

Slovak Catholic Falcon

SLOVENSKÝ KATOLÍCKY SOKOL

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Message from our Supreme President Michael J. Horvath

The Easter Triduum is something I look forward to each year, the three days that changed our lives. These three Holy days give us time to reflect and renew our Catholic faith and our own personal lives.



I hope everyone had a blessed and meaning-ful Easter that brought family and friends together to celebrate the risen Christ and our rich Slovak heritage and customs.

One special activity that my family and I

truly enjoy on Easter is going to visit our Honorary Supreme Chaplain, Monsignor Francis J. Beeda, S.T.L., and be able to be with him as he concelebrates Easter Day Mass. Then enjoy a small Slovak Easter meal with him and talk about the Sokol and other events. Monsignor sends prayers and his best regards to all.

It is with great acceptance to nice and see the warm weather beginning to creep back into our lives again. This means more outside activities and sore muscles for us who do not get enough exercise. I will take the sore muscles considering the cold and dark months that are behind us.

Now I can sign up for our Walking Program without excuses.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol 73rd Bowling Tournament will be held May 17-18, 2018 at the Noble Manor Lanes in Pittsburgh, PA. Once again, the Sokol and the GCU are combining our bowling tournaments into one very competitive experience. This year the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota) will compete in the tournament for the first time. The addition of the Jednota is making the tournament bigger for all to enjoy Slovak fraternalism.

I invite all who can make it to the 3rd annual Slovak Catholic Sokol reunion May 31 –June 1, 2019 at the Rocky Gap Casino in Flintstone, MD. The past two reunions have been great fun and enjoyed by all, even during the rainy weather we had last year. I'm sure the evening activities will even be better this year. See you in Flintstone, Fred, Wilma, Barney, Betty, Peebles, Bam Bam, Dino and the rest of gang.

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board has all the plans made for the 49th International Slet, July 17-21, 2019 at SUNY Brockport, Brockport, NY. I know how much work goes into organizing the Slet

(Continued on page 5)

Attention!

ALL SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL MEMBERS

The 33rd Quadrennial Convention of our organization will be held in Cleveland, OH from August 3 to August 7, 2019.

The Bylaws and New Motions Committee will be selected after the Verification and Eligibility Committee meets in April 2019.

"ALL" suggested and recommended changes to be considered by these committees, whether they are a Bylaw change or a New Motion, must be submitted in writing and mailed to the Home Office and received by May 31, 2019.

NO FAXED COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED!!

Zdar Boh! **Michael J. Horvath** Supreme President

Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. Supreme Secretary IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY, THE HOME OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR BUSINESS ON MONDAY, MAY 27.

OUR NEXT ISSUE

In keeping with our monthly publishing schedule of the Slovak Catholic Falcon, the next issue will be that of <u>WEDNES-DAY, JUNE 19</u>. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be <u>MONDAY, JUNE 10</u>.

2019 SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR nomination forms are available. Contact Daniel F. Tanzone at tel. 800 886-7656. A recent photo of the nominee should be included along with the completed nomination form. Deadline for receipt of the completed nomination form at the home office is Monday, July 8, 2019.

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Slovak Catholic Sokol

From the desk of the Supreme Secretary

CONVENTION IS NEAR!



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

Greetings from Passaic, NJ! Spring is here and for most of us, the temperatures are slowly rising. I do know that our friends in the Midwest are hoping for a much quicker arrival of the spring weather.

I hope everyone is making it through with no big issues.

It is hard to believe, but the Convention is less than three months away. By now, all of our Delegates should have received their first correspondence with the hotel reservation information and the tentative Convention Schedule. Please note that the Sunday Mass at the Cathedral begins at 2:30pm. I wanted to give our Delegates a little tutorial on how to access some of our Con-

vention items that are currently on or will be on the website under our Convention Menu. If you go to our website, www.slovakcatholicsokol.org, you will see a list of items on the left-hand side. Seven items down, you will find "Convention Menu".



If you click "Convention Menu", your browser will go directly to the menu.



Currently on the Menu, you will find the aforementioned reservation letter and updated schedule. Regarding the reservation letter, all rooms are based on double occupancy. The Single Room Supplement is \$300.00 and must be pre-paid before July 15, 2019 payable to the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Delegates should make every effort to pair-up and share rooms. You will also find the Pre-Convention Committee information. Please note that all suggested and recommended changes to be considered by the Bylaws and New Motions Committees must be submitted in writing and mailed to the Home Office no later than May 31, 2019. Also, any petition and donation requests must be submitted in writing and mailed to the Home Office by July 3, 2019. No donation requests will be accepted from the Convention floor.

Also, on the menu, you will find information regarding the 2020 SKS Committee. Please read through the meeting minutes and the Bylaw Proposal. Thank you to the Committee for all their hard work and thank you to Chairperson of the 2020 SKS Committee, Julie Ann Dobbs, for all her efforts.

In the coming weeks, we will continue to add more information to the Convention Menu, such as the Four-Year Supreme Officer Reports. We have decided that it is more efficient and cost effective to put the reports up electronically for our Delegates to read. I will also be emailing the reports to all the supplied emails given by our Delegates in their registration form. If any delegate still wants a hard copy mailed to them, please contact me at the Home Office and I will be glad to send you one.

If anyone has any questions regarding the Convention, please feel free to reach out to me at (800) 886-7656 or email me at, scott@slovakcatholicsokol.org.

God Bless all our Members and have a safe and happy Memorial Day! Zdar Boh!

SOKOL CALENDAR

MAY 17-18

- 73RD INTERNATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT at Noble Manor Bowling Lanes, Pittsburgh, Pa.
 - **SUNDAY, MAY 19**
- COMMEMORATION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF THE SLOVAK PATRIOT, GENERAL MILAN R. STEFANIK, cofounder of the first Republic of Czecho-Slovakia, hosted by the Slovak League of America and area Slovak fraternal societies at St. John Nepomucene Church, corner First Ave. and East 66th Street in New York City; Slovak Mass at 10:15 a.m. luncheon and program in the parish social hall, 406 East 67th Street beginning at 1 p.m.

MAY 31- JUNE 2

- SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL REUNION WEEKEND, Rocky Gap Casino Resort, 16701 Lakeview Road NE, Flinstone, MD. SATURDDAY, JUNE 1
- 8TH ANNUAL SIMPLY SLAVIC FEST, celebrating the Slavic traditions of the Mahoning Valley, Federal Plaza East,

(Continued on page 23)

2019 LAW DAY MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL COUNSEL JOHN D. POGORELEC, JR., ESQ.

On May 1, 2019, America celebrated the 61st anniversary of Law Day. Established in 1958 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Law Day underscores how law and the legal process contribute to the freedoms that all Americans share and also provides an oppor-



tunity to recognize the role of courts in a constitutional democracy. This day further allows all Americans to reflect on the personal rights and liberties which are enjoyed and exercised on a daily basis. Throughout the month of May, the legal community reaches out in communities across the nation to simulate appreciation and critical thinking about the fundamental rights that are so easily taken for granted.

Each year, a theme is chosen to provide an opportunity to spotlight a particular aspect of law or the legal process and its impact on our

daily lives. The 2019 Law Day theme - Free speech, Free Press, Free Society - focuses on these cornerstones of representative government and calls on us to understand and protect these rights to ensure, as the U.S. Constitution proposes, "the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity." This year"s theme offers the opportunity to explore this pair of freedoms by probing their history and considering their fixture.

In a democratic society, no rights are more fundamental to preserving freedom than freedom of speech and freedom of the press -- two (2) quintessential rights enshrined in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. The First Amendment to the United States Constitution protects the rights to free speech, along with other rights that recognize the dignity of individuals to think, believe, worship, and communicate how they wish without fear of punishment or oppression from government.

The First Amendment also recognizes freedom of the press, which, similar to freedom of speech, protects the rights of people to say what they believe. Freedom of press, however, has a purpose beyond mere freedom of expression. It is an essential check on government power because it defends the ability of the people to understand how their government and other powerful interests are acting. Generally speaking, free speech and free press are prominent topics in today's public discourse and litigation. It is impossible to imagine a free society without these individual liberties, yet historical and current debates surrounding them continually challenge us to consider their boundaries and resilience.

The Supreme Court interprets the extent of the protection afforded to these constitutional rights. The First Amendment has been interpreted by the Court as applying to the entire federal government even though it is expressly applicable to Congress. Furthermore, the Court has interpreted the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment as protecting the rights in the First Amendment from interference by state governments. In conducting its judicial analysis, the Supreme Court requires the government to provide substantial justification for the interference with the right of free speech where it attempts to regulate the content of the speech. Typically, a person cannot be held liable, either criminally or civilly for anything written or spoken about a person or topic, so long as it is truthful or based on an honest opinion, and such statements.

(Continued on page 23)

Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic

WHO'S GOING TO BE THE BOSS OF ME TODAY?

Will it be fear, fantasy, my schedule, the past, boredom, envy, booze, my work, loneliness, food, resentments, anger, others' expectations, money, anxiety about tomorrow,

pleasure, self-doubt, routine, jealousy, my will, a relationship, drugs, worry, guilt, debt, stubbornness, laziness, my toys, shame, grudges, _____?

I've got so many masters, Lord, each one vying to be my boss, to run my day, influence my choices and decide my direction...



So I pray, Lord, I pray for you to set me free: free me from serving anyone or anything that keeps me from serving you; free me from giving in to anyone or anything that fails to bring me peace;

free me from choosing anyone or anything that does not make me whole, that does not make me more honest, more healthy, more loving and giving...

Be the boss of me today, Lord, and make me more and more the person you love and created me to be...

Be the boss of my life today, Lord, and the master of my heart's desires...

Amen.

As per our Organization's Bylaws

Donation Requests for Consideration at the 33rd Quadrennial Convention

In order to insure that our members and delegates to our upcoming 33rd Quadrennial Convention, scheduled for August 3 - August 7, 2019 in Cleveland, OH, understand the procedure for donation requests at the Convention, I refer to page 15, Section 2.2(c) of our Bylaws. This section states: "The Petitions and Donations Committee shall consist of the Supreme Chaplain, Supreme President, and Supreme Secretary. Donations shall be limited to a maximum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) to any one church, religious organization, social or cultural association, with a total donation limit of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00).

Petitions and requests for donations must be submitted in writing and mailed to my attention at the Home Office, 205 Madison St., P.O. Box 899, Passaic, NJ 07055 no later than one (1) month prior to the Convention. No Faxed copies or E-mails will be accepted. This year's deadline for submitting all petitions and donation requests is Wednesday, July 3, 2019. No petition or donation request will be accepted from the Convention floor. The Committee shall submit a written report to the Convention.

I hope that all members and delegates fully understand our Bylaws related to petitions and donations. Our Bylaws clearly state our official policy and therefore serve as our guide in all our Convention deliberations and decisions. I bring this important issue to your attention so that we all have sufficient time to submit any petition or donation request to be considered by the Committee and delegates of the 33rd Quadrennial Convention. I appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this important matter.

Zdar Boh! Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. Supreme Secretary

Message from our Supreme President

(Continued from page 2)

for all to have a wonderful experience as also knowing the hard work the Groups do to prepare to bring the participants to the Slet. Not an easy task! The Supreme Assembly and members appreciate your efforts, and talents to keep, the Slet, the Slovak Catholic Sokol's premier activity a memorable event. I encourage everyone to come to Brockport to experience Sokol Excitement.

Mother's Day is that special day set aside to give honor to our Mothers and acknowledge the sacrifices they do to make our lives better and for their unending love they have for us that keeps us close to all that is good in our families. I wish all Mothers a Happy Mother's Day filled with sunshine, family and loving TLC. Let us all say prayers for our living Mothers and also, say prayers for our deceased Mothers to remember them for their lives and what they did for us.

On May 27, 2018, the United States will celebrate Memorial Day. We all know the reason for Memorial Day, the day to remember all who are serving or have served in any branch of the U.S. Armed Services. Nothing can remind us of their sacrifices more than visiting the War Memorials on the Mall in Washington, D.C. I had the opportunity of walking to each War Memorial during the trip Group 7 organized to the Cherry Blossom Festival in April. While at each War Memorial it gave me time to think about the conflict and the men and women who served during them. This year will mark the 75th anniversary of D-Day, the invasion of Normandy, the beginning of the end of World War II. We cannot forget our service men and women. On Memorial Day say prayers for all who have served and are now serving, especially the fallen in our armed forces. We thank you for your service.

The Scholarship applications have been received and the Scholarship Committee will be meeting to select the 2019 Slovak Catholic Sokol recipients. The Society's ability to give scholarships to its members is one of the examples how it gives back to members and recognizes their successes and ambitions.

Sometime last year I mentioned the 33rd Convention was right around the corner and will soon be here. Sure enough the corner was turned and it is two months away. The delegate forms were received and our Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and I verified the delegates and formed the Convention Committees based on the delegate committee preferences. We assigned the delegate the best we could and as many as we were able to and balanced the Committees with delegates from different Groups.

The Chairperson of each Convention Committees will arrange when the Committee will meet during the Convention to discuss their assignments and responsibilities. The New Motions and Bylaws Chairperson will set time for their meetings after the deadline for submitting new motions and bylaws to the Home Office is over.

Each delegate was sent the first Convention letter informing the delegate how to make their hotel reservations and other basic convention information. Soon the next packet will be sent to delegates with other Convention information. Delegates are reminded it is their responsibilities to adhere to the Convention deadlines, especially those of the New Motions, Bylaws and Petitions and Donations.

On the Slovak Catholic Sokol website there is a Convention Menu tab. All Convention information and document can be found under this tab. As additional Convention information and material is created it will be posted under the Convention Menu tab. The Convention Menu was developed so each delegate can see and have easy access to all Convention related materials and information. All Committee information will be posted under this tab as is the 2020



SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON PUBLICATION DATES

PUBLICATION DATE
June 19, 2019
July 17, 2018
August 14, 2019
September 18, 2019
October 16, 2019
November 13, 2019
December 18, 2019

ARTICLE DEADLINE
June 10, 2019
July 8, 2019
August 5, 2019
September 9, 2019
October 7, 2019
November 4, 2019
December 9, 2019

Committee information. Supreme Secretary, Brother Scott and I hope each delegate will read all the information in the Convention Menu to prepare the delegate for 33rd Convention. We hope this can save the Society and the delegate time and money.

