents. This report is always mailed to our Regional Directors for their information. The Vice President stated we are still continuing to recruit new agents and now have 200 agents. The Executive Secretary stated we are beginning a program to recruit new agents in the states we are newly licensed. Following the report, the Vice President answered the Executive Committee's questions.

The Vice President stated he is scheduling seminars for 2015 and asked the Regional Directors to contact him with available dates for their regions.

The Vice President stated we are continuing to accept reservations for the Membership Meet Cruise which will be November 15-21, 2015. For additional information or to make reservations, contact the home office or refer to the FCSU website.

The Executive Secretary stated we are continuing to advertise on Facebook with new material being added daily, as well as on the FCSU website and email, while including new ad material in our home office mailings. The President stated we are looking for a local marketing firm with at least a required capability and some insurance experience to help develop a comprehensive marketing plan.

We have been in touch with Edward DePersis, Bruce and DePersis, to help in developing new ideas and new products to market to our society. The President assured the Committee that new marketing ideas are important to help provide a future for our Society.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The President updated the Executive Committee on the Jednota Middletown Memorial and stated we should have a completion date soon. The President announced September 13, 2015 is the tentative date for the dedication to be held in Middletown, Pennsylvania. The President informed the Committee the memorial brick orders are still being sent into the home office.

Celebrations of our 125th anniversary have been finalized and the dates are as follows: Pittsburgh-June 7, Chicago-August 23, Toronto-August 23, Scranton-October 25, New Jersey-November 7, and the main celebration will be Cleveland-August 29th. The President is encouraging all branches within these districts to participate their event. Notices have gone out to all branches informing them of the dates and asking for their support. The final plans for the joint celebration of the 125th anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union and the 100th anniversary of the death of our founder, Rev. Stephen Furdek, are almost complete. His Excellency Peter Kmec, Slovak Ambassador to the United States, will be the main speaker. Veselica Slovak Folklore Ensemble from Chicago and Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland will be the entertainment for the evening. Reservations may be made by contacting the home office. The celebration has been publicized in the Jednota newspaper and on our website. The Executive Committee will continue to receive updates on the progress.

The 50th anniversary of the dedication of the chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC will be held on September 12, 2015 in conjunction with the Slovak Catholic Federation Pilgrimage. The President stated we are still working out details with the Federation to incorporate Slovak into the readings for Mass and also to include Slovak hymns. The full schedule will be published in the Jednota for everyone's review. The Executive Committee will be kept informed as details are completed. The Board of Directors semi-annual meeting will be held in conjunction with this event on September 11-12, 2015.

The President announced the Jednota Inc., and Jednota Properties, Inc., will be having their annual meeting directly following the Executive Committee Meeting today.

REQUESTS FOR ADS AND DONATIONS:

The request for donations and ads were reviewed and acted upon.

ADJOURN:

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

The President asked Vice President Andrew Harcar to close the meeting with prayer.

Andrew M. Rajec
President

Kenneth A. Arendt
Executive Secretary

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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Správy zo Slovenska

Eurostat: Európanov najviac trápi ich finančná situácia

Väčšina Európanov označuje svoju finančnú situáciu ako najväčší zdroj nespokojnosti, ďalší by chceli svoj čas využívať inak, vyplýva z novej štúdie Eurostatu o kvalite života. Eurostat, štatistický úrad Európskej únie, sa vo svojej štúdií snaží nájsť iné nástroje, ako je hrubý domáci produkt, na zmeranie kvality života obyvateľov, napísala dnes agentúra DPA. Obyvatelia EÚ mali v prieskume označiť na stupnici od nula (úplne nespokojný) do desať (úplne spokojný) svoju spokojnosť s finančnou situáciou. V priemere ju ohodnotili známku šesť. Najnižší výsledok bol zaznamenaný v Bulharsku (3,7), najvyšší v Dánsku a Švédsku (7,6). V Grécku bol výsledok 4,3.

Za finančnou situáciou sa ako zdroj nespokojnosti umiestnilo využitie času. Priemerný výsledok bol 6,7.

Za naopak najväčší zdroj spokojnosti označila väčšina respondentov osobné vzťahy. Jediné výnimky tvorili Belgicko a Fínsko, kde boli obyvatelia okrem vzťahov najspokojnejší s bývaním.

Belgicko zhodnotilo svoju celkovú kvalitu života známku 7,0. Najspokojnejší boli s osobnými vzťahmi (7,9) a najnespokojnejší s finančnou situáciou (5,5). Celkovo najspokojnejší so životom sú Dáni, Švédci a Fini (8,0). Na druhom konci rebríčka sa nachádza Bulharsko (4,8).

Šport: Športovcom mesiaca máj sa stal cyklista Peter Sagan

Titul Športovec mesiaca na Slovensku si za máj 2015 vyslúžil cyklista Peter Sagan.

V novej ankete, ktorú pripravujú organizátori tradičnej slávnosti Športovec roka a výsledky vyhlasujú na obrazovke RTVS, získal najviac hlasov najmä za svoj triumf na osemetapových pretekoch Okolo Kalifornie.

V hlasovaní o úspechoch slovenských športovcov v uplynulom mesiaci skončil za Saganom na 2. pozícii futbalový tím AS Trenčín a na 3. mieste veslár Lukáš Babač. Medzi uchádzačmi o spomenutú poctu boli aj chodec Matej Tóth, paralympionička v športovej streľbe Veronika Vadovičová a kajakárska dvojica Erik Vlček, Juraj Tarr. Anketu Športovec mesiaca organizuje B&D Agency, viacročný partner KŠR v slávnosti Športovec roka.

PREZIDENT: Odoberil novelu, ktorá dá deťom na úteku lepšie podmienky na Slovensku

Azylová politika Slovenska sa upraví. Prezident SR Andrej Kiska dal totiž zelenú novele zákona o azyly, ktorú v máji prijal parlament. Právna norma okrem iného zlepšuje podmienky pre maloletých utečencov, ktorí sa na Slovensko dostanú bez sprievodu. Tí už v budúcnosti nebudú premiestňovaní do záchytných táborov. Budú môcť zostať počas konania o udelenie azylu v zariadeniach sociálnoprávnej ochrany detí a sociálnej kurately.

