

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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New England Fraternalists Honor Veterans



In anticipation of the Veterans Day observance, the New England Fraternal Alliance, which represents more than 300,000 fraternalists in the six New England States, hosted a special patriotic ceremony during its 88th annual meeting held on November 3 in Sturbridge, Mass. Veterans along with officials of the New England Alliance are shown above with the special flag used for the occasion at the Sturbridge Host Hotel, compliments of the Catholic Association of Foresters of Braintree, Mass. Among those shown on the photo are, Thomas King, newly elected president, 3rd from the left; Joseph E. Gadbois, Chair of the Board of the American Fraternal Alliance, who was the annual meeting's guest of honor, fifth from the right; and Group 2 President Eileen S. Wilson, a past president of the New England Fraternal Alliance and currently chairperson of its Education Committee, far right.

Thanksgiving message from our Supreme Chaplain

Let us All Give Thanks

by Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic

Prayers of thanks and special thanksgiving ceremonies are common among almost all religions after harvest and at other times. The holiday history in North America is rooted in English traditions dating from the Protestant Reformation.

It also has aspects of a harvest festival, even though the harvest in New England occurs well before the late-November date of the holiday.

The traditional representation of where the first Thanksgiving was held in the United States, and even the Americas, has often been a subject of debate, though the debate is

often confused by mixing up the ideas of a Thanksgiving holiday celebration and a Thanksgiving religious service. This debate has been called a "tempest in a beanpot" and "marvelous nonsense." There is evidence for an earlier religious service by Spanish explorers in Texas at San Elizario in 1598, as well as thanksgiving feasts in the Virginia Colony. The initial thanksgiving observance at Virginia in 1619 was prompted by the colonists' leaders on the anniversary of the settlement. Author and teacher Robyn Gioia and Michael Gannon of the University of Florida have argued that the earliest attested "Thanksgiving" service in what is now the United States was celebrated by the Spanish on September 8, 1565, in what is now (Continued on page 13)



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

Deadline extended to December 15th!

At the most recent Board of Directors conference call, on September 22, 2012, we once again discussed the importance of cutting costs by encouraging our members to sign up to receive the *Falcon* electronically. Since the responses have been coming in slowly, the Board of Directors agreed to extend the deadline to respond to December 15, 2012. 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 December 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 DECEMBER 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: _____

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

Father Larry J. Kulick prepares to take on major administrative roles in Diocese of Greensburg

By Jerry Zufelt, Editor

GREENSBURG — Father Larry J. Kulick described his new roles succinctly. As the vicar general, acting chancellor and moderator of the curia, he will “under the leadership of Bishop Brandt, assist him in his day-to-day administration of the diocese.”

While that basic explanation doesn't reveal the multiple responsibilities and many tasks and details he will have to handle, Father Kulick sees parallels to his previous experiences as a pastor at Church of the Good Shepherd Parish in Kent, St. Joseph Parish in New Kensington and his current diocesan responsibilities, “although on a larger and broader scale.”

“It's all about helping fulfill the mission of the Diocese of Greensburg in drawing all of the faithful in our four counties into a closer relationship with God,” he said.

With the pending departure of Bishop-elect Lawrence T. Persico from the Diocese of Greensburg to become 10th bishop of Erie on Oct. 1, Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt on Aug. 28 announced the appointment of Father Kulick as vicar general, acting chancellor and moderator of the curia for the diocese. In addition, Bishop Brandt appointed him pastor of St. James Parish, New Alexandria.

The appointments are all effective Sept. 25.

Since the announcement, Father Kulick, who recently completed the course work for a licentiate degree in canon law from The Catholic University of America, Washington (he will receive his diploma next month), has been working with Bishop-elect Persico to ensure there will be a seamless transition in the offices.

Father Kulick said he is especially excited to be taking on the new responsibilities as the church's Year of Faith begins. He is also looking forward to being a pastor again and believes his role as pastor of St. James Parish will also be an opportunity to give him experiences that



New Vicar General

- *Photo by Mary Seamans/courtesy of The Catholic Accent*

will be beneficial in his diocesan responsibilities, as well.

It also will help him in his working relationships with other priests because “I will face the same joys and challenges in a parish that they do.”

Father Kulick expressed his appreciation for Msgr. Persico's leadership at both the parish and diocesan levels.

“I'm going to watch, listen and learn and take the time to understand all of the dimensions of these offices,” he said when asked about his first weeks in the jobs.

“I'm privileged and grateful to have a job where I can interact with the priests and people of the diocese, who all have a deep faith and devoted work ethic.”

“I am grateful to Bishop Brandt for the confidence he has shown in me in appointing me to these positions,” Father Kulick said.

“I know that you will support Father Kulick in his new responsibilities,” Bishop Brandt said in a letter to the diocese announcing the appointments. “Again, I thank Bishop-elect Persico for his dedication and hard work over these many years for the Diocese of Greensburg. Our prayers are with him as he prepares for his new ministry in the Diocese of Erie.”

Father Kulick is a Leechburg native and the son of Larry J. Sr. and Myrna Dolores (Coleman) Kulick. He was a parishioner of the former St. Martha Parish there; graduated from St. Joseph High School, Natrona Heights; earned a bachelor's degree from Saint Vincent College, Latrobe; and master of divinity and master of arts degrees from Saint Vincent Seminary. He was ordained a priest May 16, 1992, by Bishop Anthony G. Bosco at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral.

In addition to his pastorates in Kent (1997-2002) and New Kensington (2002-08), he served as parochial vicar of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, Greensburg, (1992-95) and Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin (1995-97). He has also served in a variety of roles in clergy vocations, including co-director of the Office for Clergy Vocations (2004-present) and co-director of the Office for the Permanent Diaconate, an appointment he received in March 2012. He has been an episcopal master of ceremonies since 2008.

“Courtesy of The Catholic Accent” official publication of the Diocese of Greensburg.

Prayer Before the Thanksgiving Meal

Leader: Almighty and ever living God, as we gather around this table to share the joy of this Thanksgiving meal, we acknowledge that you are the God and Father of us all.

All: With gratitude in our hearts, we offer you praise and thanks for the health of our body and mind, for the warmth and shelter of our home, for the food that nourishes and sustains us, for the love of our families and friends, and for the joy and company we share at this Thanksgiving table. We especially offer you praise and thanks for the gifts of your love and life which you so generously give to us, your children. We remember all who are not with us and those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.

Leader: As we break and share this Thanksgiving meal we ask you to bless this food, let it recall your never ending care and providence, and remind us of the love and unity that should be ours as your people. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord and Bread of Life, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen. - *Author unknown*



The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, visited the Parish of the Epiphany in Sayre, Pa. on Saturday, November 3 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Eucharistic Perpetual Adoration and to mark the completion of the \$2.5 million restoration and renovation of the Church of the Epiphany. Bishop Bambera, who was principal celebrant of the Vigil Liturgy, is shown on the above photo flanked by the Rev. Vincent Langan, a retired priest of the Diocese of Scranton who assists at the parish and our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, who has been pastor of the parish since 2007. Coincidentally, Father Andrew's first assignment as a priest following his ordination in 1987 was that of parochial vicar at the Parish of the Epiphany.

An Opportunity to Increase Your Life Insurance Coverage

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 public awareness campaign aimed at encouraging the public to take stock of their life insurance needs.

A Life Insurance Awareness campaign generally takes place during the fall season. The campaign 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, including fraternal benefit societies like our own. 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 our Fall Life Insurance Awareness effort, 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)

Father Kulick serves as chaplain of Group 6

Members of our organization across the country, and especially those who reside in the western Pennsylvania Diocese of Greensburg, are delighted to learn that the Rev. Larry J. Kulick has been named the new Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia. The Vicar General is a priest appointed by the bishop of a diocese to serve as his deputy, with ordinary executive power, in the administration of the diocese.

Father Kulick is a native of

Leechburg, Pa. where he was born February 24, 1966, son of Larry J. and Myrna Dolores Coleman Kulick. He was baptized and received his early faith formation at the former St. Martha Parish in Leechburg. This parish was founded by Slovak immigrants in 1911 to serve their spiritual needs. The parish was recently suppressed.

Father Kulick attended St. Joseph High School in Natrona Heights, Pa. He received his un-

(Continued on page 8)

From the Desk of the Supreme Secretary

My Fraternal View

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



TWO IMPORTANT OBSERVANCES IN NOVEMBER

The month of November includes two very important observances. The first one is Veterans Day and later in the month, Thanksgiving. November 11, 1918 marks the date on which the Allied and Central Powers ended the terror created all over the world through war by signing of an armistice. At 11 a.m. hostilities ceased.

Later, at Arlington National Cemetery on November 11, 1921, 100,000 people attended the dedication ceremony for the tomb in which America's unknown soldier is buried. He was selected from the unidentified dead in Europe. The monument bears this inscription: *Here rests in honored glory an American Soldier known but to God.* Not until 20 years passed did Congress declare "Armistice Day" a legal holiday. Then, an amendment accepted by Congress June 1, 1954, changed the name to "Veterans Day" in honor of all soldiers who served in America's wars. Finally on May 30, 1958, two unidentified servicemen - one who died in World War II and one who died in the Korean War - were placed in crypts beside the first unknown soldier from World War I.

As a veteran myself, I take this opportunity to salute and thank the many Sokol members who over the years have served in the various branches of our nation's armed forces in defense of freedom and justice and our American way of life. So therefore, let us join all Americans and remember all veterans with a moment of silence at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month each year.

Later in the month, on November 22, we observe the most distinctive American and traditional holiday - Thanksgiving. It is an opportunity for all of us to give thanks to God for his many blessings on our families and friends as well as on our nation.

Thanksgiving Day is a joyous as well as a solemn occasion for Americans. It is a day we set aside to remember to give thanks to God for His many blessings. To give thanks for the fruits of the earth is a custom as old as recorded history. It was one of the earliest traditions transplanted to the New World. But the little band of settlers who observed the first American Thanksgiving in 1621 had gratitude in their hearts for more than the bountiful harvest, vital as it was.

The first national day of thanksgiving was proclaimed by our first president, George Washington on November 26, 1789. For many years, individual states observed their own days of Thanksgiving. Finally, in 1941, an Act of Congress officially named the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

Just as the Pilgrims did more than 390 years ago, we Americans enjoy a traditional feast. It is the occasion for our families to

gather, when possible, to enjoy the festive day. Many families invite friends, who would otherwise be alone, to join them. So therefore, in my name as well as that of my lovely wife, Annie, my children and grandchildren, may I extend our best wishes to all for an enjoyable, joyous and blessed Thanksgiving.

We here in New Jersey recently suffered greatly due to the ravages of Hurricane Sandy. I know that many of our members in various northeast and midwest states also endured many difficulties and inconveniences due to this natural tragedy. Our prayers go out to all affected and working to recover. As Americans, like catastrophes in the past, we will band together, stand shoulder to shoulder and rebuild our lives and our communities. Again, as true fraternalists, we once again remind our members of our organization's Disaster Relief Fund. Over the years, we have assisted many of our members following natural disasters. That's another unique example of what fraternalists do best - serve the needs of others. We have announced the details of our Disaster Relief Fund in this issue and I encourage our local Sokol lodges as well as individuals to support this outreach to those members who have suffered with loss of property. Let's do our part to assist those who have suffered as a result of our most recent superstorm. Donations to our SCS Disaster Relief Fund are tax deductible. They may be sent to us here at the Home Office or to our Supreme Vice President, Julie Ann Dobbs, 5314 Agatha Turn, Racine, WI 53402. And I thank you for any consideration given this request.

And finally, I am pleased to see that many of our Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths have announced the dates of their annual meeting. In recent months we have established our new Sokol Secure Fund as a benefit for our Groups and lodges. This fund enables our lodges to earn more interest than what banks are currently offering through their Certificates of Deposit (CDs). There are no loading fees, no withdrawal penalties and they enjoy high liquidity. A minimum deposit of \$5,000 is required. So if your Group or local lodge has funds available for investment, why not invest in our Sokol Secure Fund. An application and details regarding this fund may be found as well in this week's issue.

Lastly, if you read this column, I remind you once again, that if we do not receive a reply from you regarding how you would like to receive our publication in the future, you will automatically be removed, so please respond and let us know.

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

Sokol Calendar

SAT.NOV.17

■ Group 7 annual meeting in St. John the Evangelist Parish, 35 William St., Pittston, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m. in the St. John's meeting room. Mass to follow at 4:30 p.m.

SUN.NOV.18

■ Group 1 annual meeting at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 218 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. beginning with Mass at 10:30 a.m., meeting and luncheon to follow in the church hall.
■ Group 6 annual meeting at Hoss's Steak and Sea House, 148 Finley Road, Belle Vernon, Pa. beginning at 1:30 p.m., for reservations call (724)736-4032.

WED.NOV.21

■ Assembly 16 Appreciation Night party at the Slovak Catholic Sokol

Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 7 p.m.

SAT.NOV.24

■ Linden, N.J.'s Slovak Cultural Center hosts its traditional St. Catherine's Day dinner-dance "Katarinska zabava" in the social hall of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church, 320 Washington St., Perth Amboy, N.J. beginning at 7 p.m., music by the Joseph Jurasi Band, \$30.00 per person for reservations call Mary Karch (732)572-2331.

