

*Za Boha a Národ*



*For God and Nation*

# Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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## Scenes of the Annual Meeting of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board

**The Holiday Inn Hotel + Boardman, Ohio + January 12-14**

Preparing for our Supreme Clinic - Kurz in preparation for our 49th International Slet as well as Sokol Sporting Activities in 2018



Members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board pose for a group photo at this year's annual meeting. Shown on the photo, seated from the left are: Member, Julie A. Laury; Supreme Assistant Physical Directress Katie Swift, Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Supreme Physical Directress Kathleen S. Watkins and Member, Nancy Kropolinsky. Standing, l-r, Member, Kevin Matlon, Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics James C. Matlon, Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics Frank P. Laury, III, Supreme President Michael J. Horvath, Supreme Physical Director John M. Underation, Supreme Assistant Physical Director Dusan Dorich, and Member, Martin Degnan. The Supreme President and Supreme Secretary are ex-officio members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board.



## Message from our Supreme President

by Michael J. Horvath

January was a busy month for many of your Supreme officers. On the snowy weekend of January 12 – 15, the Supreme Physical Fitness Board braved the snow storm on their white knuckle drive to Boardman, Ohio for their annual planning and development meeting. Your Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and I attended the meeting to offer our advice and direction to the ideas and activities the Fitness Board were planning for 2018. The Fitness Board has a lot of ideas on how to energize the membership to get more involved with all of our activities. Brother Pogorelec and I are in support of the new things the Fitness Board is planning and encouraged them to look for more opportunities.

In addition to the planning meeting the Fitness Board went about their other business of reviewing the results of the 48th International Slet and what needs to be done to improve the 49th International Slet to make it better, more efficient and enjoyable for everyone. The Fitness Board also started to put together the plans for the upcoming Kurz (Clinic) in July so it would be a rewarding experience for the Group Directors and Directresses and their assistants to prepare themselves for the 2019 Slet. With all the planning the Fitness Board did, they still had more work to be done, and that was to choreograph the new individual and mass drills. Every Slovak Catholic Sokol member should be very proud of these officers for their commitment and dedication to our Society.

On Friday, January 19, 2018 myself, Supreme Chaplain, Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdic, and Supreme Physical Fitness Board member, Martin Degnan, and other members from Group 7, Wilkes-Barre, PA, traveled to Washington, D.C. to be part of the 45th March for Life. When we arrived in the Nation's Capital we met up with another member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board, Supreme Assistant Physical Directress, Katie Swift, and participated in the March.

Father Hvozdic and I had another engagement and broke off from the March for Life to go over to the Library of Congress to attend the Slovak Embassy's reception to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Independence of the Slovak Republic. At the Library of Congress we met up with our Editor, Daniel F. Tanzone, and Nina Holy. During

the address by Slovakia's Ambassador, Peter Kmec, he acknowledged the role the Slovak fraternal played in helping create a free Slovak Republic during the many years of suppression. The Ambassador also recognized the importance of the Pittsburgh Agreement in creating an independent Czechoslovakia 100 years ago this year and which the Slovak Catholic Sokol had the honor and privilege of caring for, until it was formally given to the Senator John Heinz History Center at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 2007. The Ambassador explained how the Slovak Republic has grown economically over the past 25 years, is a proud member of the European Union (EU), a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), is a strong member of the global economy and is the industrial power house of Central Europe. It was a great privilege to represent the Slovak Catholic Sokol and meet up with the other Slovak fraternal leaders invited to attend this historic event.

Now that February is upon us and this week we are celebrating some major Slavic Catholic events on February 14th. As we all know February 14th is Valentine's Day, the day we acknowledge the gift of Love. It is also Saints Cyril and Methodius Day, the day the church honors our patron saints of the Slavic people and Slovakia. These two brothers brought the word of God and His love to the Slavic nations and people. And this year, February 14th is also Ash Wednesday, the day we start our forty days of Lent to prepare ourselves for Easter, and the Risen Christ. The last time this happened was 73 years ago in 1945.

How many have seen the Slovak Catholic Sokol, new Electronic Newsletter? This new communication tool is being sent to every one we have an electronic address for and it can be viewed on the Slovak Catholic Sokol Face Book page. I admit, I am not a tech savvy individual but I think this is a great new way to communicate with all of our members in every age bracket.

The Society created the Slovak Catholic Sokol E-Newsletter to keep in touch with our members on a more frequent basis now that we are publishing the Falcon only once a month. The E-Newsletter will keep everyone updated on what was in the last issue of the Falcon, as a way to remind the members of our activities and a way for our Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths to get their messages out to the membership of their events.

This is a communication enhancement and way of the future; so jump on board and embrace our new

communication tool, the Slovak Catholic Sokol E-Newsletter. There is only one problem; we do not have everyone's electronic address. I am asking all members to inform the Home Office of your electronic address where you want to receive the E-Newsletter and Falcon. I also would like to see each Assembly and Wreath obtain the e-mail addresses of their members and send them to the Home Office. It is only by leadership involvement that we can spread the E-Newsletter to the membership.

As I started out the Supreme Physical Fitness Board came up with some new ideas so watch your mail for the 2018 Slovak Catholic Sokol Activities magnet. This magnet lists all of the Society's 2018 sporting activities, which will act as a daily reminder to register and participate in an upcoming event.

The Fitness Board also creating a Slovak Catholic Sokol "Hang Out" announcement. The announcement will list activities that a Slovak Catholic Sokol member will be participating in. The intent is to let members know a Sokol member will be at an event and if there are other Sokol members at the same event to give them the chance to meet up and take, the all-important, photo of the SOKOL group at the event. This will be an easy way for the Society to show what our members are doing in their communities and regions.

These new ideas and ways of communicating will increase member involvement and generate more exposure for the Society so others can learn about the Slovak Catholic Sokol and hopefully become a member. If any member needs information on how to sign up a new member call the Home Office or our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Sues, Jr., F.I.C. for their help. Zdar Boh!

And, With God's Blessing to all.

Introducing our newest member



**Grace Nicole Suchy, born February 6, 2017 is the son of Supreme Auditor Brian Suchy and his wife, Nicole Shore Suchy of Pittsburgh, Pa. She was enrolled as a member in Wreath 22 in Pittsburgh, Pa.**

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL HANGOUTS

The NEW SOKOL HANGOUTS will be a way to meet up with fellow Sokols at events you may be doing in your area. If there is a something you are involved in, consider being a 'host' for the event. All you have to do is inform Assistant Physical Directress Katie Swift at 412-303-3338 or [Katie70@aol.com](mailto:Katie70@aol.com). She will organize a meeting place at the event and let you know which other Sokols may want to join you.

April 21, 2018	Tillman Honor Run NYC and Washington D.C.
July 13, 2018	AAA Rail Riders baseball game (Friday night before softball tournament) Wilkes-Barre, PA
July 14, 2018	Night at the Mohegan Sun Casino (Saturday night after softball tournament) Wilkes-Barre, PA
Aug. 20, 2018	Warrior Dash Poconos, PA

Keep a look out in the Falcon and on email, Facebook, and Instagram for upcoming events!



The historic Slovak Parish of SS. Cyril and Methodius, currently located in Sterling Heights, Mich. inaugurates its centennial year with a variety of activities. Originally located on Detroit's east side, the parish relocated to Sterling Heights in 1998. It is the only Slovak parish in the United States which was relocated to a new site, remaining as the center of Slovak ministry.

It is home to our organization's Group 16, "Rev. Ferdis Juriga." Our Sokol, Assembly 36 had its origins in 1909. Many of its early members were among those who labored to establish a Slovak parish in Detroit beginning in 1916. A year later, the parish was officially established by the Archdiocese of Detroit. This year's centennial celebrates the arrival of its first pastor, the Rev. John Kovalsky in 1918. Its longest serving pastor was the Rev. Joseph Zalibera who served the parish from 1922 until his retirement in February 1961. Father Zalibera passed away in 1971. Other pastors have included the Rev. Andrew J. Forish, the Rev. Joseph Nosal, the Rev. Elimir J. Mikus, who successfully moved the parish in

1998; the Rev. Benjamin Kosnac. The current pastor is the Rev. Libor Marek. For additional information on centennial activities, call tel. 586 685-1070, [www.saintcyrls.org](http://www.saintcyrls.org)

In conjunction with the centennial observance, SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Catholic Church is seeking old photos, newspapers, articles, other memorabilia, and traditional Slovak artifacts that would show the history of the parish. We are reaching out to current and past parishioners, alumni friends, and fellow Slovaks who have been associated with the church over the past 100 years. These items can be mailed to the church office, sent via email, scanned and returned, or dropped off at our parish office if the donor lives within the local area.

Items will be displayed on various mediums such as display board, banners, the church web site and on church property during the celebration year. The 100th Anniversary Planning Committee promises to take exceptional care of the items that are provided. Please contact our History Chairperson, Bev Moran at [bandmoran94@hotmail.com](mailto:bandmoran94@hotmail.com) or 586-254-6534.



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**Slovak Catholic Sokol**



## From the desk of the Supreme Secretary

### Planning Your Sokol Season

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

*"The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."*  
- Proverbs 16:9

Getting through the winter months can be a challenge, especially when most of your time is spent indoors. But what this time allows us to do is plan our schedules for the upcoming warm spring and summer months. And what better way to do that than take a look at the upcoming SOKOL Fraternal Calendar for 2018!



We have announced that our 72<sup>nd</sup> International Bowling Tournament will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> at the Orleans Lanes in Las Vegas, NV. We will once again be joined by our brother fraternal, the Greek Catholic Union, in an effort to promote the true meaning of fraternalism. I hope our devout regulars and many new faces will join us as we celebrate this great annual tradition. For more information, check out our website, or email our Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, jamesmatlon@optonline.net.

From June 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>, many of our members will be "reuniting" at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sokol Reunion at Rocky Gap Resort in Flintstone, MD. A wonderful time was had by all who attended last year, and hopes are that this year will be even better. For more information, email our Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, kathyw323@gmail.com, or our Supreme Assistant Physical Directress, Katie Swift, katie70@aol.com, and they will be glad to assist you.

For our softball enthusiasts, we will be back at Kirby Park in Wilkes-Barre, PA on July 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. The Physical Fitness Board will be in contact with our Group Presidents and Sports Directors in the coming months to discuss details. Along with the competition on Saturday, we are planning some events such as a Friday night Minor League ballgame and a Saturday night "Casino Meet-up" for those wanting to attend the tournament to either play or watch. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for more information!

August will also give our avid golfers an opportunity to get out and make some birdies as our 63<sup>rd</sup> International Golf Tournament will be held at Oak Tree Country Club in West Middlesex, PA from August 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. The tournament will once again be held jointly with the Greek Catholic Union as our tournament field and participation will surely increase. We hope to see you there!

As many of you know, hosting our fraternal activities can be both time consuming and costly. To justify these programs, we need to have the full and enthusiastic cooperation at our Group and local levels. Now is time for you to promote our various athletic programs within your own local Assembly or Wreath. Our local Assemblies and Wreaths are the heart and soul of our Organization. Active and vibrant lodges are imperative to facilitate interest at our national events. They are and will always be the backbone of our society. Please take the time to attend a Lodge or Group meeting and promote these wonderful activities.

Just like the seasons of the year, you should be seeing some changes here at the Slovak Catholic Sokol. I am proud of the first SOKOL E-Newsletter that was emailed to our membership on February 1, 2018. It is just another way for us to communicate with our membership, which has been a major goal of the Home Office and our Board of Directors. It is a way to keep the membership informed of any items that may be missed in our monthly FALCON. If you are not receiving our FALCON or E-Newsletter, please contact the Home Office at 800-886-7656. It is possible that we do not have your email or your "correct" email. Take advantage of this quick and efficient way to get up-to-date information of our great organization!

As you can see, we have a busy year planned! Until next time, Happy Valentine's Day to my two Valentines, Maggie and Reid Thomas, and to all our Members and Families! Have a wonderful month and God Bless!

Zdar Boh!

### OUR NEXT ISSUE IS MARCH 14

In keeping with our monthly publishing schedule of the Slovak Catholic Falcon, the next issue will be that of Wednesday, March 14. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Monday, March 5.



## Group 4 Annual Meeting Set for March 4

Members of Group 4, Slovak Catholic Sokol, under the Patronage of Bishop Stefan Moyzes, are hereby notified that our ANNUAL MEETING will take place on Sunday, March 4, 2018 at the Knights of Columbus Banquet Hall 732 Badger Avenue, South Milwaukee, WI 53127.

The meeting room will begin promptly at 10:15 a.m., with lunch to be served following the meeting. Our Group 4 lunch will be in combination with our fellow Wreath 93 members who are celebrating their 100th Anniversary. Lunch will be served in the banquet hall at 12 noon for all. Following lunch, Wreath 93 will continue their celebration. All are encouraged to stay to celebrate Wreath 93s momentous occasion. Lunch and entertainment will make the afternoon a time to remember.

Please mail the Group 4 delegation forms and reservation fee of \$15 from all Group 4 delegates to Lisa Hoeck at N30W23072 Pineview Circle, Pewaukee, WI 53072. All checks should be made payable to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Group 4 specifying names and Wreath/Assembly by Feb. 12, 2018.

Group Officers: please notify me prior to February 12th if you are unable to attend the annual meeting.

All Wreaths and Assemblies are urged to attend this meeting so that we may be able to address your concerns and hear your new ideas.

Zdar Boh!

**Julie Ann Dobbs**  
Group 4 Secretary  
5314 Agatha Turn  
Racine, WI 53402  
1-262-681-1720  
Jdobbs2@wi.rr.com

### Home Office closing

In observance of Presidents' Day, Monday, February 19, the Home Office will be closed for business. The Home Office reopens for business on Tuesday, February 20. The observance recognizes President George Washington and President Abraham Lincoln. This holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act. This was an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers.

## JOIN THE WALKING PROGRAM TODAY!

For more information contact Catie Swift at [katie70@aol.com](mailto:katie70@aol.com)



## Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain

### Questions and Answers about Lent and Lenten Practices

by Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdvic

**Q. Why do we say that there are forty days of Lent? When you count all the days from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, there are 46.**



A. It might be more accurate to say that there is the "forty day fast within Lent." Historically, Lent has varied from a week to three weeks to the present configuration of 46 days. The forty day fast, however, has been more stable. The Sundays of Lent are certainly part of the Time of Lent, but they are not prescribed days of fast and abstinence.

**Q. So does that mean that when we give something up for Lent, such as candy, we can have it on Sundays?**

A. Apart from the prescribed days of fast and abstinence on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and the days of abstinence every Friday of Lent, Catholics have traditionally chosen additional penitential practices for the whole Time of Lent. These practices are disciplinary in nature and often more effective if they are continuous, i.e., kept on Sundays as well. That being said, such practices are not regulated by the Church, but by individual conscience.

**Q. I understand that all the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat, but I'm not sure what is classified as meat. Does meat include chicken and dairy products?**

A. Abstinence laws consider that meat comes only from animals such

as chickens, cows, sheep or pigs — all of which live on land. Birds are also considered meat. Abstinence does not include meat juices and liquid foods made from meat. Thus, such foods as chicken broth, consommé, soups cooked or flavored with meat, meat gravies or sauces, as well as seasonings or condiments made from animal fat are technically not forbidden. However, moral theologians have traditionally taught that we should abstain from all animal-derived products (except foods such as gelatin, butter, cheese and eggs, which do not have any meat taste). Fish are a different category of animal. Salt and freshwater species of fish, amphibians, reptiles, (cold-blooded animals) and shellfish are permitted.

**Q. I've noticed that restaurants and grocery stores advertise specials on expensive types of fish and seafood on Fridays during Lent. Some of my Catholic friends take advantage of these deals, but somehow I don't feel right treating myself to the lobster special on Fridays during Lent.**

A. While fish, lobster and other shellfish are not considered meat and can be consumed on days of abstinence, indulging in the lavish buffet at your favorite seafood place sort of misses the point. Abstaining from meat and other indulgences during Lent is a penitential practice. On the Fridays of Lent, we remember the sacrifice of Christ on Good Friday and unite ourselves with that sacrifice through abstinence and prayer.

**Q. I understand that Catholics ages 18 to 59 should fast on Ash**

(Continued on page 6)



**SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL**

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

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### Slovak Catholic Sokol Discount Program

**As a Sokol, you now have access to hundreds of travel and entertainment discounts. Just become a member of Tickets At Work to access your discounts.**

Tickets At Work is pleased to offer entertainment and travel discounts for both regional and nationwide attractions and events to all Slovak Catholic Sokol members. These discounts are not available to the general public and are exclusive to the Tickets At Work Corporate Discount Program. Be sure to visit often as new products and discounts are constantly being added!!

