

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL – MEMBERSHIP 30,000 – HOME OFFICE: 205 MADISON STREET, PASSAIC, N.J. 07055 – www.slovakcatholicsokol.org

Periodical Postage Paid at original entry of Passaic, N.J., 07055 and additional mailing offices

VOLUME CVI

PASSAIC, N.J., FEBRUARY 8, 2017

NUMBER 5088

The Annual Meeting of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board held in Cleveland, Oh., Jan. 20-22 to finalize 2017 Sokol Sporting Events



Members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board pose for a photo at their annual meeting held at The Residence Inn Downtown in Cleveland. Seated, l-r, Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Nancy Kropolinsky, Supreme Assistant Physical Directress Katie Swift, Supreme Physical Directress Kathleen S. Watkins and Member Julie M. Laury. Standing, l-r, Member Philip J. Walsh, Supreme Assistant Physical Director Dusan Dorich, Supreme Physical Director John M. Underation, Supreme President Michael J. Horvath, Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics James C. Matlon, Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics Frank P. Laury, III, and Member Martin Degnan. Both the Supreme President and the Supreme Secretary are ex-officio members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board.



All smiles from the distaff members of the board, including, l-r, Nancy Kropolinsky, Katie Swift, Kathleen S. Watkins and Julie M. Laury.



Supreme President Michael J. Horvath and Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.

Group 5 President Kathryn Figard offers a warm fraternal welcome.



John M. Underation, Kathleen S. Watkins and James S. Matlon debate an issue.



Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. with Nancy Kropolinsky and Dusan Dorich at the sessions.

Cyril and Methodius **The Saints Who Invented an Alphabet**

by **Janaan Manternach**

Cyril and Methodius loved to learn languages.

The two grew up in Thessalonika, Greece, during the first half of the ninth century. They were both born around 826 A.D. Their father, a high ranking army officer and political leader, died when the two brothers were teenagers.



Cyril decided to study at the University of Constantinople. Before graduation, he was ordained a priest and worked as a librarian at the city of Constantinople's most important church, Hagia Sophia. After graduating he stayed on at the university as a professor.

Methodius, following his father's footsteps, preferred politics and became governor of a province. Both brothers were very religious.

Around 861 A.D., Cyril left the university and Methodius gave up being governor. They went to live in a mountain-top monastery. A year later the emperor sent them as missionaries to the Khazar peoples in Russia.

Cyril and Methodius did not know the Khazar language, so they worked hard to learn it. They preached and taught the Khazars in their own language.

When they returned to Greece, Cyril became professor and Methodius became the leader of a monastery.

But Prince Rastislav of Great Moravia wanted the two brothers to come to convert his people in what is now Slovakia, the Czech Republic and southern Poland.

As children, Cyril and Methodius had learned to speak Slavonic, the language of the people of Moravia. But there was no way to write the language down. No alphabet of the language existed.

Cyril, with the help of his brother, had to invent an alphabet for the people of Moravia. After much work, they succeeded. Their alphabet became the basis for the "Cyrillic" alphabet still used today by millions of people in Russia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Serbia, Slovakia the Czech Republic, Poland and other Slavic nations.

Celebrating the liturgy in Slavonic rather than in Latin or Greek upset many priests and bishops in the ninth century, especially among the Germans. Pope Adrian II became concerned so he called the two brothers to Rome.

After meeting with them, the Pope approved their work. He even invited them to celebrate the Slavonic liturgy in the Basilica of St. Mary Major, one of the four principal basilicas in Rome. During this liturgy, the Slavonic liturgical books were blessed.

Today, millions of Byzantine Catholic and Orthodox Christians still worship using the Slavonic or proto Slav language and rituals. All of the modern Slavic languages have their linguistic etymology in what we refer today as Old Slavonic.

During their stay in Rome, Cyril who had become a monk, died there on February 14, 869 A.D. and was buried in the Basilica of St. Clement during a liturgy presided over by Pope Adrian, II. Methodius was consecrated a bishop and returned to Great Moravia with his headquarters in the area of Nitra. St. Methodius died in Velehrad, presently in the Czech Republic, in 885 A.D. Before his death, St. Methodius finished the Slavonic translation of the Bible that he and Cyril had begun. The brother saints became known as the Apostles of the Slavs. Celebrated by both East and West, the brother saints were placed on the Universal Church calendar only in 1885, due to the opposition of the Hungarians, while among the Orthodox they have been celebrated for more than 1,000 years. In 1980, Pope St. John Paul II, himself an heir of the Cyrilo-Methodian mission, proclaimed them co-patrons of all of Europe with St. Benedict because of their great contributions to Eastern Europe. Their feast is observed on February 14th by the Roman Catholic Church and on July 18 among the Orthodox and Byzantine Catholics.

(Professor Janaan Revoc Manternach, is a retired educator and author who currently resides in Dubuque, IA)

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 22ND

In keeping with our biweekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, February 22nd. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, February 16th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovakcatholicfalcon.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh! - **Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor**

Sokol ***Calendar***

SAT.FEB.11

■ Group 1 officers meeting at Slovak Catholic Sokol headquarters, 205 Madison St., Passaic, N.J. beginning at 12 noon.

SUN.FEB.12

■ Patronal feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius hosted by Assembly 162 with attendance at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at the Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, 218 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J.

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 jtsenko@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, slovakamericancn@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, pre-paid 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.slovak-garden.com.

■ The \$100 Club, a night out of dinner, drinks, dancing, and prizes as a benefit supporting youth activities hosted by Group 14 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning with cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. with game time beginning at 8 p.m., \$100 a couple; for reservations call Carmella Marzec 412 414-9249.

SUN.MARCH 5

■ 12th annual Sokol Children's Bowlingfest hosted by Group 1 at the Garden Palace Bowling Lanes, 42 Lakewood Ave., Clifton, N.J. 2 to 4 p.m., free of charge with refreshments.

■ Annual convention of The Slovak Garden, a Home for American Slov-

(Continued on page 4)

Our organization's patron

Year of St. Martin Proclaimed in Slovakia

The Bishops of Slovakia have proclaimed 2017 as a jubilee year honoring St. Martin of Tours. It marks the 1700th anniversary of the saint's birth. In particular, the saint's cult has enjoyed great popularity over the years among Slovaks. Two of the country's great churches, the Cathedral of St. Martin in Bratislava and the Cathedral of St. Martin in Spis have the saint as their patron. Archbishop Stanislav Zvolensky and Bishop Stefan Secka, have announced various activities commemorating this Jubilee, respectively in the Archdiocese of Bratislava and the Diocese of Spis. The jubilee year festivities will conclude on the feast of St. Martin, November 11, 2017.

St. Martin was born of the son of a Roman officer and a mother of Slavic birth in upper Pannonia in 317 A.D. in what is today Slovakia and Hungary. Since the advent of the Hungarians took place only in the 10th century, more than likely many local inhabitants were Slav. At the time, Pannonia was a Roman Province. His father an officer in the Roman army had risen in the ranks. He had been transferred to a new station in Pavia in northern Italy where young Martin became a Christian. As the son of a veteran, at the age of 15, Martin was required to begin service in the army. Though never shirking his military duties, he is said to have lived more like a monk than a soldier.

Young Martin was stationed at Amiens in France, where the incident occurred which tradition and art have rendered so famous. As he rode towards the town one winter day, he noticed near the gates a poor man, thinly clad, shivering in the cold, and begging alms. Martin saw that none who passed stopped to help the miserable fellow. Martin had nothing with him but the clothes he wore, but drawing his sword from its scabbard, he cut his great woolen cloak in two pieces, gave one half to the beggar, and wrapped himself in the other. The following night, the story continues, Martin in his sleep saw Jesus Christ, surrounded by angels and dressed in the half of the cloak he had given away. A voice bade him look at it well and say whether he knew it. He then heard Jesus say to the angels, "Martin, as yet only a catechumen, has covered me with his cloak." As a result of this vision, Martin soon was baptized. Upon a visit home to Pannonia, he converted his mother, however his father he could not win. He left the military and told his superiors that he had served as a soldier however now he would serve Christ. Returning to France, he was ordained a deacon and later a priest. In 371, he was appointed Bishop of Tours. Even as a bishop, Martin lived an austere life. He was beloved by his people and was a great example and men-



tor to many. About the year 400, he died on November 8 and three days later was buried at Tours. His emblems are a tree, armor, a cloak, and a beggar.

The cult of St. Martin spread not only in France but throughout Europe. He became a great patron not only of soldiers but of youth organizations. He was especially revered in central Europe, including Slovakia, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Poland.

In Bratislava, a great church was dedicated in his honor. What today is St. Martin's Cathedral had its beginnings in the early 14th century. During the Turkish invasions of central Europe, for 150 years the Hungarian capital was transferred from Budapest to Pressburg, today known as Bratislava. The Church of St. Martin became the coronation church of the kings and queens of Hungary, among them emperors and empresses of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Among those crowned in the church was the celebrated Empress Maria Theresa. In 1995, with the designation of the Archdiocese of Bratislava-Trnava, St. Martin's became a co-cathedral. Since 2009 when the Archdiocese of Bratislava was created, St. Martin's has served as its Cathedral Church.

The Cathedral of St. Martin in Spišská Kapitula also has a rich history. The present church dates from the early 14th century. When the Diocese of Spis was established in 1776, the church of St. Martin became a cathedral. He is also the patron of the diocese.

In July 1995, Pope St. John Paul II visited both of these great churches dedicated to St. Martin.

In 1905, a group of 46 Slovak immigrant men in Passaic, N.J., all natives of the Spis region of Slovakia, organized the Slovak Catholic Sokol as a gymnastic and athletic fraternity. Revering the cult of St. Martin in their homeland, they chose him to be the patron of the Slovak Catholic Sokol as well. A number of our organization's Groups continue to host annual celebrations honoring St. Martin.

May we join our faithful brethren in Slovakia in recalling the great legacy of St. Martin as we celebrate the 1700th anniversary of his birth. St. Martin, Pray for us!

Message from our Supreme President

by Michael J. Horvath

My year started with attending the Supreme Physical Fitness Board's 2017 annual meeting. This year the Physical Fitness Board held its meeting January 21-23, 2017 in Cleveland, Ohio. Brother John M. Underation, Supreme Physical Director made the arrangements for the meeting and showed the Board some of the sites of his hometown, Cleveland, Ohio.

The 2017 Physical Fitness Board annual meeting was chaired by Brother James C. Matlon, Supreme Director of Sports and Athletic to plan and refine the Slovak Catholic Sokol 2017 calendar of fraternal activities. Supreme Secretary, Brother, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and I delivered welcoming remarks to the Board. We thanked the Physical Fitness Board for their accomplishments and the successful activities they organized for the Society in 2016. We encouraged them to continue to organize fun and memorable activities for the Society's members, especially the Slet, in 2017.



One of the challenges Brother Pogorelec and I asked the Physical Fitness Board to work on in 2017 was to increase our members' participation in the Society's fraternal sporting events. One thought that surfaced during the discussion was to try and make some activities family oriented events. I'm confident the Board will come up with suggestions and ideas that they can try and implement.

The annual March For Life was held on Friday, January 27, 2017 in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C. This very visible national and important event was attended by many individuals from across our country who wanted to let their presence be known that they stand up for the sanctity of life from conception to natural death. I along with our Supreme Chaplain, Father Andrew S. Hvozdic and others from Wilkes-Barre, PA including Theresa Kluchinski, President of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union traveled to Washington, D.C. and participated in the march. Father and I will explore options so all Sokol members on the March can gather together before the march starts and take a photo so everyone could see how many Sokol members participate in the March. If you have not done the March and it is something you want to do, start planning for the 2018 March for Life.

