Softball enthusiasts enjoy annual fraternal competition at Kirby Park Softball Fields

Top Honors at the 27th International Softball Tournament Held in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Include the Group 1A team, 1st place; the Group 5 team, 2nd place and the Group 6 team 3rd place

MVP Award goes to veteran Group 5 Sokol activist Michael Macko of Assembly 167 in Barberton, Oh.

Group 7 “Rev. Joseph Murgas” of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. served again as the gracious host for the 27th International Softball Tournament held on Saturday, July 12 at the Kirby Park Softball Fields located next to the Susquehanna River in Wilkes-Barre. The Gus Genetti Best Western Hotel in downtown Wilkes-Barre served as the host hotel for the 2014 tournament and provided great accommodations along with a hot buffet breakfast on Saturday and Sunday morning for all participants.

Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller, James C. Matlon, Assistant Sports Director and Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Marty Degnan took care of all the arrangements and equipment for this important annual sporting event. The weather for the entire weekend was picture perfect for a softball tournament in July. As many know, July always has the possibility of an over- abundance of heat and humidity in Wilkes-Barre as it is situated in the valley. The Board of Directors, who had been present on Friday for their quarterly meeting in Wilkes-Barre, came to Kirby Park on Saturday. Directors who joined us for the softball competition included Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Supreme Treasurer Dennis J. Zificak, General Counsel, Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors Michael J. Horvath, Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich and Supreme Physical Director Kathleen M. Watkins.

The players arrived at Kirby Park early to get warmed up and stretched as the first two games were scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. The defending champions from last year, Group 1A, Passaic, NJ, took the first place honors at the 27th International Softball Tournament held on Saturday. Directors who joined us for the softball competition included Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Supreme Treasurer Dennis J. Zificak, General Counsel, Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors Michael J. Horvath, Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich and Supreme Physical Director Kathleen M. Watkins.

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**Scenes of the 84th Annual Milwaukee Slovak Day Observance held on July 13**

*Mass and cultural program held at the Croatian Park in Franklin, Wisconsin*

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**Slovak Catholic Sokol Children’s Camp Schedule, August 14-17**

**CAMP FITCH**

12600 Abels Road + North Springfield, Pa. + tel. 877-863-4824

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<th>Wednesday</th>
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We are only a few short weeks away from this new first-ever, Slovak Catholic Sokol venture for our young people. There are many fun and exciting activities for our campers. Each morning before breakfast, early risers can enjoy swimming at the pool (the Polar Bear). After breakfast each day, there will be a plethora of activities from morning until evening. In the next few weeks, all campers will receive a packing list, medical release form and schedule. We are looking forward to seeing you all at Camp Fitch.

Zdar Boh!

**Kathleen S. Watkins**

*Supreme Physical Fitness Board*
CELEBRATING THE JOYS OF SUMMER

As we find ourselves in the middle of summer, I hope that you and your family has enjoyed or will soon enjoy some well-deserved vacation time. All of us need the opportunity get away from our regular routine and so to speak, take time to smell the roses. Summer is an exciting time of the year in which we have the opportunity to participate in so many outdoor activities. These include numerous parish and society picnics and festivals, Slovak Day observances, concerts and weekend gatherings in which every member of the family may participate. It is interesting to note that some of our Slovak Day observances have enjoyed success for many decades. Pittsburgh celebrated its 91st Annual Slovak Day while Milwaukee hosted its 84th Slovak Day this summer. I commend these communities for hosting these celebrations of Slovak pride. Our members are active in numerous such gatherings in various parts of the U.S. and Canada.

And of course, I am pleased that our organization hosts numerous annual events and activities for every member of the family. I was pleased to participate in our recent 27th International Softball Tournament in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. It was great to see many veteran and first time participants. I congratulate the Group A 1 team which took first place honors at this summer’s competition for the second year in a row. I likewise congratulate Brother Michael Macko, a member of Assembly 167 in Barberton, Oh. who played on behalf of Group 5, who was awarded the Most Valuable Player Award at this fraternal competition. He is a veteran of many of our softball and golf tournaments. There is great spirit and enthusiasm at the tournament and I know that an enjoyable fraternal weekend was had by all.

We look ahead to another summer favorite of our organization, our 59th International Golf Tournament which will be held in West Middlesex, Pa. this coming weekend. With outstanding facilities, great courses and topnotch amenities, we anticipate another great fraternal weekend competition in the best traditions of Sokol good sportsmanship and fraternalism. Our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics reports a good number of golfers have registered for this event.

Our organization will host its first-ever summer camp program for our youngest members. From August 14-17, our youngsters will participate in Camp Fitch located in North Springfield, Pa. This camp is centrally located for the convenience of our members. We are very excited about this new program and hope that our youngsters will gain a greater knowledge of our organization and its many programs that we offer. In conjunction with the summer camp program, the Supreme Physical Education Board will host our Supreme Clinic, Kurz in preparation for next summer’s 47th International Sokol. I wish both of these events much success and an enjoyable time.

Our Supreme Board of Directors met recently for their quarterly meeting in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. All of us are very proud of the steady and consistent progress being made in all areas of our organization. Considering the current economic challenges, our portfolio and membership status are doing remarkably well. We are achieving some historic records for our organization. We currently have $175 million of insurance in force, a record. Our membership and annuity income as well. All of this has contributed to our strong portfolio. Of course, the most essential way of promoting new membership over the years has been word of mouth with our own family and circle of friends. There’s no replacing the hands-on experience of sharing what it means to be a member and the many benefits we offer.

Remember, an insurance policy helps establish a foundation for a lifetime of security. Whether its a newborn, a toddler or teen, an insurance policy with us provides a memorable gift that grandparent can provide for their grandchildren. Over the years, many of our members were enrolled by their grandparents. Our young members enjoy numerous benefits, our Slets, our various sporting competitions as well as our all-important scholarship program. This year, we were able to assist a total of 64 youngsters pursuant their educational goals. To date, nearly $1.5 million has supported our scholarship program. With our college members heading off to school in just a few weeks, providing sufficient life insurance coverage is important. Grandparents can help by purchasing additional life insurance coverage for them. Premiums are lower at younger ages, and the child’s insurability is protected. Later in life, health issues such as high blood pressure, obesity, cancer or diabetes can affect insurability. In short, there is peace of mind. Young people, especially those going off to college, need the additional protection which they need in their hectic campus lives. Grandparents, giving them the gift of additional insurance protection, whole life or term, shows you care about their future. So grandparents, think about it and consider enrolling all your grandchildren or increase their insurance coverage. In short, our products are easy to understand, cost efficient and helpful. If you have any questions regarding any of our insurance or annuity products, feel free to contact our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Sues, Jr. F.I.C. at tel. 1-888-381-5431 or (412)381-5431, who will be pleased to assist you. Or give us a call at the Home Office at 1-800-886-7656.

A bit of history. As you know, this summer we commemorate the centennial of the start of the First World War. The “Great War” was thought to end all wars. While the United States did not enter the war until 1917, Slovak and Czech immigrants in the United States wanted to aid the Allied cause. As Americans, these immigrants valued freedom and liberty and wanted to aid their Slovak and Czech brethren who were subjects of the Austro-Hungarian Empire where they had no voice in their national aspirations. Many of those immigrants, including some of our members, beginning in 1914 volunteered to serve as members of the Czech and Slovak Legion to fight against the Central Powers. These Legionsaries served on various fronts and aided the Western Allies, which included England, France and Russia. When the United States entered the war, they volunteered to serve in our country’s various armed forces. Some of our earliest members were veterans of the First World War with several making the supreme sacrifice. It was the first time that our members had the opportunity to help defend our American way of life. We reverence their memory and thank them dearly.

Today we currently debate the immigration issue. We are all descendants of immigrants. It is important however to note that our ancestors came here legally. Our ancestors came to the United States to seek liberty and freedom and to begin a new life for themselves and their families. Many of them encountered difficulties and many made great sacrifices. They came here to become Americans and were willing to defend our newly adopted country. Over the past 100 years, members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol have served our country in various conflicts, including a number who made the supreme sacrifice.