**COMPANY CODE: go to [www.slovakcatholicsokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicsokol.org) for code**

How to Get Started:

1. Go to <http://www.ticketsatwork.com>
2. Click on "Become a Member"
3. You will then be prompted to create an account with your email address & company code.

Once enrolled, you will have access to all the discounts nationwide.

If you do not have internet access, you can call customer service at the toll free number — 1-800-331-6483, and use the Slovak Catholic Sokol code (contact Kathy for code). Customer Service is available 7 days a week.

See the TicketsAtWork.com website for details and restrictions.

If you have any questions, contact Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins at [kathyw323@gmail.com](mailto:kathyw323@gmail.com) or 412-225-8233.



## REFLECTOR ...

### Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

#### 28th Slovak Mass and Easter breakfast in Pittsburgh, Pa.

The 28th annual celebration of a Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast will take place at Prince of Peace Parish (South Side, Pittsburgh) on Saturday, March 24, 2018. It's the perfect opportunity to learn more about the rich spiritual culture and traditional Easter customs of Slovakia.

The morning begins at 10:45 a.m. at St. Adalbert Church, 160 South 15th Street, with recitation of the Holy Rosary in Slovak, followed by Mass at 11:00 a.m. All prayers, hymns and responses will be sung in the beautiful Slovak language, led by Gerri Walters, Prince of Peace organist and choir director. Father John Joseph Gonchar, O.F.M. of the Holy Family Friary in Avalon, will celebrate the liturgy in Slovak, and offer his homily in English.

After Mass, worshippers are invited and encouraged to gather at Prince of Peace Parish Center (81 South 13th Street) to sample a traditional Slovak Easter breakfast of sunka (ham), paska (bread), sirez (cheese), klobasy (sausage) and pysanki (dye eggs). There is NO CHARGE for this complementary meal, but donations to help defray expenses are gratefully accepted.

Also featured as part of this mini-heritage festival are a number of cultural displays depicting the folk culture, village life and kroj (traditional dress) of our Slovak ancestors. Select imported and handmade gift items will be available for sale. Among the craft demonstrators and vendors are master folk craftsman and author, Larry Kozlowski, who will demonstrate the art of braiding palms and decorating eggs Slovak-style; Joe Armata will display a portion of his vast collection of authentic Slovak kroj; imported giftware from Poland and Slovakia and personalized glassware, banners and tee shirts for will be available for sale. In addition, information stations will be provided by NSS Life/National Slovak Society and New York Life.

Delicious favorites like nut and poppy seed rolls, palachinky and cookies made by Parish volunteers will be also be priced to satisfy any sweet tooth. Raffles include a basket brimming with traditional Easter foods, crowned with a unique hand-embroidered basket cover. The Annual Slovak Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast is made possible by the volunteers of the Slovak Customs Group of Prince of Peace Parish in partnership with a number of local benefactors. Proceeds benefit two charities in Slovakia: the elderly Franciscan sisters in Zilina, and the Barlicka Center in Presov, which provides training for young adults with physical and mental disabilities, care for the elderly ill, as well as instruction for new parents and developmental care for young children.

The Annual Slovak Easter Mass and Easter Customs Breakfast in Pittsburgh's South Side is a great way to introduce children and grandchildren to the cultural treasures of their ancestral homeland, or to rekindle your own treasured memories. At the same, you can reach out a much-needed helping hand across the globe to others while enjoying a relaxing and informative morning.

ADMISSION TO THE SLOVAK EASTER BREAKFAST IS FREE, but donations are gratefully accepted. For more information, to make a donation, or to display your own Slovak treasures, please call Connie Zatek at 412-657-6364.

Join the friends and families of Prince of Peace Parish on Saturday, March 24, 2018. Doors to the breakfast hall open following Mass (approximately 12:15 p.m.).

#### Join us for the 2018 Consular Tour of Slovakia and its Neighbors

Honorary Slovak Consul, Joseph T. Senko is pleased to announce that this year's 13th annual deluxe 15-day tour to Slovakia, Austria, Poland and Hungary is set for August 13-26. The itinerary for Slovakia includes visits to the historic cities and towns of Bratislava, Svaty

Jur, Devin, Bojnica, the High Tatras, Levoca, Kezmarok, Spisska Sobota, Spissky Hrhov, Zdiar, Stara Lubovna, Kosice, Bardejov, Jedlinka and Presov. Some of the highlights in Slovakia include six castles, a mock wedding, two wine tastings and rafting on the Dunajec river which forms the natural boundary between Slovakia and Poland. This the only 2018 tour that also includes welcome receptions by the U.S. Ambassador in Bratislava and the Mayor of Presov. A tour of the imperial capital of Vienna is also included in the itinerary.

As you travel through various regions of Slovakia, arrangements can be made for you to visit your ancestral villages and families.

At no extra cost, Brother Senko who is our Sokol of Assembly 16 in Pittsburgh, has included two nights in Poland and two nights in Hungary. While in Poland, the tour will visit the shrines of St. Faustina and the Shrine of the Black Madonna - Our Lady of Czestochowa. In addition, the tour will visit the Wadowice, the birthplace of St. Pope John Paul II, the famous Wieliczka salt mines and Auschwitz. And of course, we will stop in Zakopane.

In Hungary, the tour will visit the architectural sites including the Royal Palace, Citadella fortress and the Hungarian parliament.

The total price for this fantastic tour is just \$4,300 per person, based on double occupancy. This includes round-trip airfare from either Pittsburgh or New York, two delicious meals daily, four star hotels, free admission to all the sites, air conditioned bus, a professional English-speaking guide and more. Compare this itinerary with other tour packages. For a detailed copy of the daily itinerary or more information, contact Joe Senko at [jtjenko@aol.com](mailto:jtjenko@aol.com) or tel. 412 956-6000. Join your fellow Sokol members on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit the land of our ancestor. An enjoyable and memorable experience is assured.

#### Slovak Language Program Set

The California University of Pennsylvania is pleased to announce that it has formed alliances with the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic, the iLearn Civic Association in Bratislava and the Studia Academica Slovaca - the Centre for Slovak as a Foreign Language at Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia as partners in a project whose aim includes but is not limited to the creation and delivery of Slovak language courses at both the elementary (basic course) and academic level (Slovak as a foreign language).

As a first step, we offer you free of charge a pre-beginner e-learning course of Slovak as a foreign language aiming to basic language skills which can be applied in everyday use. The online course consists of various dialogues, illustrations, records, and exercises and therefore it provides direct feedback after testing your acquired skills. The vocabulary and phraseology for this course is freely accessible in Google Play Store or Apple Store with the name *ilearn.sk*. Feel free to register on the site [www.myslovak.sk](http://www.myslovak.sk) and start learning!

More information you can find on our website [www.csj.sk](http://www.csj.sk) - **Bruce Barnhart**, *Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*, California University of Pennsylvania, PA; **Vladimir Burcik**, *Project's Solution Manager in charge*, Faculty of Arts, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia.

#### Rev. Vladimir Fekete, S.D.B. is newest Slovak bishop

On December 8, 2017, Pope Francis named the Rev. Vladimir Fekete, S.D.B., a Salesian from Slovakia, as a Bishop. A native of Bratislava where he was born in 1955, he entered the Salesians and was ordained a priest in Germany on January 30, 1983. He served as the provincial of the Salesians in Slovakia. The Society

(Continued from page 17)

## Sokol Calendar

### SAT.FEB.17

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

### SUN.FEB.18

■ 13th annual Sokol Children's Bowlingfest hosted by Group 1 at the Garden Palace Bowling Lanes, 42 Lakewood Ave., Clifton, N.J. from 2-4 p.m., free of charge with refreshments.

■ Assembly 162 meeting in SS, Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 218 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. beginning at 12:30 p.m.

### MON.FEB.26

■ Assembly 16 executive meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Cub, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 6 p.m.

### SAT.MARCH 3

■ 66th annual Florida Slovak Day at The Slovak Garden, 3110 Howell Branch Road #100, Winter Park, Fla. beginning with luncheon at 1 p.m. followed by a cultural program beginning at 2:30 p.m., \$30.00 per person; for reservations call The Slovak Garden at tel. 407 677-6894 or visit [222.slovak-garden.com](http://222.slovak-garden.com).

### SUN.MARCH 4

■ Group 4 annual meeting at the Knight of Columbus Banquet Hall, 732 Badger Ave., South Milwaukee, Wis. 25327 beginning at 10:15 a.m. for information call Julie Ann Dobbs 262 681-1720, [jdobbs2@wi.rr.com](mailto:jdobbs2@wi.rr.com)

■ 100th anniversary celebration of Wreath 93 at the Knights of Columbus Banquet Hall, 732 Badger Ave., South Milwaukee, Wis. beginning at 12 noon, \$15.00 per person; for reservations call Patty(after 5 p.m. CST) at 414 588-3794.

■ Assembly 59 annual meeting at the North End Slovak Citizens

Club, 635 North Main St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. beginning at 1:30 p.m., refreshments will be served.

### MON.MARCH 5

■ Assembly 16 meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 7 p.m.

■ Wreath 22 meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 21912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 7 p.m.

### MARCH 13-15

■ Annual audit of the S.C.S. Supreme Auditors for the year 2017 at the Home Office, Passaic, N.J.

### MARCH 16-17

■ Quarterly Meeting of the S.C.S. Board of Directors at the Home Office, Passaic, N.J.

### SUN.MARCH 18

■ Annual St. Joseph Day observance hosted by Assembly 182 at St. John Nepomucene parish, corner 66th Street and First Ave., New York City, beginning with Slovak Mass at 10:15 a.m. followed by luncheon and fraternal program in the parish social hall.

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

■ Semi-annual meeting of Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak" at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall, Route 16, Douglas, Mass. beginning at 10:30 a.m., coffee and danish will be served.

■ Bowling Party hosted by Group 14, "St. Francis of Assisi" at the Coral Bowling Lanes, 4071 Homestead Duquesne Rd., West Mifflin, Pa. 12 noon to 2 p.m. refreshments (Continued on page 18)

*Za Boha a Narod*  *For God and Nation*  
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**Held in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., December 3, 2017****Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol****FIRST SESSION****Sunday, December 3, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.**

Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, **Called to Order** the Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at the Westin in Fort Lauderdale, FL and greeted all the members.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, V.F. offered the **Opening Prayer** leading the Directors in the reading of the Prayer to Practice the Golden Rule, and a prayer for our members recovering from surgery or illness.

Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins led the Board members in reciting the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**.

Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. was asked to take the Roll Call and the following members responded:

Supreme Chaplain .....	Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, V.F.
Supreme President .....	Michael J. Horvath
Supreme Vice-President .....	Edward D. Moeller
Supreme Secretary .....	Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Supreme Treasurer .....	Dennis J. Zifcak
General Counsel .....	John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.
Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors .....	James G. Jerek
Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics .....	James C. Matlon
Supreme Physical Director .....	John M. Underation
Supreme Physical Directress .....	Kathleen S. Watkins

The record will show all ten members of the Board of Directors are in attendance.

Acknowledged  
President Horvath informed the Board that they all have received the **Minutes** from our last Board meeting held on September 23, 2017 via conference call and published in the November 15, 2017 issue of the Slovak Catholic Falcon. Brother President entertained a motion for their acceptance, so moved by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek and seconded by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins. **Approved**

President Horvath inquired if any **Communications** were received for presentation at the meeting.

The Supreme Secretary reported that a letter was received from Bernie Demechko of Youngstown, OH Sister Cities thanking the Slovak Catholic Sokol for their donation and continued support.

A letter was also received from our Editor, Daniel F. Tanzone, thanking the Board for the honor of being named the 2017 Fraternalist of the Year.

Also, a written communication was received from the Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, F.I.C. requesting to be excused from the meeting due to personal reasons.

Acknowledged  
President Horvath then asked our Supreme Secretary to give a brief overview of the **Membership/Sales and Marketing Report** given to our Board members by our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C.

The Supreme Secretary reported that as of October 31, 2017, a total of 476 new members have joined our organization this year through the purchase of life insurance and annuity certificates. The total face amount of insurance issued for the first ten months is \$13,932,133.00. The total number of certificates in force is 31,497, consisting of 30,751 life certificates and 746 annuity certificates. In his report, Brother Albert indicated that the 2017 New Business projections are positive regarding premium income received.

Since our last Board Meeting, 11 new agents have joined our sales force, which brings our total to 250 agents authorized to sell SOKOL life and annuity products. An agent portal is being created on our website, which will allow our agents to manage and assist their client's needs more efficiently. The goal is to have this tool running by January 2018.

The Supreme Secretary reported that Brother Albert is also working with some of our long-time Sokol recommenders in their pursuit of their Fraternal Insurance Counselor designation. The hope is to better educate some of our existing members on our products and offerings resulting in their ability to sell our products and increase membership.

Brother Albert is recommending we extend the deadline to our LEGACY CAMPAIGN to March 31, 2018. The campaign has grown over the past two months and he believes that interest will only increase with the extended time.

Several questions were presented and addressed to the satisfaction of the Board and President Horvath thanked the Supreme Secretary for presenting the report. President Horvath then asked for a motion to accept the report, so moved by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, V.F., seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak. **Approved**

President Horvath thanked the Supreme Secretary and called upon Mr. Thomas Calimano, Market Director/Senior Vice-President, PNC Institutional Asset Management, via conference call.

Mr. Calimano discussed the portfolio's current asset allocation, reviewed the historic and the year to date cash flows, the long-term growth of the portfolio, the effects of the equity and fixed income market's performance, and provided an overall relationship review.

Brother Calimano addressed various questions from the Board concerning our performance outlook and Mr. Calimano indicated the Society is in a strong financial position, especially in this volatile fiscal environment. The Board members expressed their thanks to Mr. Calimano and President Horvath entertained a motion to accept the report, so moved by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon. **Approved**

President Horvath then called on the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, for the **Physical Fitness Board Report**.

Brother Matlon reported that the 71st International Bowling tournament was held on May 19-20, 2017 in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The tournament was held in conjunction with the Greek Catholic Union. A total of 163 bowlers participated in the annual event and a wonderful time was had by all. All of the financial documentation was completed and submitted to the Home Office.

Brother Matlon also reported that the 48th International Slet was held at SUNY Brockport

from July 12-16, 2017. He commended our Physical Director, John M. Underation, Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, their Assistants, Dusan Dorich and Katie Swift, and the entire Physical Fitness Board on a job well done. The participants had a wonderful time and the spirit of fraternalism permeated throughout. Sister Watkins and Brother Underation also offered additional comments and thanked the Board of Directors for their support throughout the week. Sister Watkins also indicated that the pictures and results are currently on the Slovak Catholic Sokol website for all to view.

The 2017 Golf Tournament was held at Treasure Lake Resort on August 18-20, 2017 in conjunction with the Greek Catholic Union. There was a total of 128 golfers who participated in the annual event. The banquet was held on Saturday night and the highlight was most definitely the presentation of the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award to John S. Hornacek from Barberton, OH. The results and pictures are available for viewing on our website.

Brother Matlon also informed the Board that the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 12-14, 2018 in Boardman, OH. **Acknowledged**

Sites that are being considered or are already confirmed for the 2018 Sports Program:

May 20-22, 2018	Bowling	Orleans Lanes, Las Vegas, NV
July 13-15, 2018	Softball	Kirby Park, Wilkes-Barre, PA
July 26-29, 2018	Clinic	SUNY Brockport, Brockport, NY
August 10-12, 2018	Golf	Tam-O-Shanter & Oak Tree, West Middlesex, PA

After a lengthy and lively discussion regarding our current and future fraternal activities, President Horvath asked for a motion to accept the report, so moved by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek, seconded by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller. **Approved**

President Horvath thanked Brother Matlon, Brother Underation, and Sister Watkins for their report and called upon General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. for the **Legal Department Report**.

Counsel reported that there are several items to report on:

1. Brother John offered comments regarding the Sokol Club in Ambridge, PA and our intention to have this property sold as soon as possible. There have been showings over the past two months and there seems to be traction. An update will be given at the March Board Meeting.
2. Brother Counsel also reported on the DOL Fiduciary Rule as it pertains to Fraternal Benefit Societies.
3. Lastly, Brother John verified the property taxes and insurance are all paid to date on the three existing mortgages on file.

After a lengthy discussion regarding the above items, President Horvath entertained a motion to approve the report, so moved by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, V.F., and seconded by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins. **Approved**

President Horvath thanked the General Counsel for his report and asked the Supreme Secretary to present the **Mortgage Department Report**.

Brother Scott reported that as of October 31, 2017, the organization has 3 existing mortgages totaling \$701,350.97. Principal payments received for the ten months in 2017 total \$32,224.22 and interest payments total \$35,170.48. All mortgages are paid up and on time.

