

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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NUMBER 4990

Introducing the Recipients of Our 2013 Slovak Catholic Sokol College, High School, and Grade School Scholarship Grants Grants of \$1,000 each to recipients of our College Scholarships



Ryan Sheehan
Parsippany, N.J.
Rutgers University
Group 1, Assembly 162
Clifton, N.J.



Kayla Kopchak
Park Ridge, N.J.
St. Joseph's University
Group 1, Wreath 2
Passaic, N.J.



Ashley Pinck
Clifton, N.J.
William Paterson University
Group 1, Wreath 2
Passaic, N.J.



Elena Piorkowski
Johns Island, S.C.
University of South Carolina
Group 2, Wreath 86
Torrington, Conn.



Zachary Chupka
Douglas, Mass.
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Group 3, Assembly 28
East Douglas, Mass.



Katie Ley
Milwaukee, Wis.
Marquette University
Group 4, Assembly 113
Kenosha, Wis.



Katie Wisdom
Daphne, Ala.
University of Alabama
Group 4, Assembly 113
Kenosha, Wis.



Justin Dobbs
Racine, Wis.
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Group 4, Wreath 93
Milwaukee, Wis.



Stephanie Hass
Waukesha, Wis.
University of Wisconsin
- Whitewater
Group 4, Wreath 93
Milwaukee, Wis.

This year marks the 41st anniversary of our very generous scholarship program. Since 1972, a total of 1,943 members have been recipients of this outstanding educational fraternal benefit. A total of \$1,364,500 in scholarship grants have been awarded to date. This year, we are again pleased to assist 78 of our young people in their quest for a good education. Our fraternal best wishes go out to all our 2013 recipients. Congratulations, happy future and Zdar Boh!

(Continued on page 2)

2013 Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grants

Grants of \$1,000 each to recipients of our College Scholarships



Stephanie Schmidt
Naperville, Ill.
Marquette University
Group 4, Wreath 93
Milwaukee, Wis.



Jan Almasy
Canton, Oh.
Stark State College
Group 5, Assembly 180
Canton, Oh.



Rock Vargo
Star Junction, Pa.
Washington & Jefferson College
Group 6, Assembly 25
Perryopolis, Pa.



Shawn Erdely
Perryopolis, Pa.
The Art Institute of Pittsburgh
Group 6, Assembly 25
Perryopolis, Pa.



Rachel Erdely
Perryopolis, Pa.
Duquesne University
Group 6, Wreath 15
Perryopolis, Pa.



Michael Iorio
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Mansfield University
of Pennsylvania
Group 7, Assembly 86
Port Griffith, Pa.



Rose Polney
Swoyersville, Pa.
Wilkes University
Group 7, Assembly 201
Larksville, Pa.



Jaclyn Ulichney
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Temple University
Group 7, Assembly 59
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



Nicole Walsh
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Bloomsburg University
of Pennsylvania
Group 7, Assembly 59
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



Jessica Walsh
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
Temple University
Group 7, Assembly 59
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



Krista Alt
Johnstown, Pa.
Washington & Jefferson College
Group 9, Assembly 74
Scalp Level, Pa.



Nicole Schoenen
Laurys Station, Pa.
Millersville University
of Pennsylvania
Group 10, Assembly 78
Bethlehem, Pa.



Bryan Matlon
Spring Lake Park, Minn.
Minnesota State University,
Mankato
Group 11, Assembly 34
Minneapolis, Minn.



Mary Matlon
Athlison, Kan.
Benedictine College
Group 11, Wreath 47
Minneapolis, Minn.



Theresa Holthenrichs
Holland, Pa.
Johnson & Wales University
Group 12, Wreath 13
Philadelphia, Pa.

2013 Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grants

Grants of \$1,000 each to recipients of our College Scholarships



Angela Fleming
West Mifflin, Pa.
Point Park University
Group 14, Assembly 295
Duquesne, Pa.



Olivia Sieff
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Indiana University
of Pennsylvania
Group 14, Wreath 22
Pittsburgh, Pa.



Anette Fogle
Madisonville, La.
Louisiana State University
Group 15, Assembly 96
Niagara Falls, N.Y.



Michael Bacha
Akron, Oh.
Baldwin Wallace University
Group 17, Assembly 108
Youngstown, Oh.



Lindsay Adams
Plain City, Oh.
Duquesne University
Group 17, Wreath 54
Youngstown, Oh.

The Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Memorial Scholarships - \$2,500 grant for studies in the medical field

The Emil Slavik Memorial Scholarship Grant of \$2,500



Terri Brincko
Poland, Oh.
Youngstown State University
Group 17, Wreath 54
Youngstown, Oh.



Daniel Velky
Stratford, Conn.
University of Connecticut
Group 2, Wreath 39
Bridgeport, Conn.



Dorothy DiMarino
Wickliffe, Oh.
Cleveland State University
Group 5, Wreath 153
Parma, Oh.



Kevin Matlon
Whippany, N.J.
Misericordia University
Group 1, Assembly 24
Boonton, N.J.



Charissa Perzel
Blaine, Minn.
University of St. Thomas
Group 11, Wreath 47
Minneapolis, Minn.

The Doctors' Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship Grant of \$1,000

Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship Grant of \$1,000

The Joseph & Mary Spernoga Memorial Scholarship Grant of \$500



Jill Jonda
Youngstown, Oh.
Youngstown State University
Group 17, Wreath 54
Youngstown, Oh.



Jessica Dobbs
Racine, Wis.
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Group 4, Wreath 93
Milwaukee, Wis.



Justin Blosser
Atlanta, Ga.
Kentucky Wesleyan College
Group 5, Assembly 180
Canton, Oh.



Tessa M. Sghiatti
Canton, Ga.
University of Georgia
Group 7, Assembly 201
Larksville, Pa.



REFLECTOR ...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

Joseph J. Hornack, Slovak cultural activist, honored in Cleveland

Well-known American Slovak cultural activist, Joseph J. Hornack of Independence, Oh. was honored at a dinner given in his honor on April 22 in Cleveland, Oh. Hosted by the Cleveland Chapter of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts & Sciences, Brother Hornack, who is our long-time Sokol of Wreath 34, was feted for his many efforts in promoting the rich history, traditions and heritage of Slovakia and the Czech Republic. In attendance at the dinner was Brother Hornack's wife of 59 years, Dolores as well as their children and grandchildren in addition to his many friends and admirers. Since 2002, Brother Hornack has served as the associate director of The Slovak Institute located at the Benedictine Abbey of St. Andrew Svorad in Cleveland. Through his hard work and expertise, he has helped to rejuvenate and reorganize this great museum and archival center of the American Slovak community.

Born in Cleveland in 1933, Joe's paternal grandparents were natives of Krakovny in western Slovakia, while his maternal grandparents hailed from southern Bohemia, near Ceske Budejovice. A graduate of Benedictine High School, Joe served in the military during the Korean War. He served in research with Republic Steel which became LTV Steel, before retiring in 1989. Joe and his wife, Dolores grew up in the same Buckeye Road Slovak neighborhood of Cleveland and were schoolmates at the former St. Benedict School. As children, they participated in Christmas pageants and later attended Slovak picnics and dances. They both grew up in households where Slovak customs were celebrated. Over the years, Joe has enjoyed a keen interest in genealogy and archival study. He has been a member of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International since 1989 and has been a speaker at several conferences hosted by the society including Chicago in 1995, Minneapolis in 1997 and Cleveland in 2009 where he also served as a co-organizer. Through his efforts, a number of important books on Slovak history have been translated into English and he himself has penned numerous articles over the years on Slovak culture and history, especially related to the Cleveland



A grateful Joseph J. Hornack, center, acknowledges the tribute at the dinner hosted in his honor in Cleveland.

area community. He serves as a delegate of the Slovak Cultural Garden as part of the Cleveland Cultural Garden Federation.

On the local level, Brother Joe was an early supporter of the work of the Cleveland, Ohio - Bratislava, Slovakia Sister Cities group and participated in the founding of the Surname Location Reference project as well as a variety of projects of the Western Reserve Historical Society. In her remarks at the dinner, Paula Tilisky summed up Brother Joe's dedication to the Slovak community and its many projects.

A proud Slovak fraternalist, in addition to the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Brother Joe enjoys membership in the First Catholic Slovak Union and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. He is a credit to the high ideals of the fraternal benefit system in general and in Slovak fraternalism in particular. As a faith-filled individual, Brother Joe is a daily communicant and serves as a Eucharistic Minister at his home parish of St. Michael the Archangel in Independence, Oh. We join his many friends and admirers in offering sincere congratulations and best wishes to him as he anticipates celebrating his 80th birthday later this year. His contribution to the American Slovak community is immense. We thank him for his dedication and pray that God will continue to bless him with good health and happiness in the years ahead. Zdar Boh!

Scholarly symposium honors Slovak Institute jubilee

The Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome in cooperation with the Theological Faculty of SS. Cyril and Methodius of Komenius University in Bratislava, will host an international symposium chronicling the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Slovak Institute of SS. Cyril and Methodius, May 17-18, 2013. The two-day conference will bring together scholars from a number of countries including the United States, Slovakia, Austria and Italy. The conference will review not only the history of the Slovak Ustav and college but of the historical, scholarly entity which developed in the Eternal City, necessitated by the Communist takeover of all Catholic institutions in the then, Czechoslovakia. The Slovak Institute has evolved into an international body of Slovak scholars who have promoted the advancement and study of Slovak history and culture over the past half-century. The Slovak Institute has published the annual Slovak Studies series over the years.

The conference opens on May 17 in the aula of the Pontifical Slovak College located on Via M.D. Brun Barbantini in Rome. The opening session begins with the welcome by the Rev. Msgr. Vladimir Stahovec, rector. He will introduce the first presenter, Cardinal Jozef Tomko who will discuss the history of the Slovak Institute and its place in Slovak history. Cardinal Tomko, retired Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, was a founder of the Slovak Institute a half century ago. Emilia Hrabovec of Austria will present a study on the relations between the Holy See and geo-political demographics which led to the founding of the Slovak Institute. Stefan Turansky will present the history of the formation of the minor seminary which was staffed by the Salesians of St. John Bosco in the early years of the Slovak Institute. A presentation by Zlatko Kubanovic will detail the history of the Slovak Salesian fathers and brothers who faithfully staffed the Institute over the years.

A special feature of the conference will be the lecture by Professor Anthony Bonta of Calumet College of St. Joseph in Whiting, Ind. Professor Bonta will recall the close cooperation and support of the American Slovak community in the establishment and construction of the

(Continued on page 13)



The Word of God ...

Gospel for the Solemnity of Pentecost -May 19th

John 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John

*On the evening
of that first day of the week,
when the doors were locked,
where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, "Peace be with you."
When he had said this,
he showed them his hands
and his side.
The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
Jesus said to them again,
"Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me,
so I send you."
And when he had said this,
he breathed on them and said to them,
"Receive the Holy Spirit.
Whose sins you forgive
are forgiven them,
and whose sins you retain
are retained."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity- May 26th

John 16:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John

*Jesus said to his disciples:
"I have much more to tell you,
but you cannot bear it now.
But when he comes,
the Spirit of truth,
he will guide you to all truth.
He will not speak on his own,
but he will speak what he hears,
and will declare to you the things
that are coming.
He will glorify me,
because he will take
from what is mine
and declare it to you.
Everything that the Father has is mine,
for this reason
I told you that he will take
from what is mine
and declare it to you."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

New Bishop appointed to Presov Archeparchy

On April 19, Pope Francis appointed the Rev. Milan Lach, S.J. as the new Auxiliary Bishop of the Byzantine Catholic Archdiocese of Presov. He will serve as auxiliary to Metropolitan Archbishop Jan Babyak, S.J. The 39-year-old will be Slovakia's youngest bishop.

A native of Kezmarok, Bishop-designate Milan was born there Nov. 18, 1973. In 1992, he entered the Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Presov. In 1995, he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus in Tmava. On Nov. 11, 2000 he was ordained a Deacon. On July 1, 2001, Byzantine Catholic Bishop Milan Chautur, C.Ss.R. ordained him a priest in the Cathedral of the Nativity of the Mother of God in

Kosice. In 2006, he received a licentiate in Eastern Church History from the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome. He served as the assistant spiritual director at the Ruscicum and worked at Vatican Radio. Since Dec. 1, 2011, he has been the director of the Center of Spirituality - East and West in Kosice.

Bishop-designate Milan will be consecrated a Bishop with Archbishop Jan Babyak, S.J. presiding on June 1 at the Byzantine Catholic Basilica in Lutine in eastern Slovakia. With his appointment, Slovakia will now have four active Byzantine Catholic bishops. Our congratulations and prayerful best wishes go out to Bishop-designate Milan. Na mnohaja a blahajia lieta!

Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain

Mother's Day should be more than just one day

by Rev. Andrews S. Hvozdozic

Mother's Day is a celebration honoring mothers and motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence



of mothers in society. It is celebrated on various days in many parts of the world, most commonly in March, April or May. It complements Father's Day, a

similar celebration honoring fathers.

Mother's Day is an American invention. It is not directly descended from the many celebrations of mothers and motherhood that have occurred throughout the world over thousands of years, such as the Greek cult to Cybele, the Roman festival of Hilaria, or the Christian Mothering Sunday celebration. Despite this, in some countries Mother's Day has become synonymous with these older traditions.

The modern holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother in America. She then began a campaign to make "Mother's Day" a recognized holiday in the United States. Although she was successful in 1914, she was already disappointed with its commercializa-

tion by the 1920s. Jarvis' holiday was adopted by other countries and it is now celebrated all over the world. In this tradition, each person offers a gift, card, or remembrance toward their mothers, grandmothers, and/or maternal figure on mother's day.

When someone believes in us, when someone is in our corner, we feel strengthened. We feel encouraged. We feel confident. We believe we can make it, and we experience victory. When that someone is our Mother, we are even more joyfully confident.

Dear God, thank you for so much for the gift of our Mothers. Thank you for their faith in us, their hopes for us, and their love for us. They mirror Mary's love for Your Son Jesus, standing behind us in our hopes and dreams, as she supported Jesus, and standing next to us in our trials and struggles, as she stood by her Son at the cross. They rejoice with us in our successes, as Mary rejoiced with exceeding joy in her risen Son.

