



Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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

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

VOLUME CI

PASSAIC, N.J., SEPTEMBER 5, 2012

NUMBER 4972

Golfers enjoy competition held at the scenic Treasure Lake Golf Resort in DuBois, Pa.

57th International Golf Tournament Winners Include: A Flight, Gary Watkins; B Flight, Brian Suchy; C Flight, Derek Loehle; Callaway Flight, Jeremy Moeller; Senior Flight, Edward Baker; and Women's Flight, Chris Chervenak

Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award Goes to Karol M. Talafous of Group 1



Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., right, is shown presenting the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award to Karol M. Talafous at the 67th golf tournament banquet on August 11.

The beautiful and challenging PGA-Rated Gold and Silver 18 hole golf courses at Treasure Lake were in great shape and ready to host the 57th International Slovak Catholic Sokol Golf Tournament the weekend of August 10-12. The Clarion Hotel in nearby DuBois, Pa. was the

host hotel for the 102 golfers who participated in the 2012 tournament. The Clarion Hotel hosted the hospitality night on Friday evening and served a delicious buffet breakfast for the golfers on Saturday and Sunday morning.

The golfers arrived on Thursday evening and Friday morning to play the practice round on the more challenging Gold Course. Earlier in the week, heavy rain came through Treasure Lake which kept the fairways soft and the greens very unpredictable for the early August tournament. On Friday, the dark and cloudy skies stayed for the entire day and it seemed that the rain could come at any moment for the practice round but everyone was able to get in 18 holes with little precipitation.

On Saturday morning, the golfers headed back to the Treasure Lake Gold Course for the 9 a.m. start and most of the participants brought out their jackets, as the temperature dropped into the low 60s overnight. Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller, President Larry M. Glugosh, Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics and Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Martin Degnan greeted all the golfers, verified their starting hole for the shotgun start, collected money for closest to the pin and lon-

gest putt, and handed out the spike cleaner souvenirs.

During the day, the weather did not improve and the wind held up a lot of the long drives for the golfers on some of the par 4s and par 5s. The greens were also very challenging for many of the golfers and they took a lot of extra strokes on many of the 18 holes on the Gold Course.

Jeremy Moeller of Pittsburgh, one of the youngest golfers and a first time player, had the best opening round for the day, as he finished with a scratch score of 80 on the Gold Course. Gary Watkins and Adam Macurak both shot an 81 and Scott Pogorelec shot an 82, on Saturday. Leading the Women's Division on Saturday was Chris Chervenak with a scratch 106 and Linda Frank and Mary Margaret Starr both had scratch scores of 108.

When the golfers finished up on the Gold Course by midafternoon,

they headed to the hotel to shower and change for the evening's festivities. Prior to the traditional banquet, the Most Rev. Roger W. Gries, O.S.B., Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland, a veteran Sokol golfer, celebrated Mass for the golfers to satisfy the Sunday obligation. Bishop Roger is also a 2007 recipient of the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports

Award. Following the liturgy, the golfers and guests enjoyed a happy hour and a chance to mingle with fellow Sokol duffers before the banquet.

After the golfers took their seats, the program began with the singing of the national anthems of the United States and Canada followed by the invocation offered by Bishop Roger. All of the golfers and guests enjoyed a delicious dinner that included steak, shrimp, baked potato along with a variety of fresh vegetables followed by cheesecake for dessert.

Story & Photos by James C. Matlon Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics



Veteran Sokol golfer and 2007 recipient of the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award, Bishop Roger W. Gries, O.S.B. of Cleveland celebrated Mass on August 11 prior to the banquet for the benefit of our golfers.

Following dinner, Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller extended a warm fraternal welcome to everyone at the banquet and introduced the speakers for the evening. Supreme Presi-

(Continued on page 18)



Karol M. Talafous of Group 1, front row center, this year's recipient of the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award is shown flanked by Supreme Officers and past recipients of the award at the 67th golf tournament banquet. Shown on the photo front row, l-r, Loretta G. Smith, Group 17; Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller, Brother Talafous, Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., and Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh. Back row, l-r, Bishop Roger W. Gries, O.S.B., Group 5; Thomas Muldoon, Jr., Group 9; Richard Hodos, Group 17; Jack Yanosick, Group 14 and Joseph L. Genet, Group 5.

September is Life Insurance Awareness Month

Throughout the past number of years there has been much concern and talk regarding the financial crises, lack of employment and other related items receiving headlines, but there is another one that is just as concerning - the crisis is that many Americans do not have adequate life insurance coverage.

According to LIMRA International, 68 million adult Americans have no life insurance at all and those with coverage have far less than most experts recommend for a secure financial future for their families. With so many Americans in a financially vulnerable situation today, the life insurance industry has created a month-long public awareness campaign aimed at encouraging the public to take stock of their life insurance needs.

Life Insurance Awareness Month which takes place every September is an industrywide effort coordinated by the nonprofit LIFE Foundation. Each year, LIFE is joined in this educational initiative by more than 100 of the nation's leading insurance companies and other industry groups. All share the same objective: to end the unnecessary financial suffering that so often occurs when a loved one dies.

When an individual dies without adequate life insurance coverage, surviving family members often face very difficult financial consequences like having to work additional jobs or longer hours, borrow money from friends and family, move to smaller, less expensive housing, or put plans for a child's education on hold. You need to consider how your family would fare financially if, suddenly, you were not there to provide for them. Where would the money come from to pay for your funeral, the monthly bills, the mortgage, and the kids' education costs? These types of questions are the life insurance industry wants all Americans to ask themselves. If you have any doubts as to how your family would manage without you, it is time to take charge of your situation by getting a life insurance check-up today.

Do not gamble with your family's financial future for one more minute. Take charge of your life insurance situation today and rest easier knowing your loved ones will be taken care of if something were to happen to you.

Life insurance is considered by

many financial experts as the key to sound financial planning. It is a cost effective method to providing for those you care most about, when you are gone. There are a number of important factors that make life insurance an important tool; income replacement, the ability to pay outstanding debts, long-term obligations, estate planning and wealth transfer.

SOKOL HERITAGE

In conjunction with LIMRA and the September's Life Insurance Awareness Month the Slovak Catholic Sokol is excited to introduce a new life insurance campaign. "Sokol Heritage", this campaign is established to provide to our current members and their immediate family members an opportunity to purchase affordable, quality and relatively easy to obtain life insurance.

This offering will be available from **August 15, 2012 through December 15, 2012**. This is a benefit offered exclusively for our existing members and families of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, who currently have a life insurance policy or annuity certificate in force.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol is making this commitment to extend to our member's immediate family an opportunity to not only gain membership in the Society, but also to recognize the need to provide your family the important financial benefit of permanent life insurance coverage.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol is extremely proud of both, our Sokol Heritage and outstanding fraternal programs. We are also aware that our current members and their families desire to have sound financial protection throughout their lives. That is why we have developed this exceptional membership benefit that will focus on providing To accomplish these goals, the society will not only provide a **GUARANTEED ISSUE** permanent life insurance certificate to your loved ones, but also will provide a "Fraternal Benefit" that provides a partial payment that reduces first year premium*. We have structured our "Sokol Heritage" program to be as flexible as possible for our existing membership. As a valued member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, you can take advantage of this "limited time offer" to either increase your current permanent insurance coverage, or extend the same opportunity to an immediate family member.

(Continued on page 5)

Thank you note from a scholarship recipient

Dear S.C.S. Scholarship Committee:

I wish to thank you and the Slovak Catholic Sokol for awarding me a Catholic grade school scholarship grant. Additionally, my parents also thank you, as it definitely will offset the cost of my tuition at St. Vincent de Paul School in Wheeling, West Virginia where I will enter the 7th grade this fall.

In addition to my academic responsibilities, I am also an altar server, and play football, hockey,

baseball and run track. My grandfather was a Sokol gymnast in Lyndora, Pa., so recently watching the Olympics from London peaked my interest in gymnastics.

Finally, I am very proud to be Slovak and a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in the Lyndora, Pa. Assembly. Dakujem vam and Zdar Boh!

Sincerely,
Christopher R. Furka
Wheeling, West Virginia

In West Haverstraw, N.Y.

Traditional Slovak Day Pilgrimage held at the Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians

Catholics of Slovak ancestry from across the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area gathered at the Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians in West Haverstraw, N.Y. on Sunday, August 12. With perfect summer weather, a good turnout of pilgrims gathered to honor the Mother of God continuing the wonderful pilgrimage tradition of Slovakia. The observance, this year in its twentieth year, is held near the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary which is observed by the universal Church on August 15th. The pilgrimage is hosted by the St. Stephen Society, Branch 716 of the Jednota as well as other local lodges of the organization along with the local lodges of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and area Slovak parishes. About 100 pilgrims enjoyed this year's gathering.

The program began at 10 a.m. with priests offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession). At 11 a.m. a concelebrated Mass was offered in Slovak on the altar of the outdoor shrine. Principal celebrant of the liturgy was the Rev. Roman Palecko, C.O., a member of the Slovak Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Tappan, N.Y. Concelebrants included the Rev. Stefan Chanas, administrator of St. John Nepomucene Parish in New York City and the Rev. Mark Makai, a visiting priest from Slovakia. The traditional Marian hymns in Slovak added to the beauty of the liturgy led by Radoslav Lesay who also served as the organist. Serving as lector at the liturgy was Henrietta Dait. During the liturgy, the pilgrims remembered the soul of Father Mar-



Celebrants of the Slovak liturgy included, l-r, Rev. Mark Makai visiting from Slovakia; the Rev. Roman Palecko, C.O. from Sacred Heart Church in Tappan, N.Y. and the Rev. Stefan Chanas of St. John Nepomucene Church in New York City.

tin Svitan, a long-time promoter of the pilgrimage and pastor of the St. John Nepomucene Parish who passed away in April. At the conclusion of the liturgy, in the name of the parish council of St. John Nepomucene Parish, Henrietta Dait and Jozef Bilik presented Father Chanas a bouquet of 40 red roses in honor of his recent 40th birthday.

Following the Mass, a delicious lunch featuring Slovak culinary specialties was enjoyed in the shrine's dining room. The meal was prepared by John Skrkon and his wife

along with other members of the committee. Father Chanas thanked all for their cooperation in continuing the pilgrimage tradition honoring the Mother of God.

The pilgrimage concluded at 2:30 p.m. with traditional Rosary devotions processing on the scenic grounds of the shrine which is conducted by the Salesians of St. John Bosco. Thanks and gratitude goes out to all who made this year's pilgrimage a success as a fitting tribute to the Mother of God on the feast of her Assumption.



The pilgrims from across the New York- New Jersey metropolitan area pose for group photo at the outdoor altar of the Marian Shrine.



Pilgrims begin the afternoon devotions along the Rosary Walk of the shrine.

From the Desk of the Supreme Secretary

My Fraternal View

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



BEGINNING A NEW SEASON

With the celebration of Labor Day, the traditional end of summer, we embark on a new and exciting fall season. By now our children have returned to school. For many parents, it will provide them with a reprieve from their busy and often hectic summer schedule. All of us, I am sure, would agree that a good education is necessary and a key to happiness and success in life. As they return to the classroom, we need to encourage our children to strive to do their best in their studies so that they will enjoy a happy and prosperous future. When our immigrant ancestors came to America, they saw the importance of education and encouraged their children to seek higher education. So too our organization saw the need not only to encourage higher education among our youth but to financially assist them to achieve their goals. Since 1972, we have provided scholarship grants to our deserving young members. This year, we were pleased to provide scholarship grants to a total of 81 of our young members. Over the past 40 years, a total of 1,865 of our members have been assisted in their educational pursuits with a Sokol scholarship grant. This certainly is an enviable record for an organization of our size. This wonderful fraternal benefit reflects the commitment of our organization to our young members and to higher education. So, I pray that all of our members who have returned to school this month on every education level will do their best and make their families and our organization proud. Remember to always do your best.

The fall season will once again begin an active fraternal season for many of us. Our local Assemblies, Wreaths and Groups begin their various activities. Some of our Groups have already announced the dates of their annual meeting. I hope that every one of our organization's 19 Groups will host an annual meeting. These meetings are important because they promote the democratic process which is a hallmark of the fraternal benefit system. Group activity is important in the life of our organization since it coordinates and stimulates interest in our various fraternal and sporting activities in a particular geographical area. At the Group annual meeting, the representatives of our local Assemblies and Wreaths share their ideas and suggestions to promote an active fraternal program. Input from the local lodges will insure the success of various Group activities. In this way, we insure continued activities on every level of our organization.

In the fall, we have the opportunity of bringing activities indoors following their outdoor summer events. As you know, we encourage our lodges and Groups to host various fraternal activities. And to support such activities, we offer financial assistance to an Assembly, Wreath or Group. The Home Office will offer \$100 in support

of such activities, up to twice a year. We ask only that you announce the date and activity in our publication and then if possible provide a follow-up story and photo. And with the upcoming elections, it's a wonderful opportunity to invite our elected officials to our activities to let them know what we are all about. In this way, they learn about all the good fraternal do for society. This is an important issue as we continue to defend the tax-exempt status of fraternal.

I was pleased to join our golf enthusiasts at our recent 57th International Golf Tournament held in DuBois, Pa. I wish to congratulate all the flight winners. In addition, my best wishes go out to Karl M. Talafous who was presented with the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award. As a veteran Sokol golfer, Brother Talafous is certainly deserving of this tribute. Thanks to all who helped to make this year's golf tournament a resounding success.

Promoting life insurance and annuity sales is a challenge which I believe all of us is up to. The life insurance industry has designated September as Life Insurance Awareness Month. As part of this effort we have inaugurated our new Sokol Heritage Membership Campaign which will continue until December 15, 2012. I hope you take the time to read through the article which appears in this issue to learn about the many benefits of this campaign. This campaign provides family members of our current members who are not yet our members the opportunity to purchase life insurance coverage at specially reduced rates. It is a Guaranteed Issue campaign which means that they can't be denied life insurance protection. It's a unique opportunity, so I ask that you take the time and read all about this special campaign. By participating in this campaign one can provide additional important insurance protection which will insure your family's financial security when you have passed. Don't delay. Do it this week. Remember that all of us are aging and life insurance premiums are based on age and health. The older you are, the higher the premium rates. If you have any questions about any of our life insurance or annuity products, feel free to contact our Marketing and Sales Director, Brother Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C. at (888)381-5431 or contact us at the Home Office (800)886-7656. And remember the adage which has much truth, "Life Insurance isn't for the people who die. It's for the people who live."

Finally, I extend thanks and appreciation to all our members who participated in our various sporting and fraternal activities during the summer season. Our organization financially supported all of these activities. So let us all do our best to promote new membership which insures the financial stability of our organization.

Until next time, have a great week, good health to all and peace be with you and your family. Zdar Boh!

with Mass at 4 p.m. followed by meeting; for reservations call Andrea Papcun at (248) 375-9334.

■ Annual Golf Outing hosted by Group 17 "Rev. Francis Skutil" at the Mill Creek Golf Course, Boardman, Oh. beginning at 11 a.m., for information call Glen Kramer (330)788-6260.

■ Group 14 annual meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 9 a.m.

SUN. SEPT. 30

■ Group 2 annual meeting at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 116 Grove St., Torrington, Conn. beginning with Mass at 9 a.m.; meeting and luncheon to follow at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 171 Franklin Street.

■ Group 3 annual meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall, Route 16, Douglas, Mass. beginning at 10:15 a.m.

■ Wreath 1 annual meeting following the Group 2 annual meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall, 173 Franklin St., Torrington, Conn.

SAT. OCT. 6

■ Group 3 participates in community Oktoberfest observance, Main St., Douglas, Mass. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., for information call Roger J. Manyak (508)476-2668.

MON. OCT. 8

■ Wreath 111 meeting at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Oh. beginning at 6:30 p.m. with the theme "Set the Clocks Back, Fall is Back."

SUN. OCT. 14

■ Group 11 annual meeting at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 13th Ave & 2nd St., N.E., Minneapolis, Minn., Mass at 9 a.m. meeting and luncheon to follow in the Father Dargay Memorial Hall.

SAT. OCT. 20

■ Annual Golf Tournament hosted by Assembly 261 and Wreath 155 of Reading, Pa. at the Manor Golf Club with a 1 p.m. shotgun start; \$65.00 entrance fee; for reservations call the Sokol Club at (610)375-4500.

NOV. 2-3

■ 88th annual meeting of the New England Fraternal Alliance at the Host Inn in Sturbridge, Sturbridge, Mass.