In Section 3.0, (c) of the Society's Constitution and Bylaws reads: All Candidates for Supreme Office should submit their petition and resume of their qualifications to the Verification and Eligibility Committee. Even though in the past this is done at the Convention were it is very fast paced and time is limited there is not enough time for the delegates to get to know who is seeking a Supreme Office. So where it says should, I am announcing, I will seek a second term as Supreme President. I hope others will follow and submit their qualifications and resumes to the Home Office so they can be posted in the Convention Menu for all the Convention delegates to read. More on the Convention will be written in the June and July issues of the Falcon.

With God's Blessing to All! Zdar Boh!

MINUTES OF THE SUPREME BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING HELD IN CLEVELAND, OH – MARCH 22-23, 2019

OPENING SESSION Friday, March 22, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.

The 2019 Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol held at the Cleveland Airport Marriott in Cleveland, OH opened with a beautiful Mass in the Board Room offered by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, V.F. During the liturgy, the traditional Memorial Service for the deceased officers and members of the organization was held. Immediately following the conclusion of Mass, the Annual Meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Board of Directors took place.

MINUTES OF THE 2019 SLOVAK CATHOLIC MUSEUM BOARD

The 2019 Annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum for the year 2018 was held on Friday, March 22, 2019 at the Cleveland Airport Marriot.

S.C.S. Museum President Edward D. Moeller, called the meeting to order at 9:00AM. Brother Moeller extended greetings to everyone and welcomed the Board to the 2019 meeting. He then called upon Supreme Chaplain Father Andrew S. Hvozdovic to open the meeting with a prayer. After the prayer, Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Brother Moeller stated "The Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship fund continues to accumulate enough donations to have allowed us to consistently offer scholarships. The donations accumulated in 2018 allowed us to be able to offer up to three \$1,000 Memorial scholarships to college student/members who live the volunteer spirit of our fraternal history. The Memorial Scholarship Fund was developed to offer an opportunity for members to honor a lost loved one or fellow Sokol member.

Those memorialized continue to be recognized in the Falcon on a quarterly basis. I would enthusiastically encourage that more Wreaths and Assemblies consider the practice of some who have made it their practice to use this fund as the vehicle to honor members who have died or to celebrate a special event. I am so grateful to both our member and corporate donors. A very generous donation from PNC Bank was received through the efforts of Mr. Thomas Calimano, Vice-President/Market Director S.C.S Portfolio Manager. Through their generosity, I am confident that we will be able to continue to offer this scholarship for years to come."

Brother Moeller proceeded to ask Museum Secretary/Treasurer Dennis J. Zifcak, to conduct the roll call of the Museum Board of Directors. The roll was taken and 10 Directors were present.

The minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Board held on March 16, 2018 were approved as published in the annual booklet of the Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol on a motion made by Supreme Chaplain Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic and seconded by Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

The Chairperson then gave the Museum Activity Report. Brother Moeller reported 30 visitors and the museum received no donations of property. There were two \$1,000 Museum Scholarships awarded in 2018. Repairs/updates made in the museum were briefly discussed. A motion to accept the Activity Report was

made by General Counsel John D Pogorelec Jr. Esq and seconded by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic. This was approved by voice vote.

Brother Moeller asked Museum Treasurer Dennis J. Zifcak for his report.

Brother Zifcak reported the January 1, 2018 beginning balance was \$14,279.29 with the December 31, 2018 ending balance was \$16,207.42. The museum funds are deposited in two accounts. One with PNC with \$5,352.29 and earning a minimum amount of interest and \$10,855.14 with the Sokol Secure Fund earning 2.5%.

The Sokol Secure Fund pays a substantially higher interest rate than most any financial institution. It also allows very convenient withdrawals and deposits. The 2018 total income was \$3,940.14. This came from donations and interest. The Treasurer reported expenses for 2018 of \$2,012. The expenses were the two Museum Scholarships and a bank fee. In light of the growth of the Museum Scholarship Fund, Museum Treasurer Dennis J Zifcak reminded the Museum Board of Directors that in 2019 there may be up to three \$1,000 Museum Scholarships. The Treasurer informed the Board of the donation trend and that the names of donors were published in the Falcon by Editor Daniel F. Tanzone.

A motion was made by Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. to accept the report and seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek.

Approved by voice vote.

Brother Moeller asked if there was any correspondence. There were two thank you letters from the scholarship recipients.

Brother Moeller then asked for any old business. There was none.

There was a discussion to complete a video tour of the museum for placement on our website. The Supreme Secretary and Supreme President will work on a video with Editor, Dan Tanzone.

Under new business Brother Dennis recommended that there be up to three Museum Scholarships for the 2019 year. A motion was made by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics James C. Matlon and seconded by General Counsel John D. Pogorelec, Jr. Esq. The motion was approved by voice vote.

A motion was made by Brother John D. Pogorelec, Jr. Esq. to close the new Business seconded by Supreme Physical Directress Kathy Watkins and then approved by voice vote.

Brother Zifcak indicated that there would be a collection for the Museum fund in Memory of all departed Slovak Catholic members.

The Chairperson then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors Jim Jerek and seconded by General Counsel John D. Pogorelec Jr, Esq and then approved by voice vote.

Supreme Chaplain, Father Andrew S. Hvozdovic closed the 2019 Annual meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Board with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted, **Dennis J. Zifcak** *Museum Board Secretary/Treasurer*

Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, **Called to Order** the Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, March 22, 2019 at the Cleveland Airport Marriott and welcomed all the members of the Board.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, 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 Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller 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:

	.9
Supreme Chaplain	. Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, V.F.
Supreme President	Michael J. Horvath
Supreme Vice-President	Edward D. Moeller
Supreme Secretary	Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Supreme Treasurer	Dennis J. Zifcak
General Counsel	John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.
Chairperson of the Supreme Aud	itorsJames G. Jerek
Supreme Director of Sports and A	Athletics James C. Matlon
Supreme Director of Sports and A Supreme Physical Director	
	John M. Underation

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

President Horvath gave his Opening Remarks, welcoming the Board of Directors and thanking them for their hard work and dedication to the organization.

President Horvath informed the Board that they all have received the Minutes from our last Board meeting held on December 2-3, 2018 in Charleston, SC and published in the January 16, 2019 issue of the Slovak Catholic Falcon. Brother President entertained a motion for their acceptance, so moved by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller and seconded by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins. Approved

President Horvath advised the Directors that they have all received copies of the 2018 Directors Activity Reports and requested a motion for their acceptance. General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. made a motion to accept all reports, seconded by Supreme Physical Director, John M. Underation.

The Supreme President then announced the following Committee Assignments.

ASSIGNMENT OF PERMANENT COMMITTEES BUDGET COMMITTEE

Dennis J. Zifcak, Chairperson

Michael J. Horvath Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.

James G. Jerek

PHYSICAL FITNESS COMMITTEE

James C. Matlon, Chairperson

John M. Underation Kathleen S. Watkins

Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic

John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.

SCHOLARSHIP ADVISORY/SELECTION COMMITTEE

Edward D. Moeller, Chairperson

Michael J. Horvath Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic*

John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.*

Acknowledged

President Horvath asked the Supreme Secretary to present any Communications or greetings that were received at the Home Office.

ASSETS

Brother Pogorelec indicated that a thank you was received from Jane Holy Konzelmann, Vice President of the Slovak Heritage Festival, for the generous donation that was beneficial to the success of the 41st Festival.

Also received was a greeting from Honorary Supreme Officer, Larry M. Glugosh, on behalf of Group 19 and Assembly 227, for a successful Annual Meeting. Acknowledged

President Horvath thanked the Supreme Secretary and indicated the next agenda item would be the presentation of the Supreme Secretary's Financial Report.

2018 REPORT OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY **SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL**

2018

2017

\$ 416,727 15,636 4,205 138 70,583,700 8,891,877 2,314,697 962,626	289,538 14,010 2,443 28 66,893,496 9,532,213 2,249,644 3,145,431
651,874 219,057 803,627 279,178 21,100	693,587 201,163 785,292 276,416 19,200 5,787
<u>\$ 85,164,442</u>	84,108,248
2018 \$ 67,238,630 563,580 184,329 acts 2,486,479 4,809,676 200,000 405,200 4,167 103,660 1,050,413 d 85,000 100,000 Fund 20,000	2017 64,764,648 1,601,137 143,943 2,433,651 4,814,676 110,000 453,332 2,867 122,137 1,013,999 85,000 100,000 20,000
18,500 24,000 50,000 70,113 481	15,000 24,000 50,000 71,749 8,509
\$ 77,414,228	75,834,649
\$ 7,750,214	8,273,599
\$ <u>\$85,164,442</u>	84,108,248
	\$ 416,727 15,636 4,205 138 70,583,700 8,891,877 2,314,697 962,626 651,874 219,057 803,627 279,178 21,100

(Continued on page 8)

^{*(}Two different B.O.D. Members will rotate each year)

MINUTES OF THE SUPREME BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING

2017

2,987,360

339,617

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

2018

3,199,174

338,680

INCOME

Investment Income

Dividends on Stocks

Sale of Securities/Amortization 932,831 1,006,016 TOTAL INCOME \$ 11,509,070 11,887,813 EXPENSES 2018 2017 Operating Expense - Sokol Building \$ 69,334 65,588 Building Maintenance & Repairs 4,684 7,177 Rental Area Expenses 7,641 3,349 Property Taxes - Sokol Building 84,949 82,328 Depreciation Sokol Building 3,738 3,738 Rent for Space 15,000 15,000 Pension Plan - Print 6,337 6,758 Salaries - Office Employees 443,183 439,738 Salaries - Editorial Employees 40,677 88,420 P/R - Taxes Employer 35,816 40,565 Hospitalization 72,451 89,145 Workmen's Compensation Insurance 6,526 8,177 Pension Plan - Office/Officers 353,043 285,310 Office Expense 61,515 56,010 Computer Expense 61,515 56,010 Depreciation Computer Expense 6,750 27,000	Interest on Mortgages Interest on Certificate Loans Sale of Cookbooks Rent Received - Sokol Building Premium Income Annuities Scholarship Income Miscellaneous Income	41,361 15,352 589 111,364 2,195,051 4,485,790 2,427 186,451	43,889 13,021 578 75,980 2,043,185 5,354,262 -1,249 25,155
EXPENSES Operating Expense - Sokol Building \$69,334 65,588 Building Maintenance & Repairs 4,684 7,177 Rental Area Expenses 7,641 3,349 Property Taxes - Sokol Building 84,949 82,328 Depreciation Sokol Building 3,738 3,738 Rent for Space 15,000 15,000 Pension Plan - Print 6,337 6,758 Salaries - Office Employees 443,183 439,732 Salaries - Editorial Employees 40,677 88,420 P/R - Taxes Employer 35,816 40,565 Hospitalization 72,451 89,145 Workmen's Compensation Insurance 6,526 8,177 Pension Plan - Office/Officers 353,043 285,310 Office Expense 16,409 14,487 Computer Expense 61,515 56,010 Depreciation Computer Expense 6,750 27,000 Supreme Officers Travel 14,323 10,511 Supreme Auditors 7,232 7,200 Actuarial Expenses 93,045 78,170 Accountant Expenses 93,045 78,170 Accountant Expenses 93,045 78,170 Accountant Expenses 93,045 78,170 Accountant Expenses 93,045 78,170 Postage-Office 13,422 9,860 Telephone - Office 5,735 5,480 Telephone - Editorial 1,173 1,051 Printing - Katolicky Sokol 22,950 33,500 Postage - Sokol Paper 15,923 32,575 Misc. Publication Expense 17,570 300 Death Benefit Claims Paid 1,108,907 1,192,322 Cash Surrender Values Paid 285,894 312,733 Annuity Death Claims 1,037,963 412,407 Annuity Withdrawals 2,803,319 2,501,423 Matured Endowments Paid 3,082	Sale of Securities/Amortization		1,006,016
Operating Expense - Sokol Building \$ 69,334 65,588 Building Maintenance & Repairs 4,684 7,177 Rental Area Expenses 7,641 3,349 Property Taxes - Sokol Building 84,949 82,328 Depreciation Sokol Building 3,738 3,738 Rent for Space 15,000 15,000 Pension Plan - Print 6,337 6,758 Salaries - Office Employees 443,183 439,732 Salaries - Editorial Employees 40,677 88,420 P/R - Taxes Employer 35,816 40,565 Hospitalization 72,451 89,145 Workmen's Compensation Insurance 6,526 8,177 Pension Plan - Office/Officers 353,043 285,310 Office Expense 16,409 14,487 Computer Expense 61,515 56,010 Depreciation Computer Expense 6,750 27,000 Supreme Officers Travel 14,323 10,511 Supreme Officers Travel 14,323 10,511 Supreme Actual Expenses 39,259 <t< td=""><td>TOTAL INCOME</td><td><u>\$ 11,509,070</u></td><td>11,887,813</td></t<>	TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 11,509,070</u>	11,887,813
Matured Endowments Paid - 3,082	EXPENSES Operating Expense - Sokol Buildin Building Maintenance & Repairs Rental Area Expenses Property Taxes - Sokol Building Depreciation Sokol Building Rent for Space Pension Plan - Print Salaries - Office Employees Salaries - Editorial Employees P/R - Taxes Employer Hospitalization Workmen's Compensation Insurar Pension Plan - Office/Officers Office Expense Computer Expense Depreciation Computer Expense Supreme Officers Travel Supreme Auditors Actuarial Expenses Accountant Expenses State Examiners Postage-Office Telephone - Office Telephone - Editorial Printing - Katolicky Sokol Postage - Sokol Paper Misc. Publication Expense Other Printing Annual Activity Review Book Legal Expenses Death Benefit Claims Paid Cash Surrender Values Paid Cash Surrender Conversions Annuity Death Claims Annuity Surrenders	2018 g \$69,334 4,684 7,641 84,949 3,738 15,000 6,337 443,183 40,677 35,816 72,451 6,526 353,043 16,409 61,515 6,750 14,323 7,232 93,045 39,259 27 13,422 5,735 1,173 22,950 15,923 28 575 8,545 17,570 1,108,907 285,894 9,531 1,037,963 353,137	2017 65,588 7,177 3,349 82,328 3,738 15,000 6,758 439,732 88,420 40,565 89,145 8,177 285,310 14,487 56,010 27,000 10,511 7,200 78,170 34,503 9,860 5,480 1,051 33,500 32,575 669 1,375 10,250 300 1,192,322 312,733 11,601 412,407 1,074,672
	Matured Endowments Paid	-	3,082 1,542

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 10,883,110 11,753,76	Reserve Increase Payments-Suppl. Contracts State Insurance Dept. Lic./Fee Dividends & Expenses Bank Charges - Bond Account Dues & Subscription Donations & Contributions Clinic (Kurz) Slet National Bowling Tournament National Golf Tournament Other Coaching, Insurance Convention Expenses SKS 2020 Committee Group Assessments Paid Commission Expense Annuity Commissions Advertising/Promotions Marketing Expense Agency Expense Board of Directors Expense Physical Fitness Board Expense Miscellaneous Expense Scholarship Expense Salaries - Supreme Officers Supreme Officers Insurance Bond Fraternal Congress Expense Local Fees/ Rebates Group Presidents Meeting Interest Expense	2,473,982 41,812 8,978 43,114 156,540 4,089 7,592 33,457 6,087 9,343 3,797 90,395 7,883 47,859 341,428 97,492 7,713 15,960 28,687 46,342 11,856 4,826 33,578 98,440 2,051 20,205 20,923	3,427,169 22,870 7,884 50,000 156,256 7,802 7,765 -1,057 81,546 3,574 7,261 4,035 60,000 4,069 52,178 376,125 111,628 8,944 10,028 32,315 44,257 11,599 3,612 42,661 93,205 2,051 17,529 25,725 20,274 75,708 18,743
<u> </u>	Secure Fund Interest	25,413	18,743
TOTAL INCOME (LOSS) \$ 625,960 134,046	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 10,883,110	11,753,767
	TOTAL INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 625,960	134,046

ZDAR BOH! Scott T. Pogorelec, FIC Supreme Secretary Slovak Catholic Sokol

Several questions were presented and addressed in a general discussion. A motion to accept the report was made by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic and seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak.

