

Za Boha a národ

For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský katolícky sokol

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

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

VOLUME CXI

PASSAIC, NJ, MARCH 1, 2022

NUMBER 5161



Message from our Supreme President

Michael J. Horvath

In three weeks, the winter of 2022 will be behind us, the cold, freezing rain and snow will just be memories. Then spring arrives with warmer weather to awaken the sleepy earth to show us all of nature's beautiful color that it has been hiding for the past six months. We now can start to enjoy more outside activities since we put away our winter coats, hats, and scarves for another year. Let the sunshine in!



In a few days we will begin the Lenten season, our Christian journey of our faith and belief in Jesus Christ. Lent is the time we make sacrifices to help us become better Christian. This can be difficult sometimes because we are human. Take time each day to reflect on how to be a better Christian and what we can do to help others in need.

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board held its annual meeting to plan the Society's fraternal activities for 2022 and 2023. The Board realizes there are still issues with the pandemic and are working to assure all our activities are safe. The Board's main concern is holding the Clinic this year to prepare Group leaders for the 50th Slet. It is important for all Group leaders, to provide the Board information when asked for. It is only with good information that the Board will be able to make the proper plans for all fraternal activities for the membership to enjoy.

The Board of Directors will hold its first quarterly meeting March 18-19, 2022, at the Mohegan Sun in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Board of Directors will review the Society's 2021 business results and fraternal activities. This will be the second in-person meeting the Board will hold since 2020. There is a lot to discuss at the meeting and begin the Society's planning for 2022 and 2023 which will include preparing for the 34th Convention scheduled for, August 5-8, 2023, in Scranton, PA.

The Governance Committee held its first meeting on February 23 via Zoom. They are ready to start their work to examine the Society as it compares to other fraternal societies. They will examine how other fraternal societies are structured, and operate, and what their financial strength, growth, and activities were over the last four years.

Since spring is beginning let us awaken our Slovak Catholic Sokol enthusiasm and review our life insurance and investment plans. If we need more life insurance or our investments are not producing a return that is more than what the Sokol annuities offer contact our Supreme Secretary of Director of Sales for assistance.

May all members who have Irish ancestry or become Irish on St. Patrick's Day have a great celebration on Thursday, March 17, 2023, Šťastný Deň svätého Patrika.

Stay Safe and Healthy,
And with, God's Blessings to All!
Zdar Boh!

Slovak Catholic Falcon Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

ISSN:0897-8107

Established April 15, 1911

Official Publication
of the Slovak Catholic Sokol

Issued Monthly

Editorial Staff:
Livia Karak
Daniel F. Tanzone

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

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

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

HOME OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

PHONE NUMBERS:
TOLL FREE NUMBER: 1-800-886-7656
HOME OFFICE: (973) 777-2605 or 777-2606
DIRECTOR OF SALES: 1-855-874-9179
or (412) 381-5431

UNDERWRITING: (973) 777-4704

FAX NUMBER: (973) 779-8245

E-MAIL: Sokol205@aol.com

WEB SITE: www.slovakcatholicssokol.org

FOLLOW US ON:

TWITTER: www.twitter.com

INSTAGRAM: www.instagram.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
Slovak Catholic Sokol Public Group

Sokol Calendar

MAY 13 – 14, BOWLING TOURNAMENT at the Brookgate Lanes, Brook Park, OH. The bowling tournament application is on our web site and in the Falcon.

JULY 14-17, INTERNATIONAL CLINIC at the Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA.

AUGUST 12-14, GOLF TOURNAMENT at the Treasure Lake Resort, DuBois, PA.

CHECK OUT THE NEW SOKOL WEAR!

HOODIES, T-SHIRTS, GOLF SHIRTS, VISORS AND CAPS are now available on line. Order yours today by simply going to our website

slovakcatholicssokol.org

and selecting the link

"New Sokol Wear".

Clothing items will be shipped directly to your door!

*From the desk of the Supreme Secretary***SPRING IS NEAR**

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



"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

Greetings from the Home Office! Temperatures are slowly climbing here in



New Jersey. My hope is that Punxsutawney Phil is wrong in his prediction and spring is on its way, but March does like to bring surprises. On the Covid front, we seem to be turning a corner, but we have

been here before, so we need to stay vigilant and safe against this virus.

