

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

# Slovak Catholic Falcon

## Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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### As part of the 1st Annual United Slovak Fraternal's Bowling Tournament

## **Perryopolis, Pa., Assembly 25 Takes Men's Team Title while First Catholic Slovak Union Captures Women's Team Title at 66th International Bowling Tournament in Willoughby, Oh.**

**Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award goes to Paul Awramko of Assembly 162 in Clifton, New Jersey**



**Paul Awramko, center, is shown accepting the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award at the victory banquet of our 66th International Bowling Tournament held in Willoughby, Oh. A member of Assembly 162 in Clifton, N.J., Brother Awramko is a veteran of many international bowling competitions. The award is named for Brother Awramko's late uncle Frank S. Petruff. Flanking Brother Awramko on the photo are Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller.**

Beachwood, Oh., located just a few miles from the bowling lanes. There were many compliments on the Embassy Suites amenities, including the style of rooms, the wonderful staff, the morning breakfasts and manager's reception each evening. The weather in northeastern Ohio was seasonably cool with lots of clouds on Friday, but had little effect as the first squad of bowlers got ready for the start of the tournament at 6 p.m. at the Freeway Lanes. Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller and Supreme Assistant Physical Director John M. Underation, along with the sports directors from the other Slovak fraternal's made sure that all of the teams were ready to bowl and the proper score sheets were at each set of lanes. Prior to the start of team bowling at 6 p.m. and then again at 9 p.m., the national anthems of the United States, Canada and Slovakia were sung to open the 66th International Bowling Tournament.

The Friday hospitality dinner was supplied by the courteous staff at Freeway Lanes, and was enjoyed in the rear banquet room. The delicious buffet included prime rib, seasoned chicken, red potatoes along with other side dishes. The buffet was available from 7:30 to 10 p.m. to feed all the hungry bowlers before and after the team events on Friday evening.

Prior to the Saturday evening banquet, a Mass was celebrated in the Embassy Suites Grand Ballroom to satisfy the Sunday obligation. Celebrant of the liturgy was the Rev. Thomas J. Nasta of Stowe, Pa. who serves as the national chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union. Among the Sokol members who assisted at the liturgy were Carol Ann Wallace of Pittsburgh and David Bulwin of Clifton, N.J. Following the liturgy the more than 300 bowlers and guests enjoyed a wonderful cocktail hour. Following the re-

ception the formal banquet program began. Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller gave the opening remarks followed by the invocation offered by a member of the National Slovak Society. Joseph Moeller of Pittsburgh then led the assemblage in the singing of our

American, Canadian and Slovak anthems. The dinner included a buffet of Fresh Garden Salad, Broiled Salmon, Sautéed Chicken Breast, roasted potatoes, and seasonal vegetables followed by dessert which included cheesecake along with a variety of pies with coffee and tea.

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**WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS - With a combined score of 2,188, including a 186 handicap, the members of the First Catholic Slovak Union team from Monessen, Pa. were the first place women's team champions at this year's first ever 1st United Slovak Fraternal's Bowling Tournament. The lovely Jednota bowlers include l-r, Georgann Siesky, Jennifer Ramsey, Kay Fisher and Shannon Sadler.**



**MEN'S CHAMPIONS - Bowlers from Assembly 25 in Perryopolis, Pa. took first place honors in the men's team competition with a score of 2,682, including a 507 handicap. Three of the team members are shown above and include, l-r, Brian Warnick, Bernard Seuga and David Matty. Missing from photo was R.J. Gallagher.**

This year's 66th International Bowling Tournament held in Willoughby, Ohio, the weekend of May 11-13 made a bit of fraternal history. It was a milestone in that our bowlers joined bowlers from our fellow Slovak fraternal's, namely the First Catholic Slovak Union, the National Slovak Society and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union in what was billed as the First United Slovak Fraternal's International Bowling Tournament. At the conclusion of last year's 65th International Bowling Tournament held in Reading, Pa., the announcement was made that this tournament was in the works and it became a reality this year. More than 280 fraternal keglers filled the spacious Freeway Lanes facility where the competition was held.

Our bowlers enjoyed the wonderful accommodations of the Embassy Suites Hotel in nearby

**Story & Photos by  
John M. Underation  
Supreme Assistant  
Physical Director**

*Our Canadian Sokolka***Sister Agnes Knapik, O.S.B., a Byzantine Benedictine, Celebrates 50 Years of Monastic Profession in Warren, Oh.**

On Saturday, May 5th, Sister Agnes Knapik, O.S.B., a Byzantine Sister of Queen of Heaven Monastery in Warren, Ohio, celebrated her Golden Jubilee of monastic profession. The Divine Liturgy for the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman was celebrated for her intentions at SS. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Warren, Ohio. Principal celebrant of the liturgy of thanksgiving was the pastor of the parish, the Rev. Andrew J. Deskevich. Concelebrating with him was the Rt. Rev. Leo R. Schlosseer, O.S.B. of Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Monastery in Butler, Pennsylvania. Abbot Leo gave the homily at the liturgy following after Sister Agnes renewed her monastic profession.

Also present at the liturgy were Sister Mary Bratsovsky, O.S.B., prioress of Sacred Heart Monastery in Lisle, Illinois; Sister Helen Jilik, O.S.B., a classmate of Sister Agnes, as well as the Benedictine Sisters of Queen of Heaven Monastery, and sisters from several local religious communities. Attending the jubilee celebration from Ontario, Canada were Sister Agnes's sister, Mary Douglas, niece Joanne McGowan, niece Dianne Lamb and her husband Gary, grand-nieces Melissa



**Sister Agnes Knapik, O.S.B., our Sokolka of Assembly 227 in Toronto, Canada, celebrated the 50th anniversary of her religious profession on Saturday, May 5th. She is shown above before the iconostasis at SS. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Warren, Ohio where she renewed his vows.**

McGowan, Lindsay McGowan, Jordan Lamb, and grand-nephew Alex Lamb. Friends, along with members of the St. Benedict's Auxiliary and the Benedictine Oblates were also in attendance at the celebration. Following the Divine Liturgy, Sister Agnes was feted at a festive dinner at Enzo's Restaurant

in Warren.

A native of Toronto, Canada, Sister Agnes was born there a daughter of Steven and Mary Knapik, both deceased. Another sister, Anna Petkovich is also deceased. Sister Agnes attended elementary and high school in Toronto, Ontario. She was raised in the Byzantine Catholic Rite and she and her family at

(Continued on page 6)

**Sokol  
Calendar****SUN.JUNE 3**

■ Wreath 81 meeting in the Sacred Heart Rose Room, 1723 Laporte Ave., Whiting, Ind. beginning at 1 p.m., social to follow business meeting.

■ Patronal Feast Day observance of Most Holy Trinity Parish, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, N.Y. hosted by Jednota Branch 41 beginning with outdoor procession at 9 a.m., Mass at 9:30 a.m. with breakfast to follow in the parish hall; adults \$10.00, children ages 5-10, \$5.00; deadline for reservations is May 30, call (914)963-0720.

**MON.JUNE 4**

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

■ Assembly 16 meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 7:30 p.m.

**JUNE 8-9**

■ 55th Congress of the Slovak League of America at The Holiday Inn, 1070 Main St., Bridgeport, Conn.; banquet Saturday evening 7 p.m., \$40.00 per person; for reservations call the Slovak League office at (973)472-8993.

**MON.JUNE 11**

■ Wreath 111 meeting with traditional "Indoor picnic - without ants" at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Oh. beginning at

6:30 p.m.

**SAT.JUNE 16**

■ Simply Slavic Heritage Festival in downtown Youngstown, Ohio beginning at 12 noon, for information call Loretta Ekoniak (330)549-3760, email: loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com.

■ Cooking, crafts and customs workshops at the National Slovak Society Museum, 351 Valley Brook Rd., McMurray, Pa. beginning at 10 a.m., for information call 1 800 488-1890.

■ Annual Golf Tournament hosted by Group 9, "SS. Cyril and Methodius" at Summit Country Club, Cresson, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m., for information call Joanne E. Spisak at (814)539-4652.

**SUN.JUNE 17**

■ Annual Slovak Day picnic hosted by the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club at St. Sava's Picnic Grove, 2151 Wallings Road, Broadview Heights, Oh. noon to 8 p.m.

**SAT.JUNE 23**

■ Assembly 16 hosts Pittsburgh Pirates Day at the PNC Park in Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 4 p.m.; \$25.00 per person includes pre-game tailgate fest at the Sokol Club.

**JUNE 28-JULY 1**

■ Supreme Clinic - Kurz in preparation for the 46th International Slet at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa.

(Continued on page 3)



**I AM  
YOUR  
FLAG**

I was born on June 14th, 1777.

I am more than just cloth shaped into a design.

I am the refuge of the world's oppressed people.

I am the silent sentinel of Freedom.

I am the inspiration for which American patriots gave their lives and fortunes.

I have led your sons into battle from Valley Forge to the bloody jungles of Vietnam.

I walk in silence with each of your honored dead, to their resting place.

Beneath the silent white crosses, row upon row.

I have, flown through peace and war, strife and prosperity; and amidst it all, I have been respected.

My red stripes symbolize the blood spilled in defense of this glorious nation.

My white stripes signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons.

My blue field is indicative of God's heaven under which I fly.

My stars are clustered together, unify 50 states as one, for God and country.

"Old Glory" is my nickname, and proudly I wave on high.

Honor me, respect me, defend me with your lives and your fortunes.

Never let my enemies tear me down from my lofty position, lest I never return.

Keep alight the fires of patriotism, strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy.

Worship eternal God and keep His commandments.

And I shall remain the bulwark of peace and freedom for all mankind.

Author Unknown

**Ambassador Milos Koterec Honored at Farewell Reception**

Slovakia's Ambassador to the United Nations, Milos Koterec, fourth from the left, was honored at a farewell reception at the Slovak Mission to the U.N. in New York City on May 2. Among the invited guests from the Slovak community who were present are shown with him, including from the left, John A. Holy, Editor Daniel F. Tanzone, Nina Holy, national secretary-treasurer of the Slovak League of America, Matthew Culen, Sabina Sabados, Michael Golia, Rosemary Harvilla Golia, president of the Slovak American Cultural Center of New York, her spouse, the Hon. James Golia and Igor Pokorny, the Slovak Consul General in New York. Mrs. Koterec departs for Bratislava on June 1 where he will take up his new position as secretary of Slovakia's Defense Ministry in the new government of Robert Fico. During his years in New York, Mr. Koterec has participated in many area Slovak activities. We wish him well in his new assignment.

## Historic milestone in our sports program

### 25th International Softball Tournament set for July 13-15 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

by Edward D. Moeller  
Supreme Director of Sports & Athletics

This year's international softball tournament will mark an historic milestone in our Sokol sports program. Our 25th International Softball Tournament will be staged the weekend of July 13-15 at Kirby Park Field in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. It was at this facility a quarter century ago that our first competition was held. This year's competition will be an opportunity for us to recall and reflect on tournaments past with veteran competitors participating while also looking forward by welcoming many first timers among us. It certainly looks to be a memorable and enjoyable weekend. Our softball competitors will be housed at the Best Western Plus East Mt. Inn & Suites, located just a few minutes from the fields.



Our 2012 international tournament will once again feature both a men's and women's team competition. We are looking to see if there would be any interest in adding a co-ed division in the future. We ask that discussion of this topic take place with each of our organization's Groups. They should come prepared with their recommendations and perhaps future tournaments may include a co-ed division.

As has been our tradition, each Group may submit up to four(4) teams to compete at the tournament. This year's competition will begin on Saturday, July 14th at 8 a.m. and will continue throughout the day. We will utilize all the available fields at Kirby Park with the semi-final and final games scheduled for Saturday evening or Sunday morning. This will depend on the number of teams entered. As in the past, we will use a double elimination format for the tournament.

Lodging will be the responsibility of each Group. The necessary arrangements have been made at the Best Western Plus East Mt. Inn & Suites, however each Group or individual must contact the hotel to secure a team's lodging before the deadline of June 14th. The hotel is located at 2400 East End Boulevard in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The telephone number at the hotel is (570) 822-1011. When calling for reservations make sure to identify yourself as with the Slovak Catholic Sokol. As in the past, the Supreme Assembly managed by the Tournament Director will cover the cost of the rooms with four(4) participants per room. In addition, a breakfast will be available both on Saturday morning and Sunday morning at the hotel. On Saturday evening, we will feature a delicious buffet dinner.

I am sure that the 2011 championship teams will all be prepared to defend their respective titles at this year's historic competition. Mass will be celebrated to satisfy the Sunday obligation on Saturday afternoon at Kirby Field during a formal break in our tournament competition.

Each Group Sports Director and Group President has received their 2012 information packages regarding this year's event. Information regarding our softball tournament may also be found on the Slovak Catholic Sokol website. All tournament entry forms must be returned to me with their entry fee per team no later than Thursday, June 14. When submitting entry fees, kindly make checks payable to: Slovak Catholic Sokol - Sports Account and send same to: Edward D. Moeller, 2821 Waterman Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15227. This year the cost of each team's entry is \$350.00 before the deadline date and \$400.00 per team after the June 14th date.

If there are any further questions or concerns regarding this year's competition, feel free to contact me directly at my home at (412) 881-3506. The 25th anniversary of our softball competition is certainly something to celebrate and be proud of. We hope that many of our softball participants from past tournaments will make an effort to join us at this year's silver jubilee competition. As always, we look forward to the wonderful hospitality and welcoming spirit on the part of our hosts, Group 7 "Rev. Joseph Murgas" of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

I look forward to seeing you at this year's tournament where traditional summer fun will be enjoyed in the best traditions of Sokol good sportsmanship and camaraderie. See you in Wilkes-Barre and Zdar Boh!



## SEZ YOU... Letters to the Editor

(Editor's note: the following letter was addressed to our Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.)

Dear Steve,

Know that I am deeply grateful to you, the officers, and members of our Society for the remembrance of my 25th Anniversary of ordination as a Bishop. It is to the Lord that I give glory for whatever good was accomplished for our Diocesan Church during my watch.

Thank you for your prayers and kind gift. Please continue the prayers.

As I wrote in my Easter Message, I value very much the honor and distinction of being the Society's Protector. It is my pleasure to serve our Slovak Catholic Community in whatever way I can.

Please extend my greetings to Annie and the rest of the family.

Blessings and Zdar Boh!

Fraternally yours in the Lord,

**Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec**  
Bishop-Emeritus of  
Altoona-Johnstown  
Protector, Slovak Catholic Sokol

## Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 2)

### JULY 13-14

■ Quarterly meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Supreme Board of Directors at the Genetti Hotel & Conference Center, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

### JULY 13-15

■ 25th International Softball Tournament at Kirby Park Fields, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., participants housed at The Holiday Inn Express.

### SAT. JULY 14

■ 39th Annual Summer Festival hosted by the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius on the grounds of their Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, Pa. beginning at 10:30 a.m. concluding liturgy to satisfy the Sunday obligation celebrated in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius at 5:30 p.m.

### JULY 14-15

■ Grand opening of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, 87 Sixteenth Ave., S.W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for information call (319)362-8500.

### SUN. JULY 15

■ 39th annual Slovak Day observance of the Diocese of Gary at the Salvatorian Shrine, 5755 Pennsylvania St., Merrillville, Ind.; Slovak Mass at 10:30 a.m., luncheon and cultural program to follow at 1 p.m., for information call Carl Yurechko (219)795-1518.

■ The American Slovak Zemplin Club's annual summer picnic at St. Sava's Picnic Grove, 2151 Wallings Road, Broadview Heights, Oh., noon to 8 p.m.

### THURS. JULY 19

■ 89th annual Pittsburgh Slovak Day at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pa. beginning with children's games

## From the Desk of the Supreme President

### Thoughts on Fraternalism

by Larry M. Glugosh

On behalf of our family, I would like to extend our best wishes to all of the mothers and grandmothers within the Slovak Catholic Sokol and sincerely hope you enjoyed your special Mother's Day celebration earlier this month. It is a truly a wonderful day to honor the women in our families for all of their daily sacrifice, commitment, devotion and most importantly love throughout the year. Whether the day is spent with our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, sisters, aunts or wives, it is very important to let them know how much we love them and appreciate all the things they do for us everyday.

In addition to our Mother's Day celebration this month, we will also pay tribute to our veterans as part of the Memorial Day long weekend. I hope you took a little extra time to reflect and appreciate our armed forces. It is important that we remember and recognize those individuals in our community, which have served to protect and uphold our democracy and way of life. I am personally grateful for our good fortune and wonderful blessings, as a result of the sacrifice, commitment and dedication of these individuals. I hope your weekend celebrations were all memorable, safe and enjoyable.

