

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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New York Area Slovaks Celebrate the Centennial of the Pittsburgh Agreement



Headtable guests at the dinner celebrating the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Pittsburgh Agreement at St. John Nepomucene Social Hall in New York City on April 15 are shown above and include, seated l-r, W. Nina Holy, national secretary-treasurer of the Slovak League of America; Cynthia M. Maleski, national president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association who was the principal speaker; Daniel F. Tanzzone, national president of the Slovak League of America; and Ladislava Begec, Consul General of Slovakia in New York. Standing l-r, Stephen J. Kubasek, Jr., nephew of the late Rev. John J. Kubasek, a signator of the Pittsburgh Agreement; Sabina Sabados who represented the First Catholic Slovak Union; Scott T. Pogorelec, E.L.C., supreme secretary of the Slovak Catholic Sokol; and Dr. Larry Korecek, president of Assembly 182 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol who offered greetings on behalf of Assembly 1 of the Slovak League of America.

On Sunday, April 15, the Slovak League of America, a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry, hosted a program commemorating the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Pittsburgh

Agreement at St. John Nepomucene Parish in New York City. The agreement was an important document which led to the establishment of the first Czecho-Slovak Republic in 1918. The celebration also honored the 25th anniversary of Slovakia's independence. The program opened with a Slovak Mass celebrated by the Rev. Igor Kral, S.V.D. in the majestic church. The pastor, the Rev. Richard D. Baker offered a warm welcome to the Slovak League and guests.

Following the impressive liturgy, nearly 200 guests enjoyed a dinner and cultural program in the parish social hall. Slovak League President, Daniel F. Tanzzone served as the afternoon's toastmaster. The program opened with the anthems of the United States and Slovakia, led by the young tenor, Andrew Pulver. The guests then enjoyed a delicious dinner featuring Slovak culinary specialties under the direction of John Skrkon.

Principal speaker at the dinner was Cynthia M. Maleski, Esq. national president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. President Maleski recalled the rich history of the Pittsburgh Agreement

signed on May 31, 1918. She noted the role played by American Slovaks and Czechs in the liberation of Slovaks and Czechs in their ancestral homeland a century ago which led to the establishment of the first republic of Czecho-Slovakia.

Greetings were extended by Ladislava Begec, Consul General of the Slovak Republic. She lauded the work of the New York area Slovak community in helping preserve the rich history, culture and heritage of Slovakia.

Remarks were offered in the name of Assembly 1 of the Slovak League in New York by Dr. Ladislav Korecek. Dr. Korecek, president of Assembly 182 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, also spoke on behalf of the local lodges of the First Catholic Slovak Union and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. He recalled the rich history of Assembly 1 over the years.

Greetings were then offered by Stephen J. Kubasek, Jr., president of Branch 41 of the First Catholic Slovak Union in Yonkers, N.Y. and a former city council member there. His late uncle, the Rev. John J.

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CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pennsylvania claim a unique legacy that has been entrusted to them by their founder Reverend Matthew Jankola (1872-1916), an immigrant priest from Slovakia who established the Religious Congregation of Sisters in 1909 with the purpose of promoting and preserving Slovak faith and culture. He distinguished himself as a promoter of Slovak intellectual and literary interests and inspired his American-Slovak Sisters to esteem and cherish all that relates to scholarship and multiculturalism.

On July 2, 1968 the Congregation of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius established Jankola Library and Slovak Archives Center to promote the legacy of Father Jankola and to name the Library in his honor. The concept for beginning this Library began when the congregation became the recipient of a collection of Slovak books that were valued as tools for learning and supplementary materials for teachers. As the public gradually came to know that the Sisters were interested in acquiring Slovak related materials, the collection increased in volume and worth.

1968-1992

Sister M. Martina Tybor, S.S.C.M. an outstanding scholar, teacher, poet, translator and author



was appointed to Jankola Library as its Director-Librarian from 1968 to 1992 with a mission to organize and catalogue all the valuable

Slovak and English works that relate to Slovak and Slavic history, language, literature, fine arts, spirituality and learning. There was a need for a place to do this task. In 1971 the closure of the Magnificat Chapel at the Motherhouse gave space for Jankola Library.

Over the years notable scholars

from home and abroad contacted Jankola Library which had become an internationally renowned research center. The services and cooperation of Jankola Library had been sought by scholars and students of at least forty-five American Universities and centers of learning as distant as Texas, California, and Hawaii, and as close by as Danville and Bloomburg. Contacts had also been made by a number of foreign centers in places like Amsterdam, Lisbon, Padua, Rome, Munich, London, Ottawa, Bratislava, Victoria and Toronto. Information sought by researchers could only be found at Jankola Library.

During twenty-four years building and solidifying the legacy of Father Jankola, Sister Martina Tybor had laid a firm foundation for the Congregation's mission to promote and preserve the Slovak faith and culture. By 1991 Sister Martina's health declined and she needed to receive medical care at Maria Hall in Danville until August 12, 1998.

1992 - 2007

To advance the legacy of Father Jankola, Sister M. Mercedes Voytko, S.S.C.M.

accepted the appointment to be the new Director of Jankola Library from 1992 to 2007. She welcomed the opportunity



to promulgate the preservation of the rich culture and history of the Slovak people. Her background in history and theology as well as her ability to communicate in Slovak were invaluable assets for taking on this responsibility.

Considering that numerous holdings of Jankola Library were still in storage, Sister Mercedes realized there was a critical need for space to integrate about 10,000 books and Slovak artifacts into our resources.

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Message from our Supreme President

by Michael J. Horvath

SPRING 2018

The mother star, the sun, has finally decided to push old man winter out of the way and give us what we



all have been waiting for, bright clear warm days. This means more outdoor activities. Some of the activities will be enjoyable,

cooking on the grill, golfing, fishing, baseball, soccer, etc. versus the required outdoor activities, spring cleaning, getting the yard and deck ready for relaxing events. No matter what the activity is keep the NSAIDs handy to combat the aches and pains of spring.

April turned out to be a very busy month. Beginning with the Joys of Easter and celebrating the day with family and friends by carrying on Slovak Easter traditions and customs. The family really enjoys Easter Monday the best, since we all get the chance to dunk a member of the family without the worries of having the person mad at us for getting them wet.

I attended the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance's annual meeting held on Monday, April 17, 2018 at the William Penn lodge hall in Harrisburg, PA. Then on Tuesday, April 18, 2018 Pennsylvania fraternalists gathered at the Pennsylvania Capitol on the second floor of the rotunda for the annual Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance's Legislative Day. The Pennsylvania legislators have the opportunity to stop by and meet with the various fraternalists during their

breaks from their busy committee meetings. This allows the fraternalists to meet with the state Senators and Representatives to explain to them what fraternal societies are about and do how the current Pennsylvania laws enable the fraternalists to carry out their missions and also answer any questions they have concerning fraternalists.

The take away from this important annual event is the legislators know of the fraternal societies in Pennsylvania and applauded our mission and goals. And, that the Pennsylvania legislators recognize Pennsylvania fraternal societies are a key component to helping Pennsylvania citizens and their families with financial security.

The next week it was to Washington, D.C. for the American Fraternal Alliance's Executive Summit held at the Hilton Crystal City in Arlington, VA. The conference began with a Small Society roundtable on Monday, April 23, 2018. The Alliance organized the Small Society roundtable meeting so the small fraternalists could discuss the concerns they have regarding a long list of issues that can impact the societies. Then on Tuesday, April 24 all of the societies at the Summit heard from speakers to prepare us for our afternoon visit with key Senators and members of Congress to explain and re-educate them on the fraternal society system and how it helps their constituents.

I was with the group that met with the Senators and Congress members from New Jersey and Massachusetts. Our team was received warmly by all the legislators and their staff we met with. They were interested in hearing

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Andrew (Butch) and Margaret (Louise) Hvozďovic Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary



Well-known Sokol activists, Andrew and Margaret Hvozďovic last month celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Butch and Louise, as they are affectionally known, exchanged their marriage vows on April 26, 1958 at St. John the Baptist Slovak Church in Pittston, PA with the late Rev. Msgr. Joseph Super presiding. Andrew Joseph Hvozďovic is the son of the late Andrew and Anna (Koval) Hvozďovic. Margaret Louise Hvozďovic is the daughter of the late Stephen and Margaret

(Shedlock) Balint. Maid of honor was the late Dorothy (Balint) Lippi, sister of Louise; with Joseph Andrew Hvozďovic twin brother of Butch served as the best man. Attendants included Milly Platukus, Robert Balint, and William and Janet Blazes.

Their marriage has been blessed with two sons, Fr. Andrew and Steven. Steven is married to Chyrisse (Estridge) and have two sons, Steven, Jr. and Joshua.

A private immediate family gathering marked this happy occasion.



On Memorial Day we honor the men and women that died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally it was called Decoration Day which was established in May 1868 as a day to decorate (usually with flowers) the graves of the fallen Union and Confederate soldiers from the Civil War. In 1971 congress declared Memorial Day to be a national holiday celebrated on the last Monday in May. Many Americans visit or put flags on soldier's grave sites and hang their U.S. flag outside. Memorial day also unofficially marks the beginning of summer.

Lodge Jottings

BRIDGEPORT, CONN. Assembly 9

The annual meeting of our Assembly including the election of officers will take place on Sunday, June 10 in the meeting room of Holy Name of Jesus School, 1950 Barnum Ave. in Stratford, Conn beginning at 1 p.m.

On Thursday, June 28 we host our annual observance honoring our lodge's patrons, SS. Peter and Paul. Our program begins with attendance at the 7:30 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Stratford, Conn. This liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of the assembly. Following the Mass, we will enjoy a breakfast at a location to be determined that morning. A subsidy of \$5.00 will be given to each member attending towards the cost of the breakfast. All members are invited to attend.

This year, our Assembly celebrates its 112th anniversary. A group of 28 Slovaks belonging to the former St. John Nepomucene Slovak Parish on Bridgeport's East Side gathered in 1906 to establish a new lodge of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. The founders chose SS. Peter and Paul as patrons of the new society. Over the past 112 years, Assembly 9 has enjoyed a rich history of fraternal and sporting activities. A number of our members have gone on to serve as members of the Supreme Assembly beginning with the Rev. Matthew Jankola who was elected as the second supreme chaplain of our organization.

We hope to see a good turnout of our members at our upcoming events.

Zdar Boh!
John Tkacik
Recording Secretary

2018 International Clinic – Kurz

Time to Start Preparations

By John Udneration
Supreme Physical Director

As the school year winds down and we get ready for a fun-filled summer, we all as Sokol members know there is a busy schedule set for our fraternal events. Our biennial Clinic or Kurz as it is known in Slovak is set for July 26-29th, once again to be held at SUNY Brockport, NY. The Supreme Physical Fitness Board is finalizing all the necessary preparations to ensure a smooth four days for all in attendance, which will be at the time of this article, nine represented groups.

In the mail soon to all the Director's and Directresses, will be the DVD's of the current drills, with a newly created Mass Drill. The drills will also be uploaded to the scsdrills@gmail.com Google Drive, and the password is "slovakcatholic-sokol". We are asking that all Clinic participants take some time out of your schedule and master the drills before arrival, as this ensures a more efficient time drill session. The Supreme Physical Fitness Board is scheduled to arrive at SUNY Brockport by 1:00 p.m. on July 25th to do any final preparations with the college for the participants. All of the Clinic participants will arrive and register on July 26th between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at Bramley Hall. The SPFB has put together a comprehensive schedule that will include breakout sessions for Track & Field, Gymnastics, Insurance and Rules and Regulations. There will also be some highly anticipated meet & greet/social events planned.

Some important things to review before you head off to Brockport:

- 1) Please bring plain shirts and shorts without any advertising
- 2) There will be no alcohol allowed at during the entire Clinic

schedule. Our Sokol regulations and Campus regulations do not allow alcohol on the premises.

3) Bramley hall is not air conditioned, so it would be advised to bring a window fan to pull in those cool summer night breezes. You also may want to bring a pillow and extra blanket, as we all know the dorm sheets aren't top quality.

4) If possible, please try to pair up with someone for travel to the Clinic. It makes for a much more enjoyable ride, and helps keep the travel costs down for the organization.

The closing Clinic ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday July 28th at 6:30 p.m., with Mass celebrated to open the ceremony. The closing ceremonies will be held in the Vlogianitis main gymnasium in the Tuttle North complex. We invite all Brother and Sister Sokol members to join us for the closing ceremonies to celebrate all the accomplishments and hard work of our young leaders.

We look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming International Clinic – Kurz, as we prepare for our 49th International Slet to be held in the summer of 2019. As the Slovak Catholic Sokol, we have a long proud lineage that dates back 113 years, and that will continue with the effort of all our members promoting new policies and these events. Please travel safely to the Clinic, and to all of the Sokol events you will attend over the next few months. See everyone soon! Zdar Boh!



Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain

May – Month of Our Blessed Mother

by Rev. Andrew S. Hvozďovic

"God wills that all his gifts should come to us through Mary"
(St. Bernard)

It was in Rome, towards the end of the eighteenth century, one fine evening in May. A child of the poor gathered his companions around him and led them to a statue of Mary, before which a lamp was burning, as is the custom in that holy city. There, these fresh young voices sang the Litany of our Lady. The next day, the little group, followed by other children, again gathered at the feet of the Mother of God. Next came their mothers, to join the little assembly. Soon, other groups were formed, and the devotion rapidly became popular. Holy souls, troubled by the disorderly conduct which always increases and becomes graver at the return of the pleasant springtime, saw in these growing practices the hand of God, and they cooperated with the designs of Providence by approv-

ing and promoting this new devotion, as a public and solemn act of reparation. The Month of Mary was founded.

This is the month in which, in the churches and individual homes, the most affectionate and fervent homage of prayers and devotions from the hearts of Christians are raised to Mary. It is also the month in which from his throne descend upon us the most generous and abundant gifts of the Divine Mercy.

In our own times, we Catholics, wanting to be close to her always, offer her special presents in May: pilgrimages, visits to churches dedicated to her, little sacrifices in her honor, periods of study and well-finished work offered up to her, and a more attentive recitation of the rosary.





(Continued from page 1)

Subsequently, in 2000 Saint Cyril Academy allocated several available rooms to Jankola Library for expanding and maintaining the contents of the Library. The original Saint Cyril Academy Library became the main room for Jankola Library's collection of literary, historical and religious works in the Slovak language and the former Audio- Visual Aids Room was changed to be a Periodical Room where valuable Slovak magazines, periodicals, newspapers, and archival material are available for research.

The space for expanding the facilities for Jankola Library became a reality for Sister Mercedes. She set about the gigantic task of organizing and categorizing books and artifacts for display. With the generous and dedicated assistance of Sister Mercedes' sister, Ms. Catherine Voytko and the volunteers from the members of the Northeast Pennsylvania Slovak Heritage Society of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, Sister Mercedes achieved her major goal of relocating and transforming the new site for Jankola Library.

Since the original area which held Jankola Library was vacant, there was space to accept a magnificent donation of many valuable Slovak items from the Slovak Museum at Jednota Estates in Middletown, Pennsylvania which closed and relocated its contents to Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pennsylvania in 2002. The acquisition of many Slovak artifacts, glassware, ceramics, crystal, dolls, folk costumes on mannequins, paintings, woodcarving, and handiwork, enabled Sister Mercedes to create a beautiful Slovak Museum that is a component of Jankola Library.

For fifteen years, Sister M. Mercedes, S.S.C.M. faithfully and assiduously expanded and enriched the belongings of Jankola Library and Slovak Museum. She was devoted to her Slovak heritage and performed her tasks with love for Slovak culture and traditions. In 2007 Sister Mercedes moved to Maria Hall in Danville, Pennsylvania to receive medical care until September 8, 2016.

2007 - 2010

Father Jankola's legacy to the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius became the focus for Sister M. John Vianney Vranak's, S.S.C.M. ministry as the new Director of Jankola Library and Slovak Museum from 2007 to 2010. She wholeheartedly dedicated her time and energy to continue promoting the faith, culture and traditions of Slovak heritage. Sister M. John Vianney perceived the need to make improvements to Jankola



Library and Slovak Museum. Generous contributions from the four Slovak Catholic Fraternal Societies, namely, First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota), First Catholic Slovak Ladies' Association, Ladies' Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, Slovak Catholic Sokol as well as individual donors, bequests and memorials had provided financial gifts to purchase the following:

Website: <http://jankolalibrary.sscm.org>

Two air conditioners
Large Television
Computer Center
Custom SolarVue Toller Wind-Shades
Wooden Floor Tiles
Archival Boxes
Slovak Museum:
Carpeting
Window Drapes
Custom SolarVue Toller Window Shades
Three Wall Mounted Cooling and Heating Air Conditioners

2010 - 2018

In a spirit of gratitude and appreciation for Father Jankola's legacy, Sister M. Catherine Labouré Bresnock, S.S.C.M. received the appointment to be the Director of Jankola Library and Slovak Museum and Sister Loretta Marie Hrubec, S.S.C.M. accepted the position as Librarian for Jankola Library. Both Sisters have been missioned to this ministry from 2010 to 2018.

Legacy is

about life and living. Life has been sustained at Jankola Library and Slovak Museum by many visitors who have come from the United States, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, China, Italy, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Slovakia, Tanzania, Ukraine, Vietnam and Zimbabwe to tour and to engage in research for advanced studies.

There is a living Slovak tradition among families to share Oplatky with each other during Christmas Eve Supper. Since 2010 Jankola Library has been supplying hundreds of Christmas wafers each year to continue the practice of this treasured custom.