With the first 2017 Quarterly meeting of Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors coming up March 23-26, 2017 at the home office in Passaic, NJ your Board will be making recommendations to improve and grow your Society. One issue that will be at the heart of the Board's focus, as I mentioned in my article last month, will be Communications. The Board will discuss ways to improve the ways the Society communicates with its members, Assemblies and Wreaths. To help the Board with this task, I ask any member, Assembly or Wreath to submit any suggestions to the Board for our consideration.

As our Supreme Chaplain, Father Andrew S. Hvozdic, pointed out in his article on Saints Cyril and Methodius, February 14 is their Feast Day. Let us celebrate SS. Cyril and Methodius's Feast Day just as heartily as is done for St Patrick's Day. We too have much to celebrate and be proud of, our faith and our Slavic heritage.

We are always told, it is never too late to start planning. I hope the 2017 48th International SLET scheduled for July 12- 16, 2017 at SUNY Brockport in Brockport, NY will be larger than the 47th International Slet in 2015. To accomplish this, recruiting and planning should start now. For all members applying for a Scholarship, note well, your applications must be received at the Home Office by March 31, 2107. Join Hands Day will be held Saturday, May 6, 2017 start thinking of a project that will show how Slovak Catholic Sokol fraternalism helps others.

Lastly, your Society offers life insurance and annuity products that are very competitive with other fraternal societies. Some societies are smaller and some are larger however, none are like the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Do not be afraid to share the secrets of your society, the Slovak Catholic Sokol, with your family members and friends. You will be doing them a life changing favor. If you need information or help contact our Director of Sales and Marketing or the Home office for guidance.

Zdar Boh!
With God's Blessings to All!

Scenes of the 43rd Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., Friday, January 27



Many members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol from various parts of the country joined members of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, the First Catholic Slovak Union and the First



Catholic Slovak Ladies Association at this year's historic March for Life in Washington, D.C. on Friday, January 27. Billed as "Slovak Catholic Fraternalists for Life," the group has participated in the March for Life for more than thirty years. They joined hundreds of thousands of Pro-life supporters from all parts of the country at this year's march. They gathered in our nation's capital to affirm the belief that all life matters - from conception to natural death. This year's march was held a week after President Donald Trump's inauguration

and five days after the 44th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, which established a woman's constitutional right to an abortion.

Vice President Michael Pence and his wife Karen Pence and their daughter Charlotte Pence participated in this year's march. In his address, Vice President Pence reassured the participants that "life is winning" because of the election of President Donald Trump. He noted "President Trump asked me to be here with you today and he asked me to thank you for your support." It was the first time that a sitting vice president had addressed the Right to Life March. His words of encouragement ushered in a new spirit of optimism never felt at previous marches that the potential for overturning Roe v. Wade is very possible in the near future. With the nomination of a new Supreme

Court justice gives such confidence. This appointment alone is not expected to result in a repeal of legal abortion, but is expected to restore a 5-4 conservative majority on the court.

The theme for this year's March for Life was "The Power of One." Jeanne Mancini, president of the March for Life said it references both the impact of a single vote and a quote from J.R.R. Tolkien, who wrote in "The Fellowship of the Ring": "Even the smallest person can change the course of the future."

Heading the delegation of the Slovak Catholic Sokol were our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic and Supreme President Michael J. Horvath. (We thank our Sokolka, Theresa A. Kluchinski, national president of our Sister fraternal, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union for sharing the photo with our readers.)

Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast on April 8 in Pittsburgh

The annual celebration of a Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast will take place at Prince of Peace Parish on Pittsburgh's historic South Side on Saturday, April 8. It's the perfect opportunity to learn more about the rich spiritual and traditional Easter customs of Slovakia. The day begins at 10:45 a.m. at St. Adalbert's Church, 160 South 15th Street, with the recitation of the Rosary in Slovak. Mass in Slovak will follow at 11 a.m. with the Rev. John Joseph Gonchar, O.F.M. of Holy Family Friary in Bellevue, as celebrant. The liturgy will be in Slovak, however the homily will be in English.

Following the liturgy, worshippers are invited and encouraged to gather at Prince of Peace Parish Center located at 81 South 13th Street, where a delicious brunch featuring the traditional foods served on Easter Sunday in a Slovak home will be enjoyed. These specialties will include sunka(ham),

paska(Easter bread)syre(k)(cheese) klobasy(sausage), hrin(beets and horseradish), pysanki(dyed eggs) and kolace(nut and poppyseed rolls). There is NO CHARGE for this wonderful brunch, however donations to defray the expenses are gratefully accepted.

A wonderful cultural program will be featured at this mini-heritage festival. There will be cultural displays depicting the folk culture, village life and kroj(traditional dress) of our Slovak ancestors. Select imported and handmade gift items will also be available for sale. Master folk craftsman and author, Larry Kozlowski will be on hand to discuss traditional Easter folk customs and crafts such as decorating eggs Slovak-style and the art of palm braiding. Timmy Zatek will demonstrate the age-old tradition of klobasy stuffing, along with others who labor to preserve our cultural heritage.

A Bake Sale will be featured

and will include plenty of delicious favorites to satisfy every sweet tooth. Paska, along with nut and poppyseed kolach rolls along with assorted cookies made by parish volunteers, reasonably priced, will be available for sale. Raffles will include a "Slovak Auction" and a basket brimming with traditional Easter foods, crowned with a unique hand-embroidered basket cover.

The annual Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast is sponsored by the Slovak Customs Group/Diversity Committee of Prince of Peace Parish. Proceeds benefit two charities in Slovakia, elderly School Sisters of St. Francis in Ruzomberok and the Barlicka Center in Presov which provides training for young adults with physical and mental disabilities, care for the elderly ill, as well as parental instruction and development for young children. Prince of Peace Par-

(Continued on page 14)



Find us on
Facebook



Slovak Catholic Sokol





REFLECTOR...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

American Slovak Zemplin Club celebrates its 75th anniversary

One of the most active Cleveland-area Slovak cultural groups, the American Slovak Zemplin Club celebrated its 75th anniversary with a wonderful religious and cultural program on Sunday, October 16, 2016 in Parma, Oh. The Diamond Jubilee festivities began with guests attending a Divine Liturgy celebrated in Slovak at Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church at 1 p.m. Principal celebrant of the liturgy was the Rev. Marek Visnovsky. Concelebrating was the Rev. Michael Brunovsky, O.S.B. of St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland. Serving as cantors at the liturgy were the Rev. Jan Cizmar and his wife, Jana. It was the first time that a Byzantine Catholic Liturgy was celebrated in Slovak in the Cleveland area.

Following the liturgy, the more than 200 Zemplin Club members, their families and friends walked to the near-by Holy Spirit Party Center where a reception and dinner was enjoyed. Zemplin Club President and our Sokol of Wreath 153, George Carny offered a warm welcome to the assembled guests. He then introduced Tom Ivanec who served as the very capable master of ceremonies. The national anthems of the United States and Slovakia were then led by Ken Javor and Beata Begeniova-Fedoriouk. The invocation was then offered by Father Michael Brunovsky, O.S.B. A delicious dinner served by Wal-Tam's Catering was then enjoyed by all. Dinner music was enjoyed by the Johnny Pastirik Band.

Following dinner, the principal address was offered by Father Michael Brunovsky, O.S.B. Father Michael recalled the many civic and cultural events of the Zemplin Club which has enhanced the quality of Cleveland area Slovak life over the past three-quarters of a century. He recalled his own personal insights and thoughts about the club that he witnessed growing up. Beata Begeniova-Fedoriouk, assistant to Andrew M. Rajec, the national president of the First Catholic Slovak Union, then read a congratulatory on his behalf who was unable to be present.

A wonderful celebration of Slovak music and dance was provided by the ever-talented members of the Lucina Slovak Folk Ensemble and its children's group, Lucinka who performed under the direction of Tom Ivanec and Nadia Oros. The "Slovenske Mamicky" group sang Slovak folk songs and Professor Rudy Bachna recited the Slovak poem "Ja som pýsný ze som Slovák" (I am proud to be a Slovak). Michael Anderko entertained playing the Fujara, the traditional Slovak folk instrument. The program concluded with the singing of God Bless America and "Hej Slovaci." Music for dancing and listening pleasure followed provided by the Johnny Pastirik Band.

The American Slovak Zemplin Club has enjoyed great activity over the past 75 years. Founded in 1941 by Cleveland Slovaks who emigrated from the Zemplin region of eastern Slovakia, it has hosted many civic and cultural activities. Brother George Carny, president of the club, noted that the 75-year existence of the Zemplin Club is concrete proof of the group's two important traits - faithfulness and perseverance. Many members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol have been active in the club over the years. Thanks and gratitude go out to all who had a hand in the success of the Zemplin Club's 75th anniversary celebration. We offer our congratulations and fraternal best wishes on this noteworthy event and pray that the future years of the Zemplin Club may be as bright and active as its first 75. Zdar Boh!

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, Bojnice, Rajcecke Teplice, Ciemany, the High Tatras, the Marian Shrine at Levoca, Kezmarok, Zdiar, Stara Lubovna, Kosice, Bajejov, 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 jsenko@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.

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. Hietko HDPC 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.



The Word of God...

Gospel for the Sixth Sunday of the Year - February 12th

Mt 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

Jesus said to his disciples:

"I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

"You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.

But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment.

"You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery.

But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath,

but make good to the Lord all that you vow.

But I say to you, do not swear at all.

Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.'

Anything more is from the evil one."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Seventh Sunday of the Year- February 19th

Mt 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples:

"You have heard that it was said,

An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.

But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil.

When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well.

If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand over your cloak as well.

Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go for two miles.

Give to the one who asks of you,

and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.

"You have heard that it was said,

You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.

But I say to you, love your enemies

and pray for those who persecute you,

that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.

For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have?

Do not the tax collectors do the same?

And if you greet your brothers only,

what is unusual about that?

Do not the pagans do the same?

So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 2)

vaks, 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.

SUN.MARCH 12

■ Annual Lenten Mass and breakfast hosted by Assembly 25 and Wreath 15 beginning Mass at 8 a.m. at the Church of St. John the Baptist followed by breakfast at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, Perryopolis, Pa.

SAT.APRIL 1

■ Mount Assisi Academy Pre-

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

SUN.APRIL 2

■ Spaghetti Dinner hosted by Group 1 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 218 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. beginning at 4 p.m.

SUN.APRIL 23

■ Annual Patronal feast of St. George hosted by Assembly 34 beginning with 9 a.m. Mass at the Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, 1315 Second St. N.E., Minneapolis, Minn., breakfast to follow in the Father George Dargay Memorial Hall, free of charge.

Lodge Jottings

CLIFTON, NJ Assembly 162

Our Assembly, under the patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius will host a Mass celebrated for the living and deceased members on Sunday, February 12 at the Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, 218 Ackerman Avenue at 10:30 a.m. Since this will be our patronal feast day observance, we ask all our members to make every effort to attend this Mass. We will meet in the church vestibule at 10:20 a.m. so as to march in a body for this liturgy.

One hundred one years ago, the founders of our Assembly, choose the Apostles of the Slavic nations, SS. Cyril and Methodius as patrons of the lodge. As we begin the second century of our activities, let us thank Almighty God for all the blessings bestowed on our lodge in the past and pledge to continue to promote the high ideals of the fraternal benefit system in the future.

Zdar Boh!
John D. Pogorelec, Jr.
President
David Bulwin
Recording Secretary

PERRYOPOLIS, PA Assembly 25 Wreath 15

Continuing in a fine fraternal tradition spanning many years, both our lodges will host our an-

nual Lenten Mass and Breakfast on Sunday, March 12. We will attend the 8 a.m. Mass at the Church of St. John the Baptist which will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of both our lodges. The liturgy will be celebrated by our pastor, the Rev. Anthony Ditto. Immediately following the Mass, we will gather at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club where breakfast will be served. Members of both lodges are invited to join us.

