

Za Boha a národ

For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

SLOVENSKÝ KATOLÍCKY SOKOL

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SCENES OF THE SUPREME CLINIC - KURZ - JULY 26-29 AT SUNY - BROCKPORT, N.Y.



Mirroring our fraternal way of life

Edie Babik of Youngstown, Oh. selected as our 2018 S.C.S. Fraternalist of the Year



Serving others in the best traditions of Sokol fraternalism has been an important part of Edith M. Babik's way of life for many years. Active in our organization for more than a half century, for the past 20 years, she has served as president of Wreath 54 in Youngstown, Oh. In addition, she has served in various capacities in Group 17, "Rev. Francis Skutil." Our Edie was selected

by our Board of Directors at its quarterly meeting as our Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year for 2018. While in fact an octogenarian, her spirit and efforts are an inspiration and certainly belie her years. She often notes that her fraternal activity keeps her young.

Edie has been actively involved in all aspects of Sokol fraternal, sporting, religious and social activities. She is the key organizer and chairperson of the annual Group 17 Children's Christmas Party and over the years has co-chaired the annual

Group 17 Family Day Picnic. Since 1996, she has been a Member of the Physical Fitness Board of Group 17. In addition, she currently also serves as an auditor of the Group. She has always enjoyed various Sokol sporting events. She was active for many years in the Group 17 Bowling League and has competed in many of our international bowling tournaments over the years. She was the Women's Flight champion at the 36th golf tournament in Titusville, Pa. She has also been a golf enthusiast. For years, she has competed and enjoyed golf outings hosted by Group 17 and has participated in our international golf tournaments as well. In 2004, Edie was selected as the recipient of the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award at the 49th International Golf Tournament held at Treasure Lake in Du-Bois, Pa. Since then, Edie has participated in subsequent golf tournaments, proudly joining past Petruff sports award recipients to congratulate the current recipient. She is co-founder and served as an officer of the PYBS Ladies Golf League in Youngstown. Mirroring her own Italian heritage, she is an active member of the St. Anthony's Ladies Bocce League. Always an admirer of

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Message from our Supreme President

Michael J. Horvath

I had the privilege of attending the Slovak Catholic Sokol Clinic "the Kruz"



July 27-29, 2018 at SUNY Brockport in Brockport, NY to see first hand the behind the scenes workings of this important fraternal activities.

The Clinic offers the Supreme Physical Fitness Board the opportunity to meet

and prepare the Group Directors and Directresses and their assistants for the upcoming 49th Slet which will be held July 17-21, 2019 at SUNY Brockport.

I observed at the Clinic the dedication, enthusiasm, the developing of new and the renewing of old friendships and most of all fraternalism from everyone in

attendance. There is a feeling that the Slet is no longer important and has no future, this was not visible or felt by these fraternal leaders and no one should tell them otherwise.

I appreciate the hard work they all put in to teach and learn the drills "calisthenics", the discussions on how to prepare for the Slet, the encouragement from the Supreme Physical Fitness Board to help the Group leaders if they have problems and what they can do to increase participation.

It was very apparent the Supreme Physical Fitness Board is a well organized group that knows how to break the ice to get everyone involved in activities. They even asked me to take part in their activities, to tell truths and lies at Friday night's "What is this?" and be a cast

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FAX NUMBER: (973) 779-8245

E-MAIL: Sokol205@aol.com

WEB SITE: www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

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*From the desk of the Supreme Secretary***CONGRATULATIONS**by **Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.**

“Commit your work to the Lord and your plans will be established...” Proverbs 16:3

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer heat! It is truly amazing how quickly the time goes as we will be preparing for the fall season very shortly. That means that football is right around the corner, and that is good by me! There is also still time for outdoor Group/Assembly/Wreath outings and activities. I only ask that if you have an event, please let us know about it, take a few pictures, and send them in to the Home Office. It is always important to let other lodges know what you are doing. You may just give them an idea to do a similar event!

I would like to take this time to congratulate a very special person in our organization. We are so happy to announce Edith M. Babik of S-054 and Group 17, Youngstown, OH, as the 2018 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year. You will see a beautiful writeup in this edition of the Falcon for a beautiful lady. Edie is a proud Sokol member and has been active for many years on both the local and national levels. She is always willing to lend a helping hand and

lights up every room she enters. On behalf of our Board of Directors and our Home Office staff, congratulations to Edie and her Family on this wonderful honor. You deserve it Edie!

I was honored to be in attendance at our 2018 International Clinic held at SUNY Brockport in Brockport, NY from July 26th-29th, 2018. I can report to the membership that our Physical Fitness Board, Group Directors, Group Directresses, and Assistants, did a wonderful job and I commend our young leaders that took the time out of their busy summer schedules to learn our Drills and the various rules and regulations for our upcoming Slet in 2019. We are all proud of you!

Along with our Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, and our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, I had the pleasure of attending the First Slovak Catholic Union's 51st Quadrennial Convention in Cleveland, OH on August 4th-6th. It is always



nice to attend another fraternal's convention as you are able to listen to their deliberations and find common issues pertaining to all fraternalists. One year from now, we will be in the beautiful city of Cleveland deliberating over our proceedings at our 33rd International Convention at the Cleveland Airport Marriot from August 3rd-7th, 2019. We will be sending out more information over the next year in preparation for this important event. As we all know, time does not wait for anyone, so August 2019 will be here before we know it. Make sure your calendars are marked!

As I am writing this article, we are getting ready for our 63rd International Golf Tournament in West Middlesex, PA at Oak Tree and Tam-O-Shanter Golf Courses from August 10th-12th. I look forward to seeing many of our Golfers and reporting back to you in my September article with a congratulatory message to all our winners!

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the passing of two Honorary Supreme Officers that have dedicated their time and energy throughout their lives to the Slovak Catholic Sokol: Andrew “Butch” Hvozdovic and Frank Macey. They are Sokol legends that will truly be missed, but their Sokol spirit will always live on! Please keep their families in your prayers.

Until next time, please continue to enjoy the beautiful summer weather and God Bless!

Zdar Boh!

Message from our Supreme President

(Continued from page 2)

member in the “Murder Mystery Cruise” on Saturday.

All of us should be proud of our Supreme Physical fitness Board and the Group leaders.

I am just returning from Cleveland, Ohio where our Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and I represented the Slovak Catholic Sokol at the 51st Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the “Jednota”. We were honored to be invited by the Jednota to be at their Convention to deliver Slovak Catholic Sokol greetings to their Officers and delegates. It also gave Brother Pogorelec and myself the chance to meet with the other Slovak Fraternalists, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and the leaders of other Slovak organizations, the Slovak Catholic Federation, the Slovak

League of America and the Conference of Slovak Clergy to discuss what each of us are doing for our respective societies and organizations.

The 63rd International Golf Tournament was held August 10-12, 2018 at the Oak Tree Country Club in West Middlesex, PA. I believe all who golfed and attended had a great experience of a fantastic tournament. When the scores are made official all will see who the professionals are and who still need coaching to improve their game. Our thanks and appreciation goes out to our tournament partner, the Greek Catholic Union (GCU) for again partnering with us to put on a great golf tournament for our members.

Congratulations to our 2018 Fraternalist of the Year “Edith Babik” from Group 14, Wreath 54 in Youngstown, Ohio. All who know Edith can attest that she deserves this award. She is one of the best examples of what a fraternalist and a

leader is. She is involved, she leads from the front and she recognizes those that accomplished the tasks. You see Edith at all Sokol events whether it is a Wreath, Group or national event, from the Slet to the bowling or golf tournament and our Conventions; she always has a smile and a warm greeting to all she meets. Again, Edith, Congratulations from the Supreme Assembly!

Two of my mentors, true Slovak Catholic Sokol fraternal leaders, have passed away and I want to acknowledge them for what they taught me in my early years about our Society. They are Andrew “Butch” Hvozdovic and Frank E. Macey; both were Honorary Supreme Officers who served the Society from the 1950s. I only can hope I can continue in their place to champion the Society as much and as well as they did. My thought and prayers will always be for you.

With God's Blessing to All!

Zdar Boh!

41ST NEW JERSEY SLOVAK FESTIVAL SET FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23



All is in readiness for this year's 41st annual New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival set for Sunday, September 23rd at the Middlesex County Fair Grounds located 655 Cranbury Road in East Brunswick, N.J. The grounds open at 10 a.m. Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. A Lutheran service will be celebrated at 10 a.m.

The cultural program begins at 1 p.m. Slovak folk ensembles from the area as well as Slovakia will be featured. The first group to perform will be Pramienok, a children's group from St. Michael the Archangel Slovak Parish in Trenton, N.J. Limboracik from New York will be featured at 1:30 p.m. At 2 p.m. the Limbora Slovak Folk Ensemble of New York will perform followed by the featured soloist from Slovakia, Veronika Rabada. At 4 p.m., the Igor Kucer Band from Slovakia will play followed by the BastaFidly Band also from Slovakia.

Throughout the afternoon, colorful exhibits will be featured as well as vendors offering a variety imported Slovak crystal, colorful artifacts and literature. Delicious Slovak culinary specialties along with traditional American picnic favorites will be available throughout the day. An enjoyable time is assured. Admission payable at the door includes \$10.00 for adults, children up to age 15 are welcome free of charge. There is plenty of free parking. This year's festival is dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first Republic of Czechoslovakia and the 25th anniversary of the independence of Slovakia. Sokol members have been a part of these festivals from the very beginning. Therefore, we hope to see many Sokol members from across the area at this year's festival celebrating Slovak culture, heritage and pride.

2018 S.C.S. Fraternalist of the Year

(Continued from page 2)

our organization's International Slets, Edie has attended or served as a chaperone of these events since 1977. Most recently, she volunteered to serve as a drilling judge at our Slets in 2013, 2015 and 2017. She has been a delegate to the past six international Sokol conventions.

From the time of her marriage in 1954 to the late William B. Babik, Edie has fully embraced our organization as well as our Slovak Catholic traditions and has consistently demonstrated true Sokol fraternalism.

Edie was employed for 18 years in the Youngstown City School District as an Educational Assistant for orthopaedic Special Needs students, retiring in 1999.

As a proud Sokol member, Edie has insured that the same spirit of pride in fraternalism be instilled in members of her family. Her three daughters, granddaughter, and great-grandson are also active members of our organization. One of her daughters, Nancy Kropolinsky currently serves as a Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board. Over the years, Edie has ranked among our organization's top recommenders of new members. In short, Edie is a firm believer in the Slovak Catholic Sokol and has done and will continue to do what she can do to promote our organization. Even at 87 years young, Edie keeps everyone going and motivated to participate. She then is certainly worthy of being designated as our 2018 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year.

As a woman of faith, Edie has been an active member of St. Nicholas Parish in Struthers, Oh. She is also an active member of St. Cyril's Senior Club and volunteers at the annual Slovak Fest hosted by Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Youngstown. She is also active in the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation and served on the committee for the organization's national convention held in Youngstown in 2017.

Since 1985, our organization has honored an individual member for their efforts and honored them as our Fraternalist of the Year. In the fall, Edie will be honored at a dinner where she will be presented with a plaque and check for \$200 as a small token of our gratitude as this year's honoree.

Edie's family, friends and fellow fraternalists extend prayerful best wishes to her on this well-deserved tribute. She is a shining example of what a fraternalist is all about. God bless you Edie. Aguri - cento anni! and Zdar Boh!