Mladí žiadatelia bez sprievodu budú môcť zostať v detskom domove aj po nadobudnutí plnoletosti, ak o to požiadajú a zariadenie s nimi uzavrie dohodu. Zariadenie by im malo vytvoriť také podmienky, aby pohovor s maloletým bez sprievodu mohol byť vykonaný spravidla priamo v detskom domove. Ten by mal tiež povinne vytvárať podmienky na stretávanie sa týchto žiadateľov so zástupcami medzinárodných organizácií.

Ministerstvo vnútra eviduje v ostatných rokoch nízky počet maloletých žiadateľov bez sprievodu. V roku 2012 sa začalo konanie o udelenie azylu s takými žiadateľmi v piatich prípadoch, v roku 2013 v štyroch a v roku 2014 v 11 prípadoch.

Únia miest Slovenska chce pre Bratislavu štátú samostatného regiónu

Únia miest Slovenska (ÚMS) sa bude zasadovať o to, aby hlavné mesto SR Bratislava malo postavenie samostatného regiónu. Uznesli sa na tom účastníci 26. snemu ÚMS, ktorý sa konal začiatkom júna v Bratislave a venoval sa prioritným cieľom únie do najbližších rokov.

Podľa generálneho sekretára ÚMS Mariána Minaroviča by aj na Slovensku mal zavládnuť stav, ktorý je charakteristický pre zvyšok Európy. „Všetky ostatné európske mestá sú hlavnými mestami i samostatnými regiónmi,“ povedal Minarovič. Verí, že takáto zmena územnosprávneho členenia pomôže nielen Bratislave, ale i ostatným regiónom. „Bratislava bude mať viac zdrojov, ktoré však umožnia poskytnúť a vytvárať intelektuálny a vedecký potenciál pre celé Slovensko,“ uviedol Minarovič.

ŠÚ SR: V 1. štvrtroku sa miera nezamestnanosti v SR znížila na 12,40 %

Miera evidovanej nezamestnanosti na Slovensku dosiahla v 1. štvrtroku tohto roka 12,40 %. Medziročne sa znížila o 1,7 percentuálneho bodu (p.b.). Vyplýva to zo zverejnených údajov Štatistického úradu (ŠÚ) SR.

V 1. štvrtroku 2015 klesol počet nezamestnaných podľa výberového zisťovania pracovných síl medziročne o 11,5 % na 339.000 osôb. U mužov klesla nezamestnanosť o 2,6 p. b. na 11,7 % a u žien o 0,6 p. b. na 13,3 %. V porovnaní so 4. štvrtkom 2014 klesla sezónne očistená nezamestnanosť o 2,8 % na 331.500 osôb.

Ako ďalej uviedol ŠÚ SR, vývoj na trhu práce bol ovplyvnený aj znížením počtu osôb nezamestnaných dlhšie ako jeden rok na 205.700 osôb. Z hľadiska vekovej štruktúry tvorili najpočetnejšiu skupinu nezamestnaných osoby vo veku 35 až 49 rokov. Podiel týchto ľudí na celkovej nezamestnanosti predstavoval 33,5 %. Medziročný úbytok nezamestnaných zaznamenala väčšina vekových kategórií, z toho najvýraznejší kategória ľudí vo veku 25 až 34 rokov. Najvyšší počet nezamestnaných bol pritom zaznamenaný v Prešovskom a Banskobystrickom kraji. „Nezamestnanosť klesla vo všetkých krajoch, relatívne najviac v Žilinskom a Nitrianskom. Najvyššia regionálna miera nezamestnanosti bola v Prešovskom kraji. Miera nezamestnanosti sa znížila vo všetkých krajoch, najvýraznejšie v Banskobystrickom,“ informoval ŠÚ SR.

TURIZMUS: Liptáci požívajú turistických návštevníkov v lete do hôr i k vode

Oblasť organizácia cestovného ruchu (OOCR) Región Liptov otvorila v ústí Čutkovskej doliny pri Ružomberku oficiálne novú letnú turistickú sezónu. Liptáci pripravili pre tuzemských a zahraničných návštevníkov v tomto roku ešte väčšie množstvo najrôznejších turistických atrakcií. „Liptov ponúka nielen horskú turistiku, ale i dovolenku ako pri mori. Turisti si môžu vybrať z viacerých možností, kde sa dá kúpať a vyskúšať množstvo vodných atrakcií. Okolo Liptovskej Mary, sú špičково vybavené akvaparky a kúpele. Veľmi dôležité je, aby turistickí návštevníci Liptova mali neustále poruke čo najviac podrobných informácií. „Našou spoločnou ambíciou je prilákať turistov na Liptov kombináciou aktívneho oddychu a originálnych tradícií. Veľmi si ctíme naše tradície, ktoré si odovzdávame z generácie na generáciu. Oplatí sa prísť si ich k nám zblízka pozrieť, zažiť a ochutnať,“ dodal manažér Koliby u dobrého pastiera v Čutkovskej doline Peter Bačkor.

Správy čerpané z TASR a slovenských časopisov



Slovensko sa zúčastnilo na cvičení krízového manažmentu NATO

Fiktívny konflikt medzi dvoma ostrovnými štátmi v Indickom oceáne preveril krízový manažment Severoatlantickej aliancie (NATO). Do cvičenia s názvom NATO CMX 15, ktoré sa uskutočnilo v termíne od 4. do 10. marca, sa zapojila aj Slovenská republika.

Cieľom bolo precvičiť aliančné a národné konzultácie a kolektívny rozhodovací proces, ako aj interakciu s veliteľskými štruktúrami NATO v krízovej situácii, ktorej obsahom sú námorné operácie, nasadenie síl rýchlej reakcie NATO. V slovenských podmienkach zas bolo cieľom precvičiť rozhodovací a plánovací proces pri nasadení špecifických spôsobilostí Ozbrojených síl SR do priestoru operácie NATO.