Through the intercession of Blessed Mother Mary, we ask You to bless all Mothers with the gift of Your love this Mother's Day month of May. May each of them feel Your love in their hearts, Your peace in their minds, and Your love in their spirits. In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN.

May 27: Remember Them

The Memorial Day custom of decorating the graves of the dead with flowers dates back to classical times.

In Greece, women who were the closest relatives to dead persons paid their last respects by crowning the head with flowers. In Rome, mourning friends and relatives carried wreaths of flowers to the home of the dead person, covering his couch with leaves and blossoms.

In the United States women who brought flowers to the graves of soldiers killed in the Civil War were responsible for giving the custom national prominence.

In 1863 women from Columbus, Missouri laid flowers on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers. In April, 1865 women led by Mrs. Sue Landon Vaughn, a descendant of the second President, John Adams, decorated the graves of soldiers at Vicksburg.

In June, other women from Virginia honored the dead at the Confederate Cemetery in Winchester which is said to be the first cemetery for dead soldiers in the South.

The first official observance of Memorial Day was conducted by the Grand Army at Arlington Cemetery in 1868. However, it was not until years later that the individual states declared Memorial Day a legal holiday.

Today, Memorial Day always falls on the last Monday in May, and that means another long holiday weekend.

From the Desk of the Supreme President

Thoughts on Fraternalism

by Larry M. Glugosh

On behalf of our family, I would like to extend our best wishes to all of the mothers and grandmothers within the Slovak Catholic Sokol and sincerely hope you enjoyed your special Mother's Day celebration.



It is a truly a wonderful day to honor the women in our families for all of their daily sacrifice, commitment, devotion and most importantly love throughout the year. Whether the day is spent with our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, sisters, aunts or wives, it is very important to let them know how much we love them and appreciate all the things they do for us

every day. For some of us, it is a time to reflect and pray for the souls of those special women who have passed away. They may not be with us in person, however we cherish, honor and respect their legacy and the time they spent with us. May their love and passion for life continue in the hearts and minds of their children and grandchildren.

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

I would like to congratulate our 2013 Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship recipients. Our Supreme Vice President, Julie Ann Dobbs chaired our annual meeting on Saturday, May 4th using our conference call capabilities. In attendance was our Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., our Chairperson of Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath, our General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec and myself. During the meeting, we reviewed the College, High School and Grade School applications and selected our 2013 recipients. There were many deserving candidates and we selected some very good recipients. It was a challenge at times because there were some very good entries, however we had to make our final recommendations based on financial need, fraternal activity and academic merit. As in the past, we will post the award winners in our newspaper and annual review book at the end of the year.

To conclude, I hope you enjoy the rest of May and have a safe, memorable and enjoyable Memorial Day long weekend. As well I hope to see you soon at one of our many fraternal events in the coming months, especially our 2013 International Bowling Tournament which is being held in Buffalo, N.Y., the weekend of May 17-19th.

May God bless all of you! Zdar Boh!

Friends of Slovakia to host gala dinner on June 14 in Arlington, Va.

Friends of Slovakia in cooperation with the Slovak Embassy in Washington, D.C. will host its 4th Slovak American Awards Dinner on Friday, June 14 at the Washington Golf & Country Club in Arlington, Va. This year's event will celebrate the 20th anniversary of Slovakia's Independence. The 2013 Slovak American gala dinner is organized to publicly recognize leading personalities, who have made outstanding contributions to the deepening of the relations between the United States and Slovakia.

The keynote address at the dinner will be given by George F. Babcoke, senior vice president - Europe & Global Operations Services and past president, U.S. Steel Kosice.

Among the honorees at this year's dinner will be Andrew M. Rajec, national president of the

First Catholic Slovak Union who will receive the Slovak American of the Year Award. Mr. Rajec is our Sokol of Wreath 93 in Milwaukee, Wis.

Other honorees will include Anton Zajac, president, ESET North America and Milan Filo, chairman of the Board of ECO-Invest. The Culture/Education Award will be presented to the Slovak American Foundation. The evening begins with a reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. For ticket information contact tuckintl@radix.net. Tickets for the black tie event are \$150.00 per person or \$250.00 per couple.

Friends of Slovakia is an independent, non-profit organization founded in 2001 that seeks to promote friendship and understanding between Slovakia and the United States - two countries with shared common values.

'LEST WE FORGET'

GOD, I AM TRAVELING OUT TO DEATH'S SEA,
I, WHO EXULTED IN SUNSHINE AND LAUGHTER,
THOUGHT NOT DYING - DEATH IS SUCH WASTE OF ME!
GRANT ME ONE PRAYER: DOOM NOT THE HEREAFTER
OF MANKIND TO WAR, AS THOUGH I HAD DIED NOT -
I, WHO IN BATTLE, MY COMRADE'S ARM LINKING,
SHOUTED AND SANG - LIFE IN MY PULSES HOT,
THROBBING AND DANCING! LET NOT MY SINKING
IN DARK BE FOR NAUGHT, MY DEATH A VAIN THING!
GOD, LET ME KNOW IT THE END OF MAN'S FEVER!
MAKE MY LAST BREATH A BUGLE CALL, CARRYING
PEACE O'ER THE VALLEYS AND COLD HILLS FOREVER!
FOR IN THE END, ONLY DEATH TRIUMPHS.



STEPHEN J. SROBA

As we observe Memorial Day this year on Monday, May 27th, let us remember the generations of Sokol members who have championed freedom and our American way of life and have made the supreme sacrifice. Eternal is their memory. The above attractive sketch is the work of the late gifted artist and well-known Philadelphia fraternal activist, Steven J. Sroba. He was a long-time member of Assembly 48 in Philadelphia and participated in Sokol activities all his life until his death in 1995.

Sokol Calendar

MAY 17-19

■ 67th International Bowling Tournament, competition at Airport Bowling Lanes, bowlers housed at the Holiday Inn Airport Hotel, Buffalo, N.Y., for information call Supreme Sports Director Edward Moeller (412)881-3506.

SAT.MAY 18

■ Slavic American Sokol Club's annual Children's Masquerade Ball "Detsky Karneval" at St. Luke's Orthodox Church Hall, 7801 Georgetown Pike, McLean, Va., admission \$4.00; call (571)249-1727 or www.SlavicAmericanSokol.org.

SUN.MAY 26

■ Most Holy Trinity Parish Picnic on the parish grounds, 18 Trinity Plaza, Yonkers, N.Y. noon to 6 p.m.; advance tickets adults \$20.00, \$25.00 at the door, children age 12 and under free of charge; for reservations call (914)476-0388.

SUN.JUNE 2

■ Wreath 81 meeting in the Sacred Heart Rose Room, 1723 LaPorte Ave., Whiting, Ind. beginning at 1 p.m.

SUN. JUNE 9

■ Cleveland Slovak Radio Club's

annual Slovak Day Picnic at St. Sava's Picnic Grounds, 2151 Wallings Road, Broadview Heights, Oh., noon to 8 p.m., Slovak food and pastries, music by Johnny Pastirik, for information call (440)886-4828.

MON.JUNE 10

■ Wreath 111 meeting and social with the theme "Picnic with Dad" at the American Slovak Home, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

FRI.JUNE 14

■ Friends of Slovakia Awards Dinner celebrating the 20th anniversary of Slovakia's independence at the Washington Golf & Country Club, 3017 North Glebe Rd., Arlington, Va., reception at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m. For information contact tuckint@radix.net.

SAT.JUNE 15

■ Simply Slavic Heritage Festival in downtown Youngstown, Oh. beginning at noon, refreshments, entertainment and arts and crafts, for information call Loretta Ekoniak (330)549-3760.

JUNE 25-30

■ 2013 Sports Festival hosted by the American Sokol beginning with opening at Hart Park, with activities at State Fair Park, Discovery World Museum, downtown food tour, Miller Brewery tour, with closing events at the Hyatt Hotel, Milwaukee, Wis. for information call (708)255-5397, www.american-sokol.org/2013festival.

sokol.org/2013festival.

FRI.JUNE 28

■ Quarterly meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Supreme Board of Directors at the Best Western Genetti Hotel & Conference Center, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. beginning at 9 a.m.

JUNE 28-30

■ 26th International Softball Tournament in Drifton, Pa. participants housed at Genetti's Best Western in Hazleton, Pa.

SAT.JULY 13

■ 40th annual Summer Festival of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius on the grounds of their Motherhouse, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, Pa. beginning at 10 a.m., concluding with Mass to satisfy the Sunday obligation in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius at 5:30 p.m.

JULY 16-20

■ 46th International Slet at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa. closing exhibition on Friday evening, July 19 beginning at 6 p.m.

THURS.JULY 18

■ 90th annual Pittsburgh Slovak Day observance at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pa. beginning at 12 noon; Mass celebrated at 4 p.m.

SUN.JULY 21

■ 40th annual Slovak Day observance of the Diocese of Gary at the Salvatorian Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, 5755 Pennsylvania St., Merrillville, Ind., Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by luncheon and cultural program.

AUG.9-11

■ 58th International Golf Tournament at Mountain Valley Golf Resort, Hazleton, Pa.

From the Supreme Physical Fitness Board

Stewardship and the Slovak Catholic Sokol

by Nancy Kropolinsky

Recently, the pastor of my local parish has been delivering messages pertaining to stewardship. As I have been listening to the weekly sermons, I kept reflecting on ways involvement with the Slovak Catholic Sokol leads to displaying actions of stewardship. Webster defines Christian Stewardship as the responsibility that Christians have in maintaining and using wisely the gifts that God has bestowed. This includes traditional Christian Ministries that share the resources of treasure, time and talent. Being a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol is a natural catalyst to performing actions of stewardship.



All individuals have natural talents and gifts which are meant to be shared and passed on to others. Several upcoming events can lend themselves to stewardship by sharing your talent as a walker, bowler, baseball player, golfer, gymnast, track athlete or driller. Being a spectator at any of these events is another way to share your time. We belong to a fraternal organization that prides itself on the camaraderie developed among its members. Attending any of the sporting events provides the opportunity to reminisce with friends, share some expert advice to novice athletes or develop new yearly traditions and memories. Finally, sharing the resource of treasurer can be accomplished through donations to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Memorial Scholarship Fund or to making a donation to the Feed My Sheep Food Pantry, a nonprofit organization in Slippery Rock, Pa. chosen as a recipient during our upcoming 46th International Slet. Whichever method fits best, I invite all to display some measure of stewardship by getting involved in any of the following upcoming Sokol events:

May 17-19, our 67th Bowling Tournament, Buffalo, N.Y.

June 28-30, our 26th Softball Tournament, Hazleton, Pa.

July 16-20, our 46th International Slet, Slippery Rock, Pa.

August 9-11, our 58th Golf Tournament, Barnsville, Pa.

Our on-going Sokol Walking Program

Our on-going Museum Memorial Scholarship Donation

Have a wonderful spring and summer season and I hope to see you at our various upcoming Sokol events. Zdar Boh!

NEW BUSINESS SUBMITTED IN APRIL 2013

RECOMMENDERS	CITY/STATE	CERTIFICATES	VOLUME	POINTS
James T. Genosky	Minneapolis, MN	2	\$10 000	101
Home Office	Passaic, NJ	1	50 000	
Larrie Marie Homacek	Barberton, OH	1	10 100	215
Karen Hutnick	Canton, OH	2	10 000	83
Rev. Andrew S. Hvozovic	Wilkes-Barre, PA	1	10 000	87
William J. Karlik	Pittsburgh PA	1	10 000	91
Frank E. Macey	Reading, PA	2	10 000	126
Eric C. Topczj	Clifton, NJ	1	5,000	72
Totals		11	\$115,100	775

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 WEB SITE – www.slovakcatholicsokol.org

Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania



The annual meeting of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania was held recently at the Ramada Inn in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Officers and board members elected for 2013 are shown above and include, seated, l-r, Dorothy Sullivan, Recording Secretary Anna M. Hudock, Dinner Chairperson Elaine Palischak, Society Chairperson Professor Philip R. Tuhy, Membership Chairperson Mary Migatulski, and Financial Advisor Magdalen M. Benish. Standing, l-r, Joseph Kowatch, Benevolent Chairperson Constance Pleniak, Society Chaplain, Rev. John Albosta, Education Co-Chairperson Andrew Sofranko, Michael Stretanski, Anthony Palischak, Corresponding Secretary Bernadette Yencha, Treasurer Jackson Hendershot and Public Relations Director William A. Zdanczewicz. Not shown, Education Co-Chairperson Helen Savinski. The Slovak Heritage Society was founded during the American Bicentennial in 1976 by Monsignor Francis J. Beeda, S.T.L. and Slovak cultural activists. The group's mission is "to advance an awareness of the Slovak heritage and culture among all people by means of education and social interaction." For additional information on the society's program and seasonal Slovak cultural events, visit its website: www.shsneq.org.



Fraternal Activities in Connecticut Group 2 Corner

by Eileen S. Wilson

Patronal Feast

Wreath 1 of Bridgeport, Conn. commemorated and celebrated the feast day of our patroness, St. Frances of Rome on her actual feast, Saturday, March 9. We participated in the 8 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Stratford. The pastor, the Rev. Andrew Marus celebrated the liturgy for the living and deceased members of our Wreath. Concelebrating was the Rev. Robert Maty. The offertory gifts were presented by the president, Eileen S. Wilson. Founded in 1906, when our organization decided to accept female members at its 1908 convention, the Sokolky were accepted as Wreath 1 and is traditionally known as "The Mother of the Slovak Catholic Sokol."

Following the liturgy we continued with our traditional gift-bearing visits to our long-term, home-bound and health-care resident senior Sokolky. Each received an Easter bag filled with an assortment of Easter candy along with a box of delicious Kolace. Our out-of-town Sister Sokolky each received an Easter card. We, those who visit and those who are visited, look forward to this fraternal outreach program. This has been a long-time practice of our Wreath for many, many years now.

We are also pleased to offer prayerful best wishes to our Sister Sokolka, Mary Silorski who is a member of Wreath 1. She will celebrate her 100th birthday on June 1. She has been a faithful member of Wreath 1 for many decades. May God continue to bless her with good health and happiness.

Another member of Wreath 1, Diane Golias and her husband, Richard Cordeiro welcomed their first child, a son Colin Michael on March 18, 2013.