DETROIT AREA SLOVAKS CELEBRATE CENTENNIAL

This year, SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Catholic Parish of Sterling Heights, Mich. celebrates its 100th anniversary. The annual parish festival is scheduled for the weekend of August 24, 25 and 26 on the parish grounds located at 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Mich. 48314. The theme of this year's festival, "A Century of Slovak Catholic Tradition in the Detroit Area." Festival hours include: Friday: 6-11 p.m., Saturday, noon - 11 p.m. and Sun-

day: 11: a.m. - 9 p.m. A festive Slovak liturgy will be celebrated at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday.

Group 16 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, as well as Assembly 36 have been a part of parish life over the past century. John Fournier, chairperson of the 100th anniversary committee is available for any questions on the centennial year program at j4nier58@gmail.com. Zdar Boh!

- **Rev. Libor Marek**

Slovak Catholic Sokol
Group 17 ~ Youngstown, Ohio

GOLF OUTING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

Bedford Trails Golf Course - Coitsville, Ohio

Tee times will be assigned starting at 11:30 a.m.

Format: Individual play with a variety of skill prizes to be awarded!
Plus, each Group 17 member is encouraged to bring a guest!!

Dinner after golf at Bedford Trails Golf Course Pavilion

<p>Green fees includes dinner and prizes <i>To be paid at golf course</i></p> <p>18 holes with cart \$32.00 9 holes with cart \$20.00</p>	<p>Non-Golfers: <i>To be paid in advance*</i></p> <p>\$10.00 for Dinner only</p>
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DEADLINE TO REGISTER: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

For additional information contact:
Judy Babik Home: 330-793-9310 or Cell: 330-360-5690
Glen Kramer: 330-788-6260

Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic
Assumption of Mary into Heaven, August 15th

The Assumption (Latin: assumption, "a taking") was defined as dogma by the Catholic Church in 1950, when Pope Pius XII defined it ex cathedra in his Apostolic Constitution *Munificentissimus Deus*. [11] The Catholic Church itself interprets chapter 12 of the Book of Revelation as referring to it. The earliest known narrative is the so-called *Liber Requiei Mariae* (The Book of Mary's Repose), which survives intact only in an Ethiopic translation. Probably composed by the 4th century, this Christian apocryphal narrative may be as early as the 3rd century. Also quite early are the very different traditions of the "Six Books" Dormition narratives. The earliest versions of this apocryphon are preserved in several Syriac manuscripts of the 5th and 6th centuries, although the text itself probably belongs to the 4th cen-



tury.

Later apocrypha based on these earlier texts include the *De Obitu S. Dominae*, attributed to St. John, a work probably from around the turn of the 6th century that is a summary of the "Six Books" narrative. The story also appears in *De Transitu Virginis*, a late 5th-century work ascribed to St. Melito of Sardis that presents a theologically redacted summary of the traditions in the *Liber Requiei Mariae*. The *Transitus Mariae* tells the story of the apostles being transported by white clouds to the deathbed of Mary, each from the town where he was preaching at the hour. The *Decretum Gelasianum* in the 490s declared some *transitus Mariae* literature apocryphal.

An Armenian letter attributed to Dionysus the Areopagite also mentioned the supposed event, although this was written sometime after the 6th century. John of Damascus, from

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Mich. from 3:30 -5:30 p.m.

MON.SEPT.10

■ Wreath 111 patronal feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the American Slovak Home 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. beginning at 6:30 p.m.

FRI.SEPT.14

■ 15th edition of BrewNost, the Midwest's premier international beer festival, featuring the brews of Slovakia and the Czech Republic hosted by the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, 1400 Inspiration Place, SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 6:30 - 10 p.m., tickets available at NCSML.org/brewnost.

SUN.SEPT.16

■ 36th annual Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour benefit dinner-dance at the Westwood Golf Club, West Mifflin, Pa. beginning with cash bar social at 4:30 p.m. with buffet dinner to follow at 5 p.m.; tickets \$40 each before Sept.4, \$45 after,

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In observance of the Labor Day holiday, the Home Office will be closed on Monday, September 3rd. The Home Office will reopen for business on Tuesday, September 4th. Regular Home Office business hours are Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. A restful and enjoyable Labor Day to all. Zdar Boh!

SOKOL CALENDAR



AUG. 17-18

■ Semi-Annual Audit at the Home Office, Passaic, N.J.

SUN.AUG.19

■ Annual Family Day Picnic hosted by Assembly 34 & Wreath 47 on the grounds of SS. Cyril and Methodius School, 1315 2nd Street, N.E., Minneapolis, Minn. from 1 to 4 p.m., games for children, food and refreshments.

■ Annual Family Day Summer Picnic hosted by Assembly 25 and Wreath 15 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Pavilion, Perryopolis, Pa., 2 - 6 p.m., games for children, food, refreshments with music for dancing and listening pleasure; for additional information call Michael T. Matras at tel. 412 691-1306.

AUG.24-26

■ 28th annual Slovak Festival hosted by SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Parish "Celebrating a Century of Slovak Catholic Tradition in the Detroit Area" on the parish grounds 41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, Mich. 48314, Friday: 6-11 p.m.,

Saturday noon - 11 p.m., Sunday Slovak Mass at 11:30 a.m., festivities follow to 9 p.m., for information call tel 586-727-6911 or www.adoremylord.com.

SUN.SEPT.2

■ Annual Cleveland Slovak Festival at St. Anthony of Padua Parish Hall, 6750 State Rd., Parma, Oh. 12 noon to 8 p.m., homemade Slovak culinary specialties and pastries, cultural program featuring the Lucina Folklore Ensemble, music for dancing and listening pleasure, \$5.00 admission, children age 12 and under are welcomed free of charge; for more information call Donna Oros at 440-465-6412.

SEPT.5-7

■ 132nd annual meeting of the American Fraternal Alliance, the trade association of fraternal benefit societies in the U.S. and Canada at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center, Minneapolis, Minn.

SAT.SEPT.8

■ Annual meeting of Group 16, "Rev. Ferdis Juriga" at Clinton-Macomb Public Library, 40900 Romeo Plank Road, Clinton,

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS SEPTEMBER 19
 In keeping with our monthly publishing schedule of the Slovak Catholic Falcon, the next issue will be that of Wednesday, September 19. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Monday, September 10.

**MINUTES OF THE
SUPREME BOARD OF DIRECTORS
QUARTERLY MEETING HELD
VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

FIRST SESSION

Saturday, June 30, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.

Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, **Called to Order** the Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 30, 2018 and greeted all the members of the Board on the call.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, 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 Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, 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. Hvozdic
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 J. 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 that all ten members of the Board of Directors are on the Conference Call. Acknowledged

President Horvath informed the Board that they all have received the **Minutes** from our last Board meeting held on March 16-17, 2018 in Passaic, NJ and published in the May 16, 2018 issue of the Slovak Catholic Falcon. Brother President entertained a motion for their acceptance, so moved by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller, seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak. Approved

President Horvath then called upon our Director of Sales and Marketing, Albert J. Suess, F.I.C., to give a brief overview of the **Membership/Sales and Marketing Report**.

Brother Suess gave a snapshot of the current life and annuity production for the year as compared to the 2018 projections. Life sales has exceeded projections thus far, but annuity production is slightly down.

Brother Albert also gave an update on the Sokol Legacy Campaign. The intent of the campaign was to create an opportunity for existing members to increase their life insurance coverage and invite their family members to join our society as well. As expected, the last two months generated the majority of new business as 34 certificates were issued. A total of 77 certificates were issued during the campaign. Thank you to all who participated in growing our fine organization.

Brother Suess then informed the Board of the SOKOL WIN-WIN Referral Program that will run August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019. The Win-Win referral program is designed for our members who may know of a family member or friend who are in need of life insurance, but do not feel 100% comfortable talking about it with them. We are fortunate to have qualified life insurance and

annuity representatives that can assist in supplying the information necessary to secure the client's financial protection. The campaign will be highlighted in our FALCON, on our web site, and on other social media platforms.

Several questions were presented and addressed to the satisfaction of the Board and President Horvath thanked Brother Suess for the report. President Horvath then asked for a motion to accept the report, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Supreme Physical Director, John M. Underation. Approved

President Horvath thanked Brother Albert and called upon Mr. Thomas Calimano, Market Director/Senior Vice-President, PNC Institutional Asset Management.

Mr. Calimano reviewed PNC's outlook for the financial markets and the economy with the Board. Additionally, he reviewed the investment strategies recently implemented in both the equity and fixed income portfolios.

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 thanks to Mr. Calimano and President Horvath entertained a motion to accept the report, so moved by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. Approved

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

The Slovak Catholic Sokol 72nd Annual and the GCU's 82nd Annual Bowling Tournament was held on May 21st & 22nd in Las Vegas, Nevada with 72 bowlers. A wonderful time was had by all. The bowling pictures and results are posted on our web site and the prize winners were published in the Falcon.

Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, gave the Board an update on the recent Sokol Reunion. 22 members enjoyed the second annual Slovak Catholic Sokol reunion that was held at the Rocky Gap Resort and Casino in Flintstone, Maryland., from June 1st-3rd. The reunion included plenty of social activities and everyone had a great time and look forward to the next reunion in 2019.

Sister Watkins and Brother Underation updated the Board regarding the International Clinic which will be held at SUNY Brockport in Brockport, NY from July 26th-July 29th. The 2018 Clinic will have 32 participants from 9 Groups and all members of the Physical Fitness Board, as we get ready for the 49th International Slet that will be held in July 2019.

The 2018 Golf Tournament will be held at Oak Tree Country Club and Tam-O-Shanter Golf Course in West Middlesex, PA from August 10th-12th. We have a combined golf tournament with the GCU and expect to have close to 125 golfers.

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 the final sale that fortunately was completed in April.
2. Brother John verified the property taxes and insurance are all paid to date on the three existing mortgages on file.

3. Lastly, Brother John commented on a mortgage application received from S-028, East Douglas, MA. Once all required items are received, an approval can be voted on by the Board of Directors.

After a brief discussion regarding the above items, President Horvath entertained a motion to approve the report, so moved by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller, and seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon.

Approved

President Horvath thanked the General Counsel and called upon Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, Edward D. Moeller, for the **Scholarship Committee Report**.

Brother Moeller reported that the committee met on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 via conference call, and made their selections. The winner's photos appeared in the June 13, 2018 issue of the Falcon publication. Checks will be mailed out from the Home Office in July to the applicants who were selected for a grant. Brother Moeller, reported that 25 Slovak Catholic Sokol College Grant winners were selected, 1 Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Memorial Grant, 1 Emil Slavik Memorial Grant, 1 Doctors Lesko Medical Memorial Grant, 1 Krista Glugosh Memorial Grant, 1 Yencha Family Grant and 2 Museum Memorial Grants were awarded.

In addition, 8 Slovak Catholic Sokol Abbot Jerome M. Koval, O.S.B Memorial High School Grants and 17 Slovak Catholic Sokol Grade School Grant recipients were selected.

Thank-you letters acknowledging individual selections have been received at the Home Office and Brother Moeller, as in the past, has forwarded the "essay quotes" received from the winners to be included in the Falcon publication.

Several recommendations were presented from Brother Moeller and the Board agreed with them which would improve the application process. The website will be updated accordingly and the applications will become available in November of 2018. President Horvath called for a motion to accept the report submitted by Brother Moeller, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins.

Approved

Supreme President thanked Brother Moeller and called upon Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., to present the **Mortgage Department Report**.

