



Za Boha a národ

For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský katolícky sokol

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MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPREME PRESIDENT LARRY M. GLUGOSH

I would like to extend my best wishes to all of the mothers and grandmothers within the Slovak Catholic Sokol that will be celebrating with your family and friends on May 12th. We sincerely hope you will enjoy your special day.



It is a truly a wonderful day to honor the women in our families for all of their sacrifice, devotion and most importantly their unconditional love. Whether the day is spent with our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, sisters, aunts or wives, it is very important to let them know how much we love them and appreciate all the wonderful things they do every day.

In addition, we hope you also take the time to pay tribute to our many veterans as part of the Memorial Day long weekend or as they call it is Canada, Victoria Day. We should all take some quality time to reflect

and appreciate our armed forces. It is important that we remember and recognize those individuals in our local communities, which have served to protect and uphold our democracy and way of life. We are grateful for our good fortune and blessings, as a result of the sacrifice and dedication of our veterans. I hope your weekend celebrations will be memorable, reflective and joyful.

Recently, our Supreme Vice President, Andrea Tadlock chaired our 2024 annual scholarship meeting with four members of our Board of Directors. I would like to congratulate our Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship recipients. During the meeting we reviewed the College, High School and Grade School applications and selected our 2024 recipients. There were many deserving applicants but we had to make our final recommendations based on financial need, fraternal activity and academic merit. As in the past, we will post the award winners in our

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1st Quarter Meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Saturday, April 6 at the Home Office in Passaic, NJ. Sitting (l-r): Scott T. Pogorelec, Supreme Secretary, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, Supreme Chaplain; Larry M. Glugosh, Supreme President; Andrea M. Tadlock, Supreme Vice-President. Standing: James C. Matlon, Chairperson of Supreme Auditors; Katie Swift, Supreme Physical Directress; Michael J. Horvath, Supreme Treasurer; Kathleen Watkins, Supreme Directress of Sports and Athletics; John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., General Counsel and Dusan Dorich, Supreme Physical Director.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY SCOTT T. POGORELEC, F.I.C.



BRING ON MAY



Greetings from the Home Office! The weather is finally starting to turn warmer, and we are noticing the beautiful colors of May coming together. This month is also filled with many important dates and activities for our members, and it serves as a kickoff to our fraternal calendar.

I hope that many of our members will take the time to celebrate Join Hands Day on Saturday, May 4th. It is a National Day of Volunteering sponsored by America's fraternal benefit societies. It is a day of community service that specifically targets and develops relationships between young people and adults through neighborhood volunteering. Many communities across the world use this day as a building block to start the communication process between the young and old. With the mix of our young adults and our "wise and experienced" members, the Slovak Catholic Sokol can be a shining example of this special day. Since its inception, Join Hands Day has enjoyed the support and participation of many of our members. I urge our local Assembly and Wreath leaders to schedule a community service event and let the rest of our membership know about it through our Falcon and our social media platforms. For the past 119 years, our organization has encouraged our members to get involved in their communities because it is essential to our identity. Remember, Join Hands Day should not only be celebrated one day a year. This is what we do and who we are as Sokols!

On the following weekend, we celebrate a very important day. I am speaking, of course, of Mother's Day, which will be celebrated on Sunday, May 12th. Anna Jarvis is recognized as the Founder of Mother's Day in the United States. She developed the in-

spiration of celebrating Mother's Day from her own mother, Mrs. Anna Marie Jarvis. As an activist and social worker, the elder Mrs. Jarvis used to express her desire to honor all mothers and pay them tribute. Following her mother's death, Anna wrote letters to people in positions of power lobbying for the official declaration of Mother's Day. All that hard work paid off as President Woodrow Wilson signed a joint resolution on May 8, 1914, designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Happy Mother's Day to every member who is blessed to be called Mother; from Great Grand Mothers (Prababička), Grand Mother (Babička), Mother (Matka), God Mother (Krstná Matka) or any other title given to a special woman. May your Mother's Day be filled with happiness and love, and you enjoy your day, since your endless love and caring cannot be truly measured but know it is appreciated by all who benefit from it. And I would especially like to wish my mother, Annie, my wife, Maggie, and my sister, Jennifer, a very Happy Mother's Day! We love you!

I hope that all our Sokol bowlers have a wonderful time at our 78th International Bowling Tournament in Pittsburgh, PA on May 17th and 18th. Enjoy the spirited fraternalism and competition and pick up all those spares!

Let us also not forget the national holiday, Memorial Day, created to honor and remember those who have died performing their duties while serving in the United States Armed Services. They served and died so we can live in the United States and their sacrifice helped other countries shed the chains of their oppressors. May we never forget what they did for many, and the loss felt by their families. May all their souls rest in peace.

Until next time, have a wonderful month of May and good health to all! Stay safe, stay strong, and STAY POSITIVE!

Zdar Boh!

SOKOL CALENDAR

MAY 17TH 18TH, 2024

78TH INTERNATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT at the Bowlero Lanes Pittsburgh, 2440 Noblestown Road in Pittsburgh, PA.

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024

Friends of Slovakia and Slovak American Society of Washington, D.C. look forward to seeing you at our **ANNUAL PICNIC** at the Arlington Knights of Columbus, 5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington VA 22207.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2024

PORK AND SAUERKRAUT DINNER to be held at Incarnation Of Our Lord Church, Bethlehem, PA. Sponsored by the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Assembly 78. All proceeds benefit Incarnation Of Our Lord Parish. Mass at 2 p.m. and dinner to follow at LaBuda Reception Hall. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased at the Church or contact Fran Blonar at 610-509-8059, Assembly 78 President.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

SLOVAK HERITAGE FESTIVAL at the Middlesex County Fair, 655 Cranbury Rd, East Brunswick, NJ.

Find us on Facebook:

**Slovak Catholic
Sokol Public Group**

**Get quick updates on the
latest events going on
in our organization**

SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON PUBLICATION DATE

The next issue of the **SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON** will be that of **JUNE 1, 2024**. **DEADLINE** for all photos and information for this issue will be **MAY 22, 2024**.

The next **SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL NEWSLETTER** will be posted on our website on **MAY 15, 2024**.

Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain,
Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdvic
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
ABOUT MARY**

What does it mean to have a devotion to Mary?

A devotion to Mary is when we grow in relationship with her in order to grow closer to her beloved Son. We trust her intercession and guidance will lead us to Heaven.



What are the main devotions to

Mary?

Popular Marian devotions include the Rosary, the Miraculous Medal, the Scapular, and the Seven Sorrows.

The Miraculous Medal was revealed in a Marian apparition to St. Catherine Labouré. The Virgin told her that “all who wore this sacramental would receive great graces”.

Similarly, Our Lady gave St. Simon Stock a brown scapular. This scapular is two pieces of cloth attached by a rope that goes over one’s chest and back. Our Lady promised that those who died faithfully wearing it, she would bring to Heaven.

The Seven Sorrows’ devotion is similar to the Rosary. It focuses on Mary’s seven sorrows, which are based on the prophecy of Simeon.

Why is the Rosary so important?

Though sometimes we feel it is mundane, the Rosary is a beautiful means to invite Mary’s presence into our prayer journey in a regular way. As you pray each decade, you are invited to direct your attention to one of the Mysteries of the Rosary where events from Mary and Jesus’s life are recalled.

They are called Mysteries because they invite you to hold various tensions, such as Mary as both virgin and mother, Jesus as both human and divine, and the paradox of strength and resurrection found in the midst of vulnerability and death. Through meditating on the Holy Rosary, we enter into the mysteries of Christ’s life, death, and resurrection.

Do Catholics worship Mary? Why do Catholics care so much about Mary?

Worship is reserved for God alone. Mary is venerated as the Mother of Jesus. Catholics honor Mary, just as Jesus did. Catholics recognize that it is by her and through her that we reach Jesus because it was by her and through her that we received him as our Savior and Redeemer.

We acknowledge Mary’s importance in Salvation History and Jesus’ life. For this reason, we look to her with love, just as Christ did.

Why ask for her intercession when you can just pray to Jesus?

In the Old Testament, the mother of a king, the queen

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**LAW DAY MESSAGE FROM
OUR GENERAL COUNSEL**

President Joseph R. Biden has signed a proclamation designating May 1, 2024 as Law Day throughout the United States. This marks the 67th annual observance of this special day set aside to commemorate the law.



It is appropriate that at least one day be set aside for giving thought to the importance of law and the part it plays in making our way of life possible.

Our society is a government of law, not of men. What this means is that we, the people, have set rules to guide our own conduct and have agreed to obey these rules. It means that every citizen has rights which no other citizen should violate. The humblest and poorest person can go into court against any man or woman and demand his or her rights. Government itself cannot ignore these established rights.

Respect for Law also means that every citizen has an equal obligation to organize his or her life so that it does not conflict with the rights of others. It means that if government by law is to survive, the great majority of the people must accept the rules and live under that law.

The law is the same for all men and women; the affluent and the poor are equally bound to obey the same laws.

Law Day on May 1, 2024 occurs at about the same time that the professional basketball season is concluding. Perhaps they don’t seem to be related but they definitely are because a basketball game is almost exactly like our lives under the law.

The game of basketball is governed by rules which amount to laws. It is played by people who are members of a team which could be called citizens. The team members can do their complaining themselves or do it through their coach, just as citizens can do their own complaining or do it through their congressional and legislative representatives.

Disputes are settled by referees just as a judge settles disputes between citizens. A coach may appeal a referee’s decision just as a citizen’s lawyer may appeal a judge’s decision to a higher court.

Violations of the basketball rules result in penalties and so does violation of the law. Good sportsmanship is expected and rewarded just as good citizenship is expected and rewarded. A player may miss a shot but he or she usually gets another chance; if a citizen violates a law, he or she usually gets a second chance to make good.

Did you ever consider that each time we recite the Pledge of Allegiance, we renew our commitment to providing the benefits of liberty and the reality of justice for all?

The fact that we continue to strive to be one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all, is a tribute to the memory of the millions of Americans who, throughout our history, have been willing to die to secure or preserve these ideals.