We also extend best wishes to a well-known Group 2 Sokolka who enjoys membership in Assembly 33, in Ansonia, Conn., Attorney Martha Dulla, Esq. Martha and Carl Andrade will be married on July 13. Following the ceremony in church, the couple will be honored at the Grassy Hill Lodge in Derby, Conn. where Martha is the owner. May their love for each other continue to grow as the years go by. Happy future and Zdar Boh!

Scholarly symposium honors Slovak Institute jubilee

(Continued from page 4)

Slovak Institute under the leadership of the late Bishop Andrew G. Grutka, first Bishop of Gary, Ind.

A presentation by Jozef M. Rydlo, a member of Slovakia's Parliament and an early collaborator of the Slovak Institute will recall the rich treasury of publications published by the Slovak Institute. More than one million books have been published, including all the Post Vatican II liturgical books in Slovak. It is one of the greatest legacies of the Ustav. Luboslav Hromjak will offer a presentation on the charismatic life and legacy of the late Monsignor Stefan Nahalka, a founder and first rector of the Slovak Institute. Another presentation will be given by Bishop Stefan Vrablec, a former rector and now a retired Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Trnava, will recall the post-Vatican II liturgical reform efforts of the Ustav and role of Slovak clergy in exile. Marek Haratim will offer the history of the evolution of the Slovak

Ustav into what is today the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius. It was Blessed Pope John Paul II who elevated the status of the Institute to that of a Pontifical college in 1997. Pavol Jakubcin will discuss the efforts of the Communist government's effort to infiltrate the work of the Slovak clergy and religious in exile.

The conference will conclude with an afternoon concelebrated Mass on May 18 in the college Chapel with Cardinal Jozef Tomko as principal celebrant followed by a dinner. Our organization has been invited to participate in this conference given the fact that over the course of the past half century, we have supported and promoted the work of the Slovak Institute in Rome. Copies of our organization's history and publications will be exhibited at the conference. We congratulate Monsignor Stahovec and all those who will participate in this historic conference in the Eternal City.

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.

At the Jake Kiskan Softball Complex

Our 26th International Softball Tournament is set for the weekend of June 28-30 in Drifton, Pa.

By Edward D. Moeller

Supreme Director of Sports & Athletics

This year's 26th Slovak Catholic Sokol International Softball Tournament is scheduled for the weekend of June 28th through the 30th. The site for this year's event will be the Jake Kiskan Softball Complex in Drifton, PA. Our 2013 tournament headquarters will be at the Best Western Genetti Inn & Suites Hotel located just minutes from the fields.

Our 2013 International tournament will once again feature both a men's and women's team competition. As in the past, we will allow Groups to submit up to four (4) teams.

This year's competition will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 29th and will continue throughout the day. We will utilize all available fields throughout the day with the Semi-final and Final games scheduled for Saturday evening or Sunday morning. (Depending on the number of team entries) As in the past, we will use a double elimination format.

Lodging will be the responsibility of each Group. The necessary arrangements have been made at the Best Western Genetti Inn & Suites, however you must contact me to secure your team's lodging before May 29th. The hotel is located at 1341 North Church Street, Hazleton, PA 18202. As in the past, the Supreme Assembly managed by the Tournament Director, will cover the cost of the rooms. (4 participants per room) In addition, a breakfast will be available both Saturday and Sunday morn-

ings at the hotel. On Saturday evening, we will feature a buffet dinner poolside at the hotel

I am sure that the 2012 championship teams will all be prepared to defend their respective titles. A Mass to satisfy the Sunday Obligation will be celebrated at the Jake Kiskan Softball Complex on Saturday afternoon, during a formal break in our tournament competition.

Information may be found on the Slovak Catholic Sokol website. All tournament entry forms must be returned to me with their entry fee per team, no later than Wednesday, May 29th. Please make your checks payable to: Slovak Catholic Sokol - Sports Account and send same to my home address at: 2821 Waterman Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15227. This year, the cost of each team's entry is \$400.00 before the deadline date and \$450.00 per team after the May 29th deadline date.

If you have further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me directly at my home at (412) 881-3506. I look forward to seeing you at this year's exciting 26th International Softball Tournament in Hazleton. Zdar Boh!



Lodge Jottings

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

Wreath 1

Assembly No. 9, Inc.

As has been our longstanding fraternal tradition, scholarship grants will be available to members of either lodge. Each grant is a one-time only scholarship of \$200.00 and is available to members currently enrolled in college or a Catholic high school. Members must have a permanent life insurance policy with a face amount of at least \$3,000 and have been a member for at least five(5) years to apply.

To request an application, call Judith A. Salamon at (203)333-3716 or Eileen S. Wilson at (203)378-8837. Applicants should indicate whether they require the college or Catholic high school form, and the address to which it should be mailed. The completed application must be returned by our June 9, 2013 meeting for consideration.

Wreath 1 and Assembly No. 9, Inc. are pleased to assist our young people in their quest for a good education.

Zdar Boh!
Judith A. Salamon
Eileen S. Wilson

WHITING, IND.

Wreath 81

The next meeting of our Wreath is scheduled for Sunday, June 2 at the Sacred Heart Rose Room located 1723 LaPorte Avenue beginning at 1 p.m. All members are cordially invited to attend.

Summer is finally on its way

46th Slet Outreach Project

Our upcoming 46th International Slet, scheduled for July 16-20 at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa., is fast approaching. By this time, Group participants should be practicing and preparing for this exciting event. The Slet is not only an opportunity to display our athletic talents, but also it is an opportunity to share and expand our Slovak Catholic Sokol ideals and values.

Thus, in keeping with the best traditions of fraternal outreach and concern for others, the Supreme Physical Fitness Board is requesting that each Group make a monetary donation to the North Butler County Feed My Sheep Cupboard. This facility is located in downtown Slippery Rock and each month serves about 180 low income individuals and families in need. Donations generated from individuals, Wreaths and Assemblies are also encouraged. We ask that those who would like to support this outreach project make checks payable to: North Butler County Feed My Sheep Cupboard and send same to Nancy Kropolinsky, 874 Bears Den Road, Youngstown, OH 44511. Deadline for contributions is June 30, 2013. The total amount collected for this charity will be presented during the opening ceremonies of our 46th Slet scheduled for Tuesday, July 16. Supporting this charity is a wonderful example of our concern for those less fortunate in the community. I look forward to hearing from all 19 of our organization's Groups and am honored to introduce the Slovak Catholic Sokol to such a valuable organization.

"Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish yourself. It's what you do for others..." - Danny Thomas

Zdar Boh!

Nancy Kropolinsky

Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board

and that means that the officers are making plans for our annual picnic scheduled for Sunday, August 4. We encourage our members to attend the meeting and spend an enjoyable afternoon of traditional Sokol fraternal fellowship. Sophie Dybel will serve as hostess for this meeting. As is our tradition, following our meeting we will enjoy refreshments and games will be played. An enjoyable afternoon is assured.

A reminder to our members that as part of our care and share

project, our Wreath will be collecting monetary donations in support of our local food pantry. Thank you for your generous support. We know that our members will be generous as hunger never takes a vacation.

As always, we send cheerful best wishes to our ill and home-bound members. We always remember you in prayer.

Zdar Boh!

Judy Strisko

Recording Secretary

**Recipients of our 2013 Abbot Jerome M. Koval, O.S.B.
Memorial Catholic High School Grant of \$500 each**



Kara Saranich
St. Joseph High School
Group 2, Wreath 1
Bridgeport, Conn.



Kaitlin Trokan
Catholic Memorial High School
Group 4, Wreath 93
Milwaukee, Wis.



Alexandra L. Stecker Janssen
Pius XI High School
Group 4, Wreath 93
Milwaukee, Wis.



Douglas Hutnick
St. Thomas Aquinas High School
Group 5, Assembly 180
Canton, Oh.



David S. Iskra, Jr.
Holy Redeemer High School
Group 7, Assembly 59
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



Christian Nonnemacher
Marian High School
Group 7, Assembly 59
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



Adriana E. Wesolowski
Holy Redeemer High School
Group 7, Assembly 86
Port Griffith, Pa.



Carly Jablonski
Berks Catholic High School
Group 12, Wreath 155
Reading, Pa.



Brianna Marie Geissler
Little Flower High School
Group 12, Assembly 48
Philadelphia, Pa.



Donald C. Geissler
Roman Catholic High School
Group 12, Assembly 48
Philadelphia, Pa.



Andrew J. Babik
Cardinal Mooney High School
Group 17, Assembly 108
Youngstown, Oh.



Michael J. Carbon
St. Edward High School
Group 17, Wreath 54
Youngstown, Oh.



Jacob R. Sebest
Ursuline High School
Group 17, Wreath 107
Youngstown, Oh.



Joseph M. Sebest, III
Ursuline High School
Group 17, Wreath 107
Youngstown, Oh.



Carter John Kovalcik
University of Detroit Jesuit
High School & Academy
Group 16, Assembly 36
Detroit, Mich.

Scenes of the Annual Easter Egg Hunt Hosted by Assembly 25 & Wreath 15

Slovak Catholic Sokol Club + Perryopolis, Pa. + Saturday, March 23



Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grants
Catholic Grade School grants of \$250 each



Rebecca Hess
St. Catherine of Siena School
 Group 1, Assembly 162
 Clifton, N.J.



Viera Pulver
Oak Knoll School
of the Holy Child
 Group 1, Assembly 182
 New York, N.Y.



Ava Rose Matthews
St. Anthony School
 Group 1, Assembly 219
 Yonkers, N.Y.



John W. Pollack
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School
 Group 1, Assembly 219
 Yonkers, N.Y.



Christian Kowatch
Sacred Heart School
 Group 1, Assembly 199
 Yonkers, N.Y.



Ethan Romagnoli
Transfiguration School
 Group 1, Assembly 219
 Yonkers, N.Y.



Timothy J. Romagnoli
Transfiguration School
 Group 1, Assembly 219
 Yonkers, N.Y.



James Baril
St. Peter & St. Francis School
 Group 2, Wreath 86
 Torrington, Conn.



Anthony Weaver
St. Anna School
 Group 3, Wreath 18
 East Douglas, Mass.



Faith Michaleen Myles
Holy Cross School
 Group 4, Assembly 257
 Chicago, Ill.



Emma Faith Roberts
St. Joseph Academy
 Group 4, Assembly 113
 Kenosha, Wis.



Jacsen Davis Brown
St. Francis School
 Group 4, Assembly 11
 Chicago, Ill.



Logan Kuch
St. Gabriel School
 Group 6, Assembly 163
 Donora, Pa.



Daniel G. Balas
St. Nicholas/St. Mary School
 Group 7, Assembly 59
 Wilkes-Barre, Pa.



Jenna M. Iskra
Good Shepherd Academy
 Group 7, Assembly 59
 Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Grants Catholic Grade School grants of \$250 each



Hunter M. Wesolowski
Good Shepherd Academy
Group 7, Assembly 86
Port Griffith, Pa.



Anjelita E. Paul
Good Shepherd School
Group 10, Assembly 255
Egypt, Pa.



Jack Dwinell
St. Michael School
Group 11, Assembly 34
Minneapolis, Minn.



Jordan L. Kotvas
St. Patrick School
Group 14, Wreath 22
Pittsburgh, Pa.



Lexington Meder
St. Therese School
Group 14, Wreath 22
Pittsburgh, Pa.



Isabella Meder
St. Therese School
Group 14, Wreath 22
Pittsburgh, Pa.



Adeline G. Fogle
St. Peter School
Group 15, Assembly 96
Niagara Falls, N.Y.



Angelee Blasko
St. Charles School
Group 17, Wreath 54
Youngstown, Oh.



Gianna Gordulic
St. Charles School
Group 17, Wreath 54
Youngstown, Oh.



Jarett Gordulic
St. Charles School
Group 17, Wreath 54
Youngstown, Oh.

In Winter Park, Florida

The Slovak Garden Celebrates its 61st Anniversary

by Justine Wesnak, former president

In March of 2013, one of the great Slovak American institutions, The Florida Slovak Garden hosted its 61st annual meeting and Slovak Day celebration. This report will cover both events held at the Garden, a home for retired American Slovaks in Winter Park, just outside Orlando, Fla.

This year, for just the second time in its recorded history, the Slovak Garden broke with the order of these events. In the hope of increasing the number of young people in attendance, the Board of Directors held the annual meeting prior to the Slovak Day observance. In the past, the annual meeting followed the Slovak Day on a Monday. The following are my observations of the highlights of the proceedings of the weekend.

Annual Meeting

Keeping with other traditions, the Slovak Garden's large social hall was the site of its 61st annual

meeting held on Saturday, March 2, 2013. President Jerry Krupa called the meeting to order and led in the opening prayer. Auditor Justine Wesnak, a former president, led in the singing of the National Anthem with Director Nick Badida leading the Slovak National anthem.

Highlights of the meeting included the presentation of several reports of the Garden's financial position and atmosphere at this time. A favorable financial report was given by the Treasurer Anna Valucek. She stated that it was due to the vigilance of the president and the board, as well as the security of the income from rents, especially that of the large social hall. The senior Auditor Peter Salling indicated that he found all records up to date and in good condition due in large part to the officers and accounting staff incorporating the procedures he had suggested last year

for the continued security of the Garden. Peter indicated that his term as auditor concluded and that he would not seek reelection. This was due to the fact that his own additional responsibilities at work along with his desire to spend more time with his family.

As the immediate past president of the Garden as well as during the past few years serving with Peter as an auditor, I have had the opportunity to observe Peter at work. He is a wizard at auditing and finance. The Garden is fortunate to have his service. Fortunately, I was able to successfully convince him that his talents are needed for the continued success of the Garden. He was in fact reelected unanimously. We hope this bright young man will continue to serve as an auditor for many years into the future.

In his report as president, Jerry Krupa noted that at a reasonable

cost, Director Nick Badida completed many aesthetic as well as necessary improvements to the Garden. The large social hall and all apartments are now occupied and there is a pleasant improvement in the relationships of the occupants, with him as well as each other. And finally, the lingering and unpleasant, legal and financial matters associated with

the necessary removal of Jan Juhas as Garden president, have been positively finalized. Based on my observations, the Garden is well on the road to recovery from the harmful results of the actions of Jan and Doreen Juhas.

