

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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

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

VOLUME C

PASSAIC, N.J., NOVEMBER 2, 2011

NUMBER 4950

Scenes of the Annual Meeting & Centennial Celebration of Group 4 "Bishop Stefan Moyzes" The Imperial Room of the Camelot Banquet Hall + Hickory Hills, Ill. + Saturday, September 17



Group 4 Anniversasy Members and Guests



Presenting the newly elected Group 4 Officers



Scenes of the 56th International Slovak Catholic Sokol Golf Tournament

Peek 'n Peak Resort & Spa + Clymer, New York + August 19-21



From the Desk of the Supreme Secretary

My Fraternal View

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



PROMOTING AN EXCITING FRATERNAL SEASON

Now that we can look back on what was one of the most active and enjoyable summer fraternal seasons, it's time to plan our traditional indoor fraternal activities during the fall and winter months. An important indicator of the vitality of a fraternal is its ability to attract its members to various activities and projects. This time of the year is perfect for such activities. I am pleased to see in our publication that many of our Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths will be hosting a variety of interesting and enjoyable activities. One of the hallmarks of fraternalism over the years has been social interaction. For generations, members of our organization met, socialized and promoted a variety of community projects. In the past, through such interaction life-long friendships were made and renewed over and over again. During my travels to various communities to participate in Sokol events, I often meet individuals who note that they met their spouses at Sokol Slets, sporting events or lodge celebrations. We are social individuals and enjoy socializing and meeting new people. Many Sokol friendships have continued for generations. We're all part of the great Slovak Catholic Sokol family and meeting with each other at fraternal events serves to strengthen the "family ties."

The Home Office encourages and always supports local fraternal activities. As in the past we offer any Group, Assembly or Wreath a stipend of \$100, up to two times a year, in support of such an activity. You need to announce such an activity in our official publication and then perhaps have some photos taken at the event which can be featured in the Falcon. When a Group or lodge hosts an activity, we advise that they invite their local elected officials. In this way, these officials will learn more about what a fraternal benefit society is all about. Remember, we enjoy tax exempt status as a fraternal and we need to let our elected officials know about all the good works we engage in. I am pleased to see that several of our Groups have already hosted centennial celebrations and I hope that many more will do so as their centennials approach.

It's not too soon to plan the traditional Children's Christmas parties hosted by many of our Sokol lodges. Again, we support such an activity by providing a stipend of \$5.00 for every junior Sokol member up to the age of 15 who attends such a gathering. Activity is important and we want to promote it because it's what sets us apart as a fraternal. We thank our many hard-working fraternalists who labor to insure the success of such activities.

And speaking of such individuals, yours truly along with our Supreme Chaplain and Supreme President were pleased to present the 2011 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year plaque and honorarium to Andrew J. "Butch" Hvozdovic at a dinner we hosted in his honor in Plains, Pa. on October 15. "Butch" as he is known throughout our organization, is an example of an individual who has promoted our organization and its activities for many years. All of us thank him for his commitment to what it

means to be a true fraternalist.

In this issue, we announce one of our organization's greatest fraternal benefits - our scholarship program. 2012 will mark the 40th anniversary of our scholarship program. Since its inception, more than 1,784 members have received a total of \$1,264,250 in scholarship grants in support of higher education. This is an outstanding record for an organization of our size. Read all about our 2012 program and make sure that your interested and eligible children and grandchildren apply for grants on the college level as well as in support of students attending a Catholic high school or grammar school.

We need to continue to promote the sale of our life insurance and annuity products which provide the funds necessary not only to provide financial security but in addition to allow us to provide fraternal benefits to our members.

If we look back on our earliest years, our first policy offered was a Whole Life Plan. People most often think about life insurance as a way to provide financial security for their families in case of an untimely death. Of course, this is the core reason to have life insurance. But one thing often overlooked is the additional benefits provided by permanent life insurance. Whole life insurance, as an example, offers a combination of death-benefit protection and cash-value accumulation, leading more and more people to view whole life as a flexible asset in their overall financial planning. Especially important in these uncertain economic times, whole life insurance is one option whose benefits will not fluctuate with the rise and fall of the stock market. We offer such a plan and it is known as Legacy Life. This plan has guaranteed cash value and the potential to pay annual dividends. Accrued cash value enables the policyholder to take a loan on his policy or to help pay premiums, thus keeping their insurance policy active. This policy offers financial flexibility and is therefore attractive. Our Legacy Life plan is one of several permanent life insurance plans offered in our new Legacy Collection of Life Insurance Protection offered by our organization. If you would like a brochure explaining in detail these new plans, give a call to our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C. at tel. 1-888-381-5431 or (412) 381-5431 or give us a call at the Home Office 1-800-886-7656. Remember, our insurance products provide traditional financial security in these economically challenging times.

Finally, I recently had the pleasure of extending fraternal greetings to the delegates at the 40th National Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association in Baltimore, Md. I offer fraternal best wishes to their newly elected National President, Cynthia M. Maleski, who happens to be our Sokol member, as well as to all the elected or reelected members of their board, congratulations.

Until next time, have a wonderful week, good health to all, and may God bless you and yours. Peace be with you and Zdar Boh!

THURS.NOV.17

■ 3rd annual Slovak American Awards Dinner hosted by the Friends of Slovakia and the Slovak Embassy in Washington, D.C. at the Washington Golf & Country Club, Arlington, Va. for information call (202)237-1054, x 200.

SAT.NOV.19

■ Wreath 22 Mother-Daughter Breakfast at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 10 a.m.

■ Boys Night Out at Holy Name of Jesus Parish Center, 1950 Barnum Ave., Stratford, Conn. beginning at 6:30 p.m., \$15.00 per person, call Larry Wells (203)375-2836.

FRI.DEC.2

■ Quarterly meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol at the Harrah's Las Vegas, NV beginning at 9:00 a.m.

SAT.DEC.3

■ Children's Christmas party hosted by Assembly 261 & Wreath 155 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 411 Crestmont St., Reading, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m.

SUN.DEC.4

■ Assembly 28 & Wreath 18 Children's Christmas party at Sparetime Lanes, Whitinsville, Mass. beginning at 11 a.m.

■ Annual Slovak Christmas Eve Vilija Supper hosted by St. Andrew Svorad Abbey beginning with 12 noon Mass in the Abbey Church followed by the dinner in Benedictine High School cafeteria, 2900 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr., Cleveland, Oh. \$20.00 per person, advance reservations only, call (216)721-5300 ext. 0.

■ Wreath 81 Christmas party and annual meeting at Jason's Restaurant, Hammond, Ind. beginning with reception at 12:30 p.m. with dinner served at 1 p.m., \$15.00 members, \$20.00 guests, for reservations call Audrey Filippek (219)659-6444.

Any member interested in subscribing to E-falcon, kindly forward your e-mail address to: Louie@slovakcatholicssokol.org. Instead of mailing our official publication, the Slovak Catholic Falcon, members will be able to view it online. - Editor

Sokol Calendar

NOV.5-6

■ Adult and children's clothing sale hosted by Most Holy Trinity Parish in the social hall, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, N.Y., Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., call (914)963-0720.

SUN.NOV.6

■ 21st annual Slovak Heritage Festival at the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room, Oakland, Pittsburgh, Pa. from 1-5 p.m., call Chris Metil (412)624-5906.

■ Annual benefit in support of St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey at Assumption Parish, 9183 Broadview Rd., Broadview Heights, Oh., Mass at 12:15 p.m. reception and dinner to follow, call Father Albert Marflak, O.S.B. at (216)721-5300.

■ Group 6 annual meeting at Caporella's Restaurant, Grindle Station, Uniontown, Pa. beginning at 1:30 p.m., call Anna Mae Warnick (724)736-4032.

MON.NOV.7

■ Wreath 22 meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 7 p.m.

SAT.NOV.12

■ Group 7 centennial celebration beginning with Mass of Thanksgiving at 4:30 p.m. at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Pittston, Pa., dinner at 6 p.m. at The Waterfront Banquet Center, call Michael Horvath (570)824-8856.

■ Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble benefit dinner and cultural evening at Pokrova Hall, 6812 Broadview Rd., Parma, Oh. beginning at 6 p.m., tickets \$30.00, call Tom Evanec (440)668-7797.

SUN.NOV.13

■ St. Martin's Day observance of Group 11 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 13th Ave. and 2nd St., Minneapolis, Minn., Mass

at 9 a.m. followed by breakfast served in the Father Dargay Memorial Hall, call James T. Genosky (763)789-9196.

■ 29th St. Martin's Day Celebration and observance of the 100th anniversary of Group 2 beginning with 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church, Stratford, Conn., luncheon and program to follow at the Grassy Hill Lodge, Derby, Conn., call Eileen S. Wilson, (203) 378-8837.

MON.NOV.14

■ Wreath 111 meeting with the theme of "Let's Give Thanks" at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Oh., beginning at 6:30 p.m., pumpkin pie will be enjoyed.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 16

In keeping with our bi-weekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, November 16th. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, November 10th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovakcatholicssokol.org.

Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain
Zdar Boh!

Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor



REFLECTOR ...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

22nd Traditional Vilia Supper set for December 11 in Youngstown, Oh.

The American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley will host its 22nd annual Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner - Vilia and cultural program on Sunday, December 11 in the Father Snock Center of St. Matthias Parish located at 2800 Shady Run Road in the Lansingville section of Youngstown, Oh. Pastor of the parish is our well-known Slovak Catholic fraternalist, Monsignor Peter M. Polando. And in keeping with Slovak tradition and the appearance of the first star, festivities begin at 4 p.m.

The dinner will feature the traditional foods enjoyed at the Christmas Eve meal in a Slovak home. The program begins with the sharing of the Oplatky and honey followed by mushroom soup, pirohy, bobalky, baked fish, peas and concludes with homemade kolac for dessert. In addition to the meal, there will be an entertaining program featuring the Jaslickari or Bethlehem carolers, who will entertain. A traditional Slovak Christmas carol sing along will also be featured. Tickets for the dinner are \$20.00 per person. Since a capacity crowd is anticipated, early reservations are recommended. For ticket reservations call Loretta Ekoniak at tel. (330)549-3760. An enjoyable evening is assured.

27th Christmas Concert & Dinner at Yonkers, N.Y. parish on Dec. 11

Continuing in a time-honored and beloved tradition spanning more than a quarter of a century, Most Holy Trinity Parish in Yonkers, N.Y. will host its 27th annual Christmas concert and dinner on Sunday, December 11.

The concert, which will be presented in the church located at 18 Trinity Plaza, off Walnut Street in the historic Hollow section of Yonkers, begins at 3:30 p.m. will be under the direction of Stephen J. Knoblock, veteran Music Minister of the parish and our Sokol of Assembly 219. The concert will feature an array of seasonal works presented by the choir of the parish. The voices of the choir, one of the finest in the Archdiocese of New York, will be accompanied by a 12-piece orchestra.

Following the concert, a buffet supper will be served in the parish social hall. The dinner begins with the sharing of the traditional Oplatky - Christmas wafers and honey. The menu will include some traditional Slovak culinary specialties, including pirohy, halusky and klobasy and kapusta. A cash bar will be available. Tickets for the concert and dinner are \$35.00 per person with children ages 12 and younger \$17.50. Tickets for the concert alone are \$10.00. For reservations, call the rectory at (914)963-0720. Tickets will be available following the weekend liturgies in church.

Father George Onnoony, pastor of the parish, extends a cordial invitation to area Sokol members to join the parish on December 11 for an enjoyable afternoon and evening of seasonal merriment and dinner fare.

Apostolic Signatura to hear Wilkes-Barre, Pa. church appeal

Finally after years of hope, legal maneuvers and several appeals, the Sacred Heart Wilkes-Barre Foundation has received some amazing, positive news. The foundation seeks to have Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. reopened for worship.

The Apostolic Signatura, the highest court of appeal at the Vatican, agreed to hear the appeal to keep Sacred Heart of Jesus Church open. A preliminary letter sent by the Secretary of the Apostolic Signatura concluded with the simple statement: "Please note that the recourse regarding the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is proceeding."

Historically, few appeals are accepted to be heard

by this "Supreme Court of Rome." The appeals are studied when they arrive in Rome and the decision to allow the case to proceed is determined by a group of canon lawyers. Most are rejected "at the doorstep" (elimine). The Sacred Heart Foundation will receive a formal announcement of the details of the hearing within two weeks. The only laity allowed in the court will be the Foundation's canon lawyers, Alessa and Carlo Gullo.

The principal concerns of this supreme court of the Church are to resolve questions concerning juridical procedure and to supervise the observance of laws and rights at the highest level. It decides the jurisdictional competence of lower courts and has jurisdiction in cases involving personnel and decisions of the Rota. It is the supreme court of the State of Vatican City.

Anyone wishing to help with legal costs is asked to send donation made payable to: Sacred Heart Wilkes-Barre Foundation, 770 Lantern Hill Drive, Shavertown, PA 18707.

Sacred Heart ranks among the oldest and most historic Slovak parishes in the United States. Founded in 1896, its founding pastor was the Rev. Joseph Murgas, pioneer in wireless telegraphy and a noted artist in his own right. It was during his pastorate in 1908 that the present structure was completed which included many of his own artistic creations. The parish became a part of a four-way parish merger in recent years. The final liturgy was celebrated in Sacred Heart Church on June 19th of this year. However, the Bishop of Scranton has allowed for the possibility of its reopening pending the decision from the Apostolic Signatura at the Vatican.

Historically, 23 Slovak parishes were founded in the Scranton Diocese. At present, only St. Joseph's in Hazleton, the first Slovak parish founded in the United States in 1882, has remained as a territorial parish under the patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius. While Holy Trinity Slovak Church in Swoyersville, Pa. continues temporarily as a worship site, it is scheduled to be closed in the coming months. Thus, if Sacred Heart Wilkes-Barre is reopened, it will be only be the second of the diocese's Slovak parishes to remain. The Sacred Heart Wilkes-Barre Foundation is making every effort to save their church.

Annual Vilia Supper on Dec. 4 at Cleveland Benedictine Abbey

The traditional reenactment of the Slovak Christmas Eve supper or Vilia will be hosted by the Monks of St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, Oh. on Sunday, December 4. The program begins with the celebration of Mass at 12 noon in the Abbey Church located at 2900 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. Following the liturgy, the dinner will be served in the Benedictine High School cafeteria. All the foods enjoyed at the Christmas Eve supper in a Slovak home will be enjoyed. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. Advance ticket sales only. The annual event is always a sell-out, therefore, early reservations are recommended. For reservations call tel. (216) 721-5300, ext. 0, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

In addition to the wonderful meal and prayerful setting, a cultural program celebrating Slovak heritage will be enjoyed. Featured performers will include the Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble who bring the colorful and entertaining music and dance traditions of Slovakia to life along with the Greater Cleveland Slovak Cultural Society Singers who will lead in a rousing Slovak Christmas sing-along. In addition, there will be religious articles for sale, a Christmas bakery featuring Slovak specialties, along with colorful and interesting exhibits. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. Abbot Christopher along with the Monks of the abbey look forward to seeing many area Sokol members at this year's Vilia supper.



