

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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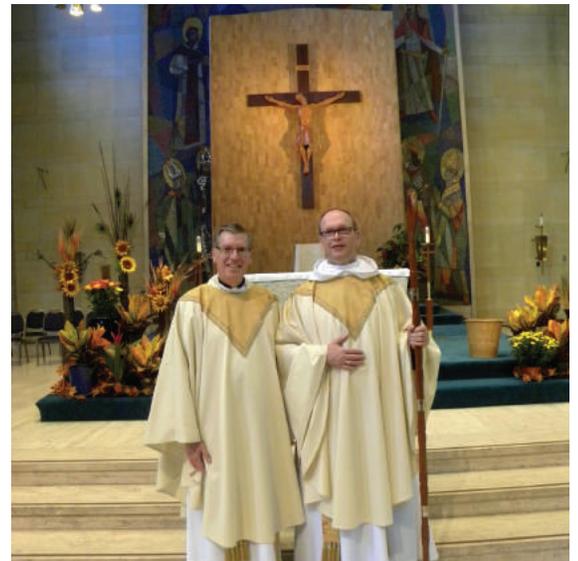
PASSAIC, N.J., OCTOBER 18, 2017

NUMBER 5106

Highlights of the 59th National Convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation Cathedral of St. Columba + The Holiday Inn + Youngstown, Ohio + September 17-19



The Rt. Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot Protector of the Slovak Catholic Federation, holding crozier, is shown with concelebrants of the 59th national convention liturgy on Sunday, September 17 in the Cathedral of St. Columba.



National President, Father Andrew S. Hvozdic and Abbot Protector, Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B. are shown above in the Cathedral of St. Columba.



Father Andrew S. Hvozdic, national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation and our Supreme Chaplain is shown with some of the delegates at the convention.



Abbot Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., far left, is shown with fraternal delegates at the 59th national convention. With him are, l-r, Cynthia M. Maleski, president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and Supreme President Michael J. Horvath who represented our organization; Theresa A. Kluchinski and Mary Jo Savidge, national president and secretary-treasurer, respectively of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union and our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic who was reelected as the national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation.

Report of the General Counsel concerning the American Fraternal Alliance

By Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Jr.

The 131st Annual Meeting of the American Fraternal Alliance, successor to the National Fraternal Congress of America, was held in Phoenix, Arizona from September 6th to September 8th 2017. There were approximately 325 participants representing fraternal benefit societies and state fraternal congresses. Attending on behalf of the Slovak Catholic Sokol were the following: Michael J. Horvath, Supreme President; Scott T. Pogorelec,

FIC, Supreme Secretary, Albert J. Suess, Director of Sales and Marketing, and the undersigned.

The main purpose of the American Fraternal Alliance is to promote the fraternal benefit system and to give service to each of the member societies when the need arises. Although lifestyles have changed, the basic needs of men and women—both social and economic—continue to be served by fraternal benefit societies, carrying on the traditions and ideals

of its historic beginnings. Fraternal benefit societies have a more relevant role today than ever, a bright future in helping families and individuals. The spirit of helping each other is very much needed in the world today. The more active and engaged members are, the more effective an organization can be. The Alliance ensures that the rules governing the fraternal business model remain strong and viable, creating an environment that allows existing fraternal societies the opportunity to succeed in.

Each year, the Alliance holds an annual meeting for fraternal professionals to gather for three days of educational, networking, and strategy sessions designed to enlighten and empower the fraternal industry. The approach of an individual society to fraternal and business goals is diverse. What works and is comfortable for one society may not work or be acceptable to another society. The Alliance continues to fill a vital role which benefits all fraternal benefit societies. A favorite feature of this conference is the ability of fraternal professionals – from large and small societies – to share their knowledge and expertise on “what works and what doesn’t” when tackling a common problem. This report is being submitted to the membership to advise of the various developments and experiences of other fraternal benefit societies throughout the United States and Canada.

During the first session, the delegates received a detailed briefing about status of the fraternal tax exemption in the wake of the current debate over tax reform on a national level. For more than a century, the exemption has enabled fraternal societies to fulfill its unique financial and community service missions. Currently, there are no pending federal tax proposals threatening the tax-exempt status of fraternal benefit societies as a whole. However, the new tax reform menu has not been finalized. In a time when finding new sources of tax revenue will be balanced with proposed tax cuts, some political naysayers have advanced compelling arguments over the years to

(Continued on page 8)

Message from our Supreme President

by Michael J. Horvath

In the October 4, 2017 edition of the Falcon our Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. announced that the Slovak Catholic Sokol will



hold its 33rd Quadrennial Convention in the “Rock and Roll Capital of the World”, Cleveland, Ohio.

Cleveland, Ohio has been known by many nicknames overtime, “The Forest City”, “The North Coast”, “The New America”, but what it was and is called, Cleveland is one of America’s great cities. Cleveland has changed over the decades to meet the needs of its citizens and these changes have made Cleveland a better city each time. The one thing that remains a constant is Cleveland is the home of our very own Group 5 and all of its proud Assemblies and Wreaths.

I found Cleveland, Ohio to be a wonderful destination for a family vacation and will be the perfect site for our Convention. It was easy to get around in the city and there are many things for our delegates and a family to do in the city and the region.

More on the convention will be written in the Falcon in the upcoming months as the Board of Directors begins to plan for the Society’s major event in 2019.

After the Group Presidents meeting on Saturday, September 15, 2017 our Supreme Secretary and I had the pleasure of representing our Society at the Slovak Catholic Federation’s 59th National Convention in Youngstown, Ohio. This two day Convention brought together delegates from the Slovak Clergy, Religious, Fraternal Societies and individuals to plan the Federation’s future for the next four years. As many know our Supreme Chaplain, Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdovic serves as the Federation’s president and was reelected as president at the Convention. We congratulate Father Andrew on being reelected as the Federation’s president and wish him much success over the next four years. The Slovak Catholic Sokol is very proud of you and how you

represent the Society in this much needed organization.

On Sunday, October 8, 2017 I attended Group 7’s, “Reverend Joseph Murgas” 82nd Sokol Day held in Plains, PA. The day was a perfect day for the Group 7 Sokol family to come together as Slovak Catholic Sokol members and celebrate our heritage and Sokol life. This annual gathering helps us remember who we are and the great activities our Society holds for its members. It is also the day we have the chance to remember all of the Group’s members who have died in the past and especially in the past year.

To commemorate those past members a memorial Mass was celebrated by Group 7’s past chaplain and our Supreme Chaplain, Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdovic.

There continues to be more disasters that have taken place since my last article both natural and man-made. We saw hurricane Maria devastate the island of Puerto Rico. The rebuilding of the island and its citizens will take years. Then there was the utterly senseless act of destruction of human lives in the Las Vegas shootings. This tragedy will take more than years to overcome. And, now we hear of the fires in California and the destruction of property and lives it has caused. I ask all of us to remember these people in our prayers.

These disasters have to make us think how quickly our lives can change in a split second and how our lives can be altered from our normal way of living to a life of challenges. We have to ask ourselves, are we prepared to handle a life changing disaster? If there is any doubt the time is now to see how well you are prepared. Our life insurance products can be one of the answers. See if you are protecting your family’s future and if you need more life insurance. If you need more insurance call either our Supreme Secretary or our Director of Sales for advice on additional coverage.

Lastly, to all of our members in Group 19, Toronto, Canada I hope all of you had a great Thanksgiving Day, on Monday, October 9, 2017 and celebrated the Day as only you can with your family and friends. Zdar Boh! With God’s Blessings to All!

Veterans Day, Nov. 11

Armistice Day was changed to Veterans Day in order that a grateful nation could pay its respects to veterans of all wars. A national holiday was proclaimed.

Another November 11 approaches. On that morning some people may pause between 11:00-11:02 to pay respects to the men and women who paid the supreme sacrifice to keep America free. Others may just forget.

Pause a few seconds to review what President Woodrow Wilson said in his first Armistice Day proclamation: “To us in America the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the

heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations.”



Fraternal networking is an important component of the annual meeting of the American Fraternal Alliance. Shown on the photo are from the left, Yuriy Symczyk, national secretary of the Ukrainian National Association and our Sokol delegates including our General Counsel, Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Jr., our Sales and Market Director Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C. and Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.



During the American Fraternal Alliance annual meeting sessions, our General Counsel, Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Jr. is shown above chatting with Sue Ann M. Seich, a director of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and our former supreme president.



Enjoying the deliberations of the American Fraternal Alliance annual meeting in Chandler, Ariz. are from the left, Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Supreme President Michael J. Horvath, John M. Forbes of Balanced Growth Consulting; our Sales and Marketing Director Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C. and our General Counsel, Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Jr. The American Fraternal Alliance includes 70 fraternal benefit societies in the United States and Canada representing nearly 9 million fraternalists.

Sokol Calendar

SAT.OCT.21

■ Annual Benefit Spaghetti Luncheon hosted by Wreath 22 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa., doors open at 12 noon; \$10 adults, \$5 children age 12 and younger; bake sale and Chinese Auction; for tickets call Mary Ann Naple at 412 886-1818

SUN.OCT.22

■ Annual Octoberfest celebration hosted by the United Parish of St. John Nepomucene, St. John Martyr and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini beginning with Mass at 10:15 a.m. in church followed by luncheon in St. John Nepomucene Social Hall, 406 East 67th St., New York, N.Y. for information call 212 734-4613.

SUN.OCT.29

■ Group 1 annual meeting hosted by Assembly 24 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 218 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. beginning with Mass at 10:30 a.m. followed by meeting and luncheon in the church hall.

■ Children's Halloween Bowling Party hosted by the United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. beginning at 1:30 p.m., call 440 244-1293.

■ Group 18 annual meeting at the American Legion Hall, 3 West Ridge St., Lansford, Pa. beginning at 12 noon; luncheon to follow, for reservations call Len Benek at tel. 570 645-4013.

THURS.NOV.2

■ Assembly 36 annual meeting at Clinton Public Library, 40900 Romeo Plank Road, Clinton Township, Mich. for information call Mark Papcun at tel 248 342-9402.

NOV.3-4

■ 93rd annual meeting of the New England Fraternal Alliance at the Holiday Inn Express, Meriden,

Conn.

SUN.NOV.5

■ 27th annual Slovak Heritage Festival at the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning, Oakland section of Pittsburgh, Pa. 12 noon to 5 p.m.

■ Annual meeting of Group 17 beginning with 9:30 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows/Holy Name of Jesus Church, Lakeview Ave., on the west side of Youngstown, Oh., meeting and luncheon to follow in the parish Founders Hall in the church basement, call Carol Gonda at 330 783-0173.

MON.NOV.6

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

SAT.NOV.11

■ "An Evening in the Heart of Europe" benefit dinner and cultural program hosted by Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble at Holy Spirit Party Center, 5500 West 54th St., Parma, Oh., dinner at 6:30 p.m., program begins at 7:30 p.m., \$50.00 per person; for reservations call Tom Ivancec at 440 668-9921.

SUN.NOV.12

■ 35th annual St. Martin's Day Celebration hosted by Group 2 beginning with 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church, 1950 Barnum Ave., Stratford, Conn. followed by luncheon at The Blue Goose Restaurant, Stratford, Conn., members \$40.00, guests \$45.00, children, \$10.00; for reservations call Eileen S. Wilson at 203 378-8837.

■ Annual meeting of Assembly 255 under the patronage of St. Michael the Archangel at Holy Trinity Social Hall, 4102 South Church St., Whitehall-Egypt, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m., refreshments will be served.

■ Group 7 annual meeting at St.

Aloysius Church, West Division St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. beginning with Mass at 11 a.m., luncheon and meeting to follow in the church social hall, for information call Amy Degnan Blasco at 570 574-0136 by Nov. 5.

■ Group 3 annual meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall, Route 16, Douglas, Mass. beginning at 10:30 a.m.

FRI.NOV.17

■ "An Evening of Science & Music" 2nd lecture & networking series hosted by the Slovak American Cultural Center, at the Village Park Banquet & Catering Hill, 155 Avenue A, corner of 10th St., East Village, New York City 6-7 p.m. networking: 7-9 p.m. mini-presentations suggested donation \$5.00, rsvp:Slovak AmericanCC@gmail.com.

SAT.NOV.18

■ Dinner honoring our 2017 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year, Daniel F. Tanzone at St. John Nepomucene Parish, 411 East 66th Street at the corner of First Avenue, New York City; Mass at 5 p.m. in church followed by dinner in the parish social hall, 406 East 67th Street.

SUN.DEC.3

■ Traditional Stedry Vecer - Slovak Christmas Eve Dinner hosted by the United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh., cocktails at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m., entertainment by Ed Klimczak, \$20.00 per person, advance reservations only, call Len Zilko 440 988-3236.

■ Traditional St. Nicholas Day party - Mikulasova zabava hosted by the United Parish of St. John Nepomucene, St. John Martyr and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini beginning with Mass at 10:15 a.m. followed by program in St. John Nepomucene Social Hall, 406 East 67th St., New York, N.Y. at noon; for information call the rectory at 212 734-4613.