President Horvath thanked Brother Scott for his report and inquired if any **Donation requests** were received to be addressed.

The Supreme Secretary reported that one donation request was received on behalf of SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Clifton, NJ, to help defray the cost of a new sprinkler and fire alarm system. SS. Cyril and Methodius has hosted Officer installations and regularly hosts local and national Sokol events. A donation of \$500 was approved by the Board.

President Horvath and the Board members then discussed the issue of **declaring a dividend** for the year 2017 to be distributed during 2018. The 2016 dividend declaration issued in 2017 was \$50,000.00.

After a brief discussion, Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek, moved that a dividend be declared for the year 2017 in the amount of \$50,000.00 payable in 2018 for all qualifying certificates, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. **Approved**

The Supreme President questioned the Board members regarding the Annuity Interest Rate to be offered for the first quarter of 2018.

The Board members had a lively discussion regarding the **Annuity Interest Rate**, taking into consideration our investment portfolio, the interest rate environment, product sales of our Vantage Collection, and the recommendations of our Director of Sales and Marketing. Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, made a motion to increase the Vantage 2 and Vantage 3 to 1.75% and 2.25%, respectively, in an effort to increase our short-term annuity sales, seconded by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller. **Approved**

President Horvath questioned if there was any **Unfinished Business** to address.

The Board members were informed by Brother Secretary that our Fraternalist of the Year presentation was held on Saturday, November 18, 2017 in New York, NY to honor this year's recipient, Daniel F. Tanzone. Brother Secretary was in attendance, along with Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, V.F., Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, Honorary Supreme Officer, Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., and Honorary Supreme Officer, John D. Pogorelec, Sr., Esq. A great time was had by all and Brother Tanzone was extremely appreciative. **Acknowledged**

The Board members were informed by Brother President that the Annual Audit will be held March 13-15, 2018 at the Home Office in Passaic, NJ. Also, the 2018 First Quarterly Meeting will be held on March 16-17, 2018 at the Home Office as well. **Acknowledged**

Brother President also updated the Board on the 2020 Committee. A conference call is set for January 25, 2018 and a report will be given to the Board at the March meeting. **Acknowledged**

Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller, made a motion to extend the LEGACY Campaign to March 31, 2018 from the recommendation by our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, seconded by Physical Director, John M. Underation. **Approved**

Under **New Business**, President Horvath called on Brother Secretary to update on the Board on our Scholarships. Brother Scott informed the Board on the annual income received from the scholarship bonds. The Board mutually agreed to make some adjustments on the

### Lodge Jottings

#### CLIFTON, N.J. Assembly 162

Our next regularly scheduled meeting of our lodge is set for Sunday, February 18 in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 218 Ackerman Avenue beginning at 12:30 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

Our meeting agenda will include any lodge business to be discussed as well as upcoming fraternal and sporting activities of interest to our members. Upcoming Group 1 activities will also be discussed. Input from our members will insure the success of our activities.

As we celebrate the great feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius, patrons of our Assembly as well as our parish, let us pledge to continue to promote our rich heritage and faith traditions.

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

#### MILWAUKEE, WIS Wreath 93

Our Wreath will mark its centennial with a gala celebration scheduled for Sunday, March 4 at the Knights of Columbus Banquet Hall, located at 732 Badger Avenue in South Milwaukee, beginning with dinner and entertainment at 12 noon. We extend a warm fraternal invitation to all our members and their families to join us for a truly memorable afternoon.

A reservation fee of \$15.00 is asked to be mailed by February 18, 2018 to Patty Osterbrink, 3513 18th Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172 for each child and/or adult attending. Be sure to specify who are the members and who are the guests. Sokol members will be refunded their reservation fee upon arrival; non-Sokol members' \$15 is non-refundable. All checks should be payable to Slovak Catholic Sokol, Wr. 93. Call Patty at tel. 414 588-3794(after 5 p.m.CST) with any questions. So please mark your calendars now so you can join in their exciting centennial celebration.

Our Wreath was founded in August 1916 at the former St. Stephen's Slovak Parish. The former Assembly 147 had been founded in 1915. Assembly 147 was merged with our Wreath in 1995. Thus for the past more than a century, Milwaukee Sokols and Sokolky have enjoyed an active athletic, fraternal and cultural legacy in the best traditions of Slovak fraternalism. We hope to see you at our centennial celebration. With best wishes for a happy and healthy new year, 2018, may I remain

Zdar Boh!  
**Lisa Hoekc**  
*Recording secretary*

#### NEW YORK, N.Y. Assembly 182

The annual St. Joseph's Day observance hosted by Assembly 182 is scheduled for Sunday, March 18 at St. John Nepomucene Parish, corner of East 66th Street and First Avenue in Manhattan. Our program begins with attendance at the Slovak Mass

which will be celebrated at 10:15 a.m. for the living and deceased members of our Assembly by our pastor and Chaplain of Group 1, the Rev. Richard D. Baker. Following the liturgy, our lodge's annual meeting will be called to order followed by our traditional luncheon and fraternal program in the parish social hall beginning at 12:30 p.m. All members are invited to join us at this annual fraternal event. We extend an invitation to our Sister Sokolky of Wreath 168 as well as New York area Sokol lodges. In addition we extend an invitation to our brother and sister Slovak fraternalists of the New York lodges of the First Catholic Slovak Union and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association to join us as well. At this traditional celebration, we honor all the "Josephs" and "Josephines" among us. An enjoyable fraternal afternoon is assured.

This year's celebration in an historic milestone since we mark the 95th anniversary of the founding of Assembly 182. It was in the spring of 1923 that a group of young Slovak men met at St. John Nepomucene Parish to establish a new lodge of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. The founders chose St. Joseph as patron of the lodge. For more than 70 years, we have hosted a patronal feast day observance. So we look forward to this year's celebration in the best traditions of Slovak fraternalism and fellowship on the road to our centennial.

Zdar Boh!  
**Dr. Larry Korcek**  
*President*  
**Anna Korcek**  
*Financial Secretary*

#### PERRYOPOLIS, PA. Assembly 25 Wreath 15

We invite our members to participate in our upcoming fraternal and social activities. Continuing in our long-standing Lenten tradition, members of both our lodges are invited to participate in our annual Mass and Communion Brunch scheduled for Sunday, March 18. Mass will be celebrated for the living and deceased members at 8 a.m. at the Church of St. John the Baptist by our pastor, the Rev. Anthony Ditto. Following the liturgy Brunch will be enjoyed at our Slovak Catholic Sokol Club.

On Sunday, March 25 we will host our traditional Easter Egg Hunt for our young Sokol members on the grounds of our Slovak Catholic Sokol Club from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served and a visit by the Easter Bunny will complete a wonderful afternoon celebrating Sokol fellowship and fraternalism. We hope to see a good turnout of our members at both these fraternal activities. An enjoyable time is always assured.

This year marks an important historic milestone in the life of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in our community. Exactly 110 years ago, in July 1908, a group of young Slovak

immigrants gathered to establish a lodge of this new organization which had been founded to promote gymnastics and athletics just three years before in 1905 in Passaic, N.J. Our founders chose SS. Cyril and Methodius, the great apostles of the Slavic nations as patrons of the new lodge. Likewise in 1910, a group of immigrant Slovak women met to establish Wreath 15. In 1934, our Sokol Club was opened and continues to flourish today. So let us celebrate our 110th anniversary by dedicating ourselves to the high ideals which inspired our founders and continue our wonderful Sokol fraternal and sporting traditions.

Zdar Boh!  
**Michael T. Matras**

#### Holy Land Pilgrimage

The New York Oratory of St. Philip Neri with headquarters in Tappan, N.Y. is pleased to announce a pilgrimage tour to the Holy Land with a two-day stop in Dubai, April 11 to April 23. The cost per person is \$3,300 all inclusive based on double accommodations. This includes air fare, visa fees, border entry taxes, toll, guide fees with accommodations in hotels, all meals, breakfast, lunch and dinners, mineral water 1 liter bottle per day, exclusive cruise on the sea of Galilee, as well as all entry fees of sites scheduled. Air conditioned buses and English speaking guides. In addition to the Holy Land, the tour will include a two day visit to Dubai which will include a desert safari with a barbecue dinner on the desert, as well as a tour of Dubai with the Burj Khalifa tower entry tickets included. In the Holy Land, the tour will visit many of the sites associated with Christ's life on earth. Masses will be celebrated in many of the historic churches with Christ's ministry.

The cost per person all inclusive, based on double occupancy, is \$3,300. Make all checks payable to: New York Oratory of St. Philip Neri. For reservations and additional information call the Oratory office at tel. 845 268-4464.

#### Scholarships available for New England members

The New England Fraternal Alliance is pleased to announce that two scholarship grants in the amount of \$1,000 each will be available to any member of a fraternal organization in any of the six New England States, including Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire. Any member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol residing in any of these states and who is a full-time student in an accredited college/university or graduate school may apply. The scholarship award is paid directly to the recipients. Deadline for the completed application is September 1, 2018. A transcript of grades from the spring 2018 semester must be submitted with the application.

An application is available from Group 2 President Eileen S. Wilson, tel. 203 378-8837. The completed application must be forwarded by September 1, 2018 to: Albert Costa, Chair - Scholarship Committee, 1735 Beacon St. Waban, MA 02468.

#### Questions and Answers about Lent and Lenten Practices

(Continued from page 3)

**Wednesday and on Good Friday, but what exactly are the rules for these fasts?**

A. Fasting on these days means we can have only one full, meatless meal. Some food can be taken at the other regular meal times if necessary, but combined they should be less than a full meal. Liquids are allowed at any time, but no solid food should be consumed between meals.

**Q. Are there exemptions other than for age from the requirement to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday?**

A. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

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

(Continued from page 5)

amounts awarded if needed based on current income received from the bonds. Acknowledged

The Board discussed at length our marketing approach for 2018 and decided that a more central focus on our local Assemblies and Wreaths is needed. The Sokol Secure Fund is a product that our local Groups, Assemblies, and Wreaths need to be educated on. Acknowledged

Brother President also informed the Board that they will be meeting tomorrow, December 4th, at 9:00am, for an open forum discussion regarding the society, as well as a 2018 Business/Fraternal Plan.

Having completed all the business on the agenda, Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, entertained a motion to adjourn, so moved by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, seconded by Supreme Physical Director, John M. Underation. Approved

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, V.F., offered the Closing Prayer for all those in need as well as for all the ill and deceased members of the Organization.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Zdar Boh!

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Scott T. Pogorelec F.I.C.**  
*Supreme Secretary*

#### Keep Your Slovak Catholic Sokol Home Office Numbers Handy

- TOLL FREE NUMBER** - 1-800-886-7656
- HOME OFFICE** - (973) 777-2605 or 777-2606
- DIRECTOR OF SALES** - 1-855-874-9179 or (412) 381-5431
- UNDERWRITING** - (973) 777-4704
- EDITOR** - (973) 777-4010
- FAX NUMBER** - (973) 779-8245
- E-MAIL** - Sokol205@aol.com
- WEB SITE** - www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

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

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

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

NEW     CHANGE     CANCELLATION

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

**Slovak Catholic Sokol Catholic Grade School Grants**

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



**Eligibility**

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

**Application**

This application must be **received** on or before, **March 31, 2018** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph. Application is also available on the Internet @

[www.slovakcatholicssokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org)

**Disqualification**

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

**Acknowledgment**

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

**Return of Grant**

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

**An outstanding fraternal benefit**

**\$60,000 in S.C.S. Scholarship Grants Available to Eligible Members in 2018**

by Edward M. Moeller  
Supreme Vice President

We are pleased to announce that the Slovak Catholic Sokol will make available a total of \$60,000 in scholarship grants to eligible members in 2018. Our scholarship program, which had its beginnings in 1972 affirms our organization's commitment to the support of higher education among our youth. Previous recipients of Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants may reapply for a 2018 grant; however, per Convention mandate - a student may receive a maximum of two(2) Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grant awards in each category.

A total of 30 Slovak Catholic Sokol college grants of \$1,000 each, two Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Memorial Scholarships, one for a male and female in the amount of \$2,000 each; two Emil Slavik Memorial Scholarships one for a male and female in the amount of \$2,000 each; one The Doctors' Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000; one Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 and three(3), Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarships in the amount of \$1,000. In 2018, we will inaugurate the Yencha Scholarship Grant for study in the liberal arts in the amount of \$1,000. This new grant has been established by John and Mary Yencha of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Members of the Yencha family have been active in Slovak Catholic Sokol activities, both internationally and on the Group 7 level, for generations.

With one application you may apply for all college scholarship grants for which a member is eligible.

**College scholarship eligibility requirements:**

**Slovak Catholic Sokol(a total of 30, \$1,000 grants will be awarded)**

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

**Theodore and Mary Jane Rich(one male and one female grant in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded)**

- \* Same requirements as for SCS scholarship
- AND
- \* One parent must be of Slovak ancestry

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship(3 grants) in the amount of \$1,000 each will be awarded to the applicant that best exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism)**

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

**The Yencha Scholarship Grant(1 grant in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded)**

- \* Same requirements as for SCS scholarship
- \* Majoring in the liberal arts curriculum

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

(Continued on page 16)



**SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

School verification (to be completed by Grade School Principal)

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

Catholic Grade School, verify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a student at  
(Name of student)  
the above school and will be entering \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in the 2018-2019 school year.

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

Deadline for receipt of this application is **March 31, 2018.**  
Return completed application to:

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

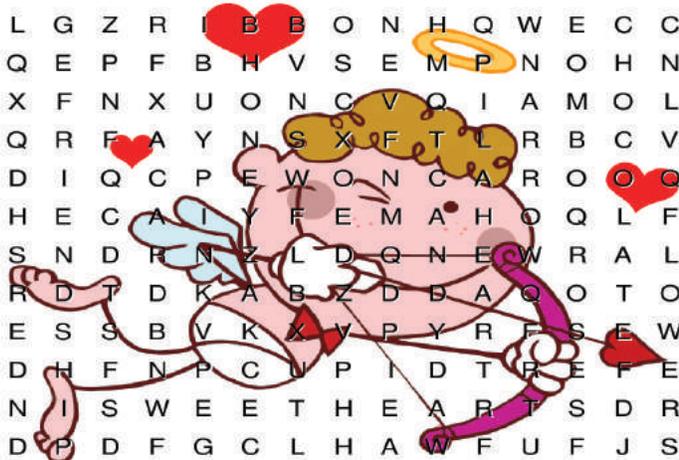


# KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

## February, 2018

### Valentine's Day Word Search

www.KidsCantHaveFun.com



- |            |            |       |           |           |
|------------|------------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| ARROW      | HEART      | CANDY | CUPID     | FLOWERS   |
| SWEETHEART | ROSES      | RED   | PINK      | VALENTINE |
| CARD       | FRIENDSHIP | HONEY | CHOCOLATE | RIBBON    |



Activity

### Washington Pancakes

Make yum pancakes to start your morning of President's Day!

**Supplies -**

- Pancake mixture
- Whipped cream spray
- 1 black grape

**Directions -**

- Shape your pancake mix in the pan on low heat into and longish face. You can also cut along a round pancake with kitchen scissors to get the desired shape. Also, cut out nose, lips, and eye lids out of another pancake.
- Once the face pancake cools a little, place it on a plate.
- Spray the whipped cream to make hair and eyes. Slice the grape into half and make pupils with them.
- Place the nose, lips, and eye lids as shown in the image, and your Washington pancake is ready to be attacked!

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## Slovak Words=Slovenské slova

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

Surprise your boyfriend/girlfriend, or your parents and grandparents by wishing them these:  
*Šťastný svätý Valentínsky deň* = Happy St. Valentine's Day  
 /Pronounced [shytaast-nee sve-tee vaah- len-teen-skee dyen, with a soft n.]

Valentine's Day card = *Valentínska kartka* [vaah- len-teen-skah- kaart-kah]  
*milovať* [mee- low - vaat ] = to love (romantic), to be in love (with)  
 I love only you. (romantic) = *Milujem len Teba.* [mee - lew - yem len Tye - bah]  
 I like you. = *Mám ťa rád.* [Mom tyah rod]  
 to love *ľúbiť* [lyoo - beet ] = to love (can be used for girlfriend/boyfriend, parents, grandpar-  
 ents, etc.)  
*ľúbiť sa* [lyoo - beet sah ] = to be nuts or crazy about, to be taken with  
 Note how adding "sa," the reflexive form, changes the meaning!  
*Ľúbim sa teba.* = I am crazy about you. I love you.