Sokol members are proud to be able to express our personal and organizational thanks to one of our Home Office employees who after 40 years of dedicated and loyal service will be retiring effective July 31, 2014. Billie L. Moakley who has been responsible for death claims and cash surrenders among other duties here at the Home Of- fice will truly be missed. I would like to wish her all the very best during her retirement and express our sincerest thanks to her. God bless you Billie.

Until next time, have a great week, enjoy the summer, good health to all and peace be with you. Zdar Boh!
Jotings from Sokol and Slovak Life

REFLECTOR ...

99th Annual Milwaukee Area Pilgrimage set for Labor Day

Continuing in a time-honored Slovak faith tradition that spans nearly a century, the annual Holy Hill Pilgrimage honoring the Mother of God is scheduled for Labor Day, September 1 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians located at 1525 Carmel Road in Hubertus, Wis., a Milwaukee suburb. This year’s pilgrimage will mark the 99th anniversary of the annual event. Catholics from across the Archdiocese of Milwaukee will participate in the Labor Day pilgrimage which had its beginnings in 1915 when Slovaks at the former St. Stephen the Martyr Slovak Parish wanted to continue the beloved pilgrimage tradition honoring the Mother of God at the Holy Hill Monastery of the Discalced Carmelites. Throughout the summer months, in Slovakia, the faithful participated in numerous pilgrimages to the various beloved Marian shrines which dot the landscape. So for the past 99 years, generations of Milwaukee Slovaks and their descendants have participated in the annual Labor Day Pilgrimage to Holy Hill.

The program on September 1 begins with the outdoor Stations of the Cross celebrated at 8:30 a.m. at the bottom of the hill. At 9:30 a.m. Mass in Slovak will be celebrated in the Shrine’s upper church with the Rev. Joseph Hornacek as celebrant. A beautiful ritual takes place during the recitation and singing of the Stations when young girls carry the statue of Our Lady on their shoulders, bedecked with colorful streams of ribbons and rosemary.

Area Sokols and Sokolky, as has been their tradition for generations, are invited to again participate in this beautiful pilgrimage tradition of the Milwaukee area Slovak community. For additional information on this year’s pilgrimage, call Betty Valent at (414)425-6137 or Emily Kossos at (414)464-1063.

August activities at the National Czech and Slovak Museum

The National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa serves as a cultural center promoting Czech and Slovak awareness in the United States. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of this cultural treasure. Throughout 2014, the museum is hosting a number of cultural events to mark the anniversary. The museum is located 1-400 Inspiration Place, South West in the heart of the Czech Village in Cedar Rapids, Ia. Museum hours are Monday-Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 12 noon to 4 p.m.

During the month of August, the museum will host a number of events, earmarked for summer travelers. The Curator Guided Tour of Celebration, Rituals and Remedy of Life will be featured on Saturday, August 9 beginning at 1 p.m. The Curator, Stefanie Kohn will offer an in-depth look at this exhibit from the National Museum in Prague. You’ll learn about traditions, from the most celebrated to the most obscure.

On Wednesday, August 13, Bobbin Lace Making demonstration will be featured from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Members of the Doris Southard Lace Guild will demonstrate their beautiful craft. Also on August 13, a special presentation, “KvetkyTEAS,” Czech and Slovak Glass and Garnets will be featured beginning at 1 p.m. Bob Schaffer, owner of the Czech Cottage in Cedar Rapids and Catherine Otto, director of the Museum Store will offer an afternoon of tea, coffee, and treats. Learn about the traditions and history behind the making of Czech and Slovak glass, and find out why garnets are such a special keepsake.

A special program titled, “From the Collection: Phonographs” will be featured on Saturday, August 16 beginning at 1 p.m. Using examples from the library's extensive phonograph record and sheet collections and learn how the American market for Czech and Slovak music differed from that of its European counterpart. The program will include playing 78 rpm and 33 rpm records featuring different musical genres like folk, classical, dance and rock.

All of the above special programs in August are free of charge with the museum admission ticket and are held in the Skala Birtual Library. Hours at the Skala Birtual Library are Tuesday to Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The current building of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library was dedicated in 1995 by President Bill Clinton, Czech Republic President, the late Vaclav Havel and Michal Kovac, then president of Slovakia. The museum hosts thousands of guests annually from around the world. The facility is a fitting tribute to the rich heritage kept alive through the centuries of hardships and remarkable achievements. Visitors are encouraged to explore the museum’s extensive research library and state-of-the-art exhibitions, as well as 19th century life on a guided tour of the restored Immigrant Home. Traditions come alive through cookware, musical instruments, toys, furniture and much more - all made or used from early Czech and Slovak immigrants. The facility’s Museum Store hosts an array of imported crystal, porcelain, Christmas ornaments and arts and crafts from both the Czech and Slovak Republics. For additional information on the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, call tel.(319)362-8500 or visit www.NCSML.org.

Minneapolis parish picnic on August 17

SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Minneapolis, Minn. will host its annual Summer Festival on Sunday, August 17 on the parish grounds, located at 1315 Second Street, N.E. The festival begins with Mass celebrated in church at 10:30 a.m. Festivities continue throughout the day, concluding at 5 p.m. with the traditional cash raffle drawing.

There will be Slovak and Spanish culinary specialties along with traditional American picnic favorites available throughout the afternoon. There will be games for children, cake walk, pull-tabs, refreshments and door prizes available. An enjoyable summer afternoon is assured.

All Sokol members of both Assembly 34 and Wreath 47 are invited to participate. In the best traditions of fraternal outreach, members will be volunteering at the food and game booths. Members are invited to register at the Big Raffle Booth for a free cash raffle entry and a food/refreshment ticket, compliments of our Sokol lodges. This activity replaces our annual family picnic.

Founded in 1891, the Minneapolis parish is the oldest existing Slovak parish in the United States under the patronage of the Apostles of the Slavs, SS. Cyril and Methodius. Since 1910, our Sokol lodges have been active in the parish. Father Edson Galarza, O.C.S.S.S. is administrator of the parish.

We look forward to seeing a great turnout of Sokols and Sokolky at this year’s Summer Festival.

Zdar Bob!

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary
Assembly 34

Gospel for the Eighteenth Sunday of the Year – A ugust 3rd

Matthew 14: 13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew to a boat to a deserted place by himself

The crowds heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns.

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick.

When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, “This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said to them, “There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves.” But they said to him, “Five loaves and two fish are all we have here.”

Then he said, “Bring them here to me,” and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over twelve wicker baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Nineteenth Sunday of the Year – August 10th

Matthew 14: 22-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

After he had fed the people, Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray.

When it was evening he was there alone. Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles of shore, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it.

During the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them walking on the sea.

When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified.

“It is a ghost,” they said, and they cried out in fear.
Promoting good health

Sokol Walking Program Update
by Katie Swife
Supreme Assistant Physical Directress

Summer Time has arrived! After going through a very long and severe winter season, the warmth of summer is very welcome. I do hope that you have the opportunity to enjoy various outdoor activities during the summer months. Before we all know it, autumn will soon be here. Most of you know that winter is my favorite season, so I am already looking forward to the colder weather.

While summer is an excellent time for walking and exercise, some tips need to be kept in mind. We should make it a point to exercise and stay fit. New members are always welcome. Let us do our part to continue to promote good health and promote our ageless Sokol slogan of “A sound mind in a sound body!” Enjoy the rest of the summer and remember to get out there and get moving. Any walking will add to better health! Zidar Bob!

Katie Swift
Katie@oul.com
6509 Billings Lake Road
Columbus, GA 31909
312-303-3338 (cell)
909-522-4086 (home)

I invite more of our members to join us in our walking program. Walking is an excellent way to exercise and stay fit. New members are always welcome. Let us all do our part to continue to promote good health and promote our ageless Sokol slogan of “A sound mind in a sound body!” Enjoy the rest of the summer and remember to get out there and get moving. Any walking will add to better health! Zidar Bob!