Law Day is an important opportunity for all Sokols and
(Continued on page 17)

REPORTS OF THE SUPREME OFFICERS FOR 2023

REPORT OF THE SUPREME VICE-PRESIDENT

The following report for 2023 is submitted to the Board of Directors as stated in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The Board of Directors kept busy by continuing the Quarterly Meetings. I participated in our Quarterly Meeting held on March 17th and 18th in Scranton, PA. Our 2nd Quarterly Meeting was held by Conference Call on June 28th. The 3rd Quarterly Meeting was held via Conference Call on September 21st and our 4th Quarterly Meeting was held in Fort Lauderdale, FL on December 3rd. Many good ideas were discussed while the Board worked with our Supreme Secretary and our Financial Advisors as to how we will continue through the upcoming years. In March of each year the Board of Directors hold the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Board of Directors Meeting.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

The Scholarship Committee met through email communication. The members of the committee were as follows: Michael J. Horvath, Supreme President, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C, Supreme Secretary, James Knis, Supreme Treasurer and Katie Swift, Supreme Physical Directress. The winner's photos appeared in the June 2023 issue of the Falcon. There were 24 Slovak Catholic Sokol College Grant winners, 2 Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Memorial Grants, 2 Emil Slavik Memorial Grants, 1 Doctor Lesko Medical Grant, 1 Krista Glugosh Memorial Grant, 1 Yencha Family Grant and 4 Museum Memorial Grants awarded. A special thank you to PNC Bank for the gracious donation towards our Memorial Scholarship grants.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

As Supreme Vice President, I have represented the organization at various functions including the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh Golf Outing, the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour Banquet and served on various boards of Fraternal Associations.

KIDS KORNER

As Supreme Vice President, I continue to provide the Kids Korner in the Falcon Newspaper monthly expanding to three pages. I try to provide interesting monthly facts suitable for children along with various puzzles and games. In the summer in conjunction with the Kids Korner is a Summer Reading program also.

CONCLUSION

Finally, I have remained diligent in my efforts to increase our membership by enrolling new members throughout the year. In 2023, I have enrolled 2 new members for a total of \$20,000 in insurance.

Zdar Boh!

Edward D. Moeller

Supreme Vice-President

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

This report is submitted to the Board of Directors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol for the purpose of advising of the activities of the Office of the General Counsel since our 34th Quadrennial Convention which was held in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on August 5th through August 8th, 2023.

To all of the delegates at 34th Quadrennial Convention, I extend my Heartfelt thanks and support in re-electing me as their General Counsel. Congratulations to new incoming officers on their election, and special thanks to departing officers for their services on behalf of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

Since my return from the Convention, I have collaborated with the members of the Post-Convention By Law Committee, namely Brother Michael Horvath, Brother Scott Pogorelec and Sister Kathy Watkins, to review the By-Laws passed at the Convention. The new By-Laws have been published, sent to all Insurance Departments of the States in which we are licensed, and made available to the membership.

As a member of the Board of Directors, I have attended two (2) meetings called by our Supreme President. The minutes of the meetings have been published in the Slovak Catholic Falcon and my participation at these meetings is well-documented.

In matters concerning contract negotiations, I have continuously briefed the membership concerning the status of the sale of the tract of land where our former print shop was located. I am pleased to report that on October 18, 2023, the City of Passaic Planning

Board approved the proposed subdivision, a long standing condition precedent to the closing of title. Preparations are being made to officially close title in the spring of 2024 after the board resolution is adopted and published in the local newspaper.

There were no new mortgages issued during the past year and our mortgage portfolio remains at two (2) mortgages. With respect to the two (2) mortgages on file, I continue to verify that the property taxes and insurance are all paid to date and current.

On the local level, I have been re-elected to serve as President of Group 1 and President of Assembly 162 in Clifton, New Jersey. I continue to attend as many Sokol functions as time permits, and I continue to enroll as many new members as possible.

The delegates at our 34th Quadrennial Convention have made it clear that meaningful changes were needed to our Society's By-Laws to improve our fraternal structure, governance and management practices. I am confident that the changes approved by the delegates will enhance the financial strength of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, help it to continue to grow, and meet the challenges in the fraternal financial services industry. Responsible leadership, disciplined governance and effective decision making will keep our society on a solid and stable path.

In conclusion, may God bless all of our deliberations at

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Slovak Catholic Sokol SPFB Monthly Newsletter May 2024



Please join us for the monthly virtual activities. More details for each event will be posted on Facebook. If you have any questions, contact Kathy Watkins at (412) 225-8233 or via email at kathyw323@gmail.com.

Click the Zoom link to join an activity: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3823234716?omn=85240907247>

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|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Father Andrew Hvozdic / Janice Matlon | Rosary will now be twice a month. (first and third Friday) | Rosary will be via Facebook live not the Zoom link. **Father Andrew will lead the rosary on the 3 rd . **Janice Matlon will lead the rosary on the 17 th . | May 3 rd – 4:00PM (3:00PM CST) May 17 th 5:00PM (4:00PM CST) |
| Katie Swift | Youth Advisory Committee | 8:00PM | May 8th |
| Kristen Popik | STEM activities (children 14 and under) | 7:00PM (day may vary each month) | May 13 th |
| Nancy Kropolinsky / Chris Antosy | Happy Hour / Games or Trivia | Third Thirsty Thursday of each month at 8:00PM EST | May 16 th |
| Dusan Dorich | Slovak History / language | 9:00PM EST | May 12 th |
| Katie Swift | Bible Study | Tuesday at 8PM EST | May 21st |
| Zack Manyak | Book Club | End of the month – 8:00PM EST | May 28th |

2024 Yearly Calendar of Events

| May | June | July | Aug | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| Bowling Tourney (17-19) Bowlero Lanes (Pittsburgh, PA) Join Hands Day | Family Fun Fest at Peek-n-Peak Resort in Clymer NY June 21-23 (Look for information on Facebook and on the website) | Virtual clinic (date TBD) July 20th – National Sokol Sports Day - Each individual or group will do locally (details to follow) | Golf Tourney (9 -11) Treasure Lake, DuBois, PA | Pumpkin Carving Contest Costume Contest (pictures submitted and people will vote on FB) | “Day of Giving” Each group will do locally (details to follow) | Christmas lights and Ugly Christmas Sweater contest (pictures will be submitted and people will vote) |

The Walking Program is an ongoing activity. Keep track of your miles so that you can submit them at the end of the year to Nancy Kropolinsky at kropoinskynancy@gmail.com

Earn rewards each month by sending a photo and summary capturing the following monthly themes:

May- Join Hands Day- the first Saturday in May is about uniting the older generation with the younger in a day of volunteering. Add a walk to your volunteering activity.

June- Father- Son walk in recognition of Men's Health Month.

July- Is National Ice Cream Month. After your walk, treat yourself to some ice cream.

August- Taking a walk is a great way to honor yourself during National Wellness Month.

September- In observance of International Day of Peace, September 21, promote peace by taking a walk with your loved ones.

October- Take a walk in a Pumpkin Patch to celebrate National Pumpkin Seed Day.

November- Walk with gratitude and thankful intentions.

Outreach Corner

Andrea Tadlock

Supreme Vice President

Do You Have FOMOS (The Fear Of Missing Out on Sokols)?

Have no fear! The Mobile SCS Team App is near!

A mobile SCS Teams App will be available this summer to help Groups and their members stay current with SCS fraternal events, find forms, quickly access virtual events, have fast access to the SCS Falcon and the SPFB newsletter, receive event reminders, view event results, or connect with other members and SCS leaders. Watch for more details in the coming weeks!

As part of our outreach program, we will have a dedicated charity to contribute to at each of our events. Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh has been chosen as the charity for the Bowling Tournament. At the tournament, we will have a basket raffle where participants can take chances to win. We will also accept monetary donations from individuals, groups, wreaths, and assemblies. If you wish to contribute to this cause, please mail a check to:

Kathy Watkins
7019 Highland Creek Drive
Bridgeville, PA 15017

All checks should be made out to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Sokol Forward Join Hands Day Planning

There is plenty of time left to prepare for Join Hands Day on May 4th. Plan with members of all ages from your Group and brainstorm fun ideas to help those in need. Let's work together and plan a fun day of helping others. "Sokol Forward" and make a difference! Feel free to contact me at vp@slovakcatholicsokol.org to discuss your ideas.

There will not be any virtual events in June, July, and August. We will resume in September.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF ASSEMBLY 227/GROUP 19 TORONTO, CANADA

The Slovak Catholic Sokol Group 19 and Assembly 227 annual meeting was held on Sunday February 25th, 2024 and attendances were 11. Everyone received a copy of the individual group leader's annual report.

Sister Kristen Popik opened the meeting with a prayer. She asked all the members to pray for all the Slovak Catholic Sokol members and especially remember all those who have passed away.

Group President Chet Dziuba gave opening remarks and asked everyone to review the 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes provided by Brother Chet and provide any comments or corrections. After some discussion the minutes were approved by Ed Bajus and 2nd by Dusan Dorich.

Next Brother Chet asked everyone to review the 2024 agenda provided by Brother Larry Glugosh. After some discussion, the 2024 agenda was approved by Anne-Marie Wasilewski and 2nd by Diane Cincar.

Following the 2024 agenda review, the individual group leaders presented their annual 2024 reports based on the activities from 2023.

Reports/Comments

- President – Chet Dziuba
- Vice President – Stephen Glugosh
- Sports Director – Ed Bajus Jr
- Physical Director – Steven Popik
- Physical Directress – Anne Marie Wasilewski
- Group Treasurer – Larry Glugosh
- Group Secretary – Diane Cincar

REPORT FROM CHET DZIUBA – GROUP PRESIDENT

Brother Chet asked all the members to read the Group President Report. Brother Chet congratulated all the leaders and participates who attended the 50th International Slet in Kutztown, PA from July 13th – 16th, 2023. Following the Slet, was the 34th Quadrennial Convention held in Scranton PA, from August 5th – 9th, 2023. Brother Chet offered congratulations to honorary Supreme Officer Brother Larry Glugosh elected as Supreme President, Brother Dusan Dorich re-elected as Supreme Sports Director, Brother Ed Bajus Jr re-elected as Supreme Auditor and Sister Kristen Popik re-elected as member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board. He continued to highlight all the events on a local level and all the fund raisers. The report was approved by Mark Popik and 2nd by John Tutko.

REPORT FROM STEPHEN GLUGOSH GROUP VICE PRESIDENT

Brother Stephen extended greetings to everyone and praised the Group 19 physical fitness leaders for their hard work and dedications to prepare our group for the Slet. He congratulated all who participated for all their accomplishments and success. The report was approved by Ed Bajus and 2nd by Diane Cincar.