*frajer* [fry - air ] = boyfriend  
*frajerka* [fry - air - kah ] = girlfriend  
*Miláčik* [Me - laah-cheek ] = darling, honey, sweetheart

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

- |                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Joseph Phillips | 2/12 |
| Ryan Hvozdoc    | 2/13 |
| Julie Diaz      | 2/17 |
| Riley Slonac    | 2/23 |
| Aiden Ahern     | 2/23 |
| Mackenzie Ahern | 2/23 |
| Lauren Martyak  | 2/28 |



# GREAT NEWS – GROWING OUR LEGACY CAMPAIGN EXTENSION

Slovak Catholic Sokol - "Growing Our Legacy Campaign" Extended. Due to the popular demand, the terrific success and the value that we are extending to our members, families and friends. We are extending the "Growing Our Legacy Campaign" guaranteed issue program to March 31, 2018.

The deadline for accepting the "Growing Our Legacy Campaign" guaranteed issue applications will now be March 31, 2018. This guaranteed issue of Permanent Life Insurance protection is for MEMBERS ONLY and their FAMILY MEMBERS. We will not guarantee issue any application that is postmarked beyond the March 31, 2018 date.

**Five good reasons to take advantage of this opportunity:**

1. Provide Sufficient Life Insurance Coverage
2. Create a 100% Sokol Family
3. Provides Live Insurance Coverage for the Uninsurable
4. Reduced Cost of Life Insurance & the Ease of Issuance
5. Show a LOVED-ONE that you Truly Care

Do not hesitate and lose out on this wonderful opportunity that benefits you and the ones you care about most. Contact our Home Office 800-886-7656 or our Sales Office 855-874-9179 for assistance and direction. If you truly love your family, take the time, they are worth it.

**Growing Our LEGACY**

The Slovak Catholic Sokol is offering to our membership the "SOKOL LEGACY Campaign". This campaign has been established to provide to our current members and their immediate family members an opportunity to purchase af-

fordable, quality and relatively easy to obtain life insurance. **March 31, 2018.** This is a benefit offered exclusively for our existing members and families of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, who currently have a life insurance policy or annuity certificate in force. The Slovak Catholic Sokol is making this commitment to extend to our member's immediate family an opportunity to not only gain membership in the Society, but also to recognize the need to provide your family the important financial benefit of permanent life insurance coverage.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol is extremely proud of both, our SOKOL LEGACY and our outstanding fraternal programs. We are also aware that our current members and their families desire to have sound financial protection throughout their lives. That is why we have developed this exceptional membership benefit that will focus on helping to providing financial security.

To accomplish these goals, the society will not only provide a **GUARANTEED ISSUE** permanent life insurance certificate to your loved ones, in addition the society will provide a **"FRATERNAL BENEFIT"** that provides a partial payment that reduces the first-year premium\*. We have structured our "SOKOL LEGACY" program to be as flexible as possible for our existing membership. As a valued member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, you can take advantage of this "limited time offer" to either increase your current permanent insurance coverage, or extend the same opportunity to an immediate family member.

**GROWING OUR LEGACY - GUIDELINES: Qualifications to participate in the "GROWING OUR LEGACY" Fraternal Benefit -**

An existing member in good standing of the Slovak Catho-

lic Sokol with a current Permanent Life Insurance, Term Life Insurance or an Annuity Certificate, and their Immediate Family Members.

**Qualifying Ages – For Guarantee Issue – 0 - 80**  
**Maximum Face Amount– For Guarantee Issue – \$10,000**

**Fraternal Benefit Reduced Premiums –**

**Legacy 20 and Legacy Life**

When purchased and qualified as a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the society will issue a 50% Fraternal Benefit, that will be applied to reduce the first-year premium, all succeeding premium payments will be at the regular premium rates.

**Legacy Single Premium and Legacy 3**

When a new certificate is purchased and qualified as a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the society will issue, a "10% fraternal benefit" that will be applied to reduce the total premium amount.

**Taking Advantage of "GROWING OUR LEGACY" –**

Contact the Home Office (800) 886-7656, the Sales & Marketing Office (855) 874-9179 or contact your local Group or Assembly Officer and request a Life Insurance Application.

**GROWING OUR LEGACY – RECOMMENDER ENHANCEMENTS:**

\$ 5.00 for each Certificate with a Face Amount between \$5,000 to \$9,999

\$10.00 for each Certificate with a Face Amount of \$10,000

Recommend (5) five or more certificates that are approved/ issued, and you will receive a chance for each certificate sold to win a \$250 in a drawing.

## SOKOL LEGACY- Application Instructions:

1. Complete the "SOKOL LEGACY" Application Form below:
2. Complete form LA-10 Application for Life Insurance.
3. Mail the "SOKOL LEGACY" Application Form and LA-10 Application for Life Insurance to:

Slovak Catholic Sokol  
 PO Box 899  
 Passaic, NJ 07055

# SOKOL LEGACY

## Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternal Benefit Offer

**Purchase one of our Permanent Life Insurance Products and receive the following as a Fraternal Benefit:**

1. The right to obtain a Guaranteed Issue Permanent Life Insurance Certificate for yourself or an Immediate Family member; and
2. A 50% reduction for the 1st year premium if the certificate chosen is a Legacy Life, Legacy 20, or Legacy Life.
3. A 10% Reduction on a Single Premium Life or a 3 Payment Life plan.

## Application

Existing Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate #: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Age: \_\_\_\_\_ (Applicant Qualifying ages are 0 – 80)

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Existing Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Celebrating Slovakia's 25th Anniversary of Independence at a reception hosted by the Slovak Embassy at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. on Friday, January 19

**Slovaks and Americans together for Freedom and Democracy: 1993-2018, 25th anniversary of the Slovak Republic; 1918-2018 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first Czecho-Slovak Republic; 1968-2018, 50th anniversary of the Prague Spring.**



Slovakia's Ambassador to the United States, Peter Kmec, center is shown above welcoming Slovak fraternal leaders including, l-r, W. Nina Holy, national secretary-treasurer of the Slovak League of America; Dr. Deborah Zeman, medical examiner of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; Cynthia M. Maleski, national president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; Rev. Msgr. Peter M. Polando, national chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; Rev. Richard D. Baker, pastor of New York's United Parish St. John Nepomucene, St. John the Martyr and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini and our chaplain of Group 1; and Daniel F. Tanzone, national president of the Slovak League of America.



Slovakia's Ambassador to the United States is shown flanked by Cynthia M. Maleski, national president of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and our Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath.



With picture-perfect weather, Father Richard D. Baker is shown with some of the New York area guests on the steps of the Library of Congress with the shining capitol building in the distance.



His Excellency, Peter Kmec, Ambassador of the Slovak Republic in the United States, is shown above offering the welcome address at the reception in the Founders Room of the Library of Congress.



Guests included, l-r, W. Nina Holy, Kenneth Bombara, Lisa Calabrese, Daniel F. Tanzone, Albina Senko, Rev. Richard D. Baker, Honorary Slovak Consul in Pittsburgh, Joseph T. Senko, Rev. Stefan Chanas and Rev. Martin Kertys, C.O.



Ambassador Peter Kmec, center is shown welcoming invited guests including, l-r, Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, Theresa A. Kluchinski, national president of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, Supreme President Michael J. Horvath and Editor Daniel F. Tanzone.

## Who knew that Outdoor Exercise was Good for You?!

by Julie Laury, Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member

Now a days it seems that most people like hanging out in the house.

Whether to continue working when they get home from work, studying, playing or searching on computers or phones, or scrolling through facebook. People,

in general, are spending less time outdoors. But did you know, that outdoor exercise can benefit both the planet and the people doing the exercising? By exercising outdoors instead of at home or at an indoor fitness centers, men and women can reduce their carbon footprints. Exercising in the great outdoors

does not require the use of energy-consuming fitness machines. In addition, when exercising outdoors during daylight hours nature provides all the light men and women will need for their workouts, further reducing the average person's energy consumption. And it's not just adults who can benefit from spending more time outdoors. According to the Harvard Medical School, children are likely to get more exercise if they play or spend time outdoors than they would if they spend time indoors. A study from researchers in England used GPS devices and accelerometers to track the activity of 1,000 children.

The children were more than twice as active when they were outside than they were when they were indoors. When children spend more time outdoors can benefit the

environment. According to the National institutes of Health, the average child spends three hours per day watching television and gets as much as seven hours of screen time each day. That's an alarming statistic. However, when kids are outdoors, they are less likely to be staring at energy-consuming screens and devices than they are when they're indoors. So, get out there today and improve your energy levels, physical and mental states.

A great way for you to start or continue your outdoor exercise programs is to participate and/or attend your Local, Group and International Sokol events.

A new way to get involved is by attending and/or participating in a "Sokol Hangout". A "Sokol Hangout" is when someone-anyone from your group or another group is participating in an event, such as 5K run, Relay for Life walk, etc., near you. You can join them either by supporting/cheering them at their event or participating in the same event or maybe by inviting them to dinner afterward. You can just "hangout" with Sokol friends. If you have entered in an event, post it on our Sokol facebook page to let others know. If they are interested then they can participate and have fun in that event together.

Don't forget to attend our:  
 \*\* International Bowling Tournament in beautiful Las Vegas, NV, May 20-22  
 \*\*Sokol Reunion Weekend(sokol hangout) at Rocky Gap Casino and Resort in Flinstone, MD, June 1-3  
 \*\*International Softball Tournament (with a Sokol hangout Friday-minor league baseball game and Saturday-casino)in Wilkes-Barre, PA, July 13-15  
 \*\*International Golf Tournament at Oak Tree Country Club in West Middlesex, PA, August 10-12  
 \*\*The Sokol Walking Program is always ongoing all year long. If you haven't joined, do so today by contacting Katie Swift at: katie70@aol.com  
 \*\*Mark your calendars for the 2018 Sokol activities. You can find our event schedule on our Sokol website: slovakcatholicssokol.org. See you there!!!

### Slovak Catholic Sokol Sporting Events Scheduled for 2018

Following our successful annual meeting of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board, we are pleased to announce the various sporting events which will be hosted by our organization in 2018. Exact schedules and complete details of each of these events have been finalized. We recommend that our members mark their calendars and make every effort to participate in one or more of these exciting sporting events. Participants of each of these sporting events can be assured of a memorable and exciting time in the best traditions of Sokol fraternalism, good sportsmanship and fellowship. Let us all contribute to our organization's timeless slogan of "A Sound Mind in a Sound Body!"



- 72nd International Bowling Tournament**  
May 20-22, Las Vegas Nevada
- 2nd Slovak Catholic Sokol Reunion Weekend**  
June 1-3 at Rocky Gap Resort, in Flinstone, Maryland
- 23rd International Co-Ed Softball Tournament**  
July 13-15 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
- Supreme Clinic - Kurz in preparation for our 49th International Slet**  
July 26-29 at SUNY - Brockport, New York
- 63rd International Golf Tournament**  
August 10-12 at Oak Tree Country Club West Middlesex, Pennsylvania

2018 looks to be a busy and exciting sporting year in the life of our organization. Mark your calendars and I hope to see you at these events.

Zdar Boh!  
**James C. Matlon**  
 Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics



New York area guests at the reception pose for a group photo with Father Martin Kertys, C.O. and Father Richard D. Baker.



Supreme President Michael J. Horvath, second from the left, with some well-known guests at the historic reception.

**2018 GCU - SCS NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT AT THE ORLEANS IN LAS VEGAS, NV. MONDAY, MAY 21-TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2018**

TEAM EVENT WILL BE BOWLED ON MONDAY, MAY 21 FROM 11:30 PM. DOUBLES AND SINGLES EVENTS WILL BE BOWLED ON TUESDAY, MAY 22 FROM 10:00 TO 6 PM.

ROOMS ARE \$99 FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, MAY 18-19 AND \$89 FOR SUNDAY/THURSDAY, MAY 20-24. THERE IS AN \$18 TRIPKIT RESORT FEE TO RECEIVE YOUR SPECIAL GROUP RATE. MEMBERS WILL NEED TO ENTER THE ASSIGNED RESERVATION ID: AS05C05 THROUGH THE HOTEL'S WEBSITE AT THE FOLLOWING URL: WWW.ORLEANSCASINO.COM/GROUPS OR CALL (800) 675-2257 AND IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS MEMBERS OF GCU/SCS NATIONAL BOWLING OR BY THE ASSIGNED RESERVATION ID: AS05C05

BOWLING COST FOR THE EVENT WILL REMAIN THE SAME AS IN 2017: \$22 PER EVENT, \$5 FOR ALL EVENTS AND \$29 FOR THE BUFFET BANQUET ON MONDAY, MAY 21 FOLLOWING BOWLING AT 6 PM. TOTAL FOR BOWLERS IN TEAM DOUBLES, SINGLES, ALL EVENTS AND THE BANQUET IS \$100.

THE ORLEANS HOTEL & CASINO  
 4800 W. TROPICANA AVENUE  
 LAS VEGAS, NV 89103

### Group 14 Bowling Party

#### Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup>

#### 12PM - 2PM

Come join us for a Sunday afternoon of some BOWLING FUN at Coral Lanes in West Mifflin!  
 4071 Homestead Duquesne Rd, West Mifflin, PA 15122

**\$3 Non-Bowler (food only)**  
**\$5 Kids (12 & under)**  
**\$10 Adults**

**Prices includes:**  
 2 Hours of Bowling,  
 Shoe Rental,  
 And  
 Pizza!!

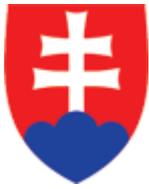
This Event is open to all Members and Non-Members, so bring a friend!  
 We will have Pizza, Pop and Snacks; free for everyone that purchases a ticket.

For the adults that just want to get out and have a little fun, there will be a bartender for anyone that would like to purchase an adult beverage while bowling.

Sign up sheets will be located at the Sokol Club on Wednesday and Thursday nights during Gymnastics or Call/Message to Carmella Marzec  
[Suesscm@gmail.com](mailto:Suesscm@gmail.com) or 412-414-9249

For More information please check our Group 14 Facebook page

## What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



## News and Views from Slovakia...

### ZAP: Slovakia's Car Output also Exceeded Million Threshold in 2017

Slovakia's automotive industry exceeded the one million threshold in terms of car output once again in 2017, representatives of the Slovak Automobile Industry Association (ZAP) told a news conference on Tuesday, January 16.

Over 1.025 million vehicles were manufactured at Kia Motors Slovakia, PSA Group Slovakia and Volkswagen Slovakia plants last year. In comparison, Slovakia's car output in 2016 reached 1.04 million.

Car production made up some 44 percent of the country's industrial output and 35 percent of its exports. Slovakia is the global leader in terms of the number of vehicles produced per capita at 189 vehicles per 1,000 people.

"However, this year will be critical in terms of the sustainability and competitiveness of our economy's key sector. If we fail to remove chief barriers in the automotive industry, it won't be possible to sustain these results for a long time, and this sector's productivity will take a downward trend," said ZAP President Juraj Sinay.

"We view 2018 as a critical year because we've identified exactly that the parameters defining Slovakia's competitiveness for investors within the automotive industry are starting to near their limits. It is a lack of qualified labour, and it is sometimes possible to make reasonable efforts for increasing wage costs. However, when considering the fact that foreign parent companies have their subsidiaries here, the added value is definitely also in high wage costs. These two parameters are starting to be counterproductive in connection with making decisions on new investments," underlined Sinay.

ZAP sees the automotive industry's key problems to be the acute lack of qualified labour and the malfunctioning education system that fails to prepare young people based on the needs of the labour market. Therefore, ZAP has processed documentation for launching a project involving the requalification of 5,000 laborers for the automotive market annually for the upcoming four years. Meanwhile, it has actively participated in implementing the dual education system through the Government Council for Vocational Training.

In 2018, ZAP intends to participate in implementing the project of targeted requalification based on the needs of the labour market and industry. It wants to be actively engaged in revitalizing the national dual education project and to implement its strategy in transforming university education.

Its further priorities for this year include efforts to create an environment for the industry's efficient functioning in Slovakia, create conditions for a wide cooperation and dialogue between automotive companies and research and development workplaces and initiate a dialogue on the extent and forms of stimulating the development of mobility based on alternative fuels and respective infrastructure.

ZAP was established in June 1993. It is a voluntary association of corporate entities, currently representing the interests of 187 entities. It is a member of the European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA).

### Government Approves Changes in Slovakia's Alien Policy

Slovakia is changing the conditions for the entry and residence of foreigners in Slovakia for a period longer than 90 days by adjusting them on the basis of a 2016 EU directive, after an amendment to the law on foreigners' stay was greenlighted by the Government on January 17.

The rights of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, study, professional training or voluntary service in the European Voluntary Service and for researchers and their family members were also laid down.

The amendment to the law, drafted by the Interior Minis-

try, also stipulates the conditions for the mobility of students, researchers and their family members who have been previously granted a residence permit by another EU member state on the basis of the EU directive. Until now, the rules were mandatory only for students and researchers, while they were optional for pupils, unpaid interns and volunteers.