This year our Assembly, under the patronage of SS. Cyril and Methodius, observes its 109th anniversary. It was on July 5, 1908 that a group of 20 young Slovaks gathered to organize a gymnastic and sporting lodge of the recently established Slovak Catholic Sokol which had been founded in 1905. Since then, for more than a century our Assembly has been active in the promotion of various sporting and gymnastic activities.

Two years later, a group of Slovak women gathered on February 10, 1910 and established Wreath 15 under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We look forward to an active year ahead as we participate in various Sokol sporting and fraternal events. We hope to see a good turnout at our upcoming Lenten Mass and Breakfast. Zdar Boh!

Michael T. Matras

YOUR BENEFICIARIES

When was the last time you looked at your designated beneficiaries on your valuable Sokol insurance policy? How important is it? Just think about how much your life has changed. Have you married, divorced, had children, maybe you lost a loved one? This is an item you should consider annually. If you do need to make changes to any of your policies, contact the Home Office at 800-886-7656.

Za Boha a Národ  **For God and Nation**
Slovak Catholic Falcon
SLOVENSKÝ KATOLICKÝ SOKOL
ISSN: 0897-8107

Established April 15, 1911
Official Publication of the Slovak Catholic Sokol
Issued Bi-Weekly

Daniel F. Tanzzone, Editor
Editorial office: (973) 777-4010

Annual Subscription Rates
United States \$40.00 - All others countries \$45.00

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Slovak Catholic Falcon,
P.O. Box 899, 205 Madison Street,
Passaic, New Jersey 07055

Member of the Catholic Press
Association and the Slovak Newspapermen's
Association of America

Proprietor and Publisher
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL
P.O. Box 899
205 Madison Street, Passaic, N.J. 07055
Home Office: (973) 777-2605-06
WEB SITE -www.slovakcatholicokol.org

