



*Za Boha a Národ*

*For God and Nation*

# Slovak Catholic Falcon

## Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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### Scenes of the Annual Family Day Picnic Hosted by Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil"

Walter Scholl Pavilion of Mill Creek Park + Youngstown, Ohio + Sunday, August 25



Young Sokols and Sokolky line up to begin the balloon toss action.



Winners of the balloon toss are shown above and include, l-r, Ronnie Trimble, Judy Babik, Candace Kraykovich and friend, and Karen and Ray Franke.



Group 17 participants at the 46th Slet each received plaques for their efforts and include, l-r, Candace Kraykovich, Stephen Bartos and Steve Franke.



Balloon toss - get ready for a splash!

A good turnout of Sokol members from across the Mahoning Valleys turned out for the annual Family Day Picnic hosted by Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil." The festivities were held at the Walter Scholl Pavilion of Mill Creek Park in Youngstown, Ohio. Group 17 families enjoyed a day of relaxation, various games and contests, camaraderie and of course, great food!

Special recognition was given to our three youngsters who represented Group 17 at this summer's 46th International Slet held at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa. Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Nancy Kropolinsky presented individual plaques to Steve Franke, Candace Kraykovich and Stephen Bartos on behalf of Group 17. It was the first Slet in a number of

years in which our Group 17 youngsters competed.

As is evidence by the photos on this page, a fun day was had by all in the best traditions of Group 17 Sokol fellowship and fraternalism. Thanks and gratitude go out to all the Group 17 members who assisted in making the Family Day Picnic a rousing success. Looking ahead, Group 17 is pleased to announce that the traditional children's Christmas party for members of our various Assemblies and Wreaths is scheduled for Sunday, December 1. This is always an enjoyable and well-attend fraternal event. So our members should mark their calendars and plan to join us for another wonderful Group 17 fraternal event.

Zdar Boh!

**Judy Babik**

for Group 17

(more photos on page 2)



Members of the picnic committee are shown above and include, seated, l-r, Group 17 President James Jerek and Edie Babik. Standing, l-r, Sue Babik, Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Nancy Kropolinsky and Judy Babik.



Members of the Gonda family enjoyed the day's festivities.

### Scenes of the Annual Family Day Picnic Hosted by Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil"



Mary Uhrain and family enjoyed the day.



Lillian Knapik and son, Stephen enjoyed the festivities.



Stephen Bartos and Edie Babik enjoyed the balloon toss action.



John "Teenie" Gordulic and friend, Lois enjoyed the afternoon.



Winners of the Guessing Game are shown above and include, l-r, George Kraykovich, Stephen Bartos, Steve Franke and Laila Stevens.



The youngest Sokol member at the picnic was Austin Stevens, grandson of Mary Shabella Uhrain.



Virginia Bartos takes a guess at the guessing game.



Enjoying the picnic are, l-r, Jim Buck, Mary Lou Buck, Loretta Smith and Ruth Troxil.

## Sokol Calendar

### SUN.NOV.3

■ Annual St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey Benefit at Assumption of the B.V.M. Parish, 9183 Broadview Rd., Broadview Heights, Oh. beginning with Mass at 12:15 p.m. in church followed by reception and dinner in the parish center; for reservations contact Rose Stiflar at the abbey at (216)721-5300 ext.0.

■ 6th annual Kidz Bowling 4 Kidz hosted by the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh for the benefit of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh at the AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes, Mt. Lebanon, Pa. beginning at 11:30 a.m. for info call Karen Pintar (724)695-1100.

■ 23rd Slovak Heritage Festival hosted by the University of Pittsburgh Slovak Studies Program at the Cathedral of Learning Commons Room in Oakland, Pittsburgh, Pa. 1-5 p.m.; for information call Chris Metil (412)624-5906.

■ Group 6 annual meeting at Hoss's Steak & Sea House, 148 Findley Rd., Belle Vernon, Pa. beginning at 1:30 p.m., a luncheon will be served; call Anna Mae Warnick (724)736-4032.

■ Blessing and dedication of a monument to the Slovak founders of the former St. John the Baptist Slovak Church and School in Pittston, Pa. by Msgr. John J. Bendik on William St. across from St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston, Pa. at 1:15 p.m., reception to follow in the parish hall.

### MON.NOV.4

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

### SAT.NOV.9

■ Group 7 annual meeting at St. John the Evangelist Parish, 35 William St.,

Pittston, Pa., beginning at 1 p.m.,

Mass at 4:30 p.m., dinner to follow.

■ Barnyard Polka Party hosted by the United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadview Ave., Lorain, Oh. 5-9 p.m.; music by Ed Klimcak; free and open to the public.

### SUN.NOV.10

■ 31st annual St. Martin's Day Celebration hosted by Group 2 beginning with 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church, Stratford, Conn. followed by luncheon and fraternal program at the Grassy Hill Lodge in Derby, Conn.

■ Group 10 annual meeting at the Best Western Hotel, Bethlehem, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m.

■ Assembly 255 annual meeting in the social hall of Holy Trinity Parish, 4556 Main St., (Egypt)Whitehall, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m.

### MON.NOV.11

■ Wreath 111 meeting with the theme of "Freedom is Not Free" at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Oh. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

### SAT.NOV.16

■ Annual Mother-Daughter Breakfast hosted by Wreath 22 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa., 10 a.m. to 12 noon; call Dolly Lutz at (412)884-9415.

■ Wreath 22 Ladies Night Out benefit sponsored by the Gymnastic Team at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa., doors open at 7 p.m., festivities begin at 7:30 p.m., advance tickets are \$12.00, at the door \$14.00, call Joan Yanosick (412)881-8502.

### SUN.NOV.17

■ Group 1 annual meeting in Clifton,

N.J. beginning with Mass at 10:30 a.m. at the Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, 218 Ackerman Ave., meeting and luncheon to follow in the church hall.

### SAT.NOV.23

■ Fall benefit Dinner-Dance hosted by the Limbora Slovak Folk Ensemble at St. John Nepomucene Parish Hall, 406 East 67th St., New York City beginning at 7 p.m., music by the Pajtasi Folk Ensemble, advance tickets \$50, at the door \$65, call (973)727-0217 or email: www.limbora.org.

### SUN.NOV.24

■ Presentation and Exhibit honoring the 1,150th anniversary of the arrival of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Great Moravia at SS. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary, 3605 Perrysville Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 3 p.m. with prayer service in the chapel followed by the presentation, concluding with refreshments. Free and open to the public.

### SUN.DEC.1

■ Children's Christmas party hosted by Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil" at Camelot Bowling Lanes, Boardman, Oh.; 1-3 p.m..

### OUR NEXT ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>

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

**Daniel F. Tanzone**  
Editor

## Announcing Our College Scholarship Grants for 2014

by Julie Ann Dobbs  
Supreme Vice President

We are pleased to announce that the Slovak Catholic Sokol will make available a total of \$62,000 in scholarship grants to eligible members in 2014. Previous recipients of Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants may reapply for a 2014 grant; however, per Convention mandate - a student may receive a maximum of two (2) Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grant awards in each category.

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

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

### College scholarship eligibility requirements:

**Slovak Catholic Sokol (a total of 30, \$1000 grants will be awarded)**

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

**Theodore and Mary Jane Rich (one male and one female grant in the amount of \$2,500 will be awarded)**

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

**Emil Slavik (one male and one female grant in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded)**

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

**The Doctors' Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship (1 grant in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded)**

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

**Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship (1 grant in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded)**

- Same requirements as for SCS scholarship  
AND
- Majoring in curriculum with a focus in computer graphics, design or layout

**Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship (2 grants in the amount of \$1000 will be awarded to the applicant that best exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism)**

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

The process of applying for any of the above college level scholarships is completely on-line. Applications and instructions are **ONLY** available on our website @ [www.slovakcatholicssokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org)

Questions regarding the Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Program may be directed to: Julie Dobbs, Supreme Vice-President, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, [vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org](mailto:vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org), (262)498-2571

**Deadline for submission of all scholarship applications is March 31, 2014.**

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

## Justine Wesnak Heads New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance



Justine Wesnak, third from the left, of the National Slovak Society, was elected the new president of the New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance during its 80th annual meeting at the Golden Nugget Resort & Hotel in Atlantic City, N.J. on October 11. A well-known Slovak fraternal and cultural leader, Justine is also our Sokolka. Shown on the photo with her are, from the left, Annie Pogorelec and her husband, our Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., her husband Andrew "Bucky" Wesnak, Phyllis Pogorelec and her husband our General Counsel, Attorney John D. Pogorelec. The New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance represents 34 fraternalism with more than 350,000 fraternalists in the Garden and Empire States. Our Supreme Secretary is a past president of the alliance and was reelected to serve on its Board of Directors. Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Justine who beautifully mirrors the high ideals of the fraternal benefit system in general and Slovak fraternalism in particular. Zdar Boh!



## REFLECTOR ...

### Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

#### Retired Archbishop Jan Sokol celebrates his 80th birthday

One of Slovakia's most popular bishops, Archbishop Jan Sokol, the retired Archbishop of Trnava, celebrated his 80th birthday on October 9. His episcopal ministry began at the tail-end of the Communist regime in the then Czecho-Slovakia and under his leadership, the Church in Slovakia enjoyed tremendous growth and



Archbishop Jan Sokol is shown above being welcomed at our Sokol home office during his first visit to the United States in April 1989. Then Supreme Secretary, the late Tibor T. Kovalovsky presented him with several gifts including a plaque featuring an artistic rendition of our home office which he later displayed for many years in his office in Trnava. Looking on was then office manager and our current Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.

development. His first visit to the United States took place in the spring of 1989 just months after his episcopal ordination to participate in the convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation in Pittsburgh. During that visit, as a young bishop and just the administrator of the Archdiocese of Trnava, he had the opportunity to visit the Slovak Catholic Sokol home office. Over the subsequent 24 years, he has made numerous visits to the United States.

He was born on Oct. 9, 1933 in Jacovciach in western Slovakia. He embarked on studies for the priesthood during the dark days of Communism. At the time only one seminary was open in Slovakia. Following studies at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Bratislava, he was ordained a priest by Bishop Ambrose Lazik on June 23, 1957. Following the death of Bishop Julius Gabris, he was appointed as administrator of the Archdiocese of Trnava with government approval. He was ordained a bishop in Trnava on June 12, 1988. In the fall of 1989, he was installed by Cardinal Jozef Tomko as Slovakia's first Metropolitan, as Archbishop of Trnava to which at the time all the dioceses in Slovakia were a part. While the metropolia had been established by Pope Paul VI in 1978, the Communist authorities prevented the appointment of its first archbishop.

Archbishop Sokol enjoyed a close collaboration with the American Slovak community. Through the auspices of the Slovak Catholic Federation, American Catholics of Slovak ancestry provided substantial sums of money to assist the Slovak bishops in rebuilding and restoring many church institutions. Through the Church Fund of the Slovak Catholic Federation, the Americans funded the needs of the country's seminaries. Under Communism, only one seminary in Bratislava served the entire country. Under Archbishop John's leadership, new seminaries were opened or reopened in Nitra, Babin, Kosice and Spis.

Following the collapse of communism in the fall of 1989, Pope John Paul II rejoiced and decided to make a pastoral visit to the still united Czecho-Slovakia. In the

spring of 1990, he was welcomed in Bratislava as the first Pope to visit. Pope John Paul II made subsequent visits to Slovakia in 1995 and in 2002. In 2008, Pope Benedict XVI accepted Archbishop Sokol's resignation as head of what became the Archdiocese of Bratislava-Trnava.

With a pleasant personality and love of song, Archbishop Sokol has won the hearts of countless thousands of American Slovaks during his visits among us or when American Slovaks visited Slovakia. In April of this year he graciously welcomed the Year of Faith pilgrims of the Slovak Catholic Federation in Trnava. Archbishop Sokol's many friends and admirers extend prayerful best wishes to him as he celebrates his 80th birthday. May God bless him with good health, happiness and continued enthusiasm for the Gospel in the spirit of the great Slav Apostles, SS. Cyril and Methodius. Ad multos annos!

#### Peter Kmec, Slovak Exchange Student, enjoys activities

Peter Kmec from Kosice, Slovakia, first came to the United States in his junior year of high school as a "Foreign Exchange Student".... and soon became an active member of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Motivated to learn English, Peter wanted to continue his "study abroad" experience at a college in the United States. He loved the small Catholic school environment at Holy Redeemer High School in Wilkes-Barre and soon found the same environment and similar values at King's College, also in Wilkes-Barre.

An international business and accounting major at King's College, Peter a member of the Class of 2015, currently is Student Council Executive Board President, a co-leader of the Emerging Leaders Program, an Admission Ambassador, a Resident Assistant and Caterer at the King's College Catering Service. Among his other college activities, includes participation in the school's Drama Club and acting in various productions at the college.

Post-graduation, Peter would like to join an international business firm to help with globalization efforts, preferably a United States firm based somewhere in Europe. He noted "While I love studying in America, I would prefer to be in Europe, closer to my family."

Throughout the year, Peter finds time to be quite active with the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania...projects like the traditional Slovak Stations of the Cross, assisting with Slovak language classes, the Holiday Hymn Sing, the annual picnic as well as special dinner events. He enjoys working "year round" with guidance from his mentor in the Slovak Society, Michael Stretanski of Kingston, Pa. Peter has made many friends within the Wilkes-Barre area Slovak community. Peter is a joy to be with and his many friends and admirers wish him the best as he pursues his educational goals among us.



Peter Kmec, who is currently a junior at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. is shown flanked by his "mentor" Michael Stretanski and Slovak Heritage Society Chairperson, Philip R. Tuhy.