Do cvičenia sa na Slovensku zapojili viaceré ministerstvá či napríklad Slovenská informačná služba a Národný bezpečnostný úrad. „Cvičenie splnilo svoje ciele a preukázalo schopnosť orgánov krízového riadenia SR aktívne a plnohodnotne pôsobiť v rámci krízového riadenia NATO,“ konštatuje sa v materiáli, ktorý dnes vláda vzala na vedomie.

Slovensko malo napríklad v rámci cvičenia zabezpečiť vyslanie vojakov. Pre vypuknutie závažnej infekčnej choroby na fiktívnom ostrove v Indickom oceáne zas dostalo urgentnú požiadavku na poskytnutie zdravotníckeho tímu.

Cvičenia sa okrem krajín NATO zúčastnili aj zástupcovia partnerských krajín Austrálie, Fínska, Japonska, Švédska a Ukrajiny. Cvičenie riadil generálny tajomník NATO.

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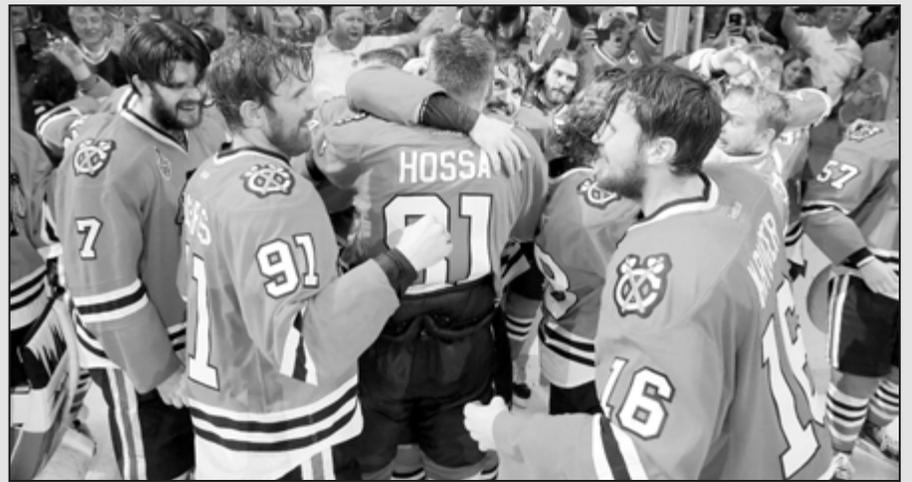


FOTO TASR/AP

Hráč Chicaga Blackhawks Marián Hossa (uprostred) sa raduje so spoluhráčmi zo zisku Stanleyho pohára po tom, čo zvíťazili nad Tampou Bay v šiestom súboji finále play off NHL doma 2:0 a v celej sérii triumfovali 4:2 na zápasy, 15. júna 2015 v Chicagu.

Members of the Chicago Blackhawks celebrate after defeating the Tampa Bay Lightning in Game 6 of the NHL hockey Stanley Cup Final series on Monday, June 15, 2015, in Chicago. The Blackhawks defeated the Lightning 2-0 to win the series 4-2. (AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh)

Košice Európskym mestom športu 2016

Košice získali pre budúci rok titul Európske mesto športu. Rozhodla o tom Medzinárodná komisia Asociácie európskych miest športu (ACES Europe). Oznamil to 8. júna košícky primátor Richard Raši. Výsledok oficiálneho rozhodnutia z Bruselu písomne oznámil primátorovi Košíc prezident ACES Europe Gian Francesco Lupattelli. „Máme tu česť vyhlásiť Košice za Európske hlavné mesto športu roku 2016. Gratulujeme vám k tomuto titulu, pretože vaše mesto je naozaj dobrým príkladom toho, že šport je pre všetkých nástroj zdravia, integrácie, vzdelávania a úcty. A to sú hlavné ciele ACES Europe,“ napísal v liste Lupattelli. Východoslovenská metropola tak po prestížnom prívlastku Európske hlavné mesto kultúry (EHMK) 2013 získala ďalší významný titul. Podľa primátora Rašiho majú Košice ako Európske mesto športu 2016 za cieľ prilákať aj prostredníctvom tohto titulu a jeho prezentácie k športovaniu čo najväčší počet obyvateľov.

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FOTO TASR - František Iván

Na snímke vpravo primátor Košíc Richard Raši škrtná na loge Európskeho mesta športu nápis kandidát. Košice, 8. júna 2015.

Košice has been named the European Capital of Sport for 2016 by the European Capitals of Sport Association (ACES Europe). Košice, which is dubbed the capital of the Slovak East, has thereby been awarded another prestigious title after holding the title European Capital of Culture 2013. Košice mayor Richard Raši announced the receiving of another title after being notified of the official decision by ACES Europe president Gian Francesco Lupattelli on June 8.

Výstava Amazing Planet k 100. výročiu podpísania Clevelandskej dohody

Výstavu s názvom Amazing Planet otvoril v utorok 2. júna v bratislavskej River Gallery slovenský fotograf Filip Kulisev. Priaznivcom fotografie a nadšeným milovníkom prírody ponúka sériu fotografických obrazov prírodných scenérií z celého sveta, zo všetkých kontinentov, vrátane motívov zo Slovenska. Nechýbajú fotografie Spišského hradu, Štrbského plesa, Štrby, Pribyliny, Bardejova či záber z Jelky zachytávajúci jeden zo štyroch zachovaných drevených vodných mlynov na Malom Dunaji.