The competent and willing service of the Sisters, who were assigned to the ministry at Jankola Library, has greatly contributed to Father Jankola's plan to preserve and promote Slovak faith, heritage, history, culture and traditions. With God's help the strong foundation for Jankola Library has endured for fifty blessed and successful years. Praise and thanks to God!

Message from our Supreme President

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about how we help our members and the projects the societies do in their districts.

The take away from the Executive Summit was any one event can cause major problems for any fraternal. The more projects society's members do the better it is for all fraternal. And, the American Fraternal Alliance is helping all fraternal meet their mission, goals and obligations.

Lastly on April 30 and May 1 I attended the Slovak Catholic Federation's Spring meeting held at the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius Motherhouse in Danville, PA. The Motherhouse's campus is so pastoral and peaceful that reminded me of some similar venues I saw on my trips to Slovakia. The morning session was dedicated to the Federation's business agenda items. At noon the group went to the historic Basilica of the Saints Cyril and Methodius for Mass. Abbott Gary Hoover, OSB, was the main celebrant of the Mass with the rest of the Federation's clerical members as concelebrants. Our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic was the homilist. After the Mass and lunch the Federation's committees met to discuss what they will do in the upcoming months.

Here we are in May and the activities keep on going.

The Scholarship Committee held a conference call to review the scholarship applications received from our members. Then the 2020 Committee will have a conference call to continue its work on its mission, which is, to examine the Slovak Catholic Sokol structure and governance and see how it is like or differs from other fraternal societies.

The 72nd Slovak Catholic Sokol International Bowling Tournament is being held on May 21 and 22, 2018 at the Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, NV. Again this year we are joining the GCU while they hold their 82nd bowling tournament.

Then a little break as we relax for the national holiday Memorial Day. Then it is off to the 2nd annual Slovak Catholic Sokol Reunion, June 1 -2, 2018 at the Rocky Gap Resort in Flintstone, MD. The inaugural reunion, in 2017, was a hit and enjoyed by all who attended, so I know the 2nd reunion will be bigger and better.

I am looking forward to meet everyone at the Bowling tournament and Reunion.

Since spring is the time for cleaning and making things anew it can also be the time to take a look at our insurance needs for ourselves and our family. Do you have enough insurance? Is your saving account giving you a 2.5% return? Do you have an annuity? If your analysis is you could use additional life insurance, you are not getting a 2.5% on your money in the bank or you need an annuity, then call the Home Office or our Director of Sales and Marketing for their advice on how to improve your financial well being.

With God's Blessing to All!
Zdar Boh!

REFLECTOR...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

45TH SUMMER FESTIVAL SET FOR JULY 14 IN DANVILLE, PA

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius extend a cordial invitation to Sokol members and their friends to join them at their 45th annual Summer Festival scheduled for Saturday, July 14 at their Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart, located at Railroad Street in Danville, Pa. Activities will begin at 10:30 a.m. and last until 5 p.m.



The festival will feature a large Flea Market, a silent auction, home-made baked goods, handcrafted items, a book store, Sisters' artwork, and religious articles. There will be a variety of ethnic foods such as Halupky, Halusky, and Zemiakove placky (Potatoe Pancakes), as well as hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream and much more. There will be a variety of games for children and adults plus special attractions like raffles, and bingo.

The Summer Festival has been a blessed opportunity for the Sisters to keep in touch with former students, their parents and family members; to reconnect with friends they've made over the years, and to make new friends. The day never seems long enough for visiting with friends old and new.

Tours of the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius as well as Jankola Library which this year celebrates its 50th anniversary will be available.

Bus parking is available. The festival will take place rain or shine, and will close with a Mass to satisfy the Sunday obligation in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius at 5 p.m.

REV. JOHN T. CONNOLLY CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

The Rev. John T. Connolly, pastor of the parish of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Clifton, N.J. was honored on the occasion of his 40th anniversary of priestly ordination on Mother's Day, May 13. Father Connolly was principal celebrant of a concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving in the church at 10 a.m. The tri-lingual liturgy featured readings and hymns in English, Slovak and Spanish. Following the liturgy, Father John was honored at a reception in the parish social hall.

A native of Passaic, N.J., he was born there son of the late John J. Connolly and the former Aniela Marek. He was raised in St. Joseph's Polish Parish there. He was graduated from the former St. Nicholas School in Passaic and attended St. John Neumann High School. He received his undergraduate degree at Seton Hall University. He completed his theological studies at Immaculate Conception Seminary in Darlington, N.J. On May 20, 1978, he was ordained a priest in the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Paterson by the Most Rev. Frank J. Rodimer, Bishop of Paterson. He celebrated his first solemn Mass in St. Joseph's Polish Church in Passaic. His first priestly assignment was as a parochial vicar at Our Lady of Consolation Parish in Wayne, N.J. He served as pastor of St. Stephen's Parish in Paterson before being named pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Clifton in 2007. Since 2010, he has also been serving as pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Clifton. Under his faithful guidance, the Slovak ministry at SS. Cyril and Methodius has borne rich fruit in the best traditions of our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith.

Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Father John on this milestone in his rich priestly ministry among us. Ad multos, gloriosque annos, na mnohaja a blahaja lita and Zdar Boh!



88TH MILWAUKEE SLOVAK DAY SET FOR SUNDAY, JULY 29

Continuing in a fine cultural tradition of the Milwaukee area Slovak community, this year's 88th annual Slovak American Day is scheduled for Sunday, July 29 at Croatian Park located at 9140 South 76th Street in Franklin, Wis. Festivities begin with Mass celebrated out of doors at 12 noon.

The cultural program in the scenic and spacious park begins at 2 p.m. and will feature among others the talent of our Group 4 Sokol drillers of Wreath 93 as well as the Tatra Slovak Dancers who will present the music and dance traditions of the various regions of Slovakia. A new feature this year will present the talent of the internationally renowned Fujara musician Bob Rychlik. Live music for dancing and listening pleasure will be enjoyed until 6 p.m. Children's games and activities will be available throughout the afternoon. Traditional Slovak culinary specialties along with popular American picnic favorites will be available throughout the day. Homemade Slovak pastries as well as an imported beer from Slovakia will also be featured. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. For additional information on this year's Slovak Day observance call our Wreath 93 Sokolka, Betty Valent at tel. 414 425-6137.

Minutes of the First Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol held at the Home Office in Passaic, NJ, March 16-17, 2018

OPENING SESSION
Friday, March 16, 2018 – 9:30 a.m.

The 2018 Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol held at the Home Office in Passaic, NJ opened with a beautiful Mass in the Board Room offered by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic. During the liturgy, the traditional Memorial Service for the deceased officers and members of the organization was held. Immediately following the conclusion of Mass, the Annual Meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Board of Directors took place.

MINUTES OF THE 2018 SLOVAK CATHOLIC MUSEUM BOARD

The 2018 Annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum for the year 2017 was held on Friday, March 16, 2018 at the Home Office in Passaic, New Jersey.

S.C.S. Museum President Edward D. Moeller, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. Brother Moeller extended greetings to everyone and welcomed the Board to the 2018 meeting. He then called upon Supreme Chaplain Father Andrew S. Hvozdivic to open the meeting with a prayer. After the prayer, Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Brother Moeller stated "The Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship fund continues to accumulate enough donations to have allowed us to consistently offer scholarships. The donations accumulated in 2017 allowed us to be able to offer three \$1,000 Memorial scholarships to college student/members who live the volunteer spirit of our fraternal history. The Memorial Scholarship Fund was developed to offer an opportunity for members to honor a lost loved one or fellow Sokol member.

Those memorialized continue to be recognized in the Falcon on a quarterly basis. I would enthusiastically encourage that more Wreaths and Assemblies consider the practice of some who have made it their practice to use this fund as the vehicle to honor members who have died or to celebrate a special event. I am so grateful to both our member and corporate donors. A very generous donation from PNC Bank was received through the efforts of Mr. Thomas Calimano, Vice-President/Market Director S.C.S. Portfolio Manager. Through their generosity, I am confident that we will be able to continue to offer this scholarship for years to come."

Brother Moeller proceeded to ask Museum Secretary/Treasurer Dennis J. Zifcak, to conduct the roll call of the Museum Board of Directors. The roll was taken and 10 Directors were present.

The minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Board held on March 24, 2017 were approved as published in the annual booklet of the Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol on a motion made by Supreme Chaplain Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic and seconded by Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

The Chairperson then gave the Museum Activity Report. Brother Moeller reported 3 Visitors and the Museum received 0 donations of property. There were three \$1,000 Museum Scholarships awarded in 2017. Repairs/updates made in the museum were briefly discussed. A motion to accept the Activity Report was made by General Counsel John D. Pogorelec Jr. Esq. and seconded by Supreme Chaplain, Father Hvozdivic. This was approved by voice vote.

Brother Moeller asked Museum Treasurer Dennis J. Zifcak for his report.

Brother Zifcak reported the January 1, 2017 beginning balance was \$13,613.57 with the December 31, 2017 ending balance was \$14,279.89. The museum funds are deposited in two accounts. One with PNC with \$3,689.51 and earning a minimum amount of interest and \$10,590.38 with the Sokol Secure Fund earning 2.5%.

The Sokol Secure Fund pays a substantially higher interest rate than most any financial institution. It also allows very convenient withdrawals and deposits. The 2017 total income was \$3,666.32. This came from donations and interest. The Treasurer reported expenses for 2017 of \$3,000. The expenses were the three Museum Scholarships. In light of the growth of the Museum Scholarship Fund, Museum Treasurer Dennis J. Zifcak reminded the Museum Board of Directors that in 2018 there will be up to three \$1,000 Museum Scholarships. The Treasurer informed the Board of the donation trend and that the names of donors were published in the Falcon by Editor Daniel F. Tanzone.

A motion was made by Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec F.I.C. to accept the report and seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek.

Approved by voice vote.

Brother Moeller asked if there was any correspondence. There were three thank you letters from the scholarship recipients.

Brother Moeller then asked for any old business. There was none.

There was a discussion to complete a video tour of the museum for placement on our web site. Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec F.I.C. will work on a video with possibly Editor Dan Tanzone narrating the videoed information. The video would be placed on the Slovak Catholic Sokol web site.

Under new business Brother Dennis recommended that there be up to three Museum Scholarships for the 2019 year. A motion was made by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics James C. Matlon and seconded by General Counsel John D. Pogorelec Jr Esq. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Supreme Chaplain Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic presented the Museum a collection of coins commemorating the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Slovak Republic. The Supreme Chaplain also presented each board member with their own 2 EURO coin commemorating the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Slovak Republic. Each Board member expressed their sincere thanks for such a thoughtful gift.

A motion was made by Brother John D. Pogorelec Jr. Esq. to close the new Business seconded by Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins and then approved by voice vote.

Brother Zifcak indicated that there would be a collection for the Museum fund in

Memory of all departed Slovak Catholic Sokol members. The Chairperson then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors Jim Jerek and seconded by General Counsel John D. Pogorelec Jr, Esq. and then approved by voice vote.

Supreme Chaplain, Father Andrew S. Hvozdivic closed the 2018 Annual meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Board with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis J. Zifcak
Museum Board Secretary/Treasurer

Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, **Called to Order** the Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018 at the Home Office in Passaic, NJ and welcomed all the members of the Board.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic, V.F. offered the **Opening Prayer** leading the Directors in the reading of the Prayer to Practice the Golden Rule, and a prayer for our members recovering from surgery or illness.

Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller led the Board members in reciting the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**.

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

Supreme Chaplain	Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic, V.F.
Supreme President	Michael J. Horvath
Supreme Vice-President	Edward D. Moeller
Supreme Secretary	Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Supreme Treasurer	Dennis J. Zifcak
General Counsel	John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.
Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors	James G. Jerek
Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics	James C. Matlon
Supreme Physical Director	John M. Underation
Supreme Physical Directress	Kathleen S. Watkins

The record will show all ten members of the Board of Directors are in attendance.

Acknowledged

President Horvath gave his **Opening Remarks**, welcoming the Board of Directors and thanking them for their hard work and dedication to the organization.

President Horvath informed the Board that they all have received the **Minutes** from our last Board meeting held on December 3-4, 2017 in Fort Lauderdale, FL and published in the February 14, 2018 issue of the Slovak Catholic Falcon. Brother President entertained a motion for their acceptance, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. and seconded by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller.

President Horvath advised the Directors that they have all received copies of the **2017 Directors Activity Reports** and requested a motion for their acceptance. Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic, made a motion to accept all reports, seconded by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller.

The Supreme President then announced the following **Committee Assignments**.

ASSIGNMENT OF PERMANENT COMMITTEES

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Dennis J. Zifcak, Chairperson
Michael J. Horvath
Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
James G. Jerek

PHYSICAL FITNESS COMMITTEE

James C. Matlon, Chairperson
John M. Underation
Kathleen S. Watkins
Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic
John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.

SCHOLARSHIP ADVISORY/SELECTION COMMITTEE

Edward D. Moeller, Chairperson
Michael J. Horvath
Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
John M. Underation*
Dennis J. Zifcak*

*(Two different B.O.D. Members will rotate each year)

Acknowledged

President Horvath asked the Supreme Secretary to present any Communications or greetings that were received at the Home Office.

Brother Pogorelec indicated the communications received were as followed:

1. Rt. Rev. Gary Hoover, OSB, Abbot & Chancellor, Benedictine Order of Cleveland
- Thank you for your generous donation to the monks at Saint Andrew Abbey.
2. Underation Family
- Thank you for the beautiful flowers and kind words. Your kindness and sympathy are deeply appreciated.
3. David Bulwin, Recording Secretary, Assembly 162
- Assembly 162 wishes the Board of Directors good luck in their annual meeting. They also thank the Board for its generous donation to SS Cyril and

Methodius Church towards the new sprinkler and alarm system.

Acknowledged

Sale of Securities/Amortization	971,524	241,946
Interest for Pensions	-	(143,490)

President Horvath thanked the Supreme Secretary and indicated the next agenda item would be the presentation of the **Supreme Secretary's Financial Report.**

TOTAL INCOME	11,941,165	10,502,417
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2017 REPORT OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

EXPENSES	2017	2016
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ASSETS	2017	2016
Cash - Senior Account	289,538	372,250
Cash - Bank of Montreal	14,010	11,020
Cash - Payroll Account	2,443	3,940
Petty Cash	28	36
Investments - Bonds & Bills	66,893,496	63,514,737
Investments - Stocks	9,532,213	8,975,349
Capital Reserve	2,249,643	1,468,234
Stock Adj. to Book Value	3,145,431	2,440,653
First Mortgage Loans	693,587	733,575
Loans on Certificates	201,163	169,849
Accrued Interest Receivable	785,292	758,391
Prepaid Expenses	27,185	28,084
Sokol Building	2,713,475	2,713,475
Land	204,108	204,108
Furniture & Fixtures	159,232	159,232
Computer	55,393	82,393
Sokol Baby Spoons	10,075	10,075
Due From Groups	5,535	169
Accounts Receivable	22,852	19,083
Non-Admitted Assets	(98,677)	(126,576)
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 86,906,023	\$ 81,538,409

Operating Expense - Sokol Building	65,588	67,828
Building Maintenance & Repairs	7,177	9,345
Rental Area Expenses	3,349	1,762
Property Taxes - Sokol Building	82,328	79,518
Depreciation Sokol Building	3,738	3,738
Rent for Space	15,000	15,000
Pension Plan - Print	6,758	6,758
Salaries - Office Employees	439,732	459,314
Salaries - Editorial Employees	88,420	86,990
P/R - Taxes Employer	40,565	35,726
Hospitalization	89,145	115,707
Workmen's Compensation Insurance	8,177	8,271
Pension Plan - Office/Officers	285,310	170,605
Office Expense	14,487	17,972
Computer Expense	56,010	58,970
Depreciation Computer Expense	27,000	27,000
Supreme Officers Travel	10,511	9,416
Supreme Auditors	7,200	10,959
Actuarial Expenses	78,170	75,612
Accountant Expenses	34,503	35,136
State Examiners	-	15,000
Postage-Office	9,860	11,319
Telephone - Office	5,480	5,350
Telephone - Editorial	1,051	870
Printing - Katolicky Sokol	33,500	35,450
Postage - Sokol Paper	32,575	35,540
Misc. Publication Expense	669	602
Other Printing	1,375	5,559
Annual Activity Review Book	10,250	9,750
Legal Expenses	300	8,339
Death Benefit Claims Paid	1,662,612	828,241
Cash Surrender Values Paid	312,733	260,767
Cash Surrender Conversions	11,601	-
Annuity Surrenders	1,074,672	-
Annuity Withdrawals	2,501,423	2,439,661
Annuity Suppl. Contracts	-	4,653
Matured Endowments Paid	3,082	13,533
Medical Exams Allowance	1,542	-
Reserve Increase	3,427,169	4,514,225
Payments-Suppl. Contracts	22,870	4,528
State Insurance Dept. Lic./Fee	7,884	12,651
Dividends & Expenses	50,000	50,000
Bank Charges - Bond Account	156,256	141,824
Supreme Officers Uniform Allowance	-	5,786
Dues & Subscription	7,802	10,086
Donations & Contributions	7,765	7,288
Clinic (Kurz)	(1,057)	32,828
Slet	81,546	-
National Bowling Tournament	3,574	4,678
National Golf Tournament	7,261	7,841
National Softball Tournament	-	3,301
Other Coaching, Insurance	4,035	3,238
Convention Expenses	60,000	50,823
SKS 2020 Committee	4,069	-
Group Assessments Paid	52,178	48,534
Commission Expense	376,125	396,447
Annuity Commissions	111,628	131,695
Advertising/Promotions	8,944	15,400
Marketing Expense	10,028	9,534
Agency Expense	32,315	28,560
Board of Directors Expense	44,257	50,030
Physical Fitness Board Expense	11,599	18,540
Miscellaneous Expense	-	88
Scholarship Expense	42,661	34,925
Salaries - Supreme Officers	93,205	96,695
Supreme Officers Insurance Bond	2,051	1,922
Fraternal Congress Expense	17,529	19,553
Local Fees/ Rebates	25,725	27,098
Group Presidents Meeting	20,274	-
Interest Expense	75,708	71,827
Secure Fund Interest	18,743	14,239
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 11,808,038	10,784,448
TOTAL INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 133,128	(282,031)

