

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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NUMBER 5087

Scenes of the Inaugural Fraternal Reunion hosted by Group 7, “Rev. Joseph Murgas” The North End Slovak Citizens Club + Wilkes-Barre. Pa. + Friday, November 25



More than 50 Sokols and Sokolky from lodges across Northeastern Pennsylvania turned out

for a unique fraternal evening on Friday, November 25, 2016 at the North End Slovak Citizens Club in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Hosted by Group 7, “Rev. Joseph Murgas,” the event was an opportunity for Sokol members of every age to celebrate an evening of traditional fellowship and camaraderie. It was an opportunity to recall and reflect on Sokol activities of the past and to look forward to continued participation in the many events hosted by the Slovak Catholic Sokol in the future. Members and their families enjoyed the appetizers and pizza and brought along many pictures and memorabilia of past Sokol activities.

A video slide presentation brought smiles and laughter to the faces of the guests who recalled the many activities in which Group 7 has been known. The evening was a wonderful opportunity to review the past and to look ahead to the future

celebrating the meaning of Sokol fraternalism. Continuing in the best traditions of fraternal outreach and especially during the Christmas season, concern for the needy was in the hearts and minds of the evening’s participants. Therefore a donation of \$250.00 on behalf of Group 7 was made to a local charity, the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The spirit of caring and sharing was certainly evident at the reunion. The evening proved so successful, that it was decided that such an activity would be an annual Group 7 event.

Thanks and gratitude go out to all who had a hand in the success of this enjoyable evening celebrated in the best traditions of Sokol fellowship and fraternalism.

Zdar Boh!
Amy Degnan Blasco
Group 7 president



Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain

Saints Cyril and Methodius Apostles and Teachers

by Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdevic

"On Palm Sunday he (St. Methodius), despite his weakness, came into the church where all his people were assembled. After imparting his final blessing, he said: "Watch with me, my children, until the third day!" This they did. At dawn of the third day he said: "Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my soul!" (Lk.23:46), and he fell asleep in the arms of his priests on the sixth day of April, in the third Indiktion, 6393 from the creation of the world" (SVII, 7-10). In other words, St. Methodius died on April 6, 885 A.D.

The name of St. Methodius is inseparably connected with the name of his brother, St. Cyril. They both are venerated together as Apostles of the Slavs, and they both were instrumental in the conversion of our ancestors to Christianity.

The birthplace of our Slavic Apostles was the city of Thessalonica, the capital city of the Macedonian Province of the Byzantine Empire. The father of SS. Cyril and Methodius was a high ranking officer in the Byzantine Army. He was of Greek descent. However their mother, Mary, in all probability, was of Slavic birth. Hence both sons were acquainted with the Slavic tongue since childhood.

During the eighth century some Slavic tribes settled in Macedonia, making the entire province predominantly Slavic. The Macedonian Slavs were soon Christianized by the Byzantine missionaries and accepted the Byzantine Rite.

St. Methodius, whose baptismal name was Michael, was born in 815 A.D. His younger brother Constantine, better known by his religious name, Cyril, was born about ten years later. They both studied at the Imperial School of Constantinople, where all the children of the higher imperial officials received their advanced education. St. Methodius, known as a good administrator, became the governor of the Strymon District of Macedonia. St. Cyril, a gifted scholar, assumed a teaching post at the Imperial School.

Shortly after, St. Cyril was ordained deacon and was entrusted with some extraordinary assignments by the Patriarch Ignatius, including a diplomatic mission to the Caliph of Bagdad in 851 A.D. Just about that time St. Methodius, tired of various official intrigues and jealousies, retired to the monastery on Mt. Olympos in Bythinia, Asia Minor. There he received his religious name Methodius. Shortly after his monastic tonsure, he was elected superior of the same monastery.

Under the influence of St. Methodius, St. Cyril also decided to pursue a religious way of life and joined his brother at the monastery on Mt. Olympos. But before taking religious tonsure, he was summoned by his former professor, Patriarch Photius, to lead a diplomatic mission to the Khazars on the Caspian Sea. This time St. Cyril also took his brother Methodius with him. After a very successful mission to the Khazars (859-891), St. Methodius returned to his monastery on Mt. Olympos, while St. Cyril assumed a position as a philosophy professor in Constantinople.

In the summer of 862 A.D., the Moravian Prince Ratislav requested that the Byzantine Emperor Michael III send some Byzantine missionaries to Moravia "to explain to us the Christian truths in our own language." After signing the alliance with Prince Ratislav, the Emperor decided to send the two missionary brothers, SS. Cyril and Methodius, who already proved their missionary skill and were familiar with the Slavic language and customs.

St. Cyril, who was one of the best linguists of his time resolved first to compose a Slavic alphabet ("Azbuka") and then, with the help of his brother Methodius, he proceeded to translate the Holy Liturgy and scriptural readings (the Epistles and Gospels) into the Slavonic language.

SS. Cyril and Methodius began their missionary journey in the spring of 863 A.D., crossing into neighboring Bulgaria, where Byzantine missionaries were already spreading Christianity.

On their journey to Moravia the Holy Brothers proceeded along the Tisa River to the northern part of Bulgaria, where they intended to follow the so-called Salt Route, connecting the salt mines of Marmorosh with Central Europe, all the way to Moravia and Bohemia. Northern Bulgaria was, at that time, already populated by our ancestors.

(Continued on page 11)

Sokol Calendar

SUN.JAN.29

■ Assembly 79 annual meeting and election of officers at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 136 Railroad St., Lilly, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m., light lunch to follow.

FRI.FEB.10

■ Assembly 11 annual meeting at the home of the Financial Secretary, Therese M. Buc. 9024 Del Prado Drive, Palos Hills, Ill. beginning at 1 p.m., refreshments to follow; call 708 598-1468.

SAT.FEB.18

■ The Milwaukee Fasiangy - Pre-Lenten Dance, sponsored by Assembly 20 of the Slovak League of America at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1800 South 92nd St., West Allis, Wis. beginning at 6 p.m., cultural program begins at 7:30 p.m., traditional Slovak culinary specialties and bakery available, music for dancing by a live band; admission \$5.00 for information, contact Betty at 414 425-6137 or Ellen at 262 893-7483.

TUES.FEB.21

■ First Slovak language class for beginners hosted by the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association at the Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah St., Pittsburgh, Pa.; classes meet every Tuesday evening from 7-8:30 p.m. with Bozena Hilko as the instructor; for information and to reserve a place contact Honorary Slovak Consul Joseph Senko at jsenko@aol.com or tel. 412 956-6000.

SAT.FEB.27

■ 24th annual Slovak Ball hosted by the Slovak American Cultural Center of New York at The Royal Manor, Garfield, N.J. beginning with reception and dinner at 7 p.m., music by Express, black tie, for reservations call Zuzana Krcmar at tel. 973 357-1209, slovakamericanc@gmail.com.

SAT.MARCH 4

■ 65th annual Florida Slovak Day at The Slovak Garden, a Home for American Slovaks, Inc., 3110 Howell Branch Rd., #100, Winter Park, Fla. beginning at 12 noon, luncheon featuring Slovak culinary specialties, live music and cultural program, prepaid before Feb. 26 \$25.00 at the door \$30.00, children age 10 and under \$10.00; for reservations call tel 407 677-6894, email: slovakgarden@centurylink.net or www.slovakgarden.com.

SUN.MARCH 5

■ Annual convention of The Slovak Garden, a Home for American Slovaks, Inc. at 3110 Howell Branch Rd., Winter Park, Fla. beginning with Mass in Slovak at 10 a.m., registration, meeting and luncheon and cultural program to follow; advance reservations \$25.00, at the door \$30.00, call tel.407 677-6894.

SAT.APRIL 1

■ Mount Assisi Academy Pre-

(Continued on page 9)

From the desk of the Supreme Secretary

Thoughts in the New Year

by Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.

"Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off." Proverbs 23:18

I would like to take this opportunity to extend best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year 2017 to all our members, family, and friends. The New Year will mark our organization's 112th year of service and again will be filled with many fraternal and sporting events that make us who we are. The start of a new year also allows us a time to reflect on the past twelve months. And what a year it has been!



In 2016, we experienced many changes both within our society and outside our organization as well. For the Slovak Catholic Sokol, our goals are to promote the society through our wonderful programs while still securing the longevity and financial stability of our great organization. To all of our members, the Board of Directors has been working to find ways to accomplish both important items. In this world, we, at times, have to think outside the box. Like it or not, we live in a "social media" world. As a society, we need to stay ahead of the curve and investigate all avenues of reaching our current members and future potential members. We can never stop learning because some of the tools we use today on a day to day basis may be obsolete and irrelevant ten years from now. But rest assured your current Supreme Officers are doing their due diligence in reviewing all aspects of the organization.

The beginning of the year is also an opportune time for me to remind all our Groups, Assemblies, and Wreaths that we need to promote and encourage activity as the fraternalists we are. I commend many of our Groups and Lodges on hosting various activities in 2016 and hope that many more will do the same going forward. Such activity ensures that our organization remains lively and conforms to what a fraternal benefit society is all about. I also remind our members that the Home Office supports Group and Lodge activity and provides financial assistance of \$100 for such activities up to twice a year. To gain the financial assistance, the Group or Lodge needs to announce the activity in our publication, send a follow up story/photos, and submit a written request for the allotment. It is also a good idea to invite your local elected officials to your event. With the new administration in our nation's capital, our state capitals, and city halls, it is important that we let the government know who we are and what we do. Too often elected officials make decisions regarding fraternalists, but are not aware of the activities and important role they play in volunteerism and community outreach.

Speaking of our activities and reenergizing our membership, I had the pleasure of attending our Supreme Physical Fitness Board Meeting in Cleveland, OH this past weekend. I, along with our Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, were honored to be attendees and shared in the excitement and energy of the meeting. I would like to commend our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, and the entire Physical Fitness Board for hosting a well-run and efficient meeting. An important subject at the meeting was our upcoming 48th International Slet scheduled for SUNY Brockport in Brockport, NY on July 12-16, 2017. I hope that our Group Directors and Directresses are preparing their athletes for this exciting event. Our Slet tradition goes back to the earliest days of our organization and our Supreme Physical Fitness Board is prepared to carry on this great tradition and make this year's event memorable and fun for all. You will be hearing from our Board regarding accommodations, etc. over the next few months. We hope that many will plan to attend our premier event!

Finally, if anyone is looking for a New Year's resolution, a great idea would be to sign up a new member in 2017. With all that we have to offer, purchasing a Slovak Catholic Sokol policy for your child or grandchild would be a wonderful investment. Each of us needs life insurance and it certainly makes good sense to purchase from a trusted and financially sound organization that has been in service since 1905. Together, we can do it!

Until next time, I again wish everyone a blessed and Happy New Year! Zdar Boh!