Director Mary Jo Holker announced that two scholarship grants of \$500 would be awarded
(Continued on page 18)



Past president, Justine Wesnak, right, is shown enjoying the annual event with her sister-in-law Rita Wesnak.

What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Nearly 20 presidents accept invitation to summit in Bratislava

Close to 20 heads of state have already accepted invitations to attend a summit of presidents of Central and Eastern European countries due to take place in Bratislava on June 12-13, Slovak President Ivan Gasparovic's spokesman Marek Trubac told TASR on April 26.

The gathering will be held under the theme "Growth Strategy Towards Post-crisis Recovery." According to the statement, the Central European region has the potential to play a positive role both in consolidation as well as in the creation of a new place for Europe in the post-crisis period.

According to the president, the meeting in Bratislava will be a suitable opportunity to discuss key political, economic, social and security issues relating to the development of the region.

The summit will also be an opportunity to mark the 20th anniversary of Slovakia's independence. "It will be the most important and, in terms of the number of attendees, the largest meeting of presidents in Slovakia in over 20 years," said Trubac.

SBA: stability of Slovak banks is 4th in Eurozone, thanks to profits

Slovakia's banking sector belongs among the most stable among the European monetary Union countries, according to a statement issued by the Slovak Banking Association(SBA) on April 25 based on a survey carried out by the World Economic Forum(WEF).

According to SBA, Slovak banks, especially benefit from their favorable liquidity position and ability to generate profits.

"Slovak banks belong among the four most stable ones in the eurozone," SBA stated, adding that Finland is number one with the eurozone.

SBA pointed out, however, that it views the assessment by WEF as rather subjective. However, any subjectivity is overshadowed by the so-called stability index, which takes into consideration profitability, liquidity, capital adequacy and credit quality of banks.

Slovakia was in fifth place in terms of the stability index.

Fico attends Maypole festival, praises importance of traditions

The symbolic erecting of the Maypole is worth doing, and I would be happy if we preserved this kind of tradition, said Prime Minister Robert Fico at one such event in Bratislava on April 28.

"This is how we commemorate nice things from history in Slovakia...We import all sorts of foreign festivities too often," he added.

The setting up of the Maypole is related to May Day, or Labor Day, said Fico, pointing to the shortage of jobs in Slovakia. This is the case throughout Europe, however, he said, while giving assurances that the Cabinet will do its best to boost employment, including with the use of EU funds and incentives such as tax relief.

"I'm one of the people who look on Slovakia in a highly optimistic light, and I refuse to paint a black picture of Slovakia all the time," said the premier, adding that the real situation and figures aren't as disastrous as some try to depict.

Brezzezinski: Europe gives up ambitions, relies too much on the United States

Europe of the 21st century stands ahead of a challenge to demonstrate its determination to continue in the concept of the West as a leading global force, Zbigniew Brzezinski, a leading international political and security expert, said at

the GLOBSEC conference in Bratislava on April 18. Brzezinski is the former security advisor to U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

Brzezinski pointed out that the EU appears to be giving up its ambitions, while relying too much on the United States. At the same time, it is losing its global visions, and is focusing on tackling acute current problems instead. He also pointed to the problem of the historical low-point in European's pro-EU sentiment.

Burian meets Dirioz, discusses challenges for NATO

Slovak Foreign and European Ministry State Secretary and former Slovak Ambassador to the U.S., Peter Burian met NATO Assistant Secretary General for Defense Policy and Planning Huseyin Dirioz to discuss current challenges for NATO on the sidelines of the international security policy conference GLOBSEC 2013 in Bratislava on April 19.

Special attention at the meeting was paid to building defense capacities and development of NATO's partnership policies in the wake of the NATO summit that took place in Chicago a year ago. Burian at the talks highlighted the joint declaration of the Visegrad Four(Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary) signed by its foreign ministers at GLOBSEC on April 18.

The declaration calls for boosting the efficiency and visibility of the common European defense policy, strengthening of the EU's defense capacities and its military industry, and in related research. This should represent a view on creating a more efficient NATO at a time of overall cuts in defense budgets, according to Slovak Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak.

Burian confirmed the V4's commitment to bolster military and civilian capacities via projects that have already been bearing fruit, such as NATO centers of excellence, a multinational logistics coordination center and multi-national military police battalion within NATO. In addition, the V4 is building a joint combat group to be ready in 2016.

Dirioz, for his part, highly appreciated Slovakia's engagement in Afghanistan.

Women earn 20 percent less than men in Slovakia

The gap between salaries received by men and women in Slovakia has narrowed over the past decade by 7 percent, but women are still being paid 20.5 percent less on average than men, Olga Pietruchova of the Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Ministry gender equality department said at a press conference on April 4.

This means that women in Slovakia need to work more than two months more on average to receive the same salary as their male counterparts.

As Pietruchova said, the actual reduction in the salary gap is a consequence of the economic crisis and a drop in salaries in general. She added that the smallest difference is between men and women who have lower salaries. "The greatest gap between women and men is among the university-graduates with top senior posts."

While the salary gap between men and women in Slovakia accounts for roughly one-fifth, women in the European Union earn 16.2 percent less than men on average.

Also speaking at the press conference, director of the Labor and the Family Research Institute Silvia Porubanova asserted that there's sufficient scope for ambitious women on the labor market to increase their salaries. In fact, women can fight for the amount of their financial reward as early as during job interviews.

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



The month of May brings a treasure of beautiful Slovak customs and traditions. Beginning the month with the dedication of the Maypole has been a time-honored tradition in Slovakia. The tradition came to us from antiquity. Ancients believed that building the maypole protected the village from evil spirits and diseases. The so-called green magic was a means of expressing the desire of farmers to harvest their strength and insure good growth in the spring and summer seasons. In each village, the young girls of marriageable age, decorated a tree with garlands and colorful ribbons. They danced around the tree, usually a young spruce, fir or birch, each holding one of the ribbons while the village's young men provided musical accompaniment. The tree was then raised on a high pole in the center of the village to be displayed throughout the month of May. The above photos feature a Maypole in a typical Slovak village.

Planning ahead

Places to stay at the 46th Slet near Slippery Rock, Pa.

by Kathleen S. Watkins
Supreme Physical Directress

Following the Supreme Clinic - Kurz, I personally went to visit each of the following hotels listed. Each is about a 12-minute drive from the Slippery Rock University Campus in Slippery Rock, Pa. Our 46th International Slet is scheduled for July 16 - 20, 2013 and we look forward to seeing many out-of-town Sokol family members and friends who will want to join our athletes at the Slet. Each hotel has an indoor pool and complimentary breakfast. All of the pools were approximately the same size. Each of the hotels appeared very clean and the staff was friendly and courteous. In my opinion, the Best Western is the best deal since it is significantly cheaper than the other hotels and offers the same amenities. I have booked 50 rooms at the Best Western, however once they are booked, you may not be able to get a room there. I suggest calling now and making a reservation if you wish to stay there. Remember to indicate that you are with the Slovak Catholic Sokol. I did not block rooms at any of the other hotels listed, but they will give you a discounted rate of 10% if you tell them you are traveling with Slippery Rock University. If you have AAA, you may be able to get a better



rate with the AAA discount. We look forward to seeing you at the 46th International Slet. It's always a wonderful family experience. See you then.

Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott

1000 University Parkway
Slippery Rock, Pa. 16057
tel. 724-406-0535

(\$149.00 plus tax per night)
Just minutes from the campus - Amenities include: heated indoor pool, fitness center, complimentary breakfast.

*** All hotels listed below are about 12 minutes traveling distance from the campus. They are near Grove City Outlets and Volant Amish Country.

1. **Best Western**, 1924 Leesburg Road, Grove City, Pa. 16127, tel. 724-748-5836 (\$79.97 Amenities include: heated indoor pool, fitness center and complimentary breakfast. Reference the Slovak Catholic Sokol when booking. Rooms will be held until June 16, 2013, but there are only 25 rooms available, so it is first come, first served.

2. **Hampton Inn and Suites**, 4 Holiday Boulevard, Grove City, Pa. 16137, tel. 724-748-5744 (approximately \$120.00 weekdays, \$135.00 weekend, plus tax. Amenities include: heated indoor pool and hot tub, fitness center and complimentary breakfast. No rooms are blocked here, you call and indicate that you are traveling with Slippery Rock University, and they will provide a 10% discount. The rate listed is approximately the 10% discounted rate.

3. **Holiday Inn Express Suites**, 21 Holiday Boulevard, Grove City, Pa. 16237, tel. 724-748-5514 (approximately \$120.00 weekdays, \$135.00 weekend, plus tax) Amenities include: heated indoor pool and hot tub, fitness center and complimentary breakfast. No rooms are book at this hotel, however just call and say that you are traveling with Slippery Rock University to receive the 10% discounted rate. The rate listed above is approximately the 10% discounted rate.

4. **Comfort Inn**, 118 Garrett Drive, Grove City, Pa. 16227, tel. 724-748-1005 (\$117.00 a night plus tax) Amenities include: heated indoor pool, fitness center and complimentary breakfast. No rooms are blocked off, however you will receive the 10% discounted rate if you indicate that you are with Slippery Rock University.

Make your plans now and be assured of a memorable Slet experience with your children and friends. See you in Slippery Rock, Pa. in July and Zdar Boh!

Papal delegates named to Cyrilo-Methodian celebrations

Pope Francis acknowledged the invitation of the Bishops Conference of Slovakia to attend the official 1,150th anniversary of the arrival of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Slovakia set for July 5 in Nitra. While he himself cannot attend, he named Cardinal Franc Rode, C.M., prefect-emeritus of the Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life as his representative. A Slovenian, Cardinal Rode will be principal celebrant of the jubilee liturgy scheduled to be celebrated out-of-doors in Nitra on Friday, July 5. Nitra was the center of the evangelization mission of SS. Cyril and Methodius who arrived in the area beginning in the summer of 863. Established in 880, Nitra is the oldest diocese on the territory of the western Slavs.

In addition, since the celebration honoring the Apostles of the Slavs in the Czech Republic is also set for July 5 in Velehrad in eastern Moravia, he also named a Papal legate in the person of Cardinal Josp Bozanic, Archbishop of Zagreb in Croatia. SS. Cyril and Methodius arrived in Great Moravia in 863 in what is today western Slovakia and the eastern area of the Czech Republic.

Both celebrations are scheduled for July 5th, the traditional observance of the feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius in the former Czechoslovakia. While the universal Church observed their feast on July 7th until the reform of the Church calendar by Pope Paul VI in 1967, the feast was then transferred to February 14th, the day on which St. Cyril died in Rome in 869. When Czechoslovakia was created in 1919, the Free-thinking government established July 6th as the holiday honoring the Czech reformer, Jan Hus. The Church thus chose to observe the feast of the Apostles of the Slavs on July 5th a day before the Hus holiday. This tradition continues until today.

Clifton parish centennial banquet tickets available

The Centennial Committee of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Clifton, N.J. is pleased to announce that tickets for the centennial banquet are now available. The closing year celebration takes place on Sunday, November 3. Paterson Bishop Arthur Serratelli will be principal celebrant of the jubilee Mass at 10:30 a.m. in church. The banquet will follow at the Venetian in Garfield, N.J. Banquet tickets are available at \$80.00 for adults and \$40.00 for children age 12 and younger following the weekend liturgies or call the rectory at (973)546-4390.

Held in Douglas, Mass.

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

The semi-annual meeting of Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak" was held on Sunday, April 14 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall in Douglas, Mass. Coffee and Danish were served.

Group 3 President Kevin Conway called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and extended a warm welcome. He thanked everyone for attending. Wreath 18 President Rose Manyak opened the meeting with a prayer. Brother Kevin then led the assemblage in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Secretary Christine Manyak then read the roll call. A total of 10 members were present representing Assembly 28 and Wreath 18.

Secretary Christine Manyak reviewed the minutes of the Group 3 annual meeting held on Sunday, September 30, 2012. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Roger Manyak, seconded by Lori Cyr.

Brother Kevin thanked all for their interest in our organization's activities, especially our upcoming 46th International Slet scheduled for Slippery Rock, Pa. He welcomed new members and first-time attendees, Debbie and Dan Goldenberg and Johna Pelouquin and her daughter, Katie.

The treasurer, Brother Ralph Quinn was unable to attend, therefore Brother Kevin reviewed his report. Following a review and discussion, the treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Judy Manyak, seconded by Dan Goldenberg.

Group 3 Physical Directress Judy Manyak reported that she has started drill practice in preparation for this summer's Slet. At this time, she has 11 senior women and 12 junior girls. There was no Eastern District Basketball and Volleyball Tournament due to a lack of participation by several Groups.

Group 3 Physical Director Gary Manyak was unable to attend the meeting. In his place, Brother Roger indicated that drill practice for men and boys would begin this evening. At present, we have a total of 31 junior boys and senior men interested in participating in the Slet. Having more men than women is a first for Group 3.

Group 3 Sports Director Roger Manyak reported that they are currently in the process of obtaining permission to use a track on a Friday evening to hold the Slet qualifications. He explained that participants need to qualify in a least two events, and no more than four (not including relays). He noted that Group 3 will have one gymnast who will compete at the Slet.

Brother Kevin and Brother Roger reported that they attended a meeting of the Sports Directors of the Eastern District held at Sokol headquarters in Passaic,

N.J. on March 23. The meeting was attended by representatives of four Groups to discuss the issues resulting in this year's tournament cancellation as well as to make plans for next year's tournament. This year's 26th International Softball Tournament is in Hazleton, Pa. It is unclear whether or not Group 3 will be sending any teams. The 46th International Slet is set for July 16-20 at Slippery Rock University located in western Pennsylvania. Dates and locations of other upcoming Sokol tournaments can be found in our official publication.

New Business

The annual Group 3 Sokol Open will be held Saturday, September 7 at the Connecticut National Golf Course. The event is one of our very successful fund-raisers. The tournament chairperson, Brother Roger Manyak asked members to seek hole sponsors as an additional means of raising funds.

The Octoberfest date and location are still pending due to issues with closing down Main Street. Brother Roger will again serve as chairperson of this event. Plans are to continue with the food booths, the games and the raffle. Roger will be looking for donations and volunteers. Octoberfest is our Group's second biggest fund-raiser.

