

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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Scenes of the September 12th Pilgrimage Hosted by the Slovak Catholic Federation at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Slovak Chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows



Donald Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, with concelebrants of the pilgrimage liturgy.



Our Protector and retired Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, Pa., Joseph V. Adamec, third from the left is shown with some of the clergy participants, including, l-r, Rev. Thomas Nasta, Slovak Catholic Federation President and our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, Rev. Richard D. Baker, Abbot Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., and Msgr. Thomas Derzack.



Cardinal Donald Wuerl and Bishop Joseph V. Adamec are shown above with the clergy concelebrants of the pilgrimage liturgy.



Cardinal Donald Wuerl, the Archbishop of Washington, is shown flanked by his secretary, the Rev. Charles Cortinovis, and the Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop-emeritus of Altoona-Johnstown, Pa. in the opening pilgrimage procession.

Our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic at the Mass celebrated by Pope Francis on Sept. 23rd at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.



Photos by Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic

Christmas Oplatky 2015

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 whose cherish this wonderful Slovak faith tradition. Where in previous times, the Oplatky were available at one's local Slovak parish. Sad to say, many of these Slovak parishes have closed or been merged. Today our members reside in all 50 of our states. Preserving this faith tradition is important. Jankola Library accepts orders for Oplatky from October 26 until December 18, 2015.

The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$5.00 per pack. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$6.00 and upwards depending upon the number of packet ordered and the rising costs 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: Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.

(Continued on page 17)

Sokol Calendar

SAT.OCT.24

■ Banquet celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Cleveland Agreement at the Bohemian National Hall, 4939 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, Oh. beginning at 5:30 p.m., entertainment by the Lucina Slovak Dancers; for reservations contact Paul Burik (440)934-4420.

SUN.OCT.25

■ Wreath 1 annual meeting following the Group 2 annual meeting at Holy Name of Jesus Parish Center, 1950 Bamum Ave., Stratford, Conn.
■ 29th annual Czech and Slovak Festival hosted by the Czech and Slovak Heritage Association of Baltimore at the Baltimore 45 Association Hall, 2501 Putty Hill Ave., corner of Old Harford Road, Parkville, Md. 12 noon to 6 p.m., admission \$7.00; ethnic food, exhibits cultural program featuring the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble; for information call (412)662-6094 or (410)243-1710.

■ Children's Halloween Costume Bowling Party hosted by the United Slovak Societies of Lorain for members of S.C.S. Wreath 111 at

the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. beginning at 1 p.m., pizza and treats to follow; sign up sheet at the bowling alleys; deadline for reservations Oct. 19.

SUN.NOV.1

■ 25th Slovak Heritage Festival at the University of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning Commons Room, Pittsburgh, (Oakland) Pa. hosted by the Pitt Slovak Studies Program from 1-5 p.m., cultural displays, lectures, imported Slovak crafts, ethnic food, cultural program; free admission, for information call Christine Metal (412)624-5906.

SAT.NOV.7

■ 91st annual meeting of the New England Fraternal Alliance, New Haven, Conn.

SUN.NOV.8

■ Group 17 annual meeting beginning with Mass at 11 a.m. at St. Matthias Church of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, 915 Cornel Ave., Youngstown, Oh. followed by luncheon and meeting at Bruno's Restaurant, 1984 Boardman-Poland

(Continued on page 3)



SOKOL FRATERNAL BENEVOLENCE - At the meeting of the national board of the Slovak Catholic Federation (SCF), in College Park, Md. on September 11th, Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. presented a check for \$1,000 to Slovak Catholic Federation president and our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic in support of the 2015 edition of The Good Shepherd - Dobry Pastier, the annual of the SCF. Looking on during the presentation are, l-r, Bishop Joseph V. Adamec, Episcopal Moderator of the SCF; Dolores M. Evanko, secretary-treasurer of the SCF; Rev. Msgr. Peter A. Polando, national chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and a past president of the SCF; and Timothy L. Wagner, editor of The Good Shepherd. At this board meeting of the Slovak Catholic Federation, our Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. was honored for his 24 years of faithful service as a member of the SCF board.

Introducing our newest members



Colton Shane Kalinowski, born March 17, 2015, is the son of Stephen and Dayna Bost Kalinowski of Pittsburgh, Pa. He was enrolled as a member of Assembly 16 in Pittsburgh, Pa.



Bruno Joseph Shopa, born May 21, 2013, is the son of Timothy DeLaurentis and Laura Caspi Shoppa of New York, N.Y. He was enrolled as a member of Assembly 48 in Philadelphia, Pa.



Savannah Claire Dedes, born June 10, 2015, is the daughter of Ryan and Mary Beth Bielewicz Dedes of South Fayette, Pa. She was enrolled as a member of Wreath 22 in Pittsburgh, Pa.



George Thomas Shopa, born July 14, 2014, is the son of Thomas John and Valeriya Neikova Shopa, Jr. of Chadds Ford, Pa. He was enrolled as a member of Assembly 48 in Philadelphia, Pa.



Tess Tombros Vallance, born June 3, 2015 is the daughter of Anthony and Allison Iancule Vallance of Trumbull, Conn. She was enrolled as a member of Wreath 1 in Bridgeport, Conn.



Zoe El-La Holleran, born April 8, 2015, is the daughter of Patrick and Shawna Cooley Holleran, of Vancouver, Wash. She was enrolled as a member of Assembly 36 in Detroit, Mich.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 4TH

In keeping with our biweekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, November 4th. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, October 29th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovak-catholicfalcon.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh! — **Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor**

Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 2)

Road, for reservations call Carol Gonda (330)783-0173.

■ Wreath 54 annual meeting at Bruno's Restaurant, Route 224 in Poland, Oh. following the deliberations of the Group 17 annual meeting.

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

■ Annual benefit dinner in support of St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland at the Church of the Assumption, 9183 Broadview Rd., Broadview Heights, Oh., Mass at 12:15 p.m., reception, dinner and program in the parish social hall, tickets \$75.00 for reservations call 216-721-5300.

■ Group 18 annual meeting beginning with attendance at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at the Church of St. Katherine Drexel, Lansford, Pa. followed at 12 noon by meeting and luncheon at the Viennese Villa Restaurant, Coal Dale, Pa., make reservations with John Orsulak 570-645-5344, email orsuljc@ptd.net or Joseph Kociscin 732-572-3234 email jkkociscin@optonline.net; annual meetings of Assemblies 188 and 110 and Wreath 157 will follow Group annual meeting luncheon; luncheon is free of charge for members, guests welcome at a fee of \$12.00.

MON.NOV.9

■ Group 14 annual meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 7 p.m.

SAT.NOV.14

■ Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland benefit "An Evening in the Heart of Europe" featuring dinner and cultural program celebrating Slovak music and dance at the Holy Spirit Party Center, 5500 West 54th St., Parma, Oh., dinner at 6:30 p.m. followed by cultural program at 7:30 p.m., tickets \$50.00 per person, advance reservations only, call Tom Ivanec (440)668-7797.

SUN.NOV.15

■ 33rd annual St. Martin Day Celebration hosted by Group 2 in Stratford, Conn. beginning with Mass at 11 a.m. at Holy Name of Jesus Church, 1950 Barnum Avenue, reception and luncheon to follow at the Blue Goose Restaurant; tickets \$32.00 members and \$42.00 guests; for reservations call Eileen S. Wilson (203)378-8837, deadline for reservations is October 25.

SUN.DEC.6

■ Wreath 81 annual meeting and Christmas party at Johnel's Restaurant, 4141 Calumet Ave., Hammond, Ind. beginning at 12:30 p.m.; cost for members is \$10.00, guests welcome at \$15.00; for reservations call Audrey Filipek 219-659-6444.

■ Group 17 children's Christmas party hosted by Wreath 54 and Assemblies 108 & 107 at Camelot Bowling Lanes, 628 Bordman-Camfield Rd., Boardman, Oh. from

(Continued on page 16)



Fraternal Activities in Connecticut

Group 2 Corner

by Eileen S. Wilson

Join Hands Day

Continuing in the Join Hands Day effort of the fraternal benefit system in the United States, we are pleased that SCS Assembly No. 9, Inc. and Wreath 1 of Bridgeport, Conn. participated recently. Our project this year extended to Saint Catherine Center for Special Needs and the students at their academy in Fairfield, Conn. The students, with the assistance of volunteers continue the tradition of Peanut Butter and Jelly Friday on the third Friday of each month. Some 300 sandwiches are prepared for distribution for the needy at the Thomas Merton Center. Students, accompanied by staff members then deliver the sandwiches make it possible for them to see who benefits from their efforts. It's a wonderful outreach tradition to the area's needy.

Assembly No. 9, Inc. donated 100 jars of peanut butter and 100 jars of jelly, while Wreath 1, the oldest female lodge in our organization, made a monetary donation for sandwich bread. For nearly a quarter century, local members of fraternal lodges have participated in the Join Hands Day effort which seeks to mirror a spirit of caring and sharing among the needy in local communities.

While delivering the PB & J, we heard about the Center's annual "Joy and Gratitude" dinner which affords an opportunity to raise funds and have some fun doing it. This benefit dinner was held in June, and once again our good friends came through and donated some unique items for the silent auction. Our heartfelt thanks and gratitude go out to the following: Madaline Adzima of the Crafters at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Stratford who donated a "Minnie Mouse Afghan;" Betty Russo also of the Holy Name Crafters, who donated an "Ocean Blues" quilt; Judy Salamon, who donated a "Peaches and Cream" afghan; and a king size "Shades of Autumn" afghan donated by the Beautiful Women Group of Christ the Redeemer Church.

Kudos to Helen Burland, Executive Director of the Center, Brian Farrell, Director of Education for the Academy, the staff, the volunteers, and especially the students who should be an inspiration to all of us. Thank you for making our outreach this year such a memorable one! Last but not least, our sincere thanks to the grocery managers at the Fairfield and Shelton ShopRites who expedited the purchase, check-out and loading of our care with the PB & J. We are proud of our Group 2 efforts in promoting outreach celebrating the Join Hands Day effort.



Helen Burland, Executive Director of the St. Catherine Center for Special Needs in Fairfield, Conn. and **Brian Farrell**, Director of Education at St. Catherine Academy, are shown above receiving the donation of Peanut Butter and Jelly, a gift of SCS Assembly No. 9, Inc. and Wreath 1 as part of this year's Join Hands Day effort.

Spectacular Catch Sokol

Well, he did it again! Roland Joseph Wilson of Assembly 9 on board of a local chartered fishing boat out of Pompano Beach, Florida, where the family has a Condo and an enjoy school, summer and winter vacations away from home, which is Houston, Texas, the only young man on the boat caught the "first fish," the "most fish" and the "largest fish." He also won the pool.

Roland Joseph and his catch.



(Continued on page 18)



REFLECTOR ...

Notings from Sokol and Slovak life

Abbey Benefit for Benedictine Order of Cleveland on Nov. 8

It is fitting that as the Church concludes the Year of Consecrated Life as proclaimed by Pope Francis, the Benedictine Monks of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey in Cleveland host their traditional benefit on Sunday, November 8. The benefit in support of the ministry of the 92-year-old Cleveland Benedictine community will be held at the Parish of the Assumption located at 9183 Broadview Road in Broadview Heights, Oh. The theme of this year's benefit is "A Consecrated Life."

The program begins with a concelebrated Mass in Assumption Church with the Rt. Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.B.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey as principal celebrant and homilist. Following the liturgy, in the parish social hall, hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be enjoyed. At 1:45 p.m., a bountiful dinner provided by Marigold Catering will be served. Entertainment will feature Ralph Szubski, the Accordion Man & The Party Band as well as the traditional recognition will follow. At 2:45 p.m., the principal address will be given by Abbot Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B. The afternoon's program concludes with the singing of Ultima by the Monks followed by a Slovak Raffle. An enjoyable afternoon in support of our Benedictines who have been an important component of ministry to the American Slovak community over the years, is assured.

Individual tickets for the benefit are \$75, of which \$25 is tax-deductible. Reservations of tables for eight are available. Patronage tables, which include guests along with a Benedictine Monk are available. Honoring an individual Monk is \$100, 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.

Newest edition of Slovakia published by the Slovak League of America

The Slovak League of America, a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry, is pleased to announce the publication of the 2015 edition of Slovakia, a scholarly annual devoted to the history, literature and culture of the Slovaks the world over. Editing this year's edition is Dr. M. Mark Stolarik, professor and chairholder of the Chair in Slovak History and Culture at the University of Ottawa.

This year's Volume XLII, numbers 78-79 includes interesting and informative articles related to Slovak history by scholars and authors as well as book reviews. Contributors of this year's edition include Rebekah Klein-Pejsova of Purdue University; Dr. Stefan Kucik of the faculty of education at the Catholic University in Ruzomberok in Slovakia; Dr. Miroslav Michela, an assistant professor at the Institute of Czech and Slovak History at Charles University in Prague and a Senior Researcher at the Institute of History, Slovak Academy of sciences in Bratislava, Slovakia; and Dr. Dalibor Mikulas, a linguist who specializes in English at the University of Zilina in Slovakia. Also contributing to this year's edition are Tom Nicholson, an investigative journalist for the daily Sme in Bratislava; and Professor Marian Mark Stolarik, who before being named the Chairholder of Slovak Culture and History in Ottawa served as president and CEO of the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies in Philadelphia.

This scholarly annual was founded by the Slovak League of America in 1951, initially as a quarterly and later as an annual, to promote a better understanding and appreciation for Slovak culture and history. The 2015 edition of Slovakia is available at just \$10.00 per copy, postage included. Write: Slovak League of America, 205 Madison St., Passaic, N.J. 07055. Make check payable to Slovak League of America. Slovakia makes for the perfect Christmas gift to those interested in learning more about their rich Slovak heritage and culture.