The Word of God ...

Gospel for the Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year - November 6th

Matthew 25: 1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew

*Jesus told his disciples
this parable:*

*"The kingdom of heaven will be like
ten virgins who took their lamps
and went out to meet the bridegroom.
Five of them were foolish
and five were wise.*

*The foolish ones, when taking
their lamps, brought no oil with them,
but the wise brought flasks of oil
with their lamps.*

*Since the bridegroom was long delayed,
they all became drowsy
and fell asleep.*

*At midnight, there was a cry,
'Behold, the bridegroom!
Come out to meet him!'*

*Then all those virgins got up
and trimmed their lamps.*

*The foolish ones said to the wise,
'Give us some of your oil,
for our lamps are going out.'*

*But the wise ones replied,
'No, for there may not be enough
for us and you. Go instead to the
merchants and buy some for yourselves*

*While they went off to buy it,
the bridegroom came and those who
were ready went into the wedding feast
with him. Then the door was locked.
Afterwards the other virgins came and said,
'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!
But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you,
I do not know you.'*

*Therefore, stay awake,
for you know neither the day nor the hour."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year - November 13th

Matthew 25: 14-15, 19-21

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew

*Jesus told his disciples
this parable:*

*"A man going on a journey
called in his servants
and entrusted his possessions
to them.*

*To one he gave five talents;
to another, two;*

*to a third, one-
to each according to his ability.*

*Then he went away.
After a long time*

*the master of those servants
came back and settled accounts
with them. The one who had
received five talents came forward
bringing the additional five. He said,
'Master, you gave me five talents.*

See, I have made five more.'

*His master said to him,
'Well done, my good and faithful servant*

*Since you were faithful
in small matters, I will give you
great responsibilities.*

Come, share your master's joy."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain***Roman Missal**

by Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic

On November 27, the First Sunday of Advent, the Roman Missal, Third Edition, the ritual text containing prayers and instructions for the celebration of the Mass, will be implemented in the United States of America. If you have been hearing the buzz but are not completely up to speed on the new Roman Missal, here are ten things you need to know:



1. It is not a new Mass, it is a new translation for a new edition of the Missal. Because a new edition of the Missale Romanum, the Latin Roman Missal, was promulgated by Pope John Paul II in 2000, it was necessary for all the countries of the world to translate this missal into the various local languages.

The new missal has added features: prayers for the celebration of recently canonized saints, additional prefaces for the Eucharistic Prayers, additional Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Intentions, and some updated and revised rubrics (instructions) for the celebration of the Mass. In the case of the English-speaking world, a common translation of the common text was sought through the International Commission for English in the Liturgy (ICEL) to ensure uniformity.

2. Vatican guidelines for translation. The translation of the new Roman Missal was carried out under the newest Vatican guidelines for translating prayers into modern local (i.e., vernacular) languages. These were given in the instruction Liturgiam Authenticam, published in 2001, urging a stronger adherence to the original Latin wording and structure than earlier directives. In the new translation, the unique style of the Roman Rite is closely maintained. The texts are marked by a heightened style of English speech and a grammatical structure that follows closely the Latin text. In addition, many biblical and poetic images—such as “Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof...” (Communion Rite, taken from Matthew 8:8) and “...from the rising of the sun to its setting” (Eucharistic Prayer III, taken from Psalm 113), that were lost in the 1973 translation—have been restored.

3. Particular adaptations to the U.S. are included. The new English-language Missal also includes Vatican-approved adaptations requested by the Bishops of the United States as well as texts for observances that are proper to the United States (such as the prayers for the Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and prayers for Independence Day and Thanksgiving Day).

4. “And with your spirit.” The translation of several phrases in the Order of Mass had been previously decided by the Vatican in the instruction Liturgiam authenticam. Among these are “cer-

(Continued on page 13)

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ISSN: 0897-8107

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

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

Annual Subscription Rates
United States \$35.00 - All other countries \$40.00

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

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

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

*A fraternal benefit in support of higher education***Our organization will offer \$60,500 in Scholarship Grants**

We are pleased to announce that the Slovak Catholic Sokol will make available a total of \$60,500 in scholarship grants to eligible members in 2012. Previous recipients of Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants may reapply



for a 2012 grant; however, per Convention mandate - a student may receive a maximum of two (2) Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grant awards in each category.

A total of 30 Slovak Catholic Sokol college grants of \$1,000 each, two Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Memorial Scholarships one for a male and female in the amount of \$2,500 each, two Emil Slavik Memorial Scholarships one for a male and female in the amount of \$2,500 each, one The Doctors' Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, one Joseph and Mary Spernoga Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500 and three Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

With one application you may apply for all college scholarship grants for which you are eligible. Note that only one grant per applicant will be awarded.

College scholarship eligibility requirements:**Slovak Catholic Sokol (a total of 30, \$1000 grants will be awarded)**

- Must have a minimum of \$3,000 permanent Life Insurance Coverage
- Must be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol for at least five years.
- Must have completed one semester of undergraduate studies as a FULL TIME student at an accredited college, university or professional school, or be enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program.
- Must have an accumulated grade point average of at least 2.5 or better
- One parent must be a Slovak Catholic Sokol member
- Essay- "How has being a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol influenced my life?"

Joseph and Mary Spernoga (1 grant in the amount of \$500 will be awarded)

- Same requirements as for SCS scholarship

Theodore and Mary Jane Rich (one male and one female grant in the amount of \$2500 will be awarded)

- Same requirements as for SCS scholarship AND
- One parent must be of Slovak Ancestry
- Must be majoring in medical curriculum

Emil Slavik (2 grants in the amount of \$2500 will be awarded)

- Same requirements as for SCS scholarship AND
- Both parents must be members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol
- Must be majoring in liberal arts, the sciences, pre-law, pre-medical or business curriculum.

The Doctors' Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship (1 grant in the amount of \$1000 will be awarded)

- Same requirements as for SCS scholarship AND
- Majoring in Nursing or Medical curriculum
- One parent must be of Slovak Ancestry

Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship (3 grants in the amount of \$500 will be awarded to the applicant that best exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism)

- Same requirements as for SCS scholarship
- Essay- "Describe the one volunteer experience that made the biggest personal impact on you-how/why".

Applications are **ONLY** available for download on our website @

www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

Completed applications for college scholarships should be sent to:

Julie Dobbs
Supreme Vice-President
Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee
5314 Agatha Turn
Racine, WI 53402
(262)681-1720

Deadline for return of all scholarship application is March 31, 2012

In addition to our college grant program, we make available 19 Catholic High School Grants in the amount of \$500 each as well as 38 Catholic Grade School Grants in the amount of \$250 each. Please find these scholarship applications and directives in each of the issues of the *Falcon*.

SEZ YOU...
Letters to the Editor

Dear Delegates of the 31st Convention,

I do appreciate your kindness in remembering me at the Slovak Catholic Sokol's 31st National Convention held recently in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. From what I have heard and read, I missed a productive and exciting fraternal activity.

I wish I could have been there with you, but please know you were in my prayers as you deliberated important issues for the betterment of our beloved organization.

I want to thank you all for your kind gift. I will put it to good use and enjoy the benefits it brings. I will remember all of you in my prayers and thank you again for remembering me. Zdar Boh!

Fraternally yours in Christ,
Monsignor Francis J. Beeda
Honorary Supreme Officer
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Dear Brother Pogorelec,

THANK YOU SOKOL! On behalf of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish of Minneapolis, Minn., we thank the Slovak Catholic Sokol for your generous grant of \$500.00 towards the capital campaign of the parish. Our parish has recently gone through renovations of our school and church buildings. The renovations, once paid for, will put the parish in a firm financial condition. Founded in 1891, our parish is the oldest Slovak parish in the United States whose patrons are the Apostles of the Slavs, SS. Cyril

and Methodius.

The Sokol grant of \$500.00, approved by the delegates at the 31st National Convention held in Pittsburgh this summer, has been matched by a grant from Assembly 34 of Minneapolis which has been part of the parish for over a century. The grant was presented to the parish during the Group 11 annual meeting held on Sunday, October 9. Thank you again.

Zdar Boh!

David J. Genosky
President, Assembly 34

NEW BUSINESS SUBMITTED IN SEPTEMBER

RECOMMENDERS	CITY/STATE	CERTIFICATES	VOLUME	POINTS
Sandra Kay Bench	Perryopolis, PA	1	\$10,000	82
John M. Benek	Lansford, PA	1	5,000	43
Brabara Dempsey	Allentown, PA	1	10,000	72
A. Laverne Eland	Detroit, MI	1	5,000	25
Edward D. Moeller	Pittsburgh, PA	2	10,000	108
Steven M. Pogorelec	Clifton, NJ	1	10,000	80
Helen Zeka	Perryopolis, PA	2	10,000	277
Totals		9	\$60,000	687

Traditional fraternal outreach

Slovak Catholic Sokol Disaster Relief Fund

by Julie Ann Dobbs, Supreme Vice President

As a fraternal benefit society, one of our obligations is to come to the aid of our members who are in need. In the past month or so, many of you found yourself in the path or the aftermath of Hurricane Irene and/or Tropical Storm Lee. The flooding left some without homes and others struggling with loss of property....it also left many of us wanting to directly help those members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol who were directly affected by these natural disasters. To this end, the Board of Directors recently approved the establishment of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Disaster Relief Fund. This fund will be used to offer financial assistance to those who have suffered damages and loss from natural disasters. This fund is not meant to replace relief assistance offered through FEMA; flood or disaster insurance. In response to past natural disasters, we have suggested and promoted donations toward Catholic Relief Services and the American Red Cross. While we do not want to detract from your normal donation pattern, we want to offer an avenue for assistance that will directly benefit our members. In compliance with the Board of Directors request, and in my role as the Supreme Vice President, I have established a separate account to administer this fund. Please consider donating and thus assuring that monies will be available to assist our members in need. You may do so by sending your check or money order made payable to SCS Disaster Relief Fund to: "SCS Disaster Relief Fund", c/o Julie Ann Dobbs, Supreme Vice President, 5314 Agatha Turn, Racine, WI 53402.

For those members who have suffered loss or damage to property due to natural disasters and are eligible for assistance, you can contact our Supreme Vice President at the contact information provided above. Inquiries and requests will be reviewed during the December meeting of the Board of Directors and assistance will be provided based on what has been collected through this fund. As always, the Board of Directors would request that the local Wreath or Assembly to which the member who applies for assistance, consider offering a matching donation. Thank you and Zdar Boh!



Lodge Jottings

PITTSBURGH, PA Wreath 22

Our Wreath's next meeting under the spiritual patronage of St. Cecilia, is scheduled for Monday, November 7 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, East Carson Street, South Side, beginning at 7 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

At this meeting we will be finalizing our preparations for our annual Mother-Daughter Breakfast which is scheduled for Saturday, November 19 beginning at 10 a.m. Come join us for an enjoyable fraternal event.

As we have done in the past, we will again give a donation to our Sokol Memorial Museum Scholarship Fund in memory of our departed Wreath member, Sister Rose Lijewski.

As in our tradition, following our business meeting, we will enjoy a small social to relax and enjoy each others company. Please come and join us.

Zdar Boh!

Joan J. Yanosick
Recording Secretary

WHITING, IND. Wreath 81

Autumn leaves are falling; that is a sure reminder that holidays are fast approaching.

The officers are busy with

plans for our traditional Wreath 81 Christmas party, which is combined with our annual meeting. Scheduled for Sunday, December 4 at Jason's Restaurant in Hammond, Ind. The festivities begin with a half-hour of socializing beginning at 12:30 p.m. with dinner following at 1 p.m. The price is \$15.00 for members and \$20.00 for guests. Audrey Filipek will be accepting dinner reservations until the deadline date of Sunday, November 27. She can be reached by calling (219)659-6444. The officers are encouraging all members to attend and to bring along a guest, as the party is a good way to usher in the holiday season and share a festive afternoon of traditional Sokol fraternal fellowship. There will be door prizes, games, and of course, plenty of delicious food.

As is our fraternal custom of giving back to the community, we are reminding all those planning to attend the Christmas party to bring along a monetary donation for our local food pantry. Particularly during these tough economic times, we know we can count on our members to remember the words of Jesus as found in Matthew 25:40 "Whenever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

(Continued on page 14)

Celebrating Sokol fraternalism

Children's Christmas Parties Set

Boardman, Ohio - The annual Children's Christmas/bowling party for members of Group 17 "Rev. Frantisek Skutil" of Youngstown, Ohio is scheduled for Sunday, December 4 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Camelot Bowling Lanes located at 628 Boardman-Canfield Road in Boardman, Oh. This annual holiday event is hosted by Wreath 54 along with Assemblies 107 and 108. The afternoon of traditional holiday merriment includes two hours of bowling, pizza, soda pop, prizes and of course a visit from Santa himself. In order to make the necessary reservations, parents are asked to pre-register by contacting Edie Babik at (330)782-9555 or Judy Babik at (330)793-9310 indicating the name and age of the children who will attend as well as a bowling preference for the youngsters using the "bumper or non-bumper" lanes. An enjoyable afternoon has been planned and we look forward to seeing a great turnout of our Group 17 members at this annual celebration of Sokol fellowship and fraternalism. Wishing all a very blessed Christmas season, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

Edie Babik
Wreath 54

East Douglas, Mass. - The annual Children's Christmas party hosted by Assembly 28 and Wreath 18 is scheduled for Sunday, December 4. Festivities begin with bowling at the Spartime Bowling Lanes in Whitinsville, Mass. at 11 a.m. After enjoying activity at the bowling lanes, the party moves to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall located on Route 16 in Douglas, Mass. where a pizza party will be enjoyed followed by ice cream sundaes. And of course, the special guest, Santa himself is expected to arrive at the Sokol Hall where he will distribute gifts

to all the youngsters. Since Christmas is a time for sharing, and in keeping with our care and share project, we ask that participants bring along an item for the Food Pantry, such as spaghetti sauce, soups, toothpaste or personal care items. In order to make the necessary preparations, reservations must be made by the deadline date of Friday, November 25. Parents are asked to call Lori Cyr at tel. (508)476-9779 or Judy Manyak at (508)476-2668 indicating the name and ages of all children who will participate. Wishing all a very joyous holiday season, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

Judith Manyak
Chairperson

Milwaukee, Wis. - The annual Children's Christmas party hosted by Wreath 93 is scheduled for Sunday, November 20 at the Franklin Public Library located at 9151 West Loomis Road in Franklin, Wis. beginning at 1 p.m. Because the library closes at 4 p.m. and we need to be out by 3:45 p.m. we ask all to kindly arrive on time. We ask all participants to dress in Christmas attire to herald in the holiday spirit. The afternoon will consist of fun activities, hors' d'oeuvres and traditional Sokol fellowship. Parents are asked to bring a nice hors' d'oeuvre to serve 15-20 people along with the needed serving utensils. In keeping with our fraternal outreach program, we ask participants to bring along a non-perishable food item which will be donated to the Pewaukee Food Pantry to be shared with those in need. Snacks, drinks, desserts and paper products will be provided by Wreath 93. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. Wishing all a very joyous Christmas season, may we remain

Zdar Boh!