As we observe Ash Wednesday this week on March 2nd, the first week of Lent is upon us. Lent is a special time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice as we prepare for the celebration of Easter. The forty days of Lent commemorate the forty days Jesus spent fasting in the desert where he encountered temptation from the Devil. Lent is time where we reflect and strengthen our relationship with the Lord. I urge all our members to use this valuable time of reflection and be thankful for all that you have.

Our Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, and I had the pleasure to be part of the Supreme Physical Fitness Board Meeting held via Zoom on Saturday, February 12th. We wish we were able to meet in person to map out our 2022 fraternal schedule, but given the circumstances, the SPFB did an excellent job of running an efficient meeting. Thoughts and ideas were exchanged, and the Board will be ready when the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. They will keep the membership informed of any developments.

As a Slovak Fraternal, not only did we celebrate St. Valentine's Day on February 14th, but also the Feast Day of SS. Cyril and Methodius, who brought the gift of faith to our ancestors. We honor SS. Cyril and Methodius, who are called the "Apostles of the Slavs" for their tireless

work in spreading the Gospel throughout Eastern Europe in the 9th Century.

We kick off our Spring Sokol calendar with the first Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors, which will be held in Wilkes-Barre, PA on March 18th-19th. Our Board, which is the highest governing body of our organization between Conventions, will be making the important decisions to ensure our successful future. We will get a chance to hear from our hired professionals who will report on our 2021 results and 2022 projections. In the coming issues, you will have the opportunity to read the reports our Directors, as well as the Official Minutes of the Board of Director's Meeting. I recommend that you take the time to read each report to acknowledge the time and effort put in by each of our Officers.

As we enjoy the beginning of the new spring season, the date April 15th is also drawing near. That of course is the deadline to file your tax return. I hope that most of our members will be enjoying a nice refund. If in fact a refund is in order, have you thought what you would do with the extra cash? This year, why not do something that would allow you to secure your future for yourself and your family and make it easier for you to purchase those items down the road. This year, why not invest in a Sokol Annuity?

Our Vantage Collection of annuities offers financial protection and supplies you with the same fraternal benefits as if you had a standard life insurance policy. Our current rates are extremely competitive and are certainly more attractive than any bank CDs currently available. Your investment can grow rapidly since there is no initial service, contract, or premium fees. Every dollar you pay in premium goes directly to your account's cash value and starts earning interest immediately. Another key factor is that our annuity products are tax deferred, meaning your gains are accumulated tax free and only gets taxed upon constructive receipt of the gain. This allows for the growth to be compounded on the portion of earnings and not subjected to

investment taxation. As you can see, the benefits of investing in our products are plentiful. Think about using that tax return in one of the smartest ways possible in securing your future and retirement. If you have any questions, give me a call at the Home Office or call our Director of Sales, Albert J. Suess, F.I.C., at (412) 381-5431, and we would be glad to assist you.

Until next time, stay safe, stay strong and STAY POSITIVE!

Zdar Boh!

BENEDICTINE HIGH SHOOL BENEFIT

Benetictine High Shool in Cleveland will host its 20th annual Blue & White gala on Saturday, March 12 at the InterContinental Hotel in Cleveland, OH. For information and reservations call St. Andrew Abbey at tel.(216)721-5300.

Introducing our newest member

Jayden Michael Gonzalez, born on February 14, 2021, is the son of Helene (Swist) and Richard Gonzalez of Allentown, PA. He was enrolled as a member of Assembly 299 in Brooklyn, NY. Jayden and his brother Richard Jr. are the 5th generation of Sokol members.

**SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON
PUBLICATION DATE**

The next issue of the Slovak Catholic Falcon will be that of **APRIL 1, 2022**. **DEADLINE** for all photos and information for this issue will be **MARCH 22, 2022**.

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

WHAT IS LENT?

Every religion has its own seasons in the same way that every generic calendar year does. If you take a look at the month of February, you'll stumble upon holidays such as Valentine's Day and US Presidents' Day.



However, these two examples are representative of global and government-related holidays. Another category of holidays is all about religious days of celebration. One of the most significant periods of time for followers of the Christian faith is a season known as Lent.

Religious Seasons 101: What is Lent?

