

Za Boha a Národ



For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

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Highlights of the 10th Annual Children's Sokol Bowlingfest hosted by Group 1 Garden Palace Bowling Lanes + Clifton, New Jersey + Sunday, February 15th



During Ash Wednesday rite**Cardinal Tomko imposes ashes on Pope Francis****Cardinal Jozef Tomko and Pope Francis**

Continuing in a centuries old tradition, Cardinal Jozef Tomko imposed ashes on Pope Francis on Ash Wednesday, at a Mass inaugurating the Lenten season on February 22 at the historical Church of Saint Sabina located on the Aventine hill, one of the seven hills of Rome. A minor basilica, it is the mother church of the Order of Preachers better known as the Dominicans. The church dates from 422 A.D. with a bell tower and cloisters. Santa Sabina is widely considered one of the best examples of an early Christian church in Rome. By tradition, the Pope begins the Lenten season by presiding over the traditional penitential procession from the Church of Saint Anselm to the first Lenten station to the nearby basilica of Santa Sabina where he celebrates Mass. The titular pastor of the church has the privilege of imposing ashes on the Pope. Cardinal Jozef Tomko, retired Prefect of the Congregation for

the Evangelization of Peoples, is the present Cardinal priest of Santa Sabina. Pope Francis was celebrant of the liturgy. Following his homily, he blessed the ashes and received the imposition from Cardinal Tomko. This tradition was revived by Saint John XXIII in 1962 and has continued ever since.

When the Holy Father names Cardinals, he appoints each to serve as a symbolic pastor of one of the churches in Rome. Every cardinal then has a titular church in the Eternal City of which he is pastor to signify the universality of the ministry of the Bishop of Rome and his clergy. When St. John Paul II named Cardinal Tomko to the order of Cardinal Priests, he assigned him as Cardinal Priest of the Church of Santa Sabina which is one of Rome's Stational Churches. Santa Sabina is one of the early titular or parish churches of Rome. Beginning in the third century, these churches were

gathering places for the Bishop of Rome (the Pope) to gather with his clergy and lay people to celebrate liturgy on certain days. Imposing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful remind them to do good works of penance, especially during the season of Lent. To date, Cardinal Tomko has imposed ashes to inaugurate the Lenten season in Rome on the late St. John Paul II, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and now Pope Francis.

A native of Udavské in eastern Slovakia, Cardinal Tomko was born there March 11, 1924. On March 12, 1949, he was ordained to the priesthood in Rome. Due to the communist takeover of the then Czechoslovakia, Father Tomko was not able to return to serve in ministry in his native Archdiocese of Kosice. He remained in Rome pursuing advance studies and serving in a number of positions within the Roman Curia. St. John Paul II personally ordained him a bishop on September 15, 1979 and named him General Secretary of the Synod of Bishops. On April 24, 1985 he was appointed Pro-Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. On May 25, 1985, St. John Paul II elevated him to Cardinal. Thus, this May, Cardinal Tomko, the senior Slovak clergyman in the Church, celebrates the 30th anniversary of his elevation to the Cardinalate. He continues to enjoy good health and is interested in many activities on behalf of the Church. We offer him our continued prayers and warm fraternal wishes. Ad multos, gloriosos annos and Zdar Boh!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
AND SAVE THE DATES!****August 1- 5, 2015****Groups - Assemblies - Wreaths
for the****Slovak Catholic Sokol
32nd Quadrennial Convention**

**at the
Doubletree By Hilton
Pittsburgh - Greentree
500 Mansfield Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15205**

**Zdar Boh!
Plan now to be there!****ATTENTION ALL SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL MEMBERS**

The 32nd Quadrennial Convention of our organization will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from August 1 to August 5, 2015.

The Bylaws and New Motions Committee will be selected after the Verification and Eligibility Committee meets in April 2015.

"ALL" suggested and recommended changes to be considered by these committees, whether they are a Bylaw change or a New Motion, must be submitted in writing and mailed to the Home Office and received by April 24, 2015.

NO FAXED COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED!!

Zdar Boh!

**Larry M. Glugosh
Supreme President**

**Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.
Supreme Secretary**

**25TH ANNUAL
SLOVAK MASS &
EASTER CUSTOMS
BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, March 21, 2015****St. Adalbert Church** *So. 15th Street, South Side***9:45 a.m. --** Recitation of Holy Rosary *(in Slovak)***10:00 a.m. --** Slovak Mass**Prince of Peace Parish Center***81 South 13th Street, South Side***11:00 a.m. -- SAMPLE SLOVAK EASTER FOODS**

*sunka (ham) sirek (egg cheese) hrin (beets & horseradish)
kolbaso (sausage) paska (sweet bread) kolace (baked goods)*

- * Homemade Baked Goods for Sale
- * Cultural Displays
- * Imported Slovak gifts for sale
- * Slovak "Auction" / Raffles
- * Craft Demonstrations:

Decorating Easter Eggs, Braiding Palms, Stuffing Kolbaso, & MORE!

*Donations Gratefully Accepted***For more information call (412) 481-8380****Celebrating Sokol Family Fun Day in Toronto, Canada**

Group 19 and Assembly 227 hosted its annual Sokol Family Fun Day on Sunday, February 22 at the Planet Bowl Lanes in Toronto, Canada. A large turnout of Sokol members of every age enjoyed the celebration of Sokol fellowship and camaraderie. The celebration was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Group as well as the Toronto Assembly. A number of important topics were addressed at the meeting including the upcoming 32nd Quadrennial Convention set for Pittsburgh, Pa., August 1-5. The youngsters who participated are shown in the above photo. They are all looking forward to this summer's 47th International Slet scheduled for Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa.

From the Desk of the Supreme Secretary

My Fraternal View

by Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C.



A BUSY FRATERNAL SEASON AHEAD

Aside from discussing the weather, I want to assure you that hope springs eternal as we anticipate Spring. Most of our members, including some of those residing south of the Mason Dixon Line, have endured a cold, snowy and extremely brutal winter. From the midwest to the northeast and including parts of the south east, we have endured seemingly endless bouts of snow, ice and frigid temperatures. Record cold temperatures have been experienced in many U.S. and Canadian cities. We often use the term "tunnel months" when referring to the first three months of the year. However, let us be assured that there is always light at the end of a tunnel. And so, the third month, March has arrived - the last month of winter. We recall the old saying regarding the month of March - "It can come in like a lamb, and can exit like a lion." In short, March is a very contradictory month bringing days which can be warm or cold. However the fact that Spring begins on March 20 during our Board of Directors meetings is a fact. With Spring in mind, we live in hope anticipating a bright new season with better days ahead. The season of Spring is one perfectly geared for the many fraternal activities which our organization will host. It's time for some of us to change our lifestyle from that of a couch potato to getting out and enjoying the great outdoors with all the sporting and fraternal activities ahead.

As you know, 2015 is a convention year. The convention is the highest governing body in the life a fraternal like our own. Fraternalism is based on our democratic way of life. A convention is an example of the membership planning and guiding our organization for the future. The convention brings together the duly-elected representatives of our organization's Assemblies, Wreaths and Groups in order to evaluate our past four years' performance and to propose new ideas which will guide us in the years ahead. We are a 110-year-old institution which has enjoyed a proud past and hopefully with the enthusiasm and determination of our current leadership today we can look to a continued bright future as well. At your local lodge meetings, I hope that our members are discussing issues which should be addressed at the 32nd Quadrennial Convention. Members can recommend ideas regarding a bylaw change or a new motion. The two important pre-convention committees, the Bylaws Committee and the New Motions Committee will meet in late April to evaluate recommendations sent to them in writing. Representing your local lodge as a delegate is a great fraternal privilege. Over the years, generations of Sokol members have been proud to participate in the convention and contribute to the successful life of our organization. The convention is serious business. Of course, as I have noted in the past, all work and no play makes for an unsuccessful venture. Be assured that there will be ample time to celebrate Sokol fellowship and camaraderie. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet with Sokol members from various parts of the country as well as Canada. Networking is important both in the business world as well as the fraternal life of our organization. We learn from others - what was successful as well as projects which have failed. Together, we can work together to bring continued strength and vitality to the Slovak Catholic Sokol in the years ahead. I remind all our members that March 31st, 2015 is the deadline for receipt of all convention delegate credentials here at the Home Office. Those who are interested have the opportunity to indicate whether they would like to serve on a particular convention committee. The various committees are listed on the delegate credential form. In addition, make sure that you have an alternate or alternates chosen in the event that an elected delegate at the

last minute can not attend the convention. So, I look forward to meeting and greeting our 32nd Quadrennial Convention delegates and assure you of an enjoyable and fruitful gathering in Pittsburgh. Together, we can contribute to the continued growth and strength of our organization.

The new Spring season brings opportunities for our Groups and local lodges to leave the challenges of one of the most severe winter seasons in many years behind us. I am pleased that several of our Groups, Assemblies and Wreaths have already scheduled a number of activities in the months ahead. Whether they be in the form of bowling tournaments, socials, patronal feast day observances, dinner-dances or other activities, they offer opportunities to get out and celebrate Sokol fraternalism. In addition, we have our various district sporting events coming up as well. Belonging to a fraternal like our own affords its members so many opportunities to socialize and enjoy one another's company. I take this opportunity to remind our Groups and lodges that we encourage such activities. The Home Office provides a financial incentive of \$100 on up to two occasions a year in support of these activities hosted by a Group or local lodge.

Spring is also an appropriate time of year to get out and promote the enrollment of new members in our organization. You can begin right within your own family. Has there been a recent marriage or the birth of a child within your family? More 100 percent Sokol families are what our organization needs now more than ever. Perhaps you have made some new friends who are not yet our members. With the many benefits offered by our organization, attracting new members is not that difficult. Of course, purchasing life insurance or investing in an annuity is an important decision. When speaking with potential new members, they can be assured that the Slovak Catholic Sokol is a stable, successful financial institution you can have faith in. We've been around for 110 years with current assets of over \$70 million and insurance in force exceeding \$200 million. Whether you are married or single in your 20s, 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s or 70s, we all need the benefits which only life insurance and annuities can provide. Take a look at your life and ask yourself, "What would happen if I was not here tomorrow?" Each of us needs to ask ourselves two questions: How much money will my family need after my death to meet immediate expenses, funeral costs and debts and how much money will my family need to maintain their standard of living throughout their lifetime? Our organization has the answers. Why not contact our Director of Marketing and Sales, Albert J. Suess, Jr., F.I.C. at 1-855-874-9179 or (412)381-5431 or contact us at the Home Office. We will be pleased to answer any of your questions.

Last weekend I had the opportunity to participate in the 125th Anniversary celebration of the National Slovak Society in Pittsburgh. Founded in 1890, the NSS is the oldest Slovak fraternal organization and we have enjoyed a close and fruitful collaboration over the years. Congratulations to David M. Blazek, National President; Linda Strom, National Secretary-Treasurer as well as all the officers, directors and members of the NSS on this historic occasion.

Finally, as we anticipate Palm Sunday and Holy Week, know that you are in my thoughts and prayers as we enter into the most solemn time of year in our lives as Christians. In my name, as well as that of my lovely wife, Annie, my children and grandchildren, may you all enjoy a wonderful and joyous Easter observance. May our Risen Savior bless you and yours with much love, happiness and good health. Peace be with you, Zdar Boh!

beginning at 10:30 a.m.

SAT.MARCH 28

■ Group 9 bowling tournament at Westmont Bowling Lanes in Johnstown, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m., victory dinner at the Resurrection Oratory (the former St. Rochus Church basement, 314 Eighth Ave.) beginning at 6 p.m., \$30.00 per person; for reservations call Joanne Spisak (814)539-4652.

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

■ Ethnic Heritage Dinner hosted by St. John the Evangelist Parish Community in Seton Catholic Cafeteria, Church St., Pittston, Pa. 1-3 p.m., for reservations call the parish office (570)654-0053.

■ Concert by the Tamburitans, America's Premier Folk Ensemble featuring the music and dance of Slovakia and other Slavic countries at the Rosen Theater at the Wayne YMCA, One Pike Drive, Wayne, N.J. beginning at 2 p.m., ticket price: \$28.00, for information call (877)826-6437, www.duq.edu/tamburitans.

SUN.MARCH 29

■ Assembly 34 annual St. George's Day patronal feast day observance beginning with 9 a.m. Mass at the Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Second Street and 13th Ave., Minneapolis, Minn., full breakfast to follow in the Father George Dargay Memorial Hall of the parish. Free of charge for members, guests welcome.

TUES.MARCH 31

■ Deadline for receipt of all applications for Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants in 2015.

MON.APRIL 6

■ Slovak Heritage Group meeting at Mt. Lebanon Public Library, Castle Shannon Blvd., Pittsburgh, Pa., 7-9 p.m., free of charge; topic for meeting is "The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour" presented by Sue and Rudy Ondrejko.

SAT.APRIL 11

■ Meeting of Group 2 delegates to our 32nd quadrennial convention at Holy Name of Jesus School meeting room, 1950 Barnum Ave., Stratford, Conn. beginning at 10 a.m.

(Continued on page 6)

Due to lack of sufficient participation, the 47th Eastern District Basketball and Volleyball Tournament scheduled for Saturday, March 28 to be hosted by Group 7 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. has been cancelled.

Zdar Boh!

**Dawn Palchanis
Group 7 Sports Director**

OUR NEXT ISSUE IS MARCH 25TH

In keeping with our biweekly publishing schedule, the next issue of the *Slovak Catholic Falcon* will be that of Wednesday, March 25th. Deadline for all photos and information for this issue will be Thursday, March 19th. View *e-Falcon* on our website: www.slovakcatholicfalconsok.org. Thanking you for your continued cooperation in this matter, I remain Zdar Boh!
Daniel F. Tanzone, Editor

Sokol Calendar

SUN.MARCH 15

■ Slovak Independence day observance hosted by Assembly 1 of the Slovak League of America at St. John Nepomucene Social Hall, 407 East 67th St., New York City beginning at 1 p.m., refreshments and cultural program.

MARCH 16-18

■ Annual Audit of the Supreme Au-

ditors at the Home Office in Passaic, N.J. beginning at 8:30 a.m.

MARCH 20-21

■ Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors at the Home Office in Passaic, N.J. beginning at 8:30 a.m.

SAT.MARCH 21

■ 25th annual Slovak Mass & Easter Customs Breakfast, beginning with

the Rosary at 9:45 a.m. followed by Mass at 10 a.m., Church of St. Adalbert, South 15th St., breakfast and program at 11 a.m. at Prince of Peace Parish Center, 81 South 13th St., South Side, Pittsburgh, Pa., for information call (412)481-8380.

SUN.MARCH 22

■ Annual Spaghetti Dinner hosted by Group 1 in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 218 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, N.J. beginning at 4 p.m., \$7.00 adults, \$6.00 seniors and \$4.00

for children, ages 6-12, free of charge for children under age 6.

■ Assembly 182 annual meeting and patronal St. Joseph's Day celebration at St. John Nepomucene Parish, East 66th St. and First Ave., New York, N.Y., Slovak Mass at 11 a.m. luncheon and fraternal program to follow in the parish social hall.

■ Group 3 semi-annual meeting at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall, Route 16, Douglas, Mass. coffee and Danish at 10:15 a.m. with meeting



REFLECTOR ...

Jotings from Sokol and Slovak life

Trinity Sunday Observance to mark closing of Yonkers, N.Y. parish

With bittersweet emotions in play, Most Holy Trinity Parish in Yonkers, N.Y. will host its final patronal feast day observance on Trinity Sunday, May 31. The occasion marks the 120th anniversary of the founding of the parish as well as the final gathering of the faith community. As part of the Making All Things New project of the Archdiocese of New York, Most Holy Trinity will officially close on August 1, 2015. Most Holy Trinity is one of 122 parishes in various parts of

the archdiocese which includes three of the five boroughs of the city of New York as well as seven northern counties which will be consolidated into 55 parishes. The Yonkers parish will be among those closed.

The observance will begin with a con-celebrated Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated at 3 p.m. in the church, located in



Trinity Plaza in the Hollow section of the city where the first Slovaks settled more than 125 years ago. Principal celebrant and homilist will be the Rev. Emil R. Tomaskovic, S.A., former Minister General of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement of Graymoor, Garrison, N.Y. Father Tomaskovic is a son of the parish who was ordained a priest in 1970 and celebrated his first Mass there in January 1970. He is our Sokol of Assembly 219. Former pastors, and clergy associated with the parish will be among the concelebrants. Daughters of the parish in religious life have also been invited to attend. Following the liturgy, a buffet supper will be enjoyed in the parish social hall located at 15 Trinity Plaza, off Walnut Street. Tickets for the supper, which will include a variety of traditional Slovak culinary specialties along with beer, wine and soda, are \$30.00 per person for adults and \$15.00 for children age seven and older. Children under the age of seven will be welcomed free of charge. For reservations, call the rectory at tel. (914)963-0720 or see a member of the committee. Advance dinner reservations only. Deadline for tickets is Monday, May 18.