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 8TH

In keeping with our biweekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, February 8th. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, February 2nd. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovakcatholicssokol.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh! - **Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor**

Scenes of the Annual Children's Christmas Party Hosted by Assembly 16 & Wreath 22

Slovak Catholic Sokol Club + South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. + Saturday, December 10, 2016



One of the highlights of the annual Children's Christmas party is the presentation of the Nativity scene in which young Sokols and Sokolky participate. This year's group is shown above.





REFLECTOR...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

75th Annual Slovak Bowling Congress tournament set

Continuing in a fine sporting tradition spanning more than three-quarters of a century, the Slovak Bowling Congress of America (SBC) is pleased to announce its 75th Annual Slovak Bowling Tournament which is set for weekends beginning April 8 thru May 7, 2017, excluding the Easter weekend of April 15-16, on the well-conditioned lanes at Bill White's Twin Star Lanes located at 2245 St. Route 59 in Kent, Oh. This tournament is certified by the United States Bowling Congress.

An entry of more than 700 bowlers from 160 cities of the United States and Canada is expected. Bowlers will compete for a prize fund in excess of \$20,000. Estimated first place prizes include: \$1,500 team, \$1,000 Doubles, \$600 Singles and \$500 all events. The entry fee is \$18.00 per bowler per event; \$5.00 in all events. Past Slovak Bowling Congress of America tournaments have enjoyed to date 13,770 teams, 33,468 doubles, 77,835 singles and 56,506 all-events. To date, all time prize payouts have totalled \$932,862.01. In addition to the championship awards, several SBC Tournament Awards will be featured including the Slovak Catholic Sokol All-Events award and the Dr. Stephen J. Hletko HDCP Series Team Award, named or one of the Slovak Bowling Congress of America founders and former Sokol supreme officer. Over the years, many Sokol members have been active in the SBC. Currently our Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics James C. Matlon and Honorary Supreme Officer Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C. serve on the Advisory Board of the SBC. The first SBC tournament was held in the spring of 1939. Tournament action was suspended during World War II and resumed play in 1947.

For entries contact Joseph M. Harkulich, SBC Secretary, 1414 Bedford Road SE, Masury, Oh. 44438, tel. 330 673-1800. John M. Golias currently serves as the president of the Slovak Bowling Congress of America. March 1 is the deadline for reserved entries while March 15 is the deadline for all entries. Lodging for out-of-town bowlers is available at area facilities including Holiday Inn Express, tel. 330 673-9200; Comfort Inn & Suites, 330 673-1888; Hampton Inn Kent, 330 673-8555; or Days Inn, 330 677-9400. This year, the Slovak Bowling Congress looks forward to seeing many Sokol members from various communities compete at this year's historic 75th tournament. Keglers can be assured of good sportsmanship, Slovak fellowship and camaraderie much in evidence.

School Sisters of St. Francis inaugurate new administration

A new chapter has begun in the life and ministry of the School Sisters of St. Francis of Pittsburgh, Pa. The Sisters of the U.S. Province recently met in daily sessions at the Motherhouse, Mount Assisi, filled with prayer, group discussion, presentations, information sharing and fellowship. The sisters developed action statements for the future and elected an enthusiastic new leadership team that will lead the congregation through 2021. The new leadership team elected include Sister Frances Marie Duncan, Provincial Minister; Sister Marlan Sgiccia, Vicar; and Sister Barbara Brown, Sister Kathleen Kudlac and Sister Virginelle Makos, Councilors. Sister Kathy will serve as Provincial Secretary. The team replaces the outgoing leaders which included Sisters Bernadine Marie Stemnock, Jeanne Maria Ulica, Regina Ann Rokosny, Bonnie Marie Kleinschuster and Patricia Ann Mahoney who served since 2011.

The School Sisters of St. Francis began their ministry in the United States when they answered the call for religious to staff parochial schools of the Slovak parishes in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. In 1913, at the invitation of Pittsburgh Bishop J. F. Regis Canevin, the first Sisters arrived from what was then Austria-Hungary, to open their first schools, St. Gabriel, North Side and St. Clement in Tarentum. A year later, the sisters opened St. John the Baptist School in Barnesboro located in the Altoona-

Johnstown Diocese. Over the years, the sisters staffed a number of Slovak parish schools in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts and West Virginia. As their numbers grew, they expanded their ministry to high school apostolates, beginning with Mount Assisi Academy in Pittsburgh in 1928 and St. Francis Academy, Monacacy Manor in Bethlehem, Pa. in 1957.

For the past nearly 104 years, the School Sisters of St. Francis have left an enduring and lasting legacy of commitment to education and faith development within the American Slovak community. Over the years, many Sokol members have been educated by these Sisters and numerous vocations have come from these Sokol families. We congratulate the new leadership team of the Sisters and pledge to continue our support for their ministry in the best traditions of the Poverello.

12th Annual Consular Tour to Slovakia set for July 29-Aug. 11

Slovak Honorary Consul and our Sokol of Assembly 16, Joseph T. Senko and his Slovak born wife, Albina, have assembled a deluxe tour of Slovakia, July 29 - August 11. The tour includes history-rich cities including the nation's capital, Bratislava, the Marian Shrine at Sastin, Skalica, Trencin, Bojnica, Rajcecko Teplice, Cicmany, the High Tatras, the Marian Shrine at Levoca, Kezmarok, Zdiar, Stara Lubovna, Kosice, Budejov, Jedlinka and Presov. As you travel through the various regions of Slovakia, arrangements can be made for you to visit relatives of family towns and villages for an additional cost. These are just some of the highlights of the tour.

What makes this tour unique is that it includes a tour of two castles, a mock wedding, two wine tastings, rafting on the Dunajec river, which forms the northern boundary between Slovakia and Poland, as well as a welcome reception with the mayor of Presov. Presov is the Sister City of Pittsburgh.

At no extra cost, Joe and Albina have included a tour of the imperial capital of Vienna and Poland. While in Poland we will visit the famous Marian Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Zakopane and Krakow, including tour of Auschwitz and the Wieliczka salt mine.

The total price for this complete tour is just \$3,798 per person based on double occupancy. The tour includes airfare from Pittsburgh or Newark, two delicious meals daily, four-star hotels, air conditioned bus with English speaking professional guides and more. For a copy of a detailed itinerary, contact Joseph Senko at jtsenko@aol.com or tel. 412 956-6000. Make one of your new year's resolutions plans to visit the historic and scenic land of your ancestors. Today Slovakia, located in the very heart of Europe, offers so much history, art, culture and scenic beauty. Join veteran travelers and Slovak fraternal activists, Joe and Albina Senko for this once in a lifetime tour.

Milwaukee Fasiangy festivities set for Feb. 18 in West Allis, Wis.

The Milwaukee area Slovak community has celebrated the traditional pre-Lenten celebration of Fasiangy for nearly three-quarters of a century. This year once again, Assembly 20 of the Slovak League of America will host its celebration of "ostatne Fasiangy" or last carnival, before the beginning of the penitential season of Lent on Saturday, February 18. This year's festivities will be held at a NEW LOCATION, the Knights of Columbus Hall located at 1800 South 92nd Street in West Allis, Wis. beginning at 6 p.m. An array of Slovak culinary specialties and Slovak bakery will be available all evening long. A live band will provide music for dancing or listening pleasure.

A highlight of the evening will be the cultural program which begins at 7:30 p.m. featuring the artistry of the Tatra Slovak Dancers. These spirited young dancers will perform the music and dance traditions of

(Continued on page 6)



The Word of God...

Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of the Year - January 29th

Mt 5:1-12a

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."*

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Fifth Sunday of the Year - February 5th

Mt 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples:

"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Slovak Catholic Federation 59th National Convention September 17-19, 2017 Youngstown, Ohio

As the National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation, I the Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdivic, V.F. hereby call for the 59th National Convention of the Slovak

the Cathedral of St. Columba, 159 West Rayen Avenue, Youngstown, Oh. The principal celebrant will be the Right Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svo-



rad Abbey, Cleveland, Oh. Abbot Gary also serves as the Moderator of the Slovak Catholic Federation. The homily will be given by the Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic, V.F., National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation. Following the liturgy, a banquet will be held at the Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Youngstown, Oh. Working sessions for the 59th Convention will be on Monday, September 18 and Tuesday, September 19 until all business has been completed.

Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Donations for October – December 2016

We are pleased to acknowledge the following donations received during October through December 2016 earmarked for our Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum located at our Home Office in Passaic, NJ. The monies received from these donations fund our annual \$1,000 Memorial Scholarships, which assist our young people in their educational endeavors. The number of these scholarships grants is dependent upon the amount of donations received.

DONATIONS RECEIVED

In Memory of

Frank Eglar
Richard Hodos Sr.
Donna Amey
Michael Macko
Judith Hovanec
Karol Talafous
Mary Madeja
Andrew Hovanec
Paul Sweeney
Evelyn Goralzick
Living and Deceased members
of Group 7, Wilkes Barre, PA
Evelyn Goralzick

Donated by

Ed and Janice Moeller
Ed and Janice Moeller
Ed and Janice Moeller
Ed and Janice Moeller
Ed and Janice Moeller
Ed and Janice Moeller
Ed and Janice Moeller
Ed and Janice Moeller
Ed and Janice Moeller
Ed and Janice Moeller
Group 7, Wilkes Barre, PA
Ladies SCS Wreath 22,
Pittsburgh, PA

Museum Memorial Scholarship Fund PNC and Mr. Thomas
Calimano, Marketing Director/
Vice President

Total donations: \$2,725
Total Donations for 2016: \$3,005
Thank you for your generosity,

Dennis J Zifcak
Supreme Treasurer

Milwaukee Fasiangy festivities set for Feb.18 in West Allis, Wis.

(Continued on page 4)

the various regions of Slovakia in their colorful kroj. Admission to the Fasiangy is just \$5.00 per person. The committee extends a special invitation to members of Wreath 93 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol to join them for an enjoyable evening celebrating a wonderful Slovak faith tradition. For more informa-

tion, contact our Sokolka, Betty Valent at 414 425-6137 or Ellen at 262 893-7483. Fasiangy is a wonderful opportunity for members of the Milwaukee Slovak community scattered across the area to come together to celebrate fellowship and camaraderie in the best traditions of our heritage. An enjoyable evening is assured.

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

Slovak Catholic Sokol Catholic Grade School Grants

As a fraternal benefit, the Slovak Catholic Sokol is pleased to offer \$250.00 Grants to our young Sokols and Sokolky in each of our organization's nineteen Groups. Two grants each per Group are available to any qualified Sokol member entering a Catholic Grade School (Grades 2 through 8).



Eligibility

- Applicant must be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in good standing, holding a permanent Life Insurance Certificate in the amount of **not less than \$3,000, and has been a member for at least five years.**
- One parent must be a S.C.S. member.
- The principal of the Catholic Grade School must verify the enrollment of the applicant.