So, we know that Lent is a time period that typically begins in February or March (depending on the liturgical year). We've already touched on the fact that Lent holds a plethora of importance for followers of Christ. However, what exactly does Lent mean, and why is it so important to the various Christian denominations?

Well, to start with, the Lenten season is an incredibly historic and symbolic time for Christians. The religious season dates to Jesus Christ's life on earth. He lives forever in the hearts of his followers, but the Lenten season is a direct reflection of the days that eventually led up to his crucifixion. The day Jesus was nailed to the cross in Jerusalem is recognized as Good Friday in modern times.

Lent begins the day of Ash Wednesday, which is a religious day that is observed for the sake of recognizing our faults as human beings and taking the time to repent for the sins we have committed throughout our lifetimes.

Though not all Christians abstain from eating meat and drinking on Ash Wednesday, members of many denominations will participate in a full day of fasting once a week – typically on Fridays. In regard to the element of fasting, there is no hierarchy of devotion to one's religion or dedication to the season of Lent.

Just because one person decides to fast for the entire six weeks, that doesn't mean their faith is stronger or better than someone who doesn't restrict their intake. Fasting is simply an additional way of paying mind to one's deep repentance for prior sins, but the decision is optional, and more importantly, it's entirely personal.

In today's Christian community there are many iterations of fasting. Many people make a vow to fast from things such as negative thoughts, gossiping, social media binging shows on streaming sites, alcohol, and much more. New traditions also include adding things to your life for these 40 days such as setting aside time to meditate and pray each day, visiting shut-ins, and doing service.

Giving alms to the poor is another ancient tradition of the Lenten season. For many, the money they would have used for an item they are fasting from during Lent is collected and donated to the missions or a charity of your choice. For instance, if you usually drink a bottle of wine on the weekends and are fasting from that, the funds you would have spent on the wine you would donate. This act of charity adds a deeper meaning to the sacrifice you are making by fasting from something you enjoy.

PENNSYLVANIA FRATERNAL ALLIANCE 2022 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Scholarship Committee of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance is announcing that the 2022 applications are now available for the annual Scholarship Program. Applications can be obtained through eligible members of a Fraternal Benefit Society belonging to the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance or by contacting the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Secretary-Treasurer at Theresa@lpsc.org or 888-834-6614.

RULES/REGULATIONS/REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must:

- Be a resident of Pennsylvania and a member of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a member of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance.
- Be a 2022 high school graduate attending an accredited college, university, trade school, etc. in the summer/fall of 2022 as a full-time student (twelve semester credits).
- Obtain a recommendation letter from their Fraternal Benefit Society.
- Submit a 500-word essay on: **"What has membership in a Fraternal insurance company meant to you"**.

Return the completed application, essay and letter of recommendation, postmarked no later than September 1, 2022.

At least two \$500 scholarships will be awarded. Additional scholarships may be awarded depending upon available funds. Judging will be done by the 2022 Scholarship Committee of the PFA. Awards will be announced at the Annual Meeting held in October 2022.



The mansion in Budmerice in western Slovakia (Bratislava region) built at the end of the 19th century by the Palffy family is dominating the village, where people lived since the New Stone Age. Count Jan Palffy succumbed to the 19th century fashion trend, which returned to the admiration of medieval Gothic style. The mansion is surrounded by an extensive English park. The Duke Jan Palffy died in the year 1934 and the only heir of the whole estate became his son Pavol Palffy. Pavol emigrated in the year 1945 and his estate became property of the Czechoslovak Republic, later being put on the list of cultural landmarks. The manor is surrounded by brilliant English Garden and till the year 2011 served to the Association of Slovak Writers as a place for their inspiration during their

PENNSYLVANIA FRATERNAL ALLIANCE 2022 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Return the completed application, essay and letter of recommendation, postmarked no later than September 1, 2022, to: Lesley Mann, Chairperson * Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Scholarship Committee * GBU Financial Life * 4254 Saw Mill Run Blvd. * Pittsburgh, PA 15227

Date: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name: _____ Telephone: (_____) _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Your Fraternal Benefit Society: _____ No. of Years a Member _____

College you will be attending in 2022/2023: _____

Scholastic Achievement (Honors/Awards)*: _____

Extracurricular School Activities*: _____

Civic (non-school) Activities*: _____

Fraternal Benefit Society Activities*: _____

*Information may be submitted on a separate sheet of paper. Please type or print.