The parish had its beginnings when Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41 of the First Catholic Slovak Union sought permission from the New York Archdiocese to solicit funds in 1892 to establish a parish serving the Slovak community. The efforts of the Jednota lodge were crowned with success with the dedication of the parish's first church in the spring of 1895. This year's Trinity Sunday celebration celebrates the 120th anniversary of the dedication of the first church. The faith community grew and prospered over the years. The parish soon outgrew the original church and in 1910, the current church of romanesque style was blessed and dedicated. A school was opened in September 1911 under the direction of the Dominican Sisters of Sparkhill, N.Y. In 1924, the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius

of Danville, Pa. arrived in the parish and staffed the parochial school until 1986. The parish produced a number of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. At its peak in the 1950s, the parish numbered more than 1,000 active families. Over the past 120 years, the parish has been active in American Slovak life. Over the years, active lodges of all our Slovak fraternal has been a part of the fabric of parish life including our Slovak Catholic Sokol, Assembly 219 which was founded in 1925. A number of Sokols and Sokolky are serving the committee for the Trinity Sunday Celebration.

Visit Slovakia - "The Old Country"

Remember how your parents or grandparents often referred to their homeland or birthplace as "the old country." Well now is the time for you and your family to go to Slovakia and visit the ancestral homeland and villages of your family. There is so much beauty and history in Slovakia, now that it is a free and prosperous country in the very heart of Europe. Over the years, the Slovaks have struggled to seek their own self-determination, something denied them for so many centuries during the years of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, when they were one of the subject peoples of the Hapsburgs. Well, now Slovakia is a modern state with all the conveniences and "creature comforts" which we Americans demand.

Make it a point to speak with your family and friends and plan to join Kay and Jim Bench as they host the 18th annual Youngstown, Ohio - Spisska Nova Ves, Slovakia Sister Cities Tour, scheduled for July 13-27, 2015. Jim and Kay are seasoned travelers with the expertise and experience to see that your once in a lifetime visit to Slovakia will be memorable and enjoyable.

You'll see the sparkling new capital of Slovakia, Bratislava located on the Danube River. The city has been restored in recent years and offers a wonderful opportunity to visit its majestic historic castle, long the symbol of Bratislava for centuries; its many palaces, the historic Cathedral of St. Martin as well as other churches; museums and centers of the arts. You will enjoy many colorful and entertaining folk groups who present the rich music and dance traditions of the various regions of Slovakia. You will visit Litmanova, where there have been documented apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary appearing to three school children in the 1990s. Throughout your stay, you will enjoy traditional Slovak food, attend several kolibas (shepherd huts), enjoy shopping for the country's many arts and crafts and its world-famous crystal and pottery. You will go whitewater rafting on the Dunajec River, which forms the natural border between Poland and Slovakia, visit villages such as Cicmany where you will see decorated homes, visit historic Tichy Potok, stay in the beautiful spa in Sliac and enjoy the thermal waters, indoor and outdoor pools and other amenities. You'll have the opportunity to visit relatives and enjoy a luncheon reception with Youngstown's Sister City, Spisska Nova Ves in the heart of the Spis region. There are many other activities and cities too numerous to mention in this short article. English-speaking tour guides and air conditioned buses are employed throughout the tour.

Jim and Kay Bench are our Sokol members in Perryopolis, Pa. They have hosted many tours and look forward to welcoming a good number of Sokol members on their 2015 tour to Slovakia. For additional information and details feel free to contact Jim Bench, cell phone: 724-858-5843, e-mail jmbench@yahoo.com or Kay Bench, cell phone 724-771-7900.

Travel arrangements are made through Adventure International Travel Service of Lakewood, Oh. Contact Paul Hudak at 216-228-7171 or 800 542-2487 or Fax 216-228-7174. E-mail Paul@advintravel.com. So mark your calendars and inquire about the details of this unforgettable visit to "The Old Country!"



The Word of God ...

Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 15th

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel for the Fifth Sunday of Lent - March 22nd

Some Greeks who had Come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we would like to see Jesus," Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has Come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me."

"I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? Father, save me from this hour"? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." The crowd there, heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not Come for my sake but for yours. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." He said this indicating the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Slovak Catholic Sokol 69th International Bowling Tournament set for May 15th – 16th

by Edward D. Moeller
Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics

As many of you know, the Slovak Catholic Sokol has been meeting with several of our brother fraternalists to try and combine some of our sporting events. It is with great pleasure that I announce the GCU & Slovak Catholic Sokol Joint Bowling Tournament. The Slovak Catholic Sokol has combined its upcoming Bowling Tournament with members of the Greek Catholic Union, whose national headquarters is located in Beaver, Pa. This will enable us to have an even bigger tournament with the opportunity for more prize monies and a chance to get to know our brother and sister fraternalists.

It is once again time to begin preparations for your teams for this historic event. This year the Bowling tournament will take place in Wickliffe, Oh.

The tournament will be held at the Freeway Lanes in Wickliffe, Oh. It begins on Friday May 15th and concludes on Saturday May 16th. The lanes are located only minutes from the Radisson Hotel & Suites in Eastlake, Oh., which will be our main headquarters for the weekend. An additional block of rooms have been held at the Holiday Inn in Mentor, Oh. This will be a spectacular event that you will not want to miss. We hope the location will entice many "alumni" bowlers from year's past, to join us at this special fraternal event as well as many new bowlers looking to combine a great family vacation as part of a special fraternal event.

All of the preparations are complete and you can now reserve your rooms. With our large volume of bowlers and through some keen negotiations, we are able to enjoy a very low price of \$100.00/night, tax included. A total of 140 newly remodeled rooms have been reserved for Friday and Saturday nights at this special rate at The Radisson and an additional 70 rooms at the Holiday Inn. As well, if any of our members wish to arrive before the tournament or stay a few days later, they will also receive the reduced rate. In addition, the Radisson will offer a very limited number of suites or adjoining rooms at rates between \$119-169 per room, per night.

The hotel reservation number for the Radisson is (440) 953-8000 and the hotel reservation number for the Holiday Inn is (440) 951-7333. The final deadline to reserve and book your hotel room is April 14th. After this date, we cannot guarantee you will secure a room at the hotel. Our organization's blocks of 210 rooms are registered under the GCU SCS Bowling or GCU SOKOL and when you contact the hotel please identify yourself as a member.

The hotel address and phone number for the Radisson is 35000 Curtis Boulevard, Eastlake, OH 44095 (440)-953-8000. The hotel address and phone number for the Holiday Inn is 7701 Reynolds Road, Mentor, Oh. 44060 (440)-951-7333. The bowling lanes are

located at 28801 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, Oh. 44092. The telephone number at the bowling lanes is (440) 585-5800. There are 84 newly renovated lanes with automatic scoring which we hope will generate some high scores for our members. The bowling center is fully equipped with restaurants, proshop and all of the other facilities required to effectively support our tournament.

Soon you will receive your team entry forms, information packages and further details about the hotel. This will be a great fraternal event and you should plan to make your travel plans and hotel reservations early (within the next few weeks if possible). The deadline to submit your entry forms is now April 14th (postmarked).

Team competition for both men and women will take place on Fri-

day night May 15th beginning at 5:30 p.m., with the second group scheduled for 8:30 p.m. The doubles and singles events will begin on Saturday morning, May 16th at 8:30 a.m. with the second group scheduled for 12:30 p.m. These squad times may be adjusted or changed to allow for one squad depending upon the total amount of bowlers. Assigned times will be given in the order they are received.

Please try and arrive at the lanes at least 30 minutes before your scheduled time. We will have a dinner buffet on Friday (included in bowling fees) at the bowling alleys, beginning one hour before your scheduled start of bowling.

The cost of bowling per person will be as follows. The rate is \$20.00 for 3 games or \$60.00 for all 9 games. (team/doubles/singles)

(Continued on page 9)

No applications
will be accepted
after
April 14, 2015.

ENTRY BLANK—69th ANNUAL

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL BOWLING TOURNEY

"USBC MORAL SUPPORT CERTIFIED"

Freeway Lanes (Game of Wickliffe) ♦ Wickliffe, OH
Friday, May 15 & Saturday, May 16, 2015

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

No applications
will be accepted
after
April 14, 2015.

BOWLER INFORMATION (LIST CAPTAIN FIRST)	SCS TOURNAMENT INFORMATION
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2013-14 _____ USBC No. _____ Wreath/Assm No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2013-14 _____ USBC No. _____ Wreath/Assm No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2013-14 _____ USBC No. _____ Wreath/Assm No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2013-14 _____ USBC No. _____ Wreath/Assm No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events <input type="checkbox"/> Banquet

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

TEAM EVENT—FRIDAY, MAY 15

(Please Circle Time Desired)
5:30 PM or 8:30 PM

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Make Entry Fee payable to: Slovak Catholic Sokol Sports Account

Mail to: Edward D. Moeller, 2821 Waterman Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15227.

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

FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH COMPLETE INFORMATION.

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

DOUBLE & SINGLES EVENT—SATURDAY, MAY 16

(Please Circle Time Desired)

8:30 AM or 12:30 PM

1. _____
2. _____
1. _____
2. _____

Financial Totals for this Application

Entry Fee for Each Event

Prize Fee-\$8.00 + Bowling Fee-\$7.50 + Tournament Fee-\$4.50 = \$20.00

Optional Events

All Events-\$5.00 Banquet-\$25.00

Banquet + Bowling Entry

\$90.00 per person

_____ Singles Event @ \$20 ea. = \$ _____
 _____ Doubles Event @ \$20 ea. = \$ _____
 _____ Team Event @ \$20 ea. = \$ _____
 _____ All Events @ \$5 ea. = \$ _____
 _____ Banquet @ \$25 ea. = \$ _____
 Total Enclosed \$ _____

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

Slovak Catholic Sokol Catholic Grade School Grants

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

Eligibility

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

Application

This application must be received on or before, March 31, 2015 with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph. Application is also available on the Internet @

www.slovakcatholicssokol.org



Disqualification

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

Acknowledgment

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

Return of Grant

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

Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 3)

SUN. APRIL 12

■ Group 5 bowling tournament at the American Slovak Home, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. beginning at 12:30 p.m.; for reservations call Marty Zemanek (440)225-8676.

■ Wreath 81 meeting at the Sacred Heart Rose Room, 1731 LaPorte Ave., Whiting, Ind. beginning at 1 p.m., refreshments will be served.

SUN. APRIL 19

■ Group 1 bowling tournament at Paul's Bowling Academy, 377 Crooks Ave., Paterson, N.J. beginning at 12:30 p.m., \$20.00 per person, women's teams are welcome; call Eric Topczij for additional information at (973)985-0134.

■ Veterans benefit Polka Brunch hosted by the United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Oh. from 12 noon to 3 p.m., advance ticket sales

only, call Len at (440)988-3236.

SUN. APRIL 26

■ Annual Spring Festival hosted by the School Sisters of St. Francis at Mount Assisi Convent, 934 Forest Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 12 noon to 5 p.m., call (412)761-6004. www.schoolsistersof.org.

MON. MAY 4

■ Slovak Heritage Group meeting at Mt. Lebanon Public Library, Castle Shannon Blvd., Pittsburgh, Pa., 7-9 p.m., free of charge; topic for meeting is "From the Velvet Revolution to the European Union," presented by Bozena Hilko.

SUN. MAY 31

■ Trinity Sunday observance marking the closing of Most Holy Trinity Parish, 18 Trinity Pl., Yonkers, N.Y. Mass at 3 p.m. followed by buffet supper, \$30.00 per person; for reservations call the rectory at (914)963-0720, deadline is May 18.

Group 5 Bowling Tournament set for April 12 in Lorain, Oh.

Keeping a long-standing sporting tradition, Group 5 "Jan Holly" will host its annual bowling tournament on Sunday, April 12 in Lorain, Oh. The competition will be held at the bowling lanes of the American Slovak Home located at 2915 Broadway Avenue beginning at 12:30 p.m. We will bowl as 4-men and 4-women teams. This year's competition will be hosted by Wreath 111 of Lorain. With the Slovak Home's twelve bowling lanes along with a snack bar, the facility will offer the best in accommodating our tournament.

However, we remind our Group 5 lodges, that is we do not put a minimum of 12 teams together, the tournament will be cancelled. As your past Sports Director, I strongly suggest 12

teams in order to have adequate prize money. Following the competition on the lanes, the traditional dinner banquet will be held at the excellent facilities of the American Slovak Home. Cost of the tournament include: \$9.00 - bowling; \$13.00 for the banquet; the entry fee of \$8.00 for a total of \$30.00 per bowler. We hope that all our Assemblies and Wreaths will be represented at what looks to be an enjoyable fraternal afternoon in the best traditions of Group 5 Sokol good sportsmanship and fellowship. If there are any questions, feel free to call me at (440)225-8676. With our traditional Zdar Boh!, may I remain

Fraternally,
Marty Zemanek
Wreath 111 secretary

Za Boha a Národ  *For God and Nation*

Slovak Catholic Falcon

SLOVENSKÝ KATOLICKÝ SOKOL

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(Detach here)

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

School verification (to be completed by Grade School Principal)

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

Catholic Grade School, verify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a student at \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of student)

the above school and will be entering \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in the 2015-2016 school year.

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

Deadline for receipt of this application is March 31, 2015.

Return completed application to:

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

## *An outstanding fraternal benefit*

# \$63,000 in S.C.S. Scholarship Grants Available to Eligible Members in 2015

by Julie Ann Dobbs  
Supreme Vice President

We are pleased to announce that the Slovak Catholic Sokol will make available a total of \$63,000 in **scholarship grants** to eligible members in 2015. Previous recipients of Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants may reapply for a 2015 grant; however, per Convention mandate - a student may receive a maximum of two (2) Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grant awards in each category.



A total of 30 Slovak Catholic Sokol college grants of \$1,000 each, two Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Memorial Scholarships one for a male and female in the amount of \$2,500 each, two Emil Slavik Memorial Scholarships one for a male and female in the amount of \$2,000 each, one The Doctors' Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, one Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 and three Slovak Catholic Sokol (SCS) Memorial Scholarships in the amount of \$1,000.

**With one application you may apply for all college scholarship grants for which you are eligible. Note that only one grant per applicant will be awarded.**

### College scholarship eligibility requirements:

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

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

#### **Theodore and Mary Jane Rich (one male and one female grant in the amount of \$2,500 will be awarded)**

- Same requirements as for SCS scholarship AND
- One parent must be of Slovak Ancestry
- Must be majoring in medical curriculum

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

- Same requirements as for 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)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Julie Dobbs  
Supreme Vice-President  
Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee  
[vp@slovakcatholicsokol.org](mailto:vp@slovakcatholicsokol.org)  
(262)681-1720

### **Deadline for submission of all scholarship applications is March 31, 2015**

In addition to our college grant program, we make available 19 Catholic High School Grants in the amount of \$500 each as well as 38 Catholic Grade School Grants in the amount of \$250 each. Please find these scholarship applications and directives in each of the next issues of the *Falcon*.

### **Slovak Catholic Sokol College Scholarship-Tips for Success**

I just wanted to take a moment to highlight the recent changes made to the Slovak Catholic College Scholarship Program. Last season, we have moved to a completely on-line process and had a few issues with the process. With the help of our technical webmaster, we have redesigned the application process and you should find it to be much more user friendly. You will find the on-line application on our website at [www.slovakcatholicsokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicsokol.org) beginning November 1, 2014.

To be best prepared for this process a successful applicant should:

- Review the application on-line for required content and gather prior to beginning to complete the form
- Be prepared to attach both your essay (in PDF or Word format) and a color head and shoulders picture of yourself (in .jpeg format).

Please note, you may want to print a copy for your records prior to submitting. All applicants will receive confirmation that their e-mail has been received.

It really isn't that difficult to qualify for one of our many college scholarships. With now three years of the new College Scholarship Application process behind us, it is clear that there are a few ways to assure that your application will be reviewed.

#### **1. Answer all questions on the application.**

For example- if something does not apply to you- say N/A. If you are fully independent from your parents- as in, you are not claimed by them on their tax return, you should indicate that in the space asking for total parent income. Leaving this blank does not tell the whole story.

#### **2. Include all requirements for the application- i.e. photo; transcript; essay**

Start the process for requesting your transcript NOW. I have found that sometimes this is the hold up for some applicants.