REPORT FROM ED BAJUS JR - SPORTS DIRECTOR

Brother Ed Bajus reported there was no 2023 local family-bowling day however will re-visit in 2024. The local 2023 golf tournament was held Saturday June 3rd at Turtle Creek Golf Club in Campbellville, Ontario; there were 50 golfers in attendance. There were many of the youth and new faces who participated this year. There were many prizes for golfers of

all caliber and all golfers received a prize for participating. In keeping with Group 19 goal to support a charity every year, the golfers wore pink to support Breast Cancer. It is a very worthwhile charity and the golfers donated and raised \$900. Brother Larry commended Brother Ed and his local staff for all their time and effort for this successful tournament. These 2 events were fun for everyone who attended. After some discussion, the report was approved by Kristen Popik and 2nd by Dusan Dorich.

REPORT FROM STEVEN POPIK - PHYSICAL DIRECTOR & ANNE MARIE WASILEWSKI – PHYSICAL DIRECTRESS

Sister Anne Marie Wasilewski congratulated all the athletes who participated in 50th Anniversary International Slet. Sister Anne Marie stated each athlete won an award in their perspective categories for either track and field or dance competition. Sister Diane Cincar congratulated the Group 19 leaders for doing a great job at the Slet, keeping the team together throughout the week and also that everyone enjoyed the day at the water park. After some discussion, the report was approved by Dusan Dorich and 2nd by John Tutko.

REPORT FROM LARRY GLUGOSH – GROUP TREASURER

The report included all the financials for Group 19 / Assembly 227 ending December 31, 2023. Brother Larry stated we are in good financial standings as of December 31, 2023. He indicated that we received quarterly assessments, individual and event contributions throughout 2023 which increased the current balance for the group. Also, as per the approved motion from the 2019 Convention which was to help subsidize our future costs for the International Slets, as long as we have 10+ participates at the event, helped with our current balance. After a discussion with the members, the report was approved by Stephen Glugosh and 2nd by Chet Dziuba.

REPORT FROM DIANE CINCAR – GROUP SECRETARY

Sister Diane Cincar thanked Brother Chet for completing the Minutes from the May 24th, 2023 Annual Meeting. The Minutes were distributed earlier in the meeting and were approved. The report was approved by Ed Bajus and 2nd by Dusan Dorich.

Following the Group Officer reports, Brother Dusan Dorich, our Supreme Officer extended greeting to the members. Brother Dusan extended congratulations to the following Group 19 members, who were elected at the 2023 Convention; Supreme President Brother Larry Glugosh, Supreme Auditor Brother Edward Bajus Jr and Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member Kristen Popik. Brother Dusan informed the members, the Physical Fitness Board have a online Zoom call each month to discuss a different topic for example discuss the meaning of the Rosary, the History of Slovak Catholic Sokol or discuss a book of the month. They are scheduling Corn Hole family day at the end of June 2024 and the intentions is each individual or group would conduct this event locally. Next, Brother Dusan informed the group the International Clinic will be conducted as a virtual clinic in July 2024.

Next, Brother Ed Bajus Jr, member of the Supreme Officers extended greetings to everyone. He informed the members there is an Audit scheduled in March 2024. He informed the members the Supreme Auditors are discussing cutting back 1 Audit per year from 2 Audits per year. There was a

discussion how much SCS would save by reducing the Audit to 1 per year.

Next, Sister Kristen Popik member on the Supreme Physical Fitness Board extended greetings to everyone and thanked all the Group 19 physical fitness leaders for their hard work and dedications. She informed the members the 50th Anniversary Slet was a great success and all the participates had a great time. Next Sister Kristen informed the physical fitness board annual meeting took place in January 2024 and they are ready for the 2024 clinic.

Next, Brother Larry Glugosh Supreme President extended greetings to everyone. He congratulated all of Group 19 officers who were elected at the 2024 Convention and all the Group 19 leaders for a job well done at the 2024 Slet. It was great to have so many Group 19 participates and also thanked all the parents for their support throughout the year and who attended the Slet. He reminded all the members the deadline for 2024 Scholarship is March 31, 2024. Next, Brother Larry mentioned they are looking at selling home office as we can't sell enough insurance to cover the asset i.e. running of home office.

Following these reports, we discussed any and all old business. These updates included our local events, fraternal events for the group including our involvement and participation with the local events that had not yet been discussed during the meeting. Brother Ed mentioned we are looking at having the local bowling fun day between end of May end of June 2024. The bowling alley is extremely busy due to many leagues and also other bowling alleys have closed. Sister Kristen made a suggestion to have alternative activity for instance skating in November / December timeframe and corn hole fun day. Brother Steve suggested a pub night with the players from the old Slow Pitch league. The 2023 Communion Breakfast took place Sept 2023. Many members thanked Brother Larry for organizing the 2024 Super Bowl fundraiser.

Next, the group discussed any and all new business. As stated earlier, the July 2024 clinic will be conducted as a virtual event and also at the next Slet, they will maintain the category of 45 years old and up events. Brother Ed informed the members the 2024 Group 19 Golf Tournament will be either June 1st or June 8th and he is looking at 2 local golf courses, more to follow. As mentioned earlier, the deadline for 2024 Scholarship is March 31, 2024.

The following are the National events:

2024 International Bowling Tournament – Bowlero Lanes, Pittsburgh, PA May 17th – 19th

2024 International Clinic – Virtual Event, July

2024 International Golf Tournament – Treasure Lake Golf Course Dubois, PA, August 9th – 11th

Next, added to the agenda was Group 19 Elections of Officers. Sister Anne Marie advised she was resigning as the Physical Directress and Rebecca Bettencourt was resigning as Assistant Physical Directress. After a discussion, Sister Anne Marie would send out an email to all members inquiring if anyone is interested in these 2 positions. Next, Brother Chet advised after holding the position as President for many years, he was resigning. Brother Ed requested to add the position of Assistance Sports Director. Following a discussion of the Election of Officers, the following members were elected;

President – Sister Diane Cincar
Vice President – Brother Stephen Glugosh
Sports Director – Brother Ed Bajus Jr

Assistance Sports Director – Brother John Tutko
Physical Director – Brother Steven Popik
Physical Directress – TBD
Assistant Physical Director – Mark Popik
Assistant Physical Directress – TBD
Group Treasure – Brother Larry Glugosh
Group Secretary – Sister Kristen Popik

Group President Chet Dziuba thanked the officers of Group 19 for all their time over the past year and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

With no further business on hand, a motion to adjourn the meeting was presented approved by Dusan Dorich and 2nd by Chet Dziuba

Sincerely yours,
Diane Cincar
Group 19 Secretary
Zdar Boh!

MINUTES OF THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 6

The Semi-annual meeting of the Msg. Andrew Hlinka Group 6 was held on April 7, 2024 at the Clubhouse Grille in Rostraver PA.

Meeting was called to order by President Anna Mae Warnick at 1:00 p.m. at which time roll call was taken. There were 35 members in attendance. President Anna Mae Warnick led the group in opening prayers of "Our Father", "Hail Mary", and "Glory Be". After prayers, she thanked all for attending. Grace was then prayed and lunch was served. After a delicious lunch, the meeting began.

Anna Mae began by asking if the wreaths and assemblies were actively trying to increase membership. She also requested everyone to review their policies to make sure all the information is correct on the policy. President Anna Mae asked if the wreaths and assemblies had any information regarding the history of their groups. Along with the history, she requested a report of each officers duties and all activities the groups do. She would like to have a report at the annual meeting.

A Christmas Party was discussed and a date of Saturday, December 7, 2024 was agreed upon - provided the restaurant was available. Dates were discussed for the semi-annual meetings and annual meetings. The semi-annual meetings will be held on first Sunday in April provided it does not fall on Easter, Palm Sunday or Divine Mercy Sunday. The annual meeting will be the third Sunday in October. The next annual meeting will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2024. The October meeting was be election of officers.

Msg. Andrew Hlinka, Group 6 is still trying to find a Chaplain. All in attendance were asked for suggestions.

Sports Director, Mike Matras, reported that the group had 3 teams attending the bowling tournament this year.

With no other business to discuss; motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Closing prayers were led by President Anna Mae Warnick.

Zdar Boh,
Respectfully submitted by
Terri Gardner, Secretary

REPORTS OF THE SUPREME OFFICERS FOR 2023

(Continued from page 5)

this meeting and bestow upon us His wisdom, the courage, and the common sense to make decisions which will benefit all of the members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

Zdar Boh!

Respectfully submitted,
John D. Pogorelec, Esq.
General Counsel

REPORT OF THE SUPREME TREASURER

I hereby submit my Annual Report for the year 2023 to the Supreme Board of Directors in compliance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

The duties, obligations, and responsibilities of the Supreme Treasurer are spelled out in our Bylaws, and I have worked to the best of my abilities to perform them as Supreme Treasurer. Again need to take this opportunity to thank all of the delegates for giving me this opportunity to serve as Supreme Treasurer.

As the Secretary/Treasurer of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum, I processed all donations to the Museum Account, reported those donations on a Quarterly basis in the Slovak Catholic Falcon, and processed all necessary paperwork.

In the month leading up to our first Board of Directors meeting, as Chairperson of the Budget Committee, I conducted several conversations with the Supreme Secretary, Supreme President, and Supreme Auditor regarding the 2023 Proposed Budget to present it for approval at that meeting.

On March 17-18, 2022, I attended the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Annual Meeting which was held in Scranton, PA. During that meeting I presented the Museum's Annual Financial Report. At the conclusion of the Museum Meeting, I attended the First Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting for the year where I presented the Slovak Catholic Sokol Annual Budget for discussion and approval. It should be noted that the Board meeting was held in Scranton, PA so the Board Members could see firsthand the site of the 2023 convention.

On April 24, 2023, as a member of the Board Scholarship Committee, I attended a meeting to discuss and approve the scholarship winners for 2023. This meeting was held via Zoom.

On June 28, 2023, I attended the Second Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting, which was held via Zoom.

In July, I submitted the required Annual Report to the State of New Jersey for the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum. I also processed the Slovak Catholic Sokol Museum Scholarships which because of the growth of the scholarship funds we were able to increase from three to four deserving recipients. One of the highlights of my term, was the 50th International Slet which was held at Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA, on July 13-15, 2023. At it, I got to see my daughter Kristen and her husband Paul Hershberger compete in the Stet, along with my granddaughters, 12 year-old Abby (all around 10-12 girls winner) and 9 year-old Ellie (all around 8-9 girls winner).

On August 5-8, 2023, I attended the 34th Quadrennial Conven-

tion held in Scranton, PA.

On August 19, 2023, I assisted the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics with the 67th International Golf Tournament which was held in Youngstown, Ohio.

On September 21, 2023, I attended the Third Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting for the year which was held via Zoom.

On November 12, 2023, I attended the Group 5 Annual Meeting, which was held in Barberton, Ohio, in conjunction with the celebration of our Group 5 Championship at the 50th International Slet.