Application

This application must be **received** on or before, **March 31, 2017** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph. Application is also available on the Internet @

www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

Disqualification

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

Acknowledgment

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

Return of Grant

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

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(Detach here)

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION

Group # \_\_\_\_\_ Assembly/Wreath # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Current Age \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ School Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
area code area code

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a member? \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's name \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a member? \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

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

If yes, what Year? \_\_\_\_\_

School verification (to be completed by Grade School Principal)

I, \_\_\_\_\_ Principal of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Principal's signature) (Name of School)

Catholic Grade School, verify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a student at  
(Name of student)  
the above school and will be entering \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in the 2017-2018 school year.

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

Deadline for receipt of this application is **March 31, 2017.**  
Return completed application to:

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

## Lodge Jottings

### CHICAGO, ILL Assembly 11

The annual meeting of Assembly 11, under the spiritual patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius, will be held on Friday, February 10, 2017 beginning at 1 p.m. at the home of our Financial Secretary Therese M. Buc, 9024 Del Prado Drive in Palos Hills, Ill.

All members are urged to attend this very important meeting. After the Assembly officers present their reports, we will have election of officers to serve our lodge in 2017. Most importantly, our long-serving Assembly officers are looking for replacements due to age and health reasons. This has become a critical issue and a decision must be made soon regarding Assembly 11's future. This item will be on the agenda for discussion and resolution. Following our business meeting, refreshments will be served. The gathering will afford the opportunity to enjoy traditional Sokol fellowship and fraternalism at its best.

Remember the date, Friday, February 10 at my home in Palos Hills. In order to make the necessary preparations, those planning to attend are asked to call me at tel 708 598-1468.

Assembly 11 has enjoyed an

active and inspiring history since its founding in 1906, when a group of ten Slovak men gathered at St. Michael the Archangel Slovak Parish in the back-of-the-yards neighborhood of Chicago to establish a lodge of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. It was just a year after the founding of the national organization in 1905. Our Assembly, one of the oldest in our organization, was the first to be established in the Midwest and as a result of the merger of several Chicago Sokol lodges, today Assembly 11 is the largest. Members of our lodge have played an important role in the life of the organization over the years by their service as Supreme Officers. We have much to be proud of and with the cooperation of our current members, we hope to continue this fine fraternal tradition in Chicagoland.

Looking forward to seeing a good turnout at our annual meeting and extending warm fraternal wishes to our members for a Happy New Year filled with God's blessings and good health, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

**Therese M. Buc**

*Financial & Recording  
Secretary*

### Slovak Catholic Sokol College Scholarship - Tips for Success

I just wanted to take a moment to highlight the recent changes made to the Slovak Catholic College Scholarship Program. We will continue to use a completely on-line process as we have had few issues with the process over the past several seasons. With the help of our technical webmaster, we have redesigned the application process and you should find it to be much more user friendly. You will find the on-line application on our website at [www.slovakcatholicssokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org) beginning November 1, 2016.

To be best prepared for this process a successful applicant should:

- Review the application on-line for required content and gather prior to beginning to complete the form
- Be prepared to attach both your essay (in PDF or Word format) and a color head and shoulders picture of yourself (in .jpeg format).

Please note, you may want to print a copy for your records prior to submitting. All applicants will receive automatic confirmation that their e-mail has been received.

It really isn't that difficult to qualify for one of our many col-

(Continued on page 9)

### An outstanding fraternal benefit

## \$63,000 in S.C.S. Scholarship Grants Available to Eligible Members in 2017

by Edward D. Moeller  
*Supreme Vice President*

We are pleased to announce that the Slovak Catholic Sokol will make available a total of \$63,000 in **scholarship grants** to eligible members in 2017. Previous recipients of Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants may reapply for a 2017 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 three Slovak Catholic Sokol (SCS) Memorial Scholarship2 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 \$2500 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 \$2000 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 \$1000 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 \$1000 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 (3 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 lev-

(Continued on page 12)

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

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

### ANNUITY RATES

EFFECTIVE DATE: JANUARY 1, 2017

|           | CURRENT | MINIMUM<br>GUARANTEE |
|-----------|---------|----------------------|
| VANTAGE 1 | 1.35%   | 1.00%                |
| VANTAGE 2 | 1.50%   | 1.00%                |
| VANTAGE 3 | 2.15%   | 1.00%                |
| VANTAGE 5 | 3.00%   | 2.00%                |
| VANTAGE 7 | 3.25%   | 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**

|                | CURRENT | MINIMUM<br>GUARANTEE |
|----------------|---------|----------------------|
| FLEXIBLE       | 3.00%   | 3.00%                |
| SINGLE PREMIUM | 3.00%   | 3.00%                |



## Scenes of the Traditional Children's Christmas Party Hosted by Wreath 93

Holy Apostles Parish + New Berlin, Wisconsin + December 10, 2016



Find us on  
**Facebook**



**Slovak Catholic Sokol**





## KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

January, 2017

### Winter Word Search



Boots  
Coat  
Freezing  
Gloves  
Hat  
Ice  
Ice Fishing

Ice Skating  
Mittens  
Scarf  
Skiing  
Sledding  
Snow  
Snow Ball

Snow Ball Fight  
Snow Flake  
Snowboarding  
Snowman  
Toboggan  
Winter

©A Kid's Heart at [akidsheart.com](http://akidsheart.com)

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward." – Martin Luther King

### Slovak Words=Slovenské slova

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

Surprise your parents and grandparents by wishing them Happy New Year, *Šťastlivý nový rok!*, in Slovak. It would mean a whole lot to them.

Happy New Year = *Šťastlivý nový rok!* [shtyaast-lee-vee no-vee roke]

winter = *zima* [zee - mah]

snow = *sneh* [snekh]

ice = *ľad* [lyaad]

Be careful. = *Dajte si pozor.* [Die-tye see poe-zore]

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

|                       |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| Kenadi Aleigha Erdely | 1/2  |
| Gavin Watkins         | 1/3  |
| Trevor Wilson         | 1/27 |
| Dylan Himes           | 1/30 |



### I Have A Dream



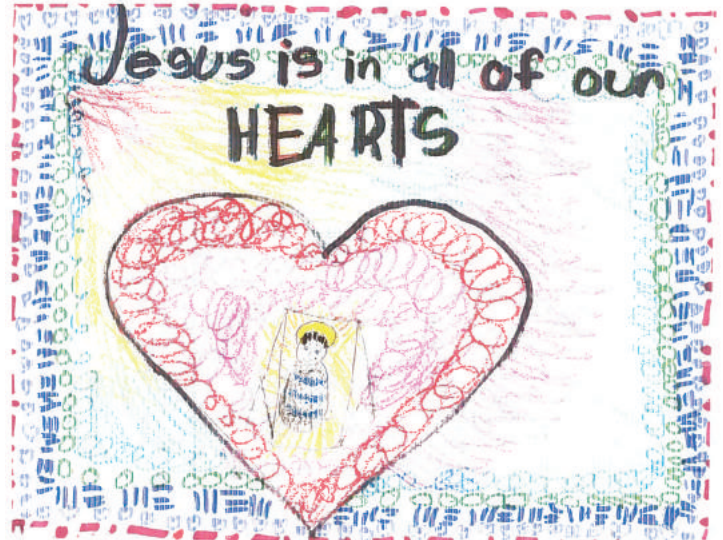
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



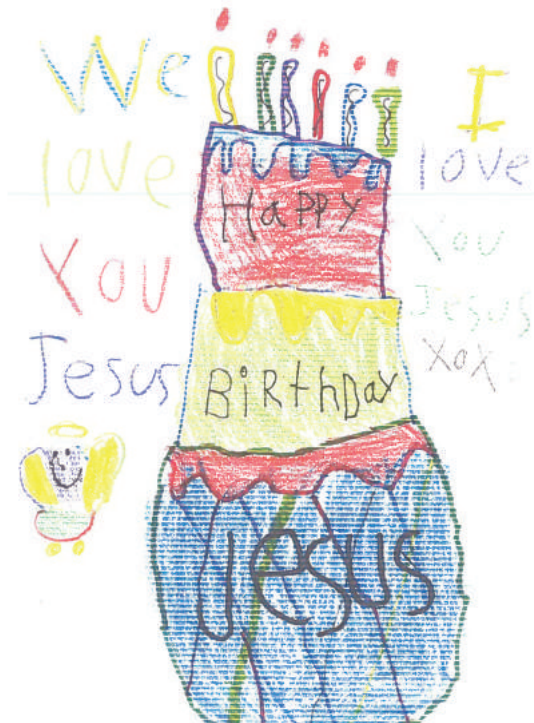
## Milwaukee Youngsters participate in Keep Christ in Christmas poster effort



Annalise F. Romine, age 6



Annika J. Romine, age 11



Juliana M. Hoeck, age 6



Rianna J. Hoeck, age 8

In conjunction with the Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign, we extended an invitation to our young Sokols and Sokolky to submit their artistic renderings in this effort. Four young members of Wreath 93 in Milwaukee, Wis. participated. The posters were submitted by the following young Sokolky: Annalise F. Romine, Annika J. Romine, Juliana M. Hoeck and Rianna S. Hoeck. Our thanks and congratulations go out to them.

Zdar Boh!  
Edward D. Moeller  
Supreme Vice President

### Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 2)

school Tea & Fashion Show benefit, at Mount Assisi Convent, 934 Forest Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 11 a.m. for information call 412 761-6004.

#### APRIL 8-9

■ Opening of the 75th annual Slovak National Bowling Tournament hosted by the Slovak Bowling Congress of America at Bill White's Twin Star Lanes, 2245 St. Rt. 59, Kent, Oh. 44240, weekends thru May 7, for information call Joe M. Harkulich 330 448-8630.

#### SUN. APRIL 30

■ Spring Festival hosted by the School Sisters of St. Francis at Mount Assisi Convent, 934 Forest Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 12 - 5 p.m., for information call 412 761-6004.

#### SEPT. 17-19

■ 59th national convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation in Youngstown, Oh. beginning with a concelebrated Mass celebrated in the Cathedral of St. Columba followed by the convention banquet at the Basilica of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

### Slovak Catholic Sokol College Scholarship - Tips for Success

(Continued from page 6)

lege scholarships. With now four years of the new College Scholarship Application process behind us, it is clear that there are a few ways to assure that your application will be reviewed.

#### 1. Answer all questions on the application.

For example- if something does not apply to you- say N/A.

If you are fully independent from your parents- as in, you are not claimed by them on their tax return, you should indicate that in the space asking for total parent income. Leaving this blank does

not tell the whole story.

#### 2. Include all requirements for the application- i.e. photo; transcript; essay

Start the process for requesting your transcript NOW. I have found that sometimes this is the hold up for some applicants.

• Transcripts- please note that "official transcript" means that you have requested it from your University or College and that it has been sent directly to me in a sealed envelope. We have not been as strict in the past on this issue, but began holding each applicant to this requirement last

season and will continue to do so moving forward.