In addition, I would like to congratulate our 2012 Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship recipients. Our Supreme Vice President chaired our annual meeting this month at the Home Office with our Supreme Secretary and two additional members of our Board of Directors. During the meeting we reviewed the College, High School and Grade School applications and selected our 2012 recipients. There were many deserving winners but we had to make our final recommendations based on financial need, fraternal activity and academic merit. As in the past, we will post the award winners in our newspaper and annual review at the end of the year.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to offer my genuine and sincere thanks to the members and officers who extended their heartfelt condolences to our family over the past few months. Your warm thoughts, prayers and support have given us strength and energy. We are forever grateful and will always keep you in our prayers and thoughts.

May God bless all of you!  
Zdar Boh!



## Group 9 Golf Tournament set for June 16 in Cresson, Pa.

In the best traditions of Sokol good sportsmanship and camaraderie, I am pleased to announce that Group 9, "SS. Cyril and Methodius" of Johnstown, Pa. will again host its annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, June 16 at the Summit Country Club in Cresson, Pa. Hosting this year's competition will be Wreath 14 of Johnstown, Pa. Tee time is set for 2 p.m.

Cost of golfing will be \$60.00 per person. This includes green fees, golf cart and the victory dinner which will be held at the Summit Country Club House. Deadline

for registration is Saturday, June 9. Guests are welcome to join us. Kindly send all entries to: Joanne E. Spisak, 247 Bear Street, Johnstown, PA 15906. For any additional information or inquiries, feel free to contact me at tel. (814) 539-462.

Looking for old Sokol friends - hoping to meet some new friends, then join us for an enjoyable afternoon of Group 9 fellowship and good sportsmanship. An enjoyable time is assured.

Zdar Boh!  
**Joanne E. Spisak**  
President, Group 9

## OUR NEXT ISSUE IS JUNE 13

In keeping with our biweekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, June 13th. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, June 7th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: [www.slovak-catholicsokol.org](http://www.slovak-catholicsokol.org). Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh! — **Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor**

and treats at 12:30 p.m. with Mass at 4 p.m. followed by a cultural program and music for dancing beginning at 6 p.m.

### AUGUST 10-12

■ 57th International Golf Tournament at Treasure Lake Golf Resort, DuBois, Pa.

### SEPT. 6-8

■ 126th annual meeting of the Amer-

ican Fraternal Alliance at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, New Orleans, LA.

### SUN. SEPT. 23

■ 35th annual New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival at the PNC Bank Arts Center, Exit 116, Garden State Parkway, Holmdel, N.J.; exhibits open at 10 a.m., Pontifical Slovak Mass at 11 a.m., cultural program at 2 p.m., free admission and parking.



## REFLECTOR ...

### *Notings from Sokol and Slovak life*

#### **Professor Martha Mistina Kona in Who's Who in the World**

Our well-known educator, author and cultural leader, Professor Martha Mistina Kona of Toledo, Ohio has been listed, once again, in the Marquis Who's Who in the World in 2012.



The Marquis Publications Board certifies that "Martha Mistina Kona is a subject of biographical record in the Who's Who in the World 29th edition" and that inclusion "is limited to the individuals who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in their own fields of endeavor and who have thereby contributed significantly to the betterment of contemporary society."

Professor Kona may be found in the Marquis Who's Who a multitude of times including in editions of Who's Who in the World, Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the Midwest and Who's Who of American Women. In fact, she is listed in numerous biographical publications totaling 19 times from 1966 to the present. Apart from the Marquis Who's Who, Professor Kona's accomplishments may be found in the following: World's Who's Who of American Women, American Catholic Who's Who, Who's Who of American Women and Who's Who in Library Service.

As an author, she has written several books including Slovak Americans & Canadians in American Catholic Who's Who 1911-1981, published in 1985, the Life of Archbishop Karol Kmetko, as well as Ph.D. dissertations in Slovakianna in the western world: Bibliography(including Master's theses), published in 1996.

Professor Kona, a native of Banovce in central Slovakia, has enjoyed a rich career in education and the arts. She is our long-time Sokolka of Assembly 257 in Chicago. She enjoys membership in several scholarly and professional organizations including the Slovak Institute, Rome-Cleveland. Her late father, Albert Mistina was among the founders of Assembly 257 at the former SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak parish in Chicago and served as a long-time officer. She is also a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union and serves as a national vice president of the Slovak League of America. She is a Dame with Grand Cross in the Sovereign & Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem and the Imperial Order of Constantine the Great and St. Helena. Professor Kona was also active in the work of the former Slovak World Congress.

Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Professor Kona on this new distinction. She brings acclaim to our organization as well as the entire American Slovak community. She currently resides in Toledo, Ohio. We thank her daughters, Dr. Lindy Kona and Olivia Kona, MSMC for sharing this news with our readers.

#### **U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia and Bratislava Mayor to visit Cleveland**

United States Ambassador to Slovakia, the Hon.



Theodore Sedgwick along with the Mayor of Bratislava, Milan Ftacnik will visit Cleveland, Ohio on Thursday, June 14. The two will participate in an evening hosted by the Cleveland Council on World Affairs(CCWA) and the Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities Association(CBSC). The Cleveland Council on World Affairs is dedicated to educating, inspiring and engaging in international affairs. The Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities Association promotes various cultural and educational exchanges between the Cleveland area Slovak community and the Slovak capital. The

interesting and informative lecture and program is open to the public. The program will be held at the Union Club located at 1211 Euclid Avenue in Cleveland. It begins with a reception and registration at 6 p.m. The formal program will start at 6:30 p.m. followed by the lecture and question and answer period.

Admission for what looks to be an interesting evening is \$15.00 for members of CCWA and the Cleveland-Bratislava Sister Cities Association and \$25.00 for nonmembers. Admission for full time students is \$10.00.

The Speaker Program Series of the CCWA strives to increase understanding of global issues through presenting different points of view from a variety of speakers. Through lectures and special events, CCWA presents internationally acclaimed speakers for discussion of relevant issues in today's world. The lectures cover a broad range of geographical areas and are non-partisan in nature. The lectures are on topics of foreign policy, world economics and global issues of the day.

Cleveland is home to the largest Slovak community in the world outside Slovakia, and nearly 85,000 Northeast Ohioans can trace their roots back there. The Cleveland-Bratislava Sisters Cities Association strives to promote a variety of cultural programs.

#### **Simply Slavic Festival set for June 16 in Youngstown, Oh.**

The Mahoning Valley of northeastern Ohio has been the home of a large vibrant community of various Slavic groups for more than 125 years. In celebration of its Pan-Slavic heritage, the 1st Simply Slavic Festival was held in downtown Youngstown, Oh. in 2011 with more than 4,000 visitors participating. This year's 2nd Annual Simply Slavic Festival has been set for Saturday, June 16 in downtown Youngstown, Oh. Slovak churches, local lodges of our Slovak fraternal along with other Slovak groups will be actively participating in this year's Simply Slavic Festival.

The various Slavic peoples, including the Slovaks, Poles, Croats, Ukrainians and Czechs have contributed to the rich cultural tapestry of the Mahoning Valley. Simply Slavic's mission is dedicated to educating both the large number of local Slavic descendants and the greater Youngstown community-at-large. The festival showcases the rich traditions of the various Slavic peoples who reside in the Mahoning Valley, celebrating their food, music, dance and folk customs. Various exhibits and displays feature information on the various European nations of central and eastern Europe from which the American born generations descend. According to Loretta A. Ekoniak, president of the Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley, "By expanding the community's knowledge through the experience of celebrating Slavic culture, we hope to both honor our ancestors and enrich the lives of all who are exposed." Loretta appeals to our Group 17 Sokols and Sokolky to get involved in this year's festival. Individuals and local societies may sponsor various aspects of this year's festival.

Ohio's earliest Slavic roots can be traced back to Frederick Post, an 18th century Moravian missionary who was mentioned as being the first white man to establish a modern home among the Indians in Ohio. The Youngstown Slovak colony ranks among the oldest Slovak colonies in the United States with the first Slovaks arriving in 1878. They established their first society under the patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius on March 16, 1890 as Assembly 8 of the National Slovak Society. Desiring a parish of their own, the Slovak Catholics founded SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish on May 19, 1896. Seven additional Slovak Roman Catholic parishes were later established. In addition, many Slovak Greek Catholics helped to establish the area's three Byzantine Catholic parishes.

In 1903, the Slovak Lutherans founded their first

(Continued on page 8)



## The Word of God ...

### *Gospel for Trinity Sunday*

- June 3rd  
Matthew 28: 16-20

*A reading from the holy Gospel*

*according to Matthew*

*The eleven disciples*

*went to Galilee,*

*to the mountain*

*to which Jesus*

*had ordered them.*

*When they all saw him,*

*they worshiped,*

*but they doubted.*

*Then Jesus approached*

*and said to them,*

*"All power in heaven*

*and on earth*

*has been given to me.*

*Go, therefore, and make disciples*

*of all nations,*

*baptizing them*

*in the name of the Father,*

*and of the Son,*

*and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe*

*all that I have commanded you.*

*And behold,*

*I am with you always,*

*until the end of the age."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

### *Gospel for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi - June 10th*

Mark 14: 12-16, 22-26

*A reading from the holy Gospel*

*according to Mark*

*On the first day*

*of the Feast of Unleavened Bread,*

*when they sacrificed the Passover lamb,*

*Jesus' disciples said to him,*

*"Where do you want us to go*

*and prepare for you to eat the Passover?"*

*He sent two of his disciples*

*and said to them,*

*"Go into the city*

*and a man will meet you,*

*carrying a jar of water.*

*Follow him.*

*Wherever he enters,*

*say to the master of the house,*

*"The Teacher says,*

*"Where is my guest room*

*where I may eat the Passover*

*with my disciples?"*

*Then he will show you a large upper room*

*furnished and ready.*

*Make the preparations for us there."*

*The disciples then went off*

*entered the city,*

*and found it just as he had told them;*

*and they prepared the Passover.*

*While they were eating,*

*he took bread, said the blessing,*

*broke it, gave it to them, and said,*

*"Take it; this is my body."*

*Then he took a cup,*

*gave thanks, and gave it to them,*

*and they all drank from it.*

*He said to them,*

*"This is my blood of the covenant,*

*which will be shed for many.*

*Amen, I say to you,*

*I shall not drink again*

*the fruit of the vine*

*until the day when I drink it new*

*in the kingdom of God."*

*Then, after singing a hymn,*

*they went out to the Mount of Olives*

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Celebrating leadership among us**  
**2012 Fraternalist of the Year program**  
**honors volunteerism and outreach**

The word "fraternal," generally pertains to camaraderie and brotherhood, and has been in our American vocabulary for the past 150 years, ever since the founding of the first fraternal benefit society. Fraternalism came together to offer mutual aid. In 1905, our organization's founders came to together with the purpose of assisting their fellow members. And for the past nearly 107 years, members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol have reached out in the best traditions of volunteerism to not only assist their fellow Sokol members but to assist in many worthwhile projects in their local communities.

Since 1985, our organization has taken the opportunity to salute the fraternal leaders among us. We have been blessed with countless individuals who have labored to promote fraternal outreach. Such individuals may be in leadership roles or often they are behind the scenes individuals committed to getting the job done. We're speaking of Sokol members who, through example and accomplishment, provide outstanding volunteer service to our organization and in the communities in which they reside. They are wonderful ambassadors of the fraternal benefit system. We want to salute such individuals.

Each year we ask our membership to take the time to nominate an individual member, who in their estimation, has labored in the best traditions of volunteerism and deserve to be recognized. Such individuals are mentors and serve as models for others. We encourage

our members to nominate an individual as our 2012 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year. This year's honoree will receive a plaque, along with a gift of \$200.00 as a small token of our gratitude for his/her fraternal efforts. In addition, the individual selected as our organization's Fraternalist of the Year is recommended to the American Fraternal Alliance (formerly known as the National Fraternal Congress of America) for consideration as their 2012 Fraternalist of the Year. The 2012 Fraternalist of the Year winners will be honored during the 126th American Fraternal Alliance Annual Convention to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana in September. One winner and two runners up from among the participating fraternalists will be honored.

So now is the time to think about who among your local lodge or Group is deserving of recognition. We invite our members to submit the name of an individual who in their estimation is worthy to be considered as our 2012 Fraternalist of the Year. An individual member, an Assembly, Wreath or Group may nominate an individual. We have a nomination form available for those who would like to recommend an individual. A nomination form is available by contacting Editor Daniel F. Tanzzone, who coordinates the program. Call him at the home office at 800 886-7656. Deadline for receipt of the completed nomination form is Wednesday, June 27, 2012.

**Slovak language classes set for Pittsburgh**

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association (WPSCA) is pleased to announce its fall Slovak language program. Slovak language classes will meet every Tuesday beginning September 4th thru October 30th from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The classes meet at the Brashear Association

located at 2005 Sarah Street in Pittsburgh, Pa., tel. (412) 531-1912.

The instructor will be Bozena Hilko. Tuition is \$15.00 for members of the WPSCA and \$20.00 for non members. To reserve a place, call Pam at tel. (412)531-2990.

**Our young Pittsburgh Sokol Gavin Watkins Becomes a Sensei**

Gavin Watkins, a member of Assembly 16 in Pittsburgh, Pa. since birth, started martial arts at the age of four at the House of Martial Arts Academy in Oakdale, Pa. Since the



very first class, he has been dedicated to one day becoming a black belt in the art of Shotokan Karate. Shotokan Karate is a style that originated in Okinawa, Japan and is one of the oldest forms of martial arts. It is also the first true style to fall under the category of "Karate" (meaning empty hand).

Over the past four and a half years, nine-year-old Gavin has worked very hard to move up the ranks, earning various stripes and belts along the way. In the beginning of April, Gavin's long awaited goal of testing to become a black belt was about to begin...his Sensei recognized that he was ready to be on the black belt testing list. In mid-April, Gavin began his quest to become a sensei by earning his black belt. He endured four days of extensive testing, which included, but was not limited to: sparring, kicking, punching, breaking wood, ground fighting, self-defense and performing his katas, including his original black belt kata, which he created himself.

Thus on April 21, 2012, Gavin became Sensei Gavin Watkins! Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Gavin, who is an active Sokol and who competed at last summer's 45th International Slet in Kutztown, Pa. Sensei Gavin, continue to make us proud of you! Gavin is the son of Gary and Kathleen Watkins of Bridgeville, Pa. His mom serves as president of Group 14 and is our Supreme Physical Directress. Zdar Boh!

**Time for a change?**

Graduation time again! And most of the grads, having learned all there is to know, are eager to make their marks in the world. Indeed, to hear many of them tell it, they would change the world, presumably for the better.

Ambitions and well meaning though they appear to be, however few of them talk about changing themselves for the better.

Perhaps that's what's wrong with the world....

**Youth awards salute volunteer achievements**

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

Thanks to the generosity of the Recreation Farm Society, each award winner receives \$500 with an additional \$500 award to their designated charity. The number of awards is based on the proceeds of the convention adbook.

Any member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol between the ages of 16 and 22 residing in either New Jersey

or New York active in any outreach or volunteer project may apply for the awards. An application form for this awards program is available from Editor Daniel F. Tanzzone at the home office. The completed application must be returned by September 1, 2012.

The Youth Volunteer Award Committee of the NJNYFA will make the selection of the award recipients and all decisions are final. The award recipients will be announced at the 79th Annual Convention of the New Jersey New York Fraternal Alliance to be held at the Golden Nugget Casino Resort in Atlantic City, N.J. on October 4-5, 2012. Members of our organization have been previous award recipients.

**The Electronic Falcon - EFALCON!**

**Do you have an email address or access to the internet?**

If you do, then we have a great way for you to receive your *Slovak Catholic Falcon* newspaper. It is through email! Receiving the *Falcon* through EFalcon has many benefits:

- You receive it sooner (especially helpful to our Canadian members who usually have to wait two weeks to receive the paper)
- It is easier to read and save
- You will be doing your part to conserve our natural resources by eliminating the printing of paper and mailing
- You will be helping the organization to reduce the excessive cost of printing and shipping
- The quality of the paper is better
- Since it is electronic, it can also be accessed at the Slovak Catholic Sokol website [www.slovakcatholicssokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org)

A few years ago, we introduced to our members the opportunity to receive the *Falcon* through email.

1. Here is how it works...

The Home Office personally sends you an email announcing and highlighting some of the featured articles within the current issue.

