

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL - MEMBERSHIP 28,000 - HOME OFFICE: 205 MADISON STREET, PASSAIC, N.J. 07055 - www.slovakcatholicsokol.org

Periodical Postage Paid at original entry of Passaic, N.J., 07055 and additional mailing offices

VOLUME CIII

PASSAIC, N.J., OCTOBER 8, 2014

NUMBER 5027

9,000 Turn Out for the 37th Annual New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival on September 28 at the PNC Bank Arts Center in Holmdel, N.J. With Slovakia's New President Andrej Kiska Participating Bishop Peter A. Libasci of Manchester, N.H. Celebrates Slovak Mass



The Most Rev. Peter A. Libasci, center, of Manchester, New Hampshire was principal celebrant of the Slovak Mass which opened the 37th annual New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival on Sunday, September 28 in Holmdel, N.J. Flanking Bishop Peter were festival co-chairpersons, Nina Holy and Attorney John G. Duch as well as other members of the festival committee.



Slovakia's new President Andrej Kiska, second from the left, is shown with, l-r, Henrietta and Milan Dait; Stephen Zluky and Vasil Hlinka.



Bishop Peter A. Libasci is shown with, l-r, Jane Konzelman, Nina Holy and Dr. Mikulas Halko and his wife, Nadine.



U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia, the Hon. Theodore Sedgwick, second from the left is shown, with John G. Duch, Anna Korcak, the Rev. Martin Vavrak and Stan Krcmar.



Enjoying the festival are, l-r, Maria Bandjlich, Anna Korcak, Lydia Demko, Jozef Korcak and John G. Duch.

Slovakia's New President, Andrej Kiska Honored at a Reception in New York

Slovak Mission to the United Nations + New York City + September 25

On his first visit to the United States, since his election as Slovakia's fourth head of state in June, President Andrej Kiska participated in the opening and deliberations of the 69th General Assembly of the United Nations in New York City, September 22-27. On the evening of September 25, President Kiska was feted at a gala reception hosted by Slovakia's Ambassador to the United Nations, Frantisek Ruzicka at his residence, an impressive Beaux Arts mansion located just off Manhattan's Fifth Avenue. Representatives of the New York-New Jersey Slovak community were invited to the reception.



Accompanying President Kiska at the reception were Slovakia's Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajcak

and former Slovak Ambassador to the United States, Martin Butora, currently an advisor to the president. Ambassador Ruzicka welcomed the president. Speaking at the reception were Slovakia's current Ambassador to the United States, Peter Kmec and the Slovak Consul General in New York, Jana Trnovecova. In his response, President Kiska, speaking in slightly accented but perfect English and then in Slovak, recalled his first visit to the United States in January 1990 when he sought to find the "American dream." During that period, he labored sometimes 80 to 100 hours a week outside Philadelphia. While he returned to Slovakia eighteen months later, he credited his experience in America in helping him to learn English but more importantly to motivate his future as he strove to make a successful career in business just following the fall

of Communism. He commended the American Slovak community for continuing its love of Slovak culture and heritage. He marveled that after more than a century, Slovak organizations continue their efforts on behalf of the land of their ancestry. He thanked our American Slovak organizations for their continued promotion of various cultural and education projects with Slovakia.

President Kiska is the fourth head of state since Slovakia gained its independence on January 1, 1993. He is unique in that he is the first president who has never had any ties with the Communist party. In addition, he was elected as an independent, belonging to none of Slovakia's more than 20 political parties. President Kiska received a warm American welcome and assurances of continued promotion of USA-Slovak projects.



President Andrej Kiska offers remarks at the reception given in his honor. Looking on, l-r, are Slovak Consul General in New York Jana Trnovecova, Slovak Ambassador to the U.S. Peter Kmec and Slovak Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajcak.



Slovak Ambassador to the U.N., Frantisek Ruzicka, at the microphone, extends a warm welcome to President Kiska. Also shown, l-r, Ambassador Peter Kmec and Slovakia's Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajcak.



Slovakia's Ambassador to the United States, Peter Kmec, third from the left, is shown with from the left, members of the Masi-Holy family, including Tom and Luby Masi and Nina Holy.



Former Slovak Ambassador to the United States, Martin Butora, third from the left, is shown with, l-r, Editor Daniel F. Tanzzone, Nina Holy, Dr. Mary Z. Gasparik, our Honorary Supreme Officer and Albina and Joseph Senko. Brother Senko serves as the Honorary Slovak Consul in Pennsylvania.



Slovakia's Ambassador to the United States, Peter Kmec, is shown with, from the left, Nina Holy, Rosemary Golia, Sabina Sabatos and Editor Daniel F. Tanzzone.



Veteran New York Slovak activist, Rudolf Gregus is shown flanked by our Honorary Supreme Officer Dr. Mary Z. Gasparik and his daughter, a star of the New York Broadway stage, Luba Mason.

From the Desk of the Supreme Secretary

My Fraternal View

by Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.



BEGINNING A NEW SEASON OF FRATERNAL ACTIVITY

Now that fall has finally arrived, with crisp cool temperatures, it's time to adjust our activities from the great outdoors to that of the indoors. It's a time to host the many fraternal activities that have made our organization unique and popular over the past 109 years of our history. In the past, many of our local lodges had their own Sokol halls. Today, some of these clubs continue to exist and provide a wonderful venue for our indoor sporting and fraternal activities.

Now that we have experienced a successful Supreme Clinic or Kurz as it is known in Slovak, and our first Youth Camp experience, I hope our Groups are motivated to prepare themselves for next year's exciting 47th International Slet scheduled for Slippery Rock University located in western Pennsylvania. This campus provides an ideal facility for our Slets and is geographically located for the convenience of most of our Groups. Thus, the fall and winter provides an opportunity for our Group Physical Fitness Boards to schedule regular drill classes in preparation for the 47th Slet.

We encourage our local Groups and lodges to host a variety of indoor activities which affords the opportunity for members to gather and promote sporting and fraternal projects. Remember, we are part of the great Slovak Catholic Sokol family. Meeting with each other at these gatherings helps to strengthen the "family ties."

We remind our Groups and lodges that the Home Office will provide \$100 in support for any of their activities, with a limit of two per year. All that we ask is that you announce the date of the activity and subsequently if possible, provide a story and photos which can be featured in our Slovak Catholic Falcon. We commend those lodges and Groups which host such gatherings and who exhibit interest in providing assistance to the needy in their community by collecting donations for food banks and other outreach projects. Remember one of the hallmarks of fraternalism over the years has been social interaction.

At this time of the year, many local lodges are making plans to host their traditional Christmas parties for their junior members. Again, the Home Office assists with a donation of \$5.00 for every member, aged 15 and younger who attends the Christmas party. We commend our many Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths which host such parties. We encourage other lodges to make an effort to host a Children's Christmas Party this year. Bringing our youth together at these gatherings offers the opportunity to discuss the various sporting events in the coming year, including learning more about our Slet and how they can participate. For many of us, participating in our Slets was the first opportunity to enjoy Sokol good sportsmanship at its best. We have made friendships which have lasted through the generations. All of this certainly makes fraternalism very unique. Commercial insurance companies do not provide such activities or the numerous benefits we offer.

With election day just a few weeks away, it is important that all fraternalists exercise one of their privileges as Americans - **the right to vote**. We also need to encourage our family and friends to vote. It is always sad to learn that many Americans do not vote with often less than half of those eligible not voting. It was interesting recently during the referendum vote in Scotland on the question of its independence to see that 97 percent of the population was registered and nearly that number turned out to vote.

When have we seen such a large percentage of eligible voters in the U.S.? As fraternalists, we need to once again emphasize what we do to promote volunteerism and outreach in the private sector. We need to be visible and we need to support candidates who will champion the cause of fraternalism. As you know, fraternalism, like our own, enjoy federal tax exempt status. Certainly fraternalism deserve this status which enables them to promote so many wonderful service oriented programs. In our own organization, I am extremely proud of the many efforts of our individual members in their local communities, in their parishes and in various service-oriented efforts. They beautifully mirror our fraternal way of life. If fraternalism were to be taxed, many would go out of business with perhaps the largest ones becoming mutuals. So please remember to get out to vote on Tuesday, November 4th. And remember when you are planning your various fall activities, see that you invite your local elected officials to attend so that they can learn more about all the wonderful things fraternalism do not only for their own members but for the good of their communities as well. Remember, we need to be visible.

And let us always remember the importance of having sufficient life insurance and how our organization can help you achieve your financial goals. Life can take unexpected, unpredictable turns. Toward the amusing, the annoying, and, unfortunately, even the tragic. So every day, you take those little steps to improve the odds that good things will happen and to guard against the bad. You wear seatbelts. You lock your doors when you leave home. You buy life insurance for the same kind of reason - to protect your family financially. It ensures that your loved ones will have the kind of lifestyle and opportunities you always hoped they'd have, even if you're not here. So think about your own family and how you can better protect their interests. If you have any questions regarding any of our term or permanent life insurance plans, offered at competitive rates, give a call to our Director of Sales and Marketing, Brother Albert J. Suess, F.I.C. at tel. 888-381-5431 or (412)381-5431 or call us at the Home Office at 800-886-7656. Thank you for helping to keep our organization a strong financial institution serving your best interests. Remember, we are here for you.

In the name of our organization, I would like to extend congratulations and prayerful best wishes to the Rt. Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B. on the occasion of his installation as the seventh Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland this past October 5. May God bless Abbot Gary and the wonderful work of our Benedictine monks who have contributed so much to American Slovak life.

Finally, I wish to congratulate our Supreme Chaplain, Father Andrew S. Hvozdic who was recently elected to serve as the new National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation, the representative organization of American Catholics of Slovak ancestry. We assure him of the continued prayers, good wishes and support of the Slovak Catholic Sokol for the many projects of the Slovak Catholic Federation. We're proud of you Father Andy!

Until next time, take the time to enjoy the colorful foliage display of mother nature and have a wonderful Halloween celebration with your family and friends, especially with your little ones later this month. May God bless each of you with good health, love, and happiness and Peace be with you. Zdar Boh!

at 12:30 p.m., \$7.00 adults \$3.00 children; for tickets call Mary Ann Nangle at (412)886-1818.

SUN.OCT.19

■ Group 10 annual meeting at the Best Western Hotel in Bethlehem, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m., dinner will follow, deadline for reservations is October 10, contact the secretary, Susan Knoblauch.

■ Group 17 annual meeting at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish/St. Matthias Church, 915 Cornell St., Youngstown, Oh. beginning with Mass at 11 a.m. in church followed by a luncheon and meeting in the Father Snock Center.

■ Wreath 54 meeting in the Father Snock Center, 915 Cornell St., Youngstown, Oh. immediately following the Group 17 annual meeting.

■ 73rd dinner dance hosted by the American Slovak Zemplin Club at SS. Cyril and Methodius Auditorium, 12608 Madison Ave., Lakewood, Oh. beginning with Slovak Mass at 1 p.m. followed by homemade dinner; music by the Johnny Pastirik Band, \$15.00 per person, call George Carny (440)885-5702.

■ Assembly 162 meeting in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 235 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. beginning at 12:30 p.m.

OCT.21-24

■ 15th Genealogical & Cultural Conference of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International at the Marriott Cedar Rapids, Cedar Rapids, Ia. for information contact Paul Maksudsky at PaulMCzech@comcast.net.

SAT.OCT.25

■ Flea Market and Slovak culinary specialties available for sale at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, South 6th & Laurel Sts., Reading, Pa. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., for information call Marge Danowski (610)375-3515.

SUN.OCT.26

■ Children's Halloween Costume Party hosted by the United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. beginning at 1 p.m., signup list at the

(Continued on page 6)

HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE

In observance of the Columbus Day holiday, the Home Office will be closed for business on Monday, October 13. The Home Office will reopen for business on Tuesday, October 14. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Best wishes for an enjoyable Columbus Day Weekend. Zdar Boh!

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS OCTOBER 22ND

In keeping with our bi-weekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, October 22nd. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, October 16th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovakcatholicssokol.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh!

Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor

Sokol Calendar

SAT.OCT.11

■ Traditional Slovakfest celebration at The Slovak Garden, 3110 Howell Branch Rd.#100, Winter Park, Fla. with Slovak culinary specialties and entertainment, 4 to 9 p.m. \$10.00 per person; for reservations call (407)677-6894.

■ Slovak Octoberfest celebration at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 1130 Brunswick Ave., Trenton, N.J.

beginning with a Slovak Mass in church at 7 p.m. followed by the dinner and dance in the church hall; \$40.00 adults at the door, children up to age 15 are free of charge; for information call Sylvia (267)269-2325.

SUN.OCT.12

■ Wreath 81 meeting at the Sacred Heart Rose Room, 1723 LaPorte Ave., Whiting, Ind. beginning at 1 p.m. Mary Hric will serve as hostess.

■ Annual Chicken BBQ Dinner of St. John the Evangelist Parish in the Seton Catholic Cafeteria, William St., Pittston, Pa. 12 noon to 3 p.m., take-overs begin at 11 a.m., \$9.00 adults, \$6.00 children, rsvp (570)654-0053.

MON.OCT.13

■ Wreath 111 meeting and social "Trick or Treat" at the American Slovak Home, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Oh. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

SAT.OCT.18

■ 3rd Annual Reading Sokol Golf Tournament hosted by Assembly 261 and Wreath 155 at the Manor Golf

Club, Reading, Pa. shotgun start at 1 p.m., \$70.00 per golfer includes refreshments; call (610)375-4500.

■ A Slavic Soup Luncheon hosted by the Raritan Valley Slavic Cultural & Heritage Society at St. Joseph's Parish Hall, 16 East Somerset St., Raritan, N.J. 12 noon to 3 p.m., \$15.00 per person, reservations necessary, call (908)526-3514.

■ Annual Spaghetti Benefit Luncheon and Chinese auction hosted by Wreath 22 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning



REFLECTOR ...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

Monsignor Larry J. Kulick honored by Pope Francis

The Most Rev. Lawrence Brandt, Bishop of Greensburg, Pa., announced recently that Pope Francis had honored the Very Rev. Larry J. Kulick, pastor of St. James Parish in New Alexandria, Pa. Pope Francis named him an Honorary Chaplain of His Holiness with the title of Monsignor. In addition to serving as pastor of St. James, Monsignor Kulick serves as Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia of the Greensburg Diocese.



Monsignor Kulick, a native of Leechburg, Pa. was born there February 24, 1966, son of Larry and Myrna Kulick. He was raised in the former St. Martha Slovak parish there. He was a graduate of St. Joseph's High School in Natrona Heights, Pa. He earned a bachelor's degree in Philosophy from St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa. in 1988. He completed his theological studies for the priesthood at St. Vincent Seminary, where he received a master's degree in systematic theology in 1991 and a master of divinity degree in 1992.

On May 16, 1992, Msgr. Kulick was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Greensburg at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament by the Most Rev. Anthony G. Bosco, Bishop of Greensburg. He celebrated his first Mass on May 17, 1992 in St. Martha's Slovak Church. His first assignment was as a parochial vicar at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament from 1992-1995. He then served at Immaculate Conception Parish in Irwin from 1995-1997. He was appointed to his first pastorate at the Parish of the Good Shepherd in Kent, Pa. where he served until 2002. In 1999, he was appointed as Consultant for Priestly Vocations for the diocese. On July 23, 2002, he was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's Church in New Kensington, Pa. On January 31, 2008, Msgr. Kulick was appointed Director of Clergy Vocations for the diocese and Episcopal Master of Ceremonies with residence at Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensburg. Msgr. Kulick pursued graduate studies in Canon Law at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. where he was awarded a Licentiate in Church Law (J.C.L.) in 2012. That year, he was also appointed co-director of the Office for the Permanent Diaconate.