SUN. NOV. 11

■ 30th Annual St. Martin's Day Celebration hosted by Group 2 beginning with attendance at the 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church, 1950 Barnum Ave., Stratford, Conn. luncheon and fraternal program to follow at the Grassy Hill Lodge, Derby, Conn.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS SEPTEMBER 19TH

In keeping with our bi-weekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, September 19th. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, September 13th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovakcatholic.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh!

Daniel F. Tanzone
Editor

Sokol Calendar

SAT. SEPT. 8

■ 37th Annual Sokol Golf Open hosted by Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak" at the Connecticut National Golf Course, Putnam, Conn.; for information call Roger J. Manyak (508)476-2668.

MON. SEPT. 10

■ Wreath 111 patronal feast day and meeting at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Oh. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

FR. SEPT. 14

■ Assembly 11 meeting at the home of Therese M. Buc, 9024 Del Prado Drive, Unit 1-South, Palos Hills, Ill. beginning at 1 p.m., refreshments will be served following the business

meeting.

SUN. SEPT. 16

■ Assembly 162 meeting in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 218 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. beginning at 12:30 p.m.

■ Slovak Day Picnic hosted by the Slovak Alliance of Bridgeport at the Germania Schwaben Club Beer Garden, 416 Horace St., Bridgeport, Conn. 1-6 p.m., admission \$5.00, free for children under 14 years of age.

■ 19th annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Mother of Sorrows at the Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon, North Lipkey Road, North Jackson, Oh. beginning with devotions at 3 p.m., Mass celebrated at 4 p.m. followed by dinner; tickets \$15.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children; for dinner reservations call (330)782-9126.

■ Dedication of the new Slavic Museum, 1735 Fleet St., Baltimore, Md. beginning at 3 p.m., free

admission and refreshments call (410)342-7200.

SAT. SEPT. 22

■ Quarterly meeting of the S.C.S. Supreme Board of Directors via a Conference Call beginning at 10 a.m.

■ Group 4 "Bishop Stefan Moyzes" annual meeting at the Casa Capri Restaurant, 2129 Birch Road, Kenosha, Wis. beginning at 11 a.m., for information call July Ann Dobbs at (262)681-1720.

SUN. SEPT. 23

■ Group 5 Golf Tournament at the Chippewa Golf Club, 12147 Shank Road, Doylestown, Oh., Tee Time at 10 a.m., for information contact Joseph Underation (440)829-5942.

■ 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.

■ Annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar hosted by the Slovak Catholic Federation at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Casimir, 2601 West Marquette Rd., Chicago, Ill. beginning at 1 p.m., buffet dinner to be served at 3 p.m.; offering \$15.00 per person; for reservations call John Jurcenko (773)763-0810.

■ 77th annual Sokol Day Picnic hosted by Group 7 "Rev. Joseph Murgas" at the Plains Lions Pavilion on Clark Lane, Plains, Pa. 12 noon to 6 p.m.

SAT. SEPT. 29

■ Group 12 annual meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 412 Crestmont St., Reading, Pa. beginning at 11 a.m.

■ Group 16 annual meeting at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 41233 Ryan Road, north of 18 Mile Road, Sterling Heights, Mich. beginning



REFLECTOR ...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

Annual Slovak Day Picnic on Sept. 16 in Bridgeport, Conn.

The Slovak Alliance of Greater Bridgeport, Connecticut will host its annual Slovak Day Picnic on Sunday, September 16 at the Germania Schwaben Club Beer Garden, located at 416 Horace Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. and continue until 6 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 for adults. Children under the age of 14 are welcome free of charge. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. There will be plenty of traditional Slovak culinary specialties along with American picnic favorites available for purchase throughout the day. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by the Vox Ethnika Band.

The Germania Schwaben Club is easily accessible via East Main Street to York Street and then left on to Horace Street. The Slovak Alliance of Greater Bridgeport was founded in the 1930s by the late Father Stephen A. Panik who served for many years as pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Parish in Bridgeport and was a well-known and respected spiritual and civic leader. The Slovak Alliance continues to promote a greater appreciation for our Slovak heritage and culture through its various activities and supports higher education among our youth through its annual scholarship program. A cordial invitation is extended to Group 2 Sokols and Sokolky to turn out for this year's annual picnic.

Slovak Catholic Federation plans Pilgrimage of Faith for 2013

The Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.G., national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation, announced that a special Pilgrimage of Faith is being organized for April 14-26, 2013, to celebrate a number of milestones in the history of the Catholic Church: the Year of Faith declared by Pope Benedict XVI in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the convening of the Second Vatican Council by Blessed Pope John XXIII and the 20th anniversary of the publication of *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*; the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Rome, Italy, due to the vision and efforts of Cardinal Jozef Tomko, assisted by the late Bishop Andrew G. Grutka and many committed Slovak Catholics from America and Canada; and the Jubilee Year in Slovakia, recalling the 1,150th anniversary of the arrival of Saints Cyril and Methodius to preach the Gospel to the Slavic peoples.

Those wishing to participate are reminded that this event is a Pilgrimage and not an ordinary tour. Given the places that are to be visited and dignitaries that are to be met, elements of the itinerary may change, even at the last minute. This pilgrimage is organized through Danube International Travel Agency, Nyack, N.Y., and is presented as an opportunity to celebrate both Catholic faith and Slovak heritage.

Pilgrims will depart from Philadelphia on Sunday, April 14, 2013, with arrival the following day in Rome. Five full days will be spent in Rome which will include visits to major religious and historic churches and sites. While in Rome, pilgrims will attend the weekly Wednesday papal audience with His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, and will visit the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Pilgrims will reside at the same hotel the entire time in Rome.

Following a visit to Rome, pilgrims will fly to Vienna, Austria, and then transfer to motor coach to spend the remainder of the pilgrimage in Slovakia. While in Slovakia, pilgrims will stay at a hotel in Bratislava for the five days and will visit places such as Trnava, Sastin and Nitra, the site of the oldest Christian church in Slovakia dedicated in 833 A.D. Nitra was the center of the evangelization mission of Saints Cyril and Methodius, with Saint Methodius as Archbishop in Nitra. The pilgrimage will also include a visit to Velehrad in the Czech Republic, where Saint

Methodius is believed to have died in 885 A.D.

Pilgrims will depart from Vienna, Austria, to Philadelphia on Friday, April 26, 2013. The cost of the air and land package is \$3,900.00 per person based on double occupancy. The single supplement is an extra \$780.00. Space on the pilgrimage is limited so initial registration with a \$100.00 down payment must be submitted by: Saturday, September 15, 2012. To download a registration form and to review the itinerary, visit: www.slovakcatholicfedertion.org. Please send registration form and down payment to: Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.G., Saint Peter's Cathedral, 315 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, PA 18503. For more information, contact Father Altavilla at (570)344-7231 or Anna Korcak at Danube International Travel Agency at (845)353-7792.

Annual Slovak Pastoral Seminar set for Chicago

The annual Slovak Pastoral Seminar hosted by the Midwest Region of the Slovak Catholic Federation will be held on Sunday, September 23 at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Casimir located at 2601 West Marquette Road in Chicago, Ill.

An interesting and enjoyable presentation will be given by Eva Bustamante on the history of Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak Catholic Cemetery in the Archdiocese of Chicago. The cemetery was founded in 1923 to serve the needs of the then 10 Slovak parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago. The presentation will be of particular interest to individuals doing genealogical research on their Slovak forebears. Following her lecture, Ms. Bustamante will answer any questions and distribute booklets. Many prominent Chicago area Slovak leaders are buried in Our Lady of Sorrows Cemetery.

Registration for this year's seminar will start at 1 p.m. Ms. Bustamante will be welcomed at 1:45 p.m. with her presentation following. A delicious buffet dinner will be enjoyed beginning at 3 p.m. The offering for this event is \$15.00 per person. Pre-paid registration can be made with John Jurcenko at tel. (773)763-0810, for additional information on this year's seminar, contact Geraldine Hletko at tel. (708)387-7812 or contact the Seminar Publicity Chairperson, our Sokol Robert Tapak Magruder at tel. (502)244-7743. The seminar is a must for those interested in their Slovak faith traditions while enjoying a wonderful afternoon of traditional Slovak fellowship and camaraderie.

30th Anniversary benefit dinner set for Slovak Radio Hour

All is in readiness for this year's 30th annual benefit dinner and dance in support of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour scheduled for Saturday, October 6th at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 2912 East Carson Street, South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. The festivities begin with a reception at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by the ever-popular Joseph Jurasi Band from New Jersey. Tickets for the gala in support of the popular Slovak Radio Hour are \$35.00 per person. For ticket reservations call (412)421-1204.

The annual dinner and dance serves as the principal fund-raising event in support of the Slovak Radio Hour. It is hosted by our well-known Slovak fraternal couple and our Sokol members, Rudy and Sue Ondrejco. The radio program is heard in western Pennsylvania every Sunday afternoon from 3 to 4 p.m. on Station WPIT 101.5 FM/730 AM. Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Sue and Rudy Ondrejco and the Slovak Radio Hour as it celebrates its 30th anniversary. We encourage our Sokol members in western Pennsylvania to turn out for the dinner-dance and listen in to the Slovak Radio Hour which is dedicated to the promotion of our rich Slovak heritage and culture. An enjoyable evening is assured.



The Word of God ...

Gospel for the Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year – September 9th

Mark 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Mark

*Again Jesus left the district of Tyre
and went by way of Sidon
to the Sea of Galilee,
into the district of the Decapolis.
And people brought to him a deaf man
who had a speech impediment
and begged him to lay his hand on him.
He took him off by himself
away from the crowd.
He put his finger into the man's ears
and, spitting, touched his tongue;
then he looked up to heaven and groaned
and said to him,
"Ephphatha!" -that is, "Be opened!" -
And immediately
the man's ears were opened,
his speech impediment was removed,
and he spoke plainly.
He ordered them not to tell anyone.
But the more he ordered them not to,
the more they proclaimed it.
They were exceedingly astonished
and they said,
"He has done all things well.
He makes the deaf hear
and the mute speak."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year – September 16th

Mark 8:27-35

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Mark

*Jesus and his disciples set out
for the villages of Caesarea Philippi.
Along the way he asked his disciples,
"Who do people say that I am?"
They said in reply,
"John the Baptist, others Elijah,
still others one of the prophets."
And he asked them,
"But who do you say that I am?"
Peter said to him in reply,
"You are the Christ."
Then he warned them
not to tell anyone about him.
He began to teach them
that the Son of Man must suffer greatly
and be rejected by the elders,
the chief priests,
and the scribes,
and be killed, and rise after three days
He spoke this openly.
Then Peter took him aside
and began to rebuke him.
At this he turned around and,
looking at his disciples,
rebuked Peter "
and said,
"Get behind me, Satan.
You are thinking not as God does,
but as human beings do."
He summoned the crowd
with his disciples
and said to them,*

(Continued on page 16)

September is Life Insurance Awareness Month

(Continued from page 2)

SOKOL HERITAGE - GUIDELINES:

Qualifications to participate in the "Sokol Heritage" Fraternal Benefit

An existing member in good standing of the Slovak Catholic Sokol with a current Permanent Life Insurance, Term Life Insurance or an Annuity Certificate, and their Immediate Family Members.

The Definition of Immediate Family -

The definition of the Immediate Family: your spouse, son, daughter, grandchildren, brother, sister, parents or grandparents.

Qualifying Permanent Life Insurance Plans by Age Groups – For Guarantee Issue

Ages	Max Face Amount	Legacy Single Premium	Legacy 3	Legacy 10	Legacy 20	Legacy Life
0 – 80	\$10,000	X	X	X	X	X

Fraternal Benefit Reduced Premiums –

Legacy 10, Legacy 20 and Legacy Life

When purchased and qualified as a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the society will issue a 50% Fraternal Benefit, that will be applied to reduce the first year premium, all succeeding premium payments will be at the regular premium rates.

Legacy Single Premium and Legacy 3

When a new certificate is purchased and qualified as a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the society will issue, a "10% fraternal benefit" that will be applied to reduce the total premium amount.

Taking Advantage of "Sokol Heritage" –

Contact the Home Office (800) 886-7656, the Sales & Marketing Office (888) 381-5431 or contact your local Group or Assembly Officer and request a Life Insurance Application. You can find information and premium rates regarding the Sokol Heritage Campaign on our web site

www.slovakcatholicsokol.org

Due to the large reduction to the premium rates this campaign will not include a recommender's fee.

SOKOL HERITAGE - Application Instructions:

1. Complete the "SOKOL HERITAGE" Application Form (SHAPP-12).
2. Complete the Application for Life Insurance (LA-10).
3. Mail the "SOKOL HERITAGE" Application Form (SHAPP-12), Application for Life Insurance (LA-10) and your initial premium to:

Slovak Catholic Sokol
PO Box 899
Passaic, NJ 07055



SOKOL HERITAGE - Application Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternal Benefit Offer

Purchase one of our Permanent Life Insurance Products and receive the following as a Fraternal Benefit

1. The right to obtain a Guaranteed Issue Permanent Life Insurance Certificate for yourself or an Immediate Family member; and
2. A 50% reduction for the 1st year premium if the certificate chosen is a Legacy 10, Legacy 20 or Legacy Life plan. A 10% Reduction on a Legacy Single Premium or a Legacy 3 Life plan.

Existing Member Name: _____ Certificate #: _____

Applicant Name Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Current Age: _____ (Applicant Qualifying ages are 0 – 80)

Date: _____ Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____ Existing Member's Signature: _____

SOKOL HERITAGE MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Sokol Heritage - Legacy 10