2. Within the e-mail is an attachment to a PDF file containing the entire *Falcon*, as well as a link that you can select to open the *Falcon*. The email provides two different ways to open and enjoy the *Falcon*.

The majority of members that currently receive the paper through

this medium cancelled receiving the paper version and are very happy they did. They truly enjoy the fact that they have access to the newspaper sooner.

At the most recent Board of Directors meeting in Passaic, NJ on March 23-24, 2012, the availability of accessing the newspaper through email and web site and the cost of publishing and mailing of the paper was discussed. For the betterment of the organization, we are making some changes.

1. We are committed to deliver the *Falcon* through electronic media where possible; therefore, effective April 1, 2012 new members joining the society that provide an email address, will receive the *Falcon* by email, those without will receive a hard copy of the *Falcon*, one per family.

2. We are requesting all members with an email address receive the *Falcon* through email. Please send your request to [msasiela@slovakcatholicssokol.org](mailto:msasiela@slovakcatholicssokol.org). Please reference the *Falcon* in the subject line.

3. We understand that some of our members do not have e-mail or internet access. Therefore, if you still wish to receive a copy of the paper in the mail, please complete the form below and mail it to:

Slovak Catholic Sokol  
 EFalcon  
 PO Box 899  
 Passaic, NJ 07055

Yes I want to continue to receive the *Slovak Catholic Sokol Falcon* by mail.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Our goal is to be completely electronic by September 1, 2012, with the only exception being members who have requested a hard copy via the form above.**

NEW BUSINESS SUBMITTED IN APRIL				
RECOMMENDERS	CITY/STATE	CERTIFICATES	VOLUME	POINTS
Mary Falatok	Akron, OH	1	\$10,000	82
Home Office	Passaic, NJ	1	4,770	
John E. Jasenec	Toronto, CN	1	5,230	79
Irene Krumenaker	Lilly, PA	1	10,000	82
Linda Kuebler	Youngstown, OH	1	5,000	54
Michael T. Matras	Perryopolis, PA	1	10,000	80
Tony L. Scuglik	Kenosha, WI	2	10,000	59
Albert J. Suess Jr.	Pittsburgh, PA	1	5,000	52
Daniel F. Tanzzone	Yonkers, NY	1	5,000	55
Traci Walkowiak	Pittsburgh, PA	1	5,000	48
Joan J. Yanosick	Pittsburgh, PA	1	3,000	19
Dolores Yonkoski	Dunlo, PA	3	15,000	166
Total		15	\$88,000	776
ANNUITY				
RECOMMENDERS	CITY/STATE	CERTIFICATES	VOLUME	POINTS
Carolyn Traglia	Port Griffith, PA	3	\$8,330	41
Dennis J. Zifcak	East Douglas, MA	1	1,000	5
Totals		4	\$9,330	46

## Sister Agnes Knapik, O.S.B., Celebrates 50 Years of Monastic Profession

(Continued from page 2)

tended Nativity of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Parish on Shaw Street in Toronto. Her childhood pastor was the Rev. Michael Rusnak, C.Ss.R., now deceased. Father Michael later was consecrated a Bishop and named the first Eparch of SS. Cyril and Methodius for Slovaks of the Byzantine Rite in Canada.

Sister worked for the Ontario Department of Education before entering Sacred Heart convent in Lisle, Illinois on September 8, 1960. She made her first monastic profession on August 4, 1962. She attended St. Procopius College (now known as Illinois Benedictine University) in Lisle, and taught at St. Mary of Celle School in Berwyn, Illinois and St. Mary Assumption Byzantine Catholic School in Joliet,

Illinois. In 1965, she came with other Byzantine sisters to Warren, Ohio and began teaching at SS. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic School, where she taught primarily junior high classes until the school closed in 2005. She made her final monastic profession on August 20, 1967, and was a Charter member of Queen of Heaven Monastery when it was established in 1969.

Sister graduated from Youngstown State University and in 1978 received a graduate degree in Eastern Christian Studies at the John XXIII Center at Fordham University in New York.

From 1981 to 1989, Sister Agnes served as prioress of Queen of Heaven Monastery and sub-prioress from 2001 to 2010. She is presently vocation director, Oblate director and community secretary.

In 2006, she began volunteering as a patient visitor for Hospice of the Valley and Hillside Rehabilitation Hospital in Warren. That year, Metropolitan Archbishop Basil Schott, now deceased, appointed her Safe Environment Coordinator for the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. She also continues to teach Eastern Christian formation classes at SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Warren and serves as Cantor at the Divine Liturgy.

Sister Agnes is grateful to God for every day of her life - her family, her religious community, and all the students and people who have blessed her life. May God grant Sister Agnes many more blessed years, in good health and happiness. Our prayers and fraternal best wishes go out to our Canadian Sokolka, Sister Agnes as she celebrates this milestone in her ministry among us. May she continue to give great witness to our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. Na mnohaja a blahaja lieta and Zdar Boh!

### Group 17 Softball Enthusiasts

Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil" has enjoyed a long-standing interest in our many Sokol sporting events. Group 17 teams have enjoyed great prominence over the years in our various tournaments. We have always had an interest in softball. This year, our organization will mark a milestone in this sport as we host the 25th International Softball Tournament, the weekend of July 13-15 at Kirby Park Fields in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Group 17 was there at the first such tournament, and today, a quarter century later, we hope to have teams participate this year as well. All those men and women who are interested in participating in this summer's softball competition are asked to call Group 17 President Jim Jerek at tel. (330)718-2253 or our Group 17 Sports Director, Mindy Shirilla at (330)782-7989 for details. Be assured that an enjoyable weekend in the best traditions of Sokol good sportsmanship and fellowship is assured. As I have noted, Group 17 played as one of the original teams 25 years ago at the first tournament held in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and today we hope to welcome many new players to continue this fine fraternal tradition. Come join us for a fun-filled weekend!



Zdar Boh!

**Nancy Kropolinsky**

*Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board*

## Fixed Annuity – Part II

In the initial series Fixed Annuity Part I, we discussed, what a fixed annuity is, how annuities work and what does tax deferral annuity mean. In the second part of this series will be explain what is the tax treatment of a deferred annuity, the fact that unlike other products there are no associated cost, penalties for early withdrawals, what are qualified plans, income/payout options (only an annuity can pay an income that can be guaranteed to last as long as you live) and who should consider an deferred annuity.

### Annuity Tax Treatment

Currently the federal tax law allows for a special treatment to deferred annuities. Income tax is deferred which means that you are not taxed on the interest earned while it remains in the annuity. The advantage of this tax deferral is that the tax bracket that you may be in

when you begin receiving your annuity payments may be lower than when you were in the accumulation period.

Part of the payments you receive from the annuity will be considered as a return of premium you have paid. Therefore, you will not have to pay taxes on that part. The other part of the payments you will receive is considered as interest earned. You must pay taxes on that part which is interest earned, when the money is withdrawn from the annuity.

You may also have to pay a 10% tax penalty to the IRS, if you withdraw the accumulation before age 59½.

### Cost

Most annuities have charges related to the cost of selling or servicing it. These charges may be subtracted directly from the contract

value. With all of our annuity plans your investment can grow rapidly since there are no initial service, contract, and transaction or premium fees. Every dollar you pay in premiums goes directly into your annuity's cash value and earns interest immediately.

### Surrender or Withdrawal Charges

It is important to consider surrender periods and charges. One should plan on holding the annuity until the surrender periods have been satisfied, thus making the annuity liquid without any penalties. In the event that an annuity owner needs access to their money before the surrender charge period is up, they may incur a surrender penalty. Understanding these penalties will be an important consideration before purchasing a fixed annuity. Many fixed annuities will allow for penalty-free withdrawals.

This is often in the amount of 5 or 10% of the contract's value. All of our current annuity plans allow a penalty-free withdrawal of 10% annually after the first contract year. You should carefully consider your liquidity needs prior to purchasing a fixed annuity.

### IRA's – Qualified Plans

You can also use annuities to fund Traditional and ROTH IRA's under the Internal Revenue Code Section 408. When you buy an annuity to fund an IRA, you will receive a disclosure statement describing the tax treatment.

### Payout Period or Income Options

One of the most important benefits of deferred annuities is the ability to use the value built during the accumulation period to give you a lump sum payment or to receive payments during a payout period. Payments are normally received

monthly, but you may choose to receive them less often. If you elect not to receive your payments in a lump sum, there are a number of options in which to receive your payments:

**Life Only** – payments are made for your lifetime, there are no payments made to your beneficiary after you die. This payment option normally pays the highest income possible.

**Specified Period** – you have the option to select a period between 5 and 20 years, to receive income benefits. This period of time is considered as a Distribution Period. Upon the completion date of the selected Distribution Period you then cease to receive an income benefit. If you should die during the Distribution Period, the designated Beneficiary would then receive the income benefit for the remaining Distribution Period.

**Life with Period Certain** – income payments are received as long as you live and guarantee to make payments for a set number of years even if you die to your beneficiary. This period certain with the Slovak Catholic Sokol is 5, 10, 15 or 20 years. If you die during the period certain, your beneficiary gets regular payments for the rest of that period selected. If you die after the period certain your beneficiary does not receive any payments.

**Joint and Survivor** – the Society will make payments for the lifetime of you and the beneficiary. Survivor payments will continue at the following percentage of the joint amount (100%, 66 2/3%, and 50%) as selected.

### Who Might Consider A Fixed Annuity?

- An individual who wants a fixed, guaranteed rate of return.
- An individual who does not want volatility in their investment.
- An individual who can work within the framework of the annuity contract.
- An individual longing for an income that they cannot outlive.

## Does Your Current Investment or CD Earnings Compare?

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## Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich's Sainthood cause advances

On May 10, the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI announced the advancement of several sainthood causes. Among those advanced was the cause of Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a member of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, N.J. who died in 1927. Sister Miriam Teresa was born in Bayonne, N.J. of immigrant Greek Catholic parents who were natives of Bardejov in eastern Slovakia. The advancement of Sister Miriam Teresa was one of two Americans named. The other whose cause was advanced was that of 19th century Bishop Frederic Baraga, a native of Slovenia, who was the first Bishop of Marquette, Mich.

Cardinal Angelo Amato, head of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints noted that the cause of Sister Miriam Teresa has greatly advanced. The Medical Board of the congregation will be convoked to deliberate on the presumed miracle

presented for the Beatification of the Servant of God, the cure of a six-year-old blind boy from Teaneck, N.J. through her intercession.

Sister Miriam Teresa, who lived a life of everyday holiness, following the words of Jesus: "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." Her message predated the Second Vatican Council's document, "A Universal Call to Holiness," said Sister Jane Teresa, an assistant to Sister Miriam Jose Smith, vice postulator of Sister Miriam's Teresa's cause and director of the League of Prayer, the center located at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, N.J. which promotes the cause.

Sister Miriam Teresa died in 1927 at the age of 26. She actually professed her final vows as a Sister of Charity on her death bed. Before her death, she used her remarkable spiritual gifts to write a

series of conferences, published posthumously. Her cause for canonization was introduced by the Bishop of Paterson, the Most Rev. Thomas McLaughlin in 1945. The Sister Miriam Teresa League was established in 1948 and publishes a quarterly League of Prayer Bulletin in Convent Station, N.J. Over the years, many members of our organization have been active in the League of Prayer. Currently, Monsignor John J. Demkovich, retired pastor of St. Mary's Assumption Parish in Passaic, N.J. continues to serve on the League's board of directors. In 1978, the body of Sister Miriam was exhumed and placed in the Holy Family Chapel at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth.

We are delighted that the cause of Sister Miriam Teresa has proceeded to this important phase where her beatification may be announced this year. We need to learn more about this great mystic who was born of Slovak immigrant parents. Because she was baptized and chrismated in the Byzantine Catholic Rite, and interestingly enough never had a change of rite, she serves as a wonderful bridge between the Eastern and Western traditions of the Church. For more information on Sister Miriam Teresa, write: Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer, P.O. Box 476, Convent Station, NJ 07961-0476 and Sister Marian Jose Smith will be pleased to send information on the life and cause of Sister Miriam Teresa.

## Patronal feast of Yonkers, N.Y. parish

Most Holy Trinity Parish in Yonkers, N.Y. will observe its patronal feast on Trinity Sunday, June 3. The program begins with an outdoor procession with the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of the Hollow section of the city where the parish is located. At 9:30 a.m., the pastor of the parish, the Rev. George Oonnoony will celebrate the festive liturgy. The choir of the parish, under the leadership of Music Minister Stephen J. Knoblock will sing. Following the liturgy, a full breakfast will be served in the parish social hall located at 15 Trinity Plaza. Cost of the breakfast is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children ages 5-10. Children under age 4 are welcome free of charge. Proceeds from the breakfast benefit the parish.

The annual celebration is hosted by Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41 of the First Catholic Slovak Union. It was this society which first organized the parish beginning in 1891 and recommended its patron. Our Sokol, Assembly 219 was organized in the parish in 1925.

## Had Bath, No Phones

Since the bathtub was invented in 1850 and the telephone in 1875, do you realize that if you were alive in 1850, you could have taken a bath for 25 years without that telephone bothering you?

## Lodge Jottings

### BRIDGEPORT, CONN. Assembly No. 9, Inc. Wreath 1

As has been our fraternal tradition of many years, Assembly No. 9, Inc. and Wreath 1 of Bridgeport make available scholarship grants of \$200.00 to members currently enrolled in college or Catholic high schools.

Each scholarship is a one-time only grant, and to apply, members of either lodge must have a permanent life insurance policy with a face amount of at least \$3,000 and have been a member for at least five(5) years.

Request for applications may be sent to: Judith A. Salamon, Assembly No. 9, Inc., 1057 Briarwood Ave., Bridgeport, Conn. 06604 or Eileen S. Wilson, Wreath 1, 395 Pilgrim Lane, Stratford, Conn. 06614. Those requesting applications should indicate whether they are for a college grant or a Catholic high school grant. Applicants should include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Applications must be completed and returned by Sunday, June 10, 2012.

We are pleased to provide these fraternal grants to assist our young members acquire a good education. Wishing all a very pleasant spring season, may we remain Zdar Boh!

Fraternally,  
Judith A. Salamon  
Eileen S. Wilson

### PERRYOPOLIS, PA Assembly 15 Wreath 15

As has been our fraternal tradition for a number of years now, we are pleased to once again offer scholarship grants to deserving members of either of our lodges. Two(2) scholarship grants of \$1,000 will be presented to our members who have completed one year of study at a college, university or professional, trade or technical school. Applicants who are members of either Assembly 25 or Wreath 15 must have a minimum of \$5,000 permanent insurance and be a member for at least five years. An application is available by calling Michael T. Matras at tel. (412)691-1306. Deadline for the completed application form is Wednesday, May 30.

We are pleased to assist our young people in their quest for a good education. This is a benefit offered members of our Perryopolis Sokol lodges. Wishing all a very enjoyable spring season and looking forward to seeing our members at upcoming Sokol sporting and fraternal events, may I remain

Zdar Boh!  
Michael T. Matras  
President  
Assembly 25

### PITTSBURGH, PA Assembly 16

Our lodge under the spiritual guidance of St. Gabriel will host its next meeting on Monday, June 4 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club,

South Side beginning at 7:30 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

There a number of important items on our meeting agenda, including Assembly 16 by-law changes effecting its voting members. In addition plans will be finalized for our upcoming Pittsburgh Pirates Day which our lodge will host on Saturday, June 23 at the PNC Park. Game time is 4 p.m. The price per person is \$25.00 and includes a pre-game tailgate party and post game festivities both at the Sokol Club. There is a sign-up list at the Sokol Club for our members' convenience or contact an officer of Assembly 16. An enjoyable evening of traditional Sokol good sportsmanship and camaraderie is assured.

We look forward to seeing a good turnout at our next meeting as well as our various upcoming spring and summer fraternal and sporting activities.

Zdar Boh!  
Angelo Capozoli  
Recording Secretary

### PITTSBURGH, PA Wreath 22

The next meeting of our Wreath under the spiritual patronage of St. Cecelia, is scheduled for Monday, June 4 at our Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, South Side, beginning at 7 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

This month, our Wreath is again hosting a lottery ticket fund-raiser to help defray some of our upcoming expenses. We look forward to a busy summer with various activities in which our young people will engage in including our Supreme Clinic - Kurz which will be held at nearby Slippery Rock University, the softball tournament and our participation in the annual Pittsburgh Slovak Day festivities at Kenwood Park.

Following our business meeting, as is our tradition, we will enjoy a small social and we invite all our Wreath Sisters to join us for an enjoyable evening.