Lodge Jottings

WHITING, IND. Wreath 81

Continuing in our long-standing fraternal tradition, the officers are planning our annual Summer Picnic on Sunday, August 3rd at the Sacred Heart Rose Room located at 1723 Laporte Avenue beginning at 12 noon. Members will be free of charge. Guests are welcome at a charge of $5.00 each. We are asking those planning to attend to contact Judy Strisko at tel. (219)659-6743.

(Continued on page 13)

DO YOU KNOW THE WHERE ABOUTS OF THESE PEOPLE?

Please call us at 1-800-886-7656

Name Lodge

ILLINOIS
Robert Zuelb S-111
Jo Ann Vermette S-111

MASSACHUSETTS
Brian D. Richard S-028
John T. Nieviedgal, III S-028

NEW JERSEY
Steven Michael Grivalsky S-024
Melissa Greffe V-006
Joseph Andrew Gallo S-288
Roseanne Crociotto S-162
Nina Kvaterek S-162

NEW YORK
Kevin Michael Killoran S-185
Erich John Killoran S-185
Alexandra Ilona Rodriguez V-025
S-182

OHIO
Michael J. Pavelek S-039
Joseph John Cassese S-026
James Anthony Campana S-026
Justine Pezzonne Russell S-026
Charles S. Motosko S-108
Joyce H. Motosko V-054
Jessa Aron Matt V-034
Ciara J. Gaino S-108

PENNSYLVANIA
Edward Albert Kassak S-189
Lynn Butczynski S-059
Karen Marie Kaminski S-083
Mark Edward Kaminski S-083
Stephen James Markley S-032
Kiley Beth Shevetz V-029
Lynn Kassak S-189
Anastasia Roditis V-013

SOLVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL
68TH INTERNATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT
MAY 16TH - 18TH 2014

TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME
Prize Money Allotment Home Office Allocation - May 2014 $1,800.00
Prize Money Collected from Bowlers $2,670.00
Banquet Allotment Home Office Allocation - May 2014 $3,250.00
Banquet Fees Collected from Bowlers $2,525.00
Entry Fees Collected from Bowlers $3,360.00
Donation Holiday Inn Express $400.00

TOTAL INCOME $40,015.00

EXPENSES

Men’s Prize Money Published and Distributed - july 2014 $2,400.00
Women’s Prize Money Published and Distributed - july 2014 $1,050.00
Awards TIA Consultants - #3662 $65.00
Tourament Trophies Brett Harris - #1663 $640.00
Souvenirs HDS Marketing - #1655 $1,117.84
Cost of Bowling Super Bowl Lanes - #1657 $2,010.00
Printing Banquet/Hospitality Tickets - #1660 $100.00
Services Rendered Schedules, Handouts, etc. - #1661 $100.00
Saturday Banquet Fellows Creek Golf Club - #1656 $4,600.00
Hospitality Super Bowl Lanes - #1658 $1,300.00
Local Assistance Bowling Manager, etc. - #1659 $100.00
Postage/Courier Prize Money Distribution - #1664 $150.00

TOTAL EXPENSES $13,642.91

TOTAL INCOME/ EXPENSES Returned to H/O July 11th - #1665 $ 372.36

UNPAID ENDOWMENTS BY STATE

Name Lodge

CA CANADA
Patricia Lynn Olliva S-227
Cynthia Veronica Raytek S-227
James Edward Simon S-227
Kathy Raytek S-227
Paul Raytek S-227
Jimme Gmaz S-227
Greg Gmaz S-227
Caroline Gmaz S-227
Tim Turosky S-227
Susan Ann Babichnak S-227

OHIO
Melissa Ann McFadden S-239
Caara Madeline Shopa V-013
Kristen Lynn Shevetz V-029
Jacqueline Dolores Byrne V-032
Patricia Pedone S-189
Bradley Roy Webb S-082
Christopher Plaviak S-059
Howard Andrew Kiesel S-016
William John Shupp Byrne S-078
Dennis Francis Keller S-048
Phyllis J. Graham S-206
Jeffrey Michael Lippert S-016
Matthew Stephen Tomko S-048
Brien Leigh Fraser S-056
Amber Rose Nemchak V-032
Joanne Kuchta V-022
Laura Plaviak S-059
Norman Charles Farland S-206
Elizabeth M. Kassell S-206
Derek Matthew Husar S-048
Theresa Marie Keller S-048
Jamie R. (Smith) Johns S-239
David John Husar S-048
Vanessa Rose Schafer S-189
Devon Elizabeth Husar S-048
Rosemary Finkel V-022

FLORIDA
Matthew G. Mensching S-313
All is in readiness for the 2014 Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar, under the auspices of the Slovak Catholic Federation, scheduled for Sunday, September 21. The annual event will be held at the Calumet College of St. Joseph, located at 2400 New York Avenue in Whiting, Ind. The program begins with a delicious luncheon catered by Steve’s Lounge of Hegewisch at 1 p.m. Following the luncheon, Monsignor Joseph P. Semancik, Ph.D. will offer a presentation on the life and legacy of the Most Reverend Andrew G. Grutka, the first Bishop of Gary, Ind. Bishop Grutka, who was very proud of his Slovak heritage, was an important figure in the life of the American Slovak community. The Joliet, Ill. native headed the Gary Diocese from 1957 until his retirement in 1984. Following his retirement, Bishop Grutka continued his interest and activity within the world-wide Slovak community. He passed away in November 1993. The presenter, Monsignor Semancik is a well-known retired priest of the Diocese of Gary. He is the retired pastor of the former Sacred Heart Slovak parish in East Chicago, Ind. and served for many years as director of Catholic Charities in the Gary Diocese. In addition, he also served as chairman of the board of Catholic Charities, U.S.A., the largest charitable non-profit outreach institution in the country.

Following the presentation, seminar participants will have the opportunity to tour the Bishop Grutka Memorial Museum located at the college. The interesting and colorful museum, dedicated in February 2013, chronicles the life and times of Bishop Grutka. Cost of the seminar and luncheon is $20.00 per person. Reservations are necessary. For information and reservations call John Jurcenko at (773)763-0810 or Geri Hlekto at (708)387-7812. These annual seminars offer a wonderful opportunity for those interested in their Slovak heritage and faith traditions to come together to celebrate their pride and enjoy one another’s company. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. We look forward to seeing many midwest Sokols and Sokolky at this year’s pastoral seminar.

Zdar Boh! 
Robert Tabak Magruder 
Seminar Publicist

Gospel for the Nineteenth Sunday of the Year

(Continued from page 4)

At once Jesus spoke to them, “Take courage; it is I; do not be afraid.” Peter said to him in reply, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.”

Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”

Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”

After they got into the boat, the wind died down. Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying, “Truly, you are the Son of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
27th International Softball Tournament

(Continued from page 1)

in the 5th inning, Group 6, Perryopolis, Pa., did not tally their first run until the 3rd inning as Doug Stockey led off with a single and scored on an infield out. In the 4th inning Jared Russell, Ryan Novotney and Ryan Keebler all scored runs as Perryopolis took a 4-3 lead. In the 5th inning Cole Novotney led off with a double and scored the first of three runs as Perryopolis, built up a 7-3 lead. In the bottom of the 5th inning Dan Dawson, Jay Macko and Chris Macko all scored runs to cut the lead to one run, but the 6th and 7th innings no runs were scored and Group 6 held on for a 7-6 victory.

In the third game of the day, Group 6 defeated Group 7B by a final score of 18-5. Group 6 was led by Jared Rushsell who was 4 for 4, and scored three runs and Mikey Matras and Greg Rabatin both hit singles and scored 2 runs in the 5th inning. Group 6 added a run in the third inning as Jared Russell scored after leading off with a single. Group 6 got out of further trouble as two runners were left stranded in scoring position with only one out. Group 7B scored three runs to take a 5-3 lead. Paul Macko, Danny Dawson and Ryan Blizzard got consecutive hits and scored on a double by Andy Lipovsky andfielders choice by Brian Macko. In the bottom of the 5th inning Greg Rabatin and AJ Novotney scored runs for Perryopolis to tie the games in the 5th inning. In the top of the 7th, Cleveland scored 5 runs to take a 10-5, just three outs from a match-up with the undefeated Group 1A team. Consecutive hits by Chris Macko, Dan Macko, Paul Macko, Don Macko, Danny Macko and Ryan Blizzard plated four of the five runs.