"Basically, it's about adopting the EU rules, but above all it's about simplifying access to our market for scientists and students, so the exchange of brains is easier within Europe and so we can reduce to a certain extent or completely remove the barriers that have hindered such exchanges," Robert Kalinak (Smer-SD) told reporters.

Ultimately, these groups of foreigners can contribute to improving the education process and also to make the Slovak economy more focused on research and development. These foreigners should also expect to see in Slovakia a simplification of rules in practice, particularly in the area of temporary stay. Kalinak further said that the ministry will probably present comprehensive adjustments related to this new approach to foreigners at the beginning of February.

### Twelfth Anniversary of Air Disaster Commemorated in Hejce, Hungary

Slovak and Hungarian Defence Ministers Peter Gajdos and Istvan Simicsko, respectively, paid tribute to the memory of 42 victims of a Slovak military aircraft crash on Borso hill and in the village of Hejce, Hungary on January 19.

The tragedy happened twelve years ago when an aircraft with 43 people on board returning from a KFOR mission in Kosovo crashed on Borso hill. Only one of the soldiers survived the accident, Martin Farkas, then a lieutenant – today a captain.

"This place is a reminder of how fragile life is and that it can change really in a second to something else. This air disaster is a really huge catastrophe in the 25-year history of independent Slovakia and its armed forces," Slovak Defence Minister Gajdos said after the ceremony at a memorial on the site of the tragedy.

Gajdos went on to say that the memory of the soldiers who died in the air disaster should also be included in a memorial to soldiers killed on duty in modern times that the Defence Ministry plans to set up in the military cemetery Haj Nicovo in Liptovský Mikulás (Zilina region). "This is also the way we want to pay tribute to the soldiers and express honour to their memory," added Gajdos.

### Unemployment Rate in Slovakia at 5.94 percent in December 2017

The unemployment rate in Slovakia in December 2017 stood at 5.94 percent, down by 0.01 percentage points (p.p.) month-on-month and by 2.82 p.p. year-on-year, said Labour, Social Affairs and the Family Centre (UPSvAR) general director Marian Valentovic at a press conference on January 15 with Labour Minister Jan Richter (Smer-SD) in attendance.

The number of jobseekers immediately able to take up a job was 161,915 in December, a decrease of 172 individuals m-o-m and of 76,062 y-o-y, said Valentovic.

The unemployment rate calculated from the total number of jobseekers reached 7.18 percent in December, down by 0.01 p.p. m-o-m and by 2.98 p.p. y-o-y, he added.

The total number of jobseekers reached 195,583 in the final month of 2017, falling by 472 individuals m-o-m and by 80,548 y-o-y.

As for individual regions, four out of the eight Slo-

(Continued on page 17)

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



Košice is Slovakia's second largest city and metropolitan seat of the eastern part of the country. It is situated on the river Hornád at the eastern reaches of the Slovak Ore Mountains, near the border with Hungary. With a population exceeding 250,000, it is the economic and cultural center of Eastern Slovakia and is the seat of the Košice Region and the Košice Self-governing Region, the Slovak Constitutional Court, three universities, many museums, galleries and theatres. Košice is an important industrial center of Slovakia and the U.S. Steel Košice steel mill is the largest employer in the city. It has extensive railway connections and an international airport. Košice is the seat of a Roman Catholic Archdiocese and a Byzantine Catholic Eparchy. It has a well-preserved historical center with many buildings in Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and Art Nouveau styles with Slovakia's largest church, the magnificent gothic Cathedral of St. Elizabeth which dates from the 13th century. It is the largest gothic church in eastern Europe. Košice's historic national theater was built in 1899. The first evidence of inhabitation can be traced back to the end of the Paleolithic era. The first written reference dates to 1230. The city was the center of the historic Abauj County of the Kingdom of Hungary. Many American Slovaks can trace their heritage to Košice and its immediate environs.

## Held in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

### Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 7, "Rev. Joseph Murgas"

Group 7 "Rev. Joseph Murgas" held its annual meeting on Sunday, November 12, 2017 at St. Al's Church/St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The officers and delegates attended the 11:00 a.m. Mass with Rev. Father Richard Cirba celebrating the Liturgy in which the living and deceased members of Group 7 were remembered.

After the celebration of the Liturgy, a luncheon and the annual meeting were held in the St. Robert Bellarmine hall. The food was catered by the Group as well as some prepared Schiel's. Lunch was served on arrival to the hall.

Amy Degnan Blasco called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Amy welcomed all and thanked everyone for attending. Amy told the Group that we need more members involved, especially the youth. Michael Horvath, Supreme President extended greetings and best wishes to the Group. Mike also commented on the fact that all Groups need more members involved but this is difficult to accomplish. He asked the questions, "What do we offer?" and "What are we missing?"

Rev. Father Richard Cirba opened the meeting with a prayer.

Marty Degnan asked all to join in for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by Kim Graham, Recording Secretary. There were 13 officers/delegates present; 4 excused (Nancy Fedor, Andrew Hvozdvic, Steve Vitek and Matthew Malinovich) and 0 not excused for a total of 17.

Amy Degnan Blasco described the events of 2016-2017 year which includes participation in events and fundraisers as follows. Group 7 participated in the Slet, Brockport, NY and the bowling tournament, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The annual Sokol Day was held in October. Fundraisers included Join Hand's Day (Fr. Murgas gravesite), Parent's Club fundraiser, flower sales and Wisecrackers. Group 7 reunion is planned for Friday, December 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the North End Slovak Club.

Michael Horvath sent greetings from the Supreme Assembly and best wishes for a successful meeting and continued success. Mike reported that he is proud of the Group 7 activities in the past year and that the younger members are looking to "give back to the community".

Minutes of 2016: The minutes of 2016 prepared by Kim Graham were read. A motion to accept the minutes as prepared and read by all was made by Mike Horvath and seconded by Kelly Palchanis. All in favor.

Correspondence: Kim Graham read the new correspondence, St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen donation.

The Officer's Reports: The reports were read by all present and since they were in good order a motion was made by Irene Kaschak and seconded by Tony Rasimas to accept the Officer's Reports as submitted. All in favor.

Officer's reports for Andrew Hvozdvic and Steve Vitek were not submitted.

The Auditors' Report: The auditors found the books in good order and all checks and statements were accounted for. A motion to accept the report was made by Suzanne Horvath and seconded by Marty Degnan. All in favor.

The Treasurer's Report: Amy Degnan Blasco gave the treasurer's report which was supported with an outline of income and expenses for the year. Balance in the account as of November 12, 2017 was \$12,179.00. A motion was made to accept the report by Heather Horvath and seconded by Dawn Palchanis. All in favor.

The Verifications Report was presented by Marty Degnan. It was verified that there were 13 officers/delegates present; 4 excused and 0 not excused for a total of 17. There were also 0 guests. A motion to accept the report was made by Dawn Palchanis and seconded by Midge Malshefski. All in favor.

The Bonds and Salary Committee: Amy Degnan Blasco and Kim Graham. The Bonds and Salary Report was presented by Amy Degnan Blasco. The committee reported that they saw no need to increase salaries at this time. A motion to accept the report was made by Dawn Palchanis and Seconded by Irene Kaschak. All in favor.

The Resolution Committee: Rev. Father Richard Cirba, Audrey Graham and Suzanne Horvath. The Resolutions Report was presented by Chaplain, Father Richard Cirba.

RESOLVE: To remember in prayer: Pope Francis, that God Bless him in all his endeavors as Vicar of Christ.

RESOLVE: To Pray for Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, and the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton as we continue to build up the kingdom of God. We especially support through our prayers the ongoing Parish Pastoral Planning in our Diocese as we look forward to the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Scranton in 2018.

RESOLVE: To Pray for our Clergy and Religious, that God grants them the strength and guidance they need in their Ministry. We especially, Pray for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life and for those struggling in a Vocation.

RESOLVE: To work together for the growth of membership in our Group 7 Slovak Catholic Sokol.

RESOLVE: To acknowledge anyone observing a special occasion this year.

RESOLVE: To thank and appreciate all who helped with the preparation and participation in all the events of this year.

RESOLVE: To support the National March for Life. To pray for the Respect of Human Life and Religious Freedom in our Country.

RESOLVE: To encourage support and participation in all or any of the activities of Group 7's Parent's Club.

RESOLVE: To continue to work within Group 7 and our organization with the current and new officers, contributing our time and effort to the

best of our ability and keep them in our Prayers.

RESOLVE: To pray for Peace in our Country and World especially during these violent and hostile times.

A motion to accept the report was made by Heather Horvath and Seconded by Dawn Palchanis. All in Favor.

The New Motions Committee: Midge Malshefski and Irene Kaschak. The New Motions Report was presented by Irene Kaschak

1. Recommend that a donation be given to the celebrant of the annual meeting Mass. Amount of \$100.00 to Father Cirba.

2. Recommend \$150.00 donation to St. Robert Bellarmine Parish (\$50 to the food drive).

3. Recommend the minutes of the meeting be submitted within 90 days of the meeting (per the bylaws) to be published in the Sokol paper.

4. Recommend to hold Sokol Day with all assemblies and wreaths supporting the event.

5. Recommend a donation of \$200.00 to the North End Slovak Citizen's Club for the use of the club for monthly meetings.

6. Recommend local wreaths and assemblies hold quarterly meetings.

7. Recommend that the Group 7 logo be worn on all uniforms in group activities.

8. Recommend that the Group Physical Director and Directress make a report at the annual meeting and include the number of participants in each program throughout the year.

9. Recommend that a donation of \$100.00 be sent to the SCS Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of all deceased members of Group 7.

10. Recommend that a donation of \$100.00 be sent to the Slovak Catholic Federation at the time of the Annual Appeal.

11. Recommend that members send letters with recommendations to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors' Meeting.

12. Recommend that we participate in Join Hands Day and in the March for Life Day in Washington D.C.

13. Recommend to support new events on all levels of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

14. Recommend to explore new fundraising events for Group 7.

15. Recommend to continue to hold the Slovak Flag raising at the Luzerne County Courthouse, look into best dates.

16. Recommend the group auditors conduct semi-annual audit to help with fiscal year compliance.

17. Recommend that a donation of \$100.00 be sent to the Sisters of SS. Cyril & Methodius.

18. Recommend to explore the possibilities of the Sokol Secure Fund in the upcoming year.

19. Recommend that a donation of \$50.00 to the St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen in honor of living and deceased members of Group 7.

A motion to accept the report was made by Heather Horvath and Seconded by Tony Rasimas. All in Favor.

The Physical Fitness Board Report: Dawn Palchanis read the recommendations for the upcoming year.

• To determine qualified participants for the Slet.

• To use available facilities for practices and social events, e.g., North End Slovak Club or other facilities available.

• To pay entrance fees for tournaments; continue to charge \$20 for t-shirts.

• To apply to headquarters for allotments for gymnastic/track coaches.

• To continue activities within the Group such as bowling, golf tournament and to award prizes.

• To continue to encourage the Parent's Club with fundraisers for the upcoming year.

• To contact the Yench/Bly family to determine if the "Kathy Yench Bly" sportsmanship award will continue. This award is usually presented at Sokol Day to an eligible participant to be nominated by the Tech Board and agreed upon by the Yench/Bly family. It was not awarded in 2016 & 2017.

• To have all background checks updated when necessary and for all new coaches.

• For the Group to purchase props for drilling for the upcoming year, this would also include sporting equipment and first aid supplies when needed.

There were 12 men and 4 women who participated in the bowling tournament, 13 men and 2 women who participated in the golf tournament and 10 participants at the Slet.

A motion to accept the report was made by Marty Degnan and seconded by Tony Rasimas. All in favor.

The Nominations Report was presented by Amy Degnan Blasco. The position of President and Physical Fitness yBoard are 4 year positions – no updates needed at this time.

Nomination for Chaplain – Rev. Father Richard Cirba. A motion to accept the nomination was made by Dawn Palchanis and Seconded by Heather Horvath. Rev. Richard Cirba accepted the nomination.

Nomination for Vice President – Marty Degnan. A motion to accept the nomination was made by Kelly

Palchanis and Seconded by Irene Kaschak. Marty Degnan accepted the nomination.

Nomination for Financial Secretary/Treasurer – Nancy Fedor. A motion to accept the nomination was made by Suzanne Horvath and Seconded by Kelly Palchanis. Nancy Fedor accepted the nomination.

Nomination for Recording Secretary – Kim Graham. A motion to accept the nomination was made by Kelly Palchanis and Seconded by Dawn Palchanis. Kim Graham accepted the nomination.

Nomination for Reporter – Recommendation to eliminate the position in 2016 - currently being handled by the President and those coordinating activities.

Nomination for Auditors (3) – Andrew Hvozdvic Sr. and Tony Rasimas. A motion to accept the nomination of Andrew Hvozdvic Sr. was made by Rev. Richard Cirba and seconded by Heather Horvath. Andrew Hvozdvic accepted the nomination.

A motion to accept the nomination of Tony Rasimas was made by Kelly Palchanis and seconded by Dawn Palchanis. Tony Rasimas accepted the nomination. Steve Vitek resigned from position due to work conflicts. Amy Degnan Blasco nominated Gary Blasco for this open position. A motion to accept the nomination of Gary Blasco was made by Tony Rasimas and seconded by Dawn Palchanis. Gary Blasco accepted the nomination through an acceptance letter. All in favor.

Nomination for Historian – no nominations (currently open position). Could be a Presidential appointment; will discuss at next monthly meeting.

Nomination for Physical Directress – Kelly Palchanis. A motion to accept the nomination of Kelly Palchanis was made by Dawn Palchanis and seconded by Suzanne Horvath. All in favor.

Nomination for Assistant Physical Directress – August Palchanis. A motion to accept the nomination of

(Continued on page 17)

### Follow Us On Twitter and Instagram

Many of you are already following Slovak Catholic Sokol on Facebook, but did you know we are now on Twitter and Instagram?

You can follow us for daily updates on upcoming activities and events, as well as pictures of your favorite Sokols. Feel free to forward pictures of your group activities to: kathyw323@gmail.com so that we can tweet them!

We are looking forward to gaining MANY new followers!

If you are new to Twitter and Instagram, here are some basics on how to sign up:

#### TWITTER

- \* Upload the Twitter app on your phone or go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)
- \* Click "Sign up for Twitter."
- \* Provide basic information about yourself. ...
- \* Choose your username. ...
- \* Click "Create my account."
- \* Search physicalfitnessboard and click follow



#### INSTAGRAM

- \* Upload the Instagram app on your phone or go to [www.instagram.com](http://www.instagram.com)
- \* Click "Sign up" and enter your e-mail
- \* Create a username and password
- \* Provide basic information about yourself. ...
- \* Click "Create my account."
- \* Search physicalfitnessboard and click follow



Zdar Boh!

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board

# 72<sup>nd</sup> Slovak Catholic Sokol International Bowling Tournament

The 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Slovak Catholic Sokol International Bowling Tournament will be held on Monday May 21<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Orleans Bowling Lanes, Las Vegas, Nevada. The GCU Fraternal Society will be joining us again for the 4<sup>th</sup> straight year. The application is posted on our web site and the deadline is April 16th, 2018.

**The Orleans Hotel and Casino**  
4500 W. Tropicana Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89103

Hotel rooms are \$99.00 for Friday and Saturday, May 18-19 and only \$49.00 from Sunday through

Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. There is an \$18.00/night resort fee.

To receive your special group rate, members will need to enter the assigned Reservation ID: A8GCC05, through the Hotel's website at the following URL: [www.orleanscasino.com/groups](http://www.orleanscasino.com/groups) or call (800) 675-3267 and mention the assigned Reservation ID: A8GCC05.

Team event will be bowled on Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 3-6 p.m. Doubles and Singles events will be bowled on Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> from Noon to 6 p.m.

The cost for the 72<sup>nd</sup> International

Bowling Tournament will be the same as last year, \$22.00 per event \$5.00 for all-events and \$29.00 for the buffet banquet on Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

The total for each bowler participating in team, doubles, singles, all-events and the banquet is \$100.00.

If you have any questions, please send me at email at [jmatlon@slovakcatholicssokol.org](mailto:jmatlon@slovakcatholicssokol.org), call or text me at my cell phone: 973-647-8551.

Fraternaly yours,  
**James C. Matlon**  
Supreme Director  
of Sports and Athletics

## Important to All Tournament Entrants

*Read Carefully Information Given Below*  
**RULES AND REGULATIONS OF ANNUAL SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL BOWLING TOURNAMENT**

The purpose and aim of our organization in sponsoring annual bowling championships is to promote good sportsmanship, fraternalism and national interest in the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

As you know, each year the Supreme Assembly, recognizing the great importance of bowling in our organization, donates \$60.00 to the prize fund for each team entry en-

tered in the International Tournament.

