



Za Boha a národ

For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský katolícky sokol

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL • MEMBERSHIP 30,000 • HOME OFFICE: 205 MADISON ST., PASSAIC, NJ 07055

Periodical Postage Paid at original entry of Passaic, NJ 07055 and additional mailing offices

VOLUME CXV

PASSAIC, NJ, MARCH 1, 2026

NUMBER 5202

IN MEMORIAM



JOHN D. POGORELEC, SR., ESQ
1942 – 2026

MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPREME PRESIDENT LARRY M. GLUGOSH

Maybe it is just me but I am really happy to finally see March. I thought last winter was challenging but nothing like we have experienced the past few months with record snow falls and cold temperatures. Let's hope the last few weeks of winter will bring much more warmth, peace and comfort, as we enrich our lives with the spirit of the Lenten season.



Speaking of Lent, what did you sacrifice and give up for Lent this year or did you decide to give back and pay it forward with more good deeds for those in need in your local community. Regardless, we hope you all have a safe and enjoyable Easter next month and take some quality time to reflect and count our many blessings and embrace God's goodness and love for us.

In January our Board of Directors held our quarterly meeting via zoom to review our 2025 financial and operational results and discuss plans for 2026. It was a challenging year but we managed to achieve many of our key objectives including the overall improvement of our portfolio yield. We accomplished this by taking on a bit more risk in our portfolio, selling some under performing funds and shortening our maturity on bonds. We also generated some healthy profits by selling some equities, that had done very well for our society over the years. This was a conscience effort in order to ensure our society could remain competitive in market with our annuity rates and generate enough yield to cover our payout cost. These decisions will also have greater long-term benefits to our society.

During our deliberations we also reviewed the Fraternalist of the Year candidates. This year we selected Sister Arlene Most from Wreath 22 and Group 14 Pittsburgh, PA. Sister Arlene is a very deserving recipient, as she dedicates a great deal of time and effort to help those in need in her group and local community. We are very proud of Arlene and look forward to celebrating her numerous contributions to our fraternal way of

life, with her family and friends, when we gather together in her home town next month.

In Q1, we also hosted the annual SPFB meeting. Since the board did not need to physically get together this year, we conducted our agenda via a zoom call. This helped save some cost for the organization but we still managed to conduct all the necessary business and plan out our 2026 athletic and fraternal program. We hope you can find the time to join us at one of our events and participate with your fellow members, families and friends. All of the events, dates, locations and deadlines are listed on our website but you can also contact the home office and/or any member of our SPFB for more details and information.

We hope our members enjoyed President's Day last month, which also falls on the Canadian holiday called Family Day. Both are special occasions and enables us to celebrate some incredible and inspirational leaders that helped shape the country for 250 years and provide us the opportunity to embrace some quality time and experiences with our families. We hope you took some time to consider investing in your children and grandchildren's future by buying a Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy or annuity. After all, investing in their future is a very good thing and will provide protection and financial security to your family.

With this in mind, later this month we will all have an opportunity to help develop our youth by investing in their future through our annual scholarship program. As a policy holder in our society, our youth can receive a grade school, high school or college scholarship to help enable and achieve their academic goals and objectives. The financial assistance certainly helped my family over the years and we hope our eligible members will take the time to complete an application before the deadline. It is a very worthwhile program and important investment in our youth and our future.

I posted a few months back that we are looking for eligible members that are planning to attend our 2027 Convention to volunteer for our Governance committee, which includes our Bylaws and
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Slovak Catholic Falcon Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

ISSN:0897-8107

Established April 15, 1911

Official Publication
of the Slovak Catholic Sokol

Issued bi-monthly

Editorial Staff:
Livia Karak

Annual Subscription Rates:
United States \$40.00
All others countries \$45.00

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
to
Slovak Catholic Falcon
P.O.Box 899, 205 Madison Street
Passaic, NJ 07055

Member of the Catholic Press Association
and the
Slovak Newspapermen's
Association of America
Proprietor and Publisher
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL
P.O.Box 899
205 Madison Street
Passaic, NJ 07055

HOME OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
9:00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.
FRIDAY
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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TOLL FREE NUMBER: 1-800-886-7656
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FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY
SCOTT T. POGORELEC, F.I.C.



HAPPY EASTER

Greetings from the Home Office! We are trying to thaw out here in New Jersey. As most of our membership is experiencing the same, the winter here has been frigid. The temperatures have been rising a bit, but March always does seem to bring some surprises. Hopefully, with our seasonal change to Daylight Savings Time combined with the warmer temperatures, we will have more hours to enjoy our outdoor activities.



This past February 14th was a special day on many fronts for our organization. Yes, it was Valentine's Day, and I hope that all our members enjoyed the flowers, candy, and chocolate from all your special Valentines. But as a Slovak Catholic Fraternal, it also represented another notable event.

As a Slovak Fraternal, February 14th is always a day that is circled on our calendars. It is the Feast Day of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, who brought the gift of faith to our ancestors. We honor Sts. Cyril and Methodius, who are called the "Apostles of the Slavs" for their tireless work in spreading the Gospel throughout Eastern Europe in the 9th Century.

I again would like to thank all of you who continually promote our organization. As you gather to celebrate the Easter holiday, I ask you to look within your own family and circle of friends to find new members to share the Sokol experience with. Enrolling a new baby is an inexpensive way to give that child a financial head start in life. And if you think about all we offer with benefits, scholarships, etc., that policy will be paid for in no time. If you have any questions, please contact me at the Home Office at 800-886-7656 or email me at scott@slovakcatholicssokol.org, and I would be glad to assist you.

I would like to give a big congratulations to our 2025 Fraternalist of the Year, Arlene Most! As you can tell by the writeup in this edition of the Falcon, Sister Arlene has done and continues to do so much for Group 14, Wreath 22, and our entire Organization. We are looking forward to celebrating Arlene in April!

We are also excited to announce that our 35th Quadrennial Convention will be held on August 7th-10th, 2027 in the beautiful city of Pittsburgh. When deciding on a site, we try to make things as convenient as possible for as many delegates as we can. Pittsburgh is a familiar site for our Conventions, and we are looking forward to bringing the Sokols back to the Steel City!

We were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of our former General Counsel and Honorary Supreme Officer, John D. Pogorelec, Sr., Esq. Brother John's contributions to the Organization are immense and the mark that he has left on our Society is enormous. He was a consummate professional and gentleman that always put his family and faith first. He was an amazing husband, father, grandfather, uncle, friend, mentor, and Sokol.

I am fortunate to have a handful of mentors in my life and Uncle John was at the top of that list. He was just a phone call away, always willing to listen, and help in any way he can. I will miss him dearly and I know that our Organization was better because John D. Pogorelec, Sr. Esq. was a major part of it. Our

hearts go out to Aunt Phyllis, John Jr., Pam, Jason, and the entire Pogorelec Family.

Finally, on behalf of my beautiful wife, Maggie, our sons, Reid and Cole, and my entire Family, I offer you prayers and fraternal well wishes for a joyous Easter holiday. Have a great month of March and good health to all!

Stay safe, stay strong, and STAY POSITIVE!
Zdar Boh!



SAVE THE DATE

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL
35th QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION

AUGUST 7th - 10th, 2027

AT THE

PITTSBURGH AIRPORT MARRIOTT
Pittsburgh, PA



SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON PUBLICATION DATE

The next issue of the SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON will be that of **MAY 1, 2026**. **DEADLINE** for all photos and information for this issue will be **APRIL 22, 2026**.

The next SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL NEWSLETTER will be posted on our website on **MARCH 15, 2026**.

**Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain,
Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic
POPE LEO XIV PROCLAIMES
FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR**

Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a “Special Year of St. Francis” to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the saint’s death. During this time of grace, which will extend until January 2027, the faithful are granted the opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence.



This Franciscan Jubilee Year, considered a gift for the entire Church and an occasion for authentic spiritual renewal, was inaugurated on Jan. 10 with a decree issued by the Apostolic Penitentiary of the Holy See.

Until Jan. 10 of next year, the faithful can obtain this grace under the usual conditions — sacramental confession, Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the pope — by making a pilgrimage to any Franciscan conventual church or place of worship dedicated to St. Francis anywhere in the world.

Furthermore, the elderly, the sick, and those who, for serious reasons, cannot leave their homes can obtain the plenary indulgence by spiritually joining in the jubilee celebrations and offering their prayers, pains, or sufferings to God.

The Holy Father wrote, In a world where “the virtual takes over the real, disagreements and social violence are part of everyday life, and peace becomes more insecure and distant every day, this Year of St. Francis spurs all of us, each according to our possibilities, to imitate the poor man of Assisi, to form ourselves as far as possible on the model of Christ,” the decree states.

For the Order of Friars Minor, this time is also an opportunity for the faithful to become “models of holiness of life and constant witnesses of peace.”

On the occasion of this anniversary, Pope Leo XIV addressed a letter to the ministers general of the Franciscan Family Conference in which he emphasized that “in this era, marked by so many seemingly endless wars, by internal and social divisions that create distrust and fear, he continues to speak. Not because he offers technical solutions, but because his life points to the authentic source of peace.”

In this regard, he highlighted that St. Francis reminds us that “peace with God, peace among people, and peace with creation are inseparable dimensions of a single call to universal reconciliation.”

MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPREME PRESIDENT

(Continued from page 2)

Constitution review. As of today, we have only heard from a few interested members, so we are asking once again to consider volunteering for this important committee. The time will be minimized since we now use zoom for most of the meetings and we firmly believe your engagement will help enable our society’s structure and direction for the betterment of our future.

Lastly, it is with great sadness to hear the news last week about Brother John D. Pogorelec. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, uncle and brother. To me, he was a mentor, a fraternal brother and life long friend. We shared many great experiences together, travelled with our wives, families and friends. He helped me over the years, as a Supreme Officer and I will be forever grateful for his guidance, leadership, care for our society and sharing his values and principles.

Our lives were made better by Brother John and our society benefited greatly from his dedication, experience, intellect and love for our organization, his Catholic faith and deep roots to his Slovak heritage. He was a true gentleman who put family first. Our prayers go out to his wife Phyllis, his children John Jr., Pamela, Jason and his entire family. May God welcome him into His home and may he rest in peace.

On behalf of my entire family, I hope all of you will experience a wonderful, safe and enjoyable Lenten season. May you continue to be protected in God’s love and count your many blessings.

A Prayer for the Jubilee Year of St. Francis



Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us with the Lord.

In the Crucifix of San Damiano you recognized true peace, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall.

You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world erects borders.

In this time plagued by conflict and division, intercede so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ.

Amen.

MINUTES OF THE 2025 SUPREME PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD MEETING

Meeting Format: Zoom

Session Dates & Times:

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 – 7:00 PM (Preliminary Session)

Saturday, January 17, 2026 – 9:00 AM (Official Session)

First Session: Tuesday, January 13, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Meeting to organize and plan for the official Saturday meeting since we are not in-person this year.

The meeting was called to order by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins. Sister Watkins welcomed attendees and reviewed the meeting objectives.

The opening prayer was led by Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member, Kristin Plevoets.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member, Janice Matlon.

Roll Call was taken by Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics, Robert Palchanis III.

Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins

Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics, Rob Palchanis, III

Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich

Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift

Supreme Assistant Physical Directress, Nancy Kropolinsky

Supreme Physical Fitness Board Members: Chris Antosy, Zack Manyak, Kristen Plevoetz, Janice Matlon

All present.

Recording secretaries for the meeting were Supreme Physical Fitness Board Members, Janice Matlon and Kristen Plevoets. The meeting objectives and goals were presented by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins.

A lengthy 3 hour discussion was held regarding bowling, golf, the Heritage Slet, the recommendations to be presented to the BOD, article assignments, correspondence, and future events to be added to our yearly calendar. All outcomes from the discussion will be presented and discussed on Saturday, January 17, 2026.

A motion was made by Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich.

Second Session: Saturday, January 17, 2026 – 9:00 AM

The meeting was called to order by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins.

Sister Kathy thanked everyone for being present and for their continued dedication to the organization. She expressed her appreciation for their hard work and commitment.

The opening prayer was led by SPFB Member, Kristen Popik Plevoets.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SPFB Member, Janice Matlon.

Roll call was taken by Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics, Robert Palchanis III.

Supreme President, Larry Glugosh

Supreme Secretary, Scott Pogorelec

Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins

Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics

Rob Palchanis, III

Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich

Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift

Supreme Assistant Physical Directress, Nancy Kropolinsky

Supreme Physical Fitness Board Members: Chris Antosy, Zack Manyak, Kristen Plevoetz, Janice Matlon

13 present, 1 excused. (Nancy Kropolinsky was excused due to a funeral)

Welcoming Remarks were delivered by Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh, who thanked the board for their attendance and emphasized the importance of serving as ambassadors of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. He highlighted the role of fostering membership and participation in events and activities, noting that efforts to strengthen the society begin at the local level, even as the board fulfills its national and international responsibilities.

Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec also offered welcoming remarks, echoing Brother Larry's comments. He noted that while it is encouraging that families consistently attend, there is a need to increase engagement from members, particularly at the local level. He acknowledged that achieving greater involvement can be challenging, but emphasized the importance of continuing efforts to strengthen the society.

Welcoming remarks were given by Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich, who emphasized the importance of continuing efforts to encourage participation, despite recent declines for some of our events.

Welcoming Remarks were given by Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift. She thanked the board for their dedication and commitment to our organization. If we reach out locally, we can get people to participate in international events. Focus on people who used to attend, and see if we can get them attending again.