In the bottom of the 7th inning Group 6 got hits from Dave Matty, Cole Novotney and Jared Russell, but were unable to score any additional runs.

At 3:30 in the afternoon, a valiant Group 5 team, got ready to play their 5th game of the day in the past 6 hours, taking on defending champions Group 1A from Passaic, NJ, who were only playing their third game of the day. After a scoreless first inning Danny Macko and Ryan Blizzard both scored in the bottom of the second inning. Group 5 took the lead 2-0 lead. Group 1A scored three runs in the top of the third, as Kevin Lomonico, Ryan Olson, Then each had a hit and Kevin Malone knocked in two runs and scored a run for a 3-2 lead. Group 5 answered back with four runs as Paul Macko, Don Macko, Danny Dawson, Ryan Blizzard scored for Group 5 in the bottom of the 3rd inning. Group 6 added two runs in the bottom of the 4th inning as Mike Meritt scored a run and Danny Dawson scored a run for Group 5. The score was 8-4, as Group 5 scored four runs in the top of the 5th inning. Greg Rabatin and AJ Novotney scored for a 3-2 lead. Group 5 went on to score 12 more runs in the 5th inning and Group 5 added two runs in the top of the 5th inning as Donnie Macko and Macko Paul, Matty, Eric Topczaj and Several players scored for Group 5 in the bottom of the 5th inning.

In the bottom of the 5th inning Group 1A, captured the Group 5 team that included three players so that we will have at least 7 members for all of the players to stay in shape and get ready to come back next year for the 28th International Softball Tournament. After the awards and pictures were taken, the participants and guests enjoyed a delicious barbecue picnic that included hamburgers, hot dogs, with all of the fixings, pasta salad, soft drinks and cookies. The players and guests all enjoyed the friendly hospitality of the host, Group 7, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Let’s keep the momentum going and make plans now to add a few more teams for the 2015 softball tournament that hopefully will include a lot of young players to keep the tournament going for many years to come. This is truly a great team sport event that appeals to all ages, as we had many teenage players in the tournament and even a handful of players over the age of 40. If you have any thoughts or ideas on how to improve and grow the softball tournament, please contact me via telephone or e-mail. Stay healthy and we hope to see you next year for the 28th International Softball Tournament.

Zidar Bobi!

4th place honors at the 27th International Softball Tournament went to the host team of Group 7, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Members of the team are shown above and include, seated from the left, Phil Walsh, Scott Hvoslovic, Eric Drevitch, Mike Meritt, Josh Hvoslovic, Paul Zablotney and Damian Lendacky. Standing, l-r, Rob Palchanis, Andrew Palchanis, PJ Durang, Steve Hvoslovic, Justin Graham, Cliff Frances, Steve Hvoslovic, Jr. and Dave Check.
David Patrick Begany, S.S.J., Ordained to the Sacred Priesthood for The Josephites in Washington, D.C.

by Susan Knoblauh
Recording Secretary, Assembly 78


The congregation stood in anticipation and joined the St. Luke choir as they sang “Priestly People,” as more than 45 priests processed down the aisle, following the Knights of Peter Claver and the their Ladies Auxiliary. The candidate to be ordained at the end of the procession, with hands folded and his face radiant with joy, entered the front pew and sat next to his mother and family.

Bishop John Ricard, S.S.J., bishop emeritus of Pensacola-Tallahassee, and rector of St. Joseph Seminary in Washington, D.C., served as the principal celebrant and ordaining bishop. He welcomed the congregation, especially the Begany family, who traveled from Pennsylvania to attend.

“We ask God’s blessings and the power of the Holy Spirit on David as he is to be ordained,” prayed Bishop Ricard. “We are here to ask God’s graces and blessings on David so he will be effective and a good herald of God’s good news.”

When he mentioned that several other Josephites were from Pennsylvania, smiles and scattered applause broke out amongst the congregation.

In his homily, the bishop spoke of the work of the Holy Spirit, who transformed Saul, former persecutor of Christians, into St. Paul as a chosen vessel through whom many were brought to Jesus Christ. “All of the priests here are chosen vessels.” Bishop Ricard said, adding that it is a lofty calling that is affirmed by the laying on of hands and by the way priests live and serve in ministry of Jesus. “Centuries later, He still calls people to leave all behind and follow Him,” the bishop said.

The Rite of Ordination began with the Presentation of the Candidate, who responded, “I am present.” The Promise of the Elect with the Promise of Obedience were followed by the Litany of Supplication, while Deacon Begany prostrated himself as the congregation knelt and invoked the intercession of all the saints.

He knelt in front of Bishop Ricard for the laying on of hands and the Prayer of Ordination. All the priests present then came forward to also place their hands on his head.

Applause broke out, followed by a standing ovation when the newly ordained Father David Begany turned to the congregation.

The Josephites congratulated and welcomed him to the priesthood at the Kness of Peace with hearty pats on the back, hugs and embraces.

Father Begany’s mother, brother and sister-in-law presented the gifts to the Oblate. For the remainder of the Mass, Father Begany served as First Concelebrant, next to Bishop Ricard, and fellow Josephite priests. With outstretched hands, he shared in the Consecration in the words of Christ at the Last Supper.

At the end of Mass, Father William Norvell, S.S.J., superior general of the Josephites, congratulated Father Begany and announced his first assignment as parochial vicar of Corpus Christi-Epiphany parish in New Orleans. He also thanked his mother for the great gift of her son to the Josephites.

“Thank you to all who have been a support to him,” said Father Novel, requesting their continued prayers.

“He needs your prayers more than ever before.”

As Father Begany processed down the aisle following the ceremony, applause broke out amongst the congregation in approval.

“I am looking forward to being a public witness for Jesus Christ,” said Father Begany. “I hope to use my life experiences to benefit the African-American community.”

His mother, Helen Begany, said that her son was always a very selfless person. “He’s been involved in all kinds of altruistic pursuits,” she said, “He was always a good person.”

Father Begany is the son of Helen Begany and the late Stephen C. Begany.

Father Begany celebrated his First Solemn Mass on June 1, 2014 at St. Luke Catholic Church in Washington, D.C.

On June 8, 2014, Father Begany celebrated mass at St. Ursula Catholic Church in Fountain Hill, PA, where he grew up. The mass was followed by a reception at the school for Father Begany’s family and friends.

The following officers from Assembly 78 attended the mass and reception: President George Kostelnik, Vice President/Sports Director Francis Blanar, Recording Secretary Susan Knoblauh, and Lead Auditor Paulette Blanar.

On June 28, 2014, Father Begany concelebrated mass at Incarnation of Our Lord Catholic Church in Bethlehem, Pa. (Father Clifford Bishop celebrated mass). At the end of mass Father Begany thanked the Sokols for their support and praised their adherence to Christian principles.

Father Begany served as a Trustee for Assembly 78 for several years, and he also served as Recording Secretary for Group 10.

The St. Joseph Society of the Sacred Heart (The Josephites) is a congregation of priests and brothers whose exclusive mission is to serve the African-American community. Founded after the Civil War to minister to newly freed slaves, the organization has served the African-American community since 1871. The Society supports in parishes and special ministries, across the East and West Coast.
Slovak Boys’ Choir to visit Northeastern Pennsylvania
Bratislava Boys’ Choir to present two regional concerts in honor of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Father Joseph Murgas, “Radio’s forgotten genius”

The acclaimed Bratislava Boys’ Choir from Slovakia’s capital city will perform two benefit concerts in Northeastern Pennsylvania this September in celebration of the one hundred fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Father Joseph Murgas, pioneer in wireless telegraphy who is often referred to as “Radio’s forgotten genius.”

The first performance will take place on Friday, September 19 at St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church, located at 35 South Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre beginning at 7:30 p.m. A second benefit performance is scheduled for St. Peter’s Cathedral located at 315 Wyoming Avenue in Scranton beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 20. These concerts are free of charge, however a free-will offering of $15.00 is suggested. The local performances are being sponsored by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania in cooperation with World Artists Experiences and the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic. Families from Good Shepherd Academy in Kingston, Pa. are coordinating home stay for the boys.