- **Transcripts-** please note that "official transcript" means that you have requested it from your University or College and that it has been sent directly to me in a sealed envelope. We have not been as strict in the past on this issue, but began holding each applicant to this requirement last season and will continue to do so moving forward.

#### **3. Submit all required elements prior to the deadline.**

The application is clear and I just want to prevent a waste of your time and energy.

Failure to include/complete any of the above items will result in the application being disqualified. To be honest, it is not easy for our committee when we need to disqualify applicants for simple yet important missing requirements.

Lastly, apply for all college scholarships for which you qualify in order to give yourself the best chance at receiving something. There were several applicants who limited themselves to a particular scholarship. Competition was fierce for the larger \$ scholarships, but there seems to be more opportunity with the other scholarship offerings.

Not every applicant receives a scholarship every time they apply. If you have not received one in the past, I encourage you to apply again this year. Before submitting your application- take some time to review the bullet points above in order to assure that your application will be included for consideration.

Good luck and Zdar Boh!

Julie Ann Dobbs  
Supreme Vice President  
Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee

### **Group 3 semi-annual meeting on March 22**

Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mo-chak" will host its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, March 22 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall located on Route 16 in Douglas, Mass. Coffee and Danish will be available beginning at 10:15 a.m. with the meeting to be called order at 10:30 a.m. All members are invited to attend.

This will be a very important meeting for our Group. We will be discussing issues related to those members who will be elected as delegates to the 32nd quadrennial convention of our organization which is scheduled for August 1-5 in Pittsburgh, Pa. We will also discuss our young people's participation at the upcoming 47th International Slet in Slippery Rock, Pa. as well as other fraternal and sporting events for the coming year. Input from our members will insure their success. Please make every effort to attend.

Zdar Boh!

Christine Manyak  
Group 3 Secretary

### **Group 9 bowling Tournament, March 28**

Group 9, "SS. Cyril and Methodius" will host its traditional bowling tournament on Saturday, March 28 in Johnstown, Pa. The competition will be staged at the Westmont Bowling Lanes beginning at 2 p.m. Following the competition at the lanes, the traditional victory dinner will be served at the Resurrection Oratory, the former basement of St. Rochus Church located at 314 Eighth Avenue. Prizes will be distributed at that time.

Hosting this year's competition is Wreath 14 of Johnstown. The entry fee is \$30.00. Guests' fees attending the meal will be \$15.00. Send all entries to the tournament chairperson, Joanne Spisak, 247 Bear St., Johnstown, PA 15906, tel. (814)539-4652. Deadline for entries is Saturday, March 21. Zdar Boh!

Joanne S. Spisak  
President, Group 9

### **Veterans benefit brunch in Lorain, Oh., April 19**

The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Oh. will host a benefit Polka Brunch in live broadcast on WOBL featuring Jimmy K on Sunday, April 19th from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at the American Slovak Club located at 2915 Broadway Avenue. Proceeds from the brunch are earmarked in support of the Valor Home of Lorain County. An enjoyable afternoon has been planned. We hope to see many members of our Slovak Catholic Sokol, Wreath 111 at the event. Advance ticket sales only. For reservations, contact Len at (440)988-3236. Come join us as we reach out to those who have defended our American way of life.

Zdar Boh!

Michele Mager  
Secretary-treasurer,  
United Slovak Societies



## For students currently attending a Catholic High School

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

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

#### Eligibility

- 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.
- One parent must be a S.C.S. member.
- 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, 2015 with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

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

#### Disqualification

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

#### Acknowledgment

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

#### Return of Grant

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

(Detach here)

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Catholic High School, verify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a student at  
(Name of student)  
the above school and will be attending \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in the 2015-2016 school year.

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

Deadline for receipt of this application is March 31, 2015.

Return completed application to:

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

## Sokol Birthdays

### MARCH 6

Paula Ferrato, Barrington, R.I., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

### MARCH 17

Alexandra L. Brincka, Bloomfield, N.J., a member of Wreath 2, Passaic, N.J.

John P. DeSantis, Vista, Ca., a member Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

Frank X. Roth, Wood stock, Ga., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### MARCH 18

Josephine Bolek, Calumet City, Ill., president of Wreath 81, Whiting, Ind.

Patricia Brock, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Colin Cordeiro, Guilford, Conn., a member of Assembly 9, Bridgeport, Conn.

Christine Johnson, Brick, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Lisa L. Derocher, Warren, Mich., a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

Joseph A. Orzo, Dallas, Tex., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### MARCH 19

Linda S. Frank, Poland, Oh., a member of Wreath 54, Youngstown, Oh.

Michael R. Hennis, Palatine, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

Matthew Maslar, Douglassville, Pa., a member of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

Janice Moeller, Pittsburgh, Pa., a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

### MARCH 22

Samantha Cipar, Conshohocken, Pa., a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

Mark Matuschak, Esq., Marblehead, Mass., a member of Wreath 15, Perryopolis, Pa.

### MARCH 22

Thomas R. Troxil, Canfield, Oh., a member of Assembly 108, Youngstown, Oh.

### MARCH 23

Joseph Kobulsky, Warwick, Pa., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

Kathleen S. Watkins, Bridgeville, Pa., Supreme Physical Directress and a member of Wreath 22, Pittsburgh, Pa.

### MARCH 24

William J. Barrett, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Natalie G. Petro, St. Petersburg, Fla., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

### MARCH 25

Tony J. Bruno, Sinking Spring, Pa., a member of Assembly 261, Reading, Pa.

Joseph P. Kostolansky, Jr., Do-nora, Pa., a member of Assembly 25, Perryopolis, Pa.

### MARCH 26

William English, Jr., Sarasota, Fla. a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Anna M. Goberish, Ambridge, Pa., a member of Wreath 85, McKees Rocks, Pa.

Andrew J. "Drew" Pavlica, Hasbrouck Heights, N.J., a member of Assembly 1, Passaic, N.J.

Geri Pollock, Ambridge, Pa., a member of Wreath 85, McKees Rocks, Pa.

Kathleen Siska, Chicago, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

### MARCH 27

Margaret Danowski, Shilling-ton, Pa., a member of Wreath 155, Reading, Pa.

### MARCH 28

Jamie Lee Balchus, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Thomas A. Chuba, Dauphin, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Elizabeth Grace Hennis, Palatine, Ill., a member of Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.

Cyril Iskra, Levittown, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Ronald J. Pulik, Yonkers, N.Y., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

### MARCH 29

John Krupa, Shavertown, Pa., a member of Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa.

Theresa M. Olshemski, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

### MARCH 30

Betty Burns, Lorain, Oh., a member of Wreath 111, Lorain, Oh.

Rebecca Hess, Cedar Grove, N.J., a member of Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J.

Mark Papcun, Rochester, Mich., a member of Assembly 36, Detroit, Mich.

Sue Ann M. Seich, Canton, Oh., a member of Assembly 180, Canton, Oh.

### MARCH 31

Margaret Azzari, Clairton, Pa., vice president of Assembly 295, Duquesne, Pa.

Peter Dobko, Clifton, N.J., a member of Assembly 162 in Clifton, N.J.

Edward F. Holodak, Pembroke, Fla., a member of Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y.

Bernard P. Hvozdozovic, Sr., Kendall Park, N.J., a member of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

## YOUR BENEFICIARIES

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



# Preserve Your Assets and Legacy for the Ones You Love

## Transferring Your Wealth and Protecting Your Assets

Preserving one's assets and providing a legacy for your family or a charitable organization is often referred to as "Wealth Transfer" and "Asset Protection". These are very important topics for many of today's baby boomers and seniors. These two age groups want to learn efficient and effective ways to maximize the distribution of assets to their spouses, younger generations (family) and favorite charities. The establishment of a will and/or a trust can assign their assets to designated beneficiaries, however these estate-planning tools are not designed to create wealth so much as they are to preserve it. In contrast, the use of life insurance products instantly create wealth and can increase the amount of assets passed on designated beneficiaries.

## Single Premium Life Insurance to Transfer, Preserve and Increase Your Wealth

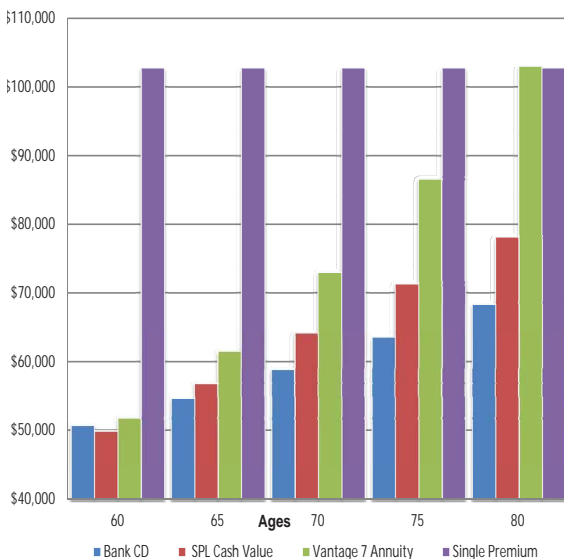
Single premium life insurance is a valuable investment when it comes to wealth creation and transfer. With this type of life insurance, a single premium is deposited with an insurance company, creating an immediate death benefit that is guaranteed until the owner/insured passes away. The death benefit will depend on the amount deposited, gender, age and health of the insured. In many cases, the single deposit will be multiplied by a factor depending on the age of the insured individual, sometimes by two or more when the death benefit is calculated. Typically the younger the age of the insured, the higher the amount of life insurance benefit is purchased.

**Example Case:** For instance, Greg an existing member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, a 59 year male who at this point in his life has planned and accumulated enough funds for a comfortable retirement phase of

life for both he and his wife. His intentions are to begin to designate his available funds for his two daughters. He currently has a bank CD worth \$50,000. Rather than automatically renewing his bank CD earning 1.5% on an annual basis, he considers other options that will produce a larger benefit to pass along. Greg considers the option of purchasing the Vantage 7 deferred annuity which is currently earning 3.50%, guaranteed for two-years. The interest earned is more than twice than that of the bank CD. In both of these options, upon his death his two children will be faced with paying income tax on the interest earned. His third option is to purchase a life insurance policy designating both of his children as the primary beneficiaries, knowing that the proceeds that his daughters will receive are Income Tax Free! Greg who is a healthy, non-smoking male who deposits \$50,000 into the Legacy Single Premium life insurance policy could pass \$102,669 in a death benefit to his two children income tax free.

It didn't take Greg very long to make his decision. By purchasing the Legacy Single Premium he immediately has a face value of \$102,669 upon his death. He has more than doubled his \$50,000 investment and his daughters receive this money without the obligation of paying income tax. If he renews the bank CD option he realizes in his lifetime he more than likely could not match the value of the life insurance policy and they would be subject to income tax on the interest earned. If he purchases the Vantage 7 annuity not only would his daughters be subject to income tax but it would take 20-years for the initial deposit of \$50,000 to match the 1st year death benefit of the single premium insurance policy.

Following is a chart that compares the value and growth of all three alternatives:



## PRESERVE YOUR ASSETS AND LEGACY FOR THE ONE'S YOU LOVE

With Our **LEGACY SINGLE PREMIUM**

### Benefits Provided:

- **Significantly Increase Your Investment**

Example: Male, Age 59 invests \$50,000 that buys \$102,669 of Legacy Single Premium Life Insurance for your Designated Beneficiary

- **Your Cash Value Continues to Grow**

- **Beneficiary Avoids Probate**

- **Beneficiary Avoids Income Tax**



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

### The Benefits of Using Life Insurance to Transfer Wealth

Single premium life insurance can also benefit the individual insured or the purchaser/owner during his or her lifetime that the life insurance policy is in force. The cash value in a fully funded single premium policy will grow quickly and can provide income to the purchaser if needed. In the event that the individual that purchased the life insurance policy has a need to access the funds, the purchaser has the ability to surrender the policy for its cash value at any time. The cash value of the Legacy Single Premium grows quickly. This way, if the insured needs to surrender the policy due to unforeseen circumstances, he or she is guaranteed to get the investment back.

Because the Legacy Life has a cash value the insured also has the option of taking a loan against the policy instead of surrendering the policy. By taking advantage of the loan option the life insurance policy remains in tact and continues to provide a death benefit. As with any loan there is an interest rate that is applied until the loan is paid back.

Note: That when a policy is surrendered for cash that generally federal income taxes on any gain will be due. This is calculated as the total net surrender value of the policy minus your tax basis in the policy. (Your tax basis is the total amount of premiums you paid, less any policy dividends you received and any nontaxable withdrawals you made.)

### Choices for the Elderly

Many elderly individuals feel that they are not healthy enough to purchase life insurance in their golden years. This is simply not true. Sim-

plified underwriting allows many seniors to qualify for life insurance. Depending on the amount of life insurance purchased, simplified underwriting may apply where there is no physical or blood work needed. So long as the proposed insured can answer "NO" to a few questions, underwriting can be done using the answers on the application and a quick telephone interview or a questionnaire completed by their physician. The fact is that in many cases, single premium life insurance is not difficult to purchase.

### Tax Advantages of Life Insurance

Certainly the advantage of life insurance over an annuity, a savings bond, a certificate of deposit or other investment is the favorable tax treatment of a life insurance policy. The entire death benefit is passed income tax free to the beneficiary.

The Legacy Single Premium Life Insurance Plan is considered as a Modified Endowment Contract or MEC by the IRS. The policy can be taxable to the owner if gains are withdrawn - just like an annuity or a savings bond can be taxable to the owner. If the owner is under the age of 59 1/2 the IRS can access a 10% early withdrawal penalty. Thus the single premium life policy is best utilized when the funds are likely not needed in the immediate future. Life insurance can be one of the safest and most dependable investments for many families. Once again, life insurance is especially valuable due to the favorable tax treatment and guaranteed returns associated with these policies.

### Lifetime coverage

While your children are young

or while you still have outstanding debts, as with all of our Legacy Life Insurance Plans, which provide a cash value can ensure that your family will be able to pay off the mortgage, pay ongoing living expenses, or fund college education costs.

If you desire addition information, have questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact your Slovak Catholic Sokol agent, the Sales & Marketing Office (412) 381-5431, (855) 874-9179 toll free or the Home Office (800) 886-7656.

## 69th International Bowling Tournament

(Continued from page 5)

The all events cost is an additional \$5.00 therefore the total cost is \$65.00 per bowler. If you attend the banquet then your total amount is \$90.00 per bowler.

This year our Saturday evening banquet will be held at the Radisson Hotel & Suites. We hope everyone will attend this special event, complete with an awards ceremony, great food and drinks. The cost for this event will be \$25.00 per person. This price includes all taxes, gratuities, a wonderful meal and a few drinks to complete the evening.

Edward Moeller  
Supreme Sports Director  
Slovak Catholic Sokol  
2821 Waterman Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-4051

If there are any further questions or concerns in the short term, please contact me at my home telephone number (412) 881-3506 or email me at moellerref@aol.com. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Wickliffe! Zdar Boh!



## KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

### March, 2015

#### Slovak Words=Slovenské slová

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

Lent - *pôst* [pwost]

fast - *postiť sa* [po-steet sah]

I am fasting in Lent. - *Postím sa v pôstnej dobe.* [Pwos-teem sah vpwost-nay doh-beh]

sin - *hriech\** [hree-eck] Slovaks pronounce "ch" as the German "ch" in the name "Bach."

confession - *spoved'* [spo-ved], with a soft "d."

Stations of the Cross - *Križová cesta* [Kree-zhoe-vah tseh-stah]

Palm Sunday = *Kvetná nedeľa* [Kvet-nah nye-dye-la]

Holy Week = *Pašiový týždeň* [Paw-shee-oh-vee teezh-den]

Holy Thursday = *Zelený štvrtok* [Ze-le-nee shtveer-toke]

Good Friday = *Veľký piatok* [Vel-kee pyah=toke]

Holy Saturday = *Biela sobota* [Byeh-la so-bow-tah]

#### Magic Leprechaun Rocks

What are magic leprechaun rocks? Well, they are magic rocks that disappear in a burst of bubbles when "washed," leaving behind some leprechaun gold.



Prepare the magic leprechaun rocks a day in advance. Mix approximately 1 cup of baking soda with 1/4 cup of water. Add some green dye. Mold the dough into balls, sticking a gold coin in the middle. The dough should be moldable but not too wet.

Let the rocks dry overnight and they should turn into hard, green rocks.