#### 3. Submit all required elements prior to the deadline.

The application is clear and I just want to prevent a waste of your time and energy.

Failure to include/complete any of the above items will result in the application being disqualified. To be honest, it is not easy for our committee when we need to disqualify applicants for simple yet important missing requirements.

Lastly, apply for all college scholarships for which you qualify in order to give yourself the best chance at receiving something. There were several applicants who limited themselves to a par-

ticular scholarship. Competition was fierce for the larger \$ scholarships, but there seems to be more opportunity with the other scholarship offerings.

Not every applicant receives a scholarship every time they apply. If you have not received one in the past, I encourage you to apply again this year. Before submitting your application- take some time to review the bullet points above in order to assure that your application will be included for consideration.

Good luck and Zdar Boh!  
Edward D. Moeller  
Supreme Vice President  
Chairperson of the  
Scholarship Committee



## What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



## News and Views from Slovakia...

### Lajcak: Slovak EU presidency was professionally flawless

The Slovak Presidency of the EU Council, July 1- December 31, 2016, can be looked at with a feeling of satisfaction; and this fact isn't based on subjective evaluations, but mainly on responses from abroad, Foreign and European Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak told TASR.

"It was flawless in terms of organization and protocol. It was highly professional, and we did well also from the political point of view," said Lajcak, adding that these evaluations came from impartial observers.

"Slovakia proved to be an honorable mediator that really tried to move the European agenda forward wherever it was possible to agree on something," he added, noting that even with hindsight he wouldn't change the priorities that were set for the presidency.

According to Lajcak, the Slovak presidency involved dozens of negotiations at the ministerial level and hundreds of meetings at expert levels that were all led by Slovak representatives.

"We didn't underestimate anything. We spent four years in preparation, and I can say that the organization was a success," stated Lajcak.

The Slovak chief of diplomacy considers the Bratislava summit held on September 16, 2016 and the Bratislava process to be the most visible results of the presidency. Concerning specific results for people, Lajcak mentioned significant progress in eliminating roaming and geo-blocking as well as the agreement on the EU budget for 2017.

Lajcak doesn't agree with the evaluation of Slovak MEP Ivan Stefanec (Christian Democratic Movement/KDH), who in his assessment of the Slovak presidency described the migration crisis as a failure of Interior Minister Robert Kalinak (Smer-SD). "I think that it's the kind of diagnosis according to which when I'm an Opposing MP, my party's interests are more important than the interests of the state. The issue of migration is difficult, complex and challenging. A significant success of our presidency is that during it, precisely on October 6, the European Border and Coast Guard was launched," said Lajcak, mentioning the proposal for effective solidarity as well. "This paper remains on the table and will be addressed later on. That means that speaking about failure is either complete ignorance or gross misleading..." he said, adding that EU leaders really appreciated the fact that even though Slovakia's stance on the migration issue differed from most other EU countries, the presiding country played the constructive role of an honorable mediator regarding this matter.

### Kiska: 2017 will be Slovakia's Year of truth

Slovakia is in a very good condition in terms of its economy at the beginning of 2017; but the question is whether it will be able to take advantage of these positive results, economic growth and the drop in unemployment in particular to provide better state services and a higher quality of life, stated Slovak President Andrej Kiska in his New Year's address on January 1.

Kiska described the upcoming year as one of truth, as the country will see whether Slovak leaders can only speak about their good intentions or can also take action. Otherwise, the new year will hold up a merciless mirror to them, stated the president.

This year will be important due to the fact that a plan for reforming education is about to be launched. "Our top experts have prepared a good plan, and I'm very much in favor of such a broad political agreement regarding a reform of education," said the Slovak head of state, adding that the entire education system has to adapt to a completely new era.

Kiska in his address further stated that this year will show

whether the current health minister, Thomas Krucker and the government in this electoral term will be able to catch up on projects that previous governments have neglected over the years. People have the right, wherever they may live, to quality health care from their insurance payments, said the president.

In addition, the Slovak head of state said that the new year will see a response to the question of whether the issue of socially deprived Roma (gypsy) citizens can be addressed solely by repression and demonstrations of force. "In some areas we need more order, but we also need a plan that will gradually bring children in particular out of ignorance and poverty. There are enough small regional examples where things work all right. Now we have to transfer them to larger dimensions."

Kiska also stated that Slovakia handled its six-month Presidency of the EU Council with honor and at a high professional level. He described debates within the European Union during the presidency as matter-of-fact and calm.

### FinMin: last year's State Budget performance best in past eight years

Slovakia posted a state budget deficit of just over one billion dollars at the end of 2016, the Finance Ministry reported on January 2, 2017, stressing that this is the lowest deficit to be recorded in the past eight years.

The deficit is exactly \$1,050 billion (1.23 percent of the GDP) lower than the deficit projection of \$1.1 billion. "When compared to the 2015 figure, the deficit went down by \$975 million, or 49.3 percent," stated the ministry.

State budget incomes for the whole of last year amounted to \$14.350 billion, while expenditures stood at \$15.4 billion.

Concerning budget incomes, the volume of tax collected last year exceeded the projected figure, chiefly in corporate tax. Other budget incomes were higher than planned as well, including dividends.

Meanwhile, savings were seen in actual expenditures when compared to projections, said the ministry, giving the examples of \$275 million saved in a transfer to social insurer Sociálna poisťovňa and \$96 million saved in a payment to the EU budget.

"Last year was very successful from the viewpoint of servicing the state debt. We repeatedly managed to finance it at negative interest rates, which means that investors paid us to lend us money," stated the ministry.

The average interest rate on the state debt was almost 2.5 percent, an all-time low in the history of independent Slovakia. New bonds worth \$5.1 billion were sold at 0.7 percent on average in 2016. "We thus saved \$16.5 million on servicing the state debt last year," added the ministry.

### Fico: if U.S. Steel Kosice is for sale, state will consider buying stake

If U.S. Steel decides to sell its steelworks in Kosice, the state will consider buying its part, Prime Minister Robert Fico said at a HNC debate on December 12.

However, the government doesn't have any specific information on the U.S. Steel's alleged plans to sell the Kosice steel mills.

"If this happens...I can imagine as one option the state debating its possible participation in the new ownership structure," said Fico, noting that thousands of people depend on the Kosice steelworks for their living.

"As long as I'm prime minister, we'll do everything to

maintain steel production in Kosice. We must help steel producers when it comes to dumping prices. The European Union has recently done quite a lot in this regard," said Fico.

"Sometimes it's difficult to persuade the owners of a certain company to remain. If U.S. Steel decides to leave Slovakia - while I don't have any official information on this - we'll do everything possible to put our foot in this company a bit, like what we've done with (gas utility) SPP," said Fico adding that the government will want to take this opportunity to boost its economic presence in the region of eastern Slovakia.

The business news website biztweet.eu, the Czech business weekly EURO and the Slovak daily newspapers SME and Hospodarske Noviny in early December reported that U.S. Steel has received purchase bids both from a Chinese company and the Czech steel mills in Trinec Zelezarny, which belong to the Czech-Slovak group Moravia Steel. According to HN, the bids were presented in Pittsburgh a few days earlier. However, the Czech company's offer was rejected in the meantime, sources told the daily. The Chinese bid was probably presented by the steel giant Hesteel Group.

Meanwhile, U.S. Steel hasn't provided any comments on the situation.



Slovakia has numerous shrines, churches and artistic renderings of Christ's Nativity. In the village of Rajecká Lesná, located just about 25 miles south of Žilina in northwest Slovakia, is known for its handcarved wooden rendition known as Bethlehem. The village of about 1,300 inhabitants has been a pilgrimage site since the 15th century. A number of shrines and churches have attracted pilgrims for centuries. However for the past 20 years, visitors come especially to view the great Bethlehem house display of the Nativity. The masterpiece is the work of Jozef Pekara, a carver from Rajecká Teplička. The work contains 170 figures in traditional Slovak folk dress, as well as over 150 animal figures. This work of art depicts not only the creche but prominent individuals and sites in Slovak history. Jozef Pekara began carving Bethlehem tableau in 1980, completing it in 1997. All the figures and depictions are carved from Linden wood. The work, which is the largest depiction of the Nativity in the world, was blessed by the late Cardinal Jan Chryzostom Korec, S.J., Bishop of Nitra on November 26, 1995. The Slovak Bethlehem has become a popular tourist site all year long.





## Fraternal Activities in Connecticut

### Group 2 Corner

by Eileen S. Wilson

#### Wreath 1

Known affectionately as the "Mother of the Slovak Catholic Sokol," Wreath 1 has enjoyed an active history since its initial founding in 1906 at the former St. John Nepomucene Slovak Parish in Bridgeport. When the organization's 3rd national convention in 1908 decided to accept female members, Wreath 1 was accepted as the first female lodge of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. And over the years, Wreath 1 has served as an example of concerned fraternal outreach ever since. A recently completed "service" activity has continued that tradition.

As the Sokols are committed to our young people, we chose to bring a few smiles and a small measure of contentment to other youngsters. They are the children who visit family and friends at The Connecticut Hospice. We provided a variety of games, crafts, puzzles, activity books, etc. that can be used in the waiting room lounge or taken home. Our hope is that these items will remind them that many people care about them!

Our thanks to those parishioners at the Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Stratford, Conn. who also contributed items for this project. The hospice Arts Director Katherine Blossom, truly appreciated all of our efforts. In her note to Group 2 President Eileen S. Wilson who also serves as president of Wreath 1, Katherine Blossom wrote: "Dear Eileen, The Connecticut Hospice was extremely grateful to receive the generous gift of games, art supplies and books for children that you donated to us on November 4, 2016. It is a great support to the work we do here, but most of all to the visiting children, who find their visits more enjoyable and who are reminded that many are thinking of them. Please extend our thanks to your entire organization. With very best wishes for the holiday season, signed Katherine Blossom, Arts Director, The Connecticut Hospice, Branford, Conn."

#### Slovak Catholic Sokol, Assembly No. 9, Inc.

In a fraternal outreach effort, Assembly No. 9, Inc. recently made donations of yarn to Cathy Tringhese, coordinator of the Quilters at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Stratford, Conn. Several hundreds of dollars worth of yarn that will be crafted into beautiful afghans and baby blankets which will be donated to various area charities and the needy. Assembly No. 9, Inc. has supported this outreach effort in the best traditions of Sokol fraternalism for many years now.



Shown with the donation of yarn to the Holy Name of Jesus Quilters, are Judith Salamon, president of Assembly No. 9, Inc and Cathy Tringhese, coordinator of the Holy Name Quilters.



Shown with the donation of yarn to the Holy Name of Jesus Quilters, are Judith Salamon, president of Assembly No. 9, Inc and Cathy Tringhese, with some of the quilters.