Since we will not host meetings in July and August, the Wreath extends best wishes to all our Sokol dads as they celebrate a happy Father's Day. Likewise we wish all a very happy, healthy and safe summer season.

Zdar Boh!  
Joan Yanosick  
Recording Secretary

### WHITING, IND Wreath 81

The next meeting of our Wreath under the patronage of Our Lady is scheduled for Sunday, June 3 in the Sacred Heart Rose Room located at 1723 Laporte Avenue beginning at 1 p.m. Sophie Dybel will be serving as our hostess for the meeting.

It was nice to see some new faces at our April meeting and the officers hope that more of our members will attend our meetings and enjoy our fraternal functions. Following the

(Continued on page 8)

## TOP MONTHLY RECOMMENDERS

APRIL 2012

RECOMMENDERS	CITY/STATE	FACE AMOUNT	NEW MEMBERS	POINTS
Dolores Yonkoski	Dunlo, PA	\$15,000	3	166
Mary Falatok	Akron, OH	10,000	1	82
Irene Krumenaker	Lilly, PA	10,000	1	82
Michael T. Matras	Perryopolis, PA	10,000	1	80
John E. Jasenec	Toronto, CN	5,230		79
Tony L. Scuglik	Kenosha, WI	10,000		59
Daniel F. Tanzzone	Yonkers, NY	5,000	1	55
Linda Kuebler	Youngstown, OH	5,000	1	54
Albert J. Suesz Jr.	Pittsburgh, PA	5,000	1	52
Traci Walkowiak	Pittsburgh, PA	5,000	1	48
Carolyn Traglia	Port Griffith, PA	8,330		41
Joan J. Yanosick	Pittsburgh, PA	3,000		19
Dennis J. Zifcak	East Douglas, MA	1,000		5
Home Office	Passaic, NJ	4,770		0

Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation

**Slovak Catholic Falcon**

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## Simply Slavic Festival set for June 16 in Youngstown, Oh.

(Continued from page 4)

church, the Parish of Jan Hus. Emmanuel Slovak Lutheran Church followed in 1922. Slovaks founded their first Presbyterian Church in 1911 and a Slovak Baptist Church was founded in 1930. The first lodge of our organization, Assembly 108 was founded in 1908. A dozen more lodges followed. Local lodges of all our Slovak fraternalism have been established over the years and contributed to the Slovak cultural presence in the Mahoning Valley. During the American Bicentennial in 1976, the Slovaks organized a huge celebration under the leadership of the late Judge John J. Leskovyansky and our then Supreme Ladies Vice President Anne Z. Sarosy. Those of Slovak ancestry along with their brothers and sisters from among the family of Slavic peoples have contributed much to the growth and development of the city of Youngstown and its outlying communities.

This year's Simply Slavic Festival will be an opportunity to celebrate that rich Slovak heritage along with the traditions of the family of Slavic nations on Saturday, June 16 from noon to 11 p.m. on Federal Plaza East in downtown Youngstown.



According to festival chairperson, Ken Shirilla, "We are expanding the festival site to two city blocks to give our guests more elbow room and allow people to interact in a better fair-like layout." Shirilla adds, "We also will have more food vendors to feed the people later into the day and provide non-stop live entertainment until midnight."

For further information on this year's Simply Slavic Festival, refer to the event's website [www.simplyslavic.org](http://www.simplyslavic.org) or contact event director Ken Shirilla at tel.(330)503-9874 or [info@simplyslavic.org](mailto:info@simplyslavic.org).

## Re-opening of Czech & Slovak Museum in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

After years of recovering from the epic flood of 2008 as well as an economic slump, the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library (NCSML) has been rebuilt and is poised to open the week of July 14 and 15. The restoration included the successful move and raising of the 1,400-ton flood affected building, which now sits above the 2008 flood line atop its new foundation. You can read about the museum and see videos of the monumental move at [www.ncsml.org](http://www.ncsml.org). For over 35 years, the NCSML has collected, preserved and interpreted the stories of Czechs and Slovaks in America.

The grand reopening celebration begins on Saturday, July 14. Festivities begin with an outdoor Parade of States featuring representatives and individuals of Czech and Slovak ancestry from all 50 states followed by the official ribbon-cutting ceremony. Additionally, musicians, dancers, puppeteers, and folk artists who labor to keep Czech and Slovak traditions in various American communities will demonstrate their skills during the weekend in the new Amphitheater, on the Kosek Bandstand as well as in the beer tent. Performers will be part of a once-in-a-lifetime event and receive a Certificate of Appreciation for their participation in the NCSML's Grand Opening Celebration. American Czech and Slovak organizations and ensembles are invited to participate in the weekend festivities.

For additional information on the opening weekend of the museum which is located at 87 Sixteenth Avenue SW in downtown Cedar Rapids, contact Janet L. Stoffer, Director

of Education & Visitor Services at tel. (319)362-8500, ext. 218 or [jan@ncsml.org](mailto:jan@ncsml.org).

The NCSML hosts many seasonal exhibits on Czech and Slovak history and culture. Summer exhibits include Alphonse Mucha: Inspirations of Art Nouveau will feature 230 rare works by one of the world's most famous artists the Moravian born Alphonse Mucha, one of the great artists of the Art Nouveau period and the exhibit titled Wierd & Wonderful: Award Winning Art for Children's Book which will feature seventy-six award-winning illustrations that were honored at the Biennial of Illustrations of Bratislava (BIB) will be on display. Ranging from whimsical to avant-garde, the exhibition is sure to enchant the young and young-at-heart. The BIB is an international competitive exhibition of children's book illustrations which has been held in Slovakia's capital every other year since 1967. Both exhibits will begin following the museum's reopening on July 14 and continue to summer's end.

The museum was officially dedicated in 1995 by President Bill Clinton, in the presence of President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic and President Michal Kovac of Slovakia. Since its opening, the museum has hosted thousands of guests annually from around the world until the disastrous flood of 2008 caused major damage to the facility. With its restoration completed, the museum looks to continue as a great center promoting Czech and Slovak culture and heritage as an integral part of the great cultural fabric of the United States.

## Lodge Jottings

(Continued from page 7)

business of the meeting, we play games and serve refreshments, and all members are welcome and encouraged to attend. An enjoyable afternoon is assured.

We will be finalizing plans for our annual summer picnic which is scheduled for Sunday, August 5; Audrey Filipek will serve as chairperson for this event. Input from our members will insure the success of this picnic.

As is our fraternal outreach practice, we will be accepting monetary donations in support of our local food pantry. Our members are to be commended for their unselfish support of this community project of our Wreath in the best traditions of Sokol fraternalism.

Finally, warm summer wishes to all our Slovak Catholic Sokol members, but especially to Wreath 81's ill and homebound members. We hold you close to our hearts and remember you always in thought and prayer.

Zdar Boh!

**Judy Strisko**

*Recording Secretary*

## In Memory of... Announcing the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!



**Julie Ann Dobbs**

*Supreme Vice-President*

Have you found yourself looking for a way to memorialize a lost loved one or fellow Group/Wreath/Assembly member? Why not make a donation in their honor to the newly developed Memorial Scholarship fund? Your donation will assure that an annual scholarship be given out to a college age student who best exemplifies the meaning of fraternalism and volunteerism. Here's how it works:

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

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

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

- Your bequest will be recognized in the *Falcon* as well as permanently added to the Memorial Scholarship Donation Log which will be kept at the Sokol Museum.
- Depending on the amount of funds collected, we will be able to award at least two \$500 scholarships annually. The hope is that the donated funds will begin a self-perpetuating interest bearing scholarship account.

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

## Summer Festival set for July 14 at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pa.

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius extend a cordial invitation to their former students and fraternal friends to join them for their annual Summer Festival set for Saturday, July 14 on the spacious and scenic grounds of their Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pa. Festivities begin at 10:30 a.m. with the food ser-

vice beginning at 11 a.m. In addition to traditional American picnic fare, Halupky dinners will also be available. Religious items along with homemade crafts and a variety of baked goods will be available for sale. Also featured will be entertainment, a flea market and plant sale. The day's festivities conclude with Mass

celebrated in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius at 5:30 p.m. to satisfy the Sunday obligation. An enjoyable summer afternoon is assured.

Sister M. Michael Ann Orlik, the newly elected General Superior and all the Cyrilites look forward to seeing many Sokol members at this year's summer festival.



**New Jersey Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr., second from the left, an old and trusted friend of our organization is shown above on one of his visits to our Home Office in Passaic, N.J. Congressman Pascrell wants to keep us abreast of his efforts in promoting legislation in the best interests of the fraternal benefit system. In addition, he shares his interest in assisting, as best he can, in promoting continued and expanded cultural and educational projects between the United States and Slovakia. Shown with Congressman Pascrell are, from the left, our General Counsel, and president of Group 1, Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Jr., who is president of Assembly 162 in Clifton, N.J. Congressman Pascrell represents New Jersey's 8th Congressional District in Congress.**



## Perryopolis, Pa., Assembly 25 Takes Men's Team Title while First Catholic Slovak Union Captures Women's Team Title at 66th International Bowling Tournament in Willoughby, Oh.

(Continued from page 1)

Greetings were extended by the President of the First Catholic Slovak Union, Andrew Rajec and the Fraternal Director of the National Slovak Society, Susan Ondrejco. Both Brother Rajec and Sister Ondrejco are our Sokol members.

The keynote speaker at the dinner was Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. who greeted the assembled bowlers and thanked all for their interest and participation. He encouraged our members to continue their participation in all of the fraternal events of the Slovak Catholic Sokol at the Assembly/Wreath, Group and international levels. Brother Steve also stressed the need to continue to enroll new members and promote the various activities sponsored by our Slovak fraternal societies. He said that he looked forward to continued

cooperation with our brother and sister Slovak fraternal in hosting similar joint sporting events.

Following his address, Brother Steven M. Pogorelec then had the pleasure of introducing our 2012 Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award recipient. This award, which was inaugurated in 1987, honors the memory of the late Frank S. Petruff who served for many years as our Supreme Sports Director and later as Supreme Treasurer. It was during Brother Petruff's tenure as sports director that our bowling tournament were inaugurated. Paul Awramko, nephew of Brother Petruff, offered the traditional greeting before the announcement of this year's winner. Brother Steven M. Pogorelec then announced the winner with a pleasant and surprising twist as Brother Paul Awramko was selected to receive this



**Assembly 162 Celebrates - This year's recipient of the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award, Paul Awramko, third from the left, is a long-time member of Assembly 162 in Clifton, N.J. He is shown with some of his brother Clifton Sokols who participated in this year's 66th International Bowling Tournament. Shown on the photo, l-r, Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller, and Assembly 162 members, including Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Brother Awramko, Dr. Eugene Pogorelec, Albert Pogorelec and Anthony Glodava, a past recipient of the Petruff Award.**

year's award. Brother Awramko, a member of Assembly 162 in Clifton, N.J., has participated in every bowling tournament since 1977 and always promoted Sokol fraternalism through his contagious smile and laugh. Brother Paul has presented a greeting at every tournament since 1987 in honor of his uncle and was completely gracious as he accepted this year's award. Following the presentation of the award by Brother Pogorelec, past recipients of this award who were in attendance came forward to congratulate Brother Awramko. Past recipients of the award in attendance included, last year's recipient, Joanne E. Spisak; along with Helen Glugosh, Thomas J. Matty, John Pupik, Sr., Walter Kazmierczak, Michael

J. Romanchik, Anthony Glodava and Joseph Gebura.

The banquet program concluded with the announcement of tournament leaders followed by the singing of our Slovak anthem, Hej Slovaci and God Bless America. The rest of the evening was spent socializing and enjoying music in the large ballroom. It was a wonderful opportunity for our many veteran Sokol keglers along with several first timers to enjoy each other's company. In addition, they had the opportunity to meet our brother and sister fraternalists from the other participating societies.

We would like to thank all of the members of the participating Slovak fraternal societies for their cooperation and hard work which

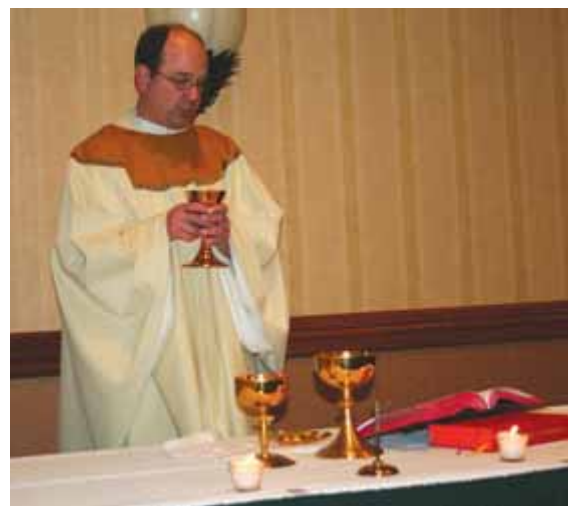
insured the success of the tournament. Thus, the First United Slovak Fraternal International Bowling Tournament enjoyed complete success to the delight of all in attendance. An enjoyable time was had by all. On Sunday morning, the bowlers and guests headed home, eagerly looking forward to next year's 67th International Bowling Tournament. The complete list of tournament winners will appear in the next issue. Zdar Boh!



**2ND PLACE WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONS - The team which included Sokolky from Wreath 85 in McKees Rocks, Pa. and Wreath 103 in Barberton, Oh., took second place honors in the women's team competition with a score of 2,148 with a handicap of 381. Members of the team included, from the left, Karen Bakita, Eve Catanzarite, Kami Simon and Geri Pollock.**



**Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. , fourth from the left, is shown presenting the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award to Paul Awramko during the bowling tournament banquet on May 12. Shown with them are past recipients of this award, including, from the left: Anthony Glodava, Helen Glugosh, John S. Pupik, Sr., Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller, Joanne E. Spisak, Michael J. Romanchik and Joseph V. Gebura.**



**Father Thomas J. Nasta of Stowe, Pa., the national chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union, celebrated Mass prior to the victory banquet on Saturday, May 12.**

Held at the Barnum Duckpin Bowling Lanes in Stratford, Conn.

# Group 2, Rolls Out 100th Anniversary at Duckpin Tournament

In March 2011, Group 2 "Rev. Stephen Panik" rolled in their 100th anniversary year and in March 2012, what better way than to roll out our anniversary year.

A good turnout of Sokol kегlers from various Connecticut Sokol lodges gathered at the Barnum Duckpin Bowling Lanes in Stratford, Conn. for the Sunday, March 18th event. Following the spirited action on the lanes, the Sokols and Sokolky enjoyed soft drinks, delicious pizza from the nearby Juliano's Pizza Restaurant located on Barnum Avenue Cut-off.

In conversation with Carol Salata, member of the staff, when placing the order for the pizza, Group 2 President Eileen S. Wilson was pleased to learn that Carol's family was of Slovak ancestry and some years back were out of SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Parish on Bridgeport's East Side. How is that for coincidence!

And, in as much as the tournament came one day prior to the feast day of Saint Joseph, protector of the Group, a very special dessert, Zeppole was enjoyed by all. A special thank you goes out to Brendan (owner) of Icing on the Cake, located on Main Street in Stratford. The bakery specializes in many, many wonderful and different baked goods in keeping with all the holidays. Many Slovak items are also available.

All of the refreshments enjoyed by the participants were COMPLIMENTS OF THE GROUP.

In keeping with our Group's long-standing tradition of Caring and Sharing,

we thank our Duckpin participants for their many donations of non-perishable food items, as well as monetary contribution which allowed the Group president to purchase additional items. She delivered more than 80 items to the Sterling House Community Center located in Stratford. This fine facility assists both children and adults.

Again, we thank all who participated in this outreach to the community, especially during the Lenten season. The Sterling House Community Center, nurturing body, mind and spirit, is located in the heart of Stratford. Its mission is to foster the physical, social, emotional, artistic and intellectual growth of the residents of Stratford and its surrounding areas. Concern for our community is part of what it means to be a fraternalist. Fraternalism enjoys many high ideals, and this is one of them.

Regarding our Group 2 outreach to the Sterling House, we received the following letter of thanks from its Program Director, Raymond O'Donnell.

"Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,

A heartfelt thank you for the generous donation to our Food Pantry. This act of kindness enables us to provide emergency assistance to many individuals and families.

Please know that your support enables Sterling House to nurture the body, mind and spirit of youth and adults in the heart of Stratford and surrounding areas. Again, thank you.