Submit a 500-word essay on:

“What has membership in a Fraternal insurance company meant to you”.

I understand that my selection for this scholarship is based upon my answers to these questions and the essay I have written; and, further, that my application is in competition with other eligible persons and that the decision of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance is final. This application is completed with my knowledge and consent, and false information will void the award. The information that is provided in this application is true and complete.

Signature of Applicant

Date

\$62,000 IN S.C.S. SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE MEMBERS IN 2022

We are pleased to announce that the Slovak Catholic Sokol will make available a total of \$62,000 in scholarship grants to eligible members in 2022. Previous recipients of Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants may reapply for a 2022 grant; however, per Convention mandate - a student may receive a maximum of two (2) Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grant awards and a maximum of one (1) in each of the other categories.



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 \$2,000 each, two Emil Slavik Memorial Scholarships one for a male and female in the amount of \$2,000 each, one The Doctors' Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, one Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, one Yencha Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 and three Slovak Catholic Sokol (SCS) Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

With one application you may apply for all college scholarship grants for which you are eligible. (Strongly recommended that you apply for numerous) 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 \$2,000 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

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

- Same requirements as for SCS scholarship AND
- Majoring in Liberal Arts Curriculum

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

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

Edward D. Moeller
Supreme Vice-President
Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee
vp@slovakcatholicsokol.org
(412)881-3506

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 31, 2022

In addition to our college grant program, we make available 18 Catholic High School Grants in the amount of \$500 each as well as 36 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 Sokol College Scholarship Program. We will continue to use a completely on-line process as we have had few issues with the process over the past several seasons. With the help of our technical web-master, 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 beginning December 1, 2021.

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 automatic 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 numerous 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.

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

A JOINT FRATERNAL EVENT FOR
FCSU, GCU, NSS & SCS MEMBERS

2022 NATIONAL
BOWLING
TOURNAMENT

GREETINGS
from
OHIO

Brookgate Lanes

14950 SNOW ROAD
BROOK PARK, OH
216-676-4325

2022 NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT
CLEVELAND, OH
FRIDAY, MAY 13 & SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022

LODGING

CROWNE PLAZA
7230 Engle Road
Middleburg Heights, OH 44130
440-243-4040

Block Code:
SNB

SCAN TO BOOK A
RESERVATION

UNITED SLOVAK SOCIETIES OFFER SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS IN LORAIN, OH

The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Ohio will again make available non-renewable scholarship awards to eligible high school seniors who will graduate in June 2022. Applicants must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better and must be members for least 5 years in any of local Slovak fraternal lodges in Lorain, OH.

The lodges include Wreath 111 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, First Catholic Slovak Union, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and National Slovak Society.

To obtain rules and an application, please visit www.american-slovakclub.com or contact the scholarship coordinator, Sue Naelitz at snaelitz@hotmail.com. Deadline for applications is May 30, 2022.

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!

Edward D. Moeller

Supreme Vice President

Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee

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

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

ELIGIBILITY

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

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

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

APPLICATION

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

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

This application must be **received** on or before, **March 31, 2022** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

Application is also available on the Internet @

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.

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

Group # _____ Assembly/Wreath # _____ Name _____

Address _____ City _____

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

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

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

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

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

Father's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Mother's name _____ Are you a member? _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

is a student at the above school and will be attending _____ Grade in the 2021-2022 school year.

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

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF THIS APPLICATION IS MARCH 31, 2022. Return completed application to:
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL, 205 MADISON ST., P.O. BOX 899, PASSAIC, NJ 07055

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, 2022** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

Application is also available on the Internet @ 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.

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL GRANT APPLICATION

Group # _____ Assembly/Wreath # _____ Name _____

Address _____ City _____

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

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

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

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

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

Father's name _____ Are you a member? _____

Mother's name _____ Are you a member? _____

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

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

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

If yes, what year? _____

School verification (to be completed by Grade School Principal)

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

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

is a student at the above school and will be attending _____ Grade in the 2021-2022 school year.

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

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF THIS APPLICATION IS MARCH 31, 2022. Return completed application to:
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL, 205 MADISON ST., P.O. BOX 899, PASSAIC, NJ 07055

DRIVE TO 50 SALES CAMPAIGN

CELEBRATING THE 50TH INTERNATIONAL SLET

The Slovak Catholic Sokol will be reaching a significant milestone within the SOKOL World – We will be hosting and presenting our 50th International Slet (Gymnastic and Track and Field Meet).