## The Word of God ...

### Gospel for the Thirty-first Sunday of the Year- November 3rd

Luke 19:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Luke

*At that time,  
Jesus came to Jericho  
and intended to pass through the town  
Now a man there named Zacchaeus,  
who was a chief tax collector  
and also a wealthy man,  
was seeking to see who Jesus was;  
but he could not see him  
because of the crowd,  
for he was short in stature.  
So he ran ahead  
and climbed a sycamore tree  
in order to see Jesus,  
who was about to pass that way.  
When he reached the place,  
Jesus looked up and said,  
"Zacchaeus, come down quickly,  
for today I must stay at your house."  
And he came down quickly  
and received him with joy.  
When they all saw this,  
they began to grumble, saying,  
"He has gone to stay  
at the house of a sinner."  
But Zacchaeus stood there  
and said to the Lord,  
"Behold, half of my possessions, Lord,  
I shall give to the poor,  
and if I have extorted anything  
from anyone  
I shall repay it four times over."  
And Jesus said to him,  
"Today salvation  
has come to this house  
because this man too  
is a descendant of Abraham.  
For the Son of Man has come to seek  
and to save what was lost."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

### Gospel for the Thirty-second Sunday of the Year- November 10th

Luke 20:27, 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Luke

*Some Sadducees,  
those who deny that there is  
a resurrection,  
came forward.  
Jesus said to them,  
"The children of this age  
marry and remarry;  
but those who are deemed worthy  
to attain to the coming age  
and to the resurrection of the dead  
neither marry  
nor are given in marriage.  
They can no longer die,  
for they are like angels;  
and they are the children of God  
because they are the ones who will rise  
That the dead will rise  
even Moses made known  
in the passage about the bush,  
when he called out 'Lord,'  
the God of Abraham,  
the God of Isaac,  
and the God of Jacob;  
and he is not God of the dead,  
but of the living,  
for to him all are alive."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Slovak Catholic Sokol Introduces the Irrevocable Burial Trust Agreement

Protection of assets at any age is important, but especially so when faced with the need for nursing home services, Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income. One option that may help preserve eligibility for services, while at the same time protecting assets from the reach of creditors, is to place your Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy in the Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Trust Agreement.

Upon naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust, as the irrevocable beneficiary, the Trust becomes the Owner of the policy and as Trustee, is obligated to apply the policy proceeds towards burial, funeral, and end-of-life needs up to the face amount of the policy. The benefit of naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust as Owner is that it may help the insured qualify for Medicaid and Social Security Income benefits by preventing the value of the policy from being considered a resource of Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income eligibility.

A further benefit is that the policy proceeds, to the extent they are applied to end of life needs, would in most cases be protected from claims made by creditors, including the state and federal government. Any proceeds unnecessary for burial or funeral expense would be paid to the insured's estate and would then be available to creditor's claims.

Because the policy proceeds are to be applied to the end-of-life needs, the benefits avoid the cost and delay probate, and because they constitute the life insurance proceeds, they are tax free upon death of.

### The Irrevocable Burial Trust

An Irrevocable Burial Trust is a valuable option that protects your assets that you want to designate for your final expenses. Upon naming the Irrevocable Burial Trust, as the irrevocable beneficiary, the Trust becomes the Owner of the policy and as Trustee, is obligated to apply the policy proceeds towards burial, funeral, and end-of-life needs up to the face amount of the policy.

### Types of expenses that qualify for payment from the Irrevocable Burial Trust \*

- Funeral home personnel
- Embalming/cosmetology
- Casket and/or other containers
- Clergy honorarium
- Transportation of deceased
- Cremation
- Obituary notices
- Musicians and flowers
- Death certificates
- Other legitimate funeral and burial expenses

\* Burial insurance funding should be within the limits of actual funeral costs. Excess proceeds not spent on funeral costs must go back to the estate. Funeral trust burial insurance plans should be used to fund funerals, and not to pass additional money to heirs.

### Reasons to choose an Irrevocable Burial Trust rather than a Pre-paid Funeral through a Funeral Home

- If the funeral home goes out of

business you might not be able to recover your money

- The funeral home might be sold or merge with another, less-personal funeral home that you would not want handling your final arrangements, and they might not grant you a refund

- What if you move, making your pre-paid funeral in a certain locality impractical or obsolete?

- A funeral trust allows your arrangements to be handled by anyone you wish, such as your personal representative, a relative, friend, or funeral home – anywhere – at the time of your passing

### Simple to establish and no extra charges

Purchase a Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy and we will create your irrevocable burial trust at no charge. The paperwork is simple to complete and we are here to help.

The best time to protect your burial funds is now.\*\* Purchasing an irrevocable burial trust life insurance policy protects your burial funds.

- The Trust is the owner of the policy and the primary beneficiary
- When a claim is paid, the funeral home is paid first
- Any remaining funds are placed into the estate of the insured.

\*\* The representations included herein are not guarantees and do not constitute legal or tax advice. In addition, they do not ensure that the product is appropriate for the client's situation. Before purchasing any life insurance product, we recommend that the client seek the advice of an attorney and accountant.

### Protection provided by the Irrevocable Burial Trust

By irrevocably assigning your life insurance policy to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Burial Trust, you receive:

- The ability to exclude your policy as an asset in order to qualify for government assistance programs, Medicaid or Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI).\*\*\*
- Policy proceeds are paid to the trust, which then pays your funeral expenses.
- Funds used for funeral expenses are protected from creditors, such as nursing homes, hospital, etc.
- Death benefits used for funeral expenses will avoid probate costs and delays.
- Benefits paid are income tax free. IRV Code Section 101(a)

\*\*\* Medicaid (Title 19) rules and laws governing these issues differ by state and change without notice. Before taking any action, we recommend consulting an elder law attorney or professional in your state for advice on your situation

### Being Sure

Having the right amount of life insurance or putting money aside to cover your final expenses is the right step. But it's only a first step. You need one more, easy step to protect your burial funds, the Irrevocable Burial Trust through the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

	Stocks, Mutual Funds, Annuity	Slovak Catholic Sokol	Saving, CD Money Market
Benefits Paid Direct for Final	No	Yes	No
Benefits Protected from Creditors	No	Yes	No
Excludes Benefits to Qualify for SSI, VA, Medicaid	No	Yes	No

### Completing the Irrevocable Trust Agreement is a Simple Process:

- The Grantor must be both the Insured and the Owner of the policy.
- Only Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policies are eligible.
- The total face amount of the policy or policies in the Trust are limited in amount in most jurisdictions, which allows them to be excluded as a resource in determining eligibility for certain governmental service programs, such as those mentioned above. These limitations vary depending on the state in which you reside and frequently change from time to time, but a \$10,000 limitation is quite common. It is your responsibility to

determine the limitation that would be applicable to you.

- The Contingent beneficiary of the policy or policies placed in the Trust must be the estate of the insured.
- It is important to act quickly, because under IRS rules, death proceeds of life insurance policy given away within three years of the insured's death are automatically included in the insured's gross estate. The accuracy of the representation stated within are not guaranteed by the Slovak Catholic Sokol and are not meant to constitute either legal or tax advice, nor do they insure that this product is appropriate for the client's situation. Before purchasing any life insurance product or creating an Irrevocable Trust, the

client should seek the advice of an attorney or a qualified tax advisor. Laws vary from state to state and are subject to change at any time, which may result in the treatment of this product as being negative to the client's situation.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol Irrevocable Trust Agreement is available on new and/or existing Whole Life Policies. If you would like more information regarding this useful option, you can contact your Authorized Slovak Catholic Sokol Agent, the Home Office (800) 886-7656 or the Sales and Marketing Office (888) 381-5431.

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

## Bishop Jan Hirka Celebrates 90th Birthday

Slovakia's oldest Bishop, the Most Rev. Jan Hirka, retired Byzantine Catholic Eparch of Presov, second from the left, celebrates his 90th birthday on November 16. He was born in the village of Abranovciach in eastern Slovakia on November 16, 1923. Ordained

a priest in 1949, his early years of priestly ministry were hampered following the suppression of the Greek Catholic Church by the Communist government in the then Czechoslovakia beginning in 1950. Following the establishment of the Greek Catholic Church in 1968, he

served as administrator of the Eparchy of Presov for 20 years.

With the fall of Communism, Pope John Paul II appointed him the Eparch of Presov in December 1989 and on February 17, 1990 he was consecrated a Bishop by Cardinal Jozef Tomko in Presov. Under his leadership, the Greek Catholic Church in Slovakia has enjoyed great progress and restoration. Bishop Hirka visited the United States on several occasions. He is shown left and below at the annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mount Macrina in Uniontown, Pa. on Labor Day, 1992. Shown with him are two pilgrims attired in traditional kroj with the late Bishop Michael J. Dudick who served as Bishop of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic, N.J. at the time. Our congratulations and prayerful best wishes go out to Bishop Hirka - Na mnohaja i blahaja lita vladyka!



## Group Annual Meetings Set

**Group 1, "Msgr. Stephen Kravula"** - The annual meeting is set for Sunday, November 17 in Clifton, N.J. Hosting this year's annual meeting will be Assembly 219 of Yonkers, N.Y. The program begins with attendance at the 10:30 a.m. Slovak Mass at the Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, located at 218 Ackerman Avenue. We will assemble in the church vestibule at 10:15 a.m. so as to march in a body for the liturgy. Following Mass, the annual meeting will be called to order in the church hall. Reports of the officers will be presented and plans for our fraternal and sporting activities in the new year will be finalized. We hope to see all Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to Group 1 represented at this important meeting. A luncheon will be served. Deadline for reservations is Monday, November 11. Looking forward to seeing a good turnout at this year's annual meeting, we remain

Zdar Boh!

**John D. Pogorelec, Esq.**

*President*

**Daniel F. Tanzone**

*Secretary*

**Group 6, "Msgr. Andrew Hlinka"** - This year's annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 3 at Hoss's Steak and Sea House, located at 148 Finley Road in Belle Vernon, Pa. beginning at 1:30 p.m. Reports of the officers will be presented and plans for our various sporting and fraternal activities will be discussed. Input from all lodges will insure the success of our activities. A luncheon will be served. In order to make the necessary preparations, those planning to attend should call Anna Mae Warnick at tel. (724)726-4032 indicating the number of those who will attend. We hope to see representatives from all Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to Group 6. We look forward to an interesting and enjoyable meet-

ing, in the best traditions of Group 6 fraternalism.

Zdar Boh!

**Anna Mae Warnick**

*President*

**Elaine Andras**

*Secretary*

**Group 7, "Rev. Joseph Murgas"** - This year's annual meeting will be held on Saturday, November 9 in Pittston, Pa. The meeting will be called to order at 1 p.m. in St. John the Evangelist Parish social hall, located at 35 William Street. We will then attend the 4:30 p.m. Mass to satisfy the Sunday obligation in church. Our Sokol, Monsignor John J. Bendik serves as pastor of the parish and will celebrate the liturgy for the living and deceased members of Group 7. Following the liturgy, we will return to the parish social hall where dinner will be served. Reports of the officers will be presented and plans will be finalized for our upcoming fraternal and sporting activities. We hope that all Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to Group 7 will be represented at this important meeting.

Zdar Boh!

**Michael J. Horvath**

*President*

**Amy Blasco**

*Secretary*

**Group 10, "Rev. Francis Sasinek"** - This year's annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 10 in Bethlehem, Pa. Our meeting will be held at the Bethlehem Best Western Hotel beginning at 1 p.m. The Best Western Hotel is located at the intersection of Routes 512 and 22. Following our business meeting, a luncheon will be served to all delegates. Reports of the officers will be presented and plans for our various fraternal and sporting activities in the coming year will be discussed. Input from our various lodges will insure the success of our projects. We hope that all As-

semblies and Wreaths belonging to Group 10 will be represented at this year's meeting. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. Looking forward to seeing a good turnout at our meeting, may we remain

Zdar Boh!

**George J. Kostelnik**

*President*

**Susan Knoblauch**

*Secretary*

**Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil"** - This year's annual meeting is set for Sunday, October 27 at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, St. Matthias worship site, 915 Cornell Street in Youngstown, Oh. Our program begins with attendance at the 11 a.m. Mass which will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 17 by the pastor, the Rev. Martin Celuch. Following the liturgy, our meeting will be called to order in the Father Snock Center of the parish. A light luncheon will be served prior to the meeting's opening. We will have a report from our Physical Fitness Board regarding our Group's participation in the 46th Slet as well as hear from our vice president regarding our Group 17 golf tournament. We then will be discussing any activities for the remainder of the year as well as plans for our 2014 projects. Officers are reminded to submit their WRIT-TEN report of their activities since our last annual meeting. We hope to see all Assemblies and Wreaths represented at this important meeting, including some new faces. All officers and lodge representatives are asked to make reservations with Carol Gonda at tel. (330)783-0173 no later than October 21. Wreath 54 will host their meeting immediately following the annual meeting.

Zdar Boh!

**James G. Jerek**

*President*

**Carol Gonda**

*Secretary*

## 31st Annual Group 2 St. Martin Day Celebration set for November 10

Continuing in its time-honored fraternal tradition of more than three decades, Group 2, "Rev. Stephen Panik" will host its 31st annual St. Martin Day Celebration on Sunday, November 10. Participants will attend the 11 a.m. Mass at the Holy Name of Jesus Church, 1950 Barnum Avenue in Stratford, Conn. The Mass will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 2 by the Rev. Andrew Marus who is pastor of this Slovak parish. We will assemble in the church vestibule at 10:45 a.m. so as to march in a body for the liturgy.

Following the liturgy, a reception and luncheon will be enjoyed at the Grassy Hill Lodge in nearby Derby, where our Sister Sokolka, Martha Dulla Andrade, Esq. is the owner and proprietor. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by our Brother Sokol, Tony Dulla - Party Central DJ of Assembly 33.