FRI.NOV.30

■ Quarterly meeting of the S.C.S. Supreme Board of Directors at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Orlando, Fla. beginning at 9:00 a.m.

SAT.DEC.1

■ Assembly 261 & Wreath 155 children's Christmas party at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 411 Crestmont St., Reading, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m., call JoAnn Antosy (610)779-4278.

SUN.DEC.2

■ Annual Christmas Bowling Party for children hosted by Group 17 at the Camelot Bowling Lanes, 628 Boardman-Canfield Road, Boardman, Oh. from 1-3 p.m.

■ Vilija - Christmas Eve supper in St. John the Baptist Social Hall, 159 Reed Ave., Campbell, Oh. beginning at 3 p.m., \$15.00 per person, call Mary Ann Evanovich (330)755-3059.

■ Assembly 25 & Wreath 15 children's Christmas party at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, Perryopolis, Pa. from 1-3 p.m.

SAT.DEC.8

■ Annual Children's Christmas Party for members of Assembly 16 and Wreath 22 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2914 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa., doors open at 12 noon, festivities begin at 1 p.m.

SUN.DEC.9

■ 28th annual Christmas Concert & Dinner hosted by Most Holy Trin-

ity Parish, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, N.Y., concert in church at 3 p.m. followed by dinner in the parish social hall; tickets \$35.00 per person for concert and dinner or \$10.00 for concert alone; for reservations call (914)963-0720.

■ Traditional Slovak Christmas - Vilija dinner hosted by the United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh., reception at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m. \$20.00 per person, for tickets call Len Zilko (440)988-3236.

■ 23rd annual Christmas Eve Dinner - Vilija hosted by the American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley in the Father Snock Center of Our Lady of Sowwors Parish, 2800 Shady Run Rd., Youngstown, Oh. beginning at 4 p.m., for reservations call Loretta Ekoniak (330)549-3760.

■ Traditional Vilija - Slovak Christmas Eve Supper hosted by St. Andrew Svorad Abbey at Benedictine

High School Cafeteria, 2900 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Cleveland, Oh. beginning with Mass at 12 noon in the abbey church followed by the dinner, \$20.00 per person, for reservations call (216)721-5300, ext.0.

■ Wreath 93 children's Christmas party beginning with 10 a.m. Mass at Queen of Apostles Church followed by festivities at Wagner Park, Pewaukee, Wis., call Lisa Hoeck (262)746-9911.

■ Assembly 72 children's Christmas party at the Slovak Social Center, 5th and Grove Sts., Catasauqua, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m., call Margaret Hogan (610)264-9798.

■ Assembly 167 and Wreath 103 children's Christmas party at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 888 Hopocan St., Barberton, Oh. beginning at 2 p.m., call Chris Macko at (330)635-8374.

■ Assembly 182 St. Nicholas Day children's Christmas party at St. John Nepomucene Parish Hall, 406 East 67th St., New York, N.Y. beginning at 1 p.m., call Anna Korcak (201)670-8162.

MON.DEC.10

■ Wreath 111 annual Christmas program at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Oh. "Celebrating the Birth of Jesus with Dinner" beginning at 6 p.m.; annual benefit raffle will take place, call Anna Gaydosh, tel. (440)988-2325 or agaydosh2@oh.n.com.

SAT.DEC.15

■ Assembly 54 children's Christmas party at the Slovak club, Lyndora, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m.

■ 19th annual Slovak Vilija Dinner hosted by the Slovak Customs Group of Prince of Peace Parish in the parish center, 81 South 13th St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 5 p.m., \$20.00 adults, \$10.00 children, for reservations, call (412)481-8380.

■ Assembly 201/Wreath 147 children's Christmas party in St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Hall, Hughes St., Swoyersville, Pa. 1-3 p.m., call Irene Kaschak (570)287-4929.

SUN.DEC.16

■ Traditional Slovak Vilija dinner hosted by St. John Nepomucene Parish, corner 66th Street and First Ave., New York, N.Y. beginning with Slovak Mass in church at 11 a.m. followed by dinner in the parish social hall at 1 p.m. \$20.00 per person, for reservations call the rectory at (212)734-4613.

■ Assembly 25 & Wreath 15 adult Christmas party at the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Perryopolis, Pa. from 1-3 p.m., refreshments will be served. Call Mike Matras (724)736-8363.

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 28TH

In keeping with our biweekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, November 28th. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, November 22nd. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovakcatholicsof.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh!
- Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor



REFLECTOR ...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

40th Traditional Vilija Supper set for December 9 in Youngstown, Oh.

It will soon be time to celebrate one of our most beloved Slovak traditions, Štedrý Vecer, or Vilija...the traditional Christmas Eve dinner. The family would gather for a special meal before going to celebrate midnight Mass. This dinner is filled with tradition and memories of our Slovak heritage. In eastern Slovakia it is a meatless meal but by no means a meager one. The American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley will be hosting their annual Christmas Vilija Dinner at 4:00 p.m. on December 9, 2012. It will be held at the Father Snock Hall at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, St. Matthias Church at 2800 Shady Run Road in Youngstown, OH.

This year will be the 40th year that this traditional Christmas Eve dinner has been held. Originally held at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Center on Youngstown's south side, it was later put on by the St. Matthias parish members for a number of years and is now sponsored by the American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley.

The dinner will have all of the traditional Slovak menu items: the oplatky with honey, bobalky with poppyseed, mushroom soup or macanka, baked fish and peas and potato pirohy. There will also be kolac for desert and the traditional apples which were cut open to reveal the fortune of the coming year. Wine or coffee will be served with the dinner, but Slovak beer will be available for purchase along with domestic beer and soda.

All are welcome to join us for an evening of good food, good music, warmth and friendship as we remember our Slovak heritage during this holiday season.

The cost for the evening is \$20.00 per person and seats are reserved as payment is received. Reservations are required by December 3rd. The program begins at 4 p.m. and should be finished by approximately 8 p.m. Tickets may be obtained by sending a check made out to ASCA for \$20/ticket to: Ron Garchar, 6917 Slippery Rock Dr., Canfield OH 44406.

For further information, you can call Loretta Ekoniak at (330) 549-3760, or email her at loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com.

Veselé Vianoce!



Youngstown, Ohio's Bishop George V. Murry, S.J. is a regular guest at the Vilija Dinner.



A view of last year's Vilija Supper at the Father Snock Center.

Slovak Heritage Group offers interesting evenings in Pittsburgh

The monthly Slovak Heritage Group of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association meets monthly at the Mt. Lebanon Public Library on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Each month, an interesting topic and guest speakers discuss various topics of interest to Americans of Slovak ancestry. The Mt. Lebanon Public Library is located at 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard in Pittsburgh, Pa., tel. (412) 531-1912.

The first meeting of the new season was held on November 5 when John Goodish, former president of U.S. Steel - Kosice recalled his experiences and life in Kosice as the manager of the largest employer in Slovakia.

The Monday, December 3 meeting beginning at 7 p.m. will be devoted to the topic "Finding the History of Slovak Immigrants Before and After World War I." Margaret Nasta, a member of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association (WPSCA), a previous presenter, will give some Slovak genealogy tips for getting Pennsylvania birth and death records as well as Slovak church records. The traditional Slovak St. Nicholas will make his annual visit with refreshments and gifts.

Looking ahead, the Monday, January 7, 2013 meeting will be titled "Summer Slovak Language & Culture Program." The 2012 WPSCA scholarship winner, Brianna Trifiletti, will visit during her holiday break to tell about experiences at the summer school program at Comenius University in Bratislava.

On Monday, February 4, the evening topic will be "History of Slovak Music." Jerry Jumba, well-known Pittsburgh area Slovak musician, will share his vast knowledge of Slovak music.

The Monday, March 4 meeting's topic will be "Slovakia Today vs. Slovakia of Our Ancestors." A presentation by the Rev. Johannes Oravec from Slovakia will make the comparisons with insights into religious practices.

These meetings are open to the public and area Sokol members are invited to attend. To learn more about projects and activities of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association, whose executive director is our Sokol of Assembly 16, the Honorary Slovak Consul in Pennsylvania Joseph Senko, call (412)531-2990. Also, check WPSCA on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/westernpaslovaks.

Annual Abbey Vilija set for December 9 in Cleveland, Ohio

The Monks of St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland will host their traditional Vilija - Slovak Christmas Eve Supper on Sunday, December 9. The annual event will be held at the Abbey Church and Benedictine High School Cafeteria located at 2900 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive.

The Slovak faith tradition begins with Mass celebrated in the Abbey Church at 12 noon. Following the liturgy, the meal and program will follow in the Benedictine High School Cafeteria. All of the foods enjoyed at the Christmas Eve supper in a Slovak home will be featured. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and advanced reservations are required. No tickets will be available at the door. Make checks payable to: St. Andrew Abbey, and send same to 2900 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Cleveland, Oh. 44104. Deadline for reservations is Friday, November 30. For additional information, call the Abbey, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at (216) 721-5300 extension 0.

A unique cultural program will follow the dinner. The Lucinka Junior Slovak Folklore Dancers of Greater Cleveland will perform an array of songs and dances from the various regions of Slovakia. Also performing will be the Tri Slovenske Mamicky Singers. Music for singing and dancing pleasure will be provided by the



The Word of God ...

Gospel for the Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year - November 18th

Mark 13:24-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*Jesus said to his disciples:
"In those days after that tribulation the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.*

And then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in the clouds' with great power and glory, and then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of the sky.

Learn a lesson from the fig tree.

When its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves,

you know that summer is near.

In the same way,

when you see these things happening, know that he is near, at the gates.

Amen, I say to you,

this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

But of that day or hour,

no one knows,

neither the angels in heaven

nor the Son, but only the Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Feast of Christ the King - November 25th

John 18:33b-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Pilate said to Jesus,

"Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus answered,

"Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?"

Pilate answered,

"I am not a Jew, am I?"

Your own nation and chief priests handed you over to me.

What have you done?"

Jesus answered,

"My kingdom does not belong to this world.

If my kingdom did belong to this world,

my attendants would be fighting

to keep me from being handed over to the Jews

But as it is,

my kingdom is not here."

So Pilate said to him,

"Then you are a king?"

Jesus answered,

"You say I am a king.

For this I was born

and for this I came into the world,

to testify to the truth.

Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Life Insurance - The Key to Sound Financial Planning

(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.slovakcatholicssokol.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				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				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			

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

Father Kulick serves as chaplain of Group 6

(Continued from page 2)

dergraduate degree in philosophy at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa. He entered St. Vincent Seminary to complete his theological studies for the priesthood. He was awarded a master of divinity and master of arts degree in systematic theology from St. Vincent Seminary. He was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Greensburg on May 16, 1992 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Greensburg by Bishop Anthony G. Bosco.

Father Kulick celebrated his first solemn Mass in St. Martha's Church in Leechburg. His first assignment was a parochial vicar at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg where he remained until 1995. That year he was transferred to the parish of the Immaculate Conception in Irwin. In 1997, he was named pastor of Good shepherd Parish in Kent. He later served as pastor of St. Joseph's Parish in New Kensington(2002-08) and since September 25, 2012 has been pastor of St. James Parish in New Alexandria, Pa.

His diocesan appointments have included serving as a consultant on

clergy vocations(1999-2004); co-director of the Office for Clergy Vocations(2004-12); co-director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate(March 2012- September 2012); and episcopal master of ceremonies 2008 to the present. His appointment on September 25, 2012, as vicar general, and acting chancellor following the appointment of Msgr. Lawrence Persico, who held these positions, as the new Bishop of Erie.

Father Kulick is very proud of his Slovak ancestry and has a good command of the Slovak language. He is our Sokol of Assembly 25 in Perryopolis, Pa. He serves as the chaplain of Group 6, "Msgr. Andrew Hlinka." He is also active and enjoys membership in the First Catholic Slovak Union and promotes the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation.

We offer our prayerful good wishes to Father Larry on this important occasion in his priestly ministry among us. He is a dedicated and holy priest who beautifully mirrors our Cyril-Methodian heritage of faith. May God continue to bless him with good health and happiness. Ad multos annos and Zdar Boh!

Zvolensky re-elected president of Slovak bishops

The Conference of Slovak Bishops met for its 73rd plenary meeting in Donovaly, located in the High

Tatra region of northcentral Slovakia on November 6. The bishops re-elected the Most Reverend Stanislav Zvolensky, Archbishop of

Bratislava as president of the conference. The Most Reverend William Judak, Bishop of Nitra was re-elected as vice president. The electors included 15 active bishops and one diocesan administrator.

The bishops addressed a number of topics of interest to the Church in Slovakia. Archbishop Zvolensky and Byzantine Catholic Archbishop Jan Babiak, S.J. presented reports on the recently concluded World Synod of Bishops in Rome. The Slovak bishops will host the 2013 meeting of the European conferences of bishops in Bratislava. This group represents bishops' conference from every country in Europe. It is currently headed by Hungarian Cardinal Peter Erdo.




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Studia Academica Slovaca – A Memorable Immersion in Slovak Culture

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr. Ph.D.