A pioneer in the development of radio, Father Murgas, a native of Tajov, Slovakia, was the first to demonstrate the transmission of wireless telegraphy over land between Wilkes-Barre and Scranton in 1905. In addition to his important contributions to science and wireless telegraphy, Father Murgas was an accomplished artist, botanist, and founding pastor and architect of Sacred Heart Slovak Church in Wilkes-Barre’s North End. He was also the founder of the Slovak Catholic Federation, the representative body of American Catholics of Slovak ancestry.

Founded in 1982 by Dr. Magdalena Rovnakova, the Bratislava Boys’ Choir is part of a private music school enrolling about ninety students, ages seven through twenty-eight. The choir’s repertoire features a wide variety of both sacred and secular works including Gregorian chant, Renaissance polyphony, concert Masses, arrangements of folk songs, and works by contemporary composers. The widely traveled choir has collaborated with the Slovak Philharmonic, the Vienna Symphony, and the Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra in addition to recording seven compact discs. The boys have also been featured in the soundtracks of several television movies.

For additional information on these upcoming concerts of the Bratislava Boys’ Choir, please contact Michael Stretanski at tel. 570-287-6554 or email Raphael Micca at rdmicca@aol.com. For more information on the activities of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania, visit www.shsnepa.org.

The Bratislava Boys’ Choir performing at St. Martin’s Cathedral in the Slovak capital.

Plan to participate

Group Annual Meetings Announced

Group 2, “Rev. Stephen Paník” - This year’s annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 28. Complete details will be forthcoming.

Group 4, “Bishop Stefan Moyz” - Members are hereby notified that this year’s annual meeting will take place on Saturday, September 13 at the Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare Franklin Facility located at 10101 South 27th Street in Franklin, Wis. The meeting will be called to order promptly at 10 a.m. A luncheon will be served at 12 noon. The meeting will resume at 1 p.m. The cost of the luncheon will be $15.00 per person. Lunch payments, made payable to Slovak Catholic Sokol Group 4 along with the completed delegate form should be returned by our Assemblies and Wreaths no later than August 15. This is necessary to guarantee our luncheon arrangement. Group 4 officers need to notify the Secretary, Julie Ann Dobbs, 3514 Agatha Turn, Racine, WI 53402, tel. 262-681-1720, jdobbs2@wiscrr.com prior to August 15 if they are UNABLE to attend the annual meeting. We hope to see all our Assemblies and Wreaths in Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin represented at this important meeting. Important issues related to our fraternal activities will be discussed and input from all our lodges will insure their success. We hope to address any concerns and look forward to hearing some new ideas.

Zdar Boh! Plan now to be there!

Andrea Ames Papcun
President
Madeline Stanek
Secretary

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND SAVE THE DATES!

August 1 - 5, 2015

Groups - Assemblies - Wreaths
for the
32ND QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION
at the
Doubletree By Hilton
Pittsburgh - Greentree
500 Mansfield Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Zdar Boh!
Plan now to be there!

Tony L. Scugik
President
Julie Ann Dobbs
Secretary

Group 16, “Rev. Ferdís Juriga” - This year’s annual meeting is set for Saturday, September 20 in Sterling Heights, Mich. The meeting will be held in SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, located at 41233 Ryan Road/18 Mile Road) in Sterling Heights, Mich. Hosting this year’s annual meeting will be Assembly 36 of Detroit. Our program will begin with the officers and delegates attending the 4 p.m. Vigil Mass in church. The liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 16 by our chaplain and pastor of the parish, Father Benjamin Kosnac. Following the Mass, our meeting will be called to order in the Heritage Room in the parish building. We have enjoyed an busy fraternal year and we look forward to continued activity in the year ahead. We hope to see all our officers in attendance. We extend a cordial invitation to all our members to attend.

Zdar Boh!

Andrea Ames Papcun
President
Madeline Stanek
Secretary
U.S. President Obama congratulates Kiska on assuming the presidency

U.S. President Barack Obama has congratulated newly-elected Slovak President Andrej Kiska on taking up his presidential duties, Kiska’s official presidential website announced on July 7.

In his congratulatory letter, President Obama expressed his conviction that with Kiska as head of state, Slovakia will continue to endorse peace and economic growth in the region and the whole world. The U.S. President also praised Kiska for promoting transparency and the rule of law.

Describing Slovakia as one of the key partners of the United States and highlighting the country’s membership in the European Union and NATO, Obama assured Kiska of the U.S.A.’s firm obligations with respect to defending the countries’ joint security.

Obama at the same time pronounced the readiness of his office to engage in cooperation with the Slovak president as regards energy security, support for Afghanistan’s stability, and assistance to the people of Ukraine on their journey towards security and future prosperity.

The political novice Kiska was elected in a presidential election run-off against Prime Minister Robert Fico on March 29. He was sworn in as president on June 15.

54th edition of Slovak language and culture Summer school begins

A total of 62 foreigners and compatriots from the United States, Canada, France, Italy, Serbia, China, Russia and the Philippines are participating in the 54th annual Slovak Language and Culture Summer School which began on July 7.

The summer school is organized by Comenius University in Bratislava and will be held until July 25 in Modra.

“Most of the participants are of Slovak ancestry who are studying Slovak for various reasons. They either have Slovak ancestors or have been studying the language in their home country, or they want to continue studying at a university in Slovakia,” said Janka Chladecka, director of the Comenius University Department for Continuing Education. Summer school is aimed at teaching the basics and improving Slovak language skills.

In addition to intensive language training, students will also be able to take part in meetings and discussions with various Slovak personalities - for example, with writer Michal Hvorecky, linguist Sibyla Mislivcova and theatre critic Julia Benova.

The schedule also includes a tour of Bratislava Castle and the Cerveny Kamen Castle near the Slovak capital, as well as a trip to other parts of Slovakia, during which students will visit the Orava and Zelina regions, the Low Tatras and Bojnice Castle, as well as many other interesting sites. “I am pleased that our university also has a part in the dissemination of Slovak culture far beyond the borders of Slovakia,” said the university’s rector, Karol Micieta.

Survey: Slovak youths prefer Internet to TV

Television is no longer the most influential medium for the current younger generation in Slovakia, with the internet now occupying the top spot instead, a survey on media consumption that TNS Slovakia released on July 10.

The Internet is currently the most widely used and trusted medium of all among the younger generation. Young people spend an average of four hours per day glued to the internet. With television, the time shrinks by half.

As many as 73 percent of the respondents called the internet the most informative medium, while 62 percent think it’s the most fun medium.

Television prevailed only in the realm of advertisements, as 56 percent thought that TV commercials are the most engaging while only 32 percent thought the same of online advertisements.

According to TNS Slovakia’s manager Vladimir Bunacikova, when it comes to printed newspapers, close to one-third of the youth don’t read any newspaper. Sixteen percent of the respondents don’t read any magazines. Those who do read printed papers and magazines prefer tabloid-style information.

The survey canvassed views from a sample of 1,500 respondents ages 12-26 between October and November 2013.

Kiska: Peace in Central Europe impossible without active Poland

Slovak President Andrej Kiska following a meeting with his Polish counterpart Bronislaw Komorowski in Warsaw on July 15 said that Slovakia must adopt a clear, responsible and honest attitude towards its NATO commitments.

Kiska welcomed Poland’s initiative to convene a meeting of the presidents of the Visegrad Four (V4) countries(Slovakia, Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic) and the Baltic states(Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia) ahead of the September NATO summit in Wales. The goal of the meeting will be to formulate a joint stance for those countries vis-a-vis the summit.

The Slovak president stressed that peace, prosperity and stability in Central Europe aren’t possible without Poland playing an active role. He described the V4 as a key platform and a pillar of regional cooperation.

According to Kiska, Slovakia perceives that the level of security in the region has deteriorated, and the country advocates joint defense projects in order to reduce costs.

Lajčák: South Korea is most important non-European investor in Slovakia

The Republic of Korea is the most important non-European investor in Slovakia, said Slovak Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajčák after meeting the head of South Korean diplomacy Yun Byung-se in Bratislava on July 17.