Brother Secretary reported that as of June 30, 2018, the Organization has 3 existing mortgages totaling \$672,611.94. Principal payments received for the first 6 months of 2018 total

\$20,975.06 and interest payments total \$21,021.75. All mortgages are paid on time.

The Supreme Secretary then presented the **Donation Requests** received at the Home Office to be addressed at this meeting.

One request was received from Fr. Patrik Hakos, of St. John the Baptist Community Primary School in Central Slovakia. A donation was requested for their elementary school which was developed to teach and promote our Catholic faith.

The Board recommends a donation of \$200 in support of St. John the Baptist Community Primary School.

Suhlas

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

The Board members had a lively discussion regarding the Annuity Interest Rate, taking into consideration our investment portfolio and the recommendations of our Director of Sales and Marketing. Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, made a motion to increase our three short term annuities and reevaluate the performance at the third quarter meeting, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.

Approved

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

Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek, informed the Board that the Semi-Annual Audit will take place at the Home Office in Passaic, NJ on August 17th-18th, 2018.

Acknowledged

Brother President informed the Board that the 3rd Quarter Meeting will be held at the Cleveland Airport Marriott in Cleveland, OH on September 28th-29th, 2018. The Cleveland Airport Marriott is also the site of our Quadrennial Convention in 2019.

Acknowledged

Having completed all the business on the agenda, Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, entertained a **motion to adjourn**, so moved by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller, seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak.

Approved

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. HvozdoVIC, 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 1:30 p.m. Zdar Boh!

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

SOKOL CALENDAR

(Continued on page 5)

music by the Joseph Jurasi ensemble, for reservations call Rudy & Sue Ondrejco at tel.412 421-1204 email: wpaslovakradio@gmail the radio program is heard Sundays at 3 p.m. Eastern Time over WPIT, 73 AM or 96.5 FM and worldwide over the internet at: www.wpitam.com, click on "Listen Live."

SEPT.19-20

■ 2018 Biennial Convocation of the Conference of Slovak Clergy at the Holiday Inn, Boardman, Oh.; for information contact Msgr. Robert J. Siffrin, V.G. at tel. 330 743-2308.

SAT. SEPT. 22

■ Septemberfest celebrating the 10th anniversary of the opening of the National Slovak Society Museum, 351 Valley Brook Rd., McMurray, Pa. 15317-3337, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., exhibits, craft demonstrations, Slovak culinary specialities, and entertainment.

■ 5th annual Simply Slavic Festival celebrating the heritage and traditions of the family of Slavic nations in the downtown section of Cambria City in Johnstown, Pa.

SUN. SEPT. 23

■ 41st annual New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival at Mercer County Park, Old Trenton Rd., Windsor, N.J. beginning with exhibits at 10 a.m., Mass at 11 a.m., cul-

tural program begins at 2 p.m.

■ The annual benefit "Fall Feast" in support of St. Andrew Svorad Benedictine Abbey of Cleveland at The American Croatian Lodge, 34900 Lakeshore Blvd., Eastlake, Oh.

SEPTEMBER 28-29

■ 3rd Quarter Board of Directors Meeting at the Cleveland Airport Marriott in Cleveland, OH.

SUN. SEPT. 30

■ Annual meeting of Group 2, "Rev. Stephen Panik" at The Blue Goode Restaurant, Stratford, Conn. beginning at 1 p.m., deadline for luncheon reservations is September 19; for reservations call Eileen S. Wilson at 203 378-8837; Wreath 1 meeting will follow immediately.

Bishop Marian A. Pacak, C.Ss.R. to head Toronto Byzantine Eparchy

On July 5, Pope Francis appointed a new Bishop for the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of SS. Cyril and Methodius for Slovaks of the Byzantine Rite in Canada.



The Rev. Marian Andrej Pacak, C.Ss.R., currently chaplain of the monastery of the Most Holy Trinity of the Redemptorist Sisters in Vranov nad Topľou Lomnica, Slovakia will head the eparchy headquartered in Toronto.

Bishop-designate Pacak was born in Levoca in Slovakia on April 24, 1973. He is one of eleven siblings. On August 16, 1991, he entered the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (the Redemptorists). He studied philosophy and theology in Krakow, Tuchow and Rome. He was ordained a priest on July 12, 1998 at the Redemptorist Monastery in Michalovce. Following ordination, he was appointed parochial vicar in Stara Lubovna. In 2003, he received a licentiate in moral theology from the Alphonsian Academy in Rome and following his return to Slovakia was appointed as

bursar of the Redemptorist vice-province and served as editor-in-chief of the Byzantine Catholic publication, Missionary located at the Missionary Publishing House in Michalovce (2004-2008). In 2016, he attended various courses in canon law at the John Paul II Catholic University in Lublin, Poland and currently serves as chaplain in Vranov nad Topľou-Lomnica. The episcopal ordination of Bishop Pazak took place in Slovakia in August with the Most Rev. Jan Babyak, S.J., Metropolitan Archbishop of Presov, as principal ordaining prelate. He is scheduled to be solemnly installed as Eparch of SS. Cyril and Methodius on September 15, the feast of Our Mothers of Sorrows, patroness of Slovakia, in the Cathedral of the Nativity of the Mother of God located on Shaw Street in Toronto.

The Eparchy of SS. Cyril and Methodius was established by Pope St. John Paul II in the fall of 1980. Bishop Michael Rusnak, C.Ss.R. a native of Beaverdale, Pa. was appointed the first Eparch. On January 2, 1965, he was ordained a bishop as auxiliary of the Ukrainian Eparchy of Toronto and Visitor for Slovaks of the Byzantine Rite in Canada. Bishop Rusnak was installed as the first Eparch

of SS. Cyril and Methodius on February 28, 1981. Bishop Rusnak passed away on January 16, 2003.

The Most Rev. John S. Pazak, C.Ss.R., a native of Gary, Ind., was appointed as the second Eparch. Bishop Pazak served the Eparchy until 2016 when he was appointed to head the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Protection of Mary with headquarters in Phoenix, Ariz. Since then, Bishop Pazak has been serving as administrator of the Toronto Eparchy until the appointment of Bishop-designate Pacak.



The Eparchy serves Byzantine Catholic parishes in several Canadian communities. Its Cathedral, Nativity of the Mother of God is located on Shaw Street in Toronto. Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Bishop Marian on the occasion of his appointment as the new Eparch of Toronto. May his ministry among us beautifully mirror our Cyrillo-Methodian heritage of faith. Na mnohaja a blahaja lieta vladiko!

Assumption of Mary into Heaven, August 15th

(Continued from page 5)

this period, is the first church authority to advocate the doctrine under his own name. His contemporaries, Gregory of Tours and Modestus of Jerusalem, helped promote the concept to the wider church.

In some versions of the story, the event is said to have taken place in Ephesus, in the House of the Virgin Mary. This is a much more recent and localized tradition. The earliest traditions say that Mary's life ended in Jerusalem (see "Mary's Tomb"). By the 7th century, a variation emerged, according to which one of the apostles, often identified as St Thomas, was not present at the death of Mary but his late arrival precipitates a reopening of Mary's tomb, which is found to be empty except for her grave clothes. In a later tradition, Mary drops her girdle down to the apostle from heaven as testament to the event. This incident is depicted in many later paintings of the Assumption.

Teaching of the Assumption of

Mary became widespread across the Christian world, having been celebrated as early as the 5th century and having been established in the East by Emperor Maurice around AD 600. St. John Damascene records the following: "St. Juvenal, Bishop of Jerusalem, at the Council of Chalcedon (451), made known to the Emperor Marcian and Pulcheria, who wished to possess the body of the Mother of God, that Mary died in the presence of all the Apostles, but that her tomb, when opened upon the request of St. Thomas, was found empty; wherefrom the Apostles concluded that the body was taken up to heaven."

The Assumption of Mary was celebrated in the West under Pope Sergius I in the 8th century and Pope Leo IV confirmed the feast as official. Theological debate about the Assumption continued, following the Reformation. But the people celebrated the Assumption as part of the cult of Mary that flourished from the Middle Ages. In 1950 Pope Pius XII defined it as dogma for

the Catholic Church. Catholic theologian Ludwig Ott stated, "The idea of the bodily assumption of Mary is first expressed in certain transitus-narratives of the fifth and sixth centuries.... The first Church author to speak of the bodily assumption of Mary, in association with an apocryphal transitus B.M.V., is St. Gregory of Tours." The Catholic writer Eamon Duffy states that "there is, clearly, no historical evidence whatever for it." However, the Catholic Church has never asserted nor denied that its teaching is based on the apocryphal accounts. The Church documents are silent on this matter and instead rely upon other sources and arguments as the basis for the doctrine.

Psychologist Carl Jung, who was deeply interested in archetypes and comparative religion, celebrated that the Catholic Church had officially elevated the Virgin Mary (whom he noted as symbolizing the feminine principle) to standing with three masculine figures in the panoply of the church. (Jung: "Answer to Job")



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

August, 2018

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

Just a reminder.....I will need the completed reading lists returned to me no later than September 15th. Include your name, address, Group number and age so that I can recognize you in the paper. Don't forget to highlight your favorite books on the list!!! and have fun reading!!!! Please send your completed reading lists to:

Edward D. Moeller-
2821 Waterman Ave,
Pittsburgh, PA 15227

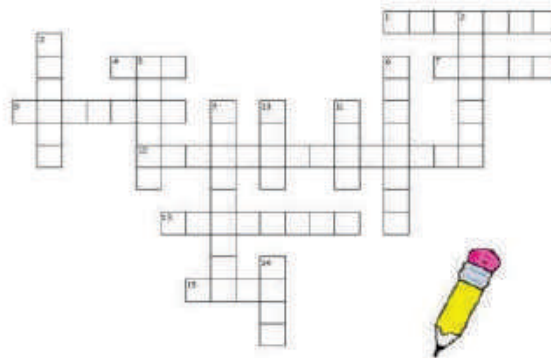


If you prefer to do it online you can e-mail it to me:

vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org

Name: _____

Back to School Crossword



Across

1. The person in charge of a classroom
4. The subject teaches you to print or spell
7. What you write on
8. This subject has experiments
9. This subject teaches children
10. There are 12 _____
18. This is a thing together

Down

2. They help your color pictures
3. What you write with
5. When you get to play outside
6. Tell you what you will do that day
9. The person in charge of your school
11. The person you go back to school
12. This subject teaches you how to feel
13. This is where you work in your classroom

© Teaching Resources (http://allkindslearning.com/2013)



Slovak Words=Slovenské slová

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

to read = čítať [chee - taat'] With a soft "t," it is soft like the "t" in the word "question."

I love to read. = Rád čítam. [Raad - chee - tom] The „a“ is a long á, and sounded longer.

book = kniha [knee - hah] - Note, that the "k" is pronounced, as in Knute Rockne, the famous Norwegian-American football coach at Notre Dame in the 1920s and 1930s.

books = knihy [knee - hee]

I love to read books. = Rád čítam knihy. [Raad - chee - tom knee - hee]

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

- Addison DiMartino 8/2
Michael Fesko 8/6
Ian Dobbins 8/9
Lauren Marie Bond 8/14
Bryce Watkins 8/19
Juliana Hoeck 8/20
Christiana Mosorjak 8/22
Sophia Mosotjak 8/26
Amber Radtke 8/29



Summer Fun!