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.slovakcatholicokol.org



Disqualification

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

Acknowledgment

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

Return of Grant

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

~~~~~  
(Detach here)

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

School verification (to be completed by Grade School Principal)

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

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

## Our heavenly patrons

### Honoring SS. Cyril and Methodius by Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M.

On February 14th, we as Slovaks in the United States and Canada, have the joy of celebrating two special feast days. The first and most common one is that of St. Valentine's Day, which has been commercialized as a time for sending messages of love, caring and appreciation.

Our primary honor, however on this day goes to SS. Cyril and Methodius, our Slovak patrons. Originally, this feast was celebrated on July 7. In 1970, the late Pope Paul VI restructured the Church calendar. As much as possible, he wanted to celebrate a particular feast on the day of the saint's death. In the case of our Slav Apostles, he chose February 14th as the day to observe the feast since St. Cyril died in Rome on February 14, 869. Since then, the universal Church celebrates our Slav Apostles on February 14th. In Slovakia, however, the feast continues to be observed on July 5th.

Most of us have heard and sung the joyous hymn, Dusa Krestanska (Christian Soul), we raise our voices in grateful chorus and praise the Lord for Cyril and Methodius. We have sung this hymn in our churches at our celebrations, pilgrimages and fraternal gatherings for generations. The brother saints are truly the foundation and inspiration for the steadfast faith of the Slovak nation. In the ninth century, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, SS. Cyril and Methodius taught and served the people spiritually and liturgically in their own language. Thus the gift of faith was deeply rooted, survived and spread, despite more than a thousand year domination by the Hungarians.

A firm devotion to the Mother of God is also a great strength and support. Images and statues, such as Our Mother of Sorrows, as well as her triumphant Assumption into Heaven are frequently found throughout Slovakia and in churches built by Slovaks in the United States and Canada.

Now as Slovakia celebrates its 24th anniversary of independence, we thank God for his continued guiding presence and support for the growth and spread of the faith among us. Thus, as we sing this traditional hymn in either Slovak or English, let us thank our ancestors for this great gift of faith. - Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M., Villa Sacred Heart, 580 Railroad St., Danville, PA 17821-1698.

#### We Raise Our Voices Duša Krestanska

1. We raise our voices in grateful chorus,  
Praising the Lord for Cyril, Methodius.

Chorus:

O Saints Cyril, Saint Methodius,  
Down through the ages your names are glorious,  
You brought to countless souls, the gift of faith.

2. With ardent zeal, you taught the Lord's message,  
Shared words of wisdom in their own language.
3. Preaching God's mercy, love and redemption,  
You helped our faith to grow with conviction.
4. You have inspired love for God's mother,  
In joy and sorrow, our intercessor.
5. Pray for us daily, strengthen and guide us,  
To follow as God's kingdom will call us.

#### Duša Krest'anská

1. Duša Krest'anská, zveľebuj Boha, - že nám Cyrila dal i Metoda.

Zbor - Chorus:

Svätý Cyril, svätý Metod, ľud kresťanský ctí váš príchod,  
že ste nám priniesli vieru Krista.

2. Prišli ste k našim pohanským predkom, - cvičili ste ich verne vo všetkom.
3. Hlásali Boha ste jediného - Otca, Syna i Ducha Svätého.
4. Náchylné duše pri svätom krste - z hriehu pokuty očistili ste.
5. Pri birmovaní dar svätodušný - vyprosili ste pre ľud poslušný.



## Group 1 Sokol Children's Bowlingfest

Group 1 will host its 12th annual Sokol Children's Bowlingfest and youth conference on Sunday, March 5 at the Garden Palace Bowling Lanes located at 42 Lakeview Avenue in Clifton, N.J. from 2 to 4 p.m. Junior Sokol members to age 14 from our various Group 1 lodges are invited to participate in an afternoon of traditional Sokol camaraderie and fellowship. Following the action on the bowling lanes, pizza and refreshments will be enjoyed by all. Parents and grandparents of the youngsters are invited to join us for this annual children's fraternal event. The Bowlingfest is free of charge to all members. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. We hope to see youngsters from all our Group 1 Assemblies and Wreaths.

Zdar Boh!

Eric Topczij  
Group 1 Sports Director

## Fujara and Koncovka instrument classes set

Classes in Fujara and Koncovka, Slovak folk instruments, will again be taught during the annual Traditions Weeks 2017 hosted by Common Ground on the Hill, celebrating the traditional arts. Courses in both instruments will be held the first week, July 1-7 and the second week, July 8-14, 2017. In addition to classes, concerts, dances and other activities related to the study of the Fujara and Koncovka in the traditional roots-based arts, are held on the campus of McDaniel College in Westminster, Md. This year's summer program is the seventh annual session devoted to the study of these Slovak folk instruments.

No music experience is necessary to learn to play both instruments. Everyone starts on both instruments and can choose to concentrate on one later on. Fujara in G and Koncovka in C is recommended. Instruments on loan are available in class. These classes, for beginner, intermediate and advanced students are under the direction of Bob Rychlik. A printed brochure on these classes is available. For additional information contact Bob Rychlik fujara@gmail.com.



# The \$100 Club

## March 4th @ The Slovak Catholic Sokol Club

Come out for a night of Dinner, Drinks, Dancing, Prizes and Help Support a Good Cause!

All Proceeds go towards GROUP 14 & The CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY!

### Ticket Price for Game & Dinner for 2 - \$100

Each ticket gets 1 number which will be randomly picked for a chance to win!

Prizes are:  
4 - \$50 Winners  
9 - \$100 Winners and the

## Grand Prize

The last 3 remaining numbers will get a chance to split the \$3000 prize and each person leaves with \$1000  
OR  
will they want to continue pulling the numbers until only 1 number is left and ONLY ONE WINS \$3000

**Ticket Includes:**  
6:00 pm: Cocktail Hour  
7:00 pm: Dinner Buffet for 2  
8:00 pm: Game Time

Ticket includes Beer, Wine, Pop, Coffee/Tea  
Cash Bar for Mixers is also available

**Meal:**  
Conrad's Marinated Fried Chicken  
Eggplant Parmesan  
Stuffed Cabbage  
Potato Salad  
Linguini Salad  
Garden Salad  
Rolls & Butter  
Dessert

For Tickets or Information  
Call Carmella at 412-414-9249 or email at suesscm@gmail.com



## Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.M., honored with the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" Medal

Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.M. was awarded the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" (for the Church and the Pontiff) Medal on January 15, 2017 during Vesper Services in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Charleston, S.C. The papal award was bestowed by Pope Francis at the recommendation of the Most Rev. Robert E. Guglielmo, Bishop of Charleston who presided at the service. During the Vesper Service, Bishop Guglielmo had high praise for the ministry of Sister Pamela. She was recognized for her work as



Charleston Diocesan Director of Education and Faith Formation, overseeing Catholic schools, parish religious education, youth ministry and campus ministry across the diocese which encompasses the entire state of South Carolina. She was also recognized for her work in education and administration in several dioceses, including Harrisburg, Scranton and Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania; Gary, Indiana; Detroit, Michigan; and Charleston, South Carolina. She has authored more than 100 articles

and poems which have been published in literary, theological and spiritual journals. She has authored 12 books dealing with spirituality, morality, and Sacred Scripture.

The New York native entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in 1975. Sister Pamela was elected to the Leadership Team of the congregation in 1988. She was chosen to lead the Congregation into the new millennium as the General Superior in 2000, serving until 2004. Over the years, Sister Pamela has actively supported the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation as well as our Slovak Catholic fraternal.

The Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Medal is the highest honor bestowed by the Holy Father on the laity and religious. The decoration has its origins in 1888 as a token of the golden sacerdotal jubilee of Pope Leo XIII. The medal, cruciform in shape, bears the likeness of SS. Peter and Paul, the tiara and the papal keys, the words Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice and the name of the present pontiff. It is attached to a ribbon of yellow and white, the papal colors. Sister Pamela is the first Cyrilite to receive this papal honor for her service to the Church. Members of the Leadership Team as well as other Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius and SSCM Associates were present at the ceremony at the Charleston cathedral.

We join Sister Pamela's many friends and admirers in offering congratulations and prayerful best wishes to her on this well-deserved honor. May God bless Sister with good health and continued enthusiasm for the promotion of the New Evangelization and the spread of the Gospel in the years ahead. Ad multos annos!



Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.M. is shown with Most Rev. Robert E. Guglielmo, Bishop of Charleston, who presented her with the papal honor, "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" - For the Church and the Pontiff medal at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Charleston on January 15.



Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.M. second from the left, is shown with other Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius who were at the "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" Award ceremony at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Charleston, S.C.

## 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 13)



## Scenes of the Annual Children's Christmas Party Hosted by Assembly 162

SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall + Clifton, N.J. + Sunday, December 18, 2016



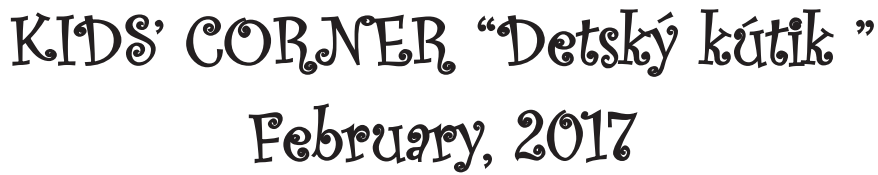
Officers of Assembly 162 who were present at the lodge's annual meeting and Children's Christmas Party are shown above and include, l-r; Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Honorary Assembly 162 President and Honorary Supreme Officer; Anthony Glodava, vice president; Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Jr., president and also our organization's General Counsel; John J. Termyna, trustee; Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., financial secretary and Honorary Supreme Officer; Thomas J. Krack, member of the sick committee; Peter Walentowicz, member of the sick committee; and David Bulwin, recording secretary.



Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. is shown holding his niece, Ainsley Catherine O'Sullivan.







**Across**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Day - A Holiday Celebrating Our Leaders
- February is \_\_\_\_\_ Month (2 words)
- The Sweetest Day
- February's Season

**Down**

- February 2 is \_\_\_\_\_ Day
- President Abraham \_\_\_\_\_
- Our first President (last name)
- February is the \_\_\_\_\_ month
- Happens every 4 years (2 words)





## What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



## News and Views from Slovakia...

### Slovak to lead simulated international mission to Mars in the United States

The Slovak Organization for Space Activities (SOSA) in cooperation with other Slovak institutes will participate in a simulated mission to Mars scheduled to take place in the United States, with the commander of the international crew set to be SOSA chair Michaela Musilova, TASR learned on January 9.

Scientist Musilova was handpicked by an organization called Mars Society. "The purpose of the mission is to ascertain whether people could survive in a real colony on Mars under such conditions. What awaits us is a limited amount of food, water, electricity and oxygen. Also taken for granted is a complete disconnect from the rest of the world, as if we were on a different planet," said Musilova at a press conference held at SOSA Bratislava HG.

The Mars colony consists of small living quarters with a diameter of eight metres (26 square feet), designed for everyday use ranging from sleeping, cooking, workouts and research. There are also laboratories and an observatory. "Leaving the station is possible only in a space suit, and you can't run in it. Sleeping there feels like being in a coffin," said the commander with reference to her own experience with a mission in 2014. In a few days she's scheduled to leave for the United States to conduct unique Slovak experiments.

The almost three-week mission began on January 13 at Mars Desert Research Station (MDRS) located at high altitude in Utah. During their stay, a crew of six 'Marsonauts' (hailing from Spain, Israel, Australia, France, Ireland and Slovakia) will conduct a number of scientific studies and research projects. Musilova, for instance will test the durability of colostrum and beta glucan, natural products developed and produced in Slovakia by small innovative firms in cooperation with the Research Institute of the National Agricultural and Food Center (VUP NPPC) with the aim of bolstering the human immune system.

"The nutritional and healing properties of these products of these products could be put to the benefit not only of future astronauts but also people working in extreme conditions," added Stanislav Silhar of VUP NPPC.

The project is supported by the Education, Science, Research and Sport Ministry.