25th Slovak Heritage Festival set for Nov. 1 at the University of Pittsburgh

An historic milestone will be observed on Sunday, November 1 as the Pitt Student Slovak Club and the Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh hosts its 25th Slovak Heritage Festival. The annual celebration of

Slovak culture and heritage takes place from 1 to 5 p.m. and is held in the Commons Room of the Cathedral of Learning on the University of Pittsburgh campus in the Oakland section of the city. A quarter century ago, the festival was conceived by a group of students who wanted to share their interest in the Slovak and American Slovak culture with the local community. As in previous years, the festival will be the culmination of much hard work, effort and time in the promotion of our Slovak heritage. An enjoyable afternoon is assured.

Throughout the festival there will be an array of interesting and colorful displays and lectures on topics of interest from Slovak culture and history. Traditional Slovak culinary specialties will be enjoyed throughout the afternoon. In addition, a bake sale featuring traditional Slovak pastries will be available. The cultural program will feature an array of Slovak talent exhibiting the rich music, song and dance traditions of the various regions of Slovakia. Participants will include the Pittsburgh Slovaks, the PAS (Pittsburgh Area Slovaks) Ensemble, the Slavjane Folk Ensemble along with The Singing Revilak Family from Bardejov, Slovakia. The popular folk singer from Slovakia, Jozef Ivanka will entertain with an array of popular songs. A demonstration of the unique Slovak folk instrument, Fajara by Ben Sorenson will be featured. The festival provides an wonderful opportunity to savor and enjoy Slovak culture at its best. There is free admission and plenty of available parking. For additional information on this year's festival contact Festival Director Christine Metil at tel. 412-624-5906 or email at Slavic@pitt.edu.

Upcoming events hosted by the United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Oh.

More than three quarters of a century ago, the local lodges of our Slovak fraternal banded together and saw the construction of the American Slovak Club as a venue of activities for the area's Slovak community. The American Slovak Home continues to host numerous activities for every member of the family. Invited to participate are members of our Slovak Catholic Sokol, Wreath 111 as well as the members of Branch 228 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Branch 114 of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Assembly 160 of the National Slovak Society as well as members of Branch 177 of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union.

The first activity of the new fall season hosted by the United Slovak Societies will be a Children's Halloween Costume Bowling Party for youngsters age 16 and younger on Sunday, October 25 beginning at 1 p.m. Following bowling on the on the lanes, the group will enjoy pizza and treats. A signup sheet may be found at the American Slovak Club's bowling alleys or in the bar area. Reservations are necessary. Deadline for reservations is Monday, October 19.

Continuing with are beloved Slovak Christmas faith traditions, the popular Slovak Christmas Eve - Vilija dinner will be held on Sunday, December 6. Cocktails are scheduled for 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. All the foods enjoyed at the Christmas Eve supper in a Slovak home will be enjoyed. Entertainment will be provided by violinist Jozef Janis along with our special guests the Celebration Ringers. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and a cash bar will be available. Advance ticket sales only. For reservations, call Len at 440-988-3236. An enjoyable evening is assured.

The American Slovak Club is also seeking children and juniors to participate in the club's Bumper and Slovak Junior Bowling Leagues held at the alleys of the club. Those interested in joining their leagues should contact the Slovak Club alleys at 440-244-1293 or visit their website, www.americanslovakclub.com.

The American Slovak Club has enjoyed a proud history. It continues to host activities for every member of the family, celebrating our Slovak traditions and heritage. We hope to see many of our Lorain Sokols and Sokolky at upcoming activities hosted by the club.

Zdar Boh! - **Michele Mager**, Secretary, United Slovak Societies



The Word
of God...

Gospel for the 26th Sunday of the Year - October 25th

Mark 10:46-52

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Mark

As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me." And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he kept calling out all the more, "Son of David, have pity on me." Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Feast of All Saints - November 1st

Matthew 5:1-12a

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

From the Desk of the Supreme President

Thoughts on Fraternalism

by Larry M. Glugosh

With the fall weather upon us, it is wonderful to see all the positive changes happening. The trees are vibrant with their autumn colors and the air is crisp and fresh. Food seems to taste better in October and the wine and family gathering are happy and full of great stories and activities. For those of us who like sports, the baseball playoffs have begun and yes, we are all big Toronto Blue Jay fans in Canada even though the NHL hockey season has kicked off another year. Regardless of your interest, it is a great time of the year and provides us some quality family time to discuss the day's events and talk about things that will be happening in the coming months.



For our family, this time of the season always makes us count our blessings and we look for opportunities to demonstrate more kindness and love. In fact, in Canada we are now celebrating the Thanksgiving season and many will go out and provide their time and energy to help those less fortunate. We can work at food banks or shelters, veteran centers or just do something nice for someone in your parish or community. Fraternalism is about sacrifice and giving back to those in need. It is not a monetary issue but rather an offering of compassion and love for someone who is less fortunate than us. I hope you take the opportunity to "give back" to your community, which will be significant to those individuals that you touch through your generosity, love, compassion and kindness.

During this time of the year it is also a wonderful opportunity for reflection and prayer to give thanks to God for our many blessings. As I mentioned at my opening remarks at the National Convention, we have all experienced some form of loss and pain. It is a fact of life that we will lose loved ones throughout our lives. However we will also meet new and wonderful people that will enrich our lives and bring joy to our hearts again. It is at these times that we need to praise God for all of His many blessings and miracles.

With this in mind, I would like to express my congratulations to our newly elected Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec and his lovely fiancée Maggie, who have selected their special date for their wedding. Many of you met this beautiful young lady at the Convention, where she worked diligently on behalf of the delegates, alongside her soon to be new Mother in Law, Annie. They are a special couple and have so much to be thankful for this time of year. I am very happy to see this young couple together and wish them a lifetime of happiness, good health, mutual respect and love. I also pray they will be blessed with many beautiful "little angels" in their life journey together.

In closing, I wish all of our members continued good health and

(Continued on page 14)

Children's Christmas Parties set

Pittsburgh, Pa. - Assembly 16 and Wreath 22 will host its traditional Christmas party for junior members, ages 0-12 on Saturday, December 12 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, located at 2912 East Carson Street on Pittsburgh's South Side. Doors open at 12 noon and festivities begin at 1 p.m. Children who will participate need to be registered. Registration will be held every Wednesday and Thursday evenings at the Sokol Club beginning September 23rd until November 25th. Those who wish to call in registrations may do so by contacting Carmella(Suess) Marzec at tel. 412-414-9249 or email: suesscm@gmail.com. Due to space limitations, a limit of 150 children has been set for the party. Therefore, the first 150 children to register are welcome to participate. Therefore, early registration is recommended. No names will be taken after November 25th. Refreshments will be served along with entertainment. The highlight of the afternoon will be the visit from Santa himself. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. Continuing in our outreach tradition and spirit of caring and sharing, we ask that participants consider bringing along non-perishable food items which will be given to our local food pantry. We look forward to another year of fun during this holiday season in the best traditions of Pittsburgh Sokol fellowship and fraternalism.

Zdar Boh!
Carmella(Suess)Marzec
Chairperson

Youngstown, Oh. - The annual Group 17 Children's Christmas party hosted by Wreath 54 and Assemblies 108 and 107 is scheduled for Sunday, December 6 at the Camelot Bowling Lanes, located at 628 Boardman-Canfield Road in Bordman, Oh. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. and will conclude at 3 p.m. An afternoon of fun and fraternalism has been planned. Members can enjoy two hours of bowling followed by pizza, pop and other refreshments. The highlight of the afternoon will be the visit from Santa who will have gifts for all the youngsters. Reservations are necessary to insure the success of the party. Parents should call Edie Babik at tel. 330-782-9555 indicating the number of youngsters who will attend. Deadline for party reservations is November 30. An enjoyable afternoon is assured in the best traditions of Group 17 Sokol fellowship and fraternalism.

Zdar Boh!
Edie Babik
Wreath 54



Slovak Catholic Sokol College Scholarship-Tips for Success

I just wanted to take a moment to highlight the recent changes made to the Slovak Catholic College Scholarship Program. We will continue to use a completely on-line process as we have had few issues with the process over the past several seasons. With the help of our technical webmaster, we have redesigned the application process and you should find it to be much more user friendly. You will find the on-line application on our website at www.slovakcatholicssokol.org beginning November 1, 2015.

To be best prepared for this process a successful applicant should:

- Review the application on-line for required content and gather prior to beginning to complete the form
- Be prepared to attach both your essay (in PDF or Word format) and a color head and shoulders picture of yourself (in .jpeg format).

Please note, you may want to print a copy for your records prior to submitting. All applicants will receive automatic confirmation that their e-mail has been received.

It really isn't that difficult to qualify for one of our many college scholarships. With now four years of the new College Scholarship Application process behind us, it is clear that there are a few ways to assure that your application will be reviewed.

1. Answer all questions on the application.

For example- if something does not apply to you- say N/A. If you are fully independent from your parents- as in, you are not claimed by them on their tax return, you should indicate that in the space asking for total parent income. Leaving this blank does not tell the whole story.

2. Include all requirements for the application- i.e. photo; transcript; essay

Start the process for requesting your transcript NOW. I have found that sometimes this is the hold up for some applicants.

- Transcripts- please note that "official transcript" means that you have requested it from your University or College and that it has been sent directly to me in a sealed envelope. We have not been as strict in the past on this issue, but began holding each applicant to this requirement last season and will continue to do so moving forward.

3. Submit all required elements prior to the deadline.

The application is clear and I just want to prevent a waste of your time and energy.

Failure to include/complete any of the above items will result in the application being disqualified. To be honest, it is not easy for our committee when we need to disqualify applicants for simple yet important missing requirements.

Lastly, apply for all college scholarships for which you qualify in order to give yourself the best chance at receiving something. There were several applicants who limited themselves to a particular scholarship. Competition was fierce for the larger \$ scholarships, but there seems to be more opportunity with the other scholarship offerings.

Not every applicant receives a scholarship every time they apply. If you have not received one in the past, I encourage you to apply again this year. Before submitting your application- take some time to review the bullet points above in order to assure that your application will be included for consideration.

Good luck and Zdar Boh!

Julie Ann Dobbs

Supreme Vice President

Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee

New Members Submitted

September 1 - 30, 2015

ANNUITY

RECOMMENDER	CITY/STATE	FACE AMOUNT	NEW MEMBERS
Joyce D. Kish	Cleveland, OH	\$15,000	1
<i>Annuity Totals</i>		\$15,000	1

RECOMMENDER	CITY/STATE	FACE AMOUNT	NEW MEMBERS
Dennis J. Zifcak	East Douglas, MA	\$ 25,000	1
James T. Genosky	Minneapolis, MN	10,000	2
James V. Iancule, Jr.	Bridgeport, CT	10,000	1
Stephen J. Sabol, Jr.	Lilly, PA	10,000	1
Dolores A. Yankoski	Dunlo, PA	5,000	1
Edoth M. Babik	Youngstown, OH	5,000	1
Marguerite Walls	Detroit, MI	5,000	1

Life Insurance Totals \$70,000 8

Recommender Totals \$85,000 9

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Held September 26, 2015

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

FIRST SESSION

Saturday, September 26, 2015 – 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 26, 2015 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 and a prayer for Pope Francis safety.

Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins 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	Excused
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 eight members of the Board of Directors are on the Conference Call, and Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak and Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich are excused. Acknowledged.

Also, 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 Directors' 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 June 13, 2015 via a Conference Call and published in the July 1st, 2015 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, written communications were received from the Supreme Treasurer and Supreme Physical Director requesting to be excused from the Conference Call due to personal reasons. Acknowledged.

President Glugosh thanked the Supreme Secretary and asked our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, Jr. to present the **Membership/Sales and Marketing Report**.

The Director of Sales and Marketing, Brother Suess reported that as of August 31, 2015, a total of 550 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 \$17,206,231.00.

The total number of certificates in force as of August 31, 2015 is 31,952, consisting of 31,273 life insurance certificates and 679 annuity certificates and the total number of members is 28,374. Premium income received totaled \$677,486.00 and Annuity income amounted to \$4,438,910.00.

Brother Suess reported for the first eight months of 2015, there were 289 deaths, 4 certificates matured, 69 cancelled, 27 expired, 147 were surrendered and 78 certificates lapsed for a total loss of 614 certificates. The overall gain/loss of life certificates was a negative 86.

Brother Suess further reported on the analysis of the 2015 New Business, both life insurance and annuities, Sales/Marketing, Sokol Secure Fund, which as of August 31, 2015 totaled \$483,064.00, Sokol Products, expanding state licensing, agent recruitment, reinsurance, administrative software and his activities since our last Board meeting which the Board members reviewed.

Several questions were presented and addressed during the presentation to the satisfaction of the Board members.

President Glugosh then asked for a motion to **accept the Membership/Sales and Marketing Report** so moved by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath, seconded by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins. Approved.

President Glugosh expressed his thanks to Brother Suess and 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 Directors meeting, the Financial Report for our Bowling Tournament was completed and forwarded to Headquarters. A copy of the Financials also appeared in the *Falcon* for publication. The final results were placed on the website and in the *Falcon*.

The International Slet was held in Slippery Rock, PA at Slippery Rock University July 15th–19th. This was a great time for our youth and the facilities were fantastic. Con-

gratulations to Group 14 Pittsburgh on capturing the International Flag. The full results were placed in the *Falcon* and on the website.

The International Golf Tournament was held on August 14th–16th at Mountain Valley Golf Course in Barnesville, PA. A total of about 84 golfers were in attendance for the weekend. The final results have been forwarded to the *Falcon* and the website for publication. The Financial Report is being completed and will be forwarded to Headquarters with a refund check soon. A copy of the Financials will be forwarded to the *Falcon* for publication. Prize monies will be sent this week.