Make It Monday	Trip Tuesday	Working Wednesday	Thinking Thursday	Friendly Friday
make s'mores	local parks	Momma's work day	owl pellets	sponge baths
bury garden	local theme park	errands (with a pit-stop for ice cream or milkshakes)	elephant toothpaste	shaving cream fight
teacher conference	roller skating		egg games	marshmallow shooters
cobblec	bowling	clean the house	crystal garden	photo booth
shoobox	summer's market		egg drop contest	blind makeover
more...	more...		more...	more...

Free printable "Summer Fun" idea calendar!
embarkonthepursues.com

THE SOKOL WIN - WIN LEAD PROGRAM BENEFITING MEMBERS

Program Runs - August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019

The Slovak Catholic Sokol for over 113 years has provided our members with sound financial protection and outstanding fraternal benefits. The Society is introducing a program that will benefit our existing and potential members.

As a proud existing member of the SOKOL it is quite easy to expound upon and share the qualities of membership. Not everyone is born a salesman or comfortable selling life insurance or annuities. Today, we have qualified life insurance and annuity representatives that can assist our existing and potential members in selecting the financial protection to help protect their future.

THE PROCESS

Share with a relative or a friend the qualities of membership with the SOKOL. Our fraternal programs, benefits and financial products (life insurance & Annuities).

Complete and submit the MEMBERSHIP REFERRAL CARD to the Sales Office.

An Authorized SOKOL Agent will contact and provide professional advice to place the individual into the right solution.

If your referral purchases a SOKOL Life Insurance or Annuity you earn \$10.00. In addition, for every qualified referral, your name is entered in the \$50 gift card semi-annual drawing and the end of campaign's grand prize of \$250.

AVAILABILITY

A supply of SOKOL WIN - WIN Lead Cards will be available to all Assembly/Wreath Presidents for distribution.

Assembly/Wreath Presidents and other Assembly/Wreath Officers are asked to distribute SOKOL WIN - WIN Lead Cards to existing Members who want to recommend someone to become an insured Benefit Member.

Making it easy - SOKOL WIN - WIN Lead Cards are available for completion and submitting on the SOKOL Web Site www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

Mail completed Referral Lead Cards to the Sales & Marketing Office.

The Assembly/Wreath that has the largest number of new Members referred through this program will be awarded \$500 and will receive recognition in the FALCON, on the SOKOL website and the 2019 National Convention.

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL - Member Referral Card

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Gender: Male Female Age: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Interest:
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Insurance
<input type="checkbox"/> Annuity

RECOMMENDER INFORMATION Assembly/Wreath: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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WHO WINS!**

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The Recommender
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Pittsburgh, PA 15203
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www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

Rev. George J. Torok, C.O. Honored on the Occasion of his 60th anniversary of Priestly Ordination in Tappan, N.Y.

Well-known American Slovak spiritual leader and activist, Father George J. Torok, C.O. was honored on the occasion of his 60th anniversary in the priesthood on Sunday, July 1 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish in Tappan, N.Y. More than 600 turned out for the 4 p.m. diamond jubilee liturgy and reception and cultural program which followed in the parish social center. More than 20 priests and deacons participated in the festive liturgy. At the liturgy, Father George recalled 60 years of priestly ministry. A native of Zilina in western Slovakia, he escaped communist rule and eventually made it to Rome where he completed his priestly studies. He was ordained a priest on July 1, 1958 in Bollengo in northern Italy. He came to the United States in 1968 settling at New York's St. John Nepomucene Parish. He then embarked on a highly successful multi-media center which has produced many religious films. Hallel Communications has become a widely admired and successful center with headquarters in Sparkhill, N.Y. In addition he has provided Slovak ministry in parishes in New York and New Jersey. In 2007, he organized what today is known as the New York Oratory. He invited five priests from Slovakia as initial members who have provided invaluable assistance in Slovak ministry to area parishes. Today, the Oratory has expanded to include 12 priests and several clerics in training.

Following the impressive liturgy, a packed parish social hall enjoyed wonderful refreshments and entertainment. The Rev. Francis Conka, C.O., pastor of the parish served as the emcee at the reception. Among the participants were children attired in traditional Slovak dress who performed who entertained with Slovak music and dance. These youngsters came from SS. Cyril and Methodius in Clifton, N.J., St. Michael the Archangel in Trenton, N.J. and St. John Nepomucene in New York City, parishes in which members of the Oratory provide Slovak ministry as well as from Holy Family Parish in Linden, N.J. Father George is our long-time Sokol member of Assembly 182 in New York City and is a past chaplain of Group 1, "Msgr. Stephen Krasula." Many area Sokol members as well as members of New York area Slovak fraternal and cultural groups took part in this wonderful tribute to an outstanding priest who so beautifully mirrors the highest ideals of our Cyrilo-Metho-

dian heritage of faith. We pray that Almighty God will continue to bless Father George with good health and continued enthusiasm for the spread of the Gospel. Congratulations and Zdar Boh!



Father Vladimir Chripko, C.O. is shown encouraging some of the youngsters attired in traditional Slovak kroj at the liturgy. The youngsters came from parishes where the Slovak Oratorians assist including SS. Cyril and Methodius in Clifton, N.J., St. Michael the Archangel in Trenton, N.J. and St. John Nepomucene in New York City.



Father George J. Torok, C.O. is shown as principal celebrant of the Mass of Thanksgiving he celebrated on Sunday, July 1 at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church in Tappan, N.Y. to commemorate the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Shown with him are concelebrating priests, assisting deacons and altar servers. - Photo by Oto Racek

What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



News and Views from Slovakia...

SLOVAKIA TO PURCHASE 14 US F-16S

Slovakia will purchase 14 US F-16 Block 70/72 tactical fighter jets and will sign the relevant contracts with the US government in this regard, stated Prime Minister Peter Pellegrini (Smer-SD) at a press conference on Wednesday following a Cabinet session, at which the ministers decided to this effect.

The premier added that, for the package of 14 US fighters, training, ammunition and logistics, Slovakia will pay 1.589 billion over the following years.

The Cabinet at its session accepted a proposal made by Defence Minister Peter Gajdos (SNS) to purchase the US F-16s rather than the Swedish JAS-39 Gripen jets, which were also on offer.

According to Pellegrini, the US government's bid was evaluated as the most advantageous in terms of money and as the best solution in technical terms.

Given the over 30-year life cycle of the American fighters, the US bid is 8 percent cheaper than Sweden's, added the premier. However, the initial investment in the US machines alone is several hundred million euros higher compared to the Swedish Gripen jets.

HALF MILLION PEOPLE ATTEND LEVOCA PILGRIMAGE

Around 500,000 people at the weekend alone attended the annual multi-day pilgrimage marking the Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady (July 2) on Marian Hill in Levoca (Presov region), co-organiser of the pilgrimage Jozef Lapsansky told TASR on Sunday.



The main Mass of the pilgrimage (July 1-8) on Sunday, celebrated by Cardinal Gerhard Ludwig Mueller, Prefect Emeritus of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, was also attended by Prime Minister Peter Pellegrini (Smer-SD), several national and local officials and a relatively large group of pilgrims from Romania.

"Our trademark isn't the vainglory of reason, an aggressive selling of our ideology, the removal of those who think differently, hatred, incitement to destruction or machismo. We aren't ashamed of our devotion having the features of a female spouse," said the German cardinal in his sermon.

According to Lapsansky, many people came to Levoca actually walking or riding bikes over dozens of kilometres, while priests witnessed an enormous amount of interest not only in Masses, but also confessions.

A chapel has existed on Marian Hill since at least the 13th century, when the location was being used as a refuge by people from Levoca during the Tatar invasions. In the 15th century, the chapel was rebuilt as a Gothic church, dedicated to the Visitation of Our Lady, before undergoing a Baroque reconstruction in the 18th century and another in the early 20th century. Pope John Paul II upgraded the church to a Basilica Minor in 1984 and he himself visited the site in 1995 with 650,000 people in attendance.

DEFENCE MINISTER GAJDOS HANDS OVER NEXT TWO US HELICOPTERS

DEFENCE MINISTER GAJDOS HANDS OVER NEXT TWO US HELICOPTERS

Defence Minister Peter Gajdos handed over two UH-60M Black Hawk military utility helicopters to the Slovak Armed Forces' Air Unit in Presov on Friday, July 20th.

The choppers were bought and delivered from the United States and form part

of the Slovak Armed Forces' largest defence modernization contract ever.

The first two helicopters were handed over in August of last year. "If everything goes according to plan, five more helicopters will be delivered next year," said Gajdos. Six crews have already been trained for the new machines, with the training of three more still going on in the USA.

According to Gajdos, modernization of military equipment must always go hand in hand with personnel training. "We've trained two of our own instructors to continue the training of pilots, who started with this in the United States," said Slovak Air Force chief Lubomir Svoboda.

Svoboda also said that the military want to equip the helicopters with machine guns and air-launched missiles so that they'll be

(Continued on page 13)



The dominant of the town Kežmarok is the Castle Kežmarský hrad that has entered the history of tourism in the High Tatras as the salient point of the first known tourist trip to this mountain range. The urban compound of the castle originated in 1463. It was built with the aim to defend the town on the site of the medieval community of Svätá Alžbeta (St. Elizabeth). Built originally by Imrich and Ján Záposký in the Gothic style, much stress was laid on the defensive nature of the castle building including thick walls and massive bastions. The castle gained its contemporary Renaissance form after extensive rebuilding which proceeded in various stages in the years 1572, 1575, 1583, and 1624. The last phase was completed by Šebastián Thököly, the founder of the famous family, who invited renowned Italian stonemasons, bricklayers and painters to change the original stronghold into a representative family mansion. The buildings in the castle courtyard were equipped with Renaissance arcades, its sumptuous halls were adorned with wall paintings, and the interior of the castle chapel was renewed in the Early-Baroque style.

News and Views from Slovakia...

(Continued from page 12)

able to help ground forces. The helicopters will also be deployed to fulfil domestic crisis management tasks, such as rescue actions and responses to natural disasters.

Nine Black Hawks in total were purchased by Slovakia for \$261 million. Two years of logistics support, aerial and technical training and expenditures connected with the helicopters' transfer to Slovakia are all included in the price.

DIPLOMATS HONORED M.R. STEFANIK WITH A CYCLING TOUR

US Ambassador to Slovakia Adam Sterling together with ambassadors of other diplomatic missions in Slovakia on July 20 set out for a cycling tour to the monument of Milan Rastislav Stefanik in Ivanka pri Dunaji on the occasion of his birth (July 21, 1880).

Stefanik is a great Slovak example of someone who had the courage to be free and to create a state for Czechs and Slovaks, Adam Sterling said, as quoted by the Plus Jeden De (PJD) daily.

US Ambassador Adam Sterling also visited, together with other diplomats, the monument of M.R. Stefanik in Ivanka pri Dunaji.

The bicycle tour is one of several events involving the US Embassy to celebrate the 100th year of common relationship with Czechs and Slovaks and 25 years of an independent Slovakia. Sterling added that the anniversary is celebrated by his embassy through stories on the courage to be free – both American and Slovak, and that Stefanik is an excellent Slovak example of a person who showed the courage to be free.

Stefanik died young (on May 4th, 1919) in a plane crash close to Ivanka. The local airport, serving the capital of Bratislava, bears his name.

Other celebrations marking Stefanik's birthday took place in his birthplace Kosariska.

BRATISLAVA ONLY REGION WHERE FOREIGN GUESTS PREDOMINATE IN HOTELS

The largest numbers of tourists in Slovakia head to the traditional region of Liptov and the nearby High Tatra mountains, while Bratislava has the busiest accommodation facilities, according to a UniCredit Bank analysis released on Monday.