The meeting continued with the discussion and review of the minutes from the SPFB meeting on January 24-25, 2025. A motion was made by Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich to approve the 2025 meeting minutes. Seconded by Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics, Robert Palchanis III

Discussion of old business

A review of SPFB events from 2025 was presented by Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich and Supreme Physical Directress Katie Swift. The 2025 Heritage Slet was discussed, noting the overwhelmingly positive feedback and high level of enjoyment among attendees. Feedback was collected and will be used to implement improvements for this year's event.

A review of the 2025 Falcon articles was presented by Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich. All submitted articles were published, with the exception of the November article by Chris Antosy, which was received after the publication deadline. The article was intended to be included in the subsequent issue. Sister Katie confirmed the Falcon submission date with Scott. Sister Kathy mentioned that articles should be sent by the 15th of the month prior to the publication so that confirmation of receipt can be sent and successful.

A review of yearly activity reports from groups was presented by Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift. Sister Swift reported responses from the Presidents of Group 1,7,14, and 17. Reports from were also sent from the Sports Directors of Group 12 and 19.

Group Activity Reports

Group 1

Participation in the International Golf Tournament

Participation in the International Heritage Slet

Participated in Local Golf Tournament

Group 2-No Response

Group 3-No Response

(Continued on page 22)

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL – 2026 BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Hollywood Casino at the Meadows – 210 Racetrack Road – Washington, PA 15301

The 79th Annual Slovak Catholic Sokol International Bowling Tournament will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 15-16, 2026 at the Hollywood Casino at the Meadows in Washington, PA. The GCU and the NSS will be joining us again this year. All bowling information can also be found on the website. The submission deadline is April 13, 2026.

A post-bowling survey indicated that the majority of bowlers do not wish to attend a formal banquet. In lieu of the banquet, we will be providing lunch on Saturday at the bowling alley. This will allow for everyone to enjoy the evening events at the casino.

You do not have to be in a league or have a sanctioned handicap to compete in the bowling tournament.

NEW THIS YEAR – to encourage our younger members, we have lowered the age to enter the tournament to 14. All participants ages 14-17 will be listed as amateur status.

If you are not a bowler, you can still join us for a weekend of fraternalism and fun at the casino!

For lodging, you have a choice of two hotels: You must book by April 14th to get the group rate.

Hyatt Place Hollywood Casino & Racetrack Pittsburgh South

\$180/Night+11% tax

Includes Hot Breakfast Buffet

Phone: 1-888-257-9658

*Reservation deadline is Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Online: www.hyattplacepittsburghsouth.com

*Click Book at top right

*Select Dates

*Select # of Guests in Room

*Click Drop Down where Special Rates appear

*Select Corporate or Group Rate / Type G-FSBW in block that appears

Doubletree by Hilton - Meadowlands

\$121/Night+Tax

Offers shuttle to and from Hollywood Casino until midnight every day.

Phone: (724) 222-6200

Room Block Code is: Fraternal Bowling Tournament

Reservation deadline is Friday, April 14, 2026

Schedule of Events

Friday, May 15th

5:00PM - 9:00PM - hospitality (pizza, wings, salad, and non-alcoholic beverages) at the bowling alley

** alcoholic beverages are available for purchase.

5:00PM and 8:00PM - team events begin

(The Petruff Award will be announced at the end of the first bowling session)

After bowling – Enjoy all that the casino has to offer.

Saturday, May 16th

10:00AM and 1:00PMPM - doubles

Buffet lunch will be available at the bowling alley starting at 11:00AM.

After bowling – Enjoy all that the casino has to offer.

Cost:

\$36.00 per event (team and doubles)

\$20.00 – if you wish to be included in the singles competition (new this year – there will not be three games for singles. Your singles score will be calculated from a combination of the team and doubles scores.)

The total for each bowler participating in team, doubles, and singles is \$92.00. Friday evening hospitality and Saturday buffet luncheon are included for all bowlers.

Mass information:

Immaculate Conception Church – St. James Parish

119 West Chestnut Street

Washington, PA 15301

Saturday: 4 PM,

Sunday: 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM

As part of our outreach program organized by our Supreme Vice President Andrea Tadlock, we will be raffling off a few gift baskets to support the Disabled American Veterans organization. We will also be accepting monetary donations. Details to follow in the Falcon, on the website, and on social media.

If you have any questions, please send me an email at kathyw323@gmail.com or text or call me at 412-225-8233.

I will see you all in Washington, PA!

Kathleen S. Watkins

Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Slovak Catholic Sokol Bowling Tournament is open to all members of our organization, who are in good standing and have been members for at least (3) three months SPL or (1) one year for all other policies, prior to the date of tournament with a minimum of \$5,000.00 coverage.

** Policy Holders - no Social Members.

** As mandated by the 2007 Convention, all new members enrolled after January 1, 2008 will require a new minimum of \$5,000 of insurance coverage to participate in the programs after January 1, 2020.

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

3. Cost per bowler

Prize fee –\$14.00

Bowling - \$12.00

Tournament expenses - \$10.00

Total = \$36.00 per bowler per event

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

5. The winners in all divisions will receive individual championship shirts. In the event of a tie, the lowest team handicap will receive shirts and cash prizes will be divided equally.

6. Handicap (Men) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 240 and last season's 2022-2023 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of January 1, 2024.

** A male bowler whose current average of 21 games or more at time of entry is (10) pins or more higher than the previous season's average must use his current average. Male bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 175 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If

the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in the Joint Fraternal Tournament, the most recent 5 year history of Joint Fraternal Tournaments will be used. If none of the above apply, the average of 175 for men will be used. Male bowlers with an average over 240 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

7. Handicap (Women) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 200 and last season's 2022-2023 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of January 1, 2024.

** A female bowler whose current average of 21 games or more at time of entry is (10) pins or more higher than the previous season's average must use her current average. Female bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 150 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in the Joint Fraternal Tournament, the most recent 5 year history of Joint Fraternal Tournaments will be used. If none of the above apply, the average of 150 for women will be used. Female bowlers with an average over 200 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

8. All participants will be governed by rerating requirements of USBC Rule 319e. Average to be adjusted accordingly. Failure to use the current average shall disqualify score if submitted average is lower than correct average thereby resulting in a lower classification of more handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher. However corrections in averages may be permitted up to the completion of the first game of a series.

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

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

11. Bowlers have 48 hours from completion of tournament to notify manager of error in score. Bowlers must include a copy of their league average sheet with their application.

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

13. NEW THIS YEAR –the tournament is now open to bowlers 14 and over. The participant will be listed as amateur status and the bowler must be accompanied by an adult.

SOKOL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026

GROUP 2 MEETING. Mass at 10 a.m. in HNJ. Lunch will be provided in the chapel. RSVP by February 8, 2026 to Anne Neudeck, tel. 203-335-8418.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026

GROUP 14 MEETING at the Kollar Club, 3226 Jane St., Pittsburgh, PA.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MSG. ANDREW HLINKA, GROUP 6 at 1:00 p.m. at Caporella's Restaurant, in Uniontown, PA. Reservations must be made

ARLENE MOST VOTED AS THE 2025 FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR

Arlene Most was voted as the 2025 Fraternalist of the Year.

Arlene has been a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol since birth along with her three sisters Nancy Ramirez, Phyllis Flynn, Lynn Flore and mostly all other family members of brother-in-laws, nieces, nephews, great nephews, great niece, aunts, uncles, cousins, born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA as well as extended family members throughout the US.



She is married to Edward J. Most, Jr. (Eddie) for 43 years. Retired twice from UPMC (Pittsburgh's top Hospital System and Healthcare Insurance Company), totaling 25 years of service.

Currently, her SCS duties involve serving as both the Recording Secretary and Treasurer of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, PA, and Treasurer of Group 14, Pittsburgh, PA.

She helped in organizing many activities of Wreath 22 and famous Spaghetti Luncheons held annually as one of the Wreaths most successful fundraising resource for donations given out according to the set by-laws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. As a Group 14 Officer (Treasurer), Arlene helps in organ

She helped in organizing many activities of Wreath 22 and famous Spaghetti Luncheons held annually as one of the Wreaths most successful fundraising resource for donations given out according to the set by-laws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. As a Group 14 Officer (Treasurer), Arlene helps in organizing various activities supporting not only SCS members in need of donations, but also throughout local communities in Pittsburgh by donations as well as Group 14's annual food delivery distributions to our Senior Members and people in need of this fraternal activity.

Arlene participated in many SCS Bowling Tournaments, Softball Tournaments, Golf Tournaments, and attended Conventions as a delegate of Wreath 22. She was frequently chosen to be on various Convention Committees. Arlene also served as a Supreme Officer as a Juror on the Governance Committee.

Arlene has proven and prides herself in supporting specific SCS goal outcomes, development of new resource opportunities and follows the outcomes towards those goals, namely, the new Heritage Slet Family Event.

True to form, Arlene believes in change ("change is the price of progress") having strong beliefs keeping in tune with change, as long as our Slovak Catholic Sokol voices are heard at the local levels (Groups and Wreaths) and with keeping our Slovak Catholic Sokol Traditions alive as we grow together in newer ways.

no later than Thursday, April 16, 2026. For reservations contact Anna Mae Warnick at 724-326-4032 or Terri Gardner at 724-929-8675.

MAY 15-16, 2026

79TH ANNUAL SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL INTERNATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT will be held at the Hollywood Casino at the Meadows in Washington, PA.

JULY 16-19, 2026

HERITAGE SLET at Peek'n Peak Resort in Clymer, NY.

GCU, NSS & SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

All fees must accompany this application. One check per team is preferable.

**“USBC MORAL SUPPORT CERTIFIED”
HOLLYWOOD CASINO AT THE MEADOWS
Washington, PA
May 15-16, 2026**

No applications will be accepted after April 13, 2026

If possible, please send one check for all bowlers on the team.

Change this year – we will only be bowling 6 games (team and doubles). If you wish to be part of the singles competition, we will take the combined score from the 6 games you bowl. There is a fee for this so that we have prize money to pay out.

BOWLER INFORMATION (<u>LIST CAPTAIN FIRST</u>)	SCS TOURNAMENT INFORMATION
Name: _____ Address: _____ <hr/> Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2024-2025 _____ USBC No. _____ Age if under 18 _____ Please Check Tournament Events Below: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles Please indicate your shirt size: _____
Name: _____ Address: _____ <hr/> Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2024-2025 _____ USBC No. _____ Age if under 18 _____ Please Check Tournament Events Below: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles Please indicate your shirt size: _____
Name: _____ Address: _____ <hr/> Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2024-2025 _____ USBC No. _____ Age if under 18 _____ Please Check Tournament Events Below: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles Please indicate your shirt size: _____
Name: _____ Address: _____ <hr/> Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2024-2025 _____ USBC No. _____ Age if under 18 _____ Please Check Tournament Events Below: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles Please indicate your shirt size: _____

<p>TEAM EVENT — FRIDAY, MAY 15</p> <p>Choose your preferred start time:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 5:00PM <input type="checkbox"/> 8:00PM <input type="checkbox"/> No preference</p> <p>Team Name: _____ <i>(Please place team bowlers in the order they will be bowling.)</i></p> <p>1. _____</p> <p>2. _____</p> <p>3. _____</p> <p>4. _____</p>	<p>DOUBLE — SATURDAY, MAY 16th</p> <p>*** We are not bowling singles. If you want to enter the singles competition, all six of your other scores will be combined to give you a singles score.</p> <p>Choose your preferred start time:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 10:00AM <input type="checkbox"/> 1:00PM <input type="checkbox"/> No preference</p> <p>1. _____</p> <p>2. _____</p> <p>1. _____</p> <p>2. _____</p>
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Entry fees for this tournament:
Prize Fee-\$14 .⁰⁰ + Bowling Fee-\$12 + Tournament Fee-\$10.⁰⁰ = \$36

Guest reception fee – \$15 each day.

total per bowler

_____ Team Event @ \$36 ea. = \$ _____

_____ Doubles Event @ \$36 ea. = \$ _____

_____ Singles Event @20 ea. = \$ _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Check #: _____

Friday night hospitality included for bowlers – 5:00 -8:00PM (pizza, wings, and salad)

Saturday Buffet Lunch included for bowlers – after the morning session.

_____ # of non-participants for Friday night hospitality @ \$15 each = _____

_____ # of non-participants for Saturday buffet @ \$15 each = _____

Make Entry Fee payable to: One check per team (if possible).
 Slovak Catholic Sokol Sports Account
 Mail to: Kathy Watkins
 7019 Highland Creek Drive
 Bridgeville, PA 15017.

- ALL FEES MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION.
- FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH COMPLETE INFORMATION INCLUDING EMAIL AND PHONE NUMBER FOR EACH BOWLER – **PLEASE DO NOT LIST SAME EMAIL FOR ALL FOUR BOWLERS**).
- INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN AND MUST BE RESUBMITTED.

\$64,500 IN S.C.S. SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS AVAILABLE IN 2026

*Qualified Trade School Students & High School Seniors with 12 College Credits Can Apply
Increased Scholarship Awards – Krista L. Glugosh & SCS Memorial Scholarships*

The Slovak Catholic Sokol is pleased to announce that \$64,500 in scholarship grants will be available to eligible members in 2026. Previous recipients may reapply for a grant in 2026; however, please note that, per a Convention mandate, each student may receive a maximum of two Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants and only one grant in each of the other categories. Additionally, the Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors is excited to share enhancements to our Scholarship Program. We are proud to include now trade school students and high school seniors who have earned 12 or more college credits, opening new opportunities for success. Furthermore, the Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship and the Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship now offer increased awards, helping our members pursue their dreams. We encourage all qualified members to take advantage of this opportunity and move closer to achieving their goals through our distinguished Scholarship Program.

“Slovak Catholic Sokol College Grant” Eligibility Changes

The Slovak Catholic Sokol College Grants are now open to students currently attending trade schools and high school seniors who have earned 12 or more college or university credits and have been accepted into an accredited college or university. These exciting new opportunities empower our members to pursue their dreams—academically and professionally—and turn their aspirations into reality.

“Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship” Award Increase

The Glugosh family has proudly increased the “Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship” award to \$2,000, inspiring students pursuing majors in computer science, information technology, or related fields. Their unwavering commitment ignites a passion for innovation and academic excellence in the next generation of technology leaders.

The “Slovak Catholic Sokol (SCS) Memorial Scholarship” Award Increase

The Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors is proud to announce the elevation of the “Slovak Catholic Sokol (SCS) Memorial Scholarship” to \$1,500, opening new opportunities and support for our dedicated members who give to their community.

A total of 30 Slovak Catholic Sokol college grants of \$1,000 each, one Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship for \$2,000, two Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Memorial Scholarships one for a male and female in the amount of \$2,000 each, two Emil Slavik Memorial Scholarships one for a male and female in the amount of \$2,000 each, one The Doctors’ Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship for \$1,000, one Yencha Scholarship for \$1,000, one John J. Yanosick Memorial Scholarship for \$1,000, and at least three Slovak

Catholic Sokol (SCS) Memorial Scholarship for \$1,500.

The collegiate application process starts on **December 1, 2025**, and is **ONLY ONLINE** on the Slovak Catholic Sokol website. Please take the time to review the application process and the required documentation to meet eligibility. You can find instructions, frequently asked questions (FAQ), and the application at

https://www.slovakcatholicsokol.org/family_scholarships.asp.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 31, 2026

Applicants may submit one application to be considered for all scholarships for which they are eligible. We strongly encourage applying for multiple scholarships, but please be aware that only one grant will be awarded per applicant.

College scholarship eligibility requirements:

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL (a total of 30, \$1,000 grants will be awarded)

- Must have a \$3,000 Permanent Whole Life Plan
- A member of the organization for at least 5 years
- One parent must be a Slovak Catholic Sokol member
- Must have an accumulated grade point average of at least 2.5 or better while attending a credited college or university.
- High school seniors must have 12 or more college or university credits and an accumulated grade point average of at least 2.5 or better.
- Trade school students must have an accumulated grade point average of at least 2.5 or provide proof of mastery of the currently required trade skills.
- Essay- “How has being a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol influenced my life?”

KRISTA L. GLUGOSH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (1 grant in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded)

- The same collegiate requirements as the SCS scholarship AND
- Majoring in a curriculum focusing on computer science, information technology, or related subfields.

THEODORE AND MARY JANE RICH (one male and one female grant in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded)

- The same collegiate requirements as the SCS scholarship AND
- One parent must be of Slovak ancestry.
- Must be majoring in a medical curriculum.

EMIL SLAVIK (one male and one female grant in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded)

- The same collegiate requirements as the SCS scholarship AND

- Both parents must be members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.
- Must be majoring in liberal arts, the sciences, pre-law, pre-medical, or business curriculum.

THE DOCTORS' LESKO MEDICAL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (1 grant in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded)

- The same collegiate requirements as the SCS scholarship AND
- Majoring in a nursing or medical curriculum.
- One parent must be of Slovak ancestry.

YENCHA SCHOLARSHIP (1 grant in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded)

- The same collegiate requirements as the SCS scholarship AND
- Majoring in a liberal arts curriculum.

THE JOHN J. YANOSICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (1 grant in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded)

- The same collegiate requirements as the SCS scholarship AND
- Group 14 scholarship candidates will be given preference.

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (3 grants in the amount of \$1,500 will be awarded to the applicant who best exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism)

- The same collegiate requirements as the SCS

scholarship AND

- Essay- "Describe the one volunteer experience that made the biggest personal impact on you- how/why."
-

Catholic High School and Catholic Grade School Grants

To inspire greater participation in Catholic education, the Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors is thrilled to announce the removal of the two-grant limit for all Catholic School recipients. This new policy reflects our unwavering commitment to supporting your parochial academic journey.

18 Catholic High School Grants, each in the amount of \$500, and 36 Catholic Grade School Grants, each in the amount of \$250, are available to qualified students. You can find the applications starting December 1, 2025 online at https://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org/family_scholarships.asp or in each of the next few issues of the Falcon.

If you have questions regarding the Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Program, please contact:

Andrea M. Tadlock

Supreme Vice-President

Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee

vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL SCHOLARSHIP TIPS FOR SUCCESS

You can start applying online at

https://www.slovakcatholicssokol.org/family_scholarships.asp

from **December 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026.**

To help you put your best foot forward, here are a few friendly tips for a successful application:

1. **Take some time to explore the application process online and check the eligibility requirements for each scholarship.** This will help you identify which scholarships you can apply for.

2. **Prepare your essay(s) beforehand so you can easily upload them when applying online.**

3. **Have a wallet-size (2x3) headshot photograph ready in jpeg format** to submit with your application.

4. When you fill out the online application, **please answer ALL questions.** If something doesn't apply to you, simply put N/A. For example, if you're fully independent from your parents and they can't claim you on their tax returns, enter N/A in the

parent income field.

5. **Don't forget to request your official transcripts** from your university or college after your fall term wraps up. For trade school students, please provide your current official transcripts or proof of current mastery of the currently required trade skills. Make sure the transcripts are sent to the Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee by email or mail:

Andrea M. Tadlock

Supreme Vice-President

VP@slovakcatholicssokol.org

100 Fletcher Farm Rd

Vermontville, NY 12989

I encourage you to apply for all the scholarships you qualify for to enhance your chances of receiving one! Just so you know, applicants can only receive one scholarship each year.

Make sure all your required documents are submitted by the DEADLINE of March 31, 2026. It's a good idea to submit everything early to ensure your application, essay(s), photograph, and transcripts are all received on time. If you're mailing documents, remember they must be postmarked by the deadline.

Although not every applicant will receive a scholarship this year, we encourage you to apply again next year if it doesn't work out this time! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org.

Wishing you the best of luck, and Zdar Boh!

Andrea M. Tadlock

Supreme Vice-President

Chairperson of the

Scholarship Committee

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

As a fraternal benefit, the Slovak Catholic Sokol is pleased to offer \$500.00 grants to one young Sokol or Sokolka in each of our organization's nineteen Groups. These 18 Grants are available to any qualified Sokol member currently attending a Catholic High School.

ELIGIBILITY

A. Applicant must be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in good standing, holding a permanent Life Insurance Certificate in the amount of **not less than \$3,000, and has been a member for at least five years.**

B. One parent must be a S.C.S. member.

C. The principal of the Catholic High School must verify the enrollment of the applicant.

APPLICATION

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

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

This application must be **received** on or before, **March 31, 2026** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

Application is also available on the Internet @

https://www.slovakcatholicsokol.org/family_scholarships.asp

DISQUALIFICATION

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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

RETURN OF GRANT

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



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

Group # _____ Assembly/Wreath # _____ Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Date of Birth _____ Current Age _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ High School Phone (_____) _____
area code area code

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Father's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Mother's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

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

If yes, please indicate Grade School or High School. What year? _____

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

I, _____ Principal of _____
(Principal's signature) (Name of School)

Catholic High School, verify that _____
(Name of student)

is a student at the above school and will be attending _____ Grade in the 2026-2027 school year.

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

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF THIS APPLICATION IS MARCH 31, 2026. Return completed application to:
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL, 205 MADISON ST., P.O. BOX 899, PASSAIC, NJ 0705

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL GRANTS

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

ELIGIBILITY

A. Applicant must be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in good standing, holding a permanent Life Insurance Certificate in the amount of **not less than \$3,000, and has been a member for at least five years.**

B. One parent must be a S.C.S. member.

C. The principal of the Catholic Grade School must verify the enrollment of the applicant.

APPLICATION

This application must be **received** on or before, **March 31, 2026** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

Application is also available on the Internet @ https://www.slovakcatholicosokol.org/family_scholarships.asp

DISQUALIFICATION

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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

RETURN OF GRANT

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



SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION

Group # _____ Assembly/Wreath # _____ Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Date of Birth _____ Current Age _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ School Phone (_____) _____
area code area code

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Father's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Mother's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

Parent's S.C.S. Insurance Certificate # _____ Face Amount _____

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

If yes, what year? _____

School verification (to be completed by Grade School Principal)

I, _____ Principal of _____
(Principal's signature) (Name of School)

Catholic Grade School, verify that _____
(Name of student)

is a student at the above school and will be attending _____ Grade in the 2026-2027 school year.

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

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF THIS APPLICATION IS MARCH 31, 2026. Return completed application to:
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL, 205 MADISON ST., P.O. BOX 899, PASSAIC, NJ 07055**

MINUTES OF GROUP 1 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Group 1 was held in the downstairs Church Hall of Saints Cyril and Methodius Roman Catholic Church located at 218 Ackerman Avenues in Clifton, New Jersey on Sunday, November 16, 2025 upon conclusion of the 10:30am Slovak Mass.

The meeting was called to order by Group 1 President John D. Pogorelec, Jr. at 11:41am.

The Pastor of Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish Church, Fr. Misael Jaramillo, welcomed all of the members of Group 1 and in particular those visiting to the Parish and said the Opening Prayer.

Group 1 Sports Director Eric Topczij led the Group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Group 1 Secretary Peter J. Walentowicz called the roll of Officers and Delegates.

The following Officers were present: Chaplain Fr. Richard Bay; President John D. Pogorelec, Jr.; Vice President and Secretary John Termyna; Secretary Peter J. Walentowicz; Sports Director Eric Topczij; Auditor James Matlon; and Members of the Physical Fitness Board Clifford Ainsworth, Louis Smiriglio, Christine Smith, and Maria Topczij.

The following Officers were excused: Assistant Sports Director Joseph Krzysik; Physical Fitness Directress Hailey Topczij; and Auditor David Bulwin.

The following Delegates were present: Emilia Brunciak; Joseph Gnida; Joseph Jurasi; Maria Jurasi; Joseph Lojek; Anna Organisak; and Anna Walentowicz.

Group 1 Secretary Peter Walentowicz read the Minutes of the Group 1 Officers Meeting of Saturday, October 18, 2025.

Auditor James Matlon made a correction the minutes, noting that the Bowling Tournament and the Golf Tournament were both National and not Eastern District. Auditor Matlon then made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. The motion was seconded by Physical Fitness Board Member Christine Smith. The motion carried.

Group 1 Treasurer John Termyna gave the Treasurer's Report.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report was tabled until after the Report of the Auditors is given.

Group 1 Chaplain Fr. Richard Bay gave the Chaplain's Report. He thanked everyone for their prayers and apologize for missing the previous meeting due to a diabetic incident. He also stated that he had celebrated masses at Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish in Boonton, New Jersey, home to one of the Assemblies in Group 1.

President John Pogorelec then vacated the chair and handed the gavel over to Group 1 Vice President John Termyna.

Vice President John Termyna then asked President Pogorelec to give the President's Report.

In his President's Report, Mr. Pogorelec spoke of the history of Group 1, reported on the busy summer of activities we had, listed our upcoming events, and mentioned the Sokol Scholarship recipients from Group 1.

A motion to accept the President's Report was made by Delegate Joseph Gnida and seconded by Physical Fitness Board Member Clifford Ainsworth. The motion passed.

Vice President Termyna then handed the gavel back to the President.

The President then asked Vice President Termyna to give the Vice President's Report.

In his Vice President's Report, Vice President Termyna wished to thank all of the Officers of Group 1 for all of their hard work for the Sokols.

A motion to accept the Vice President's Report was made by Sports Director Topczij and seconded by Physical Fitness Board Member Ainsworth. The motion passed.

Secretary Peter Walentowicz was called upon to give the Sec-

retary's Report. Secretary Walentowicz thanked the members of Group 1 for their continued confidence and support.

A motion to accept the Secretary's Report was made by Chaplain Fr. Richard Bay and seconded by Physical Fitness Board Member Smith. The motion passed.

The President then called upon Eric Topczij to give the Report of the Sports Director.

Sports Director Topczij reiterated the most recent as well as the upcoming sports activities for Group 1.

A motion to accept the Sports Director's Report was made by Delegate Gnida and seconded by Delegate Joseph Lojek. The motion passed.

President Pogorelec proceeded to appoint the Officers and Delegates to the various Committees.

The New Motions Committee composed of Chaplain Fr. Bay, Secretary Walentowicz, and Delegate Anna Organisak moved that \$200 be donated to Saints Cyril and Methodius Church in Clifton for the use of their Hall, \$150 be donated to the Slovak Catholic Federation, and that \$50 be donated to the School Sisters of Saint Francis. The motions were second by Board Member Smith. The motions passed.

The Resolutions Committee composed of Sports Director Topczij, Board Member Clifford Ainsworth, and Delegate Emilia Brunciak resolved that Group 1 continue to support scholarships, activities, and international events, as well as create new events and continue to use Saints Cyril and Methodius to host events. The resolutions were seconded by Christine Smith. The resolutions passed.

The Petitions and Grievances Committee composed of Auditor Matlon and Delegates Joseph Gnida and Anna Walentowicz petition that \$50 be donated to the Slovak League of America, provided that the League is still in existence. The petition was seconded by Physical Fitness Board Member Louis Smiriglio. The petition passed.

The Salary and Surety Bonds Committee composed of Physical Fitness Board Member Maria Topczij and Delegates Joseph Jurasi, Maria Jurasi, and Joseph Lojek recommended that no changes be made to the current salaries. The recommendation was seconded by Joseph Gnida and passed.

The Verifications Committee composed of Vice President Termyna and Physical Fitness Board Members Louis Smiriglio and Christine Smith reported that there are ten Officers and seven Delegates present for a total of seventeen voters.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business Louis Smiriglio nominated Eric Topczij for Fraternalist of the Year. The nomination was seconded by Clifford Ainsworth. The nomination was seconded.