■ Annual Group 17 Children's Christmas Party hosted by Wreath 54, and Assemblies 107 and 108 at Camelot Bowling Lanes, 628 Boardman-Canfield Rd., Boardman, Oh. 1-3 p.m., bowling, pizza, pop and visit from Santa; call Edie Babik at 330 782-9555 by Nov. 30

Mark your calendar

Children's Christmas Parties Set

Pittsburgh, Pa. - This year's exciting party for junior members of Assembly 16 and Wreath 22 is scheduled for Saturday, December 9 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh. Doors open at 12 noon with festivities beginning at 1 p.m. Children ages 0-12 years of age who are registered are welcome to attend. Registration will be held every Wednesday and Thursday evening from 6-8 p.m. until November 16 at the Sokol Club.

Alternative registration methods: please contact Carmella(Suess)Marzec, cell 412 414-9249; email: suesscm@gmail.com or Facebook: Group 14, Pgh, Pa Slovak Catholic Sokols.

Due to space concerns, a limit of 150 children has been set for the party. Thus early registration is recommended. No names will be taken after the deadline of November 16th. Refreshments will be served along with entertainment and a visit from Santa that will complete the afternoon of Sokol fellowship. Every year in the spirit of caring and sharing, we have asked for donations. This year we will be collecting coats and warm clothes which will be given to a local homeless shelter.

Members are invited to join the Group 14 Pgh.Pa Slovak Catholic Sokols Facebook Page for Christmas Party updates and other Group 14/Assembly16/Wreath 22 activities. We are looking forward to another year of fun during this holiday season in the best traditions of Pittsburgh Sokol fellowship and fraternalism.

Zdar Boh!

Carmella(Suess)Marzec
Chairperson

Group 17, Youngstown, Oh. - All is in readiness for this year's exciting Children's Christmas and Bowling Party for junior Sokol members of Group 17. This year's party is scheduled for Sunday, December 3 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Camelot Bowling Lanes, 628 Boardman-Canfield Road in Boardman, Oh. The annual holiday event is hosted by Wreath 54 and Assemblies 107 and 108. An afternoon of fun and fraternalism is planned. Junior Sokol members can enjoy two hours of bowling, pizza, pop and of course a visit from Santa will cap off the afternoon. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. Please call Edie Babik at tel. 330 782-9555 by November 30 to register.

Zdar Boh!

Edie Babik
Chairperson

to register:

■ Whiting, Wreath 81 annual meeting and Christmas party at Johnel's Restaurant, 4145 Calumet Ave., Hammond, Ind. beginning at 12:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 1 p.m.; members \$10.00 and guests \$15.00.; for reservations call Judy Strisko at tel. 219 659-6743.

SAT.DEC.9

■ Children's Christmas party hosted by Assembly 16 and Wreath 22 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. doors open at noon, festivities begin at 1 p.m., deadline for registration is Nov. 16.

(Continued on page 4)

Slovakia's Lucnica ensemble to perform at the UN in New York

One of Slovakia's oldest and most popular folklore ensembles, Lucnica is currently touring North and Latin America. As part of their North American tour, the folklore ensemble will perform at UN Day celebrations in New York City on Tuesday, October 24. Lucnica will perform the lively music and dance traditions of Slovakia in the main hall of the UN General Assembly on the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of the organization's estab-

lishment. The ensemble departed Slovakia on October 10 and performed in the most important festival in Latin America in Guanajuato, Mexico as well as in Mexico City.

This year's celebrations are special to Slovakia since the country's Foreign and European Minister Miroslav Lajcak is serving as president of the General Assembly. Czechoslovakia was among the founders of the United Nations in 1945. -*The Slovak Spectator*



OUR NEXT ISSUE IS NOVEMBER 15

As per the decision of the Board of Directors, the Slovak Catholic Falcon will begin its publication on a monthly basis. Our next regular issue will be that of Wednesday, November 15. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, November 9th.

During the month of December, our regular issue will be that of Wednesday, December 13. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, December 7. Our annual review of fraternal activities issue will be dated, Wednesday, December 27.

View e-Falcon on our website: www.slovakcatholicssokol.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh!

- **Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor**

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REFLECTOR ...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

Traditional Slovak Vilija set for Dec. 10 in Cleveland, Oh.

The traditional Slovak Christmas Eve Supper - Slovenska Vilija will be celebrated on Sunday, December 10. Hosted by the Benedictine Abbey of St. Andrew Svorad, the Slovak Institute and the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club, the program begins with Mass celebrated at 12 noon in the Abbey Church, located at 2900 Martin Luther King Drive in Cleveland. The meatless luncheon featuring all the foods enjoyed at the Christmas Eve supper in a Slovak home will follow in the cafeteria of Benedictine High School.

A wonderful cultural program will also be enjoyed featuring the talent and artistry of the Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble and the accordionist, Ralph Szubski. There will also be fabulous basket raffles and other activities. An enjoyable afternoon is assured. Limited seating and advance ticket sales only at \$20.00 per person. For reservations call tel. 216 721-5300 x 100 before the deadline date of Nov. 28th.

27th Slovak Heritage Festival at the University of Pittsburgh

The Slovak Studies Program in cooperation with the Pitt Students' Slovak Club extends a cordial invitation to area residents to turn out for this year's 27th Anniversary Slovak Heritage Festival on Sunday, November 5. Festivities will be held in the Commons Room of the Cathedral of Learning on the University of Pittsburgh campus in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh from 1 to 5 p.m. There is free admission and plenty of free parking at what looks to be an outstanding celebration of Slovak culture and pride.

The festival was conceived by a group of students who wanted to share their interest in Slovak and American Slovak culture with the local community. As in previous years, the festival will be the culmination of much hard work, effort and time, all fueled by Slovak pride.

There will be cultural displays and lectures as well as a shop for Christmas featuring an array of Slovak and East European vendors offering imported arts and crafts. Slovak culinary specialties will be available throughout the afternoon, including klobasa, halusky, pirohy and homemade pastries. A highlight of the afternoon will be the cultural program featuring the talent of local folk ensembles and individual artists celebrating the rich music, song and dance traditions of the various regions of Slovakia. Ensembles expected to perform include the Pittsburgh Slovaks, the city's oldest Slovak folk ensemble; PAS (Pittsburgh Area Slovaks), The Singing Revilak Family from Bardejov, Slovakia, the Slavjane Folk Ensemble, Ben Sorenson on the Fujara, the unique Slovak folk instrument; and Jozef Ivaska, the internationally celebrated singer from Slovakia. For more information on this year's festival, call Christine Metil at tel. 412 624-5906 or email Slaviv@pitt.edu.

In 1989, the Slovak Catholic Sokol joined with the First Catholic Slovak Union, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the National Slovak Society, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union and the former First Slovak Wreath of the Free Eagle which is now a part of the National Slovak Society, in establishing the Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh, the first of its kind in the United States.

United Slovak Societies has active program in Lorain, Oh.

The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Oh. has an active fall and winter social and cultural program ahead. The group includes the local lodges of our Slovak fraternal, including Wreath 111 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, as well as the local lodges of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. All of the activities of the United States are held at the American Slovak Club located at 2915 Broadway Avenue in Lorain. The group encourages

love for our Slovak cultural and culinary traditions. In addition, it encourages support for higher education through its annual scholarship program.

The traditional Halloween Bowling Party is set for Sunday, October 29 beginning at 1:30 p.m. In addition to bowling the children are encouraged to attend in their best Halloween costumes. Refreshment will be served. There is a sign-up sheet at the Slovak American Club bowling lanes or contact Brother Len Zilko.

The highlight of the new season will be the traditional Stedry Vecer - Vilija Dinner which includes all the foods enjoyed at the Slovak home on Christmas Eve. This dinner is set for Sunday, December 3. Cocktails will be served at 5:30 p.m. with dinner to follow at 6 p.m. explaining the various specialties to be enjoyed. Entertainment will be provided by Ed Klimczak. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. A cash bar will be available. Advance ticket sales only. For reservations contact Len Zilko at tel. 440 988-3236.

The secretary of the United Slovak Societies and our Sokolka of Wreath 111, Michele S. Mager reminds our members to stay tuned for further details. A Silvester Steak Fry is set for New Year's Eve, December 31st from 5 to 9 p.m. Details to follow. December 31 is the feast of St. Silvester and thus the reason for the evening's title.

The United Slovak Societies have been active in Lorain since its founding in 1935. Among its founders was our former Supreme President Dominic Sloboda.

35th St. Martin's Day Celebration hosted by Group 2 set for Nov. 12

Continuing in a time-honored fraternal tradition, Group 2, "Rev. Stephen Panik" will host its 35th annual St. Martin's Day Celebration on Sunday, November 12th in Stratford, Conn. The annual celebration honors the patron of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, St. Martin of Tours. This year's celebration begins with participants attending the 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church, located at 1950 Barnum Avenue in Stratford. The liturgy will be celebrated for the living and deceased members of Group 2. The Rev. Andrew G. Marus is the pastor of this Slovak parish. We will assemble in the church vestibule at 10:45 a.m. so as to march in a body to the liturgy.

Following the Mass, a reception and luncheon will be enjoyed at the nearby Blue Goose Restaurant in Stratford. The cost of the luncheon is \$40.00 for members and \$45.00 for guests. The cost for children age 10 and younger is \$10.00 who will enjoy chicken tenders. Meal choices include Prime Rib of Beef, Chicken Francise and Stuffed Sole. A vegetarian menu is also available. Reservations are a must. The deadline for RSVP date is Sunday, October 29th. Checks, which are non-refundable, should be made payable to: SCS Group 2 and sent to Group 2 Treasurer, Kevin Sabovik, 5 Woods Grove Road, Huntington, Conn. 06484. Members of local lodges should make their reservations with the following: Wreath 1, Bridgeport - Eileen S. Wilson, tel. 203 378-8837; Wreath 39, Bridgeport - Mary Ann Wells, 203 375-2836; Wreath 86 and Assembly 23, Bonnie Landor, 860 482-9062; Assembly 9, Bridgeport - Judith Salamon, 203 333-3716; and Assembly 33, Ansonia - Cele Dula, 203 734-5574. When making reservations, members are asked to inquire whether there will be a charge if they belong to a particular Wreath or Assembly.

At the celebration, the traditional special events raffle will benefit the Jozef Cardinal Tomko Scholarship Fund at the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome. So mark your calendar and plan to join us for what always is an enjoyable and special fraternal event as we continue to promote Sokol fellowship and fraternalism within Group 2.

Zdar Boh!

Eileen S. Wilson
Group 2 President



The Word of God...

Gospel for the Twenty-ninth Sunday of the Year - October 22nd

Mt 22:15-21

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Thirtieth Sunday of the Year - October 29th

Mt 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 3)

■ Traditional Christmas Eve Supper - Vilija hosted by The Slovak Garden, A Home for American Slovaks, Inc. in the social hall, 3110 Howell Branch Rd. #100, Winter Park, Fla. beginning at 2 p.m., \$20.00 per person, for reservations call 407 677-6894 or slovak-garden@centurylink.net.

SUN.DEC.10

■ Traditional Christmas Eve Supper - Vilija hosted by St. Andrew Abbey and the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club beginning with Mass at noon in the Abbey Church followed by the meatless meal in the cafeteria of Benedictine High School, 2900 Martin Luther King Drive, Cleveland, Oh., \$20.00 per person, for reservations call 216 721-5300 x 100 before the deadline of Nov. 28.

■ Traditional Christmas Eve Supper - Vilija hosted by the American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley in the Father Snock Center of the former St. Matthias School, 2800 Shady Run Rd., Youngstown, Oh. beginning at 4

p.m., tickets \$20.00, advance sales only; for reservations call Loretta E-doniak at tel. 330 549-3760 or email at loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com.

■ 110th anniversary celebration of the Slovak League of America at St. John Nepomucene Parish, 411 East 66th St., New York City; Slovak Mass at 10:15 a.m., luncheon at 12:30 p.m.

SUN.DEC.17

■ Traditional Vilija-Stedry Vecer luncheon hosted by the United Parish of St. John Nepomucene, St. John Martyr, and St. Frances X. Cabrini in St. John Nepomucene Social Hall, 406 East 67th St., New York, N.Y. beginning at 12:30 p.m.

■ Annual Advent-Christmas concert under the direction of Stephen J. Knoblock with choir of the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Elmsford and the former Most Holy Trinity Slovak Parish with instrumentalists in the Church of St. Casimir, 239 Nepperhan Ave., Yonkers, N.Y. beginning at 3 p.m., tickets \$15.00 each at the door.

Minutes of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Group Presidents Meeting held Saturday, September, 16, 2017 at the Cleveland Airport Marriott Hotel in Cleveland, OH

Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath called the Group Presidents meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 16, 2017.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic was called upon to offer the Opening Prayer.