This financial contribution on the part of our organization is added to the regular prize fee collected by the bowlers. All prize fees collected will be refunded 100% in prizes.

In order to successfully operate our tournaments, we must have cooperation and exact adherence to all entry rules and regulations which govern teams and individuals.

Please read these rules carefully. Do not overlook any detail. Comply with all requests at time entry blank is being filled out and when sending it in with the proper money order, certified check or check. Be sure you have the bowlers affidavits as of all sanctioned league averages for 21 games or more in accordance with our rules governing averages.

This will speed up the mailing of prizes after results have been checked. Remember that false information will result in forfeiture of all rights to prizes.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Slovak Catholic Sokol Championship Tournament is open to all members of our organization, both male and female (no juniors) who are in good standing and have been members for at least (3) three months SPL or (1) one year for all other policies, prior to the date of tournament with a minimum of \$3,000.00 coverage. Policy Holders - no Social Members. As mandated by the 2007 Convention, all new members enrolled after January 1, 2008 will require a new minimum of \$5,000.00 of insurance coverage to participate in the 2018 programs.

2a. All members of the competing teams must be members of the same Assembly or Wreath. There is no limit to the number of teams from each Assembly or Wreath.

2b. An Assembly or Wreath not having enough bowlers to make up a team may combine with another Assembly or Wreath to make up a team.

3. Doubles teams may be from any Assembly or Wreath for both Men and Women Divisions.

4. All participants must be certified by the respective Assembly or Wreath Financial Secretary and may enter only once for each division.

5. High Score recognition automatically extended to USBC members.

Eligible nonmembers can qualify for high score recognition at their option by paying a \$5.00 participation fee. Affiliated membership is \$21.00.

6. There will be at least one prize for each (10) ten entries in each event, and each (20) twenty entries for All-Events for Men and Women.

7. All-Events (optional), shall be handicap. This prize fund is a separate entry (\$5.00) and no tournament expense fee is assessed for this.

(Continued on page 15)

**No applications will be accepted after April 16, 2018.**

**No applications will be accepted after April 16, 2018.**

## A JOINT TOURNAMENT OF SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL & GCU

ENTRY BLANK—72<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL  
"USBC MORAL SUPPORT CERTIFIED"  
The Orleans Resort ♦ Las Vegas, NV  
Monday, May 21 & Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Please note: Bowling Fees must accompany this application for the bowlers to be registered in the tournament.

BOWLER INFORMATION (LIST CAPTAIN FIRST)	SCS TOURNAMENT INFORMATION
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2016-17 _____ USBC No. _____ Wreath/Assm No. _____ Team: _____ <b>Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2016-17 _____ USBC No. _____ Wreath/Assm No. _____ Team: _____ <b>Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2016-17 _____ USBC No. _____ Wreath/Assm No. _____ Team: _____ <b>Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2016-17 _____ USBC No. _____ Wreath/Assm No. _____ Team: _____ <b>Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet

Please check one:  Men's Application  Women's Application

### TEAM EVENT—MONDAY, MAY 21 3 PM

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please place team bowlers in the order they will be bowling.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Make Entry Fee payable to: **Slovak Catholic Sokol Sports Account**

Mail to: **James Matlon, 6 Academy Drive East, Whippany, NJ 07981.**

BOWLING FEE AS WELL AS ENTRY MONEY MUST ACCOMPANY THIS BLANK.

FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH COMPLETE INFORMATION.

INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN AND MUST BE RESUBMITTED.

### DOUBLE & SINGLES EVENT—TUESDAY, MAY 22 12 Noon

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Totals for this Application		
Entry Fee for Each Event		
Prize Fee-\$10. <sup>00</sup> + Bowling Fee-\$7. <sup>50</sup> + Tournament Fee-\$4. <sup>50</sup> = \$22. <sup>00</sup>		
Optional Events	Banquet + Bowling Entry	
All Events-\$5. <sup>00</sup>	Banquet-\$29. <sup>00</sup>	\$100. <sup>00</sup> per person
_____ Singles Event @ \$22 ea. = \$ _____		
_____ Doubles Event @ \$22 ea. = \$ _____		
_____ Team Event @ \$22 ea. = \$ _____		
_____ All Events @ \$5 ea. = \$ _____		
_____ Banquet @ \$29 ea. = \$ _____		
Total Enclosed \$ _____		

**Held in Reading, Pa.****Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 12, "Rev. Anton Bernolak"**

The annual meeting of Group 12 was held on October, 7, 2017 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club in Reading, Pa. Vice President Bob Leso opened the meeting with praying the Our Father followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of officers was taken. Absent was the Sports Director Tom Cengeri.

Delegates in attendance: Chris Antosy Sr., Greg Milanek, Johanna Leso, Frank Macey, Kathleen Smolkowicz, and Robert Latshaw.

President Joe Harak welcomed everyone to our annual meeting.

Everyone received a copy of the minutes from our 2016 meeting.

Time was given to read and review the minutes. No corrections or additions were made. A motion was made by Frank Macey to approve the minutes seconded by Greg Milanek.

**OFFICERS REPORTS:****President Joe Harak:**

- I attended the Group Presidents meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, the weekend of September 16th and 17th. The main items of discussions were the attendance at our Group and Lodge meetings, our group Chaplains, and how to get the word out about our organization using social media.

- I congratulate our Sokol schol-

arship winners:

College Scholarship Grant:  
Zachary Griffith – attending  
Albright College

S.C.S. Memorial Scholarship  
Grant:

Vance Holthenrich – attending  
Pennsylvania State University

Abbot Jerome M. Koval Memorial  
High School Grant:

Anna Sherman attending Cardinal  
O'Hara Catholic High School

Grade School Scholarship Grant:  
Cole Baker attending

St. Ignatius Loyola School

Colin Baker attending  
St. Ignatius Loyola School

Andrew McVicker attending  
Holy Family Catholic School

Rebecca A. Sherman  
attending St. Dorothy School

- I am still active with the Reading Sokol's Assembly 261 and Sokol club.

Kathleen Smolkowicz made a motion to accept President Harak's report and Robert Latshaw seconded the motion.

**Vice President Bob Leso:**

- We attend St. Agnes St. John Church where there is only one Mass on the weekend and that is Sunday at 9:30.

- Along with myself, Johanna, Lare and Anne, are involved with the Philadelphia Fraternal Organization. We will be preparing dinners for patients who are waiting for an organ transplant. We will be doing this 3 or 4 times throughout the year.

- Our Assembly supports the Sisters of Danville. We attended the summer festival and donated a monetary gift.

- Eastern Fraternal Congress Organization could be expanding into Reading, Pa. in the future. This is part of the National Fraternal Congress Organization.

Robert Latshaw made a motion to accept the Vice President Leso's report seconded by JoAnn Antosy.

**Treasurer Lare Leso:**

- In 2017 our expenses were from the 2016 group meeting. The income mainly was from our quarterly assessments.

- I recommend moving money from our money market account to the Sokol Secure Fund, that is a higher interest-bearing fund.

Greg Milanek made a motion to donate \$5000.00 to the SCS Assembly 261 Wreath 155 Inc. 501c account. Kathleen Smolkowicz seconded the motion.

Johanna Leso made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report seconded by Chris Antosy.

President Harak mentioned at the Group Presidents meeting there was a discussion of the participation at sporting events. The bowling tournament had 65 Sokol bowlers and 163 Greek Catholic Union bowlers. The golf tournament had 115 Sokol golfers and 128 Greek Catholic Union golfers. The set

had a total of 190 participants, 65 male and 125 females. There also was a SCS reunion weekend held at Rocky Gap Resort and Casino in Flintstone, Maryland which 40 people attended.

**Sports report given by Robert Latshaw:**

Bowling:  
At the International Bowling Tournament held in May at Chacko's Family Bowling Center in Wilkes Barre, PA, we had 2 men's teams participate.

Congratulations to: Robby Latshaw, he placed 7th in Men's All Events.

At the International Golf Tournament held in August at Treasure Lake in Dubois, PA, we had 7 golfers participate.

Congratulations to:  
Sue Grega, she placed 2nd in the Women's Flight.

Group President's meeting: Report given by Joe Harak:

There was a discussion on the attendance at the group and lodge meetings. Attendance is low throughout the organization, averaging 10 to 25 people.

Also discussed group chaplains: currently we do not have a group chaplain. We can ask Msgr. Thomas Orsulak at St. Peter the Apostle R.C. Church in Reading, PA. Msgr. Orsulak is a Sokol member with Group 18, Lansford, PA.

Another main topic of discussion was how to let people know about the Slovak Catholic Sokol and what we do, through social media such as facebook. Headquarters does have a facebook page and it was suggested that each group have a facebook page to advertise events and post pictures from the events on the page. This would also be linked to the headquarters' page. Robert Latshaw agreed to create a facebook page for Group 12. Anyone who would like to post any information can contact him. Another suggestion is to have a twitter account to get news out.

Email addresses: Home office would like a list of everyone's email address. The number of Group 12 members currently is 1321 members, out of that number home office only has 42 email addresses.

Increase membership. The state of New Jersey does not approve of members recommending members. The state wants an authorized agent to insure members. We need to get a list from the home office or from Al Sues of the authorized agents in the Group 12 area.

There was an open forum question "what does each group do to keep it going?" A suggestion was to have a Sokol Slet Reunion.

The next convention will be held in Cleveland, Ohio. The Supreme Secretary Scott Pogorelec did visit

Valley Forge Convention center. He liked the facility and historical Valley Forge. But noted the rooms at the convention center are not big enough for our convention. Valley Forge Convention center is making changes and he will consider having the 2023 convention at Valley Forge.

**Donations:**

- A motion made by Frank Macey to buy tickets for the Reading Sokol lottery for the month of November. 10 tickets for \$100. Seconded by Kathleen Smolkowicz.

- Greg Milanek made a motion to donate \$100.00 to "Walt the K Polka Show" on WRAW Radio Station 1340 Reading, PA, seconded by Frank Macey. You can also listen to Walt the K Polka Show on I Heart Radio and this can be heard anywhere.

- A motion made by Joe Harak to donate \$100.00 appeal to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Fund in memory of our Group 12 Chaplain Father Francis Straka, seconded by Bob Leso.

- Frank Macey made motion to donate \$100.00 to the Slovak Catholic Federation, seconded by Kathleen Smolkowicz.

- As previously mentioned, Greg Milanek made a motion to donate \$5000.00 to the SCS Assembly 261 Wreath 155 Inc. 501c account. Kathleen Smolkowicz seconded the motion.

**New Business:**

- Kathleen Smolkowicz nominated Robert Latshaw as the Assistant Sports Director, seconded by JoAnn Antosy.

- Congratulations to Jennifer Martin who received the Reading Eagle Athlete of the Year award. Jennifer was named Berks Player of the Year in basketball and was an All-State pick in soccer. She played for Governor Mifflin High School.

- Greg Milanek made a motion to support bowlers and golfers from Group 12 by giving each participant \$50.00 to participate in the events. Seconded by Chris Antosy.
- Greg Milanek made a motion for all salaries to remain the same. Seconded by Kathleen Smolkowicz.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Greg Milanek and seconded by Johanna Leso.

Vice President Bob Leso closed the meeting with a prayer remembering those from Group 12 who have passed away in 2017: Father Francis Straka, Christine Maslar, Bernard Miller, Elena Kostival, Rose Marie Brizek, Shirley Skvarla, John Devera, Mary Dobrosky, Joseph Lepage, Anna Maslar, and John Skvarla.

**Joann Antosy**  
Group 12 Secretary

**RULES AND REGULATIONS OF ANNUAL SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL BOWLING TOURNAMENT**

(Continued from page 14)

Only those entrants paying this fee are eligible. Please indicate All-Events entries by placing an "X" before names in Team Entry space on Entry Form side.

8. Prize fee will be \$8.50 per bowler per event. Cost of bowling and tournament expenses \$13.50 per bowler per event. Total = \$22.00 per event.

9. No entry money will be returned for any reason.

10. The United States Bowling Congress rules and regulations apply to all bowlers.

11. The Championship in both Men's and Women's Divisions will receive individual championship shirts. In the event of a tie for championship, lowest team handicap will receive shirts, cash prizes will be divided equally.

12a. Handicap (Men) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 240 and last season's 2016-2017 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games.

Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of Jan. 1, 2018. A male bowler whose current average of 21 games or more at time of entry is (10) pins or more higher than the previous season's average must use his current average. Male bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 175 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, the most recent 5 year history of Sokol tournaments will be used. If none of the above apply, the average of 175 for men will be used. Male bowlers with an average over 240 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

12b. All participants will be governed by rating requirements of USBC Rule 319e. Average to be adjusted accordingly. Failure to use the current average shall disqualify score if submitted average is lower than correct average thereby resulting in a lower classification of more handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher. However corrections in

averages may be permitted up to the completion of the first game of a series.

12c. Handicap (Women) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 200 and last season's 2016-2017 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of Jan. 1, 2018. A female bowler whose current average of 21 games or more at time of entry is (10) pins or more higher than the previous season's average must use her current average. Female bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 150 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, the most recent 5 year history of Sokol tournaments will be used. If none of the above apply, the average of 150 for women will be used.

Female bowlers with an average over 200 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

13. Teams wishing to bowl all nine games as Team, Double and Singles in one day or a specific day or time must submit that request at time of entry. (Only if necessary)

14. List team names in order of lineup to bowl. The USBC substitute rule will be used in the event it is necessary. Average certification must accompany entry form.

15. All teams must bowl according to the published schedule. In order to ensure your choice of schedule time, send entries in early.

16. Bowlers have 48 hours from completion of tournament to notify manager of error in score.

17. Every consideration will be granted to request date/time preferences for out-of-town teams and individual bowlers. The success of the tournament depends upon all participants.

18. Bowlers need not report information as required by USBC (Rule 319d provision) for tournament prize winnings.

**ENTRIES CLOSE**  
**MIDNIGHT, APRIL 16, 2018**

**YOUR BENEFICIARIES**

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

**For students currently attending a Catholic High School**

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

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

**Eligibility**

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

**Application**

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

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

This application must be **received** on or before, **March 31, 2018** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

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

**Disqualification**

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

**Acknowledgment**

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

**Return of Grant**

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



(Detach here)

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Catholic High School, verify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a student at  
(Name of student)  
the above school and will be attending \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in the 2018-2019 school year.

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

**Deadline for receipt of this application is March 31, 2018.**

Return completed application to:

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

**Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal**

Thank you to all who made a donation to the 2017 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. As many of you know, the funds raised in this annual Appeal are sent to the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius to assist with its day to day operations. The College is the residence of priests from Slovakia who are sent to Rome by their bishops for graduate studies. After receiving their degrees, these priests return to their dioceses to work as seminary teachers, Tribunal officials, and in other ministries.

Donations to the Appeal are received from leadership gifts from the four Slovak Catholic fraternal benefit societies (First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, First Catholic Slovak Union, Slovak Catholic Sokol, and Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union), their districts and branches, clergy of Slovak heritage, collections from Slovak parishes, and individual gifts. Donations to the 2017 Appeal amounted to \$36,553.39. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Those who received a direct mailing for the 2017 Appeal should have received their letters for the 2018 Appeal by the end of January.

Donations in any amount to the 2018 Appeal are deeply appreci-

ated and can also be made by filling out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided. Once again, thank you for your goodness and generosity to the Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. Donations received after November 30, 2018 will be credited toward the 2019 Appeal.

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, OH. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Epiphany Parish, Sayre, PA. Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Swedesburg, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.

**40<sup>th</sup> Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make check payable to **Slovak Catholic Federation** and mail to:*

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta  
First Vice President, Slovak Catholic Federation  
Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
120 Jefferson Street  
Swedesburg, PA 19405

**\$63,000 in S.C.S. Scholarship Grants  
Available to Eligible Members in 2018**

(Continued from page 7)

Questions regarding the Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Program may be directed to:

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

Deadline for submission of all scholarship applications  
**is March 31, 2018**

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

## Held in Stratford, Conn. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 2, "Rev. Stephen Panik"

The annual meeting of Group 2 was held on Sunday, September 24, 2017 at the Blue Goose Restaurant in Stratford, Conn. The meeting was called to order by President Eileen S. Wilson, who then led the delegates in the opening prayer followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The roll call was conducted with a total of 12 delegates representing the following Group 2 lodges: Wreath 1, Wreath 39 of Bridgeport; Wreath 86 of Torrington and Assembly 9 of Bridgeport.

The delegates were commended for bringing in a large number of non-perishable items as part of the Group's Care and Share outreach program. These items will be donated to a local food bank.