## Saints Cyril and Methodius Apostles and Teachers

(Continued from page 2)

tors, who were ruled by their own princes, recognizing the Bulgarian suzerainty. They populated both sides of the Tisa River, and their land extended deep into present day Transylvania and Hungary. SS. Cyril and Methodius recognized the peculiarity of the language and customs of our ancestors and called the land - Rhos, i.e. Rus'. Thus our ancestors began to call themselves Rusi syny (children of Rus'), Rusiny (modified by Latin in Rusyns).

Having arrived in this land which they called - Rus', SS. Cyril and Methodius were not able to continue their journey to Moravia because of the Germanic invasion. So they remained among our Rusyn ancestors until the summer of 864 A.D., preaching to them the Gospel of Christ. Thus, between 863-864 A.D., they became Christianized by the Apostles of the Slavs, and began to worship Almighty God in the Byzantine Rite, but in its Slavonic form that was understood even by the simple people. Seeing the great success of their mission SS. Cyril and Methodius provided them with their own Bishop and necessary priests.

The mission of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Moravia was very successful and they educated a great number of Slavic missionaries in their Missionary School in

Velehrad.

SS. Cyril and Methodius received the approval of Pope Adrian II for their mission among the Slavic peoples in 869. On that occasion the Pope also approved the use of the Slavonic language in the Holy Liturgy. During the sojourn of the Holy Brothers in Rome, St. Cyril died on February 14, 869 A.D., and was buried with great solemnity in the Basilica of St. Clement.

Pope Adrian II then ordained St. Methodius bishop and appointed him a Papal Legate for the Slavic peoples. But the Germanic missionaries, who from the very beginning opposed Slavic missionaries in Moravia, seized St. Methodius on his return from Rome, and kept him in prison for almost three years. They released him only on the intervention of Pope John VIII. But soon after his release the German bishops once again accused St. Methodius of heresy, the usurpation of arch-episcopal authority, and the "scandalous use of the Slavonic language" in the Liturgy. Summoned to Rome in 880 A.D., St. Methodius cleared himself before Pope John VIII. The Pope not only approved the missionary work of St. Methodius among the Slavs, but also reconfirmed the use of the Byzantine-Slavonic Liturgy.

Having a premonition of his approaching death, St. Methodius appointed as his successor one of his most capable disciples, Bishop

Gorazd. But soon after his death, Bishop Wiching of Nitra hastened to Rome and, having forged some vital documents, induced Pope Stephen VI to revoke Gorazd's nomination and to appoint him, Wiching, head of the Moravian Metropolitan Province, originally organized by St. Methodius with seven suffragan sees.

Wiching, taking under his control the ecclesiastical affairs of Great Moravia, prohibited the Byzantine Rite and Slavonic Liturgy, and turned against the disciples of SS. Cyril and Methodius. Many of them were incarcerated; others were sold into slavery; still others had to flee the country. It was at this time that many of their disciples returned from Moravia to the land of our ancestors. The return of the disciples so strengthened the Byzantine Catholic Church in the Carpathian region that the Bishops were able to send their missionaries to other Slavic tribes of Eastern Europe.

Since our ancestors inherited both Christianity of the Byzantine Rite and their Slavic culture (alphabet, written language and books) from SS. Cyril and Methodius, we rightfully venerate them as our Slavic Apostles and Teachers. With this rich history it is appropriate for us to re-awaken and deepen the veneration of SS. Cyril and Methodius among our faithful here in the United States.

#### Make a Difference Day

During the annual observance of national Make a Difference Day in October 2016, the local Slovak fraternal lodges of the greater Bridgeport area, once again coordinated their efforts in providing donations for the Food Pantry of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Bridgeport, Conn. Located in the inner city, the parish provides food and blankets to many area residents. The administrator of the parish, the Rev. Joseph "Skip" Karcinski, who is of Slovak ancestry, is ever grateful for the concern and kindness of the Slovak fraternalists, who strive to mirror the high ideals of the fraternal benefit system.

The following contributed their time, talent and treasure to make this project a success: Slovak Catholic Sokol, Assembly No. 9, Inc.; Group 2, Slovak Catholic Sokol; Wreath 1, Slovak Catholic Sokol; Wreath 39, Slovak Catholic Sokol; National Slovak Society, Assembly 28; National Slovak Society, L002; National Slovak Society, Region 15, CT; Rev. Matthew Jankola District, First Catholic Slovak Union; the Slovak Alliance of Greater Bridgeport; the First Plavecky Society of the Holy Trinity; an anonymous donor and the Quilters of Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Stratford. Thanks and gratitude go out to all who assisted in this fraternal project.



Father Joseph "Skip" Karcinski, administrator of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Bridgeport, Conn., far right accepts the donations for the parish food pantry from the above Slovak Catholic Sokol members, l-r, John Golias, Thomas Marticek, John Tkacik, Judith Salamon, Kevin Sabovik and Joseph Goda.

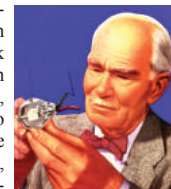
#### First Hoops? Peach Baskets

Dr. James Naismith of Springfield College, Mass. needed a game for students that could be played indoors during the winter. After unsuccessfully trying to adapt soccer and lacrosse, he decided to make the goals smaller and hang them from the balcony in the gym.

The result was called basketball, and the first game was played on January 20, 1892. At that time, there was one drawback. Since peach baskets were used for goals, someone had to climb a ladder and retrieve the ball after each score.

#### Caruso Hits Air Waves

The first radio broadcast to the public occurred in New York City on January 13, 1910. Radio pioneer Lee DeForest, who invented the electron tube, managed to broadcast the voice of Enrico Caruso and other singers from the Metropolitan Opera to several receiving stations in the city. It was the beginning of a new era in communication.



## Sokol Birthdays



### FEBRUARY 2

**Kathy Graham**, Plains, Pa., member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**Michael J. Knies, Jr.**, Lansford, Pa., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

**David Mudrak**, Woodbridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

### FEBRUARY 3

**Marianne R. Baloga**, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**Christine Maslar**, Reading, Pa., a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

**Boniface Mikulka**, Parkville, Md., a member of Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

### FEBRUARY 4

**Mary Louise H. Buck**, Canfield, Oh., a member of Wreath 54, Youngstown, Oh.

**Margaret C. Brown**, Knoxville, Tenn., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

**David J. Kostolansky**, Warren, Oh., a member of Assembly 25, Perryopolis, Pa.

**Margaret Pavelek**, Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### FEBRUARY 5

**Daniel Roger Benyak**, Seattle, Wash., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

**Jerry J. Krupa**, Maitland, Fla., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

**John J. Termyna, Jr.**, Clifton, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

### FEBRUARY 6

**Michelle Benjamin**, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

**Damian John Suess**, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Assembly 16, Pittsburgh, Pa.

### FEBRUARY 7

**Nadezda Halko**, Mt. Kisco, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### FEBRUARY 8

**Michael T. Andriso**, Vista, Ca., a member of Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

**Suzanne M. Biliska**, Passaic, N.J., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.

saic, N.J.

**Megan Bruno**, Sinking Springs, Pa., a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

**John Matthew Grande**, East Douglas, Mass., a member of Assembly 28, East Douglas, Mass.

**John A. Holy**, Pomton Plains, N.J., vice president of Assembly 182, New York City.

**Sherry L. Papcun**, Clinton Twp., Mich., a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

**Carl D. Pollack**, Peekskill, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### FEBRUARY 9

**Stephanie C. Nist**, Westerly, R.I., a member of Wreath 1, Bridgeport, Conn.

**Dawn M. Palchanis**, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

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

**Alice Potanovic**, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### FEBRUARY 11

**Leonard Benek**, Lansford, Pa., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

**Georgine Moravek Cardamone**, Harvest, Ala., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

**Marian M. Nanchy**, Monroe, Conn., a member of Wreath 1, Bridgeport, Conn.

### FEBRUARY 12

**Cooper A. Macurak**, Acworth, Ga., a member of Assembly 16, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Irene Yaniglos Matlak**, Avon Lake, Oh., a member of Wreath 107, Youngstown, Oh.

### FEBRUARY 13

**Melissa Golini**, Avon, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

**James Puskar**, Tampa, Fla., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

**Daniel O'Sullivan**, Pelham Manor, N.Y., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

**John G. Tkacik**, Bridgeport, Conn., a member of Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

## For students currently attending a Catholic High School

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

As a fraternal benefit, the Slovak Catholic Sokol is pleased to offer \$500.00 grants to one young Sokol or Sokolka in each of our organization's nineteen Groups. These 19 Grants are available to any qualified Sokol member currently attending a Catholic High School.

#### Eligibility

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

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

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

#### Application

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

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

This application must be **received** on or before, **March 31, 2017** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

Application is also available on the Internet @ [www.slovakcatholicssokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org)

#### Disqualification

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

#### Acknowledgment

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

#### Return of Grant

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



(Detach here)

### SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL ABBOT JEROME M. KOVAL, O.S.B. MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION

Group # \_\_\_\_\_ Assembly/Wreath # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Current Age \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ High School Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
area code area code

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Father's name \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a member? \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's name \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a member? \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_ Face Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a previous Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Recipient? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please  
(yes/no)

indicate Grade School or High School. What year? \_\_\_\_\_

High School verification (to be completed by High School Principal)

I, \_\_\_\_\_ Principal of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Principal's signature) (Name of School)

Catholic High School, verify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a student at

the above school and will be attending \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in the 2017-2018 school year.  
(Name of student)

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

Deadline for receipt of this application is **March 31, 2017.**  
Return completed application to:

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

## \$63,000 in S.C.S. Scholarship Grants Available to Eligible Members in 2017

(Continued from page 6)

el 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:

Edward D. Moeller  
Supreme Vice-President  
Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee  
[vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org](mailto:vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org)  
(412)881-3506

**Deadline for submission of all scholarship applications  
is March 31, 2017**

In addition to our college grant program, we make available 18 Catholic High School Grants in the amount of \$500 each as well as 36 Catholic Grade School Grants in the amount of \$250 each. Please find these scholarship applications and directives in each of the issues of the *Falcon*.