To help celebrate this Golden Occasion we have created the DRIVE TO 50 Sales CAMPAIGN. This campaign is designed to benefit and reward our membership, our groups, and recommenders.

BENEFITING MEMBERSHIP & GROWTH

For more than 116 years our society has provided our members with sound financial protection and outstanding fraternal benefits. As proud members of the SOKOL it is quite easy to expound upon and share the qualities of membership. This is an excellent opportunity to share our excellent offerings with friends and family and get rewarded for it.

Not everyone is born a salesman or comfortable selling life insurance or annuities. Today, we have qualified life insurance and annuity representatives that can assist our existing and potential members in selecting the financial protection to help protect their future.

A supply of SOKOL “DRIVE to 50” Lead Cards will be available to all Group/Assembly/Wreath Officers for distribution. Officers are asked to distribute SOKOL “DRIVE to 50” Lead Cards to existing Members who want to recommend someone to become an insured Benefit Member. SOKOL “DRIVE to 50” Lead Cards are also available for completion and submitting on the SOKOL Web Site www.scslife.org. Mail all completed Referral Lead Cards to the Sales & Marketing Office:

Slovak Catholic SOKOL
Sales & Marketing
2403 Sidney Street, Suite 200,
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
Phone: 412-381-5431
Fax: 412-742-4638
Toll-Free: 1-855-874-9179
www.scslife.org

DRIVE TO 50 DETAILS

RECOMMENDER REWARDS

- \$10 Referral Fee for each recommendation that results in a sale.
- Qualifies for a semi-annual drawing for an opportunity to win a \$50 gift card.
- Qualify for a \$250 grand prize drawing at the end of the campaign.

GROUP REWARDS

Awards to qualifying Groups based on the following levels resulting from sales of new life insurance and annuity certificates issued:

- 10 New Certificates (policies):
\$250 Credit towards Fraternal Expenses
- 25 New Certificates (policies):
\$500 Credit towards Fraternal Expenses
- 50 New Certificates (policies):
\$1,000 Credit towards Fraternal Expenses



DRIVE TO 50 CAMPAIGN – Member Referral Card

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Email: _____

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

RECOMMENDER INFORMATION Assembly/Wreath _____ Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Interest:

☐ Life Insurance

☐ Annuity



SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

LEGACY LIFE INSURANCE PLANS

PERMANENT PLANS

WHOLE LIFE • SINGLE PREMIUM LIFE • 20 PAYMENT LIFE

TERM PLANS

TERM to AGE 30 • 10 YEAR TERM • 20 YEAR TERM

VANTAGE COLLECTION of ANNUITY PRODUCTS

1 YEAR 1.25% • 2 YEAR 1.75% • 3 YEAR 2.00% 2.10% 2.20% • 5 YEAR 2.50% • 7 YEAR 2.75%

• SPA Single Premium immediate Annuity

3.00% – 10 Years % Greater • 2.75% Less than 10 Years

What's making headlines in our ancestral homeland**News and Views
from Slovakia...****SLOVAKIA AND USA SIGN DEFENCE
COOPERATION AGREEMENT**

Left to right: Slovak Defence Minister Jaroslav Nad, Slovak Foreign Affairs Minister Ivan Korcok and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken. (Photo by U.S. Department of State)

Slovakia and the USA signed the Defence Cooperation Agreement (DCA) in Washington on Thursday, February 3rd.

Defence Minister Jaroslav Nad signed the agreement on behalf of Slovakia, while Secretary of State Antony Blinken did so for the USA. The agreement is yet to be okayed by the Slovak Parliament and ratified by the Slovak president.

"The level of cooperation between Slovakia and the United States has been excellent for a long time. Defence cooperation with the United States has significantly contributed to the successful transformation and modernisation of the Slovak Army, especially the air force and the special operations force. We're giving a legal framework to this cooperation today. It's an expression of our joint commitment as NATO allies in relation to trans-Atlantic security," Defence Ministry spokesperson Martina Koval Kakascikova reported Nad as saying following the signing ceremony.