Msgr. Kulick has always been interested in his heritage and is active in American Slovak life. He is our Sokol of Wreath 15 in Perryopolis, Pa. and serves as chaplain of Group 6, "Msgr. Andrew Hlinka." He is also active in the First Catholic Slovak Union, where he serves as chaplain of the George Onda District in western Pennsylvania. He also supports the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation.

In the fall of 2012, Bishop Lawrence Brandt appointed Monsignor Kulick as Vicar General and moderator of the curia of the Diocese of Greensburg. We offer congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Monsignor Kulick on the occasion of his receiving Papal Honors from Pope Francis. May God continue to bless his ministry among us in the best traditions of our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. Ad multos annos and Zdar Boh!

American Slovak Zemplin Club to host 73rd Dinner-Dance on Oct. 19

One of the oldest and best known Cleveland area Slovak cultural groups, the American Slovak Zemplin Social Club will host its 73rd annual dinner and dance on Sunday, October 19 in Lakewood, Oh. The afternoon's program begins with the celebration of Mass in Slovak in the Church of the Transfiguration of the Lord (formerly SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church). Father Joachim Pastirik, O.S.B., Prior of St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland will be the celebrant of the liturgy. The church is located at 12608 Madison Avenue.

Following the liturgy, the program will be held in SS. Cyril and Methodius Auditorium. A full course homemade dinner will be served at 2:30 p.m. A cash bar will be available. Music for singing and dancing will be provided by the popular Johnny Pastirik Band. A cultural program begins at 3:30 p.m. featuring the artistry of the Lucina Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland, who perform the music and dance traditions from the various regions of Slovakia. In addition, the popular Slovenske Mamicky will perform featuring a traditional sing-along of our popular Slovak folk songs. Advance ticket sales only. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. Deadline for dinner reservations is Tuesday, October 14. For tickets and additional information, call any of the following: Father Joachim Pastirik, O.S.B. at (216)721-5300, ext. 213; M. Chura (440)238-7028; M. Cvicela (440) 888-7028; George Carny (440)885-5702 or M. Kobulsky (330)239-2256.

The American Slovak Zemplin Social Club had its beginnings following the Second World War when a group of recently arrived immigrants from the Zemplin region of eastern Slovakia arrived in Cleveland. They wished to preserve the rich cultural and religious traditions of Zemplin, historically the most easterly of the Slovak regions bordering on present day Ukraine. Over the years, the group has hosted numerous Slovak cultural, social and religious activities. Many Sokols and Sokolky have been active in the group since its founding. The Zemplin Club looks forward to seeing many current Sokol members at this year's dinner and dance on October 19. An enjoyable afternoon of Slovak culture and fellowship is assured.

Annual Abbey Vilija set for December 7 in Cleveland, Oh.

St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, Oh. will be the site of the traditional Christmas Eve dinner or Vilija as it is known in Slovak on Sunday, December 7. The annual program begins with Mass celebrated at 12 noon in the Abbey Church located at 10510 Buckeye Road. Abbot Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., the new superior of the Abbey will be celebrant of the liturgy.

Following the liturgy, the meal and program will be held in the Benedictine High School Cafeteria. A meatless meal, all of the foods enjoyed at the Christmas Eve supper in a Slovak home will be featured beginning with the sharing of the Oplatky and honey. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. Advance ticket sales only. No tickets available at the door. Deadline for reservations is December 1. Orders may be placed by mail. Make check payable to: St. Andrew Abbey - Vilija, 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, OH 44104. For additional information or to make reservations by phone, call the abbey office Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at (216)721-5300, ext.0.

Following the meal which will be prepared by the members of the local Slovak Radio Club and served by the monks of the abbey, a colorful and entertaining program will be enjoyed. The Lucina Junior Slovak Folklore Ensemble will perform an array of songs and dances from the various regions of Slovakia. Also performing in a sing-along will be the Slovenske Mamicky Singers. In addition, music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by the popular John Pastirik Band. There will be exhibits as well as religious articles and imported items from Slovakia for sale.

Abbot Gary and the monks of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey look forward to seeing many area Sokols and Sokolky at this year's Vilija dinner, a treasured Slovak faith tradition. The Slovak Benedictines arrived in Cleveland in 1922 and established Benedictine High School in the fall of 1928. In 1934, the monastery was elevated to the status of an Abbey. From their earliest beginnings, the monks of St. Andrew Abbey have always been active in ministry to the American Slovak community.



The Word of God ...

Gospel for the Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Year - October 12th

Matthew 22: 1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come. A second time he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those invited: "Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast."'"

Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business. The rest laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged and sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.' The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to meet the guests, he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment. The king said to him, 'My friend, how is it that you came here without a wedding garment?' But he was reduced to silence. Then the king said to his attendants, 'Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.' Many are invited, but few are chosen."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year - October 19th

Matthew 22: 15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying,

(Continued on page 17)

Our Supreme Chaplain

Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic Elected National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation

by Timothy L. Wagner

In keeping with its practice of holding fall and spring meetings in various cities around the country which have a strong Slovak Catholic presence, the Executive Board of the Slovak Catholic Federation hosted its fall Executive Board Meeting in Youngstown, Oh., on Tuesday, September 16. The Slovak Catholic Federation (SCF) serves to promote and coordinate religious activities among Slovak Catholic fraternal societies, religious communities and Slovak ethnic parishes, in their effort to address themselves to the pastoral needs of Slovak Catholics in the United States and Canada.

Many of the board members arrived the evening before on September 15th which enabled them to participate in the patronal feast day celebration at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, St. Mathias in Youngstown. The parish maintains its Slovak identity and also includes Holy Name of Jesus and SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak churches in Youngstown. Our Lady of Sorrows was first designated the patroness of the Slovak people by Pope Benedict XIII in 1717. Father Martin Celuch, pastor of Our

Lady of Sorrows Parish, was celebrant of the evening liturgy and extended warm greetings to the SCF representatives on behalf of the Youngstown Diocese and ethnic churches in both English and Slovak. Following the Mass, an enjoyable meal was enjoyed by all in the parish social center.

The SCF Executive Board Meeting opened on Tuesday morning. The first and most important issue on the meeting agenda was the unanimous election of Father Andrew S. Hvozdovic, Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic So-

kol, as the new national president. Father Hvozdovic has served as the organization's national first vice president and has been active in the work of the SCF throughout his life. A priest of the Diocese of Scranton, he serves as pastor of the Church of the Epiphany in Sayre, Pa. Father Hvozdovic has served as the coordinator of the annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal which assists the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome and religious communities of men and women in Slovakia. It is providential to note that the founder of the



SCF was the Rev. Joseph Murgas at Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Parish in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. in 1911. Father Hvozdovic was born and raised in the former Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Slovak parish. Elected as the new national first vice president of the SCF was the Rev. Thomas A. Nasta, a priest of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and pastor of Our Lady of Ranzom Church in Philadelphia. Father Nasta also serves as the national chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union of the U.S. and Canada. The Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop-Emeritus of Altoona-Johnstown, Pa. and episcopal moderator of the SCF administered the oath of office for Father Hvozdovic and Father Nasta.

The meeting agenda included reports of the officers as well as that of the various SCF chapters located in various American communities. The national secretary-treasurer Dolores M. Evanko gave a report on the 2014 SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal to date. Donations for the appeal continue until the end of this year. Updates on the work of the Standing Committees were also presented. Considerable time was devoted to discussing plans for next year's Pilgrimage of Faith, planned for Saturday, September 12 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The pilgrimage will mark the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows, patroness of Slovakia. The chapel, dedicated in September 1965, was a gift of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The 2015 pilgrimage will mark the centennial of the death of the Rev. Stephen Furdek and the 125th anniversary of the founding of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The pilgrimage will be coordinated jointly by the Slovak Catholic Federation and the First Catholic Slovak Union. The Slovak chapel has been the focal point of devotion and specific events at the National Shrine over the years, not only by Slovaks but by other groups of eastern European background. It is one of the most frequently visited chapels in the basilica.

The Executive Board also heard a presentation by Monsignor Vladimir Stahovec, rector of the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome. The college serves as a graduate residence for priests from Slovakia pursuing graduate degrees at the various Pontifical universities in the Eternal City. The college is one of the primary beneficiaries of the endeavors of the Slovak Catholic Federation which was instrumental in the establishment of the college in 1963, then known as the Slovak Institute of SS. Cyril and Methodius. Along with the Conference of Slovak Clergy, the Slovak Catholic Federation provides substantial financial support for the Slovak college. Monsignor Stahovec expressed thanks and gratitude to the American Slovak Catholic community for its continued support of the college underwriting the costs of educating the next generation of priests who will serve the Church in Slovakia.

Annual Group 17 Children's Christmas party set for Dec. 7

Continuing a wonderful fraternal tradition of many years now, the Physical Fitness Board of Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil" is pleased to announce that this year's Children's Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 7 at the Camelot Bowling Lanes in Boardman, Oh. The afternoon of bowling, games and festivities begins at 1 p.m. and will continue until 4 p.m. Children, along with Group 17 members of all ages, are invited to participate in the festivities and celebrate the Christmas Season with their Sokol family and friends. All will be treated to an afternoon of bowling, pizza, snacks and of course a visit from Santa who will greet all the youngsters will complete the festivities. In addition to Group 17, hosting the annual fraternal event will be Wreath 54 along with Wreath 107 and Wreath 108, all of Youngstown.

In order to make the necessary preparations, reservations are necessary. Parents are asked to call Edith Babik at tel. (330)782-9555 indicating the number of children who will attend. Deadline for reservations is Thursday, November 20. We in Group 17 look forward to celebrating the joyous Christmas season with you at Camelot Lanes. An enjoyable afternoon of traditional Group 17 good fellowship and fraternalism is assured.

Zdar Boh!

Group 17 Physical Fitness Board

Edith Babik, Judy Babik, Susan Babik and Virginia Bartos

Kiska urges Slovaks living in US to present ideas to help Slovakia

Slovaks living abroad shouldn't forget their ancestral homeland; quite the opposite, they should come up with ideas that would help Slovakia, Slovak President Andrej Kiska told the Slovak community living the United States during his visit to the country.

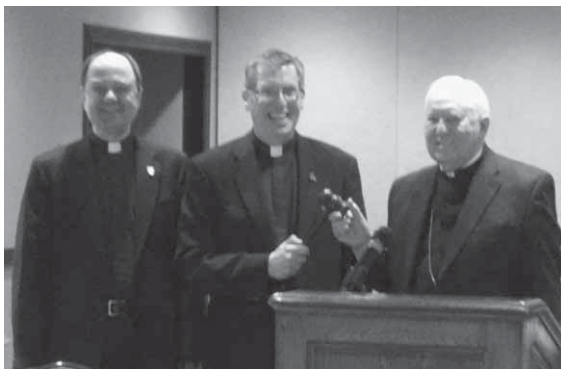
Kiska addressed the community during the 37th Slovak Heritage Festival in Holmdel, N.J. on Sunday, September 28.

"Slovakia is a wonderful country with people who work hard, and I'm very proud to be the president of that country. But Slovakia also needs help, it needs improvements in many aspects. Therefore, I ask those of you who will be-

come successful not to forget your homeland," said Kiska, addressing thousands of people of Slovak ancestry who came to the festival from many parts of the USA.

For his part, the president pledged to back all those who come up with ideas for helping Slovakia. Accompanying Kiska during his US trip, Slovakia's Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak told visitors of the festival that the Slovak government is pushing for an amendment to the so-called Dual Citizenship Act, which prevents Slovaks from obtaining dual citizenship and was passed during

(Continued on page 17)



Bishop Joseph V. Adamec, episcopal moderator of the Slovak Catholic Federation, right, is shown administering the oath of office on September 16 to, Father Thomas A. Nasta and Father Andrew S. Hvozdovic, newly elected national first vice president and national president, respectively of the Slovak Catholic Federation.



Newly elected Abbot of St. Andrew-Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, the Rt. Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., addressed the SCF executive board.



Monsignor Thomas Derzack, national spiritual advisor of the Slovak Catholic Federation, leads the board in Morning Prayer.

Plan to participate

Group Annual Meetings Announced

Group 1, "Msgr. Stephen Krassula" - This year's meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 2 in SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish located at 235 Ackerman Avenue in Clifton, N.J. Hosting this year's meeting will be Assembly 182 of New York City. Our program begins with attendance at the 10:30 a.m. Slovak Mass in Church. The liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 1. Following the liturgy, the annual meeting will be called to order in the church hall. A luncheon will be served. Reports of the officers will be presented and plans for upcoming fraternal and sporting events in the new year will be discussed. We hope to have all Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to Group 1 represented at this year's annual meeting. Lodge secretaries are asked to call the secretary at (973)777-4010 as to the number of delegates who will represent their respective lodge. Deadline for luncheon reservations is October 27. Looking forward to a progressive and successful annual meeting in the best traditions of Group 1 fraternalism and fellowship, may we remain

Zdar Boh!

John D. Pogorelec, Esq.

President

Daniel F. Tanzone

Secretary

Group 7, "Rev. Joseph Murgas" - This year's annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 15 in St. John the Evangelist Parish in Pittston, Pa. The meeting will be called to order in the parish social hall located at 19 William Street at 1:30 p.m. Reports of the officers will be presented and discussion of our upcoming fraternal events in 2015 will be finalized. 2015 will be an especially active year, in that our 47th International Slet is scheduled for July and our organization's 32nd national convention is set for August. In addition, our Group will be hosting a sporting event as well. We hope to have representatives from all our Assemblies and Wreaths at our annual meeting. Any member who has not attended in the past may call their Assembly or Wreath secretary indicating that they are interested in attending. In order to make the necessary preparations, lodge secretaries need to contact the Group Secretary by the deadline date of November 7. Following our business meeting, we will attend the 4:30 p.m. Mass in church which satisfies the Sunday obligation. Concelebrating the liturgy will be the pastor, Monsignor John J. Bendik, our Group 7 Chaplain, Rev. Richard Cirba and our Supreme Chaplain and Honorary Chaplain of Group 7, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic. After the liturgy, we will take care of any unfinished discussion in the church hall after which a dinner will be served. We look forward to seeing a good turnout of members from our Assemblies and Wreath in the best traditions of Group 7 Sokol fraternalism. Zdar Boh!

Michael J. Horvath

President

Irene M. Kascak

Secretary

Group 9, "SS. Cyril and Methodius" - Our annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 19 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located on Railroad Street in Lilly, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m. This year's meeting will be hosted by Assembly 79 of Lilly. We ask that all lodges belonging to Group 9 make every effort to be represented at this important meeting. We enjoyed an active program this year and we look to finalize our plans for our various sporting and fraternal activities in 2015. A luncheon will be enjoyed following our business meeting. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. Zdar Boh!

Joanne E. Spisak

President

Alice Podrebarac

Secretary

Group 10, "Rev. Francis Sasinek" - The annual meeting of our Group is scheduled for Sunday, October 19 at the Best Western Hotel in Bethlehem, Pa. Our meeting will be called to order at 1 p.m. Following our business meeting, a dinner will be served. Assemblies belonging to Group 10 need to return their delegate forms to the Secretary Susan Knoblauch by October 10. Plans for our various fraternal and sporting activities in the new year will be discussed. Input from our members will insure their success. We hope to see every lodge represented at our annual meeting. An enjoyable afternoon of traditional Sokol fellowship and fraternalism is assured. Zdar Boh!