Domestic tourists continue to make up

the majority of guests in Slovak accommodation facilities, while foreign tourists predominate only in the Bratislava region (54 percent).

Conversely, foreign tourists occupy only a 15-percent share of accommodations in Banska Bystrica region.

Trnava region also has a relatively high number of foreign tourists, but this is mainly due to the internationally renowned Piestany Spa, noted UniCredit Bank.

While tourist interest in accommodations in all eight of Slovakia's regions increased by 7 percent in 2017 when compared to 2016, the average length of accommodation stays fell from 2.81 to 2.78 nights. When it comes to this indicator, spa towns far exceed the average, while Bratislava and the Small Carpathian mountains are at the opposite end.

Gross occupation of accommodation facilities in Slovakia in 2017 increased to 21 percent – the highest figure in at least the past 15 years. The highest gross occupation of accommodation facilities was seen in Bratislava – 42 percent, followed by most spa towns (20-30 percent) and the High Tatras (28 percent).

The analysis pointed to an extremely low occupation rate for facilities in the traditional regions of Zemplin (eastern Slovakia), Kysuce (north-western Slovakia), Zahorie (far west) and Novohrad (southern Slovakia).

POVRAZNIK TO REPRESENT SLOVAKIA IN UN YOUTH DELEGATE PROGRAMME

Dominik Povraznik has become Slovakia's UN Youth Delegate and will thus represent the Slovak young generation within the UN Youth Delegate Programme this year as well as share the acquired experience with his compatriots.

"It's a great honor for me to be nominated to represent the Slovak youth on the international scene. I view this as a great responsibility and commitment ... I will work on improving the position of young people in decision-making processes at local, regional, national and also at international levels," said the student of international relations at the Masaryk University in Brno who was chosen from among 32 candidates.

As part of his mandate, Povraznik would like to address the issue of fake news in Slovakia and how to combat it. He would also like to raise awareness on sustainable development goals in the country.

Group 7 – Upcoming Events

Group 7 "Rev. Josef Murgas" will hold their **83rd Annual "Sokol Day" Picnic** on Saturday, September 29, 2018. This event will be held at the Plains Lions Pavilion on Clarke Lane in Plains from noon to 6 p.m. The picnic will feature Slovak foods and other picnic favorites, homemade baked goods and games of chance for all ages. Sokol Day is open to the public, come out and celebrate the Slovak culture with Group 7. If any members would like to make basket donations or children's toys for our games of chance, please contact an officer.

Group 7 is also planning our **3rd Annual Reunion** on Friday, November 23 at the North End Slovak Citizens Club from 7-10 p.m and a **Group 7 bus trip to NYC** on Saturday, December 1. Our next **Group meeting** will be held on Thursday, August 23 at the North End Slovak Citizens Club at 7 p.m. – **Amy Degnan Blasco, President**

SEZ YOU

Dear Brother Scott Pogorelec,

Just a quick note to congratulate one and all on the new look of our Slovak Catholic Falcon publication. The Falcon has always been a premier publication, full of interesting and informative articles in English and Slovak. The modern look is very appealing.

Zdar Boh!

Rudy & Sue Ondrejco
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Announcing New Sokol Apparel



HOODIES, T-SHIRTS AND GOLF SHIRTS are now available on line. Order yours today by simply going to our website slovakcatholic Sokol.org and selecting the link "**New Sokol Wear**". Clothing items will be shipped directly to your door!

SCENES OF THE ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT HOSTED BY GROUP 7 AT HOLLENBACK GOLF COURSE IN WILKES-BARRE, PA. ON JULY 8



First place team winners pose for a photo and include, from the left: Bill Barber, Jon Hess, Carl Kuren and Dave Iskra.



The very last place winners at the competition shown on the above photo include, l-r, Mike Coury, Joe Hvozdovic, Tom Harper and Charlie Tokach.



Second place team winners are shown above and include, l-r, Steve Hvozdovic, Rick Chmielewski, Steve Hvozdovic, Jr. and Joe Irvin.



All smiles from the Longest Drive winner at the tournament, Rich Chmielewski.



The Closest to the Pin winner of the tournament, Carl Kuren is shown above.



Third place winners are shown on the above photo and include, l-r, Bob Montville, Linda Montville, Diane Grega and Dave Grega.



The Women's Longest Drive winner of the tournament, Linda Montville is shown above.





Phyllis and Stephen Roman celebrate 60 years of marriage

On June 21, well-known Slovak fraternalists, Stephen and Phyllis Roman of Whitehall, Pa. celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Their family and friends gathered at their home where they renewed their marriage vows in the presence of His Excellency, Most Rev. Ronald W. Gainer, Bishop of Harrisburg. Also in attendance was the Very Rev. Protopresbyter Robert J. Rebeck who extended a blessing.

Following the renewal of vows, the couple were feted at a wonderful old fashioned Slovak dinner. Halupky and pirohy were center pieces of the meal. A beautiful cake completed the feast.

Phyllis and Steve have been blessed with eight children, 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Both Phyllis and Steve have been active Sokol members all their lives. Both have served as officers of Assembly 72 and participated in fraternal activities over the years. Both have been delegates to our national conventions. Their children have participated in our Slets over the years with Phyllis there to cheer them on. Brother Steve has also been active in Group 10 where he has served and continues to serve as an officer.

Unfortunately, Phyllis passed away peacefully at her home on Tuesday afternoon, June 26. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and homemaker. A native of Northampton, Pa. she was born there Dec. 30, 1937, daughter of the late Stephen Piervallo and the former Anna H. Kish. She attended St. Lawrence School and was a graduate of Whitehall High School. She was employed by the former Household Finance of Allentown, and later with her husband, whom she married on June



Phyllis and Steve Roman renewed their marriage vows on June 21 on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary at a dinner given in their honor at their home in Whitehall, Pa. Bishop Ronald W. Gainer of Harrisburg, Pa., shown on the above photo with the lovely couple, witnessed the vows. Sadly, Phyllis passed away five days later on June 26.

Charles & Barbara Jankowski note 50th wedding anniversary



Well-known Yonkers, N.Y. fraternal activists, Barbara and Charles Jankowski recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. It was on May 18, 1968 that Charles Jankowski and the former Barbara Matthews exchanged their marriage vows at the former Most Holy Trinity Church in Yonkers. The pastor of the parish, the late Rev. Joseph E. Pacacha officiated and celebrated the nuptial Mass. On May 27, 2018 the couple renewed their mar-

riage vows and received a special blessing at a Mass celebrated in their honor at St. Casimir's Church. The couple has been active in St. Casimir's Parish throughout their marriage. Following the liturgy, they were feted at a family dinner. The marriage has been blessed with four daughters and five grandchildren, all of whom enjoy membership in Assembly 219 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Charles is a retired member of the Yonkers Police force and Barbara is a retired bank employee. Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Barbara and Charlie. May their love for each other continue to grow as the years go by. Zdar Boh!

21, 1958, at the family owned Rost Industries of Northampton. She was an active member of St. John Fisher Parish (formerly St. Andrew's Slovak Church) in North Catasauqua. She loved to sing in the parish choir as well as in the choir of Holy Trinity Church in Egypt. She was a member of the Catasauqua Community Chorus "We Sing." In addition to our organization, Phyllis enjoyed membership in the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union and the First Catholic Slovak Union.

In addition to her husband, Stephen, she is survived by daughters, Anna Marie (James) Sullivan, Phyllis Ann Roman (Barry) Beitler, Celeste Roman (Todd); and sons: Stephen III (Christine), Dominic (Lori), Christopher (Christina), Theodore (Kathy) and Nicholas (Janette). Also, grandchildren: Alex, Brandon, Barry, Justin, Tristan, Nathaniel, Andrew, Phyllis Ann, Alexander, Dominic, Jr., Benjamin and Aiden; also brother Eugene (Diane) Piervallo as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on June 30 at the Church of St. John Fisher with His Excellency, Bishop Ronald W. Gainer as principal celebrant. Concelebrants included the Rev. Eric Gruber, pastor of St. John Fisher; and the Rev. Dr. Robert Kosek, pastor of St. John the Baptist in Allentown. Assisting was Deacon Jack O'Connell. Present in the sanctuary was the Very Rev. Robert J. Rebeck. Interment followed at St. Andrew's Cemetery in North Catasauqua.

May Phyllis, who so beautifully mirrored the very best of our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith throughout her life, now rest in peace. Our sympathy goes out to her beloved spouse, Stephen an outstanding Sokol fraternalist and members of her family.

2018 SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CLINIC – KURZ

JULY 26-29 AT SUNY - BROCKPORT, NEW YORK
by Kathleen S. Watkins, *Supreme Physical Directress*



The 49th International Kurz was held from July 25-29th at SUNY Brockport in Brockport, New York. The day prior to the participants' arrival, the Supreme Physical Fitness board arrived in order to make final preparations for the clinic. The SPFB spent the afternoon reviewing drills, organizing paperwork, arranging the necessary materials for the evening activities, and preparing for the arrival of the participants. The Supreme Physical Fitness Board Members included: Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James Matlon; Asst. Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Frank Laury; Supreme Physical Director, John Underation; Asst. Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich; Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen Watkins

Asst. Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift; Supreme Physical Fitness Board Members: Nancy Kropolinsky, Julie Laury, Marty Degnan, and Kevin Matlon.

Clinic participants arrived bright and early on Thursday morning ready for a hard day's work. After registering, the participants had a little time to settle into Briggs Hall. The afternoon began with a brief meeting, and a review of the mass drill. Participants were also assigned to groups for the evening team building activities. And given the first game "How well do you know your fellow Sokols?" Prior to the clinic, all participants e-mailed me a random fact about themselves to use for the game. The groups were given the fact sheet and had until Friday evening to figure out as many as possible to win a prize. Throughout the drill sessions, we had random games that could earn teams free answers for the fact sheet. Do you know who once ate deer heart or who was born in the dining room of their house? After reviewing the mass drill, the men and women separated to begin learning the team drills. A total of 17 women and 15 men from nine different groups were in attendance: Group 1 – Janice Matlon, Amber Freda, Steven Pogorelec, Jr.; Group 3 – Judy Manyak, Jaque Manyak, Skylar Manyak, Gary Manyak, Zack Manyak, Josh Cyr; Group 4 – Jennifer Romine, Lisa Hoeck, Noah Romine, Mitchell Rakow; Group 5 – Steve Underation, Andy Lipovsky; Group 7 – Kelly Palchanis, August Palchanis, Matthew Malenovitch; Group 11 – Mary Malton, Rebecca Matlon, Luke Matlon, Charles Matlon; Group 14 – Haley Hast, Kara Devers, Brittany Hast, Aaron Kercell, Gavin Watkins; Group 17 – Candace Kraykovich; Group 19 – Kristin Popik, Anne Marie Wasilewski, Steven Popik, Michael Wasilewski.

All drill sessions were held at Tuttle Gymnasium. Drill videos were mailed out to the participants a month prior to the event so that the group leaders could familiarize themselves with the drills. As usual all participants came to the clinic well-prepared. The first drill session, lasting 3 hours, was a great beginning to reviewing and practicing the new drills.

After dinner, the participants met in the common room of Dobson Hall for the evening seminars which included general rules and regulations, gymnastics rules and regulations and a lively discussion on the Slet survey that was sent out in September. Once the seminars were finished, we began our evening activities. There were six stations: Lego minefield, trivia, puzzle craze, song trivia,

PlayDoh Sokol emblem making, and the what is on your phone game. The participants moved through stations working in their assigned groups to complete the tasks. The participants got to know each other a little better and shared many laughs.