John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., Group 1 President led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Brother Horvath then called upon Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. for the Roll Call:

Supreme Chaplain	Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic
Supreme President	Michael J. Horvath
Supreme Secretary	Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Group 1 - Passaic, NJ	President - John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.
Group 2 - Bridgeport, CT	President - Eileen S. Wilson
Group 3 - Douglas, MA	President - J. Kevin Conway
Group 4 - Chicago, IL	President - Jennifer Romine
Group 5 - Cleveland, OH	President - Kathryn Figard
Group 6 - Perryopolis, PA	President - Anna Mae Warnick-Excused
Group 7 - Wilkes-Barre, PA	President - Amy Degnan Blasco
Group 8 - Bellaire, OH	No President
Group 9 - Johnstown, PA	President - Joanne Spisak-Excused
Group 10 - Bethlehem, PA	President - Stephen A. Roman-Excused
Group 11 - Superior, WI	President - David J. Genosky
Group 12 - Reading, PA	President - Joseph A. Harak, Jr.
Group 13 - Johnstown, NY	No President
Group 14 - Pittsburgh, PA	President - Carmella Marzec
Group 15 - Buffalo, NY	No President
Group 16 - Detroit, MI	President - Andrea M. Papcun
Group 17 - Youngstown, OH	President - James G. Jerek
Group 18 - Lansford, PA	President - Leonard Benek
Group 19 - Toronto, CN	President - Chet Dziuba

The Supreme Secretary reported that the record will show three Supreme Officers and thirteen Group Presidents/Representatives are present with three Group Presidents being excused. Total attendees present are sixteen.

Supreme President Horvath thanked Brother Scott and welcomed all attendees. He informed the Group Presidents of the purpose of the meeting and indicated hopes that it would be a successful and informative meeting. Although this is not a decision-making body, he assured everyone that their ideas, thoughts, and recommendations would be taken into consideration by the Board of Directors.

The Supreme Secretary echoed Brother President's words and informed the attendees that we are all here for the good and betterment of our wonderful Organization. He reiterated that the Group Presidents are an important and vital part of our Society.

Brother President then asked each attendee to introduce themselves as we are lucky to have some new faces at the meeting. Brother President thanked each member for their attendance, which shows their interest and dedication to the Society.

Brother Horvath encouraged the current Presidents to continue to conduct their meetings as outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. The Group Presidents are fraternal leaders, and their meetings should be conducted in a proper, timely, and documented manner. Acknowledged.

The minutes of the 2013 Group Presidents Meeting held in Pittsburgh, PA were reviewed and discussed. Group 11 President, David J. Genosky moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Group 12 President, Joseph A. Harak, Jr. Approved.

President Horvath and the attendees then reviewed Section 6.3, on page 37 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol pertaining to the Duties of the Group Presidents. Several questions were presented and addressed in a general discussion as they relate to the role of the Group Presidents. Acknowledged.

President Horvath and the attendees welcomed Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C. our Director of Sales and Marketing to the meeting. Brother Suess expressed his thanks for the opportunity to greet everyone and proceeded to review the Sales, Marketing and Growth Plan. Brother Albert conducted an informative power point presentation on the past, present, and future pertaining to our sales and marketing efforts. He reviewed how the life insurance dynamics have changed over the years regarding the face amounts, premiums and types of plans. He also discussed the other obstacles we are faced with such as the ever-changing State regulations, the DOL Fiduciary Rule, and cyber security.

He further explained that more and more agents are selling our products which are reflected in our gaining of more new members. Brother Suess explained that we would like existing members to possibly start selling products for us by getting their FIC license. Training would be provided by the organization and it would be a win/win for everyone involved. He also indicated that we will be having a larger advertising presence in our local Sokol/Slovak Clubs.

Brother Suess addressed numerous questions and concerns from the attendees in particular getting the agents involved in the assemblies and wreaths in the various areas that they are serving. In addition, he explained that all of our Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths should consider investing in the Sokol Secure Fund which is currently offering a generous 2.5% annual percentage yield.

The Director of Sales and Marketing concluded his presentation by distributing various brochures which promote our organization and its programs as well as information pertaining to our life insurance and annuity products.

President Horvath expressed his thanks to Brother Suess for his presentation and he

received a round of applause with our thanks and gratitude. Acknowledged.

After a short break, Brother Horvath welcomed our Supreme Physical Director, John M. Underation, to give an update on our 2017 Sports Program.

Brother John stated that the Bowling Tournament was held in May in Wilkes-Barre, PA in conjunction with the Greek Catholic Union. The S.C.S. had 65 bowlers in attendance. The International Slet was held in July at SUNY Brockport in Brockport, NY. Over 190 of our athletes participated in the event. The Golf Tournament was held at Treasure Lake Resort, in Dubois, PA along with the Greek Catholic Union. We were pleased to have 115 Sokol golfers in attendance, which were the most participants in recent years.

Brother John also reported that the Physical Fitness Board was tasked to come up with other events that our membership may be interested in attending. He was happy to announce that the 1st Sokol Reunion, held at Rocky Gap Resort in Flintstone, MD during the first weekend in June, was a success as 40 members were in attendance. Planning has begun for next year's event, which will be held at Rocky Gap again, and the hope is that the attendance will only increase. Acknowledged.

Brother Underation then discussed in detail the recent Slet and the Sports Programs in general. Many questions and concerns from the Group Presidents were addressed.

Group 14 President, Carmella Marzec, questioned if including a children's bowling program at the National Bowling Tournament may help reinvigorate interest in the event. Brother Underation indicated that he would pass along the idea to the Physical Fitness Board.

Group 19 President, Chet Dziuba, explained that he was in attendance at the Slet and was impressed with all the participants and specifically with the work of the Physical Fitness Board. There were some issues that arose, but were resolved by the Board quickly.

Group 4 President, Jennifer Romine, recommended that the Physical Fitness Board put together a "Parent Packet" for the parents of the participants at the Slet with directions, schedules, the way events are judged and scored, etc. Brother John indicated that the recommendation is a great idea and would be brought to the Physical Fitness Board Meeting in January.

Brother Underation addressed other questions and concerns from our Group Presidents to the satisfaction of the attendees.

President Horvath and the attendees thanked our Supreme Physical Director with a round of applause and wished him and the other members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board success with all the future programs. Acknowledged.

After a very busy and informative morning session, President Horvath entertained a motion to adjourn for lunch. Group 1 President, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., moved to adjourn for lunch, seconded by Group 19 President, Chet Dziuba. Approved.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic closed the morning session with a prayer and offered grace before lunch.

The first session was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Second Session Saturday – September 16, 2017 – 1:30 p.m.

Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath called the Second Session to order at 1:30 p.m.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic offered the afternoon prayer for all the deceased members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

Brother President passed out a SWOT Analysis to our Group Presidents to hopefully be completed and returned to him for the use of the Board of Directors to better understand the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the Organization from the perception of our Group Leaders. Acknowledged.

President Horvath informed the attendees that the afternoon session will be conducted as an "open forum". Brother President allowed each Group President an opportunity to speak and to inform the body of the various events their individual Group partakes in, the frequency of meetings, and the all-around status of their Group. Acknowledged.

Many thoughts and ideas were discussed among the Group Presidents. The major obstacle that all Groups are facing is the inability to attract the younger member to become involved. The Supreme Secretary informed the attendees that this is not only a Slovak Catholic Sokol issue, but a fraternal, trade association, and club issue all around the country. Various fundraiser and charity event ideas were discussed that some Groups have had some success with that may reinvigorate the youth of our Organization.

Another major topic was the involvement or lack of involvement of Assemblies and Wreaths at the Group level. Brother Horvath informed the attendees that the Assemblies and Wreaths are a vital part of not only our Society, but each Group. The communication between Assembly/Wreath and Group Officers needs to be constant and each needs to be updated on the events of one another.

The use of Social Media has helped various Groups in their efforts of contacting their membership. Group 14 President, Carmella Marzec, commented that their Facebook page has helped tremendously in getting in touch with their members and keeping them updated on various activities. Sister Marzec recommended that each Group President create a Facebook page and she would be glad to help in the set-up process. Acknowledged.

Brother President and Brother Secretary informed the Group Presidents that our local events and fundraisers need to be advertised. They urged our local leaders to take photos and submit articles to be published in the Falcon and posted on our Facebook page. We need to show all the good that we do and continue to be visible in our communities. Acknowledged.

After each Group President had an opportunity to speak, Brother Horvath questioned the attendees if there was any other business to discuss.

Group 4 President, Jennifer Romine, and Group 11 President, David J. Genosky inquired about a Group possibly changing their home city headquarters. Group 1 President and General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. indicated that the charter documentation would need to be reviewed and a letter would need to be sent in by the Group requesting the change. It is important to know that the headquarters needs to be in a State where we are

(Continued on page 12)

Highlights of the 59th National Convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation



The national president, Father Andrew S. Hvozdovic, far right, is shown with some of the clergy delegates at the convention including, from the left, Benedictines of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Abbot Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B., Rev. Gerard Gonda, O.S.B., Rev. Michael Brunovsky, O.S.B., and Brother Gabriel Balazovic, O.S.B.



Father Andrew S. Hvozdovic, far left is shown with some of the Sokol members at the 59th national convention.



Sokol delegates at the 59th convention included, from the left, Monsignor Thomas A. Derzack, chaplain of Group 18 who serves as the national spiritual advisor of the Slovak Catholic Federation; Supreme President Michael J. Horvath, Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic who serves as national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation.



Abbot Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B and Father Andrew S. Hvozdovic flank some of the women religious delegates at the convention, including beginning second from the left, Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Thomas More Dzurnak, Barbara Sable, Michael Ann Orlik, the general superior; and School Sister of St. Francis, Elaine Hromulak.

Slovak Catholic Federation National Board of Directors (2017-2021)

Elected at the 59th National Convention held in Youngstown, Oh. September 17-19, 2017

Moderator/Protector Rt. Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B.
 President Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, V.F.
 Past President Rev. Msgr. Peter A. Polando, J.C.L.
 First Vice President Rev. Thomas A. Nasta
 Second Vice President Ms. Marie Golias
 Secretary-Treasurer Ms. Dolores M. Evanko
 Spiritual Advisor Rev. Msgr. Thomas A. Derzack
 Publicity/editor of the Good Shepherd Mr. Timothy Wagner

Representatives of Fraternal Societies

Slovak Catholic Sokol

Supreme President Michael J. Horvath
 Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
 Supreme Chaplain Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, V.F.

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union

National President Theresa M. Kluchinski
 National Secretary Mary Joe Savage
 Spiritual Advisor Rev. Robert Seeman

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

National President Cynthia M. Maleski
 National Secretary Denise M. Mackur
 National Chaplain Rev. Msgr. Peter A. Polando, J.C.L.

First Catholic Slovak Union

National President Andrew M. Rajec
 National Secretary Kenneth Arendt
 National Chaplain Rev. Thomas A. Nasta

Conference of Slovak Clergy

Chairman Rev. Msgr. Robert Siffrin, V.G.

Religious Communities

Benedictine Order of Cleveland

Representative Rev. Gerard Gonda, O.S.B.
 Representative Rev. Michael Brunovsky, O.S.B.
 Representative Brother Gabriel Balazovic, O.S.B.

Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius

Representative Sister MichaelAnn Orlik, SS.C.M.
 Representative Sister Thomas More Dzurnak, SS.C.M.
 Representative Sister Barbara Sable, SS.C.M.

School Sisters of Saint Francis

Representative Sister Elaine Hromulak, O.S.F.
 Representative Sister Roselyn Kuzma, O.S.F.

Chapter Representatives

Yonkers, N.Y. Daniel F. Tanzone
 Northeastern Pennsylvania Theresa M. Kluchinski
 Cleveland, Oh. Marie Golias
 Youngstown, Oh. Timothy Wagner
 Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania Margaret A. Ferri

Members at Large(elected)

Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, S.T.L.
 Daniel F. Tanzone
 Robert Magruder
 Stephen Hudak
 Rev. Joel Kovanis
 Loretta Ekoniak
 Dorothy Urbanowicz
 Sue Ann M. Seich

Executive Committee

Moderator/Protector Rt. Rev. Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B.
 President Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, V.F.
 Past President Rev. Msgr. Peter A. Polando, J.C.L.
 First Vice President Rev. Thomas A. Nasta
 Second Vice President Marie Golias
 Secretary-Treasurer Dolores M. Evanko

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by the Rev. Joseph Murgas in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. to coordinate the pastoral efforts of the Slovak Catholic fraternal societies, parishes, religious communities and individuals to give witness to our heritage of faith as handed down to our ancestors who were evangelized by the great Apostles of the Slavs, Saints Cyril and Methodius. All dues, donations or other correspondence should be addressed to the National Secretary-Treasurer Dolores M. Evanko, 173 Berner Ave., Hazleton, PA 18201.