### Fico: Slovakia to see balanced budget after government priorities

Even though the goal of posting a balanced budget is scheduled only for 2019, Slovakia has full control over its deficit and is meeting all rules, Prime Minister Robert Fico (Smer-SD) told TASR in an interview on January 9, noting that a balanced budget shouldn't be a "sacred cow."

"I think that a balanced budget should arrive at a time when we can say that we've met certain priorities that have been necessary for the country. These priorities are sometimes being fulfilled at the expense of the deficit," said Fico.

In line with the approved state budget for 2017, the public finance deficit should reach 1.29 percent of the GDP this year, while it should drop to 0.44 percent in 2018 and switch to a surplus of 0.16 percent in 2019.

According to the prime minister, the pace of posting a balanced budget is a matter of constant planning and it shouldn't be achieved at all costs.

"We can say that we'll post a balanced budget next year, but then we'll have to say to Health Minister Tomas Drucker that he won't receive \$73 million to fix emergency services, we'll have to say to Education Minister Peter Plavcan that he won't have the money to increase teachers salaries, and I could go on," said Fico, adding that he supports the idea of posting a balanced budget, but the tempo and strategy to achieve that has to be subjected to the Government's priorities of the governing coalition that were set at the very beginning and were subsequently transferred into the Government Manifesto.

Since the priorities were agreed on beforehand, there are no arguments about them now, stated Fico. "Of course, there are expert discussions such as the topic concerning minimum wage hikes, but fortunately, and here I want to thank the coalition partners, I don't see any conflicts. Nor can I see topics that should cause any significant divisions in the coalition," he added.

### Survey: Only 18 percent of Slovaks eat fish once a week

Fish consumption in Europe is on the rise, as 42 percent of Europeans eat fish at least once a week at home. At 18 percent, the ratio is significantly lower for Slovaks, however, Ingrid Ludvikova of the European Commission's Representation to Slovaks has told TASR.

Citing the conclusion of a Eurobarometer survey on the habits of consumers when it comes to fish and aquaculture products, Ludvikova said that Europeans tend to eat fish quite regularly.

Fifty-eight percent of Slovaks and 60 percent of Europeans in total are fond of trying new foods, including fish species. As many as 92 percent of Slovaks and 60 percent of Europeans in total are fond of trying new foods, including fish species. As many as 92 percent of Slovaks buy fish in grocery stores, supermarkets or hypermarkets. Still, compared to the other Europeans, Slovaks are less reluctant to buy fish at fish farms or directly from fishermen.

Slovak respondents also tended to express their preference for freshwater fish, but as many as 15 percent of them admitted that they can't discern whether the fish they buy are freshwater or saltwater fish.

### Foreign Ministry congratulates new US President Donald Trump

The Foreign and European Affairs Ministry voiced its determination to continue the further development of mutual ties with the United States as well as to bolster the Trans-Atlantic partnership necessary to maintain stability, security and democracy in a broader Euro-Atlantic context, TASR was told by the ministry press department on the occasion of the January 20th inauguration of the 45th US President Donald J. Trump.

"We congratulate the incoming President and wish him great strength and success in exercising his challenging mandate," said the ministry.

The ministry underlined that the United States is a strategic partner and one of the closest allies of Slovakia, with successful cooperation taking place in many spheres - from the modernization of the Slovak Armed Forces, support for stability in crisis-prone parts of the world as well as economic and business cooperation.

The most crucial component of bilingual ties is the shared NATO membership. "We would like to continue our close cooperation in maintaining its credibility and combat-readiness, which we view as the main guarantee of Slovakia's security," reads the text.

Furthermore, the ministry stated that Slovakia supports talks on EU-US Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership in the spirit of mutual benefits, economic growth and improvement of standards.

### Unemployment rate down to 8.76 percent in December 2016

The unemployment rate in Slovakia stood at 8.76 percent in December 2016, down by 0.02 percentage points (p.p.)

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

from November and by 1.87 p.p. year-on-year, Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Center (UPSVaR) general director Marian Valentovic told a news conference on January 20 with Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Minister Jan Richter (Smer-SD) in attendance.

The average unemployment rate for the whole of 2016 amounted to 9.48 percent, meaning a drop of 2.02 p.p. from 2015.

Meanwhile, the number of jobseekers immediately able to

(Continued from page 14)



Now that we are in the height of the winter skiing season in Slovakia, many areas of the country boast first class ski resorts. Among the most popular in western Slovakia is that of the ski resort Pezinska Baba whose season runs from December thru April. The resort boasts two beginner and three intermediate downhill runs. The resort includes seven chairlifts with a total capacity of more than 4,000 people per hour. Parents with children have the opportunity to use the ski-school for children, which is situated within the ski resort. The resort also offers night-skiing with more than 500 meters of illuminated slopes. The rating of the Pezinska Baba ski resort on a five-grade scale by the Association of Slovak Cableways and Ski-lifts is three. The resort also affords all the necessary accommodations, restaurants and other amenities to make for a memorable winter holiday. The Pezinska Baba is among Slovakia's most popular winter resorts.





## Obituaries...

### Our Sokol of Assembly 261

#### Rev. Francis P. Straka, pastor of Assumption Parish in Northampton, Pa., passes away at 60

The Rev. Francis Paul Straka, pastor of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Slovak Parish in Northampton, Pa. passed away at his residence on January 4 at the age of 60.

A native of Reading, Pa., Father Straka was born on April 21, 1956, son of Frank Straka and the late Mary A. Ohrin. He was raised in SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Parish there and was a graduate of it former parochial school. He was a graduate of Reading Central Catholic High School. He attended Allentown College of St. Francis de Sales (DeSales University), Center Valley, Pa., where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theology; Brissan Seminary and St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Overbrook, Pa. where he was awarded a Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained a priest of the Allentown Diocese on June 2, 1990 at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Siena in Allentown by the Most Rev. Thomas J. Welsh, then Bishop of Allentown. On June 3, 1990, he celebrated his first solemn Mass at his home parish of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

Following ordination, Father Straka's first assignment was as parochial vicar at the Parish of Our Lady of Hungary in Northampton.



Rev. Francis P. Straka  
1956 - 2017, R.I.P.

He subsequently served as parochial vicar at the Parish of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Hellertown and the Parish of St. Ann in Emmaus. Both of these parishes were founded by Slovaks. He also served as a parochial vicar at the Parish of the Sacred Heart in West Reading. He was appointed to his first pastorate at the Parish of the Holy Ghost in Bethlehem. After four years at the Bethlehem parish, he was appointed pastor of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Slovak Parish

in Northampton, where he served until his death. During his priestly ministry, he served as the spiritual advisor for the St. Vincent de Paul Society of the Diocese of Allentown and as a member of the Board of Directors at the Holy Family for Priests in Bethlehem.

Active within the Slovak community all his life, he is our Sokol of Assembly 261 and enjoys membership in Branch 175 of the First Catholic Slovak Union, both in Reading. He actively promoted the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation and at the time of his death, he was serving an Executive Board Member at Large. He also was active in the Conference of Slovak Clergy. In 2005, he was invested as a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

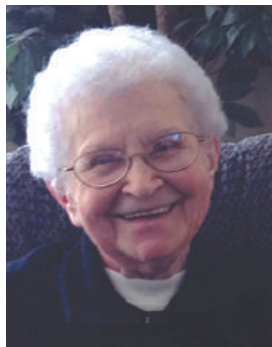
A vigil service for Father Straka was celebrated on Sunday evening, January 8 with the Rev. Msgr. Daniel Yenushosky, Dean of the Lehigh Deanery, presiding. The Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at the Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Northampton on January 10 with the Most Rev. Edward P. Cullen, Bishop-emeritus of the Diocese of Allentown as principal celebrant. Homilist was the Rev. Msgr. Stephen J. Radocha, pastor of St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish in Easton, Pa. Interment followed in Gethsemane Cemetery in Reading, Pa. The Heintzelman Funeral Home in Hellertown was in charge of arrangements.

May the priestly soul of Father Straka now enjoy the beatific vision. Throughout his life and priestly ministry, he beautifully mirrored our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. May he rest in peace.

#### Sister M. Rosamund Dupak, SS.C.M. laid to rest at age 96 in Danville, Pa.

Sister M. Rosamund (Helen C. Dupak) passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 14 at Emmanuel Center in Danville, Pa. She was 96.

A native of Exeter, Pa., Sister Rosamund was one of nine children



Sister M. Rosamund Dupak  
1920-2017, R.I.P.

born to Slovak immigrant parents, Joseph and Dupak and the former Johanna Fedorko on September 24, 1920.

She attended the former St. John the Baptist School, Pittston, Pa. and graduated from the former St. Cyril Academy, Danville, Pa. Sister received her B.A. from Marywood University, Scranton, Pa. and her M.A. in Drama from Villanova University, Villanova, Pa. On Feb-

ruary 11, 1939, she entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville and was received as a novice on October 17, 1939. On that same day, Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, the Archbishop of Philadelphia, dedicated the newly-erected chapel, now the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Sister Rosamund was professed on August 18, 1941.

Sister was involved in the ministry of education in parish schools in Connecticut, Pennsylvania and South Carolina. She served as superior and principal at St. Columba School in Bloomsburg, Pa. from 1971 to 1979. In 1980, she was elected to the Leadership Team of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius and served as assistant to the General Superior until 1984. That year, she returned to Columba's and taught fourth grade until 1988. Her next mission was to Holy Ghost Parish in Olyphant, Pa. where she visited the elderly parishioners, and helped begin a Golden Age Club which benefited the elderly both educationally and spiritually. From 1991 to 1994, she helped direct the Religious Education program at Sacred Heart Church in Peckville, Pa. and was involved with the RCIA program there. Sister Rosamund also taught on the secondary level at St. Cyril Academy from 1948-

67 and at Andean High School, Merrillville, Ind. from 1967-70, where she taught French. Sister Rosamund served as Administrator at Maria Hall, Danville, from 1994-98. With her proficiency in Slovak, Sister provided tutorial assistance to students from Slovakia. Over the years, she also authored various scholarly papers on Slovak history and culture. Sister Rosamund retired to Maria Hall in 2012, and was involved in the ministry of prayer and hospitality and later became a resident of Emmanuel Center.

Sister Rosamund is survived by a sister, Mrs. Margaret Byrn, Emmanuel Center, Danville, a nephew, Thomas Luciano, Alameda, Ca. and nieces: Susan DiPaola of New Providence, N.J.; Marion Chapman of Bethlehem, Pa.; and Joanne Chintala of Lauderhill, Fla.

On Friday, January 20, 2017, the transferal rite and recitation of the Rosary took place at Maria Hall, Danville, followed by the Wake Service. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by the Rev. Gerard Heintzelman in the Chapel of Maria Hall. Burial followed in the Sisters' cemetery. Donations in memory of Sister Rosamund can be made to the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821.

May Sister Rosamund, who so beautifully mirrored consecrated life and our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith, now rest in peace.

#### Eugene A. Cernan, last man to walk on the moon, dies at 82

Eugene "Gene" Cernan, the former NASA astronaut who remains the last human being to date to set foot on the surface of the moon, passed away peacefully in Houston, Tex. on January 16, according to NASA spokesman Bob Jacobs. He was 82. "We are saddened by the loss of retired NASA astronaut Gene Cernan," the space agency tweeted, "the last man on the moon and a hero for the ages. Godspeed the Commander of Apollo 17."

A native of Chicago, Ill., Gene was born there on March 14, 1934, son of the late Andrew Cernan and the former Rose Cihlar. His paternal grandfather, Stefan Cernan was a native Vysoka nad Kysucou in northern Slovakia, who had immigrated to Chicago in 1903. His maternal grandparents were natives of the Czech Republic. He was a 1952 graduate of Proviso Township High School in Maywood, Ill. and in 1956 received an electrical engineering degree from Purdue University in neighboring Indiana. In 1963, he received a master's in aeronautical engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif. After graduating, he spent five years as a U.S. Navy aviator logging 5,000 hours of flying time and 200 landings on aircraft carriers before joining NASA. Captain Cernan retired from both the Navy and NASA in 1976 and entered the private business world. Later, he became a contributor on the ABC television morning show, "Good Morning America," filing reports for its "Breakthrough" segment on health, science, and medicine.

He co-wrote his autobiography in 1999 titled "The Last Man on the Moon." A documentary based on his book and with the same title was released in 2016. Cernan is survived by his wife, Jan Nanna Cernan, three daughters and one grandchild.