Copies of the minutes of the 2016 annual meeting were passed out for review. On a motion by Joseph Goda, seconded by James Ianciale, these minutes were accepted. The officers reports were submitted to President Wilson and accepted collectively by the delegation. President Wilson then discussed the recent meeting of the Group Presidents held in Cleveland, Oh.

Group 2's annual St. Martin Day Celebration is scheduled for Sunday, November 12, 2017. Mass will be celebrated at Holy Name of Jesus Church followed by the luncheon and fraternal program to be held at the Blue Goose Restaurant.

### Committee Reports

#### Resolutions:

\* Thank you to the men and women of the Armed Forces who have previously or are currently in the defense of our country.

\* Thank you to all delegates for their donations for the Care and Share food drive.

\* Thank you to Wreaths, 1 and 39 and Assembly 9 for hosting this year's annual meeting.

\* Thank you to President Eileen S. Wilson for all her hard work and lead-

ership during the past year.

\* Thank you to all the other Group officers for their dedication during the past year.

\* Thank you to the Blue Goose Restaurant for a delicious meal.

\* Resolve that we continue to pray for all of our ill and deceased members.

\* Thank you to all the delegates for their input on fraternal issues.

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2017 Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarships from Group 2, namely: Chelsea Barnette, Southern Connecticut State University; Michael J. Biro, Nichols College; Allison Haynes, Wentworth Institute of Technology; Milan Spisek, Southern Connecticut State University and Nathan Vargoshe, Sacred Heart University.

New Motions: A donation of \$100 was recommended for Holy Name of Jesus Church for church maintenance. Accepted.

Salaries & Bonds: Motion made to keep the officer salaries the same as the previous year. Officers present donated their salaries back to the Group 2 treasury. Thank you and Pan Boh Zaplat.

Requests & Grievances: No issues were raised.

Auditing: The committee reviewed the books, bank statements, receipts and other records provided by the treasurer, Kevin Sabovik and found all of them to be in order. The treasurer was commended on a job well-done.

The report of the treasurer, Kevin Sabovik was then presented. The treasurer's report was then accepted on a motion by James Ianciale, seconded by Walter Sabovik.

With no further business, the annual meeting was adjourned on a motion by Joseph Goda, seconded by Catherine Karosy. The closing prayer was led by the secretary, John Tkacik. Zdar Boh!

**Eileen S. Wilson**  
President  
**John G. Tkacik**  
Secretary

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 7, "Rev. Joseph Murgas"

(Continued from page 13)

August Palchanis was made by Kelly Palchanis and seconded by Dawn Palchanis. All in favor.

No nominations for Assistant Physical Director.

No new officers were sworn in.

Old Business: Visit Msgr. Francis Beeda's for holiday get together. Amy will contact Little Flower Manor in Wilkes-Barre to get a date. A motion to accept was made by Father Richard Cirba and seconded by Kelly Palchanis. All in favor.

New Business: There are a few items:

1. Poinsettia flower sale - orders due by November 22nd. Delivery TBD.

2. Site of next annual meeting - St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre, PA

3. Annual reunion - 2nd annual reunion to be held on December 2nd 7-10 pm at the NE Slovak Club. Will have giving tree at reunion. Dona-

tions to help needy families.

4. Parent's Club - Treasurer's report as of 11/12/17, \$2,092.00

A motion to accept was made by Kelly Palchanis and seconded by Marty Degan. All in favor.

Good of the Order: Amy Degan Blasco thanked everyone for helping throughout the year. Rev. Father Richard Cirba thanked Amy for her contributions. Father Andrew Hvozdic reported on Dan Tanzone's retirement, Falcon changing format in 2018 and the Convention will be in Cleveland in 2019 (1st week of August). No one had anything else to add. Midge Malshefski made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Kelly Palchanis.

Rev. Father Andy Hvozdic closed the meeting with a prayer.

"Hej Slovaci" was sung by all in attendance.

Zdar Boh!

**Kim Graham**  
Group 7 Recording Secretary

## Scholarship grants available for members in Lorain, Ohio

The United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, Ohio, announces 2018 scholarship availability to graduating high school seniors who are entering college and are five year members of our local lodges that include; National Slovak Society Assembly 160, Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111, First Catholic Slovak Union #228, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch #114 and Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union #77. The one-time scholarship application and rules may be obtained by visiting [www.americanslovakclub.com](http://www.americanslovakclub.com). Deadline for completion is May 30, 2018.

Zdar Boh!

**Michele Mager**

Secretary-United Slovak Societies  
Board of Director Member  
American Slovak Club  
Lorain, OH

## Rev. Vladimir Fekete, S.D.B. is newest Slovak bishop

(Continued from page 4)

of St. John Bosco, as the Salesians are known, is the largest men's religious order both in Slovakia and in the world.

Bishop Fekete has served in recent years as a missionary in Azerbaijan, now an independent republic and formerly a part of the USSR. It is a predominantly muslim country with a recently established Catholic presence. Previously, only clandestine ministry was possible. Bishop Fekete has served in Azerbaijan since 2011, when he was appointed as the Prefect of the Catholic mission with headquarters in the capital city of Baku. Pope Francis named Father Fedete titular Bishop of Municipa to head the mission. He was ordained a bishop on February 11, 2018 in the Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception in Baku by Archbishop Paul R. Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States within the Holy See's Secretariat of State.

We offer prayerful best wishes to Bishop Vladimir in this very challenging missionary effort. May he bring the message of the Gospel in the best traditions of St. John Bosco and our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith.

## Great Things Are Simple

The three greatest masterpieces in literature, it is said, are the Lord's Prayer, the Twenty-Third Psalm, and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Incidentally, recall their wordings:

\* "Our Father which are in Heaven, hallowed be thy name."

\* "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

\* "Fourscore and seven years ago."

Not a three-syllable word in them; hardly any two-syllable words. All the greatest things in human life are one-syllable things - love, joy, hope, home, child, trust, faith.

Great things remain simple things.

## News and Views from Slovakia...

(Continued from page 12)

vak regions recorded cuts in their unemployment rates in December, with Bratislava and Presov regions seeing the most significant drops of 0.07 p.p. The highest unemployment rate in December was recorded in Kosice region (9.94 percent).

In terms of districts, the highest unemployment rate was in Rimavska Sobota - 18.48 percent, while Trnava was at the opposite end of the scale on 1.98 percent.

"As expected, in December we recorded a slight decline in the recruitment process by employers, which resulted in a slight decrease of 5,256 job vacancies reported to labour offices. So, a total of 69,375 job vacancies were available to jobseekers, representing a year-on-year increase of 34,091," said Valentovic, adding that the highest number of jobs was available in Bratislava region (15,537), while the lowest was in Banska Bystrica region (4,613).

## Mihok: Slovakia's independence has emerged as justified

Nobody believed in 1993 that Slovakia could do well as a state independent from the Czechs in economic, financial and perhaps even broader societal terms, Slovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SOPK) President and Chair of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) World Chambers Federation Peter Mihok has told TASR.

According to Mihok, Slovakia's image shortly before the split and also afterwards was rather negative. Moreover, many people at the time attempted to blame Slovakia's then political representation over the split, which was rather unjust, said Mihok.

"We who were taking part in the process - initially by explaining and then by establishing individual institutions - found ourselves in a particularly difficult situation. What matters, however, is that the following years demonstrated that this move was justified, and I stand fully behind this claim. It emerged that Slovakia is able to survive economically, and not only that it's also able to develop.

Slovakia joined at the OECD in the first year after gaining independence and it became evident that we're able to observe international norms and adapt our economy to a broader economic area - the EU's internal market. We were even able to accelerate the entire process by adopting the euro and, above all, by creating the conditions for its adoption," said Mihok.

## Defence Ministry Deciding Between US and Swedish Jet Fighters

The Defence Ministry is deciding between two bids for its purchase of jet fighters, particularly between the American F-16 aircraft and the Swedish JAS-39 Gripen aircraft, the ministry's spokesperson Danka Capakova told TASR on Friday.

"The ministry's current management has never considered purchasing Russian jet fighters, and it isn't considering it now, either," stated Capakova.

Defence Minister Peter Gajdos (Slovak National Party/SNS) should present a new proposal for providing air space protection to the Government by June 29. The proposal will include detailed analyses, as well as a calculation of costs for the acquisition, operation and provision of infrastructure for the new type of aircraft, said Capakova.

Gajdos had asked the Government to change the resolution on securing jet fighters with regards to the unfeasibility of a bid that was communicated with the Swedish party at that time. "The process cannot be hastened, as we need to find the most advantageous bid from both a technical and economical viewpoint that will last for decades," stated Capakova.

## Youngstown Sister-Cities to host 20h tour to Slovakia

The Youngstown, Ohio - Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities will host their 20th annual tour to Slovakia, July 10-24. It's a wonderful opportunity to visit our ancestral homeland.

So stop procrastinating, you have put it off for far too long and remember, you're not getting any younger! So say Jim and Kay Bench, hosts of the tour and veteran travel promoters. They are also our Sokol members and respected Slovak fraternalists. Now is the time to visit Slovakia.

The tour will visit UNESCO historic sites, enjoy rafting on the Dunajec River, which forms the natural boundary between Slovakia and Poland, as well as visit the largest extent castle, the Spisska Hrad.

Participants will also have the opportunity to visit long-lost rela-

tives, tour castles, churches, caves, visit the country's wine country and enjoy wine tasting, as well as enjoy folk performances. The tour will visit villages that will take us back in time, hear the beautiful love story of the Ondrassy family, enjoy a relaxing day at a spa, as well as other sites too numerous to mention.

Travel arrangements are being handled by the Paul Hudak Adventure International Travel Service, Inc., phone: 216 228-7171 or 800 542-2487 or email [Paul@advintravel.com](mailto:Paul@advintravel.com). Needless to say, the trip will be a memorable and once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

For additional information about the tour, contact Jim and Kay Bench at tel. 724 858-5843 (Jim) or Kay 724 771-7900 or email [jimbench@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbench@yahoo.com) or [skbench@gmail.com](mailto:skbench@gmail.com).

## SS. Cyril and Methodius

The well-known brothers born in Thessalonica, Greece are among the great Evangelizers of our faith. Because Thessalonica was the second largest city in the Byzantine Empire with a majority of Slavs residing in the outlying districts, officials there were required to know the Slavonic language. The brothers knew the language since it is believed that their mother was a Slav. Constantine, later Cyril was born in 827 A.D. while Methodius was a year older, however the year of his birth was unrecorded. In 863 A.D. they were welcomed by Prince Pribina whose seat of government was in Nitra in Slovakia and began their mission among the western Slavs, the Slovaks, Czechs and Poles. They began celebrating the liturgy in the language of the people. Cyril invented an alphabet known as the Cyrillic which became the basis of their liturgical life. Great opposition by the German hierarchy saw them summoned to Rome on charges that the use of the Slavonic language in the liturgy was against Church law. At the time, only Hebrew, Greek and Latin were considered fitting languages for liturgical worship.

Not only were the brothers welcomed in Rome sometime before Christmas in 867, the Holy Father, Pope Adrian II personally blessed their Slavonic liturgical books and was present during a liturgy celebrated by them in the Basilica of St. Mary Major.

Constantine remained in Rome and entered a monastery. As a monk, he chose the name Cyril. He fell ill and died there on February 14, 869. Since the reform of the Church calendar by Pope Paul IV in 1968, it is for this reason that the universal Church celebrates the Slav apostles on February 14th. St. Cyril was buried in the Basilica of St. Clement there. Methodius returned to Great Moravia and labored there until



his death in 885 A.D. Traditionally, it is thought that he is buried in Velehrad in present-day Moravia. On the occasion of the eleventh centenary of St. Methodius' death, Pope St. John Paul II, himself an heir of the Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith, issued an encyclical on June 2, 1985 Slavorum Apostoli (Commemorating SS. Cyril and Methodius) and proclaimed the brother Saints co-patrons of all of Europe.

Among the American Slovaks, a total of 32 Slovak parishes were established under the patronage of these saints, beginning with the first, that of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Minneapolis, Minn. which remains active today. The only basilica in the world dedicated to the Holy Brothers is located in Danville, Pa. at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius an American community founded in 1909 by the Rev. Matthew Jankola. The ministry of this community of religious women has enjoyed a special place in the hearts and minds of Americans of Slovak ancestry.

What St. Patrick is to the Irish, St. Boniface to the Germans, St. Augustine to the English, that is what SS. Cyril and Methodius are to millions of Slovaks and members of the family of Slavic nations. Happy feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius!

## Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 4)

will be served; for information call Carmella Marzec at tel. 412 414-9249 or Suesscm@gmail.com.

### SUN.MARCH 18

■ Slovak Stations of the Cross sponsored by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania at Our Lady of Fatima Parish at St. Mary's Church, 134 South Washington St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m., refreshments to follow in the church hall; for additional information call Magdalen Benish at tel. 570 823-1222.

### SAT.MARCH 24

■ 28th annual Slovak Mass & Easter Customs Breakfast hosted by Prince of Peace Parish at St. Adalbert Church, 160 South 15th St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa., 10:45 a.m. Slovak Rosary, Slovak Mass at 11 a.m. with breakfast to follow at the Prince of Peace Parish Center, 81 South 13th St., South Side; free admission, donations welcome; for more information call 412 481-8380.

### SUN.MARCH 25

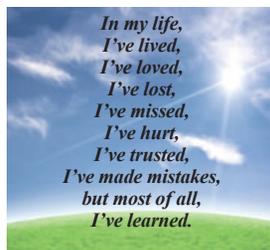
■ Traditional Children's Easter Egg Hunt on the grounds of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, Perryopolis, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m.; refreshments and visit by the Easter Bunny to follow at the Sokol Club.

### MON.APRIL 9

■ Wreath 22 meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East



Presidents' Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, it is still officially called "Washington's Birthday" by the federal government. Traditionally celebrated on February 22—Washington's actual day of birth—the holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents past and present.





## SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL GROUP 7 PRESENTS A COMEDY FUNDRAISER



**MOHEGAN SUN POCONO**  
1280 HWAY 315  
WILKES-BARRE, PA 18702

**SATURDAY APRIL 14, 2018**

**SHOW TIME 9:00 PM**  
(DOORS OPEN AT 8:00)  
**GENERAL ADMISSION SEATING**

**\$20.00 PER TICKET**  
**TICKETS EXPIRE 7/14/18**

**PERSON TO CONTACT FOR TICKETS**  
**AMY BLASCO 570-574-0136**



**SCOTT BRUCE**



**ERIC LYDEN**



**ANDY BENINGO**



**SCOTT BRUCE**

**YOU MUST BE 21 YEARS OR OLDER TO ATTEND**  
**THERE'S SOMETHING FUNNY GOING ON HERE!**

Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. beginning at 7 p.m.

### SUN.APRIL 29

■ Spring Fling benefit hosted by the School Sisters of St. Francis at their Motherhouse, Mount Assisi Convent, 934 Forest Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 12 to 5 p.m., homemade dinners, plant and cake sales, raffles and more, for additional information call 412 761-0290, www.schoolsistersofs.org.

### MON.MAY 7

■ Wreath 22 meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh,

Pa. beginning at 7 p.m.

### JULY 1-6

■ 16th International All-Sokol Slet celebrating the 100th anniversary of the first All-Sokol Slet and the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first Republic of Czechoslovakia in Prague, Czech Republic; Sokol Greater Cleveland will host All Sokol Slet Tour, June 30 to July 8, \$1,222.00 per person, based on double occupancy, includes 8 nights hotel accommodations, all meals, admission to the Slet; or information call Georgia Mareš at 440 526-6806.



RONA a.s. is a Slovak drinking glass manufacturer, established in Lednické Rovne, Slovakia, in 1892. The company manufactures un-lead drinking glasses, known as crystal glass. 96 percent of production is exported and is available in more than 80 countries worldwide. The yearly production of the company exceeds 60 million pieces. Product segments include households, the gastronomy business, aerospace, and ship catering. Products of the company can be found at Buckingham palace and the White House. RONA created also a gift set for the football club Manchester United designed for fan shops in 2006. At the turn of 2008 and 2009, the company created and manufactured sets for fans of FC Barcelona, composed of stemware for champagne, red and white wines and carafes. The glass from Lednické Rovne can be found in the New York Rockefeller center's Rainbow Room (on the picture), and in luxury hotels in Dubai and Las Vegas. The glass from the RONA company is supplied to airlines including: Emirates, Qatar Airways, Etihad, KLM, and American Airlines. Relief stemware set named Harmony was presented in an American sitcom from the world of young physicists, The Big Bang Theory.