LIABILITIES AND RESERVES	2017	2016
Life Reserves	64,764,649	61,337,480
Reserve Dep. Furn. & Fixtures	153,208	153,208
Reserve Dep. Sokol Building	2,641,166	2,637,428
Asset Valuation Reserve	1,601,137	1,375,308
Interest Maintenance Reserve	143,943	213,001
Reserve for Supplemental Contracts	2,103,827	1,502,291
Reserve Emp. Retirement Plan	4,814,676	4,804,330
Reserve for Convention	110,000	50,000
Matured Endowments	71,066	73,270
Claims Payable	352,309	322,076
IBNR Payable	30,000	30,000
Conversion - Canadian Currency	2,867	2,844
Accounts Payable	130,168	112,412
Sokol Secure Fund	1,013,999	611,809
Mary Jane Rich Scholarship Fund	85,000	85,000
Emil Slavik Scholarship Fund	100,000	100,000
Dr's Lesko Medical Scholarship Fund	20,000	20,000
Yencha Memorial Scholarship	15,000	-
Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship Fund	24,000	24,000
Dividend Accum. At Interest	329,824	325,127
Dividend Payable	50,000	50,000
Advance Premiums	71,749	62,345
Premium Load	3,400	2,800
Miscellaneous Liability	-	41,800
TOTAL LIABILITIES	78,631,990	73,936,529
Undistributed Funds - Sokol	8,274,033	7,601,880
TOTAL LIABILITIES & SURPLUS	\$ 86,906,023	\$ 81,538,409

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

INCOME	2017	2016
Interest on Bonds and Bills	3,064,490	2,968,083
Interest Income Accrued	25,381	30,048
Accrued Interest Paid	(94,836)	(140,728)
Amortization of IMR	52,362	54,152
Other Investment Income	1,627	9,385
Dividends on Stocks	339,617	357,498
Interest on Mortgages	43,889	46,482
Interest on Certificate Loans	13,021	11,236
Sale of Cookbooks	578	635
Rent Received - Sokol Building	75,980	34,385
Premium Income	2,042,970	1,656,427
Annuities	5,354,262	5,330,697
Miscellaneous Income	51,551	31,396
Scholarship Income	(1,249)	14,265

(Continued on page 6)

Minutes of the First Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol

(Continued from page 5)

Several questions were presented and addressed in a general discussion. A motion to accept the report for was made by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, seconded by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic. Approved

Brother President thanked the Supreme Secretary and called on the Supreme Treasurer to present the **Supreme Treasurer's Financial Report**.

Brother Zifcak offered several comments relative to his report and the various budgeted items and explained them to the satisfaction of the Board.

A motion to accept the report was made by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon. Approved

President Horvath thanked Brother Zifcak and called upon the Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek, to present the **2017 Annual Report of the Supreme Auditors**.

The Supreme Auditors have reviewed the records and accounts of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and hereby present the 2017 Annual Report:

1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING EXPENSES \$44,257.09

2. BUILDING RENTALS

A. First floor office space is leased by the Slovak League of America.	\$5,200.00
B. Tri County Plumbing rents supply storage space.	8,700.00
C. Little Achievers Academic Child Care	42,000.00
D. Parking leases on a month to month basis.	<u>5,080.00</u>

Total Rental income January 1 to December 31, 2017* \$60,980.00

*Two Rentals of \$710.00 were outstanding as of 12/31/17

3. FRATERNAL CONGRESS EXPENSES \$17,529.07

4. 33rd QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION ACCRUAL \$60,000.00

August 4-7, 2019 Cleveland, OH

5. OTHER PRINTING \$1,375.00

6. OUTSTANDING SLET BALANCES - As of December 31, 2017

Group 11	\$901.15
Group 14	2,644.83
Group 19	<u>1,988.50</u>
Total	<u>\$5,534.48</u>

7. PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD EXPENSES \$11,599.38

8. PUBLICATION EXPENSES

Slovak Catholic Falcon	
Printing	\$33,500.00
Postage	32,575.00
Miscellaneous Printing	<u>669.46</u>
Total	<u>\$66,744.46</u>

9. REVIEW OF EXISTING MORTGAGES

A. Outstanding Mortgage Balances: 3 mortgage payments are being received	<u>\$693,587.00</u>
B. Interest income on mortgages	<u>\$43,889.14</u>

10. SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Expenses \$42,661.10

11. SPORTS AND ATHLETIC EXPENSES

A. District Tournaments None Held	
Total	<u>\$0.00</u>

B. International Basketball & Volleyball Tournament
None Held

Total \$0.00

C. 71st International Bowling Tournament

May 19-20, 2017 Wilkes-Barre, PA

Home Office Allotment	\$3,000.00
Returned to Home Office	<u>1,541.25</u>
	\$1,458.75
Supreme Officers Expenses/Insurance	<u>2,115.14</u>
Total	<u>\$3,573.89</u>

D. 48th International Slet

July 12-16, 2017 State University of New York at the College at Brockport

Board of Directors	2,208.40
Calisthenics Officials	1,064.00
Chaperones	2,550.00
Group Directors / Assistants / Sports Directors	7,042.00
Group Transportation	22,611.63
Gymnastic Expense	2,111.86
Lodging	25,868.38
Meals	31,042.85
Miscellaneous Supplies	848.03
Participant Recreation	1,370.00
Participant Souvenirs	1,695.08
Physical Fitness Board Members	9,723.41
Printing	250.68
Props	271.09
Track & Field Expense	4,003.28
Transportation	6,868.19
Trophies / Medals	<u>3,098.38</u>

Sub-Total \$122,627.26

Less: Groups Share of Expenses 39,553.42

Total Home Office Expense Total \$83,073.84

*Slet expenses are being finalized and will be further reviewed during our next audit.

E. 62nd International Golf Tournament

August 18-20, 2017 Dubois, PA

Home Office Allotment	\$6,250.00
Returned to Home Office	<u>2,387.33</u>
	\$3,862.67
Supreme Officers Expenses/Insurance	<u>3,398.28</u>
Total	<u>\$7,260.95</u>

F. 28th International Softball Tournament

None Held

G. Other Sports and Youth Programs

Walking Program	\$2,016.00
Kid's Corner Reading Program	219.00
Insurance	<u>2,018.75</u>
Total	<u>\$4,253.75</u>

Summary of Sports and Athletic Expenses

A. District Tournaments	\$0.00
B. 23rd International Basketball Tournament	\$0.00
C. 71st International Bowling Tournament	\$3,573.89
D. 48th International Slet	\$83,073.84
E. 62nd International Golf Tournament	\$7,260.95
F. 28th International Softball Tournament	<u>\$0.00</u>
G. Other Sports and Youth Programs	<u>\$4,253.75</u>
Total	<u>\$98,162.43</u>

12. OTHER ACCOUNTS REVIEWED

Accountant Expenses	\$34,502.67
Actuarial Expense	\$78,169.90
Advertising / Promotional	\$8,944.29
Agency Expenses	\$32,315.12
Annual Activity Review Book	\$10,250.00
Annuity Commissions	\$376,124.58
Annuity Surrenders/Withdrawal	\$2,501,423.05
Bank Charges - Bond Department	\$156,256.47
Building Maintenance and Repairs	\$7,177.42
Death Benefit Claims Paid / Paid Up Additions	\$1,662,612.30
Donations and Contributions	\$7,765.22
Dues & Subscriptions	\$7,802.00
Group Assessments	\$52,178.42
Group Presidents Meeting	\$20,273.78
Hospitalization/Employee Benefits	\$89,144.69

OTHER ACCOUNTS REVIEWED (CONT'D)

Interest Expense	\$75,707.58
Legal Expenses	\$300.00
Marketing Expenses	\$9,857.97
Miscellaneous Income	\$51,550.69
Office Expenses	\$14,487.13
Operating Expense-Sokol Building	\$65,588.01
Pension Plans Office/Officers Payments	\$285,310.11
Pension Plans-Print Shop Payments	\$6,757.68
Postage Office	\$9,859.54
Property Taxes-Sokol Building	\$82,328.07
Rental Area Expenses	\$3,348.71
Reserve Annuity Supplemental Contracts w/ Life	\$0.00
Reserve Annuity Supplemental Contracts w/o Life	\$2,103,827.27
Salaries-Editorial	\$88,420.25
Salaries-Office	\$439,731.70
Salaries-Supreme Officers	\$93,205.00
Sale of Cookbooks	\$577.70
SKS 2020 Committee	\$4,069.32
State Insurance Licenses & Fees	\$7,883.66
Supreme Auditors Expenses	\$7,199.90
Supreme Officers Employee Bonding	\$2,051.00
Supreme Officers Travel	\$10,510.66
Supreme Officers Uniform Allowance	\$0.00
Telephone-Editorial	\$1,051.05
Telephone-Office	\$5,480.00
Workman's Compensation	\$8,177.01

We, the Supreme Auditors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol would like to thank the members for allowing us the honor and privilege to serve as your Auditors.

We, the Supreme Auditors, conducted our Audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and practices. In reviewing the accounts of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, we found the accounts to be in order and in agreement with the financial report of the Supreme Secretary.

We, the undersigned Supreme Auditors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, gratefully acknowledge the kindness and cooperation of the following during the audit: Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Office Consultant, Peter Dobko, Bookkeeper, Melanie Sasiela, and the Home Office Staff of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

We, the undersigned Supreme Auditors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol hereby acknowledge that on March 15, 2018, we reviewed the policy of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in accordance with PA Act 154 regarding the marketing practices and found that the Slovak Catholic Sokol is in compliance with PA Act 154.

We, your Supreme Auditors would like to assure the membership of the Slovak Catholic Sokol that we are active Slovak Catholic Sokols and participate in our Organization's activities on all levels in addition to our regular Supreme Auditor reporting responsibilities.

We, your Supreme Auditors would also like to note that Auditor Brian Suchy was excused from this audit due to a last minute work conflict. It should be further noted that he remained available via email and cellphone for consultation and discussion during the audit.

Respectfully submitted,
James G. Jerek
Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors

James F. Knis
Supreme Auditor

Brother Jerek addressed several questions and touched on the various recommendations from the Supreme Auditors to the satisfaction of the Board.

A motion to accept the report was made by Supreme Physical Director, John M. Underation and seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. **Approved**

President Horvath thanked Brother Jerek and called upon General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. to present the **Legal Department Report**.

General Counsel reported on four items of interest.

1. Brother Counsel has been in contact with our representatives in Ambridge, PA regarding the Ambridge property. The building is currently listed and being shown to prospective buyers. There seems to be interest in the property and the Board will be updated accordingly.
2. Brother Counsel also reported on the letter sent out to the Group Presidents concerning Section 6 of the Bylaws regarding the Group's responsibilities to the Society
3. Brother Counsel also tended to the trademark of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and renewed the trademark for ten years.
4. Brother Pogorelec also informed the Board that there may be interest in the former Print Shop for either a lease or purchase of the property. The discussions are in the beginning stages and the Board will be updated accordingly.

Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek. **Approved**

Brother President thanked the General Counsel and called upon the Supreme Secretary to present the **Mortgage Department Report**.

Brother Scott reported that as of December 31, 2017, there are 3 existing mortgages totaling \$693,587.00. During 2017, the amount of principal income received amounted to \$39,988.22 and the interest received totaled \$43,889.14. All mortgages are paid on time.

A motion to accept the report was made by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller, seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak. **Approved**

The Supreme President thanked Brother Scott and asked for the **Donation Requests**.

1. **Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius**, Danville, PA, request from Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M., General Superior, request for a donation for the replacement of bathtubs with walk-in showers in Maria Hall, their home for retired and infirm Sisters.

The Board recommends a donation of **\$200** in support of the replacement of bathtubs with walk-in showers in Maria Hall, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius home for retired and infirm Sisters.

2. **Chair in Slovak History & Culture**, Ottawa, ON, Canada, request from M. Mark Stolarik, Professor & Chair Holder, request to support the activities of the Chair.

The Board recommends a donation of **\$200** in support of the Chair in Slovak History & Culture.

3. **Camphill Village**, Kimberton, PA, request from Carmella Marzec, Secretary, Wreath 22, request for the community for adults with developmental disabilities where member Diane Tomasko (daughter of Andy Tomasko) currently lives. Donation would be matched by ladies of Wreath 22.

The Board recommends a donation of **\$200** in support of Camphill Village.

4. **Youngstown Sister Cities Program**, Youngstown, OH, request from Bernie Demechko, Secretary, YSC, for the erection of a memorial celebrating the 'Electrification of Spisska Nova Ves' in their Sister City, Spisska Nova Ves, Slovakia.

The Board recommends a donation of **\$200** in support of the memorial.

5. **Slovak Catholic Federation**, Bridgeport, PA, request from Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, Appeal Coordinator, request for the 40th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal.

The Board recommends a donation of **\$300** in support of 40th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic, made a motion to accept the Donation Report, seconded by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins. **Approved**

President Horvath called upon Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller for the **Scholarship Committee Report**.

Brother Moeller reported that as of March 16, 2018, 18 applications for our College Scholarship Grants have been received, along with 11 Grade School and 7 High School applications. Brother Edward indicated that like in the past, many applications come during the week before the deadline, which is March 31, 2018.

The Scholarship Selection Committee will meet on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 to select the 2018-2019 recipients.

After a brief discussion, General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. moved for the acceptance of the report, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon. **Approved**

After completing the items on the morning agenda, the Supreme President entertained a motion to adjourn, so moved by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, seconded by Supreme Physical Director, John M. Underation. **Approved**

The Supreme Chaplain led the Board in a closing prayer.

SECOND SESSION

Friday, March 16, 2018 - 1:00 p.m.

The Supreme President called the Second Session to order and asked the Supreme Chaplain to open the session with a prayer.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic offered the afternoon prayer by blessing the Home Office for the year 2018 as he has done in the past years.

Brother President and Brother Secretary also presented our 2017 Fraternalist of the Year, Daniel F. Tanzone, with a token of appreciation from the Board for all his hard work and dedication over the years. **Acknowledged**

President Horvath then called upon our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, F.I.C., to present the **Sales/Marketing Report**.

Brother Suess reported that as of December 31, 2017, a total of 537 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 2017 was \$16,052,928.

The total number of certificates in force is 31,442, consisting of 30,697 life certificates and 745 annuity certificates. Brother Albert's report also indicated that as of December 31, 2017, there were 401 deaths, 1 certificate matured, 36 cancelled, 51 expired, 248 surrendered and 93 lapsed for a total loss of certificates of 830.

Brother Albert reported that the average face amount of a Sokol policy has slightly decreased from \$32,928 in 2016 to \$31,050 in 2017. The total amount of life premium dollars remained strong with an increase in 2017. We are happy to announce that for the first time ever, the SOKOL has exceeded two million dollars in life insurance premium. We have built a solid base of renewal premium the last five years primarily through the Legacy Life and Legacy 20.

Also discussed was the new 2017 CSO Tables that have been approved and will be mandatory for Life Insurance Providers to have in effect by January 1, 2020. As mentioned at the December Board Meeting, requests have been sent to a number of actuaries for pricing information. Brother Secretary indicated that he is in discussion with CPS Actuaries in developing the rates.

(Continued on page 14)

Scenes of the Annual Spaghetti Supper hosted by Group 1, "Msgr. Stephen Krasula" SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall + Clifton, N.J. + Sunday, April 29





KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik" May, 2018

Happy Mother's Day



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

Benjamin Roman 5/3
Xaviar Yuhas 5/13
Octavia Dixon 5/20
Nathan DiMartino 5/20
Lucia Yuhas 5/21
Jude Maryak 5/27
Vayda Korenoski 5/28



Slovak Words=Slovenské slová

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

May = **máj** [my] (Latin origins)

mother = matka [maht – kah]

Mother's Day - Deň matiek [Den maw-tyek] (soft „n“)

Happy Mother's Day! = Šťastný Deň matiek! [Shtyawst-nee den maw-tyek] (soft „n“)

spring = jar [yaar]

flower = kvet [kvet]

tree = strom [strom]

blossoms = kvety na strome [kvetee nah strome]

to blossom = kvitnúť [kveet-noot]

The trees are blossoming. = Stromy kvitnú.

Memorial Day Word Search



Find these words.