On December 3, 2023, I attended our final Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting for the year, which was held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Other Sokol activities included serving my 45th year as President of Assembly 180 in Canton, Ohio. Assembly 180 had another great year in representing the Sokol spirit. I participated in our philanthropic projects including school supplies for the needy, stocking the St. Mary/St. Benedict's Food Pantry, supporting Ronald McDonald house, and the purchasing and wrapping of Christmas presents for the underprivileged.

I want to thank my fellow Board Members, for their support in dealing with the committees I was involved with, such as the Sokol Museum, the budget committee, and salary committee. I want to especially thank our Supreme Secretary Scott Pogorelec, for his management of the Sokol office through these four years of COVID. His leadership kept our staff safe but kept our business running.

And lastly, I want to thank the delegates to the 33rd Quadrennial Convention. The last four years gave us all a lot of uncertainty, but one thing will always remain with me. That God has blessed me with parents and grandparents who were members of this organization which led to this great opportunity to serve as your Supreme Treasurer.

Zdar Boh!

James F. Knis
Supreme Treasurer

REPORT OF THE SUPREME DIRECTOR OF SPORTS AND ATHLETICS

As the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, and in compliance with the Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my 2023 Annual Activity Report.

The first event of the year was the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Meeting held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania the weekend of January 13th through the 15th. Prior to the meeting I met with Basil Wahal from the GCU to discuss our combined 2023 International Bowling and Golf Tournaments. The Supreme Physical Fitness Board held monthly zoom calls from February through June to finalize all of the assignments for our 50th International Slet.

I attended the Board of Directors 1st Quarter Meeting held in Scranton, Pennsylvania from March 17th through the 19th. The Board of Directors approved all the recommenda-

tions the Physical Fitness Board proposed for our 2023 sporting events.

The 77th International Bowling Tournament was held on May 19th-2023 at AMF Airport Lanes in Buffalo, New York. The Slovak Catholic Sokol had 42 bowlers, 34 men and 8 women for the tournament. The GCU, FCSU and NSS had 60 participants for a combined total of 102 bowlers. Kathleen Smolkowicz from Reading, Pennsylvania was the winner of the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award. The results of the 2023 bowling tournament and pictures were published in the Falcon and posted on our web site.

The Board of Directors held their 2nd Quarter 2023 Meeting via zoom on Wednesday June 28th. During the meeting the Fitness Board members confirmed completion of all action items for the upcoming historic 50th International Slet. I was in charge of the 50th International Slet Souvenir Book and mailed out Ad Forms to all Supreme Officers, Honorary Officers, Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths. I received 48 Ads that raised \$5,040 to pay for the Souvenir Book and help with Slet expenses. The completed Souvenir Books were handed out to the Slet participants and guests on Saturday night at the Closing Ceremonies and at our Convention in August.

The 50th International Slet was held at Kutztown University, on July 13th through the 16th.

There were eight participating Groups and a total of 138 participants including Fitness Board Members and chaperones. I organized the trip to Dorney Amusement Park on Thursday afternoon including dinner at the park for the Slet participants. A new age group, 30 plus was added for the historic Slet which was successful with 28 participants. I set-up all of the heats for the 37 track events and hired Lexicon Timing, who posted the track times on their web site for all participants and guests to view the results seconds after each track event. I also completed all of the scoring sheets to record the height and distances for our 33 field events.

Congratulations to all of the participants at our historic 50th International Slet and to Group 4, Milwaukee, Wisconsin who finished in 1st Place after the scoring was verified and was also first place for Team and Individual Drill. Group 5, Cleveland, Ohio was the the Track & Field and Vo Ueyball champions and finished in 2nd place in a very close race with Group 4. Group 19, Toronto, Ontario, Canada was the recipient of the John J. Stofko Spirit Award. Frank Laury big provided a majority of the track & field equipment and all of the metals, ribbons, plaques and trophies for the participants who won awards at our Slet.

I attended the 33rd Quadrennial Convention that was held at the Hilton Hotel in Scranton, Pennsylvania, August 5th through the 8th. Members of the Fitness Board helped with the social trip to the New York RailRiders baseball game on Saturday evening. Prior to the Convention, I participated in the By-law Zoom Meeting that was held on July 20th. The Convention delegates made the decision to keep the Supreme Physical Fitness Board as part of the Supreme Assembly for the next four years.

The final tournament of the year was the 68th International Golf Tournament from August 18th through the 20th at Kennsington Golf Club in Caufield, Ohio and Flying 'B' Golf Course in Salem, Ohio. A total of 165 golfers participated, 109 from the Slovak Catholic Sokol and 52 from the FCSU and 4 from the GCU. The Friday Hospitality and Saturday Banquet was held

at the Waypoint 4180 Banquet Hall which is attached to the Marriott Courtyard Hotel and overlooking the Kennsington golf course. Donald J. Koval from Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania was the winner of the Franks S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award. The golf article including Flight Winners and all prize money recipients a total of \$5,896 were published in the Falcon and also posted on our website. The prize money checks were mailed early September after all of the scores and handicaps were verified. The flight winners and best scratch scores received championship golf shirts. The golf tournament financial report was also submitted to the Home Office after the championship golf shirts were mailed out.

I participated in the Board of Directors 3th Quarter 2023 Meeting via conference call on Thursday, September 21st. I also attended the 4th Quarter 2023 Board of Directors Meeting on Sunday December 3rd, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Board of Directors continues to explore ways to broaden our communications that will help to increase participation in fraternal activities at the National, Group, Assembly and Wreath level.

The 2024 International Bowling Tournament will be at Bowlero Pittsburgh and the International Golf Tournament will be held at Treasure Lake Resort in DuBois, Pennsylvania. I would like to thank my assistant Frank Laury for all of his help at the bowling and golf tournaments and most of all his track and field knowledge and guidance at Kutztown University, the site of our 50th International Slet. I would also like to thank Ed Moeller for his help and guidance during my transition to Director of Sports and Athletics. Thanks again to all of the members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board for their help at the 50th International Slet and participation and help at the bowling and golftournaments. It has been a privilege to serve the Slovak Catholic Sokol metnbership for 32 years on the Supreme Physical Board with my initial election at the 1979 Convention. I will continue to do my best to provide leadership as a Supreme Officer and thank all members who continue to participate in local, group or international fraternal activities. I look forward to continued participation in our future Slovak Catholic Sokol sporting events and other fraternal activities in the years to come.

Zdar Bohl

James C. Matlon

Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT MARY

(Continued from page 4)

mother would advocate for the people, making their concerns known to the king. Then the king would act. (See 1 Kings 2:20.) The same dynamic is at play in Marian intercession and mediation of grace. Mary approaches the Triune God for us, and God chooses to dispense graces to us through her.

The difference is not in what God can do and what Mary can do. The difference is in the way they do it. God wills something and it happens. Mary prays to him for something and he does it. He will never say no to her. We ask for Mary's help because we know she will listen and plead our case to her son better than we can. Mary, through her intercession, always leads the devoted faithful closer to her Son.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 17 HELD MARCH 10, 2024

Group 17 began their annual meeting with President Jim Jerek calling the meeting to order and offering a welcome and thanks to members. Coffee and pastries were served. Sister Loretta Smith provided the opening prayer followed by Vice President Glen Kramer leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Jerek called on Secretary Nancy Kropolinsky for the Roll Call: Present were the following Group 17 Officers: President Jim Jerek, Vice President Glen Kramer, Secretary Nancy Kropolinsky, Treasurer Tom Shirilla, Auditors Mary Olexa, Physical Fitness Board Virginia Bartos and Loretta Smith. Additional Members included: Mike Ekoniak, Stephen Bartos, Doug Pusateri, Monica Shirilla and Patty Gordulic.

President Jerek then asked for the acceptance for the minutes of the last Annual Meeting held February 5, 2023 and published in the Slovak Catholic Falcon. Sister Loretta Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Falcon and seconded by Brother Mike Ekoniak.

President Jerek then called on the Officers' activity reports and asked Brother Kramer to take the President's chair to call on President Jerek for his report. Brother Jerek reported he fulfilled the duties as per the by-laws. Most of the year was spent in preparation for the International Convention and hosting the International Golf Tournament. Brother Jerek added that in support of organizing events at a local level, he chaired a Fraternal Golf Outing held in Youngstown, Ohio in the fall of 2023. Several Group 17 members attended as well as a great representation of members from Cleveland. Brother Kramer made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Brother Tom Shirilla.

President Jerek called upon Brother Kramer for his report as Vice President. Brother Kramer reported that he fulfilled his duties per by-laws and assisted in activities when asked. He participated in the International Golf Tournament, assisted at the Fraternal Golf Outing and participates in the Thursday night Sokol Golf League. Sister Patty Gordulic made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Brother Doug Pusateri.

President Jerek called upon Sister Nancy Kropolinsky for her report as Secretary. Sister Nancy reported that she took the minutes of the 2023 Annual meeting and submitted them for publishing in the Falcon. She participated in the Fraternal Golf Outing and organized several monthly walking program activities at Boardman Park. Sister Monica Shirilla made a motion to accept the report, seconded by sister Smith.

President Jerek called upon Brother Shirilla for his report as Treasurer. Brother Shirilla reported he fulfilled his duties per the by-laws including writing checks, making deposits and balancing the books. Brother Shirilla provided spreadsheets of Group 17 expenditures and assets and explained the itemized deductions. Brother Stephen Bartos made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Sister Virginia Bartos.

President Jerek called upon Sister Mary Olexa for the Auditors report. Sister Olexa reported duties of the Auditors were fulfilled per the by-laws. She reported the Treasurer books were reviewed and found to be in order. Brother Pusateri made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Sister Kropolinsky.

President Jerek asked for the report prepared by Sports

Director Judy Babik. Sister Nancy presented the report which consisted of monthly activities including attending Walking program events, supporting Our Lady of Sorrows Day at The Races, being a delegate at the International Convention, attending Slovak Fest held at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, participating in the International Golf Tournament as well as the Group 17 Golf outing. The report congratulated Rob Hritz for taking 1st place in his Flight, and Loretta Smith for 2nd place in the Women's Flight. 13 members participated in the International Golf Tournament. She thanked President Jerek, Hank Brock BBQ, Glen Kramer, and Dave Ezzo of Mahoning Country Club for organizing the Fraternal Golf Outing. Sister Olexa made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Brother Kramer.