Wreath 93 officers

Pittsburgh, Pa. - The annual children's Christmas party hosted by Assembly 16 and Wreath 22 is scheduled for Saturday, December 10 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 2912 East Carson St. on the city's South Side. Doors open at 12 noon and festivities begin at 1 p.m.

Children, ages 0 to 12 years of age who have a Sokol insurance policy and who register are welcome to attend. Registration will be held every Wednesday and Thursday evening at the Sokol Club beginning on Wednesday, October 19th and concluding on Thursday, November 3rd. Those who wish to call in registrations may do so by contacting Joan Yanosick at tel. (412)881-8502. Due to Fire Codes, a limit of 150 children has been set for the party. Therefore, the first 150 children to register are welcome to participate. Thus early registrations are recommended. Refreshments will be served along with entertainment and a visit from Santa will complete the afternoon. As I have requested in the past, in the spirit of caring and sharing, I ask that participants bring along non-perishable food items to be given to our local food pantry. Looking forward to another outstanding event in the best traditions of Pittsburgh Sokol fellowship and fraternalism, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

Joan Yanosick
Chairperson

Reading, Pa. - The annual Children's Christmas party hosted by Assembly 261 and Wreath 155 is scheduled for Saturday, December 3 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 411 Crestmont Street. Festivities begin at 2 p.m. The party is for children ages 12 and younger. There will be games for the children and a wonderful

(Continued on page 14)



Fraternal leaders gathered on the steps of the historic Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore, Md. on Sunday, October 8 prior to the opening convention liturgy of the 40th National Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. This is the oldest cathedral in the United States and was the seat of Bishop John Carroll, America's first bishop. Shown on the photo from the left are: Honorary Slovak Consul in Pittsburgh, Joseph T. Senko and his wife, Albina; Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and his wife, Annie; and Andrzej Groch and his wife, Attorney Cynthia M. Maleski of Natrona Heights, Pa. The delegates of the convention elected Cynthia, who is our Sokolka, as the new national president of the Zenska Jednota.

What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Slovakia as last Eurozone country, approves EFSF

Slovakia, as the last eurozone country to do so, on October 13 approved bolstering the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF).

The results of the parliamentary vote was expected given the agreement of the three governing pro-EFSF parties (SDKU-DS, KDH, and Most-Hid) with the largest opposition party Smer-SD. A simple majority (76 votes) was necessary for the mechanism to be approved, and 114 lawmakers backed it in the voting.

The parliament voted on the issue for the first time on October 11. The vote was linked to a confidence vote in government (to force the dissenting coalition SaS to back it as well). But, as neither SaS nor Smer voted in favor, the government fell and EFSF wasn't approved at that time.

On October 12, the three pro-EFSF coalition parties made an agreement on an early election with Smer, which in exchange pledged to back the EFSF not merely verbally as had been hitherto the case.

Slovakia's contribution to the fund will increase from the current \$5 billion to \$8.2 billion, while EFSF's overall capacity will be increased from \$510 billion to \$900 billion.

Slovakia concerned about restrictive measures in Belarus

The Foreign Affairs Ministry is deeply concerned about yet another wave of repressive measures introduced by the top authorities in Belarus, the ministry press department told TASR Affairs on October 14.

The parliament of Belarus has either passed or is discussing amendments to laws on civil associations, public gatherings and the state security authorities.

"The legislative changes are geared towards a significant restriction of the rights and freedoms of the citizens of Belarus and block a standard civil dialogue," reads the ministry's statement.

According to Slovak diplomacy, the drafted amendment to the Act on the KGB will bring about the legalization of repressive methods, with an eye towards deepening the climate of fear in Belarus.

"As a member of the UN, OSCE and the EU's Eastern Partnership, Belarus should respect international standards in the field of human rights and freedoms," said the ministry, which is therefore calling on Belarus not to pass the pieces of legislation in question and to set all political prisoners free.

Parliament: 143 members approve for early general election

The term of the current parliament will be shortened by more than two years, as the House on October 13 approved an early election set to take place on March 10, 2012.

The early election was approved with a sweeping majority of 143 members of parliament, while only the Civic Conservative Party (OKS) lawmakers Peter Zajac, Ondrej Dostal and Peter Osusky voted against shortening the electoral term. (The fourth OKS-MP Frantisek Sebej has left the faction this week but has remained in the Most-Hid caucus - ed. note.) Meanwhile, SaS head Richard Sulik, SaS MP Natalia Blahova, SNS leader Jan Slota and Smer-SD MP Lubomir Vazny didn't attend the vote.

The decision on an early election was made at October 12's talks of pro-EFSF governing parties SDKU-DS, KDH and Most-Hid with Smer-SD, after the government fell the day before over the eurozone bailout mechanism.

Smer chief Robert Fico's condition in support for the EFSF was an early election, and the three aforementioned parties agreed.

There have been two early elections in the past - in 1994 and 2006.

SU: consumer prices grew by 4.3 percent in September

Consumer prices were up by 4.3 percent year-on-year in September 2011, the Slovak Statistics Office informed on October 13.

Prices grew in the spheres of transport (7 percent), housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (5.9 percent), education (5.7 percent), food and non-alcoholic beverages (5.4 percent), alcoholic beverages and tobacco (4.2 percent), health (4 percent), various goods and services (3.9 percent), hotels, cafes and restaurants (3.4 percent), clothes and footwear (2.1 percent), holidays and culture (0.7 percent), postal and telecommunications services (0.2 percent).

The inflation was up by 0.3 percent, month-on-month in September.

Sulik dismissed as parliament speaker, Hrusovsky to replace him

Richard Sulik (Freedom and Solidarity/SaS) was dismissed on October 13 from the post of parliamentary chairman with 115 lawmakers voting for the dismissal.

At least 76 votes were needed for the proposal to be passed.

Sulik's dismissal was proposed by his coalition partners - SDKU-DS, KDH and Most-Hid.

Premier Iveta Radicova (SDKU-DS) had called for Sulik to resign after the fall of the government late October 11. The EFSF vote in parliament was linked to a confidence vote in the government and SaS - which was rejecting the bail-out mechanism - refused to yield.

Sulik refused to comply with the appeal, saying that the EFSF was going against the Government Manifesto, and it isn't him who betrayed the government.

Sulik will be replaced in the post of parliamentary speaker by Pavol Hrusovsky (KDH). The vote was scheduled for October 13.

Gasparovic hasn't dismissed government yet, matter of time

President Ivan Gasparovic announced after a meeting with Prime Minister Iveta Radicova (SDKU-DS) on October 14 that he hasn't dismissed the government for the time being but intends to do so soon.

Gasparovic said that the constitution doesn't allow him to do anything else than dismiss the government after parliament failed to support it last week.

"I'll convene the chairs of all parliamentary parties to agree on further moves during the coming week, to see whether anybody will be able to form a new government that will have a majority support in parliament or whether they will come to an agreement on a minority government. Another possible move is for me to appoint a caretaker government," said Gasparovic.

Radicova's government fell in the wake of the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) vote on October 11, when the coalition party Freedom and Solidarity (SaS) and three Ordinary People and three OKS Members of Parliament refused to back the bail-out mechanism for

Greece even though the vote was linked to a confidence vote in the government.

Teachers' Trade Unions give up strike after government break-up

A teachers' strike isn't imminent in the months to come, as representatives of teachers' trade unions are planning to wait for talks with a new government, vice-chairman of the teachers' trade union Jozef Luzak told TASR on October 12.

At their session in the High Tatras last week, the unions decided to postpone their strike after outgoing prime minister Iveta Radicova vowed to hold talks with them that was supposed to take place on October 25.

After Radicova's Cabinet was ousted on October 11, the unions intend to wait for measures to be taken by President Ivan Gasparovic.

"Our requirements will remain irrespective of whether the government is right or left wing," said Luzak.

(Continued on page 8)



A recently completed restoration of the Manoir House in Oponiciach, located just outside Topolcany in western Slovakia has a unique history. It has opened as one of Slovakia's newest and most luxurious hotels. The noble Anton Juraj Apponyi began construction of the castle in 1620 as his residence so as to be close to the imperial city of Vienna. The castle was reconstructed as a Manoir House beginning in 1774. Over the years, the Apponyi family established an extensive library, one of the largest in central Europe. Among the guests at the Manoir House over the years have included the two brothers of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt as well as the American businessman, Thomas Cardeza, a passenger on the maiden voyage of the ill-fated Titanic in April 1912. Mr. Cardeza was among the 711 survivors of the tragedy. Today, the new hotel features an array beautifully restored salons and gardens.

News and Views from Slovakia...

(Continued from page 7)

SFZ fines national soccer team coach for insulting journalist.

The Slovak Soccer Association (SFZ) has fined the national team head coach Vladimir Weiss \$13,000 for "inappropriate and unprofessional behavior" at a press conference after Slovakia lost a Euro 2012 qualifier against Russia (0-1) in Zilina the week of October 10.

"Weiss reacted inappropriately and unprofessionally to a legitimate question asked by a journalist from the fotbalportal.sk website, and when leaving the press conference coarsely insulted the aforementioned journalist," SFZ president Jan Kovacic said in a written statement.

"As this incident represented a repeated failure in communication with the media, (SFZ) strongly cautions Vladimir Weiss that this is his last warning, and that such behavior won't be tolerated in the future," said Kovacic.

The journalist asked Weiss whether he was considering resigning after the botched qualifier. Instead of responding, Weiss went into a sulk and called the journalist an obscenity before storming out of the press conference.

Weiss has a history of aggressive behavior towards the media. At the World Cup in South Africa in 2010, he described a journalist who criticized his work with another insulting obscenity.

Fico: Slovakia returns back to the European map

Smer-SD chair Robert Fico is happy with the Slovak Parliament passing changes to EFSF on October 13.

"Once again, the Slovak Republic has returned to the map of Europe and, thanks to some political parties, is viewed as a trustworthy European partner," Fico said after the vote.

Fico expressed hope that the new government to rise after the March 2012 early election will be made up of parties with more compatible opinions on European affairs.

However, if successful in the vote, the Smer-SD chairman refused to speculate on who will his party cooperate with after the election. "I have no idea at all how many snowdrifts I'll have to traverse before March 2012. With your kind permission, I won't deal with these questions at the moment. We have no interest in excluding anyone from cooperation following the election," said Fico.

Until March 10, 2012, Smer-SD intends to act as a clear Opposition party. Fico considers the prepared tax deduction reform, change in the way municipalities are funded and transformation of hospitals to be unacceptable. "We'll act as a clear opposition party and that means no deals with this clique that got Slovakia into the place where it is now," said Fico. Fico is a former prime minister.

House amends constitution, enables Radicova to govern

The amendment to the Constitution that will enable President Gasparovic to authorize the government to govern the country without confidence from parliament until a new government is formed was passed by the house on October 21.

The legislation, discussed in a fast-tracked procedure, received support from 139 of the 150 lawmakers.

Under the new constitutional provisions, the temporary government will enjoy only limited powers to pass legislative proposals and proposals on the state budget, declaration of war, mobilization of the armed forces, declaration of extraordinary status or deployment of the armed forces abroad. Also, the government will be authorized to make decisions on other issues stemming from laws, but only with the consent of the president.

The temporary cabinet will lack powers concerning, for example, essential measures vis-a-vis economic and social policies, international agreements as well as substantial issues pertaining to internal and foreign policies.

The measure was supported by Coalition MPs, namely those representing SDKU-DS, Freedom and Solidarity (SaS), Christian Democrats (KDH) and Most-Hid, plus MPs for leading Opposition Smer-SD party save Martin Givac, who didn't vote.

Independent MPs Andrej Durkovsky, Igor Matovia and Rudolf Pucik also voted in favor of the change, while fellow Independent MP Anna Belousovova as well as the entire Slovak National Party (SNS) caucus didn't attend the vote.

Members of Parliament decided to change the Constitution in order to resolve the stand-off that emerged after parliament voted no-confidence in Iveta Radicova's cabinet last week. Her cabinet should have been recalled, but the constitution didn't enable the president to authorize Radicova's government to govern

until the early election due in March 2012.

Radicova: I won't stand in March general election

Prime Minister Iveta Radicova announced at a SDKU-DS party presidium meeting on October 25 that she doesn't intend to run as a candidate in the early general parliamentary election scheduled to take place on March 10, 2012.

Radicova should formally step down from her post of SDKU vice-chair at a party congress after the elections in March.

"I've decided that I'm not going to run as a candidate in the early elections, and that I'm not going to seek the public's confidence," Radicova told journalists at a press conference following the presidium session.

SDKU-DS will choose its election leader on November 12. Candidates must apply by November 2.

Radicova defended her decision by pointing out that she didn't succeed in the vote of confidence on October 11 and so has no right to aspire to the premier's post at the moment. "I've put all of my strength into carrying out the premier's powers. We ended up with an unsuccessful confidence vote in the government. This fact is too serious for me to make a decision other than the one I've just made," said Radicova, adding that she will retain the top executive post until the March elections, however.

After the elections, Radicova will go on holiday with her daughter. She conceded that she may go back to her university career afterwards. She has no intention of setting up a new political party at the moment.

Radicova reflected on her political career in SDKU. "We have a six-year pilgrimage behind us and I think, a successful one," she said.

SDKU chairman Mikulas Dzurinda at the press conference expressed understanding with Radicova's decision. He claimed that he would be much happier with her on the party slate, however.

Bugar: rightists losing most popular politician

It was with regret that I learned about the decision of Prime minister and SDKU-DS party vice-chair Iveta Radicova not to stand as a candidate in the early general elections, the head of the Most-Hid party Bela Bugar said on October 25.

"We as the right-wing spectrum are losing out on the most

popular female politician. On the other hand, though, we must be active to bring right-wing parties closer together ahead of the election," he said.

A similar sense of disappointment was also expressed by the leader of the Christian Democrats (KDH) Jan Figel. "As a person and politician I understand her decision in light of the difficult time that Slovakia and the eurozone are going through. KDH has seen her (Radicova) both in the government and parliament as the chief ally in efforts for transparency, the social and ethical character of politics, the fight against corruption and for cheaper medicines and highways," said Figel.