Lucky 100 is held three sessions a year. It is very successful if all #s are sold. Purchase a # from 00-99. Each session runs ten weeks. Pays out of the last two #s of the Massachusetts Lottery evening drawing, nightly in incremental cash prizes. Judy Manyak is serving as chairperson and is in desperate need of captains to assist. The next session starts April 15, 2013 and she still has 7#s still open this session: 04, 44, 61, 63, 67, and 93. Open #s means less money raised. Thank you Sister Judy for all of your hard work on behalf of this fund-raiser.

Regarding fund raising, in addition to the above activities, two of our large fund-raisers include the Super Bowl and NCAA pools run by Brother John Manyak. The Super Bowl pool funds the youth group and the NCAA funds our scholarships.

The 46th Slet will be held July 16-20. This year the Slet participants will continue with the new tradition of playing "Minute to Win It". Co-ed volleyball will be introduced to this summer's Slet program. The rules indicate that three women must be on the court at all times.

With no further business, on a motion by Johna Pelouquin, seconded by Lori Cyr, the semi-annual meeting was adjourned. Brother Kevin Conway concluded the meeting with a closing prayer. Sulas!

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Manyak
Group 3 Secretary

Site of our
46th International Slet
July 16-20, 2013





Obituaries...

John Hvasta, 85, was devoted Slovak activist

John Hvasta of St. Augustine, Fla. passed away peacefully in his sleep on March 28. He was 85.

A native of Miglesov in eastern Slovakia, he was born there June 2, 1927 son of Michael and Elizabeth Roman Hvasta. He emigrated to the U.S. at the age of 11 settling in Hill-side, N.J. where he attended local schools. Following his U.S. military service, he decided to return to his native country to attend Charles University. He began working at the U.S. Consulate in Bratislava in 1948 with U.S. Consul Clairborne D. Pell, later U.S. Senator of Rhode Island. He was arrested on false espionage charges and sentenced by the newly-installed Communist government to 25 years in prison and was sent to the infamous Leopoldov prison. He was able to escape and over a three-year period found his way to Prague and the U.S. Embassy there. He was finally freed with the help of John Foster Dulles and returned to the United States.

Upon his return to the U.S., John engaged in a nation-wide public speaking tour and was awarded his under graduate degree at the University of Southern California. In 1956, he married the former Helen Loya in Duquesne, Pa., who survives.

He became a freelance filmmaker of documentary films and after moving to Washington, D.C. was actively politically working for several congressmen and senators. He labored tirelessly on behalf of the Slovak cause and never gave up hope that Communism would fall and that Slovakia would become independent. He was a founder and long-time advocate of the Slovak World Congress and helped organize many conferences and gatherings promoting the cause of the Slovaks and their quest to be free of Communist rule. Following the fall of the Berlin Wall, he returned to Slovakia and was interviewed many times on radio and TV. He was present on January 1, 1993 when Slovakia declared its independence. He worked for Slovak Telecommunications for a number of years and then moved to St. Augustine, Fla. for his retirement. An active Byzantine Catholic, he promoted numerous projects in support of the Greek Catholic Church in Slovakia.

The Stephen Haky Funeral Home in Uniontown, Pa. was in charge of arrangements. A funeral Divine Liturgy was celebrated on April 4 at St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in Perryopolis, Pa. with his brother-in-law, the Rev. Daniel Loya and cousins, Rev. Thomas Loya and Rev. Joseph Loya officiating. Interment followed at Mt. St. Macrina Cemetery in Uniontown, Pa.

In addition to his wife, Helen, John is survived by sons, John Thadeus, Michael Stephen and Mark Francis Hvasta; a daughter, Marianne Margaret Hvasta and six grandchildren. May this servant of God, patriotic American and faithful son of the Slovak nation now rest in peace. Vech-naya pamyat!

Rev. Cassian Yuhaus, C.P. Hazleton, Pa. native

Well-known Passionist priest, Rev. Cassian Yuhaus passed away peacefully on February 14, the feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius, in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. He was 90.

A native of Hazleton, Pa., he was born July 12, 1922, son of the late Adam and Elizabeth Alasko Yuhaus. He was raised in St. Joseph's Parish, the oldest Slovak parish in the United States. He professed his vows as a member of the Congregation of the Passion religious community on August 15, 1944, and was ordained a priest for the Passionist order on February 27, 1951. He celebrated his first Mass in St. Joseph's Church in Hazleton, Pa.

Father Yuhaus was awarded a doctorate in church history and the Papal gold medal for excellence from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome in 1962. He served in leadership positions in the Passionist community, coordinated the Religious Life Program for the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) in Washington, D.C. from 1975 to 1980, and served as president of CARA during 1980-1984.

In the years following the Second Vatican Council, Father Yuhaus became an internationally recognized consultant for many men's and women's religious communities. Renowned in religious circles as a dynamic speaker, retreat master and scholar, he wrote *Compelled to Speak*, a history of the Passionist community in the United States. He served on the boards of several outreach organizations, including Amnesty International, World Futures Society, Bread for the World and Pax Christi USA.

Father Yuhaus served as rector of St. Ann's Monastery and Basilica in Scranton, Pa. from 1998 until 2002. The funeral liturgy was celebrated at St. Ann's Basilica on February 18 with the Very Rev. Robert Joerges as principal celebrant. Interment followed at St. Ann's Monastery Cemetery.

Father Yuhaus was an outstanding priest and spiritual leader and a credit to the American Slovak community. He beautifully mirrored our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. May his priestly soul enjoy the beatific vision. May he rest in peace.

Sister Irene Benyak, 84 was Vincentian Sister

Sister Irene Agnes Benyak, SCN, (formerly Sister John Francis, VSC) died peacefully on April 5 surrounded by her sisters in community at St. Louise de Marillac Convent in Pittsburgh, Pa. She was 84.

A native of Monessen, Pa., she was born there May 25, 1928, daughter of the late John M. and Mary R. Klima Benyak. She entered the Vincentian Sisters of Charity on February 2, 1951 from the former Holy Name of Jesus Slovak Parish in Monessen. For

Assembly/Wreath

Assembly 9
Assembly 9
Assembly 11
Assembly 23
Assembly 24
Assembly 24
Assembly 36
Assembly 57
Assembly 59
Assembly 59
Assembly 63
Assembly 78
Assembly 78
Assembly 82
Assembly 104
Assembly 108
Assembly 110
Assembly 136
Assembly 162
Assembly 162
Assembly 162
Assembly 163
Assembly 167
Assembly 167
Assembly 176
Assembly 179
Assembly 188
Assembly 188
Assembly 188
Assembly 188
Assembly 219
Assembly 305
Assembly 312
Wreath 2
Wreath 21
Wreath 47
Wreath 47
Wreath 54
Wreath 54
Wreath 81
Wreath 81
Wreath 86
Wreath 103
Wreath 147

Member

John Garilli, Bridgeport, CT
Edward Gaydos, Bridgeport, CT
George Kordik, Chicago, IL
Richard M. Phillip, Torrington, CT
Ann Marie Bozman, Boonton, NJ
John S. Yansura, Boonton, NJ
James E. Oravec, Detroit, MI
Michael Prokup, Allentown, PA
Kathryn Horvath, Wilkes-Barre, PA
Frank Edward Bartkowski, Wilkes-Barre, PA
John J. Vizvary, Sleepy Hollow, NY
Elizabeth B. Tanzosh, Bethlehem, PA
Albert G. Martin, Bethlehem, PA
Peter Vostinar, Bethlehem, PA
Agnes Robatin, Dunlo, PA
Elizabeth Kessler, Pittsburgh, PA
Tibor T. Kovalovsky, Youngstown, OH
Anna Selka Lynn, St. Clair, PA
Joseph Matusek, Naticoke, PA
Judith Tragellis, Clifton, NJ
Philip Miskovic, Clifton, NJ
John Sidlovsky, Clifton, NJ
Richard Brletic, Donora, PA
David Michael Zak, Barberton, OH
Edward Zak, Barberton, OH
Anna Pozgay, New Brighton, PA
Patricia A. Gaida, North Braddock, PA
Gloria Anne Carpeny, Lansford, PA
Mary Yanacek, Lansford, PA
Peter J. Stricek, Lansford, PA
Anna Brogan, Lansford, PA
Cecilia N. Rahl, Yonkers, NY
Carmine Catello Los Angeles, CA
Veronika Kufita, Passaic, NJ
Irma Emily Madar, Passaic, NJ
Bernice Ann Nedesky, Superior, WI
Mary Ann Conner, Minneapolis, MN
Patricia A. Grill, Minneapolis, MN
Mildred Baytos, Youngstown, OH
Marie E. Gedra, Youngstown, OH
Mark Szyndrowski, Whiting, IN
Stephen A. Blahunka, Whiting, IN
Margaret Galya, Torrington, CT
Janice M. Underation, Barberton, OH
Dorothy A. Schaffer, Larksville, PA

Age

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Date of Death

May 6, 2011
December 29, 2012
February 10, 2013
March 8, 2013
December 4, 2012
February 19, 2013
March 13, 2013
December 27, 2006
March 24, 2013
December 19, 2012
September 11, 2012
February 24, 2013
March 20, 2013
July 26, 2010
March 10, 2013
February 23, 2013
February 25, 2013
March 14, 2013
November 16, 2012
February 26, 2013
January 18, 2013
February 22, 2013
January 27, 2013
February 22, 2013
June 12, 2012
January 27, 2013
September 27, 2012
November 14, 2012
March 11, 2013
March 10, 2013
February 16, 2013
March 5, 2013
March 13, 2013
August 11, 2012
March 24, 2013
February 26, 2013
March 25, 2013
March 16, 2013
March 1, 2013
March 11, 2013
March 5, 2013
February 24, 2013
February 5, 2013
February 6, 2013
March 1, 2013

IN MEMORIAM

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

MARCH 2013

62 years, Sister Irene served the Lord wholeheartedly. Sister attended Mt. Mercy College, now Carlow University and graduated from Duquesne University with a Bachelor of Science in education. Sister Irene ministered for 32 years as a teacher in elementary schools in the Dioceses of Pittsburgh, Greensburg and Cape Girardeau, Mo. She then spent 30 years residing in McKeesport, Pa. where she worked as a pastoral associate and CCD Coordinator for the four parishes which were merged into what is now known as Corpus Christi Parish in McKeesport. She was noted for her sense of humor and her passionate love of her Slovak heritage. This love was evident in her popular Christmas Vilija dinners. Sister hailed from a well-known and active Group 6 Sokol family. As a youngster, she participated in our Slets and other activities. She was a lifelong member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol enjoying membership in Assembly 127 of Monessen.

In addition to her parents, Sister was preceded in death by two infant siblings, John and Helen. She is survived by her sister, Mary B. Snyder; brother, John R. Benyak and wife, Joan; by nieces, nephews, grandnie-

ces and grandnephews. She is also survived by her fellow religious Sisters in community.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists were received at St. Louise Convent on April 9. The Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on April 10 in the chapel of St. Louise Convent. Interment followed in the Sisters' cemetery on the convent grounds. The T.B. Devlin Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Sister Irene was a credit to our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. Her faithful ministry touched the lives of thousands of the faithful. May she rest in peace.

Kathryn M. Horvath, 91 Wilkes-Barre, Pa. member

Kathryn M. (Babo) Horvath passed away peacefully on Palm Sunday, March 24 at Riverstreet Manor in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. She was 91. She was the mother of our Chairperson of Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath.

A native of Wilkes-Barre, Kathryn was born there October 19, 1921, daughter of the late Frank and Katarina Macej Petro. She lived all of her life in the Heights and North

End sections of Wilkes-Barre. She was the middle child and showed the strength it took to understand her older and younger siblings. She was baptized in the former Sacred Heart Slovak Parish and remained a faithful member until its recent closing. She attended Wilkes-Barre schools and was a member of the 1940 graduating class from J.M. Coughlin High School. She was employed as a seamstress in the garment industry for Altamont Knitting, Rickey Fashions and Leslie Fay.

On April 27, 1943, Kathryn was united in marriage with Andrew Horvath. They celebrated their 50th anniversary in 1993. Later that year, her husband passed away. Kathryn and Andrew were a loving and unique team. Kathryn was a caring mother and a nurturing grandmother, giving all her energy and devoting whatever time she had to her children and grandchildren.

Kathryn was proud of her Slovak ancestry and heritage. She was an active member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol all her life. As a youngster, she competed in our

(Continued on page 15)

Well-known fraternal leader**Cynthia M. Maleski Honored in Pittsburgh**

Well-known Slovak fraternal and cultural leader, Attorney Cynthia M. Maleski of Natrona Heights, Pa. was honored by the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh as their 2013 Fraternalist of the Year at a dinner on Saturday, March 16 at



Elizabeth Groch, right, daughter of Cynthia M. Maleski is shown congratulating her mom during the dinner.

the Sheraton Station Square Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pa. The Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh (FSGP) is comprised of 17 fraternal benefit societies and nine business-associated groups representing over one million members, and has been serving western Pennsylvania for more than 66 years. Cynthia serves as the national president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. She is also our Sokolka of Assembly 219.

Each year the FSGP chooses an individual who displays active leadership in promoting the fraternal spirit and who has made valuable contributions to the fraternal benefit system. In addition to her work with the Zenska Jednota, Cynthia served as Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner and cabinet Secretary in the administration of the late Governor Robert P. Casey. An active promoter of our Slovak heritage, Cynthia serves on the executive boards of both the Slovak Catholic Federation and the



Cynthia is shown receiving the 2013 Fraternalist of the Year plaque from last year's Fraternalist of the Year, Timothy L. Kuzma, national president of the Polish Falcons of America.

Slovak League of America. She is also a member of the Board of Advisors of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association. Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Cynthia on this well-deserved honor.



Prominent guests shown with the honoree, Cynthia M. Maleski, center, include from the left, Pittsburgh City Controller Michael Lamb, Dr. Andrzej Groch, spouse of the honoree; Joseph T. Senko, Pennsylvania Honorary Slovak Consul; and the Ambassador of Slovakia to the United States, Peter Kmec.