In as much as our celebration coincides with the Veterans Day observance, we will pay tribute to and acknowledge all Veterans in attendance. We will also honor and pay tribute in a special way to two Group 2 activists, our Chaplain, Rev. A. Leo Spodnik on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of his priestly ordination and Anne Dzema Knapik, who served for many years as our Group 2 secretary. We will honor the memory of Assemblies and Wreaths who wish to recognize their 50 and 75 year members at this time with a beautiful gold pin and certificate courtesy of the Home Office, should notify Group 2 President Eileen S. Wilson so they may be included in the program.

Cost of the celebration, which includes the luncheon, reception and drink tickets is \$25.00 for members and \$35.00 for guests. Children age 10 and younger, pay \$10.00. Meal choices include: Baked Salmon, Chicken Piccata, or Prime Rib of beef au jus. Children will enjoy chicken

tenders. A vegetarian menu is available.

In order to properly prepare for this celebration, reservations accompanied by a check(non-refundable) made payable to SCS Group 2 by the RSVP deadline of Thursday, October 24 mailed to Group 2 Treasurer, John Sinanis, 406 Erwin St., Trumbull, CT 06611 will be strictly adhered to. Reservations will be accepted for tables of 8 or 10, provided names are listed.

Reservations may be made with any of the following lodge representatives: Wreath 1, Eileen S. Wilson, tel. (203) 378-8837; Wreath 39, Larry or Mary Ann Wells, tel. (203)375-2836; Wreath 86 and Assembly 23, Bonnie Landor Rossi, tel. (860)482-9062; Assembly 9, Henry Zack, tel. (203)268-4727 or Judith Salamon (203)333-3716; Assembly 33, Martha Dulla Andrade, tel.(203)734-1616; and Assembly 308, Paul Nernergut (203)372-1136.

When making reservations, members are asked to inquire whether there will be any charge if they belong to a particular Wreath/Assembly. To date, we have been notified that Wreaths 1 and 39 and Assembly 9 will pay for their members.

The traditional special events raffle will benefit the Jozef Cardinal Tomko Scholarship Fund at the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome. Additional highlights will make the celebration very special and memorable in the best traditions of Group 2 fellowship and fraternalism.

JOIN US as we observe the 31st Annual St. Martin Day Celebration, patron of our organization. FYI, Group 2 was the second Group to be organized in the Slovak Catholic Sokol in 1911.

Zdar Boh!

**Eileen S. Wilson**

*President, Group 2*



### SEZ YOU... Letters to the Editor

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors and members,

When our Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. called to inform me I was selected as the 2013 Fraternalist of the Year, I was surprised and humbled by the information and honor.

I have had the privilege of meeting many Sokol members over the years as we participated in various Slovak Catholic Sokol fraternal activities. These Sokols, like me, are fortunate to be members of a great fraternal organization. They exhibit their fraternalism by being involved and enjoying their participation in our various fraternal activities.

Finally, I want to express my deep appreciation to all who were involved with selecting me as the 2013 Fraternalist of the Year. If called in the future, I will represent with pride the Slovak Catholic Sokol any way I can. In addition, I will do my best to thank all of you personally when I see you at a future Slovak Catholic Sokol fraternal activity.

Zdar Boh!

**Fred A. Graham**

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

### Children's Christmas Parties Set

**Douglas, Mass.** - Assembly 28 and Wreath 18 will host their traditional Children's Christmas party on Sunday, December 1 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall located on Route 16 in Douglas. Festivities begin at 11:30 a.m. with a Magic Show. After the show, the youngsters will be treated to pizza and ice cream sundaes. The afternoon will conclude with a visit by Santa himself. Since Christmas is a time of sharing and in the best traditions of Sokol outreach, we ask parents to consider making donations to the Food Pantry. Items such as spaghetti sauce, pasta, soups and other non-perishable items would be much appreciated. In order to make the necessary preparations, parents need to make reservations by calling Lori Cyr at (508)476-9779 or Judy Manyak (508) 476-2668. If you leave a message, parents are asked to indicate the names and ages of children who will participate. Deadline for reservations is November 22.

Zdar Boh!

**Judith Manyak**

**Pittsburgh, Pa.** - The annual Children's Christmas party for junior members, ages 12 and younger, hosted by Assembly 15 and Wreath 22 is set for Saturday, December 14 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson Street, South Side. Doors open at 12 noon and festivities begin at 1 p.m. All children who will attend need to be registered. Registrations will be held at the Sokol Club on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, November 7 & 7 and November 13 & 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. No registrations will be accepted after the deadline of November 14. No exceptions. To register by phone, call Joan Yanosick at (412)881-8502. An enjoyable afternoon has been planned with refreshments along with a visit by Santa.

Zdar Boh!

**Joan J. Yanosick, Chairperson**

(Continued on page 18)

### Limborra Benefit Dinner-Dance in New York City on Nov. 23

The well-known New York area Limborra Slovak Folk Ensemble will host a benefit dinner-dance on Saturday, November 23 at St. John Nepomucene Parish Social hall located at 406 East 67th Street in Manhattan. Festivities begin at 7 p.m. with a reception followed by dinner featuring traditional Slovak culinary specialties. There will be prizes and raffles as well as traditional Slovak

folk entertainment. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by the popular Pajtasi Folk Ensemble. Tickets for the evening are advance reservations at \$50.00 for adults with children ages 12 and younger free of charge. At the door, \$65.00. Tickets are available following the Masses at St. John Nepomucene Church or for reservations call (973)727-0217 or email www.Limborra.org. An enjoyable evening

is assured.

Since its founding in New York City in 1966, Limborra has enjoyed a rich history of providing its audiences with an authentic presentation of Slo-



SLOVAK FOLK ENSEMBLE

vak folk culture throughout the United States and Canada. It was the first American Slovak folk ensemble to visit, study and perform in Slovakia, an honor that has been repeated on several occasions. Limborra's rich and diversified repertoire of folk dances and music comprises all of the various regions of Slovakia. The entire repertoire has been choreographed and refined for Limborra by some of Slovakia's leading choreographers to ensure originality and authenticity. Over the years, many Sokol members have been active in Limborra. The November 23rd dinner-dance is a wonderful way of re-connecting with Limborra.



## Slovak Heritage Society hosts successful annual picnic

Special culinary features along with a variety of program activities highlighted the annual picnic hosted by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania held in the Nuangola Park of St. Matthew's Slovak Lutheran Church of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Entries of the food buffet featured Slovak recipes such as piggyes, halusky, goulash, pirohy, lasagna, along with traditional American picnic favorites, hot dogs, hamburgers, cheeseburgers and corn-on-the-cob....all prepared under the direction of Chairman, Michael Stretanski of Kingston, Pa.

A variety of program fun included mystery "Guessing Boxes," "Candy Guessing Jars," special

table guessing assortments, and Board prepared "Door Prizes", all under the guidance of co-chairperson, Elaine Palischak of Plymouth, Pa.

A special raffle featured "ethnic food we all enjoyed and remember from our youth"....namely, hams, klobasy, kapusta, hors horseradish, cabbage, potato pancake mix, red beets, klusky noodles, bobalky and potatoes. The "Slovak Food Basket" was donated by David Kolesa of Luzerne, Pa. and Carl Yanowski of Dunmore, Pa. Winner of the basket was Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania member, William A. Zdancewicz of Edwardsville, Pa. Needless to say, a good time was had by all.



A group photo of some of the picnic-goers who enjoyed the annual event hosted by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania.



"Corn shucking" happy volunteers assisting society treasurer, Jackson Hendershot, left are Ray McLoskey and George Dolmach.



William A. Zdancewicz, right was the winner of the Slovak Basket. From the left, David Kolesa and Carl Yanowski who donated the basket.



Enjoying the many culinary specialities at the annual picnic.

## Monument honors the Slovak founders of the former Pittston church and school

Monsignor John J. Bendik extends a cordial invitation to area Group 7 Sokols and Sokolky to participate in the solemn blessing and dedication of a monument honoring the founders of the former St. John the Baptist Slovak Church and School in Pittston, Pa. on Sunday, November 3rd beginning at 1:15 p.m. In 2008, the former Slovak parish merged with St. John the Evangelist Parish where Monsignor Bendik currently serves as pastor. Following the dedication, a reception will be held in the St. John the Evangelist Parish Social Hall.

The impressive granite memorial is located on William Street where the original church and school stood. The inscription on the monument reads "In memory of the Slovak immigrants and their descendants who worshiped here and learned to live the Gospel message of love." The monument was made possible by the generous gifts of families whose loved ones' names are inscribed on the back of the two black granite tablets.

St. John the Baptist Parish was established to serve the Slovak immigrant community in 1892. The Rev. Andrew Kazincy served as the first pastor. Serving for less than a year, the Rev. Matthew Jankola arrived as the sec-



The monument honoring the memory of St. John the Baptist Slovak Parish (1892-2008) and School (1911-2004) in Pittston, Pa. to be blessed on Sunday, November 3 by Monsignor John J. Bendik, Ph.D.

ond pastor in 1893 and remained until 1902. It was during Father Jankola's pastorate when the parish experienced tremendous growth in numbers that the new church was blessed and dedicated in 1902. Father Jankola was one of the pioneer spiritual leaders of the Slovak immigrant community. He was credited with founding the Congregation of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius to teach the children of Slovak immigrants. A number of dedicated priests have served the parish until its suppression in 2008.

In the fall of 1911, St. John the

Baptist School was opened under the direction of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. The Pittston school was among the oldest missions of the congregation which had received official papal approval two years earlier in 1909. The early years of the school saw the pupils attending classes in the hall beneath the church. In 1917 the new school was solemnly blessed and dedicated. This building served the needs of the school until its closing in 2004.

St. John the Baptist Slovak Parish was a once thriving par-

(Continued on page 14)

### Lodge Jottings

(Continued on page 7)

mother-daughter fraternal ties. It's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a delicious breakfast and relax and enjoy quiet time before the holiday rush. For reservations for the breakfast, call the chairperson, Dolly Lutz at tel. (412)884-9415 by November 11th. Our Sokolky, young and old alike, always enjoy this event and we hope to see many new faces at this year's breakfast.

During the evening of November 16th, our Gymnastic Team will host its annual benefit, Ladies Night Out with doors opening at 7 p.m. followed by festivities at 7:30 p.m. There will be fingerfood, wine, beer and soda served throughout the evening. In addition, there will be a variety of games, a Chinese auction, and raffles and vendors offering a variety of articles for sale. Advance tickets cost \$12.00 and \$14.00 at the door. This event is only for the ladies.

As is our fraternal tradition, following our November 4th business meeting we will enjoy a small social and look forward to seeing you there. Come join us for an enjoyable night out with your fraternal sisters.

Wishing all our members throughout the country a blessed and enjoyable Thanksgiving, may I remain as ever, Fraternally

Zdar Boh!  
Joan Yanosick

Recording Secretary

Za Boha a Narod For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

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# Highlights of the Annual Golf Tournament Hosted by Assembly 59 Hollenback Golf Course + North End Slovak Citizens Club + Wilkes-Barre, Pa.+ September 21



Enjoying the day are, l-r, Rick Volker, Eric Voker and Jim Iskra.



Honorary Supreme Officer Andrew "Butch" Hvozdovic, second from the left, is shown with, l-r, Steve Hvozdovic, Kelly Palchanis, Steve Hvozdovic, Jr. and Josh Hvozdovic.



All smiles for the camera from, l-r, Jeff Jacobs, Justin Francis, Jeremy Francis and David Iskra.



Assembly 59 President Butch Hvozdovic, second from the left, presents 2nd place awards to, from the left, Rick Volker, Eric Volker and James Iskra.



Honorary Supreme Officer Andrew "Butch" Hvozdovic presents the 1st place prize to David Iskra. They are flanked by Jeremy and Justin Francis.



Following the action on the greens, the golfers enjoyed great refreshments at the North End Slovak Citizens Club.



Kelly Palchanis is shown flanked by Jeff Jacobs and Steve Hvozdovic, Jr.



Relaxing for a bit are Honorary Supreme Officer Andrew "Butch" Hvozdovic and James Iskra.



Renee Pizzella and Olivia Pizzella enjoyed the refreshments at the North End Slovak Citizens Club.

## Scenes of Our 46th International Slet Held at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa., July 16-20



Individual Drill winners, Directresses: Kaitlyn Weiland, Group 14; Women, Casie Stecker, Group 4; (13-15), Lexi Stecker, Group 4; 10-12, Rebecca Bettencourt, Group 19 and 8-9, Katie Peloquin, Group 3.



Torch bearers at the closing exhibition for Gymnastics were Lexi Stecker of Group 4, Chicago, Ill. and Joey Lako of Group 14, Pittsburgh, Pa.



Individual Drill winners, 1-r, 8-9, Raymond Johnson, Group 3; 10-12, Ben Wheeler, Group 5; 13-15, Andrew Hussar, Group 5; men, Andy Underation, Group 5; and Directors, Steve Underation, Group 5.



Group 17, Youngstown, Oh. was the winner of the John J. Stofko Spirit Award at the 46th Slet.



Team Gymnastic Winner - Group 14, Pittsburgh, Pa., 1-r, Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins, Physical Directress Traci Walkowiak, Physical Director George Lako, Kerry Malanowski, Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich and Kaitlyn Weiland.



Track and Field Winner - Group 3, East Douglas, Mass., 1-r, Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich, Maria Manyak, Zac Chupka, Physical Directress Judy Manyak, Physical Director Gary Manyak and Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins.



Men's 100 Meter Dash, 1-r, Justin Blosser, 5th place; Kevin Theriault, 3rd place; Kevin Matlon, 1st place; Nicholas Underation, 2nd place and Frank Laury, 4th place.



Team Drill Winner - Group 5, Cleveland, Oh., 1-r, Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins, Andy Lipovsky, Physical Director Steve Underation, Physical Directress Emily Underation, Chelsea Laury and Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich.