Blessed Titus Zeman

33,000 present at Beatification ceremony in Bratislava for Salesian Priest and Martyr

More than 33,000 of the faithful were present for the rite of Beatification, the final step before canonization, of the Rev. Titus Zeman, a Salesian priest and martyr on Saturday, September 30. The beatification ceremony which took place in the morning was presided over in the name of Pope Francis by Cardinal Angelo Amato, S.D.B., Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome in Holy Family Church located in the Petr-zalka section of Slovakia's capital city of Bratislava. More than 500 priests, including many Slovak Salesians as well as members of other religious communities of men and women were present.

Later in the evening, more than 33,000 worshippers gathered at a gala ceremony at Bratislava's HANT arena. Presiding at the liturgy, in addition to Cardinal Amato, himself a Salesian; was the Metropolitan Archbishop of Bratislava,

Stanislav Zvolensky. Concelebrating with him were Cardinal Jozef Tomko and most of Slovakia's Archbishops and Bishops. On Sunday, October 1, Archbishop Zvolensky celebrated a Mass in Blessed Titus's birthplace in the Bratislava borough of Vajnory.

Born on January 4, 1915, Titus Zeman entered the Salesian Congregation of St. John Bosco at the age of 18. He was ordained a priest in 1940 at the age of 25. He served as a chaplain, school councillor and chemistry teacher. On April 13, 1950, the communist government of Czechoslovakia closed all monasteries of religious orders of men in Slovakia. Hundreds of religious priests and seminarians were interred in camps located in western Slovakia. Zeman was interred among them at a camp. He helped to organize three illegal escapes from this camp so that Salesian seminarians might swim across the

Morava River and escape to Austria and then travel to Rome to complete their priestly studies. Through his efforts, a number of seminarians were able to escape and went on to complete their theological studies in Rome and were ordained priests. However during the third planned escape across a swollen Morava River, on April 9, 1951, Zeman and the other seminarians were captured and interrogated. Zeman was tortured during the investigation and was finally sentenced to 25 years in prison. He was imprisoned in the infamous Leopoldov prison in Slovakia and later in prisons in what today is the Czech Republic. After 13 years in prison, he was released on parole due to poor health. He died five years later as a result of his torture and imprisonment in Bratislava on January 8, 1969. Following the fall of Communism, he cause was rehabilitated by the Czechoslovak government.



Angelo Cardinal Amato, S.D.B., Prefect of the Congregation for Saints Causes, in the name of Pope Francis, is shown above during the Beatification of Blessed Titus Zeman, S.D.B. at Holy Family Church in Bratislava on September 30. Blessed Titus Zeman spent more than 13 years in communist prisons in Czechoslovakia. He died as a result of his torture and imprisonment on January 8, 1969.

Lodge Jottings

WHITING, IND. Wreath 81

Our officers are finalizing plans for our traditional Christmas party and annual meeting scheduled for Sunday, December 3. The meeting and festivities will take place at Johnel's Restaurant, located at 4345 Calumet Avenue in Hammond, Ind. The business meeting will be called to order at 12:30 p.m. and will include reports of the officers and plans for our fraternal activities. Election of officers to serve our Wreath in 2018 will take place. Following our meeting our dinner to follow at 1 p.m. The cost of the dinner for members is \$10.00 and guests are welcome at \$15.00. Reservations are required and can be made by calling our secretary,

Judy Strisko at tel. 219 659-6743 before the deadline date of November 28th. Payment is due with your reservation. We extend a warm and sincere invitation to all. An enjoyable afternoon of traditional Sokol fellowship and camaraderie is assured.

Our Wreath continues to support our local food pantry and in the spirit of Christmas giving and our Care and Share efforts, we ask those planning to attend our party to consider bringing along a monetary donation for this worthy community project.

Our members and officers send warm wishes to all who are not able to join us at the Christmas party because of illness or distance. We miss you, but be assured that you are always remembered in thought and

prayer. A joyous Christmas season to all!

Zdar Boh!
Judy Strisko
Recording Secretary

WHITEHALL, PA. Assembly 255

Our Assembly under the patronage of St. Michael the Archangel will host its annual meeting on Sunday, November 12 in Holy Trinity Social hall located at 4102 South Church Street in Whitehall/Egypt, Pa. beginning at 1 p.m. Following our business meeting, Slovak refreshments will be enjoyed with Jednota Branch 796 members.

Our meeting agenda will include the election of officers for 2018 and plans for our various fraternal activities will be finalized.

Zdar Boh!
Monica Fabian
Recording Secretary

Group Annual Meetings set

Group 1, "Msgr. Stephen J. Krasula" - This year's meeting is set for Sunday, October 29th at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, 235 Ackerman Avenue in Clifton, N.J. The meeting begins with attendance at the 10:30 a.m. Mass in Church. Delegates will assemble in the church vestibule at 10:20 a.m. so as to march in a body to the liturgy which will be celebrated for our living and deceased members by our Chaplain, Rev. Richard D./ Baker. Following the liturgy, the annual meeting will be called to order in the church hall. A luncheon will be served. Plans for our sporting and fraternal activities in the new year will be finalized. Hosting this year's annual meeting will be Assembly 24 of Boonton, N.J. Reservations for the luncheon need to be made by the deadline date of October 23 with the secretary at tel. 800 886-7656 or 973 777-4010. We hope to see every lodge represented at this year's annual meeting.

Zdar Boh!
John D. Pogorelec, Jr.
President
Daniel F. Tanzone
Secretary

Group 7, "Rev. Joseph Murgas" - This year's annual meeting is set for Sunday, November 12 at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish - St. Aloysius Church worship site, West Division Street in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Mass will be celebrated for our living and deceased members in church at 11 a.m. Following the liturgy, the annual meeting will be called to order in the church social hall. A luncheon will be served. We hope to have all Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to Group 7 represented at this meeting where we will finalize plans for our various fraternal and sporting activities in the new year. Those interested in attending should call Amy Degnan Blasco at tel. 570 574-0136. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, November 5.

Zdar Boh!
Amy Degnan Blasco
President

Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil," - Our annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 5. Our meeting will be held in Our Lady of Sorrows Parish at the Holy Name of Jesus Church site located on Lakeview Avenue on Youngstown's west side. Our program begins with attendance at the 9:30 a.m. Mass which will be celebrated for our living and deceased members by the pastor, the Rev. John M. Jerek. Following the liturgy, we will go to Holy Name of Jesus Founders Hall located in the basement of the church where our annual meeting will be called to order. A luncheon will be served.

All officers are reminded to submit the written report of their activities since our last annual meeting. Plans for our upcoming fraternal activities will be finalized. We look forward to seeing all our Group 17 Wreaths and Assemblies represented at this year's meeting and we hope to see some new faces. An enjoyable gathering is assured. All officers and all representatives from our lodges are asked to make reservations by call our secretary, Carol Gonda at tel. 330 783-0173. Deadline for reservations is November 1.

Zdar Boh!
James G. Jerek
President
Carol Gonda
Secretary

Group 18, "Rev. Joseph Martincek" - This year's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, October 29 at the American Legion Hall located at 3 West Ridge Street in Lansford, Pa. Our meeting will be called to order at 12 noon. Following the business meeting a delicious luncheon will be enjoyed. For reservations, call Len Benek at tel. 570 645-4013. All Assemblies and Wreaths belonging to our Group are kindly asked to send their representatives. Plans for the new year will be finalized.

Zdar Boh!
Len Benek
President
Amanda Benek
Secretary

Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak" - This year's meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 12 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall, located on Route 16 in Douglas, Mass. Coffee and Danish will be available and the meeting will be called to order at 10:30 a.m. All members and delegates are encouraged to attend. Our Group 3 president will update us on the recent Group Presidents Meeting he attended in Cleveland, Oh. We will review our successful events over the past year and plan events for the coming year. We welcome input and ideas for events and fund-raising efforts.

Zdar Boh!
J. Kevin Conway
President
Christine Manyak
Secretary

Report of the General Counsel concerning the American Fraternal Alliance

(Continued from page 2)

eliminate the exemption in an attempt to find new sources of revenue. The survival of fraternalism is heavily dependent upon the ultimate disposition of the tax exempt status. Moreover, it is abundantly clear that as fraternalists, we contribute far more in direct financial support and volunteer hours than Congress would raise by taxing the entire fraternal system. The Alliance's advocacy team has been working diligently this year to ensure that legislators understand the incredible and irreplaceable contributions fraternalists make to securing their members' financial futures and improving the communities in which those members work. The delegates were asked to offer examples of how each respective society delivers member benefits and community services to justify the continuation of the tax-exempt status as a sound investment for the American people. It was suggested that they should communicate the validity of the fraternal business model to public policymakers who will be considering changes to the tax code that could determine whether that model will be allowed to exist. All these factors can go a long way in making an effective cost/benefit analysis showing that revoking the tax exempt status far outweighs any immediate benefit.

In other developments, the Alliance sponsored a program to update the attendees on the fraternal branding initiative launched earlier this year. The branding tools feature consumer tested words and phrases, sample ads, and information on the types of consumers for whom the fraternal model has the most appeal. The results of the Alliance's initial consumer research in this area have demonstrated three (3) key findings: 1) the vast majority of consumers are completely unaware of fraternalists; 2) there are characteristics of the fraternal model that have significant appeal to a broad cross-section of consumers; and 3) describing fraternalists in a way that makes sense to consumers will increase awareness and create growth opportunities. The branding campaign update offered the delegates with the opportunity to learn what the latest research says about the power of the fraternal model and the words that effectively communicate that power. The summary of findings reveal that providing financial security is the most important aspect of an organization, but doing social good on top of that is a highly-desirable added benefit. In addition, the findings also suggest that the biggest driver to an organization is the combined benefit of providing insurance and retirement

income solutions -while also giving back to the community. The key is building a brand that resonates with consumers across all demographics. The final work product will be delivered to Alliance members by the end of this year.

This year, the Alliance added a new feature, entitled Innovation Forum, which was designed to reflect the changing market landscape that fraternalists are facing. Brought by Alliance Grow Younger Task Force, the presentation was led by a group of professionals dedicated to helping societies attract younger members and employees. Each task force member came on stage and gave a preview of their innovative concept, and then dispersed throughout the room to interact with the attendees. The panel emphasized the fact that regular communication and collaboration with employees produces powerful and measurable results. Sharing insights on how to ignite new concepts and ideas has the beneficial effect on how to deliver our product more efficiently. In sum, the Innovation Forum was not only one of the most popular sessions at this year's meeting, it proved that fraternalism has a bright future if we provide millennials in our societies "look at everything differently."

The Annual meeting will also be well remembered for its outstanding educational workshops designed to anticipate the changes that a fraternal may face in field of compliance and business operations. An example of an extremely valuable session involved the topic of mergers, acquisitions, and shared services. A team of executives from the life insurance industry gave insight and explored the challenges fraternalists continue to encounter in these ever so changing economic times. The panel opined that any and all discussion among fraternal societies relating to mergers must have at the forefront the following three (3) factors: 1) Consideration of members' needs; 2) Respect for each other's tradition and heritage; and 3) Acknowledgment and capitalization of each other's strengths. One may support a merger, or alternatively, one may be against the subject of merger. In the end, the ultimate decision of whether or not to merge has to further the benefit of the organization at large. At the heart of every merger, there has to be a desire to serve members in the best way possible and to carefully balance a society's ability to increase solvency, compliance, membership, sales, and volunteerism. Whether or not you agree with the concept, itself, the subject matter certainly generated a spirited discussion among the attendees of

this workshop.

In addition, the annual meeting featured a diverse line-up of speakers including Robert Cialdini. Dr. Cialdini is widely regarded as the "master of influence" because of his years of scientific research on the psychology of influence. In his keynote address, he articulated six universal principles of influence which one can use in one's daily life, including marketing strategies. In summary, these principles are:

1) The Reciprocity Principle: In many social situations, we pay back what we received from others.

2) The Commitment and Consistency Principle: We tend to stick with whatever we've already chosen.

3) Social Proof Principle: We tend to have more trust in things that are popular or endorsed by people that we trust.

4) The Liking Principle: We are more likely to comply with requests made by people we like.

5) The Authority Principle: We follow people who look like they know what they are doing.

6) The Scarcity Principle: We are always drawn to things that are exclusive and hard to come by.

Because of his depth of knowledge and passion for relating his persuasive thinking to the business applications, the delegates embraced Dr. Cialdini's thought provoking principles. All in all, Dr. Cialdini delivered an excellent presentation on the strategy of influence and change in attitude. His keynote address was the perfect blend of theory and practice that would be applicable to making our organization better and more appealing to a new generation of members.

In conclusion, I must emphasize the continued importance of the American Fraternal Alliance and its work and our participation as members. The 2017 annual meeting was one of the highest rated educational programs ever conducted by the association. While I was in Phoenix, Arizona, I had the opportunity to consult with other attorneys of larger fraternal benefit societies and their staff to discuss mutual problems. I am pleased to advise that our organization does not face the magnitude of problems that other societies do. In discussing these problems, our Slovak Catholic Sokol benefits from the experience of other fraternalists. The activities of the American Fraternal Alliance stress the importance of looking at our current position. We must diligently review our business actions, attitudes, and scope of operations on a day-to-day basis. We must adapt to change in order to survive. If we continue this philosophy, the future for success for the Slovak Catholic Sokol will be guaranteed. ZDAR BOH!