1st Year Premium Rates Per \$1,000

Issue Age	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Non-Tobacco		Non-Tobacco		Tobacco		Tobacco	
	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000
0	7.75	5.75	6.87	4.87	-	-	-	-
1	7.89	5.89	6.99	4.99	-	-	-	-
2	8.04	6.04	7.12	5.12	-	-	-	-
3	8.20	6.20	7.24	5.24	-	-	-	-
4	8.36	6.36	7.37	5.37	-	-	-	-
5	8.52	6.52	7.51	5.51	-	-	-	-
6	8.70	6.70	7.65	5.65	-	-	-	-
7	8.90	6.90	7.80	5.80	-	-	-	-
8	9.12	7.12	7.97	5.97	-	-	-	-
9	9.35	7.35	8.15	6.15	-	-	-	-
10	9.61	7.61	8.35	6.35	-	-	-	-
11	9.87	7.87	8.56	6.56	-	-	-	-
12	10.14	8.14	8.77	6.77	-	-	-	-
13	10.40	8.40	8.98	6.98	-	-	-	-
14	10.65	8.65	9.18	7.18	-	-	-	-
15	11.01	9.01	9.40	7.40	-	-	-	-
16	11.16	9.16	9.63	7.63	13.31	11.31	11.49	9.49
17	11.41	9.41	9.86	7.86	13.50	11.50	11.70	9.70
18	11.69	9.69	10.10	8.10	13.69	11.69	11.93	9.93
19	11.97	9.97	10.36	8.36	13.90	11.90	12.16	10.16
20	12.26	10.26	10.63	8.63	14.10	12.10	12.40	10.40
21	12.51	10.51	10.90	8.90	14.33	12.33	12.64	10.64
22	12.77	10.77	11.19	9.19	14.58	12.58	12.90	10.90
23	13.03	11.03	11.49	9.49	14.88	12.88	13.16	11.16
24	13.29	11.29	11.80	9.80	15.20	13.20	13.42	11.42
25	13.57	11.57	12.13	10.13	15.57	13.57	13.68	11.68
26	13.85	11.85	12.47	10.47	15.93	13.93	13.95	11.95
27	14.15	12.15	12.82	10.82	16.31	14.31	14.24	12.24
28	14.45	12.45	13.19	11.19	16.69	14.69	14.55	12.55
29	14.77	12.77	13.57	11.57	17.08	15.08	14.90	12.90
30	15.11	13.11	13.96	11.96	17.48	15.48	15.28	13.28
31	15.46	13.46	14.34	12.34	17.90	15.90	15.69	13.69
32	15.82	13.82	14.70	12.70	18.33	16.33	16.10	14.10
33	16.21	14.21	15.06	13.06	18.78	16.78	16.49	14.49
34	16.61	14.61	15.39	13.39	19.24	17.24	16.86	14.86
35	17.03	15.03	15.71	13.71	19.73	17.73	17.21	15.21
36	17.46	15.46	16.05	14.05	20.22	18.22	17.55	15.55
37	17.91	15.91	16.45	14.45	20.73	18.73	17.93	15.93
38	18.38	16.38	16.85	14.85	21.25	19.25	18.37	16.37
39	18.87	16.87	17.27	15.27	21.79	19.79	18.88	16.88
40	19.38	17.38	17.73	15.73	22.34	20.34	19.48	17.48
41	19.90	17.90	18.18	16.18	22.90	20.90	19.96	17.96
42	20.42	18.42	18.65	16.65	23.48	21.48	20.45	18.45
43	20.95	18.95	19.12	17.12	24.08	22.08	20.95	18.95
44	21.49	19.49	19.60	17.60	24.71	22.71	21.47	19.47
45	22.03	20.03	20.10	18.10	25.36	23.36	21.99	19.99
46	22.58	20.58	20.63	18.63	26.03	24.03	22.52	20.52
47	23.15	21.15	21.18	19.18	26.70	24.70	23.07	21.07
48	23.76	21.76	21.74	19.74	27.39	25.39	23.64	21.64
49	24.40	22.40	22.31	20.31	28.10	26.10	24.23	22.23
50	25.08	23.08	22.92	20.92	28.81	26.81	24.85	22.85
51	25.78	23.78	23.54	21.54	29.52	27.52	25.48	23.48
52	26.50	24.50	24.18	22.18	30.27	28.27	26.13	24.13
53	27.23	25.23	24.83	22.83	31.07	29.07	26.79	24.79
54	27.98	25.98	25.49	23.49	31.97	29.97	27.47	25.47
55	28.75	26.75	26.16	24.16	32.99	30.99	28.17	26.17
56	29.55	27.55	26.85	24.85	33.91	31.91	28.90	26.90
57	30.38	28.38	27.57	25.57	34.86	32.86	29.66	27.66
58	31.23	29.23	28.30	26.30	35.84	33.84	30.47	28.47
59	32.12	30.12	29.04	27.04	36.83	34.83	31.33	29.33
60	33.04	31.04	29.78	27.78	37.85	35.85	32.22	30.22
61	33.98	31.98	30.55	28.55	38.88	36.88	33.15	31.15
62	34.95	32.95	31.34	29.34	39.97	37.97	34.15	32.15
63	35.97	33.97	32.16	30.16	41.11	39.11	35.21	33.21
64	37.04	35.04	33.04	31.04	42.32	40.32	36.33	34.33
65	38.15	36.15	33.96	31.96	43.57	41.57	37.50	35.50
66	39.30	37.30	34.92	32.92	44.86	42.86	38.68	36.68
67	40.50	38.50	35.93	33.93	46.19	44.19	39.94	37.94
68	41.75	39.75	36.96	34.96	47.56	45.56	41.31	39.31
69	43.06	41.06	37.99	35.99	48.98	46.98	42.85	40.85
70	44.43	42.43	39.03	37.03	50.47	48.47	44.65	42.65
71	45.91	43.91	40.11	38.11	52.06	50.06	46.45	44.45
72	47.50	45.50	41.27	39.27	53.79	51.79	48.29	46.29
73	49.27	47.27	42.57	40.57	55.75	53.75	50.14	48.14
74	51.26	49.26	44.00	42.00	58.02	56.02	51.99	49.99
75	53.44	51.44	45.53	43.53	60.71	58.71	53.90	51.90
76	55.89	53.89	47.19	45.19	63.79	61.79	55.89	53.89
77	58.67	56.67	49.03	47.03	67.13	65.13	58.08	56.08
78	61.99	59.99	51.17	49.17	70.68	68.68	60.66	58.66
79	66.02	64.02	53.71	51.71	74.53	72.53	63.76	61.76
80	71.00	69.00	56.67	54.67	78.64	76.64	67.54	65.54

Sokol Heritage - Legacy 20

1st Year Premium Rates Per \$1,000

Issue Age	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Non-Tobacco		Non-Tobacco		Tobacco		Tobacco	
	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000
0	5.44	3.44	4.41	2.91	-	-	-	-
1	5.52	3.52	4.51	2.98	-	-	-	-
2	5.61	3.61	4.61	3.06	-	-	-	-
3	5.71	3.71	4.71	3.13	-	-	-	-
4	5.80	3.80	4.81	3.21	-	-	-	-
5	5.90	3.90	4.92	3.29	-	-	-	-
6	6.01	4.01	5.03	3.38	-	-	-	-
7	6.13	4.13	5.14	3.47	-	-	-	-
8	6.26	4.26	5.27	3.57	-	-	-	-
9	6.40	4.40	5.40	3.68	-	-	-	-
10	6.56	4.56	5.55	3.80	-	-	-	-
11	6.72	4.72	5.70	3.92	-	-	-	-
12	6.88	4.88	5.85	4.05	-	-	-	-
13	7.03	5.03	6.00	4.17	-	-	-	-
14	7.18	5.18	6.15	4.30	-	-	-	-
15	7.34	5.34	6.30	4.43	-	-	-	-
16	7.49	5.49	6.46	4.56	8.80	6.80	7.68	5.68
17	7.64	5.64	6.63	4.70	8.91	6.91	7.81	5.81
18	7.81	5.81	6.80	4.85	9.03	7.03	7.95	5.95
19	7.98	5.98	6.98	5.00	9.15	7.15	8.09	6.09
20	8.15	6.15	7.16	5.16	9.28	7.28	8.23	6.23
21	8.30	6.30	7.33	5.33	9.41	7.41	8.38	6.38
22	8.46	6.46	7.50	5.50	9.57	7.57	8.54	6.54
23	8.61	6.61	7.68	5.68	9.75	7.75	8.70	6.70
24	8.77	6.77	7.87	5.87	9.95	7.95	8.86	6.86
25	8.94	6.94	8.07	6.07	10.17	8.17	9.02	7.02
26	9.11	7.11	8.27	6.27	10.39	8.39	9.18	7.18
27	9.29	7.29	8.49	6.49	10.62	8.62	9.36	7.36
28	9.47	7.47	8.71	6.71	10.86	8.86	9.55	7.55
29	9.67	7.67	8.94	6.94	11.10	9.10	9.76	7.76
30	9.87	7.87	9.17	7.17	11.35	9.35	10.00	8.00
31	10.09	8.09	9.40	7.40	11.61	9.61	10.25	8.25
32	10.31	8.31	9.63	7.63	11.88	9.88	10.50	8.50
33	10.55	8.55	9.84	7.84	12.17	10.17	10.75	8.75
34	10.80	8.80	10.05	8.05	12.46	10.46	10.98	8.98
35	11.06	9.06	10.24	8.24	12.77	10.77	11.20	9.20
36	11.32	9.32	10.46	8.46	13.09	11.09	11.42	9.42
37	11.60	9.60	10.70	8.70	13.42	11.42	11.67	9.67
38	11.90	9.90	10.95	8.95	13.76	11.76	11.95	9.95
39	12.20	10.20	11.21	9.21	14.11	12.11	12.28	10.28
40	12.52	10.52	11.50	9.50	14.48	12.48	12.67	10.67
41	12.85	10.85	11.79	9.79	14.85	12.85	12.99	10.99
42	13.19	11.19	12.08	10.08	15.24	13.24	13.32	11.32
43	13.53	11.53	12.38	10.38	15.65	13.65	13.66	11.66
44	13.88	11.88	12.69	10.69	16.09	14.09	14.01	12.01
45	14.23	12.23	13.01	11.01	16.55	14.55	14.37	12.37
46	14.60	12.60	13.35	11.35	17.02	15.02	14.74	12.74
47	14.98	12.98	13.71	11.71	17.51	15.51	15.13	13.13
48	15.39	13.39	14.08	12.08	18.02	16.02	15.53	13.53
49	15.83	13.83	14.46	12.46	18.55	16.55	15.95	13.95
50	16.30	14.30	14.86	12.86	19.09	17.09	16.40	14.40
51	16.79	14.79	15.28	13.28	19.64	17.64	16.86	14.86
52	17.30	15.30	15.71	13.71	20.23	18.23	17.34	15.34
53	17.83	15.83	16.15	14.15	20.87	18.87	17.84	

SOKOL HERITAGE MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Sokol Heritage - Legacy Life

1st Year Premium Rates Per \$1,000

Issue Age	Male				Female			
	Non-Tobacco		Tobacco		Non-Tobacco		Tobacco	
	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000
0	3.16	2.41	3.03	1.78	-	-	-	-
1	3.21	2.46	3.06	1.81	-	-	-	-
2	3.25	2.50	3.10	1.85	-	-	-	-
3	3.31	2.56	3.15	1.90	-	-	-	-
4	3.38	2.63	3.20	1.95	-	-	-	-
5	3.45	2.70	3.25	2.00	-	-	-	-
6	3.52	2.77	3.31	2.06	-	-	-	-
7	3.62	2.87	3.37	2.12	-	-	-	-
8	3.69	2.94	3.44	2.19	-	-	-	-
9	3.74	2.99	3.51	2.26	-	-	-	-
10	3.82	3.07	3.58	2.33	-	-	-	-
11	3.87	3.17	3.66	2.41	-	-	-	-
12	3.95	3.25	3.73	2.48	-	-	-	-
13	4.03	3.33	3.81	2.56	-	-	-	-
14	4.11	3.41	3.90	2.65	-	-	-	-
15	4.15	3.60	4.01	2.76	-	-	-	-
16	4.19	3.64	4.05	2.80	6.16	5.41	5.64	4.89
17	4.29	3.74	4.16	2.91	6.32	5.57	5.82	5.07
18	4.43	3.88	4.28	3.03	6.51	5.76	6.01	5.26
19	4.55	4.00	4.38	3.13	6.71	5.96	6.20	5.45
20	4.69	4.14	4.50	3.25	6.92	6.17	6.41	5.66
21	4.82	4.27	4.61	3.36	7.15	6.40	6.62	5.87
22	4.97	4.42	4.72	3.47	7.40	6.65	6.87	6.12
23	5.11	4.56	4.87	3.62	7.59	6.84	7.04	6.29
24	5.27	4.72	5.00	3.75	7.79	7.04	7.23	6.48
25	5.44	4.89	5.14	3.89	7.97	7.22	7.36	6.61
26	5.62	5.07	5.26	4.01	8.17	7.42	7.51	6.76
27	5.79	5.24	5.44	4.19	8.37	7.62	7.67	6.92
28	5.99	5.44	5.58	4.33	8.53	7.78	7.87	7.12
29	6.20	5.65	5.79	4.54	8.70	7.95	8.02	7.27
30	6.42	5.87	5.97	4.72	8.87	8.12	8.20	7.45
31	6.66	6.11	6.18	4.93	9.06	8.31	8.32	7.57
32	6.91	6.36	6.37	5.12	9.17	8.42	8.48	7.73
33	7.20	6.65	6.56	5.31	9.36	8.61	8.68	7.93
34	7.47	6.92	6.76	5.51	9.58	8.83	8.84	8.09
35	7.75	7.20	6.97	5.87	9.86	9.11	9.03	8.28
36	8.09	7.54	7.19	6.09	10.15	9.40	9.31	8.56
37	8.43	7.88	7.43	6.33	10.45	9.70	9.49	8.74
38	8.73	8.18	7.67	6.57	10.77	10.02	9.74	8.99
39	9.04	8.49	7.93	6.83	11.11	10.36	10.03	9.28
40	9.38	8.83	8.28	7.18	11.45	10.70	10.34	9.59

Sokol Heritage - Legacy Life

1st Year Premium Rates Per \$1,000

Issue Age	Male				Female			
	Non-Tobacco		Tobacco		Non-Tobacco		Tobacco	
	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000	< \$10,000	> \$10,000
41	9.72	9.17	8.57	7.47	11.82	11.07	10.63	9.88
42	10.04	9.49	8.85	7.85	12.17	11.42	10.97	10.22
43	10.38	9.83	9.19	8.19	12.62	11.87	11.32	10.57
44	10.76	10.21	9.52	8.52	13.10	12.35	11.77	11.02
45	11.15	10.60	9.81	8.81	13.61	12.86	12.16	11.41
46	11.63	11.08	10.19	9.19	14.15	13.40	12.66	11.91
47	12.02	11.47	10.58	9.58	14.81	14.06	13.09	12.34
48	12.49	11.94	11.00	10.00	15.32	14.57	13.53	12.78
49	13.06	12.51	11.44	10.44	15.95	15.20	13.86	13.11
50	13.50	12.95	11.86	10.86	16.73	15.98	14.33	13.58
51	14.14	13.59	12.28	11.28	17.32	16.57	14.81	14.06
52	14.66	14.11	12.80	11.80	18.04	17.29	15.31	14.56
53	15.16	14.61	13.23	12.23	18.79	18.04	15.83	15.08
54	15.75	15.20	13.68	12.68	19.56	18.81	16.36	15.61
55	16.36	15.81	14.15	13.15	20.35	19.60	16.92	16.17
56	16.98	16.43	14.63	13.63	21.08	20.33	17.49	16.74
57	17.71	17.16	15.14	14.14	21.90	21.15	18.09	17.34
58	18.43	17.88	15.68	14.68	22.76	22.01	18.71	17.96
59	19.19	18.44	16.09	15.09	23.45	22.70	19.36	18.61
60	19.80	19.05	16.37	15.37	24.39	23.64	20.05	19.30
61	20.44	19.69	16.81	15.81	25.38	24.63	20.97	20.22
62	21.01	20.46	17.09	16.09	26.49	25.74	21.73	20.98
63	21.75	21.20	17.55	16.55	27.46	26.71	22.76	22.01
64	22.51	21.96	18.03	17.03	28.44	27.69	23.62	22.87
65	23.30	22.75	18.53	17.53	29.69	28.94	24.78	24.03
66	24.13	23.58	19.04	18.04	30.91	30.16	25.75	25.00
67	25.31	24.56	19.58	18.58	32.21	31.46	26.78	26.03
68	26.48	25.73	20.60	19.60	33.61	32.86	28.17	27.42
69	27.75	27.00	21.70	20.70	35.12	34.37	29.67	28.92
70	29.11	28.36	22.89	21.89	37.16	36.41	31.26	30.51
71	30.93	30.18	24.17	23.17	39.36	38.61	32.96	32.21
72	32.89	32.14	25.54	24.54	41.73	40.98	34.78	34.03
73	35.02	34.27	27.03	26.03	44.30	43.55	36.71	35.96
74	37.34	36.59	28.64	27.64	47.09	46.34	38.79	38.04
75	39.87	39.12	30.38	29.38	50.13	49.38	41.02	40.27
76	42.64	41.89	32.28	31.28	53.44	52.69	43.43	42.68
77	45.67	44.92	34.35	33.35	57.03	56.28	46.04	45.29
78	48.96	48.21	36.61	35.61	60.90	60.15	48.86	48.11
79	52.52	51.77	39.09	38.09	65.06	64.31	51.93	51.18
80	56.37	55.62	41.78	40.78	69.52	68.77	55.22	54.47

Lodge Jottings

BRIDGEPORT, CONN. Wreath 1

The annual meeting of our Wreath under the spiritual patronage of St. Frances of Rome will take place on Sunday, September 30 following the annual meeting of Group 2 held at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall in Torrington, Conn.

The agenda will include but not be limited to: the election of officers, participation in the 30th annual St. Martin Day Celebration of Group 2, the October "You Can Make a Difference Day" project, a review of the activities that the Wreath has participated in to date in 2012 and future participation in 2012 programs as well as in the year 2013. Officers reports will be presented and any business that will enhance the good and betterment of the Wreath and our headquarters.

Members - please keep all of our Sister Sokolky who are ill or who have passed away in your prayers.

Zdar Boh!
Eileen S. Wilson
President

CHICAGO, ILL Assembly 11

The next regular meeting of our Assembly under the patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius will be held on Friday, September 14 at the home of our Vice President and Recording Secretary, Therese M. Buc, 9024 Del Prado Drive, Unit 1-South in Palos Hills, Illinois. Our meeting will begin promptly at 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

We strongly urge each of our members to make every effort to attend our meeting and become active. More importantly, our long-serving Assembly officers are looking for replacements due to age and health reasons. This has become a critical issue and a decision must be made in the near term about Assembly 11's future. This item will be on the agenda for discussion and resolution.

Call Therese at (708) 598-1468 to let her know you will attend and for driving instructions. We promise it will be a short meeting. We will be pleased to help our members with questions they may have about our various insurance and annuity products. An enjoyable afternoon of tra-

ditional fellowship and fraternalism is assured.

We hope our members have been enjoying the summer and we look forward to seeing many of you on September 14.