For any Americans or foreigners wishing to immerse themselves in Slovak culture and the Slovak language, the summer school at Comenius University offers a wonderful opportunity. The Philosophical Faculty at Comenius University (Filozofickej fakulte Univerzity Komenského – FFUK) in Bratislava sponsors this annual program. For the past 48 years, Studia Academica Slovaca – the Center for Slovak as a Foreign Language, has regularly offered the course of study for three weeks in August. Known to participants as SAS, it offers a rigorous program of Slovak language study which includes small class sizes, lectures on the Slovak linguistics, history, and culture, and three days of enjoyable excursions around the country. Attendees include Slavic linguists, university students, professors, retirees, and just about anyone interested in fine-tuning and honing their Slovak language skills.

In 2012, 158 frequentati (participants) from 28 foreign countries attended the SAS summer session, which took place from August 6 to August 25, 2012. Participants stayed at the Družba dormitory on Botanická ulica, about 3 miles from the center of Bratislava. Each room had internet access, which facilitated

communication and enabled participants to keep in touch with family at home. All classes and lectures took place at the Philosophical Faculty building of Comenius University in the center of Bratislava, adjacent to the Danube River.

Participants hailed from a variety of countries -- Japan, India, China, Egypt, Malaysia, South Korea, Israel, Palestine, Russia, Georgia, Moldavia, Ukraine, Belarus, Croatia, Serbia, most every European Union country, and of course, the USA, which sent 8 participants, including yours truly, Professor Michael Kopanic. Thus SAS constitutes not only a Slovak experience, but also a multinational one. While participants learn Slovak, they also acquire a truly global exposure to other peoples and their customs.

Except for formal ceremonies, dress for daily classes was very casual, and that was welcoming, especially considering the humid heat wave (horúčava) that engulfed all of Slovakia for most of August. Temperatures averaged above 30 degrees Celsius, or above 90 degree Fahrenheit.

Organization of SAS

SAS accepts applicants who wish to learn Slovak at all levels of study, from beginner to advanced learn-

ers. There are three main levels: začiatocníci (beginners with little or no knowledge of Slovak), stredníci (intermediate learners with some background and training in Slovak), and pokročujúci (advanced learners). The application process determines which category one belongs to, and then each group is divided into classes of about 10-15 students based on performance on a timed test given on the first day.

Starting on day 2, participants attended daily language classes in the morning until 12:30 pm, from Monday through Saturday. After lunch, beginners returned to language lessons, but intermediate and more advanced learners could attend a variety of lectures, mainly in Slovak, but a few were in English as well. For instance, Martin Vašš Ph.D. delivered a lecture on 20th Century Slovak History in the Slovak language, while Alžbeta Sopusková, Ph.D. (who was this author's adviser in 1982-83 when doing doctoral research) lectured on the same topic in English. A few of the other interesting topics included Professor Marta Botíková's presentation on "Ethnological Studies in Slovakia," Dr. Luboš Kačirek's lecture on the New School of the late 19th century national movement, Docent Marek Rybář's analysis of the 2012 elections in Slovakia, and many other talks on Slovak culture, literature, and linguistics.

One of the most popular presentations, which nearly all attended, demonstrated various Slovak folk instruments. Other very interesting sessions included a workshop teaching several Slovak folk tunes, and another singing more modern and popular Slovak songs.

In addition to class and lectures, SAS also organized a number of afternoon and evening events for education and entertainment. After opening ceremonies in the main university building, the professional Slovak singer Janais dazzled the audience with her amazing voice. Afterward, all enjoyed a scrumptious meal at the university's indoor glass-



covered courtyard and danced to a variety of Slovak folk songs. Day 2 featured the premier of Slovak movie, *Tanec medzi črepinami* (Dance among Broken Glass), directed by Marek Ťapák, who also starred in the film. Day 4 offered another film, *Ešebák*, about someone compelled to join in assisting Slovakia's secret police (Štátna bezpečnosť) during the years of the totalitarian communist regime.

In the afternoon of day 3, SAS led a jaunt to Bratislava Castle, where all could relish a beautiful view of the whole city and visit the Castle Museum. Saturday afternoon offered an opportunity to visit the Slovak ceramic factory in Modra and a modern-equipped Slovak winery. The first Friday ended with an evening meal from the Slovak Kitchen (Slovenská kuchyňa) and the folk music of Maroš Mikuš to dance to. Other evenings also featured a concert of modern music by the group *In Vivo*, a puppet theater (bábkové divadlo), and a concert at the Reduta symphony hall, put on by the visiting Asia-Pacific United Orchestra.

At the end of week 2, four excursions traveled to different places across Slovakia so that all would see more of the whole country, and not just Bratislava. Participants signed up for whichever excursion they preferred. The 2012 SAS trips traveled to Banská Bystrica, the old mining town of Banská Štiavnica, Bojnica castle, the Tatra Mountains, the Renaissance gem of Levoča, Spiš Castle, the skanzen (Folk Village Museum) in Prybylina or in Orava, the Demanová and Dobšina ice caves, Stará Ľubovňa Castle, Trenčín Castle, and Košice. All groups stayed 2 nights in Poprad, and many of us danced the night away at the local diskotéka.

During the final week, SAS arranged a series of afternoon creative workshops (tvorivé dielne) which each individual signed up for based on his/her interests. The list of choices included the following: theater, film, photography, folk dance, folksong, creative writing, and creative art. On Thursday, each group performed to an enthusiastic audience in a cultural program called *Sami sebe* (About Ourselves), which took place in the grand *Moyzesová sieň* (Concert Hall named after the celebrated 20th century Slovak musician, Alexander Moyzes) of the Philosophical Faculty building.

On the final Friday, following morning classes, those who successfully completed the course of study received certificates in the grand Comenius University auditorium. Afterwards, all enjoyed yet another evening of culinary delights and could dance to the music of a lively folk band.

(Continued from page 10)



Studia Academica Slovaca – A Memorable Immersion in Slovak Culture



(Continued from page 9)

The following day, many participants left to return to their home countries, but all came away with wonderful memories, newly found friends, and a well-rounded educational experience.

The professors were first rate, and really aimed to improve the language capabilities of every individual participant. Student assistants were always on hand to help with any concerns. SAS director, Professor Jana Pekarovičová, Ph.D., did a marvelous job in assuring that summer school would be an intellectually engaging yet enjoyable experience.

Studia Academica Slovaca is a great program of learning that is both entertaining and leads to a lifelong appreciation of Slovak culture. Without a doubt, the experience profoundly has influenced both me and my family. As a young student, I first attended SAS in 1982, and was eager to return for advanced Slovak studies. Both of my daughters attended SAS in 2004 and 2006, and they would

concur that it was one of the most rewarding and memorable experiences of their lives. I personally am looking forward to revisiting SAS again in 2014, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Studia Academica Slovaca.

I encourage others to try SAS if they are interested in learning Slovak, meeting new and interesting people from around the world, and enjoying themselves while expanding their horizons.

Those interested in attending SAS in the future may visit the website sas@fphil.uniba.sk, contact Comenius University at the address listed below, or see the Studia Academica Slovaca website on www.facebook.com to view some photos.

Metodické centrum Studia Academica Slovaca
Filozofická fakulta UK
Gondova 2
818 01 Bratislava
Slovenská republika
tel./fax: 00421 /2/ 529 25 463
e-mail: sas@fphil.uniba.sk
website: www.fphil.uniba.sk/sas

Save the Date!

2013 Marks 40 Years since Roe v. Wade

Please come and join fellow pro-life proponents in our nation's capital on Friday, January 25, 2013 at the 40th annual



March for Life. The National Prayer Vigil for Life begins with a concelebrated Mass in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception located at 398 Michigan Avenue, North West, Washington, D.C. on Thursday evening, January 24 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Through the night, a variety of

religious devotions will be held throughout the shrine concluding with a 7:30 a.m. morning Mass in the upper church.

Join fellow Slovak Catholic fraternalists from the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the First Catholic Slovak Union and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union and participate in the March for Life. Slovak Catholic fraternalists meet at 11 a.m. on Friday, January 25 at the corner of Constitution Avenue and 13th Street to participate in the march to the U.S. Supreme Court.



The Mixing Bowl



PUMPKIN-PECAN BREAD/MUFFINS

5 cups flour
3/4 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. ground cloves
3 cups sugar or substitute
1/2 cup + 2 tsp. molasses
1 cup orange juice
3 cups cooked or canned pumpkin
3/4 cup golden raisins
3/4 cup coarsely chopped pecans
Preheat oven to 350 degreesF for bread, 400 degreesF for muffins. Sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and cloves. Set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, beat sugar, butter and eggs until light and fluffy. Add orange juice, pumpkin and molasses and beat together.

Now add the sifted dry ingredients in 3 additions; be careful not to overbeat between each addition. Fold in the raisins and pecans. Pour batter into 3 greased 10x5-inch loaf pans or 1 loaf pan and greased 12-cup muffin tins, filling each 2/3 full.

Bake bread in a 350 degreeF preheated oven for about 1 hour and 15 minutes or until a knife blade inserted into the center of loaf comes out clean. Bake the muffins for 20 minutes in a preheated 400 degreeF oven.

Yield: 3 loaves or 1 loaf and 24 muffins.

PUMPKIN-SPICE PANCAKES

2 1/3 cups Bisquick baking mix
2 tsp. sugar or substitute
1/4 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg

1/4 tsp. ground ginger
1 cup milk
2 eggs
1/3 cup canned pumpkin
1/4 cup vegetable oil

Beat all ingredients with wire whisk or hand beater until smooth. Pour batter by 1/4 cupfuls onto hot griddle (grease if necessary). Cook until edges are dry. Turn; then cook until golden brown. Serve with syrup below. Makes about 18 pancakes.

Maple-Nut Syrup

1 cup maple syrup
1 tsp. oleo or butter
1/4 cup chopped pecans

Heat syrup and oleo or butter in 1 quart saucepan until oleo or butter is melted and syrup is warm. Remove from heat; stir in 1/4 cup chopped pecans.

PUMPKINS COOKIES

1 cup butter, shortening or oleo
1 cup sugar or substitute
1 cup cooked pumpkin
1 egg
1 tsp. vanilla
2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt (optional)
1 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 tsp. allspice
1 cup chopped pecans
1 cup chopped raisins

Preheat oven to 375 degreesF. Cream together butter and sugar. Add cooked pumpkin, egg, and vanilla; mix well. Sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and allspice. Add to creamed mixture. Stir in pecans and

raisins. Drop cookies onto a well-greased cookie sheet and bake for 15 minutes. Makes about 5 dozen cookies.

APPLE ALASKA PIE

Pastry for 1 crust
6 medium apples
3/4 cup sugar
1 1/2 tsp. flour
1 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1 1/2 tbsp. butter or oleo
3 egg whites
1/2 cup sugar

1 qt. butter pecan ice cream
Line 9-inch pie pan with pastry; trim edge; press edge down with tines of fork. Core, pare and slice apples. Combine 3/4 cup sugar, flour and spices. Rub a little of this mixture into pastry, then make alternate layers of apple slices and spice mixture. Dot with butter or oleo. Bake at 425 degreesF for 30 minutes or until apples are tender. Remove from oven let cool thoroughly.

Beat egg whites stiff but not dry. Add 1/2 cup sugar 1 tablespoon at a time, beating well after each addition. Spoon ice cream evenly on top of pie to within 1/2 inch of rim. Cover entire surface of pie with meringue. Bake at 500 degreesF for 2 minutes.



Group 2 Promotes Caring & Sharing



Group 2, Bridgeport, Conn. fraternalists are shown with some of the non-perishable food items collected during their annual meeting held on September 30 in Torrington, Conn. The food items were earmarked for the Friendly Hands Food Bank in Torrington. Shown on the photo, from the left, are Bonnie Rossi and Toni Landor of Wreath 86; Kevin Sabovik and Judy Salamon of Assembly 9; Pat Iancale and Judy Nist of Wreath 1; Ann Knapik, Mary Ann Wells and Barbara Sheehy of Wreath 39. It has been the long-standing tradition of Group 2 to collect non-perishable food items to be given to a local food pantry at all its fraternal and sporting events as part of its Care & Share program. - Photo by Dr. Robert Nist



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

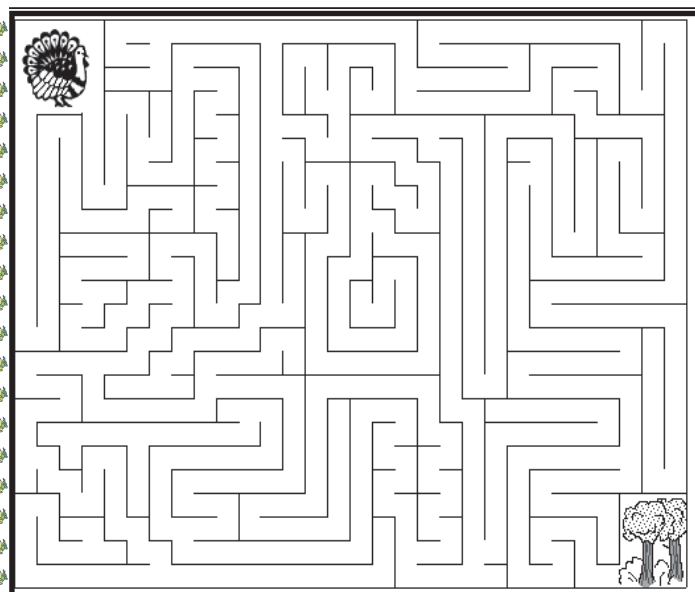
November, 2012

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

There is so much to be thankful for this year...and every year. We are thankful for our health, our homes and food on our tables...for the ability to ride a bike, read a book or simply play a gameand of course we should be thankful for the families that we have been given. This is the time of year that reminds us to appreciate what we have and to remember to say thanks. Sometimes we fall into a bad habit of expecting...when we forget to ask nicely or say thank you for something we have come to "expect"...like food on the table, or a husband that doesn't mind going grocery shopping (or even cooking). While we might be used to something that happens all of the time....we should never forget to say thank you. I have a challenge for you this month.....