George J. Kostelnik

President

Susan Knoblauch

Secretary

Group 11, "St. John Nepomucene" - Our annual meeting is set for Sunday, October 12 in Minneapolis, Minn. Hosting this year's meeting will be Assembly 34 and Wreath 47 of Minneapolis. Mass will be offered for the living and deceased members of Group 11 in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church located at 13th Avenue and 2nd Street N.E. beginning at 9 a.m. Following the liturgy, we will assemble in the Father George Dargay Memorial Hall of the parish where our annual meeting will be called to order. Coffee and rolls will be available before the meeting and a luncheon will be served following the conclusion of our business agenda. All delegates and guests from Minneapolis and Duluth, Minn., as well as Wreath 21 of Superior, Wis. and Assembly 155 of Ironwood, Mich. are requested to register with the Group Secretary, James T. Genosky, tel. (763)789-9196 by the deadline date of Sunday, October 4. We look forward to seeing a good turnout for our annual meeting as we plan our fraternal activities for 2015, including participation in our 47th International Slet and 32nd Quadrennial Convention. Zdar Boh!

David J. Genosky

President

James T. Genosky

Secretary

Group 14, "St. Francis of Assisi" - This year's annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 8th at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 2912 East Carson Street, South Side, Pittsburgh. The meeting will be called to order at 9 a.m. All Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to our Group are invited to send their representatives. Reports of the officers will be presented. We have enjoyed an active fraternal and sporting year. Plans for our upcoming fraternal and sporting activities as well as fund-raisers in the new year will be discussed. Our organization's 32nd quadrennial convention is scheduled for Pittsburgh in August 2015. In order to make the necessary arrangements, those planning to attend are asked to call (412)225-8233 or e-mail Kathyw323@gmail.com. We are looking forward to a very successful meeting. Even if you haven't been to a meeting lately, please consider attending. Your thoughts and input are always very valuable to the future of our organization.

Zdar Boh!

Kathleen S. Watkins

President

Claudia Borecki

Secretary

Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil" - Our annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 19 at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish/St. Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street in the Lansingville section of Youngstown, Oh. Our program begins with attendance at the 11 a.m. Mass in church with the pastor, the Rev. Martin Celuch as celebrant. This liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 17. Following the Mass, we will walk over to the Father Snock Center for a light lunch. After the luncheon, our annual meeting will be called to order by our president. We will have a report from our Sports Director regarding the results of our golfers who attended the national golf tournament held at Tam-O-Shanter/Oak Tree Country Club this past August. We will also be discussing our upcoming fraternal activities for the remainder of the year as well as next summer's Slet and convention scheduled for Pittsburgh, August 1-5, 2015.

All officers are reminded to submit their WRITTEN REPORT of activities since our last annual meeting. We look forward to seeing all our Wreaths and Assemblies represented at this year's annual meeting. Due to the death of our Auditor, Dick Hodos, a special election will be held to fill this position. All officers and lodge representatives are asked to make reservations by calling the Secretary Carol Gonda at (330)783-0173. Deadline for reservations is Monday, October 13. Come join us as we anticipate an enjoyable fraternal afternoon. Following our Group meeting, Wreath 54 will host their regular meeting.

Zdar Boh!

James Jerek

President

Carol Gonda

Secretary

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

57TH INTERNATIONAL

GOLF TOURNAMENT

AUGUST 1ST - 3RD 2014

TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

Prize Money Allotment	Home Office Allocation - July 2014	\$ 3,125.00
Prize Money	Collected from Golfers	\$ 1,635.00
Golf Package	Collected from Golfers	\$ 24,960.00
Non Golf Package	Collected from Golfers	\$ 840.00
Golf Only Package	Collected from Golfers	\$ 1,200.00
Half Package	Collected from Golfers	\$ 570.00
Banquet Allotment	Home Office Allocation - July 2014	\$ 2,500.00
Banquet Fees	Collected from Golfers	\$ 100.00
Entry Fees	Collected from Golfers	\$ 1,090.00
Souvenir Allotment	Home Office Allocation - July 2014	\$ 625.00

TOTAL INCOME

\$ 36,645.00

EXPENSES

Men's Prize Money	Published and Distributed - Oct 2014	\$ 2,550.00
Women's Prize Money	Published and Distributed - Oct 2014	\$ 720.00
Trophies/Prizes	Shirts/Brett Harris - # 1763	\$ 480.00
Trophies/Prizes	Petruff Award/TLA Consultants - # 1765	\$ 65.00
Golf Fees	Tam-O-Shanter # 1757	\$ 4,845.00
Golf Fees	Oaktree Country Club # 1758	\$ 7,495.00
Hotel Fees	Park Inn by Radisson - # 1761	\$ 12,383.98
Pre Tournament Work	Schedules, Handicaps, etc. - # 1768	\$ 150.00
Friday Hospitality	Park Inn by Radisson - # 1759	\$ 1,265.00
Banquet Fees	Park Inn by Radisson - # 1760	\$ 4,800.00
Computer Costs	Computer Program - # 1766	\$ 150.00
Postage/Courier	Prize Money Distribution, etc. - # 1767	\$ 150.00
Souvenirs	HDS Marketing - # 1762	\$ 563.63

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 35,617.61

TOTAL INCOME/

EXPENSES

Refund to Home Office - # 1769 \$ 1,027.39

Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 3)

or contact slovenska.hviezda@hotmail.com.

SUN.NOV.2

■ Group 1 annual meeting at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 235 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. hosted by Assembly 182, Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by luncheon and meeting in the church hall. Deadline for reservations is Oct. 27.

■ 24th Slovak Heritage Festival hosted by the Slovak Studies Program in the Commons Room of the Cathedral of Learning on the University of Pittsburgh campus, Oakland, Pittsburgh, Pa. 1-5 p.m., exhibits, entertainment Slovak culinary specialties, free admission.

■ Annual Benefit for the Benedictine Abbey of St. Andrew Svorad at Assumption of the BVM parish, 9183 Broadview Rd., Broadview Heights, Oh., Mass at 12:15 p.m., banquet to follow in the parish center; for information call (216)721-5300, ext.O.

FRID.NOV.7

■ Concert of the Slovak band "Helennine oci" at the Bohemian National Hall, 321 East 73rd St., New York City beginning at 7 p.m., advance ticket \$35, at the door \$40, call Marek (203)536-1908 or www.concert.multipharmony.com.

NOV. 7-8

■ 90th annual meeting of the New England Fraternal Alliance in Mystic, Conn.

SAT.NOV.8

■ Group 14 annual meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912

East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 9 a.m., call (412)225-8233 for reservations.

■ Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble benefit dinner and cultural evening at Holy Spirit Party Center, 5500 West 54th t., Parma, Oh. doors open at 6 p.m., dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. followed by cultural program at 7:30 p.m., \$50.00 per person; for reservations call Tom Evanc (440)668-7797.

SUN.NOV.9

■ 32nd annual St. Martin's Day Celebration hosted by Group 2, "Rev. Stephen Panik."

■ Assembly 255 annual meeting in the social hall of Holy Trinity Parish, 4556 Main St., Whitehall(Egypt), Pa. beginning at 1 p.m., (social with refreshments to follow.

MON.NOV.10

■ Wreath 111 meeting and social "Thank a Veteran" at the American Slovak Home, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Oh. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

FRID.NOV.14

■ Annual Freedom Lecture hosted by the Friends of Slovakia at the Wilson Center, Ronald Reagan Building, Washington, D.C. beginning at 12 noon.

■ 5th annual Slovak-American Awards Dinner hosted as a benefit by Friends of Slovakia at the Slovak Embassy, 3523 International Court, N.W., Washington, D.C. beginning with reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m.; for reservations call Julie Slavik at jslavik@aol.com.

Group 2 to host 32nd St. Martin Day Celebration on Nov. 9 in Stratford, Conn.

Group 2 "Rev. Stephen Panik" will host its 32nd annual St. Martin's Day Celebration honoring the patron of our organization on Sunday, November 9th. This year's celebration of Sokol fraternalism begins with participants attending the 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church, 1950 Barnum Avenue in Stratford, Conn. The liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 2 by the Rev. Andrew G. Marus, pastor of this Slovak parish. We will assemble in the church vestibule at 10:45 a.m. so as to march in a body for the liturgy.

Following the liturgy, a reception and luncheon will be enjoyed at the Grassy Hill Lodge in nearby Derby, Conn., where our Sister Sokolka, Martha Dulla Andrade, Esq. is the owner. Music for dancing, listening and sing-along pleasure will be provided by our Brother Sokol, Tony Dulla, Party Central DJ of Assembly 33.

Inasmuch as our celebration is so close to Veterans Day, which is observed on November 11, we will pay tribute to and acknowledge all Veterans in attendance.

We will also host a memorial service for members who have gone on to their eternal reward in 2014. Group 2 lodge officers are asked to advise President Eileen S. Wilson, (203)378-8837 as soon as possible the names of their deceased.

Cost of the luncheon, which includes two drink tickets, has remained the same at \$25.00 for members and \$35.00 for guests. Children age 10 and younger pay \$10.00.

Meal choices include Chicken Coronado Bleu, Baked Salmon or Prime Rib of Beef. Children will enjoy chicken tenders. A vegetarian menu is also available. In order to properly prepare reservations, accompanied by a check (non-refundable) made payable to SCS Group 2 by the RSVP deadline of Thursday, October 23 (strictly adhered to) and send to Group 2 Treasurer, John Sinanis, 406 Erwin St. Trumbull, Conn. 06611. Reservations will be accepted for tables of 8 or 10 provided all names

are listed.

Reservations may be made with the following lodges: Wreath 1, Eileen S. Wilson, (203) 378-8837; Wreath 39, Larry or Mary Ann Wells, (203)375-2836; Wreath 86 and Assembly 23, Bonnie Landor Rossi, (860) 482-9062; Assembly 9, Henry Zack, (203)268-4727; or Judith Salamon (203)333-3716; Assembly 33, Martha Dulla Andrade, (203)734-1616. When making reservations, members are asked to inquire whether there will be any charge if they belong to a particular Wreath or Assembly. As in the past, Wreaths 1 and 39 and Assembly 9 pay for their members.

The traditional special events raffle will benefit the Jozef Cardinal Tomko Scholarship Fund at the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome. Additional highlights will make the celebration very special and memorable in the best traditions of Group 2 fellowship and fraternalism.

JOIN US as we observe the 32nd annual St. Martin Day Celebration

honoring our organization's great patron. Our Group 2 was the second Group to be organized in the Slovak Catholic Sokol in 1911-2014 One hundred and three years old! Mark your calendar and plan to join us for this wonderful fraternal event. Fraternally,

Zdar Boh!
Eileen S. Wilson
President, Group 2

Lodge Jottings

CLIFTON, N.J. Assembly 162

The next regular meeting of our Assembly under the patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius is scheduled for Sunday, October 19 in the church hall of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Ackerman Avenue beginning at 12:30 p.m.

On our meeting agenda will be the selection of delegates who will represent our lodge at the upcoming annual meeting of Group 1 scheduled for Sunday, November 2nd. While the meeting will be hosted by Assembly 182 of New York City, it will be held in our parish.

In addition, any other lodge business pending will be discussed. Looking forward to seeing a good turnout at our meeting and extending best wishes to all, may we remain

Zdar Boh!
John D. Pogorelec, Jr.
President
David Bulwin
Recording Secretary

EGYPT, PA Assembly 255

The annual meeting of our lodge under the patronage of St. Michael the Archangel is scheduled for Sunday, November 9 in the social hall of Holy Trinity Parish located at 4556 Main Street in Whitehall (Egypt) beginning at 1 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

At this meeting, our regular order of business will be conducted including the reports of the officers, concluding with the election of officers who will serve our Assembly in 2015. We are looking forward to seeing new faces and hoping for a good turnout of members.

Concluding our business meeting, as is our long-standing tradition, we will join our fellow Slovak fraternal brothers and sisters of Branch 796 of the Jednota for a traditional luncheon featuring Slovak culinary specialties. Good fellowship in the best traditions of Slovak fraternalism will be enjoyed by all.

May Jesus and our Blessed Mother keep our organization in their hands. In the name of the officers of our lodge, I wish to extend to all, best wishes for a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving holiday and extend best wishes to our Brother and Sister Sokols and Sokolky throughout the country. With every good wish, may I remain

Zdar Boh!
Monica Fabian
Recording Secretary

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND SAVE THE DATES!

August 1- 5, 2015

Groups - Assemblies - Wreaths
for the

Slovak Catholic Sokol 32nd Quadrennial Convention

at the
Doubletree By Hilton
Pittsburgh - Greentree
500 Mansfield Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

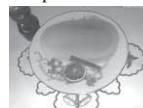


Zdar Boh!
Plan now to be there!



Christmas Oplatky 2014

The celebration of Christmas in a Slovak home would not be complete without the sharing of the traditional Oplatky, the Slovak Christmas wafers.



They are a time-honored tradition passed on from generation to generation. Jankola Library and Slovak Museum located at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pa. has provided these Oplatky for those of Slovak ancestry scattered across the United States. Where in previous times, the Oplatky were available at one's local Slovak parish, sad to say many of these Slovak parishes no longer exist and many of our members reside in all 50 of our states. However, preserving this wonderful Slovak faith tradition is important. Orders for Oplatky will be accepted from October 20 until December 19, 2014.

The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$4.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending upon the number of packets ordered and the rising cost of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to Jankola Library is expected before receiving an order. For more information or to place an order, contact: Sister Catherine Laboure Bresnock, SS.C.M. at tel. 570-275-5606 or write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698. Sharing the Oplatky either at the Christmas eve supper or on Christmas Day will add a special Slovak dimension to your celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Jankola Library also has a supply of books, tapes and other material related to the study of the Slovak language as well as Slovak music and song are available. Call for a book list. Such items make wonderful gifts at Christmas for those who cherish their Slovak heritage.


Fall Flea Market at Reading, Pa. parish

SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, where the pastor is the Rev. Charles Sperlak, will host its Fall Flea Market and Food Sale on Saturday, October 25 in the church hall located at the corner of South 6th and Laurel Streets in Reading, Pa. from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The flea market will feature new and used household items, tools, and toys. In addition a variety of

Slovak culinary specialties will be available for sale and takeout. A variety of homemade Slovak pastries, breads and soups will be featured. All proceeds will aid our Slovak parish. We hope to see many area Sokols and Sokolky at the event. For information, call (610)375-3515.

Zdar Boh!
Marge Danowski



Za Boha a Národ **Slovak Catholic Falcon** *For God and Nation*

Slovak Catholic Falcon

SLOVENSKÝ KATOLICKÝ SOKOL

ISSN: 0897-8107

Established April 15, 1911
Official Publication of the Slovak Catholic Sokol
Issued Bi-Weekly

Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor
Editorial office: (973) 777-4010

Annual Subscription Rates
United States \$40.00 – All others countries \$45.00

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Slovak Catholic Falcon,
P.O. Box 899, 205 Madison Street,
Passaic, New Jersey 07055

Member of the Catholic Press
Association and the Slovak Newspapermen's
Association of America

Proprietor and Publisher
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL
P.O. Box 899
205 Madison Street, Passaic, N.J. 07055
Home Office: (973) 777-2605-06
WEB SITE - www.slovakcatholicssokol.org



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

October, 2014

MARBLED SHAVING CREAM PAINTINGS

Make some beautiful leaves, a frame, a book cover for school with this fun art project. It's a great way to incorporate colors, imagination, and hands on play.