Výstava fotografa, ktorého diela sú súčasťou zbierok významných osobností, ako je pápež František, monacké knieža Albert II., ruský prezident Vladimir Putin či bývalá šéfkla americkej diplomacie a prvá dáma Hillary Clintonová, je predzvesťou expozície, ktorú si budú môcť pozrieť diváci na jeseň v americkom Clevelande. Filip Kulisev priznal, že s nápadom realizovať túto výstavu prišiel americký veľvyslanec Theodore Sedgwick ešte v roku 2003. Fotograf a cestovateľ ďalej prezradil, že expozíciu otvorí 26. septembra v Clevelande podpredseda vlády a minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí Miroslav Lajčák, začiatkom roka 2016 budú Kulisevove obrazy vystavené na Havajských ostrovoch a v kanadskej Ottawe. Počas medzinárodného bezpečnostného fóra Globsec si ju pozrie aj prezident Slovenskej republiky Andrej Kiska, ktorý prevzal nad podujatím záštitu spolu s primátorom Bratislavy Ivom Nesrovnalom. (Bratislava a Cleveland sú sesterské mestá).

Filip Kulisev, Master QEP, FBIPP absolvoval vyše 180 individuálnych výstav na Slovensku a v zahraničí. Ako jeden z dvoch fotografov na svete získal najvyšší európsky titul Master QEP (Qualified European Professional Photographer) v kategórii príroda a zároveň aj najvyšší titul Fellowship (FBIPP) od Britského inštitútu profesionálnych fotografov (BIPP). Je autorom šiestich monografií, ktoré približujú krásu, unikátnosť a rozmanitosť prírody na našej planéte.

TASR

IN MEMORIAM

Zomrel dlhoročný prispievateľ do Jednoty Rudolf L. Greguš

V sobotu 23. mája zomrel pokojne u svojej dcéry v New Yorku, vo veku 90 rokov, známy slovenský kultúrny a národný pracovník Rudolf L. Greguš.

Nebohy sa narodil 4. júla 1924 v New Yorku. Ako dvojročný odchádza spolu s matkou do rodného kraja jeho rodičov – do dedinky Makov na Orave. Tam trávi svoje študentské roky. V pohutých rokoch po vojne, odchádza z právnickej fakulty, najprv do utečeneckých táborov v Nemecku a v roku 1951 konečne do Spojených štátov. Prvých šesť mesiacov sa pilne učí angličtinu a nastupuje na Ohio state University dokončiť štúdium, ktoré začal ešte na Slovensku. Po skončení štúdia sa vracia do New Yorku, kde stretne svoju lásku Elenku rodenú Poliakovú. Spolu vychovávajú dve deti – Ruženku a Ľubku. Rudolf postupne pracuje na New York Stock Exchange, neskôr v OSN a IBM. Po skončení ďalšieho doplnkového štúdia na Hunter College v New Yorku sa stal učiteľom na High school. V roku 1989 odchádza na zaslúženú penziu.

Rudolf vykonával množstvo mravenčej práce na poli kultúrnom, politickom, národnom ako aj pre Slovensko, jeho druhý domov. Plodné roky jeho života trávil dobrovoľčením v mnohých slovenských kluboch a organizáciách. Za všetky spomenieme predsedu Farskej rady pri Kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku, predsedu I. zboru Slovenskej ligy, zakladateľ Slovensko-amerického kultúrneho strediska, Svetový kongres Slovákov, člen hlavného súdu ako aj dlhoročný člen Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty. Nemôžeme pozabudnúť na mnohé jeho články a úvahy v slovenských národných časopisoch ako JEDNOTA, známa rubrika Zvesti z New Yorku v Slovaku v Amerike, pravidelné príspevky do národných Kalendárov. Slovom – tisíce hodín strávených organizovaním slovenských piknikov, zábav, púť, osláv a kultúrnych podujatí.

Posledná rozlúčka so zosnulým bola v piatok 29. mája v John Krtil Funeral Home. Pochovaný bol v sobotu 30. mája zo Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City.

Nech náš dobrotivý Pán dá ľahké odpočívanie, jeho nesmrteľnej duši! Česť jeho pamiatke!



Rudolf L. Greguš

Milan R. Dait vo večnosti

Motto: Ježiš povedal: „Ja som Vzkriesenie a Život, kto žije a verí vo mne aj keby zomrel bude žiť na veku“ (Ján, 11)

Dňa 3. júna 2015 navždy sa zastavilo srdce drahého manžela, otca, starého otca, prastarého otca, vždy usmievavého a ochotného priateľa, Milana R. Daita.

Milan R. Dait sa narodil 12. februára 1942 v Bratislave na Slovensku v početnej rodine, (mal dve sestry a dvoch bratov). Vyštudoval v Bratislave na Vyššej priemyselnej škole strojníckej. Pracoval ako mechanik. Jeho posledným miestom na Slovensku bol Dom techniky – Slovensko-vedeckotechnickej spoločnosti, kde mal na starosti patenty a vynálezy. V lete v roku 1987 Milan emigroval spolu so svojou manželkou a synmi do Rakúska a odtiaľ do Spojených štátov Amerických. V Amerike bol zamestnaný až do dôchodku ako mechanik v podniku Marcal Company – na výrobu papierových produktov.

Medzičasom študoval Herbalistiku a obdržal diplom Herbalistu – čo neslúžilo len pre zábavu, ale chcel pomáhať ľuďom, ktorí mali záujem sa liečiť prírodným spôsobom – bylinkami. Pri Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City sa aktívne zapájal do slovenského života a pracoval v rôznych slovenských spolkoch zvlášť v Spolku sv. Štefana číslo 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty kde od roku 2006 vykonával funkciu pokladníka. Od roku 2003 bol predsedom I. Zboru Slovenskej ligy v NYC, kde sa snažil povzbudzovať starších, ale hlavne mladších, aby nezabúdali na svoju rodnú reč a aby udržiavali slovenské povedomie. Niekoľkokrát bol hlavným rečníkom na oslavách Slovenskej štátnosti, ktoré I. Zbor Slovenskej ligy tradične poriadal a vo svojich príspevkoch sa zamerával hlavne na históriu prvého a druhého Slovenského štátu. Niekoľko rokov pôsobil vo výbere na prípravu Festivalu slovenského dedičstva v PNC Art Center, Holmdel, N.J.

Pohrebnú svätú omšu za nebohého Milana odslúžil v Slovenskom kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC otec Rev. Štefan Chanas, za doprovodu slovenského speváka a organistu Radoslava Lesayho, ktorý zaspieval krásnu Mariánsku pieseň „Ave Maria“.