Write to me and tell me what you are most thankful for this year. Not only will I publish your "thank you" in next month's Kids' Corner, I will put your name in for a prize drawing. My address and/or e-mail are:

Julie Dobbs
5314 Agatha Turn
Racine, WI. 53402
Jdobbs2@wi.rr.com



Help the turkey escape into the woods

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Thanksgiving Word Search



V	P	T	U	R	K	E	Y
Y	I	T	W	K	N	M	I
F	E	H	O	C	O	R	N
E	F	A	M	I	L	Y	D
A	A	N	O	W	O	E	I
S	L	K	F	V	D	D	A
T	L	S	C	O	O	K	N
P	I	L	G	R	I	M	S



COOK
CORN
FALL
FAMILY
FEAST

INDIANS
PIE
PILGRIMS
THANKS
TURKEY

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Slovak Words=Slovenské slová

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

Thanksgiving Day = Deň vďa-
kyvdania (Den (soft "n") vďaak-
ee-vzdaa-nyia)

Turkey (a tome, a male) = moriak
[more-ee-awk]

Turkey (a hen, a female) = morka
[more-kah]

Spiš - a region in east central Slo-
vakia [speesh]

Turkey (a hen, in Spiš dialect) =
pufka [pool-kah]

gobble = hitat' [hi-taat with a soft
"r"]

The turkey gobbles. Moriak hita.
fun = zábava [zaah-baaw-vah]

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

- Peyton Manyak 11/2
- Michaela Benyak 11/3
- Annika Erdely 11/4
- Taylor Slonac 11/4
- Alexandra Bond 11/6
- Nina Mar-tyak 11/8
- Jessica Raichel 11/17
- Ethan Romagnoli 11/19
- Luke McLeary 11/20



What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Gasparovic is first Slovak top official to visit Denmark

Slovak President Ivan Gasparovic began his state visit to Denmark on October 23. It was the first such visit of a top Slovak official to the Scandinavian country.

Gasparovic and First Lady Silvia Gasparovicova were welcomed at the airport in Copenhagen by Danish Queen Margrethe II along with her spouse Prince Henrik. A welcoming ceremony followed at the Fredensborg Palace involving Royal Hussars. During the evening of October 23, the Slovak couple were feted at a state dinner organized by the Danish royal couple.

The two-day visit of the Slovak presidential couple was aimed at providing a further boost to mutual economic and trade ties, especially in green technologies, energy efficiency, and water and waste treatment.

Crown Prince of Denmark Frederik opened the Danish-Slovak innovation and trade forum, where the Slovak President spoke. President Gasparovic also had the opportunity to meet Denmark's Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt and Parliamentary Speaker Mogens Lykketoft.

In 1994, the Danish royal couple visited Slovakia, which has approximately the same population as Denmark (Slovakia's population is 5.4 million while that of Denmark is 5.5 million). The visit of the Slovak presidential couple coincided with the 10th anniversary of the completion of talks concerning EU enlargement in Copenhagen in 2002.

Binder: Hungary's resistance to Gabcikovo was due to Trianon

The real reasons behind Hungary's disagreement with the completion of the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros dam on the Danube River were not ecological or economic, but political and were related to its opposition to the borders laid down in the Trianon Treaty (which determined the borders of Hungary after the First World War - ed. note), the head constructor of the dam Julius Binder told TASR on October 19.

Binder was speaking to TASR on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the damming of the Danube River.

"Why did the Hungarians begin proclaiming their theories as late as after the Warsaw Pact and the whole socialist bloc had ceased to exist?" said Binder, adding that economic and ecological issues had already been resolved before 1989.

"The international Treaty on Joint Construction of the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros Dam (SVD G-N) from 1977 marked out the state borders after the dam was completed in line with the Trianon Treaty," said Binder. The construction treaty was signed by Hungary, which accepted the borders.

"The Hungarians have never reconciled themselves to Trianon. That's the whole problem. They're convinced that Trianon isn't a just solution. Their children are instructed in school in this spirit; it's in the Hungarian consciousness. They are like this, but we can't do anything about it. We must speak to them in a manner that will enable us to defend our rights," said Binder.

As for the officially presented arguments against the waterworks, such as concerns that the adjacent riparian forests could dry out and that the water table may fall, time has shown that they were baseless, said Binder.

Conversely, what was described as the "original status" before the dam was built brought ecological risks, as the stream bed of the Danube River became deeper due to existing waterworks in Austria. This meant that the Danube wasn't able to supply its branches with water for 11 months of the year, and the nearby riparian forests began to dry out, said Binder.

In addition, floods in the second half of the 20th century, both in Slovakia and Hungary, caused enormous damage.

There might have been a fall in the water table in a small area near Cunovo on the Hungarian side, but this could be tackled with small dams and simple modifications to the bed, stated Binder. As for other areas, the quality and level of the water table increased, he added.

As far as political decisions are concerned, the construction of the dam was obstructed by Czech politicians who held the upper hand in the erstwhile Czechoslovakia. They preferred mainly thermal plants to a hydro-electric one. The notion of building Nagymaros emerged later, and it was Hungary that proposed that a dam be constructed.

Further problems appeared after the fall of Communism in 1989, when Hungary began exerting international pressure aimed at scrapping the entire Danube River dam project. Czech politicians tended to support this idea, and then-environment minister Josef Vavrousek in particular.

According to Binder, the final decision on whether to build the dam was up to him. "On October 23, 1992, one day before the river was scheduled to be dammed, emergency staff held a session in line with a government decision from October 20. The session, which took four hours, didn't bring any results, however. So they left it up to the director of Water-management Construction," said Binder, who headed the company at the time.

As for further political developments, Binder views as key the verdict of the International Court of Justice in the Hague, which decided that the treaty between Czechoslovakia and Hungary from 1977, which was unilaterally declared null and void by Hungary, was still in force.

Slovakia to double diplomats in Brussels when presiding over EU

Slovakia will double the number of diplomats in Brussels in connection with its EU Presidency scheduled for 2016, the government approved on October 31.

Slovakia's Permanent Representation at the EU currently has 80 employees, 60 of whom are diplomats.

"During the presidency, the overall number of employees should reach 198, while 129 of these should be diplomatic employees," reads a proposal adopted by the government. The staff should be gradually increased as of 2014.

According to the proposal, it's important to strengthen diplomatic structures, as there will be a new dimension of responsibilities for Slovakia during this period. "They (diplomats) will be responsible for preparing and carrying out negotiations on behalf of EU-member states on EU legislative proposals with the European Parliament and European Commission within the co-decision procedure," reads a document submitted to the session by the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Slovakia based its calculations concerning the necessary number of staff on the experience of other EU-member states that have already presided over the European Union. The higher number of employees will have a negative impact on the state budget, but more specific figures concerning the costs will only be known in March 2013. The office of president of the European Union covers a six-month period in which every member-state takes its turn with its representative, either the country's president or prime minister. Since Slovakia's president is somewhat ceremonial, its prime minister will become the EU president in 2016.

Slovaks and Poles are champions in saving region

Slovaks and Poles are the keenest savers in Central and Eastern Europe, depositing 15 and 12 percent of their monthly incomes, respectively, in 2012, according to a survey carried out for Slovenska Sportelna bank that was released on November 5.

"People feel a natural need to save money, which at times of uncertainty gains even greater importance. We heard about the financial crisis first, then about the economic crisis, and finally about the debt crisis over the past few years.... This affects the behavior of people, who in these times of uncertainty are setting aside even greater amounts of their earnings," said Slovenska Sportelna analyst Maria Valachyova.

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

The analyst further revealed that while in 2008 Slovaks only deposited 4 percent of their incomes, this grew to as much as 9.5 percent in 2012. "When savings in the pension saving pillars are added, this accounted for 12 percent of their disposal incomes," added Valachyova.

Slovaks set aside an average of \$100 a month in 2012, which represented a drop of \$1.30, year-on-year.

Furthermore, the survey revealed that some 67 percent of Slovaks think it important and responsible to embrace saving. The poll also showed that Slovak women (74 percent) considered saving more important than men (60 percent). Meanwhile, savings accounts were the most popular choice for depositing money, with 52 percent of the poll's participants claiming to have used these types of bank accounts.

The survey showed that Slovaks and Poles were followed by Austrians, Germans and Czechs - who were shown to deposit 9 percent of their incomes. British people set aside only 7 percent of their incomes.



As a faith-filled nation, churches and chapels may be found throughout Slovakia. Many of these structures date from medieval times and earlier. Christianity was introduced in Slovakia through the missionary efforts of SS. Cyril and Methodius beginning in 863 A.D. In 2013, the Slovaks will observe the 1,150th anniversary of the beginning of the Cyrilo-Methodian mission. One of the oldest existing churches in the country, the Chapel of St. George is located just outside the village of Nitrianska Blatnica north of Topolcany in the Nitra Region of southwestern Slovakia. The chapel dates from the 9th century during the time of SS. Cyril and Methodius. By the 13th century, a parish was established under the patronage of St. George. The chapel has become a popular pilgrimage site in the Diocese of Nitra, Slovakia's oldest which dates to the year 880 A.D. In anticipation of the jubilee year honoring SS. Cyril and Methodius, extensive restoration work has been completed on the Chapel of St. George.

Let us All Give Thanks

(Continued from page 1)
Saint Augustine, Florida.

Thanksgiving services were routine in Virginia as early as 1607. A day for Thanksgiving services was codified in the founding charter of Berkeley Hundred in Charles City County, Virginia in 1619. In the United States, the modern Thanksgiving holiday tradition is commonly traced to a 1621 celebration at Plymouth in present day Massachusetts. The 1621 Plymouth feast and thanksgiving was prompted by a good harvest. In later years, the tradition was continued by civil leaders such as Governor Bradford who planned a thanksgiving celebration and fast in 1623. The practice of holding an annual harvest festival like this did not become a regular affair in New England until the late 1660s.

Pilgrims and Puritans who began emigrating from England in the 1620s and 1630s carried the tradition of Days of Fasting and Days of Thanksgiving with them to New England. Several days of Thanksgiving were held in early New England history that have been identified as the "First Thanksgiving," including Pilgrim holidays in Plymouth in 1621 and 1623, and a Puritan holiday in Boston in 1631.

Thanksgiving proclamations were made mostly by church leaders in New England up until 1682, and then by both state and church leaders until after the American Revolution. During the revolutionary period, political influences affected

the issuance of Thanksgiving proclamations. Various proclamations were made by royal governors, John Hancock, General George Washington, and the Continental Congress, each giving thanks to God for events favorable to their causes. As President of the United States, George Washington proclaimed the first nation-wide thanksgiving celebration in America marking November 26, 1789, "as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God."

According to historian Jeremy Bangs, director of the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum, the Pilgrims may have been influenced by watching the annual services of Thanksgiving for the relief of the siege of Leiden in 1574, while they were staying Leiden.

Every year, the President of the United States will "pardon" a turkey, which spares the bird's life and ensures that it will spend the duration of its life roaming freely on farmland.

The origin of the first Thanksgiving in Canada goes back to the explorer Martin Frobisher who had been trying to find a northern passage to the Pacific Ocean. Frobisher's Thanksgiving celebration was not for harvest but was in thanks for surviving the long journey from England through the perils of storms and icebergs. In 1578, on his third and final voyage to these regions,

Frobisher held a formal ceremony in Frobisher Bay in Baffin Island (present-day Nunavut) to give thanks to God and in a service ministered by the preacher Robert Wolfall they celebrated Communion - the first-ever service in these regions. Years later, the tradition of a feast would continue as more settlers began to arrive in the Canadian colonies.

The origins of Canadian Thanksgiving can also be traced to the French settlers who came to New France with explorer Samuel de Champlain in the early 17th century, who also took to celebrating their successful harvests. The French settlers in the area typically had feasts at the end of the harvest season and continued throughout the winter season, even sharing their food with the indigenous peoples of the area. Champlain had also proposed for the creation of the Order of Good Cheer in 1606.