Most Sincerely,  
**Raymond O'Donnell"**



**Barbara and Raymond O'Donnell, Adult and Youth Program Director and Food Pantry Coordinator at the Sterling House Community Center in Stratford, Conn., are shown accepting the last bag of non-perishable food items donated to the facility by the Group 2 bowlers.**



**Members of the very helpful staff at the Barnum Duckpin Lanes included, l-r, Hunter, Lauren and Jimmy.**



**Members of the First Place Team are shown above and include, front, l-r, Catherine Karosy, accepting for her daughter Andrene DeFilippo, and Dorothy Lawruszko. Rear, l-r are: George Suchyak, Kevin Sabovik and Keith Sabovik.**



**Junior Sokols and Sokolky who enjoyed the afternoon with their guests are shown above and include, from the left, Jessica Sheehy, Keonti and Romeo, guests of Nicole Wells, and Matthew DeFilippo.**



**Members of the Second Place Team pose for a photo and include from the left, Steve Wampler, holding little Calie, granddaughter of Larry and Mary Ann Wells, Vinny Tenney, Anne Marie Neudeck, Nichole Wells and Larry Wells.**



Members of the Third Place Team are shown above and include, from the left, Judy Salamon, Paul Nemergut, Martha Suchyak and Joseph Goda. Austin De-Filippo, a team member was absent when the photo was taken.



Leaders of the competition included George Suchyak, who was the High Three winner; and Group Sports Director Larry Wells, who was the High Single winner.



Members of the Fourth Place Team are shown above and include, from the left: Barbara Sheehy, Mary Ann Wells and Al Neudek. Absent from the photo, Patrick DeFilippo, Jr.



Veteran Group 2 activist, Catherine Karosy, standing, far left, is shown with members of her family who enjoyed the event. Seated are from the left, Austin DeFilippo, Patrick DeFilippo and Patrick DeFilippo, Sr. Shown standing with Catherine are l-r, Matthew DeFilippo and Andrene Karosy DeFilippo.



Fifth Place Team members are shown above and include, l-r, Steve Curma, Bill Sheehy, John Golias and Group 2 President Eileen S. Wilson. Absent from photo, Anthony Lukac.



Team captains pose for a photo and include, from the left: Bob Sheehy, Larry Wells, Paul Nemergut, Al Neudeck and Kevin Sabovik.

## What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



## News and Views from Slovakia...

### Number of tourists visiting Bratislava up nearly 15 percent

A total of 879,878 tourists visited the Bratislava region in 2011, which represents a rise of 14.6 percent on an annual basis, the Statistics Office has announced.

The share of foreign tourists stood at 63.6 percent. The region accounted for 24.6 percent of all those holidaying in Slovakia as a whole and for 38.3 percent of all foreign visitors to the country.

The average number of nights that tourists, both Slovak and foreign, spent in the Slovak capital in the aforementioned period was two. For foreigners alone, the number stood at 1.8 nights. For the country as a whole, the figures stood at 2.9 and 2.8 nights, respectively.

When it comes to foreign countries of origin, visitors from the Czech Republic were top with 18.5 percent, followed by Germans (10.3 percent), Poles (7.2 percent), Italians (6.2 percent and Austrians (5.8 percent).

### Fico: We don't expect any special treatment from the EU

Slovakia will not expect or require any moderation in the EU rules in terms of consolidating its public finances, Prime Minister Robert Fico (Smer-SD) told parliament on May 4.

"We want to remain part of the eurozone...the eurozone represents a certain club for us and a club means having some rules. We'll, of course, obey these rules," said Fico.

Slovakia has committed itself to bringing down the public finance deficit below the 3-percent threshold of the GDP by next year. According to Fico, Slovakia's membership in the eurozone is a success story and his government will never cast doubt on the benefits of the introduction of the euro, which took place on January 1, 2009 during Fico's first government but the process was already in tow when he assumed office in mid-2006.

"It's not Slovakia's fault that other countries failed and caused some trouble in the eurozone," he stressed.

Fico wants to promote within the EU structures that, apart from the reduction of deficits, emphasis should also be placed on fostering economic growth.

### Gasparovic heads Slovak delegation to Chicago NATO Summit

President Ivan Gasparovic headed Slovakia's delegation at the NATO summit which was held in Chicago, May 20-21 according to TASR.

In addition to the president, Slovakia will be represented by its Foreign Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak, the Defense Minister Martin Givac and the Chief-of-General Staff Peter Vojtek.

Gasparovic attended a session of the North Atlantic Council (NAC) that featured strategic discussion on NATO's capabilities up until 2020. He also participated in a working dinner with President Barack Obama where discussion centered on the future of Afghanistan the ISAF mission. Additional talks with NAC were included in the second day of Gasparovic's visit.

Following the NATO summit, President Gasparovic participated in the opening of Slovakia's new Honorary Consulate in Chicago. Slovakia's 12th such representation in the United States will be headed by Rosemary Macko Wisnosky.

### European Commission expects Slovak GDP growth this year

Slovakia's GDP should grow by 1.8 percent year-on-year in 2012, according to the European Commis-

sion's estimate published on May 11.

The export activities of Slovak industry, thanks to which the GDP grew by 3.3 percent last year, are interconnected with the country's main trading partners, who are struggling with economic problems at the moment. This is why GDP growth is expected to be lower in 2012 than it was last year.

According to the European Commission, Slovakia should be able to re-trigger its economic growth more significantly in 2013 and reach 2.9 percent.

On the other hand, Slovaks have been falling behind vis-a-vis domestic consumption, and this trend is expected to continue further due to the impact of high unemployment and the government's attempts to consolidate public finances.

Inflationary pressures are foreseen after the inflation rate hit 4.1 percent in 2011. It should fall to 2.9 percent this year and then stabilize itself around the 2-percent level in 2013.

When it came to public finances in Slovakia, the European Commission noted that the country managed to push its deficit of 7.7 percent of GDP in 2010 down to 4.7 percent last year. The Commission is sticking to its earlier estimate of a budget deficit of 4.7 percent of GDP in 2012.

Due to the lack of information about planned political moves in 2013, the budget deficit prognosis speaks about a slight increase to 4.9 percent in that year.

It also states that Slovakia's public debt should reach 53.5 percent of GDP in 2013.

### Koterec: Slovakia sees U.S.A. as strategic partner in defense

Slovakia views the United States as a strategic partner, Defense Ministry State Secretary Milos Koterec told American Ambassador to Slovakia Theodore Sedgwick at their meeting on May 11.

"The Defense Ministry considers defense cooperation with the U.S.A. to be the utmost importance and so will continue to pro-actively develop bilateral relations in this sphere," said Koterec. According to him, Slovakia understands that Europe needs to take on more responsibility for its own security and the development of certain pivotal capabilities. "Slovakia stands ready to contribute towards the level of its own options and capabilities and that also means financially," he said.

As for the ISAF operation in Afghanistan, Slovakia appreciates the joint preparation as well as deployment of its Special Forces alongside those of the U.S.A.

Sedgwick also spoke positively about this. "We'd be glad if this unit were maintained in Afghanistan for at least three planned rotations," said the American ambassador, who underlined the importance of the role that Slovakia plays in other operations as well, such as those in Bosnia and Cyprus.

Sedgwick also praised the Lest military training facility (Banska Bystrica region), where specialists of the Slovak and American Armed Forces are trained together.

Slovakia wants to focus on multi-national cooperation in the field of joint procurements and the sharing and maintaining of capabilities that are too costly for the country to secure on its own. In this respect, Slovakia views the other countries of the Visegrad Four region (Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic) as its natural partners.

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



One of Slovakia's oldest religious centers is the former Benedictine monastery in Hronsky Benadik, located in central Slovakia. The monastery had its beginnings in 1075, when Hungarian King Gejza began construction of the complex which includes a large, three-aisle church constructed in the Romanesque style of architecture. In its early years, the monks composed what is known as the Nitriansky Kodex, an early catechetical work, the oldest extant work written in Slovakia in Latin dating from the early 12th century. During the Turkish invasions, because of its important location, the monastery became an important center of defense. Today the complex contains many outstanding works of art and houses a large collection of religious artifacts brought home by generations of Slovak missionaries who have served in various parts of the world. Its organ, dating from 1714 is one of Slovakia's finest. The monastery complex has been restored in recent years and remains one of Slovakia's most popular and picturesque religious and tourist attractions. Photos of the monastery are shown above.

*Held in Winter Park, Florida***The Slovak Garden Hosts 60th Annual Slovak Day**

By Justine Wesnak, former president

In March 2012, a milestone in the history of The Slovak Garden was celebrated at its home in Winter Park, just outside Orlando, Florida. Members and friends of The Slovak Garden celebrated its 60th anniversary in fine style. This report will cover the events held at The Slovak Garden.

**60th Annual Slovak Day**

On Sunday, March 4, more than 200 guests participated in the gala 60th Slovak Day celebrating Slovak culture and presence in the Sunshine State. Slovak Garden Vice President Marcel Juhas chaired this year's very successful Slovak Day observance. In honor of this historic event, each guest was gifted with a great quality pen as a remembrance of this event.

Events of the day followed that of our traditional Slovak Days of the past. The day began with Mass celebrated in Slovak at 11 a.m. Celebrant and homilist of the liturgy was the Rev. Louis P. Luljak, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of

Milwaukee now residing in Florida. Serving as lector at the liturgy was John Dvorecky. Unfortunately Jerry Krupa, Slovak Garden president, was unable to be present for this year's Slovak Day, his first as president; due to the death of his brother. Jerry and his wife, Maria and family traveled to Chicago where the funeral was held. Due to his absence, and on his behalf, Vice President Marcel Juhas welcomed the more than 250 people who attended the liturgy and enjoyed the luncheon which followed. The luncheon featured many Slovak culinary specialities to the delight of the guests. This delicious luncheon was the result of several days' of preparation by Director Nick Badida and his lovely wife, Emily and daughter, Radka, who traveled from Detroit, Mich. to assist with this labor of love.

The formal cultural program after lunch opened with the singing of Our National Anthem led by Justine Wesnak as well as the Slovak national anthem, led by Nick Bidida.

Chairman, Marcel Juhas offered a welcome and then called on Justine Wesnak to introduce the dignitaries in attendance. She was pleased to introduce an old friend and supporter of The Slovak Garden, Congressman John Mica and his lovely wife, Pat. Congressman Mica, who is of Slovak ancestry represents Florida's 7th Congressional District in the House of Representatives. Justine thanked Congressman Mica and his wife for their active participation in the annual Slovak Days over the past several decades. Justine expressed our pride in the Congressman's accomplishments, representing Florida in his service to the United States. The Congressman was greeted with warm applause as he then favored his audience with a few words to update them on the progress of several projects in Florida. Other VIPs introduced included Cecilia Rakousek, Honorary Slovak Consul in Florida, along with her predecessor, Robert Petrik. Dean Burns, Vice President of the National Slovak Society pre-

sented his society and its president David Blazek.

Entertainment featured the exceptional talents of the PAS Dance Group from Pittsburgh, Pa., under the direction of Angie and John Lipcheck. The ensemble presented a number of colorful and spirited dance routines celebrating the music and dance traditions of Slovakia. The ensemble was applauded for their wonderful performance and also a show of gratitude for the generosity they demonstrated by performing for us gratis in 2011. The group will always be remembered for their charity and concern for The Slovak Garden while we were going through a rough patch at the Garden.

Marcel Juhas then introduced the Europa Band, under the direction of Milan Dvorecky, a member of The Slovak Garden, who provided wonderful music for dancing and listening pleasure. Guests had a great time, whether they were dancing, singing along with the music or just watching or listening to the rest of us as we let our hair down and enjoyed acting like kids at a party. It was a true celebrating of our milestone anniversary and the improvement in the welcoming atmosphere, which we are once again enjoying at the Garden since the removal of Jan Juhas as president.

A successful 50/50 raffle was held by its organizer, Director, Irene Murphy, who was applauded as a diligent, often behind the scenes worker responsible for the success of every event at the Garden over the past 30 years. Although it was Marcel Juhas's first time chairing the Slovak Day observance and all in attendance agreed, by a resounding round of applause that his efforts led to a great success.

**Annual Meeting**

The Slovak Garden's large social hall was the site of the 60th Annual Meeting which was held on Monday, March 5, 2012. In the excused absence of the President, Jerry Krupa, the meeting was chaired by the Vice President, Marcel Juhas. Mr. Juhas read the report of President Krupa, who explained the steps that have been taken over the past year to continue the interaction with residents. There have been many on going projects to make necessary repairs. Director, Nick Badida was hired to reinforce the building structures, do plumbing repairs and paint the apartments, both indoor and out. All are an improvement to the Garden even if only those that are visible get the most favorable attention.

The Treasurer, Anna Valusek then presented the financial report. She

reported on the more favorable financial status of the Garden, primarily due to the steady and increased rental income from the church that is now renting the Garden's social hall. The Chairman of Auditors, Peter Salling complimented the officers and accounting staff on the improvement in the financial record keeping. He also outlined some procedures that need to be incorporated for the continued financial security of the Garden.

Before he assumed his duties as chairperson of the Nominating Committee, National Slovak Society Vice President, Dean Burns greeted the annual meeting participants and presented Marcel Juhas with a check for \$500 for the continued beautification of the Garden. This has been an annual NSS tradition on behalf of the Garden for many decades. At the conclusion of the elections, Dean Burns administered the oath of office to the following officers who will serve for the coming year: Jerry J. Krupa, president; Marcel Juhas, vice president; Anna Valusek, treasurer; and Marcel Pechan, secretary. Directors elected include: Elaine Andriano, Nick Badida, Frank Havlicek, Mary Jo Holker and Irene Murphy; auditors: Peter Salling, Justine Wesnak and Thomas Kravets. The members were pleased to have Dr. Thomas Kravets on board once again. His expertise from many years of service as a former secretary of the Slovak Garden will certainly prove to be of great value in insuring its continued success.

In addition to the traditional business and the reading and acceptance of the officers' and auditors' reports, the best suggestions, sincerely offered for the good of the Garden were discussed and approved according to their merit. There was a lively discussion led by the Chairperson of the Bylaw Committee, Mary Jo Holker. The result was a majority vote to reaffirm that only individuals of Slavic descent will be eligible for acceptance as Regular Members and residents of The Slovak Garden and Associate Members will continue to be welcome at social events, but may not vote, hold office or reside at the Garden. All memberships have always been approved or denied with cause at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The possibility of building additional rental units will continue to be investigated and considered. I pray that members of our Slovak Garden family will enjoy a wonderful and safe summer. Bye for now, God bless - Nech vas Boh Zehna!



Some of the guests at this year's 60th Annual Florida Slovak Day, who hailed from various parts of the Sunshine State, are shown above enjoying the luncheon on Sunday, March 4th at The Slovak Garden in Winter Park, Fla.



The highlight of this year's 60th Annual Florida Slovak Day, held on March 4th at The Slovak Garden in Winter Park, Fla. was the spirited and entertaining performance of the PAS Slovak Folk Ensemble of Pittsburgh, Pa. The group performed an array of colorful and entertaining dances representing the various regions of Slovakia.

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## 55th Congress of the Slovak League set for June 8-9 in Bridgeport, Conn.

The Slovak League of America, a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry, will host its 55th Congress in Bridgeport, Conn. at The Holiday Inn, June 8-9, 2012. Founded in Cleveland, Ohio in 1907 by the Rev. Stephen Furdek and Peter P. Rovnianek, its founding assembly attracted more than 10,000 Slovaks from all across the United States, representing every original purpose was to alert the United States to the plight of the

Slovaks who were then one of the subject peoples of old Austria-Hungary. Working together as a unified body, they sought to press for the rights of the Slovaks at home to seek political self-determination. The Slovak League was a major force in helping to emancipate the Slovaks from Hungarian domination. Through its efforts, the first Republic of Czecho-Slovakia was established in 1919 with the blessings of President Woodrow

Wilson. In addition to promoting Slovak rights at home, the Slovak League for more than century has hosted programs promoting Slovak culture and heritage in the United States. It has promoted higher education among Americans of Slovak ancestry and has assisted hundreds of students through its scholarship program. Over the years, it has also published numerous works in both Slovak and English related to Slovak culture and history. Since the independence of Slovakia, the Slovak League has participated in many educational and cultural exchange projects be-

tween the United States and Slovakia. From its earliest years, the organization has enjoyed the full support of the Slovak fraternalists which enjoy institutional membership in the Slovak League of America.

The principal English address at the banquet will be given by retired U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia, the Hon. Vincent Obstnik. He represented the United States in the Slovak capital from 2007-09.