Auditor James Matlon reviewed the Treasurer's Report and presented his Auditor's Report, finding that the books were in order. Christine Smith seconded the Auditor's Report. The Report was accepted.

Treasurer John Termyna then moved for acceptance of his Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Eric Topczij. The motion passed.

In conclusion the President wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

A motion to close was made by Fr. Richard Bay and seconded by Joseph Gnida. The motion passed. The Meeting concluded with all present sing "Hej Slovaci", "Nad Tatrou Sa Blyska", and "God Bless America." The meeting adjourned.

MINUTES OF GROUP 9 ANNUAL MEETING

October 26, 2025, 1 PM

Lilly Slavish Citizens Club, Lilly, PA

Attendance: Twenty-seven delegates attended, including the officers. The chaplain was absent.

President Gary Risko called the meeting to order and led the membership in a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. He then welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes from the 2024 Annual Meeting were reviewed. One correction was made to a typo in the word motion. The minutes stood as corrected.

Reports:

Officers:

President Gary Risko reported that he attended the Group 9 Annual Meeting and the National Bowling Tournament, held in Washington, Pennsylvania.

Vice President, JoAnn Spisak- No report due to her absence at this time.

Treasurer Susan Blazosky attended the Group 9 Annual Meeting, kept accurate records of the books/finances, and facilitated adding President Risko to the Group 9 Checking Account. She presented the financial books for the auditors' review at today's meeting.

Secretary Amy Dobbins attended the Group 9 Annual Meeting, submitted the 2024 Group 9 Annual Meeting Minutes to the Supreme Secretary, sent invitations to the Group 9 Annual Meeting to the membership, and submitted the meeting details for publication on the Sokol website. She presented the 2024 meeting minutes to the membership for review at today's meeting and requested that those in attendance complete the address sheets. She also asked members to submit names to her during the year to receive a get-well card.

Auditors, Paul Glovany, Ron Dobbins, & Robert Kunrod reviewed the books at the annual meeting and reported that they were in balance.

Robert Shedlock made a motion to accept the officer reports, which was seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Scholarship Recipients:

Post-secondary students Zachary Eckenrode & Luke McLeery were awarded a College Scholarship Grant, and Audrey Peretin received a Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship. Joseph Paul Philips & Patrick Philips were each awarded the Abbot Jerome M. Koval, O.S.B. Memorial Catholic High School Grant.

Robert Shedlock made a motion to accept the scholarship report, which was seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business:

Available Funds:

Treasurer Susan Blazosky noted that funds are available for group activities.

President Risko asked for ideas on how the membership would like to use some of the group's funds. One suggestion was purchasing Group 9 shirts with graphics representing our geographic area. This would be a good idea to pursue before the next convention. Susan Blazosky and Amy Dobbins volunteer to look into shirt ideas to present at the next meeting.

Amy Dobbins proposed a Group 9 Christmas Party. After some discussion, Thresa Valko made a motion to hold a Group 9 Christmas Party, which was seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Susan Blazosky made a motion to create a committee to plan the Group 9 Christmas Party, which was seconded. The

motion was unanimously approved. The committee members include: Susan Blazosky, Amy Dobbins, Betty Phillips, and Dolly Yonkoski. A discussion ensued about the Christmas Party budget. Brian Risko made a motion to approve a budget of up to \$1500 for the Christmas party. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Susan Blazosky proposed a Group 9 Summer Picnic. This also led to a discussion of creating a Social Committee for Group 9 to plan events. Brian Risko made a motion to create a Group 9 Social Committee to plan group events, including a Summer Picnic, which was seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Some members suggested a cornhole tournament at the picnic. It was also suggested that the Group be responsible for the main dishes and drinks, and that members bring a covered dish. These ideas were deferred to the Social Committee. Volunteers for the Social Committee included: Susan Blazosky, Amy Dobbins, & Dolly Yonkoski.

Amy Dobbins suggested that Group 9 host a Doubles Bowling Tournament. After some discussion, it was decided to table the idea until the next meeting.

Auditors' Report:

Paul Glovany reported on behalf of the auditors. The financial books were reviewed at today's meeting and found to be in order. Jim Bart made a motion to approve the report, which was seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Payment of Bills:

Robert Shedlock made a motion authorizing the treasurer to pay all bills. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of Group 9 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol will be held in 2026 and hosted by Johnstown.

Retention of Officers:

Robert Shedlock made a motion to retain all officers. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

With no further business to discuss, President Risko adjourned the meeting at 1:51 PM. He then led the membership in a closing prayer.

-Amy Dobbins, *Group 9 Secretary*

2026-2027 – GROUP 12 SCHOLARSHIP

Group 12 is thrilled to announce that the Group 12 Scholarship is now open for applications to empower our members pursuing higher education at accredited colleges, universities, or professional/trade schools for the 2026-2027 academic year. We are dedicated to supporting Group 12 members in achieving their dreams and aspirations. **The application process will remain available until May 31, 2026.** The Group 12 Scholarship Committee will select the deserving recipient in June, who will be honored with the award in July. This recipient will also be invited to celebrate their academic achievements with us at the Group 12 meeting in the Fall, whether in person or virtually.

High school seniors and current college undergraduate, graduate, or professional/trade school members are encouraged to visit <https://form.jotform.com/243497381045158> to review the scholarship qualifications and apply for the 2026-2027 Scholarship.

For any inquiries regarding the Group 12 Scholarship, reach out to Andrea Tadlock at atadlock1969@gmail.com. Good Luck to all the applicants and Zdar Boh!

The Group 12 Scholarship Committee

MINUTES OF GROUP 12 ANNUAL MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Harak. Opening the meeting with the prayers Our Father and Hail Mary followed by reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The roll call of officers: present were President Joe Harak, Financial Secretary/Treasurer Lar'e Leso, Recording Secretary Joann Antosy, Sports Director Robert Latsaw, Assistant Sports Director Mark Kopcik, via zoom Physical Directress Viktoria Tadlock, Assistant Physical Directress Olivia Tadlock
Excused: Vice President Greg Milanek, Physical Director Megan Antosy, Assistant Physical Director Deb Unger

Delegates in attendance: Laura Harak, Anne Leso, Kathleen Smolkowicz, Pat Latshaw, Christopher Antosy Jr., Paul Keturakis, via zoom Andrea Tadlock

A copy of the minutes from the 2025 Group 12 meeting handed out. A motion was made by Mark Kopcik to accept the minutes seconded by Pat Latshaw.

President's report: Joseph Harak:

I remain active in Assembly 261 and in our Home Association as the treasurer.

I run bingo on Wednesday nights here at our Sokol hall along with Kathleen Smolkowicz, Pat Latshaw, and Greg Milanek.

I would like to congratulate Greg and Liz Milanek on celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary!

Congratulations to all the 2025 Sokol scholarship winners, especially those from Group 12:

- 2025-2026 Group 12 Scholarship

Cole Baker Assembly 261 attending Lebanon Valley College- Business Administration

Olivia Tadlock Wreath 155 attending University of Minnesota-Education Psychology

- The Slovak Catholic Sokol Memorial Scholarship

Olivia Tadlock Wreath 155 attending University of Minnesota

- Abbot Jerome M. Koval O.B.S. Memorial Catholic High School Grant

Andrew McVicker attending St. John Paul the Great High School

A motion made by Kathleen Smolkowicz to accept the President's report seconded by Paul Keturakis.

Treasurer's report: Lar'e Leso:

We are basically in the same situation as last year; our assessments are declining due to our membership declining. Our assessment is based on the number of people in our group. It will continue to decline if we do not get new members within our group.

This past year due to the Slet expense of \$1572.00 and the decision to award 2 scholarships within Group 12 totaling \$1000.00 our treasury has gone down. We also took money from our secure account to pay for the bingo machine for the Reading Sokol Hall Bingo which so far \$1000.00 was paid back.

Regarding our scholarship fund and what needs to be done is to come up with a plan to set up the fund and have people within our group or outside the group contribute to the fund. Also, the scholarship was to be given to one recipient and was given to two recipients. Joe Harak explained the reason for that was due to only 2 people applying and therefore the award was given to both recipients. In the future there will be only one \$500.00 dollar award that will be given. Robert Latshaw suggested a fund to be set up where contributors could have a certain amount taken from a checking account and deposited into the scholarship fund account.

A motion was made by Kathleen Smolkowicz to approve the Treasurer's report. Mark Kopcik seconded the motion.

Physical Fitness Board: Sports Director Robert Latshaw, Physical Director Megan Antosy, Physical Directress Viktoria Tadlock, Assistant Physical Directress Olivia Tadlock, and Christopher Antosy Jr.

The report given by Megan Antosy read by Chris Antosy Jr.

At the bowling tournament held at Meadow Casino Washington, PA there were 7 members from Group 12 attending, five women and 2 men. Joann Antosy placed first in women's singles handicap division also had the best high game in the women's division.

The Slet was held at Peak and Peak in Clymer, NY there were 6 members from our Group. The event was attended by about 90 participants of all ages. The highlight was Megan Antosy winning the cornhole tournament.

The golf tournament was in West Middlesex, PA and Brookfield, OH. This was attended by Chris Antosy Jr, and Chris Antosy Sr. Under the Calloway scoring system Chris Jr did beat Chris Sr with a score of 156 to 158.

Looking forward to 2026, the bowling tournament will once again be held at Meadow Casino in Washington, PA on May 15th and 16th. Also, the Slet again will be at Peak and Peak, Clymer, NY July 16th to the 19th. The golf tournament will be in East Stroudsburg, PA at Pocono Hills Golf Course and Poconos Club Golf Course August 7th through the 9th.

Paul Keturakis made a motion to accept the Physical Fitness report. Robert Latshaw seconded the motion.

Old Business:

Scholarship Committee: Greg Milanek, Laura Harak, Lar'e Leso, Andrea Tadlock, and Kathleen Smolkowicz

Andrea Tadlock gave a report on the scholarship committee.

Congratulations to Cole Baker and Olivia Tadlock who each received a \$500.00 scholarship. The reason for the two scholarship awards given was because only two applicants applied and to encourage goodwill therefore both students were awarded. President Harak mentioned only one scholarship should have been awarded. It is a difficult decision to make when families are involved but this was agreed upon at last year's meeting due to our funding. Joe Harak made a motion going forward with only one scholarship for \$500.00 be awarded per year. Mark Kopcik seconded the motion.

Treasurer Leso mentioned going forward have a capitol fund for our group scholarship. Andrea is recommending raising the money for the funding with the capitol campaign approach by sending letters/mailers along with a self-addressed stamped envelope including a QR code and our local Facebook page. The addresses and email addresses can be obtained from the Home Office. June will be the time frame for the scholarship to be awarded. Also, the scholarship is for anyone going to college or a trade school with a GPA of 2.5 or higher and a credit program. Robert Latshaw mentioned a form of fundraising would be using GO Fund Me Pro. Mailers are sent out, a recurring amount would be taken from the doner's account monthly, quarterly, or yearly whichever the doner prefers.

President Joe Harak asked if Head Quarters has chosen a location for the International Convention. Supreme Vice President Andrea Tadlock said the location has not been determined. Joe offered looking into Hershey Convention Center in Hershey, PA. Andrea will make a recommendation for Hershey at the January Supreme Officers meeting.

New Business:

Laura Harak suggested having a Sokol Day at Knoebels Park. This would not be only for Group 12 but for any of our other Sokol groups who would like to attend.

Andrea Tadlock would like to encourage everyone from our Assemblies and Wreaths to be part of the Sokol Forward Program. This program encourages us to do volunteer work to help within our communities. This past year we had Joann, Elizabeth,

(Continued on page 17)

THE TOP 5 REASONS TO WALK: A SIMPLE HOBBY WITH POWERFUL BENEFITS

Fifty Sokol members experienced the benefits of walking and have turned in their miles for the 2025 year. Collectively, members walked over 74,756.76 miles. The third place is shared with cousins, Andrew Peterson and Annalise Romine with 3500 miles walked. Second place walking award goes to Noah Romine with a total of 3650 miles walked. Our First Place Walking Champion is Annika Romine logging 3750 miles around Franklin, Wisconsin. Sokol walkers of all ages participated, representing eight different groups from Ohio, New York, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Canada.



For the 2026 Walking Program, awards will be divided into the following age groups: 8 and under 9-15 16-21 22-45 45-60 61-74 75 and over.

When submitting your miles, please indicate the age range you will fall into by December 31, 2026.

Walking—one of the simplest and most accessible forms of exercise—is far more powerful than many people realize. Whether it's a brisk morning stroll, a walk with a friend, or an evening walk around the neighborhood, regular walking can enhance your health, sharpen your focus, and lift your mood. Here are five reasons to make walking part of your daily routine:

1. Boosts Physical Health

Walking is a low-impact activity that benefits nearly every system in the body. It strengthens the heart, improves circulation, and supports healthy lung function. Consistent walking can also help manage weight, support joint health, and increase overall endurance. Even 30 minutes a day can make a meaningful difference in your physical well-being.

2. Enhances Mental Clarity and Focus

Walking stimulates the mind as well as the body. The steady rhythm of movement—especially outdoors—reduces mental fatigue and promotes clearer thinking. Research shows that walking can improve memory, concentration, creativity, and problem-solving skills. When you need a reset, a short walk can quickly refresh your spirits.

3. Reduces Stress and Anxiety

A walk is a natural stress reliever. Physical movement, particularly in peaceful settings like parks or trails, helps lower cortisol levels—the body's primary stress hormone. Over time, regular walking can ease anxiety, reduce tension, and even improve sleep quality. Practicing mindful walking by focusing on your breathing and surroundings can amplify these calming effects.