Women's 100 Meter Dash, l-r, Laura Mihalcin, 5th place; Abby Underation, 3rd place; Chelsea Laury, 1st place; Brittany Hast, 2nd place and Lisa Hoeck, 4th place.



Boys(13-15) 100 Meter Dash, l-r, Jeremy Struckel, 5th place; Matt Malenovitch, 3rd place; Trevor Manyak, 1st place; Alex Goldenburg, 4th place; and Steven Popik, 4th place.



Girls(13-15) 100 Meter Dash, l-r, Jessica Glugosh, 5th place; Cassandra Kapsa, 3rd place; Fallyn Hippert, 1st place; Micalca Goldenburg, 2nd place and Rachel Bettencourt, 4th place.



Boys(10-12) 100 Meter Dash, l-r, Noah Romine, 5th place; Alex Benedict, 3rd place; Luke Underation, 1st place; Daniel Underation, 2nd place and Benjamin Wheeler, 5th place.



Girls(10-12) 100 Meter Dash, l-r, Nicole Evica, 5th place; Myra Tadlock, 3rd place; Rebecca Bettencourt, 1st place; Jolene Ulichney, 2nd place and Katrina Fichter, 4th place.



Boys and girls, ages 13-15 gymnastic winners included Lexi Stecker of Group 4, Chicago, Ill. and Jonathon Gable of Group 14, Pittsburgh, Pa.



Track & Field boys and girls, ages 13-15 winners included Trevor Manyak and Fallyn Hippert, both from Group 3, East Douglas, Mass.



Men's and women's gymnastic winners included Greg Hamilton and Erica Pribula, both from Group 14, Pittsburgh, Pa.



Men's and women's Track & Field winners included Chelsea Laury of Group 5, Cleveland, Oh. and Daveed Goldenburg of Group 3, East Douglas, Mass.



Track & Field winners in the boys and girls, ages 10-12 included Rebecca Bettencourt of Group 19, Toronto, Canada and Luke Underation of Group 5, Cleveland, Oh.



Girls and boys, ages 8-9 gymnastic winners included Bella Meder of Group 14, Pittsburgh, Pa. and Nathan Underation of Group 5, Cleveland, Oh.

## What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



## News and Views from Slovakia...

### TASR celebrates 20 years with theatre performance

The News Agency of the Slovak Republic (TASR) on October 4 celebrated its 20th anniversary of its establishment at the Radosina Naive Theatre in Bratislava.

To celebrate the occasion, the theatre company, which marked its 50th anniversary this year, staged one of its latest pieces entitled "Jaaanosiiik After 300 Years. Among the invited guests were figures from the political and public spheres.

"We've been standing on our own two feet for as many as twenty years, managing ourselves with our own heads and our own instincts. Over this time we've proven that we're capable of addressing various stimuli in an effective way.... We've established ourselves over a very short period of time among other traditional and large(news) agencies as their equal partner," said TASR general director Jaroslav Reznik.

The News Agency of the Slovak Republic (TASR) was established by law on January 1, 1993. Like the independent Slovak Republic, TASR took on the legacy of all its predecessors. The first Slovak Press Agency was set up in November 1918, merging a few months later with the already existing Czech Press Agency. The institution then split into two separate agencies during World War II only to be absorbed into the newly emergent Czechoslovak News Agency in 1951. This remained in existence up until the end of 1992.

### New ambassadors to Hungary and the Czech Republic appointed

Peter Weiss and Peter Brno have completed their terms as Slovak Ambassadors to Hungary and the Czech Republic, respectively, Peter Susko, head of the Foreign Ministry press department, announced on October 4.

Weiss has worked in Budapest since June 2009, and after leaving Hungary, he'll take up the post of Slovak ambassador to the Czech Republic. On October 2, President Ivan Gasparovic appointed Rastislav Kacer as the new ambassador in Budapest. Ambassador Kacer was Slovakia's ambassador to the United States from 2001 to 2005.

Brno was appointed as ambassador to the Czech Republic in June 2008.

Meanwhile, it is not yet known when Livia Klausova, wife of former Czech President Vaclav Klaus, will take up the post of Czech ambassador to Slovakia. Prime Minister Jiri Rusnok's government appointed her back on July 31st.

Susko confirmed that Slovakia has received a request from the Czech Republic to approve Klausova, but the Foreign Affairs Ministry won't comment on the matter until this is granted.

### As much as 6 percent of GDP directly related to car industry

Experts concur on the key character of the car industry for the Slovak economy, with the sector exerting a sizeable influence on GDP growth while creating a large number of jobs.

"The proportion of the automotive industry in Slovakia's GDP stood at 6 percent last year. If we considered suppliers for car plants as well, then the figure would be even higher. The building of new capacities in car plants contributed significantly to economic growth especially last year," said Slovenska Sportelna bank analyst Martin Balaz.

When it comes to the production of means of transport, which also includes the automotive industry, 66,000 people worked in the sector last year. This figure represents some 2.8 percent of all employees across Slovakia.

The sector's influence doesn't end here, however. As UniCredit bank analyst Lubomir Korsnak pointed out, car plants are also somewhat of a driving force behind certain services such as transport, logistics and retail. "Suppliers for the automotive industry can also be found in other industrial sectors such as metallurgy and the production of rubber and plastics," said Korsnak.

### Burian: Slovakia transformed from receiver to security provider

The Slovak foreign and security policy has matured over the past twenty years, the result of which has been that we enjoy a stable and internationally-recognized position today, Foreign and European Affairs Ministry State Secretary Peter Burian stated in his opening address at the 2013 Slovak Security Forum (SBF) in Bratislava on October 7.

Burian, former Slovak ambassador to the United States, added that this has been preceded by several transformations, however. "We've transformed from a candidate to one of the core European Union members. We've transformed from being a receiver of humanitarian aid to a donor; from a consumer to a security provider," asserted Burian, referring particularly to Slovakia's active engagement within the ISAF peace-keeping mission in Afghanistan.

"More than 3,000 of our soldiers have been dispatched to Afghanistan so far, and they have done a great job. Even though Slovakia had to pay a high price this year with respect to carrying out this mission, we want to continue in supporting global efforts to stabilize the security situation in Afghanistan," said Burian, alluding to the death of Sergeant-Major Daniel Kavuliak, who lost his life in a terrorist attack at the military base in Kandahar in July in which two others suffered serious injuries.

In addition, Burian emphasized that Slovakia is ready to lend a helping hand in the process of verification and elimination of chemical weapons reserves in conflict-stricken Syria. In this respect Slovakia is ready to provide its military experts. The State Secretary added that as of this year the country has already provided either directly or indirectly \$250,000 towards remedying the crisis with respect to Syrian Refugees.

### Javorcik chairs meeting of working group on Slovak EU Presidency

Foreign and European Affairs Ministry state secretary Peter Javorcik chaired the session of one of the working groups of the National Convention on EU on October 9 that addressed the Slovak EU Presidency in the second half of 2016 with representatives of the government and Slovak NGOs. TASR learned from the ministry press department on October 10.

The session's aim was to come up with topics that the working group members find relevant for the Slovak EU Presidency. Among the topics that gained more attention during the discussion was the issue of youth unemployment, water, as well as other socio-economic and foreign-policy issues such as, for example, the Eastern Partnership.

In regard to these issues, members of the working group discussed what is the added value Slovakia could bring at the European level.

The next meeting of the working group is set for January 2014, with results of its work being presented at the plenary session of the National Convention on EU in May 2014, which will be organized to mark the 10th anniversary of Slovakia's accession to the EU.

The National Convention of European Union was initiated by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. It is an institutional platform for discussion of the executive representatives, parliament representatives, churches, experts, non-governmental organizations, professional associations, regional government representatives, and representatives of economic and cultural life. The aim is to stimulate the debate on European issues, to help formulate the Slovak positions on the future direction of the EU, and to bring the European dimension closer to citizens.

Under the National Convention fall the meetings of three working groups - on the future of the EU, of assessment of 10 years membership of Slovakia in the EU, and on the Slovak Presidency of the EU.

### European Parliament election in Slovakia to be held in May 2014

The upcoming election to the European Parliament will be held on May 24, 2014 in Slovakia, Parliamentary Chairman office spokesperson Pavol Chovanec told TASR after the

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

Member of Parliament's greum session on October 9.

For the third time since Slovakia joined the European Union in 2004, Slovak voters will have an opportunity to select their representatives in the European Parliament and thereby participate in the decision-making process in the organization.

As concerns the previous vote of 2009, as few as 19.64 percent of Slovaks went to the polls, which was the smallest figure within the entire EU - notwithstanding the fact that Slovakia post among the highest figures in support of the EU and the euro. Smer-SD emerged as the winner of the 2009 election, appointing 5 out of the 13 Slovak MEPs. Among those elected was Marian Stastny, who is a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

EU-member states have a four-day window (May 22-25) in which to hold the election.



Slovakia is home to a number of churches built in the classic gothic or neo-gothic style of architecture. One of the most impressive of parish churches is that of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary located in the heart of the Spis region of northeastern Slovakia in the town of Spiskej Novej Vsi. The church's neo-gothic steeple which dates from the end of the 19th century, the tallest of any in Slovakia, towers over the local landscape. The church's foundations date to the second half of the 13th century. Its bronze baptismal font dates from this period. Many of its interior frescoes are the work of the noted artist, Master Paul of Levoca. The church has been recently restored and ranks among the most beautiful in all of Slovakia.

## Sokol Birthdays

### NOVEMBER 2

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

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

### NOVEMBER 3

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

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

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

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

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

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

### NOVEMBER 4

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

Joseph Nicholas Oros, Reading, Pa., a member of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

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

### NOVEMBER 5

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

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

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

### NOVEMBER 6

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

### NOVEMBER 7

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

### NOVEMBER 8

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

### NOVEMBER 9

Eric A. Koval, Bear Creek Twp., Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

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

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

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

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

### NOVEMBER 10

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

### NOVEMBER 11

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

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

### NOVEMBER 12

Sophie Dybel, Whiting, Ind., a member of Wreath 81, Whiting, Ind.

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

### NOVEMBER 13

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

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

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

### NOVEMBER 14

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

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

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

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

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

### NOVEMBER 15

Donald L. Bly, Mountain Top, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Mark A. Ott, Roundup, Mt., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

### NOVEMBER 16

Lisa M. Gahn, Prophetstown, Ill., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

Livia Karak, Clifton, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J., a member of the home office staff.

Milan Krupa, Yorktown Hts., N.Y., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

Daniel M. Maskara, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Robert Puskar, Dayton Oh., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Anna M. Repcik, Hollywood, Fla., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### Broccoli Reduces Cancer

Broccoli was not the First Vegetable at the White House during the senior Bush residence, however it and other members of the cruciferae or cabbage family have some very healthful credentials. The National Cancer Institute reports that they are linked to reducing the risk of colon cancer. They are also good sources of vitamins A and C and provide dietary fiber. So eat your cabbage, cauliflower, rutabagas, turnips and Brussels sprouts!

### Math Holds Success' Key

Students who progress through mathematics courses enjoy greater success in school than those who drop mathematics study. A recent study released by the College Board indicates that math is the key to success in college. Mathematics is also a great equalizer. The gap in attendance and persistence in college between disadvantaged and high-income students virtually disappears when low-income and minority students master algebra and geometry in high school.

### Be Glad, Not Sad

Money can be lost...Beauty normally fades with the years...Health may fail or some disease can strike.... Friends usually vanish, perhaps die.... Only memories remain for as long as you live. So, live that your memories will make you glad rather than sad.

### The American Way

### Honor All Unknown Soldiers

On the morning of November 11, 1921, the third anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I, the American Unknown Soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on the banks of the Potomac.

Only three weeks before, this soldier rested among the unidentified dead beneath the battlefields of France. His coffin was one of four picked at random from the four main battlefields and carried to a flag-draped room in the City Hall of Chalons-sur-Marne where, in a solemn ceremony, Sgt. Younger made the final selection by dropping roses on the earth-stained coffin of his choice.

Reaching Washington on November 9, the body of the unknown soldier lay in state in the rotunda of the Capitol surrounded by floral tributes from kings and common folk and with an unending stream of grateful Americans passing in silent homage. Early on the morning of the 11th, a distinguished cavalcade headed by President Warren G. Harding and two former presidents escorted the casket across the river to the cemetery. There, in the presence of a great throng, this American

soldier known but to God was laid to rest in honored glory.

He represents all in American history, past and present, who "gave the last full measure of devotion," as President Lincoln put it so well at Gettysburg.



## SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL 58TH INTERNATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT AUGUST 9TH - 11TH, 2013

### TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME		
Prize Money Allotment	Home Office Allocation - August 2013	\$ 2,400.00
Prize Money	Collected from Golfers	\$ 1,245.00
Golf Package	Collected from Golfers	\$ 18,500.00
Non Golf Package	Collected from Golfers	\$ 435.00
Golf Only Package	Collected from Golfers	\$ 1,080.00
Banquet Allotment	Home Office Allocation - August 2013	\$ 1,000.00
Banquet Fees	Collected from Golfers	\$ 100.00
Entry Fees	Collected from Golfers	\$ 830.00
Souvenir Allotment	Home Office Allocation - August 2013	\$ 600.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$ 26,190.00</b>
EXPENSES		
Men's Prize Money	Published and Distributed - Oct 2013	\$ 2,160.00
Women's Prize Money	Published and Distributed - Oct 2013	\$ 420.00
Trophies/Prizes	Shirts/Brett Harris - # 1704	\$ 368.70
Trophies/Prizes	Petruff Award/TIA Consultants - # 1698	\$ 65.00
Golf Fees	Mountain Valley # 1700	\$ 8,383.00
Hotel Fees	Mainstay Suites - # 1703	\$ 7,782.60
Pre Tournament Work	Schedules, Handicaps, etc. - # 1705	\$ 150.00
Friday Hospitality	Mountain Valley - # 1699	\$ 996.00
Breakfast	Mountain Valley - # 1702	\$ 580.00
Banquet Fees	Mountain Valley - # 1701	\$ 3,515.60
Computer Costs	Computer Program - # 1706	\$ 150.00
Postage/Courier	Prize Money Distribution, etc. - # 1707	\$ 125.00
Souvenirs	Gary's Graphics - # 1697	\$ 550.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$ 25,245.90</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSES</b>	<b>Refund to Home Office - # 1708</b>	<b>\$ 944.10</b>

### Apartments available at The Slovak Garden

Jerry J. Krupa, president of The Slovak Garden in Winter Park, Fla., long recognized as a "Home for American Slovaks" reminds Sokol members that apartments are available at the facility located in sunny Florida just outside Orlando. A one-bedroom efficiency, poolside is available for \$385-420 per month. A two-bedroom, one bath poolside apartment costs \$510-585. Also, a two-bedroom with one and a half baths costs \$600-625 monthly. The above rents do not include utilities.