Materials needed:

- ◇ Paper or cardstock
- ◇ Shaving foam
- ◇ Food coloring or watercolor paint
- ◇ Tray or plastic placemat
- ◇ Eyedropper, small spoon or paint brush
- ◇ Chopstick or small craft stick
- ◇ Cardboard or squeegee



- ◆ Spray shaving foam on tray, wax paper, or plastic placement.
- ◆ Level the shaving foam with a straight edged piece of cardboard (or ruler) so foam is approximately an inch thick.
- ◆ Place several drops of food coloring, paint, watered down watercolor paint onto the shaving foam. Try only 2-3 colors at first since mixing too many colors can result in muddy color. (eye droppers work great for little hands)
- ◆ Use a stick or wooden tip of a paint brush (or handle of silverware) to swirl the colors around. Don't push too deep on shaving cream. Just skim the surface and make interesting patterns.
- ◆ Once you have a pretty design, grab your paper.
- ◆ Lay the paper onto the surface of the shaving cream. Gently press down on the paper so that it comes in contact with the colors, but do not leave it on too long to soak up too much moisture.
- ◆ Carefully lift the paper from the shaving cream.
- ◆ Place the paper on a flat surface and use a straight edges piece of cardboard or ruler to scrape off the shaving cream from the paper. (colors should be "printed" onto your paper)
- ◆ Let the paper dry completely. Your beautiful marbled paper can be framed or made into many things (in fall, we like to make them into leaves or if use shades of orange/yellow you can make marbled pumpkins). They can be cards, borders, or anything you like. Just make sure its dry before you begin to cut.
- ◆ You can lift 2-3 more prints from your colored foam layer. The prints will be softer than the original one but they are still quite stunning.
- ◆ If you wish to reuse the colored foam, mix it until it turns into a single color. Level the foam and start again.
- ◆ The colored foam layer will add a background color to your marbled prints. Continue reusing the foam layer until the color gets too dark or muddy. Then, replace with a batch of white shaving foam and begin again.

This project is great for all ages. Little ones find success and older ones like to create different patterns/designs. Have fun with this great fall project.

Pumpkin Roll- Give your extra toilet tissue a festive look this Halloween.

What you'll need:



- Toilet tissue rolls
- Orange fabric
- Brown paper bag
- Glue
- 12-inch green pipe cleaners
- Green felt leaves(or paper)

How to make it:

1. Set each roll in the center of a 22- by 18-inch piece of fabric, gather the fabric around it, and tuck the edges into the top hole (A)
2. For a stem, roll a strip of brown paper bag and glue the edge.
3. For a vine, glue one end of a pipe cleaner to a felt leaf, then curl the pipe cleaner around the stem Insert the stem in the hole.

Slovak Words=Slovenské slova

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

All Saints Day = *Sviatok všetkých svätých* [svyaa-toke vshet-keekh sve-teekh]

Halloween= *predvečer sviatku Všetkých svätých* (literally, All Saints Eve) [pred-veh-cher svyaaat-kooh vshet-keekh sve-teekh]

Slovak also uses the English word "Halloween," but pronounce it [Hollow – veen].

leaf = *list* [leest]

leaves = *listy* [lee - stee]

color = *farba* [far – bah]

colored = *farbený* [far – be - nee] For information on Halloween in Slovakia, see my article on the web: "Halloween Customs in Slovakia" - <https://suite.io/michael-kopanic/4d4s2bf>

Reading Program Participants: Watch for your award in the mail soon and recognition in November's edition of the Kids Corner!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

Elizabeth Dobbins	10/9
Maddy Lynn Phillips	10/12
Hannah Jozwiak	10/19
Patrick Phillips	10/22
Grace Maghan	10/31

Scenes of the Pilgrimage Honoring Our Mother of Sorrows, patroness of Slovakia, on Sept. 14 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

Pilgrims from several parishes and communities in the northeast journeyed to our nation's capital on Sunday, September 14 to celebrate the feast of Our Mother of Sorrows, patroness of Slovakia and the Slovak people at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.



Bus-loads of pilgrims traveled from St. John Nepomucene Parish in New York City, SS. Cyril and Methodius in Clifton, N.J. and

St. Michael the Archangel in Trenton, N.J. In addition, participants hailed from other parishes and societies. The observance was coordinated by the Embassy of Slovakia in Washington and the Consulate General of the Slovak Republic in New York. This year's pilgrimage commemorated the 450th anniversary of the establishment of the National Shrine of Our Mother of Sorrows in Sastin in western Slovakia. Traditionally, Our Lady, under her title of the Seven Sorrows, has been the patroness of the Slovak people over the centuries. In 1927, Pope Pius XI officially declared Our Mother of Sorrows as patroness of Slovakia. The feast is observed by the Universal Church on September 15. This year's pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. also commemorated the 50th anniversary of the elevation of the shrine church of Sastin as a minor basilica by Pope Paul VI. The shrine's most famous pilgrim was that of Pope Saint John Paul II who visited on July 1, 1995.

A highlight of the pilgrimage was the participation of the renowned Bratislava Boys Choir who were currently on their first American tour. The choir founded in 1982 is part of a music school in the Slovak capital. They regularly sing at the Cathedral of St. Martin in Bratislava. The members of the choir, ranging in age from seven

to twenty-eight performed a concert beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the Crypt Church of National Shrine.

The concelebrated pilgrimage liturgy was celebrated beginning at 11 a.m. in the Crypt Church. Principal celebrant of the Slovak Mass was the Rev. Frantisek Conka, C.O., a member of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Tappan, N.Y. Concelebrants included other members of the Oratory, who provide ministry to the Slovak speaking at parishes in New York and New Jersey, including the Rev. Vladimir Chripko, C.O., Rev. Martin Kertys, C.O. and Rev. Roman Palecko, C.O. Other concelebrants included priests visiting from Slovakia, the Rev. Jan Dolny and the Rev. Stefan Migac. The beautiful Slovak hymns resounded throughout the Crypt Church led by the 26-member, Bratislava Boys Choir.

The pilgrims had the opportunity to pray in the Chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows in the great upper church of the shrine. This chapel, a gift of the First Catholic Slovak Union on the occasion of its 75th anniversary was dedicated on September 5, 1965. Since then, the local branch of the Jednota, has sponsored an annual Slovak Mass and program at the National Shrine. In September 2015, the Slovak chapel will observe its 50th anniversary. A great pilgrimage under the auspices of the First Catholic Slovak Union and the Slovak Catholic Federation, has been planned for September 2015. That pilgrimage will commemorate the centennial of the death of Father Stephen Furdek, known as the Father of American Slovaks and founder of the Jednota. All Slovak Catholic fraternalists will participate in this great celebration.

This year's pilgrimage served as a wonderful manifestation of the love of the American Slovak Catholic community for Our Lady, under her title of the Seven Sorrows.

- Photos by Milan Dait



Father Frantisek Conka, C.O., center, of Tappan, N.Y., principal celebrant of the pilgrimage liturgy is shown with concelebrants in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on September 14th.



Members of the Bratislava Boys Choir as they performed in concert at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on September 14th.



Slovakia's Ambassador to the United States, Peter Kmec, center is shown with some of the pilgrims.



Pilgrims from St. John Nepomucene Parish in New York City.

Highlights of our first-ever, Sokol Children's Camp Adventure and Supreme Clinic-Kurz Camp Fitch + North Springfield, Pa. + August 14-17





What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Kiska accepts Poroshenko's invitation to visit Ukraine

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has invited the Slovak head of state, Andrej Kiska to visit Ukraine, with the Slovak president accepting the invitation, TASR learned from the president's press department on September 16.

Poroshenko's invitation was extended by Ukraine's Ambassador to Slovakia Oleg Havashi, whom Kiska received at Havashi's request.

Meanwhile, Kiska expressed his support for the pro-European orientation of Ukraine and pledged for Slovakia to stand ready to share with Ukraine its experience with respect to reform processes.

The two officials also discussed the situation ahead of Ukraine's parliamentary elections as well as the situation regarding security in eastern Ukraine and perspectives for a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

Kukan: ratification of EU-Ukrainian Association Treaty is historic step

The European Parliament on September 16 ratified an EU Association Agreement with Ukraine that was simultaneously approved by the Ukrainian Parliament, and this agreement must now be ratified by member states in order to come into effect, Slovak Member of Parliament and two-time Slovak foreign affairs minister, Eduard Kukan (SDKU-DS) told TASR later on the same day.

Kukan, a member of the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, said that the vote on the agreement, approved by a significant majority of lawmakers, was preceded by a debate on EU-Russian relations, which have reached freezing point at the moment.

"Today's ratification of the EU Association Agreement represents a symbolic and historically correct step in relations between the EU and Ukraine. It's a step in the right direction. The EU has been promoting a clear long-term policy towards Ukraine based on respecting its free and sovereign decisions. The Association Agreement is the result of a long process of negotiations that confirm this policy," claimed Kukan.

Kukan voiced his hope that the agreement will bring economic benefits to Ukraine and inspire further reforms.

"I view the arguments raised against the ratification of this treaty as erroneous, inaccurate and often the product of Russian propaganda," stressed the Slovak MEP, adding that the EU has an interest in Ukraine being a partner - in the economic as well as the political sphere. "With today's ratification we're signalling our determination to meet this goal," claimed Kukan.

The MEP emphasized that the current crisis in Ukraine was not provoked by the prospect of the EU Association Agreement but rather by Russia's aggressive policies towards its neighbors.

Kiska: UN must not relinquish its purpose to be conscience of the world

The United Nations was established after World War II with an aim to prevent military conflicts and ensure territorial integrity for countries around the world. Currently, when there are conflicts erupting in a number of regions - including with Slovakia's eastern neighbor Ukraine - the issue of how the UN is capable of following through with this needs to be discussed, Slovak President Andrej Kiska said after delivering an address at the 69th General Assembly of the UN on September 25.

The Slovak Republic, according to Kiska, harbors

the belief that sustainable peace in Ukraine can be secured only through dialogue and diplomatic efforts - with the involvement of Russia - and this is the sphere where the UN must play a key role. "Ukraine today needs peace, stability, reforms and guarantees about the inviolability of its territorial integrity. Slovakia is ready to participate in this process," said the president.

Within his speech, Kiska pointed to the missions of Slovak soldiers in Afghanistan as well as the threat believed that the number of conflicts would decrease over time. But today, we're confronted with the opposite reality - instability is becoming the new status quo. Instability, poverty and hatred feed and catalyze terrorism. And terrorism represents a threat against which no one is immune," stressed the president.

The UN should therefore not give up on its goal to serve as the conscience of the world, said Kiska. "Our organization should be an authority capable of defining, preventing and solving conflicts and problems. Together, we need to convince people around the world to believe that we're protecting international norms and principles upon which the UN is based," claimed Kiska. If this global organization fails, humankind won't have any guarantees that totalitarianism, injustice and immorality won't take over the world, he added.

Education Ministry sends old textbooks to Slovaks in the USA

Slovaks living in the United States will soon receive 499 textbooks from their country of origin, TASR was told by the Education, Science, Research and Sport Ministry spokesperson Beata Dupalova Ksenzighova.

This concerns Slovak language, literature and homeland studies textbooks that have been thought to be outdated compared to the latest curricula. They would have been discarded if they hadn't been sent to America.

The books will serve well to our compatriots - students of the Czech and Slovak School in Astoria, Queens, N.Y. who chose to learn about mastering the Slovak language as well as the rich history and traditions of Slovakia. Included in the shipment of books were primers which are used in Slovakia's primary school, according to the Education Minister, Peter Pellegrini. The books were sent to New York on the presidential plane which took President Kiska to the 69th General Assembly of the United Nations in late September.

Jobless rate down to 12.56 percent in August

The unemployment rate in Slovakia stood at 12.56 percent in August, which was a drop of 1.14 percentage points, year-on-year and a reduction of 0.11 p.p. in monthly terms, the Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Center (UPS VaR) announced on September 22.

Meanwhile, the number of unemployed people registered with job centers who were immediately available to start work stood at 338,825 in August. This figure went down by 30,811, year-on-year and by 3,057 people, month-on-month.

When all jobseekers including those who were not immediately available to work are taken into account, the unemployment rate in August reached 14.11 percent, which represented a decrease of 0.79 p.p. year-on-year and of 0.12 p.p. on a monthly basis.

A total of 380,668 people, including those not immediately available to take up work, were jobless in

Selected stories are provided by TASR-Slovakia, the Slovak Republic's official News Agency.

August. This figure fell by 21,545, year-on-year and by 3,334, month-on-month.

Drops in the unemployment rate were reported in seven out of the country's eight regions, with the highest reduction seen in the Presov region. The Bratislava region was the only region to post an increase in unemployment in August.



The city of Spisska Nova Ves is located in the heart of the Spis region of northeastern Slovakia. The area is located in the foothills of the scenic High Tatra Mountains. It is a popular tourist attraction with its proximity to the medieval town of Levoča, Spis Castle and the scenic Slovak Paradise National Park. Slavic tribes first settled in the region in the 10th century. Many Germans settled in the area and as such, became a center of Lutheran faith in the 1540s. Contacts with Poland helped to stimulate the national consciousness of the Slovak people. Its principal Catholic church, dedicated to the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary dates from the 14th century. It contains the work of the noted artist, Master Paul of Levoča. Its majestic church tower completed in 1893 in the gothic style is Slovakia's tallest. A large theatre building "Reduta", built in the art-nouveau style and completed in 1902, is a center of theatre arts in the region. Spisska Nova Ves enjoys a Sister-City relationship with the city of Youngstown, Oh. enjoying many cultural exchange programs. Many residents of Ohio's Mahoning Valley trace their Slovak ancestry to this area.

Funding needed for Greek Catholic shrine

Traditional wooden churches may be found in many parts of Slovakia, however most are found in the northeastern area of the country. Most of these churches are Greek Catholic while a few



are Orthodox. The Most Rev. Jan Babjak, S.J., Metropolitan Archbishop of Presov, is engaged in a project to restore these great spiritual and cultural treasures. Our Sokol and former United States

Ambassador to Slovakia, Vincent Obsitnik informs us that Archbishop Babjak has a project at the great Greek Catholic pilgrimage center located in Lutina, Slovakia. A replica of each of the nearly 30 such churches are being created at the pilgrimage site so that pilgrims can appreciate this great spiritual heritage. Funding for this project has come from the European Union. However, he needs additional financial assistance to have the last ten built and placed in Lutina.

A total of \$1,300 is needed to finance the construction of an individual church which is all hand-made and made to scale. Two of the churches have already been committed and additional sponsors are needed in the United States. At each model, a plaque showing the name of the church and the individual donor is listed. If you would like to assist in this project, contact Ambassador Vincent Obsitnik, 701 Prestige Point, Peachtree City, GA 30269, email: vinceobsitnik@gmail.com.

Give Me Your Tired...

Each October 28, America commemorates the original dedication of her most powerful symbol: the Statue of Liberty. In her honor, both the United States and France have issued stamps in recent years.