4. Strengthens Social Connections

Walking can be both personal and social. Sharing a walk with a friend, family member, or pet creates space for meaningful conversation and connection without everyday distractions. Walking together makes the activity more enjoyable and helps build consistency through shared commitment.

5. Supports Longevity and Quality of Life

Studies consistently link regular walking to longer, healthier lives. It helps maintain mobility, flexibility, muscle strength, and balance as we age. People who walk regularly often experience fewer health complications and greater daily energy. Walking isn't just about adding years to your life—it's about adding life to your years.

Though simple, walking remains one of the most effective

ways to care for both body and mind.

Whether your goal is fitness, relaxation, or fellowship, consistency is key. Lace up your shoes, step outside, and embrace the power of this everyday activity—one step at a time.

Wishing you a happy and healthy year. I look forward to seeing you at this year's events!

Zdar Boh!

Nancy Kropolinsky

Supreme Assistant Physical Directress

MINUTES OF GROUP 12 ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from page 16)

Megan and Adeline Antosy featured in the July issue of the Sokol Falcon. They sew bonding hearts for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Cooper University Health in Camden, New Jersey. A \$50.00 donation was awarded to the Cooper University Health NICU Unit. At the end of the year, an additional \$150.00 will be awarded to a Sokol Forward winner for 2025.

Andrea Tadlock asked if anyone has a recommendation for Fraternalist of the year. The recommendation needs to be in by the end of November and will be selected at the next Board of Directors meeting. Andrea nominated Greg Milanek for the work he does at group and assembly levels and for Special Olympics and in his community. Joann Antosy seconded the motion.

President Harak asked if Home Office paid anything towards the Slet at Peak and Peak. Andrea Tadlock answered: Home Office covered the activities and two meals per person. The activities included ropes, paint ball, and miniature golf plus the use of the facilities for the other activities which amounted to about \$600.00 per person.

Due to Deb Unger stepping down from her position we need to nominate the Assistant Physical Director. Joe Harak appointed Mark Kopicik to fulfill the position until the end of the term. Mark accepted the position.

Donations:

The donations are as follows:

- \$200.00 to the SCS Memorial fund in memory of our deceased members of Group 12. Recommended by Pat Latshaw. Approved
- \$100.00 to Walt the K Polka show on WEEU in memory of Walt Kazmierczak. Recommended by Joe Harak. Approved
- \$85.00 to the Slovak Catholic Federation. Recommended by Lar'e Leso. Approved
- \$50.00 to each athlete from Group 12 participating in the international golf and/or bowling tournaments. Recommended by Lar'e Leso. Approved
- \$100.00 to Reading Sokol local golf tournament which is being held in October/November of 2026. Recommended by Paul Keterakis. Approved
- A \$50.00 minimum donation for a local charity asked for at the international tournaments will be collected at the Reading Sokol social quarters. If the \$50.00 amount is not reached the difference will come from the group. Recommended by Chris Antosy Jr. Approved

Mark Kopicik made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathleen Smolkowicz seconded the motion.

Joann Antosy, Group 12 Secretary

***** SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL ** HERITAGE SLET 2026 *****

The Slovak Catholic Sokol has long celebrated a vibrant legacy of fraternalism, athletics, and faith. In 2025, we were proud to organize and host the newly established Heritage Slet at Peek'n Peak Resort. This event marked an important step forward for our organization, and the members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board (SPFB) are committed to keeping this premier event strong and thriving for many years to come.

As the SCS embraces the future, the SPFB recognizes that times have changed—and that we must change with them. What was once an event focused primarily on youth has evolved into a celebration for the entire Sokol family. We have cultivated a more family-centered athletic program that emphasizes participation, faith, heritage, and community.

We are excited to announce that the 2nd International Heritage Slet will take place July 16–19, 2026 at Peak N'Peek Resort in Clymer, New York. This Heritage Slet will place an even greater emphasis on our shared heritage, Catholic faith, and family involvement. Christmas in July will be our theme, so get ready to Christmas Carol and share in all the festivities. Events included for members will be Opening and

Closing Ceremonies, Mass, Drill Exhibition, Volleyball Tournament, Miniature Golf Tournament, Cornhole Tournament, High Ropes Adventure Course, Paintball, Walks, Catholic Faith event, Slovak Heritage Craft, Bingo, evening firepit socials, opening and closing activity and more. Golf rates are available.

Registration for the Heritage Slet is open from March 1-June 1, 2026. To register please email the registration forms, mail the forms, or fill out the attached QR code. This will allow enough time for the SPFB to meet and finalize all plans. Rooms are booked directly through Peek N Peak Resort by calling or via the website. Please make sure you are booking under the Slovak Catholic Sokol group rate.

We are looking forward to spending time with our Sokol family. If you have any questions, concerns or just want to chat about this phenomenal event, please reach out to me directly or any of the members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board.

Zdar Boh!!
Katie Swift
Supreme Directress

***** Slovak Catholic Sokol ** Heritage Slet 2026 *****

Please fill out one form for each participant.

Name: _____
 Age: _____ Group: _____
 Policy Number: _____
 Email: _____

****Must be a policy holder to join in events**

**If you plan on golfing, you will need to book your tee time and pay on your own.
 \$72 per player on Thursday with golf cart

\$114 per player on Friday and Saturday with golf cart

***** If you are golfing and need us to take your children to the activities, please check here ___**



You can register via the QR Code, forms can be emailed to katieannswift@gmail.com or mailed to:

Katie Swift 211 Curtis Court, Coraopolis, PA 15108

THURSDAY <i>*times may change</i>		
6:00 PM	Mass and Opening Ceremonies	
7:00 PM	Family Fun Activity	
TBD	Golf Scramble Tournament	Dependent on interest
FRIDAY		
9:00 AM	Morning Worship Activity	
10:00 AM	Volleyball (13 and Over) Please note if your group is bringing a team or if you want to be added. To be added you must have experience.	<u>With Team</u> <u>Please Add me</u>
10:00	Mini Golf for Seniors and Juniors	
	Paintball (must be 12)	
	Slovak Craft Competition	
6:15 PM	Dinner	
7:30 PM	Cornhole Competition	
Saturday		
9:00-9:30	Morning Worship Activity	
9:30 AM-12 PM	High Ropes Course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be at least 5 years of age or min 50 pounds • Cannot exceed 250lbs 	
9:30-11:00	Bingo	
11:00- 12	Slovak Heritage	
5:30 PM	Mass and Closing Ceremonies	
6:30	Dinner	



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

March 2026



Across	1	The state that held the earliest celebration in honor of St. Patrick.	
	5	The month that St. Patrick's Day falls in.	
	6	The plant that is a symbol of St. Patrick's Day and Ireland.	
	7	The country St. Patrick was born in.	
	8	St. Patrick was kidnapped, brought to Ireland, and forced to be a _____.	
	9	The religion St. Patrick practiced.	
	10	This meat is often eaten on St. Patrick's Day.	
	Down	2	A mythical character from Celtic folklore, often associated with St. Patrick's Day.
		3	The animal St. Patrick is said to have driven out of Ireland.
		4	St. Patrick is the patron saint of this country.

St. Patrick's Day

Send me your March Crossword for a Chance to Win a Prize!!

If you want to win a **\$25 gift card**, send me a copy of your crossword puzzle by **March 31st**. I'll randomly select a winner from all the entries I receive. **GOOD LUCK!!**

Send your completed entry by email to vp@slovakcatholicsokol.org with your name, group, address, and email address.



Ava Di Marino 03/09
 Dominic Brozack 03/17
 Veronica Griffith 03/25

Congratulations to James Nowak from Group 4!
The Winner of the January Word Search.

MINUTES OF THE SUPREME BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday, January 15, 2026 – 3:00 p.m.

Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh, **Called to Order** the Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 15, 2026, and greeted all the members.

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdoc, was called upon for the **Opening Prayer**.

Supreme Physical Directress, Katie M. Swift, led the Board Members in reciting the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**.

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

Supreme Chaplain	Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdoc
Supreme President	Larry M. Glugosh
Supreme Vice-President	Andrea M. Tadlock
Supreme Secretary	Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Supreme Treasurer	Michael J. Horvath
General Counsel.....	John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.
Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors.....	James C. Matlon
Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics ...	Kathleen S. Watkins
Supreme Physical Directress	Katie Swift
Supreme Physical Director	Dusan Dorich

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

President Glugosh informed the Board that they all have received the **Minutes** from our last Board meeting held on October 9, 2025, and published in the January 1, 2026, issue of the Slovak Catholic Falcon. Brother President entertained a motion for their acceptance, so moved by Supreme Treasurer, Michael J. Horvath, seconded by Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich.

Approved

President Glugosh then asked our Supreme Secretary to give a brief overview of the **Sales Report**.

Brother Secretary gave the Board a brief overview of our life and annuity business to date, agency update, and the current agent sales campaigns. He also informed the Board of the various advertising efforts that are currently in place and will be expanded upon in the new year.

Several questions were presented and addressed to the satisfaction of the Board and President Glugosh thanked Brother Secretary for presenting the report. President Glugosh then asked for a motion to accept the report, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Supreme Vice-President, Andrea M. Tadlock.

Approved

Brother President called upon Mr. Ralph Primavera and Mr. Nicholas Cimino, PNC Institutional Asset Management, for the **Investment Report**.

Mr. Primavera and Mr. Cimino discussed the portfolio's current asset allocation, reviewed the historic and the year-to-date cash flows, discussed future potential portfolio repositioning and PNC's outlook for the financial markets and economy.

The Advisors also addressed various questions from the Board concerning our performance outlook.

Brother President called on the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen S. Watkins, for the **Physical Fitness Board Report**.

Sister Watkins gave a summation of 2025 activities and accomplishments of the Physical Fitness Board.

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2025.

Sites that are confirmed for our 2026 Sports Program:

- May 15-16, 2026 Bowling Meadows Casino,

- July 16-19,2026 Heritage Slet Pittsburgh, PA
Peek 'n Peak Resort,
Clymer, NY
- August 7-9, 2026 Golf Pocono Hills GC,
East Stroudsburg, PA

Sister Swift and Brother Dorich also updated the Board on the Heritage Slet to be held in July at Peek 'n Peak Resort. They will be sending out information regarding the event.

After a lengthy discussion, Brother President entertained a motion to accept the report, so moved by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdoc, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. Approved

President Glugosh then called upon General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq. for the **Legal Department Report**.

Brother Counsel updated the Board on the ongoing property tax appeal with the City of Passaic. He also updated the Board on the potential sale of the property. Brother Secretary and himself will keep the Board updated on all developments.

After a brief discussion, President Glugosh entertained a motion to approve the report, so moved by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen S. Watkins, seconded by Supreme Treasurer, Michael J. Horvath. Approved

Brother President began discussion about the **declaration of a dividend** for the year 2025 to be distributed during 2026. The 2024 dividend declaration issued in 2025 was up to \$50,000.00.

After a brief discussion, Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdoc, moved that a dividend be declared for the year 2025 for up to \$50,000.00 payable in 2026 for all qualifying certificates, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.

Approved

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

The Board held a lengthy discussion regarding the Fraternalist of the Year. After discussion and voting, Arlene Most was awarded the 2025 Fraternalist of the Year, and a celebration will take place in 2026. Congratulations to Sister Most on this well-deserved honor. Acknowledged

Brother President asked the Board if there was any **New Business** to present.

Brother Secretary updated the Board on potential Convention locations for 2027. The thought would be to have the Convention in an area that would be convenient and efficient to travel to, where we have an established membership base. We have pinpointed Pittsburgh as an excellent location for our Convention due to familiarity and convenience. The hotel will be announced in March as we filter through proposals. The challenge has been hotels are hesitant to schedule events for more than 18 months out. Brother Secretary will update the Board accordingly.

Having completed all the business on the agenda, Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh, entertained a motion to **adjourn**, so moved by Supreme Vice-President, Andrea M. Tadlock, seconded by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.

Approved

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdoc, led the Board in a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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



Our organization has a wonderful spirit of giving to uplift our communities. To honor this tradition, each Slovak Catholic Sokol sporting event has a designated charity to support those in need.

For the 2026 Bowling Tournament,

May 15th- 16th in Washington, PA, we proudly support the Disabled American Veterans (DAV).

Since 1920, DAV has dedicated itself to helping disabled veterans and their families lead better lives. In gratitude for our veterans' sacrifices, the Slovak Catholic Sokol invites every member to contribute a monetary donation to DAV. You can donate

- Online at <https://support.dav.org/campaigns/SCS-Helping-Disabled-Veteran>
- Scan a QRC:



- Mail: Please make checks payable to **DAV – Disabled American Veterans**

o Send To:

Andrea Tadlock
Att: Bowling Tournament Charity - DAV
100 Fletcher Farm Road
Vermontville, NY 12989

During the tournament, the Slovak Catholic Sokol will host a raffle for gift baskets to encourage our bowlers to help those who protected us. If your Group or Lodge wishes to donate a basket, please email me at vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org to coordinate.

Thank you in advance for the dedication and support of our military veterans. Zdar Boh!

Fraternally yours,
Andrea M. Tadlock
Supreme Vice-President

LENTEN SLOVAK HYMN SING AND SLOVAK STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania will sponsor the Lenten Slovak Hymn Sing and traditional Slovak Stations of the Cross on Sunday, March 15, 2026 at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, 339 North Maple Avenue, Kingston, PA. The church is handicapped accessible via elevator.

The service will begin at 2:00 P.M. with congregational singing of Lenten Hymns. The words and translations of this rich hymnology will be provided. The Stations of the Cross in Slovak led by members of the Society will follow. Booklets will be available for full participation in the service. The service will conclude with Benediction.

After the service, refreshments will be served, followed by fellowship. The public is invited to participate free of charge. A free will offering will be accepted. For further information, call Anna at 570 510-1655.