Slová rozlúčky rodiny predniesla nevesta nebohého, Ingrid. Za Spolky pracujúce pri kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého sa prihovril Predseda Slovenskej ligy v Amerike pán Daniel F. Tanzone. Výbor tradičného Festivalu Slovenského dedičstva zastupovala spolupredsedníčka pani Nina Holá, ktorá sa medziiným vyjadrila slovami: „Milan nám bude chýbať nielen ako dobrý priateľ, ale aj ako dobrý Slováč, ktorý sa zapájal do života Slovákov v Amerike“.

Na záver svätej omše zaznela krásna pieseň v podaní Rada Lesaya „Blíž k tebe Bože môj“, pri ktorej žiadne oči nezostali bez slz. Na katolícky cintorín Sv. Jozefa v Hackensack, New Jersey, nebohého odprevadil otec Rev. Štefan Chanas, manželka, deti, vnúčatá ako aj poslednú úctu prejavil veľký počet jeho priateľov a známych. Za nebohým Milanom smúti milujúca manželka Henrieta, synovia s manželkami, vnuci, pravnučka a všetci tí, ktorí ho mali radi.

Nech odpočíva vo svätom pokoji.

Členovia rodiny a priatelia



Najbližší príbuzní nebohého pred pohrebnou limuzínou.



Otec Rev. Štefan Chanas sa modlí nad otvoreným hrobom nebohého.



Obetné dary pri pohrebnej sv. omši niesla manželka R. Daita, Henrieta s vnučkou Michaelkou.



Záver z rozlúčky na cintoríne sv. Jozefa, Hackensack, NJ.

Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

92. Slovenský deň vo West Mifflin, PA

92. Slovenský deň, ktorý sponzoruje Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day Association, sa bude konať vo štvrtok **16. júla 2015** v Kennywood Park, vo West Mifflin, PA. Program začne o 12.30 hodine popoludní. V Pavilion #4 budú od 1.00 hod. podávané slovenské jedlá. V Pavilion #5 bude počas popoludnia výstava, ktorú pripravujú slovenské fraternalistické organizácie. Vystavené budú aj slovenské kroje. Pre deti budú pripravené rôzne hry a súťaže. Do tanca aj na počúvanie bude hrať George Batayi Ensemble. O 4.00 hodine bude v Main Pavilion slovenská svätá omša, ktorú bude slúžiť O. Eduard Litavec. Koncelebrovať budú viacerí slovenskí kňazi. Po omši bude nasledovať kultúrny program. Vystúpia slovenské ľudové skupiny PAS a Pittsburghskí Slováci. Vstupné je \$25.00 za osobu. Pre návštevníkov vo veku nad 55 rokov je vstupné \$15.00. Rezervácie vstupeniek: Sue Ondrejco, tel. č.: 412-421-1204 alebo Rev. Grosko, tel. č.: 412-466-6545. Bližšie informácie: Dolores Sakal, tel. č.: 412-243-0438.

Piknik v Cleveland, OH

Americko-slovenský Klub Zemplin usporiada v nedeľu **19. júla 2015** piknik. Bude sa konať v Slovak Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Road, Broadview Heights, OH. Začiatok bude o 12.00 hodine a trvať bude do 8.00 hodiny večer. Na predaj budú tradičné slovenské a americké jedlá, slovenské pivo Zlatý bažant a domáce koláče. Hrať bude Johnny Pastirik Band. Pre deti budú pripravené rôzne aktivity. Bližšie informácie na tel. č. 440-885-5702.

Slovensko-americký deň v Milwaukee, WI

Združenie slovenských spolkov v Milwaukee, WI usporiada v nedeľu **26. júla 85.** Slovensko-americký deň. Uskutoční sa v Chorvátskom parku na adrese 9140 South 76th Street, Franklin, WI. O 12.00 hodine naobed bude svätá omša, ktorú bude slúžiť Fr. John Jamnický. Do tanca bude hrať Ed Hause Band. Kultúrny program začne o 2.30 hodine. Vystúpia gymnasti Slovenského katolíckeho sokola a folklórna skupina Tatra Slovak Dancers. Pre návštevníkov budú k dispozícii stánky so slovenskými pochúťkami, vrátane slovenského piva a rôzne pamiatkové predmety. Bližšie informácie: Betty Valent, tel. č.: 414-425-6137 alebo Ralph Hass, tel. č.: 262-893-2972.

Slovenská katolícka púť do Marian Shrine do West Haverstraw, NY

Spolok sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty v New York City Vás pozýva na tradičnú slovenskú katolícku púť v nedeľu dňa **9. augusta 2015** do Marian Shrine, West Haverstraw, New York 10993. Spoveď bude pred slovenskou svätou omšou, ktorá bude o 11.00 hodine dopoludnia. Obed bude nasledovať o 12.30 hodine dopoludnia. Ružencová procesia začne o 2:30 hodine dopoludnia. Bližšie informácie Vám podajú: Jozef Bilik (718) 353 - 6541; Henrieta Daitová (201) 641-8922. Kto má záujem na túto púť cestovať autobusom, ktorý bude pristavený pri kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého, má sa prihlásiť u Márii Božekovej (347)612-1934. Autobus bude k dispozícii ak bude dostatočný počet záujemcov.

Fotografická výstava Alžbety Molnár Rajec v New Yorku

V New Yorku bola 9. júna 2015 otvorená fotografická výstava Alžbety Molnár Rajec Kaleidoskopická fotomontáž. Výstava je ďalšou časťou cyklu Micro-Solo malých výstav, ktoré sa realizujú v priestoroch Generálneho konzulátu v New Yorku. Rodáčka z Bratislavy Alžbeta Molnár Rajec je emeritná profesorka literatúry City University of New York a zanietená fotografka, ktorá realizovala výstavy v USA a v Európe. Výstava je prístupná verejnosti do konca júla 2015 počas úradných hodín Generálneho konzulátu SR v New Yorku.