Yun is visiting Slovakia on the occasion of the first meeting of the Visegrad Four (V4) in the V4-plus format - in which a country outside of the grouping is invited to attend - since Slovakia assumed the presidency in the V4 group(Slovakia, Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic) on July 1.

“Kia and Samsung employ nearly 10,000 of our citizens, and nearly 90 Korean companies have come to Slovakia. All this creates a very strong basis for interest in maintaining our cooperation. We should do everything we can to make Korean investors in Slovakia happy and successful,” said Lajčák.

“Bilateral trade between Korea and Slovakia has grown significantly over the past decade. Last year it reached $5.2 billion. There are more than 90 Korean companies in Slovakia, which have invested $1.4 billion and play an important role in the economic development of the country,” stressed Yun.

Lajčák revealed that both countries want to strengthen mutual cooperation in the areas of research and development, culture, education and tourism. An agreement on Scientific and Technological cooperation that was signed last year in Seoul came into effect in April. The first ever meeting of a joint Slovak-Korean commission is due to take place in November. “We’re going to talk about cooperation between students and between trainee exchange programs, particularly for young people” said Lajčák.

Yun added that the two sides also discussed the possibility of opening a new course of Korean medicine at Comenius University in Bratislava.

Kiska sends condolences to Malaysian and Dutch leaders over jet crash

In response to the July 17 tragic crash of Malaysia Airlines jet on the Ukraine-Russia border, Slovak President Andrej Kiska has sent letters of condolences to Dutch King Willem-Alexander and Malaysian King Abdul Halim of Kedah, TASR learned on July 18.

In his condolences letters, President Kiska expressed his deep grief over the tragic destiny of the MH17 flight and voiced his heartfelt sympathy with the relatives of the victims.

Kiska at the same time expressed the strong belief that the cause and circumstances of the tragedy would be thoroughly investigated with assistance of international experts without delay.

According to the latest reports, none of the 298 people on board the Malaysia Airlines flight from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur survived. At least 173 passengers were Dutch nationals, while another one were from Malaysia, including 15 members of the crew.

Selected stories are provided by TASR-Slovakia, the Slovak Republic’s official News Agency.
Minutes of the Supreme Board of Directors Meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol

FIRST SESSION

Friday, July 11, 2014 – 9:00 a.m.

Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh Called to Order at the Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 11, 2014 in the Highland Park A Room at the Hilton Garden Inn located in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania and extended a warm welcome to all of the Board of Directors.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic was called upon to lead the Directors in the reciting of the Morning Prayer which was the Prayer to Place the Golden Rule and asked that we pray for all of our members who have passed away since our last meeting.

Acknowledged.

Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak led the Board members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supreme Secretary, Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. read the Roll Call and the following members were present:

Supreme Chaplain .......................................................... Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic
Supreme President ............................................................ Larry M. Glugosh
Supreme Treasurer ............................................................ Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Chairperson of the Supreme Directors ................................... Edward D. Moeller
Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors ................................... Michael J. Horvath
Supreme Secretary ............................................................ Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
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Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors ................................... Michael J. Horvath

President Glugosh inquired if any Communications were received for presentation.

President Glugosh thanked Brother Secretary and then called upon the Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller to present the report of the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics.

Mr. Moeller reported that the International Basketball/Volleyball Tournament scheduled for April 25-27, 2014 in DuBois, PA was cancelled due to a lack of teams registered to participate.

The International Bowling Tournament was held on May 16-18, 2014 at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton, MI. A total of 115 bowlers were in attendance for the weekend. The Financial Report has been completed and will be forwarded to the Home Office. A copy of the Income and Expense Report will also be forwarded to the Editor for publication in the Falcon.

Brother Moeller further reported that he received an email recently from Sue Ondrejco of the First Catholic Slovak Union asking if the Slovak Catholic Sokol would like to participate in the next Joint Bowling Tournament. He asked if she would send him information as to where and when they anticipate the tournament to take place. Also, if she would send him the rules they are using. He would talk about it at the meeting.

The Softball Tournament will take place this weekend with 5 men’s teams from four different Groups participating. This tournament will be played at Kirby Park with a picnic dinner to take place after the mass at the field.

The Golf Tournament is to be held at Tam-O-Shanter and Oaktree Golf Courses on August 1-3, 2014. Applications have begun to arrive and we are expecting over 100 golfers.

Lastly Brother Ed updated the Board on some of the sites being considered for the 2015 sports program.

May 15-17, 2015
Bowling
Wilkes-Barre, PA

June 26-28, 2015
Softball
Kirk Park
Wilkes-Barre, PA

July 15-18, 2015
Silet
Slippery Rock University
Slippery Rock, PA

August 14-16, 2015
Golf
Treasure Lake
DuBois, PA

The members of the Board of Directors went on record instructing Brother Ed to pursue with his efforts to host joint fraternal activities and events with other organizations as we have in the past for bowling and golf tournaments.

Supreme Physical Director, Kathleen S. Watkins reported on the camp to be held in conjuction with the upcoming Clinic in North Springfield, PA. A total of twenty participants have registered to attend. All is in readiness for an enjoyable time for those who will participate.

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May 15-17, 2015
Bowling
Wilkes-Barre, PA

June 26-28, 2015
Softball
Kirk Park
Wilkes-Barre, PA

July 15-18, 2015
Silet
Slippery Rock University
Slippery Rock, PA

August 14-16, 2015
Golf
Treasure Lake
DuBois, PA

The members of the Board of Directors went on record instructing Brother Ed to pursue with his efforts to host joint fraternal activities and events with other organizations as we have in the past for bowling and golf tournaments.

Supreme Physical Director, Kathleen S. Watkins reported on the camp to be held in conjuction with the upcoming Clinic in North Springfield, PA. A total of twenty participants have registered to attend. All is in readiness for an enjoyable time for those who will participate.

Supreme Physical Director, Kathleen S. Watkins further reported that he received an email recently from Sue Ondrejco of the First Catholic Slovak Union asking if the Slovak Catholic Sokol would like to participate in the next Joint Bowling Tournament. He asked if she would send him information as to where and when they anticipate the tournament to take place. Also, if she would send him the rules they are using. He would talk about it at the meeting.

The Softball Tournament will take place this weekend with 5 men’s teams from four different Groups participating. This tournament will be played at Kirby Park with a picnic dinner to take place after the mass at the field.

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Minutes of the Supreme Board of Directors Meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol

(Continued from page 11)

its final purchases occurring in early November. The portfolio’s annualized income as of June 30, 2014 was $2,978,182. The bond portfolio has increased 6.05%, 7.27%, and 6.01% on a compounded basis, for the three, five and ten years ended June 30, 2014 versus the 3.66%, 4.85% and 4.93% returns of the Barclay’s Aggregate Index, respectively. Equities had a total return of 14.27% versus the 7.14% return of the Standard & Poor’s 500 for the three months ended June 30, 2014. The dividend focus strategy positions the equity portfolio to invest in companies that have growing earnings which translate into the ability to grow their dividends and have above benchmark dividend yields. The equity portfolio has increased 17.43%, 19.07%, and 8.69% on a compounded basis, for the three, five, and ten years ended June 30, 2014 versus the 16.58%, 18.83%, and 7.78% returns of the Standard & Poor’s 500, respectively. Cash Equivalents returned 0.01% compared to the 0.02% return for the Citigroup 90 day Treasury Bill index for the six months ended June 30, 2014.

The economy contracted 2.9%, as measured by GDP, in the first quarter of 2014. PNC expects the economy to grow 1.5% in the second quarter and while there have been signs of increased inflationary pressures PNC expects it to remain moderate in 2014 with a projected increase of 1.9%. Employment which was impacted by the first quarter’s severe winter weather has rebounded in the second quarter averaging 200,000 jobs per month. PNC expects the unemployment rate to fall to 6.3% by year end 2014. However with the labor participation rate remaining at 62.8% we would not expect to see any wage push inflation. We expect the growth in employment will lead to increased levels of disposable income, improved consumer confidence and a continued recovery in housing which will support a moderate increase in overall GDP growth. Business investment will also benefit from moderately faster growth in the domestic economy, the beginning of a recovery in Europe and the potential for China to successfully engineer a soft landing of its economy. The risks to growth in 2014 may arise from adverse macroeconomic trends, growing budget tensions emanating from the government’s fiscal policy or natural disasters. We continue to believe equities will remain reasonably valued with the dividend strategy, which invests in companies that have growing earnings and therefore have the ability to grow their dividends positions the equity portfolio will continue to fully participate in the market along with managing risk. Focus on the first half of the year total returns may not be strong as the first half of the year because of an improving economy and the end of bond purchases by the Federal Reserve even though its accommodative monetary policy appears to be in place until 2015.