# Report of the Supreme Secretary for the Month of November 2016

## ASSETS

|                             | <u>YEAR TO DATE</u>     |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cash - Senior Account       | \$ 186,312.08           |
| Cash - Bank of Montreal     | 9,997.49                |
| Cash - Payroll Account      | 7,792.59                |
| Petty Cash                  | 399.00                  |
| Investments - Bonds & Bills | 62,933,844.81           |
| Investments - Stocks        | 9,635,123.69            |
| Capital Reserve             | 1,117,506.38            |
| Stock Adj. to Book Value    | 2,161,740.04            |
| First Mortgage Loans        | 736,094.06              |
| Loans on Certificates       | 170,509.20              |
| Accrued Interest Receivable | 786,466.00              |
| Prepaid Expenses            | 592.00                  |
| Sokol Building              | 2,717,624.61            |
| Land                        | 204,108.00              |
| Furniture & Fixtures        | 159,232.34              |
| Computer                    | 95,893.43               |
| Sokol Baby Spoons           | 10,075.00               |
| Due From Groups             | 169.45                  |
| Accounts Receivable         | -45,053.33              |
| Non-Admitted Assets         | -108,905.00             |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>         | <b>\$ 80,779,521.84</b> |

## LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

|                                            | <u>YEAR TO DATE</u>     |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Life Reserves                              | \$ 60,500,995.00        |
| Reserve Dep. Furn. & Fixtures              | 153,208.34              |
| Reserve Dep. Sokol Building                | 2,637,116.40            |
| Asset Valuation Reserve                    | 1,525,569.00            |
| Interest Maintenance Reserve               | 214,069.00              |
| Reserve for Supplemental Contracts         | 1,505,506.75            |
| Reserve Emp. Retirement Plan               | 4,761,658.00            |
| Reserve for Convention                     | 68,750.00               |
| Matured Endowments                         | 73,270.24               |
| Claims Payable                             | 286,482.58              |
| IBNR Payable                               | 30,000.00               |
| Conversion - Canadian Currency             | 3,348.33                |
| Accounts Payable                           | 31,256.59               |
| Sokol Secure Fund                          | 599,460.20              |
| Mary Jane Rich Scholarship Fund            | 85,000.00               |
| Emil Slavik Scholarship Fund               | 100,000.00              |
| Dr's Lesko Medical Scholarship Fund        | 20,000.00               |
| Krista L Glugosh Memorial Scholarship Fund | 24,000.00               |
| Dividend Accum. At Interest                | 319,510.73              |
| Dividend Payable                           | 43,951.51               |
| Advance Premiums                           | 18,000.00               |
| Premium Load                               | 2,400.00                |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>                   | <b>\$ 73,003,552.67</b> |
| Undistributed Funds - Sokol                | 7,775,969.17            |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; SURPLUS</b>     | <b>\$ 80,779,521.84</b> |

## INCOME

|                                 | <u>NOVEMBER</u>        | <u>YEAR TO DATE</u>    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Interest on Bonds and Bills     | \$ 312,919.02          | \$ 2,731,767.79        |
| Interest Income Accrued         | 0.00                   | 55,733.00              |
| Accrued Interest Paid           | -14,776.25             | -134,958.26            |
| Amortization of IMR             | 0.00                   | 26,400.00              |
| Other Investment Income         | 0.00                   | 345.74                 |
| Dividends on Stocks             | 18,567.45              | 309,279.37             |
| Interest on Mortgages           | 3,793.66               | 44,390.98              |
| Interest on Certificate Loans   | 5,168.64               | 5,168.64               |
| Sale of Cookbooks               | 15.50                  | 542.00                 |
| Rent Received - Sokol Building  | 3,215.00               | 32,130.00              |
| Suppl. Contracts W/Life         | 0.00                   | 21,235.13              |
| Premium Income                  | 127,990.03             | 1,502,326.41           |
| Annuities                       | 519,795.33             | 4,811,419.28           |
| Miscellaneous Income            | 0.00                   | 32,851.75              |
| Sale of Securities/Amortization | 76,251.32              | 334,542.86             |
| Interest for Pensions           | 0.00                   | -107,137.00            |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>             | <b>\$ 1,052,939.70</b> | <b>\$ 9,666,037.69</b> |

## EXPENSES

|                                    | <u>NOVEMBER</u> | <u>YEAR TO DATE</u> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Operating Expense - Sokol Building | \$ 3,301.13     | \$ 61,520.96        |
| Building Maintenance & Repairs     | 94.85           | 9,345.38            |
| Rental Area Expenses               | 148.58          | 1,664.32            |
| Property Taxes - Sokol Building    | 0.00            | 79,518.48           |
| Depreciation Sokol Building        | 311.52          | 3,426.72            |
| Rent for Space                     | 1,250.00        | 13,750.00           |
| Pension Plan - Print               | 563.14          | 6,194.54            |
| Salaries - Office Employees        | 48,331.00       | 412,505.70          |
| Salaries - Editorial Employees     | 10,535.00       | 77,832.30           |
| P/R - Taxes Employer               | 7,793.19        | 39,597.23           |
| Hospitalization                    | 515.10          | 108,323.52          |
| Workmen's Compensation Insurance   | 0.00            | 7,485.73            |
| Pension Plan - Office/Officers     | 22,615.14       | 141,670.64          |
| Office Expense                     | 2,666.41        | 15,910.42           |
| Computer Expense                   | 4,371.01        | 59,209.63           |
| Supreme Officers Travel            | 244.00          | 9,415.69            |
| Supreme Auditors                   | 0.00            | 10,959.12           |
| Actuarial Expenses                 | 2,250.00        | 38,155.88           |
| Accountant Expenses                | 5,200.00        | 35,135.83           |
| Computer Conversion-Depreciation   | 0.00            | 6,750.00            |
| Postage-Office                     | 94.00           | 10,521.12           |
| Telephone - Office                 | 424.38          | 4,908.76            |
| Telephone - Editorial              | 60.00           | 809.59              |
| Printing - Katolicky Sokol         | 4,100.00        | 34,025.00           |
| Postage - Sokol Paper              | 550.00          | 31,325.00           |
| Misc. Publication Expense          | 0.00            | 601.60              |
| Other Printing                     | 0.00            | 5,559.34            |
| Legal Expenses                     | 6,825.00        | 8,339.13            |
| Death Benefit Claims Paid          | 12,368.00       | 732,785.58          |
| Cash Surrender Values Paid         | -4,297.41       | 240,696.62          |
| Annuity Surrenders                 | 304,656.27      | 2,331,301.99        |
| Annuity Suppl. Contracts           | 0.00            | 4,653.29            |
| Matured Endowments Paid            | 6,549.51        | 13,533.00           |
| Reserve Increase                   | 200,000.00      | 3,677,740.00        |
| State Insurance Dept. Lic./Fee     | 0.00            | 12,126.31           |
| Bank Charges - Bond Account        | 11,535.90       | 130,186.09          |
| Supreme Officers Uniform Allowance | 0.00            | 5,786.01            |
| Dues & Subscription                | 0.00            | 9,493.85            |
| Donations & Contributions          | 225.00          | 6,687.65            |
| Clinic (Kurz)                      | -240.00         | 31,754.45           |
| National Bowling Tournament        | 0.00            | 4,678.41            |
| National Golf Tournament           | 0.00            | 7,841.43            |
| National Softball Tournament       | 0.00            | 3,300.52            |
| Other Coaching, Insurance          | 0.00            | 3,237.93            |
| Convention Expenses                | 6,250.00        | 69,572.70           |
| Group Assessments Paid             | 0.00            | 36,816.58           |
| Commission Expense                 | 37,811.06       | 363,170.63          |
| Annuity Commissions                | 12,987.79       | 120,989.57          |
| Advertising/Promotions             | 3,293.88        | 14,582.16           |
| Marketing Expense                  | 266.29          | 8,360.99            |
| Agency Expense                     | 1,594.25        | 27,261.37           |
| Board of Directors Expense         | 1,715.30        | 33,003.25           |
| Physical Fitness Board Expense     | 0.00            | 17,710.71           |
| Scholarship Expense                | 0.00            | 44,925.45           |
| Salaries - Supreme Officers        | 73,880.00       | 96,695.00           |
| Supreme Officers Insurance Bond    | 0.00            | 1,922.00            |
| Fraternal Congress Expense         | 2,562.80        | 17,644.78           |
| Local Fees/ Rebates                | -556.08         | 9,483.31            |
| Secure Fund Interest               | 0.00            | 6,890.09            |
| Interest Expense                   | 0.00            | 11,704.44           |

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$ 92,846.01 \$ 9,330,997.79

**TOTAL INCOME (LOSS)** \$ 260,093.69 \$ 335,039.90

ZDAR BOH!

**Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.**  
Supreme Secretary  
Slovak Catholic Sokol

## Outgoing Slovak Consul General Jana Trnovecova Honored at Reception at New York Slovak Parish

The Rev. Richard D. Baker, pastor of New York's United Parish of St. John Nepomucene, St. John the Martyr and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, hosted a farewell reception honoring the Slovak Consul General in New York, Jana Trnovecova on Sunday, January 8. Consul General Trnovecova returns to Slovakia following her four and a half-year assignment in New York. During her years in New York, Ms. Trnovecova has enjoyed a close collaboration with the Slovak cultural, religious and fraternal community. With an endearing personality, she has arranged for numerous events celebrating Slovak culture in the Big Apple. She will be sorely missed. In his tribute to the Consul General, Father Baker had high praise for her efforts in coordinating so many activities in New York, many of which are held at St. John Nepomucene Parish. Representatives of the various societies of the parish, as well as representatives of our Slovak Catholic fraternalists participated in the tribute. With her



charm and talents, Jana has endeared herself not only to the area's Slovak community but to the rich multifaceted cultural life of New York. In the top right photo, Editor Daniel F. Tanzone extended best wishes on behalf of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Jana visited our home office in Passaic this past September. In the lower photo, the Slovak League of America and local Slovak fraternal leaders made a presentation to Jana, shown center with Father Richard D. Baker.

Shown with them on the photo are, l-r, Zuzana Krcmar, Magdalena Vanko, Zelka Beckova-Kucharovic, Jozef and Anna Korcak, Jana and Father Baker, Nina Holy and Daniel F. Tanzone, national secretary and president respectively of the Slovak League of America; our Honorary Supreme Officer, Dr. Mary Z. Gasparik, Rev. Martin Kertys, Katarina Novakova and Luba Gregus Mason. - photos by Natalia Zibekova - LUX NY



## News and Views from Slovakia...

### Fico: I reject sale of Bratislava Airport

Further development of the Bratislava Airport is possible in cooperation with foreign partners, but the airport must not be sold, Prime Minister Robert Fico has told TASR.

"I reject any notion of privatizing Bratislava Airport," said Fico. The premier noted that his first cabinet (2006-10) in 2006 scrapped the privatization of the airport prepared by the previous government of Mikulas Dzurinda. The airport was then allowed to develop on its own and it has shown since then that the state is also able to secure an increase in the number of passengers, said the premier.

At the same time, Fico conceded that there is still quite a lot to develop at the Bratislava Airport. "The issue of setting up a national air carrier has been up for debate, apart from securing a regular Kosice-Bratislava connection that shouldn't be left up to other entities. This must be agreed upon by the state and the regional authorities," said Fico, adding that this mainly concerns the Kosice regional government.

Nevertheless, Fico said that he doesn't reject cooperation with foreign partners, "if anyone comes and says - 'I want to have a hub here, I

want to have cargo here'".