## SLOVAK MASS & EASTER CUSTOMS BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 24, 2018



### St. Adalbert Church

160 So.15<sup>th</sup> Street, South Side

10:45 a.m. -- Recitation of Rosary (in Slovak)

11:00 a.m. -- Slovak Mass

### Prince of Peace Parish Center

81 South 13th Street, South Side



#### \*\* SAMPLE SLOVAK EASTER FOODS \*\*

paska (sweet bread) sunka (ham) sirek (egg cheese) hrin (beets & horseradish)

- 12 Noon --
- \* Homemade Baked Goods
  - \* Craft Demonstrations
  - \* Cultural Displays
  - \* Imported Slovak gifts
  - \* Slovak "Auction" /Raffle



**ADMISSION FREE**

Donations Gratefully Accepted

**For more information call (412) 481-8380**

## Minister obrany SR rokoval s americkým veľvyslancom

Spolupráca v oblasti obrany, strategické dokumenty a modernizácia Ozbrojených síl Slovenskej republiky boli hlavnými témami rokovania ministra obrany SR Petra Gajdoša a amerického veľvyslanca Adama H. Sterlinga v pondelok 5. februára.

Nadviazali tak aj na návštevu vrchného veliteľa spojeneckých síl NATO v Európe generála Curtisa M. Scaparrotiho, ktorý je zároveň veliteľom Európskeho veliteľstva Armády USA. Ten Slovensko navštívil koncom januára pri príležitosti Konferencie náčelníkov generálnych štábov strednej Európy a veliteľov Národných gárd USA.

Témou rokovania bola aj spolupráca medzi NATO a Európskou úniou. Minister Gajdoš informoval amerického veľvyslanca Sterlinga aj o prvom úspechu slovenského projektu nepriamej delostreleckej podpory „EuroArtillery“ v rámci Európskej iniciatívy PESCO.

Šéf rezortu obrany v tejto súvislosti zdôraznil, že ide o cielavedomé budovanie spôsobilosti každej krajiny tak, aby boli aj týmto spôsobom pripravené na plnenie úloh.

Diskutovali aj o spolupráci v oblasti medzinárodných cvičení, ktorá je už dlhé roky na vyvíjajúcej úrovni predovšetkým s Národnou gardou Indiana.

## Krátke správy zo Slovenska

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

o 2,82 percenta.

Úrady práce evidovali na konci minulého mesiaca 161 915 disponibilných uchádzačov o zamestnanie. V porovnaní s novembrom vlaňajška ide o pokles o 172 ľudí. Medziročne počet uchádzačov, ktorí mohli okamžite nastúpiť do práce, klesol o 76 062 osôb. Najvyššiu mieru evidovanej nezamestnanosti zaznamenali úrady práce v okrese Rimavská Sobota (18,48 %). Najnižšiu mieru nezamestnanosti (1,98 %) dosiahol okres Trnava.

Za posledných desať rokov sa na Slovensku zvýšil nielen záujem o manželstvo, ale aj vek sobášených snúbencov, ktorý bol v minulosti dlhodobo nízky. Priemerný vek mužov, ktorí sa ženčia prevyšuje 31 rokov a hranicu 30 rokov prekračujú nevesty. 76 percent Slovákov od 15 do 30 rokov žije s rodičmi.

Slovensko poslalo do Iraku ďalších 24 vojakov, ktorí sa budú podieľať na výcviku inštruktorov irackých ozbrojených síl v oblasti mechanickej a ručného odminovania a v oblasti opráv vojenskej techniky sovietskej výroby. V priestoroch Ženíjného práporu v Seredi sa s nimi pred odchodom 31. januára rozlúčil minister obrany Peter Gajdoš a náčelník Generálneho štábu Ozbrojených síl SR Milan Maxim.

Reťazec rýchleho občerstvenia McDonald's plánuje v tomto roku rozšíriť sieť reštaurácií na Slovensku. Pod značkou McDonald's v súčasnosti pôsobí na slovenskom trhu tridsať reštaurácií. Posledná pobočka reťazca bola otvorená v Bratislave koncom roka 2014.

## Slovenská sv. omša a veľkonočné raňajky v Pittsburgh, PA

V sobotu 24. marca vo farnosti Knieža Pokoja v Pittsburgh, PA bude veľkonočné podujatie, ktoré farnosť usporiada každý rok. Slovenská sv. omša bude v St. Adalbert Church, 160 South 15th Street. O 10.45 dopoludnia začne modlitba slovenského sv. ručenca a omša začne o 11.00 hodine.

Po omši budú v Prince of Peace Parish Center (81 South 13th Street) podávané veľkonočné raňajky (šunka, paska, syr, klobása a vajička). Vstup je bezplatný, usporiadatelia však budú vďační za finančné dary.

Účastníci podujatia budú mať možnosť si prezrieť výstavu o ľudových tradíciách na Slovensku. Na predaj budú výrobky dovezené zo Slovenska a ručné práce. Atrakciou bude aj ukážka pletenia palmových listov a



malovanie veľkonočných vajec. Na predaj budú makové a orechové koláče, palacinky a pečivo.

Zisk z podujatia bude venovaný františkánskym sestram v Žiline a detskému Centru Barlička v Prešove, ktoré poskytujú služby mentálne postihnutým deťom a starajú sa o starších chorých ľudí.

Bližšie informácie: Connie Yatek, telefónne číslo: 412-657-6364.

## Mladý Slovák pripravil titulnú stranu pre časopis Time

Tvorbu Bratislavčana Michala Pudelku si všimol Magazín Time, ktorí patrí k najúspešnejším magazínom, a celosvetovo predá každý týždeň viac ako dva milióny kópií. Jeho najnovšie číslo zdobí fotografia štyroch amerických herečiek: Oprah Winfrey, Reese Witherspoon, Storm Reid a Mindy Kaling. Vznikla pri príležitosti nakrúcania filmu A Wrinkle in Time.

Záber vymyslel a pripravil mladý slovenský fotograf Michal Pudelka. Pochádza z Bratislavy a študoval módné návrhárstvo v Paríži, dnes žije v Londýne. Má len 27 rokov, no v Amerike si už všimli jeho prácu. „Fotoeditorka Time Tara Johnson sledovala



Titulka časopisu Time od Michala Pudelku.

moju tvorbu už dlhšie, čakala na vhodný moment na spoluprácu,“ hovorí Pudelka.

## Prečo sa máme strániť mastných potravín

Hranolky, pizza, hamburger, vzprázané jedlá... sú plné kalórií, nezdravých tukov, no chutia skvelo. Z času na čas si ich neodpustí takmer nikto z nás. Ak si ich dáme občas, nič strašné sa nestane. Problém nastáva vtedy, ak tvoria základ stravovania. Telo totiž pri ich spracovávaní niekedy doslova trpí.

Ťažké a mastné jedlo je pre tráviaci systém veľkou záťažou. Zo všetkých makroživín (cukry, tuky a bielkoviny) je tuk najpomalšie stráviteľný. Na jeho rozloženie telo potrebuje enzýmy a tráviace šťavy, čiže žľozovú a žalúdočnú kyselinu.

Všetko od stresu až po lieky môže znižovať hladiny týchto tráviacich štiav. Ak ich má telo nedostatok, nie je schopné ťažké tuky stráviť a výsledkom je nadúvanie, nevoľnosť či bolesti brucha.

Baktérie v črevách sa živia tým, čo im poľeme. Ak dostanú mastnú a nezdravú stravu, do popredia sa dostanú tie zlé. Prospešné sú naopak o výživu ochudobnené.

Výsledkom je sťažené trávenie, oslabená imunita a u žien sa môžu dokonca pri premožení kvasiniek v črevách objaviť gynekologické problémy.

Mastné jedlo je často zodpovedné za neprijemné zapálené vyrážky. Môže za ne najmä hormonálna alebo bakteriálna nerovnováha.

Pri dlhodobej konzumácii stravy bohatej na škodlivé tuky sa výrazne zvyšuje riziko infarktu či cukrovky.

Je dokázané, že ľudia, ktoríedia vyprázané potraviny štyri až šesťkrát za týždeň, majú riziko cukrovky 2. typu vyššie až o 39 percent a riziko infarktu stúpne až o 23 percent.



## ACH, TÁ NAŠA SLOVENČINA!

Najnovšie sa Michal Pudelka podieľal na tvorbe lookbooku kolekcie... - pravda.sk  
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Pýšia sa značkami, ktoré sú už dávno out. - pluska.sk  
...nastala éra roadtripov. - sme.sk

...gaštanovo-medový cheesecake - varecha.sk

Nový foodcourt plánuje centrum otvoriť v lete. - trend.sk

## Púť do Svätej Zeme

Kňazi Oratória sv. Filipa Neri v New Yorku pripravujú v dňoch od 11. do 23. apríla púť do Svätej Zeme. Poplatok je \$3.300 za osobu. V cene je započítaná letenka, poplatky za víza, ubytovanie v hoteloch, poplatky za sprievodcu, raňajky, obed a večera, poplatky za návštevu atrakcií, preprava autobusmi, exkluzívny výlet po Galilejskom mori, výlet do púšte spojený s večerou a dvojdnová návšteva Dubai. Bližšie informácie na fare, tel. č.: 845-268-4464 alebo Lisette, tel. č.: 646-234-05343.

## Ročná schôdza 182. zboru v NYC

Ročná schôdza 182. zboru a oslava dňa sv. Jozefa pri farnosti sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 66th Street a First Avenue v Manhattan, NY bude v nedeľu 18. marca. Program začne slovenskou svätou omšou o 10.15 hodine dopoludnia. Po omši bude v spoločenskej hale nasledovať schôdza 182. zboru a o 12.30 bude obed, fraternalistický a spoločenský program.

## V Bratislave plánujú postaviť prvý mrakodrap



Eurovea 2 - pohľad z Mosta Apollo, Zdroj: J&T Real Estate

Staviteľ polyfunkčného komplexu Eurovea 2 J&T Real Estate pokračuje v príprave projektu a odhaľuje ďalšie podrobnosti a nové vizualizácie. Projekt prinesie prvý mrakodrap s výškou 168 metrov. Celkovo bude rozšírenie nábrežného komplexu tvoriť šesť stavieb. Hlavnú časť polyfunkčného projektu Eurovea 2 bude tvoriť rozšírenie nákupného centra, podzemná garáž, bytový dom na nábreží, dve administratívne budovy a obytná veža. Rozloha nákupného centra narastie na 84-tisíc štvorcových metrov, pribudne šesť kinosál, 487 bytov, 40 300 štvorcových metrov kancelárskej plochy a vyše 2 200 parkovacích miest.

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XXIII. zimné olympijské hry v Pjongčangu oficiálne začali 9. februára. Zúčastňuje sa jej približne 3000 športovcov z vyše 90 krajín, ktorí budú súťažiť v rekordných 102 disciplínach v 16 športových odvetviach, takže sa prvýkrát v histórii na zimnej olympiáde rozdá viac ako sto medailových kolekcií. Slovensko reprezentuje na olympiáde 56 športovcov v 7 disciplínach. Vlajkonosičkou slovenskej výpravy počas otváracieho ceremoniálu bola lyžiarka Veronika Velez-Zuzulová. Foto: TASR

### Slovenka sa zúčastní na misii NASA



Michaela Musilová

Slovenská marsonautka a predsedníčka Slovenskej organizácie pre vesmírne aktivity (SOSA) Michaela Musilová bola vybraná na simulovanú misiu na Mars. Tentoraz bude na Havaji na sopke Mauna Loa a je vedená NASA. Má preveriť psychickú odolnosť posádky. Začne sa 15. februára a potrvá osem mesiacov. Musilová si tam berie posilu, robot rover vyvinutý na Slovensku. Bude jej pomáhať s geologickým výskumom.

Rover pôjde do terénu robiť geologický výskum. Okrem geologických experimentov bude robiť Musilová aj biologické. V

skleníkoch bude pestovať rastliny.

Misia má preveriť psychickú odolnosť posádky, ktorá bude v malom domčeku odrezaná od sveta. Budú tam existovať ako astronauti na vesmírnej stanici. Posádka bude mať obmedzené zásoby jedla aj vody.

Piati členovia posádky z Austrálie, Británie, Kórey a Slovenska prešli prísny výberom. Vybrali ich z tisícok ľudí z celého sveta. Uchádzači prechádzali psychologickými aj stresovými testami a absolvovali pohovory. V posádke nie je zástupca USA, hoci je misia vedená NASA.

Michaela Musilová už absolvovala v roku 2014 simulovanú misiu na Mars, expedíciu v Grónsku a v Laboratóriu prúdového pohonu sa v roku 2010 podieľala na príprave martánskej misie Curiosity americkej vesmírnej agentúry NASA. Získala viacero prestížnych ocenení a jej podpis bol umiestnený na vozidle Curiosity, ktoré jazdí po povrchu Marsu a snaží sa pátrať po prírodných podmienkach pre život.

### Automobilovému priemyslu chýbajú zamestnanci

Automobilový sektor na Slovensku tlačí na vládu Roberta Fica, aby uvoľnil pravidlá pre zamestnávanie ľudí zo štátov mimo Európskej únie, ako je Srbsko či Ukrajina. V opačnom prípade začne byť Slovensko pre investorov menej príťažlivé. Najmä pre dodávateľov, ktorí pre automobilové závody dodávajú komponenty.

Vyhlasenia, že Slovensko bude menej príťažlivé pre investorov sa z času na čas objavujú, ale tento rok je pre automobilový sektor naozaj kritický - chýbajú mu tisíce ľudí. Výrazne to môže ovplyvniť rozhodovanie manažérov materských koncernov o tom, kam ďalej smerovať nové investície a rozšírenie terajších.

Na Slovensku svoje autá vyrába nemecký koncern Volkswagen, kórejská Kia a francúzska PSA Groupe. Tento rok výrobu spustí aj britský Jaguar Land Rover.

### Krátke správy zo Slovenska



□ Bratislavský závod Volkswagen Slovakia plánuje zamestnať ďalších ľudí. V tomto roku si automobilka v súvislosti s nábehom nových produktov naplánovala prijať 1 400 nových zamestnancov. Vlani závod zamestnával 12 300 zamestnancov. Počet pracovníkov závodu by v tomto roku mohol prekročiť hranicu štrnásttisíc ľudí.

□ Slovenská ekonomika by mala v tomto roku rásť tempom 4,3 percenta. Vyplýva to z najnovšej strednodobej predikcie Národnej banky Slovenska.

□ V novom roku by mohli investori na Slovensku preinvestovať približne 4,2 miliardy eur. Ministerstvo hospodárstva SR spolu so Slovenskou agentúrou pre rozvoj investícií a obchodu (SARIO) majú v súčasnosti rozpracovaných 76 investičných projektov. □ Projekty sa môžu podať dohodnúť už v roku 2018, niektoré až v roku 2019, podotkol v

rozhovore pre portál vEnergetike. sk minister hospodárstva Peter Žiga. Rok 2017 považuje minister za jeden z najúspešnejších, čo sa týka počtu dohodnutých investičných projektov. Bolo ukončených 33 investičných projektov. Z toho 17 projektov bolo nových investícií a 16 rozširujú svoju výrobu.

□ Platy v roku 2017 rástli v každom regióne o viac ako päť percent. Štvrtina Slovákov však zarábala menej ako 700 eur. Od roku 2010 bol rast miezd v uplynulom období najvýraznejší. Priemerná základná mzda predstavovala v minulom roku 980 eur v hrubom. Oproti roku 2016 je to o 60 eur v hrubom viac. Vyplýva to z analýzy portálu Platy.sk.

□ Miera evidovanej nezamestnanosti na Slovensku v decembri 2017 dosiahla hodnotu 5,94 percenta. Medzimesačne sa znížila o 0,01 percenta, medzročne klesla (Pokračovanie na str. 19)



Umelecký súbor Lúčnica oslavuje tento rok 70. výročie založenia. Založený bol v roku 1948. Má tri zložky: tanečný súbor, spevácky súbor a Orchester Zlaté husle. Zakladateľskou bola choreografka Olga Chodáková. Od roku 1969 súbor viedol umelecký vedúci a choreograf Štefan Nosál, ktorý bol predtým v Lúčnici sólistom. Zomrel minulý rok. V Lúčnici sa za 70 rokov vystriedalo takmer dva a pol tisíc členov, ktorí sa zaslúžili o vytvorenie fenoménu, aký nemá obdobu v histórii slovenskej kultúry. Svojou profesionálnou kvalitou a nasadením dokázali lúčničari prezentovať slovenský originálny folklór vo vyše 60 štátoch. Lúčnica sa tým zároveň stala aj jedným z najvýznamnejších kultúrnych veľvyslancov Slovenska a dnes je vo svojom odbore zaradovaná publikom, kritikmi i medzinárodnými agentúrami medzi najlepšie súbory svojho žánru vo svete.