Mr. Caliman also discussed the portfolio’s current asset allocation, reviewed the historic and the year to date cash flows, the long term growth of the portfolio, the effects of the equity and fixed income market’s performance on the portfolio, the investment strategy being employed in the current environment and provided an overall relationship review.

After addressing some questions, President Glugosh called for a motion to accept the report, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq., seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath. Approved. Supreme Treasurer and Secretary/Treasurer of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum, Dennis J. Zifcak in the absence of Sister Dobbs expressed thanks to Mr. Caliman and PNC Bank for their donation to the Memorial Scholarship program. Acknowledged. President Glugosh also discussed and reviewed the Financial Analysis report of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum, Dennis J. Zifcak in the absence of Sister Dobbs thanked Mr. Caliman and PNC Bank for their donation to the Memorial Scholarship program. Acknowledged. President Glugosh thanked Mr. Caliman for his report and their donation and called upon General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq. for the Legal Department Report. Brother Counsel reported on the Assembly 206 Armbradge, PA and the Sokol Club litigation which is proceeding according to the Rules of Civil Procedure of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He brought the Board members up to date with the most recent events. We are hopeful that the trial will take place this year as reported to us by the attorney in Pittsburgh.

Counsel also reported on the foreclosure proceedings with the one mortgage that is in default with the organization and the process that we need to follow to protect payment of the mortgage balance due to our organization. Regarding the Sokol Club in Perryopolis, PA, Counsel stated that a check for part of the mortgage loan has been issued for the Perryopolis mortgage as previously approved and payments are being received in a timely manner.

Lastly, Brother John reported that he has requested an Income and Expense Statement for the first six months of 2014 from the Reading Sokol Club as has been done in the past.

After addressing several questions, President Glugosh asked for a motion to accept the report of the General Counsel, so moved by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller.

President Glugosh thanked Brother John for his report. Having completed all the business on the morning agenda, Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh called for a motion to Adjourn the morning session, so moved by Supreme Physical Director, Kathleen S. Watkins, seconded by Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich. Approved.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic closed the morning session with a Prayer.

The First Session was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

SECOND SESSION

Friday, July 11, 2014 – 12:45 p.m.

Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh. Called the Second Session of the Supreme Board of Directors meeting to Order at 12:45 p.m. on Friday July 11, 2014.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic offered the Afternoon Prayer for all those who attended and any special intentions of our Board members.

Roll Call was taken and the record will show that nine members of the Supreme Board of Directors are present. Absent and excused was Supreme Vice-President, Julie Ann Dobbins.

President Glugosh called upon Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak to present the written report of our Supreme Vice-President, Julie Ann Dobbins. Brother Zifcak proceeded to report that regarding the Scholarship Program.

A. The on-line process for the college scholarship program has been implemented. Late discovery that an application turned in late was unattended for greater than five minutes. This was being addressed and corrected.

B. Scholarship Selection Committee met on Saturday, May 3, 2014 and the winners were posted in the Falcon with letters of congratulations and regrets sent as follow up.

C. Checks will be issued and mailed in July.

D. Article with essay quotes to be submitted this summer.

In addition, a summary of the grants awarded included 30 applications for the Grade School received, seven disqualified and 23 grants were distributed.

The High School Summary was sixteen applications received, seven disqualified and nine grants were issued.

The College summary was sixty applications received, twenty-four disqualified and of the thirty-six eligible, thirty three were distributed.

In her written report Sister Dobbs indicated that there have been no requests submitted for the Disaster Relief Fund and the current account balance is $5,165.00.

Having concluded the report of the Supreme Vice-President, President Glugosh asked for a motion to accept the report, so moved by Supreme Physical Director, Kathleen S. Watkins, seconded by Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich.

President Glugosh thanked Brother Zifcak for presenting the report and called upon the Supreme Secretary to present the Mortgage Department Report.

Brother Steve reported that as of July 10, 2014 the Organization has 5 existing mortgages totaling $855,254.71. Principal payments received for the first 6 months of 2014 total $16,864.49 and interest payments total $21,108.74. The Supreme Secretary also reported that one mortgage remains in foreclosure as reported by our General Counsel and no new mortgage applications have been received for presentation.

After a brief discussion, Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic moved to accept the Mortgage Department report, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller. Approved.

President Glugosh then called upon Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, Michael J. Horvath to report on the independent Auditor’s Report.

Brother Horvath informed the Board members that they were all sent a copy of the CPA Audit Report for the years ending December 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012 as prepared by our Certified Public Accounting Firm, Vision Financial Group, CPA’s, LLP. Vision Financial Group through a written communication along with the report informed the Board that they have audited the financial statements of the Slovak Catholic Sokol for the years ending 12-31-13 and 12-31-12 and issued their report thereon received at the Home Office on May 30, 2014. The twenty page report was distributed at length and it is intended for the information of the management of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the State of New Jersey, and other state audit agencies.

Brother Mike also discussed and reviewed the American Fraternal Alliance Financial Analysis which had been sent to each Board member. The objective of this analysis is to provide the Board of Directors with objective and impartial information to better understand our society’s financial condition, identify areas of strengths and weaknesses, and take the steps necessary to enhance the fiscal health of our organization.

Based on the report and comparing our organization with other similar organizations as indicated in the analysis, it was mutually agreed that we are doing very well. There being no questions, Supreme President Glugosh called for a motion, General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Esq. moved to have the minutes reviewed for the short and long term objectives and results.

Having concluded the report of the Supreme Vice-President, President Glugosh thanked Brother Michael for his presentation and inquired if there were any Donations requests received at the Home Office to be addressed at this meeting.

The Supreme Secretary reported that a donation request was received from our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic on behalf of the Slovak Heritage Society of N.E.P.A. for financial assistance.

Father Andrew is recommending that the Board approve a donation in the amount of $1,000.00 for the assistance of the creation of the Rev. Jozef Murgas Memorial Room in the “King’s on the Square” building of King’s College in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Father also indicated that all contributions of $1,000.00 or more will be listed on a permanent plaque in that room.

After a lively discussion, Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak moved to approve the recommendation as presented, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Edward D. Moeller. Approved.

Unfinished Business included the Board members discussing the investment proposal which was presented at length by AGS Asset Management, LLC located in Austin, Texas at our March, 2014 meeting and comparing our current investment returns from PNC Institutional Investments to ensure that we are achieving the maximum return on our investment portfolio as well as the proper services in the best interests of our members and organization.

Numerous concerns were discussed and our current investment strategies in place were reviewed for the short and long term objectives and results.

It was mutually agreed that for the current time not to make any changes and remain with PNC as our portfolio managers.

Agreed.

Museum Secretary/Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak reported that the current balance as of June 30, 2014 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum account is $14,686.98. Acknowledged.

New Business included the Supreme Secretary informing the Board members that they all received a copy of the State of New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance. (Continued on page 13)
Blessed Cecilia Schelingova Gave Great Witness to the Faith

by Rev. Jan Velbacky

A religious in Slovakia, Cecilia Schelingova, a Sister of Charity of the Holy Cross, served under the leadership of Pope St. John Paul II but not on the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, celebrated on September 14, 2003 during his visit to Bratislava. A Franciscan friar is observed on July 30th.