V Bratislave vedecká konferencia o boji SKS proti komunizmu

V spolupráci ÚPN a Slovenského historického ústavu v Ríme sa v dňoch 17. - 18. júna 2015 uskutočnila v Bratislave vedecká konferencia pod názvom Svetový kongres Slovákov (SKS) v zápase proti komunistickému režimu. Konferencia sa konala za účasti predstaviteľov SKS a historikov z domova i zo zahraničia. Pozvanie na konferenciu prijali viaceré osobnosti slovenského exilu, ktorí dlhé roky pracovali v štruktúrach SKS. Medzi nimi aj dcéra zakladateľa a predsedu SKS Štefana Romana Anna Roman, či dlhoročný generálny sekretár SKS Dušan Tóth a viacerí jeho funkcionári.

Cieľom konferencie bolo predstaviť problematiku SKS ako kľúčovej organizácie slovenského politického exilu, ktorá mala dôležitý podiel v zápase proti totalitnému komunistickému režimu a za štátoprávnu emancipáciu Slovenska. Ako povedal predseda Správnej rady ÚPN Ondrej Krajňák vo svojom úvodnom príhovore: „V čase studenej vojny zápas o presadzovanie princípov slobody a demokracie v bývalom Československu prebiehal aj ďaleko za hranicami našej vlasti. Je známe, že o pád totalitného režimu a tiež o osamostatnenie Slovenska sa výraznou mierou zaslúžil práve SKS. Otvorenými vyhláseniami, či memorandami apeloval na prezidenta USA, na Helsinskú konferenciu, OSN a na celý demokratický svet v súvislosti s porušovaním ľudských práv, či náboženských slobôd v bývalom Československu. Je dobré, že slovenskí emigranti nezabudli na svoje korene a vytvorili spoločnú organizáciu, ktorej úlohou bolo spájať slovenské krajanské spolky, zasadzovať sa za oslobodenie Československa ako aj využiť právo na sebaurčenie. Je správne ak s mladými ľuďmi hovoríme o prejavoch vlastenectva a o túto skúsenosť sa vieme s nimi podeliť. Lebo dnes mladí ľudia iba s námahou chápu, čo znamená nedobrovoľné odlúčenie od svojej rodiny.”

Účastníci konferencie si mali možnosť vypočuť prednášky historikov o počiatkoch slovenského politického exilu po roku 1945, emigrácii ako dôsledku politického systému a jej bezpečnostných konotáciách, vzniku a prvých rokoch SKS zo správ československého veľvyslanectva v USA a Kanade, či vzniku SKS a jeho hlavných aktivitách. Príspevky sa dotýkali aj takých tém, ako boli SKS v dobovej tlači zahraničných Slovákov, cirkevnej politiky a náboženských aktivít SKS, svetové festivaly slovenskej mládeže, pokusy o politické zjednotenie v českom exile a jeho vzťahoch s SKS, či kontakty SKS so slovenským disidentom.

Riaditeľka Slovenského historického ústavu v Ríme prof. Emília Hrabovec sa venovala téme Generálneho zhromaždenia SKS v Ríme v roku 1975. V ďalších príspevkoch si prítomní účastníci rozšírili svoj pohľad o prehľad ťažiskových aktivít SKS, o významných slovenských intelektuáloch spolupracujúcich a oceňovaných SKS, ale aj o činnosti náboženskej komisie SKS, o ktorej hovoril don Vojtech Zeman.

V závere konferencie sa aktéri historických udalostí stretli pri okrúhlym stole a súčasťou programu bola aj projekcia filmu pod názvom „Prvých dvadsať rokov Svetového kongresu Slovákov 1970 - 1990 (Splnený sen jeho zakladateľa Štefana B. Romana)“. 18. júna 2015 položili účastníci konferencie vence k Bráne slobody na Devíne. Modlitbou a minútou ticha si uctili pamiatku tých, ktorí boli na hranici zabíjajú pri pokuse o útek za slobodou.

SKS bol od svojho vzniku v roku 1970 strešnou organizáciou slovenského politického exilu. Združoval prevažnú väčšinu slovenských krajanských organizácií a v priebehu 70. a 80. rokov sa vyprofiloval na kľúčovú inštitúciu zastrešujúcu slovenský politický exil.

ÚPN



Krajanovia si pripomenuli Deň zahraničných Slovákov

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Ako zdôraznil, základný kameň budúceho pamätníka, ktorý bol aj dnes miestom stretnutia, stojí v sade Janka Kráľa už 15 rokov. „Mali by sme si dať predsavzatie, aby sme čo najskôr stáli niekde inde, teda predsavzatie zasadiť sa o to, aby pamätník bol už konečne realitou,” povedal Bajanič.

Poslanec bratislavského mestského zastupiteľstva Milan Vetrák v tejto súvislosti prítomných informoval, že zastupiteľstvo Bratislavy prijalo návrh na vytvorenie pamätníka. Mal by byť umiestnený v blízkosti novostavby SND. „Verím, že už o rok, alebo o dva, sa takéto stretnutie uskutoční pri vybudovanom pamätníku,” povedal Vetrák. Správca Nadácie Národného pamätníka slovenského vystaňhovalstva Claude Baláž navrhol, aby podoba pamätníka vzišla z medzinárodnej architektonickej súťaže.

Pamätný deň Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí bol zákonom ustanovený v roku 1993, 5. júl tak už vyše ako 20 rokov pripomína viac ako milión krajanov a generácie ich potomkov, ktorí žijú v približne 50 krajinách sveta.

TASR

Medzinárodné Fórum GLOBSEC v Bratislave

Zišli sa politické špičky a hostia zo 70 krajín sveta

Tohtoročné medzinárodné bezpečnostné fórum GLOBSEC, ktoré sa uskutočnilo v Bratislave od 19. do 21. júna, bolo podľa výkonného riaditeľa Stredo európskej strategickej rady Róberta Vassa najväčším v jeho histórii. Na podujatí privítali 1130 účastníkov zo 70 krajín.