Approved

President Horvath thanked Brother Secretary and called upon the Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek, to present the 2018 Annual Report of the **Supreme Auditors**.

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT March 14 - 17, 2019

1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING EXPENSES \$46,341.53

2. **BUILDING RENTALS**

A. First floor office space is leased by the Slovak League of America \$4,800.00

	В.	Tri County Plumbing rents supply storage space	\$13,050.00	Total	\$33,456.81
	C.	Little Achievers Academic Child Care	\$72,900.00	E. 63 rd International Golf Tournament	
	D.	Parking leases on a month to month basis.	<u>\$5,610.00</u>	August 10-12, 2018 West Middlesex, PA	
		Rental income January 1		Home Office Allotment Returned to Home Office	\$5,900.00 \$0.00
		to December 31, 2018 Total Notes: >Two Rentals of \$710.00 were outstand as of 12/31/18	\$96,360.00 ing	Sub-Total Supreme Officers Expenses/Insurance Total	\$5,900.00 <u>\$3,443.10</u> \$9,343.21*
		>Large increase in rentals relates to first full year collection for child care center		*Note: Golf Tournament Financial Report shows deficit of \$2,207.51	++,
3.	FRATE	RNAL CONGRESS EXPENSES	\$20,204.85	F. International Softball Tournament (None Held)	\$0.00
4.		ADRENNIAL CONVENTION ACCRUAL st 4-7, 2019 Cleveland, OH	\$90,395.00	G. Other Sports and Youth Programs Walking Program	\$1,781.20
5.	OUTST	ANDING SLET BALANCES - As of December 31, 2018	\$0.00	Kid's Corner Reading Program Insurance Total	\$70.00 <u>\$2,016.00</u> \$3,867.20
6.	PHYSIC	CAL FITNESS BOARD EXPENSES	<u>\$11,856.29</u>	Summary of Sports and Athletic Expenses 72nd International Bowling Tournament	\$6,086.68
7.		CATION EXPENSES		International Clinic "Kurz"	\$33,456.81
	Sic	ovak Catholic Falcon Printing	\$22,950.00	63rd International Golf Tournament Other Sports and Youth Programs	\$9,343.21 \$3,867.20
		Postage Miscellaneous Printing	\$15,922.66 \$27.67	Total	<u>\$52,753.90</u>
0		Total	\$38,900.33	11. OTHER ACCOUNTS REVIEWED	ф <u>оо</u> о <u>го</u> оо
8.		N OF EXISTING MORTGAGES Outstanding Mortgage Balances:		Accountant Expenses Actuarial Expense	\$39,258.89 \$93,045.00
		3 mortgage payments are being received	\$651,874.51	Advertising / Promotional	\$7,713.36
	В.	Interest income on mortrogen	¢41 260 00	Agency Expenses	\$28,686.81 \$8,545.00
	D.	Interest income on mortgages	<u>\$41,360.89</u>	Annual Activity Review Book Annuity Expenses	\$341,428.31
9.	<u>SCHOL</u>	ARSHIP COMMITTEE			3,156,456.60
		Scholarships Board & Other Expenses	\$33,250.00 \$328.12	Bank Charges - Bond Department Building Maintenance and Repairs	\$156,539.54 \$4,683.55
		Total	\$33,578.12	Computer Expenses	\$61,514.91
				Death Benefit Claims Paid / Paid Up Additions \$1	,108,906.30
10.	SPORT A.	<u>S AND ATHLETIC EXPENSES</u> <u>District Tournaments</u> (None Held)	\$0.00	Donations and Contributions Dues & Subscriptions	\$7,591.85 \$4,088.98
	Λ.	platiot rounding (Nono riola)	φο.σο	Group Assessments	\$47,859.13
	В.	International Basketball	ф0.00	Group Presidents Meeting	\$0.00
		& Volleyball Tournament (None Held)	\$0.00	Hospitalization/Employee Benefits Interest Expense	\$72,450.56 \$71,040.98
	C.	72 nd International Bowling Tournament		Legal Expenses	\$17,569.55
		May 21-22, 2018 Las Vegas, NV	φ4 00E 00	Marketing Expenses	\$15,890.37
		Home Office Allotment Returned to Home Office	\$1,665.00 \$474.50	Miscellaneous Expense Office Expenses	\$4,826.14 \$16,291.75
		Tiotalinou to Fronte Office	\$1,190.50	Operating Expense-Sokol Building	\$69,334.12
		Supreme Officers Expenses/Insurance	\$4,896.18	Other Printing	\$575.00
	D.	Total International Clinic "Kurz"	<u>\$6,086.68</u>	Pension Plans Office/Officers Payments Pension Plans-Print Shop Payments	\$353,042.86 \$6,336.88
		July 26-29, 2018 State University of New York		Postage Office	\$13,422.02
		at the College at Brockport		Property Taxes-Sokol Building	\$84,948.78
		Transportation	\$9,686.40	Rental Area Expenses Reserve Annuity Supplemental Contracts w/ Life	\$7,641.05 \$0.00
		Per-Diems	\$11,580.00	Reserve Annuity Supplemental Contracts w/o Life \$2	2,103,338.04
		Meals & Lodging	\$13,375.09 \$497.01	Salaries-Editorial	\$40,677.45
		Supplies Mailings	\$487.91 \$110.88	Salaries-Office Salaries-Supreme Officers	\$443,182.72 \$96,695.00
		Sub-Total	\$35,240.28	Sale of Cookbooks	\$589.00
		Less: Refunds	<u>\$1,783.47</u>	(Continued on page 10)	

MINUTES OF THE SUPREME BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING

(Continued from page 9)

SKS 2020 Committee	\$7,882.52
State Insurance Licenses & Fees	\$8,977.96
Supreme Auditors Expenses	\$7,232.14
Supreme Officers Employee Bonding	\$2,051.00
Supreme Officers Travel	\$14,323.38
Supreme Officers Uniform Allowance	\$0.00
Telephone-Editorial	\$1,172.90
Telephone-Office	\$5,734.59
Workman's Compensation	\$6,525.98

We, the Supreme Auditors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol would like to thank the members for allowing us the honor and privilege to serve as your Auditors.

We, the Supreme Auditors, conducted our Audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and practices. In reviewing the accounts of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, we found the accounts to be in order and in agreement with the financial report of the Supreme Secretary.

We, the undersigned Supreme Auditors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, gratefully acknowledge the kindness and cooperation of the following during the audit: Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C., Office Consultant, Peter Dobko, Bookkeeper, Melanie Sasiela, and the Home Office Staff of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

We, the undersigned Supreme Auditors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol hereby acknowledge that on March 16, 2019, we reviewed the policy of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in accordance with PA Act 154 regarding the marketing practices and found that the Slovak Catholic Sokol is in compliance with PA Act 154.

We, your Supreme Auditors would like to assure the membership of the Slovak Catholic Sokol that we are active Slovak Catholic Sokols and participate in our Organization's activities on all levels in addition to our regular Supreme Auditor reporting responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted,

James G. Jerek Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors

Brian M. Suchy
Supreme Auditor

James F. Knis
Supreme Auditor

Brother Jerek addressed several questions and touched on the various recommendations from the Supreme Auditors to the satisfaction of the Board.

A motion to accept the report was made by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins and seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. Approved

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

Brother Suess reported that as of December 31, 2018, a total of 511 new members have joined our organization this year through the purchase of life insurance and annuity certificates. The total face amount of insurance issued for 2018 was \$14,358,732.

The total number of certificates in force is 31,208, consisting of 30,412 life certificates and 796 annuity certificates.

The total amount of life premium dollars remained strong with

an increase in 2018. We are pleased to announce that Life Insurance Premium has increased for the 8th year in row. We have built a solid base of renewal premium the last five years primarily through the Legacy Life and Legacy 20.

Also discussed was the new 2017 CSO Tables that have been approved and will be mandatory for Life Insurance Providers to have in effect by January 1, 2020. We are currently waiting on state approvals and rates should be established during the summer.

Brother Suess also updated the Board on the SOKOL WIN-WIN Campaign. To date, we have received over 30 referrals and have a 60% close rate on the referrals. The campaign will run until July 31, 2019.

Several questions were presented and addressed to the satisfaction of the Board and President Horvath thanked Brother Suess for presenting the report.

Acknowledged

After completing all the items on the morning agenda, the Supreme President entertained a motion to adjourn, so moved by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, seconded by Supreme Physical Director, John M. Underation.

Approved

The Supreme Chaplain led the Board in a closing prayer. The First Session was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

SECOND SESSION Friday, March 22, 2019 - 1:00 p.m.

The Supreme President called the Second Session to order and asked the Supreme Chaplain to open the session with a prayer.

President Horvath then called upon Mr. Thomas Calimano, Market Director/Senior Vice-President, and Ms. Cynthia Cole, Fixed Income Specialist, of PNC Institutional Asset Management to present the **PNC Advisor's Report.**

Mr. Calimano discussed 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 and future potential strategic changes in the portfolio. The individually invested bond portfolio for the twelve months ended December 31, 2018 continues to be of high quality with a solid investment grade rating average. The portfolio's fixed income strategy continues to invest in high quality individual bonds with competitive coupons, attractive relative valuation, and appropriate maturity which effectively manages risk and maximizes income.

Mr. Calimano and Ms. Cole also discussed future potential portfolio repositioning and PNC's outlook for the financial markets.

A lively discussion ensued, and Brother Calimano and Sister Cole addressed various questions from the Board concerning our performance outlook. Both indicated the Society is in a strong financial position, especially in this volatile fiscal environment.

Acknowledged

President Horvath thanked Mr. Calimano and Ms. Cole and called upon General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. to present the Legal Department Report.

General Counsel reported that there is no pending litigation against the Society. He also updated the Board that no new mortgage applications have been brought forward and the property taxes on the three current mortgages are being paid on time.

Brother Counsel also prepared affidavits that are to be signed

by the Board in relation to the State Examination recently completed for the Organization.

Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller, made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak.

Approved

Brother President thanked the General Counsel and called upon the Supreme Secretary to present the **Mortgage Department Report.**

Brother Scott reported that as of December 31, 2018, there are 3 existing mortgages totaling \$651,874.51. During 2018, the amount of principal income received amounted to \$42,632.74 and the interest received totaled \$41,360.89. All mortgages are paid on time.

A motion to accept the report was made by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak.

Approved

The Supreme President thanked Brother Scott and asked for the **Donation Requests.**

 Slovak Catholic Federation, Bridgeport, PA, request from Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, Appeal Coordinator, request for the 2019 Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal.

The Board recommends a donation of \$300 in support of 2019 Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, made a motion to accept the Donation Report, seconded by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins.

Approved

President Horvath called upon the Supreme Secretary for the **Examination Update.**

Brother Secretary reported that the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance conducted a financial condition examination of the Slovak Catholic Sokol for the five-year period ending December 31, 2017, which included a review of material transactions and/or events occurring subsequent to the examination date. The examination concluded on December 28, 2018 and was filed with the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance on February 27, 2019.

Brother Pogorelec indicated that the examination went smoothly and there were no major issues brought forward from the Department.

President Horvath thanked Brother Secretary and called upon Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller, for the **Scholarship Report.**

Brother Moeller reported that as of March 22, 2019, 30 applications for our College Scholarship Grants have been received, along with 16 Grade School and 8 High School applications. Brother Edward indicated that like in the past, many applications come during the week before the deadline, which is March 31, 2019.

The Scholarship Selection Committee will meet on Saturday, May 11, 2019 to select the 2019-2020 recipients.

After a brief discussion, Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek, moved for the acceptance of the report, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon.

Approved

Brother President then called upon the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, for the Physical Fitness Committee Report.

Brother Matlon reported on the success of the 2018 programs and thanked the Supreme President, Supreme Secretary, and all the Board members for their support and guidance.

Supreme Physical Director, John M. Underation, and Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins, updated the Board on the preparations for the upcoming SLET in Brockport, NY.

Supreme Physical Directress, Kathy Watkins and members of the Physical Fitness Board again designed the refrigerator magnet listing all of the 2019 Sports Activities. Over 550 magnets were mailed out to the Supreme Officers, Group Presidents, Group Sports Directors, SLET participants, golfers, bowlers, walking program and the Sokol Reunion participants.