President Jerek then called upon Sister Smith and Sister Bartos for the activity report of the Physical Fitness Board. The combined report included the following activities: Attended Group 17 Annual Meeting February, 2023; participated in several monthly walking program activities at Boardman Park, including Join Hands Day, attended Zoom meeting discussing proposed By-Laws Changes presented By-Law Committee Chair Sister Kathleen Watkins, represented Group 17 at the International Convention, attended and volunteered at the Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak Fest, participated in the International Golf Tournament attended Day at the Races. Sister Kropolinsky made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Brother Ekoniak.

President Jerek then reported on Old Business: He thanked all members for their participation in the Golf Tournaments and encouraged all to continue to promote and publish involvement in local activities.

President Jerek then reported on New Business: 2024 Election of Officers:

President: Nancy Kropolinsky, Vice President: Glen Kramer, Treasurer: Tom Shirilla, Secretary: Doug Pusateri, Sports Director: Monica Shirilla, Auditors: Mike Ekoniak, Judy Babik, Mary Olexa, Physical Fitness Board Members: Susan Babik, Virginia Bartos, Loretta Smith. Brother Pusateri made a motion to accept the slate of officers, seconded by Brother Ekoniak. Brother Stephen Bartos sworn in new officers.

Correspondence included a Thank you from Father Jerek for the monetary donation and involvement in the Slovak Fest, and for the monetary donation and assistance for the American Slovak Culter Association Vilija Dinner.

The following resolutions were approved: Congratulations to Rob Hritz for taking 1st place in his Flight, and Loretta Smith for 2nd place in the Women's Flight at the International Golf Tournament. Congratulations to Sister Nancy Kropolinsky on her re-election as the Supreme Assistant Physical Director, Congratulations to Brother Jim Jerek on his Honorary Officer nomination. Brother Pusateri made a motion to recognize Brother Jim Jerek as President Emeritus for his commitment to the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Brother Jim has served as Group 17 President for 20 years and held Local and National office for 35 years. Unanimously passed.

New Business and recommendations: Sister Nancy made a motion to donate 100.00 to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Foundation in memory of Edith Babik and Carol

Gonda each. Sister Monica seconded.

Brother Jerek made a motion to suspend the meeting and continue on March 12, 2024.

The second session was held March 12, 2024, at Alberini's in Boardman. Additional members able to attend the second session included Judy Babik, Joanne Bartos and Tracey Pusateri. Vice President Glen Kramer began the meeting with a prayer. President Nancy Kropolinsky called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Recommendations continued with the following approved: Monetary donation to Youngstown's 2024 Simply Slavic Fest, 2024 Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak Fest, and 2024 Our Lady of Sorrows Day at the Races. Dinner for those who attend the 2024 American Slovak Culter Association Vilija Dinner. Unanimously passed. Sister Mary made a motion to offer monetary reimbursement for golfers who attended the International Golf Tournament Banquet. Seconded by Tracey Pusateri.

The following 2024 Group 17 activities were recommended and approved: Dates to be determined.

May- Participation in Join Hands Day with a walk at Boardman Park and a donation to Angels for Animals

June- Walk at Boardman Park and Make Your Own Sundae

July- Family Bowling night

August- Sokol Potluck Picnic, Slovak Fest

September- Fraternal Golf Outing

October- Maze Craze Corn Maze Walk

Sister Joanne Bartos made a motion to end the meeting. Sister Judy Babik seconded.

Respectfully Submitted by
Nancy Kropolinsky
Secretary

MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPREME PRESIDENT

(Continued from page 2)

monthly publication.

I hope to see many of you at our 2024 International Bowling tournament in Pittsburgh PA in a few weeks. I know our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins is working closely with the other fraternal societies and members to ensure we have a successful tournament. Bowling has always been a fun and spirited event for our members and the City of Pittsburgh and the local assemblies and wreaths have always been wonderful hosts and provided their local hospitality to make these events special.

This year we are co-hosting the tournament with the officers and members from the Greek Catholic Union (GCU) and the National Slovak Society (NSS). We have enjoyed working with the other societies over the years and the general feedback has been good.

In closing, I would like to wish my mom Helen, Mother in Law Liisa and my wife Susanna a happy Mother's Day. Thank you for everything you have done over the years to enrich our family and bring love, kindness and laughter to our lives.

May God bless all of you!

NEW YEAR – NEW BOARD NEW CHALLENGES – NEW GOALS NEW EXCITEMENT

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board hit the ground running at the start of the 2024 new year. At the convention, The SPFB was tasked with the goal to plan more events, virtually and in person. We understand the importance of keeping our organization alive and growing with all the challenges and changes life brings. The friendships that are built at Sokols are built solid because of our backgrounds, faith and upbringing.



As you have noticed, we have added many different virtual events during the month. Each SPFB member has been tasked to a topic or area of interest and has volunteered to lead these events. Please consider joining, Just to highlight a few...

STEM

The virtual STEM events are really amazing. They run about 20 minutes and are a great way for the younger kids to interact. SPFB member Kristen Popik posts a list of supplies that are needed. These supplies are usually easily found around the house. She guides the kiddos through a fun and easy event. This is a perfect after dinner family event or an activity you can invite the grandchildren over and participate together.

The Youth Advisory Committee

This group of young adults is trying to rally the 16-29 year olds for fun new events, locally and virtually. These events would build fraternalism, networking and friendships. One of the biggest topics is the lack of communication they are receiving. Information is not being passed down to the younger generations. They do not go onto Facebook, they are not receiving the emails or Falcon. So how do we solve this? Can you please help spread information and encourage your kids, grandkids and friends to join instagram and our other platforms. The Board of Directors have also started a Sokol App. You will see more information about this from our Vice President, Andrea Tadlock. On May 8th, we will be discussing this at our meeting. Please join.

Bible Study

I personally lead this study. During Lent we discussed Women of the Bible and how we can relate to their sacrifices in our modern world today. We finished our study with The Stations of the Cross from the viewpoint of the Blessed Mother Mary. In the Month of April we will discuss the book, Holy Moments by Matthew Kelly. In May, we are going to discuss Saints and the steps it takes to become a saint. Each person joining is encouraged to discuss a saint of their choice.

Assistant Director Nancy Kropolinsky and SPFB member Christ Antosy organize different games for a Third Thursday Thirsty Thursday Happy hour. SPFBM Zack Manyak has organized a monthly Book Club and Physical Director Dusan Dorich is organizing a Slovak Session. Father Andrew as well as SPFBM Janice Matlon will be saying a Virtual Rosary on the 1st and third Friday of each month. Lastly our Sports Direc-

(Continued on page 17)



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

May 2024



My Special Mom Recipe Card

Choose from the word bank to make the perfect combination for your very special mom! Then cut out the recipe card. Give your mom this recipe card!

| | | | |
|---------|-------------|-----------------|----------|
| kisses | hugs | bedtime stories | snuggles |
| cuddles | helpfulness | kindness | love |

How to make one very special mom:

Ingredients:

1 cup _____

1 tbsp _____

$\frac{1}{4}$ tbsp _____

$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp _____

A dash of _____

A sprinkle of _____

Directions:

Combine all the ingredients to make an amazing mom.



Happy Birthday to You!

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Benjamin Roman | 5/3 |
| Dorian Stupak | 5/10 |
| Reid Pogorelec | 5/16 |
| Nathan DiMartino | 5/20 |
| Xavier Zollinger | 5/28 |



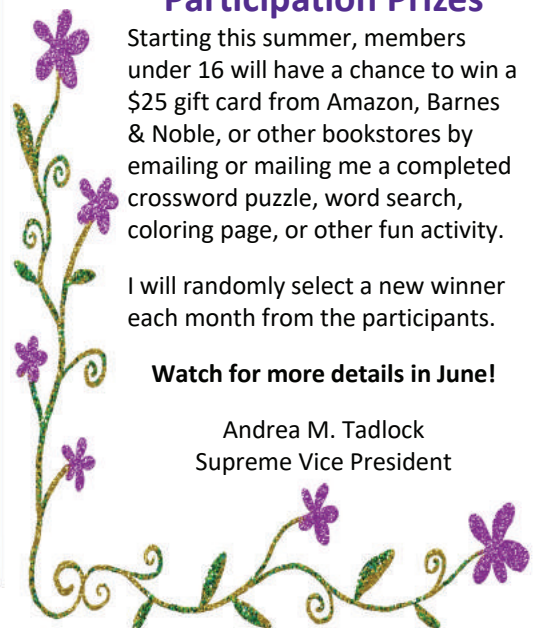
Participation Prizes

Starting this summer, members under 16 will have a chance to win a \$25 gift card from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, or other bookstores by emailing or mailing me a completed crossword puzzle, word search, coloring page, or other fun activity.

I will randomly select a new winner each month from the participants.

Watch for more details in June!

Andrea M. Tadlock
Supreme Vice President





KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik "

May 2024

Memorial Day

Memorial Day is a U.S. holiday to honor those who died in military service. It's observed on the last Monday of May and originated in the years following the Civil War. Initially, the holiday was called Decoration Day. This was due to the early tradition of decorating graves. Graves were decorated with flowers, wreaths, and flags. On May 5th, 1868, General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic made a proclamation. The proclamation was to commemorate soldiers lost in the Civil War. This is widely accepted as the holiday's origin.

In 1873, New York declared Memorial Day a legal holiday. Later, several states and cities followed suit. However, it wasn't until 1971 that Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. The act commemorated Memorial Day as the last Monday of May. After World War I, the holiday became an occasion for honoring all of those who died in active military duty.

Presently, the holiday is celebrated every year at Arlington National Cemetery. The president or vice president puts a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is an important memorial site at Arlington. Small American flags are also placed on each grave at the cemetery. Traditionally, people celebrate with parades, wearing red poppies, and taking a moment of silence at 3 p.m. their local time.

1. What is the origin of Memorial Day?

- The president made it a holiday at the end of the Civil War.
- General John A. Logan made a proclamation on May 5th, 1868, that popularized the holiday.
- The state of New York made it a national holiday.
- The last president of the United States made it a holiday.

2. What traditions are observed for Memorial Day?

- People wear poppies and have a moment of silence at 3 p.m. local time.
- People decorate their homes.
- People wear daffodils and take walks.
- People make memorials on paper.