Discussions are in process to schedule our next Physical Fitness Board meeting in January 2016. These plans should be finalized soon. This will be done in conjunction with the new Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics.

Negotiations are in process for the Bowling & Golf Tournaments for 2016. Discussions are moving forward with once again combining our bowling tournament with the Greek Catholic Union (GCU) in 2016. Airport Lanes in Buffalo, New York have been reserved for the weekend of May 20–22, 2016. Calls are being made to hotels in the area for housing and banquet purposes.

Brother Ed is in the process of finalizing contracts for the Golf Tournament to be held at Treasure Lake Golf Course in Dubois, PA. There has been a change in management there and he has reached out to make sure they still have us in their plans for 2016. He has not heard back yet but will continue to follow up.

Supreme Physical Directress Kathleen S. Watkins offered her comments regarding the highly successful Slet which was held in Slippery Rock and articles have been published in the *Falcon* publication. Several sites are being considered for next year's Clinic and 2017 Slet. Also, Sister Watkins reported that the Board would be reviewing the Pilot Program of the Camp which would not be held in conjunction with a Clinic or possibly not at all.

Supreme Secretary, Brother Pogorelec informed Brother Moeller that the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota) is very much interested in participating in a joint Golf Tournament as was previously done and efforts should be made to include them along with the Greek Catholic Union as arrangements are being made.

After a lengthy and lively discussion, President Glugosh then asked for a motion to **accept the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Report**, so moved by Supreme Vice-President, Julie Ann Dobbs, and seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq. 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 several items to report on:

1. Brother John offered comments regarding the Sokol Club in Ambridge, PA and our intention to have this property sold as soon as possible. We should get a Real Estate Broker and have the building and property put on the market for sale.
2. Brother John also reported that he has met with the Bylaw Committee to approve and finalize the new bylaws approved at the 2015 Convention. Also, Brother Counsel met with the committee to approve the final session of the Convention and approval of the Convention minutes for publication in the *Falcon*.
3. Lastly, Counsel informed the Board members that he met with the Supreme Secretary and an interested party to rent the vacant office space on the first floor and discuss their intentions. However, although they were very much interested, they decided not to rent the space after all.

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 Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic, and seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller. 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 is being updated to reflect the upcoming season and various due dates. Additionally the Scholarship checks for those receiving grants this past 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 2015–2016 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.

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.

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

Lastly, in her future role as the Chairperson of the **SKS 2020 Committee**, she is planning an article in October to recruit potential members from Groups other than Group 1, 4 and 7. Other ideas and recommendations were presented relative to this committee and would be addressed by the new Board of Directors who will also consider the future budget for this committee.

Having concluded the report of the Supreme Vice-President, President Glugosh asked for a motion to accept the report, so moved by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller. 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 23, 2015 the organization has **3 existing mortgages totaling \$780,366.44** as compared to the last report presented on June 13, 2015 at the last Supreme Board of Directors meeting of 3 mortgages totaling \$791,144.78.

Principal payments received for the nine months of 2015 totaled **\$26,713.82** and **interest payments** totaled **\$36,813.09**. Brother Secretary also reported that no new mortgage applications have been received for presentation.

Brother Glugosh asked for a motion to **accept the report**, so moved by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller, seconded by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic. 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, 2015 the total assets in the account amounted to \$72,553,107.00. The portfolio structure consists of 3.3% or \$2,383,378.00 in Cash Equivalents, 82.9% or \$60,110,841.00 in U.S. Government/Federal Agencies and Corporate Bonds, 13.8% or \$10,058,889.00 in Equities. Estimated annual income is \$3,106,688.00 or a current yield of 4.30%.

For the eight months ended August 31, 2015, the portfolio's total return was -0.63% versus 0.50% for the Weighted Index. The total portfolio has increased 4.20%, 6.11%, 5.90%, and 7.05%, on a compounded basis, for the three, five, ten and 20.6 years ended May 31, 2015 versus the 3.13%, 4.30%, 4.52%, and 6.08% returns of the Weighted Index respectively. The portfolio performed well during a period of increased volatility in the equity markets and spread widening in the fixed income market. The equity markets were roiled by a slowdown in China's economic growth, concerns over a rise in interest rates domestically and world wide geopolitical unrest. Bond investors fled to the safety of US Treasury obligation causing spreads to corporate debt to widen. While investors continue to expect interest rates to rise domestically, we continue to be in a low interest rate environment. The bond portfolio is 83.8% invested in corporate bonds and 16.7% invested in US Government and Federal Agency Obligations with an average quality rating of A and an average coupon of 5.01%. The portfolio's fixed income strategy continued to focus on investing in quality bonds, with attractive coupons tempered by maturity and yield. During the eight months ended August 31, 2015 the bond portfolio was flat with a total return of -0.02% which compared to the 0.45% return of the Barclay's Aggregate Bond Index. PNC's forecast, since the Federal Reserve took no action at their September meeting, is that short term interest rates, as measured by the Federal Funds Rate, will be increased in December 2015. The portfolio's annualized income as of May 31, 2015 was \$3,106,688. The bond portfolio has increased 2.80%, 4.53%, and 5.55% on a compounded basis, for the three, five, and ten years ended August 31, 2015 versus the 1.53%, 2.98%, and 4.46% returns of the Barclay's Aggregate Index, respectively. Equities had a total return of 4.55% versus the -2.88% return of the Standard & Poor's 500 and the -6.12% return of the Russell 1000 Value Index for the eight months ended August 31, 2015. The portfolio which utilizes a dividend strategy has an average yield of 3.2% versus the S&P 500's yield of 2.2%. This strategy, is a value strategy, which positions them with the ability to grow their dividends and have above benchmark dividend yields. The strategy positions the equity portfolio to outperform when stocks decline while fully participating in advancing markets. The equity portfolio has increased 12.52%, 15.86%, and 7.58% on a compounded basis, for the three, five, and ten years ended May 31, 2015 versus the 14.31%, 15.87%, and 7.15% returns of the Standard & Poor's 500, respectively. Cash Equivalents returned 0.01% compared to the 0.01% return for the Citigroup 90 day Treasury Bill index for the eight months ended August 31, 2015.

The domestic economy rebounded during the second quarter of 2015 expanding 3.9%, as measured by GDP. PNC expects the economy to continue its rebound in the third quarter and second half of the year led by consumer spending, a moderate recovery in housing and improved business investment. Inflation as measured by the CPI remains subdued and was cited by the Federal Reserve as one of the reasons they did not increase interest rates in September. The Federal Reserve's target inflation rate is 2%. PNC 2015 forecast for inflation, as measured by the CPI, is an increase of 0.4% based on low commodity prices, a stronger dollar and moderate wage gains. PNC expects job growth to average 200,000 jobs per month in 2015 which would translate into a 5.0% unemployment rate by year end. Continued gains in employment will support the recovery in consumer spending, housing and business investment. The combination of these factors along with a low interest rate environment support PNC's outlook for growth in 2015. However, the risks to PNC's conservative but positive economic outlook for 2015 may arise from the impacts of a slowing Chinese economy and its worldwide effects or increased worldwide geopolitical tensions.

Stocks continue to be attractively valued versus other asset classes. Based on an S&P 500 earnings estimate of \$121 we would expect further moderate appreciation in 2015. The portfolio's dividend strategy is a conservative strategy that positions the equity portfolio to fully participate in market advances, manage risk through its focus on value and generates a higher income stream than its benchmark index. Stock selection with a focus on earnings will be key to outperformance for the balance of 2015.

Fixed income returns will be impacted by the headwinds of actual and anticipated interest rate increases by the Federal Reserve. However, even with a December increase in the Federal Funds Rate, we will still be in a low interest environment. PNC projects interest rates will take a number of years to normalize based on our current outlook. Longer term interest rates will be reflective of any Federal Reserve actions but will also be effected by investors seeking yield outside of their local markets where more accommodative monetary policies are reducing interest rates.

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 Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller. 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 **2015 Semi-Annual Audit Report**. Brother Glugosh also asked to be excused from the remainder of the call and that Supreme Vice-President, Julie Ann Dobbs will Chair the meeting.

Brother Horvath reported that the Audit for the first six months of 2015 was conducted at the Home Office in Passaic, New Jersey on August 20 & 21, 2015. He stated that the report was printed in the September 9, 2015 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.

After a brief discussion, Supreme Vice-President Julie Ann Dobbs asked for a motion to accept the report. Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, moved to **accept the 2015 Semi-Annual Audit Report**, seconded by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins. Approved.

The Vice-President 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 one donation request was received and copies of the request were sent to each Director.

The request was from S.C.S. Assembly 59 in Wilkes-Barre, PA and the North End Slovak Citizens Club. This is a joint venture to refurbish and preserve a bronze plaque in honor of past pastors, past Sokol members, family and veterans who gave their lives for our beliefs. The plaque was originally at Sacred Heart Slovak Church which the Diocese of Scranton closed and sold. This is the only piece of remembrance of the beautiful historical Church of Father Jozef Murgas. Along with this plaque, a separate plaque will be engraved in honoring all donors and will be kept in the club.

After a brief discussion, Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic moved to approve a donation of \$250.00, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq. Approved.

The Supreme Vice-President questioned the Board members regarding the **Annuity Interest Rate** to be offered for the fourth quarter of 2015 on our annuity products.

The Board members briefly discussed the Annuity Interest Rate to be offered, taking into consideration our investment portfolio. General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq. moved that we offer the same interest rate for the last quarter of 2015 for the annuities that were offered for the third quarter of 2015 on all our Vantage products, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller. Approved.

Vice-President Dobbs questioned if there was any **Unfinished Business** to address.

The Board members were informed that our Fraternalist of the Year presentation will be held on Sunday, October 25, 2015 in Canton, OH. Final arrangements are being made to honor this year's recipient, Sister Dolly Hussar.

Our Supreme President and Editor, Daniel F. Tanzone who is the Chairperson of the Fraternalist of the Year program will make the presentations and the Board of Directors extend their congratulations to Sister Hussar and her 100% Slovak Catholic Sokol family. Acknowledged.

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

The Supreme Secretary, Brother Pogorelec informed the Board members that on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 the Committee to approve the **New Bylaws** met and finalized the publication of the new book. Also, on Tuesday, September 22, 2015 the Committee to approve the **Convention Minutes** met and approved them for publication in our *Falcon* which will take place in the issue of October 7, 2015. Acknowledged.

Vice-President Dobbs informed the Board members that the tentative dates and site for the next **Supreme Board of Directors meeting** was to be held on December 4-5, 2015 with travel dates being December 3 and December 6, 2015 in Florida, however she indicated that Supreme President Glugosh is unable to attend on those dates due to work and inquired if it is possible to change the dates for our next meeting to December 11-12, 2015 with travel dates being December 10 and 13, 2015.

After a lively discussion, Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath moved that our next meeting be held the dates as suggested by Sister Dobbs and a site in Florida be selected by the Supreme President and Supreme Secretary, however not in Orlando, FL, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller. Approved.

Having completed all the business items on the agenda, the Supreme Vice-President inquired if there is any other business to be presented at this time, there being none, Sister Dobbs 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. Hvozdozovic 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 12:30 p.m. Zdar Boh!

Respectfully submitted,

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

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Scenes of the 38th New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival PNC Bank Arts Center + Holmdel, N.J. + Sunday, September 27



The Most Rev. John Pazak, C.Ss.R., Bishop of the Eparchy of SS. Cyril and Methodius for Slovaks of the Byzantine Rite in Canada, was the principal celebrant of the Pontifical Divine Liturgy offered in the Byzantine Rite which opened the 38th New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival held on Sunday, September 27 at the PNC Arts Center in Holmdel, N.J. Joining him to his right on the photo were Nina Holy, co-chairperson of the festival, concelebrants of the liturgy and participants attired in traditional Slovak kroj. This year's festival attracted more than 7,000 visitors.



Slovakia's Consul General in New York, Jana Trnovcova, who represented the government of Slovakia at the festival, second from the right, is shown with, l-r, Editor Daniel F. Tanzone and co-chairpersons of the festival, Nina Holy and John G. Duch, Esq.



Greek Catholic Bishop John Pazak, C.Ss.R. of Toronto is shown with some of the clergy concelebrants, including, l-r, Rev. Stefan Chanas, parochial vicar of St. John Nepomucene Parish in New York City; Rev. Martin Vavrak, pastor of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Parish in Perth Amboy, N.J. who was the Slovak homilist and the Rev. Martin Kertys, C.O., Sunday associate at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Clifton, N.J.



Bishop John Pazak, C.Ss.R. of Toronto, Canada is shown flanked by, l-r, Nadezda Halko and her daughter, Dr. Nadine E. Halko, the Slovak Consul General in New York, Jana Trnovcova and Dr. Mikulas Halko.



Children of the Czech and Slovak School of Astoria, N.J. entertained with traditional Slovak folk dances. - Photo compliments of the Consulate-General of Slovakia in New York



Jana Trnovcova, the General Counsel of Slovakia in New York, second from the right, is shown with members of the Halko family, including, l-r, Tania Susi, her mom, Nadezda Halko, and daughters, Eden Elizabeth and Sonia Lillian Susi; and Dr. Nadine E. Halko.



Lydia Demko, second from the left, traveled all the way from her home in Texas to participate in this year's festival. Shown with this former New York area Slovak activist, are, l-r, Anna Korcak, Nina Holy and Jane Konzelmann.



Members of PAS - The Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble entertained with a variety of Slovak music and dances from the various regions of Slovakia.

Scenes of the Sept. 12th Pilgrimage Hosted by the Slovak Catholic Federation at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.