Beloved shepherd

Bishop Frank J. Rodimer to celebrate 90th birthday on October 25th

The Most Reverend Frank J. Rodimer, Bishop-emeritus of the Diocese of Paterson, N.J. celebrates his 90th birthday on October 25. He has been a kind and loving shepherd to generations of the faithful in the Paterson Diocese and a beloved friend of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

He was born in Rockaway, N.J. on October 25, 1927. It was in Rockaway that he first became acquainted with the Slovaks where they had established Sacred Heart Parish. He attended Seton Hall Prep in West Orange, N.J. and St. Charles College in Catonsville, Md. He pursued his priestly studies at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Md., the former Immaculate Conception Seminary in Darlington, N.J. and The Catholic University of America where he received a licentiate in Sacred Theology. He was ordained a priest on May 29, 1951 at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson. Following his ordination, he pursued graduate studies at The Catholic University of America and was awarded a doctorate in Church Law in 1954. He then was appointed assistant chancellor of the diocese and became secretary to Bishop James Navagh. He had the unique opportunity of attending the Second Vatican Council with Bishop Navagh, a monumental event in the life of the Church. Blessed Pope Paul VI named him a monsignor in 1963. In June 1977, following the resignation of Bishop Lawrence B. Casey, he was elected Administrator of the diocese. On December 13, the same Pope named Msgr. Rodimer the sixth Bishop of Paterson. His episcopal ordination and installation took place on February 23, 1978 in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Paterson.



Bishop Rodimer served as head of the diocese for a total of 26 years until his retirement in 2004. Throughout those years, he enjoyed a wonderful relationship and bond with the Slovak community in general and the Slovak Catholic Sokol in particular. He has visited our home office and has participated in many noteworthy events in the life of our organization including both our 75th anniversary celebration in 1980 as well as our Centennial in 2005.

We offer prayerful good wishes to Bishop Rodimer on the occasion of his 90th birthday. He has enjoyed a long and fruitful life in praise of God and the celebration of the Gospel among us. He has touched so many of the faithful with his kind and gentle manner and has beautifully mirrored the life of his patron, St. Francis of Assisi - the Poverello. May God continue to bless him with continued good health and the determination to serve others that has been his life's trademark. Ad multos, gloriosque annos and Zdar Boh!

Jankola Library again offers traditional Christmas Oplatky

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers eaten at the Christmas supper, will again be available this holiday season from the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius at Jankola Library and Slovak Museum in Danville, Pa. Orders will be accepted from October 23 until December 15, 2017.

The Oplatky are thermal-sealed in packs of five. They can be purchased for \$5.00 per package. In addition, the minimum cost for shipping and handling is \$7.00 and upward, depending upon the number of packs ordered and the cost of priority mailing. Orders can be customized to meet your needs. Payment to Jankola Library must be paid before orders will be shipped.

For more information as well as a list of books, tapes and other items available at Jankola Library or to place an Oplatky order, contact Sister Catherine Laboure Bresnock, S.S.C.M., director at tel. 570 275-5606 or write to Jankola Library and Slovak Museum, 580 Railroad Street, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.



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Slovak Catholic Sokol





KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik "

October, 2017

ANNOUNCING THE KIDS' CORNER SUMMER READING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS!!!

Noah Romine	Annika Romine	Annalise Romine	Nathan Radtke
Timothy Romagnoli	Tucker Romagnoli	Amber Radtke	Evan Radtke
Rebecca Sherman	Riana Hoeck	Juliana Hoeck	Carissa Hoeck
Mackenzie Peterson	Andrew Peterson	Kyle Peterson	Alyssa Peterson
Nicole Abel			

AND SOME OF THEIR FAVORITE BOOKS.... BY AGE GROUP
0-5 YEARS (NON-READERS)

Dogs don't wear sneakers- by Laura Numeroff
 Shores, Reefs and the Deep- by Christina Wildson
 The Cows are in the Corn- by James Young

6-7 (EARLY READERS)

You be You- by Linda Kranz
 You're all my Favorites- by Sam McBratney
 Wacky Facts about Land Animals- by Cari Meister

8-10 (INTERMEDIATE READERS)

The Trumpet of the Swan- by E. B. White
 Meet Kit- by Valerie Tripp
 Carolines' Secret Message - by Kathleen Ernst
 Auggie and Me- by R.J. Palacio
 Charlotte's Web- by E.B. White
 Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets- by J.K. Rowling

11+ (ADVANCED READERS)

Beezus & Ramona- by Beverly Cleary
 Things not Seen by Andrew Clement

Halloween Fun
Trick or Treat

Across:
 2. Jack O' _____
 5. Casper the _____
 7. Green Monster
 8. Tissue Wrapped
 9. Carve a _____

Down:
 1. What witches ride
 3. Loud Cry
 4. Candy _____
 6. Trick or _____

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

Elizabeth Dobbins	10/9
Maddy Lynn Phillips	10/12
Patrick Phillips	10/22
Grace Mangnan	10/31



What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

Lajcak: I told Trump that his support will be critical for UN reform

UN General Assembly President Miroslav Lajcak told TASR on Sept. 26 that he had more than 50 bilateral meetings and 30 speeches at various events and conferences during the General Debate that was wrapped up on September 25.

"I spent more than 20 hours in the presiding chair of the General Assembly, listening to the speeches of world leaders," said Lajcak, adding that the events focused on various issues, including the nuclear arms proliferation ban, mediation and prevention of conflicts, Africa's industrial development, work with the young and a global environmental agreement.

"At the beginning of the week, together with the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, I organized an event to express sympathy with the countries affected by Hurricane Irma. The event was attended by a host of global leaders and also the actor Robert de Niro, for example" said Lajcak, adding that he talked with many of the leaders.

"I also met US President Donald Trump. We concurred that people must be at the center of the UN's attention. I told the president that an active role and engagement by the United States is key for the UN, and his support will be critical for the debate on a UN reform to make it more effective. The meeting had a positive tone, an important fact considering that the United States is one of the main financial donors of the organization," said Lajcak.

Education Minister opens 99th academic year at Comenius University

"I'm ready to help you in your efforts, meet your demands to the fullest and support you, stated Education Minister Martina Lubyova (a Slovak National Party nominee) on September 25 in her address during the ceremonial opening of the 99th academic year at the Bratislava-based Comenius University - the oldest and largest Slovak university.

By delivering the address at Comenius University, the minister symbolically opened the academic year at all universities in Slovakia.

"I'd be pleased if, when leaving this school after graduation, you don't have to go abroad or begin working in areas other than those you studied at this school," said the minister.

She went on to say that if the students do have to go abroad she wants them to get experience and establish contacts, but then return to Slovakia. "So that you can make use of all the experiences, contacts and human capital to the benefit of our country and our education," said Lubyova.

"The number 99 - the 99th academic year - is very nice. I also have a very interesting number, because I'm the 20th minister of education since 1989. Considering the average 'life span' of education ministers in Slovakia, I strongly believe that I'll manage to attend the 100th opening ceremony next year," she added.

Lubyova further expressed her hopes that the 13 faculties of the university will continue to improve the quality of the education process, engage in international scientific events within the EU and improve their position in international ratings.

More than 24,000 students are enrolled at Slovakia's largest and oldest university, including 7,200 freshmen and over 2,000 foreigners.

The winter semester that began on September 25 will last until December 22. An exam period will take place between January 2 - February 16, 2018, while the summer semester will start on February 19 and last until May 18, 2018.

Unemployment rate down to 6.54 percent in August

The unemployment rate in Slovakia stood at 6.54 percent in August, down by 0.16 percentage points (p.p.) month-on-month and by 2.89 p.p. year-on-year, Labor, Social Affairs

and the Family Center (UPS VaR) general director Marian Valentovic told a press conference in Bratislava on September 20 with Labor, Social Affairs and the Family Minister Jan Richter (Smer-SD) in attendance.

The number of jobseekers immediately able to take up a job was 178,253 in August, a decrease of 4,501 individuals m-o-m and by 3.15 p.p. y-o-y, said Valentovic.

The unemployment rate calculated from the total number of jobseekers reached 7.70 percent in August, down by 0.21 p.p. m-o-m and by 3. at p.p. y-o-y, he added.

"The total number of jobseekers reached 209,918 in August, falling by 5,577 individuals m-o-m and by 84,803 y-o-y," said the UPS VaR head.

As for individual regions, all eight regions in Slovakia recorded cuts in the unemployment rate in August, with the Presov region seeing the most significant drop.

On the district level, the unemployment rate was down in 72 districts in Slovakia in August, while increases were recorded in six districts. Labor offices reported 69,104 job vacancies in late August, down by 8,045 vacancies m-o-m. The highest number of jobs was available in the Bratislava region, while the lowest was in the Kosice region.

According to Richter, Slovakia continues to enjoy a positive trend with falling unemployment. "More and more employees have been working in Slovakia. In terms of y-o-y decreases Eurostat has assessed Slovakia as one of the most successful countries in the eurozone. We also managed to reduce the unemployment rate among young people aged under 25 in August, as we recorded a y-o-y drop of 5.5 percent in this regard," said Richter.

The labor minister added that the number of employed people has also increased. "Never in the history of Slovakia have so many people been employed in the country. As many as 1.92 million people were employed in August - almost 80,000 more than in 2008," said Richter, adding that this positive figure isn't only the result of good developments in the economy but is also thanks to the results of policies and projects introduced by individual labor offices.

Bratislava Airport sets record for second month in a row

The Milan R. Stefanik Airport in Bratislava processed 296,920 passengers in August 2017, which, after a record July, became the busiest August in the history of the airport, TASR learned on September 21.

In year-on-year terms, August 2017 saw growth of 17 percent. "We recorded the highest number of passengers in the entire history of the airport for the second month in a row. We even surpassed the previous all-time record from August 2008 - 296,737 passengers - by a few more people," said airport general director Jozef Pojedninee, who added that the increase in passengers can be attributed to growth in regular transport as well as a busier holiday charter season.

"Even other operational parameters went up in August: we recorded 3,333 flights - a 21-percent increase from August 2016 - and also processed 2,087 tons of flight cargo, which equals a 26-percent y-o-y growth," claimed Pojedninee.

Since the beginning of the year the airport has processed 1.34 million passengers, a y-o-y increase of 9 percent. In the first eight months of this year the most popular destinations for flights from Bratislava airport were to London-Stansted, Dublin, Antalya, Milan-Bergamo and Moscow-Vnukovo.

(Continued from page 11)

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



Dolny Kubin is a picturesque town located in northern Slovakia in the Zilina Region on the Orava River. It enjoyed major development following the Second World War and today has a population of more than 20,000. The first written reference of the location dates from 1314 and is about the land not the settlement. In 1325, the existence of "Superior Kolbyn (Vysny Kubin) was recorded and indicated the existence of Dolny Kubin. The settlement belonged to the Orava Castle. It was granted town status in 1632 and in 1633 was granted the right to hold markets. In the 19th century it was a center of Slovak national life and the poet Pavol Orszagh Hviezdoslav and other Slovak national revivalists were active here. After World War I, Dolny Kubin remained the seat of Orava County until 1923, when Orava became a part of Vah County and became the seat of the district. During World War II, the local garrison actively participated in preparation for the Slovak National Uprising. Its cultural treasures include the Gothic Church of St. Catherine which dates from the 14th century. Other cultural landmarks include the Caplovic Library, containing collections of the printed word from the 15th to the 19th centuries; the P.O. Hviezdoslav Museum and the Orava Gallery containing art works from the 15th to the 20th centuries.

Slovak speakers featured at CEPA Forum 2017 in Washington, D.C.

By Ken Bombara*

The annual transatlantic security conference organized by the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) has become the leading event in Washington D.C. focused on issues in Central and Eastern Europe. The theme of this year's CEPA Forum 2017 was "Preserving Atlanticism in a Time of Change," and was held on September 21-22 in Washington, D.C. The Forum was organized by CEPA together with the Embassy of Hungary and a number of corporate and non-profit supporters, including the Visegrad Fund, Friends of Slovakia (FOS) and American Friends of the Czech Republic. FOS has provided support to the Forum for the past several years. This year, Ivan Korcok, Slovak State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, and Dusan Fischer, Researcher with the Slovak Foreign Policy Assn., were featured speakers, offering a Slovak perspective on current issues.

The two-day conference presented several panels featuring experts and government officials discussing various aspects of transatlantic relations from a variety of perspectives, including those of the U.S., the European Union (E.U.), and the individual countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The first day panels held at the historic Willard Hotel examined issues such as: Strengthening the Visegrad Four (V-4); Reforming NATO for the 21st Century; The Impact of U.S.-Russia Relations on Euro-Atlantic Security; the War of Narratives in the Information Age; U.S. and European Perspectives on Migration and Security. The second day of the conference was held at the Meridian International Center and focused on defense and military issues, particularly the threat posed by Russia's recent actions to its European neighbors.