Cernan was one of NASA's early generation of astronauts, entering the agency in 1963 as part of the Gemini program. He first went to space as a crew member of Gemini 9A June 3, 1966. It was the mission where he became the second American, and the third person ever, to exit his spacecraft while in orbit - what astronauts refer to as extra vehicular activity, or EVA, and most people refer to as a spacewalk. It was a risky endeavor. NASA was still working out how best to outfit an astronaut for walking in space, and Cernan found that his suit quickly became stiff and immobile.

Ultimately, he became one of



only two astronauts to fly to the moon twice. As the lunar module pilot of Apollo 10 in May 1969, his lunar orbit paved the way for Apollo 11's landing two months later, and as the commander of Apollo 17 in December 1972, the last moon mission to date. Cernan and his Apollo 17 crew member Harrison H. (Jack) Schmitt spent more than 73 hours on the moon's surface.

"America's challenge today has forged man's destiny of tomorrow," Cernan said from the moon's Taurus-Littrow Valley December 14, 1972 as he prepared to reboard his spacecraft to lift off and return home. "As we leave the moon and Taurus-Littrow, we leave as we came and, God willing, we shall return with peace and hope for all mankind."

Astronaut Cernan was very proud of his Slovak heritage. He visited Slovakia on several occasions, visiting his ancestral village of Vysoka nad Kysucou which his grandfather, Stefan left in 1903. Comenius University in Bratislava awarded him an honorary doctorate, honoris causa. In 1994, during his visit to Slovakia, he met with the late Cardinal Jan Chryzostom Korec, S.J. in Nitra. Over the years, he participated in numerous celebrations of the American Slovak community. During the American Bicentennial in 1976, his image appeared on the commemorate medal minted by the Slovak League of America.

In 1961, Cernan married Barbara Jean Atchley. They divorced in 1981. He later married Jan Nanna, who survives him, as do his daughter, Teresa Cernan Woolie; two stepdaughters, Kelly Nanna Taff and Danielle Nanna Ellis; nine grandchildren; and a sister, Dolores Riley.

May this dedicated American patriot and heir of our Slovak heritage, now rest in peace.

#### Remember the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!

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

Dennis J. Zifcak  
SCS Museum Treasurer  
33 Pinecrest Rd.  
Uxbridge, MA 01569



## Held in Youngstown, Oh.

### Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil"

The annual meeting of Group 17 was held on Sunday, November 6, 2016. The officers and delegates attended the 11 a.m. Mass at St. Matthias Church of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish. The pastor of the parish, the Rev. John M. Jerek was celebrant. The offertory gifts were presented by Mary Olexa and Edith Babik. Following the liturgy, the delegates assembled at Donavito's Restaurant where a luncheon was enjoyed.

At 12:30 p.m., Chairperson of Supreme Auditors and Group 17 President called the meeting to order and welcomed all. He called on Sister Edith Babik to lead the assemblage in the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Brother Glen Kramer.

Brother Jerek then called on the Secretary Carol Gonda for the roll call of officers and delegates. Sister Sue Babik, Sister Judy Babik and Brother Ron Trimble were absent due to other commitments. All were excused.

The president asked for the acceptance of the minutes of the 2015 annual meeting which were printed in the Slovak Catholic Falcon. On a motion by Brother Ken Hlebovy, seconded by Sister Loretta Smith, the minutes were accepted.

Brother Jerek then called for the activity reports of the officers. The president vacated the chair to the Vice President Glen Kramer so as to present his report. The president indicated that he attended the Christmas party as well as the annual golf outing. He thanked all who came out for the outing, both golfers and non-golfers alike. He indicated that he represented the Group at many local and national functions. On a motion by Brother Tim Shirilla, seconded by Sister Elaine Kana, the report of the president was accepted.

Brother Kramer then turned the chair back to Brother Jerek. The president then called on the Vice President Brother Glen Kramer for his report. He indicated that he fulfilled all his duties as vice president and assisted the president whenever necessary. He also reported that during the past year, he participated in the international golf tournament and helped organize the Group 17 mixed golf outing. He also attended the Christmas party and the annual Vilija dinner. On a motion by Sister Edie Babik, seconded by Sister Virginia Bartos, the report of the vice president was accepted.

The president then called on the Secretary Carol Gonda for her report. She indicated that she performed all the duties assigned to the position to the best of her abilities. She sent the minutes as well as announcements concerning the Group activities as well as the Vilija of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish. She especially thanked the following who provided snacks and munchies for the participants at the golf outing, namely Sisters Elaine

Kana, Patty Gordulic, Sue Babik as well as Sister Carol. On a motion by Sister Nancy, seconded by Sister Elaine, the report of the secretary was accepted.

Brother Jerek then called on the auditors to present their report. Sister Edie Babik that besides auditing the books, she organized and attended the children's Christmas party and attended the Vilija and served on the committee for the golf outing and helped out at this year's Slovak Fest at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish. On a motion by Sister Anne Adams, seconded by Father John Jerek, Sister Babik's report was accepted.

Auditor Brother Ken Hlebovy then presented his report. He indicated that he fulfilled all the duties assigned him according to our bylaws over the past year. He participated in the Group Golf Outing as well as the international golf tournament. On a motion by Sister Marlene Shipley, seconded by Brother Steve Bartos, his report was accepted.

Auditor Sister Mary Olexa then presented her report. She too indicated that she performed all the duties of the office as per our bylaws. While she didn't golf, she nevertheless enjoyed participating in the golf outing. She met with Brother Ken and Sister Edie to audit the books, which were all found in order. On a motion by Brother Joe Adams, seconded by Brother George Kraykovich, Sister Olexa's report was accepted.

Before Brother Jerek called on the auditors to see if they found the treasurer's books in order, he explained why some of our helpers were paid by us for their help at the Slet. Brother Jerek said they volunteered many times and others were getting paid, so he felt they too should be given something to show our gratitude. Brother Jerek then called on the auditors. They all found all the books in order and moved for the adoption of the treasurer, Brother Tom Shirilla's report, seconded by Brother Ken Hlebovy and accepted.

Brother Jerek next called on the Sports Director for his report. Due to Brother Ron's absence, Sister Nancy read his report. He indicated that he participated in all the activities of the Group during the past year. On a motion by Sister Marlene, seconded by Sister Elaine, the report of the Sports Director was accepted.

The Physical Fitness Board then presented its report. In the absence of Sister Judy Babik, her report was given by Sister Nancy. She indicated that she participated and assisted at all Group 17 activities over the past year. With the resignation of the Sports Director, she indicated that she is interested in serving in this capacity. On a motion by Brother Tom, seconded by Brother Joe, her report was accepted.

Sister Sue Babik was also absent. Her report was given by Sister

## IN MEMORIAM

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

### DECEMBER 2016

| Assembly/Wreath | Member                                  | Age | Date of Death      |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Assembly 9      | Elizabeth V. Coppola, Bridgeport, CT    | 87  | December 17, 2016  |
| Assembly 9      | Paul Dlubac, Bridgeport, CT             | 87  | December 17, 2016  |
| Assembly 11     | Irene Tupy, Chicago, IL                 | 103 | November 22, 2016  |
| Assembly 32     | Mary Byrnes, Palmerton, PA              | 88  | September 12, 2015 |
| Assembly 34     | Kao Thao, Minneapolis, MN               | 68  | December 7, 2016   |
| Assembly 34     | Rev. George J. Kovalik, Minneapolis, MN | 89  | April 4, 2012      |
| Assembly 36     | Andrew Michael Kralik, Detroit, MI      | 64  | October 23, 2016   |
| Assembly 59     | Edward R. Sims, Wilkes-Barre, PA        | 39  | November 26, 2016  |
| Assembly 71     | Margaret Sterbinsky, Edwardsville, PA   | 93  | August 31, 2016    |
| Assembly 78     | Andrew J. Guff, Bethlehem, PA           | 90  | November 29, 2016  |
| Assembly 78     | Veronica B. Basile, Bethlehem, PA       | 93  | November 22, 2016  |
| Assembly 110    | Joseph Skrobak, St. Clair, PA           | 67  | September 16, 2016 |
| Assembly 113    | John M. Grmo, Kenosha, WI               | 71  | November 26, 2016  |
| Assembly 113    | Mark L. Seveck, Kenosha, WI             | 69  | November 10, 2016  |
| Assembly 162    | Dominik Krzysik, Clifton, NJ            | 82  | December 10, 2016  |
| Assembly 162    | Margaret Borish, Clifton, NJ            | 87  | November 6, 2016   |
| Assembly 185    | Gabriella Fetcho, Binghamton, NY        | 97  | November 25, 2016  |
| Assembly 227    | Josephine Szabo, Toronto, CN            | 93  | November 20, 2016  |
| Assembly 257    | Helen A. Jensen, Chicago, IL            | 94  | December 3, 2016   |
| Assembly 312    | Margaret Pukatch, Passaic, NJ           | 88  | November 23, 2016  |
| Assembly 312    | Jean E. Bier, Passaic, NJ               | 80  | November 25, 2016  |
| Wreath 1        | Kate M. Chapel, Bridgeport, CT          | 37  | October 28, 2011   |
| Wreath 2        | Theresa E. Vaxmonskey, Passaic, NJ      | 87  | December 14, 2016  |
| Wreath 11       | Mary Alice Cintula, Johnstown, NY       | 86  | December 20, 2016  |
| Wreath 14       | Catherine Yatta, Johnstown, PA          | 97  | December 20, 2016  |
| Wreath 14       | Kevin J. Cyburt, Johnstown, PA          | 59  | November 19, 2016  |
| Wreath 14       | Dolores Horner, Johnstown, PA           | 80  | November 18, 2016  |
| Wreath 14       | Emma A. Moore, Johnstown, PA            | 96  | November 25, 2016  |
| Wreath 14       | Francis J. Maslar, Johnstown, PA        | 87  | November 6, 2016   |
| Wreath 15       | Mary Filicky, Perryopolis, PA           | 93  | November 15, 2016  |
| Wreath 34       | Mary Ann Sherman, Cleveland, OH         | 75  | May 7, 2011        |
| Wreath 34       | David R. Grospitch, Cleveland, OH       | 68  | October 23, 2016   |
| Wreath 39       | Mary Lampart Toth, Bridgeport, CT       | 95  | November 30, 2016  |
| Wreath 54       | Mary Jane Macala, Youngstown, OH        | 83  | November 4, 2016   |
| Wreath 81       | Helen Blasko, Whiting, IL               | 90  | December 11, 2016  |
| Wreath 81       | Catherine Marie Silva, Whiting, IL      | 75  | November 16, 2016  |
| Wreath 93       | David Douglas La Borg, Milwaukee, WI    | 75  | November 7, 2016   |
| Wreath 93       | Elroy H. Herman, Milwaukee, WI          | 85  | October 26, 2016   |
| Wreath 103      | Irene Hrosky, Barberton, OH             | 89  | December 6, 2015   |
| Wreath 107      | Rudolph J. Gasperek, Youngstown, OH     | 87  | November 19, 2016  |
| Wreath 111      | Judith Mercurio, Lorain, OH             | 65  | December 6, 2016   |
| Wreath 153      | Joseph T. Zahorsky, Parma, OH           | 74  | December 2, 2016   |
| Wreath 155      | Helen F. Martin, Reading, PA            | 97  | June 26, 2016      |
| Wreath 168      | Helen Rosko, New York, NY               | 99  | December 4, 2016   |

Edie Babik. On a motion by Sister Virginia, seconded by Sister Renata, her report was accepted.

Sister Virginia Bartos then presented her report. She too assisted at all Group 17 functions over the past year. On a motion by Brother George, seconded by Brother Joe, the report was accepted.

At this point, Brother Jerek announced the lunch break. He called upon Sister Edie Babik to offer the grace before meals.

After lunch, the second session of the annual meeting was called to order. Brother Jerek then read a letter from our organization's General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr. concerning sponsorship of activities and events held within the organization. Everyone seemed to understand the reason for the letter. Brother Jerek then received a letter from Sister Candice Kraykovich indicating that she is interested in serving as Physical Directress of Group 17. She was present and explained her interest recalling her own participation in two Slets and one Clinic-Kurz. On a motion by Sister Nancy, seconded by Sister Virginia, Sister Kraykovich was elected to serve as the Physical Directress.

Under old business, Brother Jerek asked for a report on the upcoming Christmas party. A total of about 80 youngsters and adults were expected. Brother Glen reported on the mixed golf outing. He was pleased with the participation, which included two golfers from Pennsylvania. He thanked Brother Jim for cooking the chicken and steaks as well as those who participated and assisted. Everyone had a great time. Brother Jerek also mentioned the Group 17 members who received scholarship grants in 2016, including Jennifer Lange, Joanne Bartos, Kathleen Jerek, all college scholarships; Stephen Michael Bartos, on the high school level and Stephen Franke and Natalie Blasko who received grade school grants.

Brother Jerek then called on the Committee for any New Business. Sister Edie Babik recommended that the Group donate \$1,000 for the children's Christmas party. Wreath 54 and Assemblies 107 and 108 will also contribute financial support for the event. On a motion by Sister Loretta, seconded by Brother Ken, the recommendation was accepted. The president then noted that the International Basketball and Volleyball Tournament

was scheduled for March 2017 in Barberton, Oh. With a new sports director, hopefully Group 17 will have a team which will compete. He also noted that youngsters competing at the Slet need four shirts, one for each day. On a motion by Sister Mary, seconded by Sister Elaine, the Group agreed to purchase the necessary shirts.