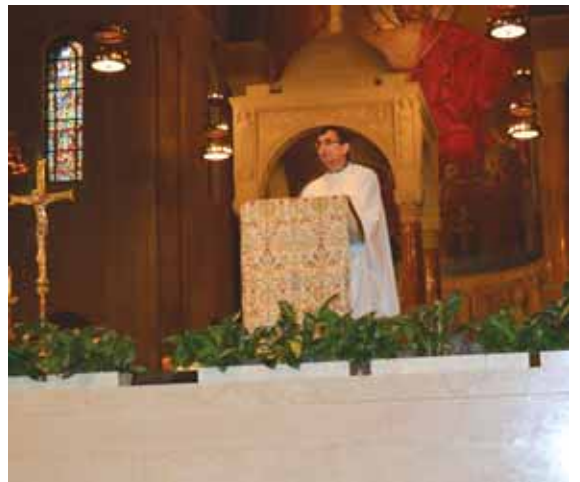
Monsignor Walter R. Rossi, rector of the Basilica, third from the left, welcomes pilgrims, including, l-r, Msgr. Thomas Derzack, Abbot Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., Andrew Rajec, president of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and Rev. Gerard Gonda, O.S.B.



Sokol pilgrims, Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. from Clifton, N.J. and Robert Tapak Magruder from Louisville, Ky.



Slovak Catholic Federation national president and our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, third from the right, is shown in the Slovak Chapel with fellow fraternal leaders, including, l-r, Rev. Thomas Nasta and Andrew M. Rajec, chaplain and president, respectively, of the First Catholic Slovak Union; Theresa M. Kluchinski, president of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union; Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and Dolores M. Evanko, secretary-treasurer of the Slovak Catholic Federation.



The Rev. Jozef Krajnak, the new pastor of Holy Family Slovak Parish in Linden, N.J. offered remarks in Slovak at the conclusion of the pilgrimage liturgy.



Among the religious at the pilgrimage were Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius from Danville, Pa. Shown before the Pietà are, l-r, Sister M. Catherine Laboure Bresnock, Sister Michael Ann Orlik, the General Superior of the congregation and Sister Thomas More Dzurnak.



Our Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., fourth from the left, is shown with pilgrims from New York's St. John Nepomucene Parish. Shown with him on the photo are l-r Deacon Thomas Harenchar, and his wife Ruth; Rev. Stefan Chanas, parochial vicar; Rev. Richard D. Baker, pastor and chaplain of Group 1; and Nina Holy.

Scenes of the Gala Banquet of the 32nd National Convention

The DoubleTree by Hilton Pittsburgh Green Tree Hotel + Sunday, August 2





Photos by John F. Richnavsky

What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Kiska: refugee crisis concerns fight for Slovakia's heart and character

"Not because of the quotas and solidarity between EU states, but because of human beings in need of our help and because of ourselves," said Slovak President Andrej Kiska on September 7 when speaking about the need for further discussions on the refugee crisis.

Kiska noted that for many people who are leaving their countries this is a matter of life and death, but for Slovakia it's about its heart and character.

"What country would we like to be and what are we capable of doing in order to achieve this? We'll lose the fight for our character and the heart of Slovakia if we don't distinguish between fear of the unknown and open hatred, contempt for human lives, extremism, xenophobia and racism," emphasized Kiska.

Statements referring to refugees as potential terrorists or economic profiteers aren't fear of the unknown but manifestations of xenophobia and extremism. "If we conform and stay silent or turn our backs on such manifestations, we will then be silently tolerating rallying cries for a white Slovakia," said Kiska.

The president praised all people that spontaneously and without political support have said 'we will help' instead of 'we can't help'. "These people have shown that goodness, compassion and understanding are permanent values of the people of Slovakia," he added.

Lajcak; Schengen Area, perhaps even future of Europe at stake

The migrant crisis is a threat for the Schengen area and it may disrupt relations within the European Union and alter the face of Europe as such, TASR learned from an address by Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak in parliament on September 16.

"It's not only Schengen and its future that's at stake, but also relations within the European Union, the future of European policies and perhaps even the future face of Europe," Lajcak said.

He went on to reject notions that Slovakia isn't displaying solidarity, stressing that Slovakia has always helped its EU partners and will continue to do so. Slovakia does oppose false solidarity, however, he added.

"We're pushing for comprehensive, long-term and sustainable solutions," said the minister. Slovakia calls for enhanced protection of the EU's external border, well-functioning centers for registering migrants and taking their fingerprints, a thorough return policy and an EU-wide list of safe countries of origin. Plus, Lajcak added that Slovakia urges support for temporary safe zones in third countries, more decisive measures against people smugglers, enhanced collaboration between intelligence services, a more robust EU foreign and European policy and addressing problems in the migrants' countries of origin.

"The fates of concrete people as well as the shape of the European project are at stake. A (European) project in which we've always managed to resolve even the most serious crises - and not partially and in a one-off fashion, but in a prudent, comprehensive and above all sustainable manner," said Lajcak before again rejecting the imposition of mandatory quotas.

He raised a question as to whether it's truly responsible to introduce an automatic distribution of migrants without knowing just how many people and under what sort of circumstances the EU can admit. "Has anybody defined the EU's absorption capacity...and what happens once the capacity is spent? We'll close the border gate and make Europe an inaccessible fortress? So the values we're pleading so fervently now will not be valid any longer?" said Lajcak, who urged a meeting of EU leaders given the scale of the problem.

According to Lajcak, Slovakia backs the majority of proposed measures such as setting up an emergency trust fund for stability, drawing up a list of safe countries as well as proposals designed to bolster the European policy of returns. "The bolstering of the protection of the EU's external border is vital for preserving a functioning Schengen area. That's one of the top priorities for us," said the minister.

Foreign diplomats visit Bojnica Castle, conclude trip to Trenčín region

Fifty-six foreign diplomats rounded off a two-day visit to the Trenčín region by going on a tour of Bojnica Castle on September 19, TASR learned on the same day.

The event, dubbed the 'Diplomatic Trip' and organized Trenčín Region's Regional Tourism Association (KOCR) and the Foreign and European Affairs Ministry, involved visits to eight sights with tourism appeal in the region.

"I view it as very important that diplomats, ambassadors, who are accredited to Slovakia and are based not only in Bratislava but also in Vienna, Prague and Budapest, should learn more about our country, develop a better understanding for it, that we should show them the best of what we have here. This is why we organize this kind of two-day trip annually, and we picked the Trenčín region this time around. It's a beautiful region, there are so many sites here that merit a visit. So, the diplomats have now got a better idea of what the Trenčín region has to offer," said Slovak Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak.

"We have interesting spas here, many castles and chateaux, also many foreign companies that bring added value. We really have a lot to offer," said Trenčín region governor Jaroslav Baska.

As part of their trip, the heads of diplomatic missions visited the house in Kosariska where renowned Slovak politician, diplomat and astronomer Milan R. Stefanik grew up, as well as a local church. Also included were visits to Stefanik's burial monument at Bradlo, the spa town of Trenčianske Teplice, the revamped 'Green Frog' outdoor swimming pool, Trenčín Castle and the RONA glassworks in Lednické Rovne.

Kiska praises workforce potential and quality of universities in Kosice

President Andrej Kiska said that Kosice is important for employment in the region while meeting its mayor, Richard Rasi, during his visit to the city on September 18.

"Kosice, aside from being the European Capital of Culture in 2013, and has been designated as the European City of Sport in 2016, is very important for our region in terms of employment. Almost 10 percent of the GDP is being created here. There are almost 7,000 people employed in IT Valley, and there's the potential to take on another 3,000. There are quality universities here," Kiska told journalists.

Kiska while in Kosice wants to discuss how better to link university education with practice. He also spoke to Rasi about large employers in Kosice such as US Steel.

In addition, Kiska and Rasi discussed the Kosice Presidential Office. "The President promised that the office will be operational. I think that it's an important thing. The office belongs to everyone," said Rasi.

Rasi, who's also a doctor, praised Kiska for running up a flight of stairs "like a deer" after his recent hip operation. "I think that he's physically fit. I'm very glad that he's visited us in Kosice," said Rasi.

Slovak scientists looking into ways of treating diabetes

A team of scientists in Slovakia is carrying out a clinical study that is aimed at revealing new links between diet and the

development of diabetes.

The team is studying how adherence to a diet is connected to blood sugar levels. Around 400 patients are participating in the study.

"Sample selection and analysis preparations are in progress," Andrea Foldvary, spokesperson for Comenius University (participating via the Natural Sciences Faculty) in Bratislava, told TASR.

The results should serve as a basis for developing new methods of treatment and for administering the most precise doses of insulin possible.

The patients under observation don't actually need to visit the hospital for testing, and the doctors will be able to view the results online. The study is being carried out in the form of telemedicine, and information is stored at a science center. Patients are measuring their blood sugar with a glucometer and are using bluetooth connections. The readings are then downloaded to a mobile phone provided by the researchers and sent to the central system.

Information on blood pressure is being collected in a similar way. The research also concerns daily data about the patient's weight, amount of sleep, physical activity, mood and complete diet.

Comenius University is participating under the auspices of the Serious Disease Research Center with experts from the Slovak Technical University (STU) and two international pharmaceutical companies - Novartis and Medirex. IT support is being provided by the Slovak company Anext.



Open air flea markets have been popular in Slovakia for centuries. The oldest flea markets date from the 13th century. The above features the annual flea market in Trnava in western Slovakia. Today, these open air markets also include colorful entertainment and traditional culinary delights, including the sale of Medovníky, honey cakes. These markets offered the opportunity for local artisans to display their various arts and crafts. Handmade linens, traditional dress "kroj", basket creations and wire creations were displayed and offered for sale. In addition, handpainted pottery as well as crystal featured the handiwork of local artisans. Handmade flutes and other musical instruments were featured. This year, the flea market in Radvany, outside Banská Bystrica in central Slovakia celebrated its 358th anniversary.

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



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

October, 2015

ANNOUNCING THE KIDS' CORNER SUMMER READING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS!!!

Noah Romine	Annika Romine	Annalise Romine	Bryce Watkins
Gavin Watkins	Travis Watkins	Amber Radtke	Evan Radtke
Nathan Radtke	Riana Hoeck	Juliana Hoeck	Carissa Hoeck
Tucker Romangnoli	Tim Romangnoli	Ethan Romangnoli	Stanley Shimko
Stephen Sherman	Anna Sherman	Rebecca Sherman	Nicole Abel
Connor Swift	Andrew Peterson	Kyle Peterson	Alyssa Peterson
Hailey Swift			

AND SOME OF THEIR FAVORITE BOOBOOKS..... BY AGE GROUP

0-4 YEARS (NON-READERS)

Goodnight Gorilla- Peggy Rothman
 Chugga-Chugga Choo-Choo- Kevin Lewis
 Corduroy Goes to the Beach by Don Freeman
Curious George Goes to the Zoo by Hans Augusto Rey and Margret Rey

5-7 (EARLY READERS)

The Book with No Pictures- BJ Novak
 I See the Stars- by Nancy Parent
 Out of the Ballpark- by Alex Rodriguez
 A Big Guy Took My Ball- Mo Willems
 Star Wars Jedi Academy by Jeffery Brown
 Princess Tales by Grace MacCarone

8-10 (INTERMEDIATE READERS)

The Wanderer - Sharon Creech
 Diary of a Wimpy Kid- The Ugly Truth- Jeff Kinney
 The Twits - Roald Dahl
 Invisible Stanley by Jeff Brown
 The Strange Case of Oragami Yoda - Tom Angleberger

11+ (ADVANCED READERS)

Surviving Hitler:- by Andrea Warren
 Life as We Knew It- Susan Beth Pfeffer
 Wonder by R.J. Palacio
 STARGIRL by Jerry Spinelli
 Chasing Lincoln's Killer- James Swanson
 The Unbecoming of Mara Dyer- Michelle Hodkin
 An Audience for Einstein- Mark Wakely

Halloween Jokes

What is Beethoven doing in his coffin right now? **Decomposing.**
 What kind of mistakes do ghosts make? **Boo boos.**
 What would you call the ghost of a door-to-door salesman? **A dead ringer.**
 What do you call a haunted chicken? **A poultry-geist.**
 What's it like to be kissed by a vampire? **It's a pain in the neck.**
 Where does Dracula usually eat his lunch? **At the casketeria.**
 Who did Frankenstein take to the prom? **His ghou friend.**
 Why are so few ghosts arrested? **It's hard to pin anything on them.**

Slovak Words=Slovenské slová

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

All Saints Day = *Sviatok všetkých svätých*
 [s'vya-toke v'shet-keekh sve-teekh]

All Souls Day = *Dušíčky* [Do-sheech-key]
 the dead = *mŕtvi* [mert-vee]

pumpkin = *tekvica* [tyek-vee-tsah]
 carving pumpkins = *vyrezávať tekvice* [vee-reh-
 zaah-vath tyek-vee-tsah]

Slovaks leave candles (*sviečky* - s'vyech-kee), moss
 (*rašeliniky* - rah-shel-nee-kee), pine-branches
 (*borovicové vetvičky* - bore-oh-veech-neth), and pine
 -wreaths (*vence* - ven-tseh) at the graves of loved
 ones.

For information on Halloween in Slovakia, see my
 article on the web: "Halloween Customs in Slo-
 vakia" - <https://suite.io/michael-kopanic/44442bf>

Happy



Halloween

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO
YOU!!!!

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



Held in Franklin, Wis.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 4, "Bishop Stefan Moyzes"

The Annual Meeting of Group 4, Chicago Illinois, under the patronage of Bishop Stephan Moyzes, took place on September 13, 2014 at the Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare Franklin Campus in Franklin, Wisconsin.

President Tony L. Scuglik called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. He then led the opening prayer which was dedicated to all living and deceased Group 4 members and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Scuglik welcomed all group officers and delegates to the annual meeting. He acknowledged the presence of Group 4 Supreme Officer Sister Jennifer Romine and Member of the Physical Fitness Board, Julie Ann Dobbs, Supreme Vice President.