Kathryn M. Horvath, 91 Wilkes-Barre, Pa. member

(Continued from page 14)

Slets, both on the local Group 7 level as well as nationally, competing in track and field and gymnastics. She served as the Assistant Commandress (Physical Directress) and later as an auditor of our former Wreath 36. At the time of her death, she enjoyed membership in Assembly 59. She represented her lodge at several national conventions. She was also active in Group 7, "Rev. Joseph Murgas," serving on numerous committees for the annual Sokol Day as well as bowling and golf tournaments. She was known and loved throughout the organization. In addition to our organization, Kathryn enjoyed membership in the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union and actively supported the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation. She was life-long member of Sacred Heart Slovak Parish and was a member of

the Catholic Daughters, the Rosary Society, the school's PTA and other organizations as well.

In addition to her husband and parents, Kathryn was preceded in death by a daughter, Rita Palchanis, sisters, Mary Petro, Evelyn Litz and Frances Kunec and brothers, Joseph and Francis Petro.

In addition to her son, Michael J. Horvath and his wife, Suzanne, Babo is survived by son-in-law, Robert Palchanis and his wife, Terri of Plymouth, Pa.; her proud grandchildren, Jennifer Horvath Kuren and husband, James of Tobyhanna, Pa.; Kelly Ann Palchanis and Dawn Marie Palchanis of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Robert Palchanis and wife, Tracey of Plymouth, Pa.; Nicole Palchanis and partner Ernie Schmid of Kingston, Pa.; and Andrew J. Palchanis of Plymouth, Pa.. She was also blessed with love by her great-grandchildren, August, Rita and Lilli Palchanis, Ashton Hozempa, Gavin Schmid, Kelci Kuren, Jonathan and Seamus

Fitzmaurice; a sister, Nance Abdo of Teaneck, N.J. as well as many nieces and nephews.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists paid their final respects to Sister Kathryn at the Nat & Gwilas Funeral Home in Wilkes-Barre. Heading the delegation paying their respects was Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. On March 27, a concelebrated Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at the Church of St. John the Evangelist in Pittston, Pa. Concelebrating the liturgy were the Rev. Richard Cirba, associate pastor and chaplain of Group 7, "Rev. Joseph Murgas" and Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic. Interment followed at Sacred Heart Slovak Cemetery in Dallas, Pa.

Throughout her life our Sister Kathryn beautifully mirrored our Sokol way of life. She was a woman of great faith and a credit to our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage. May she rest in peace. Our sympathy goes out to the Horvath family.

Sokol Birthdays

MAY 16

Adolf Benca, Jr., Newburyport MA, a member of Assembly 314 in Boston, Mass.

Robert Latshaw, Reading, Pa., a member of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

MAY 17

Joanne Parry Cazin, Ho Ho Kus, N.J., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Joann Keenan, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Jennifer Spangler, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

MAY 18

George A. Blanda, Union-town, Pa., a member of Assembly 69, Smock, Pa.

Carol C. Neslusan, Portsmouth, N.H., a member of Assembly 28, East Douglas, Mass.

Matthew Parodi, Maywood, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Peter E. Pietras, North Las Vegas, Nev., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Angelo A. Ricci, III, Ashley, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Carmella Marie Suess, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mark N. Spisak, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

MAY 19

James H. Buck, Canfield, Oh., a member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Oh.

Albert J. Gutasy, III, Greenwich, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Robert Kudlacik, Parsippany, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Joan Riley, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

MAY 20

Daniel Palkovic, Erie, Pa., a member of Assembly 64 Erie, Pa.

Nicholas J. Royle, Lemoyne, Pa., a member of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

MAY 21

Scott W. Athey, West Windsor, N.J., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

Lubica Benca, New York, N.Y., a member of Assembly 314, Boston, Mass.

Joan P. Santangelo, Erie, Pa., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

MAY 22

Alexis Eckenrode, Lilly, Pa., a member of Assembly 79 in Lilly, Pa.

Karen Ann Mesaros, Johnstown, Pa., a member of Assembly 82, Dunlo, Pa.

MAY 23

Joseph S. Gasperec, New York, N.Y., a member of Assembly 48, Philadelphia, Pa.

Nicole Krzysik, Clifton, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Courtney Michelle Macurak, Kennesaw, Ga., a member of Wreath

22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAY 24

Alexis R. Gordulic, Youngstown, Oh., a member of Wreath 54, Youngstown, Oh.

Anna Kanta, Joliet, Ill., a member of Assembly 257, Chicago, Ill.

Edward Kanta, Joliet, Ill., a member of Assembly 257, Chicago, Ill.

Jon-Henry Kubej, Renton, Wash., a member of Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa.

Matthew Kudlacik, Jr., Clifton, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

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

Diana K. Vanderheyden, Winthrop Harbor, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

Felicia Zalesny, Cortland, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

MAY 25

Jozef Jurasi Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Andy Martin Matuschak, Saint Louis, Mo., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

Loretta L. Pogorelec, Wayne, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

MAY 26

Mary Maslar, Yardley, Pa., a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa. Happy 106th birthday!

MAY 27

Daniel M. Dorich, Mississauga, Canada, a member of Assembly 227, Toronto, Canada.

Lara Elise Gogolak, McLean, Va., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Luby O. Masi, Basking Ridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 282, Passaic, N.

MAY 28

Vivian Marnelli, Reading, Pa., a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

MAY 29

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

MAY 30

Martha Iskra, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Mary Ann Kalafut, Solana Beach, CA, a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

Catherine E. Megill, Mountain View, CA, a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

Matthew J. Pyo, Lilly, Pa., a member of Assembly 79, Lilly, Pa.

Rosanne Urban, Nanticoke, Pa., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

MAY 31

Dr. Mikulas Halko, Mt. Kisco, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Margaret L. Pacacha, Armonk, NY, a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Marcella Ridenour, Lorain, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

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.

Report of the Supreme Secretary for the Month of March 2013

REPORT OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL Activity for the Month of March, 2013

EXPENSES

ASSETS		YEAR TO DATE
Cash - Senior Account		\$ 126,386.07
Cash - Bank of Montreal		19,125.76
Cash - Payroll Account		40,000.00
Petty Cash		373.00
Investments - Bonds & Bills		48,642,379.77
Investments - Stocks		7,975,832.28
Capital Reserve		669,262.88
Stock Adj. to Book Value		1,807,974.93
First Mortgage Loans		603,960.17
Loans on Certificates		232,409.59
Accrued Interest Receivable		683,335.00
Prepaid Expense		762.27
Sokol Building		2,687,146.11
Land		204,108.00
Furniture & Fixtures		157,087.16
Computer		57,199.64
Sokol Baby Spoons		10,075.00
Accounts Receivable		22,430.85
Non-Admitted Assets		<u>-74,616.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 63,865,232.48

LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		YEAR TO DATE
Life Reserves		\$ 43,055,187.00
Reserve Dep. Furn. & Fixtures		150,508.34
Reserve Dep. Sokol Building		2,623,409.52
Asset Valuation Reserve		1,314,743.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve		48,019.00
Reserve for Supplemental Contracts		833,105.47
Reserve Emp. Retirement Plan		4,761,720.00
Reserve for Convention		143,250.00
Matured Endowments		91,718.09
Annuity Payable		206,215.00
Claims Payable		231,676.91
Accounts Payable		139,643.04
Sokol Secure Fund		110,951.83
Mary Jane Rich Scholarship Fund		85,000.00
Joseph & Mary Spemoga Scholarship Fund		1,500.00
Emil Slavik Scholarship Fund		100,000.00
Dr's Lesko Medical Scholarship Fund		20,000.00
Dividend Accum. at Interest		322,270.50
Dividend Payable		41,354.49
Advance Premiums		10,150.00
Premium Load		<u>3,400.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$ 54,293,822.19
Undistributed Funds - Sokol		\$ 9,571,410.29
TOTAL LIABILITIES & SURPLUS		\$ 63,865,232.48

	MARCH	YEAR TO DATE
Operating Expense - Sokol Building	\$ 3,601.59	11,856.51
Rental Area Expenses	111.41	259.48
Property Taxes - Sokol Building	0.00	29,553.80
Depreciation Sokol Building	311.52	934.56
Rent for Space	1,250.00	3,750.00
Pension Plan - Print	563.14	1,689.42
Salaries - Office Employees	35,489.70	121,798.73
Salaries - Editorial Employees	6,060.00	20,415.00
SS & Federal Income Tax - Office	7,664.78	14,391.90
Hospitalization	20,296.79	41,157.85
Pension Plan - Office/Officers	55,725.33	71,675.23
Office Expense	1,827.14	7,390.13
Supreme Officers Travel	898.82	898.82
Supreme Auditors	3,140.99	3,140.99
Accountant Expenses	2,600.00	7,800.00
Postage - Office	5,122.82	5,409.61
Telephone - Office	305.03	1,203.64
Telephone - Editorial	130.70	353.20
Printing - Katolicky Sokol	2,800.00	9,370.00
Postage - Sokol Paper	1,490.00	9,725.00
Misc. Publication Expense	0.00	175.83
Other Printing	438.20	438.20
Legal Expense	600.00	600.00
Other Legal Expenses	790.86	2,941.67
Death Benefit Claims Paid	128,975.79	267,219.78
Cash Surrender Values Paid	10,320.14	44,687.40
Annuity Surrenders	97,058.76	290,640.47
Annuity Suppl. Contracts	190.33	570.99
Matured Endowments Paid	1,548.00	18,288.00
Reserve Increase	445,000.00	445,000.00
State Insurance Dept. Lic./Fee	45.00	2,460.00
Bank Charges - Bond Account	12,452.50	36,993.88
Supreme Officers Uniform Allowance	0.00	29.99
Dues & Subscription	4,845.00	5,553.85
Donations & Contributions	747.94	2,122.94
Slet	0.00	268.30
Other Coaching Insurance	976.97	976.97
Convention Expense	7,500.00	24,000.00
Group Assessments Paid	12,049.61	12,049.61
Commission Expense	7,896.89	23,385.78
Annuity Commissions	6,288.04	13,530.42
Advertising - Promotional	509.80	4,981.62
Marketing Expense	302.00	468.54
Agency Expense	3,114.37	7,357.40
Board of Directors Expense	5,785.78	6,345.58
Physical Fitness Board Expense	378.00	11,771.37
Salaries - Supreme Officers	9,387.50	9,387.50
Supreme Officers/Empl. Bonding	1,424.00	1,424.00
Local Fees/ Rebates	-2,477.37	-7,161.83
Interest Expense	1,184.25	3,253.35

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 906,722.12 \$ 1,592,535.48

TOTAL INCOME (LOSS) \$ -127,973.71 \$ 117,458.45

ZDAR BOH!

Steven M. Pogorelec, FIC
Supreme Secretary
Slovak Catholic Sokol

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES MONTH OF MARCH, 2013

INCOME

	MARCH	YEAR TO DATE
Interest on Bonds and Bills	\$ 229,804.81	\$ 583,215.52
Interest Income Accrued	50,955.00	50,955.00
Other Investment Income	0.00	3,427.25
Dividends on Stocks	36,026.17	64,077.21
Interest on Mortgages/Loans	3,058.37	9,726.72
Interest on Certificate Loans	0.00	2.67
Sale of Cookbooks	285.85	575.85
Rent Received - Sokol Building	12,390.00	23,384.50
Premium Income	44,661.10	163,944.43
Annuities	257,285.67	660,906.50
Miscellaneous Income	3,061.03	3,357.87
Amortization of IMR	2,793.00	2,793.00
Gain on Sale of Securities/Amortization	<u>138,427.41</u>	<u>143,627.41</u>
Total Income	\$ 778,748.41	\$ 1,709,993.93

Remember the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!

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

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

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

Held in Chicago, Ill.**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 4, "Bishop Stefan Moyzes"**

The annual meeting of Group 4, Chicago, Ill., under the patronage of Bishop Stefan Moyzes, took place on Saturday, September 22, 2012 at the Casa Capri Restaurant in Kenosha, Wis.

Group 4 President Tony L. Scuglik called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m. He then led the assemblage in the opening prayer for the living and deceased members of Group 4. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed. He then welcomed all the Group officers and delegates. He acknowledged the presence of Group 4 Supreme Officer, Jennifer Romine, a Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board.

Acting Group 4 Secretary, Sister Jennifer Romine read the roll call of officers and delegates. A total of 11 officers and 13 delegates were in attendance. The following lodges were represented: Assembly 11 and Assembly 257, both of Chicago, Ill., Assembly 113, Kenosha, Wis., and Wreath 93 of Milwaukee, Wis.

Copies of the minutes of the 2011 annual meeting held on September 17, 2011 were distributed to the officers and delegates for review. Following a brief discussion, the minutes were accepted on a motion by Brother Bill Gemoll, seconded by Sister Tricia Radtke.

Brother Scuglik offered thanks to the Sokol scholarship committee for selecting several qualified and deserving Group 4 members who were recipients of scholarship grants in 2012. A total of 3 college, 2 high school and 1 grade school scholarships were awarded to Group 4 members.

Brother Scuglik was asked by the home office to remind our members to respond to the SCS Falcon survey inquiring as to each member's wish to either receive our official publication electronically or in hard copy. Each month 9,000 households receive the hard copy and thus far only we have received only 3,000 responses. Brother Scuglik encouraged our members to respond as soon as possible.

The president went on to express thanks and gratitude to Wreath 93 of Milwaukee for their donation of \$300 to the Slet Fund and encouraged others to make a donation. A decision was made to eliminate the title of "Slet Fund" and merge this account with our Group 4 checking account, saving a monthly bank charge of \$3 per month. All were in agreement.

A copy of the financial report was then distributed to all for review. Brother Paul Scuglik presented the report on behalf of the auditors and thanked Sister Theresa M. Buc for doing a tremendous job given that all records were found to be in order. On a motion by Sister Adrian Casey, seconded by Sister Lisa Hoeck, the report was accepted.

Brother Tony Scuglik then read the minutes of the Physical Fitness Board minutes which appeared in the SCS Falcon and opened the floor to discussion. Conversations

were held questioning the criminal background checks of the Physical Directresses, Directors and board. It was clarified that the home office covered the cost of these background checks. However, it came to our attention that anyone age 18 and older will be required to have a criminal background check that most likely will be the responsibility of the Group.

Last year, before the Supreme Clinic - Kurz, Sister Tricia Radtke was appointed to serve as our Group 4 Physical Directress. Brother Scuglik thanked her for accepting this responsibility and welcomed her to her new position.