Friday began with breakfast in the Brockway Cafeteria and a drill session immediately following. The drill session lasted for about 3 hours. In addition to practicing the drills, mini seminars about individual drills and marching were also part of the morning agenda. Midday, we broke for lunch and then continued with drill practice, which included combining the men and women to review mass drill again. After the afternoon session, we all met for dinner. Following our evening meal, we met in the common room of Dobson Hall for more seminars which included track and field and gymnastics qualifiers. We were very fortunate to have our Supreme President in attendance to give a brief history of our organization and give an overview of how our insurance works. Immediately following the seminars was our evening activity "Who is Telling the Truth?" A panel of four (Chaz Matlon, Steven Popik, Mike Horvath, and Matthew Malenovitch) gave the participants explanations of "random" items and the participants had to try to figure out who was telling the truth. The laughs were many and the explanations very interesting.

Saturday morning began with breakfast and our drill review. The morning was spent reviewing marching, practicing drills for the evening exhibition, and answering last minute questions that the group leaders still had. Additionally, the SPFB videotaped the drills for the participants to use when preparing their respective groups. We finished the morning session and all met for lunch. All of the drills, as well as the music will be uploaded to a shared Google Drive that can be accessed by the group leaders and Slet participants. The sign on is scsdills@gmail.com and the password is [Slovakcatholicsokol](http://Slovakcatholicsokol.com).

Saturday afternoon was the exhibition of drills. A special thank you to our Supreme President Michael Horvath, our Supreme Secretary Scott Pogorelc and his lovely wife Maggie, and adorable son Reid for attending the exhibition. There were nine drills performed as part of the exhibition: 4 girls' drills, 4 boys' drills, and the mass drill.

The drills performed were: Junior Girls, Senior Women – Prava Laska by Tweens, Ta Ne by Kristina Pelakova, Better When I'm Dancing by Megan Trainor, Come Alive from the Greatest Showman. Junior Boys, Senior Men – Isli Mladenci Do Pola by Nebeska Musika, Janko Pri Potosky by Nebeska Musika, Hall of Fame by Will i Am, Seven Nation Army by The White Stripes, Mass Drill – Ecstasy of Gold by Gustavo Santaolallo.

The performance by our participants was outstanding. We are all looking forward to seeing the groups perform next year at the International Slet at SUNY Brockport. July 17-21, 2019.

Following the exhibition, we attended Mass at the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. After returning to the campus, everyone returned to the dorms to get ready for the much awaited "Murder Mystery on the Sokol Falcon Cruise Ship". The SPFB members had assigned parts, but all others were told to

(Continued on page 20)



Obituaries...

Honorary Supreme Officer Andrew J. "Butch" Hvozdovic Passes away peacefully at age 84 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

One of our best known and most beloved Sokols, Andrew J. Hvozdovic passed away on July 10 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. after a brief illness. "Butch" as he was affectionately known was 84. He was the father of our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic who serves as pastor of the Parish of the Epiphany in Sayre, Pa.



A native of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., he was born there March 25, 1934, son of the late Andrew Anthony and Anna Koval Hvozdovic. He was raised in the former Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Parish there and was graduated from its parochial school, where his teachers were the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius. He was a graduate of Wilkes-Barre's James M. Coughlin High School and was a retired city firefighter. On April 26, 1958, he exchanged marriage vows with the former Margaret Louise Balint, who survives, at the former St. John the Baptist Slovak Church in Pittston, Pa.

Brother Hvozdovic hailed from a prominent Sokol family. He was active in Assembly 59 all his life. In his youth, he competed at many of our national Slets, garnering several medals over the years. He served as an officer of the Assembly and for the past nearly 60 years has served as its president. He was also active in Group 7 "Rev. Joseph Murgas," serving in various capacities including that of president. Within the Supreme Assembly, in 1983, the 24th national convention first elected him as a Member of the Supreme Court. He was reelected at several subsequent national conventions. He also served as Supreme Vice President and Chairperson of the Supreme Court. The 30th national convention in 2008 elected him as a Honorary Supreme Officer in recognition of his 22 years of faithful service as a Supreme Officer. Over the years, he was active as a fraternalist and sportsman, participating in many local, Group 7 and international Sokol bowling, softball

and golf tournaments. Under his leadership, Assembly 59 initiated its annual Golf Fun Day, an event which continues to enjoy popularity. The 57th international bowling tournament in 2003 awarded him the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award.

As a devoted civic-minded individual, Brother Hvozdovic served on many city commissions over the years. He has also been active in the North End Slovak Citizens Club, one of the largest ethnic clubs of its kind in Pennsylvania. He served as an officer and director of the club for more than 40 years. He is also active in the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation and the Slovak League of America. He was also a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, a member of the Alhambra as well as other clubs. Proud of his Slovak heritage, there was hardly an activity of the Slovak community of northeastern Pennsylvania over the years which has not had the strong support of Brother Hvozdovic. Following the closing of Sacred Heart Parish, he has been a member of the Parish of St. Andre Bessette.

In addition to his wife, Louise and son, Father Andrew, Brother Hvozdovic is survived by another son, Stephen A. (Chyrisse) Hvozdovic and two grandchildren, Stephen and Joshua as well as nieces, nephews and cousins.

Family, friends and fellow fraternalists paid their respects to Brother Hvozdovic at the John Morris Funeral Home. A celebrated Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on Saturday, July 14 at the Church of St. Andre Bessette in Wilkes-Barre with his son, our Supreme Chaplain, the Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic as principal celebrant. Concelebrating were an additional ten priests. Present in the sanctuary was the Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton who offered the final commendation. Interment followed at Sacred Heart Slovak Cemetery in Dallas, Pa. At the cemetery, Honorary Supreme Officer Steven M. Pogorelec led the assembled in the recitation of the Prayer for a Deceased Sokol Member. Supreme President Michael J. Horvath and Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. headed the delegation of Sokol members who participated in the funeral rites.

Announcing the Memorial Scholarship Fund!!!

Have you found yourself looking for a way to memorialize a lost loved one or fellow Group/Wreath/Assembly member? Why not make a donation in their honor to the newly developed Memorial Scholarship fund? Your donation will assure that an annual scholarship be given out to a college age student who best exemplifies the meaning of fraternalism and volunteerism. Here's how it works:

Send a check or money order to the Memorial Scholarship Fund clearly indicating the name to be memorialized. You can find a donation form on line at <http://slovakcatholicssokol.org/members/memorialfrmframe.htm> or simply send your donation to: **Dennis J. Zifcak, SCS Museum Treasurer, 33 Pinecrest Rd., Uxbridge, MA 01569**

Your bequest will be recognized in the Falcon as well as permanently added to the Memorial Scholarship. Donation Log which will be kept at the Sokol Museum.

Depending on the amount of funds collected, we will be able to award at least two \$1,000 scholarships annually. The hope is that the donated funds will begin a self-perpetuating interest bearing scholarship account.

Have you recently lost a loved one? You might consider earmarking donations to this fund in their memory. Keep the spirit of your fellow Sokol alive by investing in a way that their fraternal dedication will not be forgotten.

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.

May our Brother Andrew, who so actively promoted our Sokol organization throughout his life, now rest in peace. He beautifully mirrored our rich Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith and will be sorely missed.

Beloved Passaic pastor and Sokol Chaplain

Monsignor John J. Demkovich, retired pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish succumbs at 84

Msgr. John J. Demkovich, a priest of the Diocese of Paterson for 53 years, passed away peacefully on August 1 at the



**1933-2018
R.I.P.**

age of 84. He served as pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Slovak Parish in Passaic, N.J. for 40 years from 1971 until his retirement on August 15, 2011. He was a long-time member of Assembly 1. He served as chaplain of both Assembly 1 and Wreath 2 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. He also

served as associate chaplain of Assembly 162 in Clifton, N.J.

A native of New Brunswick, N.J., he was born there September 3, 1933, son of the late John and Ida Segi Demkovich. He was a 1951 graduate of New Brunswick High School. When he was in his second year as a chemistry major at Rutgers University, he decided to pursue the priesthood and was accepted as a seminarian by the Trenton Diocese. He studied for three years at the former Christ the King Seminary in Aurora, N.Y., receiving his undergraduate degree there in philosophy. However, health problems surfaced which caused the Trenton Diocese to drop him from its seminarian program. He then taught in the Somerville, N.J. Public School system until 1961, when he began studying to be a member of the Missionaries of Africa (the White Fathers), entering their novitiate in Alexandria Bay, N.Y. followed by three years of study at their Scholasticate in Ottawa, Canada. A year before his scheduled ordination, health problems again arose which prohibited him from being ordained to serve as a missionary priest.

In 1964, after working as a volunteer in the White Fathers office in Washington, D.C., he applied to the Diocese of Paterson and was accepted as a seminarian and finished his deaconate year at The Catholic University of America. He was

ordained a priest on May 29, 1965 by the Most Rev. James T. Navagh, then Bishop of Paterson, at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Paterson. Following assignments at parishes in Morristown, Passaic and Denville, N.J., he was appointed pastor of the Passaic Slovak parish where he remained until his retirement in August 2011.

He was a Synodal Judge in the diocesan Marriage Tribunal since 1968 and had also served as its Secretary. Msgr. Demkovich served as Diocesan Pilgrimage Director for the pilgrimages to the Basilica of the National Shrine in Washington, D.C. from 1973 until 2011 and was Diocesan Director for the Eucharistic Congresses, Associate Director for the World Apostolate of

Fatima and part-time Director for the Apostleship of Prayer and the Priests' Eucharistic League. Since 1992, he had served as Director of the Diocesan Mission Office and over the years had won many national honors from the Catholic Press Association and the Propagation of the Faith for his bi-weekly column in The Beacon about missionaries. He served for many years on the Sister Miriam Teresa League of Prayer in Convent Station, N.J. which saw the successful Beatification of Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth, in 2014. In 1989, at the recommendation of Bishop Frank J. Rodimer, Pope St. John Paul II named him a Prelate of Honor with the title of Monsignor.

With his fluency in Slovak and Hungarian, Msgr. Demkovich served briefly as administrator of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Clifton and St. Stephen of Hungary in Passaic. Since 2012, he has been

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In Memoriam



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

JUNE 2018

ASSEMBLY/ WREATH	MEMBER	AGE	DATE OF DEATH
Assembly 16	Richard T. Zigerell , Pittsburgh, PA	88	June 6, 2018
Assembly 16	Howard L. Wiles, Pittsburgh, PA	85	June 25, 2018
Assembly 23	Joseph E. Zimmerman, Torrington, CT	97	May 7, 2018
Assembly 32	Paul Bucko, Palmerton, PA	91	May 27, 2018
Assembly 34	Xai Phia Her, Minneapolis, MN	71	May 16, 2018
Assembly 64	Richard W. Srnka, Erie, PA	84	March 30, 2018
Assembly 79	Margaret Kunrod, Lilly, PA	90	June 3, 2018
Assembly 127	Anna Ulens, Monessen, PA	92	June 6, 2018
Assembly 162	John Glodava, Clifton, NJ	84	February 15, 2018
Assembly 180	Norma Jean Fox, Canton, OH	77	May 21, 2018
Assembly 188	Lawrence J. Gulla, Lansford, PA	73	May 20, 2018
Assembly 214	John S. Pupik , Sr., Rossford, OH	83	May 21, 2018
Assembly 261	Nancy J. Hagen, Reading, PA	77	June 26, 2018
Assembly 295	Joseph G. Hlad, Duquesne, PA	96	March 31, 2018
Assembly 303	Rev. Placid F. Pientek, Cleveland, OH	99	May 6, 2018
Assembly 312	Margaret Mary Maddox, Passaic, NJ	98	June 11, 2018
Assembly 313	Martha Volosin, Winter Park, FL	81	June 8, 2018
Wreath 18	Katherine E. Bombara, East Douglas, MA	95	June 12, 2018
Wreath 39	Elizabeth Seliga, Bridgeport, CT	87	June 3, 2018
Wreath 54	Judith L. Gonda, Youngstown, OH	68	April 13, 2018
Wreath 54	Anne H. Ledebur, Youngstown, OH	82	May 10, 2018

Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius host Jubilee Day festivities at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pa.