Schedule of Events 2019 and PFB Recommendations:

<u>2019 Events</u>	Host City	<u>Dates</u>	Staff Assignment
Bowling	Noble Manor Lanes Pittsburgh, PA	May 20-22	Nancy Kropolinsky
Sokol Reunion	Rocky Gap Resort Flintstone, MD	May 31-June	:1
SLET	SUNY Brockport Brockport, NY	July 17-21	Fitness Board
Golf	Seven Oaks Country Black Hawk Golf Cou Beaver, PA		6-18 Frank Laury

2019 ANNUAL SUPREME PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are the proposed recommendations from the 2019 Physical Fitness Board meeting to be reviewed and approved at the Annual Board of Directors meeting in March. We want to thank our Group Presidents, Sports Directors, Physical Directors

- 1. The prize allotment for the International Bowling Tournament is \$60.00 per team (\$30.00/team, \$20.00/double, and \$10.00/single). No increase.
- The banquet and souvenir allotment for the International Bowling Tournaments not to exceed \$30.00 per participant. No increase.
- 3. The banquet, prize money and souvenir allotment for the International Golf Tournament not to exceed \$50.00 per participant. No increase.
- An allotment of \$2,000.00 is made towards the Walking Program for all related mailings, certificates and prizes. No increase.
- An allotment not to exceed \$1000.00 to purchase props for the 2019 International Slet for both male and female drillers. No increase
- 6. An allotment of \$250.00 is provided to the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics for office supplies. No increase.
- 7. Recommend an allotment not to exceed \$15.00 per participant for a souvenir at the Slet.
- 8. Recommend that a \$50.00 per diem per day be provided to all Physical Directors, Physical Directresses and Sports Directors and \$30.00 per diem per day for Assistants Physical Directors and Directresses at the 2019 International Slet. The group officers must abide by all the rules in qualification for the Slet as established by the Supreme Physical Fitness Board. No increase.
- Recommend that any group with 25 or more male or female participants at the 2019 Slet may assign one quali-

(Continued on page 12)

MINUTES OF THE SUPREME BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING

(Continued from page 11)

fied chaperone to be considered as a Slet participant. (one chaperone/25 male participants, one chaperone/25 female participants). No change.

- 10. Recommend a minimum of two chaperones chosen by the Supreme Physical Fitness Board attend the 2019 Slet. Same as the 2017 Slet.
- 11. Recommend that two additional workers help the Supreme Physical Fitness Board at the 2019 Slet. Same as the 2017 Slet.
- 12. Recommend that the entire Board of Directors attend the Saturday Exhibition at the 2019 Slet. Same as the 2017
- 13. Recommend that four Slovak Catholic Sokol member drill judges be considered as participants and receive \$75.00 daily per diem. No increase
- 14. We are requesting four external drill judges based on past practices. Same as the 2017 Slet.
- 15. Recommend an allotment of \$30.00 per person for the Sokol Reunion at Rocky Gap Casino and Resort, June 2019. No increase

All the recommendations were individually reviewed and dis-Acknowledged cussed. All recommendations were approved.

After a lively discussion regarding all items, Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, moved for the acceptance of the report, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.

Approved

Having completed all the items on the agenda for day one, Brother President entertained a motion to adjourn, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Supreme Physical Directress, Kathleen S. Watkins. Approved

The Supreme Chaplain led the Board in a closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

THIRD SESSION Saturday, March 23, 2019 - 9:00 a.m.

Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath called the Third Session to order at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 23, 2019.

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

General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. read the roll call and reported that all ten Board Members are present.

The Supreme Secretary then discussed the S.C.S. Policy Statement with respect to Conflicts of Interest, reminding the Directors, that the Slovak Catholic Sokol has the utmost confidence in the lovalty and integrity of its officers, directors, and employees. He reemphasized the traditional policy of the Slovak Catholic Sokol on this subject that each Supreme Officer has a signed completed statement on file. The State of New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance recommended that the approval of the Statement of Conflict of Interest be made part of the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting.

In order to comply with this request, Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. Approved

President Horvath then welcomed Allan Ferrone. CPS Actuaries, via conference call to present the Actuarial Report.

Mr. Ferrone presented the yearly report on the results of the Slovak Catholic Sokol's Annual Statement.

As mentioned before, the Sokol assets continue to grow and now stand at over \$85 million, which is an all-time high for the organiza-

The Quality of the Sokol's bond portfolio remained at a very high level in 2018. The average NAIC bond quality designation, weighted by amortized value, is 1.25(where "1.0" is "highest quality" and "2.0" is "high quality"). The Sokol has also lengthened the maturity dates of its bond portfolio. The average duration has increased to about 13.3 years.

The Solvency Ratio and Risk Based Capital ratio remain very healthy at 110.1% and 561% respectively.

Brother Ferrone reported on the operational results in 2018. The amount of money the Sokol collects from investment income and premiums is less than the money being paid out for benefits, insurance/fraternal expenses, dividends, and the amount needed to fund the required increases in reserves. The 2018 expenses were very similar to the 2017 expenses, which shows that the Home Office is doing a good job of controlling expenses. The Home Office will continue to find ways to lower expenses in their control.

Once again, life premium income increased in 2018. This was the 8th year in a row that life insurance premiums increased.

A discussion ensued regarding the operational results and areas where the Sokol can improve their efforts. Mr. Ferrone answered all questions to the satisfaction of the Board.

A motion was made to accept the reports of our professionals by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon.

The Supreme President then opened the floor for discussion regarding the Annuity Interest Rate to be offered for the Second Quarter of 2019.

After a lengthy discussion, Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, made a motion to raise the rates on our Vantage 5 and Vantage 7 products to 3.15% and 3.50% respectively, while keeping our short-term annuity rates the same, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. Approved

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

The Supreme Secretary brought up the amendment to the Supreme Officer and Employee Retirement Plan in relation to closing the Plan to the entry of any new employees as of December 31, 2018. The Slovak Catholic Sokol will be installing a 401K Plan for any new employees effective December 31, 2018. Supreme Treasurer, Dennis J. Zifcak, made a motion to accept the said amendment, seconded by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller.

Approved

President Horvath questioned if anyone has any New Business to be brought forward.

Brother President informed the Board that Join Hands Day is on May 4, 2019. Join Hands Day is a national volunteer day that our Society has taken part of for many years.

Also discussed by the Board were various advertising and promotional items to be displayed at our fraternal activities to raise awareness about our Organization. Acknowledged

(Continued on page 13)

REPORTS OF THE SUPREME OFFICERS FOR 2018 PRESENTED AT THE FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD IN GLEVELAND,OH, MARCH 22-23, 2019

REPORT OF THE SUPREME TREASURER

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

I would like to thank the delegates of the past Quadrennial Conventions, for electing me and giving me the opportunity and the privilege to serve as your Supreme Treasurer. The past fifteen and a half years, first as Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors and now as your Supreme Treasurer, have seen many changes to the organization and we have continued the turnaround of our organization from one that was losing members to one with membership growth and increased portfolio value. The Board of Directors is continuing to work harmoniously and cohesively under the leadership and vision of our current Supreme President Michael J. Horvath. Mike has brought many fresh ideas to the table.

My activities as your Supreme Treasurer through the past year are as follows:

December 2018: Prepared the 2019 budget, with the Supreme President, Supreme Secretary, Supreme Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, myself, and presented it to the Board of Directors. The logic is, we wanted to enter 2019 with a framework of a budget rather than waiting until the March 2019 meeting to adopt one. Developed a quarterly budget snapshot with the Supreme Secretary on nine major income and expense budget items. This is presented to the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis so all board members have the visibility and knowledge of our income, expenses, and operations.

March 2018: Participated in the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Board meeting as the Museum Treasurer/Secretary in Passaic, NJ. Reviewed and discussed Museum finances and general business.

MINUTES OF THE SUPREME BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING

(Continued from page 12)

At this time, Brother President welcomed Kyle Timmerman and Theron Holiday of Parkway Advisors for a portfolio review and educational presentation. This is an ongoing effort to continually educate the Board on all facets of the fraternal business.

Acknowledged

The Supreme President then informed the Board that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held via Conference Call on June 29, 2019.

Acknowledged

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, V.F. also informed the Board that Mass will be at 4:30 p.m. in Salon A of the Cleveland Airport Marriott.

Having completed all the business on the agenda, Brother President entertained a motion to adjourn, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek.

Approved

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, led the Board in a closing prayer for all deceased members. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. Supreme Secretary Filed the SCS Museum IRS form 990N. Filed the state of New Jersey reports and licenses for the SCS Museum.

March 2018: Participated in the Annual Board of Directors meeting in Passaic, NJ. Discussed Slovak Catholic Sokol business, investment results, reviewed and formally submitted the 2018 operating budget that was approved by the board members.

April/May/June 2018: Under the direction and with the permission of the Supreme President, began working with our actuaries on reducing our pension liability exposure. Also reviewed other potential benefits savings.

June 2018: Participated in the SCS reunion at Rocky Point. I also participated in our Quarterly Board of Directors meeting via tele-conference.

July 2018: Researched various pension options with our actuaries, Supreme President and Supreme Secretary. Worked with the actuaries on cost saving and transitional expenses of various options. All options kept the impact on current staff at the for-front so as to not negatively impact them.

September 2018: Participated in the Quarterly Board of Directors meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. Met with the SCS 20/20 committee concerning the current duties of the Supreme Treasurer and suggested modifications and deletions. It was requested that I forward those ideas in hard copy, which I did in October 2018.

December 2018: Participated in the Quarterly Board of Directors meeting in Charleston, SC. Presented a proposed 401K plan to the Board of Directors for future Home Office employees of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in an effort to reduce pension expenses in the future. The board voted unanimously with an implementation year of 2019. Completed site inspections for potential future convention sites.

In addition to my duties as your Supreme Treasurer, I maintained my involvement in Group 3, Douglas, Massachusetts. I also attended and participated in various Assembly, Group, and International athletic and fraternal activities and programs.

I would like to take a moment to extend my sincerest thanks to our Supreme President Mike J. Horvath, Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec F.I.C. and the

Home Office staff for their support, encouragement, and cooperation through these past fifteen plus years. I have had the distinct privilege to work with a great Board of Directors and although we may have had minor differences of opinions, we always came as friends and left as closer friends. I would like to give a special thanks to my family and partner for their/her support.

Finally, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my fellow members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and may God continue to Bless the Slovak Catholic Sokol and the United States of America.

Respectfully Submitted, Colonel Dennis J. Zifcak (Ret) Supreme Treasurer

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

This report is submitted to the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol for the purpose of outlining and detailing the activities of the General Counsel during calendar year 2018. I have satisfied

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REPORTS OF THE SUPREME OFFICERS FOR 2018

(Continued from page 13)

and complied with all of the duties and obligations set forth in Section 4.13 of the By-Laws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

As your General Counsel, I continue to review State and Federal legislation pertaining to the operation of Fraternal Benefit Societies in states where the Slovak Catholic Sokol is licensed to do business. The objective is to determine whether pending legislation will have an adverse effect on our ability to conduct business within each particular state. When requested, I have prepared memorandums, opinions, and communications to advise as to what course of action to take relative to the business of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

In matters concerning tax law and policy, I previously reported that the newly enacted "T ax Cuts and Jobs Act," continues the long standing preservation and protection of our federal tax-exempt status. In 2018, however, we saw legislation introduced in two (2) states, Oregon and South Dakota, that would have amended or outright repealed the fraternal tax exemption in those respective jurisdictions. Thanks to the engagement of large and small fraternals alike, both measures were successfully defeated through aggressive and organized advocacy activities. It is important to note that a repeal of the exemption, even in a relatively small state, could mean the unraveling of the tax exemption nationally. Reflecting on a popular saying, "think of a slight tug on a loose thread in a sweater. Next thing you know, all you have is a pile of yarn." Therefore, we should be encouraged to continue to do our part and communicate the fraternal message to our policymakers at all levels of government. Being armed with the facts about what contributions we make as an Organization to our members and society is the best possible defense against any future legislative attacks on our organizational mode.

In matters concerning federal regulation, the fraternal financial services sector has experienced significant changes in the regulatory environment concerning the sale of annuities over the past several years. I previously reported that on June 9, 2017, the Department of Labor (DOL) began implementing the first phase of the Fiduciary Rule. The regulation required financial advisors, brokers, and insurance agents who work on commission to act as fiduciaries when providing advice related to a client's retirement accounts, including individual retirement accounts and 401(k)'s. This resulted in substantial complexity for financial institutions and often confusion on the part of customers throughout the past year.

However, on June 21, 2018, the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a formal mandate "vacating" (making null and void) the DOL's entire body of Fiduciary Rules and Regulations. That Circuit Court, based in New Orleans, ruled in a strongly worded decision on March 15, 2018, that the Fiduciary Rule constituted "unreasonableness/ and that the DOL's execution of the Rule further resulted in "an arbitrary and capricious exercise of administrative power." The Fifth Circuit opinion echoed what industry experts in the financial services sector have been saving about the Rule since it was introduced -it was an incredible overreach by the DOL, and subjected an entirely new class of advisors to a heightened fiduciary standard with respect to clients that these advisors may have had minimal contact with. Selling a single annuity product to a client should not mean that the advisor is now a fiduciary with respect to that client, which I believe was one of the courts primary problems with the Rule. Consequently, the above-referenced judicial mandate has resulted in the official removal of the Fiduciary Rule from federal law and thus no longer a part of controlling legal authority with respect to the financial services industry.

At this time, it is not completely clear what the outcome will mean for financial organizations, investment advisors and fraternals in their future relationships with retirement savers individual states such as New York and New Jersey are in the process of proposing their own set of fiduciary guideline standards. In addition, the Securities and Exchange Commission is working on promulgating its own rule, otherwise known as "Regulation Best interest" for brokers-dealers.

Therefore, it could be years before future, consistent regulatory policy proposals are actually implemented for fraternal financial services organizations as these legislative proposals will have to be vetted and scrutinized through the rulemaking process. They may also be subsequently challenged in court at a later date. Within the investment advisory and retirement industries, it is widely hoped that the DOL will soon release more definitive guidance, providing greater clarity and assurance regarding the agency's investment fiduciary standards and compliance expectations.

On another subject, as mandated by our federal policy and procedure guidelines, our Organization continues to faithfully comply with the "Gramm-Lech Bliley Act," which requires privacy of financial information; the "Patriot Act of 2G01," concerning anti-money laundering; and the "Sarbanes-Oxley Act," which requires financial reporting and accountability.

With regard to the Sokol Club in Ambridge, PA, I have previously commented that it was Board's intention to have this property sold as soon as possible. I am happy to report that last March, a bona fide offer to purchase was presented for consideration which was duly accepted in the amount of \$72,000.00. The property was quickly sold and a successful closing of title took place on April 30, 2018. Therefore, the contentious, ongoing issue with Ambridge is now officially concluded. Consequently, I continue to caution our assemblies and wreaths to be selective in electing individuals who will promote the fraternal interests of our Organization instead of their own financial interests.

On a different subject, I drafted and prepared legal documentation pertaining to the renewal and refiling of our Organization's Trademark Application with the United States Patent and Trademark Office for continued protection of the Sokol logo, name and mark under Federal law. The application has been accepted, filed and renewed in accordance with Sections 8 and 9 of the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. Sections 1058 and 1059. The declaration of use and renewal application filed now remains in full force and effect for the next successive ten (10) year period.