Group 4 Recording Secretary, Sister Julie Ann Dobbs took roll call of the officers and delegates. A total of 10 officers and 11 delegates were present. Represented at this meeting were Assemblies 11, 113 and Wreath 93.

President Scuglik would like to thank Sister Hoeck and Jennifer Romine for making the arrangements for our Group meeting, including location and food.

Copies of the 2013 Group 4 annual meeting minutes held on September 14, 2013 were distributed to officers and delegates for their review. The minutes were published in the SCS Falcon. Following a short discussion, a motion to accept the minutes was made by Brother Bill Gemoll, seconded by Sister Lisa Hoeck. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- SCS Museum Donation Recognition and thank you from SCS Home Office to Teresa Buc and Assembly 11.

Historical items would be welcome by the SCS Museum; the Cedar Rapids Slovak/Czech Museum as well as the Wisconsin Historical Museum.

Discussion about cost savings from the offering of the electronic version of the paper- currently down to printing and mailing of 2500 with a cost savings of \$35,000 annually.

Brother Scuglik offered our Group 4 thanks to the scholarship committee for selecting several qualified and deserving Group 4 members to receive 2013 Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarships. Group 4 members received college, high school and grade school scholarships. The scholarship program begins November 1st of each year and the application due date is March 31st. Incomplete applications will be disqualified. Look for more information in the SCS Falcon as well as the www.slovakcatholicssokol.org website. Please take advantage of this great opportunities andnote that all qualified grade school and high school scholarships were distributed

Reminder from Teresa Buc that all financial receipts and documentation for the SCS must be kept for 7 years but following can be shredded.

Tony would like to extend a spe-

cial thank you to Assembly 11 for their very generous donation to our treasury of \$3,000 to be designated to the Slet fund.

A copy of the financial report was handed out to all for review. Brother Fred shared the auditor's report. He has review the reports and finances and he reported all was in order. Sister Adrian inquired as to the % interest we were getting. Sister Buc indicated it was .005% or something like that. Sister Adrian asked about primary Group 4 expenses and Brother Tony indicated primarily salary, Slet, annual meeting and donations. He also indicated that in order to be financially sound, we would need to maintain at least a balance of \$10,000. Sister Teresa Buc reviewed the report for our members. Sister Teresa indicated that she established the report to represent a fiscal year such that comparisons could be more easily made. We received a refund for the Slet from the home office for their portion of the Slet transportation cost. Sister Teresa shared that we have needed to change banks as our bank recently merged. Sister Teresa and Brother Fred met with the new bank to assure that the transition of accounts has gone smoothly. We are currently receiving e-statements to avoid service charges and Sister Teresa is monitoring our accounts closely. Sister Suzanne Zeman made a motion to accept the financial and auditor's reports and Sister Rosie Trokan seconded. Motion carried.

A discussion was held about low meeting attendance. It was noted that Wreath 81 struggles with transportation to meetings in Wisconsin and that they had extended an invitation to host our next Group 4 meeting to Whiting, IN. Sister Dobbs suggested use of a conference call/bridge and phone.

Sister Tricia Radtke presented the Group 4 Physical Fitness Board Report:

Since September 2013:

- October: Pumpkin patch, hayride, potluck picnic lunch at Jim's Pumpkin Farm
- December: Annual Wreath 93 Christmas Party roller skating at Plus Elementary School
- Jan-May 2014: break
- Summer 2014: Juniors attended a family Christian camp. Performed at Slovak Day Picnic, attended the International Clinic in Pennsylvania.

Upcoming Events:

- September-May 2015: Possibly participation in gymnastics classes with Sokol Milwaukee
- October 2014: Halloween Event at Pumpkin Farm
- December 2014: Christmas party for youth and their families
- Group 4 Drill clinic/retreat in

Spring 2015

- Spring 2015: Practices will begin to prepare for Slet, community service, performances
- Summer 2015: Slovak Day picnic, International Slet in Slippery Rock, PA and convention.

Thank you to Wreath/Assembly past donations to the Slet fund. We

currently anticipate 28 Slet attendees and are working to connect with our many new Group 4 members to solicit more involvement. The Slet participants will be working to raise money via various fundraisers. The Slet participants will be required to purchase an opening day t-shirt which will be Group specific. Gymnasts will be allowed to wear tank-top leotards which is a change and will be a group expense to purchase.

Group 4 was represented at the International Bowling Tournament in Canton, MI by the Zeman family and Caroline/Bill Gemoll.

Brother Tony wanted to acknowledge and thank Assembly 257 for their generous donation to the Slet fund.

Sister Lisa Hoeck extended sympathy and regards from the Physical Fitness Board to Brother Bill Gemoll and his family on the loss of two brothers this past summer.

Sister Jennifer Romine made a motion to accept the Physical Directress report as presented. Sister Suzanne Zeman seconded. Motion passed.

A short recess was taken for lunch at 12:00. The meeting was called back to order by Brother Scuglik at 1:00pm.

Sister Romine shared her recent great experiences as member of the Supreme Physical Fitness board, having recently worked at the International Bowling Tournament and helping to run the Kurz that was paired with a youth camp opportunity. Sister Jennifer offered some insight into potential changes for the upcoming Slet, which will be held in Slippery Rock, PA from July 14-18, 2015. She reminded members of the SCS Walking Program- get involved!

Sister Lisa Hoeck shared a new brochure created for the Slovak Catholic Sokol highlighting the fraternal activities/benefits. If interested you can contact the home office for copies.

Brother Bill Gemoll made a motion to accept the Physical Fitness Board report as presented. Sister Adrian Casey seconded. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Sister Nancy Hoeck wanted to thank the Group 4 Physical Fitness Board for all of their efforts working to make the camp opportunity work for the Group 4 youth. While it didn't work out to attend Camp Fitch, they were able to attend a local Christian camp in Fredonia, WI.

NEW BUSINESS

A discussion was held regarding the 2014 Annual Group 4 Meeting, both location and date. Brother Tony suggested that Sister Hoeck and Sister Romine would be willing to organize a meeting again at the Franklin location. Tentative date of October 3, 2015 (was changed to October 17, 2015).

The International Slovak Catholic Sokol Convention will be held next summer from August 1-5, 2-15 in Pittsburgh, PA. Take advantage of the opportunity to submit bylaw changes to the Bylaw Committee. Watch the Falcon for dates and deadlines.

Brother Tony Scuglik then called

Recipients of Convention Donations acknowledge Sokol benevolence

Dear Brother Pogorelec,

The officers and members of Assembly 113 who have been members of St. Anthony of Padua Parish since March 1910, wish to extend our heartfelt THANKS to the Slovak Catholic Sokol 32nd Convention Donations Committee for awarding a gift of \$1,250 to us in our time of need. The project is to be completed in mid-September.

Our Assembly 113 has also made an appropriate donation to this exterior renovation of our church. Thanking you again, I remain

Fraternally yours,

Zdar Boh!

Tony L. Scuglik

President, Assembly 113
Kenosha, Wis.

Dear Steven M. Pogorelec,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$1,250 to Our Lady of Sorrows Parish/Saint Matthias Church in Youngstown, Oh. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and your donation will be used for the restroom renovations.

Sincerely yours in Chris,

Rev. Martin Celuch

Pastor

Dear Brother Pogorelec,

I write to acknowledge receiving the \$1,000 donation from the Petitions and Donations Committee of 32nd National Convention held in Pittsburgh, Pa.

This donation will greatly assist in the printing and mailing cost for the 2015 edition of The Good Shepherd - Dobry Pastier, the annual publication of the Slovak Catholic Federation.

Zdar Boh!

Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdvic
National President

Dear Mr. Pogorelec,

Thank you for your generous do-

nation of \$500 to the Capital Campaign of SS.Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church in Minneapolis, Minn. Your continued support of our Capital Campaign as well as the parish's fall festival is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rev. Edison Galarza
Pastor

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,

On behalf of the Minneapolis Sokol members and SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, we thank you and the convention delegates for your generous donation of \$500. Assembly 34 has matched your donation with a \$500 donation as well. Both checks were presented to the Parish Council at their monthly meeting on September 1, 2015. Founded in 1891, SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish is the oldest Slovak parish named for the Apostles of the Slavs.

Zdar Boh!

David J. Genosky
President, Assembly 34
James T. Genosky
Financial Secretary

Dear Brother Pogorelec,

I have gratefully received your check of \$150.00 for the Holy Angels Crochet Circle. Know that these funds will be used to buy supplies for our ladies to crochet and knit various projects The handmade articles are then distributed to those in need within our community.

I can't tell you how much we appreciate the assistance that you have given us to perform our mission. I am pleased to say that our local Wreath 22 has agreed to match the funds. Zdar Boh!

Thankfully,

Dolores Lutz

Wreath 22

Financial Secretary
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Thoughts on Fraternalism

(Continued from page 3)

happiness during this special time of the year. I hope all of you have a safe and joyous Thanksgiving season in the coming weeks and I hope your interaction with family, friends and perhaps someone new as a result of your fraternal effort, will provide you some added strength and a renewed sense of hope for the future.

May God bless all of you!

for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brother Bill Gemoll made a motion to adjourn and Sister Patti Osterbrink seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm with a closing prayer by Sister Jennifer Romine.

Fraternally yours,

Zdar Boh!

Julie Ann Dobbs

Group 4 Recording Secretary

October is National Apple Month

Ask just about anyone from Maine to Florida, from New York City to Los Angeles, to describe America in five words or less, and they reply, "Baseball, Mom, and apple pie." Deep-dish or lattice-topped,

served with a wedge of cheese or a la mode, apple pie is part of this country's heritage, like the Constitution and the Statue of Liberty. And popular? The Menu Census published in Restaurants and Institutions rated apple pie as America's number one-selling dessert.

Apple pies can be traced back as far as 14th century England, when meat pies were the most popular varieties, but fruit pies, including apple, were also available. Pie-making skills and apple seeds came over to America with the Pilgrims, who served apple pie primarily as a breakfast food. Even today, in some parts of rural New England, apple pie remains on the breakfast menu.



Sokol Birthdays

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

Laura Dubos, Broken Arrow, OK a member of Wreath 54, Poland, Oh.

Judy Hromada, Lorain, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.
Leslie A. Evanoff, Medville, 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. Boeko, Medford, N.J., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

OCTOBER 28

Sister Loretta Marie Hrubec, SS.C.M., Danville, Pa., a member of Assembly 312, Passaic, N.J.

Simon Koval, Poway, CA, a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

Rebecca Lee, Wilkes Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Veronica Gdula Maslar, Beaverdale, Pa., a member of Assembly 82, Dunlo, Pa.

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

OCTOBER 29

Arlene Most, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Kelli Lynne Newmaster, Cannonsburg, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

OCTOBER 30

Andrew M. Chuba, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Michelle Minnick, Elyria, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

Joseph Jursi, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York, N.Y.

Sara Elizabeth Oleksak, Allentown, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

OCTOBER 31

Robert D. Betza, Gibsonia, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Kerri Ann Malanowski, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Anna M. Warrick, West Newton, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

NOVEMBER 2

Julie Brincka Gural, Columbia, N.J., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.

Paul L. Mudrak, Carteret, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

NOVEMBER 3

Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, S.T.L.,

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., our Honorary Supreme Officer.

Michaela B. Benyak, Monongahela, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Mary Lou Hamilton, Arlington Heights, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

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

Robert Toskovich, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.
Mary Tribou, Lakeville, Mass., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

NOVEMBER 4

Thomas A. Masi, Basking Ridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

Joseph Nicholas Oros, Reading, Pa., a member of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

Caroline Ruth Yench, Pleasant Prairie, Wis., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

NOVEMBER 5

Joanne Bartos, Struthers, Oh., a member of Wreath 107, Youngstown, Oh.

Sophie Dybel, Whiting, Ind., a member of Wreath 81, Whiting, Ind.

Joseph J. Hornack, Independence, Oh., a member of Wreath 34, Cleveland, Oh.

NOVEMBER 6

Jennifer Bell, Cannonsburg, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

NOVEMBER 7

Makayla Breann Macurak, Acworth, Ga., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

NOVEMBER 8

Marc E. Drevitch, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

NOVEMBER 9

Eric A. Koval, Bear Creek Twp., Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., our esteemed Supreme Secretary and financial secretary of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

John Tomcho, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

NOVEMBER 10

Rebecca K. Kunec, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

NOVEMBER 11

Veronica Moeller, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Milan P. Spisek, Esq., Easton, Conn., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

NOVEMBER 12

Joseph Martin Sendek, Huntington, W.Va., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

NOVEMBER 13

Amy Primini, Woodbury, Conn., a member of Wreath 1, Bridgeport, Conn.

Denise Slank, Raritan, N.J., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

Cecilia Weibl, Valparaiso, Ind. a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Lodge Jottings

DONORA, PA Assembly 163

The semi-annual meeting of our Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, December 13 to be held at Dorothy's Place in Donora. Our meeting begins promptly at 12:30 p.m. Reports of officers will be presented and plans for our various fraternal activities in the new year will be finalized. Election of officers to serve our lodge will take place.

Immediately following our annual meeting we will host our traditional children's Christmas party beginning at 1 p.m.. We look forward to seeing a good turnout of our young Sokols and Sokolky at this annual fraternal event. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. Refreshments will be enjoyed by all. For additional information on this year's annual meeting and Christmas party, feel free to contact Theresa Gardner at 724-263-7289. Looking forward to seeing a good turnout of our members at our meeting and extending best wishes to all our members for a joyous Christmas season, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

Theresa Gardner

Financial Secretary

EGYPT, PA Assembly 255

Our Assembly, under the fostering care of St. Michael the Archangel, will host its annual meeting on Sunday, November 8 in the social hall of Holy Trinity Church located at 4556 Main Street in Whitehall (Egypt). Our meeting will begin promptly at 1 p.m. All members are invited to attend this important meeting.