JOINHANDSDAY
it starts with us

May 2, 2026

Greetings Group Officers,

Join Hands Day is May 2, 2026. This day of volunteering was started to inspire adults and youth to volunteer together in their community. Supporting your community and passing the volunteer spirit to our Sokol members of all ages is a wonderful opportunity. I am encouraging each Group to participate in this day to spread the joy of volunteering in your communities. The activity does not have to be complicated. It can be simple to plan and organize. Below are a few ideas to get you started:

- Perform yard work for neighbors, churches, or Sokol members who need assistance.
- Deliver meals to shut-in Sokol or church members.
- Visit a local senior assistance center and spend time with the residents. Enjoy their company and potentially participate in or lead activities such as reading, playing games, playing music, singing, etc.
- Have a family-style picnic at a senior community center.
- Help at an animal rescue.
- Clean up a local park, natural/bike trail, local landmark, etc.
- Work with a local Scout Troop to prepare local cemeteries for Memorial Day by placing flags on soldier grave sites.
- Work with your local Catholic churches and/or schools to see if they need assistance.
- If your members are far apart, create an online challenge and have them post their activity to your social media site.

There are no limits to what you can do!!

This is an excellent time to start planning with your young leaders and recruiting participants as the Lenten season begins. Take the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ's passion and share His love with your community.

After completing your activities, send them to the Sokol Falcon or submit them to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Facebook Page, <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1DtqZK7muY/>. Volunteering is a beautiful experience for those on the receiving end and those giving. I look forward to seeing what our Sokol members do to spread the joy!

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Share our "Sokol Spirit." Zdar Boh!

Andrea M. Tadlock
Supreme Vice-President

MINUTES OF THE 2025 SUPREME PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD MEETING

(Continued from page 5)

Group 4-No Response
 Group 5-No Response
 Group 7
 Participation in the International Golf Tournament
 Participation in the International Bowling Tournament
 Participation in the International Heritage Slet
 Monthly Group meetings
 Celebrated Annual Mass for the Living and Deceased members of Gorup 7 celebrated by Fr. Cirba
 Collected and donated toys in Martin Degnan's name for Toys for Tots at Chaco bowling center
 Supported the annual Easter Flower orders
 Hosted dinner for Fraternalist of the Year award for Group 7-Martin Degnan
 Hosted Group 7 night at the Penguin's hockey game
 Purchased and delivered Easter Meals and Baskets for needy families
 Organized an Easter Pysanky Class to encompass Slovak Traditions
 Participated in Join Hands Day by organizing a basement clean up of the North End Slovak Club
 Annual Group Picnic for all ages
 Annual memorial Golf Tournament in memory of ANdrew "Butch" Hvozdocic
 Hosted Halloween Party
 Hosted Holiday Sign Painting
 Group 8-No Response
 Group 9-No Response
 Group 10-No Response
 Group 11-No Response
 Group 12
 Participated in the International Bowling Tournament
 Participated in the International Heritage Slet
 Participated in the International Golf Tournament
 Group 14
 Dinner delivery for seniors -- February and December
 Participated in the newly revamped International Heritage Slet - July
 Held Two Group Meetings
 Participated in the INternational Golf TOurnament
 Participated in the International Bowling Tournament.
 Join Hands Day Activity
 Sokol Forward Activity
 Sponsorship of sick members
 Group 16-No Response
 Group 17
 Participation in Sokol Men's Golf League
 Annual Golf Outing and BBQ
 Participated in the International Heritage Slet
 Participated in the International Golf Tournament
 Walking Program Participation
 March Our Lady of Sorrows Day at the Races Fundraiser
 St. Nicholas Parish Lent Fish Fry
 April Teenie's Tavern Pierogi Gathering for Lent
 Easter Egg Hunt and decorating at Boardman Park
 May Join Hands Day at Birdfish Brewery, donation to Dollars for Scholars
 June Supported Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak Fest
 October Sokol Scarecrow search at Fellows Riverside Gardens
 November Day of Giving at Our Lady of Sorrows Day at the

Races Fundraiser
 Sponsorship for 2025 Heritage Slet
 Sponsorship for Simply Slavic Community Fest
 Sponsorship for Our Lady of Sorrows Parish
 Group 19
 Participated in the International Bowling Tournament
 Participated in the International Heritage Slet
 Participated in the International Golf Tournament
 Group Golf Tournament
 Group Fundraiser for Heart and Stroke Association
 Group Fundraiser and Participation for the Football Superbowl
 Annual Sts. Cyril & Methodius Communion Breakfast
 Annual Spring (Easter) church bake sale
 Annual Christmas Bazar at church
 Annual summer church picnic
 Sister Katie discussed how she sends local activity ideas to group presidents based on what certain groups do in order to encourage realistic participation in each group. This can be a simple gathering at a local establishment where no planning or extra funds are needed.
 Sister Kathy explained that she will be inviting group presidents and sports directors to a Zoom call in February. She emphasized the importance of all group presidents and sports directors communicating with their own group members and with the SPFB in order to maximize participation. She also mentioned that we will not be continuing with the virtual events that were scheduled as they were not well attended. Unfortunately, attendance at events can be encouraged, but is out of our control.
 Brother Larry inquired which groups made donations to the Heritage Slet. Sister Katie responded that each group contributed in various ways from making a donation to sponsor a specific part of the Slet to paying for the participants in their specific group. Professional signs were printed and displayed for any group, assembly, wreath, or family who made a donation to a specific event in the Slet. It was noted that groups, assemblies, and wreaths are encouraged to make a donation to the Heritage Slet and attend as a participant. Sister Katie added that thank you messages were sent to everyone who made a donation.
 Brother Scott said that despite any communication gaps, it's important that members attend group meetings so that they can hear information directly. Sister Kathy said that another positive effect is that more active people are taking office as group presidents over time. As a board, we're encouraging group presidents to reach out and share information.

Correspondence from groups was presented by Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift. Group 4 suggested a track meet from a distance. After discussion, it was decided that this would be a great idea to conduct at the local level. Internationally we do not feel that it would generate much interest.

Sister Katie led a discussion on strategies to improve communication with and engagement of teens within the organization, prompted by correspondence from Group 4. The committee discussed the potential use of social media for communication, noting the challenges associated with monitoring such platforms. It was agreed that a "Teen Spotlight" feature will be introduced in the Falcon. This initiative will include the distribution of a Google Form to collect information recognizing the accomplishments of teens within the organization. Sister Katie also received an encouraging letter from Group 14 regarding the positives of the Heritage Slet and how it benefits our organization because the format included members of all ages and brought about more fraternalism between people who otherwise may have never even

met one another.

Brother Larry asked for clarification on the specific feedback received from the groups regarding the 2025 Heritage Slet. Sister Katie summarized that overall the feedback was very positive, with some helpful suggestions to improve the event. A significant benefit of the revised Slet format is that it allows all groups to intermingle, encouraging social interaction rather than major competition. As a result, factors such as age groups, gender, and group size are no longer required considerations in planning.

A motion was made by Chris Antosy to approve the reports of Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich and Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift. Seconded by Robert Palchanis III.

A report on the walking program was presented by Supreme Physical Directress Katie Swift, as Supreme Assistant Physical Directress Nancy Kropolinsky was excused from the meeting due to a funeral. It was reported that there were 48 participants. Prizes will be sent out by March. Nancy suggested that September be designated as a bonus month with more incentives. Additionally, Sister Katie recommended adding a hike to the Heritage Slet.

A motion was made by SPFB Member, Zach Manyak to approve the walking program report. Seconded by SPFB Member Kristen Plevoetz.

A review of the 2025 bowling and golf tournaments was presented by Director of Sports and Athletics Kathleen Watkins. The 2025 bowling tournament saw 63 participants, an increase from 42 participants in 2024. The casino venue was very well received by the bowlers. The golf tournament had 101 participants, maintaining the same level of participation as in previous years.

A motion was made by SPFB Member, Janice Matlon to approve the report of the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics. Seconded by SPFN Member, Chris Antosy.

The second session was adjourned for a short break.

The third session was called to order by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins.

New Business

The Sunshine Fund was reviewed by Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member, Janice Matlon. Please Venmo your contribution as soon as possible.

Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich reviewed article assignments for 2026: All articles are due by February 15th to ensure publication in the Falcon.

- March
 - Kaite
 - Nancy
 - Kathy to send Bowling application and information
- May
 - Kristen
 - Kathy to send golf tournament application and information
- July
 - Janice- review of Bowling Tournament
- September
 - Katie/ Dusan- review of Heritage Slet,
 - Zack- review of Golf Tournament
- November
 - Chris

2026 International Sporting Events

	EVENT DATE	VENUE	SPFB ASSIGNMENT
Bowling	May 15-16	Meadows Casino and Racetrack Washington, PA	Janice Matlon
Heritage Slet	July 16-19	Peek 'n Peak Resort Clymer, New York	TBD
Golf	August 7-8	Pocono Hills Golf Club /	

Pocono Club Golf
East Stroudsburg, PA Zack Manyak

Discussion about continuing to encourage groups to participate in Join Hands Day in May and Day of Giving in November. We will be adding a Sokol Walking Program giveaway in September. Brother Chris suggested participating in a March Madness bracket through ESPN that can be promoted through Facebook. This link can also be emailed. Chris will organize that. Prizes can be given to the top scorers. The SPFB agreed that this was a great idea. Brother Chris suggested participating in a March Madness bracket through ESPN that can be promoted through Facebook. This link can also be emailed. Chris will organize that. Prizes can be given to the top scorers. This will be added to our yearly activities.

Sister Kathy discussed whether youth can participate in our bowling and golf events with the minimum age being 14 years old. All agreed that this is a way to encourage more participation. Sister Kathy will develop a set of rules and regulations for the younger age group. This has been done for the past few tournaments, it was just not officially advertised.

Sister Katie stated that, as part of SPFB communications, posts will be made on Facebook once a month on an assigned date (e.g., the fourth of each month). Most members will schedule their posts to coincide with their birthdays.

2026 Supreme Physical Fitness Board recommendations were presented by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins.

2026 Annual Supreme Physical Fitness Board Recommendations

The proposed recommendations from the 2026 Supreme Physical Fitness Board meeting are presented below for review and approval at the Board of Directors meeting. The SPFB recommends the following:

1. An allotment of \$65 per bowler for the International Bowling Tournament for bowling fee, prize allotment, luncheon, and souvenir.
2. An allotment of \$65.00 per golfer for the International Golf Tournament for banquet, prize money, and souvenir.
3. An allotment not to exceed \$2,000 for the Walking Program for all related mailings, certificates and prizes.
4. One additional worker for the golf tournament.
5. An allotment of \$2000 to cover the cost of miscellaneous supplies/ prizes needed for any additional events organized by the SPFB throughout the year.
6. Recommend that headquarters cover the cost of three dinners (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) and all activities associated with the 2026 Heritage Slet.

Lodging, travel, and any additional meal expenses shall be the responsibility of the individual.

Sister Swift and Brother Dorich discussed the 2026 Heritage Slet. The format will stay the same, It will be held at Peak'n Peek from July 16-19, 2026. They encourage all members to consider coming and enjoying this event for all ages. Encourage members to book as soon as possible

Tentative schedule:
Thursday – A golf scramble will be offered (at an additional fee), Opening ceremony and team games in the evening
Friday - Bingo, mini golf, paint ball, pool time, corn hole tournament
Sat - Bible scavenger hunt, high ropes course, closing ceremony,

(Continued on page 24)

MINUTES OF THE 2025 SUPREME PHYSICAL FITNESS BOARD MEETING

(Continued from page 23)

drill exhibition

Specifics for the event:

- Undecided on number of workers, pending attendance
- Reviewed schedule of Heritage Slet and activities
- Unanimous support for SCS headquarters to finance the activities and meals as they did last year.
- Suggestion to bring sports equipment to open gym area such as footballs and soccer balls
- Peek 'n Peak was chosen because it was the most cost-effective without being a camp or too expensive.
- Negotiated a better deal for rooms compared to last year.
- Thursday night meal will be included this year.
- Encourage all group members to sign up ASAP.
- Golf tournament on Thursday with a scramble format (additional fee)
- Possible Christmas in July theme
- All activities will be the same as last year with possible additions .
- Recommending to BOD for approval that the funding remain the same as last year with headquarters paying the cost of the meals and activities and the group/individual be responsible for all other costs.
- Bingo will not be held at same time as another activity as all ages wanted to participate
- Group sponsorship is encouraged
- Possible STEM activity
- If you would like to be part of the drill exhibition at the 2026 Heritage Slet, there are 2 options. Pick one of the newly created drills choreographed by the SPFB or create your own. This is exhibition only (this will not be a judged competition)
- SPFB starts it with a drill at opening ceremony
- A limit of two pre-choreographed routines per group (no exceptions)
- Routines are no longer than two minutes
- Music must be appropriate and approved by the Supreme Directress and Supreme Director
- Music needs to be able to connect to a bluetooth speaker
- No flipping, stunts, or lifting off the ground
- Movements must be appropriate for a Catholic organization
- Dress Uniform will be any Sokol shirt and shorts – thighs, stomach, and chest must be covered
- Props are allowed without explosives, glitter, or confetti. Must be preapproved.
- Chariots of Fire will be performed by any participant who wishes to perform.

Sister Kathy also emphasized that whoever wants to participate in our events, whether or not you are officially working an event, should come.

A motion was made by Dusan Dorich to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Katie Swift.

Closing Prayer was led by SPFB Member, Zack Manyak.

Respectfully submitted,

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board



Congratulations to **Groups 3/Assembly 28 and Group 12** on being honored as the **2025 Sokol Forward Leaders!** \$150 will be donated to the Group's non-profit organization that they support.