As many more settlers arrived in Canada, more celebrations of good harvest became common. New immigrants arriving into the country, such as the Irish, Scottish and Germans, would also add their own traditions to the harvest celebrations. Most of the U.S. aspects of Thanksgiving (such as the turkey or what were called Guineafowls (originating from Madagascar), were incorporated when the United Empire Loyalists began to flee from the United States during the American Revolution and settled in Canada.

Thanksgiving is now a statutory holiday in most jurisdictions of Canada, with the Atlantic provinces of Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia being the exceptions.

Be assured of my prayers and warm wishes to all our members, both those in the United States as well as in Canada. Happy Thanksgiving and Zdar Boh!

Vilija supper set at Campbell, Oh. parish

The Slovak Cultural Society of Christ the Good Shepherd in Campbell, Oh. will host its first Vilija - Slovak Christmas Eve supper on Sunday, December 2 beginning at 3 p.m. This parish includes the former St. John the Baptist Slovak Parish of Campbell. The Vilija will be held in St. John the Baptist Social Hall located at 159 Reed Avenue in Campbell. The supper will include all the foods enjoyed at the Christmas Eve dinner in a Slovak home.

For reservations or additional details on the Vilija, call Mary Ann Evanovich at tel. (330) 755-3059. An enjoyable evening is assured.

Thanksgiving Bird Named

The turkey gets its name, not from Turkey, but from India.

When the bird arrived in Spain, the New World was still considered part of India. Because Spaniards mistook the turkey for its relative, the Mexican peacock, they called it *toka*, Indian for peacock. When Jewish merchants of Spain began selling turkey as a delicacy, they converted the name into Hebrew, *Tukki*, and the word was later anglicized to turkey.

Traditional fraternal outreach

Slovak Catholic Sokol Disaster Relief Fund

by Julie Ann Dobbs, Supreme Vice President

As a fraternal benefit society, one of our obligations is to come to the aid of our members who are in need. In the past month or so, many of you found



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

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

Annual Abbey Vilija set for December 9 in Cleveland, Ohio

(Continued from page 4)

popular Johnny Pastirik Combo. There will be exhibits as well as religious articles and Slovak items of interest for purchase.

Abbot Christopher Schwartz, O.S.B. and the Benedictine monks of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, who this year celebrate their 90th anniversary of ministry in Cleveland, look forward to welcoming many area Sokols and Sokolkys at this year's Vilija, a treasured Slovak faith tradition.

Intermediate and advanced Slovak language classes

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association (WPSCA) is pleased to announce that for the first time it will add two new Slovak language classes in the new year.

Intermediate Slovak Language classes meet every Tuesday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. beginning February 19 thru April 9, 2013 at the Brashear Association building located at 2005 Sarah Street in Pittsburgh, Pa., tel. (412)431-2236. The instructor will be Bozena Hilko. Tuition is \$15.00 for members of the WPSCA, non members pay \$20.00.

Advanced Slovak Language classes will meet every Tuesday evening from 7 to 8:45 p.m. beginning April 16 thru June 4 at the Mt. Lebanon Public Library, located at 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard in Pittsburgh, Pa., tel.(412)531-1912. The tuition is free and instructor will be Bozena Hilko.

To reserve a place, call Joseph Senko at (412)956-6000 or Albina Senko at (412) 343-5031.

Thanksgiving Trivia

- Which president signed the bill establishing the fourth Thursday of November as Thanksgiving Day? a) Franklin Roosevelt, b) Herbert Hoover, c) Harry Truman, d) Calvin Coolidge
 - About how many pounds of turkey does the average person in the United States consume? a) 35, b) 12, c) 25, d) 18
 - Every year the U.S. President pardons a turkey. Where does the turkey go and live for the remainder of its life? a) Washington, D.C., b) Herndon, Virginia, c) Houston, Texas, d) Springfield, Illinois
 - How many days does it take for a turkey egg to hatch? a) 28, b) 16, c) 45, d) 32
 - How long did the first Thanksgiving celebration between the pilgrims and Native Americans last? a) one week, b) one day, c) three days, d) five days
 - Which founding father wanted to make the turkey the national bird of the United States of America? a) George Washington, b) Thomas Jefferson, c) Benjamin Franklin, d) John Adams
 - The Plymouth Pilgrims held the first Thanksgiving in the fall of what year? a) 1600, b) 1613, c) 1616, d) 1621
- Answers to trivia questions: 1-a; 2-d; 3-b; 4-a; 5-c; 6-c; 7-d



Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil" 1st Annual Golf Outing Mill Creek Golf Course - Boardman, Ohio Saturday, September 29

LADIES PRIZES - Front Nine

Hole #3 - Closest to the pin, on 2nd shot - MARY STARR
Hole #8 - Closest to the pin, on 1st shot - N/A
Hole #9 - Longest putt - LORETTA SMITH
"Least putts" for 9-hole play - JUDY BABIK
"Best poker hand" for 9-hole play - MARGE BABIK

MEN'S PRIZES - Front Nine

Hole #1 - Closest to the pin, on 2nd shot - ED METZINGER
Hole #3 - Closest to the pin, on 1st shot - N/A
Hole #8 - Closest to the pin, on 1st shot - JOE BAYTOSH
Hole #9 - Longest putt - JOHN HODOS

BACK NINE PRIZES (For 18-hole players)

Hole #11 - Closest to the pin, on 2nd shot - ED METZINGER
Hole #16 - Closest to the pin, on 1st shot - STEVE HODOS
Hole #17 - Closest to the pin, on 2nd shot - JOE BAYTOSH
Hole #18 - Longest putt - ED METZINGER

CADDYSHACK AWARD (Hole #9)

Awarded to Nancy Kropolinsky - for hitting a ground hog on the 9th hole then accusing the ground hog of running away with her golf ball

Following the competition at the golf course, the nearly 40 golfers and guests traveled to nearby Youngstown, where they enjoyed the traditional victory dinner in the social hall of St. Matthias Parish which began at 5 p.m. After enjoying a wonderful meal, prizes were awarded to the Golf Outing winners. An enjoyable time was had by all. Thanks and gratitude go out to Group 17 for hosting the outing as well as to Wreath 54 of Youngstown for donating the mum centerpieces for the raffle. Thanks also to Marge Babik for donating head covers for the raffle.

Zdar Boh! - Group 17 Golf Outing Committee

From our Director of Sales & Marketing

Attention: Groups, Assemblies & Wreaths

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

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

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

To open a SOKOL SECURE

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

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

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

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

Following are Features and Highlights of the SOKOL SECURE FUND:

- Plan Features**
 - o No Loading Fees
 - o No Withdrawal Penalties
 - o High Liquidity
 - o Competitive Interest Rate
 - o Flexibility
 - Minimum Withdrawn** – \$250.00
 - Underwriting** – Slovak Catholic Sokol Group, Assembly or Wreath that are Internal Revenue Service designation of 501(c) (3) or 501(c) (8) only
 - Premium Deposit Options** – Flexible
 - Minimum Initial Deposit** – \$5,000
 - Minimum Balance** – \$4,000
 - Guaranteed Minimum Interest Rate** – 1% APY
 - Surrender Period & Charges** – None
- For additional information or for SOKOL SECURE FUND Application and SOKOL SECURE FUND Withdrawal Form, please contact the Home Office at 800-886-7656 or the Sales and Marketing Office at 888-381-5431.

Slovak Catholic Sokol

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

APPLICATION FOR SOKOL SECURE FUND- a Fraternal Benefit

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Federal Tax Identification Number: _____ Date: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____ Initial Deposit: \$ _____

(Corporate Seal)

President (Print) President Signature

Treasurer (Print) Treasurer Signature

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

Account Number: _____ Initial Interest Earned: _____% APY

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

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

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

Dated at Passaic, NJ this _____ day of _____, 20 _____

By: _____
(Corporate Seal)

Sokol Birthdays

NOVEMBER 19
Andrej Brchnel, Bronx, N.Y. a member of Assembly 182, New York, N.Y.

Elizabeth M. Pirmick, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 71, Edwardsville, Pa.

NOVEMBER 20
Nancy Capozoli, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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

Stephen Mason, Scranton, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Margaret Muraik, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

NOVEMBER 21
Therese M. Buc, Palos Hills, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

Rev. Frantisek Halka, overseas U.S. Army Military Chaplain, a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Margaret L. Hvozdovic, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Anne Raskosky, Ambridge, Pa., a member of Wreath 85, McKees Rocks, Pa.

Sandra J. Tau, Merrifield, Minn., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

NOVEMBER 22
Barbara Ann Bershok, Level Green, Pa., a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

Jill Lutz, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Joseph D. Pastrokovich, Belle Vernon, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Dennis J. Tech, Union City, Pa., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

NOVEMBER 23
Hon. Peter C. Eagler, Clifton, N.J., a member of the Clifton City Council and a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Stephen Scerba, Stratford, Conn., a member of Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

NOVEMBER 24
Shirley A. Kacmarcik, Whitinsville, Mass., a member of Wreath 18, East Douglas, Mass.

Helen Kotulich, Monroe, Conn., a member of Wreath 1,

Bridgeport, Conn.
Anton J. Vavrica, Fishkill, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

NOVEMBER 25
Charles J. Bilicska, Passaic, N.J., a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.

Kaja Gula, New York City, a member of Wreath 168, New York City.

Mary R. Maskara-Clarke, Fairfield, Conn., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

NOVEMBER 26
Victor V. Gogolak, McLean, Va., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Ann Hruska, Youngstown, Oh., a member of Wreath 54, Youngstown, Oh.

John P. Kopchak, Jr., Park Ridge, N.J., auditor of Group 1 and a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.

Bernadette Rusin, McDonald, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Anna Toskovich, Garfield, N.J., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.

NOVEMBER 27
Joseph Richnavsky, Jr., Dunlop, Pa., a member of Assembly 82, Dunlop, Pa.

NOVEMBER 28
Mark S. Phillips, Youngstown, Oh., a member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Oh.

Stephen J. Sterback, Dearborn Heights, Mi., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Mary Vitek, Pittston, Pa., a member of Assembly 86, Port Griffith, Pa.

NOVEMBER 29
Helen Louise Bruno, Reading, Pa., a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

Frank J. Solotruk, Jr., Fairfield, Conn., a member of Assembly 308, Bridgeport, Conn.

Katie Jozwiak Swift, New Bern, N.C., Supreme Assistant Physical Directress and a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

NOVEMBER 30
Evelyn Bryson, Milwaukee, Wis., a member of Wreath 93, Milwaukee, Wis.

Julia Mazurkiewicz, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Christmas Oplatky 2012

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers are available from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted from October 22 until December 19, 2012.



The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$3.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending upon the number of packets ordered and the rising costs of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to Jankola Library is expected before receiving an order.

For more information or to place an order contact Sister Catherine Labouré Bresnock, SS.C.M. at 570-275-5606 or write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.

Children's Christmas Parties Set

Barberton, Oh. - Assembly 167 and Wreath 103 will host their annual Christmas party for junior members, ages 14 and younger on Sunday, December 9 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 888 H o p o c a n Street. Festivities begin at 2 p.m. Food and refreshments will be enjoyed by all. We expect a visit from Santa who will have a gift for each of the children present. Parents and grandparents are invited to join us for this annual celebration of Sokol fellowship. In order to make the necessary arrangements, parents are asked to sign up at the Sokol Club, indicating the names and ages of each child who will participate or call Chris Macko at tel. (330)635-8374. An enjoyable afternoon has been planned. Wishing all a very Merry Christmas, may I remain

Zdar Boh!
Chris Macko

Catasauqua, Pa. - Assembly 72 will host its annual Christmas party for our junior members, ages 12 and younger on Sunday, December 9 at the Slovak Social Center located at 5th and Grove Streets in Catasauqua. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. Pizza, refreshments and entertainment will be enjoyed by all. The highlight of the afternoon will be the traditional visit of Santa. He will have gifts for all children registered. Parents are asked to register their children by calling Margaret Hogan at tel. (610) 264-9798 or Stephen Roman at (610)262-8301 so that the necessary arrangements may be made. The snow date for the party is Sunday, December 16. Wishing all a very joyous Christmas season. God bless America!

Zdar Boh!
Stephen Roman
Financial Secretary

Larksville, Pa. - Children who are members of Assembly 201 or Wreath 147 of Larksville, age 16 and younger are invited to participate in the annual Christmas get-together. The festivities will be held on Saturday, December 15 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church Hall, formerly the Holy Trinity Slovak Church Hall, on Hughes Street in Swoyersville, Pa. from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. In order to make the necessary arrangements, parents are asked to send the requested information on the invitation or call Irene at tel.(570) 287-4929 after 4 p.m., Debbie at (570) 287-1038 or Bob at (570)239-1580. Reservations need to be made by December 8th. There will be games and refreshments followed by a visit from Santa's helpers. We look

forward to seeing a good turnout at this annual fun-filled event.