The panel on strengthening the V-4 included a speaker from each country (Czech Republic, Hungary,

Poland and Slovakia). The session sought to examine the V-4 regional alliance in light of current criticism and concern among some E.U. countries of the stance of V-4 countries on issues such as immigration and refugees, that appears to differ from an E.U. 'consensus'. Hungarian Foreign Minister Szijarto argued that the V-4 "is the most effective organization within the EU." Slovak State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ivan Korcok, elaborated a V-4 perspective on its place in E.U. affairs. He emphasized that while the V-4 is the 'first choice' for regional cooperation among its members, a common position on issues "does not come at any cost." Rather the members respect the diversity in their positions. Korcok said the aim of V-4 countries should not be seen as a "more Europe or less Europe" dichotomy but instead, as directed at achieving a "better Europe" through understanding different perspectives. Polish Foreign Minister Witold Waszczykowski noted that, in his view, what the V-4 contributes to the European project is an emphasis on the values of family, religion and tradition in contrast to what often appears to be a European tradition of "no values." Waszczykowski noted that given the legacy of communism, which held Eastern Europe back economically, people want development, not ideology.

The session on NATO reform featured Lt. General Ben Hodges, Commander of U.S. Army Europe, who presented a generally positive view of the NATO alliance. This view was supported by the stronger presence in Eastern Europe with deployment of troops under the European Reassurance Initiative (ERI –now being referred to as EDI –European Deterrence Initiative), and with NATO members increasing their defense spending to 2% of GDP as pledged at the 2014 NATO Summit in Wales. Hodges also discussed the need to create easier, more efficient, movement of NATO troops and assets within the European continent. Speakers from Poland, Latvia and Estonia emphasized the importance of NATO and the need to reassert its historical mission. In contrast, Czech Deputy Foreign Minister Daniel Kostoval, argued that NATO needs a new strategy with better allocation of its increased funds, if it is to serve as an effective deterrent to future threats.

The third panel and first breakout session dealt with how the transatlantic alliance should respond to the tension and threats posed by Russia's actions in recent years. There was general agreement that the current Russian strategy under President Putin is to seek to undermine liberal democracy and cohesion among Western allies and within individual countries through the creation of alternative narratives and disinformation. In situations such as Ukraine and Georgia, Russia has acted to create 'frozen conflicts' which disrupt



Lt. General Ben Hodges, Commander, United States Army Europe, center, at the 2017 CEPA Forum, flanked by Karin Shuey, Washington, D.C. Director of the Estonian American National Council and Kenneth Bombara, Vice Chairman, Friends of Slovakia and vice president of the Slovak League of America.



Slovak State Secretary, Ivan Korcok, center, is shown speaking at the 2017 CEPA Forum in Washington, D.C. - photo courtesy of CEPA



Dusan Fischer offers comments at the 2017 CEPA Forum. - photo courtesy of CEPA

the sovereignty and ability of those countries to continue on the path of democracy. The West needs to reassert its values while continuing to develop and refine ways to counter Russian's provocations.

The last panel of the first day of the conference focused on U.S. and European perspectives on migration and security. Michael Doran of the Hudson Institute presented a perspective associated with the current Trump Administration. That view arises from a conservative critique of what is viewed as "an open border policy" espoused by progressives and aimed at building political support through cultivating immigrant votes. Doran noted that the Trumpian perspective rejects this latter strategy, and argued that the Trump view is actually a more moderate one through emphasizing legal and limited immigration. A Slovak view was provided by Dusan Fischer, a policy expert from the Slovak

Foreign Policy Association (SFPA). Fischer noted that the issue in Slovakia (and elsewhere) is driven by politics and the media. In Slovakia a prevalent view arises from the fear that migration introduces the threat of terrorism and steals jobs from Slovak workers. He cited a recent Gallup poll that showed Slovakia is one of the countries least favorable to migration. Domestic politicians are not effective in explaining migration to the public and instead blame E.U. and U.S. policies. Fischer observed that even President Kiska's recent address at the U.N. mentioned the migration issue only once while focusing on such topics as poverty and climate change. In general, the issue has led to a 'negative aura' around the V-4 countries. Hungarian policy official Marton Ugrosdy noted that Hungary has no problem with legal immigration while most media focus on illegal immigration. He stated that the situation is not just a humanitarian one, as the definition of refugee is "over-stretched," with economic implications for the receiving countries. Important issues of border control, sovereignty, and rule of law need to be addressed within the E.U.

The second day of the CEPA conference was off-the-record. You can view the full video of the first day conference sessions by accessing <http://cepaforum.org/home>

*Ken Bombara is Vice Chairman of Friends of Slovakia (www.friends-of-slovakia.org) and also serves as Regional Vice President of the Slovak League of America for Washington, D.C. and Virginia.

News and Views from Slovakia...

(Continued on page 11)

Slovak and Czech parliaments plan to commemorate Czechoslovak centenary

The above-standard relationship between the Czech Republic and Slovakia is also being confirmed by the cooperation between the two countries' parliaments, Slovak Parliamentary Chairman Andrej Danko concurred with the Czech Parliament's Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies, Jan Hamacek, following their meeting on Sept. 26.

At a joint press conference, the two officials praised the cooperation thus far and agreed on the need to continue it. "Whoever holds my post, I believe he/she will build on the existing relationship," said Hamacek in connection with the upcoming general elections in the Czech Republic.

Danko and Hamacek also discussed the year 2018, which will be marked by several significant anniversaries, including the 100th anniversary of the founding of the common state. Heads of offices of the two parliaments should prepare a proposal on how to remind the public of this anniversary through the work of parliaments and their history. They should also make use of the Czech Chamber of Deputies' rich archives. "I believe we'll prepare a very dignified event that will enable the public to study the development and history of parliamentary democracy," said Danko.

The two chairmen also touched on the issue of cooperation in the field of defense and the acquisition of jet fighters for the Slovak military. Following the Sept. 26 talks with Czech Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka, Danko admitted that one of the possibilities is to hold talks with the Czech partners on joining the Czech airspace defense contract.

Danko stressed the importance of a transparent selection process and ensuring the jet fighters' acquisition or rental without focusing on a single particular brand. "It's important that the Slovak Government adopts a concept for the Slovak military's rearmament analogous to the one that has already been adopted by the Czech Republic, and that it subsequently sets the priorities of its land and air forces, which is important in terms of establishing finance and the transparent selection of aircraft. I would not prefer any plane or model at the moment," stated Danko.

Hamacek said that a discussion is still open on the Czech side as to whether to increase the number of Gripen jet fighters used by the Czech military or not. "We have already signed some agreements in relation to Slovakia, for example the agreement on airspace protection. We have offered an engagement of our air forces in defense of Slovak airspace. We have the capacity for this; however, the decision must be made in Slovakia," stressed Hamacek.

Concerning Slovakia's potential help to the Czech Republic with joining the eurozone, Danko said that Slovakia is ready to share its both positive and negative experiences from adopting and introducing the euro with its Czech partners. Hamacek said that the Czech Republic should not adopt the euro sooner than it is advantageous for the country to do so from economic and social viewpoints. However, it must monitor the development in the eurozone.

The Sept. 26 talks of the Slovak and Czech parliamentary delegations opened the second day of Danko's official visit to the Czech Republic. Danko also met with Cardinal Dominik Duka, the Archbishop of Prague, and will meet with the Chairman of the Czech Senate Milan Stech.

Minutes of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Group Presidents Meeting

(Continued from page 5)

licensed to sell insurance.

Acknowledged.

Group 1 President and General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr. Esq., then gave an update on the legal matters associated with the Society. The Ambridge building is currently listed and being shown to potential buyers. Hopefully, in the near future, this item will be resolved. The three existing mortgages are currently being paid and on-time. President Horvath thanked Brother John for the legal update.

Acknowledged.

Group 16 President, Andrea Papcun, questioned the criteria to qualify for a scholarship. A general discussion took place and changes in the application process for the College Scholarships were addressed since this is totally done online, the consideration as to the verification of activities and participation was the major concern. The Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee and its members are aware of the situation as well as some other areas of concern such as the verification of parents' income, etc.

Acknowledged.

Group 11 President, David J. Genosky, questioned if a decision has been made on the site for the 2019 Convention. The Supreme Secretary informed the attendees that a final decision will be made at the Board of Directors Meeting on September 23rd, but Cleveland, OH is currently our best option.

Acknowledged.

President Horvath inquired if there were any comments as they pertain to the Slovak Catholic Falcon publication.

The Supreme Secretary informed the Group Presidents that our Editor, Daniel F. Tanzone, will be retiring at the end of the year. He will continue to help the Society during the transition process. We will be going to a monthly publication starting in November, while looking to have more content generated on our website and social media platforms. While decreasing our publication and postage costs, this will also allow us to advertise and promote our Organization through other avenues.

Acknowledged.

Group 4 President, Jennifer Romine, questioned the status of the 2020 Committee. Brother President informed the attendees that the committee has had two meetings and the minutes of both meetings have been published in the Falcon. The goal of the committee is to have a thoughtful and deliberate review of our current governance structure with the potential for recommendations to be reported back to the 33rd Convention in 2019.

Acknowledged.

President Horvath inquired if there were any other items or business that needed to be discussed. Since there was none, he expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Supreme Secretary and the Supreme Chaplain for all the information that they were able to share. He especially thanked the Group Presidents for their attendance and participation at this year's meeting. A tremendous amount of information was exchanged throughout the day and he appreciated all of their ideas, suggestions, and input which contributed to a most successful meeting.

Acknowledged.

At the conclusion of a very busy day, President Horvath entertained a motion to adjourn, so moved by Group 3 President, J. Kevin Conway, seconded by Group 12 President, Joseph A. Harak, Jr.

Approved.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, giving thanks for the opportunity to meet here in Cleveland and discuss organizational issues as well as for the fraternalism and sharing which took place during the meeting. Father Andrew offered prayers for a safe journey home for all in attendance.

Lastly, he informed everyone that Mass will be held at 4:00 p.m. in the Cuyahoga Room to fulfill our Sunday obligation.

Acknowledged.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m. Zdar Boh!

Respectfully submitted,
Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Supreme Secretary

Sokol Walking Program Update

As most of you know by now, this starts my favorite time of the year. I love the colder weather. I know, most of you think I am nuts! I love sweater weather and boots, over flip-flops any day! I am hoping for another snowy winter in the Northern Virginia/DC area. Last year we barely had any snow! I know my friends to the north got hammered with snow but, please, send some my way this year would you!

Fall time walking is always a joy. For 99% of us, we now get to walk outside while the beautiful leaves are changing. Be sure to be careful while walking over leaves. Remember they can be slick. Also, remember

that even though it is cooler, it is still important to wear sunscreen.

These last two months are your chance to get as much walking in as you can. Whether your goal was to beat your miles from last year or just to achieve the same amount, get out there and get moving. The next few months will get busy with all the holidays approaching but remember to stick to your routine.

Enjoy the fall weather and the beautiful changing leaves. Keep up the great walking efforts! Zdar Boh!

Katie Swift
Supreme Assistant
Physical Directress

Sokol Birthdays

OCTOBER 24

Richard T. Srnka, Erie, Pa., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

Nicholas S. Matuschak, Marblehead, Mass., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

OCTOBER 25

Laura Dubos, Broken Arrow, OK a member of Wreath 54, Poland, Oh.

Judy Hromada, Lorain, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

Leslie A. Evanoff, Medville, Pa., a member of Assembly 64, Erie, Pa.

OCTOBER 26

Evelyn Catanzarite, Freedom, Pa., a member of Wreath 85, McKees Rocks, Pa.

Theresa K. Belfance, Saugerties, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Zachary L. Belfance, Saugerties, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Anne A. Bokeko, Medford, N.J., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

OCTOBER 27

Eileen Salamon Wilson, Stratford, Conn., president of Group 2 and Wreath 1, Bridgeport, Conn.

OCTOBER 28

Sister Loretta Marie Hrubec, SS.C.M., Danville, Pa., a member of Assembly 312, Passaic, N.J.

Simon Koval, Poway, CA, a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

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

Veronica Gdula Maslar, Beavertdale, Pa., a member of Assembly 82, Dunlo, Pa.

Marian Mitro, Millis, Mass., a member of Assembly 314, Boston, Mass.

OCTOBER 29

Arlene Most, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Kelli Lynne Newmaster, Cannonsburg, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

OCTOBER 30

Michelle Minnick, Elyria, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

Joseph Jurasi, Garfield, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York, N.Y.

Sara Elizabeth Oleksak, Allentown, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

OCTOBER 31

Robert D. Betza, Gibsonia, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

Kerri Ann Bachner, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Anna M. Warrick, West Newton, Pa., a member of Assembly 127, Monessen, Pa.