Group 3/Assembly 28

Since 2021, Group 3 and Assembly 28, led by the Cyr/Manyak family, have passionately dedicated themselves to raising funds for the PAN-MASS Challenge in support of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, in honor of Lori (Manyak) Cyr. Each year, they help raise \$12,000 to enable David Cyr and Makenzie (Cyr) Parella to participate in the 168-mile cycling challenge, uniting to fight cancer and inspire hope. - <https://www.pmc.org/>

Group 12

The mother-daughter duos, Joann and Elizabeth, and Megan and Adeline Antosy of Group 12 have created hundreds of Bonding Hearts for Cooper University Health NICU babies, and their count continues to grow. The hearts allow babies and parents to connect when they physically cannot be close. Their dedication to the Cooper University Health NICU babies gives families a tender way to feel connected during incredibly challenging times. Each heart symbolizes love and connection, supporting both babies and their families throughout their NICU journey. - <https://www.helplinecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/Bonding-Hearts-New.pdf>

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Groups 14, 16, and 17 for their remarkable service to their communities in 2025. Your unwavering kindness, compassion, and dedication illuminate the path for others, inspiring us all to be better. Thank you for your continuous commitment to charitable works, which serves as a beacon of hope and encouragement.

I encourage all members to share your community outreach in 2026 to inspire others in a Sokol Forward Spotlight by emailing me at vp@slovakcatholicssokol.org.

2025 SOKOL FORWARD LEADERS

Greetings Christine, Joann, Elizabeth, Megan, and Adeline, It is with great joy that I share the wonderful news: the Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors has chosen Group 3/Assembly 28 and Group 12 as the 2025 Sokol Forward Leaders! This decision reflects your dedication and the profound impact you and your groups have in uplifting our local communities.

As a token of our appreciation for your leadership, the Slovak Catholic Sokol will proudly donate \$150 each to the PAN-MASS Challenge in honor of Lori Manyak/Cyr and the Cooper University Health NICU. Your commitment to supporting those in need resonates deeply with us, and we are grateful for the compassion you bring to our communities.

I have attached a copy of the Slovak Catholic Falcon article announcing the results.

Thank you for being a bright example of care and generosity. Together, we continue to inspire and uplift those around us, and for that, we are truly proud. Zdar Boh!

With warm regards,
Andrea M. Tadlock
Supreme Vice-President

ANYONE CAN COOK!

BY CHRIS ANTOSY

Just like Chef Auguste Gusteau proudly declared in Ratatouille, we all can, and should, cook!

Slovakia has a rich history of food, rooted in wheat, potatoes, onions, cabbage, milk, and pork. Slovak food was borne out of necessity in the numerous self-sufficient villages that dot the landscape from the High Tatras and down to the Danube River. The varied landscape created distinct regional flavors, all based upon what was able to be grown and cultivated in the region. The ingredients were all produced by local families and sold at local markets, which enabled a true local flavor to flourish with minimal outside influences.

It took me a long time to truly enjoy halupky with the cabbage. I used to always take the cabbage off. My dad would say that I was just eating a broken down hamburger at that point. I may have not liked the taste when I was a kid, but I sure did love the smell. Whenever I smell cabbage today, it takes me straight to that tiny kitchen in Millmont, PA, and I start wanting to look for the Tasty-cakes in the candy drawer and the fudgesicles in the freezer.

The following recipes come from my Grandmother, Irene (Me-Mom) Harak. Many years ago, my sister Elizabeth and mom Jo Ann decided to put together a cookbook from my Grandmother's recipe cards. These cards were able to preserve the tastes that we knew as kids that we can now pass down to our own children.

I will give three recipes: a main dish, a side dish, and a dessert.

MAIN DISH: HALUSKY WITH CABBAGE

1 head cabbage, cored and chopped
 2 tsp. Salt, sprinkled through cabbage
 Let stand 10 minutes. Squeeze out liquid from cabbage. Brown 3 tablespoons butter; add 1 medium onion chopped. Add cabbage. Saute until tender.

Halusky:

2 c. flour, 1 c. grated raw potatoes, 1 egg, beaten, 1 tsp. salt, ¼ c. water (more or less if needed)

Mix thoroughly. Drop small portions of dough into salted, boiling water with back of a wet spoon. Cook for 2 minutes or until halusky comes to the top.

SIDE DISH: THANKSGIVING FILLING

25 oz. Hungry Jack Instant potatoes, 2 cups celery (grated), 3 small onions (grated), 2 large packs of Betty's Bread Filling
 Serves 15-20

Make mashed potatoes according to directions on box. Mix with rest of ingredients. Put into well greased 9x12 pan. Bake at 350° till top is golden brown, 30-45 minutes

DESSERT: NUT ROLL

7 cups flour, ½ lb. butter, 1 pint sour cream, 5 eggs, 2 tsp. Vanilla, ½ tsp. Baking soda, ½ tsp. Salt, 2 pks. Yeast (dry), ¾ cup sugar

Mix and separate into 1lb. Let rise for ½ hr. Mix 1 ¼ cup of chopped nuts, sugar (to taste). Roll out dough ¼ in thick. Spread butter generously on dough plus nut mixture. Roll tightly and let rise for 1 hour. Bake at 350° 30-45 minutes.

It is important that we continue our traditions for our future generations to maintain our cultural identity, and one of the best ways to do this is through food culture. No matter how the meal turns out, cooking with your kids strengthens family bonds, builds self confidence, and promotes a space for positive connections and interactions. One day that cabbage will taste good; you just have to keep working at it.

SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS APPEAL OF THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC FEDERATION

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is in its 48th year raising money to assist the Pontifical Slovak Institute and 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 January 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 February 20, the 2026 Appeal has received \$7,249.00 from 75 donors. Among the 19 donations received from Catholic Slovak Fraternal Branches and Districts, Assembly 48, Assembly 162, Group 7, and Group 12 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol have donated a combined total of \$450.00. Donations to date have also been received from 1 church, 9 clergy and religious, and 46 individuals. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

All wishing to contribute to the 2026 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, 2026 will be credited toward the 2027 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. HvozdoVIC, 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, Pennel, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.



48TH 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, Pennel, PA 19047-4052*

REPORTS OF THE SUPREME OFFICERS FOR 2025

REPORT OF THE SUPREME CHAPLAIN

Pochvalen bud' Pan Jezis Kristus!

Blessed be The Lord Jesus Christ!

Vazeny clenstvo, (Esteemed membership);

In Compliance with Section 4.0 article (h) of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my report of activities for the calendar year 2025.

The duties, obligations and responsibilities of the Office of the Supreme Chaplain are clearly spelled out in the Bylaws. I tried to the best of my ability to fulfill them.

Following is a listing and brief explanation of my activities:

I attended/ participated in three of the four quarterly Board of Director meetings opening and closing each session with prayer, along with saying Mass for the meeting held in person to fulfill the Sunday obligation, which were called by our Supreme President.

I participated in and provided Mass for the participants and guests who attended the Inaugural Heritage Slet held at Peek & Peak Resorts.

I provided Mass for the participants and guests at the International Golf Tournament held at Sharon, PA to fulfill their Sunday obligation.

I was honored to be able to represent our organization on September 13th for the 60th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Mother of Sorrows Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC.

As National President for the Slovak Catholic Federation I conducted the order of business for both the Spring and Fall Board meetings as well as represented our organization as per one of my duties in the bylaws.

As per the Duties of the Supreme Chaplain, Section 4.0 (d) I followed through, to the best my ability, inviting our Group Chaplains to submit articles for publication in the Slovak Catholic Falcon, as they wish, concerning matters of our Catholic Faith, or any other topic they choose to share with our membership for publication.

I submitted articles for the official publication of our organization, The Falcon, as published, which I trust were found to be informative.

I sincerely wish to thank my mom for her love and support over this past year. To the parishioners of Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, PA and Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake, PA, I am appreciative for their patience and understanding during my absence from the parish for me to fulfill my duties as Supreme Chaplain.

I am most appreciative to our Supreme President, Mr. Larry Glugosh for his encouragement and support, along with our Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, FIC for his time, energy, and dedication to the Slovak Catholic Sokol, and his support shown to me.

I pray that we commit ourselves to do our part to live our organization's slogan,

"A Sound Mind in a Sound Body", and we defend our organization's motto, "For God and Nation".

As we begin our 121st year we can be very proud of our impressive past, may we commit ourselves to assure a promising future.

ZDAR BOH!

Rev. Andrew S. Hvozovic

Supreme Chaplain

REPORT OF THE SUPREME PRESIDENT

In compliance with our Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my annual written activity report as the Supreme President for the Slovak Catholic Sokol. The last year has been a tremendous experience and it has been my privilege and honor to serve the Slovak Catholic Sokol and represent the membership. I would like to sincerely thank the Supreme Assembly, especially the Board of Directors for their guidance, dedication and support. Your leadership included a healthy blend of insight, youthful enthusiasm and knowledgeable experience throughout the year, which certainly helped contribute to and enable our overall success. It has been a real pleasure to work with our Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec F.I.C. Brother Scott supported my efforts throughout the year and provided me the necessary insight, which helped enable my position as the Supreme President. Thank you, Brother Scott, for your leadership, professionalism and friendship, especially through some very challenging personal setbacks. In addition, I would sincerely like to thank the Home Office staff, our local and Group officers and our editorial staff for their continued support, cooperation and contribution to our society. My duties, obligations and responsibilities are clearly outlined in the Bylaws and I have performed these duties to the best of my ability, keeping in mind the best interests of our membership and the organization, as a whole. My primary responsibility is to provide leadership, executive business knowledge and change management experience to help enable the Supreme Assembly and general membership to achieve our financial, operational, fraternal and spiritual goals as a society. In general, the feedback from our membership has been positive regarding our efforts but we will not rest on our past success but rather continue to improve our business operations, financial and sales results, fraternal programs and spiritual guidance. We have always listened to suggestions from our members for the betterment of our organization. As leaders we must always remember to keep an open mind, work as a team and remain personally accountable for our actions and commitments to the organization. The following outlines my activities for the past year of service.

Meetings and Activities

During 2025, I chaired each quarterly Board of Director meeting regardless of the location. During each meeting we would review the financial aspects of the society, our sales and marketing initiatives, our fraternal activities and the overall operations for the organization. Throughout the year we established many improvements and changes for the betterment of our membership including our decision to transition our Q4 face to face board meeting to a zoom call in order to reduce expenses for our society. This change means that the Board of Directors will only gather together once a year verses twice a year and if possible,

this meeting will take place during the Fraternalist of the Year ceremony, thus saving additional funds for the society. We also instituted a change with regards to our monthly publication, since we now only generate 6 editions per year versus 12 in past years. Both efforts are cost reduction initiatives but we will ensure we have effective meetings and maintain our communication to the membership. It was a challenging year but we managed to achieve our key objectives, including the overall improvement of our portfolio yield. We accomplished this by taking on a bit more risk in our portfolio, selling off some underperforming investments and shortening our maturity on some new bonds. We also generated some profits by selling off some equities that have done very well for our society over the years. This conscience effort and focus will keep us competitive in the annuity markets; ensure we have the necessary funds to cover our cost and generate long term benefits for our society. Last fall I represented our society and attended the American Fraternal Alliance annual meeting in Cleveland OH. It was a good opportunity to learn about what is happening across the entire fraternal insurance industry and to gain insight as to how our society can benefit from these learnings. It is also a good networking meeting, since many of our fellow Catholic and Slovak fraternal organizations are present.

Fraternal Programs

As a member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board, I attended the annual meeting and supported our athletic program to the best of my ability. It was always my pleasure to address our members at the various events throughout each year, especially at our international bowling and golf tournaments. I would like to thank all of the participants and athletes for their remarkable display of talent, enthusiasm and Sokol fraternalism. My congratulations to the various tournament winners and our Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sportsmanship award recipients, namely Karen Bakita for bowling and Steven Papcun for golf. Both are well deserving of this prestigious award for their lifetime contribution and achievements to our program. In addition, I would like to congratulate our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen S. Watkins and the members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board and the volunteers from the Supreme Assembly for their tireless effort, dedication and commitment to this fraternal program. Your commitment to our youth extends beyond athletics, as we provide spiritual guidance and direction to our membership through the consistent support and leadership from our Supreme Chaplain Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic. Thank you for your continued devotion, direction and dedication to our organization and for providing our membership with spiritual nourishment. Last May, I actively participated in our National Join Hand Day program. In our local area we collected nonperishable items and dropped them off at the Compass Food Bank. It was a rewarding feeling to help those in need in our local community. As a local group we repeated this effort in the fall, when we got together to once again collect clothes and food for the local shelter, as part of our newly created Fraternal Day. We hope more assemblies and wreaths will take part in these special days and also participate in our

Sokol Forward program, which we launched last year. In addition, I participated at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship meeting which was chaired by our Supreme Vice President Andrea Tadlock. There were many worthy College, High School and Grade School applicants. We reviewed their individual submissions, financial need and fraternal activities in order to select our annual recipients. We should be very proud of our youth and I can tell you their creative submissions were very impressive. My sincerest congratulations to all of our 2025 scholarship winners. I would also like to commend our Board of Directors for their decision to maintain this annual meeting as a conference call, in order to reduce cost, while still maintaining our efficiency. The Fraternalist of the Year is indeed one of our best recognized programs in our organization. Every year our Board of Directors reviews the nominations from our members and selects an individual to represent our society as the Fraternalist of the Year. The award provides the local group an opportunity to host a celebration in the recipient's honor. Last March, we gathered together to reflect on the life, contributions and achievements of our 2025 recipient, Brother Martin Degnan. As most of you know, Brother Marty passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. It was our pleasure to gather in Wilkes Barre, PA to remember the man, son, brother, uncle and fraternal friend, that touched and enhanced our lives with his kindness, compassion and love. He is truly missed but we believe he is smiling down on us and at peace.