"However, the state must not lose control of the Bratislava Airport. I can't imagine to look at an airport in the center of Slovakia's capital with a strategic meaning belonging completely to a foreign investor," added Fico.

### NBS: Slovak banking sector posted strong profit at end of November

Slovakia's banking sector recorded profits of \$650 million at the end of November, 2016, up \$41 million month-on-month and by \$40 million year-on-year, the central bank (NBS) announced on January 5.

Net interest incomes, which represent the main source of income for banks, reached \$1.7 billion at the end of November, down by \$76 million, year-on-year. This was mainly due to low interest rates on the market.

According to a profit and loss statement provided by NBS, net fee and commission incomes increased on an annual basis. While they amounted to \$484 million at the end of November 2015, they stood at \$485 million at the end of November 2016.

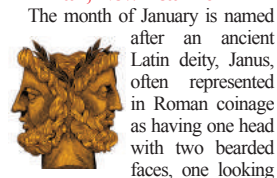
NBS in its latest Financial Stability Report noted that the profitability of Slovak banks could go down in the

next few years, even though it was reported that their total profits rose by 6 percent on the year in the first three quarters of 2016. If certain one-off effects had been removed, profits would even have been down by 8 percent year-on-year, NBS pointed out.

Developments are being driven mainly by a continuing fall in interest incomes, partly also due to recently introduced legislative measures concerning housing loans.

A significantly positive effect for the profitability of the sector last year was provided by Visa Inc.'s acquisition of Visa Europe.

### Hail, New Year 2017



The month of January is named after an ancient Latin deity, Janus, often represented in Roman coinage as having one head with two bearded faces, one looking

forward and the other backward. Janus was worshipped as the god of gods, the sovereign disposer of war and peace and the dispenser of the futures of mankind. All doors and all passages were said to be under his care.

The symbolism of this mythological deity is especially appropriate for January.

## 65th Florida Slovak Day set for March 4 in Winter Park, Fla.

Continuing in a fine cultural tradition spanning more than six decades, The Slovak Garden, billed as "A Home for American Slovaks," will host its 65th annual Florida Slovak Day on Saturday, March 4 at its cultural center located at 3110 Howell Branch Road in Winter Park, just outside Orlando, Fla. The annual event is an opportunity to celebrate our Slovak culture and heritage in the Sunshine State. The event is an opportunity for the ever-growing Florida Slovak community, as well as the many snow birds from north of the Mason Dixon Line to celebrate fellowship and camaraderie. Today, Florida ranks third in population with over 20 million residents. No doubt an increasing number who are of Slovak ancestry.

This year's Slovak Day will be held in the cultural center of The Slovak Garden. Doors open at 12 noon with a luncheon featuring Slovak culinary specialties beginning at 1 p.m. A cash bar is available. A cultural program featuring Slovak music, dance and song will begin at 3 p.m. Live music for dancing and listening pleasure will be featured throughout the afternoon until 6 p.m. Tickets for this year's Slovak Day which includes the luncheon are \$25.00 per person in advance or \$30.00 at the door. Admission for Children to age 10 is \$10.00. For reservations call The Slovak Garden at tel. 407 677-6894 or email at slovakgarden@centurylink.net. An enjoyable afternoon in sunny Florida is assured.

The Slovak Garden had its beginnings in 1950 when a group of Slovak fraternalists from the National Slovak Society decided to

build a facility in sunny Florida where they planned to reside during their retirement years. Property was purchased and a complex of apartments along with a swimming pool was constructed in Winter Park, located today near the many family-oriented attractions such as Disney World and other popular tourist venues in Orlando, located just 15 miles away. After just two years of existence, the Slovak fraternalists decided to host a Slovak Day. Thus in March of 1952, the first Florida Slovak Day was celebrated. Held every year since, this year's 65th Slovak Day looks to be better than ever.

The complex includes an interesting and colorful Slovak museum as well as a cultural center. One bedroom efficiencies, as well as two bedroom apartments, poolside to individuals age 55 and older are available. A minimum 12-month lease is required. For information contact The Slovak Garden at the telephone and email listed above. Over the years, our Slovak fraternalists, including a number who have been our Slovak Catholic Sokol members have served as president of The Slovak Garden, including the late Andrew F. Hudak, Jr., Justine Wesnak, Jerry J. Krupa and others. The current president is Thomas Kravets. The annual meeting of The Slovak Garden, Inc. is scheduled for Sunday, March 5 beginning with Mass celebrated at 10 a.m. with the Rev. Jozef Krajnak pastor of Holy Family Parish in Linden, N.J. officiating.

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

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR REQUEST FOR SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON

P.O. BOX 899 • 205 MADISON STREET  
PASSAIC, N.J. 07055

☐ NEW ☐ CHANGE ☐ CANCELLATION

Certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



## Slovenský ples v Garfielde, NJ

Slovensko - americké kultúrne stredisko Vás srdečne pozýva na 24. Slovenský ples v sobotu, 25. februára 2017 v The Royal Manor, Garfield, NJ. Aj tentokrát pre Vás organizátori pripravili zaujímavý program a bohatú tombolu.

Od 7.00 hodiny večer do 1.00 hodiny po polnoci bude "Open bar". Do tancu bude hrať hudobná skupina Express. Vstupné je 4130.00 za osobu. Lístky sú na predaj prostredníctvom webstránky [Eventbrite](http://Eventbrite) "Slovak Ball 2017", alebo kontaktujte p. Zuzanu Krčmárovu na tel. číslo 973-357-1209, alebo napíšte na emailovú adresu: [SlovakAmericanCC@gmail.com](mailto:SlovakAmericanCC@gmail.com). Bližšie informácie na webovej stránke: [www.slovakamerica.com](http://www.slovakamerica.com)

## Slovenský deň v Slovenskej záhrade 4. marca

65. Slovenský deň sa bude konať v sobotu 4. marca na pozemkoch Slovenskej záhrady, 311 Howel Branch Road, Winter Park, FL. O 1.00 hodine bude obed s tradičnými slovenskými jedlami. Nasledovať bude kultúrny a zábavný program a a tanečná hudba. Cena vstupeniek je \$25.00 za dospelých v predpredaji a \$30.00 pri vstupe na podujatie. Za deti do 10 rokov je vstupné \$10.00. Rezervácie a informácie: tel. č. 407-677-6894.

Nasledujúci deň, 5. marca bude výročná schôdza členov Slovenskej záhrady. Začne sa sv. omšou o 10.00 hodine. Bude ju slúžiť o. Jozef Krajňák, farár slovenskej farnosti Sv. Rodiny v Linden, N.J.,

## Zomrel astronaut Eugen Cernan

(Pokračovanie zo str. 16)

bou vzal česko-slovenskú vlajku, ktorú pri svojej neoficiálnej a utajovanej návšteve Česko-Slovenska v roku 1974 odovzdal riaditeľovi Astronomického ústavu v Ondřejove doc. Lubošovi Perekovi.

Bol zapísaný v Ohio do National Aviation Hall of Fame (Národná letecká sieň slávy).

V roku 1974 navštívil obec svojich starých rodičov Vysokú nad Kysucou. Druhú návštevu Kysúc absolvoval v roku 1994, kde sa zúčastnil na otvorení pamätnej izby vo Vyskej nad Kysucou a stal sa Čestným občanom mesta Čadce. Stála expozícia Človek na mesiaci je sprístupnená verejnosti od 15. marca 2011 v Kysuckom múzeu v Čadci.

26. októbra 2001 navštívil Česko na pozvanie náčelníka generálneho štábu Armády Českej republiky Jiřího Šedivého. Dňa 29. októbra 2001 uskutočnil Cernan spolu

s prvým česko-slovenským kozmonautom Vladimírom Remekom let vrtuľníkom Armády ČR typu Mi-8S, ktorý chceli ukončiť v Bernarticiach pri Milevske v okrese Písek, pretože z neďalekej obce Borovany pochádzal jeho starý otec. Asi minútu a pol od plánovaného miesta pristátia sa vrtuľník pri obci Okrouhlá zrútil po tom, čo mu došlo palivo. Cernan našťastie nehodu prežil bez zranenia. Nebola to prvá nehoda vrtuľníka, ktorú zažil. 23. januára 1971 sa zrútil vrtuľník Bell 47 patriaci NASA so Cernanom na palube do Banana River neďaleko Kennedyho vesmírneho strediska na Myse Canaveral.

29. septembra 2004 Cernan navštívil Bratislavu. Okrem iného otvoril výstavu Človek na Mesiaci na Bratislavskom hrade. V júni 2008 navštívil Prahu aj so svojou vnučkou, aj výstavu v Národnom múzeu a poskytol novinárom zaujímavé úvahy k ďalším letom na Mesiac.

## DOPRAJTE TELU ZINOK

Zinok je prítomný pri metabolických procesoch, v ktorých zohráva významnú úlohu. Okrem toho, že podporuje imunitu organizmu, je účinným bojovníkom na strane ženskej krásy.

Ak je ho v tele nedostatok, trpí nielen pokožka, ale aj vlasy. Môže sa to prejavovať zhoršením stavu pokožky, vyrážkami na tvári ale takisto lámavosťou nechtovej či vypadávaním vlasov.

Zinok obsahujú najmä nasledovné jedlá:

Ovsené vločky, do ktorých môžete pridať orechy a dávku zinku ešte znásobíte. Pekanné orechy, čo sa obsahu zinku týka, vyhrávajú. V 100 g je ukrytých 5,3 mg. To je takmer dvojnásobné množstvo oproti vlašským orechom – tie obsahujú na 100 g 2,7 mg zinku.

Pečeň sa odporúča pri nedostatku zinku. Najviac obsahuje telacia pečeň - 100 gramov obsahuje 8,4 miligramov zinku. Polovičnú hodnotu obsahuje bravčová pečeň.

Ustrice nie sú práve štandardnou súčasťou nášho jedálneho lístka. Ak si ich však doprajete, vďaka 100 gramom telu dodáte až 22 mg zinku.

Šošovica má vysoký obsah zinku. V 100 g ukrýva 3,7 mg. Len o čosi horšie sú na tom fazuľa či hrášok. Celkovo strukoviny sú na zinok bohaté.