In connection with our lending portfolio, no new mortgage loans were issued during 2018. Nevertheless, we should encourage our members to take advantage of this wonderful fraternal benefit offered by our Organization. One mortgage application from Assembly 28 had been conditionally approved by the Board of Directors at its June 30, 2018 quarterly meeting. However, that application was subsequently withdrawn by the assembly when it was determined by the assembly leaders that the requisite funds were no longer needed. Our present mortgage portfolio is up to date and all mortgage payments are current and being received on time. I continue to verify that property taxes and insurance are being regularly paid by the three (3) present mortgagors.

From the financial perspective, our investment portfolio continues to earn sufficient income despite the fact that 2018 was a year of extreme financial market volatility in a rapidly changing monetary and fiscal environment. The liquidity strength of the Society continues to be very strong. Our surplus, otherwise known as member's

equity, has been increasing during the past two (2) consecutive years. The Board's efforts towards decreasing expenses and increasing investment income has improved our operational results overall. Our financial advisors have also indicated that the Society remains in a solid financial position and is sufficiently funded to meet all membership needs.

As a member of the Board of Directors, I have attended all meetings called by our Supreme President in order to carry out and administer the business of the Slovak Catholic Sokol as required by the By-Laws. My participation at these meetings is well documented in the minutes of these meetings as published in the Slovak Catholic Falcon. We continue to hold teleconference calls in order to reduce costs. I am also happy to report that the deliberations of our quarterly meetings this past year have been beneficial to the membership of our Organization. The Board of Directors has therefore continued to build on the great traditions of the past and has looked to enhance our fraternal activities and sports programs for the future.

Last year, I was honored by the Diocese of Paterson with the Vivere Christus Est Award at a ceremony held on September 9, 2018 at the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist in Paterson, NJ. Vivere Christus Est is the episcopal motto of Bishop Arthur Seratelli, who instituted the award to acknowledge on the diocesan level the value and importance of the laity and to express gratitude and appreciation to those who unselfishly give of themselves for the building up of God's Kingdom. The award presented to me recognizes those individuals who model a life of Christ-like values and inspire others by how they live their lives. I wish to thank Reverend Father John Connolly for sponsoring me on behalf of my parish, SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Clifton, New Jersey.

I continue to attend as many Sokol functions as time permits, and I am active in my assembly and group, holding the office of President in both. From time to time, I have submitted articles and reports to our Slovak Catholic Falcon for publication to keep our membership advised of ongoing activities within the fraternal benefit system.

In conclusion, a review of the activities of this past year shows that our Organization continues to grow and prosper. This achievement would have been impossible without excellence in thought and management. I take this opportunity to thank all of my fellow directors for their untiring efforts and dedication to making the Slovak Catholic Sokol the outstanding Organization it is. With this continued co-operation, I am confident that the challenges we face in the future will be met and the goals and objectives of the Slovak Catholic Sokol will be achieved.

ZDAR BOH! Respectfully submitted, **John D. Pogorelec, Jr.** *General Counsel*

REPORT OF THE SUPREME DIRECTOR OF SPORTS AND ATHLETICS

In compliance with the Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my 2018 Activity Report as the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics.

The first event of the year was the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Meeting held in Boardman, Ohio the weekend of January 12th through the 14th. The annual meeting was important to set-up the agenda for 2018 sporting events. On the drive to the meeting, I stopped at the Park Inn in West Middlesex, PA and had a meeting with the hotel manager to confirm the arrangements for the 2018 Golf Tournament.

I attended the Board of Directors 1st Quarter Meeting held in Passaic, New Jersey from March 16th through the 18th. The Board

of Directors approved all the recommendations the Physical Fitness Board proposed for each of the 2018 sporting events.

The first sporting activity of the year was the 72nd International Bowling Tournament held at the Orleans Bowling Lanes in Las Vegas, Nevada. I mailed out posters promoting the 2018 bowling tournament to all of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Clubs to post for members to encourage participation. The annual bowling tournament was held in conjunction with the GCU for the fourth straight year. A total of a 38 participants from the Slovak Catholic Sokol took part in the annual event. Fitness Board member, Marty Degnan, was the staff member assigned to the bowling tournament. He submitted the bowling tournament article and pictures, which were published in the Falcon. The 2018 results for Men and Women's Team, Doubles and Singles and corresponding prize money were also published in the Falcon and posted on our website. The top scratch scores also received prize money for the Team, Doubles and Singles events. The bowling tournament financial report was submitted to the Home Office on July 21st.

The 2018 Softball Tournament was scheduled for the weekend of June 13th-15th, 2018 at Kirby Park Fields in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. I reserved the rooms at the Gus Genetti, paid the tournament liability insurance, reserved the softball fields and and pavilion at Kirby Park. Unfortunately, due to the insufficient number of teams the 2018 Softball Tournament was cancelled.

On Saturday June 30th, I participated in the 2nd Quarter Board of Directors conference call. I attended the 2018 International Clinic on July 27th through the 29th at SUNY Brockport. In July, I contacted Dave Yen and Leone Timing to contract with the company to ensure we obtain Fully Automated Timing system for the 2019 Slet.

The final tournament of the year was the 63rd International Golf Tournament held from August 10th through the 12th at Oak Tree Country Club and Tam O'Shanter Golf Courses in West Middlesex, Pennsylvania. The golf tournament totaled 121 golfers including eleven participants from the GCU. Julie Laury was the Fitness Board member assigned to the tournament and took pictures of every foursome and candid pictures at the popular sporting event. Frank and Julie Laury worked together on the article and corresponding pictures for the Falcon. The Flight Winners and all prize money recipients were published in the Falcon and also posted on our website. The prize money checks were mailed out in early September after all of the scores and handicaps were verified. The flight winners and best scratch scores received championship golf shirts that were mailed to each winner in early November. The golf tournament financial report was submitted to the Home Office on October 11th. After the tournament I visited Seven Oaks Country Club and Black Hawk Golf course for the 2019 golf tournament.

I attended the 3rd Quarter Board of Directors Meeting held in Cleveland, Ohio the weekend of September 27th through the 30th. I met with the members of the 20/20 Group to discuss the job description and duties of the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics to review for the 2019 Convention.

On December 1st through the 3rd, I attended the 4th Quarter Board of Directors Meeting held in Charleston, South Carolina. The concluding meeting of the year was extremely productive; with many ideas contributing to the goals set for the final year of the term for the current Board of Directors. We are constantly exploring new ideas to expand our communications and increase participation at the Assembly/Wreath and Group activities. I attended the Group 1 Annual Meeting on November 18th to promote the 2019 Sporting Events, especially the 49h International Slet.

All of the arrangements for 2019 tournaments have been completed and I am currently finding locations for the 2020 bowling and

REPORTS OF THE SUPREME OFFICERS FOR 2018

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golf tournaments. In closing I would like to thank all members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board for their support during my year, especially my Assistant Frank Laury. I will continue to use the Falcon and the Slovak Catholic Sokol website to help publicize all future sporting events. Hopefully we will have a large turnout for our 49th International Slet, which will be held at SUNY Brockport from July 17th through the 21st.

Zdar Boh!

James C. Matlon

Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics

REPORT OF THE SUPREME ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SPORTS AND ATHLETICS

The Following activity report for 2018 is submitted to the Board of Directors.

The following is a list of activities and events I have attended and worked during 2018.

In January, I attended the Supreme Annual Physical Fitness Board Meeting held in Boardman Ohio at the Holiday Inn January 12th-14th. At the meeting we discussed the upcoming sporting events, Bowling, Golf, Clinic and Rocky Gap reunion. Much discussion took place on keeping the participants interested after they get In their twenties.

In April, discussed the upcoming Bowling Tournament to be held in Las Vegas

with Supreme Director of Athletics, Jim Matlon.

In July, worked at the International Clinic held in Suny Brockport New York, July 25th-29th. At the International Clinic, I assisted in Drills, took pictures for Falcon and Sokol Website, I had a track and field meeting regarding ways to run the

track and field portion of the Slet more efficient, participated in evening group activities, supplied ice and drinks for participants, and transported the group Directors and Directresse's to and from the Rochester Airport.

In August, I worked the 63rd International Golf Tournament held in West Middlesex, Ohio August 10th-12th at Oak Tree Country Club. During the tournament I helped with setup, getting golfers signed in, team and action photos, tallying scores, posting scores, helped arrange banquet, put up flags, ran music and anthems at the banquet and helped with clean up. I also posted the team pictures and candid pictures to Louie for the Sokol website and Falcon.

In December, prepared end of year report of all International Activities, and Results to be posted in January 2019 Falcon.

I would like to say once again it has been a pleasure to work with such a hard working and dedicated Fitness Board. This Fitness Board is always looking for ways To get more involvement from Sokol Members. During the past year I continued to go to all of the Group 5 meetings and all of Assembly 167 meetings to show My support and interest in the Slovak Catholic Sokol Family!

Sincerely,

Frank P. Laury, III

Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics

REPORT OF THE SUPREME PHYSICAL DIRECTOR

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my annual report for 2018.

January - March

In preparation of the annual Supreme Physical Fitness Board

meeting scheduled to be held in Boardman, OH, I had worked with Kathy Watkins and James Matlon to ensure various aspects of the new year would be addressed during our meeting.

I attended the SPFB meeting in Boardman, OH. Final preparations for the 2018 calendar year events were discussed in length, with special attention to the International Clinic to be held in Brockport, NY in July. Upon the conclusion of the formal meeting, the male physical fitness board remained at the hotel for an additional day to complete and video the new drills that would be presented to the directors and assistants at the upcoming International Clinic.

I attended the Board of Directors meeting at The Slovak Catholic Sokol in Passaic, N.J. where numerous timely and relevant topics were discussed, including the continuing proactive approach of our Board to improve the membership, attendance and vitality of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

April - June

I maintained contact with my local Groups 4 and 19 to inform them of the sporting activities and any updates for the upcoming Clinic. I took part in the Supreme Physical Fitness Board conference call, where the Board reviewed assignments and duties for all of the upcoming events.

I maintained contact with Kathy Watkins and SUNY Brockport to discuss the schedule, safety procedures and facilitation of the International Clinic accommodations. Along with those discussions, I finalized the contract and insurance requirements with SUNY Brockport that were required to comply with the State of NY summer camps.

I compiled and edited all of the drill videos for Clinic participant DVD's that would be distributed to all of the Clinic attendees, as well as loading them onto a secure online Google Drive. This ensures that the participants have access online to view and practice the drills prior to the Clinic.

July - September

I worked with the SPFB board and SUNY Brockport to finalize any remaining paperwork required by the Board of Health for our safety drill and emergency plans.

I attended the International Clinic at SUNY Brockport and collaborated with the SPFB and University officials to ensure a smooth and coordinated event.

I attended the 3rd quarter Board of Directors meeting held in Cleveland, OH, which will be the location of the International Convention to be held in the Summer of 2019.

I attended, as a participant, the International Golf tournament held at Tam O Shanter golf course in in Sharon, PA.

October - December

I was in contact with directors at SUNY Brockport to discuss dates and contracts for the 2019 events.

I compiled and recorded new DVD's of the drills for the male and female directors and directresses, as well as load the drills to the Google Drive. I also compiled a picture slideshow DVD of the Clinic and prior Slet to distribute to all group Presidents to show at their annual holiday events.

I attended the Board of Directors meeting in Charleston, SC.

Thank you so much for your continued confidence in the Supreme Physical Fitness Board, and I look forward to the 2019 fraternal events. I hope to see many of you soon!

Sincerely, **John M. Underation** Supreme Physical Director

REPORT OF THE SUPREME ASSISTANT PHYSICAL DIRECTOR

In compliance with the bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my Activity report for 2018.

January - March 2018

I attended a meeting of the Slovak Canadian National Council to plan this year's activities. I met with the Cultural committee of Vychodna Slovak Dancers to start planning their 35th anniversary.

I travelled to Boardman Ohio to take part in the Physical Fitness Board meeting. Last year's events were reviewed. Plans for the upcoming International Clinic were finalized and new and exciting schedule planned. All the sporting activities were finalized. This year assignments were given out to the board. It was a great meeting with input from the whole board. The whole board worked hard as one. Thank you to Gr.17 for their Slovak hospitality.

April - June 2018

I represented Physical Fitness Board at the annual meeting of the Gr 19 of SCS. I informed them about the plans for the upcoming International Clinic as well as all the events we planned for 2018.

I worked on the assignments given to me by Physical Director and Directress for the International Clinic. I kept in touch with my liaison groups about this year's events.

I represented Physical Fitness Board at the annual golf tournament of Gr. 19. It was a great turnout to the event. Thank you, Gr. 19, keep up the good work. I send out reminders to Physical Fitness Board re their Falcon articles. I put together two cultural programs for Slovak Days in Ontario. I represented SCS at the St.Cyril Slovak Church-Jednota family day as well as put together a cultural program for the event.

July - September 2018

I traveled to Brockport, NY to take part in the International Clinic. This year's International Clinic was held at the State University of New York. The whole Physical Fitness Board arrived a day before the participants to make sure all final details for the International Clinic were in place. I helped and worked closely with our Physical Director, Directress, Fitness Board to make sure every participant knew what was happening every day. It was nice to see a lot of new young group leaders at the International Clinic, our great organization has a great future. I think the new schedule format worked well.

I traveled to West Middlesex, PA to take part in the International Golf Tournament which was held at Oak tree and Tan-O-Shanter Golf Courses. We had a great turnout to the event. Thank you Jim, and Frank, for a great event.

I was honored to have a private meeting with the new Slovak Ambassador to Canada Mr. Vit Koziak. Meeting was held in Mississagua. I met with the ambassador and his family. We discussed cultural events in Canada and how we can work even closer with the Slovak Embassy in Ottawa.

October -'December 2018

I continued to work with the Vychodna Slovak Dancers on their 35th anniversary as well on planning to bring a well known Slovak choreographer to work with them in 2019. I kept in touch with the Slovak Embassy in Ottawa. I worked on assignments given to me by Physical Director and Directress for the upcoming meeting of the Physical Fitness Board in January of 2019. I continued to work and updated my liaison groups about upcoming events. I send reminders out to the Physical Fitness Board re Falcon articles.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Slovak Catholic Sokol for allowing me to serve as Supreme Assistant Physical Director. Many thanks to Scott, Mike, Jim, Kathy and John for their professional leadership.