The Keynote Address will be given by Dr. Michael J. Kopanic, a well-known Slovak American educator and historian. The Slovak address will be pre-

sent by Marian Tkac, president of Matica Slovenska in Slovakia. Matica Slovenska is the oldest and most prominent Slovak cultural institution. Founded in 1863, next year it will observe its 150th anniversary.

Sessions of the 55th Congress will be held at The Holiday Inn located at 1070 Main Street conveniently located in downtown Bridgeport, Conn. Overnight accommodations are \$139.00 plus tax. A block of rooms has been reserved under the Slovak League of America. For reservations call (203)334-1234. Registration will open on Thursday evening, June 7. The business sessions will begin on Friday, June 8 at 1:30 a.m. The gala banquet is scheduled for Saturday evening, June 9 beginning with a reception at 6 p.m followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Banquet tickets are \$40.00 per person. A commemorative journal with patron listings including: Diamond - \$100; Golden - \$50; Silver - \$25.00 and individual patron listing at \$10 will be published. Make checks payable to Slovak League of America and send same to Slovak League of America, 205 Madison St., Passaic, NJ 07055. For additional information on the 55th Congress, feel free to call the Slovak League's national office located in Passaic, N.J. at 973-472-8993, fax: 973-835-3723.

A local 55th Congress Committee has been organized under the very capable leadership of well-known Slovak fraternal and cultural leader, Eileen S. Wilson. The Bridgeport area has enjoyed an important role in the history of the Slovaks in America. One of the country's oldest Slovak colonies, it organized its first Slovak society in 1884. As their numbers increased, the Slovaks established Roman Catholic, Byzantine Catholic and Lutheran churches. St. John Nepomucene Roman Catholic Parish in Bridgeport founded in 1891, was the first Slovak church established in the New England States. It remained an important center of the area's Slovak community until its closing in 2001. The current generation of Slovak activists look forward to welcoming delegates and guests of the Slovak League from all parts of the U.S. for what looks to be a memorable and enjoyable weekend.

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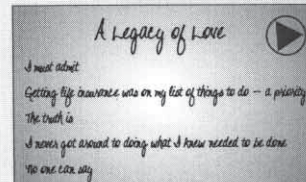
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## ANNUAL Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance

At 7 p.m.(EDT) on Flag Day, June 14, Americans all across the nation will pause to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag. While most of us know the words of the Pledge, there are a large number who do not know of its origin.

Mr. Francis Bellamy, an ordained minister of Rome, New York is credited with the authorship of the original Pledge. It was he, who on the eve of the 400th Anniversary of the discovery of America, initiated a campaign for the establishment of a national holiday on October 12.....to celebrate the day on which Columbus discovered America. In his concept, he envisioned that flags should be flown over every school-house and public building from coast to coast.

In the material which he nationally circulated, he wrote, "Let the flag float over every school-house in the land and the exercise be such as shall impress upon our youth the patriotic duty of citizenship." He also included the original 23 words of the Pledge which he had developed.

"I pledge allegiance to my flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Thus it was that on Columbus Day in October 1892, the Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by more than 12 million public school children in every state in the union.

The wording of the Pledge has been modified three times. In 1923, the words "the flag of the United States" were substituted for "my flag." In 1924, "of America" were added. On Flag Day 1954, the words "under God" became a part of the Pledge. Thus the 23

**FLAG  
DAY  
June  
14**

words have become 31 words.

By a Joint Resolution on June 9, 1966, the Congress requested the President to issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as National Flag Week and calling upon citizens of the United States to display the flag during that week.

The idea of the annual PAUSE FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE originated in 1980 at the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House in Baltimore, Maryland. Since then the concept has swept across the country in a grassroots movement supported by a broad spectrum of individuals, organizations and businesses.

The National Flag Day Foundation, Inc. was created in 1982 "to conduct educational programs throughout the United States in promotion of National Flag Day and to encourage national patriotism by promotion of the PAUSE FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE."

On June 20, 1985, the Ninety-Ninth Congress passed and President Ronald Reagan signed Public Law 99-54 recognizing the PAUSE FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE as part of National Flag Day activities. It is an invitation urging all Americans to participate on June 14, 7 p.m. (EDT) in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The effect of this simple ceremony, which transcends age, race, religion, national origin, political and geographic differences, is a stimulating patriotic experience at home and a sign of unity abroad.

### Sokol Birthdays

**JUNE 4**

**Justin Graham**, Hudson, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**Clotty Iovanut**, Bartlett, Ill., a member of Wreath 81, Whiting, Ind.

**JUNE 5**

**Michael Garver**, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

**Kathy Trifiletti**, Lorain, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

**JUNE 6**

**Joseph A. Kostolansky**, Donora, Pa., a member of Assembly 25, Perryopolis, Pa.

**JUNE 7**

**Margaret Seman**, Canton, Oh., Honorary Physical Directress of Group 5 and Honorary Vice-President of Assembly 180, Canton, Oh.

**JUNE 8**

**Jaime Matthews**, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

**JUNE 9**

**Victoria Tomcesko**, Kintnersville, Pa., a member of Wreath 13, Philadelphia, Pa.

**Martha Volosin**, Lower Burrell, Pa., a member of Assembly 313, Winter Park, Fla.

**JUNE 10**

**Marjorie K. Mischik**, Bridgeport, Conn., a member of Wreath 1, Bridgeport, Conn.

**Margaret Mociak** Philadelphia, Pa., a member of Wreath 13, Philadelphia, Pa.

**Rt. Rev. Joseph M. Stanichar**, V.F., Seattle, Wash., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

**JUNE 11**

**Frances M. Moore**, Indiana, Pa., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.  
**Marcia Musial**, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**JUNE 12**

**Joseph J. Cherniga**, Ft. Walton Beach, Fla., a member of Assembly 86, Port Griffith, Pa.

**Irene M. Sinanis**, Trumbull, Conn., President of Wreath 1, Bridgeport, Conn.

**Marsha Smith**, Valparaiso, Ind., a member of Assembly 127, Mones-

sen, Pa.

**JUNE 13**

**Donald J. Koval**, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**JUNE 14**

**David J. Antoniuk**, Quincy Ill., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

**Matthew R. Kubej**, Renton, Wash., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

**JUNE 16**

**C. J. Fogle**, Rochester, N.Y., a member of Assembly 96 in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

**David Kelly**, Moosic, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**Cheryl Kopchak**, Park Ridge, N.J., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.

**Lisa Petruska**, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**JUNE 17**

**Ronald F. Duska, Jr.**, Villa-nova, Pa., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

**Moira Kathleen Honohan**, Fairfield, Conn., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

**Michelle S. Kolodziej**, Lansing, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

**Thomas J. Krack**, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

**Mark Malshefski**, Nanticoke, Pa., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

**JUNE 18**

**Olivia Pizzella**, Plains, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**Brooke Ansley Macurak**, Kenesaw, Ga., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Albert O. Neudeck, III**, Bridgeport, Conn., Group 2 Physical Director and Financial Secretary of Wreath 39, Bridgeport, Conn.

**Jason P. Pogorelec**, Chesnut Hill, Ma., a member Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

**Anne Yarina**, Yorktown Heights, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### 2012 International Olympic games are fast approaching

Enthusiasm continues to grow in anticipation of this summer's 30th Games of the Olympiad. The ancient Olympics had their beginnings in ancient Greece in 776 B.C. It was a festival consisting of various contests in athletics, poetry and music, held every four years at Olympia in honor of the Greek god Zeus. An Olympiad is a four year period reckoned from one celebration of the Olympic games to another. The modern Olympics were revived in Athens, Greece in 1896. Since then, every four years the Olympics attract athletes from corners of the globe. This year's Olympic games will be staged in London and hosted by Great Britain. The games open on July 27 and continue through August 12.

The Sokol movement which was founded in 1862, had a team of gymnasts who participated in

the rebirth of the modern Olympic games in Athens in 1896. Since then, many Sokol athletes have participated in the Olympic games. Of special interest to Sokols has always been gymnastics. The Artistic gymnasts will be competing in London from July 28 to August 7. Artistic gymnastics will be followed by Rhythmic gymnastics and Trampoline competitions.

As Sokol members, let us do our part to promote the Olympic spirit. The Olympic spirit is contagious, especially within an organization like our own devoted to the promotion of physical fitness. Let us all promote our American athletes who will represent the best our country has to offer. Likewise, as members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, let us continue to promote our ageless slogan of "A Sound Mind in a Sound Body!"

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(Effective January 1, 2012)



## Obituaries...

### Was an Honorary Supreme Officer

#### Theresa V. Hergan, life-long promoter of Sokol fraternalism, laid to rest at 74

Theresa Venit Hergan hailed from a pioneer Group 7 Sokol family, where the great traditions of the Sokol movement became a part of her life at an early age. She passed away peacefully on May 15 at her home in Linthicum Heights, Maryland. She was 74.



A native of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Theresa was born there October 5, 1937, daughter of the late George and Emily Cholish Venit. She attended the former Sacred Heart Slovak School there where her teachers were the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. She was a 1954 graduate of the James M. Coughlin High School in Wilkes-Barre, and attended Wilkes College. She worked as a Food Service Director at Mount St. Joseph College High School in Baltimore, Md. for 23 years before her retirement. She was a charter member of the Crestwood homemakers Club that focuses on helping local charities.

In 1965, Terry, as she is affectionately known throughout our organization, married Joseph R. Hergan at Sacred Heart Slovak Church in Wilkes-Barre. Her husband is deceased. Beginning in 1967, Theresa and Joseph made their home in Maryland.

Terry became a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in Wilkes-Barre and at the age of five began drilling at local and Group 7 Slets. She attended her first international Slet in 1950. She joined her enthusiasm for our Slet tradition by encouraging her sister, Eleanor E. Venit who survives. Eleanor went on to serve as our organization's Supreme Physical Directress. In 1956, she was elected an officer of Group 7 "Rev. Joseph Murgas" and remained active in the Group until her marriage.

Terry was a delegate to many of our organization's national conventions. Our 20th national convention in Chicago, Ill. in 1967 first elected her as our Supreme Assistant Physical Directress. She was reelected to this position at subsequent national conventions in Bethlehem, Pa. in 1971 and in Youngstown, Oh. in 1975. During the 25th National Slet in Bethlehem, due to the absence of the Supreme Physical Directress, Terry took charge of the Slet. Even during her years in Maryland, Terry never lost interest in the Slovak Catholic Sokol and attended conventions, Slets

and other gatherings both on the Group 7 and national level as well. In recent Slets, she volunteered to serve as a judge for our drilling and gymnastic competitions. In recognition of her years of faithful service to the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the delegates of our 30th National Convention convened in Las Vegas, Nevada in August 2007 elected Theresa an Honorary Supreme Officer. At the time of her passing, Sister Theresa was a member of Assembly 59 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Outreach and volunteerism were very much a part of life for our Terry. As a teen, she served as president of the Junior Catholic Daughters of America chapter at Sacred Heart Slovak parish in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Since moving to Maryland she continued her service at the parish level. She was an active member and assisted at both St. Philip Neri parish in Linthicum Heights and Holy Trinity parish in Glen Burnie, Maryland, where she assisted in many activities. Her love for her Slovak heritage continued throughout her life. She often participated and enjoyed area Slovak festivals and celebrations. Her hobbies included cooking, reading, preparing traditional Slovak holiday meals for family and friends, spending time in Ocean City, Md. and enjoying time with her beloved grandchildren and girlfriends.

Theresa was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph R. Hergan and her brother, John Venit, Sr. She is survived by three children, Mark Hergan and his wife, Pam of Bel Air, Md.; Patricia Matthews and her husband Bill, of Hockessin, Del.; and Cara Joyce and her husband, Michael of Baltimore, Md.; her sisters, Rosemary Cronauer and Eleanor E. Venit, a brother, Aloysius Venit, Sr., along with many nieces, nephews and friends.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists paid their respects to Sister Theresa at the Singleton Funeral Home in Glen Burnie, Md. On Monday, May 21, a Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at 1 p.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Glen Burnie, Md. Interment followed in the Maryland Veterans Cemetery.

May our beloved Honorary Supreme Officer, Therese V. Hergan, who so beautifully mirrored our Sokol way of life rest in peace. She was a wonderful ambassador of our Cyrilo-Methodian faith, our Slovak heritage and the fraternal benefit system. Our sympathy goes out to her family.

## IN MEMORIAM

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

APRIL 2012

Assembly/Wreath	Member	Age	Date of Death
Assembly 6	Timothy J. Papula, Benwood, WV	55	April 9, 2012
Assembly 9	Frank Maco, Bridgeport, CT	90	June 5, 2010
Assembly 11	Joseph I. Zirko, Chicago, IL	76	March 17, 2012
Assembly 25	Paul Bubnash, Perryopolis, PA	80	March 10, 2012
Assembly 25	Edward J. Steiner, Perryopolis, PA	55	April 18, 2012
Assembly 25	Andrej J. Shenel, Perryopolis, PA	92	March 29, 2005
Assembly 32	Anastasia Stevko, Palmerton, PA	83	March 27, 2012
Assembly 32	Louis Cevenak, Palmerton, PA	82	March 12, 2012
Assembly 36	George Surik, Detroit, MI	85	March 29, 2012
Assembly 36	Edward Steven Papcun, Detroit, MI	84	March 24, 2012
Assembly 36	Joseph J. Sobek, Detroit, MI	90	March 26, 2012
Assembly 36	Anna Du Fresne, Detroit, MI	75	October 29, 2011
Assembly 59	Joseph V. Phillips, Wilkes-Barre, PA	91	March 23, 2012
Assembly 78	Mary Roseman, Bethlehem, PA	93	November 10, 2011
Assembly 108	Richard Virostko, Youngstown, OH	78	March 23, 2012
Assembly 108	Stephen J. Hamrock, Jr., Youngstown, OH	83	March 17, 2012
Assembly 116	Mary Gluvna, Greensboro, PA	69	March 30, 2012
Assembly 162	Helen L. Wirpeza, Clifton, NJ	94	March 19, 2012
Assembly 162	Eleanor Homsani, Clifton, NJ	81	March 31, 2012
Assembly 162	Olga Kosut, Clifton, NJ	82	March 23, 2012
Assembly 163	John Durkay, Duquesne, PA	90	March 30, 2012
Assembly 180	Phillip Anthony Zampino, Canton, OH	64	January 24, 2012
Assembly 180	John Almasy, Canton, OH	83	March 17, 2012
Assembly 188	Susanna Zucchelli, Lansford, PA	96	September 10, 2010
Assembly 255	Katherine Newhard, Egypt, PA	88	March 31, 2012
Assembly 255	Dorothea Duncan, Egypt, PA	81	March 31, 2012
Assembly 257	Mildred Demeter, Chicago, IL	90	March 27, 2012
Assembly 308	Helen Duch, Bridgeport, CT	98	August 24, 2011
Wreath 1	Clara Mischik, Bridgeport, CT	102	March 15, 2012
Wreath 2	Dorothy Wyhopen, Passaic, NJ	88	January 17, 2012
Wreath 11	George J. Vincek, Johnstown, NY	84	March 20, 2012
Wreath 21	Michael Balcsik, Superior, WI	79	April 2, 2012
Wreath 22	Carol L. Ruzsala, Pittsburgh, PA	70	March 21, 2012
Wreath 34	Francine Ann Krall Konecny, Cleveland, OH	60	December 21, 2011
Wreath 85	Cheryl Ann (Cain) Kerlin, Whiting, IN	55	April 4, 2012

### Long-time Assembly 59 officer

#### Emil E. Sefcik, dedicated Group 7 fraternal leader, laid to rest at 81

One of our best known Group 7 Sokols, Emil E. (Blabo) Sefcik passed away peacefully at his home in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. on May 14 after a lengthy illness. He was 81.



A native of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Emil was born there November 15, 1930, son of the late John and Mary Kubasek Sefcik. He was educated in local schools and was a 1949 graduate of the James M. Coughlin High School. He proudly served our country during the Korean conflict with the U.S. Army, earning the rank of sergeant by the time of his honorable discharge.

Until his retirement, he was employed by the maintenance department of the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport in Avoca, Pa. for 13 years. Previously, he worked with the King Fifth Wheel Co. of Avoca for five years and Sanitary Leasing for 29 years.

Brother Emil was our Sokol since childhood in Assembly 59. He competed in our various Slets and athletic competitions all his life. He was a regular at our Sokol bowling tournaments and served on many committees in Group 7 and Assembly 59. He was among our organization's top Recommend-

ers of new members and served for many years as the financial secretary of Assembly 59, one of our largest lodges. He represented his lodge at many national conventions and was known and loved throughout the organization.