As for the statue herself, the sculptor Bartholdi used his mother as the model for the face. The seven rays in the crown represent the seven continents and the seven seas. The torch she carries to welcome new arrivals. In her hand is a tablet engraved with the date when the Declaration of Independence was signed. At her feet is a broken chain symbolizing freedom.

And at her base, in bronze, are the last lines of Emma Lazarus' sonnet:

*Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me.
I lift my lamp beside the golden door.*

SUN IS FUN, BUT...

A healthy tan is fine, but a sunburn can be fatal. Physicians advise - "Take it easy!"

Short periods of exposure - 10 to 20 minutes at a time until the skin is tanned to resist the actinic rays - is good advice. Mid-morning and late afternoon are safest. At the seashore, remember that salt water drying on the skin adds to the burning property of the sun's rays. Don't stay in too long.

Some skin specialists suggest oils, lotions, and sunscreen as protection, recommend no shower or 15 minutes after sun bathing, rubbing on oil or lotion, but not heavy creams.

Non-irritating salves or lotions, such as vaseline or boric acid, are indicated for sunburn.

Zemplin Club Hosts Slovak Day Picnic



The American Slovak Zemplin Club of Cleveland, Oh. hosted its traditional Summer Slovak Day Picnic on Sunday, July 20 at the Slovak Sokol Campgrounds in Broadview Heights, Oh. from noon to 8 p.m. Plenty of Slovak culinary specialties along with imported Slovak beer were enjoyed. Music for singing and dancing pleasure was provided by the popular John Pastirik Band throughout the afternoon. Our Sokol, Brother George P. Carny serves as president of the Zemplin Club. Shown on the top photo are Richard Carny with daughter, Stella Carny. Middle photo includes, from the left, Marge Valencik and her dad, Joseph Valencik; and Tom and Terri Ivanec. Terri serves as the editor of Jednota, official publication of the First Catholic Slovak Union. The lower photo includes, l-r, George P. Carny, Helen and Marty Zemanek and Marge and Joseph Gebura. - Photos compliments of Jednota

2014 Scholarship Winners Express Thanks and Gratitude

Thank you very much for awarding me a 2014 Abbot Jerome M.Koval, O.S.B. Memorial Catholic High School Scholarship Grant of \$500.00. It will definitely help me with my tuition as I attend Holy Redeemer High School, where I will be a sophomore this year. Once again, we thank you and appreciate being awarded this scholarship.

Sincerely,
Karina Graham
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,
I wish to acknowledge receipt of the check for \$1,000 as a 2014 S.C.S. College Scholarship Grant recipient. The grant will assist me with tuition in my studies at Kenesaw State University in west Georgia. Again, thank you so much.

Sincerely,
Morgan Macurak
Acworth, Ga.

From the Supreme Physical Fitness Board

Plans for a Pilot Program of Youth Soccer Suggested

Over the past several years, the Members of the Supreme Physical Fitness have discussed, as a pilot program, adding Youth Soccer as part of one of our annual events. The Board of Directors informally discussed the possibility of such an event if there is enough interest amongst our members. This event may be planned in conjunction with one of our other adult events, allowing for the possibility of families to attend. The youth soccer games (ages 13 and under) could possibly be played during our Annual Softball Tournament next year.

If your group does not have a youth soccer team, it is no big deal. The Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics and staff may create and combine teams so all members can participate. The Soccer competition is just meant to be a fun event for our junior members.

So that we can gauge the interest level for adding youth soccer, please e-mail me at kathyw323@gmail.com (or complete the form below) and return it to me by Thanksgiving. More details will follow once the membership is heard from.

Group _____ Member's Name _____

Child / Children's Name:	Age

Would you play on a team with members from other groups? YES _____ NO _____

Would you be willing to play on a co-ed team? YES _____ NO _____

Zdar Boh!
Kathleen S. Watkins, *Supreme Physical Directress*
7019 Highland Creek Drive
Bridgeville, PA 15017

Remember the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!

Have you found yourself looking for a way to memorialize a lost loved one or fellow Group/Wreath/Assembly member? Why not make a donation in their honor to the Memorial Scholarship fund? Donations made payable to: SCS Memorial Scholarship Fund may be sent to:

Dennis J. Zifcak
SCS Museum Treasurer
33 Pinecrest Rd.
Uxbridge, MA 01569

or

Julie Ann Dobbs
SCS Museum Chairperson
5314 Agatha Turn,
Racine, WI 53402

Cleveland Slovak Institute offers items for Christmas

The Slovak Institute, a reference library and cultural center located at St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, Oh. offers a variety of items which make perfect gifts during the Christmas season.

Slovak Christmas cards, 10 to a package, are available at the cost of \$10.00, these cards are also available to those residing in Canada at the cost of \$12.00 Canadian. English Christmas cards are also available at \$10.00 for a pack of ten cards. Christmas Oplatky, three to a package are available at \$1.00. A large map of Slovakia including all villages, towns and cities costs \$10.00. Small Slovak flags, 4" x 5.5" are available at \$4.00 each while large flags of Slovakia, 3 1/2 by 5 feet cost \$20.00. Slovak language and history books are also available. "Let's Learn Slovak" 4th edition by Philip A. Hrobak is available at \$5.00 a copy, Slovak Songs and Dances by Michael Sin-

chak costs \$7.00 a copy. Books on Slovak history include: "Slovaks in Florida" by Andrew F. Hudak, Jr., \$10.00; "Humble Beginnings," a Slovak upbringing in Grassflat, Pa. by Anne Lucas Ryba, \$15.00; "Remembrances and Testimony - Dr. Jozef Tiso and the Slovak Republic, 1939-1945 by Karol Murin, \$18.00; "Cleveland Slovaks" by John T. Sabol and Liza Alzo, \$22.00; "History of the Slovaks of Cleveland and Lakewood" by Jan Pankuch \$24.00; "Night of the Barbarians, Experiences under Communism," by Cardinal Jan Korec, S.J., \$28.00 and "Icon of Spring" girlhood memories of Pennsylvania by Sonya Jason, \$10.00. A number of books in Slovak are also available. A booklist is available upon request. Add \$4.00 to cover shipping and handling when ordering any of the above items. Make checks payable to: The Slovak Institute and send same to:

Slovak Institute, 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, OH 44104. For additional information on any items offered by the Slovak Institute call tel. (216)721-5300, ext. 294 or email slovakinstitute@cbhs.edu.

Founded in 1952 by the late Abbot Theodore G. Kojis, O.S.B. and others, the Slovak Institute serves as one of the most important depositories of Slovakianna in the U.S. Andrew F. Hudak, Jr. currently serves as the Institute's director with Joseph J. Hornack as assistant director.

Pumpkins

Pumpkins are 90 percent water. Illinois grows more pumpkins than any other U.S. state.

Many people believe that pumpkins are vegetables, but they are really fruits.

About 90 percent of pumpkins sold in the United States are used for jack-o-lanterns.

Not all pumpkins are orange. Some unique pumpkins are white, yellow, red, tan, green and even blue.

The average sized pumpkin has about one cup of seeds.

There is a word for the fear of turning into a pumpkin; apocolocynosis.

The biggest pumpkin pie on record weighed 2020 pounds. It used 900 pounds of pumpkin, 62 gallons of evaporated milk, 155 dozen eggs, 300 pounds of sugar, 7 pounds of cinnamon, 2 pounds of pumpkin spice, and was placed in 250 pounds of crust. - *Pesel*

Sokol Birthdays

OCTOBER 13

Christine M. Dunleavy, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

OCTOBER 14

Anne Firca, Avon, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

Katherine Zelina, Broadview Heights, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

OCTOBER 15

Msgr. John J. Bendik, Ph.D., Trucksville Pa., a member of Assembly 71, Edwardsville, Pa.

Andrea (Chuba) Kealey Harrisburg Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre Pa.

Stephanie Marie Malyszka, Congers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Maria Mitro, Millis, Mass., a member of Assembly 314, Boston, Mass.

Andrea Singlar, Hillsborough, N.J., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Rev. George Torok, Sparkill, N.Y., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

Elizabeth Zaharek, Torrington, Conn., President of Wreath 86, Torrington, Conn.

OCTOBER 16

Daniel Kowatch, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

OCTOBER 17

Colleen Koval, Hudson, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

OCTOBER 18

Carol Ann Baron, Monon-gahela, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

James J. Dzuricky, Erie, Pa., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

Carl E. Gregor, Farmington, Mich., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Tyler John Kopchak, Park Ridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.

Ann DeSantis Mainiero, Concord, N.C., a member of Wreath 39, Bridgeport, Conn.

Marlene Morris, Chillicothe, Oh., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Glenn P. Smertka, Monessen, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

OCTOBER 19

Joseph Bruno, Sinking Spring, Pa., a member of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

William P. Barber, Forty Fort, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Madeleine Cardamone, Harvest, Ala., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

Margaret A. Dzimiera, Altoona, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

James J. Hildebrand, Youngstown, Oh., a member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Oh.

Holly A. Oliver, Monessen, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

OCTOBER 20

Nicholas A. D'Agostino, Three Bridges, N.J., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Gabrielle Cardamone, Harvest, Ala., a member of Assembly 188,

Lansford, Pa.

James J. Gresko, Stratford, Conn., a member of Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

Joanne F. Koval, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Shirley M. Mascetta, Monessen, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Brother Mario Parisi, O.S.B., Cleveland, Oh., a member of Assembly 303, Cleveland, Oh.

Debra Pudgil, Vista, Ca., a member of Wreath 39, Bridgeport, Conn.

OCTOBER 21

Donald A. Shoemaker, Jr., West Newton, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

OCTOBER 22

Brian Anthony Macurak, Acworth, Ga., a member of Assembly 16, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Laura Ann Polchak, Pueblo, Colorado, a member of Wreath 54, Youngstown, Oh.

Joseph Samsel, Stratford, Conn., a member of Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

Laverne J. Stark, Monessen, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Tyler Evan Szluka, Hopatcong, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

OCTOBER 23

Marilyn S. Becker, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Victoria Bodo, Brooklyn, N.Y., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

James G. Holodak, Jr., Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Remy Olinzock, Star Junction, Pa., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

Adrienne M. Pollack, Cortland Manor, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Frank R. Stolar, Justice, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

OCTOBER 24

Jacqueline A. Bacon, Armonk, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Richard T. Srnka, Erie, Pa., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

Nicholas S. Matuschak, Marblehead, Mass., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

OCTOBER 25

Judy Hromada, Lorain, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

Leslie A. Evanoff, Cambridge Springs, Pa., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

OCTOBER 26

Evelyn Catanzarite, Freedom, Pa., a member of Wreath 85, McKees Rocks, Pa.

Theresa K. Belfance, Saugerties, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Zachary L. Belfance, Saugerties, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Anne A. Bokeko, Medford, N.J., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

Frank Radocha, Allentown, Pa., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

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The 2014 Lúčina Slovak Gala...

An Evening in the Heart of Europe

Saturday, November 8, 2014

Holy Spirit Party Center
5500 W. 54th Street, Parma, OH, 44129

Featuring:

The Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland

Lúčinka Children's Ensemble

Veselica Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Chicago

TICKETS: \$50/Person

\$360/Table of 8

\$40/Person under 21

Limited Seating! Only 300 seats available. Advanced sales only.

No tickets sold at the door.

Ticket includes:

Entertainment

Full-course dinner with 3 entrees & Dessert

Open bar

Followed by live music from Veselica for your dancing and listening pleasure.

Raffles & gift baskets throughout the evening

Doors open: 6:00PM

Dinner: 6:30PM

Program: 7:30PM

For tickets call: Tom Ivanec, 440-668-7797

Christine Matis-Hearn, 440-655-8244

Jenna Allen, 440-439-4119

Held September 27, 2014

Minutes of the Supreme Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting held via Conference Call

FIRST SESSION

Saturday, September 27, 2014 – 10:00 a.m.

Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh **Called to Order** the Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 27, 2014 and greeted all the members of the Board on the call.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic offered the **Opening Prayer** leading the Directors in the reading of the Prayer to Practice the Golden Rule.

Supreme Vice-President, Julie Ann Dobbs led the Board members in reciting the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**.

Supreme Secretary, Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. was asked to take the **Roll Call** and the following members responded:

Supreme Chaplain.....	Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic
Supreme President	Larry M. Glugosh
Supreme Vice-President	Julie Ann Dobbs
Supreme Secretary.....	Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Supreme Treasurer.....	Dennis J. Zifcak
General Counsel.....	John D. Pogorelec, Esq.
Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors.....	Michael J. Horvath
Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics	Edward D. Moeller
Supreme Physical Director.....	Excused
Supreme Physical Directress.....	Kathleen S. Watkins

The record will show that nine members of the Board of Directors are on the Conference Call, and Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich is excused.

Acknowledged.

Also, excused from being on the call is the Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess Jr., F.I.C.

Acknowledged.

President Glugosh informed the Board members that they all have received the **minutes** from our last Board of Director's meeting and entertained a motion for their **acceptance**.

There being no corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes of the Supreme Board of Directors meeting held July 11, 2014 at the Hilton Garden Inn, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and published in the July 30th, 2014 issue of the Slovak Catholic Falcon, General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq. moved for the **acceptance of the minutes**, seconded by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic. Approved.

President Glugosh inquired if any Communications were received for presentation at the meeting.

The Supreme Secretary reported that a written communication was received from the President of Group 2 headquartered in Bridgeport, Connecticut, Sister Eileen S. Wilson on behalf of the officers and members of Group 2, extending their prayers, greetings, and best wishes for a most productive and successful meeting. Acknowledged.

Also, a written communication was received from the President of Group 4, headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, Brother Tony L. Scuglik on behalf of all the Group 4 officers and members extending their greetings, salutations and best wishes to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Supreme Board of Directors for a successful and productive meeting. Acknowledged.

A written communication was received from Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich requesting to be excused from the meeting due to personal reasons.

Acknowledged and Approved.

In addition a written communication was received from our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C. requesting to be excused.

Acknowledged and Approved.

Lastly, a letter of thanks and appreciation was received from Rev. John J. Ryan, C.S.C., Ph.D., the President of King's College in Wilkes-Barre, PA for our generous donation to support the new Jozef Murgas Room Project in the King's on the Square. Our donation will help support a presentation of the important accomplishments of Father Murgas' life. Acknowledged.

President Glugosh thanked the Supreme Secretary and asked that since our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, Jr. F.I.C. is unable to be on the call, would Brother Steve present the **Membership/Sales and Marketing Report**.

The Director of Sales and Marketing, Brother Suess submitted a lengthy written report bringing the Board members up to date with the society's progress. Brother Secretary indicated that as of September 1, 2014, a total of 793 new members have joined our organization this year through the purchase of life insurance and annuity certificates. The total face amount of insurance issued for the first eight months totaled \$42,411,618.00.

Reviewing a year comparison, if our sales continue at the current rate we are projecting to end the year with 1,190 new members. The number of certificates processed out totaled 566 and the difference from the number of issues amounted to a gain of 205 certificates.

The total number of certificates in force as of September 1, 2014 is 31,286 and the total number of members is 28,176. Premium income received totaled \$464,379.00 and Annuity income amounted to \$4,445,068.00

Life insurance sales continue to grow as compared to the same time frame of 2013. In 2014 we have far exceeded all expectations in regard to life sales; however he cautioned that this growth in sales should not be taken for granted, however we will do our best to see that it will continue.