Zdar Boh!
Therese M. Buc
Recording Secretary

CLIFTON, N.J. Assembly 162

The first meeting of our Assembly in the new fall season is scheduled for Sunday, September 16 in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall on Ackerman Avenue beginning at 12:30 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

On our meeting agenda will be a recap of our various summer sporting events in which our members participated. Plans for our upcoming fall and winter activities will also be finalized. Our Assembly will be hosting this year's Group 1 annual meeting. Input from our members will insure the success of our fraternal activities.

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

(Continued on page 17)



Za Boha a Narod  *For God and Nation*

Slovak Catholic Falcon

SLOVENSKÝ KATOLICKÝ SOKOL

ISSN: 0897-8107

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

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

Annual Subscription Rates
United States \$40.00 - All other countries \$45.00

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

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

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



KIDS' CORNER- "Detský kútik "

September, 2012

Twas the night before school started,
 When all through the town,
 The parents were cheering.
 It was a riotous sound!
 By eight, kids were washed
 And tucked into bed...
 When memories of homework...filled them with dread!
 New pencils, new folders, new notebooks, too!
 New teachers, new friends...their anxiety grew!
 The parents just giggled when they learned of this fright
 And shouted upstairs...
GO TO BED-IT'S A SCHOOL NIGHT!

School Survival Kit
 The penny is to remind you that you are valuable
 The star is to remind you to always try your best
 The eraser is to remind you that it's okay to make mistakes
 The life saver is to let you know that you can always talk to me
 The tissue is for drying your tears and those of others
 The band-aid is to let you know that together we can make things better
 The chocolate hug is to remind you that you are cared for
 The sticker is to remind you that we always stick together

Tips for your Child's success in School
 Enforce healthy habits—bedtimes, breakfasts healthy snacks, exercise daily, limit T.V. and other screen time
 Stick to a routine—kids thrive on structure and respond well to routines
 Create a "launch Pad" ---a place where your child keeps te items he needs for school each day.
 Designate a space—a designated homework space makes it easier and more fun for children to complete assignments at home
 Read, Read, Read Again and Again—read to them, have them read to you. The firs several years a child learns to read and the rest of their life they read to learn.
 Encourage your child to share information about their day
 Have open communication with your child's teacher...stay involved!



Slovak Words=Slovenské slová

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

- Back to School** = Späť do školy [Spet dough shko-lee]
- homework** = domácu úlohu [dough-maw-coo oo-low-hoo]
- student** = študent [shtew - dent]
- teacher (male)** = učiteľ [oo-chee-tell]
- teacher (female)** = učiteľka [oo-chee-tell-kah]
- pencil** = ceruska [tseh - roos - kah]
- pen** = pero [pear - oh]
- notebook** = zošit [zoe - sheet]
- file** = súbor [soo - bore]
- computer** = počítač [powe-chee-taach]
- success** = úspech [oo-speckh]
- Happy birthday!** = Všetko najlepšie k narodeninám!
 [Vshet - ko ni - lep - sheh k nah- row - deh - ni - nee - naam]

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

Just a reminder.....I will need the completed reading lists returned to me no later than September 15th. Include your name, address, Group number and age so that I can recognize you in the paper. Don't forget to highlight your favorite books on the list!!! and have fun reading!!!! Please send your completed reading lists to:

Julie Ann Dobbs-
 5314 Agatha Turn, Racine, WI 53402

If you prefer to do it on-line you can e-mail it to me at :
 jdobbs2@wi.rr.com

"Shoot for the moon, even if you miss you will land among the stars"

Les Brown

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

Trevor Manyak	9/8
Rebecca Kona-Staniu	9/25
Annika Romine	9/26
Jacob Yanosick	9/30
Lyla Mae Freeman	9/30

Scenes of the 67th International Slovak Catholic Sokol Golf Tournament Treasure Lake Golf Resort + DuBois, Pa. + August 10-12



Gary Watkins of Group 14, far right, was the A Flight champion at the 67th golf tournament. He is shown with, from the left, Brian Hornacek, John Hornacek and Jim Macurak.



The C Flight champion of the 67th golf tournament, Derek Loehle of Group 19, is shown second above second from the left. Shown with him are, I-r, Steven Glugosh, Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh and Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.



Jeremy Moeller of Group 12, second from the left, was the Callaway Champion at the 67th golf tournament. Shown with him from the left are, Jason Fareri, Ben Moeller and Kevin Matlon.



Group 14's Brian Suchy, second from the left, was the B Flight Champion at the 67th golf tournament. He is shown above with from the left, David Suchy, Frank Yocco and Branden Marzec.



Group 5's Edward Baker, far left, was the Senior Flight champion at the 67th golf tournament. Shown with him on the photo above are from the left, Marty Underation, Thomas Muldoon, Jr. and Thomas Muldoon, III.



Enjoying this year's 67th golf tournament are from the left, Rege Paschel, Corey Shedlock and Robert Shedlock.



Joseph L. Genet, second from the right, a past Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award recipient, enjoyed this year's competition with, from the left, Guy DiMartino, Robert Raichel and Carson Cunningham.



Loretta G. Smith, far left, last year's Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award recipient, is shown with fellow Group 17 golfers, I-r, Linda Frank, Mary Margaret Starr and Judy Babik.



Chris Chervenak, far left, of Group 14 was the Women's Flight champion at the 67th golf tournament. Shown with her on the above photo are, l-r, Mary Ruth Savikas, Karen Bakita and Charma Baker.



Enjoying this year's tournament are, from the left, Edward Bajus, Scott T. Pogorelec, Steven J. Pogorelec, Jr. and Michael Kapitan.



Lovely Sokolky enjoying this year's competition included, l-r, Kathleen Harak and Susan Grega of Group 14 and Kelly Palchanis and Danielle Zabloutney of Group 7.



Taking a breather on the green are, from the left, George Labik, James Hudzik, Robert Harak and Karol Talafous.



Enjoying the competition this year are from the left, Heidie Wirth, Barbara Aldrich, Kathleen Macko and Carol Macko.



All smiles for the camera from, l-r, Zack Oravetz, Brian Macko, Bob Macko and Richard Oravetz.



Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., center, is shown above flanked by his sons, Scott and Steven, Jr. and, l-r Michael Kapitan and Edward Bajus.



What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Slovak state representatives commemorate 1968 invasion

A number of senior Slovak state officials, including President Ivan Gasparovic, leading Opposition figures and representatives of the Slovak Confederation of Political Prisoners - which organized the event - attended a ceremony in Bratislava on August 21 in honor of the victims of the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion of the former Czechoslovakia.

In his address, Anton Sroolec, head of the Slovak Confederation of Political Prisoners, said that the events of August 1968 - the culmination of the Prague Spring movement followed by the invasion by Warsaw Pact military forces on August 21 - represent a historical milestone, as they united the nation.

"It's difficult to unite the nation in a joint struggle, (aimed at) the common good. But suddenly, an enemy came, and at that moment we became united, full of enthusiasm, we marched around the tanks and spat on them," recalled Sroolec.

President Gasparovic spoke about the period of liberalization and political changes in the former Czechoslovakia in 1968, known as the Prague Spring, which provided the military intervention. Gasparovic emphasized that Slovakia ought not to forget the events of 1968 and should not only commemorate those who suffered back in August 1968 but also the people who underwent political persecution and pressure in the following years.

The commemorative event, which marked the 44th anniversary of the invasion, was attended by several Opposition representatives - including parliamentary vice chairs Erika Jurinova (Ordinary People and Independent Personalities/OLaNo), Jan Figel (Christian Democratic Movement/KDH), and SDKU-DS chairman Pavol Freso.

Greenpeace: gold being sought in 27 areas of Slovakia

The number of areas in which mining companies were exploring for gold increased in the year to July, 2012 to 27, Greenpeace Slovensko told TASR on August 20.

The overall size of the areas, which are mainly located in central and eastern Slovakia, is more than 890 square kilometers. Most of the gold exploration licenses are owned by subsidiaries of Canadian, Australian, Cypriot, Russian and British companies.

"We're concerned about the increasing activities of exploration and mining companies, which are looking for all ways possible to acquire Slovakia's remaining gold resources. Six new areas explored for gold have been added since the beginning of last year," said Greenpeace Slovensko director Juraj Rizman.

According to a law pushed through by environmentalists in 2007, it isn't possible to extract resources using cyanide in Slovakia until this is permitted by the administrative bodies of the towns and villages affected.

Slovak Paralympians receive official credentials from Premier Fico

Slovak athletes representing the country at the 2012 London Paralympic Games (August 29- September 9) received their credentials from Prime Minister Robert Fico on August 20.

In his speech, the head of the Paralympic Committee Jan Riapos expressed his gratitude for the government's support and for the measures taken by Prime Minister Fico's cabinets - 2006-10 and currently starting in April - aimed at improving the situation of Slovakia's disabled athletes.

Fico reported that a new concept of state-supervised administration of sports is due to be discussed in government in December, and that it will also concern disabled athletes. Both Fico and Education, Science, Research and Sport Minister Dusan Caplovic, who is overseeing the preparation of the new concept, promised greater financial support for athletes.

In addition, Caplovic pointed out that when it comes to money spent on sports, Slovakia spends the least among neighboring countries. He doesn't expect the situation to change sig-

nificantly in the near future, but wants to distribute the finances more effectively instead. He also introduced his plan, according to which the development of sports could be funded not only via the state budget but also from the financial resources of the state-run lottery and gaming company Tipos.

Plus Jeden Den: Radicova could win presidential election

Former Prime Minister Iveta Radicova could be elected president - if she ran, according to a recent Focus agency poll on behalf of the Plus Jeden Den (plus one day) the daily newspaper, released on August 22.

Radicova ran and lost against President Ivan Gasparovic in 2009. However, her good standing spurred on her party political career and she became prime minister in 2010. Since that time she has stated several times that she won't run for the presidency, and is willing to return to politics only "if many things change."

According to the survey, Radicova would even defeat the current Prime Minister Robert Fico. While she would receive 32.7 percent of the votes, Fico would come in second with 28.4 percent.

Further places in the poll were taken by businessman and founder of the charitable organization Good Angel, Andrej Kiska (supported by the liberal SaS party) - with 13.9 percent, KDH caucus chairman Pavol Hrusovsky with 7.6 percent, former prime minister Jan Camogursky (KDH) with 6.7 percent and former ambassador to the United States Martin Butora with 4 percent.

The presidential election, which involves an initial vote followed by a run-off of the top two contenders, will be held in the spring of 2014.

Slovaks more optimistic vis-a-vis economic developments

The expectations of Slovaks vis-a-vis the economy for the upcoming 12 months improved somewhat in July when compared with the sentiments in January, although the number of optimists was still low, the results of a consumer barometer survey by the Statistics Office revealed on August 24.

Compared to the figures from the winter, Slovaks were found to be more optimistic when it came to future economic developments, expected rises in the prices of goods and services and unemployment. Their own financial situation was also perceived in a more favorable light.

"Pessimism hasn't fully deserted us, though. Eight out of ten Slovaks don't believe that the economic situation in our country will improve in the foreseeable future," said Postova Banka analyst Eva Sadovska.

Whereas the ratio of optimists vis-a-vis expected developments in the economy stood at 6 percent in January, the figure rose to 13 percent in July.

Half of the respondents expect no change in their own particular financial situation over the next 12 months, while one third expect it to worsen. One in eight people said that their financial situation should get better in the upcoming 12 months.

Fico: Slovakia and Germany united on further developments in the eurozone

Slovakia and Germany share the same view of what further developments in Europe should be, said Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico after holding talks with German Vice Chancellor and Economy and Technologies Minister Philip Rosler in Bratislava on August 24.

The session was also attended by Slovak Economy Minister Tomas Malatinsky and Finance Minister Peter Kazimir.

"We've exchanged very important stances on the current

crisis in the eurozone. It's very good that Slovakia and Germany have the same opinion about further action to be taken in the eurozone, which is based on (the approach) that there aren't many reasons why countries such as Greece should be allowed any delays in meeting their tasks," said Fico, stressing that the government "will certainly not agree" to further financial assistance for Greece until the latter meets its creditors' conditions.

The need for more intensive integration, which was also discussed, was viewed as a remedy for the current eurozone crisis. "I'm very glad that Slovakia was assessed by the German Economy Minister (Rosler) as a country that not only speaks about the need to consolidate but actually does so," said Fico, describing the process as painful.

According to him, Rosler said that Germany believes that the measures Slovakia is taking will have a positive effect and that Slovakia stated aims won't simply turn into empty promises.

"We view the Slovak reforms with respect. At the same time, we talk about Slovakia as a very trustworthy country," said Rosler at the press conference.



One of the most popular folk traditions in Slovakia is that of Janosik. Of all the popular characters in Slovak history, none is better known or more truly loved than this half-real, half-legendary bandit-hero Juraj Janosik. Like the Robin Hood of England, Janosik is symbol of the spirit of Slovak history. Janosik fought for the rights of the downtrodden Slovaks against the oppression of their rich overlords. With Janosik's great love of life, the pathos of his situation, and his vibrant youth and daring personality, he has had a strong and emotional appeal to the Slovak people. Here was a hero who could sing and dance, and who loved nature with a special love for the towering mountains of his native land. He was born in 1690 in the village of Terchova, located in the Zilina Region of northwestern Slovakia near the Polish border. He devoted his life to assisting his people, very often stealing from the rich to give to the poor. He was finally captured in 1713, tried and convicted of robbery and arson and hanged. Today Terchova, with a population of just over 4,000, has become a popular tourist attraction because of its most famous son, Janosik. Scenes of Terchova along with the great statue of Janosik are shown above.

Sokol Birthdays

SEPTEMBER 10

Michael Bajus, Orillia, Ontario, Canada, a member of Assembly 227, Toronto, Canada.

Maria Belokostolsky, Jackson Heights, N.Y., a member of Wreath 168, New York, N.Y.

Christopher William Chiaro, Chesapeake, Va., a member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Oh.

Allison M. Moore, Indiana, Pa., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.

Joseph J. Prebota, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

SEPTEMBER 11

Rosemary A. Corey, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Eric G. Evans, Erie, Pa., a member of Assembly 25, Perryopolis, Pa.

SEPTEMBER 12

Larissa Adara Dorans, Branchville, N.J., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.

Lisa Palos, Lorain, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

Joseph A. Neslusan, Portsmouth, N.H., a member of Assembly 28, East Douglas, Mass.

SEPTEMBER 13

Margaret Gyauch, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Carolyn A. Holodak, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Cheryl Ann Flanagan, Spring Hill, Fla., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

SEPTEMBER 14

Joseph Barlak, Boonton, N.J., a member of Assembly 24, Boonton, N.J.

Lisa Marie Neslusan, South Pasadena, Ca., a member of Assembly 28, East Douglas, Mass.

SEPTEMBER 15

Edward V. Begany, Jr., Whittier, Ca., a member of Assembly 312, Passaic, N.J.

Dolores Horner, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Dennis Kitsko, Washington, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Maryanna Faith Kozlak, Cocoa, Fla., a member of Assembly 23, Torrington, Conn.

Mildred Novak, Watertown, Conn., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

SEPTEMBER 16

Anthony J. Gober, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

SEPTEMBER 17

Kathleen M. Moliterno, Erie, Pa., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

Eugene Jan Hrban, Somerville, Mass., a member of Assembly 314, Boston, Mass.

SEPTEMBER 18

Sister Grace Ann Kalafut, S.S.C., Chicago, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

SEPTEMBER 19

Katherine A. English, Sarasota, Fla., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Erika Kopanic, Pittsburgh, Pa.,

a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

SEPTEMBER 20

Ryan Balanda, York, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Tate Cuneo, Huntington Beach, Ca., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Mary Margaret DeAngelis, Rutland, VT, a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Michael P. Hines, Arlington, Va., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Leah Soppi, Uniontown, Oh., a member of Wreath 103, Barberton, Oh.

Catherine T. Woznicki, Monroe, Conn., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

SEPTEMBER 21

Kathleen Benek, Holland, Pa., a member of Assembly 48, Philadelphia, Pa.

Nancy Devitt, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Melissa Goldberg, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Kathleen Osinski, Troy, Mich., a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

Diane Roney, Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich., a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

Carol Ann Wallace, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

SEPTEMBER 22

Frank E. Macey, Shillington, Pa., Honorary Supreme Officer and vice-president of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

Gerturde Maurer, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Catherine Schultz, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Joseph Workosky, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

SEPTEMBER 23

Jessica Byrnes, Eastchester, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Stephen Dempsey, Rockville, Md., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Salvatore F. Fata, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Michael S. Ferenci, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Kevin A. Graham, Belvidere, N.J., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Marilyn Haggerty, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Nathan Kubej, Bellevue, Wash., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Dr. Thomas F. Kravets, Winter Springs, Fla., a member of Assembly 313, Winter Park, Fla.