In Conclusion

In addition to the above list of activities and events, I continue to enroll new members, increase my own family's insurance and contribute articles to our newspaper. I will continue to work hard and stay focused on your behalf to achieve the key objectives of our organization, namely growth in our membership, a continued love and understanding of our Slovak heritage, to promote our fraternal activity and the continued solvency in our organization. With this in mind, I believe the administration worked productively and efficiently on behalf of the membership. As part of the process we shared perspectives, maintained a positive outlook and gained insight from each other's experiences. During the past year, we have lost many wonderful, dedicated fraternal brothers and sisters who have gone to their heavenly rest. All of them will be sadly missed but their impact and legacy will remain in our hearts and minds. On behalf of the Supreme Assembly, I would like to offer my deepest and heartfelt appreciation to their families of our deceased members for their contribution over the years.

Finally, my parents enriched my life when they enrolled me as a member of this tremendous organization and I continue to foster and carry forward their values and history with my own family. In addition, we all need support to do our best work and accomplished our goals. My supporter is my wife Susanna and my family, who provide me guidance, understanding, compassion and love. It has been an interesting, busy and rewarding year and I wish to thank the membership for your support and confidence in my ability to represent our organization. God Bless all of

(Continued on page 28)

REPORTS OF THE SUPREME OFFICERS FOR 2025

(Continued from page 27)

our members and I wish you continued good health, happiness and love.

Respectfully and Fraternaly Submitted,

Larry M. Glugosh

Supreme President

REPORT OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY

Slavna Rocna Schodza!

In compliance with Section 4.3, Article (n) page 24 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my written Annual Report for the year 2025 to the Supreme Board of Directors.

My duties, obligations, and responsibilities as the Supreme Secretary are clearly listed in our Bylaws and I have performed these duties for the past year to the best of my ability. I wish to report that all decisions made by the Board of Directors and any City, State or Federal mandates have been executed as required.

This past year our organization celebrated its 120th Anniversary as a fraternal benefit society. I would like to thank our Board of Directors, especially our Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh, for his dedication, support, and friendship over this year and many years before.

After reviewing all the financial reports, I am certain that you will concur with me that our organization, like others, has experienced and endured another year filled with challenges and uncertainties. In 2025, our Organization continued to restructure our investment portfolio that, while resulting in short-term losses, should yield long-term gains and stability in the future for the Slovak Catholic Sokol. The Society continues to remain financially strong even after providing numerous fraternal benefits and services to our members.

HOME OFFICE EFFICIENCY

As in previous years, the Home Office continues to make every effort possible to provide courteous and efficient service as needed. The employees are constantly updating and requesting information on behalf of our members. Along with our software provider, the Home Office staff have gone through extensive training in getting information to our members and agents in a quick and efficient manner. We continue to update our administration software and look for ways to be more efficient and cost-effective.

During the past year, we have consistently updated the hardware and software used in our Editorial Department and have made upgrades to our Sokol Website. We have also made significant inroads in the ever-changing world of social media as we look to engage all members of our Society. I would like to thank Livia Karak and Louie Smeriglio for all their hard work and dedication in publishing the Sokol Falcon.

During the year in my capacity as the Supreme Secretary, it was necessary to attend various Financial and insurance seminars, meetings, and classes. New rules and regulations on both the state and federal level continue to emerge. The reporting process to all the life insurance related agencies and State Insurance Departments is an

important task, but necessary to protect our fine organization. The Home Office staff and Board of Directors have done a great job meeting all the requirements and making the necessary changes to operate in an efficient manner.

Looking ahead to the future, I am confident that with the support of our Supreme Officers, Home Office Staff, and our members, we will continue to make prudent decisions to meet all challenges that may come our way.

STATISTICS

The amount of Premium Income received during the year was \$6,111,000 of which \$1,600,000 was for life insurance premiums and \$4,511,000 was annuity premiums. The face amount of insurance written totaled \$2,000,000 and the total amount of insurance in force was \$228,286,000. The Society has 25,105 members with 27,190 certificates in force and 65 Assemblies/Wreaths. Assets as of 12/31/2025 were \$90,528,000, and the Adjusted Unassigned Funds total \$5,830,000. The Solvency ratio is a financially strong, 106%.

COMMENTS

The Society held many successful activities at all levels of our organization. I would like to commend our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen S. Watkins, and the entire Supreme Physical Fitness Board for their efforts throughout the year. Our fraternal programs are a two-way street, and we absolutely need the support and participation of all members.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere fraternal thanks and gratitude to our Directors, Honorary Supreme Officers, and all members of the Supreme Assembly for their support and cooperation throughout the year, especially once again our Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh. Your passion and love for the Slovak Catholic Sokol is very much appreciated. To all our Group, Assembly, and Wreath Officers, again I say "thank you" for all the work and dedication you bring to our Society. And finally, I would like to thank all our loyal members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

CONCLUSION

As the Slovak Catholic Sokol begins its 121st year as a Fraternal Benefit Society, the administrators of our organization will face numerous challenges concerning the life insurance industry. I have the utmost confidence in our Supreme Board of Directors and our professionals that the membership of our fine organization will always come first.

In closing it is especially important to me to thank my Wife, Maggie, my sons, Reid Thomas and Cole William, and my entire Family. Thank you for all the love, patience, and support you have given me and for always being there to provide inspiration.

God Bless our Board of Directors, all our Members and the Slovak Catholic Sokol! Zdar Boh!

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

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY AS OF 12/31/25

ASSETS	2025	2024
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,008,734	\$ 1,624,336
Investments - Bonds & Bills	81,328,741	79,792,873
Investments - Stocks	4,563,902	5,457,538
First Mortgage Loans	500,340	522,354
Loans on Certificates	447,533	381,981
Accrued Interest Receivable	689,492	691,523
Sokol Building/Land	340,322	344,060
Accounts Receivable	34,363	39,423
Electronic equipment and Software	4,789	9,789
Aggregate Write-In	610,424	557,231
Prepaid Items	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ <u>90,528,640</u>	\$ <u>89,421,108</u>
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES	2025	2024
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Life Reserves	\$ 76,780,812	\$ 74,029,657
Asset Valuation Reserve	1,148,688	1,446,976
Interest Maintenance Reserve	-	-
Reserve for Supplemental Contracts	1,676,610	2,136,563
Reserve Emp. Retirement Plan	4,278,532	4,248,325
Reserve for Convention	140,000	80,000
Claims Payable	247,673	288,438
Conversion - Canadian Currency	5,020	3,119
Accounts Payable	50,000	25,000
Sokol Secure Fund	1,195,527	1,215,432
Mary Jane Rich Scholarship Fund	85,000	85,000
Emil Slavik Scholarship Fund	100,000	100,000
Dr's Lesko Medical Scholarship Fund	20,000	20,000
Yencha Memorial Scholarship	27,950	27,950
Krista L Glugosh Memorial Scholarship Fund	24,000	24,000
Jack Yanosick Scholarship Fund	25,000	25,000
Dividend Payable	30,000	30,000
Advance Premiums	12,359	18,134
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ <u>85,854,296</u>	\$ <u>83,803,594</u>
Unassigned Funds	\$ <u>4,674,344</u>	\$ <u>5,617,515</u>

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

INCOME	2025	2024
Investment Income	\$ 3,145,363	\$ 3,082,479
Amortization of IMR	(97,070)	4,816
Dividends on Stocks	171,368	194,361
Interest on Mortgages	23,056	25,074
Interest on Certificate Loans	33,695	27,636
Sale of Cookbooks	62	588
Rent Received - Sokol Building	109,014	112,957
Life Premium Income	1,546,000	1,694,991
Annuity Income	4,565,000	5,173,802
Suppl. Contract	100,409	12,330
Miscellaneous Income	27,668	229,388
Sale of Securities/Amortization	443,538	479,349
TOTAL INCOME	\$ <u>10,068,103</u>	\$ <u>11,037,771</u>
EXPENSES	2025	2024
Death Benefit Claims Paid	\$ 1,767,583	\$ 1,620,754
Interest Expense	91,729	58,771
Fraternal Expenses	502,245	587,327
General Expenses	938,354	1,012,673
Employee Retirement Expenses	349,982	393,000
Commissions	176,051	222,028
Annuity Benefits	3,553,062	7,325,188
Taxes & Fees	59,117	79,604
Reserve Increase	2,753,446	(754,054)
Cash Surrenders	442,434	282,861
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ <u>10,634,003</u>	\$ <u>10,828,152</u>
TOTAL INCOME (LOSS)	\$ <u>(565,900)</u>	\$ <u>209,619</u>

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

OBITUARIES

JOHN D. POGORELEC, SR., ESQ

John D. Pogorelec, Sr. of Clifton, NJ, passed away on February 21, 2026.



Born in Passaic, John grew up in Garfield and Clifton and was the son of Albert and Anna Pogorelec. He graduated from Pope Pius XII High School in Passaic in 1960 and Seton Hall University in 1964. John received his law degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Law in 1967.

During law school, John married Phyllis (Iannacone), his wife of over 60 years, and later moved back to New Jersey to begin his legal career. John and Phyllis settled in Clifton to raise their family.

John was an expert in trust and estates, real estate, and elder law, helping his clients – many of whom were from the surrounding Slovak and Polish communities – navigate important stages of their lives. John served Clifton as legal counsel for several governing bodies, including as assistant attorney for the city and attorney for Clifton's Zoning Board of Adjustment and Planning Board. John represented Clifton for over 50 years during a tremendous period of growth. John advocated for his clients vigorously, but always with compassion and empathy.

For over 40 years, John served in prominent roles both locally and nationally in the Slovak community, notably as the General Counsel for the Slovak Catholic Sokol (SCS), a fraternal life insurance and benefit society for Slovaks in the United States. He also was president of the local and state chapters of the organization. Through his work at the SCS, John assumed leadership roles in the Association of Fraternal Benefit Counsel and the National Fraternal Congress of America (now the American Fraternal Alliance) – umbrella groups serving fraternal orders – and he was elected as president of both organizations. John enjoyed giving back to the SCS and helping to maintain Slovak culture in the United States.

Active in community life, John served as president of the parish council and Holy Name Society of the S.S. Cyril & Methodius Roman Catholic Church, where he was a parishioner his entire life. He also was president of the Kiwanis Club of Clifton, a member of the local Knights of Columbus council, and served as attorney for the Preakness Healthcare Center in Wayne. John was appointed by the governor of New Jersey to sit on the Ethnic Advisory Council, Health Care Facilities Financing Authority, and the Health Care Administration Board during the late 1970s and 1980s. He was actively involved in Passaic County's political life, serving as a member of Clifton's Democratic Club for many years.

John's joy in life was his family: his beloved wife Phyllis; his children – John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., Pamela and

her husband Robert C. Hess, Esq., Jason P. Pogorelec, Esq., and his wife Alexandra; and his cherished grandchildren – Ashley, Brooke, and Rebecca Hess and Suzanne and Thomas Pogorelec. One of his favorite activities was spending time with his family at his shore home in Mantoloking, where he enjoyed deep-sea fishing, boating, and long walks on the beach.

John is survived by his brother Steven Pogorelec and his wife Anne, his brother Eugene Pogorelec, D.O., his sister-in-law Michele Pogorelec, his sister-in-law Sharon Iannacone, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother Albert Pogorelec and his wife Elizabeth, his brother Emil Pogorelec, D.O., and his brother-in-law Allan Iannacone, Esq.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at 11:00 a.m., at S.S. Cyril & Methodius Roman Catholic Church, 225 Ackerman Avenue, in Clifton. A private burial service will follow the Mass.

JOSEPH J. KACMARCIC SR.

Joseph J. Kacmarcik Sr., 96, formerly of Prescott Rd., died Saturday, December 20, 2025 at his home in Stuart, FL, after a brief illness.

He is survived by his loving wife of 73 years, Shirley A. (Norman) Kacmarcik; 2 daughters, Joan M. Warner and her husband Daniel of Canoga Park, CA, and Ann M. Kacmarcik-Budroe and her husband Joseph of Whitinsville; 2 sons, Joseph J. Kacmarcik Jr. of Dudley, and David A. Kacmarcik and his wife Laurie of Nasonville, RI; 10 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren, and several nephews and nieces. He was predeceased by his daughter, Elaine Kacmarcik Knight in 1984; 2 sons, Peter M. Kacmarcik in 2007, and John P. Kacmarcik in 2020; his granddaughter, Heather Ann Kacmarcik in 2005, and was brother of the late Michael J. Kacmarcik Jr.



Born in Douglas on January 22, 1929, Mr. Kacmarcik was the son of Michael J. Sr., and Anna Susan (Michna) Kacmarcik, and was raised in Douglas. He lived many years on Prescott Rd., in Whitinsville, where he raised his family. He has lived in Stuart, FL since 1989. He was a graduate of Douglas High School, and soon after, proudly enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, serving in the Medical Corps.

A hard worker, Joe was employed at the former Schuster Woolen Company in Douglas, and as a Carding Supervisor at Felter's Mill in Millbury. He was a member of St. Patrick's Church in Whitinsville and St. Joseph's Church in Stuart, FL, the American Legion, the Elks Club, and the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Over the years, he and Shirley enjoyed travelling, visiting every state in the U.S., exploring Europe, and taking several cruises. Above all, he was a family man who always put others ahead of himself and was a loving husband, father, and grandfather.

His funeral was held on Dec. 29, 2025 in St. Patrick's Church, 1 Cross St., Whitinsville. Burial with full military honors followed in St. Patrick's Cemetery.



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<http://slovakcatholicsokol.org/members/memorialfrmframe.htm>

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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