The Freedom and Solidarity (SaS) chairman Richard Sulik said that he respects Radicova's decision. "We're sorry that SDKU-DS leadership is losing out on a person who led the government with a clear-cut anti corruption stance," said Sulik. (In her de facto departure from the premiership on October 11, Radicova made no bones about her enmity with Sulik - whose unwillingness to buy her support for EFSF was the last straw for the Radicova government in its 16th month - ed. note).

Banks to pay levy into fund aimed at tracking potential crises

Commercial banks doing business in Slovakia will have to redirect 0.4 percent of their selected liabilities into a special account, which should contain around \$95 million in 2012, according to a law approved by 144 members of parliament on October 20.

Most members of parliament rejected a similar bank levy proposal prepared Smer-SD that would have introduced a 0.7-percent figure and prevented banks from transferring expenditures onto the shoulders of their clients.

The basis for calculating the special levy on banks will be the banks' liabilities minus shareholder's equity and deposits that are already protected by the state in current legislation. The levies will be paid on a quarterly basis into a special account that will serve as a reserve.

The aim is to create a mechanism for financial institutions to provide funds to tackle potential crises. The move is also designed to motivate banks into restricting system risks and to protect the stability of the Slovak financial sector.

Thoughts from Vincent Obsitnik, former U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia

In recent weeks, Slovakia has received some rather negative publicity in the U.S. media, referring to it as "tiny" and "sleepy." The Hon. Vincent Obsitnik, former United States Ambassador to Slovakia, offered a response to some of this very biased publicity regarding Slovakia which appeared in the Washington Post.



Slovakia - Fact and Fiction

Recent Washington Post articles discussing the very serious and critical European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) issue confronting Slovakia and the entire European Union, have characterized Slovakia as a "tiny," "sleepy" country known most for its "fermented sheep's milk and medieval castles." This characterization is a journalistic error and truly FICTION. Having served as the United States Ambassador to the Slovak Republic from 2007 to 2009, I can attest to the true facts and character of the country.

First, concerning tiny, it should be pointed out that Slovakia's population of 5.5 million ranks 112 out of the total 238 countries in the world. This population, by the way, puts them above countries such as Finland, Norway and Ireland. Austria, their neighbor, ranks 92nd with approximately 8.2 million people.

Secondly, concerning sleepy, it is anything but. Slovakia became an independent country on 1 January 1993 when they separated from the Czechs. Slovakia struggled to initiate economic reforms to establish a market economy and to establish a solid democracy. Slovakia's transformation from a Communist society to a western oriented market economy did not come without pain. The unemployment rate started at about 20% in 2001 and then reached a low of 7.5% in 2008. Their economic transformation earned them the name "Tiger of the Tatras"! Real GDP growth rates grew from about 3% in 2001 to over 10% in 2007, earning them the honor of being the fastest growing economy in the EU. This progress, combined with a corporate and personal flat income tax rate of 19% and

a current Standard & Poor's rating of A++ has attracted significant foreign investment. With the success of these efforts, in 2004, Slovakia was admitted into the European Union and NATO.

The automobile sector today accounts for 30% of Slovakia's GDP. They have attracted firms such as Volkswagen, Kia and Peugeot and are producing about 800,000 cars per year. US companies together have invested about \$5B into Slovakia. US Steel owns and operates the largest steel mill in Central Europe which is a model American Management enterprise. Whirlpool has a facility producing over 1 million washers per year. In a most recent trend, US companies such as IBM and HP are today employing anywhere between 2,000 and 3,000 Slovaks running their various IT systems. The list goes on. As you can see, Slovakia has much more than fermented sheep's milk and medieval castles. However, I am fond of both of these and do recommend them.

Finally, in the most recent EFSF crisis, Slovakia needs to be given an A++ in political maturity and democracy. The coalition government, under Prime Minister Radicova, had 79 seats out of the 150 in Parliament. Their junior coalition partner, SAS, controlled 22 seats and would not support the vote for the EFSF. The coalition could not pass the EFSF legislation without them. Prime Minister Radicova and her other coalition partners then sacrificed their governing position in order to pass the legislation and do what is right for Slovakia and the EU. To do this, she agreed to the demand of her opposition, the Smer party, to hold early elections in March 2012 rather than 2014. The subsequent vote passed the EFSF and the Slovak President is now considering the next steps for an interim government. I believe that they resolved the crisis in a very responsible and exemplary manner.

These are the FACTS of Slovakia and the EFSF crisis. The country deserves much more than "tiny and sleepy"!
Ambassador Vincent Obsitnik, ret.
 Former US Ambassador to the Slovak Republic
 McLean, Va.

Scenes of the 34th Annual New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival

PNC Bank Arts Center + Holmdel, N.J. + Sunday, September 25



Scenes of the Annual Meeting & Centennial Celebration of Group 4 "Bishop Stefan Moyzes" The Imperial Room of the Camelot Banquet Hall + Hickory Hills, Ill. + Saturday, September 17

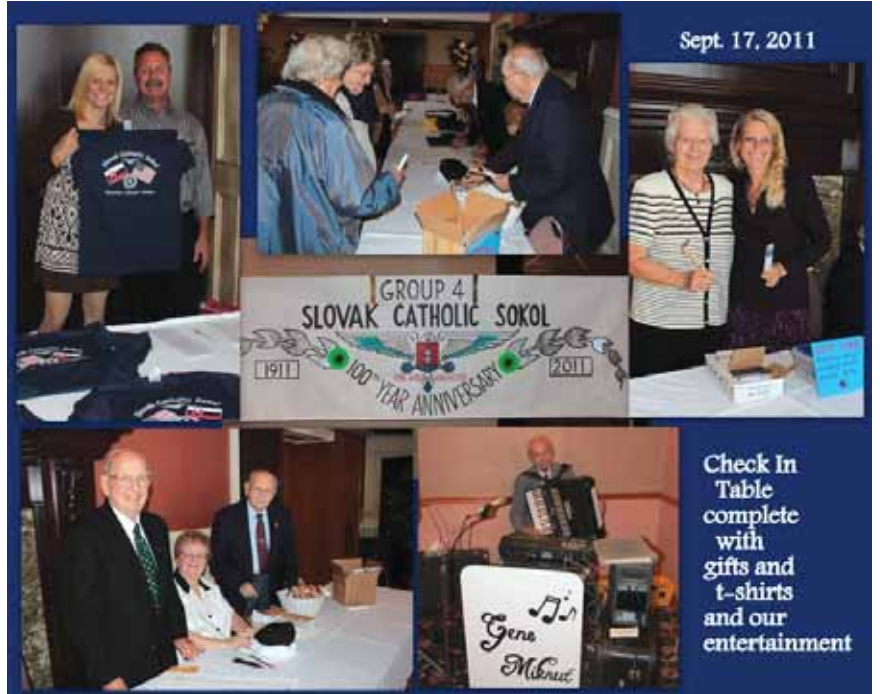


Group 4 Members and Guests enjoying a delicious dinner and program



Group 4 Anniversasy Members and Guests





The Presenters



Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre

Rev. Francis P. Straka, Rev. Larry J. Kulick invested as Knights, Msgr. Michael J. Chaback elevated

Chaplains of three of our Sokol Groups were among those invested or elevated in rank in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre during impressive ceremonies at New York's Cathedral of St. Patrick on Saturday, October 1. Among those granted the title of "Knight of the Holy Sepulchre" was the Rev. Frank P. Straka, pastor of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Northampton, Pa. and Chaplain of Group 12. Also knighted was the Rev. Larry J. Kulick, co-director of Clergy Vocations in the Diocese of Greensburg and Chaplain of Group 6. Elevated in rank to that of "Knight Commander" was the Reverend Monsignor Michael J. Chaback, S.T.D., director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Allentown and Chaplain of Group 10. Father Straka was nominated by the Most Reverend John A. Barres, Bishop of Allentown and Father Kulick was nominated by the Most Reverend Lawrence E. Brandt, Bishop of Greensburg.

Recognized as an authentic order of knighthood, tradition holds that the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem was established in 1099 by Godfrey de Bouillon, the leader of the First Crusade. The new Equestrian Order received papal approbation from Pope Pascal II in 1113. It was reorganized by Pope Pius IX in 1847. The order works to serve the Church and actively promote a Christian presence in the Holy Land. Membership in the Equestrian Order is considered one of the highest papal awards that can be conferred on laity and clergy. The award recognizes individuals for their meritorious work for the Church. Members are invested in a centuries-old ceremony and receive a diploma imprinted with the seals and signatures of the Vatican Secretary of State and the Grand Master.

Presiding and concelebrating at the 2:30 p.m. Liturgy of Investiture was the Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan, Archbishop of New York and Grand Prior of the Eastern Liutenancy. Principal celebrant

and Dubbing and investing the new Knights was the recently appointed new Pro Grand Master of the Order, the Most Reverend Edwin P. O'Brien, former Archbishop of Baltimore. Concelebrants of the liturgy included additional 2 archbishops, 12 bishops and more than



100 priests.

Following the ceremonies at St. Patrick's Cathedral, more than 1,000 Knights, Ladies and guests enjoyed the traditional reception and banquet in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Principal speaker at the dinner was the Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, Carl A. Anderson.

Monsignor Chaback, a native of Bethlehem, Pa. is the son of the late Michael J. and Mary (Sopko) Chaback. He was raised in SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Parish there and was graduated from its parochial school. He pursued studies for the priesthood at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia. He completed his theological studies in Rome where he resided at the North American College. He was ordained a priest by Pope Paul VI, of blessed memory, in Rome on May 17, 1970. Upon his return to the United States, he celebrated his first solemn Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Bethlehem. He was awarded a doctorate in Theology at the Pontifical Lateran University in 1975. Blessed Pope John Paul II named him a Prelate of Honor with the title of Monsignor in August 1991.

Msgr. Chaback served in a number of priestly assignments including that of professor of Systemic Theol-

ogy at St. Charles Seminary, 1983-1992 and chairman of the Systematics Department there from 1984 to 1991. In 1992, he was named pastor of his home parish of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Bethlehem, Pa. Msgr. Chaback remained as pastor there until the reorganization of the area's parishes in which five parishes were merged into one using SS. Cyril and Methodius as the worship site. The parish is now known as Incarnation of the Lord. For the past four years, he has served as the director of Office of the Permanent Diaconate in the Allentown Diocese.

Active in Slovak life, Msgr. Chaback has been our Sokol of Assembly 78 since his boyhood days and currently serves as chaplain of Group 10. He was a delegate to this summer's 31st National Convention in Pittsburgh, Pa. He also enjoys membership in the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and is active in the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation and the Conference of Slovak Clergy.

Father Francis P. Straka is a native of Reading, Pa. where he was born the second child of Frank Straka and the late Mary A. Ohrin Straka. He was raised in SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak parish in Reading and was graduated from its parochial school. He is a 1974 graduate of Reading Central Catholic High School. From 1975 until 1982, he worked in accounting. In 1982, with the encouragement of his then pastor, Msgr. Vincent P. York, he decided to pursue priestly ordination. He first studied at DeSales University and then completed his theological studies at St. Charles Seminary in Philadelphia. He was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Allentown on June 2, 1990 in the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Siena in Allentown by the Most Rev. Thomas J. Welsh. On June 3, 1990, he celebrated his first solemn Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Reading. The event was extra special because of the presence of the Rev. Jan Biros of the Archdiocese of Kosice in Slovakia and his 97-year-old grandmother, Mrs. Pauline Straka, a native of Vitaz, Slovakia.

Following his ordination, Father Straka has served as an associate at several parishes in the diocese. In 2002, he was appointed pastor of Holy Ghost Parish in Bethlehem and remained there until 2008. On July 15, 2008, he was appointed pastor of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Slovak Parish in Northampton, Pa. where he currently serves.

Father Straka has been active in Slovak life for many years. He is our Sokol of Assembly 261 in Reading and serves as chaplain of Group 12. He was a delegate to this summer's 31st National Convention in Pittsburgh. In addition, he also enjoys membership in the First Catholic Slovak Union and the National Slovak Society. He is



Three Sokol Group chaplains were among those invested or elevated at this year's investiture of the Knights of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem at New York's St. Patrick's Cathedral on October 1. Shown above are seated, Monsignor Michael J. Chaback, chaplain of Group 10, Bethlehem, Pa. who was elevated to the rank of Knight Commander; and the Rev. Larry J. Kulick, chaplain of Group 6, Perryopolis, Pa. Standing is the Rev. Francis P. Straka, chaplain of Group 12, Reading, Pa. The vestments of the priests feature the Jerusalem Cross, symbol of the papal order.



The Most Rev. Lawrence E. Brandt, Bishop of Greensburg, is shown with the Rev. Larry J. Kulick, chaplain of Group 6 and Editor Daniel F. Tanzone. Bishop Brandt recommended Father Kulick for the papal distinction.

also active in the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation where he serves as an elected member of the Board of Directors. There is hardly an activity of the American Slovak community which does not have the wholehearted support of Father Straka. He serves as a wonderful example of our Slovak heritage and strong Catholic faith.

The Rev. Lawrence J. Kulick is a native Leechburg, Pa., where he was born the son of Lawrence and Myrna Kulick, Sr. He completed his theological studies at St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pa. where he was awarded both M.A. and M.Div. degrees. He was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Greensburg on May 16, 1992. Since ordination, he has served in several assignments in the diocese. Currently he serves as co-director of clergy vocations and is co-episcopal master of ceremonies. Father Kulick is also working on a doctorate in Canon Law at The Catholic University of America. Proud of his Slovak heritage, he enjoys membership in the Slovak Catholic Sokol and the First Catholic Slovak Union. He serves as chaplain of the George Onda District of the Jednota and last year, he was elected to serve as chaplain of Group 6, "Msgr. Andrew Hlinka" of our organization. He also supports the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation.

Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Monsignor Chaback on his promotion to the

rank of Knight Commander and to Father Straka and Father Kulick on their investiture as Knights in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. May all of these fine priests continue to commit themselves, through lives of prayer and charitable work, to preserve and protect the Christian presence in the Holy Land as well as continue to enhance and ennoble the life of our faith community here in the United States. May God bless all of these wonderful priests who are of special pride to the American Slovak community. May they continue as proud sons of the Slovak nation and heirs of the Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. Zdar Boh!



Group 1 chaplain, Father Richard D. Baker, pastor of New York's St. Malachy's, the Actors' Chapel, right is shown with Father Peter F. Vasko, O.F.M., president of the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land.



Sokol Knights participating in the solemn investiture of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York on October 1 included, seated, Monsignor Michael J. Chaback of Northampton, Pa. and Father Larry J. Kulick of Leechburg, Pa. Standing, Editor Daniel F. Tanzone of Yonkers, N.Y. and Father Francis P. Straka of Northampton, Pa.