The minimum lease of 12 months is required. For additional information please call or log on to its web page. Tel. (407)677-6894, fax: (407)677-8442 slovakgarden@centurylink.net., www.theslovakgarden.org.

Established in 1952 by Slovak fraternalists, The Slovak Garden has served as an ideal retirement center for those of Slovak ancestry. The Slovak Garden hosts a number of social activities for the community throughout the year.

**Christmas Oplatky 2013**

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers enjoyed at the Christmas Eve or Christmas day feastings, will be available this holiday season from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted until October 21 until December 18, 2013.



The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$4.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending

upon the number of packets ordered and the rising costs of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs: Payment to Jankola Library is expected before receiving an order.

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

**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.

**Football Born in 1823**

In 1823, at Rugby, England, a boy named William Webb Ellis hit upon the idea of running with a ball and football was born.

The rules permitted unlimited use of hands, fists, and feet for getting and keeping control of the ball.

Over fifty years later, Walter Camp drew up the modern rules of the American version of the game. In 1878 he set the football field as a battleground, with its yardage chartered and tactical duties assigned to 11-man teams.

Today, the real battleground test is the football fan's stamina - watching one game on television and listening to another on radio. There have even been reports of superfans who could handle three games at a time, given adequate electronic devices, but these are largely unconfirmed.

**U.S. BUYS FIRST PLANE**

The federal government took delivery on its first airplane August 2, 1909. Purchased from the Wright Brothers, it was a biplane with a 25-horsepower motor that could reach a speed of 42 mph. The price tag? A mere \$25,000.

**Sokol Family Loyalty**



Our well-known Sokol recommender and lodge officer in Assembly 82 in Dunlo, Pa., Dollyenne Yonkoski shared a wonderful note on how her uncle, Frank DiMarino has enrolled all his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Frank was married to Dolly's late aunt, Dorothy Richnavsky who was an active Sokolka in her youth, competing at our 1946 Slet in Milwaukee, Wis. under Dolly's late father, Joseph Richnavsky who was the local commander. Frank and Dorothy were the parents of four children, 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. The newest great-grandchild, Jordan James Smudz was recently enrolled as a member in Assembly 82. The top photo features, Frank DiMarino with two granddaughters, Maria and Dorothy as well as his friend, Violet. In the lower photo, Dolly is shown center with some of the members of the DiMarino family at a recent summer get-together. All are Assembly 82 members. We are pleased to share this story with our readers and thank our Sister Dolly for all she does on behalf of our organization, especially her efforts in promoting Slovak Catholic Sokol membership. Keep up the good work and Zdar Boh!



**SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL**

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

*A sound financial plan is a must for a young family or individual, and no plan is complete without insurance. The Slovak Catholic Sokol offers two key product lines, life insurance and annuities to help fulfill your financial needs.*

**Permanent Life Plans**

Our permanent life plans accumulate cash value on a tax-deferred basis over time. The Legacy Series of life plans are designed to provide survivor benefits for designated beneficiaries, family members, creditors, final expense, charitable organizations or wealth transfer.

- Legacy Life
- Legacy Single Premium
- Legacy 3
- Legacy 10
- Legacy 20

**Term Plans**

Term insurance provides for maximum death benefit coverage at a minimal cost. It is attractive to anyone that has an immediate need that spans over a specific period of time.

- 5 Year Renewable Term
- Term to 25

**Annuity Products**

The Vantage Series of deferred annuity plans is a sound investment vehicle to secure your retirement. They offer guaranteed principal and a highly competitive tax deferred interest rate. The Vantage annuity can provide the security of a consistent flow of income that cannot be outlived.

Our immediate annuity SPIA plan with a lump sum premium payment will provide regular payments for income for a specified period of time.

- Vantage 1
- Vantage 2
- Vantage 3
- Vantage 5
- Vantage 7
- SPIA

**Monument honors the Slovak founders of the former Pittston church and school**

(Continued from page 8)

ish counting more than 500 active families. Its school graduated more than 1,500 students. Over the past century, many vocations to the priesthood and religious life were nurtured in this parish. The parish has completed its very fruitful ministry and the remaining faithful are now part of the community of faith of St. John the Evangelist Parish.

Our Sokol Assembly 86, founded in 1911 under the patronage of St. Michael the Archangel and our former Wreath 98, founded in 1917 under the patronage of St.

Elizabeth had been affiliated and active at St. John the Baptist Parish. Today, our Assembly 86 continues its fraternal activities and is now part of the fabric of parish life of St. John the Evangelist faith community.

We commend Monsignor Bendik, our Sokol of Assembly 71 who hails from a prominent Group 7 Sokol family, for building this monument honoring the memory and legacy of the Slovaks of Pittston and their dedication to our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. May the current generations of those of Slovak ancestry continue to nurture this legacy in the years ahead.

## VANTAGE 1 ANNUITY – ENHANCEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

For a number of years the investment climate has had its ups and downs. Everyone is waiting and expecting the interest earning rates to increase, it just has not happened. Without a crystal ball or being able to predict the future no one is sure when these changes will occur. Our current short-termed annuity plans the Vantage 1, Vantage 2 and Vantage 3 are designed for this purpose. These plans are for the individual looking for a solid short-term investment alternative that affords them the flexibility to make financial decisions without a long term commitment and crediting an excellent interest rate.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol is making a change to further enhance the Vantage 1 Annuity, it is designed and tailored primarily for the individual that is not quite sure what investment vehicle is right during these low interest rate times, is undecided what length of time they want to invest, waiting for the stock market to take-off, or looking for a good short-term investment alternative with numerous options and flexibilities.

With this in mind, the enhanced version of the Vantage 1 Annuity now includes a "30-Day Window", which starts on the anniversary date of the annuity certificate. During this period the annuitant/owner can exercise a number of options that meets their investment needs. Annually prior to the certificate anniversary date, a notice is sent to the annuitant/owner that presents each of the available options, which consists of the following: 1) continue as a Vantage 1 earning the guaranteed credited interest rate declared at that time for the upcoming year; 2) withdrawing a portion of the certificate amount and continuing

the certificate earning the guaranteed credited interest rate declared at that time for the upcoming year; or 3) transfer all or specified portion of the total deposit to a new annuity contract with the Slovak Catholic Sokol or another financial institution.

Not only will you find the Vantage 1 Annuity Plan competitive, but also it outperforms the current short-term market offerings and is tax deferred. The Vantage 1 is currently earning a yield of 1.25% APY.

### Vantage 1 Features:

The Vantage 1 Annuity is tax-deferred annuity, with a minimum guaranteed interest rate of 1%. What makes this annuity special is a unique feature, the "30 Day Window", that allows the certificate holder to notify the Slovak Catholic Sokol of their intentions to withdraw their deposit and interest earned, penalty free, at the end of each certificate anniversary date. This option is available for the life of the annuity certificate. Any withdrawal made outside the timeframe of the "30-Day Window" and exceeds the annual 10% annual withdrawal will result in a penalty charge as follows:

During	1st year –	6%
	2nd year –	5%
	3rd year –	4%
	4th year –	3%
	5th year –	2%

As with our entire Vantage Collection of Annuity Plans the Slovak Catholic Sokol allows a 10% penalty free withdrawal, annually after the first year. However, the 10% free withdrawal may be subject to IRS penalty.

### Vantage Annuity Plans Features

#### Tax-Deferred Earnings

Earnings grow tax-free until a

withdrawal occurs. Due to the power of compound tax-deferred growth, your retirement savings will accumulate quicker compared to a fully taxable account.

### Cost

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

### Safety

Your annuity deposits are protected by the total resources of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Information regarding the solvency can be readily verified by our financial statements filed with the New Jersey Insurance Department. These financial statements are accompanied by the required Actuarial Certification and Opinion of an independent Certified Public Accountant.

### Early Withdrawal

Each of the Vantage Collection of Annuity Products has a 10% penalty free withdrawal feature after the first anniversary year.

### Guaranteed Income Option

Each of the Vantage Plans has an option that allows the Annuitant at any time to settle/annuitize the contract. When the annuity contract is settled/annuitized a guaranteed payment is established pays a specified periodic distribution or for a lifetime of income.

The settlement options available are: • Life Only, • Specified Period, • Life and Period Certain and • Payments for Life for both situations on a single individual or as a joint and survivor.

The Monks of St. Andrew Abbey invite you to our 2013



**VILIA – SLOVAK CHRISTMAS EVE SUPPER**  
 Sunday, December 8th  
 12:00 PM (Noon) Mass  
 Dinner Following  
 Held at the Abbey Church and Benedictine High School Cafeteria

Tickets to this event are ADVANCE SALES ONLY  
**TICKETS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.**

**TICKETS \$20.00 PER PERSON - ADVANCE SALES ONLY**

**Please send a check or money order along with a self addressed envelope made out to:**

Saint Andrew Abbey - Vilia: 10510 Buckeye Road  
 Cleveland, OH 44104

**Your tickets will be mailed out to you.**

**TICKET ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2013**

**For more information please call: 216-721-5300 ext. 0 (Monday through Friday 8am till 3:30pm)**

### Entertainment

Music by HARMONIA  
 featuring vocalist Beata Begeniova  
 (native of Presov, Slovakia)

*Religious Articles \* Exhibits \* Slovak Items of Interest*

## Cleveland Slovak Institute offers Christmas items

The Slovak Institute, a reference library and archival center located at the Benedictine Abbey of St. Andrew Svorad in Cleveland, Ohio, offers a number of items which make perfect gifts for the upcoming Christmas season. Slovak language Christmas cards are available at 10 cards per pack at \$10.00 while the 10-card pack to Canada costs \$12.00 plus \$4.00 for shipping and handling. Packages of 10 English Christmas cards are also available at the above price.

Other items which make the perfect gift for those interested in their Slovak heritage include a large map of Slovakia which includes all the country's villages and towns at \$10.00; a small flag of Slovakia (4 inches by 5 1/2 inches) at \$4.00 and \$20.00 for a large flag of the Slovak Republic, 3 by 5 feet. Christmas Oplatky enjoyed at the Christmas Eve supper are available at \$1.00 for a package of three. A number of books in English on Slovak history, language and culture are also available. The 4th edition of Philip A. Hrobak's Let's Learn Slovak costs \$5.00; the original edition of

Slovak Songs and Dances by Michael Sinchak costs \$7.00; Andrew F. Hudak's Slovaks in Florida is \$10.00; Cardinal Jan Chryzostom Korec's book, The Night of the Barbarians costs \$28.00 and Cleveland's Buckeye Neighborhood, a collection of early ethnic photos and captions by John T. Sabol costs \$22.00. An interesting book of English translations of Slovak poems, Driftwood Poems of the noted, late Slovak poet, Rev. Mikulas Sprinc is available at the cost of \$12.00 per copy. These and other titles as well as a number of books in the Slovak language are available. For a book list contact the Slovak Institute at www.slovakinstitute.com.

Orders may be made by making checks payable to: Slovak Institute and sent to 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, OH 44104, tel. (216)721-5300 ext. 294. Remember to include \$4.00 for shipping and handling with each order. Our well-known Slovak cultural activists and Sokol members, Andrew F. Hudak serves as the Institute's director with Joseph J. Hornack as the assistant director.

## Helping the Missions

Our old friend, Father Paul Cruz recently sent us a letter from his mission in India expressing his thanks and gratitude to our many members who over the years have supported him in his ministry. He thanks those who send various religious items, including magazines, holy cards, rosaries and other small items like pens and pencils. These items prove especially important in his work with children. Mailing packages is costly. Instead, perhaps personal checks are also suggested.

One of our Sokol members in Ohio

who has been supporting the work of Father Cruz for many years asks that we continue our support as he works with the poor and starving people in India. This year he turns 78. On September 29, Father Paul celebrated the 51st anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood, all of them spent in serving the missions in his own vast country of India. He sends his love and blessings to all our readers. His address is: Rev. Paul Cruz, P.O.Box no: 691571, Kittiayam P O, Kollam 691571, Kerala, India. His email address is: Fr:paul.cruz9@gmail.com.

# SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

## ANNUITY RATES

**EFFECTIVE SINCE: JULY 1, 2012**

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>MINIMUM GUARANTEE</u>
VANTAGE 1	1.25%	1.00%
VANTAGE 2	1.50%	1.00%
VANTAGE 3	2.25%	1.00%
VANTAGE 5	3.25%	2.00%
VANTAGE 7	3.50%	2.00%

### SINGLE PREMIUM IMMEDIATE ANNUITY

#### SPIA

5 THROUGH 9 YEARS	2.75%
10 YEARS OR MORE	3.50%

### NO LONGER OFFERED

**EFFECTIVE: AUGUST 31, 2011**

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>MINIMUM GUARANTEE</u>
FLEXIBLE SINGLE PREMIUM	3.00%	3.00%



## United Slovak Societies to host a variety of activities

The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Oh. will host a number of interesting and enjoyable activities in the coming months for every member of the family. Each of the events will be held at the American Slovak Club, located at 2915 Broadway Avenue in Lorain.