Fraternally yours, Zdar Boh! **Dusan Dorich** Supreme Assistant Physical Director

REPORT OF THE SUPREME PHYSICAL DIRECTRESS

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my annual report for 2018.

As the Supreme Physical Directress of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I am a member of the Board of Directors. As a member of this esteemed group, I am able to be a part of decision making, which ultimately has an effect on the future of the organization. Throughout the year, I was in contact with Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogerelec, Supreme President Michael Horvath, and the Supreme Physical Fitness Board regarding the activities within the organization. I was also in frequent contact with the above mentioned officers, as well as SUNY Brockport regarding our upcoming International Slet. In order to give our group leaders online access to important forms and keep our members updated on upcoming events, I continually contacted Louie Smeriglio, our website consultant, to upload relevant paperwork and information to our website. As part of our goal to use more social media to reach out to our members, I consistently updated Twitter and Facebook.

January - March

- I designed, ordered, and mailed yearly event magnets to all Supreme Officers, Supreme Presidents and all members who have participated in an international event in the past year.
- In preparation for the upcoming Supreme Physical Fitness Board meeting, I sent out activity report spreadsheets for the group leaders to complete. Once they were returned, I compiled a complete list of all local and group activities. In addition, I gathered all of the suggestions and recommendations from each group so that they could be discussed at the meeting.
- I e-mailed the SPFB members the necessary paperwork for the upcoming meeting and asked them to print it and be prepared to discuss it.
- I was in contact with www.ticketsatwork.com to organize a discount program for our members.
- I attended the SPFB meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. Following the meeting, I responded to all of the group leaders who sent recommendations on ways to improve our events, and I updated the SPFB notes and paperwork accordingly.

I attended the Board of Directors meeting in Passaic, NJ.

April - June

- I e-mailed clinic registration forms to the directors and directresses so that they could register for the clinic.
 - I mailed out the clinic drill DVDs.
- I messaged several members via e-mail and Facebook to give them information on the Sokol Reunion at Rocky Gap in Maryland.
- I helped Assistant Supreme Physical Directress Katie Swift with organizing the Sokol Reunion at Rocky Gap in Flintstone, Maryland. Additionally, we planned group activities for the Saturday evening get-together.
- I contacted SUNY Brockport to discuss the clinic and verify the schedule.
- I planned some of the nightly team building activities for the clinic.
- I attended the Second Annual Sokol Reunion at Rocky Gap in Flintstone, Maryland.
 - I updated the paperwork for the clinic.

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- I reviewed the drills to be taught at the clinic.
- I e-mailed directresses/directors with information regarding the Clinic (schedule, arrival times, etc).
- I e-mailed the SPFB members regarding their individual responsibilities for the International Slet.
- As I received qualification forms for the International Slet, I sent a confirmation e-mail to each participant.
- I forwarded all clinic registration forms to Supreme Secretary Scott Pogorelec for verification and approval.

July - September

- I was part of the Board of Directors conference call.
- I attended the International Clinic at SUNY Brockport in Brockport, NY. I worked collaboratively with the SPFB members and group leaders, as well as the staff at the university to ensure that everything was being run efficiently.
- I wrote an article for the Slovak Catholic Sokol Falcon detailing the events that took place at the International Clinic.
- I attended the International Golf Tournament at Clarion Oaks.
- I contacted several universities to inquire as to their availability for our 2020 International Clinic and 2021 International Slet.
- I mailed out the Slet DVDs with the final cuts of the drills for the group leaders to use to teach the drills for the International Slet.
- I contacted Louie to send an e-mail blast to our members with information about how members of inactive groups can be a part of the Slet competition.
- I emailed group presidents of groups who have not attended a Slet recently and offered to send them information about the Slet, along with a Slet highlight DVD so that they can help members learn about our Slet and possibly attend.
- I attended the Board of Directors meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.

October - December

- I emailed the physical directresses, directors, and group presidents to encourage them to fill out a referral for new membership through the Win Win Campaign.
 - I submitted five lead cards for the Win Win Campaign.
- I mailed our Slet highlight DVDs to all of the group presidents so that they could try to promote participation in our Slets by showing the video at their Christmas party or other events.
- I attended the Board of Directors meeting in Charleston, South Carolina.
- As a representative of the SPFB, I attended the Group 14 Annual Children's Christmas party.
 - · I designed and ordered the yearly event magnets.
- I e-mailed an annual activity survey to all of the groups so that I would have the information for the SPFB annual meeting in January.

I thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve another term as the Supreme Physical Directress for the Slovak Catholic Sokol. It has been an honor and a privilege to work so closely with an honorable and respected group of people within the organization. I am looking forward to the growth of our organization and all that it will entail.

Respectfully submitted, **Kathleen S. Watkins** Supreme Physical Deirectress

REPORT OF THE SUPREME ASSISTANT PHYSICAL DIRECTRESS

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my annual report for 2018.

I am honored to be part of such an amazing group of men and women. As the Supreme Assistant Physical Directress of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I am determined to make the best decisions to better the organization. Throughout the year, I was in contact with Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, Supreme President Michael Horvath, and the entire Supreme Physical Fitness Board (SPFB) regarding activities for the year and into the future.

January - March

In preparation for the upcoming SPFB meeting, I completed my annual report and gathered all the information for which I was responsible. At this time, the female board was also assigned by Supreme Directress Watkins to research wholesome and upbeat songs to use for choreographing the new drills for the 2019 International Slet.

I attended the SPFB meeting in Boardman, Ohio. Supreme Chairperson of the Auditors, Jim Jerek hosted our Friday evening dinner with delicious ethnic food. At the completion of the SPFB meeting the SPFB members remained in Ohio to choreograph drills for the 2019 International Slet. The Board worked hard together to choreographed a new Mass drill and the female board members choreographed two new modern drills.

I accepted the responsibility of updating the Instagram account.

I began collecting results for the walking program and sent email and social media reminders to members encouraging them to send in their year-end totals. I began to search for walking program gifts that would be easy and cost effective to ship. Each walker works hard and looks forward to receiving awards.

I finalized plans for the annual reunion weekend to be held once again in June. Other destinations for this event were discussed. After a lengthy discussion of several potential destinations, on my recommendation the SPFB chose to continue with Rocky Gap Resort and Casino in Maryland. The resort offers a casino, lake, golfing, hiking and a full spa. Along with Supreme Directress Kathleen Watkins, I worked hard to prepared several night time events and a developed a detailed schedule. One new addition this year was to the local brewery. I messaged several members via e-mail and Facebook to give them information to keep the Sokol Reunion a successful event. I worked with Supreme Directress Kathleen Watkins to create flyers for the event. After securing the details, I provided Louie Smeriglio and Danny Tanzone with articles about the event to be published online and in the Falcon. I also messaged and emailed many members directly to advertise the event. This event serves as a one of a kind fraternal event with no competition involved.

I compiled the final walking program results, organized awards, and developed the new 2018 packages to be mailed to each participant. I then wrote an article publishing the results.

Along with Supreme President Mike Horvath, Supreme Chaplain Father Andrew Hvozdovic, Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member Marty Degnan and other members of the organization, I attended the Right to Life March in Washington DC.

I revised and updated the gymnastics rules and regulations for the upcoming meeting with the International Clinic Participants. The members of the SPFB worked directly with all the Directresses and Directors to address any questions or problems or concerns they may have for the International Clinic.

April - June

I worked closely with the Supreme Physical Fitness Board to finalize all preparations for the International Clinic to be held at SUNY Brockport University. We all worked diligently to prepare evening events and daytime schedules to ensure the International Clinic would be a success.

I participated in a Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member Conference call.

I directly messaged several additional members regarding the reunion, gymnastics qualifications, and walking program.

I worked diligently to finalize all the arrangements for the reunion weekend. I organized and attended the annual reunion at Rocky Gap Casino and Resort in Maryland. Members from four different groups totaling around 25 people participated. The event commenced with an outside social on Friday evening. Saturday morning, allowed time for participants to golf; while others enjoyed the spa or sat near the lake. I hosted a walking program hike. In the afternoon, there was an organized trip to the local brewery. Saturday evening, the participants shared a Sokol style social with appetizers, drinks, and games.

I submitted an article to the Falcon highlighting the key events of the reunion.

I e-mailed all the Directors and Directresses concerning changes needed to the gymnastics rules, regulations and qualifiers.

I responded to e-mails and worked with other members of the SPFB to finalize the many last-minute details associated with the International Clinic.

July - September

I attended the International Clinic at SUNY Brockport in Brockport, NY. I worked closely with other SPFB members, Directresses, Assistant Directresses, Directors and Assistant Directors to teach the new choreographed drills while having fun and creating memories. During this event we vigorously go through rules, regulations and make changes required to continue our great tradition of the International Slet.

October - December

I submitted an article to the Falcon discussing the walking program as well as reminding members to start submitting their year-end totals.

I started work on the contract for our next Rocky Gap Reunion weekend while still exploring other options. The SPFB is always researching other options. -

I would once again like to thank the Supreme Physical Fitness Board, the Board of Directors, and all the members of this great organization for allowing me the fantastic opportunity to serve in my current position. I will continue to make it my goal to keep participation on an incline, as well as research new events. As always, I strive to take our organization into the future to allow my generation and those to follow to hold the same love for Sokols in their heart as I do.

Respectfully Submitted,

Zdar Boh,

Katie Swift

Supreme Assistant Physical Directress

Slovak-American Radio Online: Notes of Slovakia

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.

Slovak Radio is one of the best methods to reach the Slovak-American audience and those interested in Slovakia and its culture. One of the problems many people encounter is that they are not always available to listen when a program is being broadcast. A new online radio show entitled "Notes of Slovakia" has attempted to solve that problem by offering an online recording.

One can listen to it anytime, even in short segments. And it is easy to find on the web, with a simple Google search. Or one may go straight to the website and click on "Listen Now": https://note-sofslovakia.com. There also is a Facebook site with links: https://www.facebook.com/NotesOfSlovakia/.

Every "Notes of Slovakia" program is broadcast in both English and Slovak, so everyone will understand. In the words of the announcers, they "play music from the past, the present, and everything in between." In other words, the show offers a great variety which should appeal to listeners. The program also offers an array of short talks about Slovak culture, history, and the language. And if one wishes to watch while listening, there are pictures of the speakers, the subject matter, and for the music.

Mike Wojtila (Vojtilla) of USA and Slavomír Vojtilla of Slovakia co-host the program. They are not related, though they met because of their name similarities. A mail carrier by trade, Mike Wojtila is an accomplished keyboard player and accordionist, who specializes in vocals.

The other host, Slavomír Vojtilla studied ecology and landscape engineering when attending college. He currently does Environmental impact assessment, and in addition, has worked in Electrical Engineering as his firm manages and develops hydropower plants and solar systems (photovoltaic roof system). Slavomír does his program out of sheer love for Slovak culture and a desire to share it with the world.

OTHER USA SLOVAK RADIO ONLINE

Do not forget to listen to other online Slovak radio programs broadcast in the USA The Cleveland Slovak program on WERE 1490 AM hosted by Milan Kobulský airs on Sunday mornings at 11 a.m.; the website is: https://newstalkcleveland.com/listen-live/.

Another Slovak program airs on WPIT 730 AM in Pittsburgh, PA hosted by Rudy and Sue Ondrejco; it may be heard at 3-4 p.m. on Sundays at http://player.listenlive.co/57381.

In the Youngstown, Ohio area, Dennis Spisak runs the Slovak Radio Program, broadcast from WKTL FM 90.7. The show now offers a listening site on the internet, and it can be heard on live radio as far away as the outer suburbs of Akron and Pittsburgh: http://wktl.caster.fm.

Finally, Chicago offers Krajanské Rádio/Centrum Chicago (Countryman Radio/Downtown Chicago) offers mainly modern Slovak and Czech music: http://www.krajanskeradio.com.

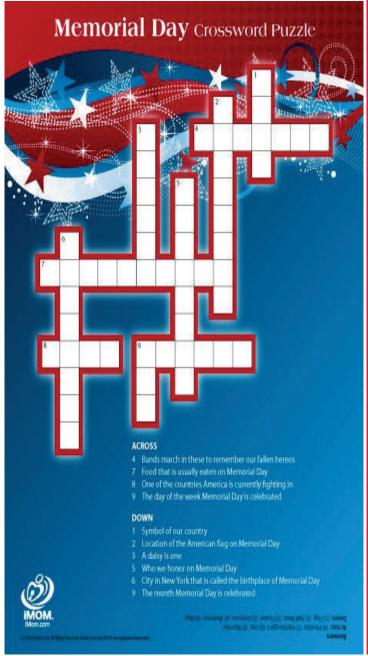
To hear Slovak radio programming in English directly from Slovakia, visit the RTVS radio site: http://enrsi.rtvs.sk. The show features news of the day and special features about Slovakia and its culture.

All of these Slovak programs are well worth listening to, and for the American Slovak programs, I would recommend that listeners send a donation, so they can continue in the future as we try to preserve our Slovak heritage. Notes of Slovakia is the newest program of all the above mentioned, and hopefully, all our readers will try listening to this excellent presentation which is available to listen to anytime at your convenience at this website: https://notesofslovakia.com/listen-now.

(Dr. Kopanic is our Sokol of Wreath 14 in Johnstown, Pa.)



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik" May, 2019







KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

May, 2019



Tips for little kids for Mothers Day:

Clean up your room early in the morning before mom gets the time to do the same. It will save her energy for at least one chore.

Draw a picture of her. Even if you are not an expert in canvas and oil colors, simple water colors or even crayons and paper would do wonders. The simplest thing is to trace one of your mom's photographs on a white sheet, color it accordingly, hang it on the wall and show it to her. Try to make your drawing as close to her as possible, and she will be pleasantly surprised.

Give her a rejuvenating massage. Gently rub the knots in her shoulders and back, preferably with the application of a soothing balm. It will reduce her stress as well as alleviate any back pains she might have.