On St. Patrick's Day, hide the green rocks. Tell your friends/family that leprechauns have come and left them some surprises. Tell them, "That looks dirty, we should clean it." And, direct them to dump it into a bowl filled with vinegar. When you drop the rock into the vinegar, the rock will dissolve and the gold coin will appear. It all happens in bubbles so very exciting.

#### Happy St. Patrick's Day

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

Candice Kraykovich 3/4

Olivia McLeary 3/6

Taylor Hazelbaker 3/13

Colin Baker 3/17

Tucker Ramognoli 3/18

Annalise Romine 3/19

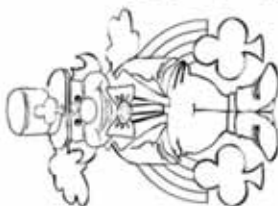
Danielle Baran 3/21

Zachary Eckenrode 3/21

Savannah Raechel 3/22



#### St. Patrick's Day Word Search Puzzle



##### Word List

SAINT  
PATRICK  
LUCKY  
MAGIC  
IRISH  
GREEN  
GOLD  
MARCH  
RAINBOW  
CLOVER

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Y | F | O | P | G | O | L | D | X | C |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| M | S | A | E | O | D | G | R | O | L |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A | T | R | L | Y | A | G | I | C | M | Y | E | R |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I | N | T | C | R | A | I | N | B | O | R | B | E |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| M | M | A | R | C | H | I | R | I | S | H |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Z | F | Z | A | Z | G | R | E | E | N |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Search the puzzle for the words shown in the word list. Circle each word that you find until you find all of the words in the whole puzzle!



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

The Embassy Suites Hotel + Pittsburgh, Pa. + February 6 - 8



Discussing the deliberations of the meeting are, l-r, Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh, Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Jennifer A. Romine and Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller.



Supreme Physical Directress Kathleen S. Watkins, left, making a point while Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich. Supreme Assistant Physical Director John M. Underation and Board Member Frank P. Laury, III look on.



Supreme Secretary Steven M. Pogorelec, F.I.C., seated right, is shown at the meeting flanked by, l-r, Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh, Member of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Nancy Kropolinsky and Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich.



Members of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board met at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Pittsburgh to finalize our organization's sports activities for 2015. Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh, top row far left, is shown with the members including front row, l-r Katie Swift, Supreme Sports Director Edward D. Moeller and Kathleen S. Watkins. Second row, l-r, Denise DiMartino, Martin Degnan and Jennifer A. Romine. Third row, l-r, James C. Matlon, John M. Underation and Nancy Kropolinsky. Top row, k-r, Brother Glugosh, Frank P. Laury, III, Dusan Dorich and Damian J. Suess.



Shown above are, from the left, Board Member Damian J. Suess, Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh and Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Edward D. Moeller.



All smiles for the camera from, l-r, Board Member Nancy Kropolinsky, Supreme Assistant Physical Directress Katie Swift and Board Member Jennifer A. Romine.



Shown at the meeting, l-r, Jennifer A. Romine, Denise DiMartino, Martin Degnan, Damian J. Suess and Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh.



## What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland



## News and Views from Slovakia...

### Slovakia in 14th place in 2015 World Press Freedom Index

Slovakia is now in 14th place in the Reporters Without Borders (RSF) World Press Freedom Index for 2015, improving its standing by six places from the 2014 chart, RSF reported on its website on February 12.

The list is topped by three Scandinavian countries: Finland, which has been first for five years now, followed by Norway and Denmark. Conversely, Turkmenistan, North Korea and Eritrea were the worst performers in this descending order.

From among other interesting countries, France is ranked 38th, the United States 49th, Japan 61st, Brazil 99th, Russia 152nd, Iran 173rd and China 176th. The Czech Republic was in 13th place, Poland 18th and Hungary 65th place. Slovakia was worst-off in 2009, when it was placed by RSF in 44th place. Conversely, it was one of eight countries at the top of the list in 2004.

According to RSF, media freedom is in retreat on all five continents, mainly due to wars, violence during demonstrations, the economic crisis and other tensions. Two-thirds of the 180 countries surveyed for the 2015 World Press Freedom Index performed worse than in the previous year, RSF pointed out.

Among the criteria taken into account in the index are media pluralism and independence, respect for the safety and freedom of journalists and the legislative, institutional and infrastructural environment in which the media operate.

### Bratislava and Trnava to be linked by 'Wine Cycling Route' in 2018

Bratislava and Trnava may be connected by a 'wine cycling route' of 45-50 kilometers in 2018 based on a project that construction engineer Peter Raksanyi has been tasked with preparing, TASR learned on February 12.

The route should in part lead alongside roads, but also across vineyards and along creeks. "The path should showcase interesting sites - from the landscape, winemaking, cultural and historical points of interest - so as to enable people to get somewhere safely, stop along the way and be related to impressive views," said Raksanyi.

The project, which is to be paid for by the state budget, is designed to boost tourism in the region and bring tourists and cyclists to villages below the Small Carpathians. At the same time, it is also projected to increase the use of railway transportation. "It's also meant to enable people in villages where there are no railway stations to get to a station using the cycling route," he added. The final routing has yet to be determined with a number of options under review.

### Admission to high school to be in the form of nationwide exams

The average of students' grades from the last two academic years at elementary school won't be a criteria for getting accepted to high school, TASR learned on February 12.

In the current academic year, the admission procedure is to be the same as has been up till now. A change should be introduced as of the next academic year - the admission should be realized via a nationwide exam based on the ninth grade "monitor". The students will complete tests prepared by the National Institute for Certified Measurements in Education (NUCEM), at a high school they're applying to.

From this measure, the Education, Science, Research and Sport Ministry expects an increase in objectivity in the selection of students to high schools and in the quality of students studying at grammar schools and professional schools. According to Education Minister Juraj Draxler, the question whether the average of grades and the success at athletic competitions and Olympiads will be taken into consideration during the admission procedure is still to be discussed.

In the current academic year, NUCEM is to provide the selected schools with tests of subjects from which the admission exams are taken. For now, schools are preparing the admission tests by themselves.

For the recent admission procedure, high schools had to take into consideration grade averages. If students wanted to get accepted to grammar schools and bilingual schools, their average had to be better than 2.0 from compulsory subjects. For professional high school he prescribed grades better than 2.75 on a 4 point scale. The Constitutional Court ruled that this was against the Constitution, however, and the education ministry would like to prepare an amendment which would put things in order.

### Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov set to visit Slovakia in April

Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Sergey Lavrov is set to visit Slovakia on April 4 following an agreement to this effect between foreign affairs ministries of both countries, TASR learned from spokesman for the Slovak Foreign and European Affairs Ministry Petr Stano on February 20.

"Russia has shown an interest in scheduling this visit for April 4 in connection to celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Bratislava, which we accepted," said Stano.

This comes after Slovakia's Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajcak invited Lavrov to visit Slovakia during his visit to Moscow in April 2012.

Lajcak and Lavrov are set to discuss bilateral ties as well as current global issues. "Naturally, Ukraine will also be discussed, as the crisis there has a direct impact on Slovakia, Russia's relations with the EU, and on the overall security and stability in Europe," said Stano.

Whether Prime Minister Robert Fico and President Andrej Kiska will also meet Lavrov isn't clear at this point. As per the President's office, Kiska's program for April won't be released until late March. The Government Office also indicates that the premier's timetable will not be released until after it is completely ready.

### Kukan admits his party is past its prime, he'll nevertheless soldier on

While Member of the European Parliament Eduard Kukan doesn't believe that his SDKU-DS party can regain its former position, he doesn't entertain plans of leaving the party, TASR learned on February 19.

"I believe in the ideals that the party was built on, and I will continue to promote them, including in the European Parliament," said Kukan, who added that despite the fact that he doesn't expect the party to recover under the leadership of chairman Pavol Freso, he'll stay with the party until the end.

Kukan was speaking shortly after fellow SDKU Member of the European Parliament Ivan Stefanec announced that he was leaving the party, effectively following in the footsteps of most SDKU representatives in the Slovak Parliament. Only two Members of Parliament who made it into the House on SDKU's slate are still in the party - Freso and treasurer Ludovit Kanik, while the party has slumped in opinion polls all the way down to the 2.8 percent recorded in a Focus agency poll released the week of February 9.

In response to Stefanec's exit, Kanik said that Stefanec is failing to contribute to a revival in the party. "Mr. Stefanec's announcement that he's leaving for no apparent reason can't be construed in any other manner but as a display of an effort to prevent SDKU's consolidation with negative news," said Kanik.

Kanik also dismissed Stefanec's claim that he's leaving be-

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

cause SDKU "doesn't function any more." "If that were the case, he could have left along with the other Members of Parliament," said Kanik, who praised what he called a gradual improvement in the party since a number of Members of Parliament have left. "Everything bodes well for the party's revival," he added.



Spas have been popular throughout Slovakia for centuries. One of the oldest and most popular spas may be found in Trenčianske Teplice located in western Slovakia. The earliest written reference to the spa dates from 1247. From the thirteenth to the sixteenth century, Trenčianske Teplice, as well as the springs were owned by the rulers of the Trencin Castle. The springs had been known and used by the Roman legions in the second century. Its popularity can be traced to its excellent natural sulfurous thermal water as well as its romantic location. In addition to the thermal water, the spa provides a wide range of curative rehabilitation and physiotherapy is used. The spa provides specialized treatment and prevention of musculoskeletal diseases, conditions after operations and injuries, chronic rheumatic diseases, occupational diseases and psoriasis. For 241 years, the Ileshazy family owned the spa. During those years, it was among the leading spas in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. In 1835, the spa was bought by a Viennese financier George Sina who rebuilt it and modernized it. His son Simon built a hotel and expanded the spa park. In 1888, his daughter Iphigenia built the Hammam spa in oriental Moorish style. In recent years, the spa has been expanded and restored making it one of Slovakia's most popular tourist attractions.



## VANTAGE 1 ANNUITY – ENHANCEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

For a number of years the investment climate has had its ups and downs. Everyone is waiting and expecting the interest earning rates to increase, it just has not happened. Without a crystal ball or being able to predict the future no one is sure when these changes will occur. Our current short-term annuity plans the Vantage 1, Vantage 2 and Vantage 3 are designed for this purpose. These plans are for the individual looking for a solid short-term investment alternative that affords them the flexibility to make financial decisions without a long term commitment and crediting an excellent interest rate.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol is making a change to further enhance the Vantage 1 Annuity, it is designed and tailored primarily for the individual that is not quite sure what investment vehicle is right during these low interest rate times, is undecided what length of time they want to invest, waiting for the stock market to take-off, or looking for a good short-term investment alternative with numerous options and flexibilities.

With this in mind, the enhanced version of the Vantage 1 Annuity now includes a "30-Day Window", which starts on the anniversary date of the annuity certificate. During this period the annuitant/owner can exercise a number of options that meets their investment needs. Annually prior to the certificate anniversary date, a notice is sent to the annuitant/owner that presents each of the available options, which consists of the following: 1) continue as a Vantage 1 earning the guaranteed credited interest rate declared at that time for the upcoming year; 2) withdrawing a portion of the certificate amount and continuing

the certificate earning the guaranteed credited interest rate declared at that time for the upcoming year; or 3) transfer all or specified portion of the total deposit to a new annuity contract with the Slovak Catholic Sokol or another financial institution.

Not only will you find the Vantage 1 Annuity Plan competitive, but also it outperforms the current short-term market offerings and is tax deferred. The Vantage 1 is currently earning a yield of 1.25% APY.

### Vantage 1 Features:

The Vantage 1 Annuity is tax-deferred annuity, with a minimum guaranteed interest rate of 1%. What makes this annuity special is a unique feature, the "30 Day Window", that allows the certificate holder to notify the Slovak Catholic Sokol of their intentions to withdraw their deposit and interest earned, penalty free, at the end of each certificate anniversary date. This option is available for the life of the annuity certificate. Any withdrawal made outside the timeframe of the "30-Day Window" and exceeds the annual 10% annual withdrawal will result in a penalty charge as follows:

|        |            |    |
|--------|------------|----|
| During | 1st year – | 6% |
|        | 2nd year – | 5% |
|        | 3rd year – | 4% |
|        | 4th year – | 3% |
|        | 5th year – | 2% |

As with our entire Vantage Collection of Annuity Plans the Slovak Catholic Sokol allows a 10% penalty free withdrawal, annually after the first year. However, the 10% free withdrawal may be subject to IRS penalty.

### Vantage Annuity Plans Features

#### Tax-Deferred Earnings

Earnings grow tax-free until a

withdrawal occurs. Due to the power of compound tax-deferred growth, your retirement savings will accumulate quicker compared to a fully taxable account.

### Cost

With all of our Annuity plans your investment can grow rapidly since there are no initial service, contract, transaction or premium fees. Every dollar you pay in premiums goes directly into your annuity's cash value and earns interest immediately.

### Safety

Your annuity deposits are protected by the total resources of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Information regarding the solvency can be readily verified by our financial statements filed with the New Jersey Insurance Department. These financial statements are accompanied by the required Actuarial Certification and Opinion of an independent Certified Public Accountant.

### Early Withdrawal

Each of the Vantage Collection of Annuity Products has a 10% penalty free withdrawal feature after the first anniversary year.

### Guaranteed Income Option

Each of the Vantage Plans has an option that allows the Annuitant at any time to settle/annuitize the contract. When the annuity contract is settled/annuitized a guaranteed payment is established pays a specified periodic distribution or for a lifetime of income.

The settlement options available are: • Life Only, • Specified Period, • Life and Period Certain and • Payments for Life for both situations on a single individual or as a joint and survivor.

## Lodge Jottings

### CLIFTON, NJ Assembly 162

Our next regularly scheduled meeting of our Assembly is set for Sunday, March 22 in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall beginning at 12:30 p.m. All members are invited to attend.

On our meeting agenda will be a recap of our patronal feast day observance which was held on February 15. We thank all who had a hand in the success of this celebration honoring the patrons of our lodge as well as our parish, the Apostles of the Slavic nations, SS. Cyril and Methodius. We will also discuss upcoming sporting and fraternal activities in which our lodge will participate including our participation in the upcoming 32nd Quadrennial Convention set for Pittsburgh, Pa., August 1-5.

Looking forward to seeing a good turnout at our next meeting and assuring all our warmest fraternal wishes, may we remain

Zdar Boh!

John D. Pogorelec, Jr.

President

David Bulwin

Recording Secretary

### MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. Assembly 34

As has been our long-time fraternal tradition, our Assembly will host our patronal feast of St. George with a fraternal program on Sunday, March 29. Our program will begin with attendance at the 9 a.m. Mass at the Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, located at Second Street and 13th Avenue. Our parish administrator, the Rev. Edison Galarza, O.C.C.S.S. will celebrate the liturgy for the living and deceased members of Assembly 34. Following the liturgy, we will gather in the Father George Dargay Memorial Hall of the parish where the members of the St. Cyril Slovak Men's Club will serve a full breakfast. All members are cordially invited to join us for a pleasant observance. We invite our Sister Sokolky of Wreath 47 to join us for this annual fraternal gathering. The breakfast is free of charge for all members of Assembly 34 and Wreath 47. We remind our members that there is no parking available in the school lot.

Ours is a rich history of traditional Slovak and Sokol fraternalism in the area of the Twin Cities for more than a century. Our Assembly was founded by a group of young Slovak immigrants at SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish on April 4, 1909. For the past 106 years, our lodge has participated in the various sporting and fraternal activities of our organization. We are proud of the fact that after more than a century, members of Assembly 34 continue to compete in our organization's international Slets. Our young people expect to compete at this year's 47th International Slet in July at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa.

Looking forward to seeing a

good turnout at our annual patronal feast day observance and extending best wishes to all for a happy and healthy New Year 2015, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

James T. Genosky

Financial Secretary

### NEW YORK, NY Assembly 182

Our lodge will host its traditional patronal feast day observance honoring St. Joseph on Sunday, March 22. We will attend the 11 a.m. Slovak Mass at the Church of St. John Nepomucene, located at the corner of First Avenue and East 66th Street. Our parochial vicar, the Rev. Stefan Chanas will celebrate the liturgy for the living and deceased members of Assembly 182. Following the liturgy, we will gather in the parish social hall where a fraternal program and luncheon will be enjoyed. Following the luncheon and fraternal program, we will conduct our lodge's annual meeting. Election of officers will take place. We will also offer input regarding our organization's upcoming 32nd quadrennial convention scheduled for August in Pittsburgh. This year, our Assembly celebrates its 92nd anniversary. It was in 1923 that a group of young Slovak immigrants organized Assembly 182 and chose St. Joseph as patronal of the lodge. Each year, we have hosted the annual St. Joseph Day celebration to honor all the "Josephs" and "Josephines" among us. An enjoyable afternoon is assured and we look forward to seeing a good turnout at this year's celebration.