On Saturday, November 9th, the United Slovak Societies will host a unique and pleasant Barnyard Polka Party from 5- 9 p.m. The featured musician will be Edward Klimcak. The event is free of charge and open to the public. It makes a perfect evening out for those who enjoy Slovak and Slavic music and dance. There will be plenty of traditional Slovak culinary specialties and refreshments available. There will be raffles and fun.

Finally, on Saturday, December 7th, the United Slovak Societies will host their annual Vilija Dinner, which recreates the Christmas Eve dinner in a Slovak home. All the traditional specialties enjoyed at the Christmas Eve supper will be enjoyed. The Vilija Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. Dinner tickets are \$20.00 per person. Advance ticket sales only and none will be available on the evening of the event.

For reservations call Len at tel. (440)988-3236. Sokol members are invited to turn out for this wonderful evening celebrating one of our most treasured Slovak faith traditions.

The United Slovak Societies was founded in 1928 to federate the local lodges of our Slovak fraternal societies to promote activities of interest to the entire Slovak community. Under the leadership of the late Dominic Sloboda, the United Slovak Societies has enjoyed a long and successful history of promoting our Slovak culture and heritage in the greater Lorain area. Brother Sloboda went on to serve as Supreme Treasurer and later as Supreme President of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. The United Slovak Societies looks to continue to promote our heritage and culture especially following the suppression of Holy Trinity Slovak Parish three years ago. So we look forward to seeing many Lorain Sokols and Sokolky at our upcoming events.

Zdar Boh!  
**Michele Mager**  
*Secretary,*  
 United Slovak Societies

## Was president of Assembly 11

# Frank R. Stolar, life-long fraternal activist, laid to rest in Chicago at 89

Frank R. Stolar passed away peacefully on September 26, 2013 at Rosary Hill Home in Justice, Illinois after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 89.



A native of Akron, Ohio, Frank was born there on October 23, 1923, son of Slovak immigrant parents, Michael Stolar and the former Mary Bajcar. After graduating from high school in Akron, Frank enlisted in the United States Navy, and served his country during World War II, and was honorably discharged on April 26, 1945. He retired from the B.H.Bunn Company in 1985. Frank especially enjoyed sharing stories of growing up on the family farm in Akron. He also treasured and often spoke of his memories when he was stationed in Hawaii during World War II.

Brother Frank was enrolled in the Slovak Catholic Sokol at an early age in Assembly 103 in his native Akron. He was an active

Sokol member his entire life. In addition to serving as an officer of Assembly 103 in Akron and within Group 5, he participated in Slets, bowling and golf tournaments and numerous national conventions. He was known, loved and respected throughout the organization. Brother Frank also was a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union and supported the work of both the Slovak Catholic Federation and the Slovak League of America. He was also a member of the Loyal Order of Moose #44, Veterans of Foreign War Post 5220, the American Legion #1883 and the Holy Name Society of St. Patricia's Parish.

After moving to Chicago, Brother Frank remained active in the Slovak Catholic Sokol for more than a half century in Assembly 11. In 1974, he was elected to serve as an auditor of the lodge and in 1995, he was elected as president of Assembly 11. He was also active in Group 4 serving as an officer.

Family, friends, veterans and fellow fraternalists paid their final respects to Brother Frank at the Damar Funeral Home in Justice, Ill. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on Tuesday, October 1st at the Church of

St. Patricia with the Rev. Frank Burek officiating. Interment followed at Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak Cemetery, where representatives of the U.S. Navy conducted full military honors for Brother Frank. At the conclusion of the service, an American flag was presented to the family followed by the playing of TAPS for Brother Frank.

Survivors include his sister, Mary(late George) Falatok of Akron, Oh., as well as many nieces, nephews, great and grand-nieces and nephews, and sister-in-law Marie(Vern)Tichy. Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Michael and Mary Stolar, two wives, Emily C. nee Kovalcik and Eleanor L. nee Dudkowski, sister-in-law Hazel(late Phil) Uher, late Ann(late Joseph) Kovalcik and late Alice(Late Paul)Nemeth.

Brother Stolar was a towering figure within the ranks of our midwest Sokol members and beautifully mirrored our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. May our departed Brother Frank, who served our organization so well over the years, mirroring the true spirit of Fraternalism, now rest in peace. Our sympathy goes out to his beloved family.

## Slovak Catholic Sokol Camp Adventure

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board is very excited to announce that from Aug. 14 -17, 2014, we are inviting all children ages 7-16 to attend our first ever Sokol Camp at Camp Fitch in North Springfield, PA (on Lake Erie). The days will be filled with fun activities such as: swimming, canoeing, kayaking, hiking, archery, rock climbing, paintball, arts and crafts and much, much more. Since we will be running the camp in conjunction with our clinic, in the evening, the campers will join the directors/directresses and their assistants for fun team building and fraternal activities.

Cost: \$240.00 per camper  
 \$120.00 will be covered by the Slovak Catholic Sokol  
 \$120 will be paid by the camper (Group support may be provided at their discretion)

Camper must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Camper must be a Slovak Catholic Sokol policy holder in good standing.
  2. Camper must be seven years of age by August 31st, but no older than 16.
  3. Camper must pay half of the total cost AND provide their own transportation.
  4. Camper's fee must be paid before camp begins (specific date will be published in Falcon at a later date)
- So that we can start planning for this exciting new event, please complete the form below and e-mail me at kathyw626@yahoo.com or send it by mail to:

**Kathleen S. Watkins**  
**7019 Highland Creek Drive**  
**Bridgeville, PA 15017**



I am interested in attending Slovak Catholic Sokol Camp Adventure!

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

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of August 31, 2014 \_\_\_\_\_

Slovak Catholic Sokol Policy # \_\_\_\_\_



## IN MEMORIAM

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

SEPTEMBER 2013

Assembly/Wreath	Member	Age	Date of Death
Assembly 11	Ronald Krasneck, Chicago, IL	46	August 29, 2013
Assembly 11	Eleanore Mc Comb, Chicago, IL	87	August 7, 2013
Assembly 16	Albert E. Hovanec, Pittsburgh, PA	79	September 16, 2013
Assembly 24	Nicholas Grizzle, Boonton, NJ	95	January 30, 2013
Assembly 24	Suzanne Kapusta, Boonton, NJ	94	August 16, 2013
Assembly 36	Joseph Gazdick, Detroit, MI	85	June 6, 2013
Assembly 36	Rita Morton, Detroit, MI	82	July 30, 2013
Assembly 48	Helen Genevieve Gillespie, Philadelphia, PA	89	August 23, 2013
Assembly 48	George Sedor, Philadelphia, PA	91	September 7, 2013
Assembly 59	Catherine Makuch, Wilkes-Barre, PA	92	August 18, 2013
Assembly 59	George Andrew Banas, Wilkes-Barre, PA	87	August 27, 2013
Assembly 69	Sylvester Vozar, Smock, PA	82	September 3, 2013
Assembly 79	Jerry A. Bender, Lilly, PA	71	September 4, 2013
Assembly 86	Robert Yuhass, Port Griffith, PA	55	February 2, 2013
Assembly 108	Francis P. Machinga, Youngstown, OH	75	April 12, 2013
Assembly 113	Paul J. Scuglik, Kenosha, WI	80	August 11, 2013
Assembly 162	Robert Paul Raichel, Clifton, NJ	76	September 9, 2013
Assembly 162	Richard J. Obrotka, Clifton, NJ	70	August 13, 2013
Assembly 162	Casimer Kowal, Clifton, NJ	83	September 1, 2013
Assembly 162	Joseph Krisanda, Clifton, NJ	79	January 21, 2006
Assembly 179	Terezia M. Neepser, North Braddock, PA	82	August 20, 2013
Assembly 186	Mary T. Francia, Drexel Hill, PA	87	September 1, 2013
Assembly 188	Thomas Vincent Kopunek, Lansford, PA	53	August 25, 2013
Assembly 214	Edward Soviar, Rossford, PA	88	August 25, 2013
Assembly 219	Theresa Pollack, Yonkers, NY	94	July 17, 2013
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Assembly 312	Joseph Lesko, Passaic, NJ	74	August 3, 2013
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Wreath 14	Charles P. Thomas, Johnstown, PA	90	August 9, 2013
Wreath 15	Thomas J. Nypaver, Perryopolis, PA	59	September 10, 2013
Wreath 22	Dorothy T. Brizek, Pittsburgh, PA	87	September 18, 2013
Wreath 34	Mary Slavik, Cleveland, OH	90	March 25, 2011
Wreath 39	Mary Procopio, Bridgeport, CT	95	August 6, 2013
Wreath 47	Carol Jean Wolney, Minneapolis, MN	80	August 23, 2013
Wreath 85	Andrew Sofranko, McKees Rocks, PA	91	November 12, 2012
Wreath 153	Josephine Tumer, Parma, OH	83	September 17, 2013
Wreath 155	Dolores Tazik, Reading, PA	92	August 2, 2013



## International Scholarly Conference a Great Success

by M. Mark Stolarik

On Friday and Saturday, October 4-5, 2013, the Chair in Slovak History and Culture at the University of Ottawa in Canada organized a major scholarly conference on "The Czech and Slovak Republics: Twenty Years of Independence, 1993-2013." Seventy-three individuals from all walks of life registered. It was opened by University of Ottawa Vice-President and Provost Christian Detellier, who mentioned that, as a Belgian, he could understand what the Czechs and Slovaks went through twenty years ago. His Excellency Milan Kollár, Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to Canada, then read the plenary address of the Honourable Jozef Moravcik, former Prime Minister of Slovakia, who could not attend. Among other things, Dr. Moravcik mentioned that, as a supporter of Slovak independence, twenty years later his "conscience was clear." By contrast, in the plenary address of the Honourable Petr Pithart, former Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, which was read by Czech chargé d'affaires Robert Tripes, because Dr. Pithart could also not attend, Pithart regretted the breakup of Czechoslovakia and, while admitting that "the dissolution was carried out legally," because there was no referendum, it was carried out "without any legitimacy."

After the plenary addresses, scholars from both the Czech and Slovak Republics looked at the breakup of the former Czechoslovakia and its consequences. The Czech perspective was given by Dr. Jan Rychlík of Charles University in Prague, with a commentary by Dr. Michael Kraus of Middlebury College in Vermont. The Slovak perspective was read by Dr. Adam Hudek on behalf of Dr. Jozef Zatkuliak, both from the Historical Institute of the Slovak Academy of Science in Bratislava. The commentary was given by Dr. Stanislav Kirschbaum of York University in Toronto. All four scholars agreed that relations between Czechs and Slovaks had reached an impasse by 1992 and the only solution was a friendly divorce of the two republics.

The next panel discussed political developments in the Czech and Slovak Republics in the last twenty years. Dr. Juraj Hocman,

of the Hochschule Goethe Uni in Bratislava, outlined how Slovak politics developed from the authoritarian rule of Vladimír Mečiar in the 1990s through the right-wing governments of Mikuláš Dzurinda and back to the left-wing politics of Robert Fico in the 2000s. Professor Kevin Deegan Krause of Wayne State University in Detroit commented that, in spite of the plethora of political parties that have appeared and disappeared in Slovakia over the last twenty years, voting has been rather consistent along Roman Catholic, Magyar, left-wing and right-wing lines.

Dr. Adela Gjuricová, of the Institute of Contemporary History at the Czech Academy of Science in Prague, then outlined the course of Czech politics over the last two decades. She pointed out that recent Czech politics has been dominated by three men: Václav Havel, Václav Klaus and Miloš Zeman, who respectively espoused a common humanity, right-wing economics and left-wing solutions to society's problems. Interestingly, all three eventually became Presidents of the Czech Republic. Carol Skalnik Leff, of the University of Illinois, concurred.

On the second day of the conference, which was opened by Dean Antoni Lewkowicz of the Faculty of Arts, scholars discussed economic and social developments in the two republics.

Adam Hudek read colleague Miroslav Londák's paper on economic developments in Slovakia over the last twenty years. Londák pointed out that, despite Slovakia having lagged behind the Czech Republic in industrialization after World War II, it rapidly caught up in the last two decades and has almost reached the same level of development as the Czech Republic. John Gould of Colorado College agreed. Martin Pospisil of the OECD in Paris then presented macro and micro-economic developments in the Czech Republic over the last two decades. Sharon Fisher of Global Insight in Washington, D.C. reminded the audience that most observers of the Czech and Slovak divorce of 1993 predicted that Slovakia would suffer much more from the breakup than the Czech Republic. Subsequent developments proved these observers wrong.



**Slovakia's Ambassador to Canada, Milan Kollár is shown above reading the paper by former Prime Minister Jozef Moravcik at the historic conference at the University of Ottawa.**

The final presentations focussed on social developments in the Czech and Slovak Republics. Martin Bútorá, a sociologist who founded the Institute for Public Opinion Research in Slovakia, presented a paper co-written by his sociologist wife Zora, which illustrated Slovak satisfaction or dissatisfaction with various elements of society. They noted that Slovaks are most dissatisfied with the state of their judicial system. Sharon Wolchik of George Washington University agreed and suggested some additional areas for research. Oldrich Tuma, of the Czech Academy of Science then spoke on social developments in the Czech Republic over the last two decades. He pointed out that, in spite of their relative prosperity, most citizens of the Czech Republic are in a "foul mood," which is hard to explain. James W. Peterson of Valdosta State University, agreed and suggested some reasons for this foul mood.