„Toto bola najväčšia konferencia a najväčší GLOBSEC, aký sme doteraz organizovali,” uviedol vo svojom prejave na záver podujatia. Jedným z hlavných rečníkov bol britský premiér David Cameron. Prišli aj prezidenti Slovenska, Poľska, Chorvátska, Gruzínska, Estónska či Macedónska, ministri zahraničných vecí, obrany, predstavitelia EÚ a NATO. GLOBSEC taktiež navštívili americkí senátori na čele s bývalým kandidátom na prezidenta USA Johnom McCainom.

Na jubilejnom 10. ročníku medzinárodného bezpečnostného fóra GLOBSEC bola jednou z hlavných tém ukrajinská kríza, s tým súvisiace kroky Moskvy a európska politika voči nej. Diskutovalo sa aj o budúročnom summite NATO vo Varšave, obrane, energetickej a kybernetickej bezpečnosti, Islamskom štáte a vzostupe islamského extrémizmu.

TASR



Na snímke prezident SR Andrej Kiska počas príhovoru v rámci druhého dňa medzinárodného bezpečnostného fóra GLOBSEC 2015 v Bratislave 20. júna 2015.

Slovak President Andrej Kiska spoke at the international security forum Globsec in Bratislava on June 20, 2015.



FOTO TASR - Pavel Neubauer

Prezident SR Andrej Kiska (vpravo) prijal 19. júna 2015 v Bratislave premiéra Spojeného kráľovstva Veľkej Británie a Severného Írska Davida Camerona (vľavo), ktorý pricestoval na Slovensko v rámci svojho turné po krajinách Európskej únie.

Slovak President Andrej Kiska welcomed British Prime Minister Robert Cameron in Bratislava on June 19, 2015 during the British leader's tour of European states.



FOTO TASR - Andrej Galica

Spoločné fotenie počas medzinárodnej bezpečnostnej konferencie Globsec v Bratislave 20. júna 2015. Na snímke vľavo senátor Arizony John McCain a vpravo minister vnútra SR Robert Kaliňák.

Slovak Minister of the Interior Robert Kalinák stands with Arizona Senator John McCain at the Globsec forum meeting in Bratislava on June 20, 2015.

Američania majú záujem o slovenský systém ochrany hraníc

Aktuálna situácia na Ukrajine i pomoc pri ochrane hranice medzi Mexikom a USA boli 20. júna témami, o ktorých diskutoval minister vnútra Robert Kaliňák s americkými senátormi na čele s Johnom McCainom. Američania majú podľa Kaliňáka záujem najmä o systém georadarov, ktoré dokážu vyhľadať tunely v podzemí.

„Hľadá sa teraz možnosť, akým spôsobom implementovať tieto technológie aj na týchto hraniciach a ten proces momentálne prebieha,” priblížil po skončení rokovania medzinárodného bezpečnostného fóra GLOBSEC Kaliňák. Podľa jeho slov mexicko-americká je v niektorých úsekoch veľmi ťažko kontrolovateľná a často tadiaľ prechádzajú pašeráci drog. „Mnohí členovia organizovaného zločinu využívajú staré kanalizačné a odvodňovacie cesty na to, aby ich prebudovávali na tunely,” vysvetlil, s tým, že tu by mohla pomôcť slovenská technológia.

Kaliňák diskutoval s americkými senátormi aj o pomoci, ktorú Slovensko poskytlo Ukrajine. Išlo najmä reverzný tok plynu, vďaka ktorému podľa ministra Rusko nevyhralo energetickú vojnu s Ukrajinou. Reč o vyzbrojovaní Ukrajiny podľa šéfa rezortu vnútra nebola. „Hovorili sme o všeobecných pozíciách, o tom, či má Rusko záujem nejakým spôsobom ísť po častiach, alebo ako sa tá politika bude vyvíjať,” priblížil minister. Slovensko podľa Kaliňáka verí tomu, že situáciu na Ukrajine sa podarí stabilizovať. „Ukrajina potrebuje mier, potrebuje celistvosť, tá jednota Ukrajiny je pre nás všetkých najpodstatnejšia a za ňu sa treba aj postaviť,” zakončil.

TASR



Levoča je najstarším pútnickým miestom na Slovensku

Levočská púť na Mariánsku horu 5. júla 2015 vyvrcholila pontifikálnou svätou omšou, ktorú celebraval kardinál Stanisław Dziwisz, arcibiskup krakovský a bývalý sekretár zosnulého pápeža Jána Pavla II. Tohtoročná púť sa niesla v znamení 20. výročia návštevy svätého Jána Pavla II. a modlitieb za rodinu.

Napriek vysokým teplotám prišlo na Mariánsku horu množstvo veriacich. Organizátori odhadli ich počet za oba víkendové dni až na 600.000.

Kardinál Dziwisz sa v osobne ladenej homílii prihovoral pútnikom a vyznal sa zo svojho vzťahu k zosnulému pápežovi. Zdôraznil, že Ján Pavol II. veril už v roku 1984, keď jeho oficiálna návšteva vtedajšieho komunistického Československa neprichádzala do úvahy, že sa k levočskej Panne Márii raz dostane. Ľudí vyzval tiež, aby nachádzali v mariánskej úcte zdroj zdravej hrdosti.

Levoča je najstarším pútnickým miestom východného Slovenska, korene mariánskeho kultu tu siahajú až do 13. storočia. Dosiaľ najväčšia púť z pohľadu návštevnosti sa konala za prítomnosti pápeža Jána Pavla II. v roku 1995, keď Mariánsku horu navštívilo asi 650.000 pútnikov.



FOTO TASR - Oliver Ondráš

Na snímke svätá omša na Mariánskej hore počas Mariánskej púte v Levoči 5. júla 2015..

This year's pilgrimage to Mariánska hora (Marian Hill) in Levoča which attracted 600,000 of the faithful over two days was rounded off by a Holy Mass on July 5 celebrated by Cardinal Stanisław Dziwisz, archbishop of Krakow and former secretary to Pope John Paul II.