Roman Missal

(Continued from page 5)

tain expressions that belong to the heritage of the whole or of a great part of the ancient Church, as well as others that have become part of the general human patrimony... Such is the case of the response "Et cum spiritu tuo." What had originally been translated in 1973 as "And also with you" becomes now "And with your spirit." This places the English translation in line with the way this has always been translated in most other languages, including Spanish, French, German, and Italian

5. Changes in the people's parts. In addition to the response to the greeting "The Lord be with you", people are going to find a number of other changes in the translation of common prayers throughout. This includes the various parts of the Penitential act ("I confess to Almighty God..."), the Gloria, the Creed (both in the Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed), the Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy), the Mystery of Faith, and the invitation to communion. (Samples of comparative texts for the new and old responses can be found at the USCCB Roman Missal website

6. "For many." One of the points that has generated more discussion is the translation of qui pro vobis et pro multis effundetur in remissionem peccatorum, presently translated "which will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be given." In the new edition of the Roman Missal, "for all" will be changed to "for many." There are several reasons for this change. First, "for many" is a more accurate translation of the Latin phrase pro multis than the present translation. This is also the wording used in the Biblical narrative account of the Last Supper found in the Gospels of Matthew and Mark. Even though it is a dogmatic teaching of the Church that Christ died on the Cross for all men and women, the expression "for many" is reflective also of the fact that this salvation is not brought automatically, without one's own willing participation, but rather is a gift to be accepted. Also, in the context of the Last Supper, Jesus was speaking to the Twelve, extending the reach of his sacrifice beyond the boundary of his closest disciples. In the context of the celebration of the Eucharist, the phrase "for you and for many" connects the particular gathered assembly with the larger sense of the Church in every time and place, as if to say "not only you gathered here, but many more as well."

7. Gradual implementation for Musical Settings. Though official implementation is set for the First Sunday of Advent 2011, Diocesan bishops may permit the gradual implementation of various musical settings of the people's parts in the Order of Mass starting in September to allow the congregation time to learn them. This applies only to the Glory to God, the Holy, Holy, Holy, and the Memorial Acclamations. Composers

have readjusted previous musical settings and new compositions are also being prepared. New musical settings of the Amen and the Lamb of God, the texts of which are not changing, can be introduced at any time.

8. What's not changing. The structure and rite of the Mass itself is not changing, so the Mass will look and feel the same. Some texts of the Mass are not changing, including the Lord's Prayer and the Lamb of God. The translation of Scripture readings used at Mass will remain the same, so those who proclaim the readings (lectors and deacons) will not be affected in their ministry by the introduction of the new Missal. Much of the hymnody and other chants sung at Mass will not be affected by the changes, although many hymnals and other participation aids are being revised to reflect the changes in the parts of the Mass.

9. Symbolism of posture and gestures. The symbolism of some traditional gestures has been recaptured in the new missal. The gestures themselves have always been prescribed, but the introduction of the new Missal provides an opportunity to teach about these long-standing customs. One such example is striking oneself over the chest during the Penitential Act (Confiteor) while reciting the words "through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault," (mea culpa), as a show of remorse, a tradition that had not always been followed in the U.S. Another example is the reverent bow during the recitation of the Creed. After the words "For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven," at the words that follow up, "and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man" all bow as a sign of reverence for the mystery of the Incarnation.

10. Proximate preparation. Parishes and dioceses are now abuzz with preparations for the reception of the new Missal. The Roman Missal itself is the primary source of training and instruction for the new translation. It displays rubrics, sentences printed in red that instruct a priest on what to say and do, how and when to gesture, and when to sing the common prayers in the Order of Mass. It provides instructions that guide the celebrant in leading the liturgy and the people assembled in ritual response for each occasion. It also dictates the words used by a priest during the Mass. In addition to the homily at Mass, during which many priests will offer instruction about the new text, many parishes are making use of various small- and large-group catechetical sessions to help the people learn the new responses and be aware of upcoming changes. A variety of print and online resources for use in parishes, in group settings, and in homes are available from many publishers.

For students currently attending a Catholic High School

**Slovak Catholic Sokol
Abbot Jerome M. Koval, O.S.B. Memorial
High School Grant**

As per the decision of the delegates at the 26th National Convention held in New Haven, CT in August, 1991, and amended at the 28th National Convention held in Buffalo, NY in 1999, the Slovak Catholic Sokol is pleased to offer \$500.00 grants to one young Sokol or Sokolka in each of our organization's nineteen Groups. These 19 Grants are available to any qualified Sokol member currently attending a Catholic High School.

Eligibility

- A. Applicant must be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in good standing, holding a permanent Life Insurance Certificate in the amount of not less than \$3,000, and has been a member for at least five year. Application is also available on the Internet @ www.slovakcatholicssokol.org
- B. One parent must be a S.C.S. member.
- C. The principal of the Catholic High School must verify the enrollment of the applicant.

Application

ALONG WITH THE APPLICATION you must submit a typed or written essay DOUBLE SPACED in 100 to 200 words on the following topic:

"WHAT DOES THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL MEAN TO ME?" This essay must be submitted along with the application.

This application must be received on or before, March 31, 2012 with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

Disqualification

An applicant who neglects to submit or complete any part of these requirements before the established deadline will automatically be disqualified.

Acknowledgment

An acknowledgment of the Grant should be made in writing by the recipient as soon as possible, if you are awarded a Grant.

Return of Grant

If for any reason the Grant is not used by the recipient, the entire (or portion of) grant not utilized must be returned.



**SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL ABBOT JEROME M. KOVAL, O.S.B. MEMORIAL
HIGH SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION**

Group # _____ Assembly/Wreath # _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Date of Birth _____ Current Age _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ High School Phone (_____) _____
area code area code

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Father's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Mother's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Are you a previous Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Recipient? _____ If yes, please
indicate Grade School or High School. What year? _____ (yes/no)

High School verification (to be completed by High School Principal)

I, _____ Principal of _____
(Principal's signature) (Name of School)

Catholic High School, verify that _____ is a student at
(Name of student)
the above school and will be attending _____ Grade in the 2012-2013 school year.

Are you currently participating in Slovak Catholic Sokol Activities? Yes _____ No _____

Deadline for receipt of this application is March 31, 2012.

Return completed application to:

*Slovak Catholic Sokol High School Grant
205 Madison St., P.O. Box 899, Passaic, NJ 07055*

Slovakia's Prime Minister Iveta Radicova Welcomed in New York



Slovakia's Prime Minister Iveta Radicova joined the heads of more than 100 nations who gathered in New York for the opening of the 66th United Nations General Assembly, the week of September 19. On Tuesday evening, September 20 the Prime Minister, the first female head of government in Slovakia's history, was feted at a reception held at the Slovak Mission to the United Nations to which members of the area's Slovak community were invited. Shown in the top photo, Prime Minister Radicova, center is surrounded by, l-r, our Honorary Supreme Officer, Dr. Mary Z. Gasparik, Editor Daniel F. Tanzone, Honorary Slovak Consul in Pittsburgh Joseph T. Senko and Sabina Sabatos of the Slovak American Cultural Center. In the middle photo, Prime Minister Radicova is shown with, l-r, Slovakia's Ambassador to the United Nations, Milos Koterec; Honorary Slovak Consul Joseph T. Senko and Joseph M. Torsella, United States Ambassador to the United Nations Management and Reform Committee. Finally, in the lower photo, Igor Pokojny, Slovakia Consul General in New York, third from the left, is shown with, l-r; Zuzana Krcmarova, John Masi, Nina Holy, Luby Masi, Jane Konzelmann and the Rev. Martin Kertys. Prime Minister Radicova met with President Barack H. Obama on September 21 as part of the Open Government Partnership forum.

Sokol Birthdays

NOVEMBER 1

Leonard A. Kotch, Monessen, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

NOVEMBER 2

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

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

NOVEMBER 3

Msr. Francis J. Beeda, S.T.L., Wilkes-Barre, Pa., our Honorary Supreme Officer.

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

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

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

Robert Toskovich, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.

Mary Tribou, Lakeville, Mass., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

NOVEMBER 4

Thomas A. Masi, Basking Ridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 282, Passaic, N.J.

Joseph Nicholas Oros, Reading, Pa., president of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

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

NOVEMBER 5

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

Elizabeth Florek, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Assembly 69, Smock, Pa.

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

NOVEMBER 6

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

NOVEMBER 7

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

NOVEMBER 8

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

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

NOVEMBER 9

Eric A. Koval, Gouldsboro, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Irene Kuchta, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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

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

Eleanor E. Venit, Kingston, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

NOVEMBER 10

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

NOVEMBER 11

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

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

NOVEMBER 12

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

NOVEMBER 13

Frank Brincka, Wantage, N.J., a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.

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

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

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

NOVEMBER 14

Joseph Duplak, Hackettstown, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Kyle E. Hanley, DeMotte, Ind., a member of Wreath 81, Whiting, Ind.

Louis Hodal, Eustis, Fla., a member of Assembly 113, Kenosha, Wis.

John P. Kovalovsky, Saddle Brook, N.J., a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.

Helen Zemanek, Lorain, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

Lodge Jottings

(Continued from page 6)

Especially at this time of the year, our thoughts and prayers go out to all of our members who cannot join us because of health or distance. Be assured that your presence is missed.

In closing, on behalf of our officers, President Josie Bolek, Financial Secretary/Treasurer Mary Ann Hajduch and Recording Secretary Judy Strisko, we extend warm wishes to all for a bountiful Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas season. In the midst of all the hustle and bustle of the holidays, please let us all remember - Jesus is the reason for the season.

Zdar Boh!
Judy Strisko

Children's Christmas Parties Set

(Continued from page 6)

presentation by a magician before the arrival of the guest of honor, Santa himself. In order to make the necessary preparations and ensure that each child receives a gift from Santa, parents must sign up by Wednesday, November 23. The sign up sheet is found on the bulletin board at the Sokol Club or parents may call JoAnn at (610)779-4278 indicating the names and ages of children who will attend. An enjoyable afternoon has been planned in the best traditions of Reading Sokol fellowship and fraternalism. Happy Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas season to all.

Zdar Boh!
Jo Ann Antosy, Chairperson



Obituaries...

Joseph W. Gaydosh, 91, former lodge officer, laid to rest in New Britain, Conn.

Joseph William Gaydosh of New Britain, Conn. passed away peacefully on September 26 surrounded by his loving family. He was 91. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 53 years, Helen B. Gaydosh.



A native of Peekskill, N.Y., he was born there December 29, 1919, son of Slovak immigrant parents, Michael A. and Mary Fallat Gaydosh. As a child, his parents moved to Norwalk, Conn. where Joseph was raised. He was educated locally and subsequently moved to New Britain where he raised his family.

Joseph is survived, and will be dearly missed, by his three children and their spouses: Barbara Gaydosh Anderson and husband, Jack; Joseph M. Gaydosh and wife Shay; and Michele Gaydosh Sycz and husband, John. In addition he is survived by two cherished granddaughters, Sarah Sych Jaworski and her husband, Jon, and Erica Sycz.

In addition, he is survived by two sisters, Ann and Helen; many nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends, especially John and Lori Egan with whom he enjoyed many fraternal activities along with many wonderful July 4th celebrations.

Joseph spent his distinguished professional career helping establish small companies, such as Lake Manufacturing Company in New Britain and later was employed in the office of the Connecticut Secretary of State, from which he retired. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army during World War II, including an assignment serving in the headquarters of General McArthur in the Philippines.

He was an active member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol for most of his life, initially being enrolled as a member of our former Assembly 204 in New Britain. He served as an officer of the lodge for many years before it was merged with Assembly 308 in Bridgeport. Over the years, he and his family participated in many Group 2 Sokol activities. His late father-in-law, Joseph Gaydos was a founder of the New Britain Sokol lodge.

Brother Joseph and his family were active members of the former All Saints Slovak Parish in New Britain until its closing. He was a long-time member of the parish's Holy Name Society. When the parish closed, he became a member of St. Ann's Parish where continued his activ-

ity. He was a board member of the Catholic Family Services and helped mentor many newlyweds along with his wife, Helen through the CANA and PreCANA church organizations. He and Helen were very active with the CANA conferences from 1947 until 1984, representing All Saints Parish. They served as chair couple for six terms and were appointed to the Lay Board of the Archdiocese of Hartford for two years. While involved with CANA, both Helen and Joe attended many seminars and spoke at conferences throughout Connecticut, New York and New Jersey and made numerous appearances on television.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists paid their final respects to Brother Joseph at the Farrell Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on September 29 at the Church of St. Ann in New Britain. Burial with full military honors followed in St. Mary's Cemetery in New Britain.

May our Brother Joseph, who so beautifully mirrored our fraternal way of life and was a credit to our faith and heritage now rest in peace. He was a man of great faith, a proud and patriotic American, a worthy descendant of his Slovak forebears and a credit to the high ideals of the fraternal benefit system which he espoused throughout his life. Our sympathy goes out to the Gaydosh family.

Donald W. Bucci, 78 passes away in Florida

Donald W. Bucci passed away peacefully surrounded by his beloved family on October 10 in Tarpon Springs, Fla. He was 78. A native of the Bronx, N.Y., he was born there July 12, 1933, son of the late Adolph and Margaret Bucci. He was educated locally.

Donald served in the U.S. Army for three years, including an assignment in Germany. On April 4, 1953, during his military service, he married the love of his life, the former LillyAnn Estvanik of Yonkers, N.Y. at Camp Polk in Louisiana. He was employed at Gaynor News Company in Mt. Vernon, N.Y. for 34 years, before retiring to Florida in 1993. He was a long-time member of Assembly 219 in Yonkers, N.Y. Before his move to Florida, he and his family were members of Most Holy Trinity Parish in Yonkers. An avid musician, he enjoyed playing guitar, sax and the clarinet. He loved reading and was an avid tennis player for over 40 years, acquiring numerous trophies.

Donald's 58 and a half years of marriage to LillyAnn was blessed with a son, Donald and his wife, Rhonda of North Carolina; a daughter Lindy and her husband, Bob

King; a granddaughter, Jackie and her husband Duane Wison of North Carolina, grandsons, Michael and Zak, a granddaughter, Moriah and a great-grandson, Brayden, all of Florida. In addition, Brother Don is survived by a brother, Joseph and his wife, Jean Bucci of Long Island, N.Y., a sister, Barbara Danzi of New York, many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. Also, a daughter-in-law Susan and his great buddy, his pet, Daisy.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated in Florida on October 15 followed by cremation. May our Brother Donald, who so beautifully mirrored our fraternal way of life, now rest in peace.

Andrew Lucansky, 84 Youngstown, Oh. member

Monsignor Peter M. Polando celebrated the Mass of Christian burial on September 1 in St. Matthias Church in Youngstown, Oh. for Andrew "Poochie" Lucansky who passed away on August 29. The well-known fraternalist was 84.