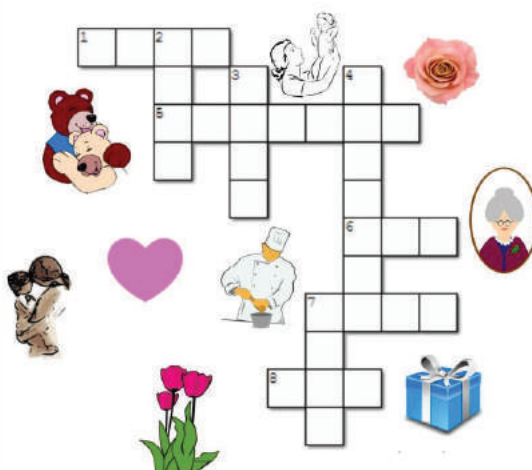
freedom
Americans
remember

soldier
veteran
flag

flowers
heroes
honor



Mother's Day Crossword Puzzle



Across

- I love _____ and kisses from my mom.
- Happy Mother's _____ in her garden
- I will make my mom a Mother's Day _____
- _____ is short for mother.

Down

- This is another word for a present.
- I _____ my mom.
- I call my mom's mom and my dad's mom
- My mom is a great _____. I love everything she makes.

M. Mark Stolarik Reaches Major Milestone

On April 22, 2018, M. Mark Stolarik, of Ottawa, Ontario, celebrated his 75th birthday.

Marián (Mark) Stolarik was born in the picturesque central Slovak town of Turčiansky Svätý Martin to Imrich and Margita Stolarik. As the Russian front approached in the winter of 1945, Mark's parents decided to evacuate with their family of six children into Austria along with thousands of other Slovaks, to escape the fighting and possible retribution by Communists who were persecuting supporters of the first Slovak Republic (1939-1945). The refugees then languished in one room in Austria until 1950. In 1951 they immigrated to Canada, first settling in Hull, Quebec and later in Ottawa, where Mark grew up and graduated from the University of Ottawa with honours in history (1965) and with an M.A. in history (1967). He subsequently published his M.A. thesis on The Role of American Slovaks in the Creation of Czechoslovakia, 1914-1918, in the annual *Slovak Studies*, 8, 1968.

After graduating from the University of Ottawa, Mark decided to enrol in the Ph.D. program at the University of Minnesota. Here in 1963 his professor Timothy L. Smith had established the first Immigrant Archives in the USA. Mark helped Smith collect archival materials from Slovak communities in the USA and Canada while working on his dissertation, *Immigration and Urbanization: The Slovak Experience, 1870-1918* (Ph.D., 1974). The dissertation was published by AMS Press in New York with the same title in 1989.

Mark Stolarik's professional career began as a Lecturer in History at the Cleveland State University (1972-1974) and as an Assistant Professor (1974-1976) at the same university. In 1976 he decided to return to Canada, to work for the National Museum of Man (later the Canadian Museum of History). During this period he visited many Slovak communities in Quebec and Ontario, collected numerous material artefacts pertaining to Slovak history and culture and deposited them into the collections of the Museum, the National Library and the National Archives. He also interviewed on tape such Slovak pioneers as Ján Frajkor, Štefan Hreha, Štefan Jeseňák, Hermina Krajčovicová, Andrej Potocký, Michal Sincák, Jozef Tokár and others. In 1977, while at the National Museum of Man, Mark also established the Slovak Studies Association, which attracts scholars in the USA and Canada into one organization that sponsors schol-



arly presentations at the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic, European and Eurasian Studies. The SSA also issues an occasional Newsletter informing its members of their activities. Stolarik served as the Secretary-Treasurer and Newsletter editor for the first ten years of this organization, which still exists.

In 1979 Mark returned to the United States to become Executive Director (later President) of the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies in Philadelphia. It was a library, museum and education centre dedicated to collecting, displaying and interpreting material artefacts, library and archival collections on all of America's ethnic groups. While there he established three departments, increased the staff from seven to twenty-five and recruited fifty volunteers. During his thirteen years as head of the Institute, Stolarik raised millions of dollars from various individuals, corporations and foundations in order to fund the Institute's operations, exhibits and programs. The Trustees of the Institute were so satisfied with his work that they told him that he could stay on until he decided to retire. While in Philadelphia Stolarik also joined the Slovak community and he and his family became active members of the Slovak parish of St. Agnes-St. John.

Meanwhile, in the 1980's the Slovak community in Canada and the USA raised \$500,000, which the Canadian government matched with another \$400,000 in order to establish a Chair in Slovak History and Culture at the University of Ottawa. The Chair was formally inaugurated in the History Department in May of 1990. After a competition for the position of Chairholder was announced, Mark Stolarik was among those who applied and he won the competition. In January of 1992

Stolarik began his career as Professor and Chairholder of the Chair in Slovak History and Culture at the University of Ottawa. Since then he has regularly taught courses on the history of the Slovaks, on Central European history and on the history of Immigration to North America. In addition, he has established a Slovak Archives at the University with collections from prominent Slovak personalities and institutions in the USA and Canada. With additional funds raised in the last twenty-six years, Stolarik has established seven scholarship funds at the University, to promote the study of Slovak history, to allow outside scholars to do research in the Slovak Archives, and to invite guest speakers to address matters of interest to the scholarly and local Slovak community. He also organized three major international conferences at the University, one of which (in 2002) was opened by the President of the Slovak Republic. The papers of all three conferences have been published. Altogether Stolarik has published ten books and over sixty articles in scholarly journals pertaining to Slovak or immigrant history. His most recent publication is: *The Czech and Slovak Republics: Twenty Years of Independence, 1993-2013* (Budapest: Central European University Press, 2016).

In addition to his professional interests, Stolarik continues to actively participate in North American Slovak communities. Besides being a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the National Slovak Society and the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Stolarik has been a member of the Canadian Slovak League since 1958. In 1993 he was elected National President and served for two terms. In 2007 he was elected President of Branch 63 in Ottawa, a position which he still holds. In 2016 he was re-elected National President of the Canadian Slovak League.

Officials in Slovakia have recognized Mark Stolarik's achievements with various awards.

In 1992 the Matica slovenská gave him its silver medal. In 1998 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic awarded him its silver medal. The President of the Slovak Republic awarded Stolarik the Presidential Medal in 2002. Finally, in 2013 the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic inducted Mark Stolarik as a "Goodwill Envoy" of the Slovak Republic.

Mark Stolarik is married to the former Anne Ivanco of Oshawa and has two sons: Andrej and Matthew.

Ad multos gloriosque annos, and Zdar Boh!

Rev. Joseph Murgas Scholarship Awarded



The Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania has initiated "Rev. Joseph Murgas" scholarship at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. This award will be awarded annually to a King's College student. At a recent luncheon at King's College, Tyler Herbinko, shown above second from the right, of Harleigh, Pa., a Management major, was recognized as the first recipient of this award. Shown with him on the photo are, l-r, Anthony Palischak and Elaine Palischak, donors of this year's award; and Dr. Magdalen M. Benish, board member of the Slovak Heritage Society. The award honors the Rev. Joseph Murgas, (1864-1929) a local Slovak Roman Catholic priest, artist, scientist and statesman who was a pioneer in wireless telegraphy. A museum honoring his life's work is located at King's On the Square and is open daily to the public. For additional information visit @shsnepa.org

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

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

ANNUITY RATES

EFFECTIVE DATE: JANUARY 1, 2018

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>MINIMUM GUARANTEE</u>
VANTAGE 1	1.35%	1.00%
VANTAGE 2	1.75%	1.00%
VANTAGE 3	2.25%	1.00%
VANTAGE 5	3.00%	2.00%
VANTAGE 7	3.25%	2.00%

SINGLE PREMIUM IMMEDIATE ANNUITY – SPIA

5 TROUGH 9 YEARS	2.75%
10 YEARS OR MORE	3.50%

NO LONGER OFFERED EFFECTIVE: AUGUST 31, 2011

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>MINIMUM GUARANTEE</u>
FLEXIBLE	3.00%	3.00%
SINGLE PREMIUM	3.00%	3.00%



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Facebook



Slovak Catholic Sokol



New York Area Slovaks Celebrate the Centennial of the Pittsburgh Agreement

(Continued from page 1)

Kubasek, long-time pastor of the former Most Holy Trinity Slovak Parish in Yonkers, was a signator of the Pittsburgh Agreement in his capacity as national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation at the time.

A cultural interlude then followed and included the artistry of the young tenor, Andrew Pulver who was accompanied on the piano by his mom, Tanya Ferencko Pulver. Andrew, who has performed at New York's famed Metropolitan Opera and is active in area theatre groups, offered favorite Slovak folk selections. Offering a lively selection of traditional Slovak music and dance were members of The Lipka Slovak Folk Ensemble of Holy Family Parish in Linden, N.J.

The pastor and well-known Slovak cultural and religious activist, Father Richard D. Baker then offered remarks in which he commended the Slovak League of America for its efforts in helping to preserve our rich cultural heritage among the current generations. He thanked the local Slovak fraternal

societies for their loyalty and support of the United Parish of St. John Nepomucene, St. John Martyr and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini - the East River Catholics.

The response followed offered by W.Nina Holy, national secretary-treasurer of the Slovak League of America. She thanked all who had a hand in the success of the celebration. She especially thanked our member Slovak fraternal for their continued support. In addition to Cynthia M. Maleski who represented the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, also present were Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., supreme secretary of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Sabina Sabados, area director of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Also participating in the celebration were representatives of the Slovak Catholic Media Productions - Lux which is headquartered at the New York Slovak parish.

The program concluded with the benediction offered by the Rev. Richard D. Baker followed by the singing of Kto za pravdu hori and God Bless America.

Reflections on the Centennial of the Pittsburgh Agreement

Daniel F. Tanzone
President, Slovak League of America

On May 31, 1918, representatives of the Slovak League of America, the Czech National Federation and the National Alliance of Czech Catholics met in Pittsburgh with Thomas G. Masaryk to discuss the future union or federation of the Czechs and Slovaks in Europe. The important question of autonomy for the Slovaks was uppermost in the minds of the American Slovaks. The provisions of the Pittsburgh Agreement were initially considered, agreed to, and subsequently disavowed by Ma-

saryk who would become the first president of the Czecho-Slovak Republic. The accord possessed all the elements of a contract accepted by two responsible groups. Masaryk later told the Slovak leader, Msgr. Andrew Hlinka that the agreement was meant for America and for American conditions. In response, Hlinka said it was difficult to not laugh in the President's presence. A total of 17 Slovaks and 12 Czechs were signatories of the agreement which was signed at the Loyal Order of Moose Hall in downtown

Pittsburgh. They represented Slovaks and Czechs from various parts of the United States.

The translated text of the agreement said that "Slovakia shall have its own administration, her own assembly, and her own courts. The Slovak language shall be the official language in the schools, in public offices and in public life in general. The Czecho-Slovak State shall be a republic; its constitution shall be democratic. The cooperation of the Czechs and Slovaks in the United States shall be intensified and regulated by mutual consent, according to need and changing situations. Detailed provisions relating to the organization of the Czecho-Slovak State shall be left to the liberated Czechs and Slovaks and their legal representatives...." The name of the proposed state shall be "Czecho-Slovakia," as found in the treaties and all official documents at the time of the creation of the Republic. The name of the Republic implied the idea of a "dual" republic. Sadly, none of the promises of the Pittsburgh Agreement regarding the Slovaks were realized. Instead a strong central government emerged with the Czechs commanding the upper hand. Then in 1923, the name of the republic was officially changed to "Czechoslovakia" signaling the further development of a fictional Czechoslovak idea.

The American Slovaks supported the Million Dollar Drive of the Slovak League of America which had begun in 1916 under the capable leadership of the Rev. Joseph Murgas in support of the Slovak and Czech cause abroad - in France, Russia, Italy and later in Czecho-Slovakia. More than one million dollars funneled through the Slovak League aided the new Czecho-Slovak Republic in its early years.



Slovak fraternal leaders who were welcomed at the Centennial celebration of the Pittsburgh Agreement in New York on April 15 are shown above and include, I-r W. Nina Holy, national secretary of the Slovak League of America; Cynthia M. Maleski, Esq., national president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Sabina Sabados, area director of the First Catholic Slovak Union; Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., supreme secretary of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Daniel F. Tanzone, national president of the Slovak League of America.

Toronto Slovak Sokol Golf Tournament

Saturday June 9th, 2018

Indian Wells Golf Club
5377 Walkers Line, Burlington, ON L7M 0P9
(905) 335-2955
www.indianwellsclub.ca

Registration 11:00AM

First TEE OFF AT 12:00 PM

Cost \$120 per golfer
Youth Rate \$80 (17 years or younger)
(cash payment only)

Includes: 18 holes of golf, power cart, lunch, closest to the Pin front 9 and back 9 and prizes!

Course recommends proper golf attire

For more information, questions and to register email:
Ed Bajus Jr
ebajus@sympatico.ca

Sponsored by Toronto Slovak Catholic Sokol

Entry cutoff date is Thursday May 31st

All members from the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Jednota and guests are all welcome!



Representatives of the local New York Slovak fraternal societies who participated in the Centennial Celebration of the Pittsburgh Agreement hosted by the Slovak League of America on April 15 at St. John Nepomucene Social Hall are shown on the above photo with the Rev. Richard D. Baker and invited guests.

SISTERS OF SAINTS CYRIL and METHODIUS
VILLA SACRED HEART
DANVILLE PA

Summer Festival

Saturday
July 14 2018

10:30 am - 5:00 pm

fun food baked goods dinner
games flea market

Saturday Mass for Sunday 5pm Basilica

What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Uber to Appeal against Court Ban from Operating Taxi Service

Uber will appeal against a court ban from operating its taxi service in Slovakia via people and vehicles that fail to meet the requirements set by Slovak legislation, Miroslava Jozova, Uber's spokeswoman for Slovakia and the Czech Republic, has confirmed for TASR.

"At the moment we're analyzing the court's verdict, and we'll appeal against it as soon as possible, as we believe that services like Uber should be a standard part of mobility in every modern town," stated Jozova.

Uber intends to do its utmost to be able to return to Bratislava as soon as possible. Before its services were banned by a court, Uber was the most popular city mobility application in Bratislava, claims Jozova. "A survey showed that over 80 percent of people in the Slovak capital want our application to remain here and function," she said.

Uber had to stop operating its taxi service in Slovakia, as it uses persons and vehicles that fail to meet requirements set by Slovak legislation. It's also been banned from operating its taxi service with drivers that fail to meet the same conditions required from taxi drivers. Bratislava I District Court issued a respective verdict in mid-February, and the company switched off its mobile application in Slovakia on March 27.

The court's decision was the result of a complaint filed by the Civic Association of Licensed Taxi Drivers (OZKT) against Uber in January. The association described this as the logical outcome of its several-month fight for equality in business in the field of taxi services. "The court fully identified itself with our claims, thus confirming the fact that Uber was operating taxi services through drivers and vehicles that are at odds with Slovak legislation and harm the business environment," OZKT representatives told TASR in March.

Over 100,000 users have registered with the Uber application in the more than two years since it appeared on the Slovak market. Bratislava taxi drivers have repeatedly protested against Uber since its arrival, claiming that it was ignoring Slovak legislation and that with its extremely low prices, the service was distorting the business environment.

US presents F-16 aircraft in Bratislava

Representatives of the US aerospace, defense, security, and advanced technology company, Lockheed Martin, presented an offer to sell F-16 aircraft to Slovakia on April 10. If Slovakia accepts the offer, the first F-16 fighter jets could arrive in the country by the end of 2022, they said, as quoted by the TASR newswire.

The need to replace obsolete Russian MiG-29 aircraft with more modern fighter jets has been an issue in Slovakia for a long time. Buying American F-16 fighter jets like the BLOCK 70 is one option, while another is a Swedish Gripen aircraft.

"The proposed F-16 aircraft deal will be able to compete with the Swedish Gripen aircraft and will form part of a package that includes training and weaponry," the US arms producer's representative, Michael Kelley, told TASR. He did not want to specify on the sum, as the sale is still under negotiation.

Kelley declined to specify the cost of a flight hour, either. He only said that although the cost of Gripen might be lower, their service life would be less than those of F-16s.

The aircraft would not be supplied to Slovakia earlier than 2022 as the necessary infrastructure in Slovakia must be prepared first. "Delivery is scheduled for late 2022," Kelley said, adding that the first four planes should be delivered to Slovakia at that time.

The deal should also include a programme of pilot training. "It's difficult to set an exact time for the training, as the sale process is at the resolution stage at the moment," said

Craig Dalle, a former US air force pilot who flew F-16s, as cited by TASR. Based on his own experience, he estimated that the training will take three years. He stressed that the technical staff set to be involved in maintaining the aircraft need to be trained as well.

F-16 BLOCK 70 aircraft are currently in operation in 25 countries, including Italy, Norway and Poland. According to Kelley, F-16s are the most successful jet fighters in the world that have also been tested in combat. "The modernization of their construction guarantees that F-16s will fly until at least 2045," he said.

Possible future steps

Based on a request from the Slovak Defense Ministry, the US Congress on April 4 began dealing with a Letter of Offer and Acceptance related to an offer of F-16 aircraft to Slovakia for a total amount of \$2.91 billion.

If the US Congress approves the offer, it will not mean that the ministry leadership has already decided to purchase this type of fighter aircraft, the Defense Ministry pointed out. After considering offers from both the USA and Sweden, Defense Minister Gajdos will submit what he thinks is the most effective solution to the Slovak cabinet by June 29, 2018.

Chmelar Starts to Collect Signatures to Support His Presidential Candidacy

Political analyst and educator Eduard Chmelar wants to run for the post of Slovak president, TASR learned from his post on Facebook.