TASR

Celonárodná púť sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Nitre

Európsky kontinent sa vzd'aluje od svojich kresťanských koreňov

Celonárodnou púťou ku cti svätých Cyrila a Metoda si v Nitre tisícky ľudí z celého Slovenska uctili pamiatku solúnskych bratov. Hlavným celebrantom slávnostnej svätej omše na Svätoplukovom námestí bol apoštolský nuncius na Slovensku Mario Giordana, ktorý priniesol pozdrav a apoštolské požehnanie od Svätého Otca Františka. Na svätej omši sa zúčastnil premiér Robert Fico i predseda Národnej rady SR Peter Pellegrini.

Apoštolský nuncius Giordana pripomenul význam misie solúnskych bratov pre celú Európu. Zdôraznil, že hodnoty, ktorých sú sv. Cyril a Metod nositeľmi, sa ani stáročiami nemenia. „Musíme ich nechať preniknúť do svojho života, aby mu dávali zmysel. Tento kontinent potrebuje istú duchovnú obnovu, potrebuje znovu objaviť svoje kresťanské korene, od ktorých sa pomaličky vzd'aluje. Potrebuje sa vrátiť k hodnotám, ktoré sú ich prirodzeným vyjadrením,“ skonštatoval Giordana.

Nitriansky sídelný biskup Viliam Judák zdôraznil, že práve v týchto dňoch si pripomíname 20. výročie návštevy pápeža Jána Pavla II. v Nitre. „Pred 400-tisícovým davom najmä mladých ľudí pripomenul, aký veľký dar sme dostali vo viere, ktorú nám priniesli sv. Cyril a Metod. Ján Pavol II. nazval Nitru kolískou kresťanstva,“ povedal Judák. Dnešný štátny sviatok je podľa jeho slov príležitosťou, aby sme si pripomenuli hodnoty, ktoré sú v dnešnom svete často spochybňované.



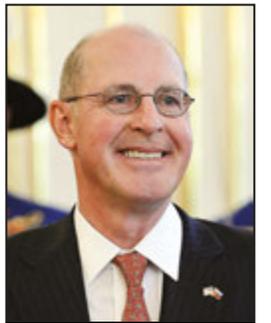
Foto:TASR-Martin Baumann
Na snímke Mario Giordana

TASR/HSP

Veľvyslanec USA v SR Theodore Sedgwick končí na Slovensku

Americký veľvyslanec na Slovensku Theodore Sedgwick sa po piatich rokoch pôsobenia na Slovensku vracia na začiatku júla späť do vlasti. V bilančnom rozhovore veľvyslanec priblížil, ako sa mu počas jeho misie spolupracovalo s vládami Ivety Radičovej či Roberta Fica, rozhovoril sa o ukrajinskej otázke, ekonomickej perspektíve Slovenska a vzťahoch Slovákov k USA, ale aj o tom, na čo môžu byť Slováci hrdí.

Ako hodnotíte misiu na Slovensku zo svojho osobného pohľadu? „Bolo mi veľkým potešením tu byť. Slovensko mi bude chýbať. Našiel som si tu veľa priateľov a zo svojho osobného pohľadu sa tu na Slovensku naozaj cítim ako doma. Všetky veci, ktoré rád robím v USA, som mohol robiť aj tu – lyžovať, bicyklovať sa, hrať tenis... Okrem toho Bratislava je veľmi dobré miesto na život. Myslím, že New York Times mal článok o Bratislave, kde ju popisali ako Viedeň bez húfu ľudí. Je to výborný popis – máte tu pocit, že ste v historickom habsburskom meste, ktoré je zároveň 'user-friendly'. Želal by som si však viac turistov – pre dobro Slovenska. My, čo tu žijeme, tu ľahko nájdeme čokoľvek; môžeme ľahko zájsť do symfónie alebo do kaviarne či peknej reštaurácie. Je to veľmi priateľské a útulné mesto. Mal som možnosť cestovať po celej krajine, sú v nej nádherné miesta. Napríklad tento víkend idem do Starej Ľubovne. Je to jedna z mnohých mojich obľúbených lokalít. Strávil som tu na Slovensku päť rokov – to je kus života, takže naozaj bude ťažké odísť.“



TASR

Krajanania si pripomenuli Deň zahraničných Slovákov

Všetci krajanania, bez ohľadu na ich status vo svojej vlasti, sú neoddeliteľnou súčasťou slovenského národného spoločenstva a kultúry. Pri príležitosti Pamätného dňa zahraničných Slovákov a stretnutia krajanov v Bratislave to vyhlásil 5. júla 2015 podpredseda Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚSZZ) Peter Prochávka.

Vo svojom príhovore vyjadril želanie, aby sa spolupráca úradu s krajanmi v zahraničí rozvíjala stále intenzívnejšie, v duchu vzájomného partnerstva a angažovanosti krajanových spolkov. „Toto sú aj zásadné atribúty nášho návrhu koncepcie štátnej politiky vo vzťahu k zahraničným Slovákom, kde krajanania nevystupujú iba ako pasívni prijímatelia podpory, ale ako spoluformujúca sa sila dynamického partnerstva,“ povedal Prochávka.

Stanislav Bajanič zastupujúci Svetové združenie Slovákov v zahraničí poukázal na potrebu jednotného postupu a spojenia síl pri úsilí zriadiť pamätník slovenského vst'ahovalectva.

Pokračovanie na str. 23



FOTO TASR - Michal Svitok

Na snímke stretnutie predsedov vlád krajín V4 a prezidenta Francúzskej republiky na Bratislavskom hrade 19. júna 2015. Na snímke za stolom zľava francúzsky prezident Francois Hollande, maďarský predseda vlády Viktor Orbán, český predseda vlády Bohuslav Sobotka, slovenský predseda vlády Robert Fico, podpredseda Európskej komisie pre energetickú úniu Maroš Šefčovič a poľská predsedkyňa vlády Ewa Kopaczová.

Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico welcomed presidents of the V4 governments and French President Francois Hollande in Bratislava on June 19, 2015.