George J. Matthews, Sr., Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Stefan Vranka, Oakland, Ca., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

GROUP ANNUAL MEETINGS SET

Group 2, "Rev. Stephen Panik", Bridgeport, Conn. - Our annual meeting this year is scheduled for Sunday, September 30 and will be held in Torrington, Conn. Hosting our meeting will be Wreath 86 and Assembly 23. Our program begins with attendance at the 9 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church located at 116 Grove Street. Following the liturgy, we will assemble at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 171 Franklin Street where our meeting will be called to order. A luncheon will be served. Our agenda will include (but not be limited to) reports of officers (as they relate to their office in the Group), reports from our Wreaths: 1, 39 and 86; and Assemblies: 9, 23, 33 and 308. We will also finalize plans for our 30th annual St. Martin's Day celebration scheduled for Sunday, November 11 (the actual feast day). All particulars will appear in an upcoming edition of our Falcon. Discussion will also include the upcoming Eastern District Basketball and Volleyball Tournament which we will host in the spring of 2013 in Stratford, Conn. In addition, any and all business to come before the meeting for the good and welfare of the order be discussed. The cost of the luncheon is \$13.00 per person. All Wreaths and Assemblies should make check payable to: SCS Group 2 for all delegates attending the meeting and mail same to Group 2 Treasurer John Sinanis, 406 Erwin St., Trumbull, CT 06611.

In keeping with our Care and Share project, all participants are asked to bring along non-perishable items to be presented to a local food pantry in Torrington. Our Secretary will send out the delegate forms to all our lodges by September 4 to give enough time for delegate selection and planning by our hosts. RSVPP to the secretary by Saturday, September 22. With every good wish, we remain fraternally,

Zdar Boh!

Eileen S. Wilson, *President*

Darlene K. Musial, *Secretary*

Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak", East Douglas, Mass. will host its annual meeting on Sunday, September 30 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall, located on Route 16 in Douglas, Mass. beginning at 10:15 a.m. Coffee and Danish will be available. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting as we finalize our various sporting and fraternal events for the coming year. Fund-raising ideas will be discussed which support our projects. Those who have not as yet returned their raffle tickets may bring them to this meeting. We would like to have all returns before the raffle scheduled for October 6. Input from our members will insure the success of our future activities. This past year has been a busy one for us and we hope that next year will be successful as well. Looking forward to seeing a good turnout at this year's meeting, we remain

Zdar Boh!

J. Kevin Conway, President
Christine Manyak, Secretary

Group 4, "Bishop Stefan Moyzes", Chicago, Ill. - This year's annual meeting will take place on Saturday, September 22 at the Casa Capri Restaurant, located at 2129 Birch Road in Kenosha, Wis. Hosting this year's annual meeting will be Assembly 113 of Kenosha. The meeting room will open at 10 a.m. and our meeting will start promptly at 11 a.m. A luncheon will be served at 12 noon and our meeting will resume at 1 p.m. until all busi-

ness has been addressed. The cost of the luncheon will be \$15.00 per person. Kindly return the luncheon payment, made payable to Slovak Catholic Sokol Group 4, along with the completed delegate form to the Secretary, Julie Ann Dobbs, 5314 Agatha Turn, Racine, WI 53402, tel. (262)681-1720. This is necessary to guarantee our reservation. Group officers are asked to contact the Group secretary prior to August 31, if they are unable to attend the annual meeting. All Wreaths and Assemblies are urged to attend this meeting so that

(Continued on page 17)

If you wish to continue receiving the Slovak Catholic Falcon, You must ACT NOW!

At the most recent Board of Directors meeting in Wilkes-Barre, PA on July 12-15, 2012, we once again discussed the importance of cutting costs by encouraging our members to sign up to receive the *Falcon* electronically. For the betterment of the organization, we are committed to decreasing the number of mailings by requiring each member to return a form if they wish to continue receiving the *Falcon*. **By the end of this year, you will no longer receive the *Falcon* if you have not completed the enclosed form and mailed it back to home office.**

1. We are committed to deliver the *Falcon* through electronic media where possible; therefore, as of 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 or mail in the enclosed form. Please reference the *Falcon* in the subject line and ask to have the regular mailed issue discontinued.
3. We understand that some of our members do not have e-mail or internet access. You can still request a mailed copy of the *Falcon*. Below you will find a form to complete. You can decide whether you wish to receive the *Falcon* electronically or via the regular mail. **YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM IN ORDER TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE *FALCON*!** We are asking you to respond by **October 15, 2012.**

NOTE: IF you have already signed up for e-mail or have already sent back the previous request to have the *Falcon* mailed to your home, you can disregard the enclosed form.

There are many benefits to receiving the *Falcon* electronically

- 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

How do you wish to receive the *Slovak Catholic Falcon*?

IF YOU DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO THE HOME OFFICE BY OCTOBER 15, 2012, YOU WILL NO LONGER RECEIVE A COPY OF THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON.

Please write your name in the space provided and check one of the following options.

Name: _____

I wish to receive the *Falcon* electronically at the following e-mail address: _____

I wish to continue receiving the *Falcon* via regular mail at the following address: _____

Mail to: Slovak Catholic Sokol -- EFALCON
205 Madison Street, P.O. Box 889, Passaic, N.J. 07055

From the Supreme Physical Fitness Board

With Change Comes New Beginnings

by Jennifer A. Romine

Many times in our lives we face change...change comes in many forms. Change can affect us in many different ways...through our jobs, our personal lives, our school life, with our friends, our family, etc. It can display itself physically, emotionally, spiritually, within ourselves or through others. It comes when we least expect it or when we plan for it. Regardless of when it enters our lives and how it does, change creates a new beginning!!!

I was offered a new beginning when I was elected to serve as a Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board at last year's 31st national convention in Pittsburgh, Pa. That change was difficult for me as it meant leaving my twenty year position as Physical Directress of Group 4, and my twenty year partnership with my sister, Lisa (I will miss you), and just when my own children are just getting old enough to participate. I come from a long line of relatives who offered me the opportunities the Slovak Catholic Sokol has to offer. Personally, I want to thank my Group 4 Sokol family for so many years of memories and experiences! Together, we chose to embrace the change and create new beginnings.

My first experience as a board member meant teaching the drills at our recent Supreme Clinic - Kurz instead of learning them. Change. What a successful opportunity...the

board is a new Sokol family for me, more responsibilities were expected, the participants were challenged with some exciting changes. Congratulations to all the Clinic participants for their hard work and acceptance of change and to the board for embracing new beginnings.

With any kind of change comes mixed emotions. How we handle those emotions is what encourages us to go on. Change, no matter if it is good or bad, can be difficult. When we face changes, we have to choose...let change rule our lives with a negative attitude, or accept it and embrace the newness with a positive attitude. Our attitude makes all the difference in how our lives will play out. Sometimes we want to try to hold on to what was. It's important to remember the past with fond memories. But, try not to live your life with "coulda, woulda, shoulda's." Instead, look forward to "I hope, I wish, I pray." We must accept that change is a part of life. Rather than being scared by change, we can understand that it is a part of life and that by holding onto our faith, God will help see us through. For nothing is impossible with God. God is in control of our lives and He has a plan for us. With change, comes new beginnings!

Many of us will face lots of changes in our lives...make a choice and say "I can do it." As we approach the beginning of the school year, we all have to make some changes in our sleep habits, work load, homework, and daily lives...as students, as parents, as siblings, as friends. You'll have a new teacher, new responsibilities, new opportunities. Embrace it!!! Change pushes you to do your personal best.

THE SERENITY PRAYER

"God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can,
And wisdom to know the difference. Zdar Boh!

Gospel for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year

(Continued from page 4)

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

The Gospel of the Lord.

YOUR BENEFICIARIES

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

Welcome to Slovak Catholic Sokol

Introducing our New Members Enrolled During the Month of July 2012

ASSEMBLY/ WREATH	MEMBER	CITY/STATE	RECOMMENDER
V-015	Breanna T. Balog	Perryopolis, PA	Michael T. Matras
V-015	Katelyn T. Balog	Perryopolis, PA	Michael T. Matras
S-162	Alyssa Berdnik	Clifton, NJ	Steven M. Pogorelec
S-162	Ashley Berdnik	Clifton, NJ	Steven M. Pogorelec
S-162	Kevin Michael Berdnik	Clifton, NJ	Steven M. Pogorelec
S-025	Michael A. Brovey	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
S-025	John W. Clark	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
V-043	Kristine Ewald	Akron, OH	Authorized Agent
S-059	Stuart Fenner Jr.	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-024	Meghan Elizabeth Fossum	Boonton, NJ	Joseph S. Barlak
S-059	Andrew J. Gavlick	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
V-015	Judith Hess	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Ashley Jackubowski	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-078	Matthew John Kloiber	Bethlehem, PA	George J. Kostelnik
S-059	Marion R. Kocher	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
V-147	Arianna Mulroy	Larksville, PA	Authorized Agent
V-147	Sasha Mulroy	Larksville, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Alice O'Day	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Raymond O'Day	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
V-015	Thea Taylor Pierotti	Perryopolis, PA	Michael T. Matras
S-059	Brian Roland	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Nicole Roland	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-167	Rachel Stephanie Sejba	Barberton, OH	Mary Jo Ann Goss
S-025	Christian Steven Somers	Perryopolis, PA	Michael T. Matras
S-086	Cody Stoss	Port Griffith, PA	Authorized Agent
S-086	Kelly Stoss	Port Griffith, PA	Authorized Agent
S-025	Donald J. Takac	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Morgan Thomas	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-108	Ronnie Trimble	Youngstown, OH	Nancy L. Kropolinsky
V-147	Amanda Walters	Larksville, PA	Authorized Agent
V-015	Sloane Elizabeth Zdravecky	Perryopolis, PA	Michael T. Matras
S-299	Bazso Zoltan	Brooklyn, NY	Authorized Agent
S-036	Mary Sayre	Detroit, MI	Authorized Agent

Held in Douglas, Mass.

Minutes of the Semi-Annual Meeting of Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak"

Group 3, under the patronage of the Rev. Edmund Mochak, hosted its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 29 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall in Douglas, Mass. Coffee and Danish were served.

Group 3 President Kevin Conway called the meeting to order. Wreath 18 President Rose Manyak led the assemblage in the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Joseph Bolte. The Secretary, Christine Manyak read the roll call of officers and representatives. There were a total of 12 members present representing Assembly 28 and Wreath 18.

The Secretary, Christine Manyak reviewed the minutes of the Group 3 annual meeting held on Sunday, September 25, 2011. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Larry Bombara, seconded by Joseph Bolte.

Brother Kevin welcomed everyone and thanked all for their attendance at this important meeting. Brother Kevin thanked Honorary Supreme Officer Roger J. Manyak for picking up the refreshments and Sister Christine Manyak for providing the minutes. The president reviewed the various activities held since the annual meeting which have included the Octoberfest, the St. Patrick's Day celebration and the Eastern District Basketball and Volleyball Tournament.

The Group treasurer's report was presented by Ralph Quinn. Following review and discussion, the treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by John Manyak, seconded by Lori Cyr.

Group 3 Physical Directress, Judy Manyak reported that unfortunately

the annual children's Christmas party was cancelled due to lack of response. She reported that two volleyball teams and one women's basketball team attended this year's Eastern District Basketball and Volleyball Tournament held in Clifton, N.J. She indicated that she will be attending the Supreme Clinic - Kurz in preparation for the 46th International Slet in Slippery Rock, Pa., June 28 thru July 1. The report of the Physical Directress was accepted on a motion by John Manyak, seconded by Jeanne Bombara.

Group 3 Physical Director, Gary Manyak was unable to attend the annual meeting. Sister Judy Manyak provided a written report in his stead. Brother Gary coached the 12-15 year old basketball team at the Eastern District tournament and played on the senior men's team. He indicated that he would be attending the Supreme Clinic - Kurz at Slippery Rock University. The report was accepted on a motion by Lori Cyr, seconded by Roger Manyak.

Group 3 Sports Director, John Manyak then presented his report. He indicated that Group 3 sent the following teams to the Eastern District Basketball and Volleyball Tournament in 2011: one 8-11 year olds, two senior men's teams, two volleyball teams and one women's basketball team. The 8-11 year old team won their division and one of the women's volleyball teams and one of the senior men's teams placed second. Brother John indicated that Group 3 expected to send one men's and one women's team to the 25th International Soft-

ball Tournament in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The international bowling tournament was scheduled for May and the international golf tournament was scheduled for August. The report of the sports director was accepted on a motion by Larry Bombara, seconded by Joseph Bolte.

Old Business

Under old business, it was reported that due to lack of interest, the children's Christmas party had to be cancelled.

The St. Patrick's Day feast was observed with a wonderful social event at the Sokol hall which included corn beef sandwiches, Irish Shepard's pie and lots of fun. There was good turnout despite lack of advertisement.

The Eastern District Basketball and Volleyball Tournament: updated in the preceding reports.

The Lucky 100 continues as a fund-raiser. It started April 16 and will conclude June 24, 2012. There are still 2 open numbers, 49 and 98. We will take the summer off and it will resume again in September. Brother Kevin expressed thanks and gratitude to Sister Judy Manyak for her hard work and dedication to this effort. He reminded everyone that this is the principal fund-raiser for Group 3. Sister Judy went on to thank the captains, Larry Bombara, Roger Manyak, Kevin Conway and Randy Manyak. She noted that the project entails a great deal of work and indicated that there was a need for additional captains to step up to help.

The Octoberfest was again a success. This event is hosted by Assembly 28 and the money raised goes toward scholarships as well as Group 3.

New Business

The Supreme Clinic - Kurz in

(Continued from page 18)

Semi-Annual Report of the Supreme Auditors Conducted August 24-25 at the Home Office in Passaic, NJ

The Supreme Auditors have reviewed the records and accounts of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and hereby present the 2012 Semi-Annual report:

	April 13-14, 2012 No Volleyball Tournament Held	Pittsburgh, PA
1. <u>BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING EXPENSES</u>	\$ 15,176.92	Income Home Office Allotment \$ 3,000.00 Income from Teams <u>1,250.00</u> Total <u>4,250.00</u>
2. <u>BUILDING RENTALS</u>		Expenses Hotel \$ 1,498.50 Food 744.04 Other <u>1,466.18</u> Subtotal <u>3,708.72</u>
A. First floor office space is leased by the Slovak League of America.	\$ 1,700.00	Refunded to Home Office <u>541.28</u> Total <u>4,250.00</u>
B. Tri County Plumbing rents supply storage space.	4,250.00	
C. Six parking leases on a month to month basis.	2,890.00	
D. United Passaic Org. leases first floor space.	<u>32,400.00</u>	
E. Rental income January 1 to June 30, 2012:	Total <u>\$ 41,240.00</u>	
3. <u>FRATERNAL CONGRESS EXPENSES</u>	\$ 9,208.76	C. 66th International Bowling Tournament 1st Annual Combined Slovak Fraternal Bowling Tournament May 4-6, 2012 Wickliffe, OH
4. <u>GROUP PRESIDENTS' MEETING</u>		Income Home Office Allotment \$ 5,700.00 Collected From Bowlers 9,767.00 Collected From Other Fraternal 13,466.94 Lane Sponsors 1,650.00 Raffle <u>1,615.00</u> Total <u>\$ 32,198.94</u>
None held		Expenses Prizes-Trophies \$ 13,075.00 Cost of Bowling 4,110.00 Banquet 7,384.85 Miscellaneous Expenses 2,524.71 Friday Night Hospitality <u>4,106.40</u> Subtotal <u>31,200.96</u>
5. <u>NATIONAL CONVENTION</u>		Refunded to Home Office <u>997.98</u> Total <u>\$ 32,198.94</u>
2015 Convention Accrual	\$ 65,250.00	
6. <u>OTHER PRINTING</u>	\$ 3,991.46	D. 25th International Softball Tournament - To be held July 14, 2012 Wilkes-Barre, PA
7. <u>OUTSTANDING SLET BALANCES</u>		E. 57th International Golf Tournament To be held August 10-12, 2012 Du Bois, PA
As of 06/30/2012 Group Slet Balances.	\$ 2,466.95	F. International Clinic (Kurz) To be held June, 27 - July 1, 2012 Slippery Rock, PA
8. <u>PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD EXPENSES</u>	\$ 17,369.04	Pre Clinic Expenses \$ 3,695.47
9. <u>PUBLICATION EXPENSES</u>		G. International Slet None Held
Slovak Catholic Falcon		H. Other Sports Expenses Insurance \$ 336.00 Walking Program 733.15 Miscellaneous <u>0.00</u> Total <u>\$ 1,069.15</u>
Printing \$ 30,286.00		
Postage 36,290.00		
Miscellaneous Printing <u>774.15</u>		
Total <u>\$ 67,350.15</u>		
10. <u>REVIEW OF EXISTING MORTGAGES</u>		<u>Summary of Sports and Athletic Expenses</u>
A. Outstanding Mortgage Balances: All 4 mortgage payments are current.	\$628,271.95	District Tournaments \$ 8,925.00
B. Legal fees for discharging mortgages.	0.00	B. 24th International Basketball/Volleyball Tournament 3,708.72
C. Interest income on mortgages	20,304.99	C. 66th International Bowling Tournament 31,200.96
11. <u>SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE</u>		D. 25th International Softball Tournament 0.00
Most scholarships granted were to be disbursed after 6/30/12.		E. 57th International Golf Tournament 0.00
Expenses \$ 1,504.09		F. International Clinic 3,695.47
Scholarships Disbursed <u>250.00</u>		G. International Slet 0.00
Total <u>1,754.09</u>		H. Other Sports Expenses <u>1,069.15</u>
12. <u>SPORTS AND ATHLETIC EXPENSES</u>		
A. District Tournaments		
Eastern Basketball/Volleyball March 31, 2012 Clifton, NJ		
Home Office Allotment \$ 3,825.00		
Income From Groups <u>\$ 5,100.00</u>		
Total <u>8,925.00</u>		
Tournament Expenses \$ 5,083.00		
Transportation <u>\$ 3,842.00</u>		
Total <u>8,925.00</u>		
B. 24th International Basketball and Volleyball Tournament		