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius recently celebrated the Jubilees of some of their members. The celebration opened with a concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius. Principal celebrant and homilist at the liturgy was the Rev. Kenneth Seegar, pastor of the parish of St. Andre Bessette in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Concelebrants included Msgr. Robert Lawrence of Bloomsburg, Pa., the Rev. Patrick Devine of Harrisburg, Pa., the Rev. William Weary of Lewistown, Pa., the Rev. John Cyriac, MSFS, the Rev. James Lease, and the Rev. Augustine Joseph, MSFS all of Danville, Pa. Assisting at the liturgy was Deacon Thomas Baranoski of Charleston, S.C.

Celebrating jubilees were Sister Mary Gilbert Dluhy, our Chicago Sokolka of Assembly 11 (70 years), Sister Cabrini Steber (70 years), Sister Brigid Fasiang, our Sokolka of Whiting, Ind. (65 years), Sister Julia Knazik (65 years), Sister Cyriline Biel, our Whiting, Ind. Sokolka (65 years), Sister Catherine Laboure Bresnock (65 years), Sister Mary Anne Nemeec, our Sokolka of Lebanon, Pa. (60 years), Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus (60 years), Sister Margaret Dubas (55 years), Sister Michaellette Lennartz (55 years), Sister Zoe Zollar (55 years), Sister Jeanne Ambre (50 years), Sister Susan Marie Hazenski (30 years), Sister Susan Pontz (30 years), and Sister Martina Hanrahan (25 years). During the liturgy Sisters celebrating jubilees renewed their vows.

The Sisters celebrating jubilee anniversaries currently serve in the Archdiocese of San Antonio, Tex. and in the Dioceses of Harrisburg, Pa. and Scranton, Pa.

Following the impressive liturgy, a festive dinner was enjoyed to which the friends, family and Community members of the Sister celebrants were invited.

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius were founded in the Scranton Diocese by the Rev. Matthew Jankola initially to minister to the education needs of the children of Slovak immigrants. The congregation received official papal approbation on June 26, 1909. Father Jankola served as the second Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. He passed away in 1912 during his ministry at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Bridgeport, Conn. The Sisters acquired what was known as "Castle Grove" in 1919 and established Villa Sacred Heart a the Motherhouse of the Sisters.

Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius in general and this year's jubilarians in particular and pray that they may continue to reach out, to evangelize and teach, to care for the elderly, the young, the poor, the sick, the lonely, wounded families and immigrants in the best traditions of our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. Zdar Boh!



This year's jubilarians pose for a group photo in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

2018 SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CLINIC

(Continued from page 17)

dress as if they were on a cruise. The common area of Dobson Hall was transformed into a cruise ship with a lounge, fitness center, swimming pool area, casino, and ballroom. The participants started by boarding the cruise and meeting the "staff". The main event was the Sokol Queen competition which included Sokol wear and a talent competition. The judges for the competition were Steven Pogorelec, Jr, Gary Manyak and "Judge" Judy Manyak. The participants showed us some interesting talent! Once someone "fell overboard", the participants had to find clues and try to get info from the SPFB to figure out who was the guilty party. There was the travel agent, the boat captain, the 1985 Sokol Queen, the country singer, the cruise director, the bartender, the fitness instructor, the Sokol president, the pool attendant, the business tycoon, and Pageant MC. Anyone on the SPFB could have been the murderer? They all had a reason and a back story. After laughing until we cried at some of the costumes and stories, the participants voted and we found out that the travel agent was the guilty person who threw "Frank" overboard so that he would not buy the ship and cut her off from her free perks. Everyone had a great time. You can find pictures on Facebook, the Sokol website and in the Google drive.

The 2019 International Slet is less than a year away! Start building your teams! If each of you signs up just one new member, our organization will grow significantly! If you are part of a group that did not have representation at the clinic and you want to attend, please contact me. If you have a young child (who will be 8 or older by August 31st) and he or she is interested in going, there are plenty of directors and directresses who are willing to "adopt" them for the week. Just contact me at 412-225-8233 or at kathyw323@gmail.com. It has been mentioned on the Facebook page that this should be our "comeback" year. I am hoping that comes to fruition, and I see many of our former participants come back to the Slet and bring their children. Just remember all the great memories and how much fun you used to have at the Slet. Zdar Boh!

Introducing our newest members



Colton Charles Seifert, born April 15, 2018 is the son of Charles W. and Alaina Hawranko Seifert, III of McDonald, Pa. He was enrolled as a member of Assembly 16 in Pittsburgh, Pa.



Thomas Aaron Childs, born May 20, 2016, is the son of Jason Aaron and Teresa Rayhel Childs of Staunton, Va. He was enrolled as a member of Assembly 180 in Canton, Oh.

*In Lorain, Oh.***Matthew Naelitz, Wreath 111 member, honored by United Slovak Societies**

The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Oh. presented our Sokol of Wreath 111, Matthew Naelitz with its annual scholarship award during a special presentation on July 3. The presentation took place during a barbeque and cake reception at the American Slovak Home in Lorain. Matthew is a graduate of Marion L. Steele High School. He will attend Walsh University in the fall where he expects to study exercise science and physical therapy. A life-long member of Wreath 111, Matt hails from a long-time Sokol family of Lorain. Our congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Matthew. Happy future.

As part of the application process for the scholarship grant, each applicant had to submit an essay. The essay explains how the student hopes to preserve their Slovak heritage. His essay follows. Again our congratulations.

Zdar Boh!

Michele Mager

*Secretary, United Slovak Societies
Lorain, Oh.*

ESSAY

In the mid 1800s, five generations ago, my great-great-grandparents boarded a ship in Europe and immigrated to the United States. They became the parents of ten children, one of which was my great-grandfather. He fathered three married and had four children, which included her son, who is my father, so I am the present generation. We all became members of Wreath #1 the American Slovak Club.

My Slovak heritage is a blending of my family traditions and the American Slovak Club's fraternal functions. My earliest memories about being Slovak include attending my family's Velijs dinners and Easter traditions. These gatherings embodied Slovak foods and traditions and have continued on year after year. It's the American Slovak Club that also provides authentic Slovak celebrations, which we can participate in and enhance our understanding of the Slovak heritage.



Matthew Naelitz, shown above third from the right, was presented a scholarship grant from the United Slovak Societies during a special evening on July 3 at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, Oh. Shown with him on the photo from the left, are: Michele Mager, United Slovak Societies scholarship coordinator and treasurer of Wreath 111; Matt's parents, Andrew and Laura Naelitz, and grandparents, Sue and Ben Naelitz. Sue serves as vice president of Wreath 111.

My earliest memories also include enjoying the annual Christmas and Halloween parties that were put on by Wreath #111. I especially enjoyed the bowling and pizza, which allowed me to meet fellow Slovaks. The International Festival, held during the summer, is something I still enjoy going to every year. Our Slovak heritage is highlighted and meeting fellow Slovaks there is always a great time.

My middle and high school years have been focused on my passion for soccer and my academics. Both of these endeavors have given me the keys to open the doors to Walsh University, where I will be playing soccer and earning my degree to eventually become a physical therapist. I am also grateful to the American Slovak Club and Wreath #111 for providing this scholarship. This money will help aid my expenses towards tuition. During my college years, I am looking forward to continuing my Slovak celebrations with friends and family. Since Walsh University is somewhat close to home, I will be able to engage in functions, dinners, and fundraisers that keep my Slovak heritage alive. I also will be helping patients continue developing their physical activities and restore physical strength and stamina.

I hope to preserve my Slovak heritage both at home and in my community by continuing the customs and traditions that I have embodied since childhood. Alternately, these traditions and values for God and country will be passed on to my future generations.

Zdar Boh!

Matthew Naelitz

Monsignor John J. Demkovich succumbs at 84

(Continued from page 19)

in residence at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Clifton where he was active in the spiritual life of the parish.

A gifted musician, he had been a member of the Musicians' Union Local 248 since 1973. Over the years, he often entertained his delighted audiences playing the accordion, keyboard or guitar.

In addition to his activities in the Slovak Catholic Sokol, he was among the founders of the New Jersey Slovak Heritage Festival in 1977 and participated in numerous festivals over the years celebrating Slovak pride in the Garden State. He actively supported the work of the Slovak Catholic Federation and was a generous supporter of its annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal which assists the Church in Slovakia. He had hosted numerous bishops from Slovakia during his years at the Passaic Slovak Parish. He hosted both Slovak Cardinals, including the late Bishop of Nitra, John Chrysostom Cardinal Korec, S.J. who visited the parish in 1992 and Jozef Cardinal Tomko, former Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples in 2005 on the occasion of the Centennial of the founding of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

The body of Monsignor Demkovich was received at St. Mary's Church on Thursday afternoon, August 2 with a wake service. The Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on August 3 at St. Mary's Church with the Most Rev. Arthur Serratelli, Bishop of Paterson, as principal celebrant. Serving as a lector at the liturgy was our General Counsel John D. Pogorelec, Jr. Interment followed at St. Mary's Cemetery in Saddle Brook, N.J. Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., General Counsel John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Honorary Supreme Officer John D. Pogorelec, Sr. and Editor Daniel F. Tanzone headed the Sokol contingent participating in the funeral rites.

Monsignor Demkovich was a devoted minister of the Gospel throughout his lifetime. He was a holy and dedicated priest. He beautifully mirrored our rich Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. May he enjoy the beatific vision and rest in peace.

Nový veľvyslanec SR vo Washingtone bude Ivan Korčok

Štátny tajomník Ministerstva zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí (MZVaEZ) SR Ivan Korčok, ktorý na čele rezortu zastupoval Miroslava Lajčáka počas jeho mandátu predsedu 72. Valného zhromaždenia OSN, sa stane od jesene veľvyslancom SR vo Washingtone.



Ivan Korčok

Na ministerstvo zahraničných vecí sa vracia diplomat František Ružička, ktorý viedol Lajčakov tím v OSN. Súčasný predseda VZ OSN má konkrétnu predstavu o jeho ďalšom pôsobení, bude mu ponúknutá adekvátna pozícia. Miroslav Lajčák o tom informoval TASR koncom júla na pôde OSN. Nepotvrdil, či bude Ružička nový štátny tajomník.

“Veľvyslanec Ružička mi odviezol skvelú prácu ako šéf kabinetu. Potvrdilo sa, že je veľmi dobre istým spôsobom zapísaný v prostredí OSN. Veľvyslanci ho poznajú, dôverujú mu a naozaj výrazným spôsobom

prispel k tomu, že som sa mohol venovať svojej práci a že môžem dnes povedať, že som splnil svoje priority,” uviedol Lajčák. Dodal, že po skončení jeho mandátu bude naďalej kmeňovým zamestnancom ministerstva zahraničných vecí.