In his concluding remarks, the conference organizer M. Mark Stolarik expressed satisfaction with the conference. He was especially proud that, on the 20th anniversary of the "Velvet Divorce" of the former Czechoslovakia, he had brought together some of the leading scholars from the Czech and Slovak Republics with their counterparts in North America. Stolarik then pointed out that, because the Slovaks now had their own, independent, republic, the Czechs at last had to treat them as equals. Stolarik then urged the presenters and commentators to revise their papers and he would seek to publish the Proceedings next year.

Stolarik also expressed his thanks to all the individuals and organizations who had made the conference possible. He singled out the Embassies of the Czech and Slovak Republics in Ottawa for having co-sponsored the conference. Stolarik also thanked members of the Slovak community in North America, whether individuals or organizations, who made financial contributions to cover the costs of the conference. Even though these Slovak communities are not wealthy, they are very generous.

## Slovaks participate in Justice for Immigrants Mass in Trenton, N.J.

A large group of Slovak speaking faithful who regularly attend Sunday liturgy at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Trenton, N.J. participated in the Justice for Immigrants Mass celebrated in the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption on October 11. Led by the Rev. Vladimir Chripko, C.O., a member of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Tappan, N.Y. who celebrates weekly Mass in Slovak at St. Michael's, he was among the 20 priests who concelebrated the liturgy with the Most Rev. David M. O'Connell, C.M., the Bishop of Trenton. The Slovak contingent, mostly recently arrived immigrants from Slovakia, both legal and otherwise, joined other immigrant groups who worship in a variety of languages in the Trenton Diocese.

In his homily, Bishop O'Connell said "Jesus was the 'divine immigrant' who lived his life 'traveling from place to place. He went on to note that "Sacred Scripture tell us where he was from and what his ancestral lineage was, but nowhere in the Bible do we find his permanent address, the location of his house he lived after beginning his public ministry. He lived and worked as an immigrant, an itinerant preacher, on many levels," the bishop added.

The special liturgy was held to

emphasize the high priority of immigration reform across the country. The Trenton Diocese wanted to show that it is important to provide people with an opportunity to pray for positive movement on immigration. The Mass was coordinated by Catholic Charities and the diocesan Office of Catholic Social Services. Bishop O'Connell said that it is not the Church's responsibility to enact civil legislation or to take sides or participate as a church in differences of partisan political debates. "No, it is, rather, the Church's responsibility to educate the faithful in those matters where human moral interaction, informed by the Gospel and Church teaching, need to be lifted up and ray-erfully considered." - Catholic News Service.

Among the petitions recited during the Prayer of the Faithful was one offered in Slovak. Mass is celebrated in Slovak every Sunday at 10 a.m. at St. Michael's Church, located at 1130 Brunswick Avenue and attracts a mostly-immigrant congregation. St. Michael's has enjoyed a rich legacy of ministry to the Slovak community since it founding in 1920 when it began as a mission of the former Slovak Parish of SS. Peter and Paul. St. Michael's is currently a worship site of St. Ann Parish in Lawrenceville, N.J.

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**Panelists participating in the conference celebrating the 20th anniversary of the independence of the Slovak Republic at the University of Ottawa included, from the left, Eda Kranakis, University of Ottawa; Martin Pospisil of the OECD in Paris, and Sharon Fisher of Global Insight in Washington, D.C.**



**The Mixing Bowl**

*This Thanksgiving, treat yourself to delicious cookies without guilt, suggests the California Prune Board.*

**PUMPKIN-PRUNE COOKIES**

- 2 tbsp. oleo, softened
- 3 tbsp. sugar or substitute
- 1/2 cup frozen egg substitute, thawed
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 can canned pumpkin
- 1 cup flour
- 1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 3/4 cup (about 4 1/2 oz.) pitted prunes, coarsely chopped

In mixer bowl, cream oleo and sugar. Beat in egg substitute and vanilla. Beat in pumpkin. In another bowl combine dry ingredients. Mix into pumpkin mixture and blend thoroughly. Mix in prunes and distribute evenly. Drop by heaping tablespoons onto greased baking sheet, making 12 cookies. Bake in preheated 350degree F for 20 to 25 minutes - until springy to the touch with bottoms lightly browned. Place on rack to cool.

**CRANBERRY GELATIN MOLD**

*Perfect accompaniment for your Thanksgiving turkey*

- 1 pk. raspberry gelatin
- 1 16oz. can mandarin oranges drained
- 2 tbsp. lemon juice
- 1 16 oz. can whole cranberry sauce
- 1/2 cup finely diced celery
- 1/4 cup chopped walnuts

Prepare gelatin as directed on package, using 1 1/2 cups water. Add remaining ingredients and mix thoroughly. Spoon into 10-inch ring mold and refrigerate until firm. Unmold on cold platter and surround with salad greens. Serves 10.

**INDIAN PUMPKIN SOUP/ALMONDINE**

- 1/4 cup butter or leo
- 2 large onions, chopped
- 1/2 cup lentils
- 5 cups chicken stock
- 1 1/2 cup canned pumpkin
- 1/8 tsp. marjoram
- 1/4 tsp. coarsely ground pepper
- Dash Tabasco
- 1 cup half-and-half or substitute
- 1/2cup toasted sliced almonds

Melt butter in large kettle; add onions and cook until lightly browned. Stir in lentils and chicken stock. Add pumpkin. Crush herbs and add to soup along with pepper and Tabasco. Simmer about 1 1/2 hours or until lentils are done. Let cool, then puree in blender, if desired.

At serving time, heat to simmering; add half-and-half. Serve in soup bowls or cups and top with almonds. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

**CRANBERRY BREAD\***

- Vegetable oil spray
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 tbsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt

- 1/4 tsp. ground allspice
  - 3/4 cup orange juice
  - 1 tbsp. grated orange rind
  - 1 egg or egg substitute
  - 1/2 cup canola or safflower oil
  - 2 tbsp. vanilla
  - 2 cups fresh cranberries, chopped
- Preheat oven to 350degrees F. Lightly spray two 7 3/8 x 3 5/8-inch loaf pans with vegetable oil.

Combine first six dry ingredients in medium bowl and set aside. In a small bowl, combine remaining ingredients and mix well. Make a well in dry ingredients and pour in liquid mixture. Stir just until blended.

Pour into prepared loaf pans and bake 45-50 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Remove from pans and cool on a wire rack. Makes 2 loaves. \* Recipe courtesy American Heart Association Cookbook, Fifth Edition.

**HEARTY ONION SOUP**

- 2 tbsp. oleo (with liquid oil as first ingredient and no more than 2m saturated fat per tablespoon)
- 3 cups onions, thinly sliced
- 6 cups low-sodium beef broth
- 1/2 tsp. freshly ground pepper
- 12 slices (about 1/3 oz. each) French bread (baquette), toasted
- 4 tbsp. grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 450degrees F. Heat oleo in large saucepan over medium-high heat. Add onions and saute 2 minutes. Cover and cook until translucent. Stir in broth and pepper; bring to boil.

Ladle equal portions into 6 oven-proof bowls. Place 2 bread slices in each bowl; top each serving with 2 teaspoons Parmesan cheese. Place bowls in oven and bake 5 minutes. Serve hot. Serves 6, 1 cup per serving.

**CARROT-PINEAPPLE CUPCAKES**

- 1 cup whole-wheat flour
- 1/3 cup sugar or substitute
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. nutmeg
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/4 cup oil
- 1 cup shredded carrots
- 1/2 cup crushed pineapple, drained
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Preheat oven to 350degrees F. Place paper baking cups in muffin tins. Mix dry ingredients thoroughly in mixing bowl. Add remaining ingredients; mix well. Fill baking cups two-thirds full. Bake 20 minutes, or until top springs back when touched lightly. Yield 8 cupcakes.

**Children's Christmas Parties Set**

(Continued from page 6)

*Youngstown, Oh.* - The traditional Group 17 Christmas party for junior Sokol members is scheduled for Sunday, December 1 at the Camelot Bowling Lanes located at 628 Boardman-Canfield Road in Boardman, Oh. Festivities begin at 1 p.m. and continue until 3 p.m. The bowling party is hosted by Wreath 54 and Assemblies 108 and 107 and includes an afternoon of fun and fraternalism. Children of all ages are invited to enjoy two hours of bowling followed by refreshments which will include pizza and soda. There will be prizes and of course a visit from Santa. In order to make the necessary preparations, parents are asked to call Edie Bbik at (330)782-9555 or Judy Babik at (330)793-9310 to register, indicating the number and ages of children who will participate. An enjoyable afternoon has been planned and we look forward to seeing good turnout of children, parents and grandparents.

Zdar Boh!  
**Edie Bbik, Wreath 54**

**KNOW GREATEST ASSETS?**

Two things - only two - enable any individual to be equal even to the most powerful people.

What are these two great things that would enable any person to be on the same level with an Einstein, and Edison or a President?

The two are money and knowledge. They are the great levelers. But money can be lost...

**Slovak Catholic Sokol Camp Adventure**

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board is very excited to announce that from Aug. 14 -17, 2014, we are inviting all children ages 7-16 to attend our first ever Sokol Camp at Camp Fitch in North Springfield, PA (on Lake Erie). The days will be filled with fun activities such as: swimming, canoeing, kayaking, hiking, archery, rock climbing, paintball, arts and crafts and much, much more. Since we will be running the camp in conjunction with our clinic, in the evening, the campers will join the directors/directresses and their assistants for fun team building and fraternal activities.

Cost: \$240.00 per camper  
\$120.00 will be covered by the Slovak Catholic Sokol  
\$120 will be paid by the camper (Group support may be provided at their discretion)

Camper must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Camper must be a Slovak Catholic Sokol policy holder in good standing.
  2. Camper must be seven years of age by August 31st, but no older than 16.
  3. Camper must pay half of the total cost AND provide their own transportation.
  4. Camper's fee must be paid before camp begins (specific date will be published in Falcon at a later date)
- So that we can start planning for this exciting new event, please complete the form below and e-mail me at kathyw626@yahoo.com or send it by mail to:

**Kathleen S. Watkins**  
**7019 Highland Creek Drive**  
**Bridgeville, PA 15017**

I am interested in attending Slovak Catholic Sokol Camp Adventure!

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

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of August 31, 2014 \_\_\_\_\_

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## Vzácné životné jubileum emeritného prešovského biskupa Mons. Jána Hirku

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

katolíckej cirkvi mimo zákon v roku 1950.

Neušiel však trestu, pretože podľa vtedajších mocných v jeho zatýkanom rozkaze bolo napísané: „Menovaný je silne zaujatý voči terajšiemu štátnemu zriadeniu a tiež proti pravoslávii, ak keďže ako nepriateľ terajšieho štátneho zriadenia a odchovanec býv. gr. kat. biskupa Gajdiča môže v prípade sa voľného pohybovania na slobode škodiť terajšiemu štátnemu zriadeniu – budovaniu socializmu, v dôsledku čoho navrhujem menovaného zatknúť, previesť u neho domovú a osobnú prehliadku do účelom získania protištátneho a tiež kompromitujúceho materiálu, dopraviť ho do väznice KS-ŠTB Prešov a zaviesť proti nemu vyšetrovanie.“ Nezlomili ho však ani väzenia, v ktorých panoval ostrý režim, ani dlhý pobyt na samotkách, ani ťažká a nebezpečná práca v bani, lebo si veľmi dobre uvedomoval, že aj tam je s ním Boh. Odovzdal sa do jeho vôle a pod ochranu našej Nebeskej Matky Presvätej Bohorodičky.

Prišiel rok 1968 a „Znovuzrodenie“ Gréckokatolíckej cirkvi. A náš najvyšší Veľkňaz Ježiš Kristus ho prostredníctvom svojho námestníka na zemi Pavla VI. povolal do služby jej Pastiera v úrade ordinára s právami prešovského sídelného biskupa. Činnosť Gréckokatolíckej cirkvi bola síce povolená, ale bez navrátenia našich chrámov do vlastníctva našej Cirkvi. Po okupácii Československa nastalo obdobie tzv. normalizácie s ideologickým nátlakom proti náboženstvu. Ordinárovi Hirkoví chýbali na pokrytie pastoračné knázi, pretože mnoho knazov za uplynulé obdobie zomrelo. Tí, čo zostali mali väčšinou podlomené zdravie. Napriek tomu však slúžili svojim

veriacim až na pokraj svojich síl. V tejto službe mu pomáhal otec biskup Vasil Hopko, ktorý s veľmi podlomeným zdravím slúžil, chodil na pastoračné návštevy a udeľoval kňazské vysviacky až do svojho odchodu do Večnosti v roku 1976. Štátna moc mu ani po smrti o. biskupa Hopka nedovolila biskupskú vysviacku. Nepovolila mu ani zriadenie bohosloveckej fakulty ani kňazského seminára.

Až v závere roku 1989 prišlo k veľkým zmenám. Prišla dlho očakávaná sloboda a tak už 21. decembra 1989 pápež Ján Pavol II. vymenoval Mons. Jána Hirku za prešovského sídelného biskupa. Jeho biskupská vysviacka 17. februára 1990 bola v preplnenej mestskej športovej hale v Prešove za prítomnosti veľkého množstva cirkevnej hierarchie z celého sveta veľkolepou ukážkou, že ani štyridsaťročné potlačovanie náboženstva nepomohlo, aby náš Boží ľud stratil vieru. Po dňoch radosti a slávy však prišli všedné dni náročnej práce. Okrem nevyhnutných opráv a rekonštrukcií sa otec biskup usiloval o navrátenie biskupskej rezidencie a ostatných budov. Za pomoci verných spolupracovníkov sa mu ešte v roku 1990 podarilo obnoviť vyučovanie na bohosloveckej fakulte. Tým si zabezpečil podmienky pre čo najskoršie doplnenie chýbajúcich knazov pre službu vo farnostiach. Jeho pracovný i liturgický program bol za celú jeho aktívnu biskupskú službu doslova nabitý. Absolvoval mnoho pracovných ciest, aby získal darcov na financovanie opráv cirkevných objektov nielen v Prešove, ale po všetkých farnostiach. Bolo treba tiež zabezpečiť financovanie knazov pre ich ďalšie štúdium v zahraničí, pretože naša Gréckokatolícka fakulta potrebovala kvalitných profesorov. Okrem toho absolvoval niekoľko pastoračných návštev k našim

krajanom do USA a Kanady.