## ACH, TÁ NAŠA SLOVENČINA!

HIT alebo totálny FAIL? Táto blogerka konturuje iba **glitrami!** - emma.sk

... pred začiatkom dobročinného módného prehliadky Jany Pištejovej mali v **backstage** naponáhlo. - pluska.sk

Skúste **RAW párty** jednohubky - dobruchut.sk

... má pomôcť najmä **startupom** - pravda.sk

Prišla o **líderstvo...** - živé.sk

V najstaršom **coffee shope** v Európe dohorel posledný **joint**. - trend.sk

Bezpečkové **crinkles cookies** - varecha.sk

**Second handy** už nenavštevujú iba finančne slabší... - pluska.sk

Hruškové **crumble** s orieškami - dobrejedlo.sk

**Crawling** - nový **fitness trend**. - pravda.sk

...kreslia **futuristické** apartmány... - trend.sk

Známa **fashion** značka končí! - emma.sk

...5 **TOP bizarností z fashion** týždňov... - emma.sk

...bodybuilderi pomáhajú opusteným psíkom... - emma.sk

**Restriktívne** vyplývajúce z tohto opatrenia - pravda.sk

## V kysuckom skanzene musia odhadzovať sneh zo striech historických dreveníc



Foto: R. Jaloviarová, Pravda

Až vyše metra má snehová pokrývka, ktorá postupne napadala na domčeky v kysuckom skanzene. Aj keď staručké drevenice zapadané snehom v zimnej lesnej krajine vyzerajú ako z rozprávky, nemusí to dopadnúť dobre. Pod jeho ťarchou sa môžu zlomiť alebo poškodiť šindľové strechy. Preto z nich začali pracovníci skanzenu sneh zhadzovať. Objektov v Múzeu kysuckej dediny vo Vychylovke je 34. Kým sa pracovníci cez sneh prebrodia k pamiatke, ktorá je na konci areálu, trvá aj hodinu.

Na nedostatok snehu sa túto zimu sťažovať nemôžu, tam, kde

sneženiu pomáhal aj vietor, sú až dvojmetrové záveje. Skanzen vo Vychylovke, cez ktorý prechádza Historická lesná úvratová železnica, leží v doline Chmúra, v Chránenej krajine oblasti Kysuce. V Múzeu kysuckej dediny vo Vychylovke sú zachránené najcenejšie pamiatky ľudovej architektúry práve zo zaniknutých kysuckých obcí Riečnica a Harvelka, ktoré boli kedysi na mieste vodnej nádrže. Najzaujímavejšie stavby boli presunuté do Vychylovky, kde sa nachádza aj iná historická pamiatka – lesná úvratová železnica. Skanzen je pre verejnosť otvorený sezónne od mája do konca októbra.

## Jaguar prilákal na Slovensko päť nových fabrik

Zaujím o priemyselný park pri Nitre stúpa. Rozširovanie existujúcej výroby, ako aj nových investorov láka závod spoločnosti Jaguar Land Rover, ktorý po rozbehnutí výroby koncom budúceho roka bude už štvrtou slovenskou automobilovou fabrikou.

Od definitívneho potvrdenia výstavby automobilky Jaguar Land Rover začali rozširovať svoju výrobu už existujúce fabriky a mnohé podniky v podstate zdvojnásobili svoju výrobu.

Z nových fabrik oficiálne svoj príchod potvrdila spoločnosť Gestamp. Španieli tam plánujú za 133 miliónov eur postaviť fabriku na výrobu hliníkových komponentov. Nový závod plánuje začať výrobu v roku 2018 a do roku 2021 vytvorí 229 pracovných miest. Komponenty, ktoré bude závod vyrábať, sú zamerané na zníženie hmotnosti a zvýšenie bezpečnosti vozidiel.

Ďalšiu plochu 20 hektárov si v priemyselnom parku pri Nitre rezervovali dvaja veľkí staviteľia s cieľom vybudovať logistické centrá a fabriky.

Miera evidovanej nezamestnanosti je v Nitre aktuálne na úrovni 5,26 percenta. Bez práce je tam okolo 4.300 ľudí. Len samotný Jaguar Land Rover má spolu so subdodávateľmi vytvoriť do roku 2021 okolo 15-tisíc nových pracovných miest.

Celkovo dodávateľia automobilového priemyslu zamestnávajú na Slovensku okolo 70-tisíc ľudí. Na Slovensku pôsobia tri veľké automobilové fabriky. V Bratislave vyrába nemecký Volkswagen, v Trnave francúzsky PSA Peugeot Citroën Slovakia a v Žiline kórejská Kia. Tieto tri automobilové závody spolu v minulom roku vyrobili viac ako jeden milión nových automobilov.

## NAVŠTÍVTE NAŠU FACEBOOK STRÁNKU



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## Komplex Eurovea v Bratislave sa rozrastie



Komplex Eurovea sa na nábreží Dunaja rozrastie až po Most Apollo. Pribudnú obchody, byty, kancelárie a snáď aj lávka cez Dunaj pre peších. Projekt by mohol byť hotový v roku 2019. Obchodnú časť rozšíria o tri podzemné podlažia. Na dvoch bude parkovisko a na jednom obchodná zóna. Dve nadzemné poschodia budú patriť obchodným prevádzkam. Pribudnú aj byty a kancelárske priestory. Bratislavský komplex Galleria Eurovea slávnostne otvorili v roku 2010. V tom istom roku získal ocenenie Stavba roka. Na snímke je vizualizácia komplexu Eurovea 2 - pohľad zo Starého Mosta.

*Autor: J&T Real Estate*

## Každý desiaty absolvent vysokej školy opúšťa Slovensko

Zo Slovenska ročne odídu tisíce obyvateľov do cudziny. Sú medzi nimi najmä mladí ľudia a približne každý desiaty absolvent vysokej školy. V analýze na to upozornili ekonómovia ministerstva financií, podľa ktorých odliv mozgov do zahraničia prehlbuje na Slovensku riziká spojené so starnutím obyvateľstva.

Analytici Inštitútu finančnej politiky (IFP) spočítali, že počet ľudí žijúcich na päťmiliónovom Slovensku klesol za posledných 15 rokov o 300 000 a ďalej sa znižuje. Najprudší pokles nastal po vstupe krajiny do EÚ, v súčasnosti ubudne krajine približne 15 000 obyvateľov ročne.

Podľa analýzy viac ľudí na Slovensko prišlo, než sa z neho vysťahovalo, iba v roku 2009 v období globálnej ekonomickej

krízy. Do krajiny sa vrátila asi polovica obyvateľov, ktorí ju v minulosti opustili.

Inštitút využil na výpočet dáta o zdravotnom poistení, ktoré je na Slovensku povinné. Tieto údaje analytici označili za presnejšie ako informácie o trvalom pobyte, ktoré využívajú štatistiky sčítaní obyvateľstva, pretože obyvatelia z dôvodu administratívnej náročnosti menia trvalý pobyt podľa inštitútu len zriedka a nesplnenie tejto povinnosti nie je postihované.

Z oficiálnych štatistík podľa evidencie trvalého pobytu pritom vyplýva, že počet obyvateľov Slovenska sa za posledné roky výraznejšie nezmenil.

Slováci odchádzajú za prácou alebo štúdiom tiež do Českej republiky. Podľa Českého štatistického úradu žilo v Česku na konci roka 2015 približne 101

600 Slovákov.

Odhádzajú najmä mladí ľudia. Zo Slovenska podľa analýzy IFP odíde zhruba každý desiaty absolvent vysokej školy. Najčastejšie ide o mladých ľudí, ktorí študovali v lekárskech a technických odboroch. Práve mladí Slováci odchádzajú do cudziny častejšie ako staršie generácie, vyššia pravdepodobnosť vystahovania je tiež u nezamestnaných.

Odliv obyvateľov prehlbuje podľa vládnych analytikov riziká spojené s demografickou krízou a v prípade pokračovania tohto vývoja sa demografický vývoj v krajine ešte viac zhorší. Skoršia prognóza európskeho štatistického úradu Eurostat pritom počíta s tým, že populácia na Slovensku bude starnúť najrýchlejšie z celej Európskej únie.

## Zomrel astronaut slovenského pôvodu Eugen Cernan

V pondelok 16. januára vo veku 82 rokov zomrel v Hustone, TX americký astronaut Eugen Cernan.

Narodil sa 14. marca 1934 v Chicago, Illinois. Bol americký astronaut, po otcovi slovenského a po matke českého pôvodu. Absolvoval tri lety do vesmíru, a bol známy ako posledný človek, ktorý v rámci programu Apollo stál na povrchu Mesiaca.

V roku 1903 sa jeho starý otec Štefan Čerňan so svojou manželkou Annou odsťahovali z Vysokej nad Kysucou do USA. Usadili sa v Chicagu a o rok neskôr sa im narodil syn Andrew. Keď vyrástol, vzal si za manželku dievča českého pôvodu Rozáliu Cihlářovú a spolu s ňou mal syna Eugena.

Po stredoškolských štúdiách sa dostal na Purdueovu univerzitu, ktorú s titulom inžiniera elektrotechniky ukončil v roku 1956. Vojnu prežil u námorníctva ako pilot na lietadlových lodiach a niekoľko rokov na základni Miramar v Kalifornii. V roku 1961 išiel do Monterey na vysokú školu vojenského námorníctva, kde vyštudoval postgraduál a získal druhý titul leteckého inžiniera. V roku 1964 bol prijatý do tretej skupiny kozmonautov USA. Po výcviku bol zaradený do záložnej a neskôr do hlavnej posádky letu Gemini 9.

Prvý let z Mysu Canaveral absolvoval v júni 1966 v kozmickej lodi Gemini 9. Spolu s ním letel veliaci pilot Thomas P. Stafford. Pre poruchu na pasívnom cieľovom telese Agena (nedostala sa na obežnú dráhu) boli na náhradnom cieľovom objekte ATDA (preto je let označovaný ako 9A) uskutočnené celkom tri rôzne približovacie manévry, ale bez konečného spojenia. Kozmická loď pristála po troch dňoch letu na hladine Atlantického oceánu.

Po druhýkrát letel Cer-



nan do vesmíru v kozmickej lodi Apollo 10 v máji 1969. V lodi s ním letel opäť Thomas P. Stafford, ktorý bol vo funkcii veliteľa a ako tretí člen posádky letel John W. Young vo funkcii pilota veliteľského modulu. Apollo 10 bolo poslednou previerkou pred pristátím ľudí na Mesiaci. Hlavným cieľom misie bolo testovanie lunárneho modulu na obežnej dráhe Mesiaca. Kozmická loď Apollo 10 uskutočnila 31 obletov okolo Mesiaca, potom návrat na Zem. Veliteľský modul s trojicou astronautov pristál na hladine Tichého oceánu po 8 dňoch letu.

Tretí let absolvoval s Apolloom 17, štart opäť z Mysu Canaveral, v šiestej expedícii spolu s ním boli Ronald E. Evans a Harrison H. Schmitt. Zatiaľ čo Evans zostal na obežnej dráhe Mesiaca, Cernan so Schmittom na Mesiaci pristáli a vystúpili na jeho povrch, Cernan ako 11., Schmitt ako 12. človek na Mesiaci. Tu použil aj Rover (mesačné vozidlo). Cernan sa po ďalších výstupoch stal posledným človekom na povrchu Mesiaca. Všetci astronauti sa v poriadku vrátili na Zem, veliteľský modul pristál na hladine Tichého oceánu po 12 dňoch letu.

Na oba lety Apollo si so se-

(Pokračovanie na str. 15)