(Continued from page 18)

Ambassador Vincent Obsitnik's Address Given at the 55th Congress of the Slovak League of America

(Editor's note: This address was given by the Hon. Vincent Obsitnik, retired U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia, at the banquet of the 55th Congress of the Slovak League of America held at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Bridgeport, Conn. on Saturday, June 9, 2012)

Dan, thank you very much for your kind invitation to address the Slovak League of America on my time and experiences as US Ambassador to Slovakia. First, it was a great honor for me to serve both President Bush and this great country of ours. This honor was the culmination of my living the American Dream. You all have probably seen enough of my bio but let me just summarize the road traveled. My American Dream consisted of being born in the village of Moravany in Eastern Slovakia in 1938. Two months later, I arrived in the US and we settled in Nanty-Glo, Pennsylvania where my father was a coalminer. In 1946, we moved to New Jersey where I finished my schooling, went on to the US Naval Academy and then served five years in Destroyers and Submarines. That was followed by successful corporate careers with IBM, Unisys and Litton. In 2001, President Bush appointed me to the US Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad where I worked to restore the 17th and 18th century wooden Greek Catholic churches in Slovakia. Along the way, I married my wife, Annemarie, who is here with us tonight. We have four sons and 12 grandchildren. I thought all of this was enough for anyone's American Dream and in 2005, we moved south to Georgia and Florida to start retirement.

The fact that I was appointed US Ambassador to Slovakia is, for me, somewhat of a miracle and a gift from God. Let me explain why I say that. In June 2007, I was nominated by President Bush to be the US Ambassador to Slovenia. I did accept the nomination since it was a great honor just to be asked to serve. There are about 200 US Ambassadors worldwide. Only about 50 of them are political appointees of the President. Being asked to be one of the 50 is something in itself. Well, guess what happened next. In August 2007, I received a phone call from the White House saying that our ambassador in Slovakia wanted to come home early and the President would change my nomination if I agreed. For me, this was the miracle and something only God could have made possible.

We arrived in Slovakia on Dec. 6, 2007. Representatives of the Foreign Ministry met and welcomed us at the border. So did the press. One question from the press was - Mr. Ambassador, you are arriving on St. Nicholas Day. What gifts are you bringing to Slovakia - the Visa Waiver Program? I'm sure you all know that the VWP will allow a country's citizens to travel to the US without a visa. I told them I've just arrived but I will surely go to work on it. Not only at our arrival but during our whole stay, I can say that all of Slovakia, both government and citizens, welcomed us extremely warmly. They were delighted that a

Slovak American had been named US Ambassador to Slovakia. Sometimes they would say TI SI NAS, meaning you are ours!!! Yes, I was theirs but I was also President Bush's.

At this point, I would like to acknowledge my wife, Annemarie, and all the work she did as the wife of the Ambassador. She did a great job in helping me and representing the US to Slovakia. A month after we arrived, I came back to the residence about 5pm with my son, Steve, who was visiting. We walked up the stairs. Everything was quiet and dark. When I got to the top, the lights went on and I heard Surprise - Happy Birthday. She had arranged a surprise party for my 70th birthday. There were 150 people there including all my relatives from Eastern Slovakia, even one wearing a babushka. That probably was the first babushka ever seen in an Ambassador's residence and I'm proud to say she was one of my cousins. Annemarie's father fell ill shortly thereafter and she had to leave for the US. Unfortunately, he passed away after which Annemarie returned to Slovakia and continued on with her duties. A truly remarkable and dedicated person.

In addition to representing the US to Slovakia, my job was also Chief of Mission where I was responsible for running the embassy. Thankfully, I had an excellent staff of both Americans and Slovaks. I was very impressed with our Foreign Service Officers. They were shown to be very well educated, interested in Slovakia, hard working and many knew various levels of the language. The total embassy staff was about 130 of which about 30 were Americans. Although the embassy was on Hviezdoslavovo Namestie in Bratislava, our residence was up above the city near the Slavin Memorial. If you haven't seen it yet, you'll recognize it when you do. It looks just like the White House and is a favorite stop on the bus tours that come around. The residence had a staff of four, a chef, a manager and two maids. They were responsible for keeping up the entire residence and preparing and serving all of the meals and receptions held there. It was quite a job and they were all excellent.

After presenting my credentials to President Gasparovic in Bratislava about Dec. 11th, I took a trip to Eastern Slovakia to visit my birthplace and to highlight the continuing need of development in that region. In visiting Moravany, my birthplace, I thought I was having a simple meeting with the mayor at the obecnny urad. When we arrived, the entire village was outside waiting for us. Music was in the air. Young children welcomed us with songs and read poetry. The mayor made a speech and so did I. It was a wonderful reception but someone told me that one of the press had asked my first cousin, Hanka Sisakova, age 86, what she thought about her cousin being the US Ambassador. She shrugged her shoulders and said in her Vychodnarsky accent, No, ta ani ne prisil mi pobockac. Translated means Well, he hasn't even come to give me a kiss yet. When I heard that I rushed over and gave her that kiss.

Our official lives in Slovakia were filled with numerous meetings, lunches, dinners, receptions, interviews and trips around Slovakia. We were warmly received by all aspects and entities of Slovak society. The entities that I had to reach out to were the Slovak Government, the political opposition, foreign ambassadors, US companies, Universities, minority groups, cultural groups, and local municipalities. I always traveled with a security detail and in an armored limousine. Some people ask why does a US Ambassador need a security detail. Well, things are only safe while they are safe. A few months before I came to Slovakia, a young man with a backpack was approaching the US Embassy in Vienna which is only about 50 miles from Bratislava. The alarms went off, he dropped the backpack and ran. The backpack was loaded with explosives.

My security detail was provided by the Slovak Government. One team, Boris and Jan, were with me quite a bit and, after a while, they became like my sons. We always spoke Slovak to each other. After arriving in Bratislava, I told them that I was going to run the Kosice Marathon in 2008 so they better start training. They had never run long distance before but they trained with me and we did run the Kosice Marathon together and finished.

I'd like to now discuss some of the political/foreign policy issues we dealt with while I was the Ambassador.

Concerning Iraq, I had to continually explain the rationale for being there. As you may know, Slovakia withdrew its forces from Iraq. On Afghanistan it was different. Since it was a NATO mission, they were very supportive. While I was there, the government committed to increase their force from 170 to 300 and in 2009, they authorized up to 500. I believe that there are also now a small number of special forces from Slovakia in Afghanistan.

On Missile Defense - At the NATO Bucharest Summit, Slovakia did sign on with all the other NATO countries to support the MD system in Poland and Czech Republic. As a country, Slovakia made the right decision even though everyone didn't agree. Unfortunately, the Obama administration canceled the program due to Russian opposition.

After the Russian Invasion of Georgia, I went out publicly to the press and TV to denounce Russia's use of force against Georgia and their occupation of part of the country. Not everyone in Slovakia's government were convinced that the Russians were the bad guys.

On energy security, we were encouraging the Slovaks to move to less dependence on Russia for oil and gas. Along this line, I had the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Energy, visit Slovakia and brief senior members of the government on the energy situation. I believe today Slovakia has projects ongoing with Hungary and the Czech Republic to interconnect their energy supply lines so as not to be totally dependent on Russia.

Concerning Civil Society, we in

the US believe in a full freedom of the press. In 2008, the Slovak government passed a law that we felt would restrict this freedom. We urged them not to do it but it passed anyway on the basis that other European countries have similar laws. However, we were successful in convincing them to stop pursuing a new law for Non-Governmental Organizations. This would have severely restricted the NGOs and their operations and would have been seen as nondemocratic.

In the area of Security, we had excellent cooperation with the Ministry of Interior on terrorism. Slovakia was commended by the US Government for its role in stopping a nuclear smuggling ring. At the same time we fully cooperated on negotiating treaties and agreements needed for Slovakia to qualify for the Visa Waiver Program. In Nov. 2008, Homeland Secretary Michael Chertoff visited Bratislava to announce that Slovakia had qualified for the Visa Waiver Program.

In the area of defense and military cooperation, there is a very close relationship between the US and Slovakia. Since the Velvet Revolution, we have given them over \$100M in aid to help transform their military to be NATO compatible and they entered NATO in 2004. They currently have a close working relationship with the Indiana National Guard. While I was there, I presented 6 Slovak soldiers with US Military Decorations for their service in Iraq. I also had the honor to address a contingent of soldiers in Michalovce who had just returned from Afghanistan.

I'd like to give you two examples of how Slovaks appreciate our military. I attended a ceremony inaugurating a new memorial to a US WWII bomber shot down over Trencianske Teplice with one of the crewmen killed. The villagers built this new memorial all on their own and wanted to commemorate what the US sacrificed for them in WWII.

I also visited the town of Jarabina, the birth home of Sgt. Michael Strank, USMC. He was head of the platoon that raised the flag over Iwo Jima in that famous photograph. The town has a huge mural of that event covering one complete wall of their town hall.

In the area of public affairs, we supported grants to Roma organizations for their development. We gave a grant to the city of Martin to help them overcome corruption and become corruption free. They just received a UN Award for being a corruption free city. We brought over the Pittsburgh Agreement with Joe Senko's help to celebrate its 90th anniversary. However, the budget for such public affairs activity is very meager. The US should spend more money in these areas.

Let me address for a moment the activities of the US business community in Slovakia. To date, US companies have invested about \$5.8B in Slovakia. We all know about US Steel. However, Whirlpool, in Poprad, is producing 1 million washing machines a year. Other US companies like Johnson Controls and Getrag-Ford have operations supporting the auto industry. Honeywell has just announced a plant for Presov employing 400 people. US IT companies like

IBM and HP who would normally only employ about 250 people in a country the size of Slovakia are currently employing 2-3 thousand Slovaks each. They are running back office information systems for their worldwide operations. This is due to young Slovaks having good education, language skills and being highly productive.

As you know, my time in Slovakia was limited due to the outcome of the 2008 elections. But I think we accomplished a lot in a very short time. One major achievement was the granting of the VWP to Slovakia. Slovaks will no longer feel like second class citizens and are free from a harshly impersonal and arduous visa process. The next achievement was President Bush inviting President Gasparovic to the White House. Pres. Gasparovic is a strong supporter of the Euro-Atlantic Alliance and the United States and his visit emphasized the closeness of the US and Slovakia.

I've said a lot of positive things about Slovakia but there are also areas that need improvement. Improvement is needed to eliminate corruption at all levels. You hear about scandals but no one is prosecuted or jailed. The justice system is too slow and not transparent. Health care and pension reforms are badly needed since they are severely underfunded. That should sound familiar to Americans. The Roma situation is still unresolved and needs leadership to find solutions.

Now as we look to the future and our relations with Slovakia, I am becoming a little concerned. I am concerned on two fronts. One is cultural and the other is the political. On the cultural side, Slovakia is today a successful economy and democracy. It is the most successful economy in Europe. It is in the EU and its citizens are feeling more and more European which you would expect since they live there. Slovaks no longer only think of America as the place to be. Since they are in the EU, today they can travel, live, study and work throughout Europe without any problems, primarily younger Slovaks. I think fewer and fewer are thinking of the US because of distance and cost. At the same time, it is becoming more and more difficult to maintain the ethnic connections on this side of the Atlantic due to our children leaving the ethnic communities and resettling around the United States. I think our ties with Slovakia may be weakening. We definitely have projects and ties going with Slovakia and I don't want to take away from those efforts but we need to do much more. We as Americans of Slovak descent need to think of and find ways to make connections with Slovakia and to stimulate cooperation.

On the political side, I think the Slovaks today are questioning our commitment to Europe but more specifically to Central Europe. We've seen the Russian reset announced and now we have the shift to Asia. This is creating some consternation and America's commitment to Europe is being questioned. At the same time, Slovaks in Slovakia are wondering what is the position of the American Slovaks. I believe that the Slovak League of America can and should have a pro-

(Continued from page 17)

Group Annual Meetings Set

(Continued from page 13)

we may be able to address any concerns and hear new ideas. Input from our members will insure the success of our various activities.

Zdar Boh!

Tony L. Scuglik, President
Julie Ann Dobbs, Secretary

Group 11, "St. John Nepomucene" of Superior, Wis. will host its annual meeting on Sunday, October 14 in Minneapolis, Minn. Hosts for the meeting will be Assembly 34 and Wreath 47. Mass will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 11 at 9 a.m. in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, located at 13th Avenue and 2nd Street, N.E. Following the liturgy, the annual meeting will be called to order in the Father Dargay Memorial Hall of the parish at 10 a.m. Coffee and rolls will be available before the meeting and a luncheon will be served after. Reports of the officers will be presented and plans for our various fraternal activities will be finalized. All delegates from our lodges in Minneapolis and Duluth, Minn. Superior, Wis. and Ironwood, Mich. are requested to register with the Group Secretary, James T. Genosky, 1001 - 421/2 Avenue, N.E. # 102, Minneapolis, Minn. 55421, tel. (763)789-9196 by October 7th.

Zdar Boh!

David J. Genosky, President
James T. Genosky, Secretary

Group 12, "Anton Bernolak" of Reading, Pa. will host its annual meeting on Saturday, September 29 in Reading, Pa. The meeting will be held at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 412 Crestmont Street and will be called to order promptly at 11 a.m. Hosting this year's meeting will be Assembly 261 and Wreath 155 of Reading. We hope to have all Assemblies and Wreaths within Group 12 represented at this important meeting. A reminder to all our lodges that the annual donation of \$200.00 to the Group in support of our various sporting programs is due. This annual support lessens our need for fund-raising. Donations made payable to Group 12 may be presented at the meeting or sent directly to our financial secretary, Joseph M. Oros, 124 Funston Ave., Reading, PA 19607. On an historic note, this year marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of Group 12 which took place in Philadelphia on October 19, 1912. We thank you all for your continued cooperation and look forward to seeing a good turnout at our annual meeting.

Zdar Boh!

Joseph A. Harak, President
JoAnn Antosy, Secretary

Group 14, "St. Francis of Assisi" will host its annual meeting on Saturday, September 29 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning with breakfast to be served at 9 a.m. The meeting will be called to order immediately following breakfast. Officers and representatives of all Assemblies

and Wreaths belonging to Group 14 are invited to attend. If anyone would like to have anything added to the meeting agenda, contact the president at the phone number or e-mail address below. In order to make the necessary arrangements, those planning to attend are asked to call Kathy Watkins at (412)225-8233 or email: Kathyw626@yahoo.com. We are looking forward to a very successful meeting in the best traditions of Group 14 Sokol fraternalism.

Zdar Boh!