The president also reminded the delegates that the announcement of 2017 scholarships was forthcoming. He also asked that we consider nominating a Group 17 Sokol or Sokolka for consideration as the 2017 S.C. Sokol Fraternalist of the Year.

On a motion by Sister Loretta, seconded by Sister Nancy, it was agreed to provide a Group 17 shirt to be worn at the international golf and bowling tournaments.

Brother Jerek indicated that he is looking to have the Group attend the Scrappers Baseball Outing in the spring. Additional details will follow.

The president then asked for any resolutions. Sister Carol Gonda moved that we recognize Brother Glen Kramer, Brother Ken

(Continued on page 14)



## 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

- 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 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.

## Sokol Birthdays



#### FEBRUARY 12

**Patricia McClure**, Fort Myers, Fla., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

#### FEBRUARY 15

**Michael Ferik**, Trumbull, Conn., a member of Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

**Thomas B. Kostolansky**, Donora, Pa., a member of Assembly 163, Donora, Pa.

**Anthony G. Kubasek**, Moca-naqua, Pa., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

#### FEBRUARY 16

**Olivia A. Solomon**, Portland, Ore., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

**Andrew M. Papcun**, Sterling Heights, Mich., a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

#### FEBRUARY 17

**Richard J. Chodelka**, Antioch, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

**Amy R. Frink**, Schwenksville, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Dr. Nadine E. Halko**, Mt. Kisco, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

**Maura E. Jobs**, Edinboro, Pa., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

**George J. Kostelnik**, Bethlehem, Pa., Honorary Supreme Officer and President of Group 10.

**Rachel A. Papcun**, Pottsville, Mich., a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

**Msgr. Peter M. Polando**, rector of the Cathedral of St. Columba, Youngstown, Oh., member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Oh.

#### FEBRUARY 18

**Judith A. Kopchak**, Walling-ton, N.J., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.

**Edward A. Rakocy**, Youngstown, Oh., a member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Oh.

**Ashley Thomas**, Hawthorne, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

#### FEBRUARY 19

**Denise Lendacky Di Martino**, Havertown, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

#### FEBRUARY 20

**Diana L. Martino**, Breezy Point, Minn., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

#### FEBRUARY 21

**Karen E. Bakita**, Doylestown, Oh., a member of Wreath 103, Bar-ber-ton, Oh.

**Kristen King**, Berwyn, Pa., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

**Logan Marie Maloney**, Acworth, Ga., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa., belated wishes.

**Joanne Testa**, Deland, Fl., a member of Wreath 54, Youngstown, Oh.

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

#### FEBRUARY 23

**Rev. Richard A. Bay**, pastor, St. Simon the Apostle parish, Green Pond, N.J., chaplain of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

**Audrey A. Graham**, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

#### FEBRUARY 24

**Margaret M. Rude**, Minneapolis, Minn., a member of Wreath 47, Minneapolis, Minn.

#### FEBRUARY 25

**Alaina M. Hawranko**, Crofton, Minn., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Jessica Krasauskis**, Plain Field, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

**Christopher M. Buck**, Canfield, Oh., a member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Oh.

**Mary A. Renna**, Lakewood, N.J., a member of Wreath 168, New York City.

#### FEBRUARY 26

**Anne Dailidonis**, Chicago, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

**Andrew James Macurak**, Acworth, Ga., a member of Assembly 16, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**John Fialkovich**, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y. Happy 90th birthday!

#### FEBRUARY 28

**Philip A. Altavilla**, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

**Mary Lou Chojnicki**, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

#### FEBRUARY 29

**Robert C. Hess**, Cedar Grove, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

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

(Continued from page 7)

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*.

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Are you a previous Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Recipient? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please  
indicate Grade School or High School. What year? \_\_\_\_\_ (yes/no)

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

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

Catholic High School, verify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a student at  
(Name of student)  
the above school and will be attending \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in the 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 High School Grant  
205 Madison St., P.O. Box 899, Passaic, NJ 07055



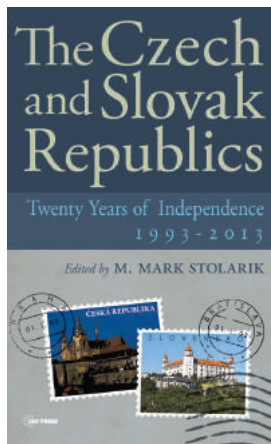
## Professor Mark Stolarik Presents Book on the Czech-Slovak Break

The University of Ottawa's Professor M. Mark Stolarik has put together a truly comprehensive book by many well-known world historians and thinkers on the independence of the Czech and Slovak Republics in 1993. The book "The Czech and Slovak Republics" was presented for sale in a book-signing ceremony at the Slovak Embassy in Ottawa on January 27, 2016, and is widely available in Europe and North America.

It is partly the result of a deeply-impressive conference Professor Stolarik organized in 2013 for the 20th anniversary of Slovak independence. That conference brought many intellectuals - with sometimes different outlooks - from Europe, the United States and Canada to Ottawa. Some from Slovakia had actually studied at the University of Ottawa's Chair in Slovak History.

"The Czech and Slovak Republics" - subtitled "Twenty Years of Independence 1993-2013" is based largely on the papers presented at the 2013 conference. Two former Prime Ministers of the Czech Republic and Slovakia were among the writers. Eight leading scholars from Slovakia and the Czech Republic, and eight from North America, also have their works in this book. It is clear that they do not always agree on how many things happened.

Professor Stolarik points out how Slovakia's economic growth has astonished some historians, economists, and politicians. In Czechoslovakia, the Gross Domestic Product produced by the Slovaks in 1993 was 57 percent of that of the European Union. Czechs



produced 78 percent. By 2013 the Slovaks produced 78 percent. The Czechs 80 percent. That baffled many observers, who had predicted that Slovakia's economy would fall after independence. Instead, it rose 21 percent, with the economy of the Czechs rising only 2 percent. Professor Stolarik adds a long and detailed introduction to the historical theme, and to the many different ideas expressed in the book. Some papers even bring out the problems of corruption in both republics, which cannot be denied but which many tolerate.

The book is published by the Central European University Press, based in New York City and in Budapest. It sells for \$60.00 U.S. - Jan George Frajkor

*(Professor Stolarik, a well known scholar and historian, is our Sokol of Assembly 224 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.)*

## February is American Heart Month

Risk factors that can be managed: You can control or treat these risk factors with lifestyle changes and your healthcare provider's help: \* High blood pressure, \* Smoking, \* High blood cholesterol, \* Lack of regular activity, \* Obesity or overweight, \* Diabetes.

Risk factors you can't control: You can't change these risk factors: \* Age, \* Gender, \* Heredity (family health history), \* Race, \* Previous stroke or heart attack.

## News and Views from Slovakia...

(Continued from page 10)

start work was 237,977 in December, a decrease of 403 individuals m-o-m and of 48,848 y-o-y, said Valentovic.

The unemployment rate calculated from the total number of job seekers reached 10.16 percent in December, down 0.08 p.p. m-o-m and by 2.24 p.p. y-o-y.

In addition, the total number of jobseekers stood at 276,131 in December, falling by 2,061 m-o-m and by 58,248 y-o-y.

"In January 2016 we opened last year with an unemployment rate standing at 10.39 percent. Today, in January 2017, we can state that we ended last year with 8.76 percent. When taking the previous year as 100 percent, this means the removal of 49,000 unemployed people (17 percent) from labor office registers," said Richter.

The highest unemployment rate was posted in the Presov region (13.91 percent) in December. Other regions that reported an unemployment rate exceeding the Slovak average were Banska Bystrica region (12.80 percent) and the Kosice region (12.76 percent), said Valentovic.

Among Slovakia's 79 districts the unemployment rate went down in 44, rose in 33 and remained unchanged in two. The highest unemployment rate was recorded in Rimavska Sobota district (24.58 percent), while the lowest was found to be in the districts of Galanta and Piestany (both 3.29 percent).

Labor offices reported 35,284 job vacancies in late December, down by 1,585, m-o-m.

## Milwaukee Fasiangy set for Feb.18

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 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 information, 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.

## Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast in Pittsburgh

(Continued from page 4)

ish was established twenty years ago as a result of the merger of six South Side parishes including the former St. Matthew's which was founded by Slovaks in 1903.

The Easter Customs Mass and Breakfast on Pittsburgh's historic South Side, where the first Slovaks settled in the 1880s is a great way to introduce children and grandchildren to the great cultural heritage they share as Americans of Slovak ancestry. It's also a wonderful opportunity to rekindle treasured memories, and to reach out a helping hand to others less fortunate while enjoying a relaxing and enriching afternoon.

Again the breakfast is free of charge, however donations are gratefully accepted. For more information about making a donation, or to learn how you can display your own Slovak treasures please call Connie Zatek at 412 657-6364. Doors open at the parish center at approximately at 12:15 p.m. We hope to see many Group 14 Sokol members at this year's Mass and breakfast.

## Bishop Jozef Halko Sends Greetings



Lisa Calabrese, Parish Manager and Director of Religious Education at the United Parish of St. John Nepomucene, St. John the Martyr and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini in New York City recently visited Bratislava to coordinate activities with Slovak TV LUX. She is shown with the Most Rev. Jozef Halko, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Bratislava in Slovakia. Bishop Halko extended his good wishes and blessing to the members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

## IMPORTANT 2017 INTERNATIONAL SLET INFORMATION

Slet information is now accessible on our website at [www.slovakcatholicssokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org) under Sports Programs

You can access general rules and regulations, qualification times and distances for track, track records, volleyball information, gymnastics qualifiers, hotel info, pin trading information and much more!

You can also access videos of the drills at [scsdrills@gmail.com](mailto:scsdrills@gmail.com) password: sokoldrills

## Give All a Chance

President Lincoln was walking with a friend about Washington, D.C., one day when he stopped suddenly. A beetle had gotten on its back and lay on the walk, legs sprawling in the air, vainly trying to turn itself over. Lincoln stooped and gently

helped the beetle over.

The friend expressed surprise that the president, burdened with the cares of a warring nation, should find time to spare to assist a bug.

"Well," said Lincoln, "do you know, if I had left that bug struggling there on its back, I wouldn't have felt just right. I wanted to put it on its feet and give it an equal chance with the other bugs."

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 17

(Continued from page 12)

Hlebovy and Sister Judy Babik for all they do on behalf of the Group. Agreed.

Sister Loretta recommended that a monetary donation be made to John Rovnak, who is entering the seminary. Brother Jerek asked that we hold off on that, depending if Mr. Rovnak is a Sokol member.

President Jerek then announced that our Sports Director Brother Trimble has resigned this office. On a motion by Sister Nancy, seconded by Sister Mary, Sister Judy Babik was nominated to serve as the new sports director. Accepted.

Brother Glen made a motion to donate to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum in memory of Jerome Jablonski who passed away this year. He had been a very active So-

kol right up until his death. The motion was seconded by Sister Elaine and accepted.

With no further business, on a motion by Sister Joanne, seconded by Brother Steve, the annual meeting was adjourned. Brother Jerek then called on Brother Glen to lead the assemblage in a closing prayer. Zdar Boh!

The following will serve as officers in 2017: James G. Jerek, president; Glen Kramer, vice-president; Carol Gonda, secretary; Tom (Tim) Shirilla, treasurer; Judy Babik, sports director; Ken Hlebovy, Edie Babik and Mary Olexa, auditors; and Virginia Bartos, Edie Babik and Sue Babik, members of the Physical Fitness Board.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Carol Gonda**  
Group 17 Secretary