A native of Youngstown, Andrew was born there January 8, 1927, son of the late John Michael and Anna Benney Lucansky. He was educated locally and was a 1947 graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School. An excellent athlete, he played on the school's football team and helped it achieve an undefeated record in both 1942 and 1946. He served in the U.S. Army both in World War II and during the Korean conflict. An-

IN MEMORIAM

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

SEPTEMBER 2011

Assembly/Wreath	Member	Age	Date of Death
Assembly 9	Gerard John Vasil, Sr., Bridgeport, CT	85	August 26, 2011
Assembly 9	Andrew E. Buynak, Bridgeport, CT	78	August 22, 2011
Assembly 11	Irene Gaydos, Chicago, IL	88	July 14, 2011
Assembly 11	George Pluta, Chicago, IL	84	August 11, 2011
Assembly 28	Michael J. Kacmarcik, East Douglas, MA	85	August 11, 2011
Assembly 57	Valeria Doyle, Allentown, PA	91	July 29, 2011
Assembly 59	David Brian Tirpak, Wilkes-Barre, PA	43	September 4, 2011
Assembly 59	Anthony James Pawlica, Wilkes-Barre, PA	24	September 1, 2011
Assembly 59	Carl Remchow, Wilkes-Barre, PA	89	May 2, 2010
Assembly 69	Michael E. Vrabel, Smock, PA	84	August 31, 2011
Assembly 71	Anna Matisko, Edwardsville, PA	82	September 1, 2011
Assembly 71	Robert Jenkins, Edwardsville, PA	69	August 28, 2011
Assembly 78	Margaret Timko, Bethlehem, PA	89	September 5, 2011
Assembly 78	Anna Minarovic, Bethlehem, PA	91	August 11, 2011
Assembly 104	Mildred S. Downey, Pittsburgh, PA	83	September 1, 2011
Assembly 110	Margaret A. Razonski, St. Clair, PA	88	July 28, 2011
Assembly 127	Eleanor G. Lipnicky, Monessen, PA	95	August 2, 2011
Assembly 155	Anna Celia Laclaw, Ironwood, MI	90	September 16, 2011
Assembly 162	Joseph L. Sisco, Clifton, NJ	50	August 5, 2011
Assembly 162	Peter Suhan, Clifton, NJ	85	September 3, 2011
Assembly 176	Michael Majcher, Jr., New Brighton, PA	91	August 14, 2011
Assembly 261	Stanley Frank Guzowski, Reading, PA	23	August 27, 2011
Assembly 312	Robert Kurisko, Passaic, NJ	86	August 25, 2011
Wreath 13	Anna Dickerson, Philadelphia, PA	92	June 27, 2011
Wreath 22	Rose F. Lijewski, Pittsburgh, PA	76	September 20, 2011
Wreath 22	Mary Olah, Pittsburgh, PA	101	February 18, 2011
Wreath 22	Frances B. Madeya, Pittsburgh, PA	90	September 12, 2011
Wreath 34	Steve Dill, Jr., Cleveland, OH	84	August 26, 2011
Wreath 34	Thomas E. Sankovich, Cleveland, OH	91	September 3, 2011
Wreath 54	Mildred L. Mrosko, Youngstown, OH	85	August 31, 2011
Wreath 54	Genevieve Jason, Youngstown, OH	85	September 18, 2011
Wreath 54	Margaret I. Javorsky, Youngstown, OH	89	September 3, 2011
Wreath 54	Anna M. Lisko, Youngstown, OH	93	September 13, 2011
Wreath 93	Bertha Klein, Milwaukee, WI	85	July 2, 2011
Wreath 103	Rosemary A. Pintur, Barberton, OH	82	August 22, 2011
Wreath 107	Mary A. Bonish, Youngstown, OH	87	August 22, 2011
Wreath 153	Mary Zarzycki, Parma, OH	87	September 9, 2011

drew was employed as a pipe fitter for Union Carbide at the Linde Division, retiring in 1980 after 35 years of faithful service.

He was a life-long member of St. Matthias parish where he served as an usher and a member of the Holy Name Society. He was a long-time member of Assembly 108 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Branch 682 of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

On May 23, 1959, he married the former Norma Maddamma, who survives. In addition to his wife, Brother Andrew is survived by a son, John and his wife Pamela Lucansky of Boardman, Oh.; grandchildren Madison and Seth Lucansky; a sister, Lillian and her husband John Hodos as well as a niece, Paula Cipriano.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists paid their respects to Brother Lucansky at the Kubina-Yuhasz-Wasko Funeral Home in Boardman, Oh. prior to the Mass of Christian burial on September 1. Interment followed at Lake Park Cemetery where a service including full military honors was held by the Ellsworth VFW Post 9571. May our Brother "Poochie," who so beautifully mirrored our fraternal way of life, now rest in peace.

Cyril M. Ferenchak, 61 Youngstown, Oh. member

Lieutenant Colonel Cyril M. Ferenchak (retired U.S. Army Special Forces) of McLean, Va. passed away on Aug. 28. A native of Youngstown, Oh., he was

born there December 3, 1949, son of the late Cyril and Wilma Ferenchak, Sr.

He was a 1967 graduate of Cardinal Mooney High School and a graduate of Youngstown State University and Oklahoma State University. At the time of his death, Cyril was Foreign Services Officer with the U.S. State Department's Foreign Services Management Office in Washington, D.C. Previously, he served as the vice Consular Affairs Officer at the American Consulate in Guadalajara, Mexico. He retired from the U.S. Army Special Forces after 30 years of service. After initial extended tours in Vietnam and Korea, his special training and service was mainly in Central and South America, including Panama, El Salvador, Bolivia and Columbia.

Funeral services and viewing were held in Falls Church, Va. on August 31. He was laid to rest with full military honors on September 2 in the South Florida National Cemetery in Lake Worth, Fla.

Cyril, who hailed from a well-known Youngstown area Slovak fraternal family, is survived by his wife, the former Marta Prado, a son, Christopher; sisters, Paulette Smith, Margaret, Theresa Kantz; brothers Kenneth, George, Gregory and Michael, along with nieces and nephews and many friends.

May our Brother Cyril now rest in peace.

For students entering a Catholic Grade School (Grades 2-8)

Slovak Catholic Sokol Catholic Grade School Grants

As per the decision of the delegates at the 28th National Convention held in Buffalo, NY in August, 1999, a fraternal benefit is being offered to our young members attending a Catholic Grade School. The Slovak Catholic Sokol is pleased to offer \$250.00 Grants to our young Sokols and Sokolky in each of our organization's nineteen Groups. Two grants per each Group are available to any qualified Sokol member entering a Catholic Grade School (Grades 2 through 8).



Eligibility

- A. Applicant must be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in good standing, holding a permanent Life Insurance Certificate in the amount of not less than \$3,000, and has been a member for at least five years.
- B. One parent must be a S.C.S. member.
- C. The principal of the Catholic Grade School must verify the enrollment of the applicant.

Application

This application must be received on or before, March 31, 2012 with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph. Application is also available on the Internet @

www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

Disqualification

An applicant who neglects to submit or complete any part of these requirements before the established deadline will automatically be disqualified.

Acknowledgment

An acknowledgment of the Grant should be made in writing by the recipient as soon as possible, if you are awarded a Grant.

Return of Grant

If for any reason the Grant is not used by the recipient, the entire (or portion of) grant not utilized must be returned.

Lucina benefit dinner gala set for Parma, Oh.

The Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland will host its fall dinner benefit gala on Saturday, November 12 at Pokrova Hall located at 6812 Broadway Road in Parma, Oh. The fundraiser will include performances by the Lucinka Children's Ensemble and special guest, Living Traditions. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will follow by Ralph the Accordion Man and Party Band.

An enjoyable evening has been

planned. The evening of Slovak culture begins with cocktails at 6 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and includes a full course dinner and cash bar. Advance ticket sales only. For reservations contact Tom Ivanec at tel. (440)668-7797 or Mary Ann Dzurec at (440)930-2197. Area Sokols and Sokolky are invited to join us for a wonderful evening celebrating Slovak music and dance.

Boys Night Out Nov. 19 at Stratford, Conn. parish

The Men's Society of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Stratford, Conn., where the pastor is the Rev. Andrew Marus, will host its traditional Boys Night Out party on Saturday, November 19 in the parish center on College Street off Barnum Avenue. Festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. and will continue until 11:30 p.m.

There will be an array of hot appetizers, snacks, chicken, roast beef,

klobasy, roasted potatoes, coffee, tea, soda and beer. Bring your friends for good food, cards and more... The cost is just \$15.00 per person. Buy two tickets and get one free. For more info call Larry Wells at (203)375-2836. Area Sokols are invited to join us for an enjoyable evening which benefits the parish.

Zdar Boh!
Larry Wells

Keep Your Slovak Catholic Sokol Home Office Numbers Handy

- TOLL FREE NUMBER - 1-800-886-7656
- HOME OFFICE - (973) 777-2605 or 777-2606
- DIRECTOR OF SALES - 1-888-381-5431 or (412) 381-5431
- UNDERWRITING - (973) 777-4704
- EDITOR - (973) 777-4010
- FAX NUMBER - (973) 779-8245
- E-MAIL - Sokol205@aol.com
- WEB SITE - www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

(Detach here)

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION

Group # _____ Assembly/Wreath # _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Date of Birth _____ Current Age _____

Home Phone (____) _____ School Phone (____) _____
area code area code

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Father's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Mother's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Are you a previous Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Recipient? _____
(yes/no)

If yes, what Year? _____

School verification (to be completed by Grade School Principal)

I, _____ Principal of _____
(Principal's signature) (Name of School)

Catholic Grade School, verify that _____ is a student at
(Name of student)
the above school and will be entering _____ Grade in the 2012-2013 school year.

Are you currently participating in Slovak Catholic Sokol Activities? Yes _____ No _____

Deadline for receipt of this application is March 31, 2012.
Return completed application to:

Slovak Catholic Sokol
Grade School Grant
205 Madison St., P.O. Box 899
Passaic, NJ 07055

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE™			Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation <small>(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)</small>		
1. Publication Title Slovak Catholic Falcon		2. Publication No. 0 2 1 - 6 0 0		3. Filing Date 7 October 2011	
4. Issue Frequency bi-weekly - 26 times a year		5. No. of Issues Published Annually 26		6. Annual Subscription Price \$35.00	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Street, City, County, State, and ZIP+4) (Not Printer) Slovak Catholic Sokol, P.O. Box 899 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055					
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not Printer) Slovak Catholic Sokol, P.O. Box 899, 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055					
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do Not Leave Blank) Publisher (Name and Complete Mailing Address) Slovak Catholic Sokol Editor (Name and Complete Mailing Address) Daniel F. Tanzone, address same as above Managing Editor (Name and Complete Mailing Address) Daniel F. Tanzone, address same as above					
10. Owner (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereafter the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address as well as that of each individual must be given. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, its name and address must be stated.) (Do Not Leave Blank)					
Full Name Slovak Catholic Sokol		Complete Mailing Address P.O. Box 899, 205 Madison St. Passaic, N.J. 07055			
13. Publication Name Slovak Catholic Falcon		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 2 November 2011			
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date	
a. Total No. Copies (Not Press Run)		10,000		10,500	
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation (1) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, and Counter Sales (Not Mailed)		9,134		9,134	
(2) Paid or Requested Mail Subscriptions (Include Advertisers' Proof Copies/Exchange Copies)					
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b(1) and 15b(2))		9,134		9,134	
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free)					
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or Other Means)					
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)					
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)		10,000		10,000	
h. Copies Not Distributed (1) Office Use, Leftovers, Spoiled (2) Return from News Agents					
i. Total (Sum of 15g, 15h(1), and 15h(2))					
Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c/15g x 100)					
16. This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the <u>Nov. 2, 2011</u> issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Check box if not required to publish.					
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor</i>				Date 7 October 2011	
<small>I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties).</small>					

Reports of the Supreme Officers Presented at the 31st National Convention

REPORT OF THE MEMBER OF THE PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD

SCS - Supreme Physical Fitness Board Full Report 2008-2011

During my four year term with the Slovak Catholic Sokol as a member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board of Directors it has been a fulfilling honor and privilege. All of us have shared many positive thoughts and ideas which have helped maintain our organization in these changing times. As we all know, the stability of our organization starts with our members whom are close friends and family.

To see what is best for our organization is always my hopes and wishes. Over the past four years we have seen many changes to our internal structure - all which have been set in motion by long thought-out processes and logical-reasoning. Some of these modifications and new ideas were small while others were completely new beginnings for all of us. Every action that we do has an impact on our brothers & sisters within the fraternal organization and by keeping strong open minds we can continue forward to see our heritage grow and blossom.

With that said, here is a breakdown of the key items in the past four years.

2008

- Worked with the PF Directress Board members on their drill music - mixing and finalizing the music for the 2009 Slet (cutting costs so we do not have to pay 3rd party professional services).
- Worked with PF Director Board members on the drill music - mixing and finalizing the music for the 2009 Slet (cutting costs so we do not have to pay 3rd party professional services).
- Modified the Men's Gymnastics Rules & Regulations. All changes were made in compliance with the USGA and Sokol members' level of difficulty.
- Started work on an instructional DVD video for men's gymnastics to help assist both coaches & competitors alike. Video shows various moves on ranging from beginner to expert moves on the men's equipment.
- Met with the Men's SPFB members over a course of two months to finalize the 2009 Drills.
- Donated \$50 towards the "Susan Komen Race for the Cure" (breast cancer) under the Slovak Catholic Sokol name.
- Attended the 2008 National Bowling Tournament to assist Supreme Sports Director, Edward Moeller.
- Attended the 2008 Slet Clinic
 - Finalized the video taping of both Men's and Women's drills
 - Finalized the Men's and Women's drill music
- Spoke with Andrea about the Sokol Website and changes that we can make on it
- Met with NSS President, Dave Blazek about doing a joint effort between our organizations for both sports and calisthenics (Slet). This meeting ended on a very positive note and our hopes were to move forward from here. Brought this up at our next mini-board meeting. Topic was postponed.
- Donated over \$300 towards the Group 14 Children's Picnic to help bring together new members into the organization. The picnic was an overall success.
- Worked on a joint effort between Group 5 and Group 14 to bring together the Gymnastics Coaches to hold a Training Camp. Camp would go over the spotting and training techniques to help increase the overall safety of the coach and student alike. Unfortunately due to schedule and weather constraints this was unable to be held.