Kathleen S. Watkins, President
Claudia Borecki, Secretary

Group 16, "Rev. Ferdis Juriga", Detroit, Mich. - Our annual meeting will be held on Saturday, September 29 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish located at 41233 Ryan Road, north of 18 Mile Road, in Sterling Heights, Mich. Our program begins with attendance at the 4 p.m. Mass in church to be celebrated by the pastor and chaplain of Group 16, the Rev. Benjamin Kosnac. The liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 16. Delegates and guests are requested to assemble in the church vestibule at 3:45 p.m. so as to march in a body to the Mass. Following the liturgy, we will assemble in the heritage room of the parish where the annual meeting will be called to order. In order to make the necessary preparations, we ask that those planning to attend contact the Group President Andrea Papcun (248)375-9334 or the Secretary Madeline Stanek at (586)285-9536. All officers are requested to submit a written report of their activities at the meeting. We hope to see all lodges belonging to Group 16 represented at this year's annual meeting.

Zdar Boh!

Andrea Papcun, President
Madeline Stanek, Secretary

Local Reading, Pa. Golf Tournament set

Members of Assembly 261 and Wreath 155 along with the Sokol Home Association in Reading, Pa. are set to host their annual local Golf Tournament set for Saturday, October 20. The annual benefit competition will be held at the scenic Manor Golf Club with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Food, drinks along with cash prizes are included in the \$65.00 per person entrance fee.

Interested area golfers are asked to sign-up their foursomes now by contacting Dave Materia at dmateria@verizon.net or the sign-up list at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 411 Crestmont Street in Reading, tel.(610)375- 4500. We are also looking for volunteers and hole sponsors for the golf tournament. An enjoyable time is assured at our golf tournament. For additional information on the tournament, visit our website at www.readingsokol.org.

Zdar Boh!

Joseph Harak
President, Group 12

Lodge Jottings

(Continued from page 8)

LORAIN, OH. Wreath 111

As we begin the new fall season, we invite our members to join us for our monthly meetings and socials. Our normal meeting night is the second Monday of the month beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the American Slovak Club, located at 2915 Broadway. Each month we select a particular theme for our meeting. All members are invited to join us for a pleasant evening.

Our first meeting of the new season is scheduled for Monday, September 10 as we celebrate the patronal feast of our Wreath, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our Wreath was founded in 1922 at the former Holy Trinity Slovak parish and our founders chose Our Lady as patroness. This year then marks our 90th anniversary. The theme of our meeting is "Dinner Will Be Served." An enjoyable evening is assured.

Our subsequent meeting dates are as follows. On Monday, October 8, our meeting theme will be "Set the Clocks Back, Fall is Back." On Monday, November 12 our theme will be "Thanks for Thanksgiving." Our Monday, December 10 meeting's theme will be "Celebrating the Birth of Jesus with Dinner." Please note that this meeting begins at 6 p.m. As always, an enjoyable Christmas gathering is assured.

Due to the inclement weather of winter, we will not meet in January or February. Looking ahead, we will resume our meetings beginning on Monday, March 11, 2013 with theme "May the Luck of the Irish be With Us." On Monday, April 8 we will celebrate the great feast of Easter with the theme of "Easter Brought the Best Out of Us." On May 13 the theme of the meeting will be "Remember Momma Tea Party" and finally our June 10 meeting will have as its theme "Picnic with Dad." So mark your calendars and plan to join us for our monthly gatherings where we celebrate Sokol fellowship and fraternalism. Now that Assembly 177 has merged with us, we look forward to welcoming many of our brother Sokols at our meetings. For additional information, contact Anna Gaydosh at tel. (440)988-2325 or agaydosh2@oh.rr.com.

Wishing all a pleasant fall season and looking forward to seeing you at our Wreath gatherings, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

Anna Gaydosh
Treasurer

PITTSBURGH, PA Wreath 22

The first meeting of the new fall season for our Wreath under the patronage of Saint Cecilia, is scheduled for Monday, September 10 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, South Side beginning at 7 p.m. All members are cordially invited to attend.



Fraternal Activities in Connecticut

Group 2 Corner

by Eileen S. Wilson

Wreath 86 Honors Senior Sokolky

Wreath 86 hosted a special meeting recently following the 9 a.m. Mass celebrated in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Torrington, Conn. The meeting was held in the church hall and was well-attended by our Sokolky. During the meeting, the installation of officers took place and several senior Sokolky were honored. The new slate of officers include Antoinette Landor, president and treasurer; Mary Beyer, vice president; Bernadette Rossi, recording and financial secretary; and Elizabeth Zaharek, auditor. Following the oath of office, the presentation of pins and Certificates of Appreciation were distributed to several senior Sokolky who celebrated their 50-year and 75-year membership in the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Each received a special pin and certificate compliments of the home office. A total of eleven members were eligible for their 75-year pin and fourteen for their 50-year pin. Those who were present received their pin and certificate, while those unable to attend received their pins and certificates by mail. Refreshments were served and a most enjoyable time was had by all.



Senior Sokolky honored at the Wreath 86 social included 75-year recipients, front row, l-r, Rita Kozlak, Betty LaGamba, Eleanor Orié, Dorothy Pukas and Lillian Trivella. Second row, 50-year recipients, including l-r, Kathleen Boutin, Irene Cook, Cheryl Gruner and Karen Landor.

Save the Date

And join us as we celebrate and commemorate the 30th Annual St. Martin Day Celebration hosted by Group 2 on Sunday, November 11, 2012. This year's celebration falls on the actual feast day honoring St. Martin, the great patron of our organization. Our festivities begin with attendance at the 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Stratford, Conn. Following the liturgy, we will gather at the scenic Grassy Hill Lodge in nearby Derby, Conn. for a gala reception and luncheon. Grassy Hill Lodge is owned and operated by our own Sokolka, Martha Dulla, Esq. Detailed information on this year's celebration will follow in an upcoming issue. So mark your calendars and plan to be a part of Group 2 history as we celebrate the 30th anniversary of this wonderful fraternal activity.

Now that the summer months are almost over, we look forward to a busy month and season ahead. Fall is always a wonderful time to celebrate Sokol fraternalism. At our meeting we will be finalizing our plans for our annual spaghetti luncheon in October and our second, mother-daughter breakfast which is scheduled for November. In addition, we will make early plans for our annual children's Christmas party in December. Input from our members will insure the success of our various projects.

Our gymnastics program will again resume in September. The Group 14 program will have had their registration scheduled for late August and gymnastic classes will begin after Labor Day. Parents are urged to have their children participate in this fine program. They will also be making plans for the family/children's traditional Halloween party held in October and their Ladies night Out scheduled for November.

As is our tradition, following our business meeting, we will enjoy a small social and we invite our Wreath sisters to come and join us. An enjoyable evening of Sokol fellowship is assured.

Zdar Boh!

Joan Yanosick
Recording Secretary

Ambassador Obsitnik's Address

(Continued from page 16)

active role in representing the views and opinions of its members to the Slovak Government as well as our own government. Slovaks in Slovakia, both on the personal and official level are looking for this.

I ask all of you to give thought to both of these relationship issues as you develop your future direction and strategy. Thank you very much again for inviting me and I wish the Slovak League of America much success in the future.

Semi-Annual Report of the Supreme Auditors Conducted August 24-25 at the Home Office in Passaic, NJ

(Continued from page 15)

	Subtotal	48,599.30	
I. Less Entry Fees and Miscellaneous From Participants		-32,848.94	
	Total	\$ 15,750.36	
13. SUPREME AUDITORS EXPENSES	\$	9,248.81	
14. SUPREME OFFICERS TRAVEL	\$	7,382.95	
15. OTHER ACCOUNTS REVIEWED			
Death Benefit Claims Paid	\$	404,732.68	
Salaries-Office		254,151.95	
Annuity Surrenders/Withdrawal		243,370.96	
Pension Plans Office/Officers		133,519.03	
Property Taxes-Sokol Building		56,468.16	
Hospitalization/Employee Benefits		51,910.82	
Salaries-Editorial		40,045.00	
Group Assessments		27,865.52	
Operating Expenses-Sokol Building		25,881.95	
Legal Expenses		22,786.39	
Agency Expenses		20,061.91	
Salaries-Supreme Officers		18,900.00	
Office Expenses		17,752.25	
Accountant Expenses		15,250.00	
Board of Directors Expenses		15,176.92	
CPS Actuaries		14,442.00	
Dues and Subscriptions		7,375.05	
Postage-Office		6,699.47	
Marketing Expenses		4,786.96	
Pension Plans-Print Shop		4,696.36	
Advertising		3,841.08	
Donations and Contributions		3,449.52	
State Insurance and Licenses		3,350.00	

Building Maintenance and Repairs	3,208.60
Rental Area Expenses	2,812.26
Telephone-Office	2,099.98
Supreme Office Uniforms	1,392.88
Miscellaneous Income	981.38
Telephone-Editorial	739.17
Sale of Cookbooks	519.00

We would like to thank the members for allowing us the honor and privilege to serve as your auditors.


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


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

Zdar Boh!

We the undersigned Supreme Auditors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol do hereby acknowledge that on this date, August 25, 2012, we reviewed the policy of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in accordance with PA Act 154 regarding the marketing practices and found that the Slovak Catholic Sokol is in compliance with PA Act 154.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Horvath
Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors


Steven J. Burican
Supreme Auditor


James F. Knis
Supreme Auditor

57th International Golf Tournament

(Continued from page 1)

dent Larry M. Glugosh greeted all of the members and guests and thanked them for taking time out of their busy schedules to enjoy the fraternalism, joys and laughter on the golf course that makes this tournament one of the most popular of our annual sporting events. The keynote speaker was Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. Brother Pogorelec greeted the members and guests and noted that the facilities at Treasure Lake were fantastic and that this was the 11th tournament held at this location since 1988. The Supreme Secretary took the opportunity to recognize Joan J. Yanosick of Pittsburgh who was selected as our 2012 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year. Sister Yanosick stood and was recognized by the assemblage who gave her a warm ovation.

Brother Pogorelec than took the opportunity to present the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award to Karol M. Talafous, a member of Assembly 224 in Jersey City, N.J. A long-time Group 1 activist, Brother Talafous, who was the 26th recipient of the Petruff Award, is a veteran of many of our golf tournaments over the past 30 years. Treasure Lake and continues to promote our society on the local and national levels. Past recipients of this award in attendance at the banquet included Joseph L. Genet, 2000; John J. (Jack) Yanosick, 2005; Bishop Roger W. Gries, O.S.B., 2007;

Thomas P. Muldoon, Jr., 2008; Richard "Dick" Hodos, 2009; and Loretta G. Smith, 2011.

On Sunday morning, the weather was supposed to improve, however dark skies and cool temperatures prevailed for a second straight day. The Silver Course is also a par 72, but the course is 426 yards longer than the Gold Course, but is more wide open with less out of bounds and the fairways were in better shape. When the golfers got to their individual holes for the 9 a.m. shotgun start, the skies opened up and a steady rain continued for the next 25 minutes. The top golfers on the more wide open Silver Course included Jeremy Moeller who shot a 75, which was the best scratch score of the entire tournament and Gary Watkins also had a great round and finished with a score of 78.

Gary Watkins of Group 14 won the A Flight with a combined scratch score of 145, followed closely by Adam Macurak, another Group 14 golfer, who also shot a 147 including handicap. Paul Corcoran of Group 19 finished in third place with a 149 score. Brian Suchy of Group 14 won the B Flight with a scratch 169 and a 30 pin handicap lowered his 36 hole score to 139. Steve Glugosh of Group 19 finished in second place in the B Flight with a 145 score. On Sunday, Ed Bajus of Group 19 knocked off 15 strokes from his Saturday score to finish with a two day total of 151. Derek Loehle of Group 19 won the C

Flight with a 193 scratch score and 52 stroke handicap that lowered his score to 141. Jay Macko of Group 5 finished in second place in the C Flight with a score of 149 and Donald Macurak of Group 14 finished in third place with a 158.

First time tournament player, Jeremy Moeller of Group 14 tied both the Gold and Silver Courses to finish with the best scratch score of 155 and with only a 12 handicap, he also had the lowest net score of 143 in the Callaway Division. Ken Lijewski and Zach Oravetz both of Group 14, and James Bart of Group 9 each finished with a 148 net score. Edward Baker of Group 5 placed first in the Senior Division with a net score of 153. Jim Hudzik of Group 14 finished in second place with a 157 and Peter Uderation of Group 5 and Tom Kosciolk of Group 7 finished in a third place tie with net scores of 160.

In the Women's Division, Chris Chervenak of Group 14 shot a 152 with the handicap deduction. Mary Ruth Savikas also of Group 14 finished in second place with a 153 and Loretta Smith of Group 17 finished in third place with a 154. The women had a great turnout with 17 golfers and the top nine golfers were all within four strokes of the leader, Chris Chervenak of Group 14. Barb Aldrich of Group 5, had the best scratch score with a 106 on the Gold Course and a 105 on the Silver Course and finished with a two day total of 211.

The 57th International Golf Tournament was the final Slovak Catho-

Minutes of the Semi-Annual Meeting of Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak"

(Continued from page 14)

preparation for the 46th International Slet was scheduled for June 28 - July 1, 2012. Our Physical Director and Directress, along with their assistants would attend.

The annual Group 3 Golf Open is scheduled for September 8, 2012 at the Connecticut National Golf Course. This is another of the major fund-raisers for Group 3. Brother Roger Manyak asked members to seek hole sponsors as an additional fund-raiser.

Octoberfest will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2012. Brother Roger will again serve as chairperson of the event. Group 3 will be set up on the library lawn again with food and games. Roger will be looking for donations and volunteers for this annual community

lic Sokol sporting event of the year, capping another exciting year of activities. The first activity was the 22nd basketball tournament in April followed by the 67th bowling tournament in May, the Supreme Clinic - Kurz in June, the 25th softball tournament in July and the golf tournament in August.

Congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to all our members who enjoyed participation in our 2012 activities and we are looking forward to continued and increased participation in our 2013 sporting events, including our 46th International Slet scheduled at Slippery Rock University in July. Thank you and Zdar Boh!

event. There was a discussion regarding the raffle. It was decided that there will be three(3) prizes of Scratch Tickets. Our Group president, Brother Kevin Conway appointed a committee consisting of John Manyak, Lori Cyr, Joan Shea and Christine Manyak to assist Brother Roger Manyak at this year's Octoberfest. The committee will get started on the raffle tickets, mailing labels, etc. as soon as possible to get these out ahead of time in hopes of selling more tickets.

With no further business, on a motion by Judith Manyak, seconded by Kevin Conway, the annual meeting was adjourned. A closing prayer was offered for all our deceased members. Suhlas!

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Manyak
Group 3 Secretary

Slovak cultural evenings

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association will begin their monthly Slovak Heritage Group meetings in October. The first meeting is schedule for Monday, October 1 beginning at 7 p.m. The enjoyable gatherings are held at the Mt. Lebanon Public Library in Pittsburgh, Pa. These evenings with lectures, video presentations and demonstrations of Slovak culture and heritage are held throughout the year on the first Monday of each month. For additional information, call Joseph Senko at (412)956-6000.

Slovenská katolícka púť do West Haverstraw, NY



Tradičná slovenská katolícka púť do Mariánskej svätyně vo West Haverstraw, NY, ktorú každý rok usporiada Spolok Sv. Štefana č. 716 Prvej slovenskej katolíckej Jednoty v New Yorku, sa tento rok konala v nedeľu 12. augusta.

Púť sa zúčastnilo 86 pútníkov z New Yorku, New Jersey a Connecticutu a niekoľko hostí zo Slovenska.

Svätú omšu, ktorá sa konala za

krásneho slnečného počasia pri vonkajšom oltári, slúžil o. Roman Palečko z Tapan, NY. Obetoval ju za zdravie a Božie požehnanie otca Štefana Chanasa, správcu farnosti Sv. Jána Nepomuckého v Manhattan, ktorý nedávno oslávil svoje štyridsiate narodeniny. Svätá omša bola slúžená aj za zdravie všetkých zúčastnených pútníkov a za nebohého otca Martina Svitaňa, farára farnosti Sv. Jána Nepomuckého, ktorý zomrel 10.

apríla t.r. Svätú omšu koncebrovali otec Štefan Chanasa a otec Marko Makai zo Slovenska. Na organe hral Rado Lesay. Po svätej omši nasledoval obed. Na záver púte bola Ružencová pobožnosť, ktorú viedol o. Štefan Chanasa.