Sister Lisa Hoeck presented the report of the Group 4 Physical Fitness Board. Lisa, along with Tricia Radtke, Bill Gemoll and Brad Hoeck attended the Supreme Clinic in June 2012 at Slippery Rock, Pa. where they learned the new drill routines. In July 2012, the junior girls and senior women performed at the annual Slovak Day observance in Milwaukee. A family Christmas party was planned for December, as well as a drill weekend January 4-6, 2013 at Pottawatomie Hills Girl Scout Camp. Practice for the upcoming 46th Slet will begin in February 2013. The Slet is scheduled for July 2013 at Slippery Rock University.

June 25-30 the National American Sokol Slet will be held in Milwaukee. Invitations were sent to all Sokol groups, including the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

A short recess was called at 12 noon. Following the luncheon, the second session of the annual meeting was called to order at 1 p.m.

Brother Scuglik thanked Assembly 257 of Chicago for their donation of \$250 to the Slet fund.

Sister Tricia Radtke, newly appointed Group 4 Physical Directress, introduced herself and thanked Brother Scuglik for his confidence in her abilities. Sister Suzie Zeman thanked the delegates for all their prayers and support this past year as Tricia's youngest child struggled in the first several months of his life. With God's grace and everyone's prayers, he is now doing well. Brother Bill Gemoll, Group 4 Physical Director then addressed the delegates. He spoke of the success of the Clinic and his enthusiasm for the upcoming Slet. Brother Brad Hoeck, Group 4 Vice President and Assistant Physical Director discussed the projection of financial assistance needed for the upcoming Slet and reiterated his anticipation for the hope of obtaining a senior men's team. On a motion by Sister Pauline Scuglik, seconded by Sister Pat Osterbrink, the report of the Physical Fitness Board was accepted. Brother Tony asked Sister Tricia to kindly keep in touch with him about what is needed for the criminal background checks for Slet participants, age 18 and over.

Old Business - there was no old business to discuss.

Under New Business, a discus-

Welcome to Slovak Catholic Sokol**Introducing our New Members Enrolled During the Month of March 2013**

ASSEMBLY/ WREATH	MEMBER	CITY/STATE	RECOMMENDER
S-071	Irwin S. Bartleson III	Edwardsville, PA	Authorized Agent
S-071	Irwin S. Bartleson IV	Edwardsville, PA	Authorized Agent
S-071	Irwin S. Bartleson Jr.	Edwardsville, PA	Authorized Agent
S-071	Crystal Bartleson	Edwardsville, PA	Authorized Agent
S-071	Michael M. Bartleson	Edwardsville, PA	Authorized Agent
S-071	Samantha Lee Bartleson	Edwardsville, PA	Authorized Agent
S-071	Thomas J. Bartleson	Edwardsville, PA	Authorized Agent
S-071	Virginia Bartleson	Edwardsville, PA	Authorized Agent
S-162	Peter Biro	Clifton, NJ	Authorized Agent
S-016	John Anthony Bombich	Pittsburgh, PA	Edward D. Moeller
S-011	Kyle Robert Brown	Chicago, IL	Dolores Kramer
S-059	Joanne Cadwalader	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Willard Cadwalader	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-086	Charlotte Casterlin	Port Griffith, PA	Authorized Agent
S-086	Kevin Casterlin	Port Griffith, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Thomas J. Garvey Jr.	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-261	Nancy J. Hagens	Reading, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Jesse W. Hart	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Joshua W. Hart	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
V-015	Joann K. Hewitt	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
S-086	Gerald Hulse	Port Griffith, PA	Authorized Agent
S-086	Nicole Hulse	Port Griffith, PA	Authorized Agent
S-086	Chole Hutchins	Port Griffith, PA	Authorized Agent
S-086	Lisa Hutchins	Port Griffith, PA	Authorized Agent
S-086	Tyler Hutchins	Port Griffith, PA	Authorized Agent
V-015	Beverly Jones	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
S-162	Bence Juhasz	Clifton, NJ	Authorized Agent
S-162	Timea Juhasz	Clifton, NJ	Authorized Agent
S-162	Zoltan Juhasz	Clifton, NJ	Authorized Agent
S-059	William Keefe	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Lisa Marie Kleppinger	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-182	Carolyne Korcek	New York, NY	Home Office
S-182	Ema Korcek	New York, NY	Home Office
S-182	Mathew Korcek	New York, NY	Home Office
S-072	Joshua David Kuchera	Catasauqua, PA	Home Office
S-086	Parker Manuel Lopez	Port Griffith, PA	Home Office
S-059	Edward B. Mangan	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Michael Horvath
V-015	Sheila Ann Matras	Perryopolis, PA	Michael T. Matras
S-059	Rebecca Mowery	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	David Murphy	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-163	June G. Myers	Donora, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Paige H. Neely	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-261	Lois E. Pack	Reading, PA	Authorized Agent
S-086	Ella Mae Papini	Port Griffith, PA	Home Office
V-015	Nina Petros	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
S-025	Zachery Petros	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
S-082	Wathararat Richnavsky	Dunlo, PA	Dolores Yonkoski
S-048	Joseph V. Rispo	Philadelphia, PA	Robert E. Leso
S-059	Mary A. Rittenhouse	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Dawn Robinson	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Stephanie Robinson	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
V-043	Dennis R. Ruppert	Akron, OH	Authorized Agent
V-015	Frances M. Sanko	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
S-162	Hajju Shah Nawaz	Clifton, NJ	Authorized Agent
S-059	Abigail Shymanski	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-059	Samantha Shymanski	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Authorized Agent
S-025	Nicholas Statler II	Perryopolis, PA	Authorized Agent
S-162	Attila Szabo	Clifton, NJ	Authorized Agent
S-182	Emerson Tesi	New York, NY	Home Office
S-182	James Tesi	New York, NY	Home Office
S-162	Joseph E. Vankat III	Clifton, NJ	Home Office
S-064	Patricia A. Walsh	Erie, PA	Eric C. Topczij
S-078	Jacob Frederick Wiersch	Bethlehem, PA	Maryanne Palkovic
S-059	Greg Woods	Wilkes-Barre, PA	Home Office
S-082	Steven Caleb Yuhus	Dunlo, PA	Authorized Agent
V-093	Russell R. Adler	Milwaukee, WI	Dolores Yonkoski
V-093	Theodore W. Bachar	Milwaukee, WI	Authorized Agent
V-014	Nancy Morgan	Johnstown PA	Authorized Agent
V-093	Kathleen K. Theis	Milwaukee, WI	Authorized Agent
S-180	Rolland E. Thompson	Canton, OH	Authorized Agent
V-093	Ethel F. Yarbo	Milwaukee, WI	Authorized Agent

sion was held regarding the 2013 annual Group 4 meeting. Sister Jennifer Romine offered to check with the Franklin Public Library and caterers. The first choice of dates is Saturday, September 14, 2013.

Brother Scuglik outlined his concern regarding the financial situation of Group 4. Our assessments will no longer be sufficient to cover the cost of the Slet. He therefore recommended that we economize some-

where. Our membership is declining which means that the assessments will continue to go down. Assessments are really the only income for the Group. Brother Scuglik noted that the entire organization is losing money for similar reasons i.e. loss of membership. He encouraged members to pay attention to the monthly financial reports from the home office. Membership and costs are not balancing.

With no further business, Brother Scuglik called for a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Brother Paul Scuglik, seconded by Sister Suzie Zeman, the annual meeting was adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m. with a closing prayer. Zdar Boh!

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Ann Dobbs
Group 4 Secretary

The Slovak Garden Celebrates its 61st Anniversary

(Continued from page 11)

to Ryden Butler, a sophomore at the University of Miami for his essay "Opportunities and Identity, Slovak Immigrants and the United States," and to Derek Ga-



Auditor Peter Salling entertained on the fujara, the traditional Slovak shepherd's pipe.

die, a freshman at the University of Central Florida, for his essay titled "Slovak Immigration to the United States." Mary Jo chose not to seek reelection as a director. With thanks for her service, we wish her a happy and healthy retirement.

A notable change in the scheduling of the annual events held at the Garden was adopted by the convention. Due to the success

of holding the annual meeting on the weekend, it was decided that in the future, the Slovak Day observance will be held on the first Saturday of March with the annual meeting to follow on Sunday.

Following the election, I had the privilege of swearing in the following to serve as officers and directors of The Slovak Garden: officers, Jerry Krupa, president; Marcel Juhas, vice president; Anna Valusek, treasurer; and Marcel Pechan, secretary; directors, Elaine Andriano, Nick Badida, Branislav Bujnak, Irene Murphy and John Volosin; auditors, Peter Salling, Justine Wesnak and Thomas Kravets.

I am pleased that among our new officers and directors are two dynamic, enthusiastic and competent young men who will certainly serve well as directors with the rest of the above list of experienced people.

61st Slovak Day

One of the most popular observances at The Slovak Garden is the annual Slovak Day observance which celebrates our rich heritage in the Sunshine State. On Sunday, March 3 more than 200 participants attended this popular event. Our Vice President Marcel Juhas served as chairperson of this successful event. The formal program began with the singing of the national anthems of the United States and Slovakia led by Justine Wesnak and Nick Badida, respectively.

President Jerry Krupa extended a warm welcome and thanked

all for their interest and attendance. He then introduced the various dignitaries in attendance. He thanked our well-known Slovak Member of Congress, the Hon. John Mica and his lovely wife, Pat for their active participation in the annual Slovak Day observances over the past several decades. The congressman was greeted with warm applause as he favored us with a few words before rushing off to participate in the annual "Irish" parade in Winter Park. Other prominent individuals in attendance included Cecilia Rakousek, Honorary Slovak Consul in Florida as well as her predecessor, Robert Petrik.

Mrs. Rakousek proudly announced the results of the Consul's exchange program of medical students. Those from Slovakia study in Miami and U.S. students study in Slovakia. She reported on the success of this program. Happily, many students have reported that they love Slovakia, with the list of potential participants continuing to grow. Her report was met with joyful applause.

Guests then enjoyed a delicious dinner featuring a host of Slovak culinary specialties. Director Nick Badida and his lovely wife, Emil and family prepared the delicious homemade dinner. Following dinner, the participants enjoyed the talents of several Slovak Garden members. Everyone enjoyed the performance of Peter Salling on the fujara, followed by his fellow auditor, Tom Kravets who played



Well-known Slovak American Congressman John Mica has been a regular at the annual Slovak Day observance for decades. He is shown with Slovak Garden President Jerry Krupa and his lovely wife, Maria.



a number of Slovak folk song on the piano. This of course inspired many to sing along. The Slovak Garden's Tatran Singing Group then entertained with a medley of other Slovak songs. Members of the singing group include President Jerry Krupa, his wife, Maria; Frank Hruz and his wife, Irena; Jan Dvorecky and Director Nick Badida.

Marcel Juhas then introduced the Europa Band, directed by Milan Dvorecky, a member of the Slovak Garden, which provided wonderful music for dancing and listening pleasure. Its organizer, Director Irene Murphy, whom I praised for her loyalty, diligence and special efforts on behalf of the Slovak Garden over the past

30 years, held a successful 50/50 raffle. Often, she works quietly and behind the scenes, insuring the success of every event held at the Slovak Garden. All in attendance agreed by the warm round of applause for her and also for Marcel Juhas the chairperson. This was the second Slovak Day observance held under the direction of Marcel and we are all very grateful. In closing, we thank all who have had a part in the activities of the Slovak Garden over the past year. We hope to see many more participate in next year's Slovak Day observance. I pray that all of the Slovak Garden family enjoy a wonderful and safe summer. Bye for now. God bless. Nech vas Boh zehna!



Members of the Patran Singing Group entertained with Slovak songs.



Regionálne centrum rozvojovej pomoci OSN odchádza z Bratislavy do Istanbulu

Po šesnástich rokoch odchádza zo Slovenska Regionálne centrum Rozvojového programu OSN (UNDP). Z Bratislavy sa presúva do tureckého Istanbulu.

Presun centra nezastavilo ani stretnutie ministra zahraničných vecí Miroslava Lajčáka s administrátorkou UNDP Helen Clarkovou vlni v októbri počas Valného zhromaždenia OSN v New Yorku.

Presun do Istanbulu zdôvodňuje Bindra úsilím UNDP „zvýšiť podporu a byť bližšie ku krajinám s najvyššími potrebami rozvoja“.

„Medzi kľúčové úlohy UNDP patrí aj oblasť Kaukazu a strednej Ázie, a preto zohrala úlohu aj potreba geograficky sa priblížiť k tomuto regiónu,“ vraví aj Boris Gandel, hovorca ministerstva zahraničných vecí.

Za presunom je podľa neho najmä šetrenie v UNDP. V

roku 2014 bude inštitúcia „čeliť až 40-percentným škrtom v rozpočte,“ vysvetľuje Gandel.

Ak by malo centrum zostať v Bratislave, Slovensko by muselo výrazne zvýšiť dotácie na chod centra.

„Slovensko, žiaľ, nemá v súčasnosti finančné prostriedky, aby mohlo v plnej výške hosťovať inštitúciu OSN, ktorá tu už splnila svoj primárny mandát,“ priznáva Gandel.

Kedy presne UNDP presunie regionálne centrum zo Slovenska do Turecka, jeho hovorca nešpecifikoval.

Kritizovali nás za Rómov

Regionálne centrum OSN podporuje nielen na Slovensku, ale aj v ďalších 24 krajinách od roku 1997 rozvojové programy od odstraňovania chudoby až po ochranu životného prostredia.

V Bratislave tam vlni pracovalo vyše 140 ľudí. - *Sme.sk*

V Bratislave sa konala medzinárodná konferencia o sv. Cyrilovi a Metodovi

Slovensko privítalo 9. a 10. mája prestížnu medzinárodnú vedeckú konferenciu, ktorej cieľom je pokračovať v doterajšom historicko-ekumenickom dialógu medzi Svätou stolicou a ruskou stranou. Hlavným organizátorom je Pápežský výbor pre historické vedy v spolupráci s Oddelením pre zahraničné vzťahy Moskovského patriarchátu, s Ústavom svetových dejín Ruskej akadémie vied a Rímskokatolíckou cyrilometodskou bohosloveckou fakultou Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave. Konferencia sa konala pod záštitou prezidenta SR Ivana Gašparoviča. Dejiskom hlavného programu bola Univerzita Komenského. Súčasťou sprievodného programu bola aj návšteva Nitry a Katedrály sv. Martina v Bratislave, kde bola v slávnostná svätá omša.