Cecilia Schelingova was born on December 24, 1916 in Krivá in Orava, a mountainous region of northeastern Slovakia. She was one of 10 children born to Pavol Schelinga and the former Su- zana Pankovska. From an early age, the children acquired a sense of responsibility and of sacrifice from their parents and, above all, a deep and practical religious faith. Cecilia attended the local elementary school from 1922 to 1931. In 1929, the Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Holy Cross arrived at Krivá, the birthplace of the presence of these religious women helped Cecilia to see that God was calling her to religious life. She was particularly impressed by the sisters unconditional love and discipline.

In 1931, when Cecilia was 15 years old, she traveled to the Motherhouse in Podunajske Biskupice in eastern Slovakia. In 1942, she was sent to nursing school and then took a specialized course in radiology. On January 30, 1936, she was admitted to the Motherhouse of the congregation as an individual who wished to join the order. However, in Podunajske Biskupice, accommodation was limited and her members persecuted. During this period, prisoners were not allowed the priest to escape. After a while, Sister Zdenka understood that one of the reasons for the persecution of the Church was deprivation. The torture that she received left her body mutilated from the continual kicks by the police. From 1952 until 1955, Sister Zdenka was transferred from one prison to another. She accepted torture and maltreatment with great humility; most difficult of all for her, however, was being deprived of the Sacraments for the three years of her imprisonment. On April 16, 1955, Sister Zdenka was released from prison by the President of Czechoslovakia so she could die there. She had developed a malignant tumor in her right breast. When she returned to her congregation's Motherhouse in Bratislava, she was not accepted because of the general situation of fear that existed at the time as well as the constant police surveillance; nor was she received in the hospital of Bratislava. Instead, a friend of Bratislava opened the doors for Sister Zdenka. Eventually, she was entered into the hospital in Trnava.

On June 7, 2003, Pope St. John Paul II approved the recommendation made by the Congregations for Saints Causes and approval of this third visit to Slovakia in September 2003 beatified Sister Zdenka Schelingova during an outdoor liturgy celebrated in the Petržalka section of the Slovak capital before a crowd of nearly a quarter million of the faithful. Her feast is observed on July 30. Let us pray that Blessed Zdenka may be the cause of our own and that one day she may be canonized.

Sokol Birthdays

(Continued from page 3)

SUN., SEPT. 7

August 2

Bernard Novashanski, Old Forge, Pa., recording secretary of Assembly 86, Port Griffith, Pa.

August 3

John Yonkoski, Jr., Dunlo, Pa., a member of Assembly 62, Dunlo, Pa.

August 6

David G. Blazek, M. O., urup, Pa., a member of Assembly 16, Pittsburgh, Pa.

August 7

Ruth Ann Cannel, Canfield, Ohio, a member of Wreath of Wreath 107, Youngstown, Ohio. Rev. Anthony J. Pleho, Bronx, N.Y., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

August 9

Victoria A. Kurak, Peakskill, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Youngstown, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Youngstown, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Youngstown, N.Y.

August 13

Paul M. Papun, Clinton Township, Mich., a member of Assembly 138, Youngstown, Mich.

August 5

Dr. Linda A. Kona, Ottawa Hills, Ohio, a member of Assembly 257, Chicago, Ill.

August 6

Ryan W. Bell, Bodmann, Ohio, a member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Ohio

August 7

Renee S. Cobby, Youngers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Youngstown, N.Y.

August 8

Kathleen Durham, Burton, Ohio, a member of Assembly 127, Mrones, Pa.

Rudy J. Knock, Chesterfield, Va., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

AUGUST 2

Brian Durovich, Maldin, S.C., a member of Assembly 313, Winter Park, Fla.

AUGUST 9

Michael Chuba, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

AUGUST 10

Andreas Napp, Rochester Hills, Mich., President of Group 16 and a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

AUGUST 11

John W. Votendik, Fox Lake, Ill., a member of Assembly 257, Chicago, Ill.

AUGUST 12

LaVern Eland, Clinton Township, Mich., Treasurer of Group 16 and a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

AUGUST 13

Erica Mondik, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., a member of Assembly 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

AUGUST 14

Jason E. Bankazek, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

AUGUST 15

Clare S. Puskar, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Mrones, Pa.

Robert T. Sabol, M. Creek, Jr., a member of Assembly 127, Mrones, Pa.

AUGUST 17


AUGUST 18

Mildred Bilsky, Altoona, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
REPORT OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL
Activity for the Month of May, 2014

ASSETS

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cash - Senior Account</td>
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<td>Cash - Bank of Montreal</td>
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<td>Cash - Payroll Account</td>
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<td>Petty Cash</td>
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<td>Investments - Bonds &amp; Bills</td>
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<td>Investments - Stocks</td>
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<td>Capital Reserve</td>
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<td>Stock Adj. to Book Value</td>
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<td>First Mortgage Loans</td>
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<td>Accrued Interest Receivable</td>
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<td>Sokol Building</td>
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<td>Land</td>
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<td>Furniture &amp; Fixtures</td>
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<td>Computer</td>
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<td>Sokol Baby Spoons</td>
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<td>Non-Admitted Assets</td>
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LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

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<td>Reserve for Convention</td>
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<td>Dr's Lesko Medical Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>Krista L Gloghoski Memorial Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>Dividend Accrued at Interest</td>
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<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES</td>
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & SURPLUS

| TOTAL LIABILITIES & SURPLUS | $ 68,999,904.53 |

INCOME

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<td>Dividends on Stocks</td>
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<td>Interest on Mortgages</td>
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<td>Sale of Cookbooks</td>
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<td>Rent Received - Sokol Building</td>
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<td>Premium Income</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td>Gain on Sale of Securities/Amortization</td>
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EXPENSES

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<td>Salaries - Office Employees</td>
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<td>Salaries - Editorial Employees</td>
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<td>Cash Surrender Values Paid</td>
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<td>Annuity Suppl. Contracts</td>
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<td>Telephone - Sokol</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Total Income (Loss)</td>
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</table>

TOTAL EXPENSES

| TOTAL EXPENSES | $ 368,830.42 |

TOTAL INCOME (LOSS)

| TOTAL INCOME (LOSS) | $ 362,248.12 |

YOUR BENEFICIARIES

When was the last time you looked at your designated beneficiaries on your valuable Sokol insurance policy? How important is it? Just think about how much your life has changed. Have you married, divorced, had children, maybe you lost a loved one? This is an item you should consider annually.

If you do need to make changes to any of your policies, contact the Home Office at 800-886-7656.
Tri metre vysoký plot, ktorý americká ambasáda postavila pri svojom veľvyslanectve v Bratislave po útokoch z 11. septembra 2001, ešte stojí.

Na fotografii z m rak odra duj je aj predsednik Výš ského Slavokove.

Jedna z najznámejších fotografií 20. storočia známa ako Obed na vrchule mrakodrapu (Lunch atop a Skyscraper) vznikla koncom septembra 1932 a dňa 69. poschodia v New Yorku vo výške 250 metrov.

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Odstránia plot pri americkej ambasáde v Bratislave

Tri metre vysoký plot, ktorý americká ambasáda postavila pri svojom veľvyslanectve v Bratislave po útokoch z 11. septembra 2001, ešte stojí.

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Stanley Cup opáť na Slovensku

Stanley Cup opáť na Slovensku

V pondelok 21. júla popoldní zaujala sever Slovenska silná búrka. Voda napichala škody predovšetkým v Ziline a okolitých obciach, na Kysuciach a Orave. 100-ročnú vodu hlásili z Terchovej. Prívalový dážď a rychlomerný potok Vrátťanka na viacerých miestach podmýli jedinú prístupovú cestu do Vrátnej doliny, voda vytrhla kusy asfaltu a spolu s balnom a kameňmi stihla aj okolo pätiesiat zaparkovanych áut.

Horská chata Vrátňa, z ktorej premávala lanovka na hrebu Malej Fatry, zostala zatopená a na cestu do štola sa zosunulo 65 litrov dažďovej vody na meter štvorcový.

Po prívalovej vode, bahna a škálov, ktorá sa prehrala turisticky obľúbenou maloatranskou dolinou, neboli hlášané žiadne úrady ani obete. Horský záchranár však 23. júna našiel v Snížovskom sedle nedaleko turistického chodníka telo 38-ročného poľského turistu, ktorého zrejme zabil blesk.