At this meeting, our regular order of business will be conducted. Reports of the officers will be presented and plans for our upcoming fraternal activities in the new year will be discussed. Our business meeting will conclude with election of officers to serve our Assembly for 2016. We are looking forward to seeing new faces and hoping for a good turnout of members.

Concluding our meeting we will host our traditional luncheon with our brother and sister fraternalists of Jednota Branch 796 which will feature Slovak culinary specialties. Good fellowship in the best traditions of Slovak fraternalism will be enjoyed by all. May Jesus and our Blessed Mother keep the Slovak Catholic Sokol in their hands.

May we extend to all a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving as well as a joyful Christmas season. We extend our best wishes to all our Brother and Sister Sokols and Sokolky throughout the country. With all good wishes, may we remain

Zdar Boh!

Bernard Kuchera

President

(Continued on page 17)

Group Annual Meetings Set

Group 1, "Msgr. Stephen Krasula" - This year's annual meeting is set for Sunday, November 8 in Passaic, N.J. Hosting this year's meeting will be Assembly 1 and Wreath 2. Our program begins with attendance at the 10 a.m. Mass at the Church of St. Mary of the Assumption, located at the corner of Monroe and Market Streets. The liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 1. We will assemble in the church vestibule at 9:45 a.m. so as to march in a boy to the liturgy. Following the Mass we will gather in the parish social hall where the annual meeting will be called to order. A luncheon will be served. Reports of the officers will be presented and plans for our various fraternal activities in the new year will be finalized. Election of officers who will serve our Group for the coming four-year period will take place. We hope to see all Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to our Group represented at this meeting. Looking forward to a successful and progressive annual meeting in the best traditions of Group 1 Sokol fraternalism, may we remain, Zdar Boh! **John D. Pogorelec, Esq., President; Daniel F. Tanzone, Secretary**

Zdar Boh! **Eileen S. Wilson, President; Darlene K. Musial, Secretary**

Group 14, "St. Francis of Assisi" - The annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 9 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 2912 East Carson Street, South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. Our meeting will be called order at 7 p.m. We hope that all Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to our Group will be represented at this important meeting. We had a busy fraternal year, hosting both our 47th International Slet and our 32nd National Convention. Plans for our upcoming events will be finalized. Input from all our local lodges will ensure their success. Election of officers for the coming four year period will take place. Looking forward to seeing a good turnout at this year's annual meeting, may we remain, Zdar Boh! **Kathleen S. Watkins, President**

Group 17, "Rev. Francis Sku-

til" - This year's annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 8. Our program begins with the officers and delegates attending the 11 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish - St. Matthias Church located at 915 Cornell Street in the Lansingville section of Youngstown, Oh. The Mass will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 17 by the pastor, the Rev. Martin Celuch. Following the liturgy, we will gather at Bruno's Restaurant located at 1984 Boardman-Poland Road where a luncheon will be served and the annual meeting will be called to order at 12:30 p.m. sharp. A report on our participation at the recent 32nd national convention will be presented. Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to our President, Brother James G. Jerek on his election as Chairperson of Supreme Auditors as well as to Sister Nancy Kropolinsky on her reelection as a Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board. Reports of the Group officers will be presented and discussion of our various activities for the remainder of the year as well as plans for the new year will be finalized. Election of officers, who will serve for the coming four year period, will also take place. In addition, a report will be presented on this year's Group 17 Golf Outing held on September 20th. All officers are reminded they are to submit their WRITTEN reports of their activities since our last annual meeting. We look forward to seeing all our Assemblies and Wreaths represented at this year's annual meeting as well as the opportunity of welcoming some new faces. An enjoyable fraternal afternoon is assured. In order to make the necessary arrangements, all officers and representatives from the Assemblies and Wreaths are asked to make their reservations with the Secretary Carol Gonda at (330)783-0173 no later than Friday, October 30th. Looking forward to another successful Group 17 annual meeting in the best traditions of Mahoning County Sokol fraternalism, may we remain

Zdar Boh! **James G. Jerek, President; Carol Gonda, Secretary**

S.C.S Museum Donations July -- September 2015

We are pleased to acknowledge the following donations received during July through September 2015 earmarked for our Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum located at our home office in Passaic, NJ. The monies received from these donations fund our annual \$1,000 Memorial Scholarships, which assist our young people in their educational endeavors. The number of these scholarships grants is dependent upon the amount of donations received.

DONATION RECEIVED

In Memory of
Sophie Macurak

Donated by
Ladies Slovak Catholic
Sokols "Wreath 22"

Sophie Macurak

Group 14, Pittsburgh, PA

Gerald Lutz

Group 14, Pittsburgh, PA

Total donations \$225

Thank you for your generosity,
Dennis J Zifcak, Supreme Treasurer



Obituaries...

Stella I. Macey, 83, devoted member of Wreath 155 in Reading, Pa.

Stella I. Macey of Shillington, Pa. passed away peacefully at her residence on September 10, after a courageous battle with brain cancer. She was 83. For the past 32 years, she has been the wife of our Honorary Supreme Officer Frank E. Macey.



A native of Reading, Pa., Stella was born there April 16, 1932, the youngest daughter of the late Jozef and Mary Kazmierczak Dybalski. She was a 1950 graduate of Central Catholic High School. She was employed by CNA Insurance and retired from Dybalski Quality Foods, which was located at 12th and Chestnut Streets in Reading when it closed in 1983.

She was an active fraternalist all her life. In addition to membership in Wreath 155 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Stella was also a member of the Union of Polish Women and the Polish National Alliance. She was a member of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Reading. An active Sokolka for many years, she completed her 5000-mile mark in the Sokol Walking Program in her earlier years.

In addition to her husband, Frank, Stella is survived by her step-daughter, Susan L. Macey, Esq., wife of Matt Parsell of Denver, Co.; step-granddaughter, Macey Henderson, wife of Jason Hen-

derson of Indianapolis, Ind.; and a sister, Helen Martin of Cumru Township, Pa.

Also surviving are the following nieces and nephews: Kathleen Morrissey, Mary Christman, Susan Krick, Kathryn Hunter, Christine Hydock, Louise Hagner, Mary Beth Dybalski, Ann Louise Mizoguchi, Eleanor Klopp, Robert Lucchese, James Lucchese, Edward Dybalski, Emrick V. Martin, Ronald Ziemba, Edward Ziemba; and Wanda Lickteig.

She was predeceased by sisters, Anne Lucchese and Violet Dybalski; brothers: Theodore, Joseph Edward and Leon Dybalski; half-sister, Esther Ziemba; and niece, Margaret Ziats.

Stella enjoyed gourmet cooking, flower gardening, shopping, interior decorating and Atlantic City casino trips.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists paid their final respects to Sister Stella at the Kopicki-Bradley Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on September 14 in the Chapel of the Resurrection at Gethsemane Cemetery in Laurendale, Pa. with entombment following in the Gethsemane Mausoleum.

Our Sister Stella, a wonderful woman of faith, was a devoted spouse and dedicated ambassador of the fraternal benefit system. May she rest in peace. Our sympathy goes out to her spouse, Brother Frank E. Macey and members of her family.

Minutes of the Semi-Annual Meeting of Group 6

President Anna Mae Warnick called the semi-annual meeting of Group 6, "Msgr. Andrew Hlinka" to order at 1:30 p.m. The meeting was held at Hoss Steakhouse and Seafood Restaurant in Belle Vernon, Pa. on Sunday, October 11, 2015. Following the welcome, President Warnick then led the group in reciting Grace before the meal. A delicious luncheon was then served with the meeting following.

A roll call of officers and delegates was then taken. Lodges represented included: Assembly 163, Donora, 2 delegates; Assembly 61, Smock, 1 delegate; Assembly 25, Perryopolis, 5 delegates; and Wreath 15, Perryopolis, 11 delegates.

President Warnick then read the letter of resignation of the secretary, Elaine Andras. Election of officers was then held. The officers will remain the same for another term, with the exception of Elaine Andras. Officers of Group 6 will include: Anna Mae Warnick, president; Dorothy Rudinec, vice president; Mary Catherine DiVirgilio, treasurer; Terri Gardner, secretary and Michael T. Matras, sports director.

Reports of the officers were ready by President Warnick, Treasurer DiVirgilio and the Sports Director Michael T. Matras.

President Warnick will notify the Assemblies and Wreaths of the date and location of the upcoming spring semi-annual meeting. With no further business, on a motion by Dorothy Rudinec, seconded by Edward Drost, the meeting was adjourned. President Warnick then led the assemblage in the recitation of the Lord's Prayer followed by the adjournment. Zdar Boh!

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Gardner
Secretary

Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 3)

1-3 p.m.; reservations necessary, call Edie Babik at 330-782-9555; deadline for reservations is Nov. 30.

■ Traditional St. Nicholas Day celebration for junior Sokol members of Assembly 182 at the parish of St. John Nepomucene, 411 East 66th St., New York City, beginning with Mass at 11 a.m., children's program to follow at 1 p.m. in the parish social center, 406 East 67th St.

FRIDEC.11

■ Quarterly meeting of the S.C.S. Supreme Board of Directors at the Hilton Garden Inn Tampa Airport Westshore in Tampa, FL beginning at 9:00 a.m.

SATDEC.12

■ Annual Children's Christmas party hosted by Assembly 16 and Wreath 22 for members ages 0-12 at the Slovak Catholic Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa., doors open at 12 noon, festi-

A tribute to a dedicated Sokol

Dr. William T. Kitsko, "Uncle Will"

(The following eulogy was offered at the Mass of Christian burial celebrated for Dr. Kitsko on August 17, 2015).

I wanted to take time out to thank each and every one of you for being with us today to celebrate the life of our Uncle Will. Uncle Will was a very unique, caring and while he may have never shown it, a loving man. He was a steadfast Catholic Sokol as a member of Wreath 14, who supported the Slovak Catholic Sokol for many years. His deep faith in God and his family was steadfast.



Uncle Will was born in 1922 in Johnstown, Pa. to Bartolomew and Mary Spishak Kitsko, where he was one of eight; two sisters and six brothers. He grew up in the back house on 318 Chestnut Street and graduated with honors from Johnstown High School in 1941. Uncle Will served honorably in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After being honorably discharged, he studied at the University of Pittsburgh where he received a Bachelor of Science degree and then was accepted to Georgetown Medical School. Following medical school at Georgetown University, he went on to specialize in Psychiatry until his retirement from the State of Pennsylvania. As a longtime member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol out of Johnstown, Uncle Will would attend various events and was a regular at the international golf tournaments. In 2001, he was presented the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award for golf. He coveted this award and had it on display at his home in Somerset, Pa. and then at his apartment at the Devonshire in Pittsburgh. Uncle Will loved his family and would do whatever it took to support them. He took care of his family as truly the family "Doc." He was fortunate to have traveled around the world and always had a story of different places he would visit. He especially enjoyed visiting the Czech Republic and Slovakia during and following the Cold War.

His love for his family was no greater than for his sister, Rosemary who took great care of him until her passing in 2009. His niece, Joanne took care of him from that point until his passing on August 11, 2015. It is always tough to lose someone who was a mainstay in your family and it was that way with Uncle Will. We will always love him and miss him, until we see him again with Our Lord in heaven.

Now that Uncle Will knows so much more now and if he were here, he would tell us that "You have a Savior and He loves all of us and that Jesus died on the cross for us." He wants us to know that we must remember that our lives are insignificant to our eternal reward in heaven. Salvation is in the person of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is through faith in Him that we receive the gift of eternal life. We read in John 6: 28-29: "Then they said to Him, What shall we do, that we may work the works of God? He answered and said to them, This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent. Again in John 6:40 we read, And this is the will of Him who sent me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up on the last day." Thank you Uncle Will for remembering your family, the Slovak Catholic Sokol and for showing each and every one of us that you touched in some way that we can do anything we set our hearts and minds to. Uncle Will was 93.

Zdar Boh!
William Fogle, nephew

ties begin at 1 p.m., reservations necessary, call Camella Marec at tel. 412-414-9249 or email: suesscm@gmail.com, reservation deadline is Nov. 25th.

SUN.DEC.13

■ Assembly 163 semi-annual meeting and children's Christmas party at Dorothy's Place, Donora, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m.; for information call Theresa Gardner at 724-263-7289.

■ Vilija dinner celebrating the Slovak Christmas eve traditions hosted by the Parish of St. John Nepomucene, 411 East 66th St., New York City beginning with Slovak Mass at 11 a.m. in church followed by the luncheon and cultural program in the parish social hall, 406 East 67th St.; \$20.00 per person; for reservations call the rectory at 212-734-4613, New York City.

Speakers series set at Ohio Byzantine parish

On Saturday, November 14 St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church of Cleveland as part of its Speakers Series, will host a day of insight and discussion about Biblical Parenting & Traditional Marriage, featuring two noted speakers, the Rev. Thomas Loya and Dr. Ray Guarendi. The interesting and inspiring program will be held at The Crystal Chale Banquet Hall, located at 3600 Biddulph Avenue in Cleveland,

Oh. beginning at 10 a.m. and concluding at 4 p.m.

About the speakers: Dr. Ray Guarendi is a father, clinical psychologist, author, public speaker and nationally syndicated radio host. He has appeared on regional radio and television shows in over states and Canada. He has authored several books on the topic of parenting. His first book "You're a Better Parent Than You Think!" is

(Continued on page 17)

In Memory of....



Announcing the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!