Brother Suess further reported on the analysis of the 2014 New Business, both life insurance and annuities, Sales/Marketing, Sokol Secure Fund, which as of September 15, 2014 totaled \$260,203.91, Sokol Products, expanding state licensing, agent recruitment, reinsurance, administrative software and his activities since our last Board meeting which the Board members reviewed.

In conclusion, Brother Secretary informed the Board members that the Home

Office Staff is to be complimented for their professional efforts and dedication in keeping up with the work load, and the cooperation and understanding of our recommenders and agents is greatly appreciated.

President Glugosh asked for a motion to **accept the Membership/Sales and Marketing Written Report** for discussion purposes, so moved by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, seconded by Supreme Vice-President, Julie Ann Dobbs.

Brother Glugosh offered his comments regarding the success we are having this year improving our membership growth and thanked all those involved. Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic also complimented our Director of Sales and Marketing and the Home Office staff for all of their efforts for the tremendous growth we are experiencing.

All the Board members mutually agreed and shared their comments with the positive results the organization is starting to realize.

After all the comments were addressed, the report was **accepted**. Approved.

President Glugosh expressed his thanks to the Supreme Secretary and to Brother Suess for his extensive report and for a job well done.

The Supreme President then asked Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller to present the **Supreme Physical Fitness Board Report**.

Brother Moeller reported that since our last Board of Director's meeting, we have completed our International Softball Tournament which was held in Wilkes-Barre, PA on July 11-13, 2014. A total of 5 teams participated. The 5 Men's teams participating were two from Group 1 Passaic, NJ, Group 5 Cleveland, OH, Group 6 Perryopolis, PA, and Group 7 Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Tournament Financial Report has been completed and forwarded to Headquarters. A copy of the financial report has also been forwarded to the Falcon for publication. The Womens portion of the tournament was cancelled due to the lack of registrations.

The International Golf Tournament was held on August 1-3, 2014 in West Middlesex, PA. A total of 109 golfers were in attendance for the weekend. The Financial Report is in the process of being completed and will be forwarded to the Home Office. A copy of the Financial will be forwarded to the Falcon for publication. Prize monies will be sent out this week.

The International Clinic/Kurz was held in conjunction with our first ever Youth Camp at Camp Fitch in North Springfield, PA August 14-17, 2014. Everyone who attended indicated they had a wonderful time and the facilities were fantastic.

Brother Ed further reported that the next Annual Meeting of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board is being planned for January 2015 probably in the area where our 2015 Slet will be held and plans should be finalized soon.

Negotiations are in process for all of the 2015 tournaments. Preliminary talks have arisen regarding becoming involved in the joint bowling tournament with other fraternal. Brother Moeller met with representatives from the other organizations on Thursday, September 25th and updated the Board members regarding the discussions that took place. He further indicated that he is in negotiations to take our Softball Tournament back to the Wilkes-Barre, PA area the weekend of June 26-28, 2015. He also stated that he is in the process of finalizing contracts for our Golf Tournament to be held August 14-16, 2015 at Mountain Valley Golf Course in Barnesville, PA.

He further reported that Wilkes-Barre, PA was being considered for the 2015 International Bowling Tournament.

Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh voiced his concern that three athletic events were being planned in the Wilkes-Barre area for 2015 and might it be better to have the Bowling or Golf Tournament in a different location.

Brother Ed indicated that based on the meeting held with the other fraternal organizations, it is possible and he will look into possibly conducting the 2015 Bowling Tournament in Cleveland, Ohio on May 15-17, 2015 either on our own or with one of the other fraternal if they so choose since they did indicate their interest and then maybe in 2016 this can include several other societies.

Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins was asked to report on the Camp and Clinic attendance. Sister Watkins reported that 20 individuals attended the Kids Camp August 14-17, 2014 at Camp Fitch in North Springfield, PA.

Those in attendance had a great time, they were all well behaved and the staff and facilities were excellent for this first time event. Three Groups had individuals attend namely, Group 1, Group 5 and Group 14.

Regarding the International Clinic there were 22 representatives which included 13 women and 9 men. The Male Division had representatives from 5 Groups and the Female Division had representatives from 7 Groups. Everything went well and those who represented their Groups worked hard to prepare for next year's Slet to be held at Slippery Rock University July 14-18, 2015. The facilities which were available were fine, however in the future we would probably return to using those available at the site of our Slets.

Sister Watkins offered comments regarding incorporating a Soccer Program with one of our athletic events and an article will be appearing in the Sokol publication to see what kind of interest there might be from the membership.

Brother Ed thanked Sister Watkins for bringing the Board up to date.

After a lengthy and lively discussion, President Glugosh asked for a motion to **accept the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Report**, so moved by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic, and seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath. Approved.

President Glugosh thanked Brother Moeller and Sister Watkins for their report and asked General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq. for the **Legal Department Report**. Counsel reported that there are four items to report on:

1. Brother John offered comments regarding the recent developments with the continuing litigation between Assembly 206 Ambridge, PA and the Sokol Club which continues according to the Rules of Civil Procedure of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
2. Brother John also reported on the foreclosure proceedings of one of the mortgages that continues to be delinquent, a judgment has been re

(Continued from page 16)

Minutes of the Supreme Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting held via Conference Call

(Continued from page 15)

ceived and a writ of Execution has been signed by the Superior Court and items will be forwarded as required in preparation for a Sheriff's sale to take place in the future.

3. Counsel also informed the Board members that he has received and reviewed the Statement of Operations for the Slovak Catholic Sokol Assembly 261 and Wreath 155, Inc. for the first six months of 2014 and the mortgage payments are being received in a timely manner.
4. Lastly, regarding the Perryopolis mortgage, the final balance of \$100,000.00 was released and the total amount of \$350,000.00 approved mortgage loan will now start paying principal and interest payments effective October 1, 2014. The previous \$250,000.00 was paying payments to the Home Office for interest only and were received.

After a brief discussion regarding the above items, Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh asked for a motion to **accept the Report of our General Counsel**, so moved by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, and seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath. Approved.

President Glugosh thanked our General Counsel for his report and called upon Supreme Vice-President, Julie Ann Dobbs, for the **Report of the Supreme Vice-President**.

Sister Dobbs reported the On-Line process for the Scholarship Program has been revised to address last year's issues; tests have been performed to assure that all items are corrected. The website has been updated and reflects the new dates for the Scholarships. Additionally the Scholarship checks for those receiving grants this year were mailed out by the Home Office in July. Thank you letters and articles/quotes from the recipients have been appearing in the Falcon. Also, the 2014-2015 program opens on November 1st, articles announcing the scholarship program and "how to be successful in completing the scholarship application" will be in the Falcon in October.

Sister Dobbs reported that a thank you letter was sent to PNC Institutional Investments for their generous donation to the Museum Scholarship Fund.

Sister Dobbs asked the Museum Treasurer, Brother Dennis J. Zifcak for the balance in the Museum Account. Brother Dennis stated that the current balance of the Museum Account as of August 31, 2014 amounted to \$15,284.75.

Additionally, Sister Julie informed the Board members that the **Disaster Relief Fund** has a current balance of \$1,565.00, no requests have been received and no change since our last meeting.

Lastly, the **Kids Corner** reading program ended on September 15th, awards and recognition of individuals will occur in October.

Having concluded the report of the Supreme Vice-President, President Glugosh asked for a motion to **accept the report**, so moved by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller, seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak. Approved. President Glugosh thanked Sister Dobbs for her report and asked the Supreme Secretary to present the **Mortgage Department Report**.

Brother Steve reported that as of September 25, 2014 the organization has **5 existing mortgages totaling \$952,311.40** as compared to the last report presented on July 11, 2014 at the last Supreme Board of Directors meeting of 5 mortgages totaling \$855,254.71.

Principal payments received for the nine months of 2014 totaled **\$22,396.44** and **interest payments** totaled **\$29,010.70**. Brother Secretary also reported that no new mortgage applications have been received for presentation. Also, as reported earlier, an additional \$100,000.00 has been released for Assembly 25 in Perryopolis, PA.

Brother Glugosh asked for a motion to **accept the report**, so moved by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath, seconded by Supreme Vice-President, Julie Ann Dobbs. Approved.

President Glugosh thanked the Supreme Secretary for the report and called upon Mr. Thomas Calimano, Market Director/Senior Vice-President, PNC Bank, National Association to report on the **S.C.S. Investment Portfolio**.

Mr. Calimano stated that as of August 31, 2014 the total assets in the account amounted to \$69,774,606.00. The portfolio structure consists of 0.8% or \$587,788.00 in Cash Equivalents, 85.0% or \$59,295,748.00 in U.S. Government/Federal Agencies and Corporate Bonds, 14.2% or \$9,891,070.00 in Equities. Estimated annual income is \$3,012,971.00 or a current yield of 4.30%.

For the eight months ended August 31, 2014, the portfolio's total return was 6.66% versus 3.70% for the Weighted Index. The total portfolio has increased 7.78%, 8.19%, 6.37%, and 7.40%, on a compounded basis, for the three, five, ten and 19 2/3 years ended August 31, 2014 versus the 4.69%, 5.57%, 4.79%, and 6.33% returns on the Weighted Index respectively.

The bond portfolio is a diversified portfolio that is 80.8% invested in corporate bonds and 19.2% invested in US Government and Federal Agency Obligations with an average quality rating of A and an average coupon of 5.17%. This structure led to the continued outperformance of the portfolio versus the benchmark index. During the first eight months of the year the bond portfolio rose 6.31% which outperformed the 4.81% return of the Barclay's Aggregate Bond Index. PNC continues to expect the Federal Reserve will maintain its accommodative policy of low short term interest rates, as measured by the Federal Funds Rate, intact until July of 2015. The Federal Reserve confirmed that it's bond purchases will continue throughout 2014 with its final purchases occurring in early November. The bond portfolio has increased 5.77%, 6.71%, and 5.86% on a compounded basis, for the three, five, and ten years ended August 31, 2014 versus the 2.91%, 4.48%, and 4.72% returns of the Barclay's Aggregate Index, respectively.

Equities had a total return of 9.23% compared with the 9.88% return of the Standard & Poor's 500 for the eight months ended August 31, 2014. The dividend focus strategy, with its focus on value, positions the equity portfolio to invest in companies that have growing earnings which translate into the ability to grow their dividends and have above benchmark dividend yields. The equity portfolio has increased 20.19%, 17.19%, and 8.83%

on a compounded basis, for the three, five, and ten years ended August 31, 2014 versus the 20.61%, 16.88%, and 8.38% returns of the Standard & Poor's 500, respectively. Cash Equivalents returned 0.02% compared to the 0.03% return for the Citigroup 90 day Treasury Bill index for the eight months ended August 31, 2014.

Mr. Calimano further reported that the economy rebounded from a cold induced first quarter contraction to grow 4.2% as measured by GDP on an annualized basis, in the second quarter of 2014. PNC expects the economy to grow 3.5% in the third quarter and 2.2% for the full year led by recoveries in housing, consumer spending and business investment. Inflation, which grew 1.9% in the first quarter of 2014, accelerated to a 2.1% on an annualized rate in the second quarter. PNC, with the combination of a slow first quarter and recovery in the second half expects inflation to remain moderate with a projected increase of 1.9% for the full year 2014. Employment continues to improve averaging 200,000 jobs during the 3 months ended August 31, 2014. PNC expects the unemployment rate to fall to 6.3% by year end 2014 and 5.7% by year end 2015. The combination of a growing employment base, low interest rates and a reduced fiscal drag supports PNC's positive outlook for consumer spending. Additionally, higher levels of disposable income and consumer confidence will support the continued recovery in housing and business investment. The risks to growth in 2014 may arise from the continued increasing world wide geopolitical tensions, unanticipated changes in monetary policy or natural disasters.

We continue to believe equities are neither undervalued nor overvalued. The portfolio's dividend strategy, which invests in companies that have growing earnings and therefore have the ability to grow their dividends positions the equity portfolio to continue to fully participate in the market, manage risk with its focus on value and generate a higher income stream than the benchmark index. Fixed income returns for the balance of the year may be moderate because of an improving economy and the end of bond purchases by the Federal Reserve. Low short term interest rates appear to be in place through year end with the expectation the Federal Reserve will begin raising them in July 2015. Although short rates will rise, we continue to be in a low interest environment with PNC's outlook for the yield on the 10 year US Treasury Bond to be 2.60% at the end of 2014, 3.15% at the end of 2015, 3.60% at the end of 2016 and 4.00% at the end of 2017.

Mr. Calimano concluded his report by discussing the portfolio's current asset allocation, reviewed the historic and the year to date cash flows, the long term growth of the portfolio, the effects of the equity and fixed income market's performance on the portfolio, the investment strategy being employed in the current environment and provided an overall relationship review.

After addressing several questions, President Glugosh asked for a motion to **accept the report**, so moved by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath. Approved. The Board members expressed their thanks to Mr. Calimano and he was then excused from the remainder of the Conference Call.

President Glugosh asked the Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath to review the **2014 Semi-Annual Audit Report**.

Brother Horvath reported that the Audit for the first six months of 2014 was conducted at the Home Office in Passaic, New Jersey on August 18 & 19, 2014. He stated that the report was printed in the September 10, 2014 issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon*. Brother Michael proceeded to review the report and addressed several questions presented by the Board members. Brother Horvath expressed his thanks to the Home Office staff for their cooperation and appreciates the continued efforts of the various Boards to control and reduce many of the expenses which the Auditors truly appreciate.

He did point out this was the first time that the Auditors were conducting the Audit using the print out's from the new computer system and some minor problems were experienced, however these were pointed out and will be corrected by the software provider in time for the Annual Audit for the year 2014.

After a brief discussion, Supreme President Glugosh asked for a motion to accept the report. Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller, moved to **accept the 2014 Semi-Annual Audit Report**, seconded by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic. Approved.

President Glugosh thanked Brother Horvath for his report and inquired if any **Donation Requests** were received to be addressed at this meeting.

The Supreme Secretary reported that **no donation requests** were received for presentation. Acknowledged.

The Supreme President questioned the Board members regarding the Annuity Interest Rate to be offered for the fourth quarter of 2014 on our annuity products.

The Board members briefly discussed the Annuity Interest Rate to be offered, taking into consideration our investment portfolio. Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak moved that we offer the same interest rate for the last quarter of 2014 for the annuities that were offered for the third quarter of 2014 on all our Vantage products, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq. Approved.

President Glugosh questioned if there was any **Unfinished Business** to address.

The Supreme Secretary informed the Board members that on Thursday, October 9, 2014 a **Conference Call** will be held with insurance examiners and representatives of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance which has been done in the past. Also on the call will be our Supreme President, our Director of Sales and Marketing, our Actuary, our Accountant, our Investment Advisor, our Underwriter, and the Supreme Secretary. The 2013 year end results for our organization will be reviewed and the 2014 results through June 30, 2014. The Department will probably question what the outlook for 2015 will be for the organization. Acknowledged.

The Supreme President informed the Board members that our Fraternalist of the Year presentation will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2014 in Douglas, MA. Final arrangements are being made to honor this year's recipient, Brother Roger J. Manyak. Acknowledged.

President Glugosh inquired if there is any **New Business** to be discussed at this time.

The Board members extended their congratulations and best wishes to our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic who was elected to serve as the new National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation. We offer our support for the fine work of the Slovak Catholic Federation. Acknowledged.

Father Andrew thanked the members of the Board and informed them that we should also offer our congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Rt. Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., on the occasion of his installation as the seventh Abbot of Saint Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, Ohio which will take place on Sunday, October 5, 2014.