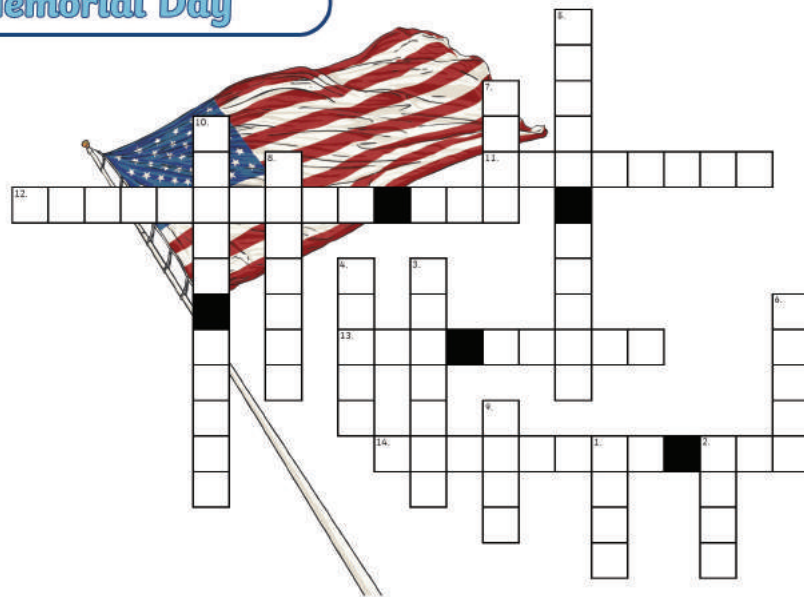
3. How has Memorial Day changed over time?



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

May 2024

Memorial Day



Down

1. This military branch protects the U.S. by way of ground troops.
2. Memorial Day honors those who have _____ while serving.
3. This military branch can provide protection and support on the ground, sea, or air.
4. The flag remains at half-_____ until noon on Memorial Day.
5. This military branch is responsible for law enforcement, boating safety, and rescues at sea.
6. This flower represents the remembrance of soldiers.
7. This branch of the military defends the seas.
8. People honor fallen soldiers by taking a moment of _____.
9. The _____ of the Unknown Soldier represents fallen soldiers who have not been identified.
10. This military branch is under the Air Force, and its members are known as Guardians.

Across

11. Memorial Day is not the same as _____ Day, which honors all those who have served in the military.
12. This was originally the name of Memorial Day.
13. This branch of the military is responsible for the protection of our air space.
14. This holiday is observed on the last Monday of May.

LAW DAY MESSAGE FROM OUR GENERAL COUNSEL

(Continued from page 4)

Sokolky to improve their understanding and appreciation of the contribution law makes to the preservation of liberty and justice.

Today we have the opportunity to reflect upon and celebrate the system of justice under which we live. Freedom of religion, speech, press and association guaranteed by our Constitution enables us to enjoy a life of liberty without fear of unwarranted governmental interference.

It is fitting and appropriate that we set aside this day to give thanks for the privilege of living in this democratic society.

When compared with the lives of oppressed people throughout the world, including our suffering brethren in Ukraine, our good fortune is being citizens of the United States is incalculable.

Some of you may question the responsibility you have as a participant in shaping and protecting our laws and the system of justice. Each of us must share in the responsibility of preserving our laws and our system of justice. This means that every American citizen, like shareholders in a corporation, holds stock in the joint venture called American Justice. But the stakes are much higher and the potential dividends much greater than in any corporation.

Citizens inherit their share of America as a birthright, an inheritance that has grown in value for over two centuries.

Our personal opportunity to share in the preservation of these rights begins in our local communities. Here we can attend town meetings or open sessions of city government. We can also support our system of justice by serving as jurors and by expressing our views to our elected representatives.

An essential part of our participation is voting thoughtfully and intelligently in public elections. The right to vote is the hallmark of government by the people. By not exercising it, we abdicate to special interest groups the right to determine the greater good of society.

On this law day, I urge all of our Sokols and Sokolky to do their share in preserving this heritage based on law and justice.

What you do or fail to do, will determine whether future generations of Sokols and Sokolky also will have the same opportunity that you have now to share the legacy of a society based on law and justice.

I join all our Sokols and Sokolky in celebrating Law Day on May 1, 2024, and I encourage you all to rededicate yourselves to participate in shaping and protecting our laws and system of justice.

Zdar Boh!
Respectfully submitted,
John D. Pogorelec, Jr.
General Counsel

NEW YEAR – NEW BOARD NEW CHALLENGES – NEW GOALS NEW EXCITEMENT

(Continued from page 13)

tor Kathleen Watkins and Assistant Sports Director Rob Palchanis attend almost every event as well as host the monthly President/Sports Director Meetings.

There is something for everyone. And, as always, if you have a hidden talent or topic you would like to discuss, please reach out to me and we would love to schedule a virtual event.

Lastly, we have organized a relaxing family weekend at Peak N Peek resort in Clymer, PA. We will be having organized fun in the evenings along with cocktails, kids gathering and cornhole. To reserve your room, please go to pknpk.com and enter the word SLOVAK for your special group room rate. We are sure to have a good time!

This summer is going to be jam packed with Sokol Fun!!!

Zdar Boh!

Katie Swift

Supreme Physical Directress

INTERESTING MOTHER'S DAY FACTS

Mother's Day became an official U.S. holiday in 1914, signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson.

Mother's Day is celebrated in the U.S. on the second Sunday of May, every year. In 2024, Mother's Day falls on May 12.

There are more than 100 countries around the world that celebrate or recognize Mother's Day on their respective dates.

Americans spend more than \$3 billion on flowers and plants alone for Mother's Day.

More phone calls are made on Mother's Day than on any other day of the year, with approximately 122 million phone calls being made.

Anna Jarvis founded Mother's Day in 1908 before it was officially signed into law.

Anna Jarvis, the original founder of Mother's Day, came to dislike what Mother's Day became in the U.S.: commercialized. She publicly denounced it and organized lawsuits, boycotts and walkouts.

Americans buy \$113 million worth of cards for Mother's Day.

In the U.S., Mother's Day is one of the most popular days for both church services and dining in restaurants.

Mothers will certainly appreciate any flowers they receive, but a single carnation is the traditional Mother's Day flower.

Mother's Day is the third largest card-sending holiday.

There are over 2 billion mothers around the globe.

The average mother will have changed approximately 7,300 diapers by the time her baby turns two and a half.

One of the earliest known Mother's Day celebrations dates back to Ancient Greece, in the celebration of Rhea—the goddess of motherhood and fertility.

The youngest mother recorded in history was just 5 years old, while the oldest was 74 years old.

Approximately 385,000 babies are born every day.

What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



**News and Views
from Slovakia...**

ELECTION24: PETER PELLEGRINI OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED AS WINNER OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Peter Pellegrini on Sunday, April 7 was officially announced as the winner of Slovakia's 2024 presidential election on 53.12 percent of the votes in Saturday's April 6 run-off against Ivan Korcok, who gained 46.87 percent.



Pellegrini received the votes of 1,409,255 people, while Korcok obtained 1,243,709 votes. The difference between the two candidates was 165,546 votes.

The turnout in the run-off reached 61.14 percent, while it was 51.91 percent in the first round two weeks ago.

Slovaks were electing their president in a direct election for the sixth time in the history of independent Slovakia. Slovakia has had five presidents so far. The first one was Michal Kovac, who was elected by parliament, however. The public elected their head of state for the first time directly in 1999, choosing Rudolf Schuster. He was twice followed by Ivan Gasparovic at the helm of the country. The next president was Andrej Kiska, and Zuzana Caputova is the current head of state. Her term in office will expire on June 15 when her successor Peter Pellegrini will be inaugurated.

PREMIER: IMPORTANT FOR SLOVAKIA THAT AID FOR UKRAINE IS BILATERAL MATTER

The most important thing for Slovakia at the upcoming extraordinary European Council summit is to guarantee that military aid to Ukraine is a bilateral matter, Prime Minister Robert Fico (Smer-SD) said at a meeting of the parliamentary committee for European affairs, adding that he doesn't expect any surprises at the summit.

The premier noted that the summit, which will take place on April 17-18, will focus primarily on the single market and competitiveness, but also on the situation in the Middle East and Ukraine.

For Slovakia, the double quality of food will be an important topic, which, according to the prime minister, should be highlighted. "We see no reason for Slovak citizens to be second-class citizens," stressed Fico.

The premier also particularly welcomes the idea of how to help industry and the economy in the European Union in contrast to climate change targets "The green deal is unsustainable. We all know that," said Fico, adding that he will support all sensible steps that will limit what he saw as meaningless climate targets.

In the context of Ukraine, the summit will also discuss the

delivery of air-defence systems. The prime minister pointed out that Slovakia has nothing more to give to Ukraine, criticising the previous government for providing Ukraine with the S-300 system. He stated that he would never have done so. However, if provisions are put forward at the summit which say that such support is a bilateral matter, Fico won't attack them.

The head of the cabinet also mentioned the joint meeting of the Slovak and Ukrainian governments, pointing to the various forms of assistance that Slovakia is providing to Ukraine, for example, assistance with mine clearing. At the same time, however, he reiterated that the conflict in Ukraine doesn't have a military solution in his view.

FICO AT EU SUMMIT REJECTS HARMONISATION OF CORPORATE INCOME TAXES

Prime Minister Robert Fico (Smer-SD) made no secret of his scepticism towards the proposed plans for a better economic future of the EU following an extraordinary two-day summit of the European Union (EU) in Brussels on Thursday, April 18.

Before discussing the protection of the single market, building a capital markets union and strengthening competitiveness, the leaders listened to a report on the future of the single market by former Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta. Fico pointed out that during the talks with Letta, Slovakia had taken particular care to include the social aspects of the report.

The prime minister noted that the EU had had several ambitious economic plans so far and suggested that their objectives hadn't been achieved. "Now the next agenda is how to deepen the single market and help the EU's competitiveness. The United States in particular has been mentioned in relation to private capital," he said, adding that this situation also applies to Slovakia, where people have huge savings of capital in the second savings pillar in addition to banks. He noted that this money isn't used for the development of Slovakia, but, as elsewhere in the EU, a huge amount of money goes to the USA, from where it comes to Europe as investments.

The Slovak premier explained that the government's duty is to kick-start the economy through all available resources, whether from the state budget, EU and other funds, and also through private capital, which, according to him, is also stated in the Government Manifesto. He welcomed the summit's conclusions, which also referred to the use of private resources to boost the domestic economy and, from the EU's point of view, to European objectives.

The leaders also discussed how to combine the objectives of the European Green Deal with support for industry. According to Fico, several states are aware that green ambitions are hampering economic development, which is why the conclusions call for a balance and "reasonableness" of climate goals linked to economic development.

In his view, the proposals for harmonisation of corporate taxes were impassable for Slovakia. "Taxes are a national power. Despite this, some big countries have tried to find ways to push words like convergence or harmonisation. I appreciate that the Visegrad Four [V4] countries [the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia] and others were of the same mind on

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

this and rejected it. We rejected this very hard,” he explained. However, he agreed with proposals for harmonisation at EU level as regards the resolution of bankruptcies of insolvent firms.