K vrcholom jeho služby však parí pastoračná návšteva pápeža Jána Pavla II. v Prešove v roku 1995 a predovšetkým procesy blahorečenia našich biskupov – mučeníkov Pavla Petra Gajdiča ktorý bol vyhlásený za blahoslaveného v 4. novembra 2001 Ríme a Väila Hopka, ktorého diecézna fáza bola ukončená v roku 2001 a po jej doplnení o požadovanú lekársku expertízu v roku 2002 ostalo doriešiť len procedurálne otázky, súvisiace aktom procesu blahorečenia. Otec biskup je rád, že sa mu podarilo zorganizovať a viesť dve púte do Svätej zeme, púť do Lúrd a niekoľko púti do Čenstochovej. Na všetky púte bral so sebou aj bohoslovcov a do Čenstochovej i zamestnancov biskupstva a bohosloveckej fakulty. Naozaj len ťažko možno vymenovať všetky aktivity otca biskupa. To najlepšie vie len náš nebeský Otec.

Otec biskup po skončení aktívnej služby sa ešte zúčastňoval na cirkevných akciách, pokiaľ mu to zdravotný stav dovoľoval. V roku 2005 bol spolu s košickým biskupom Bernardom Boberom aj na púti vo Fatime. Chcel sa tak poďakovať našej Nebeskej Matke za pomoc i ochranu nielen počas svojej kňazskej i biskupskej služby, ale počas celého svojho života. Otec biskup vo svojich modlitbách aj teraz pamätá na všetkých veriacich, ale osobitne na knazov, ktorých viedol do Pánovej vinice a všetkých pokladá za svojich duchovných synov. Pamätajme na neho aj my a popri: Mnohaja i blahaja líta sa modlíme: Bože náš, žehnaj ho a s ním aj nás!

**o. Andrej Rusnák**

### L'udová zábava v New Yorku

Folklorný súbor Limbora usporiada v sobotu 23. novembra v hale slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East 66th Street a 1st Avenue v New Yorku Ludovú zábavu. Začiatok bude o 7.00 hodine večer. Vstupné v predpredaji je \$50.00 za dospelých a deti do 12 rokov majú vstup bezplatný. Pri vchode bude vstupné \$65.00. V cene je započítaná večera (tradičné slovenské jedlá). Počas večera bude losovaná tombola - 50/50. V programe vystúpi ľudový súbor Limbora. Do tanca budú hrať a spievať Pajtáši. Rezervácie lístkov na stránke www.Limbora.org. Vstupenky sú na predaj aj v reštaurácii Koliba a kostole sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New Yorku.

### ACH, TÁ NAŠA SLOVENČINA...

Zrušenie ticketingu nespôsobilo problémy s mýtom.

- Pravda.sk

## Modrý kostolík v Bratislave vysvätli pred sto rokmi



V piatok 18. októbra uplynulo sto rokov od vysvätenia Modrého kostolíka v Bratislave. Stavaf ho začali v roku 1909 a málokto vie, že nesie názov Kostol svätej Alžbety Uhorskej, zrejme jedinej svätej, ktorá sa narodila v Bratislave. Pôvodne malo ísť o kaplnku pre študentov vedľajšieho gymnázia. Jeho fasáda je nebesky modrá, preto je už roky známy ako Modrý kostolík. Kostolík sa stal symbolom nielen Bratislavy, ale celého Slovenska. Jeho zmenšenina reprezentuje Slovensko aj v bruselskom parku Mini-Európa.

### Multikultúrna svätá omša v Trentone, NJ

V sobotu, 16. novembra o 11.00 hod. sa v Katedrále Nanebovzatia Panny Márie v Trentone, NJ bude konať slávnostná multikultúrna svätá omša reprezentujúca sedem národností. Bude ju celebrovať Jeho Excelencia, David M. O'Connell, C.M., trentonský biskup, za prítomnosti mnohých knazov.

Vďaka zastupiteľom slovenského Kostola sv. Michala v Trentone, budú mať pri tejto slávnosti početné zastúpenie aj Slováci, ktorí sa budú podieľať na priebehu bohoslužby a sprí-


tomnia krásu slovenských liturgických spevov a tradícií v krojoch počas sv. omše a v príprave tradičného jedla pre všetkých účastníkov pri spoločnom posedení po sv. omši.

Motto tejto multikultúrnej slávnosti: „Rozdelení v kultúre, spojení vo viere.“

Všetci Slováci sú na tejto vzácnnej a jedinej slávnosti srdečne vítaní.

Adresa: Katedrála Nanebovzatia Panny Márie, 151 N Warren Street, Trenton, NJ 08608.

Viac informácií na e-mailovej adrese: mkrutkova@gmail.com.



Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation

# Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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# Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON

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### Vzácné životné jubileum emeritného prešovského biskupa Mons. Jána Hirku

„Pod dychom slnka  
zas jeseň stromy pozláca.  
Nádherná zrelosť, Pane.  
I v tvári tvojho sluhu  
je tak vábiaca.

Denne Ti šepká: Tvoja vôľa  
nech sa stane.“

To sú slová prvej slohy z básne už zosnulého Blažej Krasnovského MNOHOLETSTVIJE, ktorú napísal k sedemdesiatinám otca biskupa Mons. Jána Hirku. Treba povedať, že práve tieto slová veľmi dobre vystihujú životný postoj otca biskupa, ktorý sa v týchto dňoch dožíva požeňaných 90 rokov.

Otec biskup naozaj celý svoj život vložil do Božej vôle. Do Božej vôle ho odovzdali už od narodenia v Abranovciach 16. novembra 1923 jeho rodičia. Od nich dostal prvotnú orientáciu na cestu do života. Sám pripomína, že modliaci sa tvár mamičky bola jeho prvým katechizmom. Veľký vplyv na neho mal aj dedko Ján Krajňák, otec jeho mamičky, s ktorým ešte ako malý chlapec chodil pásť kravy. Bol mužom modlitby a aj svojho vnuka učil, že modlitba je súčasťou každodenného života kresťana. Jeho najmilšou modlitbou bola modlitba sv. ruženca, ktorú si zamíňoval aj jeho vnuk Janko Hirka. A Boh ho viedol po skončení základnej školy do Gréckokatolíckeho ruského gymnázia v Prešove, založeného už blahoslaveným biskupom Pavlom Petrom Gojdičom. Otec biskup Gojdič gymnázium často navštevoval a na pri jednej z návštev študenta Jána Hirku pri rozhovore aj objal, čo malo tiež svoj vplyv na jeho rozhodovanie pre kňazstvo.

Vzájomná dôvera a náklonnosť medzi biskupom Gojdičom a už bohoslomcom Jánom Hirkom pokračovala aj v kňazskom seminári, keď ho poslal doštudovať posledný rok štúdia teológie na Karlovu univerzitu do Prahy a zároveň mu zveril



na starosť ďalších deviatich bohoslomcov. Tu sa bohoslomvec Hirka prvýkrát stretol so zákernosťou i brutalitou totalitného režimu, ktorý 15. júna 1949 na sviatok Božieho Tela úskočne zmaril slávnosť v katedrále sv. Víta a arcibiskupa Berana od toho času internoval v domácom väzení. Štátna moc zasiahla aj pri kňazskej vysviacke Jána Hirku 31. júla 1949, keď na poslednú chvíľu zakázala jej konanie v prešovskej katedrále. Avšak už blahoslavený otec biskup Vasil Hopko udelil sviatosť kňazstva jemu i spolubratovi Jozefovi Kellövi v seminárnej kaplnke.

Mladý novokňaz po primiciách v Rodných Abranovciach okrem služby kaplána sa ako koncipista na biskupskom úrade stal blízkym spolupracovníkom otca biskupa Gojdiča. To bola pre mladého kňaza najlepšia škola do ďalšieho života. Videl na vlastné oči, ako sa v tých ťažkých časoch správal otec biskup Gojdič a v ňom našiel príklad, že treba svojim veriacim slúžiť v každom čase a nikdy neporušiť prísahu, ktorou sa pri kňazskej vysviacke zaviazal každý kňaz, a to poslušnosť rímskemu pápežovi a svojmu biskupovi ako aj ich nástupcom. Z toho vyplývala aj jeho tajná pastorácia po postavení Grécko-

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)

### Marián Tkáč sa opäť stal predsedom MS

Takmer 57 percent delegátov Matice slovenskej (MS) na jej valnom zhromaždení 18. a 19. októbra 2013 v Martine podporilo Mariána Tkáča a zvolilo ho za staronového predsedu národnej ustanovizne na najbližšie štyri roky. Z celkového počtu platných 440 hlasov získal 254, čím porazil svojich súperov už v prvom kole voľby. Druhý skončil Igor Kovačovič, doterajší podpredseda s podporou 32 percent a tretí člen výboru MS Roman Michelko s 9,6 percenta.

Matiční delegáti, ktorých bolo vyše 500, zvolili aj nového predsedu dozorného výboru MS Štefana Martinkoviča a zvolili úplne nových členov výboru Matice slovenskej. Členmi výboru sa vo väčšine prípadov stali mladí ľudia. Omnoho viac zabodovala aj Mladá Matica ako v minulých rokoch. Aj samotný predseda M. Tkáč to považuje za dôkaz, že Matica oživa a omladzuje sa. Vo svojom vystúpení pred zvolením uviedol, že národnú ustanovizne musia postupne prevziať mladí matičníari. Predseda Mladej Matice M. Gešper to považuje za signál, že Mladá Matica získava potrebný priestor na rozvoj matičnej činnosti.

Na valnom zhromaždení MS sa zúčastnilo mnoho významných hostí. Pozdravné listy zaslali matičníarom predsedu vlády R. Fico i minister školstva D. Čaplovič. Pozdravný list prečítal štátny tajomník ministerstva školstva Štefan Chudoba. Prišiel aj predseda Trnavského samosprávneho kraja Tibor Mikuš, ktorého následne zvolili za člena výboru MS. Nechýbali ani zástupcovia slovenských cirkví - nitriansky biskup Viliam Judák, emeritný arcibiskup Ján Sokol, ako aj duchovní rímskokatolíckej, gréckokatolíckej aj evanjelickej cirkvi. Z Nemecka prišiel aj významný slovenský vlastenec Imrich Kružliak. Slovákov žijúcich v Amerike zastupoval Jozef Janek a Augustín Lang z Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí.

### Správy zo Slovenska



- ❖ Na jahodových plantážach v nitrianskom regióne opäť zarodili jahody. Ľudia z okolia chodia z poľa s plnými vedrami jahôd, pestovatelia tvrdia, že sa s ničím podobným ešte nestretli. Vysvetľujú si to tak, že bolo dlhé leto, rastliny dostali duplovanú dávku tepla a znova sa akoby vracali do jarných mesiacov. Ďalším prekvapením je orgován na Kalvárii v Nitre, ktorý 23. októbra vykvitol.
- ❖ Štátne i neštátne detské domovy na Slovensku sú naplnené ne 97 percent. Ústredie práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny odovzdalo ku koncu augusta tohto roku 4770 detí, ktoré sú v nich umiestnené. Okrem zvyšovania počtu detí v detských domovo-

ch zaznamenali aj predĺžovanie priemernej dĺžky pobytu.

- ❖ Na Zemplínskej Širave zrušili policajti Národnej kriminálnej agentúry pravdepodobne najväčšie laboratórium na výrobu drog v strednej Európe. Drogy spolu s výbavou odvážali na exportnú tri kamióny. Laboratórium na výrobu marihuany bolo v jednom z objektov v chatovej oblasti. Okrem sušenej rastliny policajti zaistili aj päť samopalov.
- ❖ Pri výbuchu granátu vo vojenskom Centre testovania munície v Novákoch utrpel 36-ročný pyrotechnik rozsiahle zranenia. Granát mu vybuchol v ruke počas skúšky funkčnosti. Utrpel poranenia rúk, hlavy a brucha.

### Starý most v Bratislave začínajú rekonštruovať



V novembri tohto roku začnú demontovať historický Starý most v Bratislave. Celá mostná konštrukcia má byť rozobratá do februára 2014. Novú konštrukciu aj s kolajnicami na okraj Petržalky plánujú dokončiť do konca roku 2015. Počas rekonštrukcie bude obmedzená lodná doprava na Dunaji.

Počas rozoberania konštrukcie mosta budú starú konštrukciu podopierať lode. Počas búrania pilierov budú musieť odkloniť rozostúpiť časť rieky.

Najstarší a jediný zachovaný historický most v Bratislave - Starý most, bol postavený r. 1890. Otváral ho cisár František Jozef I., a preto ho na jeho počesť aj tako-

pomenovali. Počas druhej svetovej vojny ho nemecké vojsko zbombardovalo a niektoré časti padli do Dunaja. Sovietska armáda ho z vojenskoooperačných dôvodov ihneď zrekonštruovala a tak slúži dodnes. Z pôvodnej historickej stavby mosta Františka Jozefa I. sú doteraz zachované tri riečne a tri pobrežné piliere z opracovaného kameňa, s architektonickými detailmi, na oboch brehoch šikmé mostné najazdy s čelnými opornými múrmi z opracovaného kameňa, dva mýtné domčeky a vonkajšie kamenné schodiská, vedúce k mýtnym domčekom z úrovne nábreží. Typ mostnej konštrukcie je dnes už historický a unikátny.