Acknowledged.

Supreme Vice-President, Julie Ann Dobbs presented two items. Congratulations and best wishes were extended to our Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh on his upcoming Nuptials and the Board members wish him and his family many wonderful and blessed years filled with much love and happiness. President Glugosh thanked the Board for their congratulations.

Secondly, Sister Dobbs informed the Board that usually we review the bylaws for the upcoming Convention and make our recommendations to the bylaw committee.

President Glugosh confirmed that this will be done and we should bring any suggestions or ideas for changes to our December Board meeting and have them discussed at that time.

Both Acknowledged.

President Glugosh offered comments on the attendance of our Supreme Secretary, General Counsel, Director of Sales and Marketing, and himself at the American Fraternal Alliance Annual Meeting held in Austin, Texas. An excellent article authored by our General Counsel also appeared in the September 24, 2014 issue of the Falcon highlighting

the proceedings. A tremendous amount of information was presented during the meeting and will be very helpful to us in the future.

Acknowledged.

President Glugosh informed the Board members of the dates and site for the next **Supreme Board of Directors meeting**. The next quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on December 5-6, 2014 with travel dates being December 4 and December 7, 2014 in Orlando, Florida.

Acknowledged.

Having completed all the business items on the agenda, the Supreme President inquired if there is any other business to be presented at this time, there being none, Brother Glugosh entertained a motion to **adjourn the meeting**, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq., seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller.

Approved.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozovic offered the **Closing Prayer** for all those in need as well as for all the ill and deceased members of our organization.

Acknowledged.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 1:00 p.m. Zdar Boh!

Respectfully submitted,
Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Supreme Secretary

Wreath 22 Spaghetti Luncheon on October 18 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Sokolky of Wreath 22 in Pittsburgh will host their annual Spaghetti Luncheon as a benefit on Saturday, October 18 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, located at 2912 East Carson Street on the city's historic South Side. In addition to the luncheon, there will be an array of interesting activities including bingo, a 50-50 raffle as well as a Chinese auction where you'll find treasures galore. Doors open at 12 noon and the luncheon will be served at 12:30 p.m. An enjoyable afternoon has been planned and we hope to see many of our fellow Sister Sokolky at this event whose proceeds will support our various charities.

For luncheon tickets, call Mary Ann Naple at tel. (412)886-1818. The price remains the same: \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Come join us for an enjoyable afternoon of traditional Sokol fellowship and fraternalism.

Zdar Boh!
Dolly Lutz
Financial Secretary

He sailed on the Cheap
It probably cost about \$7,000 for Columbus to discover America. This figure is based on some of the old documents that have been discovered in the archives of Genoa, Italy.



The value of Columbus' fleet is given as \$3,000; Columbus salary was \$300 a year; his two captains received a salary of \$200 each; and the members of the crew were paid at the rate of \$2.50 a month.

Cheap for an expedition, wasn't it?

Abbey Benefit for Benedictine Order of Cleveland on Nov. 2

The annual benefit in support of the Benedictine Monks of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey of Cleveland, Oh. is scheduled for Sunday, November 2 at the Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 9183 Broadview Road in Broadview Heights, Oh. The theme of this year's benefit is "Benedictine Monks in Parish Ministry Priests for Parishes."

The program begins with a con-celebrated Mass in Assumption Church at 12:15 p.m. with the Rt. Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B. as principal celebrant and homilist. Following the liturgy in the parish hall hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be enjoyed. At 1:45 p.m.,

a bountiful dinner will be catered by Tom's Country Place. Entertainment and recognition will follow. A Slovak raffle will be held. The afternoon concludes with the traditional singing of Ultima by the Monks. An enjoyable time is assured.

Tickets for the benefit dinner are \$75.00 of which \$25.00 is tax-deductible. Reservations of tables of eight are available. Patronage tables, which include guests along with a Benedictine Monk are available. Honoring an individual Monk is \$100.00 all of which is tax deductible. For reservations or additional information on this year's benefit call the abbey at (216)721-5300, ext.0.

Kiska urges Slovaks living in US to present ideas to help Slovakia

(Continued from page 5)

the first cabinet of Prime Minister Robert Fico in 2010 in reaction to Hungary's Dual Citizenship Act. The latter had facilitated the process of acquiring dual citizenship for all ethnic Hungarians in neighboring countries.

"We've concerned about the fact that you're suffering from the consequences of that legislation, which was okayed for a completely differ-

ent reason. We're about to debate a legislative proposal that will enable people who have been deprived of their Slovak citizenship in the meantime to retain dual citizenship. They will be able to reapply for it and should obtain it," said Lajcak.

From New Jersey, Kiska then traveled to San Diego and San Francisco to visit Slovak groups there. He returned to Slovakia on October 2.

Gospel for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year

(Continued from page 4)

"Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?"
Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Our Ever-Popular, 304-Page Sokol Cook Book is Now in its Fourth Edition



For all your fall recipes

Just \$14.50 which includes postage and handling
Sokol Assemblies and Wreaths can order a case of
12 cook books for just \$160.00 – Place your order today!

Make check or money order payable to:

Slovak Catholic Sokol
P.O. Box 899 – 205 Madison Street
Passaic, N.J. 07055

(Canadian orders kindly add an additional \$15.00 for postage)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP _____

NUMBER OF BOOKS _____

(Effective January 1, 2012)

Slovak Catholic Sokol Introduces the Irrevocable Burial Trust Agreement

Protection of assets at any age is important, but especially so when faced with the need for nursing home services, Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income. One option that may help preserve eligibility for services, while at the same time protecting assets from the reach of creditors, is to place your Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy in the Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Trust Agreement.

Upon naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust, as the irrevocable beneficiary, the Trust becomes the Owner of the policy and as Trustee, is obligated to apply the policy proceeds towards burial, funeral, and end-of-life needs up to the face amount of the policy. The benefit of naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust as Owner is that it may help the insured qualify for Medicaid and Social Security Income benefits by preventing the value of the policy from being considered a resource of Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income eligibility.

A further benefit is that the policy proceeds, to the extent they are applied to end of life needs, would in most cases be protected from claims made by creditors, including the state and federal government. Any proceeds unnecessary for burial or funeral expense would be paid to the insured's estate and would then be available to creditor's claims.

Because the policy proceeds are to be applied to the end-of-life needs, the benefits avoid the cost and delay probate, and because they constitute the life insurance proceeds, they are tax free upon death.

The Irrevocable Burial Trust

An Irrevocable Burial Trust is a valuable option that protects your assets that you want to designate for your final expenses. Upon naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust, as the irrevocable beneficiary, the Trust becomes the Owner of the policy and as Trustee, is obligated to apply the policy proceeds towards burial, funeral, and end-of-life needs up to the face amount of the policy.

Types of expenses that qualify for payment from the Irrevocable Burial Trust *

- Funeral home personnel
- Embalming/cosmetology
- Casket and/or other containers
- Clergy honorarium
- Transportation of deceased
- Cremation
- Obituary notices
- Musicians and flowers
- Death certificates
- Other legitimate funeral and burial expenses

* Burial insurance funding should be within the limits of actual funeral costs. Excess proceeds not spent on funeral costs must go back to the estate. Funeral trust burial insurance plans should be used to fund funerals, and not to pass additional money to heirs.

Reasons to choose an Irrevocable Burial Trust rather than a Pre-paid Funeral through a Funeral Home

- If the funeral home goes out of

business you might not be able to recover your money

- The funeral home might be sold or merge with another, less-personal funeral home that you would not want handling your final arrangements, and they might not grant you a refund

• What if you move, making your pre-paid funeral in a certain locality impractical or obsolete?

- A funeral trust allows your arrangements to be handled by anyone you wish, such as your personal representative, a relative, friend, or funeral home – anywhere – at the time of your passing

Simple to establish and no extra charges

Purchase a Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy and we will create your irrevocable burial trust at no charge. The paperwork is simple to complete and we are here to help.

The best time to protect your burial funds is now **

Purchasing an irrevocable burial trust life insurance policy protects your burial funds.

- The Trust is the owner of the policy and the primary beneficiary
- When a claim is paid, the funeral home is paid first
- Any remaining funds are placed into the estate of the insured.

** The representations included herein are not guarantees and do not constitute legal or tax advice. In addition, they do not ensure that the product is appropriate for the client's situation. Before purchasing any life insurance product, we recommend that the client seek the advice of an attorney and accountant.

Protection provided by the Irrevocable Burial Trust

By irrevocably assigning your life insurance policy to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Burial Trust, you receive:

- The ability to exclude your policy as an asset in order to qualify for government assistance programs, Medicaid or Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI). ***
- Policy proceeds are paid to the trust, which then pays your funeral expenses.
- Funds used for funeral expenses are protected from creditors, such as nursing homes, hospital, etc.
- Death benefits used for funeral expenses will avoid probate costs and delays.
- Benefits paid are income tax free. IRV Code Section 101(a)

*** Medicaid (Title 19) rules and laws governing these issues differ by state and change without notice. Before taking any action, we recommend consulting an elder law attorney or professional in your state for advice on your situation

Being Sure

Having the right amount of life insurance or putting money aside to cover your final expenses is the right step. But it's only a first step. You need one more, easy step to protect your burial funds, the Irrevocable Burial Trust through the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

	Stocks, Mutual Funds, Annuity	Slovak Catholic Sokol	Saving, CD Money Market
Benefits Paid Direct for Final	No	Yes	No
Benefits Protected from Creditors	No	Yes	No
Excludes Benefits to Qualify for SSI, VA, Medicaid	No	Yes	No

Completing the Irrevocable Trust Agreement is a Simple Process:

- The Grantor must be both the Insured and the Owner of the policy.
- Only Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policies are eligible.
- The total face amount of the policy or policies in the Trust are limited in amount in most jurisdictions, which allows them to be excluded as a resource in determining eligibility for certain governmental service programs, such as those mentioned above. These limitations vary depending on the state in which you reside and frequently change from time to time, but a \$10,000 limitation is quite common. It is your responsibility to

determine the limitation that would be applicable to you.

- The Contingent beneficiary of the policy or policies placed in the Trust must be the estate of the insured.
- It is important to act quickly, because under IRS rules, death proceeds of life insurance policy given away within three years of the insured's death are automatically included in the insured's gross estate. The accuracy of the representation stated within are not guaranteed by the Slovak Catholic Sokol and are not meant to constitute either legal or tax advice, nor do they insure that this product is appropriate for the client's situation. Before purchasing any life insurance product or creating an Irrevocable Trust, the

client should seek the advice of an attorney or a qualified tax advisor. Laws vary from state to state and are subject to change at any time, which may result in the treatment of this product as being negative to the client's situation.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Trust Agreement is available on new and/or existing Whole Life Policies. If you would like more information regarding this useful option, you can contact your Authorized Slovak Catholic Sokol Agent, the Home Office (800) 886-7656 or the Sales and Marketing Office (888) 381-5431.

A tradition of providing sound financial protection and benefits to our members.



Local SOKOL Golf Tournament

Assembly 261 Wreath 155

SOKOL
Reading, PA

◆ Saturday, October 18th, 2014

◆ 1 p.m. Shotgun Start

◆ The Manor Golf Club

• Food • Drinks • Prizes • Cash Prizes •
All Included!

• \$ 70.00 per golfer •

Sign your foursome up now!

All entries must be received by October 11th

Hole Sponsors (\$40 per hole) and volunteers needed!

Questions or Payment:

• Contact Nancy Webb, nancygolf4me@gmail.com •

• Call the Sokols at (610) 375 – 4500 •

• Ask the on duty bartender •

Foursome Sign Up Sheet

Name	Email or Phone
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____

Please Write Legibly / All entries must be received by October 11th.

Please mail completed foursome sign up sheet, along with payment (\$70/golfer) to:

The Reading Sokols
Attn: Nancy Webb
411 Crestmont Street
Reading, PA 19611

Make Checks Payable to:
Slovak Catholic Sokols

O živote a diele Ignáca Gessaya

Ignácovi Gessayovi, oravskému rodákovi z Tvrdošína, osud nadelil nie príliš dlhý, no o to plodnejší život, ktorý striedavo prežil vo svojej domovine, i na americkom kontinente. Narodil sa v chudobnej roľníckej rodine Jozefa Gessaya a Žofie Gessayovej, dňa 17. júna 1874.



Ignác Gessay
(1874 - 1928)

V tomto roku sme si pripomenuli 140. výročie jeho narodenia.

Základné vzdelanie bolo Gessayovi vstevované v Tvrdošine a v Trstennej, neskôr na učiteľskom ústave v Spišskej Kapitule, i v Jágrí. Profesionálnu kariéru si začal budovať ako učiteľ vo viacerých oravských dedinkách i na Zemplíne (Veľké Zbince, Liesek, Štefanov nad Oravou, Tvrdošín – Krásna Hôrka, Ústie nad Oravou).

Počas vykonávania učiteľskej praxe občasne prispieval do časopisov Dom a škola a Slovenské listy. Vrchnosť mu túto činnosť zakázala a označila ho za „pansláva“.

Gessay odmietol žiť na Orave so „zviazanými rukami“. V tom čase u neho dozrelo rozhodnutie emigrovať na americký kontinent. Začiatkom školského roka 1889, dvadsaťpäťročný Gessay nasadol na loď a vydal sa na cestu do USA. Vo vrecku mal iba zopár drobných a odporúčacie listy od českého slovakofila Karola Kálala a niektorých národovcov. V tej dobe jeho manželka čakala prvú dcéru.

Vďaka odporúčaniam onedlho dostal miesto učiteľa slovenčiny v meste Olyphant (Pensylvánia). Popri pedagogickej činnosti Gessay posielal svoje články do krajských periodík. Jeho prvotiny boli uverejnené v Amerikánsko-slovenských novinách, ktoré v tom čase boli najrozšírenejším periodikom medzi našimi krajanmi v Amerike. Články, ktorými sa Gessay prezentoval, mali taký úspech, že onedlho mu šéfredaktor Amerikánsko-slovenských novin, Peter Rovnianek, ponúkol prácu redaktora v Pittsburghu. Gessayovi sa takto otvorila cesta k jeho ďalšiemu, celoživotnému povolaniu – k novinárčine, ktorej sa venoval po zvyšok svojho života.

Pre veľký úspech Amerikánsko-slovenských novin, ktoré sa stali akousi organizačnou silou Slovákov žijúcich v Amerike, Rovnianek prišiel s myšlienkou pripojiť k novému denníku, ktorý by deň čo deň ponúkal Slovákom žijúcim v Amerike čerstvé informácie. Myšlienka nadobudla reálne kontúry dňa 25. marca 1901, kedy vyšlo prvé číslo Slovenského denníka. Gessay počas rokov 1903 – 1919

vykonával pre denník hlavného i radového redaktora.

Na žiadosť Štefana Furdeka sa v Pittsburghu (4. apríla 1907) stretol výbor zložený z predstaviteľov slovenskej tlače, na ktorom bol účastný aj Ignác Gessay. Výbor odsúhlasil založenie Slovenskej ligy v Amerike manifestom z 30. mája 1907. Gessay bol zvolený do prípravného výboru, ktorý mal za úlohu pripraviť stanov a program Slovenskej ligy.

Popri práci pre Slovenskú ligu v Amerike, Gessay pracoval aj naďalej ako novinár a popri redigovaní Slovenského denníka vzal na svoje plecia, počas obdobia jedného roka (1908 – 1909) aj redigovanie časopisu Rarášek. V roku 1909 založil mesačník pre dospievajúcich s výstižným názvom Mládež, ktorý obsahoval príspevky pre študentov stredných škôl.