We take this opportunity to thank all who had a hand in the success of our recent Pre-Lenten Celebration in the Slovak tradition of ostatne fiasiangy held on February 14th in our parish hall of St. John Nepomucene. In spite of snowy, inclement weather more than 150 guests turned out for this wonderful celebration in the best traditions of Sokol camaraderie and fellowship.

Looking forward to seeing a good turnout at our St. Joseph's Day celebration and with all good wishes, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

Anna Korchak

Financial Secretary

### READING, PA Assembly 261 Wreath 155

A meeting of both our lodges is scheduled for Monday, March 2 at our Slovak Catholic Sokol Club, located at 411 Crestmont Street beginning at 7:15 p.m. Members of both lodges are urged to attend. At this meeting we will elect the individuals who will represent our lodges at the upcoming 32nd Quadrennial Convention scheduled for Pittsburgh, Pa., August 1-5. The national convention is the highest governing body in the life of our organization. At our meeting we will discuss various items for consideration.

(Continued on page 17)

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL ANNUITY RATES

EFFECTIVE SINCE: JULY 1, 2012

|           | CURRENT | MINIMUM GUARANTEE |
|-----------|---------|-------------------|
| VANTAGE 1 | 1.25%   | 1.00%             |
| VANTAGE 2 | 1.50%   | 1.00%             |
| VANTAGE 3 | 2.25%   | 1.00%             |
| VANTAGE 5 | 3.25%   | 2.00%             |
| VANTAGE 7 | 3.50%   | 2.00%             |

SINGLE PREMIUM IMMEDIATE ANNUITY

### SPIA

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| 5 THROUGH 9 YEARS | 2.75% |
| 10 YEARS OR MORE  | 3.50% |

### NO LONGER OFFERED

EFFECTIVE: AUGUST 31, 2011

|                | CURRENT | MINIMUM GUARANTEE |
|----------------|---------|-------------------|
| FLEXIBLE       | 3.00%   | 3.00%             |
| SINGLE PREMIUM | 3.00%   | 3.00%             |



**Donations to the 2015 SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal may be sent at any time during the year**  
**Donations made to the 36th Annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal of the Slovak Catholic Federation**  
**in 2014 supporting the ministry of the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome**  
**as well as supporting religious communities of men and women in Slovakia**

**DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN, PA**

|                                                    |                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Church of St. Andrew, North Catasauqua.....        | \$340.00          |
| Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Reading.....    | 746.00            |
| Assumption of the B.V.M. Church, Northampton ..... | 557.00            |
| Church of St. Nicholas, Walnutport.....            | 405.00            |
| Church of St. Stephen, Shenandoah.....             | 105.00            |
|                                                    | <b>\$2,153.00</b> |

**DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN, PA**

|                                                 |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown .....              | \$380.00          |
| Our Lady of the Alleghenies Parish, Lilly ..... | 735.00            |
| St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Mount Union..... | 230.00            |
| SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Windber .....   | 237.00            |
|                                                 | <b>\$1,582.00</b> |

**DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND, OH**

|                                       |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Church of St. Edward, Parkman .....   | 203.00          |
| Church of St. Lucy, Middlefield ..... | 143.00          |
|                                       | <b>\$290.00</b> |

**DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG, PA**

|                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Church of St. Florian, United..... | \$90.00 |
|------------------------------------|---------|

**ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK, NY**

|                                                     |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Haverstraw ..... | \$ 50.00          |
| Church of St. John Nepomucene, Manhattan .....      | 1,016.00          |
| Church of the Most Holy Trinity, Yonkers.....       | 1,300.00          |
|                                                     | <b>\$2,366.00</b> |

**DIOCESE OF PATERSON, NJ**

|                                                     |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Church of St. Mary of the Assumption, Passaic ..... | \$ 560.00         |
| Church of the Sacred Heart, Rockaway .....          | 498.00            |
| Church of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Clifton.....     | 958.00            |
|                                                     | <b>\$2,016.00</b> |

**ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA, PA**

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Archdiocese of Philadelphia ..... | \$ 1,113.00 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|

**DIOCESE OF SCRANTON, PA**

|                                                |                    |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Diocese of Scranton .....                      | \$11,458.58        |
| Church of the Epiphany, Sayre .....            | 2,228.00           |
| Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Wilkes-Barre .....  | 100.00             |
| SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Hazleton.....  | 696.91             |
| St. John the Evangelist Church, Pittston ..... | 150.00             |
|                                                | <b>\$14,633.49</b> |

**DIOCESE OF STUBENVILLE, OH**

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Corpus Christi Church, Caldwell..... | \$ 75.00 |
|--------------------------------------|----------|

**DIOCESE OF YOUNGSOON, OH**

|                                                 |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Christ Our Savior Church, Struthers.....        | \$ 400.00         |
| Christ the Good Shepherd Parish, Campbell ..... | 200.00            |
| Holy Name of Jesus Church, Youngstown.....      | 534.00            |
| Our Lady of Sorrows, Youngstown.....            | 354.50            |
| St. Matthias Church, Youngstown.....            | 1,296.00          |
|                                                 | <b>\$2,784.50</b> |

**Outside the U.S.A.****ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO, ONTARIO**

|                                                                 |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Mississauga, (US dollars) ..... | \$950.00 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|

**Religious Communities**

|                                                     |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Benedictine Order of Cleveland, Oh.....             | \$150.00        |
| School Sisters of St. Francis, Pittsburgh, Pa. .... | 200.00          |
|                                                     | <b>\$350.00</b> |

**SLOVAK CATHOLIC FRATERNALS**

|                                                       |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Slovak Catholic Sokol .....                           |                   |
| Assembly 11, Chicago, Ill.....                        | \$ 100.00         |
| Assembly 72, Catasauqua, Pa. ....                     | 100.00            |
| Assembly 78, Bethlehem, Pa. ....                      | 25.00             |
| Assembly 136, Nanticoke, Pa. ....                     | 25.00             |
| Assembly 162, Clifton, N.J. ....                      | 50.00             |
| Assembly 182, New York City .....                     | 100.00            |
| Assembly 188, Lansford, Pa. ....                      | 100.00            |
| Assembly 219, Yonkers, N.Y. ....                      | 50.00             |
| Wreath 11, Johnstown, N.Y. ....                       | 100.00            |
| Wreath 14, Johnstown, Pa. ....                        | 50.00             |
| Wreath 157, Nesquehoning, Pa. ....                    | 25.00             |
| Group 1, "Msgr. Stephen Krasula", Passaic, N.J. ....  | 100.00            |
| Group 6, "Msgr. Andrew Hlinka", Perryopolis, Pa. .... | 100.00            |
| Group 7, "Rev. Joseph Murgas", Wilkes-Barre, Pa. .... | 100.00            |
| Group 9, "SS. Cyril & Methodius", Johnstown, Pa. .... | 100.00            |
| Group 12, "Rev. Anton Bernolack", Reading, Pa. ....   | 100.00            |
| Group 16, "Rev. Ferdis Juriga", Detroit, Mich. ....   | 25.00             |
| Group 18, "Rev. Joseph Martinec", Lansford, Pa. ....  | 100.00            |
| SCS Home Office, Passaic, N.J. ....                   | 300.00            |
|                                                       | <b>\$1,875.00</b> |

**First Catholic Slovak Union**

|                                                        |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Branch 19, Bridgeport, Conn. ....                      | \$150.00        |
| Branch 153, Chicago, Ill. ....                         | 200.00          |
| Branch 382, Scranton, Pa. ....                         | 100.00          |
| Branch 493, Chicago, Ill. ....                         | 25.00           |
| Msgr. Stephen Krasula District 16, New York, N.Y. .... | 50.00           |
| SS. Cyril and Methodius District, Scranton, Pa. ....   | 75.00           |
|                                                        | <b>\$600.00</b> |

**First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association**

|                                        |                 |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Branch 2, Yonkers, N.Y. ....           | \$100.00        |
| Branch 35, Neshanic Station, N.J. .... | 200.00          |
| Branch 172, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. ....     | 250.00          |
| Branch 313, Natrona Heights, Pa. ....  | 100.00          |
| Branch 138, Natrona Heights, Pa. ....  | 50.00           |
| Branch 234, Union, N.J. ....           | 100.00          |
| Branch 475, Bedford, Oh. ....          | 100.00          |
|                                        | <b>\$900.00</b> |

**Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union**

|                                                       |                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Branch 60, Sugarloaf, Pa. ....                        | \$25.00         |
| Branch 90, Laurel Run, Pa. ....                       | 25.00           |
| Branch 213, Laurel Run, Pa. ....                      | 25.00           |
| Monsignor Francis Beeda District, Sugarloaf, Pa. .... | 25.00           |
| LPSCU home office, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. ....             | 600.00          |
|                                                       | <b>\$700.00</b> |

**Slovak Catholic Federation Chapters**

|                                                   |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Cardinal Jozef Tomko Chapter, Bethlehem, Pa. .... | \$100.00        |
| Most Holy Trinity Chapter, Yonkers, N.Y. ....     | 100.00          |
|                                                   | <b>\$200.00</b> |

**First Catholic Slovak Union, 50th National Convention**

|                                                   |            |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 50th convention delegates, Philadelphia, Pa. .... | \$1,200.00 |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------|

**National Slovak Society, 36th National Convention**

|                                              |          |
|----------------------------------------------|----------|
| 36th convention delegates, Hershey, Pa. .... | \$200.00 |
|----------------------------------------------|----------|

**Individual Donors**

|                                                                |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Dr. John Adan, Victorville, Ca. ....                           | \$100.00 |
| Philip & Angela Bak, Amherst, Oh. ....                         | 50.00    |
| Rev. Lawrence Bacik, Galesburg, Mich. ....                     | 45.00    |
| Rev. Richard D. Baker, New York, N.Y. ....                     | 250.00   |
| Anna Balash, Bridgeport, Conn. ....                            | 50.00    |
| Bernard & Mary Jane Barilla, Hazleton, Pa. ....                | 25.00    |
| Paul Berish, Kingston, N.Y. ....                               | 100.00   |
| Margaret & John Ferri, Bethlehem, Pa. ....                     | 100.00   |
| M.A. Gaydos, Hershey, Pa. ....                                 | 25.00    |
| Marie A. Golias, Lakewood, Oh. ....                            | 25.00    |
| Benjamin Gombar, Saginaw, Mich. ....                           | 25.00    |
| Anita & John Gregory, Sugarloaf, Pa. ....                      | 25.00    |
| Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdozovic, Sayre, Pa. ....                    | 100.00   |
| Andrew & Margaret Hvozdozovic, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. ....          | 25.00    |
| Dorothy Jurcenko, Chicago, Ill. ....                           | 25.00    |
| Joseph A. Kocab, Cleveland, Oh. ....                           | 100.00   |
| Joseph A. Kovalyak, Palm Coast, Fla. ....                      | 20.00    |
| Helen Kozon, Brooklyn Heights, Oh. ....                        | 250.00   |
| Jerome Kozon, Brooklyn Heights, Oh. ....                       | 250.00   |
| Andrew W. Krafcik, Walton Hills, Oh. ....                      | 100.00   |
| Emerick A. Kravec, Charleroi, Pa. ....                         | 20.00    |
| Samuel A. Krempasky, Massillon, Oh. ....                       | 100.00   |
| Emily Kubin, Otsego, Mich. ....                                | 50.00    |
| Joseph Kushner, High Point, N.C. ....                          | 50.00    |
| In memory of Dr. Ervin Lepko, by his                           |          |
| wife Judith Lepko, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. ....                 | 300.00   |
| Christina Lewandoski, Hershey, Pa. ....                        | 30.00    |
| Inmemory of Blessed Bishop Basil Hopko, by                     |          |
| LaRabida Council #166, Knights of Columbus, Yonkers, N.Y. .... | 100.00   |
| Andrew & Shirley Lucas, Niagara Falls, N.Y. ....               | 25.00    |
| Frank & Stella Macey, Reading, Pa. ....                        | 250.00   |
| Robert Tapak Magruder, Louisville, Ky. ....                    | 25.00    |
| Attorney Cynthia A. Maleski, Natrona Heights, Pa. ....         | 200.00   |
| Rev. Thomas A. Nasta, Philadelphia, Pa. ....                   | 100.00   |
| Joseph Neslusan, Portsmouth, N.H. ....                         | 50.00    |
| North End Slovak Citizens Club, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. ....         | 200.00   |
| Joseph M. Oros, Reading, Pa. ....                              | 35.00    |
| Martha S. Parry, Poway, Ca. ....                               | 25.00    |
| Anonymous, South Grafton, Mass. ....                           | 100.00   |
| Rev. Msgr. John R. Sasway, Lilly, Pa. ....                     | 100.00   |
| Sue Ann & John Seich, Canton, Oh. ....                         | 50.00    |
| Betty Skvarek, Whiting, Ind. ....                              | 25.00    |
| Elizabeth Slovenkai, Scranton, Pa. ....                        | 50.00    |
| Thomas Stolarek, Minneapolis, Minn. ....                       | 35.00    |
| Sodality of Our Lady, Most Holy Trinity                        |          |
| Church, Yonkers, N.Y. ....                                     | 100.00   |



|                                                                                        |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| In memory of Daniel J. & Mary Yancus Tanzone,<br>Daniel F. Tanzone, Yonkers, N.Y. .... | 100.00     |
| John G. Tkacik, Bridgeport, Conn. ....                                                 | 100.00     |
| Bernadette Yench, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. ....                                               | 100.00     |
| Charles A. Zekus, Jr. Sleepy Hollow, N.Y. ....                                         | 50.00      |
|                                                                                        | \$4,010.00 |

#### The final amount raised during the 2014 Slovak Catholic Federation

SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal totaled.....\$38,087.00

Donations to this year's 37th annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal will be accepted throughout 2015. Funds raised aid the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome. The Slovak college, formerly known as the Slovak Institute of SS. Cyril and Methodius or "Ustav" in Slovak was built primarily by American and Canadian Slovaks and dedicated in 1963. The college serves as a residence for Slovak priests pursuing graduate degrees at the various Pontifical universities in the Eternal City. They return and serve in leadership capacities in the various seminaries and universities in the dioceses in Slovakia. In addition, the appeal sends annual donations to various communities of men and women in Slovakia, including the Vincentian Sisters of Charity, the School Sisters of St. Francis, the Daughters of St. Francis of Assisi, the Byzantine Sisters of St. Basil the Great, the Dominican Sisters, as well as the Franciscan Friars Minor and the newly established Benedictine community of monks in Bacurov. These monks have recently built their new monastery, the House of St.

Benedict in Sampor. This is the first Benedictine community established in Slovakia in more than 200 years. Each gift, however large or small will be very much appreciated. May our gifts be in memory of our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents who have passed on the gift of faith to us. The Slovak Catholic Federation endeavors to assist the Church in Slovakia as best we can. Send your tax-deductible donations anytime during 2015. Make checks payable to Slovak Catholic Federation and send same to the national-secretary Dolores M. Evanko, 173 Berner Ave., Hazleton, Pa. 18201. We thank all the generous donors of our 2014 appeal and look forward to their continued generosity in 2015.

Thank You - May God repay your generosity - Pan Boh Zaplat!



**Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdvic**  
National President  
Slovak Catholic Federation

**Dolores M. Evanko**  
National Secretary-Treasurer  
Slovak Catholic Federation

### Held in Douglas, Mass.

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Group 3, "Rev. Edmund Mochak"

The annual meeting of Group 3, under the patronage of the Rev. Edmund Mochak was held on Sunday, September 28, 2014 at the Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall in Douglas, Mass.

Group 3 President Kevin Conway called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. The meeting open with a prayer led by Rose Manyak, president of Wreath 18. Joseph Brody led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Brother Conway called on the Secretary Christine Manyak to read the roll call of officers and delegates. A total of 14 delegates represented Assembly 28 and Wreath 15 at the meeting.

Minutes from the semi-annual meeting were reviewed by the Secretary Christine Manyak. The minutes were then accepted on a motion by Judy Manyak, seconded by John Manyak.

Welcoming Address: The President, Brother Kevin welcomed all and thanked them for their attendance and interest in the work of Group 3. He acknowledged the newly renovated Sokol hall, which included refinished floors, new paint, as well as the professionally cleaned drapes and flags. The president reviewed the purpose of the Group as mandated by our organization's bylaws. "The purpose of the Group is to help build sound minds and bodies of all our members by nurturing harmonious relationships, encouraging educational achievements, providing and supporting athletic programs and social functions, and to provide benevolence to those in need."