Biskup Jozef Halko navštívi Kostol sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Cliftone, NJ

V sobotu 10. augusta o 7.00 hodine večer bude pri príležitosti storočnice založenia farnosti sv. Cyrila a Metoda, 235 Ackerman Ave. v Cliftone, NJ a pri príležitosti 1150. výročia príchodu sv. Cyrila a Metoda na územie Veľkej Moravy slovenská sv. omša. Bude ju slúžiť pomocný biskup Bratislavskej arcidiecézy mons. Jozef Halko za

účasti slovenských kňazov pôsobiach v USA.

Pri tejto príležitosti biskup Halko donesie zo Slovenska relikvie (ostatky) sv. Cyrila. Po svätej omši bude v kostolnej hale obcerstvenie.

Mons. Halko je zodpovedný za pastoraáciu Slovákov v zahraničí, kam patrí aj pôsobenie slovenských kňazov medzi veriacimi na území USA.

Trump podporil slovenskú speváčku

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

ktorý osobne finančne podporil. Jedným z nich sú práve medzinárodné umelecké aktivity Celeste Buckingham.

Miliardár a filantrop Donald Trump dokonca na svojej stránke dokonca vyzval ďalších donátorov, aby talentovanú speváčku taktiež podporili – cieľová suma na podporu hviezdnej Slovenky je 100-tisíc dolárov. „Môžem potvrdiť, že Celeste bola zo strany Donalda Trumpa a jeho tímu vyjadrená veľmi silná osobná podpora i pre jej nadchádzajúce aktivity – či už umelecké, alebo týkajúce sa medializácie jej plánovaných aktivít v USA,“ potvrdil speváčkin manažér Lumír Mati. „V týchto dňoch sa taktiež do finálnej časti dostávajú rokovania o exkluzívnej celosvetovej zmluve s americkým managementom, ktorá Celeste garantuje umeleckú spoluprácu s poprednými medzinárodnými uznávanými hudobnými producentmi. Podrobnosti zverejníme v najbližšom čase,“ dodal Mati.

O mimoriadnom úspechu bola včera mladoúčká speváčka rozprávať naživo v relácii Good Day New York americkej televíznej stanice FOX5 NEWS. „Bol to neskutočný zážitok. Život sa mi zmenil zo dňa na deň. Myslím, že odtiaľ sa bude diať množstvo nových vecí. Teším sa nielen za seba, ale za celý náš tím. Je to dôkaz toho, že keď človek tvrdo pracuje, dokáže naozaj veľa,“ povedala na margo úspechu mladá speváčka.

V rámci svojej pracovnej cesty do New Yorku Celeste prijala tiež pozvanie organizátorov každoročného prestížneho eventu Slovak Fashion Night, ktoré si tento rok pripomína 20. výročie Slovenskej i českej nezávislosti. Svoju účasť tak v noci na dnes podporila prezentáciu mladých slovenských návrhárov. - *hm.sk*

Spomienka na Milana R. Štefánika na Bradle

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

terasy teda vyrastá na temene kopca vlastná kamenná mohyla. Z každého rohu mohyly pnú do výšky 12 m mohutné kamenné obelisky. Pôdorys celej stavby je obdĺžnik s orientáciou od západu na východ, zodpovedajúci prvotnému uloženiu štyroch hrobov, tvoriacich kríž, v ktorého hlave je hrob generála Štefánika, v jeho nohách hrob kráľovského tal. mechanika – strelca Aggiusti Gabrieleho, po pravom boku hrob poručíka Mancinelli Scottiho(neskôr pochovaného vo vlasti), po ľavom boku seržanta Merlini Umberta.

Správy zo Slovenska

Vybrané zo slovenskej tlače



◆ Na Slovensku zomrelo na chripku, alebo jej následky zatiaľ 27 ľudí. V predchádzajúcej sezóne zomrelo osem pacientov. Jednou z príčin nárastu počtu úmrtí na následy chripky je aj klesajúci počet ľudí, ktorí sa dajú proti chripke zaočkovať. Odborníci odhadujú, že zaočkovaných boli len štyri percentá Slovákov.

◆ Detskí lekári sa začínajú vytrácať z dedín. Tí, ktorí zostali sú väčšinou v dôchodkovom veku a mladí pediatri na vidiek nechcú ísť. Z niektorých vidieckych oblastí musia rodičia s deťmi za pediatrom dochádzať aj desiatky kilometrov. Týka sa to najmä východného Slovenska, okolia Banskej Štiavnice,

Veľkého Krtíša a Dunajskej Stredy.

◆ Začiatkom mája v Tatrách zaútočil na dvojicu lesníkov medveď. Jedného dohrýzol a druhému sa podarilo medveďa postreliť. Po výstrele poranený medveď zutekal. Poranený lesník bol prevezený do nemocnice v Poprade.

◆ Podľa údajov Národnej banky Slovenska zostalo ku koncu minulého roku v obehu 19,4 mil. kusov bakoviek slovenských korún a približne 392,3 mil. kusov mincí. Hodnota zatiaľ nevrátených slovenských korún predstavuje približne 4 miliardy Sk, čo predstavuje necelé 3 percentá z celkovej hodnoty emitovaných peňazí.

Prvé v ýročie úmrtia biskupa Tondru si pripomenuli v Spišskej Kapitule

V pondelok 6. mája 2013 si zádušnou svätou omšou pripomenuli v Spišskej Kapitule úmrtie emeritného spišského biskupa Mons. Františka Tondru, ktorý pred rokom zomrel. Zádušnú svätú omšu slúžil v spišskej Katedrále sv. Martina diecézny biskup Mons. Štefan Sečka, ktorý na začiatku vyzval prítomných k modlitbe za zosnulého biskupa, k vernosti jeho odkazu a k nasledovaniu jeho dobrých skutkov. Na svätú omšu prišlo 60 kňazov, prítomní boli aj bohoslovci, rehoľné sestry a mnohí veriaci - príbuzní i známi zosnulého biskupa Františka.

V homílii sa prihovril spišský pomocný biskup a generálny vikár Mons. Andrej Imrich, ktorý zdôraznil, že biskup František musel neraz robiť rozhodnutia, ktoré boli krokom do neistoty a rizika, pričom sa vždy spoliehal na Božiu po-

moc. Kazateľ všetkým pripomenul zmysel tohto stretnutia, keď povedal: „Prišli sme všetci spomínať, ďakovať a prosiť.“ V duchu týchto slov priblížil v krátkosti život, utrpenie i dielo zosnulého biskupa Františka, vyzval ku vďačnosti Bohu za dar jeho života i kňazského povolania a nakoniec povzbudil k modlitbám a prosbám, aby sa všetci mohli s ním stretnúť v nebi.

Po svätej omši zúčastnení v procesii prešli na cintorín, kde je emeritný biskup Tondra pochovaný. Tam spomienka vyvrcholila krátkou pobožnosťou.

Mons. František Tondra zomrel vo veku 76 rokov 3. mája 2012. Pohrebné obrady zosnulého biskupa sa uskutočnili vo štvrtok 10. mája 2012. Po nich uložili pozostatky otca biskupa Tondru na cintoríne v Spišskej Kapitule. - *TK KBS*



Brány Expozície tatranskej prírody Štátnych lesov Tatranského národného parku v Tatranskej Lomnici 8. mája opätovne otvorili po sedemmesačnej zimnej prestávke. V tomto roku sa v botanickej záhrade predstavuje takmer tristo bylín a drevín, od rastlínstva podhorských lúk cez lesný porast až po vegetáciu alpinskeho a subniválneho stupňa. / *sme.sk*

Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation
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Spomienka na Milana R. Štefánika na Bradle



Spomienková slávnosť pri príležitosti 94. výročia od smrti Milana Rastislava Štefánika sa 3. mája konala na vrchu Bradle v okrese Myjava.

Vence k Štefánikovej mohyle položili predseda vlády Robert Fico, ministri Martin Glváč, Dušan Čaplovič, viacerí poslanci Národnej rady SR, predstavitelia cirkvi a samospráv. Súčasťou slávnosti bolo zapálenie štyroch vatier na každej svetovej strane mohyly.

Robert Fico vo svojom príhovore k účastníkom večernej spomienky pripomenul Štefánikovo presvedčenie, že slovenský národ môže prejsť cez úskalia dejín len vtedy, ak sa nebude vzdávať.

„Ak v dnešných časoch pociťujete pochybnosti, skúste si pomyslieť na svojho krajana Štefánika, ako by sa postavil k dnešnej kríze. Som presvedčený, že by zdôraznil svoje vlastné krédo: Ja sa prebijem, lebo sa prebiť chcem,“ povedal Fico, ktorý mal nad podujatím záštitu.

Ešte v piatok popoludní v Štefánikovej rodnej obci Košariská odhalili repliky dvoch pylónov z tichomorského ostrova Vavaŭ, ktoré obec dostala do daru od známeho slovenského cestovateľa Františka Keleho. Štefánik na ostrove v roku 1911 pozoroval

zatmenie Slnka, pylóny mu slúžili ako statív.

M. R. Štefánik sa narodil 21. júla 1880 v rodine evanjelického kňaza. Vyštudoval astronómiu na pražskej Univerzite Karlovej. Počas 1. svetovej vojny bojoval ako pilot vo francúzskej armáde, kde dosiahol hodnosť brigádneho generála.

Stál pri zrode 1. Československej republiky. V prvej vláde novej republiky vyhlásenej 28. októbra 1918 zastával post ministra vojny. Zahynul pri návrate do vlasti 4. mája 1919 po havárii lietadla neďaleko Bratislavy. O týždeň neskôr ho pochovali spolu s jeho talianskou posádkou nad rodnými Košariskami na Bradle v dočasnom spoločnom hrobe so zapusteným pomníkom – kamenným krížom.

O päť rokov po jeho smrti 4. mája 1924 bol položený základný kameň pamätníka navrhnutého architektom Dušanom Jurkovičom, známym slovenským architektom, Štefánikovým priateľom z detstva. Údajne on sa prihovorel, aby generála pochovali po tragickej smrti spolu s jeho posádkou.

So stavbou sa začalo 11. júla 1927. Mohyly dokončili v septembri 1928. Zhotovená je z kvádrov travertínu, ktorého bolo na Bradle privezeného

zo Spišských Vlachov 194 vagónov. Na stavbe mohyly pracovalo v rokoch 1927-1928 až 200 robotníkov a práce trvali iba neuveriteľných 280 pracovných dní.

Celá mohyla bola zubom času značne poškodená, a tak roku 1988 začala jej generálna oprava. 4. mája 1996 pri príležitosti 77. výročia smrti M. R. Štefánika odovzdal obnovenú mohyly verejnosti vtedajší predseda NR SR I. Gašparovič. V roku 2009 sa stala oficiálne súčasťou európskeho kultúrneho dedičstva.

Charakteristická bielo sa skvejúca terasová stavba so štyrmi obeliskami predstavuje typickú čistotu architektonického prejavu Dušana Jurkoviča v zosúladiení s okolitou krajinou. Celá stavba je postavená z travertínových blokov. Po čelných a bočných schodištiach sa dá vykráčať až k hrobu veľikána slovenských národných dejín. Z celého pomníka je krásny výhľad do kopaničiarskeho kraja. Mohyla na Bradle sa skladá z dvoch terás (spodná má dĺžku 93 m a šírku 62 m, uprostred vyššia, druhá, obvod 45 m a 32 m), nad ktorými sa vypína vlastná náhrobná stavba. Obidve terasy sa dvíhajú šikmými stenami, vybudovanými z hrubých kvádrov. Z druhej (Pokračovanie na str. 19)

Pápež František na sviatok Cyrila a Metoda na Slovensko nepríde, poslať svojho legáta

Konferencia biskupov Slovenska poslala pozvanie na návštevu Benediktovi XVI. i jeho následníkovi Františkovi.

Svätý otec František vymenoval svojho mimoriadneho vyslanca - pápežského legáta, ktorý sa zúčastní na vyvrcholení osláv 1150. výročia príchodu svätých Cyrila a Metoda na Veľkú Moravu 5. júla 2013 v Nitre. Stal sa ním emeritný prefekt Kongregácie pre inštitúty zasväteného života a spoločnosti apoštolského života slovenský kardinál Franc Rodé.

Súčasťou pápežskej delegácie budú aj ďalší dvaja cirkevní predstavitelia, ktorých mená budú zverejnené týždeň pred 5. júlom, informoval hovorca Konferencie biskupov Slovenska Jozef Kováčik.

Biskupi pozvali ešte Bene-

dikta XVI. do Bratislavy, Nitra, Žiliny a Prešova v súvislosti s jubilejným rokom svätých Cyrila a Metoda.

V Nitre vyvrcholia celonárodné cyrilo-metodské oslavy na sviatok Cyrila a Metoda, ktorý si pripomína 5. júla. Očakáva sa účasť najvyšších cirkevných a štátnych predstaviteľov.

Pred vyvrcholením Jubilejného roka bude od 2. do 4. júla v Nitre aj plenárne zasadnutie Konferencie biskupov Slovenska.

Nová hlava Katolíckej cirkvi dostala už pozvanie na návštevu od slovenských biskupov. „Môžem potvrdiť, že Konferencia biskupov Slovenska poslala pozvanie na návštevu Svätému Otcovi začiatkom apríla,“ povedal hovorca KBS Jozef Kováčik.

Donald Trump podporil slovenskú speváčku

Slovenská speváčka Celeste Buckingham dostala pozvanie do New Yorku od amerického miliardára Donalda Trampa a jeho nadácie FundAnything.com., ktorí sa rozhodli podporiť jej talent. Na rozvoj medzinárodnej kariéry jej venoval 25-tisíc dolárov. Dar si prevzala v stredu priamo v sídle jeho spoločnosti, Trump Towers na 5. Avenue v New Yorku.

Nadácia finančne podporuje výnimčné projekty i jednotlivcov, a do kampaní zapája i donátorov z celého sveta. Celeste Buckingham si v rámci svojho projektu vytýčila tvorbu nových skladieb a minimálne dvoch nových videoklipov. Jej cieľom je získať 100 tisíc dolárov. Donald Trump si osobne vybral zo všetkých zaslaných projektov tri,

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)