PRESIDENT SUPPORTS CIVIC COLLECTION TO PURCHASE AMMUNITION FOR UKRAINE

I support the ‘Ammunition for Ukraine’ civic collection, President Zuzana Caputova posted on a social network adding that she’s also proud that many in Slovakia care about the fate of neighbouring Ukraine.

“I support this initiative because it’s the right thing to do. Our contributions to this initiative are an expression of solidarity and assistance to the victims of unprovoked aggression,” wrote the head of state.

The civic collection responds to the initiative of the Czech Republic to purchase artillery rounds for Ukraine and its army. So far, the collection has raised more than €2.14 million. Czech Prime Minister Petr Fiala said on Thursday (April 18) that the Czech government had found a way to use the funds from the civic collection in Slovakia for the benefit of the initiative.

More than 20 European countries have already joined the Czech initiative, however, Slovakia as a country hasn’t done so. According to Prime Minister Robert Fico (Smer-SD), the conflict in Ukraine doesn’t have a military solution.

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SOKOL FAMILYFEST JUNE 21-23

PEEK'N PEAK - 1405 CLYMER, NY 14724

Join us for an amazing family event in beautiful Western New York. Peek n Peak offers a rope course, zipline, mini golf, an 18 hole golf course, a bar and restaurants.

Prices start at \$139 per night plus tax

Use the Group Code: SLOVAK

Saturday Social with Cornhole

716-355-4141 | www.pknpk.com

Join Hands Day is coming this weekend! I am encouraging all our members to participate in this day to spread the joy of volunteering in your communities. Volunteering is a joyous experience and I cannot wait to see what our Sokol members do to spread the joy on May 4th! After completing your activities, please send me your pictures and videos at vp@slovakcatholicsokol.org I will publish them in the Sokol Falcon and post them on Slovak Catholic Sokol social media.



JOINHANDSDAY
it starts with us

May 4, 2024

God Bless you in all that you do.

Andrea M. Tadlock
Supreme Vice President

OBITUARIES

SISTER JACQUELINE ZIOBRO, SS.C.M.

Sister M. Jacqueline Ziobro, SS.C.M. died at Emmanuel Hospice in Danville, PA on Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024.



She was born in Dupont, PA on November 24, 1930 to Mary Stupak and Edward Ziobro. Dolores Rose Ziobro had 3 siblings, Mary, Edward and Gloria. She attended St. John the Baptist School in Pittston, PA where the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius taught.

After graduating from Pittston High School in June 1948, she entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius on September 8, and was professed on August 9, 1951. Her first recollection of wanting to be a Sister came in the second grade. She recalled holding on to her teacher's Rosary beads during recess. By the time she was in eighth grade she not only participated in the choir but accompanied her teacher to the religious education classes she provided in Laflin, PA. Sister Jacqueline assisted the teacher by listening to the children as they recited their prayers.

Sister Jacqueline served in the ministry of education. She received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Education from Marywood University in Scranton, PA. Sister taught kindergarten through eighth grade, and also served as a Math and Reading tutor and Librarian. Her teaching took her to

Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Indiana, Pennsylvania and South Carolina. Her greatest joy was preparing students for the reception of the Sacraments of Penance, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. As part of her ministry, Sister Jacqueline also guided the altar servers, lectors and school patrols. When Sister Jacqueline retired from her very active ministry, she was engaged in the Ministry of Prayer and Hospitality at Maria Hall in Danville, and at Emmanuel Center in Danville, and continued to make yarn dolls to be sent to children on St. Helena Island, SC. She loved to tell stories of years in ministry, especially about serving in Chicago and Bluffton, SC.

Sister Jacqueline was grateful for the mentors and models the Lord provided for her in her formative years. Sister Jacqueline attributed her daily reliance on prayer to her family and Community members. She is especially grateful to her mother for teaching her devotion to the Blessed Mother. Another lesson she learned from her parents and community members is the ability to recognize crosses as blessings. Sister Jacqueline often said that spending time in prayer enabled her to draw the strength that she needed.

Sister Jacqueline is survived by her sister Gloria, and by nephews and nieces.

Funeral Services and a Mass of Christian Burial were held on Thursday April 4, 2024 at Maria Hall in Danville, PA followed by burial in the Sisters' cemetery.

Donations in memory of Sister Jacqueline can be made to the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Villa Sacred Heart, 1002 Railroad Street, Danville, PA 17821.

– Sister Barbara Sable, SS.C.M.

IN MEMORIAM

MARCH 2024

| | | | |
|--------------|--|----|--------------------|
| Assembly 9 | Delores R. Nogiec of New Britain, CT | 87 | March 14, 2024 |
| Assembly 11 | Rose M. Bussa of Lombard, IL | 92 | March 3, 2024 |
| Assembly 36 | Mary Jane Koliba of Sterling Hts., MI | 93 | January 13, 2024 |
| Assembly 54 | John Paul Rehm of Butler, PA | 65 | December 2, 2023 |
| Assembly 82 | Joanne M. Thomas of Sidman, PA | 82 | February 9, 2024 |
| Assembly 86 | Eleanor J. Giamusso of Pittston, PA | 69 | March 4, 2022 |
| Assembly 59 | Emil P. Kovach of Beltsville, MD | 91 | February 12, 2024 |
| Assembly 136 | Anna Bodor of Martinsville, IN | 92 | December 21, 2023 |
| Assembly 162 | Kimberly A. McCoy of Avoca, PA | 62 | February 28, 2024 |
| Assembly 162 | Emily R. Ryzner of Clifton, NJ | 95 | March 3, 2024 |
| Assembly 312 | Anna Daugert of Warminster, PA | 96 | March 2, 2024 |
| Assembly 312 | Irene Elizabeth Grigoletti of Bath, PA | 94 | March 3, 2024 |
| Wreath 14 | Eugene R. Babik of Romney, WV | 81 | January 24, 2024 |
| Wreath 14 | Donald J. Cyburt of Johnstown, PA | 73 | February 15, 2024 |
| Wreath 15 | Mary Carolla of Uniontown, PA | 91 | February 10, 2024 |
| Wreath 15 | Richard G. Petrock of Smock, PA | 85 | March 2, 2024 |
| Wreath 34 | John S. Karliak of Rocky River, OH | 85 | February 24, 2024 |
| Wreath 54 | Florence J. Jablonski of Ohio | 86 | September 12, 2021 |
| Wreath 86 | Antoinette J. Landor of Torrington, CT | 90 | February 24, 2024 |
| Wreath 93 | Yeng Siong of Weston, WI | 83 | January 16, 2024 |
| Wreath 93 | Arlene R. Brahm of Wauwatosa, WI | 88 | February 27, 2024 |
| Wreath 93 | Theng Pao Lee of Sheboygan, WI | 73 | March 11, 2024 |
| Wreath 153 | Dennis Furmanchik of Bklyn Heights, OH | 77 | April 17, 2022 |



2024 Spring National Board of Directors Meeting was recently held at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of SS Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA



Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec giving a donation from the Slovak Catholic Sokol to the Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal Coordinator, Rev. Thomas A. Nasta.

SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS APPEAL OF THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC FEDERATION

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is in its 46th year raising money to assist the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome with its day-to-day operations. The Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors in addition to collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry. A direct mailing asking for donations was sent in February to local district and branch leaders from the four Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations, members of the Slovak Catholic Federation, clergy with Slovak ancestry, and previous donors.

As of April 18, the 2024 Appeal has received \$20,316 from 146 donors. Among the 37 donations received from Catholic Slovak Fraternal Branches and Districts, Assembly 11, Assembly 23, Assembly 24, Assembly 34, Assembly 59, Assembly 78, Assembly 162, Group 2, and the Home Office of the Slovak Catholic Sokol have donated a combined total of \$1,375. Donations to date have also been received from 5 churches, 22 clergy and religious, and 82 individuals. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

All wishing to contribute to the 2024 Appeal are asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. **Gifts received after November 30, 2024 will be credited toward the 2025 Appeal.** Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, OH. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdvic, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake, PA and Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, PA Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Parochial Vicar with Senior Priest status at Our Lady of Grace Church, Penndel, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.



46TH ANNUAL SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS APPEAL

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Amount \$ _____

*Please make check payable to **Slovak Catholic Federation** and mail to: Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National First Vice President, Slovak Catholic Federation, Our Lady of Grace Church, 225 Bellevue Avenue, Penndel, PA 19047-4052*

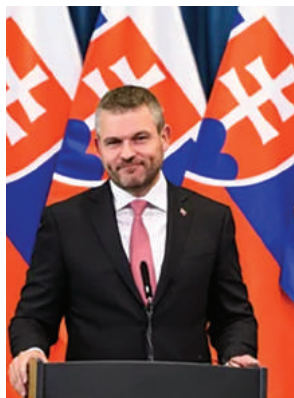
When was the last time you looked at your designated beneficiaries on your valuable Sokol insurance policy? How important is it? Just think about how much your life has changed. Have you married, divorced, had children, maybe you lost a loved one? This is an item you should consider annually. If you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



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VÍŤAZOM PREZIDENTSKÝCH VOLIEB JE PETER PELLEGRINI

Bratislava 7. apríla (TASR) - Oficiálnym víťazom druhého kola prezidentských volieb je Peter Pellegrini so ziskom 53,12 percenta hlasov. Ivan Korčok získal



46,87 percenta hlasov. Oficiálne výsledky potvrdila Štátna komisia pre voľby a kontrolu financovania politických strán na nedelnej tlačovej konferencii.

Pellegriniho volilo 1.409.255 voličov, Korčokovi odovzdalo svoj hlas 1.243.709 voličov. Rozdiel medzi oboma kandidátmi je 165.546 hlasov. Volebná účasť dosiahla 61,14 percenta, čo je 2.671.279 voličov. Oproti prvému kolu bola účasť vyššia, vtedy prišlo hlasovať 2.265.656 voličov,

čo je 51,91 percenta hlasov.

Slováci si šiestykrát v histórii Slovenskej republiky volili prezidenta v priamych voľbách. Slovensko malo dosiaľ piatich prezidentov. Prvým bol Michal Kováč, ktorého však volil parlament. Priamo si občania volili hlavu štátu prvýkrát v roku 1999, vybrali si Rudolfa Schustera. Po ňom bol dvakrát na čele štátu Ivan Gašparovič. Nasledoval Andrej Kiska a dosiaľ poslednou prezidentkou je Zuzana Čaputová. Funkčné obdobie jej uplynie 15. júna, keď bude inaugurovaný jej nástupca Peter Pellegrini.