Zdar Boh!
Dorothy Lapasnick
Assembly 201
Irene M.Kaschak
Wreath 147

Lyndora, Pa. - The annual children's Christmas party for members age 13 and younger is scheduled for Saturday, December 15 at the Slovak Club. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. We will enjoy pizza and beverages before the arrival of Santa who will visit with us and bring along a big bag of goodies for the children. Games will be enjoyed and a fun time is assured. Parents and grandparents are invited to join us for this annual celebration of Sokol fraternalism. In order to make the necessary arrangements, parents are asked to indicate the number of children who will attend on the sign-up sheet found at the Slovak Club. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, December 9. Wishing all a joyous Christmas season, may I remain

Zdar Boh!
Cecilia George
President

Milwaukee, Wis. - Wreath 93 will host its traditional children's Christmas party on Sunday, December 9. All children and their families are invited to join us for some Sokol fellowship and camaraderie. Our program begins with attendance at the 10 a.m. Mass at Queen of the Apostles Church located at N35 W23360 Capitol Drive in Pewaukee, Wis. At 11:30 a.m. we will gather at Wagner Park located at N31W23320 Green Road in Pewaukee where we will begin our festivities with lunch. After lunch, we will enjoy Christmas caroling, doing arts-n-crafts, handing out gifts and having a special martial arts performance. An enjoyable time is assured. In order to make the necessary preparations, we ask parents to RSVP by Friday, November 30 to hoeck@wi.rr.com or tel. (262) 746-9911. May the Christmas season be a time of joy and happiness for all of our members and friends.

Zdar Boh!
Lisa Loeck
Wreath 93 Secretary

New York, N.Y. - Assembly 182 will host the traditional St. Nicholas Party, "Mikulasova oslava" for junior members ages 12 and younger on Sunday, December 9 in the social hall of St. John Nepomucene Parish, located at 406 East 67th Street in Manhattan. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. Parents are asked to call Anna Korcak at tel. (201)670-8162 indicating the name and age of children who will participate. Refreshments will be served and parents and grandparents are invited to join in the festivities. Wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New York, may I remain

Zdar Boh!
Anna Korcak

Financial Secretary

Perryopolis, Pa. - Junior Sokol members, ages 12 and younger, are invited to enjoy the annual Christmas party hosted by Assembly 25 and Wreath 15. The festivities are set for Sunday, December 9 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club from 1- 3 p.m. Refreshments will be served and a visit from Santa will complete the afternoon of Sokol fellowship. In order to make the necessary preparations, parents are asked to place the name and age of children who will attend on the sheet found at the Sokol Club or call Mike Matras at (724)736-8363.

Zdar Boh!
Michael T. Matras
for the committee

Pittsburgh, Pa. - All is in readiness for one of the highlights of our Sokol fraternal season, the annual Children's Christmas Party for junior members ages 0 to 12 years of age. The party is scheduled for Saturday, December 8 at our Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, located at 2912 East Carson Street, South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. Doors open at 12 noon. Advance registrations only. Registrations will be held at the Sokol club on Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on October 17 and 18 and October 24 and 25. No registrations will be accepted after October 25 with NO EXCEPTIONS. To register by phone, parents are asked to kindly call Joan Yanosick at (412) 881-8502. Since we are limited in the number of youngsters who can be accommodated at the Sokol Club, early reservations are recommended. An enjoyable afternoon has been planned for our youngsters and as always, we look forward to a great turnout.

Fraternally,
Joan J. Yanosick
Chairperson

Reading, Pa. - Assembly 261 and Wreath 155 will host their annual children's Christmas party on Saturday, December 1 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club located at 411 Crestmont Avenue beginning at 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served and games will be enjoyed. So that Santa will bring along enough gifts for the children, we ask parents to indicate the names of children who will attend on the sign-up sheet located at the Sokol Club or by calling JoAnn Antosy at tel. (610) 779-4278. Deadline date for all reservations is Saturday, November 24. We look forward to seeing a good turnout of children and their parents at this year's event. Wishing all a very Merry Christmas along with a happy and healthy New Year, may I remain in the name of the committee

Zdar Boh!
JoAnn Antosy
Secretary

Youngstown, Oh. - The annual Children's Christmas and Bowl-

19th Annual Vilija Dinner set for December 15 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

by Connie Miskis Zatek

The Slovak Customs Group of Prince of Peace Parish, located on Pittsburgh's historic South Side, will host its 19th annual Slovak Vilija - Christmas Eve Dinner on Saturday, December 15 in the Parish Center. Doors open at 4 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5 p.m. Also known as Stedry Vecer (bountiful evening), this traditional meatless meal is enjoyed by Slovaks around the world on Christmas Eve. The evening begins with the sharing of the Oplatky and honey. As always, scrumptious authentic Slovak delicacies will be enjoyed - homemade pirohy, mushroom soup, baked fish, bobalky, kolace and so much more! Traditional homemade nut and poppyseed rolls known as Kolec will be available for sale.

Once again, the Pittsburgh Slovaks - the tri-state area's oldest performing Slovak ensemble - will present its unique collection of folk songs, dances and carols highlighting the customs of the Advent and Christmas seasons in Slovak villages of long ago. The program will culminate with the re-telling of Christ's birth with the well-loved Jaslckare (shepherd dancers). The Pittsburgh Slovaks are under the capable direction of well-known Slovak cultural activists Rudy and Sue Ondrejco.

The Prince of Peace Vilija is a once-a-year opportunity to feast on delicious Slovak foods and enjoy a moving, entertaining and thoroughly authentic folk presentation. Whether you commemorate your own Stedry vecer, or share the customs of other nationalities, area Sokol members are invited to enjoy this year's Vilija. Seating is limited and attendance is by reservation only. Tickets are only \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children under age 13. Children under age 3 are welcome free of charge. Discounts are available for groups of 8 or more adults. Tickets may be reserved by calling the Prince of Peace Parish Office at tel. (412)481-8380. Deadline for reservations is Friday, December 7.

Doors open at 4 p.m. Dinner is served according to tradition, as the first star rises, approximately 5 p.m. The Prince of Peace Parish Center is fully handicap-accessible. For the past 19 years, the Slovak Customs Group has promoted our rich Slovak Christmas and Easter faith traditions by hosting special events like our Vilija Dinner. Prince of Peace Parish includes the former St. Matthew Slovak Parish which served the South Side Slovak community from 1904 until its closing in 1992.

NEW BUSINESS SUBMITTED IN OCTOBER

RECOMMENDERS	CITY/STATE	CERTIFICATES	VOLUME	POINTS
Edward Garasic	Youngstown, OH	1	\$ 5,000	
Home Office	Passaic, NJ	2	20,000	
Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic	Wilkes-Barre, PA	1	10,000	80
John P. Kovalovsky	Passaic, NJ	1	50,000	86
Roger J. Manyak	East Douglas, MA	2	15,000	127
John M. Papcun	Detroit, MI	2	10,000	
Michael J. Pjontek Jr.	Pittsburgh, PA	1	5,000	63
Frank Polchak Jr.	Youngstown, OH	1	10,000	87
Albert J. Suess Jr.	Pittsburgh, PA	2	15,000	
Dolores Yonkoski	Dunlo, PA	1	10,000	
Totals		14	\$150,000	443

ing Party for members of Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil" is scheduled for Sunday, December 2 at the Camelot Bowling Lanes located at 628 Boardman-Canfield Road in Boardman, Oh. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. and will conclude at 3 p.m. This annual holiday event is hosted by Group 17, Wreath 54, Assembly 107 and Assembly 108. The afternoon of holiday merriment includes two hours of bowling. After the action on the lanes, pizza, soda pop and other refreshments will be enjoyed. There will be prizes awarded and of course, a visit from Santa himself will conclude the afternoon merriment. In order to make the necessary preparations, parents are

asked to pre-register by contacting Edie Babik at tel. (330)782-9555 or Judy Babik at (330)793-9310, indicating the name and age of the children who will attend as well as a bowling preference for the youngsters using the "bumper or non-bumper" lanes. An enjoyable afternoon has been prepared and we look forward to seeing a great turnout of our Group 17 members at this annual celebration of Sokol fellowship and fraternalism in the Mahoning Valley. Wishing all a very blessed Christmas season, may I remain

Zdar Boh!
Edie Babik
Wreath 54



Obituaries...

Dorothy T. Guzowski, 87 Reading Sokol activist

Dorothy T. Guzowski passed away peacefully on October 18, 2012 in Reading, Pa. She was 87.

A native of Reading, she was born there October 16, 1925, daughter of the late Michael Pluta and the former Anna Jesenochin. She was educated locally and was a



life-long member of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Reading. She was a life-long Sokolka and began her activity in the Slovak Catholic Sokol as a young girl, participating in the Group 12 and national Slets. She served for many years as an officer of Wreath 155, more than 25 of which she served as the financial secretary. She represented her lodge at many national conventions and was known and loved throughout the organization. A bowling enthusiast, she participated in many of our international bowling tournaments. She was one of our favorite Sokol cooks and would share her expertise with anyone who asked. Many of her recipes were contributed to our organization's cook book.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists celebrated her life during the Mass of Christian burial celebrated on October 23 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church with the pastor, the Rev. Charles Sperlak presiding. Interment followed locally.

Sister Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband, Stanley W. as well as by her son David and grandson, Stanley. She is survived by her son, James, husband of Ann(Mont) of Reading; as well as by several

grandchildren, great-grandchildren and her brother, Joseph Pluta.

May our Sister Dorothy, a woman of great faith who so beautifully mirrored our fraternal way of life, now rest in peace. She will be sorely missed.

Kathi Smolkowicz
President, Wreath 155

Anna Kirchner, 77 was member in Yonkers, N.Y.

Anna Kirchner (nee Galuschak) passed away peacefully on November 5 in Yonkers, N.Y. She was 77.

A Yonkers native, she was born there on July 24, 1935 to George and Rose (Telep) Galuschak, who were natives of Slovakia. She was educated locally and was a graduate of the former Commerce High School. Anna worked as an executive secretary for the Andrus Children's Home in Hastings, N.Y. until her retirement.

On January 23, 1955, she married Edward Kirchner in Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church. Her husband passed away in 1989. She and her family were active in Most Holy Trinity Catholic Parish.

Anna was a long-time member of Assembly 219 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in Yonkers. Sister Kirchner is survived by her two children, Susan (Wladimir) Maicovski of Yonkers and Edward Lee (Krista) Kirchner of Indian Harbour Beach, Fla. She is also survived by four grandchildren, Vladimír, Julianna, Joseph and Kyra; her brothers, Joseph and George Galuschak. Family, friends and fellow fraternalists paid their respects to Sister Anna at the Whalen & Ball Funeral Home. A committal service took place on November 9 at Ferncliff Chapel. May our Sister Anna rest in peace. Our sympathy is extended to the Kirchner family.

Priesthood Scholarship Grants Available

In addition to our regular scholarship program for students on the college, high school and grade school levels, as a Catholic organization, we also offer grants to students preparing for the diocesan or religious priesthood. The Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Grant of \$500 is given annually to an applicant beginning in his second year of Theological Formation until ordination. An applicant must be our member for at least five years and hold a minimum permanent insurance certificate of \$3,000.

Those interested in this grant should write to our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, Church of The Epiphany, 304 South Elmer Ave., Sayre, PA 18840 for an application.

ENGLISH AS IT IS SPOKE

* A firefly is not a fly and a glow-worm. Actually, both are beetles.

* The wood called Douglas fir is from the pine tree.

* Every dressed chicken is practically nude.

* Dry cleaning is made possible with a liquid.

* Squirrel fur is used in the manufacture of camel's hair brushes.

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



Julie Ann Dobbs
Supreme Vice-President

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



*For All Your Traditional
Holiday Celebrations*

Just \$14.50 which includes postage and handling
Sokol Assemblies and Wreaths can order a case of
12 cook books for just \$160.00 – Place your order today!

Make check or money order payable to:
Slovak Catholic Sokol
P.O. Box 899 – 205 Madison Street
Passaic, N.J. 07055

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP _____

NUMBER OF BOOKS _____

(Effective January 1, 2012)

(Editor's note: We have noticed a number of returned copies of our *Falcon* due to incorrect addresses of our members. We ask that when individuals move, that they complete the form below for a change of address or call the home office. We thank you for your continued cooperation)

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR REQUEST
FOR SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON**
P.O. BOX 899 • 205 MADISON STREET
PASSAIC, N.J. 07055

NEW CHANGE CANCELLATION

Certificate No. _____

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Old Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Held in Dunlo, Pa.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 9, "SS. Cyril and Methodius"

The annual meeting of Group 9 under the patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius was held on Sunday, October 14 at the Slovak Club in Dunlo, Pa. The meeting was called to order at 2 p.m. by Group 14 President Joanne E. Spisak. Following the opening prayer, Sister Spisak called on Dolly Yonkoski, president of Assembly 82 who extended a warm fraternal welcome on behalf of the Dunlo Sokols and Sokolky.

The roll call of officers was read by the secretary, Alice Podrebarac. All officers, with the exception of Vice President Steve Phillips, were present. A total of 25 delegates were present representing the three Group 9 lodges. The president then asked the secretary to read the minutes of the 2011 annual meeting. On a motion by Ann Warkoski, seconded by Paul Sweeney, the minutes were accepted as read. The secretary indicated that there was no correspondence to be read.