NOVEMBER 2

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

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

NOVEMBER 3

Msrgr. Francis J. Beeda, S.T.L.,

The 2017 Lúčina Slovak Gala: An Evening in the Heart of Europe

Saturday, November 11, 2017

Holy Spirit Party Center
5500 W. 54th Street • Parma, OH 44129

Featuring:

The Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland
Lúčinka Children's Ensemble

Slovak Domovina Dancers of Windsor, Ontario
DJ Denis

Tickets: \$50/Person
\$360/Table of 8
\$40/Person under 21

Limited Seating! Only 250 seats available. Advanced sales only.
No tickets sold at the door.

Ticket includes:
Entertainment

Full-course dinner with 3 entrees & dessert

(Vegetarian and gluten-free meals available if preordered)

Open Bar

Raffles & Gift Baskets throughout the evening

Followed by music for dancing and listening pleasure with DJ Denis

Doors open: 6:00PM ** Dinner 6:30PM ** Program: 7:30PM

For tickets, call: Tom Ivanec, 440-668-7797
Miriam Visnovsky, 440-638-9921

All proceeds to benefit the Lúčina Slovak Folklore Ensemble,
Celebrating their 36th Anniversary



Wilkes-Barre, Pa., our Honorary Supreme Officer.

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

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

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

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

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

NOVEMBER 4

Thomas A. Masi, Basking Ridge, N.J., a member of Assembly 182, New York City.

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

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

NOVEMBER 5

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

NOVEMBER 6

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

NOVEMBER 7

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

NOVEMBER 8

Marc E. Drevitch, Wilkes-Barre,

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

NOVEMBER 9

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

Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Honorary Supreme Officer and financial secretary of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

NOVEMBER 10

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

NOVEMBER 11

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

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

NOVEMBER 12

Robert Benek, Lansford, Pa., a member of Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa.

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

NOVEMBER 13

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

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

William Ziska, Jr., Chandler, Az., a member of Assembly 48, Philadelphia, Pa.

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

**2017 Scholarship Recipients
express thanks and gratitude**

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,
I take this opportunity to express sincere thanks and gratitude to the Slovak Catholic Sokol for awarding me one of the 2017 college scholarship grants. Your assistance is greatly appreciated as I continue my studies at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. The money greatly helps. My aim is to become a teacher as I finish my education. Thank you again.

been selected as a 2017 recipient of a Slovak Catholic Sokol college scholarship grant. Thank you for your generosity which has allowed me to offset some of my college expenses at Endicott College as I begin my junior year of studies. I am thankful for receiving this scholarship.

Zdar Boh!
Ashley Gresian
Douglas, Mass.

Dear Sokol scholarship selection committee,

On behalf of my parents, Lynn and Joe Flore, my grandparents,

Dear S.C.S. Board of Directors,
I am sincerely honored to have

aunts, uncles and cousins(all of whom are Sokol members) I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Slovak Catholic Sokol for again selecting me to receive a 2017 college scholarship grant. Your ongoing support through this scholarship program will certainly help towards my education as I enter my senior year at Slippery Rock University. Again, my sincere thanks.

Zdar Boh!
Paige Flore
West Mifflin, Pa.

Dear S.C.S. Board of Directors and scholarship selection committee,

Thank you for awarding me one of the 2017 Slovak Catholic Sokol college scholarship grants for the upcoming school year. Your generosity will be extremely helpful in defraying the costs of my tuition at Stonehill College. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Makenzie Cyr
Douglas, Mass.

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,
Thank you for giving me \$250.00 so I can go to St.Leonard School and learn all about First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. I love going to school at St. Leonard's because I get to talk about God every day. I love being in the Sokols where I can do lots of things I can't do anywhere else. I can't wait for my first Slet next time.

Love,
Annalise Romine
Franklin, Wis.

Dear Slovak Catholic Sokol,
I am glad that you chose me for a Slovak Catholic Sokol Grade School Scholarship Grant. I am very pleased that I get to go to St.Leonard School and learn all about God in all of my studies. I am glad to form such great connections with friends there since I know them so well since there are so few of them. I am very pleased that I get to be in the Slovak Catholic Sokol because it is a joy to travel all around the world and meet friends in all different states. Thank you for this opportunity. May God bless you always.

Zdar Boh!
Annika Romine
Franklin, Wis.

Baseball Bullpen - No Bull!

The phrase bullpen, a place where relief pitchers warm up, has been around since at least 1915. But where did the phrase come from? Casey Stengel told the New York Times writer Joe Durso that the phrase came about because the area "looked like a place to keep cows or bulls."

But here's a more likely explanation. As part of a promotional campaign in the early part of the twentieth century, Bull Durham tobacco offered money to any hitter able to hit a ball off one of its billboards in the outfield. By 1910, nearly every ballpark had a Bull Durham billboard, many situated directly behind the "bullpen."

**39th Annual SS. Cyril & Methodius
Appeal of the Slovak Catholic Federation**

For the past 39 years, the Slovak Catholic Federation has hosted its SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal in support of the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome and religious communities of men and women in Slovakia. The appeal is an opportunity to repay in a special way the gift of faith which we have received



through our Slovak ancestors. The Slovak college in Rome, built by the American and Canadian Slovak community, was dedicated in 1963 and serves as a graduate house for Slovak priests pursuing graduate degrees as the various Pontifical Roman universities. We are pleased that our own Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic serves as the national president of the Slovak Catholic Federation(SCF). The SCF serves as the representative body of American and Canadian Catholics of Slovak ancestry. Since assuming the office of national president three years ago, individual members and local lodges of our organization have given generous support to the work of the SCF in general and have been generous to the annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal. As fraternalists, let us continue our charitable endeavors and include the SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal in our donations. In 2016, our Sokol lodges alone contributed a total of \$2,575.00 to this appeal. Let us strive to increase the number of lodges contributing this year in honor of Father Hvozdic and the outstanding priestly ministry he shares with us. Individuals may also make their individual contributions and perhaps honor the memory of a deceased family member. However large or small, know that a donation to the SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal will be greatly appreciated and put to good use. Thank you and Pan Boh Zaplat - My God repay your generosity.

As of this writing, a total of \$17,500 has been raised for this year's appeal. Donations may be made at any time during the calendar year of 2017. This year's appeal coordinator is the Rev. Thomas Nasta, SCF National First Vice President and the national chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and pastor of the Parish of the Sacred Heart in Swedesburg, Pa. Again, we thank you for your goodness and generosity to this appeal. Make checks payable to Slovak Catholic Federation.



The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by the Rev. Joseph Murgas in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. to coordinate the pastoral efforts of Slovak Catholic fraternal societies, parishes, religious communities of men and women and individuals and to give witness to our heritage of faith as handed down to our ancestors who first were evangelized by the great Apostles of the Slavs, SS. Cyril and Methodius.

39th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Amount \$ _____
In memory of _____

Make check payable to Slovak Catholic Federation
and mail to: Dolores Evanko, National Secretary-Treasurer
Slovak Catholic Federation
173 Berner Avenue
Hazleton, PA 18201

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

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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

In Washington, D.C. on September 17

Scenes of the Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Catholics of Slovak ancestry gathered at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on Sunday, September 17 to commemorate the feast of Our Mother of Sorrows, patroness of Slovakia. Principal celebrant of the Slovak Mass in the Crypt Church was the Rev. Richard D. Baker, pastor of the United Parish of St. John Nepomucene, St. John the Martyr and St. Frances X. Cabrini in New York City. Concelebrating with him was the Rev. Martin Kertys, C.O. The annual observance was organized by

the local branch of the First Catholic Slovak Union in Wasington, D.C. This year marked the 52nd anniversary of the dedication of the Chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows, patroness of Slovakia which was a gift of the First Catholic Slovak Union on the occasion of the organization's 75th anniversary in 1965.

Following the impressive liturgy at the shrine, about 100 pilgrims were welcomed at a reception and cultural program at the Slovak Embassy. Slovakia's Ambassador to the United States, Peter Kmec graciously welcomed the visitors.



Father Richard D. Baker welcomed by Ambassador Peter Kmec.

Photos by Katarina Novakova

Jaguar na Slovensku hľadá tisíc nových zamestnancov

Britská automobilka Jaguar Land Rover v Nitre ohlásila začiatok náboru nových zamestnancov, pre svoj závod pri Nitre hľadá tisíc pracovníkov, z toho osemdesť má robiť vo výrobe.

Náborovú kampaň začal Jaguar v pondelok, iba pár týždňov po tom, ako hľadanie nových zamestnancov spustil konkurenčný Volkswagen pre svoj bratislavský závod.

Na slovenskom trhu je pritom nedostatok kvalifikovanej pracovnej sily, automobilky preto ponúkajú nováčikom vyššie nástupné platy a pracovné výhody. Jaguar pritom sľubuje, že konkurencii či obchodným partnerom zamestnancov odľáká nechce, no pripúšťa, že sa to môže diať.

Momentálne zamestnáva Jaguar na Slovensku päťsto ľudí, časť z nich je na školeniach vo Veľkej Británii, aby na budúci rok mohli rozbiehať výrobu vo fabrike pri Nitre.

Okrem osemdesiat ďalších robotníkov hľadá britská firma aj asi dvesto ďalších ľudí na rôzne iné pozície, napríklad manažérske, technické či podporné činnosti. Náborová kampaň má trvať do marca, Jaguar potom spustí ďalšiu. Plánuje totiž, že celkovo vo fabrike bude do konca budúceho roka pracovať 2800 ľudí. Znamená to, že v priebehu budúceho roka bude hľadať ďalších 1300 zamestnancov.

Nováčikom ponúka Jaguar plat od 900 do 1800 eur v hrubom, ale aj ďalšie výhody - 13. plat, príplatky na cestovanie či rôzne druhy prémie.

Nových zamestnancov chce britská automobilka hľadať predovšetkým z regiónu Nitra. Už dnes tri štvrtiny z päťsto zamestnancov, ktorí pre ňu pracujú, pochádza z okolia. Ak sa jej tu nepodarí najat' aj ďalších pracovníkov, chce skúsiť ďalšie lokality Slovenska a až potom začne najímať cudzincov.

Vedenie Jaguaru odhaduje, že ďalších 22-tisíc ľudí bude pracovať u subdodávateľov, ktorí budú do Nitry dodávať komponenty na výrobu áut.

Aj ich zrejme čaká hľadanie nových zamestnancov, čo len zvýši napätie na pracovnom trhu. Medzi subdodávateľov Jaguaru patria španielska firma Gestamp, slovenský Matador či firma Plastic Omnium.

Výroba pri Nitre sa má začať na konci budúceho roka. Ročne plánuje Jaguar vyrobiť 150-tisíc áut. Zatiaľ jediným potvrdeným automobilmom je Land Rover Discovery, špekuluje sa aj o výrobe Land Rover Defender.

Automobilka s výstavbou závodu začala vlni na jeseň, dokončiť ho chce do konca budúceho roka.

Súčasťou závodu má byť aj lakovňa, montážna hala a školiace centrum.

Predaj áut na Slovensku rastie

Na Slovensku sa v minulom roku predalo spolu 88 163 osobných áut. To znamenalo nárast o celých 13,09% a podľa najnovších policajných štatistik registrácie osobných áut nepretržite rastú. V januári, v medziročnom porovnaní stúpol odbyt o 1,2%, vo februári o 24,4 a v marci o 15,5%. V apríli, predaj stagnoval, no nie dramaticky. Potom však opäť pokračoval automobilový trh ra-

kovým tempom.

Najpredávanejšia je Škoda (za osem mesiacov bolo predaných 12 508 osobných áut), druhý je Volkswagen (5 996 registrácií). Tretí je Hyundai a štvrtá Kia. Ešte nedávno piaty Opel sa prepadol na ôsme miesto. Vytlačili ho značky Peugeot a stále rastúce Suzuki s Daciou. Desiatku najlepších uzatvára Toyota a Renault a Citroën.

Galavečer súboru Lúčina v Parma, OH

Slovenský folklórny súbor Lúčina usporiada v sobotu 11. novembra galavečer pod názvom Večer v srdci Európy. Podujatie bude v Holy Spirit Party Center, 5500 W. 54th Street v Parma, OH. Začiatok bude 6.00 hodine, o 6.30 hod. bude podávaná večera a kultúrny program začne o 7.30 hodine.

V kultúrnom programe sa predstavia: folklórny súbor Lúčina a detský súbor Lúčinka z Cleveland, OH, tanečný súbor Domovina z Windsor, Ontario, CN. Vstupné je \$50.00 za osobu, \$360 za stôl pre osem ľudí a \$40.00 za mládež do 21 rokov. V cene je započítaná večera, dezert a nápoje.

Nakolko je počet osôb limitovaný na 250, lístky sú k dispozícii len v predpredaji. Pri dverách na predaj nebudú. Rezervácie vstupeniék: Tom Ivanec, tel. č.: 440-668-7797, alebo Miriam Visnovsky, tel. č.: 440-638-9921.

Počas večera bude hrať hudba - DJ Denis.

ACH, TÁ NAŠA SLOVENČINA!