Julie Ann Dobbs
Supreme Vice-President

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 newly developed Memorial Scholarship fund? Your donation will assure that an annual scholarship be given out to a college age student who best exemplifies the meaning of fraternalism and volunteerism. Here's how it works:

Send a check or money order to the Memorial Scholarship Fund clearly indicating the name to be memorialized. You can find a donation form on line at

<http://slovakcatholicssokol.org/members/memorialfrmframe.htm> or simply send your donation to:

Dennis J. Zifcak
Museum Treasurer
Memorial Scholarship Fund
205 Madison St.
Passaic, NJ 07055

- Your bequest will be recognized in the *Falcon* as well as permanently added to the Memorial Scholarship Donation Log which will be kept at the Sokol Museum.
- Depending on the amount of funds collected, we will be able to award at least two \$1,000 scholarships annually. The hope is that the donated funds will begin a self-perpetuating interest bearing scholarship account.

Have you recently lost a loved one? You might consider earmarking donations to this fund in their memory. Keep the spirit of your fellow Sokol alive by investing in a way that their fraternal dedication will not be forgotten.

Lodge Jottings

(Continued from page 15)

Monica Fabian
Recording Secretary

WHITING, IND. Wreath 81

Greetings to all our Wreath 81 members. The holidays are rapidly approaching and the officers are planning our traditional Christmas party and annual meeting. Our party and annual meeting will be held on Sunday, December 6 at Johnel's Restaurant, located at 4141 Calumet Avenue in Hammond, Ind. Festivities begin at 12:30 p.m. All our members and friends are invited to join us for this annual fraternal event. The cost for members is \$10 and guests are welcome at a cost of \$15 each. Reservations are required and can be made by calling Audrey Filipek at tel. 219-659-6444. Payment is expected when reservations are made. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, November 29.

This fraternal event is a good way for our members and their guests to usher in the holidays and spend an afternoon together celebrating Sokol fraternal-

ism. There will be door prizes awarded, and a few surprises are planned.

As is our custom as fraternalists, will be collecting monetary donations in support of our local food pantry. Especially at this time of year, our Wreath wants to show our support to those who are most in need in our community. As always, we appreciate the generosity of our members to this community outreach program in the best traditions of the fraternal benefit system.

Our Wreath officers, President Josie Bolek, Treasurer Audrey Filipek and Auditor Dorothy Urbanik and myself, send best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year 2016 to all our members and especially those who cannot attend our meetings and social events because of distance or ill health. Know that your presence is missed, and you are always remembered in thought and prayer.

As we approach the birth of Our Savior, don't forget that Jesus is the reason for the season.

Zdar Boh!
Judy Strisko
Recording Secretary

Joseph Gresko seeks office

Our Sokol of Assembly 9, Joseph Gresko is seeking election from the 5th District as councilman in Stratford, Conn. in the Nov. 3rd election.

Joe is a 1978 graduate of Holy Name of Jesus School and is a member of Holy Name of Jesus Parish. He is also an Auxiliary member of VFW Post 9460 and is the Communication Coordinator, House Democrats Office of the Connecticut General Assembly. He also serves as a member of the Democratic Town Committee in Stratford. If you live in the 5th District, please consider casting your vote for Brother Gresko. Zdar Boh!
- Eileen S. Wilson, Group 2 president

Christmas Oplatky 2015

(Continued from page 2)

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, founded in 1968, 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 booklist. Such items make wonderful gifts at Christmas for those who cherish their Slovak heritage.

33rd St. Martin Day Celebration hosted by Group 2 set for Sunday, November 15

Continuing in a time-honored fraternal tradition, Group 2, "Rev. Stephen Panik" will host its 33rd annual St. Martin's Day Celebration on Sunday, November 15 in Stratford, Conn. The annual celebration honors the patron of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, St. Martin of Tours and affords the opportunity for Sokol members belonging to the various Sokol lodges in Connecticut to gather together to celebrate Sokol fellowship and camaraderie in the best traditions of the fraternal benefit system. This year's celebration begins with participants attending 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church located at 1950 Barnum Avenue in Stratford. 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 to the liturgy.



Following the liturgy, a reception and luncheon will be enjoyed at the nearby Blue Goose Restaurant in Stratford. At the luncheon, we will acknowledge and pay tribute to all our Veterans in attendance. We will also conduct a memorial service for Sokol members who have gone on to their eternal reward in 2015. Cost of the luncheon is \$32.00 for members and \$42.00 for guests. Children age 10 and younger pay \$10.00 and will enjoy chicken tenders. Meal choices include Prime Rib of Beef, Chicken Marsala and Atlantic Salmon. A vegetarian menu is also available. Reservations are necessary beginning on October 1 and continuing until the deadline RSVP date of Sunday, October 25. Checks which are non-refundable, should be made payable to: SCS Group 2 and sent to Group 2 Treasurer, Kevin Sabovik, 5 Woods Grove Road, Huntington, Conn. 06484. Members of local lodges should make their reservation with the following: Wreath 1 - Eileen S. Wilson, (203)378-8837; Wreath 39 - 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; and Assembly 33, Cele Dulla, (203)734-5574. When making reservations, members are asked to inquire whether there will be a 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.

At the celebration, 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. This outreach to the Slovak College has been an example of Group 2 fraternal outreach for many years now.

Why the change? Well, our Sister Sokolka, Martha Dulla Andrade, Esq. has sold the Grassy Hill Lodge where we have enjoyed so many previous St. Martin Day celebrations along with her extreme generosity in all areas of our celebrations. It is now a restaurant with a small area reserved for catering. Good luck to Martha - now hopefully she can sit back and relax. So mark your calendar and plan to join us for what always is an enjoyable and special fraternal event as we continue to promote Sokol fellowship and fraternalism within Group 2.

Zdar Boh!
Eileen S. Wilson
Group 2 President

Speakers series set at Ohio Byzantine parish

(Continued from page 16)

now in its twenty-eighth printing. Father Thomas J. Loya, S.T.B., M.A. is currently the pastor of Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish in Homer Glen, Ill. He holds degrees in Fine Art, Theology and Counseling. He hosts two radio programs including "Light of the East Radio" which can be heard on EWTN Radio affiliate. Fr. Loya is a conference speaker for the Tabor Life Institute and for TOBIA (Theology of the Body International Alliance).

Tickets for this wonderful day are \$10 per person. Tickets may be purchased online or at the door. A lunch, deserts and all day beverages will be provided.

A Vesper with Divine Liturgy (Byzantine Catholic Mass) will be celebrated at the church across the street, at 4600 State Road at 5 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. This liturgy satisfies the Sunday obligation.

For additional information or to register, visit the parish website at www.stmarybyz.com or call 216-741-7979. The Rev. Marek Visnovsky, a native of Slovakia, serves as pastor of St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Parish and looks forward to seeing many Sokol members at this special day dedicated to the holiness of marriage and parenting.

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



Just \$15.50 which includes postage and handling
Sokol Assemblies and Wreaths can order a case of
12 cook books for just \$170.00 - 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

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(Effective January 1, 2015)

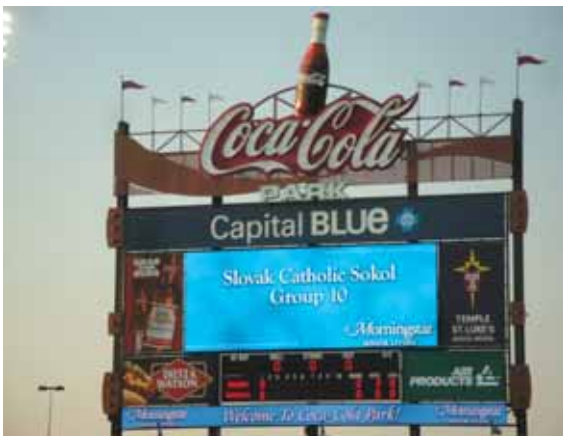


NEW YORK -YOUNGSTOWN CONNECTION - Delegates attending our national conventions make fast friends. Some of the delegates at this year's 32nd national convention in Pittsburgh from New York and Youngstown have become fast friends. Shown on the photo are, l-r, Jozef and Ann Korcak, delegates of Assembly 182 in New York City; with their Youngstown friends, Edith Babik, Susan Babik, Judy Babik, Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Nancy Kropolinsky and Dr. Ladislav Korcek, also of Assembly 182.

A Lehigh Valley fraternal tradition, Group 10 Hosts Baseball Outing

Sokols and Sokolky from various lodges within Group 10, "Rev. Francis Sasinek" in the Lehigh Valley of southeastern Pennsylvania enjoyed their traditional summer fraternal outing on August 14th. The fraternalists attended an Iron Pigs baseball game. The Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs are a Triple A franchise of the Philadelphia Phillies. The Iron Pigs played

Pawtucket, a Red Sox franchise, and they lost the game 6-7 to Pawtucket, but everyone had a fun evening nevertheless. Sokol members received a warm welcome on the jumbotron. Well-known Group 10 activist, Fran Blonar through out the first pitch of the game. An enjoyable time was had by all in the best traditions of Group 10 fellowship and fraternalism.



A warm welcome to Lehigh Valley Sokol members.



Well-known Group 10 officer and activist, Fran Blonar through out the first pitch of the game.

Halloween's Due Oct. 31

The ghouls, goblins, and ghosts will make Halloween a "spook-tacular" event. But along with the creatures of the night will be lots of chocolates and raisins and candied apples and popcorn and pumpkin pie and happy, noisy kids in gaudy costumes yelling, "Trick or treat!"

Today's festivities can be traced to an ancient pagan celebration. In the old Celtic calendar, Halloween was the last day of the year, a time when warlocks and witches were wicked. And the people conducted midnight rites in superstitious fear to gain the favor of the various demons of night.

After Christianity was introduced, the celebration became the Eve of All Hallows (shortened to Halloween) or All Saints Day, which falls on November 1.

In Ireland, groups of masked revelers went from farm to farm,



collecting the ingredients of a celebration honoring Muck Olla, a whimsical, boisterous fictitious character who could "treat" the generous giver to a measure of good luck and "trick" the miser in many ways.

A variation of the Irish custom caught on in the United States and "trick or treat" has become a fun time for all.

Group 2 Corner

(Continued from page 3)

Sokol Children's Section

We like to keep track of activities and special events in the lives of our junior Sokols and Sokolky. Alyssa Marie Toman, a member of Wreath 1, received her First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 9th at the Church of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Derby, Conn. Following the First Communion liturgy, a celebration was held honoring Alyssa Marie at a local restaurant with family and friends. Her grandfather, Thomas Marticek is a Group 2 Sokol activist and currently serves as president of Assembly 9 in Bridgeport.



A reminder to our Group 2 members, this is your Corner and we are interested in featuring the many activities in which our Junior members participate. Let's hear from you.

Celebrating Slovak Heritage in Carteret, N.J.



Continuing in a long-standing tradition of the Slovak community of the Borough of Carteret, N.J., a special flag-raising and civic program was held there on September 1st. The event celebrated the 23rd anniversary of the adoption of Slovakia's Constitution. It was on September 1, 1992 that the autonomous parliament in Bratislava accepted the Slovak Constitution which led to the declaration of independence of the Slovak Republic on January 1, 1993. Following the raising of the Stars and Stripes along with the Slovak flag, Carteret Mayor Daniel J. Reiman read the proclamation proclaiming Slovak Day in the borough. In the proclamation, Mayor Reiman paid tribute to the area's Slovak community and its contribution to the good of the community. Slovaks began settling in Carteret more than a century ago. Local lodges of all our Slovak fraternalists, including the Slovak Catholic Sokol were founded over the years. In 1912, Sacred Heart of Jesus Church was founded to serve the Slovak community. Mayor Reiman and Slovak activists are shown in the above photo at the flag raising. The annual event was chaired by Diane Gruskowski and coordinated by veteran Slovak cultural and civic leader, Mary Rindosh.

Pápež menoval slovenského kňaza za svojho ceremoniára

Svätý Otec František vymenoval za pápežského ceremoniára kňaza Banskobystrickej diecézy Jána Dubinu. Úlohou pápežských ceremoniarov je asistovať Svätému Otcovi počas posvätných slávení a tiež aj kardinálom pri významných príležitostiach.

Každému kardinálovi po ustanovení v konzistóriu je pridelený jeden ceremoniár, ktorý mu asistuje počas slávení v meste Rím. Pápežskí ceremoniári majú tiež za úlohu, pod vedením maestra pápežských liturgických slávení, pripravovať a viesť v Ríme všetky slávenia, ktoré sa konajú v mene pápeža. Počas Sede vacante pápežskí ceremoniári asistujú na generál-

ných kongregáciách kardinálov a vstupujú do konkláve, aby plnili im zverenú úlohu.

Ján Dubina pochádza z obce Pažiť pri Partizánskom. Po teologických štúdiách v Kňazskom seminári v Badíne bol 19. júna 2004 vysvätený za kňaza pre Banskobystrickú diecézu. Po vysviacke pôsobil ako kaplán vo farnosti Banská Bystrica – mesto.

Vtedajší banskobystrický biskup ho poslal na štúdiá liturgie do Ríma, kde v roku 2012 získal doktorát z posvätné liturgie na Pápežskom ateneu sv. Anzelma. Od júla 2011 pracuje v Úrade liturgických slávení Najvyššieho veľkňaza vo Vatikáne.

Medzi Slovákov v zahraničí sa prerozdeleno vyše polmilióna eur

Podporiť projekty s dlhodobým účinkom bolo zámerom dotačnej politiky Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚSZZ). Do konca januára 2014 zaregistroval 851 elektronických žiadostí o dotáciu.

Predseda úradu na základe odporúčania dotačnej komisie schválil 434 žiadostí. Úvádza sa to v Správe o štátnej politike vo vzťahu k Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí a o poskytnutej štátnej podpore za rok 2014, o ktorej diskutujú poslanci Národnej rady SR na úvod 12. rokovacieho dňa 54. schôdze parlamentu.

Medzi Slovákov v zahraničí

sa prerozdeleno 649 465 eur. Projekty sa týkali vzdelávania, vedy a výskumu, kultúry, informačnej oblasti a médií.