2019 SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL BOWLING TOURNAMENT PARTICIPANTS

MEN			Robert Shedlock	79	155
Perry Sokols #1	Assembly	Average	Corey Shedlock	79	207
Brian Warnick	25	175	,		
Clarence Checkton	25	188	SCS Assembly 162, Clifon, NJ	Assembly	Average
Edward J. Elnikar	25	183	Albert Pogorelec	162	172
Bernard T. Seruga	25	173	Steve Pogorelec	162	174
Ambridge/Lilly/Willes Borre	Accombly	Averege	John Termyna	162	163
Ambridge/Lilly/Wilkes-Barre Brian Phillips	Assembly 79	Average 140	Thomas Krack	162	195
Dave Iskra, Sr.	7 <i>9</i> 59	204	The New Beller Observer	A I-I	A
John Goberish	85	164	The New Dallas Chargers	Assembly	Average
Doug Simon	85	218	Jeremy Francis	59 50	145
Body Cimon	00	210	Justin Francis	59 50	150
Perry Sokols #2	Assembly	Average	David Iskra, Jr. Jeff Jacob	59 59	168 190
Craig Kordich	25	178	Steve Hitchings	16	175
Rudy Holloman	25	181	Keegan Hitchings	16	175
A. J. Novotney	25	193	Reegan interings	10	175
Mike Todd	25	192	Pittsburgh Rules	Wreath	Average
			Joseph Moynihan	153	175
Paul's Bar & Bowling Academy	Assembly	Average	John Moynihan	153	175
Marc Kudlacik	162	135	Steve Perekiszka	S-16	177
Don Salmanowitz	162	163			
Robert Mosloski	162	203	WOM	EN	
Scott Pitman	162	169	Ambridge Bowlers	Wreath	Average
A4'' 1 (D 1'			Christine Sofranko	85	150
Milwaukee/Reading	Assembly	Average	Geri Polloch	85	139
Tim Evica	93	162	Kami Simon	85	154
William (Bill) Gemoll	93	201	Evie Catanzante	85	147
William Kazmierczak George Kazmierczak	261 261	179 182		144 -1	_
George Razifilerczak	201	102	Barberton Bowlers	Wreath	Average
Papcun Power	Assembly	Average	Karen Bakita	103	164
John Papcun	36	175	Carol Macko	103	156
Don Papcun	36	175	Diana Jean Karaffa	GCU GCU	
Paul Papcun	36	175	Jean Karana	GCO	
Steve Papcun	36	175	Heather's Heroes	Assembly	Average
			Heather Horvath	59	119
Pittsburgh South Side	Assembly	Average	Kelly Plachanis	59	144
Larry Werner	16	175	Marianne Mangiafico	59	160
Lance Werner	16	175	Bernadette Jacob	59	155
Brian Suchy	16	175			
Dave Suchy	16	175	Canton -180	Assembly	Average
O 7 M/III D DA			Rose Croy	180	150
Group 7 - Wilkes-Barre, PA	Assembly	Average	Kathy Figard	180	150
Michael J. Horvath	59 50	182	Karen Hutnick	180	150
Marty Degnan Charles Tokach	59 59	182 195	Deanna Stranan	180	178
Joeseph Hvozdovic, Jr.	59 59	229	1.11 0.851	147 .1	
Joeseph Hvozdovic, Jr.	39	223	Lilly & Milwaukee	Wreath	Average
Lilly Team #2	Assembly	Average	Caroline Gemoll	93	152
Thomas Muldoon, Jr.	79	170	Theresa Clinemyer	79 79	125 141
Nick Cassisi	79	165	Nancy Cassisi	79 79	147
Jim Bart	79	167	Colleen Keagy	79	147
John Smith	79	165	Detroit	Wreath	Average
			Sharon Papcun	36	150
Lilly Team #3	Assembly	Average	Detroit		.00
Jeremy Glass	79	153			
Francis Risko	79	156	Youngstown/Pittsburgh	Wreath	Average
Gary Risko	79	201	Sue Babik	54	150
Brian Risko	79	224	Judy Babik	54	150
Lilly Team #1	Assembly	Average	Roberta "Bobbie" Werner	22	150
Nathan Keagy	79 70	140	Eliabeth "Betsy" Hitchings	22	150
Alan Keagy	79	140			
		ryr	,		

2019 LAW DAY MESSAGE

(Continued from page 4)

The Supreme Court has also recognized that the government may prohibit some speech that may cause a breach of the peace or cause violence. The right to free speech includes other mediums of expression that communicate a message. The level of protection speech receives also depends on the forum in which it takes place, To illustrate, fifty (50) years ago, in the landmark decision of Thinker v. Des Moines (1969), the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression are not shed at the schoolhouse gate, meaning that young people do not lose their fundamental rights because they are students. Students do possess fundamental rights which states must respect. However, courts have placed limits on what cart be said in certain spaces, including public schools. Some might argue that students today have fewer rights to speak freely under the assumption that free speech can disrupt the classroom environment. To the contrary, this Supreme Court ruling illustrates that the right to expression is particularly crucial in school settings. Tinker v. Des Moines established a precedent leading to student empowerment and social justice. The underlying purpose of a collegial education is to learn, to think, and communicate, after all; and a college education is meant to wean students away from blindly accepting others' world views and teach young adults to independently evaluate the world.

Despite popular misunderstanding, the right to freedom of the press guaranteed by the First Amendment is not very different from the right to freedom of speech. It allows an individual to express themselves through publication and dissemination without government interference. It is part of the constitutional protection of freedom of expression. It does not, on the other hand, afford members of the media any special rights or privileges not afforded to citizens in general. Consequently, freedom of the press protects the rights of journalists, so that the public can he informed about government and society. Though news and information may be interesting or even entertaining, the foremost value of news is to empower informed citizens by providing them with factual information.

Changes in technology have reshaped how free speech and free press work in the everyday world. New technology, including the internet and a myriad of digital platform, enable instant dissemination of information as never before. For the first time in history, everyone with a phone is the proverbial publisher. That dramatic lowering of publication cost, along with the remarkable power today of one speaker to reach millions, has created new challenges for the rights of free speech and press, and perhaps for the democracy that depends on them. Since these technological changes have now expanded the potential for individuals to exercise their rights to free speech and free press, the traditional standards of evidence and proof have been shaken, and abuses of new technologies have led to an unsettling surge in distrust, frustration, and incivility.

This challenging new environment raises the following question: Is our law and tradition of free speech and press still equal to its role as the foundation of a free and democratic society? For example, if Google posted live feeds of all public and private surveillance cameras on the internet and stored the feed so that we could track our neighbors 24/7, would that kind of 'ubiquitous surveillance inhibit autonomy or free speech? In answering this inquiry, legislatures, administrative agencies, technologists, and executive officials will be just as important as courts in helping a new social consensus to crystallize. The legal tradition I hope we will strive to maintain is one that says that the Constitution should always evolve in the face of new technologies, but that, ultimately, Constitutional values in the 21st century will be shaped by the people themselves.

SOKOL CALENDAR

(Continued from page 3)

downtown Youngstown, Oh. 12 noon to 11 p.m., entertainment, exhibits, homemade food; for information call tel. 330 503-9874 or web.www.simplyslavic,org

MONDAY, JUNE 3

- SLOVAK HERITAGE PROGRAM LECTURE "A Slovak American Soldier in World War I" by Richard Kocur hosted by the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association at the Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd. Mt. Lebanon, Pa. beginning at 7 p.m. free of charge.
- ASSEMBLY 16 EXECUTIVE MEETING at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa. at 6 p.m. There will be no meetings during the summer months of June, July or August. The next meeting will be held on September 9, 2019 at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

■ TORONTO SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL GOLF TOURNA-MENT, Indian Wells Golf Club, 5377 Walkers Line, Burlington, ON, Canada. For more information and to register email Ed Bajus, Jr. at ebajus@sympatico.ca

SATURDAY, JULY 13

■ 46TH ANNUAL SUMMER FESTIVAL, sponsored by the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pa. beginning at 10:30 a.m.

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL REUNION WEEKEND MAY 31- JUNE 2, 2019 ROCKY GAP CASINO – RESORT

16701 LAKEVIEW ROAD NE, FLINSTONE, MD 21530 Friday: 8:00 p.m. – Social at the Outdoor Bar and Fire Pits Saturday: 12:00 noon – Luau at the Resort Beach area

Saturday: 7:00 p.m. – Evening Social in the Cumberland Room Cash bar, \$10.00 per person for appetizers

A SPECIAL GOLF RATE will be offered at the Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course. Mention Slovak Catholic Sokol when booking. Double Occupancy Rooms are reserved at a GROUP RATE OF \$129.00/NIGHT. Call 1-800-724-0828. After reserving your room, please email Nancy Kropolinsky at NLKROP@aol.com

In conclusion, although Law Day occupies only a single calendar day, it is a reminder that while the principle of rule of law is constant, its vitality cannot be taken for granted but must be practiced by every citizen, every day of the year. Our legal heritage is priceless and should be continuously safeguarded. The obligation and responsibility to exercise the rule of law falls upon each of our shoulders.

Today, the law is changing dramatically as it seeks to shape and adapt to new conditions and circumstances. The theme for Law Day 2019 provides us with an opportunity to understand and appreciate the emerging challenges and enduring traditions of law in the 21st century. Whether or not we build a better society in this country and abroad will depend upon whether or not we affirm our commitment to obey the laws and respect it, regardless of whether We agree with it.

ZDAR BOH!

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES TO DO IN CLEVELAND

John Underation Supreme Physical Director

The 33rd Quadrennial Convention to be held in Cleveland, OH will be here before we know it, and there are many activities to do in and around the city. Over the past 15 years, the downtown entertainment scene has grown substantially, and we will have a few nights of coordinated activities which I will list below. You should have received either an e-mail or regular mail RSVP sheet to attend any of the 2 nighty scheduled events. As well, have provided just a few of the main attractions and specialized areas to visit, and at the end of this article there is a link to the Visitors bureau.

MONDAY, **AUGUST 5TH** – Cleveland Indians baseball game versus the Texas Rangers. 7:10 PM Start. The seats will be on the right field 300 mezzanine section. Tickets are \$26 per seat. Bus transportation. \$12 roundtrip (bus will leave at 6:00 PM from hotel lobby and pick up from Cleveland Indians stadium at 10:15 PM).

TUEŚDAY, AUGUST 6TH – Jack Casino in downtown Cleveland or the East 4th Entertainment District. Busing transportation will be provided and drop off and pick-up from each location. (Bus will leave at 6:00PM from hotel lobby. Bus will pick up at entrance of Jack Casino at 10:00 PM and East 4th at 10:15 PM to return to hotel.)

JACK CASINO CLEVELAND

The property includes a 96,000-square-foot gaming floor with a variety of slot machines, table games and poker options. Denominations among more than 1,200 slots and video poker machines range from 1 cent to \$500 per spin; the most current and popular slot themes are available. The casino offers nearly 100 table games including Blackjack, Craps, Roulette, Let It Ride and several Poker derivatives. The 28-table poker room hosts live poker action around the clock with No Limit and Limit cash games such as Texas Hold 'em, Omaha, 7 Card Stud and Razz. Weekly and monthly poker tournaments also are offered in the poker room. The casino features the newest in gaming technology with Synergy Table Games which combines electronic table games, live dealer games, and interconnected play in a social and high-energy environment.

EAST 4TH ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

East 4th offers world-class dining and entertainment in the heart of Downtown Cleveland. Much like a great art museum, East 4th is a carefully curated dining and entertainment experience. Each of the great chefs and entertainment leaders that make up the street were hand-selected to be a part of our great urban experiment. The result has been an experience unlike any other. Indulge culinary treats from chefs like Michael Symon, Jonathon Sawyer, and Zack Bruell. Enjoy a game with hundreds of other fans supporting the land. Taste some of the best craft brews and drinks the city has to offer. Get your game on with bowling and arcade games. With valet parking and a street made for pedestrian traffic, you can enjoy your favorite venue or make your way up and down the street to enjoy them all. www.east4thstreet.com

WEST SIDE MARKET

With origins of the land dating back to 1840 the West Side

Market is Cleveland's oldest publicly owned market. The market is home to over 100 vendors of great ethnic diversity. You can find not only fine meats and fresh vegetables, but also fresh seafood, baked goods, dairy and cheese products, and even fresh flowers. There are also booths that sell ready-to-eat foods, herbs, candy and nuts. Tourists from all over the world tour the market every year drawn by television programs produced by the Travel Channel and Food Network featuring segments on the West Side Market. Last year it is estimated that over a million people visited the market. Whether as a day-tour destination or a weekly shopping experience, the West Side Market continues to be an interesting and historical Cleveland tradition. Hours are MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 7am – 4pm, FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 7am – 6pm, SUNDAYS: 10am – 4pm www.westsidemarket.org

CLEVELAND FLATS

The Flats is an area of Cleveland, Ohio that lines the banks of the Cuyahoga River. This neighborhood is divided into the East and the West Flats. The Flats is a renovated collection of former industrial buildings and warehouses. There was a time when this area held the distinction as home to the highest concentration of bars in the Midwest. The Nautica Entertainment Complex is the center of activity for the West Flats of Cleveland. The complex includes The Plain Dealer Pavilion which boasts the capacity to seat 5,000 spectators in an outdoor arena. The scenery at the Pavilion showcases the Cuyahoga river, Cleveland skyline, and two stunning lighted bridges. A half-mile long boardwalk is also a notable feature of the Nautica Entertainment Complex. www. flatseastbank.com

ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, located in downtown Cleveland, Ohio, on the shore of Lake Erie, recognizes and archives the history of the best-known and most influential artists, producers, engineers, and other notable figures who have had some major influence on the development of rock and roll. The best time for Convention goers to attend would be on Saturday August 3rd, as the hours are 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM. The Hall hours are 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM Sunday through Tuesdays. www.rockhall.com

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION on things to do in the Cleveland area, you may visit www.thisiscleveland.com which will give event calendars, restaurant guides, maps and a host of other entertainment options. Downtown Cleveland is a very walkable city and can be broken into a few different entertainment areas: The Flats, The Warehouse district, The Theater District, East 4th and West 25th District. All of these areas have unique restaurants and attractions to be explored. From the hotel, an Uber / taxi will take around 12 minutes into downtown and should be less than \$16 each way. There is also the RAPID train that has a terminal station to downtown across the street from the hotel (about an 8-10 minute walk). We will have additional information at the registration table when you arrive for the Convention.

Take care, safe travels, and see everyone in Cleveland! Zdar Boh!

SUMMER FESTIVAL IN DANVILLE, PA

The 46th annual Summer Festival, sponsored by the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pa. will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2019. Activities will begin at 10:30 a.m. and last until 5:00 p.m.

The festival will feature a large flea market, a silent auction, home-made baked goods, handcrafted items, a book store, Sisters' artwork, and religious articles. There will be a variety of ethnic foods such as holupky, halusky and potato pancakes, as well as hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream and much more. There will be a variety of games for children and adults plus special attractions like raffles, and bingo.