...a je na svete poriadny beauty fail... - emma.sk

Slávná baculka to so želaným lookom prehrala. - pravda.sk

...spustili imidžovú kampaň - trend.sk

Slovenky v luxusných outfitoch... - zoznam.sk

Neobmedzený wellness pobyt... - pravda.sk

...už začali chystať remake. - sme.sk

Navyše, porridge pomáha aj pri chudnutí... - pravda.sk

...opäť zmenila imidž. - diva.sk

Aj Tyra Banks je opäť single - pravda.sk

...zostať počas tehotenstva v neustálom diskomforte... - plusjedenden.sk

...toto je finálna suma... - zoznam.sk

...má jednoducho vynikajúcich stylistov a elegantnými outfitmi vie na seba strhnúť patričnú pozornosť... Netrafiť príležitosť je síce školácka stylingová chyba - diva.sk

Necítite sa oukej? ...5 tipov na expresný refresh ... má občas "bad hair (face) day". - emma.sk

...ktorý však znamenito ladil s prirodzeným lookom jej tváre. - diva.sk

KÚTIK HUMORU

- Pán doktor, nevidím do dialky.

- Tak sa pozrite hore na oblohu, čo tam vidíte?

- Šhko.

- A to by ste chceli vidieť ešte ďalej?

Toto svetlo svieti pre všetkých

(Pokračovanie zo str. 16)

LUX New York- slovenské katolícke produkčné štúdio. Sídli na Manhattane v New York City, v blízkosti Kostola svätého Jána Nepomuckého, ktorý je dlhé roky významným centrom pre Slovákov a tamojšia komunita je spolu s podporou miestneho farára Richarda Bakera otvorená novým víziám a spolupráci slovenských veriacich za oceánom. Jedným z dôležitých cieľov LUX New York je ponúkať ľuďom, ktorí sú od seba vzdialení, duchovné povzbudenie v mediálnom online priestore, a tak prispievať k vzájomnému prepájaniu komunit veriacich.

Keď oceán spája

Hlavnou náplňou LUX New York je prinášať podporu katolíckej viery v rodnom slovenskom jazyku skrze svoju audiovizuálnu tvorbu. Každý človek, ktorý prichádza do zahraničia, má možnosť prísť ako misionár, ktorý svojim každodenným životom môže skrze svoje korene, svoju kultúru a svoju vieru priniesť Kristovo svetlo tam, kam prichádza a kde žije. LUX New York dokumentuje tieto životné príbehy ako jedinečné svedectvá viery, ktoré ponúka v relácii Spojení oceánom. Na webovej stránke www.slovenskykostol.com, ktorá slúži ako archív všetkej produkcie LUX New York, môžete nájsť už takmer 50 takýchto vzácných životných

výpovedí. LUX New York tiež vytvára most medzi Slovákmi v USA a Kanade a ich rodnou krajinou aj prenosom živého vysielania slovenských svätých omší z New Yorku. Pre ľudí žijúcich často oddelene od svojich rodín a priateľov, tak vzniká jedinečná príležitosť zostať s nimi takto v spojení a zároveň vydať svedectvo, že aj v zahraničí sa slovenskí veriaci stretávajú pri Kristovom oltári a sú si oporou.

Ďalšou dôležitou oblasťou pôsobenia produkčného štúdia LUX New York je výroba spravodajských príspevkov z diania vo farnostiach. Takéto mapovanie duchovných udalostí má za cieľ vzájomnú informovanosť, inšpiráciu a možnú spoluprácu miestnych komunit, ktoré ich opäť môžu nájsť v archíve na webovej stránke www.slovenskykostol.com ako aj na facebookovej stránke LUX New York. Neodmysliteľnou súčasťou tvorby produkčného štúdia LUX New York je, že spomínané relácie, živé prenosy svätých omší i spravodajské príspevky ponúka do vysielania TV Lux ako obohatenie vysielacej štruktúry produkciou zo zahraničia.

Každý, koho takáto tvorba zaujíma, je srdečne pozvaný zaslať akékoľvek námety, pripomienky, spätnú väzbu, vyjadrenie záujmu o duchovnú či finančnú podporu alebo návrhy možnej spolupráce na adresu info@luxnewyork.net.

Minister Gajdoš rokoval s veľvyslancom USA



Foto: TASR

Minister obrany SR Peter Gajdoš (na snímke vpravo) 13. októbra rokoval s veľvyslancom Spojených štátov amerických Adamom Sterlingom. Hovorili o aktuálnych témach vzájomnej spolupráce.

Šéf slovenského rezortu obrany informoval amerického veľvyslanca o strategických dokumentoch, ktoré smerujú do Národnej rady.

"Záleží nám na tom, aby modernizácia ozbrojených síl bola systémová a systematická a nie na báze ad hoc rozhodnutí. Dlhodobý plán rozvoja pred-

stavuje plán investícií až do roku 2030," uviedol Gajdoš.

Témou spoločného stretnutia boli aj výdavky na obranu, minister potvrdil záväzok zo summitov vo Walese a vo Varšave a oboznámil veľvyslanca s navýšením rozpočtu už aj pre budúci rok.

Hovorili aj o vyslaní slovenských vojakov do Iraku, ktorí majú na výcvikové aktivity odísť ešte v tomto roku.

V tejto súvislosti Gajdoš ubezpečil amerického veľvyslanca, že boj proti terorizmu patrí medzi priority Slovenska.

Za Boha a Náród For God and Nation

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

Slovak Catholic Sokol

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Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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ČÍSLO 5106

Toto svetlo svieti pre všetkých

Televízia LUX a Rádio LUMEN. Nie náhodou tieto slovenské médiá nesú vo svojom názve svetlo. Božie SVETLO totiž svieti pre každého. Katolícke rádio a televízia vám chcú spríjemňovať život v domovine, ale aj v cudzine.

Aj katolícke médium môže byť jednotkou

Rádio LUMEN je jediný svojho druhu na Slovensku. Vysiela programy pre celú rodinu - pre deti, pre mládež, ľudí stredného veku, aj pre seniorov. Pre mnohých chorých, chudobných i osamelých je jediným celodenným spoločníkom. Viac ako polovica jeho programov je vo verejnom záujme. Rádio LUMEN je v top 10 najpočúvanejších rozhlasových staníc na Slovensku a stalo sa jednotkou v hranosti slovenskej hudby. Ak vám chýba prežívanie viery za hranicami domoviny a kvalitná sloven-

ská hudba, ponúkame vám tipy na programy, ktoré si môžete stiahnuť z bohatého archívu na stránke www.lumen.sk.

Programové tipy Rádia LUMEN

Keď si chcete vypočuť slová či príbehy na povzbudenie: Svetlo nádeje, Byť šťastnou rodinou dnes, Boh v mojom živote, Vyznania, Karmel, Čítanie na pokračovanie.

Keď sa chcete modliť či rozjímať: Ranné chvály, Litánie, Deviatniky, Chodte a hlásajte, Svätci dňa, Anjel Pána a poludňajšie zamyslenia, Emauzysvätá omša, Modlitba posvätného ruženca, Korunka Božieho Milosrdenstva, Vešpery, V sile Slova s Mons. Gavendom.

Keď sa chcete dozvedieť novinky z Cirkvi a zo spoločnosti: Infolumen-spravodajský súhrn, Zaostrené, Rádio Vatikán, Lupa-reportáže z farností.

Keď si chcete vypočuť interaktívnu publicistickú reláciu: Duchovný obzor, História a my, ÚV hovor, Od ucha k duchu, Viťaj doma rodina, Občan.

Keď sa chcete dozvedieť čo je nové v prírode: Kalendar prírody s Miroslavom Sanigom.

Keď chcete formovať a vzdelávať vaše deti či vnúčence: Svetielko; Študentské šapitó.

Patrónom môžete byť aj vy!

Ľudia si od nepamäti volili ochrancov, ktorých nazývali patróni. Za svojho nebeského patróna si Rádio LUMEN zvolilo Sv. Michala, archanjela. Tu na zemi sa spolieha na svojich poslucháčov. Prvým čestným patrónom Rádia Lumen sa stal gréckokatolícky kňaz Ján Sabol, ktorý aj napriek vlastnej bolesti z nedávnej straty milovanej manželky, dokáže byť naďalej oporou pre veriacich aj v duchovnej online poradni na Facebooku. Zo zahraničia tak môžete byť povzbudení vo viere po slovensky a zo Slovenska.

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Do Spojených štátov amerických a Kanady odišlo v rôznych emigračných vlnách z rodnej krajiny mnoho Slovákov. Je obdivuhodné, že títo ľudia si aj v často náročných podmienkach zachovali živú vieru v Boha a zostali verní Kristovi a katolíckej Cirkvi. Táto vzácna skupina veriacich je často geograficky veľmi roztrúsená, ale zostáva spojená v kresťanských hodnotách, ktoré svojom činnosťou podporuje aj

(Pokračovanie na str. 15)

Krátke správy zo Slovenska



☐ Tohtoročné leto bolo na Slovensku mimoriadne teplé a v niektorých oblastiach aj veľmi suché. Slovenský meteorologický ústav vo svojej správe konštatuje, že leto 2017 skončilo ako druhé od roku 1951, v Hurbanove ako tretie najteplejšie od roku 1900. Priemerná odchýlka predstavovala +2,6 °C v porovnaní s normálom v rokoch 1961 až 1990. Leto bolo najteplejšie na západnom Slovensku, najchladnejšie na krajnom severovýchode Slovenska. Najteplejším mesiacom tohto leta bol august. Tohtoročný jún bol druhým najteplejším júnom v histórii meteorologických pozorovaní na Slovensku.

☐ Automobilka Volkswagen Slovakia sa dostala na prvé miesto vo výročnom rebríčku magazínu Forbes Slovensko Top 50 firiem Slovenska 2017. Stala sa tak najväčšou firmou na Slovensku. Poradie vyhlásil magazín Forbes 2. októbra.

☐ Volkswagen Slovakia vyrobil na Slovensku od roku 1991 viac než 5 miliónov vozidiel. Patrí k najväčším zamestnávateľom, exportérom aj investorom v krajine. Zamestnáva 12.700 ľudí. Vyrába automobily Volkswagen Touareg, Audi Q7, Porsche Cayenne, Volkswagen up!, Volkswagen e-up!, SEAT Mii, ŠKODA Citigo. Okrem vozidiel produkuje prevodovky, komponenty pre prevodovky, podvozky a motory, ako aj zariadenia používané pri výrobe vozidiel.

☐ Slovenskí vojaci sa pripoja k armáde NATO v Iraku. Budú zabezpečovať výcvik. Severoatlantická aliancia pôsobí v Iraku na základe žiadosti irackej vlády. 25 príslušníkov ozbrojených síl bude zabezpečovať, iba výcvikové úlohy - asistenciu, prípravu inštruktorov, ich podporu pri riešení záležitostí mechanického odmínovania. Približne 15 príslušníkov by malo byť špeciálnych, ženistov a okolo

desať príslušníkov by malo byť technicky nápomocných pri výcviku inštruktorov.

☐ Takmer 30-tisíc Slovákov zmorie ročne na srdcovo-cievne ochorenia. Pritom väčšina z nich vrátane infarktu či mozgovej mŕtvice môžeme zabrániť zmenou životného štýlu.

☐ Štatistiky sú alarmujúce. V súčasnosti žije na Slovensku viac ako 200-tisíc osôb vo veku od 45 do 64 rokov, ktorí majú mimoriadne vysoké riziko vzniku infarktu alebo mozgovej porážky. Sú to ľudia, ktorí nemajú žiadne výraznejšie ťažkosti, a preto nie sú motivovaní, aby si dali skontrolovať tlak či hladinu cholesterolu. Mnohí z nich fajčia, väčšina z nich má nadváhu a chýba im pravidelný pohyb, povedala docentka Eva Goncalvesová, primárka oddelenia zlyhávania a transplantácie srdca NÚSCH v Bratislave.

☐ Predaj novostavieb na bratislavskom realitnom trhu dosiahol v treťom štvrťroku 2017 podľa analytikov Bencont Investments 1 048 bytov, čo oproti predchádzajúcemu kvartálu predstavuje pokles predaja o 197 bytov. Za posledný rok tak ide o najnižší predaj. Ceny ponúkaných bytov medziročne narástli o 6,4 %.

☐ Takmer pätina Slovákov je ohrozených chudobou. Na Slovensku bolo vlni ohrozených 18,1 percenta populácie, čo bol pokles oproti roku 2008, kedy bolo chudobou a sociálnym vylúčením ohrozených 20,6 percenta obyvateľstva. Informoval o tom štatistický úrad Európskej únie Eurostat.

☐ Každý štvrtý človek na Slovensku je dôchodca. Sociálna poisťovňa evidovala ku koncu septembra tohto roka vyše 1,38 milióna dôchodcov. V porovnaní so septembrom minulého roka ide o nárast o viac ako 11-tisíc penzistov.

Nezáleží na tom, kde sa človek nachádza
Dôležité je, čo nosí v srdci.

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