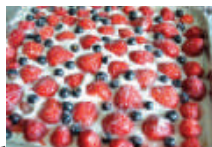
Minister ubezpečil, že mu po návrate na ministerstvo bude ponúknutá adekvátna pozícia. “Mám veľmi konkrétnu predstavu o tom, čo s ním bude. Samozrejme, kým to nie je potvrdené, tak by som s tým nerád vychádzal na verejnosť,” konštatoval. Na ministerstvo sa s Lajčákom vracajú aj ďalší dvaja zamestnanci ministerstva, ktorí posilnili jeho predsednícky kabinet.

Veľvyslancom SR vo Washingtone sa od jesene stane súčasný štátny tajomník rezortu diplomacie Ivan Korčok. “To môžem potvrdiť. Ivan Korčok ako špičkový diplomat, je súčasťou systému a ten systém je založený na rotácii. Odviezol veľmi kvalitnú prácu ako náš stály predstaviteľ v Bruseli, ako štátny tajomník. Veľmi si vážim to, že prevzal na seba v súlade s našou dohodou aj moje zastúpenie navonok počas tohto roka,” spresnil. Zároveň dodal, že uvoľnené miesto štátneho tajomníka nebude dlho prázdne. - TASR

JEDNODUCHÉ RECEPTY

HRNČEKOVÝ OVOCNÝ KOLÁČ

- 2 hrnčeky polohrubej múky
- 1 hrnček kryštálového cukru
- 1/2 hrnčeka mlieka
- 1/2 hrnčeka oleja
- 3 vajcia
- 1 bal prášok do pečiva
- 500 g ovocie



Všetky prísady okrem ovocia spolu zmiešame. Cesto vylejeme na plech s papierom na pečenie. Na vrch dáme očistené ovocie (väčšie ovocie pokrájame). Pečieme cca 30 min na 360°F. Upečený koláč posypeme práškovým cukrom.

ČOKO-MARHUĽOVÝ KOLÁČ

- 150 g maslo
- 150 g cukor
- 1 bal. vanilkový cukor
- 150 g rozpustená čokoláda
- 4 ks žltok vaječný
- 4 ks bielok vaječný
- štipka soľ
- 4 PL rum
- 150 g múka hladká



- 1 čajová lyžička prášok do pečiva
- 1 kg marhule

Zmäknuté maslo vymiešame do peny spolu s cukrom a vanilkovým cukrom. Postupne pridávame žltka, ďalej miešame. Primiešame rum a rozpustenú čokoládu, múku s práškom do pečiva. Bielka vyšľahané s troškou soli zľahka primiešame. Formu potrieme olejom a múkou, alebo vystelieme papierom na pečenie, natrieme korpus a rozložíme rozpolené marhule. Pri teplote 360 stupňov F pečieme 35-40 minút. Podľa chuti pocukríme.

MALINOVÝ SEN

- vanilková zmrzlina
- 2 hrnčeky čerstvé maliny
- 1 PL práškový cukor
- 1 balíček vanilkový cukor



V kastróliku povaríme maliny, pridáme k nim cukor a necháme ich prejsť varom. Potom ich odstavíme a nalejeme na vanilkovú zmrzlinu.

FESTIVAL SLOVENSKEHO DEDIČTVA V NEW JERSEY

41. Festival slovenského dedičstva bude v nedeľu 23. septembra v Mercer County Park, Old Trenton Road, Windsor, NJ. Evnajelická omša začne o 10.00 hodine a katolícka o 11.00 hodine. O 1.00 hodine začne kultúrny program, v ktorom sa predstavia detské folklórne súbory Pramienok zo Slovenskej školy v Trentonu, NJ, Limboráčik zo Slovenskej školy v New Yorku a folklórny súbor Limbora z New Yorku. O 3.00 hodine začne vystúpenie hostí zo Slovenska: speváčka Veronika Rabada, Igor Kucer a Basta Fidli Band. Vstupné je \$10.00, deti do 15 rokov majú vstup bezplatný. Parkovanie je bezplatné.

Záujemcovia o predajné stánky sa môžu skontaktovať s Janou Romanskí na telefónnom čísle 973-390-2810; email: jan-nasopt@gmail.com

Čo sa stane s telom, keď budeme jesť každý deň uhorku

Uhorky obsahujú veľa vody a tým pádom sú veľmi zdravé. Čo však táto zelená zelenina ešte všetko dokáže, vie len málokto.



A prečo by sme ju mali denne konzumovať...

Uhorka je úžasná „medicína“. Pomáha nielen pri cukrovke. Obsahuje horčík, draslík a vlákninu, ktoré zabraňujú zvýšenej hladine cholesterolu v krvi a zároveň regulujú vysoký krvný tlak. Okrem toho obsahuje tento druh vzácnej zeleniny určité horké látky, ktoré podporujú produkciu inzulínu.

Voda obsiahnutá v uhorkách podporuje obličky a redukuje kyselinu močovú v tele, ale tiež pomáha pri problémoch s pamäťou.

Uhorka o svojich prednostiach presvedčila už aj kozmetický priemysel. Kremík, ktorý obsahuje, pomáha napríklad vlasom a nechťom rýchlo rásť...

Koho trápi zápach z úst, mal by siahnuť po plátku uhorky.

V zime mnohí z nás zabúdame na pitný režim. Voda z vodovodu je studená, teplý čaj nemáme vždy po ruke a smäd sa nehlási... Odborníci na výživu odporúčajú v takýchto prípadoch spoľahnúť sa na uhorku – ako sme už spomenuli, obsahuje obrovské množstvo vody, a to až 96 percent.

Minister obrany Gajdoš odovzdal v Prešove dva nové americké vrtuľníky



Dva nové vrtuľníky Sikorski UH-60M Black Hawk odovzdal 20. júla Vzdušným silám Ozbrojených síl SR v priestoroch Vrtuľníkového krídla generálplukovníka Jána Ambruša v Prešove minister obrany Peter Gajdoš. Ide o časť dodávky z deviatich vrtuľníkov na základe zmluvy so Spojenými štátmi americkými.

“Minulý rok v auguste sme odovzdali prvé dva, v dnešný deň druhé, to znamená dohromady máme štyri kusy. Celkovo je vycvičených šesť posádok, ďalšie tri posádky sa cvičia v Spojených štátoch amerických. Na budúci rok, pokiaľ všetko pôjde podľa plánu, bude zabezpečených ďalších päť. Čiže celkovo máme deväť vrtuľníkov pripravených na budúci rok na plnenie úloh nielen modernizácie ozbrojených síl podľa dlhodobého plánu modernizácie a rozvoja s dôrazom na OS SR do roku 2030, ale samozrejme tým napĺňame aj programové vyhlásenie vlády SR,” uviedol Gajdoš.

Vrtuľníky boli na Slovensko podľa neho presunuté preletom vycvičených pilotov zo Slovenska a v prípade potreby sú pripravené na plnenie úloh. Postupne ich plánujú dovybaviť. “Z hľadiska

zabezpečenia je to nielen čo sa týka rozšírenia kapacity palivovej nádrže, ale je tam aj navigácia a riešenie zlaňovania. Do budúca chceme tieto vrtuľníky zabezpečiť samozrejme dovyzbrojením, guľometmi a pokiaľ bude dostatočné množstvo finančných prostriedkov, aj protitankovými riadenými strelami, sebaochranou tak, aby mohli zabezpečiť podporu pozemných síl,” doplnil Gajdoš s tým, že ich budú využívať i pri vyhľadávaní nezvestných osôb a pomoci počas záplav či snehových kalamít.

Na prvých dvoch vrtuľníkoch, ktoré získali v auguste minulého roka, podľa veliteľa Vzdušných síl OS SR Lubomíra Svobodu nalietať 640 hodín. “Pokračovali sme vo výcviku pilotov, ktorí začali ten výcvik v Spojených štátoch amerických, vycvičili sme si dvoch vlastných inštruktorov. Máme vycvičeného zariadeného pilota, ktorý je špecialista na ten vrtuľník. Zahájili sme spoluprácu s pozemným vojskom, čiže s mechanizovanou brigádou,” vysvetlil Svoboda.

Ako povedal, vojenské vrtuľníky boli v ostatných rokoch intenzívne používané pri lesných požiaroch. “Máme v pláne zakúpiť tri nové bambi vaky, pretože staré už dosluhujú. Štyri, ktoré máme, by nebolo ekonomicky výhodné pretransformovať na použitie na týchto vrtuľníkoch,” skonštatoval Svoboda.

Ministerstvo obrany SR realizuje obstaranie viacúčelových vojenských vrtuľníkov UH-60M Black Hawk prostredníctvom amerického vládneho programu FMS (Foreign Military Sales). V celkovej hodnote 261 miliónov amerických dolárov je okrem ceny vrtuľníkov zahrnutá aj dvojročná logistická podpora, výcvik leteckého a technického personálu a výdavky spojené s prepravou vrtuľníkov na územie Slovenska. - TASR

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KRÁTKE SPRÁVY ZO SLOVENSKA



Slovenskí pacienti najčastejšie zomierajú na srdcové zlyhanie, zápal pľúc, respiračné zlyhanie a mozgový infarkt. Informuje o tom Národné centrum zdravotníckych informácií. Medzi najčastejšie príčiny hospitalizácií v roku 2017 patrili podľa národného centra choroby obehovej sústavy, choroby tráviacej sústavy a nádorové ochorenia. Počet pacientov v zariadeniach ústavnej starostlivosti v porovnaní s vlašajškom klesá.

Epidémia osýpok sa na dolnom Zemplíne začala šíriť začiatkom mája. Regionálny úrad verejného zdravotníctva so sídlom v Michalovciach evidoval k 23. júlu 279 prípadov osýpok, z toho 150 bolo laboratórne potvrdených. V okrese Michalovce išlo o 270 ochorení, najviac v Michalovciach (114) a Veľkých Kapušanaoch (61). V susednom Sobranskom okrese ich zaznamenali deväť. V súvislosti s epidémiou osýpok vyhlásili pre okres Michalovce mimoriadnu situáciu. Prijaté boli viaceré opatrenia na zamedzenie šírenia tohto vysoko nákazlivého ochorenia vrátane očkovania.

Ku koncu júna pracovalo na Slovensku 58 tisíc cudzincov. Oproti koncu mája ide o nárast o 1,9 tisíce osôb, v porovnaní s koncom júna vlašajška počet cudzincov pracujúcich na Slovensku stúpol o 15,6 tisíce. Najviac zahraničných pracovníkov pochádza zo Srbska. Tých na Slovensku ku koncu júna pracovalo takmer 10,3 tisíce, čo je medziročne viac o 3,2 tisíce osôb. Vyplýva to z údajov, ktoré zverejnilo Ústredie práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny SR. Na druhej priečke sú občania Rumunska, ktorých ku koncu šiesteho mesiaca tohto roka prišlo za prácou na Slovensko takmer 9,7 tisíce. Medziročne tak počet občanov Rumunska pracujúcich na Slovensku stúpol o 1,4 tisíce. Nasleduje Maďarsko, ktoré zaznamenalo na konci minulého mesiaca takmer 5,4 tisíce svojich občanov pracujúcich na Slovensku. Oproti júnu minulého roka ich počet vzrástol o 1,1 tisíce osôb. Takmer tretina cudzincov na Slovensku pracovala ku koncu prvého polroka tohto roka v Bratislave (17,4 tisíce cudzincov).



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