Slovak Foreign Affairs Minister Ivan Korcok was also present at the ceremony. "Strengthening defence cooperation with the main guarantor of our security, especially at a time of deepening uncertainties and geopolitical tensions, is a natural step for Slovakia. In addition, we should realise that we are the last country on the EU and NATO eastern border to do so," he said.

Blinken highlighted the agreement's benefits for the two countries before the ceremonial signing. At the same time, he objected to disinformation surrounding the agreement, stressing that the document is based on mutual cooperation and respect and represents the interests of both governments.

The agreement will enable US military forces to use Slovakia's Malacky-Kuchyna and Sliac military airbases and other facilities and premises as per agreement for a period of ten years. The Government representatives declared that the agreement doesn't endanger Slovakia's sovereignty. The opposition criticises the DCA, claiming that it will allow US military

bases to be set up, bring US troops closer to Russia's borders and curtail the powers of Slovakia's state authorities.

HOUSE GREENLIGHTS SLOVAK-US DCA

Parliament on Wednesday, February 9 approved the Defence Cooperation Agreement (DCA) with the USA. Of the 140 MPs present, the document was supported by 79, while 60 voted against.

The DCA is designed to allow the US Armed Forces to make use of Slovak military bases in Malacky-Kuchyna and Sliac and any other agreed facilities free of charge. The document should be valid for ten years. After this period, it could remain valid or be terminated with one year's notice.

According to Government representatives, the DCA is intended to strengthen military cooperation between Slovakia and the USA. Both Nad and Korcok declared that it fully respects Slovakia's sovereignty, denying that it would serve as a prerequisite for a permanent presence of the US Armed Forces on the territory of the country.

Meanwhile, the opposition has taken a critical approach towards the document, claiming that it allows US troops to close in on Russia's borders and limits the powers of Slovak authorities.

President Zuzana Caputova ratified the Slovak-US Defence Cooperation Agreement on Wednesday, February 9. In an attempt to dispel public concerns regarding the document, she made sure her authorisation for signing the document by the Government includes an interpretation clause that addresses parts of the agreement that raise questions. The Americans also drafted an interpretation clause of their own, which, according to the president, corresponds to its Slovak counterpart in terms of contents.

**KORCOK AND NAD COMMEMORATED
DIPLOMAT STEFAN OSUSKY**

Slovak Foreign Affairs Minister Ivan Korcok honored the memory of prominent Slovak diplomat Stefan Osusky (1889-1973) in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, February 2.



Stefan Osusky's grave in Washington, D.C. (Photo by TASR)

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

Korcok together with Defence Minister Jaroslav Nad laid flowers on Osusky's grave at the Oak Hill cemetery in Washington, D.C..

"For me, Stefan Osusky is a role model of a diplomat who worked hard and intelligently promoted the interests of his country abroad," stated Korcok. "Osusky understood the importance of relations with the Western allies for the establishment and maintenance of a free, independent and democratic country in Central Europe, and managed to develop and use them in an effective manner," added Korcok.

Stefan Osusky, as a co-author of the Cleveland Agreement, helped to shape the American concept of the post-war arrangement of Europe and, together with other compatriots in the USA, helped to fulfil the right of Slovaks and Czechs to self-determination. Subsequently, he sought to build a reputation for the young country as the Slovak ambassador in London and Paris. He, together with then foreign affairs minister Edvard Benes, took part in the diplomatic negotiations in Paris that resulted in signing of the Treaty of Trianon.

The ministers commemorated Osusky during their working trip to Washington, during which they are set to sign agreements deepening cooperation with the USA in the area of defence and development aid.

INFLATION SWELLED TO 3.2 PERCENT IN 2021, HIGHEST VALUE IN NINE YEARS

Yearly inflation in 2021 increased to 3.2 percent, the highest value in the past nine years, as a result of rapid growth in prices in the second half of the year

The Statistics Office noted that last year prices rose faster than the professional public expected. In 2020, under the influence of the pandemic, inflation reached only 1.9 percent.

"Developments during 2021 were turbulent, while in the first two months consumer prices rose by less than one percent, their growth rate gradually increased. From July, year-on-year price growth grew above three percent and in the last month of the year approached six percent," noted head of the price statistics department Stefan Adamec.