2009

- Worked with Katie Swift on the 2009 Slet Gymnastics program. Hopes were to have cut the cost of the setup team
- Submission of final copy of Men's Gymnastics rules and regulations
- Attended the International Softball Tournament
- Attended the 2009 International Slet
- Attended the International Golf Tournament
- Met with Group 14 coaches prior to yearly meeting making suggestions to keep the program strong & bring in new members. These are going to be put into a news article post winter break to help strengthen other Groups in bring back returning as well as new members.
 - Suggested to hold a local yearly competition where young competitors in Gymnastics & Track/Field. Naturally, awards given out to the top competitors.
 - Depending on size: Separate age groups by age group and/or level of experience.
 - Other fund raising ideas were suggested as well.
- Suggestions made to local gymnastics program to set a date for "Coach Spotting Lessons". This aids new (younger) coaches with spotting techniques in order to keep a safe environment.
 - Attended the Yearly SPF Board of Directors meeting
 - Met with the Men's SPF Board members to finalize both the Men's drills and music. Sound quality has been increased so it works better over larger sound systems
- Attended the SPF Board Meeting
- Attended the SCS Clinic
- Attended the SCS International Golf Tournament
- Screeched designs for the SCS Facebook page to help gain traction on an eBusiness scale.

- Created the SCS Facebook Business page
- Finalized the SCS Facebook Group page
 - Worked with other members throughout the organization and reroute other sub-sites to direct attention to the national page

2011

- Attended the SPF Board meeting to review the upcoming year's activities.
- Designed an online submission tool for the SCS Sports Registration page. Here group leaders will be able to sign up competitors for the Slet and its events.
- This page exports reports in Access, Excel and HTML formats to integrate with our current database tools

Damian J. Suess
Supreme Physical Fitness Board

REPORT OF THE MEMBER OF THE PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD

Four Year report for John Underation Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board

To Supreme Officers & Delegates:

Thank you very much for the four years that I have been able to represent our great organization as a member of the SPFB. Please accept this report for the past four years of my term.

2011

I have participated in the SPFB conference call in January to map out roles and responsibilities for the upcoming fraternal activities. We had discussed at length the preparations for the sporting year and Slet to be held in July.

I have followed-up with various physical directors on questions they had to our schedule, and their own preparations for their respective groups.

Although our international activities have not begun, there has been much to do in the planning process.

2010

For the month of May I had Written an article for the *Falcon*.

The men's Supreme Physical Fitness Board met in Barberton, Ohio in March and early May to brainstorm for new moves and music. For the Senior men, the overriding theme was still the path of incorporating strength and powerful moves. And for the Junior boys, we wanted to use some of those same Senior men moves, as the younger participants at the Slet want to mimic their older counterparts.

Moving into June, the Clinic is always a great chance to see longtime friends, and also welcome new clinic attendees. All of those in attendance had a chance to stay in the brand new townhouse dormitories which will accommodate the Slet participants well.

The following Sunday was the annual Supreme Physical Fitness Board Meeting, which I was excused from due to the fact I am chairperson of my church's finance council and had to run our church carnival.

In July, I attended the International Softball tournament held in Wilkes Barre.

In September, I had written an article for the *Falcon*.

2009

In May, I had attended the International Bowling tournament held in Independence, Ohio.

In June, it was Slet time again in Kutztown, Pennsylvania. Our board executed another well run event, and all participants truly enjoyed being back in the familiar site.

In July, I had worked the International Softball tournament held in Cleveland, Ohio.

In August, I participated in the International Golf tournament held in Clarion, Pennsylvania.

In August, I had written an article for the *Falcon*.

Lastly for the year 2009, the SPFB convened in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for our annual meeting. We had re-capped the year's events, and put into motion the 2010 sporting agenda.

2008

In January and March, the men's SPFB met in Barberton, Ohio to compile the new drills for the Clinic to be held in June.

In June, I headed off to Kutztown for the Clinic. Again, another successful week for all participants and board members.

In July, I participated in the International Softball tournament in Cleveland, Ohio.

In August, I worked the International Golf tournament.

Once again, thank you for another wonderful four years of serving our members. Have a fabulous summer, enjoy your families, and I will see you at the Convention in July.

With Fraternal respect,
John Underation
Supreme Physical Fitness Board

2011 Sokol Scholarship Recipients
Express thanks and gratitude....

GRADE SCHOOL GRANTS

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,
Thank you for awarding me one of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Catholic Grade School Grants. This will be a great help in continuing my wonderful Catholic education. Thank you.

Zdar Boh!
Kelci Kuren
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Dear Supreme Secretary Pogorelec,
I thank you for the generous scholarship award. In these trying economic times, it is very much appreciated. I am proud of my Slovak heritage and have recently taken up studying the Slovak language.

Zdar Boh!
Alexander Kaplan
Hopewell Junction, N.Y.

COLLEGE GRANTS

Dear Mr. Pogorelec,
Thank you very much for your letter informing me that I have been selected as a recipient of a 2011 Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grant. I am very excited about the news and I am very appreciative to the organization for its generosity and support of education.

I am presently a junior at the University of South Florida in Tampa and will be attending there in the fall of 2011. This is the same school that was listed on my application for the scholarship.

Thank you again for the scholarship award. My family and I are very grateful. Zdar Boh!
Sincerely,
Richard Krause
Wayne, N.J.

Dear Mr. Pogorelec,
I am writing to confirm that I have received the 2011 scholarship grant notification. I would also like to confirm that I will be attending Marquette University during the 2011-2012 school year.

I would like to thank you and the Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors for considering my application and ultimately selecting me as one of the 2011 scholarship recipients.

I am very grateful for this honor and I appreciate your generosity.
Sincerely,
Dana A. Ley
Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear fellow Sokols,
I sincerely want to thank you for the wondrous scholarship Catholic high school grant that you have bestowed upon me as I continue my studies at Bethlehem Catholic High School. It makes me all the more proud to be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and my family too. This grant for my education will most definitely help me to grow spiritually as well as mentally and physically. Thank you again and God bless.

Sincerely,
Christopher A. Bianco
Bethlehem, Pa.

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokols,
Thank you for the Abbot Jerome M. Koval, O.S.B. grant money. I very

much enjoy attending Catholic Memorial High School. I enjoy learning in a faith-based environment and the quality of academics I receive is much better than at most other schools. The grant money that you have given me makes it easier for me to attend a Catholic high school. Thank you again for the money.

Sincerely,
Kaitlin Trokan
Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear S.C.S. Scholarship Committee,
Thank you very much for selecting me for a 2011 Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grant. It means a lot to my family and me that I was selected for this award. It will be helpful in defraying the cost of my expenses in my sophomore year of college.

I will enter my sophomore year at Gettysburg College for the fall semester of 2011. I am honored to have been selected to receive this award and I pledge to continue to uphold the high ideals and values of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in my daily life. Zdar Boh!
Sincerely,
James E. Kelly
Lakeville, Conn.

Dear Scholarship Committee,
I want to confirm that I will be attending Saint Joseph's University for the fall semester 2011 for my senior year. I would like to thank you for selecting me as a recipient of a 2011 Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grant. This grant will be a great help in paying for my college expenses. Thank you again and Zdar Boh!

Fraternally yours,
Sean Conway
Douglas, Mass.

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,
I have received notification that I have been the recipient of a \$1,000 Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grant. Thank you for your generosity and kindness in your financial grant gift to me. I have always felt that familial support was necessary for the greatest success. I will still be attending Chattahoochee Technical College in Marietta Ga. for the fall semester. Thank you again and God Bless!

In His name,
Christina Johnson
Acworth, Ga.

Dear Supreme Secretary Pogorelec,
My name is Philip Hornacek. I have been selected as a recipient of a 2011 Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grant. I express sincere thanks for this generous grant. I am writing to confirm that I will be attending Kent State University in Kent, Ohio for the 2011-2012 academic year.

With kindness regards and thanks,
Philip Hornacek
Barberton, Oh.

Dear Mr. Pogorelec,
I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you for making the 2011 Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grant possible. I am honored to receive this scholarship and I am deeply thankful for your support.

I am enrolled at Millersville University of Pennsylvania with a major in Secondary Social Studies Education and a minor in International Studies. With this degree, I hope to teach high school history or government upon graduation. Attached, you will find my class schedule for the fall semester of the 2011-2012 academic year.

Thank you again for your generosity and support. With this scholarship, I will become one step closer to reaching my educational goals.
Sincerely,
Ashley Rabatin
Enola, Pa.

Dear Mr. Pogorelec and Committee,
Thank you for selecting me as the recipient of a 2011 Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Memorial Scholarship Grant. Your generosity is and has always been greatly appreciated. This assistance will help me as I continue to pursue my degree in Nursing and ultimately become a Nurse Practitioner through my studies at The College of Mount Saint Joseph. I am very thankful for this scholarship as well as all the other opportunities that the Slovak Catholic Sokol provides. It is truly a blessing to be a part of such a generous and dedicated organization. Thanks again! Hope to see you soon. God bless you all!

Zdar Boh!
Katie Jerek
Boardman, Oh.

Order Christmas Oplatky and Slovak Christmas Cards

Jankola Library and Slovak Museum in Danville, Pa. once again will offer Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers and Slovak Christmas cards. Orders will be accepted from October 24 until December 16, 2011.

The Oplatky, five per packet, thermal-sealed and securely packaged can be obtained for a donation of \$3.00. The price for one package of 9 Slovak Christmas cards is \$6.75. In addition, shipping and processing has a minimum cost of \$5.75 and upwards. Customized requests can be packaged to meet an individual's

needs. Jankola Library also offers an array of books, CDs and language tapes for those interested in Slovak culture and language. A book list is available upon request.

For more information on these items or to place an order, contact: Sister Catherine Laboure, SS.C.M., at tel. (570) 275-5606 or write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698. Founded in 1968, Jankola Library houses one of the largest collections of Slovakianna in the United States. Tours of the facility are available upon request.

St. Martin's Day feast set in Minneapolis, Minn.

Group 11 will host its traditional St. Martin's Day Celebration on Sunday, November 13 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish located at 13th Avenue and 2nd Street, North East in Minneapolis, Minn. The annual fraternal event honors St. Martin of Tours, patron of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. This year's program begins with attendance at the 9 a.m. Mass which will be celebrated for our living and deceased members. Following the liturgy, a continental breakfast will be served in the Father Dargay Memorial Hall of the parish. The breakfast is free to all members and guests. Hosting

the annual event will be Assembly 34 and Wreath 47.

This year, the Slovak Catholic Sokol presence in the parish marks its 102nd anniversary. Our Assembly 34 was founded in the parish in 1909 and has been active ever since. We extend a cordial invitation to all our Group 11 members to join us for this annual celebration of Sokol fraternalism and fellowship in the twin cities. Zdar Boh!

Delores J. Genosky
Wreath 47
James T. Genosky
Assembly 34

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

Filled with many fall and winter "comfort food" recipes



Just \$13.50 which includes postage and handling Sokol Assemblies and Wreaths can order a case of 12 cook books for just \$150.00 – Place your order today! Make check or money order payable to:

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

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE & ZIP _____
NUMBER OF BOOKS _____

Socha slobody oslávila 125 rokov

(Pokračovanie zo strany 20)

umeleckou fantáziou. Bartholdimu pre tento účel zapožovala Isabella Boyerová, vdova vynálezcu šijacieho stroja Isaaca Singera.

Socha predstavuje mladú ženu v rímskom odevu a vo zdvihnutej ruke nesie pochodeň, ktorou si svieti na ceste za slobodou. Pri nohách má potrhane reťaze, ktoré symbolizujú koniec otroctva. V ľavej ruke nesie knihu, na ktorej je nápis 4. júl 1776, ktorý pripomína vyhlásenie deklarácie nezávislosti Spojených štátov Amerických. Na hlavne má korunu so siedmimi trnmi, ktorá symbolizuje sedem morí a sedem kontinentov. Váži 225 ton a meria 46 metrov. No spoločne s podstavcom je vysoká až 93 metrov a každoročne do nej udrie zhruba 600 bleskov.

Keď bolo dielo rozpracované, začali sa zháňať peniaze. Do konca roku 1879 vyzbierali po celom Francúzsku 250-tisíc frankov, čo vtedy stačilo na dokončenie slávnej sochy. Američania však nedostali všetko ako sa hovorí na podnože. Ich úlohou bolo vybudovanie mohutného podstavca, ktorý vyrástol na Ostrove slo-

body, neďaleko newyorského Manhattanu. Umiestnili ju uprostred hviezdicovej pevnosti Fort Wood. Pôvodne ale mala stáť na úplne inom mieste. Vybraná bola najskôr Philadelphia a ostrov pre sochu našli aj neďaleko mesta Boston. Nakoniec skončila v New Yorku a dnes si ani nevieme predstaviť, že by to bolo inak.

Do Ameriky prišla rozmontovaná a tak chvíľu trvalo, kým ju slávnostne predstavili verejnosti. Stalo sa tak 28. októbra 1886. Celý prístav vtedy zaplnilo množstvo lodí a na brehu sa tlačili tisíce ľudí. Neprialo im však počasie, lebo New York v ten deň zahalila hmla. Kvôli nej dotknúca boli chvíle, kedy na sochu nebolo vôbec vidieť. Keď z nej ale Bartholdi strhol francúzsku trikolóru, jasanie davu nemalo konca kraja.

Dnes je symbol mesta zelený, no nie je to jej pôvodná farba. Z Francúzska prišiel jej medený plášť v pôvodnej hnedej farbe, no za dvadsať rokov socha zoxidovala a získala svoju typickú zelenú patinu. Socha sa stala veľkou atrakciou pre turistov.

Štedrá večera v Clevelande, OH

Mnísi z opátstva Sv. Andreja Svorada v Clevelande, OH usporiadajú v nedeľu 4. decembra štedrú večeru. O 12.00 hodine bude svätá omša a po nej bude v Benedictine High School Cafeteria štedrá večera.

V kultúrnom programe sa predstavia folklórny súbor Lučinka z Clevelandu a spevácky súbor Tri slovenské mamičky. Hrať bude Johnny Pastirik Combo. Vstupné je \$20.00 za osobu. Vstupenky sú len v predpredaji. Šeky a monie orders majú byť vystavené na Saint Andrew Abbey - Vilia a odoslané na adresu: 2900 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Cleveland, OH 44104. Rezervácie majú byť urobené do 28. novembra. Blíže informácie na telefónnom čísle: 216-721-5300, ext. 0 v pondelku do piatku od 8.00 do 3.30 hod.

Vianočný koncert a večera v Yonkers, NY

Farnosť Najsvätejšej Trojice v Yonkers, NY usporiada v nedeľu 11. decembra 27. vianočný koncert, po ktorom bude nasledovať večera. Bude sa konať v kostole Najsvätejšej Trojice, 18 Trinity Plaza v Yonkers, NY. Koncert začne o 3.30 hodine. Po koncerte bude v spoločenskej hale tradičná štedrá večera. Vstupenky na podujatie sú \$35.00 za osobu, za deti do 12 rokov je vstupné \$17.50. Vtupenky len na koncert sú \$10.00. Blíže informácie a rezervácie na tel. čísle: 914-963-0720.

Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation Slovenský Katolícky Sokol Slovak Catholic Sokol

ISSN: 0897-8107

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

**Majiteľ a vydavateľ:
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL**

**Daniel F. Tanzone, redaktor
Telefónne číslo: (973) 777-4010**

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

Múzeum Andyho Warhola v Medzilaborciach oslávilo 20. výročie založenia



Múzeum Andyho Warhola v Medzilaborciach oslávilo 20. októbra dvadsať rokov svojej existencie. Počas nich sa vypracovalo na múzeum celosvetového významu. Dokázalo, že si zaslúži zvláštny štatút a osobitnú podporu štátu.

Na budove múzea Andyho Warhola odhalili pamätnú tabuľku jeho bratovi Johnovi Warholovi, zakladateľovi múzea. Už nebohý brat Andyho, prispel nemalou mierou k tomu, aby sa kultové diela do Medzilaboriec dostali. Synovia nebohého Johna do Medzilaboriec z USA kvôli pracovným povinnostiam neprišli. Prebratím Veľkej ceny Andyho Warhola rodina poverila Lubu Protivňákovú, Johnovu neter. John Warhola získal prestížne ocenenie in memoriam.

Cenu Andyho Warhola za ústretovosť a pomoc múzeu pri

rekonštrukcii budovy a budovaní zbierkového fondu si prebral predseda Prešovského samosprávneho kraja Peter Chudík.

Viktor Jasaň, historik umenia a priateľ Johna Warhola povedal, že aj v súčasnosti prichádzajú k hrobu rodiny Warholovcov v Pittsburghu ľudia, Pa., ktorí tam kladú kvety a nechávajú svoje odkazy. „To isté, aby ľudia prichádzali, je možné urobiť aj tu. Toto múzeum je opodstatnené, dokázalo to. Taliani a Nemci sa pýtajú, kde sú Medzilaborce. Vedia už o tom, že Andy nebol Čech, ale Rusín, a že niekde na konci Slovenska, v Míkovej, sa narodila jeho rodina,“ povedal.

Smrťou Johna Warhola by sa nemal podľa Jasaňa zastaviť tvorivý proces: „Potrebujeme mladú generáciu kunsthistorikov, aby vedeli dať víziu na ďalších 20 rokov činnosti múzea.

Rakovinou trpí najmä juh a západ Slovenska

Obyvatelia juhu Slovenska nevidia zdravo, vo veľkých mestách veľa pijú a fajčia. Rakovina sa rozširuje. Juh so západom a sever s východom Slovenska sú dva odlišné svety. Rakovina rozdeľuje krajinu na dve veľké časti. V krajoch na západe a juhu zabíja viac ľudí. Dve zásadné zistenia sú, že onkologických ochorení každým rokom mierne pribúda, úmrtnosť však nerastie.

Čísla Štatistického úradu Slovenskej republiky z posledných dvoch rokov takto komplexne prvý raz po dlhšom čase spracovalo Národné centrum zdravotníckych informácií.

Výskyt onkologických ochorení presahuje priemer Slovenska v okresoch Bratislavského, Nitrianskeho, Trenčianskeho a Trnavského kraja, vysvetľuje v správe k výskumu Peter Gschwendt z národného centra.

„Čím ďalej idete na západ, nielen na Slovensku, je rakoviny viac,“ reaguje na zverejnené údaje lekár Vladimír Bella z Onkologického ústavu sv. Alžbety v Bratislave.

Výraznejší výskyt rakoviny na západnom Slovensku je

podľa neho daný väčším počtom veľkých miest, v ktorých prevláda západný životný štýl.

Najviac je onkologických pacientov v pomere na počet obyvateľov na západe krajiny. Najviac ľudí za posledné roky rakovina zabila v Nitrianskom kraji.

Lekár Pavol Dubinský z Východoslovenského onkologického ústavu vidí za zvýšeným výskytom rakoviny na západnom Slovensku aj vyšší priemerný vek dožitia tamojšieho obyvateľstva. Riziko rakoviny totiž podľa neho výrazne stúpa s vekom.

Pripomína, že na východe je menej onkologických ochorení aj preto, lebo je tam početne zastúpená rímska populácia, v ktorej je priemerný vek dožitia nižší.

Fenoménom je najväčšia úmrtnosť na juhu. Onkológovia hovoria najmä o nezdravých stravovacích návykoch južanov. Preto je podľa nich v tejto časti Slovenska vysoký výskyt rakoviny hrubého čreva.

Bella hovorí, že ľudia na juhu jedia veľa nezdravých jedál, ako napríklad kačiek, a používajú veľa korenia. Súhlasí s ním aj Dubinský, ktorý hovorí, že juh Slovenska

Na fórach miestnych aj krajských samospráv by mali vystupovať kompetentní ľudia s veľkým nadhľadom a duchom a túto myšlienku obhajovať.“

Jedným z dôvodov, prečo je múzeum v Medzilaborciach opodstatnené, je podľa Jasaňa to, že hoci Andy pochádzal z tohto kraja, dokázal dobyť nielen Ameriku, ale celý svet a dobýja ho ďalej.

„Ešte vždy máme čo robiť, aby sme sa dostali do Pittsburghu a aby sa dostal Pittsburgh sem,“ povedal na margo vízie budúcnosti múzea. Vysvetlil, že v múzeu v Pittsburghu mu osobne chýbajú informácie o múzeu v Medzilaborciach a dokument, ktorý by ho prezentoval.

Múzeum v Medzilaborciach prekročilo hranice regiónu, má celosvetový význam a dokázalo, že mu patrí zvláštny štatút.

kopíruje situáciu v Maďarsku, kde je okrem toho vysoký výskyt rakoviny pľúc, hlavy a krku.

Rakovine okrem zlých stravovacích návykov v tejto časti Slovenska podľa neho nahráva aj slabá sociálna a ekonomická situácia.

Na rakovinu podľa správy takmer dvojnásobne viac zomierajú muži. U žien sa zasa prejavuje už v skoršom veku. Kým u žien hospitalizácia na rakovinu začína výrazne rásť po 35. narodení, u mužov je to o desať rokov neskôr.

Najviac hospitalizovaní na onkologické ochorenia sú muži vo vekových kategóriách od 55 do 74 a ženy od 45 do 74 rokov.

Dubinský však pripomína, že rakovina u žien je celkovo lepšie liečiteľná a vyliciteľná ako u mužov.

Radiologička Martina Vorbojov pripomína súvislosť výskytu rakoviny so vzdelaním a miestom bydliska.

Vzdelanejší ľudia, ktorí byvajú vo väčších mestách, sa podľa nej starajú o svoje zdravie lepšie ako ľudia zo základným vzdelaním, ktorí sa na dedine nezdravo stravujú. - Sme.sk



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VOLUME C

PASSAIC, N.J., 2. NOVEMBRA 2011

ČÍSLO 4950

Prezident Ivan Gašparovič odvolal Radičovú a poveril ju dovládnúť



Na snímke zľava sú: predseda Národnej rady SR Pavol Hrušovský, premiérka Iveta Radičová a prezident Ivan Gašparovič.

Prezident Slovenskej republiky Ivan Gašparovič 25. októbra odvolal predsedníčku vlády SR Ivetu Radičovú a poveril ju vykonávaním svojej pôsobnosti až do vymenovania novej vlády. Prezidentovi to umožnila novela Ústavy Slovenskej republiky. Zmena, ktorú parlament odobril 21. októbra, prezidentovi umožňuje poveriť vládu ďalším vykonávaním funkcií, aj keď stratila dôveru zákonodarného zboru. Na ústavnom akte v Prezidentskom paláci bol prítomný aj predseda Národnej rady SR Pavol Hrušovský.

Mandát dočasného kabinetu je obmedzený. Niektoré ústavné funkcie budú vláde bez dôvery upreté celkom a kompetencie vyplývajúce zo zákonov bude môcť vykonávať len so súhlasom hlavy štátu. Dočasná vláda tak nebude môcť rozhodovať o zásadných hospodárskych, sociálnych, vnútropolitických a zahraničnopolitických opatreniach, ani o udeľovaní amnestií vo veciach priestupkov. Odvolávať a vymenúvať troch členov Súdnej rady SR bude vláda môcť len so súhlasom prezidenta. Aj dočasný kabinet však naďalej bude môcť pripravovať zákony, vydávať nariadenia, dojednávať medzinárod-

né zmluvy, vyhlásiť vojnový stav, nariadiť mobilizáciu, vyhlásiť výnimočný stav, rozhodovať o vyslaní ozbrojených síl mimo územia SR, pripravovať a schvaľovať rozpočet či schvaľovať štátny záverečný účet.

Zmena, ktorú v parlamente podporilo 139 poslancov, je výsledkom širokej politickej dohody koalície a opozičného Smeru-SD. Spoločne tak v skrátanom legislatívnom konaní vyriešili ústavnú krízu, ktorá vznikla po tom, čo parlament vládne 11. októbra nevyvolil dôveru. Platné znenie ústavy prezidentovi síce prikazovalo vládu odvolať, nešpecifikovalo však, aké kroky majú nasledovať. Štátne orgány pritom môžu konať iba na základe ústavy, v jej medziach a v zákonom stanovenom rozsahu.

Iveta Radičová po rokovaní Prezídia SDKÚ-DS oznámila, že v marcových predčasných parlamentných voľbách nebude kandidovať. Keď skončí vo funkcii predsedníčky vlády, ako prvé pôjde so svojou dcérou na dovolenku. Profesijsne sa chce vrátiť k vedeckému životu. Radičová pre médiá tiež povedala, že novú politickú stranu založiť neplánuje.

Socha slobody oslávila 125 rokov

Socha slobody v New Yorku oslávila 28. októbra, kedy bola dopravená do Ameriky, 125 rokov. Stala sa symbolom nielen mesta New York, ale celých Spojených štátov.

Sochu z Francúzska prepravili loďou cez Atlantický oceán v 214 bedniach.

Otom sochy je francúzsky historik Eduard de Laboulaye, ktorý už v roku 1965 navrhol, aby Francúzsko venovalo k stému výročiu vyhlásenia americkej nezávislosti monumentálny darček. Podobnú sochu ponúkal aj pre egyptský Suezský prieplav, no Káhira jeho nápad neprijala.

Tentoraz však uspel a tak požiadal sochára Frédérica Bartholdiho, aby sochu vymodeloval. Následne sa začalo pracovať na jej vnútornej železnej konštrukcii, ktorú navrhol a postavil slávny Gustav Eiffel. Ten bol tvorcom parížskeho symbolu - Eiffelovej veže. Bartholdi najskôr vyrobil hlinený model vo veľkosti dospelého človeka. Ten následne zväčšoval a keď sa dopracoval k žiadanej veľkosti, tak ju odliel z medi. Zaujímavosťou je, že tvár sochy nie je žiadnou (Pokračovanie na str. 19)



Správy zo Slovenska



▼ Vysielanie slovenských civilných expertov do zahraničia by sa do roku 2012 malo riadiť novými pravidlami. Národná rada SR posunula do druhého čítania návrh zákona o vysielaní expertov na výkon práce v aktivitách krízového manažmentu mimo územia Slovenskej republiky z dielne rezortu zahraničia.

▼ Kým doteraz sa Slovensko do medzinárodného krízového manažmentu zapájalo predovšetkým prostredníctvom vysielania príslušníkov bezpečnostných zložiek, po novom by mali byť vysielaní aj civilní zamestnanci v štátnej službe, zamestnanci vo výkone práce vo verejnom záujme, sudcovia a prokurátori.

▼ Najväčší dodávateľ súčiastok pre Samsung, kórejská spoločnosť Hansol vo Voderadoch pri Trnave skončil. Bez práce tak zostalo približne 1 400 ľudí. Spoločnosť ukončila výrobu z dôvodu pretrvávajúcej nepriaznivej situácie na svetových trhoch.

▼ Z 5 100 železničiarov, ktorí majú prísť o prácu, do konca tohto roku prepustia železnice do konca tohto roku 3 800. Slovenské železničné spoločnosti už uvoľnili viac ako 3 000 pracovníkov z celkového počtu 31-tisíc.

▼ V Dóme sv. Alžbety v Košiciach prebiehajú prípravné práce na nakrúcanie osemdielneho seriálu Svet bez konca v kanadskej koprodukcii. Medzi hercami, ktorí budú vo filme hrať, sú aj známe filmové hviezdy Miranda Richardson, Cynthia Nixon a Ben Chaplin. Košická katedrála bude uzavretá pre verejnosť asi dva týždne.

▼ Miera evidovanej nezamestnanosti na Slovensku v septembri medzimesačne stúpila o 0,25 percenta na 13,37 percenta. Podľa informácie Ústredia práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny Slovenskej republiky, počet uchádzačov

o zamestnanie schopných ihneď nastúpiť do práce v septembri dosiahol 356 650 osôb. V porovnaní s augustom vzrástol o 6 765 osôb. Miera nezamestnanosti je najvyššia od januára 2005.

▼ Okrem vysokej nezamestnanosti je akútnym problémom Slovenska aj stúpajúci počet ľudí ohrozených chudobou. Len v minulom roku sa v zóne ohrozenia ocitlo ďalších 100-tisíc ľudí, celkovo je ich už 650-tisíc.

▼ Modrá karta EÚ, ktorá uľahčí prístup pre vysokokvalifikovaných pracovníkov z tretích krajín, bude od nového roku platiť aj na Slovensku. Vyplýva to zo zákona o pohybe cudzincov, ktorí 21. októbra schválili poslanci. Karta bude oprávňovať držiteľov z tretej krajiny vstúpiť, zdržiavať sa a pracovať na území SR po dobu, na akú mu bola policajným útvárom vydaná. Požiadať o ňu môže osoba prijatá na pracovnú pozíciu na Slovensku s občianstvom v nečlenskej krajine Európskej únie.

▼ Ku koncu septembra tohto roku pracovalo na Slovensku 21,7 tisíc cudzincov. Oproti minulému septembru je to nárast takmer o 3,7 tisíc osôb. Vyplýva to z údajov, ktoré zverejnilo Ústredie práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny. Najpočetnejšie zastúpenie na slovenskom pracovnom trhu majú občania z Rumunska (4,4 tisíc), čo je medziročný nárast o 1,4 tisíc. Z Českej republiky pracovalo v SR 3,3 tisíc, z Maďarska 2,2 tis. a z Poľska 2,1 tisíc osôb.

▼ Každý tretí cudzinec na Slovensku pracoval ku koncu septembra v Bratislave (7,6 tis. cudzincov). Nasleduje okres Trnava (1,8 tis.) S príchodom cudzincov rastú aj obavy ľudí. Približne polovica Slovákov sa obáva zvyšovania kriminality, šírenia nebezpečných chorôb a oberania o prácu zo strany cudzincov.