Peter Pellegrini sa narodil 6. októbra 1975 v Banskej Bystrici. Je absolventom Ekonomickej fakulty Univerzity Mateja Bela v Banskej Bystrici, odbor financie, bankovníctvo, investovanie, a Ekonomickej fakulty Technickej univerzity v Košiciach.

Za poslanca Národnej rady (NR) SR bol prvýkrát zvolený v roku 2006, keď kandidoval za Smer-SD. Poslancom parlamentu sa stal aj po voľbách v roku 2010.

Po predčasných parlamentných voľbách pôsobil v rokoch 2012 - 2014 ako štátny tajomník Ministerstva financií SR. Od júla do novembra 2014 zastával post ministra školstva, 25. novembra 2014 nahradil odstupujúceho Pavla Pašku (Smer-SD) vo funkcii predsedu NR SR.

Podpredsedom vlády pre investície a informatizáciu sa stal po parlamentných voľbách v roku 2016. Počas politickej krízy po vražde Jána Kuciaka a jeho snúbenice bol začiatkom marca 2018 dočasne poverený vedením ministerstva kultúry namiesto Mareka Maďariča (Smer-SD), ktorý sa funkcie vzdal.

Prezident Kiska poveril 15. marca 2018 Pellegriniho zostavením novej vlády po tom, ako tretia vláda Roberta Fica podala demisiu. Na čele vlády zloženej zo zástupcov strán Smer-SD, SNS a Most-Híd bol od 22. marca 2018 do 20. marca 2020.

V predvolebnej kampani počas volieb do NR SR, ktoré sa konali 29. februára 2020, bol volebným lídrom strany Smer-SD.

Zámer založiť novú politickú stranu oznámil Pellegrini 10. júna 2020. Stranu Hlas-SD zaregistrovali 11. septembra 2020 a 28. novembra sa konal ustanovujúci snem strany,

IBM A AT&T BUDÚ PREPÚŠŤAŤ AJ NA SLOVENSKU

Po IBM v tichosti prepúšťa AT&T. V Bratislave aj Košiciach to môžu byť stovky ľudí. Dôvodom je aj nástup umelej inteligencie.

Americká spoločnosť AT&T spustila v tichosti ďalšiu vlnu prepúšťania. Na Slovensku podniká cez divíziu AT&T Global Network Services Slovakia, ktorá má pobočky v Bratislave a Košiciach. Poskytuje podporu, správu a rozvoj siete a ďalšie služby svojim zákazníkom.

Na Slovensku pôsobí takmer pätnásť rokov a patrí do sektora takzvaných centier zdieľaných služieb, ktoré sa rozrástli na jeden z najväčších sektorov ekonomiky. Okrem AT&T doň patria spoločnosti ako Dell, Henkel, Deutsche Telekom IT Solutions Slovakia, Amazon, DXC Technology či IBM.

Tento sektor od pandémie trpí a za ten čas prepustil tisíce ľudí. Minulý týždeň INDEX informoval, že IBM v Bratislave najnovšie prepustí 439 ľudí a jedným z dôvodov je šetrenie nákladov a nástup umelej inteligencie.



ACH, TÁ NAŠA SLOVENČINA!



Z rušňového depa má byť **skejtpark**,... - *sme.sk*

Zamestnanci banskobystrickej nemocnice získajú **benefit**, škôlku s **wellness** pre svoje deti. - *sme.sk*

Na 66. ročníku cien Grammy sa objavila speváčka Celine Dion, ktorú prítomní kolegovia odmenili **standing ovation**.

- *pravda.sk*

Kandidovať na post prezidenta ako Maďar nie je **hendikep** - *pravda.sk*

Jana Kirschner má ďalší **song**. - *pravda.sk*

...**benefity** v poisťovniach sa od mája zrušia. - *TASR.sk*

na ktorom zvolili delegáti za predsedu strany Pellegriniho.

Po predčasných parlamentných voľbách 30. septembra 2023 sa stala strana Hlas-SD spolu so Smerom-SD a SNS súčasťou vládnej koalície.

Za predsedu Národnej rady SR zvolili poslanci 131 hlasmi Petra Pellegriniho 25. októbra 2023. Svoju kandidatúru na post prezidenta SR oficiálne oznámil 19. januára 2024 v priestoroch Štátnej opery Banská Bystrica.

V prvom kole prezidentských volieb, ktoré sa konalo 23. marca 2024, skončil na druhom mieste, keď získal 834.718 hlasov voličov, čo bolo 37,02 %. Spolu s víťazom prvého kola Ivanom Korčokom (958.393 hlasov, 42,51 %) postúpil do druhého kola, ktoré sa uskutočnilo 6. apríla.

V druhom kole prezidentských volieb, ktoré sa konalo 6. apríla 2024, ho podporilo 53,12 percenta voličov (1.409.255 hlasov). Ivan Korčok získal 46,87 percenta, teda 1.243.709 hlasov.

LEKÁRI UROBILI OPERÁCIU 105-ROČNEJ ŽENY

Celý zárok prebiehal v takzvanej spinálnej anestézii, teda nie v celkovej, pacientka bola pri vedomí, len necítila bolesť. Výmenu hlavice stehnovej kosti podstúpila vo Fakultnej nemocnici Nitra. Operácia netrvala ani hodinu a zotavovanie sa pacientky po operácii je primerané.

Pacientka vo vysokom veku je komunikatívna, zaujíma sa o svoju ozaj rozvetvenú rodinu. Má 5 detí, 12 vnúčat, 22 pravnukov a dve prapravnúčatá.

„V prípade starších pacientov je veľmi dôležité posúdiť ich zdravotný stav cestou predoperačných vyšetrení. Pani Helena sa neliečila ani na vysoký krvný tlak, ani na žiadne iné ochorenia, čo je s ohľadom na jej vek určite rarita,“ uviedol prednosta Ortopedicko-traumatologickej kliniky nitrianskej nemocnice Šimon Kónya.

Pani Helena oslávi 106 rokov v novembri. Sama vraví, že sa tak stane, ak boh dá. Ako poznamenala: „Pamäť ešte mám, ale zdravie mi uniká.“ Zdravotnícky personál jej praje úspešnú rehabilitáciu, skoré uzdravenie a veľa zdravia, za ktoré sa vitálna seniorka každý deň modlí.

MAMIN HLAS

Taký máš hlas, mama moja,
ako zvonky na úbočí.
Začujem Ťa znenazdania,
div mi srdce nevyskočí.
Taký máš hlas, mam moja,
ako šepot vetra v lese.
Usmejem sa mimovoľne,
keď sa ku mne z dialky nesie.
I keď karhá, napomína,
vždy je to hlas milý, známy,
ten jediný v celom svete,
ľúbezný hlas mojej mamy.

E. Čepčeková



KRÁTKE SPRÁVY ZO SLOVENSKA



Americký film *The Strangers: Chapter 1* natáčali aj v slovenských lesoch neďaleko Bratislavy. Hoci sa dej filmu odohráva v Oregone, v skutočnosti ide o zábery z lesov na Slovensku. Filmová spoločnosť, ktorá horor natáčala, sa dohodla s produkčnou firmou Frame Film, ktorú vedie Rastislav Kuril a zároveň v júni 2022 došlo k dohode s Audiovizuálnym fondom. Prvá klapka padla v auguste.

Volkswagen (VW) Slovakia zaznamenal za rok 2023 obrat vo výške 11,76 miliardy eur, čo predstavuje historicky najvyššiu sumu. Zisk pred zdanením sa zvýšil o 15 % na 319 miliónov eur. Volkswagen Slovakia v roku 2023 zvýšil počet vyrobených vozidiel v roku 2023 na takmer 330 000. Ako najväčší exportér v krajine vyváža Volkswagen Slovakia vyrobené vozidlá do viac ako 100 krajín celého sveta.

Volkswagen (VW) Slovakia zaznamenal za rok 2023 obrat vo výške 11,76 miliardy eur, čo predstavuje historicky najvyššiu sumu. Zisk pred zdanením sa zvýšil o 15 % na 319 miliónov eur. Investične silné obdobie pokračovalo aj v uplynulom roku, pričom výška investícií do nových projektov dosiahla 423,6 milióna eur. Vďaka zlepšujúcej sa situácii v dodávateľskom reťazci a logistike zvýšil Volkswagen Slovakia počet vyrobených vozidiel o 22,4 % na 328.927 kusov. Ako najväčší exportér v krajine vyváža Volkswagen Slovakia vyrobené vozidlá do viac ako 100 krajín celého sveta. Najväčšími regiónmi z pohľadu obratu sú Európa (40 %), Severná Amerika (25 %) a Čína (20 %). Materiál na výrobu vozidiel nakúpil vlani v objeme 9,7 miliardy eur, z ktorých 26 % utrhli lokálni, slovenskí dodávatelia. Prvé miesto si drží Nemecko (32 %) a na tretej priečke je Maďarsko (20 %). Volkswagen Slovakia vyrobil na Slovensku od roku 1991 viac ako sedem miliónov vozidiel. Je pilierom slovenského exportu a zároveň najväčším súkromným zamestnávateľom v krajine.

Medziročná inflácia sa z februárovej hodnoty 3,4 desatiny percenta znížila v marci na 2,3 a bola tak najnižšia od začiatku leta 2021. Oproti februáru vzrástli spotrebiteľské ceny tovarov a služieb o desatinu percenta. Informoval o tom Štatistický úrad.

Vlani sa slovenskými občanmi stalo vyše 1 100 cudzincov. Vyplýva to zo štatistik, ktoré pre Pravdu poskytlo ministerstvo vnútra. Najčastejšie o udelenie slovenského pasu žiadajú štátni príslušníci Srbska, vlani rezort vyhovel 409 žiadostiam o občianstvo prisťahovalcom z tejto balkánskej krajiny. Druhou najpočetnejšou skupinou záujemcov sú Ukrajinci, slovenské pasy ich vlani získalo 141. V priebehu posledných štyroch rokov ministerstvo vnútra celkovo udelilo štátne občianstvo 3,5 tisíce cudzincom.



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or simply send your donation to: Michael J. Horvath, SCS Museum Treasurer, 185 Lawrence St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702. Your bequest will be recognized in the Falcon as well as permanently added to the Memorial Scholarship Donation Log which will be kept at the Sokol Museum. Depending on the amount of funds collected, we will be able to award at least two \$1,000 scholarships annually. The hope is that the donated funds will begin a self-perpetuating interest bearing scholarship account.

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