Last year, prices rose in all 12 main components of the consumer basket. Higher prices in transport had a significant effect, especially the growth of fuel prices – with an annual average by 17.3 percent. According to statisticians, this growth is also a consequence of the base effect, as fuel prices fell in 2020 and 2019. Rising prices of tobacco products after tax adjustments in March 2021 also had a significant impact, rising by 13.7 percent year-on-year.

FOUR COUNTRIES SUBMIT BIDS TO SUPPLY TRACKED VEHICLES FOR SLOVAK ARMY

Four countries have submitted bids to supply tracked vehicles to the Slovak army: Hungary, Sweden, Spain and Poland. The Defence Ministry invited 33 countries to submit bids within Slovakia's procurement of tracked vehicles.

The ministry plans to purchase 152 tracked vehicles in the first procurement stage.

According to the ministry, the Slovak army is currently equipped with tracked vehicles that are at the end of their technical lifespans. Their current service ability is 30 percent.

VLHOVA PULLS OFF MIRACULOUS SECOND RUN TO WIN GOLD IN SLALOM IN BEIJING

Slovak Alpine skier Petra Vlhova on Wednesday won the women's slalom event at the Winter Olympic Games in Beijing thanks to a phenomenal second run.



Vlhova finished first by the narrowest margin, beating Austria's Katharina Liensberger by only 0.08 seconds and Switzerland's Wendy Holdener by 0.12 seconds. Vlhova was back in eighth place after the first run ended, trailing by a considerable 0.72 seconds behind then-leader Lena Deurr of Germany.

The 26-year-old Slovak skier won her first-ever medal at the Olympics. Moreover, she's also become the first Slovak to win any medal in Alpine skiing disciplines in Olympic competitions.

Vlhova has become only the fourth Slovak to win a medal at the Winter Olympic Games, joining the ranks of biathlete Anastasia Kuzmina (3 golds, 3 silvers), snowboarder Radoslav Zidek (1 silver) and biathlete Pavol Hurajt (1 bronze).



On April 17, 2022 Marion (Pluta) and Michael Swist will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary. Last year they celebrated their 50th anniversary with a mass and a renewal of their vows in Our Lady of Consolation Church in Brooklyn, New York, the church where they were married and it has remained their parish. They are members of Assembly 299 in Brooklyn, NY. The photo is from the celebration with their son Christopher (in the middle). Marion is the daughter of Helen (Zimowski) and Anthony Pluta. Michael is the son of Rosemary (Kirk) and John Swist. The couple has two children, Christopher of Sunset Utah and Helene Gonzalez of Allentown, Pennsylvania. They have two grandsons, Richard Jr. and Jayden. Their grandsons are 5th generation of Sokol members. The pastor streamed the mass virtually as Marion had throat cancer and has been in quarantine. She received the sacrament of the sick at the mass. They intend to celebrate when the pandemic will be over.

JUSTINE LENTINI, P.E. HAS BEEN NAMED A 2022 ENR NEW YORK TOP YOUNG PROFESSIONAL

ENR New York presented the 2022 Top Young Professionals. This year's group impresses with their continued dedication to learning and industry advancement, their contribution of professional skill and passion to their communities and their support for diversity, equity and inclusion. Every year, construction sector judges select talented individuals from among industry rising stars in New York and New Jersey. Those who score highest are entered in the ENR national 20 Under 40 competition.



With over 15 years in the industry, Justine began her career with Keller (previously Moretrench) in 2007, starting as an engineering intern. However, her exposure to construction and equipment began as a child with her family's farm and paving/ready-mix companies. Officially hired full-time as a staff engineer in 2008, Justine continued working through various roles in project engineering, estimating, and business development. She entered her current role as a pre-construction manager in 2019.

In addition to building her career, Justine has always advocated for women's presence, professional development, and advancement in the construction industry. Besides serving as a Keller Women in Construction Steering Committee Secretary, Justine is a current member of the DFI's Women in Deep Foundations Committee and a founding member of the previous Female Engineers of Moretrench. Justine also participates in mentoring programs associated with these groups.

She is also passionate about teaching the next generation. Justine visits local elementary schools performing hands-on experiments and presentations with children to promote the construction industry and geotechnical engineering.

The ENR Regionals' Top Young Professional competition honors outstanding young construction and design professionals. Each ENR region highlights a group of individuals under the age of 40 who represent the industry's top rising leaders by giving back to their industries and communities.