Chmelar is starting to collect signatures and needs at least 15,000 of them. He'll officially announce his candidacy when he obtains the sufficient number of signatures. "I'm determined to stand as a candidate for Slovak president. I've given my approval in the past few days to a group of my supporters to organize a petition on the basis of which citizens will propose me as a candidate for Slovak president," stated Chmelar.

He said that if he became the head of state, the state of the republic addresses "would no longer be a summary of newspaper articles but fundamental analyses of the causes of our situation and suggestions for its solution". Also, according to his own words, he would start exercising constitutional powers of "negotiating and ratifying international treaties and representing the Slovak Republic on all important issues outwardly".

The presidential race is slated for 2019, with incumbent head of state Andrej Kiska not yet officially stating whether or not he'll run for re-election. Political parties are already considering candidates, although none has been officially presented one yet. Radovan Znasik, who has already announced his candidacy, intends to vie for votes as a civic candidate. Security analyst Juraj Zabojnik has also expressed interest in the presidential post. Financier Imrich Beres, who also announced his intention to join the 2019 presidential race, might actually not run for president, according to his latest statements.

Anna Kolesarova to be Beatified in Kosice in September

The beatification of Anna Kolesarova, a decree of whose martyrdom was approved by Pope Francis last month, will take place at the Lokomotiva football stadium in Kosice on September 1, with Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints Cardinal Angelo Amato, SDB in attendance, Kosice Metropolitan Archbishop Bernard Bober

announced at a press conference on Wednesday.

Bober noted that the story of Anna Kolesarova from the village of Vysoka nad Uhom (Kosice region) was rather unknown before the fall of communism in 1989. "She was shot and killed by a Soviet soldier [in 1944] as she was attempting to preserve her chastity and dignity," said Bober.

According to vice-postulator of Kolesarova's cause Juraj Jurica, 38 witnesses were heard as part of the process, which has produced a 650-page document.

The remains of Kolesarova, who was killed as a 16-year-old, are due to be exhumed in Vysoka nad Uhom later this week, before being put on display permanently in the Saint Elisabeth Cathedral in Kosice and the parish church in her native village.

HEALTH SPA PIESTANY - PARADISE FOR BODY AND SOUL



Piestany is a town in Slovakia located in the western part of the country within the Trnava Region. It is the biggest and best known spa town in Slovakia. Natural healing sources – thermal mineral water and unique sulphuric mud – are the cornerstones of the Piestany spa, which has become world-famous thanks to its modern methods of treating rheumatism and other locomotive disorders. Spa Piestany is located on beautiful Spa Island, which has a luxurious park, rich cultural and social life and numerous possibilities for active relaxation. Piestany attracts many who seek health-oriented spa treatment. Guests from eastern Europe and Arab countries have been coming for many years, but increasingly western Europeans also appreciate Piestany. This is because Piestany offers so many old-fashioned cures which Europeans have found effective for generations.

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

Sokol Calendar

SUN.MAY 20

■ Reunion of the former Most Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Parish hosted by the Holy Trinity Society Branch 41 of the First Catholic Slovak Union beginning with Mass at 8:30 a.m. at Most Holy Trinity Church, now St. Mary's Syro-Malankara Rite Catholic Church, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, N.Y. breakfast to follow at the Castle Royale, 92 Waverly Street, \$20.00 per person; for reservations call Marilyn Montemurro, at tel. 914 337-5271.

MAY 20-22

■ 72nd international bowling tournament at the Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.

SUN.MAY 27

■ Semi-annual meeting of Group 6, "Msgr. Andrew Hlinka" at the Clubhouse Grille, 215 State Route 985, (Pederbrook Golf Course) Belle Vernon, Pa. beginning at 1:30 p.m., for reservations call Anna Mae Warnick at tel. 724 736-4032.

JUNE 1-3

■ 2nd Slovak Catholic Sokol Reunion Weekend at Rocky Gap Resort, in Flintstone, Maryland.

SUN.JUNE 10

■ Assembly 9 annual meeting in the meeting room of Holy Name of Jesus School, 1950 Barnum Ave., Stratford, Conn. beginning at 1 p.m.

MON.JUNE 11

■ Wreath 111 meeting and indoor picnic "Spend the Day with Dad" at

the American Slovak Home, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

SAT.JUNE 16

■ 7th annual Simply Slavic Fest, celebrating the heritage, culture and cuisine of the family of Slavic nations in the Mahoning valley of Ohio, Federal Plaza East in downtown Youngstown, Oh. from 12 noon to 11 p.m., live music, folk dance performances, home-made food, beer garden, baking contest, children's learning areas, educational exhibits, Ecumenical Prayer Service and parade of Flags, Kolace Queen/King contest, a Vatra or traditional Slavic bonfire, after dark with live music; admission \$4.00, for information call tel.330 503-9874, web: www.simplyslavic.org

SUN.JUNE 17

■ Assembly 163 semi-annual meeting at Dorothy's Place, Donora, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m., light refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the business meeting; for information call Financial Secretary Theresa Gardner at 724 263-7289.

SUN.JUNE 24

■ Slovak Heritage Association of the Laurel Highlands meeting at the Am-Slo Club, Johnstown, Pa., 2-4 p.m.

THURS.JUNE 28

■ Assembly 9 of Bridgeport, Conn. patronal feast day observance beginning with Mass at 7:30 a.m. for the living and deceased members at the Church of the Holy Name of Jesus, 1950 Barnum Ave., Stratford, Conn. followed by breakfast.

SAT.JUNE 30

■ 2nd Quarter S.C.S. Board of Directors Meeting by a conference call.

JULY 1-6

■ 6th International All-Sokol Slet celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first All-Sokol Slet and the establishment of the first Republic of Czecho-Slovakia in Prague, Czech Republic.

WED.JULY 4

■ Independence Day Barbecue at The Slovak Garden, a Home for American Slovaks, Inc., 3110 Howell Branch Rd.#100, Winter Park, Fla., 2-4 p.m., \$20.00 per person at the door, tel. 407 677-6894 or email: slovakgarden@centurylink.net

JULY 13-15

■ 31st International Softball Tournament in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

SAT.JULY 14

■ 45th annual Summer Festival hosted by the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius at their Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart, Railroad St., Danville, Pa., beginning at 10:30 a.m. concluding Mass to satisfy the Sunday obligation in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

(Continued on page 15)

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS JUNE 13

In keeping with our monthly publishing schedule of the Slovak Catholic Falcon, the next issue will be that of Wednesday, June 13. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Monday, June 4.

Hosted by Assembly 25 & Wreath 15

Scenes of the annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt held in Perryopolis, Pa. on March 25



Vocation Awareness Day



Sister Thomas More Dzurinak, SS.C.M. was one of 6 Sisters and 6 Priests who served as speakers at a Vocation Awareness

Day at Our Mother of Perpetual Help School in Ephrata, Pa. The day began with a whole-school Liturgy, then each speaker, guided by an escort, rotated through 3 classes. Sister Thomas More was assigned kindergarten, first grade, and third grade, and was asked questions such as, "How did she know she was called?" How did she get started in religious life?" What does she do now?" Thanks go out to Our Mother of Perpetual Help for sponsoring this event, and to Sister Thomas More for responding to the invitation, Sunday, April 22 was World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Sister Thomas More, a Sister of SS. Cyril and Methodius, is a vocation from Sacred Heart Slovak Parish in Torrington, Conn.

Slovak Catholic Sokol Reunion Weekend

Who wants to celebrate friendship and our Sokol family? Let's all get together for a fun filled weekend.

When: June 1-3, 2018

We will start the weekend off with a lake side social on Friday evening at 8:00 .

Saturday can be filled with as much or as little activity as you prefer. The resort offers rentals of kayaks, canoes and such. There is an amazing hiking trail and Katie Swift will be leading a hike. They also have a Spa and a beach area.

A special Golf rate will be offered at the Jack Nicklaus Signature Course.

Come enjoy your time together. It is for sure guaranteed to be a blast!

Double Occupancy Rooms are reserved at a group rate of \$139/night

Call 1800-724-0828

Rates are good until May 15, 2018

Be sure to ask for the Slovak Catholic Sokol rate

When finished reserving your room, please email Katie Swift at Katie70@aol.com

Minutes of the First Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol

(Continued from page 7)

Brother Suess also updated the Board on the SOKOL LEGACY CAMPAIGN. This campaign opened up the opportunity for existing members to increase their life insurance coverage or sign up their immediate family members. The campaign will run until March 31, 2018.

Several questions were presented and addressed to the satisfaction of the Board and President Horvath thanked Brother Suess for presenting the report.

President Horvath then called upon Mr. Thomas Calimano, Market Director/Senior Vice-President, PNC Institutional Asset Management to present the **PNC Advisor's Report**.

Mr. Calimano discussed PNC's outlook for the financial markets and the economy with the Board. Additionally, he reviewed the investment strategies recently implemented in both the equity and fixed income portfolios and future potential strategic changes in the portfolio. PNC forecasts the domestic economy to grow 2.7% in 2018 with inflation, as measured by the CPI growing at 2.4% and expectations of three increases in the Federal Funds rate by the Federal Reserve. The economy similar to 2017 is expected to benefit from a strong job market leading to positive wage growth supporting consumer spending. Additionally, the synchronized global expansion, moderate interest rates and rising trade deficits may also lead to an improved business investment. Volatility that was absent in 2017 has returned to the equity markets in 2018 as concerns over trade wars, a more aggressive Federal Reserve and inflation weigh on investors. However, corporate earnings, as evidence in the fourth quarter, have been strong and that trend is expected to continue into the first quarter of 2018 supporting a positive outlook for equities. The Federal Reserve's announced balance sheet reduction strategy and increased U.S. Treasury issuance has caused yields to increase 10 to 14 basis points. Corporate bonds spreads continue to remain tight to U.S. Treasury and any increase in yields should provide the portfolio with a buying opportunity. The risks of geopolitical unrest from North Korea and global terrorist attacks will continue to sporadically impact the financial markets.

A lively discussion ensued, and Brother Calimano addressed various questions from the Board concerning our performance outlook. Mr. Calimano indicated the Society is in a strong financial position, especially in this volatile fiscal environment. Acknowledged

President Horvath thanked Mr. Calimano and called upon Mr. Michael Slotopolsky, CPA from Vision Financial Group, to present the **Report of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Accountant**.

Mr. Slotopolsky indicated that 2017 saw the organization once again increase in admitted assets. This is the seventh year wherein the admitted assets have increased by at least \$4,000,000. The assets increased over \$5,000,000 and now stand at over \$84,000,000, which is an all-time high for the Society. The liquidity strength of the Society continues to be very strong. For every \$100 that is owed, the Organization has \$111 in viable assets to back it up. Another factor is the Risk Based Capital Ratio, otherwise known as the RBC ratio. This has become the defining ratio for establishing liquidity. For 2017, it was at 676%, which is extremely strong. All these statistics are assuring that the society is sufficiently funded to meet all membership needs.

Surplus, otherwise known as member's equity, has increased by \$671,000 from prior year. Mr. Slotopolsky also noted the society has embarked on reducing operating costs and we look for further positive results.

A lively discussion ensued regarding our operating costs and investment income projections. Mr. Slotopolsky answered all questions to the satisfaction of the Board and he thanked the Officers and the Home Office Staff for their cooperation and assistance in enabling Vision Financial to perform their duties. With heavy hearts, the Board reflected on the passing of our former accountant, Alvin Eglow. Brother Slotopolsky indicated that while Mr. Eglow's loss was large, Vision Financial will do its best to fulfill the Society's needs. Acknowledged

President Horvath thanked Mr. Slotopolsky and indicated that the next item on the agenda is the presentation of the **Report from the Slovak Catholic Sokol Actuary**, Mr. Allan Ferrone, FSA, MAAA, of CPS Actuaries.

Mr. Ferrone presented the yearly report on the results of the Slovak Catholic Sokol's Annual Statement.

As mentioned before, the Sokol surplus increased by \$671,000, as did the assets by \$5.3 million in 2017.

The Quality of the Sokol's bond portfolio remained at a very high level in 2017. The average NAIC bond quality designation, weighted by amortized value, is 1.27 (where "1.0" is "highest quality" and "2.0" is "high quality"). The Sokol has also lengthened the maturity dates of its bond portfolio. The average duration has increased to about 13.3 years.

The Solvency Ratio increased slightly in 2017 to 111%. The Solvency Ratio will ordinarily decrease as the Sokol brings in more annuity premiums. As assets increase from new annuity premiums, the liabilities will increase by about the same amount, thus driving down the ratio.

The Risk Based Capital ratio is what regulators are using to measure the financial health of an organization. The Sokol's ratio of 676% is considered very healthy.

Brother Ferrone reported on the operational results in 2017. The amount of money the Sokol collects from investment income and premiums is less than the money being paid out for benefits, insurance/fraternal expenses, dividends, and the amount needed to fund the required increases in reserves. Decreasing expenses and increasing investment income will improve the operational results. Other items affecting operations are benefit payments (e.g., death claims, which were high in 2017, matured endowments, cash surrenders, etc.) and premium income, but the Sokol has limited control over these items.

Total premium income increased in 2017 due to the increase in life insurance premiums. This was the 7th year in a row that life insurance premiums increased.

A discussion ensued regarding the operational results and areas where the Sokol can improve their efforts. Mr. Ferrone answered all questions to the satisfaction of the Board.

A motion was made to accept the reports of our professionals by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon. Approved

The Supreme Secretary then discussed the S.C.S. Policy Statement with respect to **Conflicts of Interest**, reminding the Directors, that the Slovak Catholic Sokol has the utmost confidence in the loyalty and integrity of its officers, directors, and employees. He reemphasized the traditional policy of the Slovak Catholic Sokol on this subject that each Supreme Officer has a signed completed statement on file. The State of New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance recommended that the approval of the Statement of Conflict of Interest be made part of the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting.

In order to comply with this request, Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. Approved

Having completed all the items on the agenda for day one, Brother President entertained a motion to adjourn, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak. Approved

The Supreme Chaplain led the Board in a closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

THIRD SESSION

Saturday, March 17, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.

Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath called the Third Session to order at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 17, 2018.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozic was called upon to offer the **Morning Prayer**.

General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. led the Board in the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**.

Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. read the **roll call** and reported that all ten Board Members are present.

Brother President then called upon the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, for the **Physical Fitness Committee Report**.

Brother Matlon reported on the success of the 2017 programs and thanked the Supreme President, Supreme Secretary, and all the Board members for their support and guidance.

Supreme Physical Director, John M. Underation, and Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, updated the Board on the preparations for the upcoming Clinic in Brockport, NY.

Supreme Physical Directress, Kathy Watkins and members of the Physical Fitness Board designed a refrigerator magnet listing all of the 2018 Sports Activities. Over 550 magnets were mailed out to the Supreme Officers, Group Presidents, Group Sports Directors, Slet participants, golfers, bowlers, walking program and the Sokol Reunion participants. In February, a poster promoting the 2018 Bowling Tournament in Las Vegas, Nevada was mailed to all of the Sokol Clubs. The Physical Fitness Board is also working with a website to sell Slovak Catholic Sokol promotional items including hooded sweatshirts, visors, golf shirts, and t-shirts.

Brother Matlon then presented the list of 2018 Events and other Physical Fitness Board Recommendations.

Schedule of Events 2018:

<u>2018 Events</u>	<u>Host City</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Staff Assignment</u>
Bowling	Orleans Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV	May 20-22	Marty Degnan
Sokol Reunion	Rocky Gap Resort Flintstone, MD	June 1-3	
Softball	Kirby Park Fields Wilkes-Barre, PA	July 13-15	Frank Laury & Marty Degnan
Clinic	SUNY Brockport Brockport, NY	July 26-29	Fitness Board
Golf	Oak Tree Country Club & Tam-O-Shanter West Middlesex, PA	August 10-12	Frank Laury & Julie Laury

2018 Annual Supreme Physical Fitness Board Recommendations March 17, 2018

Following are the proposed recommendations from the 2018 Physical Fitness Board meeting for review and approval at the annual Board of Directors meeting in March. We thank our Group Presidents, Sports Directors, Physical Directors, Physical Directresses and valued members of our society for bringing forth their input and ideas.

1. The prize allotment for the International Bowling Tournament is \$60.00 per team (\$30.00/team, \$20.00/double, and \$10.00/single). No increase.
2. The banquet and souvenir allotment for the International Bowling Tournaments not to exceed \$30.00 per participant. No increase.
3. The banquet, prize money and souvenir allotment for the International Golf Tournament not to exceed \$50.00 per participant. No increase.
4. The allotment for the International Softball Tournament not to exceed \$750.00 per team submitting an entry fee of \$400.00 in advance of the deadline or \$450.00 per team if submitted after established deadline. No increase.
5. The allotment for the International Basketball/Volleyball Tournament not to exceed \$550.00 per team, estimated 10 for basketball and 8 for volleyball. Team entry fee of \$300.00 per team in advance of deadline and \$350.00 if submitted after the established deadline. In addition, an allotment of \$50.00 per each "3 on 3" team and entry fee of \$50.00.

6. An allotment of \$2,000.00 is made towards the Walking Program for all related mailings, certificates and prizes. No increase.
7. An allotment not to exceed \$750.00 will be made towards the purchase of props for the 2018 International Clinic for both male and female drillers. No Increase.
8. An allotment of \$250.00 is provided to the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics for office supplies. No increase.
9. Recommend an allotment of \$10.00 per participant for a souvenir at the Clinic.
10. Recommend that a \$30.00 per diem per day be provided to all Physical Directors, Physical Directresses and \$30.00 per diem per day for their assistants at the International Clinic. No increase.
11. Recommend an allotment of \$30.00 per person for the Sokol Reunion at Rocky Gap Casino and Resort, June 2018.