Najviac žiadostí, a to 323, prišlo zo Srbska, nasledovalo Maďarsko (112), Rumunsko (82), Česká republika (64), Chorvátsko (60), Kanada (27), po 22 žiadostí zaslali krajania z USA a Austrálie.

Okrem riadneho dotačného kola existovala vlna aj možnosť predloženia žiadostí o mimoriadnu dotáciu úradu. Z 86 podaných žiadostí rozhodol predseda úradu o schválení 61 vo výške 404.490 eur. - *tasr*

Halloween Party v Cliftone, NJ

Slovenský spolok Domovina pri kostole sv. Cyrila a Metoda, 235 Ackerman Avenue v Cliftone, NJ usporiada v kostolnej hale v piatok 30. októbra Halloween Party. Začiatok bude o 7.00 hodine a trvať bude do 11.00 hodiny večer.



Vstupné je \$12.00 za dospelých a \$8.00 za deti. V cene je započítaná pizza pre deti a večera pre dospelých. Vstupenky sú na predaj na webovej stránke: www.domovina.org alebo po slovenskej sv. omši počas posedenia pri káve. Slovenská sv. omša v nedeľu začína o 10.30 hodine dopoludnia.

VIETE, ŽE...

... na Slovensku žije 641 sto- a viacročných obyvateľov?

... Slovensko je po Rakúsku druhou najľahšiejšou krajinou v strednej Európe? Lesy zaberajú takmer 40 % územia Slovenska, zatiaľ čo v Rakúsku je to o 6 % viac.

... na Slovensku sa nachádza geografický stred Európy? A viete, že vynálezca padáka pochádza zo Slovenska? Ak nie, tak rýchlo čítajte ďalej a dozviete sa i ďalšie perličky o krajine medzi Dunajom a Tatrami...

... Slovensko je po Rakúsku druhou najľahšiejšou krajinou v strednej Európe? Lesy zaberajú takmer 40 % územia Slovenska, zatiaľ čo v Rakúsku je to o 6 % viac.

... Bratislava a Viedeň sú dve najbližšie ležiace hlavné mestá v Európe? Oddeluje ich len necelých 60 km.

Ach, tá naša slovenčina!

Tajná ingrediencia, ktorá to naštartuje - *zdravie.sk*

Hody v Dúbravke ponúkajú Farm fest i koncerty - *sme.sk*

V galérii nájdete viac ako 50 štýlových outfitov tejto chic modelky. - *plushka.sk*

Ryba na paprike: Heik v chutnej kruste - *dobrejedo.sk*

Záujem participovať na centre prejavilo Nemecko - *tasr.sk*

Hexáci sa dali na filmovú hudbu, majú nový singel aj klip - *pravda.sk*

Zoznámte sa s novou vlnou fashionistiek - *emma.sk*

Tatranská Lomnica je medzi top svetovými lyžiarskymi rezortmi - *sita.sk*

Tá Devínska otvorila edukačný areál - *pravda.sk*

Niektoré skipasy vo Vysokých Tatrách budú dražšie - *korzar.sk*

Konferencia TechMatch na podporu start-upov... - *sme.sk*

Na Slovensku pracuje 23-tisíc cudzincov

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

takmer 1,2 tis. zamestnaných cudzincov. Úrad práce v Čadci vykázal vyše 1 tis. pracujúcich občanov pochádzajúcich z iných krajín. Naopak, len piati cudzí štátni príslušníci koncom augusta tohto roka pracovali v okrese Gelnica a siedmi cudzinci si zarábali v okrese Sabinov. - *SITA*

Kremnické Bane - geografický stred európy



Už v starých spisoch, ktoré rozprávajú o histórii obce Kremnické Bane sa dozvedáme, že samotný kostol bol vybudovaný na geografickom strede Európy. Lokalita sa nachádza severovýchodne od obce a zďaleka na ňu upozorňuje dominant - akoby osamelý stojaci Kostol sv. Jána Krstiteľa obkolesený obranným múrom. Z vonkajšej strany ohrady ja na jej južnej strane je umiestnený balvan s pamätnou tabuľou, ktorá oboznamuje o geografickom význame tohto miesta. Tiež tu nájdeme aj základný kameň

Slovenskej štátnosti, ktorý bol v Kremnických Baniach položený pri príležitosti vzniku Slovenskej republiky.

Samotný gotický Kostol sv. Jána Krstiteľa z r. 1300 je významnou sakrálnou pamiatkou, ktorú majú v správe miestni kapucíni. Začiatky výstavby spadajú už do 13. stor., na jeho mieste pôvodne stála nemecká románska kaplnka. Kostolík je národnou kultúrnou pamiatkou a je úchvatný najmä zvnútra. Hneď vedľa neho je postavený nový kláštor menších bratov kapucínov a prírodný amfiteáter.

Krátke správy zo Slovenska



(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

medzi sebou spravodajcovia vymieňať napríklad informácie o tom, ako odhaliť príznaky bezpečnostných hrozieb, budú sa učiť ovládanie spravodajskej techniky, alebo si odovzdávajú skúsenosti s odhalením nepriateľa. Vznik strediska iniciovali ministri obrany Slovenska a Poľska. Hlavnou úlohou centra má byť vzdelávanie a tréning v oblasti kontrarozvedky a zlepšenie práce spravodajcov.

❖ V severných okresoch Slovenska v noci z 10. na 11. októbra nasnežilo. Prvý sneh v Prešovskom a v Banskobystrickom kraji narobil problémy na cestách. Niektoré horské priechody boli nejazdne. Cestári posypali približne 1300 kilometrov ciest a prepluhovali asi 200 kilometrov. Najviac museli zasahovať v okresoch Poprad a Stará Ľubovňa, najmä však v okolí Vysokých Tatier a na horských priechodoch.

❖ Pre zvýšený výskyt medvedí vo Vysokých Tatrách vyrazia do terénu hliadky. Budú sledovať pohyb medvedích rodín, ktoré chodia do kontajnerov s odpadom. Hliadky tak majú prispieť k bezpečnosti Tatrancov.

❖ Na Slovensku žije početná populácia medveda, ktorý je celoročne chránený formou diskusie odborníkov aj stav populácie medveda. V

správe pre Európsku komisiu za rok 2007 sa uvádza, že počet medvedí na Slovensku sa pohybuje v rozmedzí od 700 do 900 jedincov a trend bol v posledných 30 rokoch stúpajúci.

❖ Počet smrteľných nehôd v slovenských horách počas letnej turistickéj sezóny sa oproti vlaňajšku zdvojnásobil. Kým minulý rok od júna do konca septembra zaznamenali desať smrteľných prípadov, tento rok prišlo o život v horách za také isté obdobie 20 ľudí. Najviac, až deväť, ich pritom bolo v júli. Toto číslo súvisí aj s leteckým nešťastím v Slovenskom raji zo začiatku júla, pri ktorom zahynuli traja leteckí záchranári. Počet úrazov v roku 2015 stúpol o takmer 20 percent oproti roku 2014.

❖ Východ Slovenska začína byť lákadlom pre britské firmy pôsobiace v strojárskom priemysle. Podnikateľov láka najmä kvalifikovaná pracovná sila a produktivita práce tamjších ľudí. Nick Patrick, šéf Medzinárodného obchodného centra v Severnom Yorkshire, tvrdí, že práve východ Slovenska má z ich perspektívy veľký potenciál pre nové britské investície v oblasti technologických inovácií. Britský záujem o Slovensko narástol nedávno najmä po tom, čo britská automobilka Jaguar Land Rover ohlásila, že postaví svoj nový závod pri Nitre.

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NATO vybuduje nové veliteľstvá na Slovensku a v Maďarsku

Rozšírenie vojenskej prítomnosti NATO na jeho východnej hranici vo &. októbra podľa očakávania schválili ministri obrany členských krajín aliancie na zasadnutí v Bruseli, oznámil šéf NATO Jens Stoltenberg.

Nové veliteľské centrá o sile približne 40 mužov majú slúžiť okrem iného ako plánovacie a koordinačné strediská pre manévry nových aliančných síl veľmi rýchlej reakcie. Podľa aliančných zdrojov majú byť zároveň výrazom podpory východným členom NATO, ktorí sa obávajú veľmocenských ambícií Ruska.

“Zabezpečiť, že naše sily sa budú môcť pohybovať rýchlo a efektívne, ak sa budú musieť rozmiestniť (vo východnej Európe),” povedal na tlačovej konferencii Stoltenberg. Zdôraznil, že vzhľadom k zvýšenej neistote spôsobenej najmä novými aktivitami Ruska je veľmi dôležité posilniť kolektívnu obranu aliancie. Z rovnakého dôvodu ministri tiež rozhodli zdvojnásobiť na 40 000 počet

príslušníkov Síl rýchlej reakcie NATO.

Slovenské ministerstvo obrany na svojom webe zdôraznilo, že pripravovaný integračný tím (NATO Force Integration Units – NFIU) na slovenskom nebude základňou. Pôjde o tím plánovačov, a nie o vytvorenie bojovej jednotky alebo základne, ako je to niekedy nepresne interpretované. Prítomnosť tímu všeobecne uľahčí prípadné prijatie posil zo strany NATO pre danú členskú krajinu. V čase mieru by podporovala plánovacie aktivity,“ uviedol nedávno minister obrany Martin Glváč. Tiež šéf NATO už skôr spresnil, že nejde o žiadnu základňu, ale o malý štáb, ktorý má slúžiť výlučne obranným cieľom.

Vybudovaných je už šesť podobných malých veliteľstiev NFIU v Estónsku, Lotyšsku, Litve, Poľsku, Rumunsku a Bulharsku. Preskupovanie aliančných síl a posilňovanie kolektívnej obrany je podľa Stoltenberga najväčšie od konca studenej vojny.

Na Slovensku pracuje 23-tisíc cudzincov

Ku koncu augusta tohto roku pracovalo na Slovensku takmer 23 tisíc cudzincov. Vyplýva to z údajov, ktoré zverejnilo Ústredie práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny SR.

Najpočetnejšie zastúpenie na slovenskom pracovnom trhu majú občania Rumunska. Tých ku koncu minulého mesiaca na Slovensku pracovalo takmer 5,6 tisíce. Na druhej priečke sú občania Poľska, ktorých 3,1 tis. prišlo za prácou na Slovensko. Nasleduje Česká republika, ktorá zaznamenala koncom augusta takmer 3 tisíc svojich občanov pracujúcich na Slovensku a na štvrtom mieste sa nachádza Maďarsko s 2,5 tis. občanmi pracujúcimi na Slovensku.

Každý tretí cudzinec na Slovensku pracoval ku koncu minulého mesiaca v Bratislave. V piatich okresoch hlavného mesta Slovenska bolo totiž zamestnaných vyše 7,6 tis. cudzincov. Nasleduje okres Trnava, ktorý koncom augusta zaevidoval

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)

Generálny tajomník OSN Pan Ki-mun navštívil Slovensko



Foto: SITA

Generálny tajomník OSN Pan Ki-mun 17. októbra prišiel na štvordňovú oficiálnu návštevu Slovenska. Navštívil Vysoké Tatry, Spišský hrad a Levočú, ktorá je zapísaná do zoznamu svetového dedičstva UNESCO. 18. októbra večer sa v Tatrách zišiel s prezidentom Andrejom Kiskom (na snímke vpravo).

Okrem stretnutí s politikmi generálny tajomník OSN navštívil aj Univerzitu Komenského v Bratislave, ktorá mu udelila čestný doktorát.

V Gabčíkove na juhu krajiny si Pan Ki-mun prezrel tábor pre utečencov. Slovensko

tam ubytovalo niekoľko stoviek utečencov, ktorí požiadali o azyl v susednom Rakúsku, ktoré sa má nedostatok kapacít vo svojich utečeneckých táboroch.

V pondelok 19. októbra v historickej budove Národnej rady SR v Bratislave otvoril minister zahraničných vecí Slovenskej republiky Miroslav Lajčák spolu s generálnym tajomníkom OSN Pan Ki-munom výstavu venovanú 70. výročiu založenia Organizácie Spojených národov.

Zo Slovenska generálny tajomník OSN odcestoval v utorok 20. októbra.

Krátke správy zo Slovenska



❖ Slovenskí vojaci budú pravdepodobne v Afganistane cvičiť príslušníkov technického personálu Afganskej národnej armády pre vrtulníky Mi-17/171. Ide o rozšírenie úloh pre slovenských vojakov v misii Resolute support preto o tom musí rozhodnúť vláda SR a parlament. Maximálny počet vojakov v tejto nebojovej misii sa týmto rozhodnutím nezvyšší. Podľa skôr schváleného mandátu ich môže byť do 66.

❖ Nielen marihuanu a katku jedlú, ale aj 22 kilogramov syntetických drog s účinkami

podobnými metamfetamínu v hodnote takmer 70-tisíc eur odhalili colníci bratislavského colného úradu v zásielkach, ktoré mali skončiť v rukách drogových dilerov. V septembri z krajín tretieho sveta dorazilo na Slovensko 2,2 kg marihuany. Následne zaistili 16 a potom 22 kilogramov katy jedlej.

❖ Tajní agenti členských krajín NATO sa budú školiť a trénovať na Slovensku. Vo výcvikovom priestore Lešť vznikne Centrum pre kontrarozvedné spôsobilosti krajín aliancie. Práve tu si budú

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)



Vyššie 150 umelcov, 50 umeleckých projektov, 49 kilometrov laserových lúčov, 50-tisíc pixelov či 250 blikajúcich neónov rozžiariť centrum Bratislavy počas Bielej noci v sobotu 10. októbra. Podujatie sa konalo hlavnom meste Slovenska prvýkrát a zúčastnilo sa ho okolo 100-tisíc návštevníkov. Súčasní svetoví aj domáci umelci pripravili inštalácie na mieru historickému centru mesta a jeho menej známym zákutiam.