In addition to our organization, Brother Emil was active for almost 50 years at the North End Slovak Citizens Club in Wilkes-Barre, where he served as treasurer. He thoroughly enjoyed and was primarily responsible for the success of the annual children's Christmas and Easter parties at the club. He was also active in the Slovak League of America, the Brookside American Legion Post 837, serving as a past secretary; the Polish American Veterans of Hudson, the Russian Club and was an honorary life member and third-degree Knight of Columbus with Wilkes-Barre Council 302.

He was a life-long member of the former Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Parish in Wilkes-Barre, where he served for many years as chairman of the parish bazaar. At the time of his death, he was a member of the Parish of St. Andre Bessette.

Brother Sefcik was preceded in death by his wife, the former Emily P. Szczech on April 16, 2003; by brothers, Thomas, killed in action during World War II in 1944, John, William and Joseph Sefcik; and by sisters, Florence Uranagra and Mary Evans. He was also preceded in

death by his beloved cat, Mr. Molly.

Surviving are his sister, Mrs. Agnes Petro and her husband, Frank of South Bend, Ind.; several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great nephews.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists paid their final respects to Brother Emil at the John V. Morris Funeral Home. On Friday, May 18, a Mass of Christian burial was celebrated in the Holy Savior worship site of St. Andre Bessette Parish with the Rev. Kenneth M. Seegar, pastor, officiating. Interment followed at Sacred Heart Slovak Cemetery in Dallas, Pa.

Brother Emil in every sense of the word was a model fraternalist. He dedicated his life to the high ideals of faith, fraternalism and his Slovak heritage. He was always willing to assist and serve others. His kind smile, quick wit and warm handshake endeared him to generations of Slovak Catholic Sokol members. He will be sorely missed. May this kind and loving soul, proud and patriotic American, who so beautifully mirrored our Sokol way of life, now rest in peace.

#### Sister M. Martin Hornak, 95, was a Chicago native

Sister M. Martin Hornak, O.S.F. passed away peacefully on May 4 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in Joliet, Ill. She was 95.

A native of Chicago, she was born there to immigrant Slovak parents, Johanna and Martin Hornak in 1917. She was raised in the former Sacred Heart Slovak Parish there where

(Continued on page 17)



## Sister M. Martin Hornak

(Continued from page 16)

her childhood pastor was the late Monsignor Victor Blahunka. She was graduated from the former Sacred Heart Slovak School where her teachers were the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate. Discerning a vocation to religious life, she entered St. Francis Academy (now Joliet Catholic Academy). Following graduation, she entered the novitiate of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary Immaculate at their Motherhouse in Joliet, Ill. She was a member of this religious community for 77 years. Sister earned her Bachelor's and Master's degree in Theology from the College of St. Francis (now the University of St. Francis) in Joliet, Ill. Sister Martin began her teaching ministry in 1937 at St. Mary's School in Columbus, Oh. She ministered at St. John the Baptist, St. Jude and St. Joseph Parishes in Joliet. In 1969, she began her ministry as principal and teacher at the former Assumption of the B.V.M. Slovak School in Chicago where she remained until 1985 when she became Coordinator of Arts and Crafts at St. Pascal's Senior Center in Chicago. She also taught Religious Education classes and served as a Eucharistic Minister in the parish. In 1998, Sister Martin returned to the Motherhouse in Joliet and lived and ministered at Our Lady of Angels.

The wake for Sister Martin took place on May 8 at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Home in Joliet with a prayer service. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated in the chapel that evening at 7 p.m. The interment took place on Wednesday, May 9 at Resurrection Cemetery in Romeoville, Ill. Memorials may be made to the Sisters of St. Francis of Mary Immaculate, 1433 Essington Road, Joliet, Ill. 60435.

One of five children, Sister Martin was preceded in death by her brothers, John and Martin and by her sister, Mary Hornak who served for many years as the financial secretary of our former Wreath 92 in Chicago. She is survived by her sister, Johanna Lench of Sewickley, Pa. and numerous nieces and nephews.

May Sister Martin, who so beautifully served as a great evangelizer in the traditions of our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith, now rest in peace. She hailed from a well-

known Chicago Sokol family who served our organization in the best traditions of Sokol fraternalism. Our sympathy goes out to her family.

## Stephen J. Hamrock, 82 Youngstown, Oh. member

Stephen J. Hamrock of Austintown, Oh. passed away unexpectedly during a visit to family in Orlando, Florida on March 17. He was 82. He was a long-time member of Assembly 108 in Youngstown, Oh.

A native of Youngstown, Stephen was born there June 9, 1929, son of the late Stephen and Mary Kasenga Hamrock. Educated locally, he was a graduate of Wilson High School and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict from 1951 to 1953. He was employed by Conrail Railroad for 42 years before his retirement.

He was an active and devoted member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Austintown and a member of its Senior Citizens Group. In addition to the Slovak Catholic Sokol, he was also active in the American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley. Stephen was an avid gardener; loved his beautiful flowers and loved watching his children and grandchildren playing sports. He enjoyed traveling, cruise vacations and especially his trips to Slovakia where he visited with his family there.

Brother Hamrock is survived by his wife, the former Helen Sofranko Hamrock; four children, Noreen and her spouse Robert Wilkins of Orlando, Fla., Mark and his spouse Linda Hamrock of Montana, Stephen J. and his spouse Kathleen of North Carolina, and Kent and his spouse Lisa of Georgia; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He is also survived by two sisters, Ann Ledebur of South Lebanon, Oh. and Emily Swiez of Zanesville, Oh. and a brother, Bernard Hamrock of Westerville, Oh. He was preceded in death by a sister, Genevieve Jason and a brother, Thomas Hamrock.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on March 24 at the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Interment followed at Calvary Cemetery in Youngstown. May our departed Brother Sokol who so beautifully mirrored our fraternal way of life now rest in peace. Our sympathy goes out to the Hamrock family.

## Best Exercise, Cheap Too

Stand erect, shoulders back, head high, tummy in. Now...on your mark, get set, breathe through your nose as you go.

Shift your weight to your right foot and lift up ever so gently on the ball of that foot. In the meantime, end the knee of your left leg and launch the entire limb forward. Then, reverse the procedure in left, right, left, right progression.

Use each arm, too, as a balancing mechanism. In brief, each arm should swing forward freely in direct opposition to the leg. Got it? Good.

Be sure to do it everyday, at least three miles of it. WALKING, THAT IS! You should be able to walk at least one mile in fifteen minutes. Best exercise in the world...

## Health Tips

We can all do our part to help prevent cancer. Consider the following recommendations:

- \* Avoid obesity.
- \* Cut down total fat intake.
- \* Eat more high fiber foods, such as whole grain cereals, fruits and vegetables.
- \* Include cruciferous vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli, brussels sprouts, kohlrabi and cauliflower in the diet.
- \* Include foods rich in vitamins A and C in the daily diet.
- \* Be moderate in the consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- \* Be moderate in the consumption of salt-cured, smoked and nitrite-cured foods.

## From our Director of Sales & Marketing

### Attention: Groups, Assemblies & Wreaths

Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C.



The Slovak Catholic Sokol has created a new benefit that we are able to extend to our Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths. This benefit is titled SOKOL SECURE FUND; it is designed specifically for the Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths of our organization only and cannot be used as an individual account. This is an excellent investment vehicle that can only grow and currently is earning more than what most banks offer through their Certificates of Deposit (CD's).

The current interest rate for the SOKOL SECURE FUND will earn 2.50% APY effective October 1, 2011. This rate is determined on a quarterly basis by the Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors. They at that time consider the market and financial conditions and may adjust the rate accordingly. The Slovak Catholic Sokol does not invest in "junk or low-grade securities". Over 85% of our portfolio is in high investment grade corporate bonds and government securities.

To open a SOKOL SECURE

FUND for your Group, Assembly or Wreath all that is required is to complete an application and include at least a minimum deposit of \$5,000. Since this benefit is structured to be flexible, additional deposits can be made at any time providing the minimum deposit is at least \$100. The SOKOL SECURE FUND includes the following features: No Loading Fees, No Withdrawal Penalties, High Liquidity and a Competitive Interest Rate compared to certain CD's.

For administrative purposes, fund withdrawals are restricted to no more than four times a year, however, remember there are no penalties on any withdrawal of funds. The minimum amount for a withdrawal is \$250.00. Once the fund is established, a minimum balance of \$4,000 must be maintained.

With the SOKOL SECURE FUND you can have your cake and eat it to, unlike the CD's offered by banks there are no restriction period or withdrawal penalty fee due for early withdrawals. Your money is accessible when you need it and has greater earning potential. Realizing the struggle to earn a reasonable interest rate in today's economical

environment the Slovak Catholic Sokol has created this benefit to assist our Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths.

Following are Features and Highlights of the SOKOL SECURE FUND:

#### Plan Features

- o No Loading Fees
- o No Withdrawal Penalties
- o High Liquidity
- o Competitive Interest Rate
- o Flexibility

**Minimum Withdrawn** – \$250.00

**Underwriting** – Slovak Catholic Sokol Group, Assembly or Wreath that are Internal Revenue Service designation of 501(c) (3) or 501(c) (8) only

**Premium Deposit Options** – Flexible

**Minimum Initial Deposit** – \$5,000

**Minimum Balance** – \$4,000

**Guaranteed Minimum Interest Rate** – 1% APY

**Surrender Period & Charges** – None

For additional information or for SOKOL SECURE FUND Application and SOKOL SECURE FUND Withdrawal Form, please contact the Home Office at 800-886-7656 or the Sales and Marketing Office at 888-381-5431.

## Slovak Catholic Sokol

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

### APPLICATION FOR SOKOL SECURE FUND- a Fraternal Benefit

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Tax Identification Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial Deposit: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Corporate Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
President (Print) President Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer (Print) Treasurer Signature

For Slovak Catholic Sokol Home Office Use Only. Please do not write below.

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Initial Interest Earned: \_\_\_\_\_% APY

The Slovak Catholic Sokol acknowledges the receipt \$ \_\_\_\_\_. This said amount to be held by the Slovak Catholic Sokol as trustee for your organization in the Sokol Secure Fund. The initial deposit shall be no less than \$5,000 and the minimum account balance no less than \$4,000.

The interest rate payable is compounded daily and applied monthly. The Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors shall determine the interest rate paid according to the fiscal conditions in the market place and is guaranteed not to be less than 1.00% APY. These funds are not insured by the FDIC.

Your not-for-profit organization: 1) shall have the right to invest or withdraw funds on deposit, in amounts of not less than \$100, 2) Withdraw the entire amount on deposit upon written request received by the Supreme Secretary of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and 3) This Deposit Agreement and any withdrawal request must be signed by the President and Treasurer of the organization.

Dated at Passaic, NJ this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

(Corporate Seal)

# Report of the Supreme Secretary for the Month of April 2012

## REPORT OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL Activity for the Month of April, 2012

ASSETS	
	YEAR-TO-DATE
Cash - Senior Account	\$ 258,826.29
Cash - Bank of Montreal	16,783.90
Cash - Payroll Account	40,000.00
Petty Cash	265.00
Investments - Bonds & Bills	44,091,155.52
Investments - Stocks	6,756,301.69
Capital Reserve	1,917,376.66
Stock Adj. to Book Value	2,168,847.05
First Mortgage Loans	636,087.98
Loans on Certificates	218,949.79
Accrued Interest Receivable	738,880.00
Prepaid Expense	6,465.40
Sokol Building	2,687,146.11
Land	204,108.00
Furniture & Fixtures	157,647.14
Sokol Baby Spoons	10,075.00
Due From Groups	4,350.18
Accounts Receivable	20,387.07
Non-Admitted Assets	<u>-24,254.00</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$59,909,398.78</u></b>

### LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

	YEAR-TO-DATE
Life Reserves	\$ 39,732,652.00
Reserve Dep. Furn. & Fixtures	149,373.34
Reserve Dep. Sokol Building	2,619,982.80
Asset Valuation Reserve	1,160,803.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve	95,118.00
Reserve for Supplemental Contracts	323,280.04
Reserve Emp. Retirement Plan	4,668,675.00
Reserve for Convention	45,000.00
Matured Endowments	101,504.73
Annuity Payable	76,715.00
Claims Payable	212,069.00
Conversion - Canadian Currency	337.00
Accounts Payable	107,986.44
Sokol Secure Fund	63,250.00
Joseph & Mary Spemoga Scholarship Fund	2,500.00
Mary Jane Rich Scholarship Fund	85,000.00
Emil Slavik Scholarship Fund	100,000.00
Dr's Lesko Medical Scholarship Fund	20,000.00
Dividend Accum. At Interest	322,997.31
Dividend Payable	36,768.72
Advance Premiums	10,609.00
Premium Load	<u>3,083.00</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>\$49,937,704.38</u></b>
Undistributed Funds - Sokol	<u>\$ 9,971,694.40</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; SURPLUS</b>	<b><u>\$59,909,398.78</u></b>

### STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES MONTH OF APRIL, 2012

	APRIL	YEAR TO DATE
Interest on Bonds and Bills	\$312,955.07	\$836,165.74
Accrued Interest Paid	0.00	119,971.00
Dividends on Stocks	14,320.56	66,426.58
Interest on Mortgages	616.84	10,537.00
Interest on Certificate Loans	0.00	2.67
Sale of Cookbooks	29.00	417.50
Rent Received - Sokol Building	7,075.00	32,914.00
Premium Income	25,514.39	170,261.66
Annuities	312,141.03	769,605.86
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	759.68
Amortization of IMR	0.00	4,672.00
Gain on Sale of Securities/Amortization	<u>2,600.00</u>	<u>106,103.26</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$675,251.89</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,117,836.95</u></b>

### EXPENSES

	APRIL	YEAR TO DATE
Operating Expense - Sokol Building	\$3,477.57	\$16,659.52
Building Maintenance & Repairs	297.20	1,394.85
Rental Area Expenses	1,191.14	2,392.91
Property Taxes - Sokol Building	28,234.07	56,468.16
Depreciation Sokol Building	311.52	1,246.08
Rent for Space	1,250.00	5,000.00
Pension Plan - Print	892.52	3,570.08
Salaries - Office Employees	35,773.90	163,551.75
Salaries - Editorial Employees	6,240.00	26,410.00
SS & Federal Income Tax - Office	3,213.98	15,149.29
Hospitalization	9,891.36	37,598.16
Pension Plan - Office/Officers	5,134.46	70,537.84
Office Expense	2,728.63	12,571.24
Supreme Officers Travel	1,095.21	2,817.90
Supreme Auditors	3,993.92	9,282.48
Actuarial Expenses	4,850.00	11,645.00
Accountant Expenses	2,550.00	10,150.00
Postage - Office	20.75	5,836.14
Telephone - Office	280.70	1,509.24
Telephone - Editorial	135.09	498.36
Printing - Katolicky Sokol	0.00	9,300.00
Postage - Sokol Paper	8,340.00	27,110.00
Misc. Publication Expense	0.00	174.15
Other Printing	5,531.30	11,564.22
Other Legal Expenses	857.95	21,122.37
Death Benefit Claims Paid	36,870.00	254,229.68
Cash Surrender Values Paid	18,729.39	65,513.77
Annuity Surrenders	28,485.93	174,671.96
Annuity Suppl. Contracts	190.33	761.32
Matured Endowments Paid	2,000.00	15,646.00
Reserve Increase	0.00	496,000.00
State Insurance Dept. Lic./Fee	830.00	3,340.00
Bank Charges - Bond Account	11,144.32	44,023.23
Supreme Officers Uniform Allowance	1,221.14	1,221.14
Dues & Subscription	227.20	3,131.05
Donations & Contributions	1,325.00	2,106.62
Clinic	1,287.10	1,581.94
National Basketball Tournament	4,345.01	4,345.01
Other Coaching Insurance	0.00	1,069.15
Convention Expenses	11,250.00	45,000.00
Group Assessments Paid	0.00	12,126.90
Commission Expense	2,587.98	16,394.53
Annuity Commissions	4,588.63	10,474.00
Advertising - Promotional	1,285.66	3,182.20
Marketing Expense	986.45	3,239.00
Agency Expenses	1,959.05	12,704.59
Board of Directors Expenses	10,181.78	15,176.92
Physical Fitness Board Expenses	0.00	17,062.14
Salaries - Supreme Officers	0.00	9,512.50
Supreme Officers/Empl. Bonding	0.00	1,315.00
Fraternal Congress Expense	2,310.42	3,963.22
Local Fees/ Rebates	-2,607.47	-9,929.47
Interest Expense	<u>1,152.55</u>	<u>4,391.76</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$ 266,641.74</u></b>	<b><u>\$1,735,813.90</u></b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b><u>\$ 408,610.15</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 382,023.05</u></b>

ZDAR BOH!  
Steven M. Pogorelec, FIC  
Supreme Secretary  
Slovak Catholic Sokol

### Remember the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!

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

Dennis J. Zifcak  
S.C.S. Museum Treasurer  
205 Madison St.  
Passaic, NJ 07055

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

## Legendárne Caproni vystavia v novom termináli Letiska M.R. Štefánika



Štefánikove lietadlo sa sťahuje z Piešťan do Bratislavy! Zapožičanie repliky lietadla Caproni Ca 33, v ktorom v roku 1919 zahynul M.R.Štefánik sa tak po dlhých rokoch jednaní medzi letiskom a múzeom úspešne uzavrela. Úžasné dielo trenčianskych tvorcov sa predstaví v novom termináli pri jeho slávnostnom spustení do prevádzky v júni.