All the recommendations were individually reviewed and discussed. All recommendations were approved. Acknowledged

After a lively discussion regarding all items, Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller, moved for the acceptance of the report, seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek. Approved

At this time, the Board welcomed Julie Dobbs, Chairperson of the 2020 Committee, to give an update on the developments of the 2020 Committee. Sister Dobbs gave the Board an up to date recap of the workings of the 2020 Committee. The minutes of the previous 2020 Committee meetings have been published in the Falcon to keep the membership informed and any future meetings will be published as well.

A lengthy discussion ensued and Sister Julie answered many questions to the satisfaction of the Board. The Board appreciates all the hard work being done by Sister Dobbs and the entire committee. Acknowledged

The Supreme President then opened the floor for discussion regarding the **Annuity Interest Rate** to be offered for the Second Quarter of 2018.

The Board members had a lively discussion regarding the Annuity Interest Rate, taking into consideration our investment portfolio. General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr. Esq., moved to continue with the current interest rates for the second quarter, seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak. Approved (One Opposed)

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

Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, brought up the potential for the Society to look into high yield municipal bonds and other investments. A discussion ensued among the Board and it was decided that Tom Calimano of PNC would be briefed on the Board's discussion. Acknowledged

The Supreme President informed the Board that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held via Conference Call on June 30, 2018.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic, V.F. also informed the Board that Mass will be at 4:30 p.m. at the Saddle Brook Marriott.

Having completed all the business on the agenda, Brother President entertained a motion to adjourn, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek. Approved

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic, led the Board in a closing prayer for all deceased members.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Supreme Secretary

Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 13)

us at 5 p.m. for additional information call Sister Barbara Sable at tel 570 275-3581, ext. 302.

SUN.JULY 15

■ 45th annual Slovak Day observance of the Diocese of Gary, Ind. at the Salvatorian Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, 5755 Pennsylvania St.(Broadway) Merrillville, Ind. beginning with Mass at 10:30 a.m. with cultural program and luncheon to follow.

THURS.JULY 19

■ 95th annual American Slovak Day of Western Pennsylvania at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pa. beginning at 12:30 p.m. with children's games and treats, Mass at 4

p.m., Slovak folk entertainment at 5 p.m.; for information contact Sue Ondrejco at sue.ndrejco@gmail.com or tel 412 421-1204.

JULY 26-29

■ Supreme Clinic - Kurz in preparation for our 49th International Slet at SUNY - Brockport, New York.

SUN.JULY 29

■ 88th annual Milwaukee area Slovak American Day at Croatian Park, 9140 South 76th St., Franklin, Wis. beginning with Mass celebrated at 12 noon with cultural program beginning at 2 p.m. featuring our Group 4 drillers, the Tatra Slovak Dancers and the Fajara musician Bob Rychlik; for information call Betty Valent at tel. 414 425-6137.

GCU-SCS 2018 National Bowling Tournament Schedule

Name	Ave	Hdcp.	Division	Team Event	Lane	Doubles Event	Lane	Singles Event	Lane
Albano, Frank	177	53	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	N/A	May 22 - 12 Noon	13	May 22 - 12 Noon	14
Ames Papcun, Andrea	150	42	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	46	May 22 - 12 Noon	32	May 22 - 12 Noon	31
Bakita, Karen	159	34	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	45	May 22 - 12 Noon	33	May 22 - 12 Noon	34
Barnett, Carole	149	43	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	46	May 22 - 12 Noon	36	May 22 - 12 Noon	35
Barnett, Don	173	56	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	33	May 22 - 12 Noon	13	May 22 - 12 Noon	14
Catanzante, Evie	136	54	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	47	May 22 - 12 Noon	37	May 22 - 12 Noon	38
Checkton, Clarence	194	39	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	35	May 22 - 12 Noon	23	May 22 - 12 Noon	24
Dziuba, Chet	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	37	May 22 - 12 Noon	15	May 22 - 12 Noon	16
Evica, Timothy	169	60	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	40	May 22 - 12 Noon	19	May 22 - 12 Noon	20
Gemoll, Caroline	155	38	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	47	May 22 - 12 Noon	38	May 22 - 12 Noon	37
Gemoll, William	187	45	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	40	May 22 - 12 Noon	19	May 22 - 12 Noon	20
Gibala, Gregory	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	38	May 22 - 12 Noon	28	May 22 - 12 Noon	27
Glass, Jeremy	152	74	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	32	May 22 - 12 Noon	27	May 22 - 12 Noon	28
Glugosh, Larry	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	37	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A
Goberish, John	167	62	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	34	May 22 - 12 Noon	16	May 22 - 12 Noon	15
Haller, Rob	225	12	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	33	May 22 - 12 Noon	25	May 22 - 12 Noon	26
Hoenninger, Matt	188	44	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	42	May 22 - 12 Noon	13	May 22 - 12 Noon	14
Hoenninger, Tom	205	29	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	42	May 22 - 12 Noon	13	May 22 - 12 Noon	14
Horvath, Mike	180	51	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	39	May 22 - 12 Noon	26	May 22 - 12 Noon	25
Hugel, Stan	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	37	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A
Irons, Scott	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	38	May 22 - 12 Noon	27	May 22 - 12 Noon	28
Johnson, Charles H.	172	57	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	36	May 22 - 12 Noon	19	May 22 - 12 Noon	20
Johnson, Frank	201	33	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	36	May 22 - 12 Noon	19	May 22 - 12 Noon	20
Johnson, Phyllis	138	52	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	49	May 22 - 12 Noon	36	May 22 - 12 Noon	35
Jozsa, Sharon	150	42	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	46	May 22 - 12 Noon	32	May 22 - 12 Noon	31
Juba, George	147	79	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	33	May 22 - 12 Noon	25	May 22 - 12 Noon	26
Kapaldo, Kathy	116	71	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	49	May 22 - 12 Noon	31	May 22 - 12 Noon	32
Kapaldo, Pam	114	73	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	49	May 22 - 12 Noon	31	May 22 - 12 Noon	32
Karaffa, Jean	178	18	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	45	May 22 - 12 Noon	33	May 22 - 12 Noon	34
Karaffa, Michael W.	192	40	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	33	May 22 - 12 Noon	25	May 22 - 12 Noon	26
Kazmierczak, George	184	47	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	40	May 22 - 12 Noon	20	May 22 - 12 Noon	19
Kazmierczak, William	187	45	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	40	May 22 - 12 Noon	20	May 22 - 12 Noon	19
Kudlaciak, Marc	143	82	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	41	May 22 - 12 Noon	22	May 22 - 12 Noon	21
Lopata, George	135	89	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	42	May 22 - 12 Noon	14	May 22 - 12 Noon	13
Lopata, Vickie	113	73	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	49	May 22 - 12 Noon	31	May 22 - 12 Noon	32
Macko, Carol	169	26	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	45	May 22 - 12 Noon	33	May 22 - 12 Noon	34
Mathewson, Annette	111	75	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	48	May 22 - 12 Noon	34	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A
Mathewson, Christopher D.	198	35	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	39	May 22 - 12 Noon	17	May 22 - 12 Noon	18
Matlon, Claire	150	42	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	N/A	May 22 - 12 Noon	31	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A
Matras, Mike C.	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	35	May 22 - 12 Noon	23	May 22 - 12 Noon	24
Matty, Dave	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	35	May 22 - 12 Noon	23	May 22 - 12 Noon	24
Miller Jr, John F.	194	39	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	31	May 22 - 12 Noon	21	May 22 - 12 Noon	22
Minarish, Helen	128	61	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	48	May 22 - 12 Noon	35	May 22 - 12 Noon	36
Minarish, John L.	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	39	May 22 - 12 Noon	17	May 22 - 12 Noon	18
Minarish, John P.	180	51	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	39	May 22 - 12 Noon	17	May 22 - 12 Noon	18
Moeller, Joseph	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	32	May 22 - 12 Noon	27	May 22 - 12 Noon	28
Mozuras, Gary S.	193	39	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	36	May 22 - 12 Noon	17	May 22 - 12 Noon	18
Mozuras, Joanne	120	68	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	48	May 22 - 12 Noon	35	May 22 - 12 Noon	36
Niskach, John W.	216	20	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	31	May 22 - 12 Noon	21	May 22 - 12 Noon	22
Niskach, Matt	207	28	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	31	May 22 - 12 Noon	21	May 22 - 12 Noon	22
Osterbrink, Patricia	175	21	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	46	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A
Papcun, John	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	34	May 22 - 12 Noon	18	May 22 - 12 Noon	17
Papcun, Mark	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	34	May 22 - 12 Noon	18	May 22 - 12 Noon	17
Pelfry, Clint	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	38	May 22 - 12 Noon	27	May 22 - 12 Noon	28
Pitman, Scott	181	50	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	41	May 22 - 12 Noon	26	May 22 - 12 Noon	25
Pitoniak, Gary	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	41	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A	May 22 - 12 Noon	N/A
Pollock, Geri	132	57	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	47	May 22 - 12 Noon	37	May 22 - 12 Noon	38
Ribarchak, Donald	160	68	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	31	May 22 - 12 Noon	21	May 22 - 12 Noon	22
Rippel, Jason	134	90	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	42	May 22 - 12 Noon	14	May 22 - 12 Noon	13
Risko, Brian	227	11	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	32	May 22 - 12 Noon	24	May 22 - 12 Noon	23
Risko, Gary	202	32	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	32	May 22 - 12 Noon	24	May 22 - 12 Noon	23
Salmanowitz, Don	183	48	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	41	May 22 - 12 Noon	22	May 22 - 12 Noon	21
Seruga, Bernie	181	50	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	35	May 22 - 12 Noon	23	May 22 - 12 Noon	24
Shubeck, Paul	183	48	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	36	May 22 - 12 Noon	25	May 22 - 12 Noon	26
Shubeck, Rose	130	59	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	48	May 22 - 12 Noon	34	May 22 - 12 Noon	33
Simon, Doug	211	24	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	34	May 22 - 12 Noon	16	May 22 - 12 Noon	15
Simon, Kami	147	45	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	47	May 22 - 12 Noon	38	May 22 - 12 Noon	37
Simpson, Diana	151	41	Women	May 21 - 3 PM	45	May 22 - 12 Noon	33	May 22 - 12 Noon	33
Southerland, Robert	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	38	May 22 - 12 Noon	28	May 22 - 12 Noon	27
Takerer, Joe	175	55	Men	May 21 - 3 PM	37	May 22 - 12 Noon	15	May 22 - 12 Noon	16

Za Bohu a Národ  **For God and Nation**
Slovak Catholic Falcon
SLOVENSKÝ KATOLICKÝ SOKOL

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Reports of the Supreme Officers for 2017 Presented at the First Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors Held at the Home Office in Passaic, N.J., March 16-17, 2018

REPORT OF THE SUPREME ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SPORTS AND ATHLETICS

The following is a list of activities and events I have attended, worked and/or competed in during 2017.

* **In January/February**, I attended the Supreme Annual Physical Fitness Board Meeting held in Cleveland Ohio at the Residence Inn Downtown Cleveland. At the meeting we focused on the upcoming Slet and the other sporting events. We also discussed social media as a way to improve our communications.

I was responsible for posting all pictures from the Annual Meeting of the Physical Fitness Board for the Falcon and Sokol Website. In Feb. I submitted an article to the Falcon on the Co-Ed Volleyball rules and regulations and the track records for the upcoming 2017 International Slet.

* **In April**, I met with Blizzard Trophy to begin our process of ordering trophies, medals, ribbons and plaques for the upcoming International Slet.

* **In May/June**, I finalized the Trophy and various awards for the upcoming Slet. Organized all of the pictures from the 71st International Bowling tournament for posting in the Falcon and Sokol Website. I attended the First Slovak Catholic Sokol Reunion Weekend at the Rocky Gap Resort and Casino in Flintstone, Maryland. The reunion was very successful and I was glad I was able to represent the SPFB.

* **In July**, I attended the 48th International Slet held at the State University of New York at Brockport. At the Slet week, my main responsibilities was centered around track, volleyball and pictures. I worked on coordinating a smoother track schedule to help save time and run more efficient. During volleyball, I organized brackets, rules and refereed the games. We had an organized fundraiser at Slet at the end of week. Delivered Crayons to AC Moore Craft Store for fundraiser which raised 468 Dollars.

* **In August**, I posted all of the pictures from the Slet to the Falcon and Sokol Website. I also edited the pictures for the year end book so they had titles and participant names on the actual pictures. In August, I worked the 62nd International Golf Tournament held at Treasure Lake in Dubois, Pa.

* **In September**, I attended the 100th Anniversary for Group 5. I attended the celebration and represented the Supreme Physical Fitness Board. There were Five Supreme Officers present. At the Ceremony, I took pictures and posted all of the information to the Editor for a follow up article in September Falcon.

* **In December**, I submitted an article to Slovak Catholic Falcon summarizing of all the 2017 international Sporting Events.

I am looking forward to 2018, keeping an open mind while thinking out of the box to come up with sporting and fraternal ideas that will keep the excitement while growing the numbers at upcoming events. Thank you so much for your support.

Frank P. Laury III

Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics

REPORT OF THE MEMBER OF THE PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD

In accordance with the by-laws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my annual report for 2017. As a Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member, I have had the opportunity to attend many activities and events throughout the year. In efforts to establish Supreme Physical Fitness Board presence at local levels, officers of Group 6 and Group 12 were personally contacted and informed of all international activities. In addition, all communiqué was relayed to Group 17 members to promote involvement in all activities.

On an international level, I submitted comments and reminders of upcoming events to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Facebook page. Throughout the year, I maintained financial record of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Sunshine Fund and sent cards and gifts to designated members during special occasions.

January- March 2017

I attended the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio and served on the Sports Program Committee. I worked closely with Supreme Physical Directress, Kathy Watkins to secure two member judges for the 2017 International Slet. I worked closely with Supreme Physical Directress, Kathy Watkins to design T-Shirts for all Slet participants. I communicated with all group Physical Directresses to order T-Shirts for opening ceremonies.

April - June 2017

I provided assistance to the Group 17 Sports Director and presented information during a youth and parent meeting pertaining to involvement in the 2017 International Slet. As a member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board, I attended the first annual social event held at Rocky Gap Resort. I worked closely with Supreme Physical Directress, Kathy Watkins to design, order and distribute hooded sweatshirts that were previewed at the 2017 International Slet. In preparation for the 2017 International Slet, I participated in a conference call with the Supreme Physical Fitness Board and completed the following assigned responsibilities:

- Ensured all necessary paperwork (medical forms, photo release, rules and regulations) were distributed to participating groups, collected and verified
- Scheduled individual drill competition for junior girls and senior women
- Created participant rooming signs

July - September 2017

I attended the International Slet at SUNY, Brockport, New York and worked collaboratively with the SPFB throughout all aspects of the event to ensure success. I submitted an article to the Falcon pertaining to preparing for the individual drill competition. I assisted James Matlon, Director of Sports and Athletics during the International Golf Tournament. I logged scoring results, took photographs of all team and individual golfers and submitted the tournament article to the Falcon.

October - December 2017

As a representative of the SPFB, I served on the Welcoming Committee for the Slovak Catholic Federation 59th National Convention held in Youngstown, Ohio and attended the opening mass and dinner celebration. As a representative of the SPFB, I attended the Group 17 Annual Meeting and Children's Christmas party. I began listening to music arrangements and collaborating with the SPFB in preparation for choreographing junior girls' and senior

women's drills.

It has been a pleasure serving the Slovak Catholic Sokol as a Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member. I look ahead to new assignments and duties with enthusiasm while promoting the values and fraternalism of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

Zdar Boh!

Nancy Kropolinsky

Member Physical Fitness Board

REPORT OF THE MEMBER OF THE PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD

The following activity report for 2017 is submitted to the Board of Directors.

The following is a list of activities and events I have attended and worked throughout 2017.

January-March:

* I attended the Supreme Annual Meeting at the Residence Inn Hotel, Cleveland, Oh. At this meeting I kept the minutes and led roll call. During this meeting plans were made for the Slet year sporting and Clinic activities.

* There was much discussion on establishing Group communications with Group Presidents Sport Directors, Directors and Directresses, utilizing the website/ Facebook to improve communications, reviewed 2016 Group Slet communications, discussed the 2017 Slet and facility, 2016 sporting events and establish dates for 2017 sporting events- with emphasis on the volleyball/ basketball and softball tournament.

* I wrote an article for the Falcon about the 3 hotels closest to Brockport University that were available for parental housing for those attending the 2017 Slet.

* I wrote an article for the Falcon and sent emails to the directresses and assistant directresses about pin trading, where to order them, and how to trade them when at the Slet.

* I attended the first Sokol Reunion at Rocky Gap Resort and Casino in Flintstone, MD.

April - June:

* I worked the International Bowling Tournament in Wilkes-Barre, Pa taking pictures, help to set up for the banquet, sold tickets and passed out bowling souvenirs, etc.. I wrote the 2017 International Bowling Tournament article for the Falcon.

* I represented the Supreme Physical Fitness Board at Group 5's semi-annual meeting at the Hall of Fame Lanes in Canton, OH.

* I had the record boards printed and prepared for the 2017 Slet.