This festival will mark a special celebration: the 100th Anniversary of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. The Summer Festival has been a blessed opportunity for the Sisters to keep in touch with former students, their parents, and family members; to reconnect with friends they've made over the years, and to make new friends. The day never seems long enough for visiting with friends old and new.

Bus parking is available. The Festival will take place rain or shine, and will close with a Mass at 5:00 p.m. Tours of the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius and of Jankola Library will also be available.

For more information please call: Sister Barbara Sable at: 570-275-3581, Ext. 302 – **Sister Barbara Sable**

GROUP 1 HOSTS SPAGHETTI DINNER IN CLIFTON, N.J. ON APRIL 7





A wonderful turnout of area Sokols and Sokolky enjoyed the traditional benefit Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, April 7 in the social hall of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Clifton, N.J. Group 1 President, Attorney John D. Pogorelec, Jr. is shown above with the Rev. Michael J. Parisi, pastor of Immaculate Heart Mary Parish in Wayne, N.J. and the Rev. John T. Connolly, pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Clifton, N.J.



PENNSYLVANIA FRATERNAL ALLIANCE 2019 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Scholarship Committee of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance is announcing that the 2019 applications are now available for the annual Scholarship Program. Applications can be obtained through eligible members of a Fraternal Benefit Society belonging to the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance or by contacting the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Secretary-Treasurer at Theresa@lpscu. org or 888-834-6614.

Applicants must:

- Be a resident of Pennsylvania and a member of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a member of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance.
- Be a 2019 high school graduate attending an accredited college, university, trade school, etc. in the summer/fall of 2019 as a full time student (twelve semester credits).
- Obtain a recommendation letter from their Fraternal Benefit Society.
- Submit a 500-word essay on: "What does fraternal mean to you? What would you do to increase the relevance of fraternals to you and your peers?"

Return the completed application, essay and letter of recommendation, postmarked no later than September 1, 2019.

At least one \$500 scholarship will be awarded. Additional scholarships may be awarded depending upon available funds.

If you or your society has not received the information on the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Scholarship, please contact Linda Strom 800-488-1890 or e-mail lstrom@nsslife.org.

Prezident Trump prijal v Bielom dome premiéra Slovenskej republiky Pellegriniho



Prezident Donald Trump prijal v piatok 4. mája v Bielom dome predsedu vlády SR Petra Pellegriniho. "Naše vzájomné vzťahy sú veľmi dobré. Toto je prvá návšteva slovenského premiéra v Oválnej pracovni," uviedol prezident Trump.

Diskutovali aj o boji proti nelegálnej migrácii. Americký prezident ocenil prístup SR k členstvu v NATO a plnenie si záväzkov. "Hovorili sme aj o vzťahoch USA a Slovenska v oblasti hospodárskej spolupráce. Dotkli sme sa aj otázky stále nedoriešených kvót na vozidlá," uviedol Pellegrini a dodal, že v tejto otázke aj naďalej prebiehajú rokovania. Snaha je dohodnúť sa na nulovej sadzbe na oboch stranách. "Rozhodnutie z americkej strany zatiaľ nepadlo, ja som mal ale možnosť vysvetliť, aké dopady by takéto rozhodnutie malo na jedného zo strategických spojencov v Európe," dodal. Trump bol podľa neho prekvapený, aké veľké množstvo aút sa na Slovensku vyrába. Pellegrini verí, že slovenský príspevok do diskusie o zavedení ciel na automobily prišiel v správny čas.

Premiér prezidenta Trumpa pozval na návštevu SR, pozvanie sa však neviaže na konkrétny dátum a udalosť. "Smerovali sme ho k tomu, že ak by bol v našej časti Európy, boli by sme radi, keby sme ho mohli privítať na Slovensku," dodal. Americký prezident uviedol, že by raz rád prišiel na Slovensko, bližší termín však nekonkretizoval.

Prezident Trump pochválil hospodárske výsledky Slovenska. "Som tomu veľmi rád, lebo ste skvelí ľudia. Naše vzťahy nikdy neboli lepšie ako teraz," povedal.

Ocenil kroky Slovenska smerujúce k navýšeniu obranného rozpočtu na dohodnutú úroveň, pretože, ako zdôraznil, USA v rámci NATO prispievajú na obranu disproporčne veľa oproti ostatným členským krajinám. Viaceré štáty však počas jeho administratívy prisľúbili zvýšiť rozpočet na obranu, dodal.

Ďalej hovoril o ekonomických výsledkoch svojej krajiny, pričom pripomenul, že nezamestnanosť je na úrovni 3,6 percenta, čo je najnižšie číslo od roku 1969. Nezamestnanosť pritom poklesla aj u všetkých významných etnických menšín. Okrem toho sa pochválil, že v obchodovaní s Čínou teraz USA získavajú "miliardy dolárov" na clách.

Návšteva premiéra Pellegriniho sa konala na pozvanie prezidenta Trumpa pri príležitosti 30. výročia Nežnej revolúcie a 15. výročia vstupu Slovenska do NATO. Z oblasti strednej Európy tento rok už absolvovali návštevu Bieleho domu rakúsky kancelár Sebastian Kurz a český premiér Andrej Babiš. Americký minister zahraničných vecí Mike Pompeo bol na Slovensku vo februári.

Skončili rozsiahlu rekonštrukciu Pezinského zámku

Rekonštrukcia bývalého stredovekého vodného hradu, ktorá prebieha už od septembra 2017 sa blíži ku koncu. Jeho majiteľ na tomto mieste v súčasnosti vybudoval Palace Art Hotel, Zámocké vinárstvo, ale aj Medzinárodnú galériu a unikátnu expozíciu Pálffy-

ho apartmánov z čias jeho pobytu na zámku v 19. storočí. Po otvorení sa stane zámok jedným z najvýznamnejších kultúrnych a spoločenských miest v okolí. Návštevníci budú mať možnosť ubytovať sa v priestoroch hotelu, vychutnať si kulinárske zážitky v reštaurácii či ochutnať to najlepšie z miestnej vinárskej produkcie.



Počas vlády Pálffyovcov sa

z hradu stal zámok, zmizli hrubé múry, padacie mosty, menila sa obytná aj hospodárska časť. Práve v tomto období tu vznikol aj anglický park so vzácnymi stromami a jazierkami. Upravili ho v štýle neskorého klasicizmu, novogotiky a novorenesancie. V roku 1875 oheň zničil severnú časť zámku. Požiar spôsobil blesk počas letnej búrky. Asi tretinu zámku bolo potrebné zbúrať. Úpravy sa potom zamerali len na východné a južné krídlo.

V renovovaných priestoroch boli sústredené zbierky umeleckých diel, ktoré plánoval gróf sprístupniť, avšak, kvôli smrti to nestihol. V období Československej republiky došlo na zámku k rabovaniu inventáru a pustošeniu miestností. Zámok v roku 1930 prešiel do majetku mesta. O šesť rokov neskôr sa stalo novým vlastníkom zámku Slovenské vinohradnícke družstvo, ktoré tu malo reštauráciu, vináreň a výrobňu. Obdobie budovania socializmu prežil Pezinský zámok vďaka tomu, že bol na zozname národných kultúrnych pamiatok.



Prezident Andrej Kiska hostil 1. mája v Prezidentskom paláci politikov, diplomatov a osobnosti, ktoré prispeli k vstupu Slovenska do Európskej únie a NATO. Slávnostný obed sa podával pri príležitosti 15. výročia pristúpenia Slovenskej republiky do týchto medzinárodných inštitúcií Na snímke uprostred je prezident SR Andrej Kiska s pozvanými osobnosťami, ktoré sa pričinili o vstup SR do Európskej únie 1. mája 2004. - *Zdroj: TASR - Pavel Neubauer*

SPOMIENKA NA M. R. ŠTEFÁNIKA V NEW YORKU BUDE 16. MÁJA

Slovenská liga v Amerike si pripomenie v nedeľu 19. mája 100. výročie tragickej



smrti genenerála Milana Rastislava Štefánika. Podujatie začne slovenskou svätou omšou v Kostole svätého Jána Nepomuckého (na rohu First Avenue a 66th Street, New York City) o 10.15 hodine. O 1.00 hodine bude v spoločenskej hale

nasledovať obed a program spomienky.

Príhovor bude mať profesor a historik Dr. Michael Kopanič. Slovenská liga pozýva slovenskú verejnosť, aby si prišla uctiť pamiatku národného hrdinu Milana R. Štefánika.

Generál Milan Rastislav Štefánik sa narodil 21. júla 1880, Košariskách a tragicky zahynul 4. mája 1919 v Ivanke pri Dunaji. Bol slovenský astronóm, fotograf, vojenský letec, brigádny generál ozbrojených síl Francúzska, diplomat a politik. Mal najväčšiu zásluhu na formovaní česko-slovenského zahraničného odboja počas prvej svetovej vojny. Zohral dôležitú úlohu pri organizovaní česko-slovenských légií a sprostredkovaní kontaktov na francúzskych štátnych funkcionárov. Spolu s Tomášom Garriguom Masarykom a Edvardom Benešom bol kľúčovou osobou pri založení Česko-slovenskej republiky. Bol podpredsedom Česko-slovenskej národnej rady, ministrom vojny v Dočasnej vláde česko-slovenskej a následne aj v novovzniknutej ČSR.

M. R. Štefánik zahynul 4. mája, keď sa lietadlo pred pristátim náhle zrútilo neďaleko Ivanky pri Dunaji. Pochovaný je v mohyle na Bradle neďalejo jeho rodných Košarísk.

Dňa 23. apríla 1990 bol schválený Zákon č. 117/1990 Zb. o zásluhách M. R. Štefánika, ktorý oficiálne uznal, že "sa zaslúžil o vznik spoločného štátu Čechov a Slovákov". Na jeho počesť bolo pomenované štátne vyznamenanie Slovenskej republiky, Kríž Milana Rastislava Štefánika, ako aj medzinárodné letisko v Bratislave, akadémia ozbrojených síl SR, železničná trať a veľké množstvo ulíc, námestí, škôl atď.

ACH, TÁ NAŠA SLOVENČINA!

Ekonomika zažila **top** rok 2018... Z dobrej situácie **benefitovali** predovšetkým automobilky. - *hn.sk*

Austrian Airlines chce v Európe poraziť **lowcosty.** - *trend.sk*

Veci zo **second handov** sú čistejšie ako v reťazcoch. - *hn.sk*

Kiska bral svoju kampaň ako netradičné self-promo - trend.sk

No tieto miestnosti je možné zariadiť a navrhnúť tak, aby vyhovovali **zero-waste** podmienkam. - *sme.sk*

...zostávajú zamestnancami VW SK so všetkými prislúchajúcimi **benefitmi.**

- hn.sk

...patrí medzi známe české **influencerky...**- diva.sk

Pracovná **koučka**: V minulosti bol **workoholizmus...** - *sme.sk*

...ale má aj veľa zdravotných **benefitov**...

- pravda.sk

Päť signálov, že ide o viac ako len **baby blues** - *pravda.sk*

Developer si tak napokon vyberal...

trend.sk

Na rad prídu aj veľkonočné **last minute** pobyty. - *aktuality.sk*

Na trhu od začiatku marca funguje **díler...** - trend.sk

Úvodná akcia na **bikesharing** v Bratislave sa končí. *- trend.sk*

Počas **híringu** v parlamentnom brannobezpečnostnom výbore... - *tasr.sk*

Módna polícia z **afterparty** Miss Slovensko 2019: Ktorý **loo**k bol najlepší? *- diva.sk*

Sú **virtuálni influenceri** budúcnosťou v **online marketingu** na Slovensku? - *hn.sk*

VIETE, ŽE...



...kaskadér, choreograf bojových scén a príležitostný herec Vladimír Furdík (49), ktorý pochádza zo Slovenska, má na svojom konte desiatky filmových trhákov, ale z tváre v pozadí sa stal ikonou miliónov fanúšikov až vďaka populárnemu seriálu televízie HBO Hra o tróny. Furdík v ňom hrá hlavnú zápornú postavu Nočného kráľa, túžiaceho zničiť všetko živé.

KRÁTKE SPRÁVY ZO SLOVENSKA



Výrobný závod Jaguar Land Rover v Nitree bude vyrábať nový Defender. Svetová premiéra nového automobilu Land Rover Defender je naplánovaná na koniec tohto roka. V čase, keď sa nový Defender v závere tohto roka predstaví verejnosti, bude mať za sebou viac ako 45-tisíc individuálnych testov v tých najextrémnejších podmienkach na svete. Nový Defender bol navrhnutý a vyvinutý vo Veľkej Británii.

Predstavitelia spoločnosti U. S. Steel Košice a Rada odborov U. S. Steel Košice 30. apríla dospeli k dohode o skrátení pracovného týždňa. Zamestnanci USSK budú v máji pracovať iba štyri dni v týždni s tým, že budú dostávať 70 percent mzdy. Dôvodom royhodnutia je nepriaznivá a neustále sa zhoršujúca situácia na trhu s oceľou.

Slovensko bude organizátorom Jarného zasadnutia Parlamentného zhromaždenia Severoatlantickej aliancie (NATO), ktoré sa bude konať 31. mája až 3. júna v Bratislave. Po pätnástich rokoch, kedy Slovensk8 republika vstúpila do NATO, pôjde o najväčšiu zahraničnopolitickú udalosť na Slovensku.

Slovenský premiér Peter Pellegrini počas svojej cesty v USA začiatkom mája rokoval aj so zástupcami amerických spoločností, ktoré pôsobia na Slovensku. So zástupcami spoločnosti Lockheed Martin, ktorá vyrába stíhačky F-16, ktoré si Slovensko od USA objednalo. Jedná sa o 14 stíhačiek. Prvé by mali prísť na Slovensko na prelome rokov 2022 a 2023. Nahradia tak poruchové ruské Migy. Bude to stáť zhruba 1,6 miliardy eur. Slovensko okrem stíhačiek objednalo aj 9 vrtuľníkov Black Hawk.

Všetky americké firmy, s ktorými sa stretol slovenský premiér Pellegrini počas svojej cesty v Spojených štátoch, sú veľmi spokojné so svojimi aktivitami na Slovensku. "Mnohé z nich ďalej plánujú pokračovať v rozvoji svojich aktivít a dokonca možno aj zvyšovať počet pracovných miest," uviedol Pelegrini po stretnutí s podnikateľmi vo Washingtone. Na rokovaní sa zúčastnili predstavitelia najväčších amerických firiem, ktoré sú aktívne na Slovensku a zamestnávajú tam desiatky tisíc ľudí. Išlo napríklad o U.S. Steel, IBM, AT&T alebo Amazon.

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