The Treasurer Ralph Quinn then presented his report. The report of treasurer was then accepted on a motion by John Manyak, seconded by Dan Goldenberg.

Physical Directress Judy Manyak then presented her report. Sister Manyak reviewed the various activities in which the female Sokol members took part. She was especially pleased with the Supreme Clinic - Kurz which was held at the local YMCA Camp in North

Springfield, Pa. on Lake Erie. She indicated that she along with two assistants, participated in the Clinic. This year's Clinic was unique and most enjoyable. Our youngsters are looking forward to the 47th International Slet scheduled for July 14-18 at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa. The report of the Physical Directress was accepted on a motion by Roger Manyak, seconded by John Manyak.

Gary Manyak then presented his report as the Physical Director. Brother Gary reported on the successful Clinic. His children, Zac and Joshua also participated in the Clinic representing Group 3. He indicated that the young Sokol members are looking forward to competing at next summer's 47th International Slet. He also noted that he had the pleasure of coaching one of the 12-15 year-old teams. He once again thanked all for their cooperation. On a motion by Lory Cyr, seconded by Dan Goldenberg, the report of the Physical Director was accepted.

John Manyak then presented his report as the Group Sports Director. He indicated that the Group had not participated in any sporting events since the semi-annual meeting. The softball tournament date was changed and he indicated that the Group was no longer able to field teams for the new date. He indicated that he looked forward to an active sports program in 2015. The report was accepted on a motion by Jessica Hurley, seconded by Rose Manyak.

#### Old Business

Under Old Business, a report on the highly successful 39th Sokol Open, chaired by Brother Roger Manyak was presented. While this is an Assembly event, it is one of our most successful fund-raisers which supports the Youth Fund. The Youth Fund supplies uniforms, travel expenses, and other needs related to the Slet and other sporting events as well as the annual children's Christmas party. This year's Sokol Open saw a total of 119 golfers participate - a record. There

were 17 hole sponsors and two raffles. Brother Roger thanked his committee for their assistance without which this tournament would not be possible.

Regarding the annual raffle tickets for the Octoberfest, it was noted that they need to be returned as soon as possible. Those needing additional raffle tickets are asked to see Brother Kevin Conway.

Scholarships are available to graduating seniors who complete the application and meet specified criteria. A committee then selects qualified applicants who will receive the grants.

#### New Business

Under New Business, the schedule for the annual Octoberfest set for October 4 was announced. Brother Roger, chairman of the event, reports that the set up will be on the front lawn of the library. He is looking for volunteers. Donations are needed as well as individuals to set up and clean up as well as servers in the food booth.

The annual children's Christmas party for Wreath 18 and Assembly 28 junior members is set for Sunday, December 7th. Plans are already under way.

Various fund-raisers were discussed. A Wine/Dine/Gamble - all inclusive at Mohegan Sun was suggested. More information will follow. A Pot Luck Comedy night will be held. Brother Roger will look into the name of the comedian who will perform. A Yard Sale/Car Wash was suggested. Space would be rented to raise funds. A Casino Night was suggested. Johna Peloquin is researching such an event. A Croquet Fund Day was also recommended. And finally, the delegates were reminded that the dates of the 47th International Slet were July 14-18, 2015 in Slippery Rock, Pa.

#### Committees

Auditing: Joe Brody and John Manyak completed the annual audit. They found all books to be in order and commended Brother Ralph Quinn on a job well done. They moved for the adoption of the treasurer's report.

#### Grievances/New Motions/Recommendations:

\* Recommend that the International Slet include a Javelin throw

as an event for senior women.

\* Recommend that once a date is given Groups related to a particular tournament that no change of date be possible.

\* Recommend that various tournaments not be held around holidays.

#### Resolutions/Publicity:

\* Congratulations and fraternal best wishes go out to Honorary Supreme Officer Roger J. Manyak on his selection as the 2014 Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternalist of the Year. He is the first member of Group 3 to ever have been selected for this award since the inauguration of the national program in 1985.

\* Congratulations to Makenzie

Cyr who placed 11th in the elite category of over 100 runners and to Patrick Peloquin who placed 2nd in the freshman category of the Ocean State Invitational Championship Cross Country Race.

\* Thank you to Brother Roger Manyak and his committee for organizing the 39th annual Sokol Open Golf Tournament which attracted a record 119 golfers.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Lori Cyr, seconded by John Manyak. The meeting closed with a prayer led by Brother Kevin Conway. Suhlas!

Respectfully submitted,  
**Christine Manyak**  
Group 3 Secretary

## Slovak Heritage Society to host religious, cultural events

The Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania will host upcoming religious and cultural activities of interest to those of Slovak ancestry. Continuing in a tradition of many years now, the society will host a Lenten Slovak Hymn Sing and Stations of the Cross on Sunday, March 22 in Our Lady of Fatima Parish at St. Mary's Church of the Immaculate Conception located at 134 South Washington Street in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. beginning at 2 p.m. The hymn sing and devotions are open to the public. Stations of the Cross books will be provided as will English translations of our beloved Lenten Slovak hymns. For information contact Magdalen Benish at (570)823-1222. The society has hosted such hymn sings in recent years in response to the closing of most of the Slovak churches in the Scranton Diocese. Previously, the beautiful hymns were a mainstay during the season of Lent in Slovak parishes. The hymn sing affords the listener the opportunity to appreciate the rich liturgical traditions of the Slovaks as reflected in their various seasonal hymns. Participating is an appropriate way to observe Lent with a Slovak accent. The impressive Church of St. Mary, the oldest church in the city of Wilkes-Barre, with its excellent acoustics,

provides the perfect setting for the hymn sing.

On Sunday, March 15, the Slovak Heritage Society will host a "Slavic Dinner" in the parish hall of St. Ignatius Loyola Church, located at Maple and Pringle Streets in Kingston, Pa. beginning at 6 p.m. The dinner will feature an array of traditional Slovak culinary specialties. The dinner will feature halupky, pirohy, klobasa, vegetables, pickled beets, dessert, coffee, tea and lemonade. Cost of the dinner is \$14.00 for adults and children \$7.00. Advance reservations by Sunday, March 8th. In addition, dinner tickets will be sold at the door. Proceeds benefit various educational activities of the Slovak Heritage Society. Send reservations to Bernadette Yench, 66 Reno Lane, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18702, tel. (570)822-9843. An enjoyable evening is assured.

The Slovak Heritage Society has been promoting a variety of Slovak cultural, religious and social events in northeastern Pennsylvania since its founding during the American Bicentennial in 1976 under the leadership of Monsignor Francis J. Beeda, S.T.L., then pastor of the former Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Parish in Wilkes-Barre. Many Sokols and Sokolky have been active in the group over the years.

## Promoting a healthy way of life

### Our Slovak Catholic Sokol Walking Program enjoyed continued success in 2014

by Katie Swift

Supreme Assistant Physical Directress

As coordinator of our Sokol Walking Program, I am pleased to report that 2014 was another successful year for our Sokol walkers of all ages in all parts of the country.



Congratulations to all of our 2014 walkers who labored to promote our Sokol organization's ageless slogan of "A sound mind in a sound body."

As we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the first Sokol unit in the United States, we can be justifiably pleased that the Slovak Catholic Sokol for the past 110 years has actively promote physical fitness among our members.

The year started with a pretty harsh winter for our northern state walkers, yet they still found other ways to get out and get moving. WAY TO GO! I love hearing everyone's stories and receiving all your little notes of inspiration or funny stories. Keep up the good work.

In 2014, we had several members who reached some pretty amazing numbers. The following Sokol walkers have completed 2,000 or more miles in 2014: Rich Walkowiak of Group 14, 2,955; Nathan Swift of Group 14, 2,520; Cindy Walkowiak of Group 14, 2,391; Kristy Peterson, Group 4, 2,303; Melissa Golini of Group 5, 2,300; Kevin Zelina of Group 5, 2,045; Jane Krause of Group 1, 2,026; and Tricia Radtke of Group 4, 2,000.

We had a total of 24 members of our walking family walk between 1,000 and 1,999 miles in 2014. That is an average of a little over 5 miles a day. That is an amazing achievement!

During 2014, we had several

new members join our walking family. I am excited to see many young members getting involved. I encourage more of our youth to sign up. To join our walking program, just clip the walking box found on this page and begin walking to good health. There's no time like the present to start. Remember, we are an organization devoted to the promotion of physical fitness.

With a heavy heart, I am sad to report that we have lost several members as well. I was saddened to learn of the passing of two of our very active members from Wreath 111 in Lorain, Oh., Anna Gaydosh and Terry Zelina. Both were members of our walking program for many years. Next time you are out walking, I would ask that we keep them and their families in your prayers.

As we begin 2015, I would like you to consider taking on a new goal. Try to successfully walk at least 1 mile a day. With so many pieces of technology, it is easy to stay motivated and to track your miles. On any Smartphone, you can download several Apps to help keep you on track. Two of my favorites are mapmyrun and CharityMiles App. With Mapmyrun, you can stream your music and at each mile it will tell you when you reached a mile and at what pace you were walking. The CharityMiles App can coincide with other apps you may use. This App works by donating money to one of the charities you chose from the many they have on their list. You do not have to pay anything to join. All you have to do is log in when you walk or exercise. It's as easy as this: get moving. Bikers earn 10 cents a mile and walkers and runners 25 cents a mile. This money goes directly to the charity of your choice. Check it out at [www.charitymiles.org](http://www.charitymiles.org). If there is

a specific program or app you use that you think may be helpful to the other walkers, please let me know and I can pass the information on to everyone.

Again, I extend an invitation to the members of our organization, of every age to join our walking program. Walking is an excellent way to keep healthy and in shape. Here are few reasons why walking is beneficial. Every minute you walk, you extend your life by 1.5 to 2 minutes. Walking two miles a day decreases your chances of having a heart attack by half. To walk faster, you should take smaller strides and pump your arms. Most shoes last about 500 miles. So if you walk 30 to 40 minutes a day, make sure you buy a pair of shoes every year. Finally, once you have decided to take the challenge and join the ranks of our Sokol walkers, make sure you check with your doctor to make sure you are ready for a new workout program. Remember to start walking slowly, walk in familiar, well-lit places and don't forget to bring along water.


In conclusion, thanks and gratitude go out to our editor Dan Tanzzone and Louie Smeriglio for always getting my information printed and connected on the internet in a timely manner. These two keep our organization connected! Thanks also to Helen Zemanek from Wreath 111 of Lorain, Oh. She keeps our very large and active group of walkers in Ohio on track. Lastly, thank you to all the walkers who keep this program motivated and heading into the future.

Congrats again to the success of all of the participants in our Sokol Walking Program for the year 2014. This program continues to grow and expand to include members from all of our organization's 19 Groups. Stay on track and keep walking in 2015. Zdar Boh!

## The 2014 Sokol Walking Program Results

| First Name | Name       | Group | 2014 Year End Total |
|------------|------------|-------|---------------------|
| Rich       | Walkowiak  | 14    | 2955                |
| Nathan     | Swift      | 14    | 2520                |
| Cindy      | Walkowiak  | 14    | 2391                |
| Kristy     | Peterson   | 4     | 2303                |
| Melissa    | Golini     | 5     | 2300                |
| Kevin      | Zelina     | 5     | 2045                |
| Jane       | Krause     | 1     | 2026                |
| Tricia     | Radtke     | 4     | 2000                |
| Joe        | Zelina     | 5     | 1955                |
| Michelle   | Mager      | 5     | 1900                |
| Bob        | Roepke     | 1     | 1845.56             |
| Michael    | Zelina     | 5     | 1789                |
| Jennifer   | Romine     | 4     | 1626                |
| John       | Zelina     | 5     | 1595                |
| Pat        | Kelly      | 2     | 1512                |
| Justin     | Bioni      | 14    | 1460                |
| Matthew    | Zelina     | 5     | 1350                |
| Linda      | Sevcik, SM | 8     | 1300.5              |
| James      | Sankovich  | 6     | 1277.5              |
| Katherine  | Zelina     | 5     | 1275                |
| Sue        | Naelitz    | 5     | 1200                |
| Brad       | Hoeck      | 4     | 1176                |
| John       | Hmelnicky  | 7     | 1153.73             |
| David      | Olinzock   | 6     | 1141                |
| Larry      | Sevcik     | 8     | 1123.1              |
| Hannah     | Jozwiak    | 14    | 1095                |
| Nancy      | Sankovich  | 6     | 1095                |
| John       | Benyak     | 6     | 1066                |
| Cindy      | Novak      | 9     | 1036                |
| Eric       | Jozwiak    | 14    | 1032                |
| Michelle   | Hiatt      | 5     | 1020                |
| Suzanne    | Zeman      | 4     | 1020                |
| Noah       | Romine     | 4     | 1011                |
| Lisa       | Hoeck      | 4     | 1005                |
| Jeanne     | Bombara    | 3     | 1003                |
| Kurt       | Kurta      | 5     | 968                 |
| Gavin      | Watkins    | 14    | 890                 |
| Alex       | Jozwiak    | 14    | 876                 |
| Annika     | Romine     | 4     | 826                 |
| Robert     | Benek      | 18    | 805.25              |
| Sandy      | Wilhelm    | 5     | 800                 |
| Andrew     | Peterson   | 4     | 798                 |
| Marty      | Zemanek    | 5     | 700                 |
| Melissa    | Deenan     | 5     | 685                 |
| Chris      | Zemanek    | 5     | 650                 |
| Ryan       | Jozwiak    | 14    | 634                 |
| Rosemarie  | Csubak     | 5     | 600                 |
| Judy       | Hromada    | 5     | 600                 |
| Jennifer   | Zemanek    | 5     | 600                 |
| Gary       | Watkins    | 14    | 589                 |
| Glencie    | Zelina     | 5     | 562                 |
| Kyle       | Peterson   | 4     | 556                 |
| Dolores    | Ganobcsik  | 5     | 548                 |
| Travis     | Watkins    | 14    | 510                 |

(Continued on page 18)

| 2015<br>Slovak Catholic Sokol<br>Walking Program                                    |                 |  |  |  | DATE (dd/mm/yy) LOCATION DISTANCE INITIALS |  |  |  | DATE (dd/mm/yy) LOCATION DISTANCE INITIALS |  |  |  | DATE (dd/mm/yy) LOCATION DISTANCE INITIALS |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Name                                                                                |                 |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |
| Address                                                                             |                 |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |
| City                                                                                |                 |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |
| State                                                                               | Zip             |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |
| Date of birth                                                                       |                 |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |
| Group                                                                               | Assembly/Wreath |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |
| Date                                                                                |                 |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |
| Signature                                                                           |                 |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |                                            |  |  |  |
|  |                 |  |  |  | SUBTOTAL                                   |  |  |  | SUBTOTAL                                   |  |  |  | SUBTOTAL                                   |  |  |  |



## Cyrilite at International Vocation Conference

In honor of the 2015 Year of Consecrated Life, the National Religious Vocation Conference hosted a gathering in Rome this past, February 23-27, of select national vocation and religious leaders from the developed world. Sister Deborah Marie Borneman, SS.C.M., representing the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius of Danville, Pa. participated in the conference.

The goals of the gathering were to share vocation-related information, identify common needs and challenges, and explore future areas for worldwide collaboration in promoting vocations to consecrated life.

"The Year of Consecrated Life is the perfect opportunity to explore how Catholic vocation conferences can work together to promote and strengthen religious life on a global level," said Holy Cross Brother Paul Bednarczyk, C.S.C., Executive Director of the National Religious Vocation Conference (NRVC) and host of the interna-



**Sister Deborah Marie Borneman, SS.C.M.**

tional gathering.

The conference was held at the Istituto Maria Santissima Bambina located just outside of St. Peter's Square in the eternal city. During the conference, the participants had the opportunity to participate in the weekly general audience of Pope Francis on February 25. Sister Deborah Marie serves as NRVC Director of Member Relations and Services.

## Ethnic dinner on March 22 at Pittston, Pa. parish

Monsignor John J. Bendik, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish community in Pittston, Pa. extends a cordial invitation to area Sokol members to enjoy a delightful afternoon, Sunday, March 22 as the parish hosts its annual Ethnic Heritage Dinner. The dinner will be held in Seton Catholic Cafeteria located on Church Street in Pittston from 1-3 p.m. The dinner reflects the rich diversity of the parish family, including those families of Slovak ancestry. Dishes featured at the dinner will include the cuisines of the Irish, German, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Sicilian, Ukrainian as well as the Slovaks. Parish members of various heritages are invited to prepare a favorite family recipe.