July - September

* I worked the 2017 Set in Brockport University in NY. Some of my duties were implementing our nightly meetings, assisted with volleyball, acted as volleyball referee and line judge, ran the high jump, timer for track, took pictures assisted with individual drill competition, organized material for team drill competition, assisted with Saturday exhibition practice and organized the drill entrance for the girls, assisted with labeling gymnastic and track/field pictures and more.

* Delivered the donated crayons from the crayon initiative from the Slet to Erie, PA where they were counted-468 lbs. These crayons will be melted down and donated to various children's hospitals.

* I attended the International Golf Tournament at Treasure Lake Golf Course in Dubois, PA.

October - December

* I represented the Supreme Physical Fitness Board at Group 5 Annual Meeting at St. Mary's Church in Canton, OH.

* I represented the Supreme Physical Fitness Board at Assembly 167's 100th anniversary celebration.

* I looked for music for the new 2018/2019 drills (senior, junior, mass).

Fraternally yours and God Bless

Julie Laury

Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board

REPORT OF THE MEMBER OF THE PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD

In accordance with the Constitution and By-laws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I submit my Annual Report as a Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board.

January to March 2017

Attended the Annual Supreme Physical Fitness Board Meeting held in Cleveland, OH.

April to June 2017

Participated in the Board Conference Call to discuss the upcoming Slet.

Emailed Group Physical Directors asking for information on Individual Drillers.

Compiled Individual Driller information and devised a Drill Schedule, which was revised and emailed to Group Directors.

Participated in the International Bowling Tournament held in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

July to September 2017

Attended and help to coordinate the International Slet held at SUNY Brockport NY.

October to December 2017

As a Representative of the SPFB, attended and helped to coordinate the Annual Sokol Day held at the Plains Pavilion in Plains, PA.

As a representative of the SPFB, attended the Group 7 Annual meeting held at St. Aloysius Church in Wilkes-Barre, PA and was re-elected Vice President.

As a Representative of the SPFB, attended and helped to coordinate the Group 7 2nd Annual Participants' Reunion held at the NESCC in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Submitted an article for publication in the Falcon.

In my capacity as Member of the Fitness Board, I acted as a liaison between the Board and the Groups 7 and 5 Fitness Board to relay information and provide support.

I would also like to thank the Board Members for all the encouragement and support over the past year.

Zdar Boh!

Martin Degnan

Member of the Physical Fitness Board



Obituaries...

Rev. Andrew G. Marus, long-time pastor in Stratford, Conn. laid to rest at 72

Father Andrew G. Marus, pastor of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Stratford, Conn. passed away peacefully on March 26, at New York Community Hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y. at the age of 72.



The body of Father Marus was received at 9 a.m. on April 2 at Holy Name Church where he had served as pastor for the past nearly 15 years. The Most Rev. Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport, was principal celebrant of the Mass of Christian burial which followed at 11 a.m. Interment followed at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Trumbull, Conn.

A native of Bridgeport, Father Marus was raised in the former St. John Nepomucene Slovak Parish there. He was graduated from the former St. John Nepomucene School and Notre Dame High School in

Fairfield, Conn. He graduated from St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore in 1971. He was ordained a priest on May 15, 1971 by the Most Rev. Walter B. Curtis at the Cathedral of St. Augustine in Bridgeport.

Father Marus served as parochial vicar at St. Peter's Parish in Danbury, 1971-1974 and St. Thomas the Apostle in Norwalk. 1974-1978. He served on the faculty of St. Joseph's High School in Trumbull, 1978-1980. He was parochial vicar at St. Lawrence Parish in Huntington and St. Andrew Parish in Bridgeport, becoming administrator at St. Andrew's in 1988. In 1995, he became pastor of St. Patrick's in Bridgeport before being named pastor of the Slovak parish of the Holy Name of Jesus in Stratford in 2003. Among Father Marus's survivor is a sister, Mary Ann Marus. Father Marus was active in Fairfield County Slovak activities.

May the priestly soul of Father Marus enjoy the beatific vision. May he rest in peace.

Announcing the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!



In Memory of...

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://slovakcatholicokol.org/members/memorialfrmframe.htm> or simply send your donation to:

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

- 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.

YOUR BENEFICIARIES

When was the last time you looked at your designated beneficiaries on your valuable Sokol insurance policy? How important is it? Just think about how much your life has changed. Have you married, divorced, had children, maybe you lost a loved one? This is an item you should consider annually. If you do need to make changes to any of your policies, contact the Home Office at 800-886-7656.

In Memoriam

Slovak Catholic Sokol extends sincere sympathy to the bereaved families of deceased members

MARCH 2018

ASSEMBLY/ WREATH	MEMBER	AGE	DATE OF DEATH
Assembly 10	Robert T. Buzga, Farrell, PA	81	March 2, 2018
Assembly 10	Msgr. Charles S. Murcko, Farrell, PA	93	March 6, 2018
Assembly 24	Peter John Keane, Boonton, NJ	79	January 27, 2018
Assembly 25	John A. Bodnar Jr., Perryopolis, PA	81	March 5, 2018
Assembly 32	Mary Svetik, Palmerton, PA	85	January 5, 2018
Assembly 36	Paul B. Pollack, Detroit, MI	88	February 22, 2018
Assembly 7	Anna Sterbinsky, Edwardsville, PA	96	February 8, 2018
Assembly 78	Margaret Pursell, Bethlehem, PA	84	February 18, 2018
Assembly 86	George Kaschak, Port Griffith, PA	71	February 28, 2018
Assembly 127	Margaret A. Dzimiera, Monessen, PA	94	February 8, 2018
Assembly 167	Robert Philip McGuinness, Barberton, OH	91	February 10, 2018
Assembly 179	Helen Evans, North Braddock, PA	98	March 7, 2010
Assembly 219	Helen L. Turner, Yonkers, NY	72	November 23, 2017
Assembly 312	Joan C. Makosky, Passaic, NJ	80	February 25, 2018
Assembly 312	Margaret T. Nahay, Passaic, NJ	85	January 8, 2018
Wreath 2	Judith Ann Kopchak, Passaic, NJ	65	February 23, 2018
Wreath 8	Dorothy Lusky, Bellaire, OH	83	January 18, 2017
Wreath 15	Pamela K. Williams, Perryopolis, PA	59	March 19, 2018
Wreath 15	Margaret Russell, Perryopolis, PA	93	March 15, 2018
Wreath 29	Bernadine Parente, Farrell, PA	84	February 15, 2018
Wreath 85	Michael Mizenko, Mc Kees Rocks, PA	87	February 6, 2018
Wreath 93	Andrew B. Duginski, Milwaukee, WI	89	February 6, 2018
Wreath 103	Lilian S. Hazlett, Barberton, OH	89	January 17, 2018
Wreath 111	Albina Rodack, Lorain, OH	97	February 18, 2018
Wreath 147	John J. Mayerski, Larksville, PA	77	March 13, 2018
Wreath 155	Elizabeth Ann Kunstek, Reading, PA	85	February 18, 2018

APRIL, 2018

ASSEMBLY/ WREATH	MEMBER	AGE	DATE OF DEATH
Assembly 11	Robert M. Galvin, Chicago, IL	84	March 9, 2018
Assembly 11	James Hajewski, Chicago, IL	69	April 17, 2018
Assembly 11	Theresa G. Beaver, Chicago, IL	59	February 28, 2018
Assembly 16	Raymond Bobak, Pittsburgh, PA	58	December 25, 2012
Assembly 24	Josephine Sullivan, Boonton, NJ	84	March 23, 2018
Assembly 32	Sister M. Irene Turek, MSC, Palmerton, PA	92	December 2, 2017
Assembly 36	Ralph G. Hudak, Detroit, MI	82	March 26, 2018
Assembly 36	Lee Yang, Detroit, MI	75	March 5, 2018
Assembly 59	Rosemary Dupre, Wilkes-Barre, PA	90	January 26, 2018
Assembly 78	Charles E. Bednar, Bethlehem, PA	86	April 1, 2018
Assembly 78	Margaret Falatek, Bethlehem, PA	90	February 21, 2018
Assembly 78	Francis S. Schramko, Bethlehem, PA	83	March 31, 2018
Assembly 78	Jennie Straka, Bethlehem, PA	89	September 18, 2012
Assembly 113	Leo Bryan Aller, Kenosha, WI	73	February 9, 2018
Assembly 127	Helen Andreskovich, Monessen, PA	95	March 12, 2017
Assembly 219	Anne R. Kakos, Yonkers, NY	92	March 9, 2018
Assembly 255	Andrew D. Palco, Egypt, PA	88	March 27, 2018
Assembly 261	Victor F. Skvarla, Reading, PA	91	March 19, 2018
Assembly 305	Anastasia A. Smalley, Los Angeles, CA	85	February 13, 2018
Assembly 313	Violet Rose Cimborra, Winter Park, FL	93	October 22, 2016
Wreath 13	Stephanie Ann Jandura, Philadelphia, PA	89	February 2, 2018
Wreath 22	Beatrice Obeldobel, Pittsburgh, PA	75	April 4, 2018
Wreath 54	Stella Marie Johnston, Youngstown, OH	84	March 27, 2018
Wreath 54	Olga Krupa, Youngstown, OH	89	April 4, 2018
Wreath 69	Dorothy M. Bice, Niagara Falls, NY	87	April 25, 2018
Wreath 8	Andrew Lesko, Whiting, IN	92	March 21, 2018
Wreath 85	Mary M. Katus, Mc Kees Rocks, PA	89	April 7, 2018
Wreath 93	Marlene J. Morse, Milwaukee, WI	75	April 26, 2018
Wreath 93	Lee T. Noel, Milwaukee, WI	90	February 26, 2018
Wreath 153	Frank Di Marino, Parma, OH	91	March 31, 2018
Wreath 155	Rita Pluta, Reading, PA	87	March 29, 2018

Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum opened in Mississauga, Ontario

On Sunday, March 25, over 120 visitors came to admire the creative displays and priceless artifacts that volunteers prepared for the grand opening of the Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum (SCHM) in the Canadian Slovak League's Hall in Mississauga, Ontario. Visitors ranged in age from three months to 93 years. With good music and tasty refreshments, everyone enjoyed the comradeship and the very special music of the 'Fujara', the traditional Slovak shepherd's instrument, played by the Rev. Ladislav Kozak, pastor of St. Paul's Slovak Lutheran Church in Toronto. Guests came all the way from Oshawa in the east to St. Catherine's in the west. Many visitors also used the opportunity to bring along Slovak artifacts for the museum. The SCHM is very grateful for these contributions and would like to thank everyone for their support. Special thanks go out to Katka Homolova who did a wonderful job of interviewing people and her camera man captured the event which will be presented at an upcoming episode of the Slovak television program, Slovensky Svet.

The opening welcome was offered by SCHM President Alena Melas. Special guests present included Mississauga's Mayor, Madame Bonnie Crombie and Counsellors Ron Starr and Christine Fonseca. The museum presented Mayor Crombie with a beautiful Modra ceramic Easter basket with a very special Easter egg.

During the program, tribute was made to the museum's founder and long-time supporter, Margaret A. Dvorsky, who unfortunately passed away on March 19, 2018. Mrs. Dvorsky was a long-time supporter of Slovak culture and heritage throughout her lifetime. Margaret's nieces announced that a special memorial fund would be established in support

of the museum.

The past 11 years has proved to be a long journey for the museum with its first displays in the Heritage Room in the former Slovak Byzantine Catholic Cathedral of the Transfiguration in Markham, Ontario. Later the museum found a home at several locations until finally settling in at its new home at the Canadian Slovak League's hall, a more centrally located center of the Slovak community.

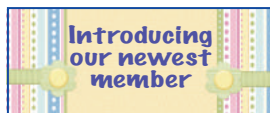
For the future, it was Margaret Dvorsky's hope to capture the history of the Slovaks in Canada. Those who have immigrated to Canada can leave a legacy so that their children and grandchildren will know where their parents, grandparents and great-grandparents came from. Coming to a new country is not easy for anyone. Some struggles may be similar but everyone's story is unique. The SCHM's genealogy committee has prepared a questionnaire to help people write their family history. It is a two-part document. The first includes the facts, the names, dates and places. The second includes the personal stories of joys, sorrows, struggles and accomplishments. SCHM president, Alena Melas notes that it is these stories that define us as Slovak people in a multicultural society and our stories need to be heard. Canadian Slovaks are invited to obtain this questionnaire by contacting a member of the museum's board of directors: Luba Henderson, Helen Bucic, Joseph Radvansky, Mary Sirotnik, Anne Smith, Anne Mitro, Rev. Marek Novicky or Alena Melas.

Thanks and gratitude go out to all who had a hand in the successful grand opening of the Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum. Our thanks to the museum's president, Alena Melas for sharing this interesting story with our readers.



Shown on the photo at the grand opening of the Slovak Canadian Heritage Museum in Mississauga, Ontario include from right to left, Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie, Councillor Ron Star, Alena Melas, museum president; and Councillor Chris Fonseca.

- Photo compliments of Jednota



Cecilia Lynn-Marie Brown, born November 15, 2017, is the daughter of Kyle and Jessica Martino Brown of Breezy Point, Minn. She was enrolled as a member of Assembly 11 in Chicago, Ill.

List of notable Slovak Americans

Jon Bon Jovi – rock musician, singer, songwriter and actor. Born in 1962 – paternal grandmother of Slovak descent.



Angelina Jolie – actress, former fashion model and Goodwill Ambassador for the UN Refugee Agency; daughter of Jon Voight. Born in 1975 – paternal grandfather of Slovak descent.



Pola Negri – 1897-1987, actress – her father, was a Slovak immigrant.

Paul Newman – 1901-1982, actor and film director – maternal grandparents were Slovak immigrants.



Robert Urich – 1916-2002, actor – his parents were Slovak immigrants.



John Voight – actor. Born in 1923 – paternal grandfather and his paternal grandmother's parents were Slovak immigrants.



Austin Mahone – singer and songwriter.



Born in 1996 – his mother is of Rusyn-Slovak and German descent.

Katarina Van Derham – model, actress, and publisher



– born in 1975 and raised in Slovakia. She came to the United States in the late 90's at the age of 22).



Tony Curtis – actor 1925-2010 – his mother was from Slovakia.

Representative Edward Pashinski Honored



During the annual Legislative Meeting hosted by the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance on April 17 at the state capitol in Harrisburg, Pa. Representative Edward Pashinski was honored as the Legislator of the Year by the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance which represents more than 600,000 fraternalists in the Keystone State. The representative was honored for his efforts on behalf of the state's fraternalists. Representative Pashinski who represents the 121st legislative district in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., is shown center on the above photo with some of the Slovak fraternal leaders in attendance. Shown with him are from the left: our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C., Theresa A. Kluchinski, national president of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union; Supreme President Michael J. Horvath and Mary Jo Savidge, secretary-treasurer of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union.

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL HANGOUTS

The NEW SOKOL HANGOUTS will be a way to meet up with fellow Sokols at events you may be doing in your area. If there is a something you are involved in, consider being a 'host' for the event. All you have to do is inform Assistant Physical Directress Katie Swift at 412-303-3338 or Katie70@aol.com. She will organize a meeting place at the event and let you know which other Sokols may want to join you.

July 13, 2018	AAA Rail Riders baseball game (Friday night before softball tournament) Wilkes-Barre, PA
July 14, 2018	Night at the Mohegan Sun Casino (Saturday night after softball tournament) Wilkes-Barre, PA
Aug. 20, 2018	Warrior Dash Poconos, PA

Keep a look out in the Falcon and on email, Facebook, and Instagram for upcoming events!

Cyrilites Promote Water With Blessings



Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Elysburg, Pa. partnered with the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius to provide clean drinking water to families in communities torn by war and natural disaster, in under-developed neighborhoods, in refugee camps and in villages threatened by water contamination. Sister Jeane Ambre, SS.C.M. serves as Parish Visitor, and the Rev. Joseph Scanlin is pastor. Working with the Water With Blessings Program, the group crocheted more than 800 Water Filter Socks, which fit over and protect water filter units. Mothers in

developing countries are trained in the use of the filters, and that mother will generally provide clean water for her own family and at least three others.

The group also collected funds for the purchase of four of the water filter units. Thus, the work done by these volunteers at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish will help provide clean water to at least 3,200 families, protecting them from dysentery, intestinal parasites and other water-borne illnesses.

For more information on the program, visit www.waterwithblessings.org.

Východ Slovenska súperí o piatu automobilku

Slovensko je vážnym kandidátom pre príchod piatej automobilky. Jej výstavbu má údajne pri Košiciach zvažovať čínska automobilka Zhi Dou. Okrem Slovenska sa má o obriu investíciu uchádzať aj Rumunsko. Naposledy vláda v roku 2015 presvedčila britský Jaguar Land Rover, ktorý uprednostnil Nitru pred jedným z poľských miest.

V rámci podpory prípadného ďalšieho investora vláda minulý týždeň odsúhlasila vybudovanie strategického parku v obci Haniska pri Košiciach. Priemyselný park má byť jedným z najväčších v krajine.

„Ministerstvo hospodárstva preto očakáva, že môže pritiahnúť investíciu, ktorá bude porovnateľná s dosiaľ realizovanými najväčšími investíciami. Nevylučujeme však ani umiestnenie viacerých, navzájom sa dopĺňajúcich investícií,“ povedal hovorca rezortu hospodárstva Maroš Stano.