Po krachu Slovenského denníka (Rovnianka zasiahla hospodárska kríza) Gessay bez práce dlho neostal. Už v roku 1911 sa zamestnal ako hlavný redaktor Národných novin, ktoré v tom čase mali 28 000 predplatiteľov. Za svojou novou prácou sa presťahoval do New Yorku (1913), kde onedlho založil nové periodikum s názvom New Yorkský denník.

Prvá svetová vojna predurčovala, že sa onedlho budú meniť hranice Európy. Pre Gessaya sa otvorila nová možnosť ovplyvňovať amerických Slovákov ďalším denníkom Denny hlas, ktorý začal vychádzať pod jeho vedením od októbra 1915. Popri redakčnej činnosti postupne pripravoval dohodu medzi zástupcami Slovenskej ligy v Amerike a Českým národným združením, čo viedlo do podpísania Clevelandskej dohody dňa 22.10.1915. Tá určila, že za svoju svojbytnosť budú bojovať Slováci a Česi spoločne.

Hneď na druhý deň po podpísaní dohody bola v Clevelande na Huron Street založená Tlačová kancelária Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, ktorú viedol I. Gessay. Zároveň bol založený Zväz slovenských novinárov. Odtiaľto vychádzali hlavné informácie o postupe frontu i o snahách Slovákov o svoje oslobodenie.

O možnostiach postavenia Slovákov Čechov v spoločnom štáte bolo potrebné rokovať s diplomatmi z najvyšších kruhov českej a slovenskej politiky. V roku 1918 americkí Slováci a Česi prijali návštevu T. G. Masaryka, ktorý vo svojom prejave podporil úplnú samosprávu Slovenska. Vďaka jeho postoju sa začal koncipovať podklad pre ďalšiu z najvýznamnejších dohôd podpísaných na americkom kontinente – pre Pittsburghskú dohodu. Jedným z jej signatárov bol práve I. Gessay.

Nová politická situácia začala postupne predurčovať Gessayov návrt do rodnej zeme. Politické a kultúrne dianie v novom štáte bolo častokrát reprodukované smerom za hranice Č-SR protichodne i nepravdivo. Preto Slovenská liga v Amerike vyslala do Č-SR delegátov, ktorí mali situáciu preskúmať.

Po takmer dvadsiatich rokoch sa Gessay vrátil do Bratislavy, dňa 16. júla 1919. Jeho úlohou bolo zabezpečiť tok informácií i nadviazať

blížišiu spoluprácu medzi slovenskou Amerikou a Slovákmi. Tu pokračoval v naplňaní svojho cieľa, pre ktorý bol vyslaný do domoviny a začal publikovať články, ktoré informovali o Slovenskej lige v Amerike i o živote krajanov v zámorí. V tomto čase sa uskutočnilo aj jeho stretnutie s ministrom Vavrom Šrobárom, na ktorom sa dohodli na zriadení Informačnej kancelárie v Bratislave, ktorá mala za úlohu poskytovať Slovenskej lige v Amerike rôzne priemyselné zvesti. Predpokladalo sa, že vďaka Informačnej kancelárii by sa mohlo na Slovensko vrátiť až 100 000 krajanov z Ameriky, ktorí mali skúsenosti so zakladaním podnikov, obchodovaním a bankárstvom.

Medzi najväčší úspech Kancelárie jednoznačne patrilo odkúpenie a rozparcelovanie takmer 1 603 ha statku, ktorý pod vedením Gessaya americkí Slováci odkúpili a vytvorili si na ňom svoje hospodárstvo. Za jeho pomoci aj pozemky osídľovali a udomácnili sa na nich. Táto osada (časť Malinova) dostala na jeho počesť meno Gessayovo (Gešajov).

Podpora Kancelárie Slovenskej ligy postupne zo strany Slovenskej ligy v Amerike ustupovala. V tom čase, v USA, v Scrantone, Pa., formoval bankár M. Bosák plán na založenie novin Obrana, ktoré mali byť najčítanejším časopisom v USA. Preto sa jeho redakčný tím obrátil na skúseného Gessaya, so žiadosťou, aby do časopisu prispieval aktuálnymi článkami zo Slovenska. Jeho zámer sa mu podarilo naplniť. Obrana, za pomoci Gessaya, bola onedlho najčítanejším periodikom v USA.

Gessay považoval činnosť bratislavskej Kancelárie Slovenskej ligy v Amerike za veľmi prospešnú, so širokým potenciálom pre amerických krajanov i Slovákov. Avšak jeho zámer bolo potrebné ešte viac rozšíriť a najmä podnieť ešte bližšiu spoluprácu Kancelárie so Slovenskou ligou v Amerike. Práve pre tieto dôvody sa Gessay rozhodol založiť sesterskú organizáciu Slovenskej ligy v Amerike na Slovensku. Bola založená 22. októbra 1920 v Bratislave. Jej program bol postavený na moderných demokratických princípoch, na princípe nadstraníckosti i nadkonfesijnosti. Liga vystupovala ako združenie všetkých Slovákov sveta. Od roku 1924 do roku 1928 jeho pričinením vychádzal mesačník Slovenská liga, ktorý Gessay založil, i doň prispieval. Jeho príspevky boli zväčša osvetového charakteru a týkali sa náboru nových členov do Slovenskej ligy. Počas svojho pôsobenia v Slovenskej lige na Slovensku sa zasadil o to, aby liga mala svoju vlastnú budovu.

Gessayovu životnú púť ukončila 12. augusta 1928 o 11. hodine v Bratislave choroba tráviaceho traktu, na ktorú trpel od roku 1927. Jeho pomník je vystavaný z obrovského náhrobného kameňa na Ondrejskom cintoríne v Bratislave. Je symbolom úcty amerických novinárov k jeho životu i dielu.

Na Gessayovom pomníku sa skvie jeho celoživotný krédo: „Ak moja práca vzbudila v niekom zápal o posvätnú našu národnú vec, vtedy nežil som darmo.“

- Zuzana Pavelcová

37. Festival slovenského dedičstva

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

vala Jane Konzelmann. Privítala hostí zo Slovenska a účastníkov festivalu. Potom uviedla Renátu Vasilovú, ktorá viedla predstavenie krojov. Vyše 30 jednotlivcov, najmladších i starších, vystúpilo na javisku v krojoch z rôznych slovenských krajov.

Po prehliadke krojov sa predstavili detské folklórne skupiny Limboráčik a Hlas z New Yorku a Snovrátok z Hillsboro, N.J. Po nich vystúpil hostujúci súbor Kečera zo Slovenska. Nasledovalo vystúpenie známeho fujaristu z Bostonu, Mass. Bohuslava Rychlika, ktorý je veľkým propagátorom fujary v Amerike cez internet (fujara@gmail.com) a na Google. Po jeho vystúpení sa prezident Kiška a jeho sprievod rozlúčili s obecenstvom. Prezident odcestoval ešte v ten deň na západné pobrežie USA,

Slovensko darovalo do USA učebnice slovenčiny

Ministerstvo školstva, vedy, výskumu a športu Slovenskej republiky poslalo americkým Slovákom presne 499 učebnic. Ide o vyraďené knihy slovenského jazyka, literatúry či vlastivedy, ktoré už nie sú v súlade s aktualizovanými učebnými osnovami a čakala ich likvidácia.


„Naším krajanom, študentom Českej a Slovenskej školy v Astórii v New Yorku, ktorí nechcú na Slovensko zabudnúť a o knihy nás požiadať, však ešte výborne poslúžia. V balíku nájdú titu-

ly začínajúce Šlabikárom pre prvákov, až po učebnice pre deviatakov,“ uviedol minister Peter Pellegrini.

Knihy vyzbierali v spolupráci s Generálnym konzulátom Slovenska v New Yorku. Viac ako sto kilogramov vážiace učebnice dopravil do USA vládny špeciál so slovenskou delegáciou pod vedením prezidenta Andreja Kisku, ktorý odcestoval v 22. septembra na Valné zhromaždenie OSN do New Yorku.

Prezident Kiska otvoril v San Diegu centrum pre začínajúce slovenské firmy

Rozšíriť príležitosti pre nové slovenské spoločnosti v USA a pomáhať im v ich začiatkoch je úlohou nového podnikateľského inkubátora Slovak American Innovation Center, ktorý v 29. septembra v kalifornskom San Diegu otvoril prezident SR Andrej Kiska. Centrum by malo po zväžení ich potenciálu podporovať naraz päť až šesť firmiem v začiatkoch podnikania. Založila ho slovenská technologická spoločnosť Eset. Táto firma, ktorá pôsobí celosvetovo a svoje americké sídlo má práve v San Diegu, je podľa Kisku symbolom, že na Slovensku máme talentovaných ľudí aj potenciál pre rozvoj takých odvetví ako informačné technológie.



Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

Slovak Catholic Sokol

ISSN: 0897-8107

Úradný časopis
SLOVENSKÉHO KATOLÍCKEHO SOKOLA
Založený 15. apríla 1911 – Vychádza každú druhú stredu

Majiteľ a vydavateľ:
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

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Všetky články, príspevky a správy treba poslať na adresu:
Editor, Slovak Catholic Sokol, P.O. Box 899
205 Madison Street, Passaic, New Jersey 07055



Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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ÚRADNÝ ČASOPIS SLOVENSKEHO KATOLÍCKEHO SOKOLA - 28 000 ČLENOV - HLAVNÁ ÚRADOVNÁ: 205 MADISON STREET, PASSAIC, NJ 07055 - www.slovakcatholicfalcon.org

VOLUME CIII

PASSAIC, N.J., 8. OKTÓBRA, 2014

ČÍSLO 5027

Prezident Slovenskej republiky Andrej Kiska navštívil 37. Festival slovenského dedičstva v Holmdel, NJ

37. festival slovenského dedičstva, ktorý sa konal v nedeľu 28. októbra v PNC Bank Art Center v Holmdel, N.J., prilákal približne 9 000 účastníkov. Festival navštívil aj prezident Slovenskej republiky Andrej Kiska. V jeho sprievode boli aj podpredseda vlády a minister zahraničných vecí Miroslav Lajčák, americký veľvyslanec v SR Theodor Sedgewick, slovenskí veľvyslanci vo Washingtone a pri OSN Peter Kmec a František Ružička a gen. konzulka SR v New Yorku Jana Trnovcová. V prezidentovom sprievode boli aj viacerí poradcovia prezidenta a ekonomickí odborníci, na čele s bývalým slovenským veľvyslancom v USA Martinom Butorom.

Vo výške 50 potravinových a výstavných stánkoch si návštevníci mohli kúpiť slovenské výrobky, knihy, výšivky, kroje, slovenský krištál, keramiky, výrobky z dreva, videá a typické slovenské a európske pochúťky.

O 11.00 hodine sa konali rímskokatolícke bohoslužby. Sv. omšu celebraval v slovenskej reči spolu s viacerými kňazmi biskup Peter A. Libasci, ktorý je

po matke slovenského pôvodu. Spravuje katolícku diecézu v Manchester v štáte New Hampshire. Slovenskú homíliu mal o. Vladimír Chripko.

Prezident Kiska a jeho sprievod, ako aj biskup Libasci a asistujúci kňazi, mali spoločný obed s členmi organizačného výboru. Pri tejto príležitosti predstavili slovenskej ligy v Amerike a spolupredsedovia festivalu Daniel F. Tanzone, John Duch, Nina Holá, Dr. Mikuláš Halko a Ján Holý odovzdali prezidentovi Kiskovi exemplár knihy Slováci in America a film Slováci v Amerike.

Kultúrny program začal o 2.00 hodine. Radoslav Lesay zaspieval americkú a slovenskú hymnu. Spolupredsedovia festivalu John Duch a Nina Holá privítali prezidenta Kisku a podpredsedu vlády Lajčáka a ich sprievod, ako aj všetkých účastníkov festivalu. Nasledoval príhovor prezidenta Kisku, ktorý sa prítomným príchovoril po slovensky a po anglicky. Vo svojom príhovore okrem iného opísal svoje skúsenosti počas dvojročného pobytu vo Filadelfii, kde ako mladý otec

pracoval v manuálnych zamestnaniach. Vyzval všetkých prítomných, aby nezabúdali na Slovensko a sľúbil, že bude vďačný každému kto príde s novým nápadom ako pomôcť Slovensku. Povedal, že je hrdý na to, že bol zvolený za prezidenta Slovenska, ktoré je krásnou krajinou a úspešne sa zapája do rodiny európskych štátov.

Prítomných pozdravil aj podpredseda vlády Miroslav Lajčák, ktorý povzbudzoval prítomných, aby si v rodinách zachovávali slovenské povedomie, v čom im Slovenská republika chce byť na pomoci. Oznamoval, že priviezli 500 učebníc slovenčiny pre slovenské školy a kurzy v Amerike. Tiež sľúbil, že SR upraví zákon, v zmysle ktorého aj americkí Slováci s dvojítmym občianstvom stratili slovenské štátne občianstvo. Tento zákon bol unáhle prijatý ako odvetá za maďarský zákon, ktorý udelil etnickým Maďarom žijúcim na Slovensku maďarské štátne občianstvo.

Po prejavoch nasledoval kultúrny program, ktorý moderová

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)



Prezident Slovenskej republiky Andrej Kiska (v strede) počas Valného zhromaždenia OSN 23. septembra v New Yorku sa stretol aj s prezidentom USA Barakom Obomom a jeho manželkou Michelle.

- Foto: Facebook A. Kiska

Takmer po 100 rokoch objavili v USA odkaz po vystáhovalcoch zo Slovenska



Pri búraní starej školy Svätého Michala v Jessup, PA našli správu v slovenčine a mince ukryté v malej medenej krabičke. Ide o takmer storočný odkaz od Slovákov, ktorí sa tam kedysi vystáhovali za prácou a lepším životom.

Portál americkej spravodajskej stanice WNEP.com informoval, že malá medená krabička s niekoľkými mincami a poznámkami je z roku 1924, kedy bola budova školy postavená. Upozorňuje, že Američania mali problém zistiť, čo záznamy písané v slovenčine znamenajú. Napokon oslovili jedného z bývalých študentov školy Svätého Michala Bernarda Škovira, keďže slovenčina bola kedysi súčasťou tamojších učebných osnov. Škovir im pomohol s prekladom a ako je zrej-

mé, že ide o písomný záznam krátkej histórie farnosti Svätého Michala Archanjela v meste Jessup.

Vtedy však išlo ešte len o osadu a vystáhovalci zo Slovenska sa rozhodli postaviť si vlastný kostol, keď ich bolo už približne 50 rodín. Takmer po sto rokoch objavená správa odhaľuje, že kostol začali stavať v roku 1896 a obsahuje aj zoznam zakladateľov osady. Na ďalšom papieri sú zas "mená farníkov, ktorí do posviacky tejto budovy vyplatili svoju základninu".

Na mieste zbúranej školy plánujú Američania postaviť ubytovacie zariadenie pre seniorov. Pôjde o komplex 31 bytov, ktoré sú určené ľuďom starším ako 55 rokov. Po objavení malej medenej krabičky tamojší úradníci zvažujú, že čosi podobné umiestnia aj do novej budovy.



Prezident Andrej Kiska (na pódiu) počas svojho príhovoru k účastníkom festivalu.