## Na Dunaj nasadili ľadoborce



Bratislavský ľadoborec Krupina po vodnej hladine vodného diela Čunovo a svojou váhou drvil dvadsaťcentimetrovú ľadovú vrstvu. Prívodný kanál zamrzol a na technických zariadeniach plavebných komôr na vodnom diele Gabčíkovo sa vytvorili kryhy, ktoré by sa mohli ulomiť a poškodiť plavidlá. Na uvoľnenie trasy čakajú viaceré nákladné lode. Nasadili tri ľadoborce. Prvý z nich s názvom Brezno rozbíja ľady v prístavných bazénoch v Bratislave, Krupina kotví v Čunove, ľadoborec Dunaj je zase v Komárne. Tohtoročný január bol najchladnejší za uplynulých tridsať rokov. Najnižšia priemerná mesačná teplota bola nameraná na meteorologickej stanici v Brezne, kde priemerné teploty dosahovali -10,4 stupňa Celzia. Najnižšiu minusovú teplotu zaznamenali 8. januára v Oravskej Lesnej, teplomer ukazoval -35,5 stupňa Celzia. Vo februári by sa počasie malo ustáliť.

## Slováci uprednostňujú vlastné bývanie pred prenájmom

Zo štatistik portálu Nehnutelnosti.sk vyplýva, že v treťom kvartáli minulého roka sa 35,38 % používateľov zaujímalo o kúpu bytu. O kategóriu rodinných domov prejavilo záujem 33,45 % oslovených respondentov. Najväčší dopyt je po nehnuteľnostiach v Bratislave, 20,17 % používateľov hľadalo byt alebo dom v tejto lokalite. Druhé v poradí sú Košice s podielom 5,48 %, nasleduje Trnava

s 4,43 %.

Slováci majú záujem o vlastnú nehnuteľnosť aj napriek tomu, že ceny bytových jednotiek kontinuálne rastú. V treťom kvartáli 2016 ich cena v porovnaní s rovnakým obdobím minulého roka vzrástla o 5,5 %. Z prieskumu tiež vyplýva, že 76 % ľudí, ktorí zvažujú kúpu nehnuteľnosti, plánuje na hľadanie bytu či domu využiť internet. - SITA

## Fašiangová pochúťka

### Prísady

200 g hladkej múky, 100 g práškoveho cukru, 1 balíček vanilkového cukru, 2 kávové lyžičky kypriaceho prášku, 1 vajce, 120 ml mlieka, 120 ml oleja, soľ

V mise zmiešame preosiatu múku, práškový a vanilkový cukor, kypriaci prášok a štipku soli. Pridáme vajce, mlieko a olej. Zmes dobre premiešame

ručným mixérom a necháme 10 minút poštáť.

Do jamiek špeciálneho plechu na mafiny vložíme papierové košíčky a do tretiny naplníme cestom. Lyžicou vložíme kôpku sliakového lekváru a zalejeme cestom 1 centimeter od horného okraja košíčka.

Vložíme do rúry vyhriatej na 200 stupňov Celzia a pečieme 15 až 20 minút.

## Krátke správy zo Slovenska

(Pokračovanie zo str. 16)

Ľubovní 425.

☐ Trestná činnosť a kriminalita klesla podľa ministra vnútra Roberta Kaliňáka o 40 percent pri porovnaní rokov 2006 a 2016. „Slovensko malo najlepšie výsledky od svojho vzniku,“ vyhlásil minister. Uviedol, že v minulom roku bolo evidovaných takmer 70-tisíc trestných činov. Medzi regióny s najvyšším počtom trestných činov zaradil Bratislavu, Košice, a niektoré okresy trnavského a prešovského kraja.

☐ Slováci čaká tento rok najrýchlejší rast plátov od vypuknutia krízy. Národná banka Slovenska počíta s priemerným zvyšovaním miezd o 4,2 percenta. Naposledy rýchlejšie rástli príjmy zamestnancov len v roku 2008. V tom čase silná slovenská ekonomika dokázala v priebehu jedného roka zdvihnúť platy pracujúcich ľudí až o 8,1 percenta.

☐ Napriek tomu, že platy na Slovensku rastú viac ako vo vyspelejších západných krajinách Európskej únie, Slovensko stále zaostáva. Priemerná mzda v celej EÚ je asi o polovicu vyššia ako na Slovensku. Oproti krajinám ako Nemecko sú platy v SR zhruba tretinové.

## ACH, TÁ NAŠA SLOVENČINA!

Hotovosť bude čoskoro out

- pravda.sk

... pocítil silu slovenského hejtu a stále sa skrýva - sme.sk odhalila, čo miluje na fast foodoch! - pluska.sk

Ktorá celebrita je najrafinovanejšia? - sarm.sk

... sa v rozhovore postažovala, že život single ženy... - pravda.sk

...predstaví nový singel.

- sme.sk

Pre značky je Super Bowl každoročným sviatkom a do televízneho vysielania chystajú premiérové **spoty**. Ako je zvykom, mnohé už odprezentovali ešte pred samotným **eventom**. - trned.sk

...keď dala dole zo seba čierny kožuš, predviedla svoj **šik outfit** ... kostým nechala doma a stavila na **casual style**... Chválime však čiernu tzv. **bomber bundičku**, ktoré sú teraz veľmi **trendy**... Brunetka sa na krst vyzbrojila **outfitom**, ktorý pozostával zo sukne a krátkeho **topu** - pluska.sk

O **styling outfitov** sa postarala **stylistka** Aurora Sansone v spolupráci so slovenským **stylistom** Alexandrom Lindovom.

- diva.sk

Pozrite si naj **spoty** Super Bowl!

- pravda.sk

## Slovenské kultúrne a spoločenské podujatia

### 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 tanca bude hrať hudobná skupina Express. Vstupné je \$130.00 za osobu. Listky sú na predaj prostredníctvom webstránky *Eventbrite* "Slovak Ball 2017", alebo kontaktujte p. Zuzanu Krčmárovu na tel. číse 973-357-1209, alebo napíšte na emailovú adresu: [SlovakAmericanCC@gmail.com](mailto:SlovakAmericanCC@gmail.com). Bližšie informácie na webovej stránke: [www.slovakamericancc.com](http://www.slovakamericancc.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 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.,

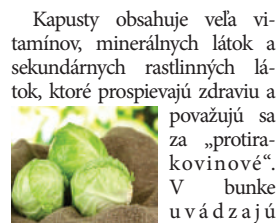
### Veľkonočné raňajky v Pittsburghu, PA

V sobotu 8. apríla budú v Pittsburghu, PA tradičné veľkonočné raňajky. Sponzorom podujatia je Slovak Custom Group/Cultural Diversity Committee of Prince of Peace Parish. O 11.00 hodine bude v Kostole sv. Adalberta, 160 South 15th Street slovenská svätá omša, po ktorej budú v Prince of Peace Parish Center (81 South 13th Street) slovenské veľkonočné raňajky. Vstupné je dobrovoľné.

Usporiadatelia pripravujú výstavu o slovenskej kultúre, živote a tradíciách na slovenskej dedine. Na predaj budú rôzne dovezené výrobky, ručné práce a domáce koláče. Prítomní sa budú môcť oboznámiť so slovenskými veľkonočnými zvykmi, dekoráciou kraslíc, prípravou veľkonočných špecialít a podobne.

Zisk z podujatia bude venovaný na charitatívne účely na Slovensku. Pre Františkánske sestry v Ružomberku a Barlička Center v Prešove. Bližšie informácie: Connie Zatek, telefónne číslo: 412-657-6364.

## Kapusta má protirakovinové účinky



Kapusty obsahuje veľa vitamínov, minerálnych látok a sekundárnych rastlinných látok, ktoré prospejú zdraviu a považujú sa za „protirakovinové“. V bunke u v á d z a j ú do činnosti

detoxikačné enzýmy, a tým ju chránia pred škodlivými látkami. Kapusta má liečivé účinky pri vnútornom ale aj vonkajšom použití. Vonkajšie neporušené kapustové listy umyté teplou vodou, osuší, vyreže hrubú stredovú žilo (alebo kapustu nakrájať na tenké pásiky), položí na čistú šatku a pomliačdiť fľašou tak, aby sa z nich začala uvoľňovať šťava. Potom listy krátko ohriať nad parou a hneď naskladať na postihnutú časť tela tak, aby sa navzájom prekrývali – tak z nich môže najlepšie vytekať šťava. Obklad vymieňať 2-krát denne, keď príliš vlhne, aj častejšie. Nechať pôsobiť vždy podľa individuálnych pocitov, 1 -12 hodín. Potom kožu umyť a naolejovať.

Kapustové obklady môžu

vyplývom aktivácie liečebných procesov prechodne zhoršiť bolesti alebo sa z nich môže šíriť nepríjemný zápach. Tieto reakcie sú však prejavom úspešného liečebného procesu.

Obklad pomáha pri bolestiach kĺbov a reumatických ťažkostiach, ekzémoch, akné, zápaloch nechtového lôžka a vredoch otvorených smerom von.

Liečivé účinky Pri vonkajšom použití majú „sírnaté“ kapustové listy podivuhodnú schopnosť odvádzať kožu jedovaté látky a hnis, dezinfikovať a tíšť zápal.

Keď sa príloží kapustový list na postihnuté miesto (ochorenia kĺbov, rany), podporuje vylučovanie tekutín z hlbšie ležiacich alebo susedných chorých tkanív. To zlepšuje situáciu v kĺboch, podporuje prekrvenie ich okolia a zlepšuje látkovú premenu.

Okrem toho pôsobia kapustové obklady proti bolesti a natiahnutiu, čo sa využíva pri kožných chorobách a reumatických alebo kĺbových bolestiach.

Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation  
**Slovenský Katolícky Sokol**  
Slovak Catholic Sokol

ISSN: 0897-8107

Úradný časopis  
SLOVENSKÉHO KATOLÍCKEHO SOKOLA

Založený 15. apríla 1911 – Vychádza každú druhú stredu

Majiteľ a vydavateľ:

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

Daniel F. Tanzone, redaktor

Telefónne číslo: (973) 777-4010

Všetky články, príspevky a správy treba poslať na adresu:

Editor, Slovak Catholic Sokol, P.O. Box 899

205 Madison Street, Passaic, New Jersey 07055





# Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON

ÚRADNÝ ČASOPIS SLOVENSKEHO KATOLÍCKEHO SOKOLA - 30 000 ČLENOV - HLAVNÁ ÚRADOVŇA: 205 MADISON STREET, PASSAIC, NJ 07055 – [www.slovakcatholicfalcon.org](http://www.slovakcatholicfalcon.org)

VOLUME CVI

PASSAIC, N.J., 8. FEBRUÁRA 2017

ČÍSLO 5088

### V Bratislave otvorili sídlo Styčného integračného tímu NATO

V priestoroch kasární v bratislavských Vajnoroch 24. januára slávnostne otvorili sídlo Styčného integračného tímu NATO na Slovensku (NFIU SVK). Okrem ministra obrany Slovenskej republiky Petra Gajdoša sa na ceremoniáli zúčastnili aj námestník generálneho tajomníka NATO pre verejnú diplomáciu Tacan Ildem, zástupca predsedu Vojenského výboru NATO generálporučík Steven M. Shepro a veliteľ Spojeneckých síl NATO generál Salvatore Farina.

Šéf slovenského rezortu obrany pripomenul, že koncept zriadenia styčných tímov je súčasťou Akčného plánu pripravenosti, ktorý aliancia schválila v súvislosti s meniacim sa bezpečnostným prostredím na hraniciach NATO. "Tento organizačný prvok vnímame ako príspevok k národnej, ako aj ku kolektívnej obrane vo svetle bezpečnostného vývoja od summitu NATO vo Walese," uviedol Gajdoš s tým, že primárnou úlohou NFIU je v prípade potreby zabezpečiť bezproblémové ro-

zmiestnenie síl aliancie na území východného krídla. Ako dodal, nejde o základňu NATO.

Styčné tímy sú v ôsmich krajinách. Okrem Slovenska aj v Litve, Estónsku, Lotyšsku, Poľsku, Bulharsku, Rumunsku a Maďarsku. Hlavnou úlohou NFIU na Slovensku je podpora kolektívnej obrany NATO v plánovacom procese, asistencia pri výcviku a spoločných cvičeniach a v prípade potreby zabezpečenie a koordinácia prijatia spojeneckých síl v danom regióne. V slovenskom NFIU, bude pôsobiť 41 príslušníkov, z toho 21 pozícií je vyčlenených pre Slovensko a 20 pre medzinárodný personál z členských krajín NATO.

Styčný integračný tím NATO na Slovensku dosiahol počiatočnú operačnú spôsobilosť 1. januára 2017, čo v praxi znamená, že od tohto dátumu splnil všetky požadované organizačné, administratívne a technické kritériá. Plnú spôsobilosť by mal dosiahnuť 1. júna 2017. - TASR

### Ceny bytov v SR stúpili za rok o 5,8 %

Priemerné ceny bytov na Slovensku v poslednom štvrtroku minulého roku opäť rástli. Medziročne sa zvýšili o 5,8 %. Podľa údajov Národnej banky Slovenska sa na medziročnom priemernom zvýšení cien bytov podieľal rast cien menších bytov.

Najviac zdraželi jednoizbové byty o takmer 14 % a naopak, najmenej štvorizbové byty, o viac ako 6 %. Priemerná cena bytov je však stále o päť percent nižšia v porovnaní s jej historickým maximom v roku 2008, zatiaľ čo priemerná cena domov je v porovnaní s rokom 2008 nižšia o viac ako 16 percent.

Dostupnosť bytov sa na konci roka 2016 zhoršovala vo všetkých slovenských regiónoch, okrem Bratislavského a Žilinského kraja. Ceny bytov podľa NBS rástli vo viacerých regiónoch rýchlejšie ako príjmy domácností. Medziročne najvýraznejšie vzrástla priemerná cena bývania v Nitrianskom kraji o 15,9 % a najmenej v Košickom kraji o 2,6 %. V Banskobystrickom kraji sa ceny bytov medziročne znížili o 1,1 percenta. - SITA

### Krátke správy zo Slovenska



□ Od začiatku tohto roku získal na Slovensku azyl jeden človek z Egypta. Aktuálne žiada o azyl na Slovensku 52 ľudí. Devätnásť z nich sa nachádza v pobytovom tábore v Rohovciach, 22 v pobytovom tábore Opatovská Nová Ves a 11 v Humennom. Okrem toho žije v tábore v Gabčíkove 13 žiadateľov o rakúsky azyl. V evakuačnom tranzitnom stredku v Humennom je umiestnených aj 19 utečencov pripravených na tranzit do tretej krajiny.

□ Od začiatku februára začala na Slovensku fungovať nová elitná jednotka. Medzi jej úlohy patrí boj proti terorizmu a ex-

trémizmu. Je to úplne nová zložka na Slovensku, ktorej členmi je 125 špičkových vyšetrovateľov.

□ Na Slovensku sa najmenej bezpečne žije v Košickom a Trnavskom okrese. Vyhlásil to policajný prezident Tibor Gašpar. Najmenej bezpečne sa žije v okresoch Košice a Trnava, naopak najbezpečnejšie sú okresy Svidník a Stará Ľubovňa. Uviedol policajný prezident Tibor Gašpar pri prezentácii štatistik trestnej činnosti a kriminality na Slovensku za minulý rok. V Košickom okrese evidujú 4500 a v Trnavskom okrese 3682 trestných činov. V okrese Svidník 424 a v Starvej

(Pokračovanie na str. 15)

### Január 2017 bol na Slovensku najchladnejší za posledných 30 rokov

Slovenský hydrometeorologický ústav (SHMÚ) zasadil január 2017 do prvej desiatky najchladnejších januárov od roku 1931. Prvý mesiac tohto roka bol najchladnejší v niektorých kotlinách. V Oravskej Lesnej 8. januára poklesla minimálna teplota vzduchu na -35,5 °C. V tento deň klesla teplota pod -30 °C aj na stanicach Zázrivá, Párnica, Liesek, Dudince a Červený Kláštor.

Najnižšia priemerná mesačná teplota -10,4 °C bola na stanici Brezno, čo predstavuje na tejto stanici 4. miesto od roku 1931. Tretí najchladnejší január od roku 1931 bol aj na stanici Sliach, kde bola priemerná mesačná teplota -9,7 °C. Medzi zaujímavosť patri, že vo vysokohor-

ských polohách bol január 2017 teplotne normálny.

Na teplotnom ráze tohoročného januára sa podľa meteorológov v podstatnej miere podpísal vpád studeného arktického vzduchu na Troch kráľov. Predchádzalo mu sneženie, ktoré taktiež prispievalo k ochladzovaniu prízemnej vrstvy vzduchu. Význam prítomnosti či neprítomnosti snehovej pokrývky sa prejavil aj v hĺbke zamrznutia pôdy. Tam, kde snehová pokrývka nebola alebo bola jej výška nízka, mohla pôda zamrznúť do väčších hĺbok – v Hurbanove 37 cm, Poprade 50 cm. Na miestach bez snehovej pokrývky boli mrazy slabšie, ako na miestach so snehovou pokrývkou. Silné mrazy v kot-

linových polohách boli spôsobené aj stabilnou tlakovou výšou, ktorá sa rozprestierala nad územím strednej Európy po väčšinu mesiaca.

Počas tlakovej výše býva spravidla stabilné slnečné počasie, so slabým vetrom, a jasnými a mrazivými nocami, pričom na niektorých miestach sa môže lokálne vytvoriť aj mrznúca hmľa. Január 2017 bol preto zároveň aj jeden z najsnežnejších od začiatku meraní. Rekordne vysoké mesačné sumy snežného svitu v hodinách boli na stanicach Sliach, Hurbanovo, Bratislava – Koliba, Bratislava – Ivanka, Piešťany a Prievidza. Najviac hodín snežného svitu bolo na stanici Lomnický štít (183,5 hodiny).



Mrazivé počasie zmenilo kamennú fontánu v Mýtnej v okrese Lučenec na nepoznanie. Fontána sa zmenila na ľadovú nádržu. Spôsobili to mrazy trvajúce na Slovensku od 6. januára, počas ktorých mínusové teploty viackrát pokorili hranicu mínus 20 stupňov Celzia. Okamžite sa stala atrakciou dediny. Za normálnych okolností asi tri metre vysoká fontána túto zimu zdvojnásobila svoj objem. Vrstva ľadu na fontáne je taká hrubá, že ju Mýtňania v pôvodnej podobe zrejme tak skoro neuvidia. Ľad sa bude na fontáne postupne roztápať možno až do marca.