This is a great opportunity to

come together to eat and enjoy a meal together while on our Lenten journey. Last year's amount and variety of covered dishes was truly outstanding. In keeping with the spirit of the Lenten season, participants are invited to contribute non-perishable foods or a monetary donation to the parish Food Pantry. In order to make the necessary preparations, those planning to attend from outside the parish are asked to call the parish office at te. (570)654-0053. Our Sokol Assembly 86 is affiliated with this parish. Looking forward to seeing many area Sokols and Sokolky at the dinner, may I remain

Zdar Boh!

**Stephen Vitek**  
for the committee

## Apartments available at The Slovak Garden

Since 1952, The Slovak Garden, billed as "A home for American Slovaks" has provided pleasant apartment facilities in Winter Park, just outside Orlando, Fla. Founded by Slovak fraternalists, The Slovak Garden offers apartments for interested parties in the heart of one of Florida's most popular areas. A minimum lease of twelve months is needed on all apartments.

A one bedroom efficiency, pool-side ranges from \$385 to \$420 a month. Rent for a two bedroom, one bath apartment, pool-side costs between \$520-\$585 a month. A two bedroom, one and a half baths ranges from \$600 to \$625 a month. The prices above do not include utilities.

A variety of social activities is available throughout the year. The next major event is the 62nd annual Florida Slovak Day which is scheduled for Saturday, March 7 in the Slovak Garden's cultural center beginning at 12 noon.

For additional information on The Slovak Garden call (407)677-6894 or check its website at [www.theslovakgarden.org](http://www.theslovakgarden.org).

## Scholarships available for Michigan members

The Michigan Fraternal Alliance, representing more than 100,000 fraternalists in the Motor State, including members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, will again offer three, \$500 scholarship grants to deserving members who will be graduating from high school in June 2015. Any member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol belonging to a lodge in Michigan may apply for these grants.

Candidates shall be graduating high school seniors who are planning to enroll in the fall as a fulltime student (minimum of 12 credit hours) in an accredited two or four-year college, university or trade school. The grant is to be made payable to the recipient following receipt of proof of enrollment which must be received

by Nov. 15, 2015. The money is to be used for tuition and books only. In addition to the completed application form, the applicant must write an essay of at least 100 words on any volunteer projects which he/she has participated in. An application form is available on the Michigan Fraternal Alliance website: [www.michiganfraternalalliance.org](http://www.michiganfraternalalliance.org) or by contacting our Editor, Daniel F. Tanzone at the home office 800-886-7656. The completed application must be sent to Richard Karpinski, Scholarship Chairperson, Michigan Fraternal Alliance, 6837 Bunker Hill Lane, Canton, MI 48187-3033 and be postmarked by the April 6, 2015 deadline. The winner will be notified by May 1.

## Slovak Independence program in New York

The traditional observance of the 76th anniversary of the declaration of independence of the first Slovak state will take place on Sunday, March 15 in the social hall of St. John Nepomucene Parish located at East 66th Street and First Avenue in New York City. Mass will be celebrated in church in Slovak beginning at 11 a.m. with the independence day program beginning at 1 p.m. in the social hall. The observance recalls the March 14, 1939 declaration of the autonomous parliament in Bratislava declaring

Slovakia's independence. The first Slovak State was recognized by a total of 28 other nations and laid the foundation for the January 1, 1993 declaration of independence of the current Slovak Republic.

The observance is hosted by Assembly 1 of the Slovak League of America in cooperation with Assembly 182 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Branch 45 and Branch 716 of the First Catholic Slovak Union. A cultural program will be offered as well as refreshments. The celebration is open to the public.

## IN MEMORIAM

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

**JANUARY 2015**

| Assembly/Wreath | Member                                | Age | Date of Death     |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Assembly 6      | Rudolf Medovic, Benwood, WV           | 86  | December 11, 2014 |
| Assembly 11     | Louis T. Leo, Chicago, IL             | 95  | December 30, 2014 |
| Assembly 16     | Chester J. Cottone, Pittsburgh, PA    | 74  | January 17, 2015  |
| Assembly 24     | Irene B. Chisafulli, Booton, NJ       | 90  | October 27, 2014  |
| Assembly 28     | Stella Beresik, East Douglas, MA      | 90  | January 19, 2015  |
| Assembly 36     | Paul R. Chervenak, Detroit, MI        | 83  | December 17, 2014 |
| Assembly 48     | George Oveck, Philadelphia, PA        | 75  | December 26, 2014 |
| Assembly 54     | Emilie Slimak, Lyndora, PA            | 88  | December 30, 2014 |
| Assembly 72     | Mary Kalamar, Catasauqua, PA          | 89  | December 21, 2014 |
| Assembly 78     | Elizabeth Mary Gress, Bethlehem, PA   | 92  | January 18, 2015  |
| Assembly 108    | Eugene P. Hvizdak, Youngstown, OH     | 85  | January 13, 2015  |
| Assembly 108    | Raymond G. Maruskin, Youngstown, OH   | 80  | January 22, 2015  |
| Assembly 108    | John P. Brincko, Youngstown, OH       | 85  | August 9, 2014    |
| Assembly 136    | Edward Karlick, Nanticoke, PA         | 90  | December 22, 2014 |
| Assembly 162    | Katherine Bauer, Clifton, NJ          | 91  | October 22, 2014  |
| Assembly 176    | Joseph Ondrusek, New Brighton, PA     | 93  | March 12, 2014    |
| Assembly 180    | Michael C. Stranan, Canton, OH        | 62  | November 25, 2014 |
| Assembly 182    | Thomas M. Stedina, New York, NY       | 64  | December 15, 2014 |
| Assembly 182    | Ludwig Pavlo, New York, NY            | 89  | December 21, 2014 |
| Assembly 188    | Michael Hancharick, Lansford, PA      | 87  | December 19, 2014 |
| Assembly 261    | Paul H. Wolf, Reading, PA             | 73  | December 26, 2014 |
| Assembly 261    | Cyril Harvan, Reading, PA             | 86  | December 19, 2014 |
| Assembly 295    | Mary Valecko, Duquesne, PA            | 88  | January 4, 2015   |
| Assembly 312    | Anna Fisher, Passaic, NJ              | 93  | December 14, 2014 |
| Wreath 15       | Mary Ann Kalmar, Perryopolis, PA      | 63  | August 13, 2014   |
| Wreath 22       | Anna M. Rusin, Pittsburgh, PA         | 83  | July 16, 2014     |
| Wreath 22       | Bernardine C. Verdile, Pittsburgh, PA | 79  | December 2, 2014  |
| Wreath 22       | Rose Marie Rucinski, Pittsburgh, PA   | 81  | January 16, 2015  |
| Wreath 29       | Regina V. Hoza, Farrell, PA           | 95  | December 23, 2014 |
| Wreath 43       | Elizabeth Schilling, Akron, OH        | 83  | January 21, 2015  |
| Wreath 54       | Fanny M. Rovder, Youngstown, OH       | 88  | December 20, 2014 |
| Wreath 54       | Mary Olexa, Youngstown, OH            | 93  | January 21, 2015  |
| Wreath 81       | Gerald Talabay, Whiting, IN           | 77  | December 31, 2014 |
| Wreath 147      | Josephine Krehely, Larksville, PA     | 92  | January 15, 2015  |
| Wreath 93       | Lilian Selestow, Milwaukee, WI        | 94  | December 14, 2014 |
| Wreath 111      | Ronald Firment, Lorain, OH            | 69  | December 13, 2014 |
| Wreath 111      | Rev. Edward Luca, Lorain, OH          | 84  | October 20, 2014  |
| Wreath 103      | Maria Spencer, Barberton, OH          | 96  | January 1, 2015   |
| Wreath 147      | Elisabeth M. Fessler, Larksville, PA  | 57  | November 14, 2014 |
| Wreath 153      | Frank Richnavsky, Parma, OH           | 87  | December 3, 2014  |

### RECOMENDERS FOR JANUARY

| Recommender          | City/State        | Face Ammount | New Members |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Michael T. Matras    | Perryopolis, Pa.  | \$210,000    | 8           |
| Adrian M. Casey      | Chicago, Ill.     | 5,000        | 1           |
| Andrew J. Macurak    | Pittsburgh, Pa.   | 5,000        | 1           |
| Cynthia A. Walkowiak | Pittsburgh, Pa.   | 5,000        | 1           |
| Gerald J. Fabian     | Egypt, Pa.        | 5,000        | 1           |
| James T. Genosky     | Minneapolis, Min. | 5,000        | 1           |
| Maxine L. Mikula     | Johnstown, Pa.    | 5,000        | 1           |
| Life Insurance Total |                   | \$240,000    | 14          |

### RECOMENDERS FOR FEBRUARY

| Recommender          | City/State       | Face Ammount | New Members |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Michael T. Matras    | Perryopolis, Pa. | \$75,000     | 5           |
| Mary Ann Workosky    | Johnstown, Pa.   | 20,000       | 2           |
| Mary E. Williams     | Pittsburgh, Pa.  | 10,000       | 1           |
| Tony L. Scuglik      | Kenosha, Wis.    | 10,000       | 1           |
| Dorothy Rudinec      | Perryopolis, Pa. | 7,000        | 1           |
| Dolores A. Yankoski  | Dunlop, Pa.      | 5,000        | 1           |
| Life Insurance Total |                  | \$127,000    | 11          |

## Lodge Jottings

(Continued from page 13)

ation such as changes in the organization's bylaws as well as new motions for the good and betterment of our organization.

In addition, we will discuss this year's 2nd Eastern European Festival which our lodges will host at our Sokol Club. Last year's festival proved to be very successful and we want to see that this year's continues the trend as we celebrate our Slovak and Slavic traditions.

Zdar Boh!

**Joseph M. Oros**  
Financial Secretary  
Assembly 261

## WHITING, IND Wreath 81

The next meeting of our Wreath is scheduled for Sunday, April 12 at the Sacred Heart Rose Room on LaPorte Avenue in Whiting beginning at 1 p.m. All members are cordially invited to join us.

The officers were very happy and pleased to see our members and their guests at our Christmas

party and annual meeting in December. We hope that many members will be able to join us for our next meeting, which will include plans for the coming fraternal year. A pleasant fraternal afternoon with refreshments and games is planned.

Continuing with our Care and Share project of feeding the hungry in our own community, we remind our members that we will be collecting monetary donations for the local food pantry. The Whiting Robertsdale Food pantry assists needy families twice each month. They are most grateful for our assistance through the year. Serving and assisting others is what a true fraternalist is all about. We thank our members for their continued support and example.

To our ill and homebound members, please know that you are always in our thoughts and prayers. To all Sokol members, enjoy the beauty of winter and let's hope we can soon enjoy the beauty of spring.

Zdar Boh!

**Judy Strisko**  
Recording Secretary

## Priesthood Scholarship Grants Available

In addition to our regular scholarship program for students on the college, high school and grade school levels, as a Catholic organization, we also offer grants to students preparing for the diocesan or religious priesthood. The Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Grant of \$500 is given annually to an applicant beginning in his second year of Theological Formation until ordination. An applicant must be our member for at least five years and hold a minimum permanent insurance certificate of \$3,000.

Those interested in this grant should write to our Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, Church of The Epiphany, 304 South Elmer Ave., Sayre, PA 18840 for an application.

## Pitt Student Slovak Club lecture set for March 22

The Pitt Student Slovak Club of the Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh extends a cordial invitation to area Sokol members to attend The Thomas Kukucka Memorial Lecture on Sunday, March 22 at 1700 Posvar Hall of the Pitt Campus in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh beginning at 2 p.m. Robert Dvorchak will present the lecture titled "Birds of Passage: Achieving the American Dream." Refreshments will be enjoyed following the lecture.

Robert Dvorchak worked for 47 years as a journalist, including eight years as a national writer for the Associated Press in New York City. He has covered such stories as the original outbreak of Legionnaires Disease, the Three Mile Island nuclear accident, the Jeffrey Dahmer serial killings and the Oklahoma City bombings. During the first Iraq War, he was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division as a war correspondent, and he last worked for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. A resident of Penn Hills, he is the grandson of Slovak immigrants who came to America from the Spis region.

The Slovak Studies Program is funded by an endowment established by five Slovak fraternalists, including the Slovak Catholic Sokol.



## Scholarships offered by United Slovak Societies

Continuing in their educational outreach program, the United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Oh. will again offer scholarship grants to high school graduates of 2015 who are entering college in the fall and meet the eligibility rules. Any member in good standing of Lorain's Wreath 111 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol for at least five years who will be a graduating senior this June may apply for these grants. Deadline for applications is May 30, 2015. Lastly, students are encouraged to contact their local lodge president for any additional scholarship opportunities that may exist. For complete rules and applications, contact Helene Virant at tel. (440)282-3325. Applications are also available at the American Slovak Club located at 2915 Broadwa Avenue.

These scholarship grants are

available to members of the local lodges of our five Slovak fraternalists which make up the United Slovak Societies, including the First Catholic Slovak Union, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union as well as the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

The United Slovak Societies was organized in 1935 to promote Slovak cultural and educational projects to aid the Lorain area Slovak community. A leading activist and organizer of the United Slovak Societies was Dominic Sloboda who served as Supreme President of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

Zdar Boh!

**Michele Mager**  
Secretary,  
United Slovak Societies

## The 2014 Sokol Walking Program Results

(Continued from page 16)

| First Name | Name       | Group | 2014 Year End Total |
|------------|------------|-------|---------------------|
| Julia      | Jozwiak    | 14    | 502                 |
| Amber      | Radtko     | 4     | 500                 |
| James      | Genosky    | 11    | 483                 |
| Delores    | Genosky    | 11    | 470                 |
| Victor     | Skvarla    | 12    | 462                 |
| Ilona      | Ferris     | 14    | 457                 |
| Anthony    | Macurak    | 14    | 451.5               |
| Kathleen   | Trifiletti | 5     | 450                 |
| Anna       | Zuffa      | 5     | 450                 |
| Matthew    | Jozwiak    | 14    | 434                 |
| Sarah      | Bioni      | 14    | 407                 |
| Dolly      | Yonkoski   | 9     | 405                 |
| Regina     | Davies     | 5     | 400                 |
| Tina       | Hellinger  | 5     | 400                 |
| Chris      | Nedelman   | 5     | 400                 |
| Jim        | Krasky     | 11    | 392                 |
| Heldi      | Bioni      | 14    | 387                 |
| Zach       | Jozwiak    | 14    | 387                 |
| Annalise   | Romine     | 4     | 375                 |
| JoAnn      | Antosy     | 12    | 375                 |
| Paul       | Glovany    | 9     | 370                 |
| Chris      | Antosy Sr. | 12    | 365                 |
| Helen      | Virant     | 5     | 350                 |
| Helen      | Zemanek    | 5     | 350                 |
| Delvyn     | Nocjar     | 5     | 340                 |
| Evan       | Radtko     | 4     | 300                 |
| Barbara    | Petro      | 10    | 299                 |
| Alaina     | Seifert    | 14    | 297                 |
| Monica     | Heap       | 13    | 285.67              |
| Steven     | Pogorelec  | 1     | 281                 |
| Annie      | Pogorelec  | 1     | 281                 |
| Kathleen   | Watkins    | 14    | 280                 |
| Riana      | Hoeck      | 4     | 274                 |
| Bryce      | Watkins    | 14    | 220                 |
| Connor     | Swift      | 14    | 180                 |
| Nathan     | Radtko     | 4     | 160                 |
| Juliana    | Hoeck      | 4     | 154                 |
| Grace      | Martyak    | 9     | 140                 |
| Carissa    | Hoeck      | 4     | 133                 |

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## Na Slovensku by sa tento rok mohlo vyrobiť rekordných milión vozidiel

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

zvýšeným predajom v Európe,“ uviedol Bačč. Tento trend by mohol vydržať aj do budúcnosti, keďže práve tento mesiac začala Európska centrálna banka s tlačím peňazí, ktorého cieľom je prostredníctvom lacných úverov naštartovať ekonomiku eurozóny. V priebehu 19 mesiacov bude do ekonomik krajín používajúcich spoločnú menu euro natlačených až 1,1 bilióna eur.

Viac peňazí na kúpu automobilov by Európania mohli mať už začiatkom roku 2016. Automobilky na toto obdobie chystajú premiéru veľkých SUV automobilov. Po prvý raz v histórii plánuje v tomto segmente bojovať o zákazníka česká Škoda. Svetovú premiéru zažije aj nová Kia Sportage, ktorá je najpredávanejším automobíkom žilinskej automobilky.