Reports of Officers

At this point, the president, Joanne E. Spisak turned over the chair, in the absence of the vice president, to the secretary Alice Podrebarac so as to present her report. Sister Spisak's report is found on record. She indicated that she endeavored to do her best in promoting the work of the Slovak Catholic Sokol during the past year and thanked all for their cooperation and assistance. The report of the president was accepted on a motion by Dolly Yonkoski, seconded by John Podrebarac. In the absence of the vice president, no report was presented.

The secretary, Alice Podrebarac then presented her report. She indicated that she fulfilled all the duties as per our bylaws as secretary, most importantly preparing the minutes of the annual meetings. The auditors, Robert Kunrod, Margaret Kunrod and Susan Blazosky, presented their report and indicated that they found all financial records of the treasurer in order with only one question regarding a bowling fee that was paid late. An explanation was given and accepted. On a motion by Trish Gill, seconded by Michael Phillips, the report of the treasurer, Nancy J. Fesko was accepted as presented.

Old Business

The president reminded all in attendance that if they wanted to continue to receive a hard copy of our official publication, the Slovak Catholic Falcon, they needed to respond by informing the home office by returning the coupon which appears in the paper.

Unfortunately, there was no summer get together as was discussed. There were just too many other things happening within the Group. Tickets were sold for the bus for golfing. It is not certain if that will happen this year because of the cost. Kitty Sweeney stated that the combined Group fraternal bowling tournament was not a good set up. A total of \$10,000 was moved from the CD which recently matured to the Sokol Secure Fund which allows checks to be written against it. With this change, the total value of our CD was \$5,000.

New Business

On a motion by Kitty Sweeney, seconded by Mary Ann Warkoski it was agreed to move additional funds to the Sokol Secure Fund when the CD comes due in January.

In 2013, the Group 9 golf tournament as well as the bowling tournament would be hosted by Assembly 82 of Dunlo, Pa. Susan Blazosky indicated that there was no problem with the bowling tournament, however the golf tournament needs to have at least 20 to 24 participants to be scheduled. Discussion regarding moving the golf tournament to another golf course followed.

On a motion by Robert Kunrod, seconded by Jerry Bender, all bills as well as officers' salaries were to be paid. Accepted.

The 2013 annual meeting would be held in Johnstown, Pa. with Wreath 14 hosting. The actual date would depend on the Steelers schedule.

With no further business, on a motion by Kitty Sweeney, seconded by Theresa Valko, the annual meeting was adjourned. The closing prayer was said followed by the singing of our Slovak anthem, Hej Slovaci. The winner of the 50-50 raffle was David Valko. Zdar Boh!

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Podrebarac
Secretary

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

Slovak Catholic Sokol Catholic Grade School Grants

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



Eligibility

A. Applicant must be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in good standing, holding a permanent Life Insurance Certificate in the amount of not less than \$3,000, and has been a member for at least five years.

B. One parent must be a S.C.S. member.

C. The principal of the Catholic Grade School must verify the enrollment of the applicant.

Application

This application must be received on or before, March 31, 2013 with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph. Application is also available on the Internet @

www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

Disqualification

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

Acknowledgment

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

Return of Grant

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



(Detach here)

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION

Group # _____ Assembly/Wreath # _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Date of Birth _____ Current Age _____

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

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

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

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

Father's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Mother's name _____ Are you a member? _____

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

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

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

If yes, what Year? _____

School verification (to be completed by Grade School Principal)

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

Catholic Grade School, verify that _____ is a student at
(Name of student)
the above school and will be entering _____ Grade in the 2013-2014 school year.

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

Deadline for receipt of this application is March 31, 2013.
Return completed application to:

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

Keep Your Slovak Catholic Sokol Home Office Numbers Handy

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

For students currently attending a Catholic High School

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

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

Eligibility

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

Application

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

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

This application must be received on or before, March 31, 2013 with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

Disqualification

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

Acknowledgment

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

Return of Grant

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

Our organization's commitment in support of education

A Total of \$62,500 in Scholarship Grants Will Be Made Available to Our Young People in 2013

by Julie A. Dobbs, Supreme Vice President

In support of our organization's commitment to education, we are pleased to announce that the Slovak Catholic Sokol will make available a total of \$62,500 in scholarship grants to eligible members in 2013. Previous recipients of Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants may reapply for a 2013 grant; however, as per the convention mandate - a student may receive a maximum of two(2) Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship grant awards in each category.



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

With one application, you may apply for all college scholarship grants for which you are eligible. Note, however, that only one grant per applicant will be awarded. College scholarship eligibility requirements: Slovak Catholic Sokol(a total of 30, \$1,000 grants will be awarded) * Must have a minimum of \$3,000 permanent life insurance coverage. * Must be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol for at least five years. * Must have completed one semester of undergraduate studies as a FULL TIME student at an accredited college, university or professional school, or be enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program. * Must have an accumulated grade point average of at least 2.5 or better. * One parent must be a Slovak Catholic Sokol member. * An essay "How has being a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol influenced my life?" must be submitted.

The Joseph and Mary Spernoga Memorial Scholarship Grant(1 grant in the amount of \$500 will be awarded) * Same requirements as for SCS scholarship.

The Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Memorial Scholarship Grant (one male and one female in the amount of \$2,500 will be awarded) * Same requirement as for SCS scholarship AND * One parent must be of Slovak ancestry. * Must be majoring in medical curriculum.

The Emil Slavik Memorial Grant(2 grants in the amount of \$2,500 will be awarded) * Same requirements as for SCS scholarship AND * Both parents must be members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. * Must be majoring in liberal arts, the sciences, pre-law, pre-medical or business curriculum.

The Doctors' Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship(1 grant in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded) * Same requirements as for SCS scholarship AND * Majoring in Nursing or Medical curriculum. * One parent must be of Slovak ancestry.

Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship(2 grants in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded to the applicant who best exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism) * Same requirements as for SCS scholarship. * Essay - "Describe the one volunteer experience that made the biggest personal impact on you - how/why?"

The process of applying for any of the above college-level scholarship grants is completely on-line. Applications and instructions are ONLY available on our website @ www.slovakcatholicssokol.org.

Questions regarding the Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Program may be directed to: Julie A. Dobbs, Supreme Vice President, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org, telephone (262) 681-1720.

Deadline for submission of all scholarship applications is March 31, 2013. In addition to our college-level scholarship program, we make available 19 scholarship grants of \$500 each for students attending a Catholic high school as well as 38 scholarship grants in the amount of \$250 each for students attending a Catholic grade school. You will find applications for both the Catholic high school and the Catholic grade school grants in this issue of the Slovak Catholic Falcon.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol takes pride in its commitment in supporting education among our youth. Since 1972, a total of 1,185 members have been recipients of a total of \$1,307,250 in scholarship grants.

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.

(Detach here)
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL ABBOT JEROME M. KOVAL, O.S.B. MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION
Group # _____ Assembly/Wreath # _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Date of Birth _____ Current Age _____
Home Phone (____) _____ High School Phone (____) _____
area code area code
S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____
S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____
S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____
Father's name _____ Are you a member? _____
Mother's name _____ Are you a member? _____
Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____
Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____
Are you a previous Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Recipient? _____ If yes, please
indicate Grade School or High School. What year? _____ (yes/no)
High School verification (to be completed by High School Principal)
I, _____ Principal of _____
(Principal's signature) (Name of School)
Catholic High School, verify that _____ is a student at
(Name of student)
the above school and will be attending _____ Grade in the 2013-2014 school year.
Are you currently participating in Slovak Catholic Sokol Activities? Yes _____ No _____
Deadline for receipt of this application is March 31, 2013.
Return completed application to:
Slovak Catholic Sokol High School Grant
205 Madison St., P.O. Box 899, Passaic, NJ 07055

Slováci sa vracajú pracovať do svojej vlasti

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

ale aj Maďarska, Rakúska, Veľkej Británie či Talianska. Únik mozgou sa prejavuje na vývoji ekonomiky. Ak by vysokoškolsky vzdelaní ľudia, ktorí každoročne odchádzajú zo Slovenska, zostali v krajine, výsledok ich práce by k hrubému domácomu produktu krajiny pridal matematicky ročne navyše 0,6-percentného bodu. Takže slovenské hospodárstvo by v budúcom roku rástlo tempom 2,7 percenta, namiesto odhadovaných 2,1 percenta. Je však otázne, či by všetci absolventi škôl našli na Slovensku prácu adekvátnu ich vzdelaniu a s takou pridanou hodnotou. Medzi príčiny, ktoré vplyvajú na odchod mladých za hranice, totiž patrí aj nesúlad medzi typom vzdelania, ktoré získali, a dopytom na trhu práce.

Mladí odchádzajú do cudziny už počas štúdia, kde si

popri škole nájdu aj občasnú brigádu. Oficiálne štatistiky o slovenských vysokoškolských zahraniční sa nevedú, ale podľa OECD štvrtina zahraničných študentov, ktorí v tej-ktorej krajine študovali, si po skončení štúdia mení účel pobytu zo študijného na pracovný. Je teda vysoký predpoklad, že tam zostanú. Neznámená to, že zvyšných 75 percent sa vráti, možno si nájdu prácu aj v iných krajinách.

Najviac sa podľa ekonómov vracajú do rodnej krajiny IT špecialisti, ktorí tu majú síce menšie platové ohodnotenie, no takisto aj nižšie náklady na život ako vonku.

Do budúca by sa trend odlevu mladých ľudí do zahraničia podľa ekonómov mal zmierniť, no Slovensko bude aj naďalej prichádzať o tých najkvalitnejších ľudí.

Slováci úspešne zoskočili nad Mount Everestom

V Himalájach padol 1. novembra slovenský rekord. Po prvý raz v histórii slovenského parašutizmu zoskočili z lietadla nad najvyšším vrchom sveta Slováci – Róbert Gábriš, Róbert Sachs (objava z Nitry) a Milo Šulda (Bratislava).

Trojica skydiverov sa na zoskok kondične aj technicky pripravovala dva roky. Muži spolupracovali s Novozélandkou Wendy Smith, ktorá drží svetové prvenstvo v zoskoku nad Mount Everestom. Podarilo sa jej to len pred štyrmi rokmi, od tej doby skočila hŕstka ďalších dobrodruhov.

Slováci skákali v špeciálnych kombinézach s kyslíkovými maskami. Odhadovaná teplota vzduchu počas zoskoku je od mínus 40 do mínus 70 stupňov Celzia.

Svätý Mikuláš a štedrá večera v NYC

182. Slovenského katolíckeho sokola usporiada pre deti vo veku do 12 rokov posedenie so sv. Mikulášom. Bude sa konať v nedeľu 9. decembra v spoločenskej hale Kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého na 406 East 67th Street v Manhattane. Začiatok bude o 1.00 hodine. Rodičia, ktorých deti sa na podujatí zúčastnia, majú ich mená a vek nahlásiť Anne Korčákovéj na tel. č. : 201-670-8162. Počas podujatia bude podávané občerstvenie.

V nedeľu 16. decembra bude v spoločenskej hale kostola štedrá večera. Slovenská svätá omša bude o 11.00 hodine. O 1.00 hodine bude nasledovať štedrá večera. Podávané budú tradičné slovenské štedrovečerné jedlá. Vstupné je \$20.00 za osobu. Rezervácie lístkov si záujemcovia môžu urobiť na fare. Telefónne číslo: 212-734-4613.



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

Úrad pamäti národa zverejnil nové informácie o ŠtB, ukázal aj konšpiračné byty

Zároveň sa podieľali na odhalovaní, kontrole a likvidácii cudzích spravodajských služieb na Slovensku.

Na Slovensku bolo 30 konšpiračných bytov

ÚPN už dávnejšie zverejnil štruktúru útvarov rozviedky na Slovensku v rokoch 1969 až 1989. Verejnosť si teraz môže pozrieť okrem iného kompletne personálne obsadenie teritoriálnych útvarov rozviedky ŠtB, teda litného útvaru ŠtB, na Slovensku v rokoch 1966 až 1989.

Na internetovej stránke ÚPN zároveň pribudol popis zväzkov 276 konšpiračných a prepožičaných bytov založených v rokoch 1969 až 1989.

Na Slovensku sa nachádza 30 týchto bytov, 243 je na území dnešnej Českej republiky a tri v zahraničí. Pri každom byte bol nariadený alebo odfotený aj plánik bytu a ulice, kde sa nachádza.

“Základný rozdiel medzi prepožičanými a konšpiračnými bytmi jev tom, že majiteľom prepožičaného bytu bola civilná osoba, bežný občan

Ústav pamäti národa zverejnil na svojej webovej stránke štruktúru krajských útvarov rozviedky na Slovensku v rokoch 1966 - 1969, ktorých úlohou bolo posilňovať ofenzívnu činnosť proti takzvaným kapitalistickým krajinám.

Zároveň tiež prináša aj zoznam 276 prepožičaných a konšpiračných bytov z rokov 1969 až 1989.

Príslušníci krajských útvarov v spolupráci s centrárou v Prahe vyhľadávali nových príslušníkov a tajných spolupracovníkov na plnenie úloh v zahraničí.

Ich úlohou podľa predsedu správnej rady ÚPN Ivana Petranského nebolo len získavať spravodajské informácie v zahraničí, ale rozviedka sa snažila aj podkopávať politický systém krajín s demokratickou formou vlády s cieľom importovať komunistické myšlienky do celého sveta.