Touto cestou chceme poďakovať všetkým, ktorí sa na pripravu a uskutočnení púte podieľali. Pán Boh zaplať. - **Henrieta Daitová, tajomníčka Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716**

Slovákovi v zahraničí sa nepáči spôsob pridelovania dotácií

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

10.	Kanada	32 500,00	3,08%
11.	Argentína	31 400,00	2,97%
12.	Austrália	21 700,00	2,06%
13.	Ukrajina	21 860,00	2,06%
14.	Francúzsko	16 395,00	1,55%
15.	Nemecko	12 500,00	1,18%
16.	Belgicko	7 950,00	0,75%
17.	Čierna Hora	5 310,00	0,50%
18.	Nový Zéland	5 000,00	0,47%
19.	Bulharsko	2 500,00	0,24%
20.	Švajčiarsko	2 300,00	0,22%
21.	Brazília	2 000,00	0,19%
22.	Cyprus	2 000,00	0,19%
23.	Taliano	1 970,00	0,19%
24.	Nórsko	1 750,00	0,17%
Spolu €		1 055 595,00	100 %

Krajanské organizácie zo štátov strednej, východnej a južnej Európy (Bulharsko, Cyprus, Česká republika, Čierna Hora, Chorvátsko, Maďarsko, Poľsko, Rumunsko, Srbsko, Ukrajina) získali 797894,00 eur, čiže 75,6 % z celkovej sumy.

Na projekty, ktoré zaslali krajanovia zo západnej Európy, južnej a severnej Ameriky, a Austrálie (Argentína, Austrália, Belgicko, Brazília, Francúzsko, Írsko, Kanada, Nemecko, Nový Zéland, Nórsko, Švajčiarsko, Taliansko, USA, Veľká Británia) boli pridelené dotácie vo výške 257 701,00 eur čiže 24,4% z celkového objemu.

Uvedené čísla dokumentujú zjavnú, roky pretrvávajúcu nevyváženosť pri rozdeľovaní dotácií.

Porovnanie 75,6% ku 24,4% v neprospech „Západu“ hovorí jasnou rečou! Tento fakt ešte výraznejšie podčiarkuje poradie krajín v h.u. tabulke. Čelné priečky v rebríčku úspešnosti už tradične obsadili výlučne krajiny zo strednej a juhovýchodnej Európy (1.Srbsko, 2.Rumunsko, 3.Česká republika, 4.Maďarsko, 7.Chorvátsko). Z celkovej sumy (1 055 595,00 eur) si týchto päť predátorov pripísalo na svoj účet 727 388 eur, t.j. 68,9%, čo zodpovedá dvom tretinám celkového objemu! Samotná „jednotka“, Srbsko, získala na dotáciách o 111 tisíc eur viac ako všetky spolky z krajín západnej Európy, Ameriky a Austrálie dokopy.

Príčin tohto neuspokojivého stavu je viacero. Ich korene siahajú až do 90-tich rokov minulého storočia, do čias, kedy sa po novom začali definovať o.i. aj základné parametre politiky SR vo vzťahu k „zahraničným Slovákom“. Dôsledky tejto, ako sa a posledných dvadsať rokov ukázalo, skôr deklaratívnej ako koncepcijnej politiky, sa odzrkadľujú aj v spôsobe, akým ÚSZZ postupuje pri rozdeľovaní grantov pre slovenské zahraničie.

Bolo by však nespravodlivé, keby sa ÚSZZ podsúvalo zámerné uprednostňovanie spolkov zo strednej a juhovýchodnej Európy na úkor „Západu.“ Hlavnú vinu na tomto absurdnom stave majú a najväčšiu prekážku na ceste k náprave predstavujú legislatívne nedostatky obsiahnuté v „KONCEPCIÍ ŠTÁTNEJ POLITIKY STAROSTLIVOSTI O SLOVÁKOV ŽIJÚCICH V ZAHRANIČÍ DO ROKU 2015“. ÚSZZ je pri plnení svojich úloh viazaný o.i. aj ustanoveniami z „KONCEPCIIE...“, čím sú rozsah a kvalita jeho pôsobenia značne zúžené. Preto sa v prvom rade podporujú také projekty Slovákov v zahraničí, ktoré sú zamerané na imitovanie slovenského folklóru, insitu, remeselné zručnosti a publikačnú činnosť rôzneho druhu.

O projekty, ktorých cieľom je aktívna podpora politicko-hospodárskych záujmov Slovenskej republiky zo strany Slovákov v zahraničí (lobbying), ako keby vôbec nebol záujem. O systémovej podpore výučovania slovenčiny pre mladú generáciu (deti Slovákov v zahraničí) ani nehovoriac. Radšej sa každý rok všetko odzvoňa z-konzervuje, aby sa malo na budúci rok opäť čo konzervovať.

Celý proces pridelovania grantov v značnej miere narušujú z roka na rok sa stupňujúca nenásytnosť spolkárskej oligarchie, oných smutne preslávených „zahraničných Slovákov z povolania“, ktorí si dokážu všetkými možnými spôsobmi zabezpečiť čo možno najväčšiu porciu z grantového hrnca. V čerstvej pamäti máme priam nadľudské úsilie, ktoré čelní predstavitelia SZSZ za pomoci dezinformovaných médií nedávno vyvinuli nato, aby odstránili vtedajšieho predsedu ÚSZZ Milana Vetráka, ktorý im stál v ceste k vytúženým grantovým zdrojom.

Privítali by sme, keby vedenie ÚSZZ považovalo odstránenie pretrvávajúcej disproporcie pri pridelovaní dotácií pre Slovákov v zahraničí za jednu zo svojich prioritných úloh. Únia Slovákov v zahraničí je pripravená pomôcť pri hľadaní východísk, ktoré by viedli k obnoveniu a posilneniu vzájomnej dôvery a k ozdraveniu vzťahov jednak medzi samotnou slovenskou krajanovou pospolitosťou a jednak medzi Slovenskou republikou a Slovákami v zahraničí.

Slovensko má najstaršieho biskupa na svete

Nitriansky emeritný biskup kardinál Ján Chryzostom Korec je pravdepodobne služobne



najstarším katolíckym biskupom na svete.

V piatok 24. augusta si 88-ročný kardinál pripomenul 61. výročie svojej biskupskej vysviacky. Biskupskú konsekráciu

prijal tajne 24. augusta 1951 z rúk biskupa Pavla Hnilicu.

Do roku 1990 v čase komunistického režimu nemohol svoju pastoračnú službu vykonávať verejne, preto pracoval ako robotník. Za svoju vernosť kňazskému a reholnému povolaniu i Rímu bol od roku 1960 osem rokov vo väzení.

„V situácii neistoty a ustavičnej hrozby o slobodu, ba o život, ja som sa mal rozhodnúť stať sa tajným biskupom a svätit tajných kňazov,“ spomína si dnes kardinál na svoju vysviacku. Zároveň konštatuje, že ráno po biskupskej vysviacke išiel opäť do roboty „vŕhať sudy s benzínom“.

Kardinál Korec podľa informácie hovorca Nitrianskeho biskupstva Miroslava Lyka tajne vysvätil 120 kňazov, predovšetkým pre potreby reholi.

Kardinálom viac ako dvadsať rokov

Pápež Ján Pavol II. ho 6. februára 1990 vymenoval za nitrianskeho biskupa a 28. júna 1991 ho kreoval za kardinála. Jeho úlohou bolo obnoviť diecézu nielen po materiálnej, ale najmä po duchovnej stránke.

Na starobylom nitrianskom biskupskom stolci bol do 16. júla 2005. Je autorom veľkého počtu kníh, z ktorých mnohé boli preložené do cudzích jazykov a vydané v zahraničí.

V júni tohto roka kardinála Korca hospitalizovali v nitrianskej nemocnici v kritickom stave v ťažkom septickom šoku.

Horúčavy na Slovensku si vyžiadali ďalšiu obeť

Horúčavy, ktoré od 20. do 25. augusta trápi obyvateľov Slovenska, si vyžiadali život 23-ročnej ženy z Rimavskej Soboty, ktorá odpadla a záchranárom sa ju už nepodarilo zachrániť. Stala sa už treťou obeťou tohoročných horúčav na Slovensku.

Počas týždňa teploty dosahovali na niektorých miestach až 37 stupňov Celzia. V nemocniciach ošetrovali stovky ľudí, ktorí následkom horúčav skolabovali.

V stredu 22. augusta podvečer na Záhorí začalo silno pršať a jedným úsekom prešiel taký silný vietor, že strhával strechy, lámal stromy a elektrické stĺpy. Vietor zničil aj cintorín v Moravskom Svätom Jáne. Búrka niektoré domy prakticky zničila.

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

ISSN: 0897-8107

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

Majiteľ a vydavateľ:
 SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

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

Všetky články, príspevky a správy treba 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 KATOLÍCKEHO SOKOLA - 28 000 ČLENOV - HLAVNÁ ÚRADOVŇA: 205 MADISON STREET, PASSAIC, NJ 07055 - www.slovakcatholicfalcon.org

VOLUME CI

PASSAIC, N.J., 5. SEPTEMBRA 2012

ČÍSLO 4972

O. Chanas menovaný za správcu slovenskej farnosti sv. Jána Nepomuckého v NYC

V piatok 17. augusta new-orlský arcibiskup Timothy kardinál Dolan menoval O. Štefana Chanasa za administrátora slovenskej farnosti sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku.

O. Chanas sa narodil v roku 1972 v Košiciach, kde vyrastal a absolvoval základnú školu a gymnázium. V rokoch 1990-1996 študoval teológiu v Spišskom Podhradí. V auguste 1996 bol v Košiciach vysvätený za kňaza. Na Slovensku pôsobil do roku 2003 vo farnostiach Strážske, Vranov-Juh, Barde-



šov a Košice-Nad Jazerom.

V roku 2003 ho arcibiskup Alojz Tkáč uvoľnil zo služby košickej arcidiecézy, aby mohol pôsobiť medzi Slováckmi v USA ako kaplán Farnosti sv. Jánana Nepomuckého na Manhattane. Túto postoračnú službu kaplána vykonával až do 17. augusta, kedy ho arcibiskup Timothej kardinál Dolan oficiálnym dekrétom menoval za administrátora (správcu) slovenskej Farnosti sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku.

Pred 44 rokmi vtrhli do ČSSR tanky

V noci z 20. na 21. augusta 1968 vtrhli vojská Varšavskej zmluvy bez Rumunska do ČSSR. Jednotky Poľska, Maďarska, Bulharska a NDR sa neskôr stiahli, no ZSSR rozmiestnil svoje vojská na území ČSSR a zostali tam až do roku 1991.

Okupácia si vyžiadala desiatky mŕtvych a stovky zranených. Československá vláda zaznamenala v septembri 1968 od 21. augusta do 3. septembra 72 mŕtvych, napokon ich priznala 90.

Podľa odhadov vtedajšieho ministerstva financií mala výška priamych škôd dosahovať 1,4 miliardy korún. Neskôr boli škody odhadnuté až na 4,48 miliardy korún, nepriame škody však boli oveľa vyššie.

Ústava Slovenskej republiky má 20 rokov



Dňa 1. septembra 2012 uplynulo 20 rokov od schválenia Ústavy Slovenskej republiky. Jej prijatie Slovenskou národnou radou bolo významným medzníkom vo vývoji Slovenskej republiky.

Zo 134 prítomných poslancov hlasovalo za 114, proti boli 16 a štyria sa zdržali. Ústavu Slovenskej republiky slávnostne podpísali 3. septembra 1992 na Bratislavskom hrade predseda SNR Ivan Gašparovič a predseda vlády Vladimír Mečiar.

Ústava bola pripravovaná a schválená v čase, keď boli sformované iba prvé základy demokratického a právneho štátu

Českej a Slovenskej Federatívnej republiky ako spoločného štátu Čechov, Slovákov a príslušníkov národností žijúcich na území štátu. Bolo to aj obdobie, v ktorom sa rysovali kontúry možného zániku spoločného štátu.

Dvadsať rokov ústavy v medzinárodnom kontexte neznamená dlhé obdobie. Je to však už obdobie, počas ktorého sa Slovenská republika stala pevnou súčasťou demokratického spoločenstva štátov, stala sa členom Európskej únie a NATO a určite má znaky demokratického a právneho štátu, ktorý si ctí práva a slobody ľudí.

Slovákom v zahraničí sa nepáči spôsob pridelovania dotácií

Vážené redakcie, ctené dámy, vážení páni!

Únia Slovákov v zahraničí (ÚSZ) poukazuje na pretrvávajúcu disproporciu v rozdeľovaní štátnych dotácií pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí.

Zo sumy 1,055.595,- mil. eur, ktoré boli tohto roku rozdelené Úradom pre Slovákov tujúcich v zahraničí dostali krajské spolky zo strednej a juhovýchodnej Európy 797 894,- eur, t.j. 75,6%. Slováci zo západnej Európy, Ameriky a Austrálie sa museli uspokojiť so sumou 257 701,- eur, čo predstavuje iba 24,4%. Táto disproporcia sa pravidelne opakuje každým rokom!

Viac v priloženom článku, ktorý sa nachádza aj v rubrike FÓRUM na internetovej stránke ÚSZ (<http://www.uszv.de/html/forum.html>)

Za publikovanie príspevku vopred ďakujeme.

Srdečné pozdravy zo slovenského sveta

Únia Slovákov v zahraničí

Dušan Klimo, Nemecko

Pavol Podolay, Nemecko

Dušan Tóth, Kanada

Aristid Zelenay, Švajčiarsko

DISPROPORCIE V PRIDELOVANÍ ŠTÁTNYCH DOTÁCIÍ PRE SLOVÁKOV V ZAHRAŇIČÍ

alebo
THE SAME PROCEDURE AS EVERY YEAR...
(zostavil Dušan Klimo v auguste 2012)

Podľa údajov, ktoré na svojej internetovej stránke (www.uszv.sk) uverejnil Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí (ÚSZ), boli krajanom v tomto roku rozdelené dotácie na projekty podporujúce národné povedomie a kultúrnu identitu Slovákov v zahraničí v súhrnnej hodnote 1 055 595,00 eur (v r. 2011 ÚSZZ to bolo 1 152 426,00 eur). Na základe nových smerníc, ktoré boli na Úrade vypracované počas pôsobenia predsedu JUDr.M.Vetráka, boli dotácie rozdelené do 7 programov. Z celkov sumy 1 055 595,00 eur išlo na:

- Program č. 1 - školstvo a vzdelávanie: 122 453,80 eur
- Program č. 2 - kultúra a kultúrne dedičstvo: 275 188,21eur
- Program č. 3 - veda a výskum: 31 800,00 eur
- Program č. 4 - informácie: 156 987,00 eur
- Program č. 5 - médiá: 31 200,00 eur
- Program č. 6 - stavby: 188 080,00 eur
- Všetky ďalšie projekty: 249 886,00 eur

Podľa publikovaných údajov pripadli na jednotlivé krajiny, z ktorých krajanovia (spolky, organizácie, cirkevné zariadenia a súkromné osoby) požiadali o dotácie nasledovné sumy:

poradie / krajina / suma pridelených dotácií v € / percentuálny podiel		
1. Srbsko	362 872,00	34,38%
2. Rumunsko	131 500,00	12,46%
3. Česká republika	97 530,00	9,32%
4. Maďarsko	3 936,00	8,90%
5. USA	42 221,00	4,00%
6. Veľká Británia	42 070,00	3,99%
7. Chorvátsko	41 550,00	3,94%
8. Poľsko	38 896,00	3,68%
9. Írsko	37 885,00	3,59%

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)

Na Slovenský festival slovenského dedičstva v Holmdel, NJ príde prezident Gašparovič

35. Festival slovenského dedičstva v Holmdel, NJ sa bude konať v nedeľu 23. septembra. Slovenská svätá omša začne o 11.00 hodine. V kultúrnom programe, ktorý začne o 2.00 hodine prehliadkou krojov, vystúpi aj folklórna skupina PAS z Pittsburghu a dve mládežnícke skupiny z New Jersey a New Yorku. Počas dňa bude prebiehať futbalový turnaj.

V stánkoch bude na predaj bohatý výber slovenských jedál, koláčov, výrobkov dovezených zo Slovenska a pod.

Veľvyslanectvo SR vo Washingtone oznámilo organizátorom Festivalu slovenského dedičstva v New Jersey, že na tohoročný 35. festival príde aj prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič. Prezident SR bude v tom čase v New Yorku ako vedúci slovenskej delegácie na Generálnom zhromaždení Spojených národov. Spolu s prezidentom prídu na festival aj diplomatickí zástupcovia SR pri Spojených národoch a vo Washingtone, D.C.