Príchody Volkswagenu do Bratislavy, Peugeotu do Trnavy, Kie do Žiliny a Jaguara do Nitrý v minulosti naštartovali slovenský priemysel. Platy v automobilkách aj u ich dodávateľov často presahujú tisíc eur v hrubom. Výhodou Košíc je, aj pri nízkej nezamestnanosti v krajine, stále dostatok voľnej pracovnej sily. Plusom je aj to, že v roku 2021 by mal po dobudovaní obchvatu Prešova k plynulej diaľnici z Košíc do Bratislavy chýbať už len jeden menší úsek medzi Liptovom a Turcom.

Dodávatelia súčiastok, ktorí sú prevažne na západe SR, by však aj tak museli merať dlhú cestu do Košíc. Na druhej strane metropola východného Slovenska je stále bližšie k západným trhom ako Rumunsko. Bukurešť zase láka na nízke

platy. Vlni bola na Slovensku priemerná hrubá mzda 954 eur mesačne a v Rumunsku 520 eur.

Firmy podnikajúce v Rumunsku platia 16-percentnú daň z príjmu a na Slovensku až 21-percentnú. Zároveň rumunská vláda dokáže ponúknuť podporu až do výšky 50 percent investície a slovenská maximálne do 35 percent. Naopak, v prospech Slovenska hrá kvalitnejšia pracovná sila a nižšie logistické náklady. Európskym štatistickým úradom meraná nezamestnanosť je v Rumunsku vo výške 4,6 percenta a na Slovensku až 7,4 percenta.

„Pre automobilové koncerny je Slovensko lákavé vybudovanou sieťou subdodávateľov. Tí už dnes pracujú s najmodernejšími technológiami a práve vďaka nim žiadny nový automobilový závod nebude mať problém s dodávkami súčiastok,“ povedal Juraj Sinay, člen výkonného výboru Zväzu automobilového priemyslu (ZAP) SR. Napríklad Bratislavský závod Volkswagen Slovakia už dnes vyrába spájaním ocele a hliníka ľahké automobilové karosérie. Zároveň logistické náklady začínajú byť v mnohých prípadoch vyššie ako mzdové. Aj z tohto dôvodu sa napríklad Jaguar Land Rover rozhodol svoj nový závod postaviť pri meste Nitra, a nie na východe Slovenska.

Automobilový priemysel tvorí približne 27 percent domácej priemyselnej výroby a priamo zamestnáva 120-tisíc ľudí. Po započítaní peňazí minútymi ľuďmi aj firmami pôsobiacimi v automobilovom priemysle závisí od tohto odvetvia až 320-tisíc domácich pracovných miest.

Matica slovenská v plnení potrieb krajanov

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

stykové podujatia) a tiež v plnení záverov RSZZ pri MS. Na rokovaniach bolo definované s akými požiadavkami krajanov sa MS stretáva a akým spôsobom sa ich snaží v rámci svojich možností naplniť. Diskusia smerovala aj k možnosti čerpania grantov MZ-VaEZ SR práve na účel realizácie výskumov univerzít krajskej problematiky.

Prvá návšteva MS na pôde MZVaEZ SR sa pretavila do pozvania Matice slovenskej na zasadanie Rady vlády pre krajské otázky (RVKO). Vznik RVKO v roku 2016 iniciovali ministri zahraničných vecí, Miroslav Lajčák a predseda ÚSZZ, Ján Varšo. Jej úlohou je strategické usmerňovanie výkonu štátnej politiky smerom ku krajanom. Má medzirezortný rozmer. Je to stály poradný a koordinačný výbor vlády v oblasti krajskej problematiky. Jej členmi sú štátni tajomníci MZV, MK, MŠ, MV, MF a predseda a podpredsa ÚSZZ. Na svoje 4. rokovanie RVKO prvýkrát pozvala aj hosti: predsedu Matice slovenskej, Mariána Gešpera a riaditeľku KM MS, Zuzanu Pavelcovú. RVKO sa zaoberala grantovým systémom ÚSZZ a jeho navýšením pre krajské potreby, osvedčeniami Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, rozdeľovaním dotácií krajanom v roku 2018 a pripravovaným podujatím v oblasti krajskej problematiky. V závere rokovania predsedu MS, Mariána Gešpera, informoval RVKO o činnosti MS smerom ku krajanom a víziách budúcej práce MS v prospech Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. Rokovanie RVKO viedol štátny tajomník, L. Parížek, ktorý uviedol: „Oceňujem záujem nového vedenia Matice slovenskej o úzku spoluprácu v oblasti starostlivosti o našich krajanov“.

- Zuzana Pavelcová, riaditeľka Krajanského múzea MS

ACH, TÁ NAŠA SLOVENČINA!

Najväčšie First moment zľavy končia už o pár dní - [sme.sk](#)

Oplatí sa viac dovolenka first moment alebo last minute?

- Plus jeden deň

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- diva.sk

Pozrite si, čo lowcostový pasažier nepozná. - [trend.sk](#)

Ktorá strukovina má lepší nutričný profil? - [aktualne.sk](#)

Súboj o prezidenta bude bez favoritov a outsiderov - [pravda.sk](#)

Potraviny, ktoré môžete jesť a nepriberiete

Slovo „stačí“ sa vyslovuje pri maškrtení ťažko. Lebo keď sa do niečoho s chuťou pustíme, nevieme prestať. Skúste to s týmito potravinami. Môžete ich zjesť neobmedzene veľa!

Čučoriedky - sú plné vitamínov a majú len 42 kalórií na 100 gramov a keď ich zjete aj veľkú porciu, vašu váhu to neohrozí.

Karfiol - ak pridáte tie správne koreniny a upečiete ho v rúre, aj karfiol môže byť perfektným olovrantom. Na 100 gramov má len 25 kalórií.

Jahody - 100 gramov jahôd má asi 32 kalórií. Znamená to, že ich možno zjesť veľa. Okrem obsahujú veľa vitamínu C.

Mrkva - obsahuje vitamín A, železo, draslík a vápnik. S 26 kalóriami na 100 gramov jej možno bez výčitek svedomia zjesť, koľko vám hrdlo ráči.

Grapefruit - má 45 kalórií na 100 gramov. Paradajka - jedna paradajka má len deväť kalórií.

Táto zelenina okrem toho obsahuje vitamín B, K a lykopén.

Slovenská republika dostala od USA ponuku na modernizáciu leteckých základní

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

Cieľom podpory je nielen samotná modernizácia vojenskej infraštruktúry, no najmä posilnenie vzájomnej interoperability s ostatnými členskými krajinami a partnermi NATO.

Prekladané projekty budú zároveň v súlade so stanovenými štandardmi Severoatlantickej aliance (NATO), ktoré je SR ako členská krajina NATO povinná zavádzať a dodržiavať.

Táto ponuka predstavuje možnosť, ako zvýšiť operačnú úroveň spôsobilostí a spoločne tak prispieť k zlepšeniu úrovne kolektívnej obrany Aliancie. Realizácia a príjem takejto podpory je z oboch strán podmienená uzatvorením dohody o obrannej spolupráci. Obe zainteresované strany za účasti dotknutých ministerských rezortov budú o dohode diskutovať, pričom zámerom je pripraviť potrebnú zmluvu, informovala hovorkyňa rezortu obrany.

Príspevok v rámci Európskej iniciatívy odstrašenia pre Slovensko predstavuje priestor na ušetrenie finančných prostriedkov,

ktoré môžu byť využité na rozvoj ďalšej nevyhnutnej infraštruktúry v podmienkach OS.

Zároveň je to podľa MO možnosť zvýšenia kredibility Slovenska voči spojencom v rámci NATO, ako aj posilnenie schopnosti SR v súvislosti s úlohou podpory hostiteľskej krajiny. Európska iniciatíva odstrašenia

Európsku iniciatívu odstrašenia prvýkrát predstavil v roku 2016 vtedajší prezident USA Barack Obama na summite NATO vo Varšave. V rámci summitu bola pomoc ponúknutá najmä krajinám tzv. východného krídla Aliancie.

Iniciatívu podporil aj súčasný prezident USA Donald Trump, ktorý schválil návrh jej rozpočtu na fiskálny rok 2018 pre viaceré členské krajiny NATO.

Obdobné ponuky zo strany USA boli okrem SR, Islandu a Nórska, ponúknuté aj Maďarsku, Lotyšsku, Estónsku, Rumunsku, Malte či Luxembursku a Bulharsku. Letisko Sliac bolo už aj v minulosti modernizované s podporou finančných prostriedkov NATO.

Takmer 14 percent kapitálu slovenských firiem je v daňových rajoch

Slovenské podniky ovládajú v daňových rajoch vo svojich materských spoločnostiach kapitál za 10,5 miliardy eur. Vyplýva to z údajov poradenskej spoločnosti Bisnode.

Predstavuje to až 13,6 percento celkového kapitálu všetkých slovenských spoločností. Za celý minulý rok pritom Bisnode evidovala v daňových rajoch sídlo bežne 4 800 slovenských spoločností.

Najväčší podiel pritom ovládajú firmy v Holandsku, kde má 1 139 spoločností pod kontrolou základný kapitál v objeme takmer 6,6 miliardy eur.

„Holandsko už dlhodobo patrí medzi popredné destinácie slovenských podnikateľov pri výbere daňovo zvýhodnených destinácií. V žiadnej inej krajine taký veľký objem kapitálu nevlastnia,“ konštatovala analytička spoločnosti Bisnode Petra Štěpánová.

Viac ako 1 miliardu eur základného kapitálu kontrolovali slovenské subjekty ešte na Cypre a v Luxembursku. Na Cypre vyše 100 firiem ovládalo kapitál za 1,5 miliardy eur a v Luxembursku 414 subjektov kapitál v sume vyše 1,3 miliardy eur.

Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation
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Slovenská liga oslávila 100. výročie podpísania Pittsburghskej dohody

V nedeľu 15. apríla sa vo farnosti Sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku konala oslava 100. výročia podpísania Pittsburghskej dohody.

Slovenskú sv. omšu slúžil Otec Igor Král, S.V.D. Po omši nasledoval obed a po ňom začal program, ktorý otvoril predseda Slovenkej ligy v Amerike Daniel F. Tanzone. Predstavil operného speváka Andreja Pulvera, ktorý zaspieval americkú a slovenskú hymnu.

D. Tanzone potom hovoril o účasti SLvA v storočnom boji za uznanie existencie slovenského národa a jeho práva na samostatnosť. Tento cieľ bol dovŕšený 1. januára 1993.

Dr. Ladislav Korček pozdravil prítomných za 1. zbor SLvA v New Yorku a potom nasledoval prejav predsedníčky Prvej katolíckej slovenskej ženskej jednoty Cynthie M. Maleski. Hovorila o spolupráci amerických Slovákov a Čechov v snahe vytvoriť spoločný štát na troskách Rakúsko-Uhorskej monarchie. Zdôraznila tiež veľkú materálnu a pomoc amerických národných a fraternalistických organizácií, ktorou prispeli v tomto boji.

Nasledoval kultúrny program. Andrej Pulver, očaril prítomných spevom slovenských piesní. Úspech získali aj tanečníci a speváci populárneho detského folklórneho súboru Lipka z Linde, N.J.

Prítomných potom poz-

dravil Štefan J. Kubašek, ktorého strýko, Otec Ján J. Kubašek bol spolupodpisovateľom Pittsburghskej dohody.

Nasledoval príhovor generálneho konzulky SR v New Yorku Ladislavi Begec.

Záverečný príhovor v slovenčine mala tajomníčka SLvA Nina Holá, ktorá hovorila o tom, ako sa Pittsburghská dohoda ťažko rodila, keď Masaryk a Beneš neuznávali existenciu slovenského národa a hovorili a písali len o Českom štáte. Spomenula napätú debatu na zasadnutí deň pred podpísaním dohody, v ktorej SLvA hrozila zastávaním finančnej podpory Československému národnému výboru v Európe, vedenému Masarykom a Benešom, keď Štefánik bol v tom čase v Rusku na čele československej légii. Masaryk nakoniec prijal požiadavky Slovákov a nasledujúci deň podpísal dohodu spolu s asi dvadsiatimi predstaviteľmi slovenského života v Amerike.

Oslavu zakončil záverečnou modlitbou Otec Richard Baker, farár slovenského Kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku. Nakoniec prítomní zaspievali hymnické piesne God Bless America a Kto za pravdu horí.

Okrem Cynthie Maleski bol na oslave prítomný aj hlavný tajomník Slovenského katolíckeho sokola Scott T. Pogorelec a zástupcovia slovenských spolkov v New Yorku a na okolí.

Matica slovenská v plnení potrieb krajanov

Stanovami Matice slovenskej deklarovaný, najvyšší poradný orgán MS pre krajaniskú problematiku, Rada pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí pri MS zasadá na matičnej pôde spravidla raz ročne. Z ostatného rokovania (jeseň 2017) bola prijatá takmer desiatka záverov, ktoré i napriek tomu, že majú odporúčací charakter, Matica slovenská počas roka postupne naplňa. Jedným zo spoločne prijatých záverov bol aj bod, kde zástupcovia z ôsmich krajín sveta a predseda SZSZ odporučili Matici slovenskej, aby oslovila slovenské univerzity s požiadavkou realizácie výskumov „Ako ďalej Slováci...“

Krajské múzeum MS odoslalo na slovenské univerzity návrhový list, na ktorý zareagovali tri univerzity a jedna akadémia, ktoré prejavili záujem a vyžiadali si presnejšie informácie. Ústredným problémom spustenia realizácie výskumov sú financie, ktoré sa MS snaží získať z dostupných relevantných zdrojov.

Matica preto iniciovala stretnutie na MZVvEZ SR. Delegácia MS bola prijatá 18. apríla 2018 riaditeľom kancelárie štátneho tajomníka Lukáša Paríža, Ladislavom Ballekom a podpredsedom ÚSZZ, Petrom Prochádkom. Správca MS, Maroš Smolec, informoval o činnosti MS smerom ku krajanom. Tá stojí najmä na vedeckej práci (ročenka Slováci v zahraničí, príprava odborných seminárov, účasť na medzinárodných konferenciách, lektorské posudky, príprava výstav), prevádzkovaní dokumentačného strediska a poskytovania bádateľských a výpožičných služieb (knihnica a archívy KM MS), osvetovej a stykovej činnosti (publikovanie článkov MS v krajaniských periodikách, obojstranné návštevy a

Krátke správy zo Slovenska



Reštaurácia PIZZA HUT na Slovensku končí. Svoju poslednú prevádzku v Tesco v bratislavskej Petržalke zatvorila 23. apríla. PIZZA HUT pôsobila na Slovensku viac než 20 rokov. Prvú prevádzku otvorili v roku 1997 v Bratislave. O dva roky neskôr prišla aj do Nitry a neskôr aj do Košíc. V roku 2001 otvorili druhú pobočku v Bratislave a v Trnave.

Ceny, za ktoré si ľudia kupujú nehnuteľnosti na Slovensku, neustále rastú. V marci sa v porovnaní februárom priemerná cena bytu zvýšila o približne 2,5 percenta. Ako poukázal analytik Realitnej únie Slovenska Vladimír Kubrický, štvorcový meter stál v marci 1534 eura, teda o 38 eur viac ako vo februári.

Slovensko je vážnym kandidátom pre príchod piatej automobilky. Jej výstavbu má údajne pri Košiciach zvažovať čínska automobilka Zhi Dou. Okrem Slovenska sa má o ob-

riu investíciu uchádzať aj Rumunsko. V rámci podpory prípadného ďalšieho investora vláda odsúhlasila vybudovanie strategického parku v obci Haniska pri Košiciach. Priemyselný park má byť jedným z najväčších v krajine.

Ku koncu minulého roka sa v slovenských väzniciach nachádzalo dovedna 219 cudzincov. Vyplýva to z najnovšej ročenky Zboru väzenskej a justičnej stráže (ZVJS) za rok 2017. Medzi cudzincami v slovenských ústavoch bolo v minulom roku 77 obvinených a 142 odsúdených. Najpočetnejšou skupinou boli občania ČR, a to 51. Nasledovali Poliaci v počte 20, za nimi nasledovali maďarskí občania, ktorých bolo 18 a napokon 16 obyvateľov Ukrajiny. Medzi väznenými cudzincami boli osoby aj zo vzdialenejších či exotických krajín, ako napríklad Sierra Leone, Afganistan, Nigéria, Kamerun, Kuba, Irak, Irán, Mongolsko či Pakistan a India.



Výše desať rokov bol Haličský zámok pri Lučenci úplne neprístupný verejnosti. Renesančno-baroková národná kultúrna pamiatka kedysi patrila šľachticom Forgáčovcom. Nový majiteľ miesto kompletne zrekonštruoval a pretvoril ho na luxusný hotel. Hostom je k dispozícii priestor zámočkej reštaurácie Rozália a dvorany Arkádia. Zvyšok hotela tvorí ubytovacia časť. Hotel má k dispozícii 50 izieb, ktoré sú zariadené v rôznych historických štýloch. Prostredie skrášľuje francúzsky park s jazierkom.

SR dostala od USA ponuku na modernizáciu leteckých základní

Slovenská republika môže získať od USA finančnú podporu na modernizáciu leteckých základní Sliač a Kuchyňa vo výške 46 miliónov USD.

Cieľom European Deterrence Initiative (EDI) je podpora rozvoja obranných spôsobilostí predovšetkým v krajinách tzv. východného krídla Aliancie.

Pomoc by mala byť zameraná konkrétne na úpravu letiskových plôch a zvýšenie kapacity skladov pohonných látok. Na to, aby Slovensko pomoc zo strany USA prijalo, je potrebné, aby plne korešpondovala s operačnými požiadavkami OS a vychádzala z konkrétnej zmluvy.

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)

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