“To súviselo s veľmocenskými cieľmi Sovietskeho zväzu, ktorého tajná politická polícia KGB do veľkej miery určovala aj zameranie československej rozviedky,” doplnil Petranský.

Slovenskí ženisti končia v Afganistane

Slovenskí ženisti končia po desaťročnom pôsobení v Afganistane. Posledná rotácia ukončí svoje pôsobenie koncom novembra.

Medzi hlavné úlohy multifunkčnej ženijnej rotaty patrilo odminovanie, rekonštrukcia zletoých a pristávacích dráh a opravy a budovanie letiskových plôch.

Od roku 2007 boli „pravou rukou“ zástupcu veliteľa základne v Kandaháre pri zabezpečovaní ochranných bariér, stavaní bezpečnostných úkrytov pre vojakov, rekonštrukcii ciest a letiskových plôch po raketových útokoch a ďalších stavebnorekonštrukčných prácach.

Počas pôsobenia v Afganistane odminovali pomocou odminovacích systémov 725 440

metrov štvorcových a ďalších 757 173 metrov štvorcových ručne.

Slovenskí ženisti rekonštruovali odletový terminál kandažarskeho letiska a pracovali aj na stavbe školy pre deti afganských trhovníkov predávajúcích na základni. Hlavnou úlohou v posledných rokoch však bolo odminovanie okolia neustále sa zväčšujúcej základne a vybudovanie bezpečnostných plotov, bariér, zátarás a valov po prudkých záplavách. Ženistov v ostatných rokoch začali nahrádzať súkromné kontrahované firmy,

čo význam pôsobenia našej jednotky oslabilo.

„V poslednom období nám už z hľadiska odbornosti pôsobenie ženijnej roty neprispievalo k zvyšovaniu ich spôsobilostí, preto sme iniciovali zmenu mandátu a jednotku sťahujeme domov,“ vysvetlil minister Glváč.

Podľa jeho slov bude návrat ženistov na Slovensko znamenať posilnenie spôsobilostí v domacom krízovom manažmente, predovšetkým pri pomoci obyvateľom Slovenskej republiky pri živelných pohromách.

Lateránska bazilika v Ríme



Lateránska bazilika (oficiálne Bazilika svätého Jána v Lateráne) patrí medzi štyri hlavné baziliky katolíckej cirkvi. Nachádza sa na Lateránskom námestí v Ríme vedľa Lateránskeho paláca, ktorý dal aj chrámu svoje meno. Je jedným zo siedmich pútnických kostolov Ríma a považuje sa za hierarchicky najvyššie postavený chrám katolíkov. Lateránska bazilika sa vďaka tomu zvykne nazývať aj „matkou všetkých kostolov“. Ďalšie baziliky sú: Bazilika sv. Petra vo Vatikáne, Bazilika sv. Pavla na Ostijskej ceste (fuori le mura – za múrmi mesta) a Bazilika Santa Maria Maggiore.

...či už stopa v piesku, v snehu alebo v srdci, vždy to znamená, že niekto tu bol a zanechal kus seba...



Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON

ÚRADNÝ ČASOPIS SLOVENSKEHO KATOLICKEHO SOKOLA - 28 000 ČLENOV - HLAVNÁ ÚRADOVNÁ: 205 MADISON STREET, PASSAIC, NJ 07055 - www.slovakcatholicsokol.org

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Správy zo Slovenska



▼ Priemerná cena nehnuteľnosti na bývanie v SR vzrástla v treťom štvrtroku o 13 eur za meter štvorcový. Dosiahla tak úroveň 1240 eur za meter štvorcový. Ceny bytov a domov tak vzrástli prvýkrát po dvoch rokoch. Predtým klesali sedem štvrtrokov po sebe.

▼ Slovenská informačná služba zaznamenala vlnu častejšie využívanie účelových sobášov, ktoré mali migrantom zabezpečiť pobyt na slovenskom území. V tejto súvislosti dostávali ponuky najmä ženy zo sociálne slabších vrstiev.

▼ Počet predčasných pôrodov na Slovensku za posledné desaťročie stúpol až o tridsať percent. Vlnu sa predčasne narodilo 4700 detí. Predčasne sa na Slovensku narodí každé deviate dieťa. Jednou z príčin je odkladanie materstva do vyššieho veku a umelé oplodnenia.

▼ Na AIDS zomreli na Slovensku v tomto roku dvaja ľudia. Za tento rok ku koncu septembra bolo evidovaných 34 nových prípadov HIV infekcie. V 30 prípadoch išlo o slovenských občanov a štyri sa týkali cudzincov pri ich prechodnom pobyte v SR. Od roku 1985 do septembra 2012 evidovali na Slovensku 419 prípadov HIV infekcie u slovenských občanov, z toho 359 mužov a 60 žien.

▼ Šestnásťročný Slováčok Marek Pacher získal na šampionáte Electronic Sports World Cup, ktorý sa konal v Praži, už druhý titul vicemajstra v počítačových hrách. Marek porazil silných súperov z Holandska, Kanady a Francúzska.

▼ 7. novembra uplynulo dvadsať rokov od smrti predsedu Sociálnodemokratickej strany Slovenska a poslanca Federálneho zhromaždenia ČSSR Alexandra Dubčeka, vedúcej osobnosti reformných udalostí z roku 1968 a čelného predstaviteľa Pražskej jari. Jeho pamiatku si na cintoríne v Slávičom údolí, kde je pochovaný,

prišli uctiť premiér Robert Fico a ďalší členovia vlády.

▼ Takmer desatina z dvestotisíc áut, ktoré vlnu vyrábila bratislavská firma Volkswagenu, smerovala za zákazníkmi do Spojených štátov amerických. USA si tak udržali už tretí rok za sebou pozíciu tretieho najväčšieho trhu Volkswagenu Slovakia po Nemecku a Číne.

▼ Ústav pamäti národa na svojej webovej stránke zverejnil štruktúru krajských útvarov rozvedky na Slovensku v rokoch 1966 - 1969, ktorých úlohou bolo posilňovať ofenzívnu činnosť proti takzvaným kapitalistickým krajinám. Zároveň prináša aj zoznam 276 prepožičaných a konšpiračných bytov z rokov 1969 až 1989.

▼ Bratislavský symfonický orchester nahral 25 krátkych skladieb pre telefóny od Nokia. Spoločnosť Nokia si nechala nahráť nové zvonenia pre svoje zariadenia Bratislavským symfonickým orchestrom. Zvonenia napísali zvukoví dizajnéri Nokia a nahrával ich 55-členný orchester v štúdiu Slovenského rozhlasu. Prvé z týchto nahrávok je už možné nájsť v modeloch Nokia Lumia 920 a Nokia Lumia 820. Zvyšné by sa do zariadení spoločnosti mali dostať ešte do konca tohto roku.

▼ V nedeľu 11. novembra padali na Slovensku teplotné rekordy. Najvyššiu teplotu vzduchu namerali v Dolnom Hričove (17,2 stupňa Celzia), v Liesku 17,1 stupňa Celzia, v Beluši 16,1 stupňa Celzia, v Čadci na 15,8 stupňa Celzia a v Oravskej Lesnej na 15,5 stupňa Celzia. V Dolnom Hričove bol vyrovnaný rekord maximálnej dennej teploty vzduchu pre 11. november z roku 1976 a v Liesku a v Oravskej Lesnej boli maximálne denné teploty vzduchu rekordné. V Oravskej Lesnej bol prekonalý 62-ročný rekord, 14,5 stupňa Celzia z roku 1951.

Na čele SZSZ zostáva Vladimír Skalský

Na čele Svetového združenia Slovákov v zahraničí (SZSZ), v ktorom je 98 organizácií z 23 kra-



jin, bude aj počas ďalších troch rokov stáť doterajší šéf Vladimír Skalský. Taký je výsledok voľby štvrtého zhromaždenia združenia, ktoré sa konalo 1. v Bratislave.

Na čele združenia, ktoré si tento rok pripomenie desať rokov svojej existencie, zasadla okrem staronového predsedu sedemnástčlenná Generálna rada. Jej členovia sú z USA, Česka, Maďarska, Srbska, Chorvátska, Rumunska, Poľska, Ukrajiny, Švajčiarska a Veľkej Británie.

Valné zhromaždenie ocenilo zmenu na čele Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí. Naopak, SZSZ, je znepokojené zmenami v pobytovom zákone, ktoré podľa Skalského znepriemňujú život najmä Slovákom z Ukrajiny a Srbska. Za ďalšie priority považuje televízne vysielanie o Slovákoch v zahraničí, voľby zo zahraničia prostredníctvom internetu a boj proti asimilácii. - TASR

Arcibiskup Zvolenský zostáva predsedom KBS

Do funkcie predsedu Konfederácie biskupov Slovenska (KBS) bol 6. novembra opätovne zvolený bratislavský arcibiskup Mons. Stanislav Zvolenský. Vo funkcii podpredsedu KBS ostáva aj na ďalšie trojročné obdobie nitriansky biskup Mons. Viliam Judák.

O zvolení predsedu a podpredsedu KBS rozhodlo v tajnom hlasovaní 16 členov KBS - 15 biskupov a jeden diecézny administrátor. Voľba sa uskutočnila v rámci 73. plebiscitného zasadnutia KBS, ktoré sa konalo v dňoch 5. až 8. novembra na Donovaloch.

Slováci sa vracajú pracovať do svojej vlasti

Dlhová kríza šíriaca sa eurozónou znižuje pracovné možnosti Slovákov v zahraničí a zmiernuje únik mozgov. Už tento rok sa má počet ľudí hľadajúcich uplatnenie v cudzine ustáliť okolo úrovne 100-tisíc, kým ešte v predkrízovom roku 2007 odišlo Slovákov. Podľa ekonómov sa návrat má týkať najmä IT expertov.

Zadlžené krajiny ako Írsko, Španielsko či Taliansko majú problém zamestnať vlastných špecialistov a pri prepúšťaní často najprv posielajú preč cudzincov. Únik mozgov sa tak opäť zabrzdí po tom, čo sa výrazne obmedzil po vypuknutí poslednej hospodárskej krízy v roku 2008.

V roku 2007 bol najväčší dopyt po pracovnej sile najmä v Anglicku či Česku, kde sa uchytali najmä mladí. Keď prišla kríza, boli medzi prvými, ktorých

prepustili.

Opakom je napríklad Amerika, ktorá je pre mladých stále veľkým lákadlom. Aj tam však konkurencia rastie a sen o rýchlej kariére a niekoľkonásobne vyššom platu sa cudzincom plní ťažšie. Najviac Slovákov stále odchádza pracovať do susedného Česka. Ešte v roku 2007 tam odišlo vyše 80-tisíc ľudí, ale tento rok ich bolo už len 50-tisíc, z toho približne 7-tisíc vysokoškolských študentov.

Dôvodom, prečo vysokoškolsky vzdelaní mladí ľudia masovo odchádzali v minulých rokoch do zahraničia, boli nové možnosti po vstupe Slovenska do Európskej únie.

Svoju úlohu však zohrávala aj vysoká miera nezamestnanosti. Podľa prieskumu Inštitútu pre dobre spravovanú spoločnosť vycestovalo najviac ľudí za prácou nielen do susedného Česka,

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)

Na stavbe diaľničného mosta zahynuli štyria ľudia

Z výšky dvadsať metrov sa v 2. novembra uvoľnil betónový blok diaľničného mosta a s ním aj robotníci, ktorí pracujú na stavbe úseku Jánovce - Jablonov. Štyria neprežili, traja sú zranení vážne, jedenásti ľahšie.

„Chlapi a strojník stáli here. Mostná doska sa posunula asi o dva centimetre, uvoľnilo sa tristo kubíkov betónu, laná a konštrukcie. Všetko to spadlo aj s chlapi. Len dvaja stihli utiecť,“ opisoval nehodu svedok nešťastia. Kým dorazili hasiči a záchranári, z trosiek vyrezával zranených.

Prvé odhady expertov hovoria, že konštrukcia mosta bola chybná alebo zle uložená. Jeden záchranár hovoril, že sa mohla zosunúť podmočená ocelová konštrukcia na jednom z vyvýšených miest.

Ktorá firma stavala úsek

diaľnice, nebolo zrejme - víťaz tendra Váhostav tvrdí, že pre nich robí partnerská firma Bögl a Krýsl, tá poukázala na subdodávateľskú firmu Semos, tá odkázala, že boli len generálnym dodávateľom.

Cez dve dlhé trubice liali do konštrukcie asi dvadsať metrov nad zemou tony betónu. Vytlačili ich tam vyše dvesto kubíkov, teda viac ako dvadsať veľkých nákladných domiešavačov. Oceľové lešenie podpierať celú konštrukciu v tom momente nevydržalo a zrútilo sa. Na zem padali podpory, kovové debne - nie aj istiace laná.

Zomreli štyria muži, dvaja na mieste, jeden vo vrtníku pri prevoze do nemocnice a jeden pri operácii. Ďalší utrpeli zranenia. Len traja robotníci zo stavby mali šťastie a vyviazli bez zranení.