Slovensko si za posledné roky vybudovalo povest automobilovej veľmoci. V krajine pod Tatrami minulý rok pripadalo na tisíc obyvateľov 179 novovyrobených automobilov. Firmy podnikajúce v automobilovom priemysle priamo dávajú prácu až 60-tisíc ľuďom a nepriamo je od výroby osobných motorových vozidiel závislý ďalších vyše 140-tisíc pracovných miest. Pracovné miesta vo Volkswagenovom novom karosérii lisovaných z ocele aj hliníka. V žilinskej Kii majú aktuálne šancu začať pracovať ľudia ovládajúci prácu na CNC strojoch.

“V motorárni sa pomaly začína s nábehom tretej zmeny. Pri súčasných dvoch zmenách totiž ľudia začínajú pracovať až príliš veľa nadčasov. Samozrejme, každému rozširovaniu výroby sa tešíme, keďže pre ľudí je to vždy dobrá správa,“ povedal Miroslav Chládek, predseda odborov v Kia Motors Slovakia. Pri súčasných dvoch zmenách zamestnanci pracujú aj v sobotu, čo na jednej strane znamená pre ľudí viac peňazí, ale na druhej menej času s rodinou. “Prijímaním nových zamestnancov a dobrou ekonomickou situáciou závodu argumentujeme aj pri súčasných rokovaniach o zvyšovaní plátov. V tomto roku by sme sa so zamestnávateľom chceli dohodnúť na raste tarifných plátov o 33 eur,“ pokračoval Chládek. Na priblíženie, priemerné platy výrobných zamestnancov Kia Slovakia boli v minulom roku 1 215 eur v hrubom.

Ekonomika krajiny, od ktorej závisí životná úroveň ľudí, rástla vlni o 2,4 percenta najmä vďaka domácejmu dopytu. Export situáciu po dlhých rokoch po prvýkrát nezlepšoval. Tento rok však podľa ministerstva financií má byť aj export jeden z ťahúnov približne 3-percentného rastu hospodárstva. Vzniknúť majú tisíce nových pracovných miest, a to najmä v službách. Ekonomovia odhadujú, že v minulom roku až 43 percent tržieb z priemyselnej produkcie vytvorili práve firmy podnikajúce v automobilovom priemysle. - *Pravda.sk*

## Minister Kaliňák na pracovnej ceste v Kanade

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

Kanady je motivovaná ekonomicky. Ich cieľom je vydávať sa za utečencov a pritom získať prístup k sociálnym dávкам v Kanade,“ povedal Kaliňák.

Slovensko ponúko Kanade lepšiu výmenu informácií medzi jednotlivými úradmi a tiež riešenie tohto problému po vzore iných európskych krajín, ktoré mali v minulosti s migráciou skupín za sociálnymi dávkami problémy, ako je Belgicko alebo Veľká Británia.

“Témou ďalších spoločných rokovaní boli aj boj proti terorizmu a možná spolupráca v oblasti integrovaného záchraného systému a civilnej ochrany a tiež know-how Slovenska v oblasti ochrany štátnej hranice,“ dodala Dobiášová.

Kaliňákovo program v Severnej Amerike pokračoval stretnutiami so Slovákmi žijúcimi v Kanade a ďalšími bilaterálnymi rokovaniami. Z Kanady sa presunul do Spojených štátov, kde sa stretol s ministrom zahraničných vecí USA Johnom Kerrym.

### Ach, tá naša slovenčina...

Je to veľmi frustrujúce.

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V každom priemernom **news feede** priemerného majiteľa účtu na najväčšej sociálnej pasci nájdete denne priemerne asi 157 receptov na jedlá. - *sme.sk*

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Múzeum a Kultúrne centrum južného Zemplína v Trebišove, kultúrne zariadenie Košického samosprávneho kraja a Mesto Trebišov otvorilo 27. februára 26. ročník súťažnej výstavy v zdobení veľkonočných kraslíc pod názvom Trebišovskí pisanki. Na výstave, ktorá potrvá do 26. apríla, budú vystavené zdobené veľkonočné vajíčka od vystavovateľov z okresov celého východného Slovenska.

### Žiadosti o vrátenie občianstva zatiaľ ľudia nevyužívajú

Od začiatku februára platí nariadenie ministerstva vnútra, ktoré umožňuje vracieť štátne občianstvo tým, ktorí oň prišli pre zákon z roku 2010. Bývalí slovenskí občania sa so žiadosťami o vrátenie občianstva na úrady príliš nehrnú. Za február evidujú 12 žiadostí. Žiadosti sa môžu podávať na okresných úradoch v krajských mestách a tiež na našich zastupiteľských úradoch v cudzine.

Pre zákon z roku 2010 prišlo o slovenské občianstvo 1 017 ľudí.

### Robert Fico rokoval s americkým veľvyslancom

(Pokračovanie zo str. 20)

nový protikorupčný akčný plán a prijatie druhého národného akčného plánu iniciatívy Partnerstva pre otvorené vládnutie (OGP).

Keďže Spojené štáty sú naďalej znepokojené pokračujúcim porušovaním Minského implementačného plánu separatistami na Ukrajine podporovanými Ruskom a prítomnosťou ruských vojakov na Ukrajine, USA oce-

ňujú významnú podporu Slovenska Ukrajine.

„Ďakujem vám za to, že Slovensko umožnilo spätný tok plynu. Sme veľmi vďační za skutky, ktoré Slovensko vykonalo vo vzťahu k Ukrajine.“

Obaja predstavitelia sa zhodli, že reformy sú kľúčové pre budúcnosť Ukrajiny s Európou a veľvyslanec uviedol, že sa teší, že Slovensko podporí toto úsilie Ukrajiny. - *sita*

## V Lešti cvičia americké a slovenské jednotky

Špeciálne sily Slovenska a Spojených štátov amerických spoločne cvičia v Centre výcviku Lešt. Pri výcviku 103 amerických a 56 slovenských vojakov využívajú aj štyri vrtulníky UH-60 Black Hawk. Cieľom je precvičenie spoločných operačných a taktických postupov jednotiek pri boji proti terorizmu, pašovaniu nebezpečného materiálu cez hranice Európskej únie a odovzdanie prípadne získaného materiálu jednotke Radiacnej, chemickej a biologickej ochrany (RCHBO) na preskúmanie a prevoz na bezpečné miesto. Spoločné cvičenie špeciálnych síl Slovenska a Spojených štátov potrvá do 13. marca.



Na skalnom výbežku Malých Karpát, nad riekou Dunaj sa týči majestátny hrad, ktorý výrazne dotvára panorámu hlavného mesta Slovenska. Mohutná obdĺžniková bloková stavba so štyrmi nárožnými vežami stojí na strategickom mieste osídlenom už v dobe keltskej a veľkomoravskej. V 9. storočí v miestach dnešného hradného areálu stála palácová stavba a

bazilika. Architektúru hradu najviac poznačili dostavby a prestavby v období gotiky, renesancie a počas panovania Márie Terézie. Bratislavský hrad od polovice 16. storočia, kedy sa na 200 rokov stala Bratislava korunovačným mestom Uhorska, bol hrad sídlom panovníka, konali sa tu zasadnutia Uhorského snemu a v korunovačnej veži boli uložené korunovačné klenoty uhor-

ských kráľov. Po prestavovaní kráľovského dvora do Viedne bol na hrade Generálny seminár, kde študovali mnohí významní vzdelanci tej doby. Neskôr hrad dostalo vojsko a v roku 1811 vyhorel. Rekonštrukcia sa uskutočnila až v šesťdesiatych rokoch tohto storočia.

Hrad s areálom bol vyhlásený v roku 1961 za Národnú kultúrnu pamiatku.



Za Boha a Národ For God and Nation

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### Prezident Kiska rokoval so šéfom NATO



Prezident Slovenskej republiky Andrej Kiska s generálnym tajomníkom NATO Jensom Stoltenbergom v Bruseli. - Foto: ČTK

Prezident Andrej Kiska rokoval 2. marca v Bruseli s generálnym tajomníkom NATO Jensom Stoltenbergom. Jednou z tém bola aj konflikt na Ukrajine. Ako sa uvádza na internetovej stránke prezidenta, zhodli sa, že prímerie medzi proruskými povstalcami a ukrajinskou armádou existuje, ale je krehké.

„Zodpovednosť Ruska za jeho udržanie trvá. Situáciu netreba dramatizovať, ale bezpečnostné hrozby v Európe sa zmenili a stavia nás to pred výzvami, ktoré sme si ešte pred pár rokmi nevedeli predstaviť,“ povedal Kiska.

Prezident Kiska otvoril aj tému „informačnej vojny“ v súvislosti s konfliktom na Ukrajine. „Zhodli sme sa s generálnym tajomníkom, že lož má krátke nohy. V tomto boji určite vyhráme,“ dodal prezident. „Nestacia nám moderné zbraňové systémy, musíme sa vedieť brániť organizovanému šíreniu dezinformácií. Nehovorím o rozdielnych názoroch, ktoré sú prirodzenou súčasťou demokratickej a slobodnej spoločnosti. Hovorím o účelovom narábaní s faktami, o otvorených klamstvách. V kontexte krízy na Ukrajine sa s tým stretávame v takej miere ako nikdy doposiaľ,“ povedal prezident.

Generálny tajomník NATO pripomenul, že aliancia má možnosti, ako informačnej kampani čeliť. „Ako aliancia spoločne, ale aj jednotlivé členské krajiny zvlášť, sa teraz čelíme propagande a informačnej vojne,“ pripustil. Dezinformácie ale podľa neho úspešne nie sú a nebudú. „Nemyslíme si však, že by sme mali na propagandu odpovedať propagandou,“ poznamenal Stoltenberg.

Prezident Kiska tiež pripomenul záväzok zo summitu vo Walese, že rozpočet pre rezort obrany bude rásť. „Dnes môžeme povedať, že proces modernizácie slovenskej armády sa začal. Máme ambíciu sa postupne zbaviť ruskej vojenskej techniky.“

### Robert Fico rokoval s americkým veľvyslancom

Predseda vlády Robert Fico sa 2. marca stretol s veľvyslancom Spojených štátov amerických na Slovensku Theodorom Sedgwickom. Hovorili o protikorupčných opatreniach na Slovensku, transatlantickej a európskej jednote v súvislosti so situáciou na Ukrajine ako aj o posilnení možnosti v oblasti obchodu a investícií.

Veľvyslanec Sedgwick ocenil kroky, ktoré Slovensko podniklo v boji proti korupcii, vrátane Iniciatívy za vládu zákona (Rule of Law) 14-tich podnikateľských združení, zamestnávateľských asociácií a obchodných komôr na čele s Americkou obchodnou komorou, ktorá pripravuje

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)

### Minister Kaliňák na pracovnej ceste v Kanade

Slovensko-kanadské vzťahy, prisťahovalectvo, azylová problematika, ale aj situácia na Ukrajine boli hlavnými témami rozhovorov podpredsedu vlády a ministra vnútra Roberta Kaliňáka na jeho pracovnej ceste v Kanade začiatkom marca.

„Ide o prvú návštevu člena vlády v severoamerickej krajine za posledných päť rokov,“ uviedla hovorkyňa ministerstva vnútra Andrea Dobiášová.

Minister Kaliňák sa stretol s ministrom pre bezpečnosť a mimoriadne situácie Kanady Stevenom Blaneyom a ministrom pre migráciu a štátne občianstvo Chrisom Alexanderom. Rozprávali sa aj o Ukrajine, minister Alexander dlhé roky pôsobil v Moskve ako kanadský diplomat.

Prebrali tiež problematiku elektronickej autorizácie ETA (Electronic Travel Authorization), ktorú plánuje Kanada spustiť po vzore USA v lete tohto roku. Oboja ministri sa zhodli, že výmena údajov o cestujúcich je významným krokom na prevenciu v rámci boja proti terorizmu.

„Dotkli sa aj migrácie a projektu mobilita mladých, ktorý umožňuje mladým slovenským občanom do 35 rokov stráviť rok v druhom štáte a pritom pracovať a cestovať,“ priblížila Dobiášová s tým, že program na Slovensku funguje od roku 2011, ročná kvóta je 350 osôb.

S ministrom pre bezpečnosť a mimoriadne situácie Blaneyom prebrali najmä azylovú problematiku. V minulom roku totiž narástol počet žiadateľov o azyl zo Slovenska na 469, čím sa Slovensko zaradilo na prvé miesto spomedzi krajín EÚ.

Podľa slovenského rezortu vnútra išlo hlavne o sociálne slabších občanov z osád, ktorí vstúpili v Kanade do azylovej procedúry a po zamietnutí azylu po pol roku odchádzali. „Migrácia občanov SR do

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)

### Na Slovensku by sa tento rok mohlo vyrobiť rekordných milión vozidiel

Tri automobilky pôsobiace na Slovensku 3. marca predstavili na autosalóne v Ženeve novinky, o ktoré bol hneď záujem a produkcia tak začína tvoriť nové pracovné miesta.

Výroba áut dáva priamo aj nepriamo prácu až pre 200-tisíc Slovákov. Nové modely predstavili bratislavský Volkswagen, žilinská Kia aj trnavský PSA Peugeot Citroën. Na doterajších vozidlách vyrábaných na Slovensku došlo k viacerým inováciám.

„Veríme, že nové Audi Q7 sa bude na svetových trhoch úspešne predávať a prispeje k vytvoreniu nových pracovných miest na Slovensku,“ povedal Albrecht Reimold, predseda predstavstvenstva Volkswagenu Slovakia. Podľa informácií denníka Pravda sa práve pre výrobu nového Audi Q7 už v priebehu roku 2014 vytvorilo v bratislavskom závode Volkswagenu niekoľko stoviek nových pracovných miest. Celkový počet zamestnancov je tak už oveľa vyšší ako oficiálne deklarovaných 9 400 ľudí. Nové čísla zamestnanosti Volkswagenu Slovakia oficiálne zverejní v priebehu jari spolu s hospodárskymi výsledkami za rok 2014.

V Kia Motors Slovakia stoji za nábormi ľudí zvýšený dopyt po výrobe motorov. Kórejská automobilka vo Švajčiarsku odhalila športový rad modelov čed označený ako GT Line. „V Žiline ju budeme vyrábať v troch karosárskych verziách a poháňať ju bude nový jednolitrový motor s výkonom 120 koní. Aj vďaka tomuto novému motoru už v týchto dňoch začíname s nábormi 50 nových ľudí,“ povedal Jozef Bačé, hovorca Kia Motors Slovakia. Počet zamestnancov v závode tak v priebehu roka 2015 vzrastie na 3.850 ľudí. Okrem nového automobilu zvyšujú v Žiline dopyt po výrobe motorov aj stále rastúce objednávky od závodu Hyundai z Českých Nošovic.

Na Slovensku sa v roku 2014 vyrobilo viac ako 970-tisíc automobilov. Pred rokom svoje výrobné kapacity nedokázal naplno využiť len trnavský PSA Peugeot Citroën, ktorý vyrobil „len“ niečo nad 255-tisíc vozidiel, kým maximálne výrobné kapacity závodu sú niečo nad 300-tisíc ocelových tátošov. Zmeniť situáciu by mal práve v Ženeve predstavený facelift Peugeot 208. „Zo všetkých vo svete predaných Peugeot 208 sa až 90 percent vyrobí v slovenskej Trnave,“ povedala Ivana Orviská, hovorkyňa Peugeot Slovakia. Zvyšných desať percent sa vyrobí vo francúzskom meste Poissy neďaleko Paríža. „Na autosalóne v Ženeve máme aj druhú novinku vyrábanú na Slovensku. Konkrétne C3 Picasso v prevedení bi-ton, čo je dvojfarebná karoséria,“ priblížil Peter Švec, hovorca PSA Peugeot Citroën Slovakia.

Ak všetko dobre pôjde, na Slovensku sa v roku 2015 vyrobí viac ako milión automobilov, ale všetko bude závisieť od ochoty zákazníkov nakupovať nové automobily. „Náš konzervatívny odhad tohtoročnej výroby je 980-tisíc automobilov. Ak sa však výrazne nezhorší situácia v Rusku či ekonomický rast Európy, mohli by sme v roku 2015 po prvý raz v histórii dosiahnuť šesťciferné číslo v počte vyrobených vozidiel na Slovensku,“ povedal prezident Zväzu automobilového priemyslu Jaroslav Holeček. Všetko bude závisieť aj od toho, ako sa bude dať predaj v Ženeve predstavených automobilov.

Analytická spoločnosť PWC očakáva veľké problémy hlavne na ruskom trhu, ktorý by sa v tomto roku mohol prepadnúť o 25 až 35 percent. V minulosti každé piate auto do Ruska vyrážala žilinská Kia. „V súčasnosti sa nám prepad na ruskom trhu darí nahradiť

(Pokračovanie na str. 19)