Už niekoľko dní rozoberá štvorčlenná skupina vo vojenskom múzeu v Piešťanoch repliku talianskeho dvojplôšnika. Dva a pol tony vážiaci stroj z dreva a plátna rozoberú na viac ako tridsať častí.

Na svoju dobu obrovské trojmotorové lietadlo s rozpätím krídel 23 metrov a dĺžkou 11 metrov bude visieť na oceľových lanách nad vstupom do letiskovej haly. Súčasťou expozície budú aj informáciami o životných osudoch M.R. Štefánika a tiež o tvorcach tohto diela. Replika lietadla v hodnote 900 tisíc eur

sa podľa zmluvy medzi letiskom a vojenským múzeom stane na tri roky dominantou interiéru nového terminálu.

Lietadlo Caproni s výborným číslom 11495 je navždy späté s tragickým osudom generála Milana Rastislava Štefánika (1880 – 1919). Astronóm, cestovateľ, diplomat, vojak a letec Štefánik zahynul práve v tomto stroji pri svojom návrate na Slovensko. Lietadlo odštartovalo 4. mája 1919 z talianskeho letiska Campo Formido pri Udine, a to aj napriek upozorneniam na časté havárie a nespoľahlivosť strojov typu Caproni. Preletelo nad Alpami a nad Viedňou, zamierilo smerom na Bratislavu. Krátko pred pristátím na letisku vo Vajnorochoch vzbĺklo a zrútilo sa na zem. Nedaleko jeho trosiek našli telo mŕtveho Štefánika, spolu s ním zahynuli dvaja talianski piloti a mechanik. Nehoda nebola dodnes objasnená, jednou z údajných príčin tragédie malo byť aj zostrelenie lietadla.

**Policajti robia skúšky. Otázka znie: Aké je najrýchlejšie zviera na zemi?**

**Prvý policajt napíše: - Jaguar.**

**Druhý od neho opíše: - Január.**

**Tretí opíše: - Február.**

**A štrnásty napíše: Šťastlivý nový rok.**

**Príde babka do banky a chce zaplatiť šek. Pokladník jej hovorí: - Zabuďli ste podpis.**

**- A ako sa mám podpísať?**

**- Tak ako na pohľadnici.**

**Pani zoberie pero a podpíše sa:**

**- S láskou Mária.**

**Babičke, vášnivej čiatelke dektívok, podstrčia namiesto románu telefónny zoznam. Babka čítala, čítala a keď už dočítala poznamenala.**

**- Od začiatku som tušila, že to urobila Žofia Žubrienková.**

## Festival v Danville, PA

Sestry sv. Cyrila a Metoda usporiadajú v sobotu 14. júla Letný festival. Konať sa bude na pozemkoch materského domu Villa Sacred Heart v Danville, PA. Začiatok bude o 10.30 hodine. Počas dňa budú na predaj slovenské jedlá, tradičné americké piknikové jedlá, koláče, ručné práce a kvety. Pripravený bude aj zábavný program a flea market.

Svätá omša bude o 5.30 hodine popoludní v Bazilike sv. Cyrila a Metoda.

## Spevák Miroslav Žbirka na turné v USA

Populárny spevák Miroslav Žbirka zo Slovenska bude v USA na turné. V programe má zahrnuté nasledovné vystúpenia:

V piatok 8. júna o 8.00 hodine večer vystúpi v Slovak and Czech American Farmers Club, 23 Hankins Rd., Hightstown, NJ.

V sobotu 9. júna o 8.00 hodine večer bude mať koncert v Saint Nicholas Hall na 288 East 10th Street v New Yorku.

V nedeľu 10. júna bude koncert Somerville City Club, 20 Innerbelt Rd., Somerville, MA.

V utorok 12. júna sa Miroslav Žbirka predstaví na Veľvyslanectve SR vo Washington, D.C., 3523 International Court NW, o 8.00 hodine večer.

Ceny vstupeniek sú \$30.00, \$50.00 a \$100.00.

Rezervácie vstupeniek na internete na adrese: <http://www.cskstore.com>. Telefónne číslo: 347-537-6854.



STRIEBRO NA MS V LADOVOM HOKEJI 2012  
Venuvané Pavlovi Demitrovi  
(Foto: TASR)

Slovenská pošta vydala 21. mája pri príležitosti získania striebornej medaily na Majstrovstvách sveta v ľadovom hokeji prílač na 3D celinovej pohľadnici. Jej motívom je ďakovné gesto kapitána slovenského tímu Zdena Cháru zosnulému slovenskému hokejistovi Pavlovi Demitrovi, ktorý 7. septembra 2011 zahynul pri páde lietadla v Rusku.

## SLOVENSKÁ LIGA OZNAMUJE

### Predseda MS Tkáč a veľvyslanec Obsitník budú rečníkmi na bankete SLvA v Bridgeporte

Sekretariát Slovenskej ligy v Amerike oznámil, že predseda Matice slovenskej Marian Tkáč a bývalý americký veľvyslanec v Bratislave Vincent Obsitník prijali pozvanie byť slávnostnými rečníkmi na bankete Slovenskej ligy v Bridgeport, CT, ktorý sa bude konať v sobotu, 9. júna po skončení 55. kongresu. O 6.00 hod. večer začne recepcia a o 7.00 hod. bude banket. Ako už bolo oznámené v tlači, 55. kongres SLvA a kongresový banket sa budú konať v hoteli Bridgeport Holiday Inn, na adrese 1070 Main St., Bridgeport, CT. Telefónne číslo hotela: 203-334-1234.

Vstupenky na banket si možno objednať v centrále Slovenskej ligy, alebo si ich možno kúpiť u členov Organizačného výboru: v Bridgeport - Eileen Wilson, tel. 203-378-8837, alebo v New Yorku a v New Jersey - Milan Dait, tel. 201-641-8922.

### Doživotní členovia SLvA

Podľa Stanov Slovenskej ligy jej doživotní členovia majú na kongresoch plné práva delegátov. Tajomníčka SLvA rozposlala pozývacie listiny tým doživotným členom, ktorých adresy má k dispozícii. Mnohé adresy však chýbajú a niektoré listy sa vrátili pre zmenenú adresu, ktorá nebola ústrediu oznámená.

Slovenská liga pozýva na 55. kongres všetkých doživotných členov, avšak žiada tých, ktorí sa kongresu chcú zúčastniť, aby to oznámili tajomníčke SLvA vopred.

Na kongrese sú vítaní aj hostia, ktorí nie sú delegovaní spolkami, ale majú záujem o prácu v Slovenskej lige. Do videnia na 55. kongrese SLvA v Bridgeport.

**Daniel F. Tanzone**  
predseda

**W. Nina Holy**  
tajomníčka

### Slovak League of America

205 Madison Street  
Passaic NJ 07055

Tel. 973-472-8993 alebo 973-835-3723

### Informácie slovenských podujatiach v USA na internete

Informácie o slovenských spoločenských, náboženských a športových podujatiach, video záznamy zo slovenských podujatí a ďalšie informácie nájdete na internetovej adrese:

[www.slovaknewstv.com](http://www.slovaknewstv.com)

### Úspech gymnazistu z Brezna na súťaži v USA

Slovenský študent zažiaril v USA na najväčšej svetovej súťaži mladých bádateľov - Intel ISEF (Intel International Science and Engineering Fair). Žiak Gymnázia J. Chalúpku v Brezne Peter Horváth obsadil tretie miesto a okrem uznania dostal aj finančný odmenu tisíc dolárov.

P. Horváth na Intel ISEF 2012 nominovali z celoštátnej súťažnej prehľadky bádateľských projektov žiakov stredných škôl Sciantia Pro Futuro 2011 na základe bádateľského projektu s názvom Syntéza nových triazénových zlúčenín a ich aplikácia v spektrofotometrickom stanovení kadmia. Po viac ako ročnej náročnej práci v laboratóriu sa mu podarilo navrhnúť a otestovať finančne nenáročnú, ale mimo-

riadne citlivú metódu na detekciu aj nízkych koncentrácií toxického kadmia. O výnimočnosti a originalite svojej myšlienky presvedčil aj členov vedeckej hodnotiacej komisie v Spojených štátoch.

Súťaž Intel ISEF je najprestížnejšia a najväčšia medzinárodná súťaž vo vede a technike pre žiakov stredných škôl, ktorá sa každoročne koná v máji v USA. Tento rok tam súťažilo viac ako 1 500 žiakov stredných škôl, ktorí na toto medzinárodné finále postúpili zo 446 súťaží zo 70 štátov. Viac ako tisíc vedeckých pracovníkov z väčšiny amerických univerzít počas dvoch dní hodnotilo viac ako 1 200 mimoriadne kvalitných žiackych bádateľských projektov.

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

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Majiteľ a vydavateľ:  
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

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

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



# Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON

ÚRADNÝ ČASOPIS SLOVENSKEHO KATOLICKEHO SOKOLA - 28 000 ČLENOV - HLAVNÁ ÚRADOVŇA: 205 MADISON STREET, PASSAIC, NJ 07055 – [www.slovakcatholicssokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org)

VOLUME CI

PASSAIC, N.J., 30. MÁJA 2012

ČÍSLO 4965

### Slovenskí hokejisti si po deviatich rokoch vybojovali medailu na MS



Slovenskí hokejisti si na Majstrovstvách sveta v hokeji, ktoré sa konali vo Fínsku, vybojovali striebornú medailu. Vo finále 20. mája prehrali s Ruskom 6:2, avšak v semifinále dosiahli historické víťazstvo nad Českom v pomere 3:1. V pondelok 21. mája ich v Bratislave búrlivo víтали desiatitisíce verných a vďačných fanúšikov, ktorí lemovali ulice od letiska až na Námestie SNP, kde sa konala na ich počesť veľkolepá oslava.

### Prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič sa stretol s prezidentom Obamom

V dňoch 20. až 22. mája sa v Chicagu, Illinois konal 25. summit Severoatlantickej aliance (NATO), na ktorom sa zúčastnil aj prezident Slovenskej republiky Ivan Gašparovič.

Hlavnou témou summitu bolo financovanie afganských bezpečnostných síl po roku 2014, kedy spojenci plánujú ukončiť misiu ISAF.

Prezident Gašparovič mal pred summitom osobný ro-

zhovor s prezidentom Barackom Obamom. Prítomní bol aj minister zahraničných vecí SR Miroslav Lajčák a minister obrany Martin Glváč. Prezidenti hovorili o budúcnosti Afganistanu, ale aj spolupráci s Ruskom.

Prezident po skončení úvodných rokovaní absolvoval so svojimi partnermi z ostatných členských štátov pracovnú večeru.

V pondelok 21. mája prezident

Gašparovič slávnostne otvoril honorárny konzulát v Chicagu. Na slávnostnom otvorení sa zúčastnili aj podpredseda vlády a minister zahraničných vecí SR Miroslav Lajčák, náčelník generálneho štábu generálporučík Peter Vojtek a ďalší členovia delegácie. Minister Lajčák odovzdal pri tejto príležitosti konzulský patent novovymenovanej honorárnej konzulke Rosemary Macko Wisnoskej. Členovia oficiálnej slovenskej delegácie sa zároveň stretli s predstaviteľmi najvýznamnejších slovenských organizácií v USA a s podnikateľskou komunitou v Chicagu.

Šéf slovenskej delegácie sa spolu s prezidentom I. Gašparovičom a náčelníkom generálneho štábu P. Vojtekom stretol aj s veliteľom národnej gardy štátu Indiana, generálmajorom Martinom Umbergerom, s ktorou ozbrojené sily Slovenskej republiky úspešne spolupracujú od roku 1994. Dôležitým príkladom tejto kooperácie je súčasnosť oboch strán v rámci vojenskej misie v Afganistane v provincii Urugzan.

### Správy zo Slovenska



▼ Ceny predaných nových bytov v Bratislave v prepočte na meter štvorcový v prvom kvartáli tohto roku klesli v porovnaní s koncom uplynulého roku v priemere o 8 percent. Najväčší záujem bol v hlavnom meste o dvojizbové byty. Z celkovo predaných 490 nových bytov ich bolo viac ako 40 percent.

▼ Na Slovensku v noci zo 17. na 18. mája mrzlo a na niektorých miestach boli zaznamenané nové teplotné rekordy od roku 1952. Teploty na vojenskom letisku v Kuchyni neďaleko Bratislavy dosiahli mínus 9,4 stupňa Celzia, na Štrbskom Plese zaznamenli -7,6 a v Čadci -6,5 stupňa Celzia.

▼ Na Slovensku sa rozmáha predaj falošných liekov cez internet. Odborníci preto varujú, aby pacienti kupovali lieky výlučne v lekárňach. Falošné lieky prichádzajú na Slovensko najmä z Číny a Indie.

▼ Miera evidovanej nezamestnanosti na Slovensku klesla v apríli medzimesačne o 0,29 percenta na 13,40 percent. Počet uchádzačov o zamestnanie dosiahol na konci apríla 362 180 osôb. Medzimesačne sa tak znížil o

7 665 osôb a medziročne vzrástol o 16 877 osôb.

▼ Desiatky Slovákov sa ročne stanú obeťami obchodovania s ľuďmi. Obchoduje sa zo ženami, ale aj s mužmi. Obete majú väčšinou 20 až 30 rokov, často pochádzajú z detských domovov, sú nezamestnaní a žijú na východnom Slovensku. Obete sú nútené vykonávať nútené práce, žobranie, sexuálne vykorisťovanie a nútenú kriminalitu. Sú však obeťami aj nelegálnej adopcie či pri obchodovaní s ľudskými orgánmi.

▼ Obete obchodovania s ľuďmi zo Slovenska smerujú hlavne do Veľkej Británie, Nemecka, Rakúska, Českej republiky, Španielska, Luxemburska, Poľska, Maďarska a Švédska.

▼ Na gréckom ostrove Rodos zahynul 19-ročný Slováč. Zrazil ho rakúsky vodič, keď mladík prechádzal cez cestu.

▼ Americký reťazec Toys "R" Us plánuje otvoriť pobočky v strednej Európe. Predajne plánuje otvoriť aj vo väčších mestách na Slovensku. Toys "R" Us je jedno z najväčších hráčkarstiev na svete, pôsobí v 36 krajinách. Vlastní sieť vyše 1 500 predajní.

### Rozlúčková recepcia veľvyslanca Petra Buriana

Na slovenskom veľvyslanectve vo Washingtone, D.C. sa v piatok 18. mája 2012 uskutočnila rozlúčková recepcia mimoriadneho a splnomocneného veľvyslanca Slovenskej republiky USA Petra Buriana.

Veľvyslanec vo svojom ďakovnom príhovore k hostom – predstaviteľom slovenských spolkov a organizácií, Ministerstva zahraničných vecí USA a ďalších štátnych orgánov, mimovládnych organizácií a analytických centier, ako aj zástupcom diplomatického zboru – podčiarkol strategický charakter a dôležitosť vzťahov Slovenska so Spojenými štátmi americkými a podakoval prítomným za aktívnu spoluprácu počas rokov jeho pôsobenia vo funkcii veľvyslanca.

Predstavitelia mimovládneho združenia Priatelia Slovenska (Friends of Slovakia) ocenili osobný vklad veľvyslanca Buriana do rozvoja vzťahov medzi dvomi krajinami pamätnou medailou, ktorú mu odovzdal predseda združenia a honorárny konzul Slovenskej republiky Jozef Senko.



Prezident USA Barack Obama mal počas summitu krátky rozhovor aj s prezidentom Gašparovičom. Na snímke sú (zľava): generálny tajomník NATO Anders Rasmussen, prezident Gašparovič a prezident Obama.