Justine Lentini is a member of Wreath 2 in Passaic N.J.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**S.C.S. MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY 78
BETHLEHEM, PA**

**ANNIVERSARY MASS & REUNION
SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2022**

**INCARNATION of OUR LORD CHURCH
(Formerly Sts. CYRIL & METHODIUS)**

MASS at 2:00 PM

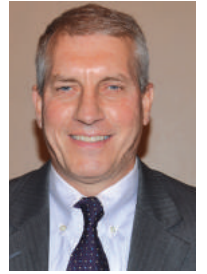
**RECEPTION TO FOLLOW AT LABUDA HALL
FOR INFO/RESERVATIONS**

CALL PRESIDENT FRAN BLANAR @ 610-509-8059

DEADLINE - APRIL 17, 2022

S.C.S. 2022 BOWLING TOURNAMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

The 76th Annual Slovak Catholic Sokol International Bowling Tournament will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 13th and 14th, 2022 at the Brookgate Lanes in Brook Park, Ohio. The GCU Fraternal Society, the First Catholic Slovak Union and the National Slovak Society will be joining us. The bowling application is posted on our web site and the submission deadline is April 11, 2022.



The tournament lodging for bowlers and guests will be at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Middleburg Heights, OH, 44130. Tel.:440-243-4040.

The guaranteed rate is \$105.00 for single or double occupancy Friday and Saturday night.

Team events will be held on Friday evening, May 13th, first squad at 5:30 p.m and second squad at 8:00 PM. The Friday evening hospitality including food and refreshments will be served at 6:45 p.m. at Brookgate Lanes, allowing time to relax and socialize before or after team bowling. Doubles and Singles events will be bowled on Saturday, May 14th at 9:00 a.m. or 12:30 p.m.

The cost for the 76th International Bowling Tournament will be the same as 2019: \$22.00 per event, \$5 for all-events and \$29.00 for the banquet on Saturday May 14th. The total for each bowler participating in team, doubles, singles, all-events and the banquet is \$100.00.

If you have any questions, please send me an email, jmatlon@slovakcatholicsokol.org, text or call me, cell phone number: 973-647-8551.

Stay safe and I will see you in Ohio.

James C. Matlon

Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics

SLOVAK HERITAGE PROGRAMS IN MT. LEBANON, PA

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association will once again present the SLOVAK HERITAGE PROGRAMS on the first Monday evening of each month, starting at 7.00 p.m. at the Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard, Mt. Lebanon, PA. It is free for both members and non-members. You could also attend these programs through ZOOM. More details on WPSCA Facebook page.

MARCH 7, 2022 – SLOVAK STUDIES PROGRAM – Renata Kamenarova, the recently appointed Director of the Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh, will discuss the various programs presently available and future programs.

APRIL 4, 2022 – SUMMER SCHOOL IN SLOVAKIA

Lee Ann Bryan, a graduate of Duquesne University, 2019 WPSCA scholarship winner, will share her experience during her trip to Slovakia.

MAY 2, 2022 – SLOVAK GENEALOGY

Lisa Alzo, an expert in Slovak Genealogy, will give time saving tips on researching Slovak ancestor.

No applications will be
accepted after
April 11, 2022

ENTRY BLANK—76th ANNUAL
A JOINT TOURNAMENT OF SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL, FCSU, NSS & GCU
"USBC MORAL SUPPORT CERTIFIED"
AMF Brookgate Lanes ↗ Brook Park, OH
Friday, May 13 & Saturday, May 14, 2022

No applications will be
accepted after
April 11, 2022

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

BOWLER INFORMATION (LIST CAPTAIN FIRST)	SCS TOURNAMENT INFORMATION
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2020-21 _____ 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. 2020-21 _____ 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. 2020-21 _____ 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. 2020-21 _____ 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 13

☐ 5:30 PM ☐ 8 PM

Team Name: _____

(Please place team bowlers in the order they will be bowling.)

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

DOUBLE & SINGLES EVENT—SATURDAY, MAY 14

☐ 9 AM ☐ 12:30 PM ☐ We could bowl Sunday if necessary.

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

Make Entry Fee payable to: Slovak Catholic Sokol Sports Account

Mail to: James Matlon, 6 Academy Drive East, Whippany, NJ 07981.

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

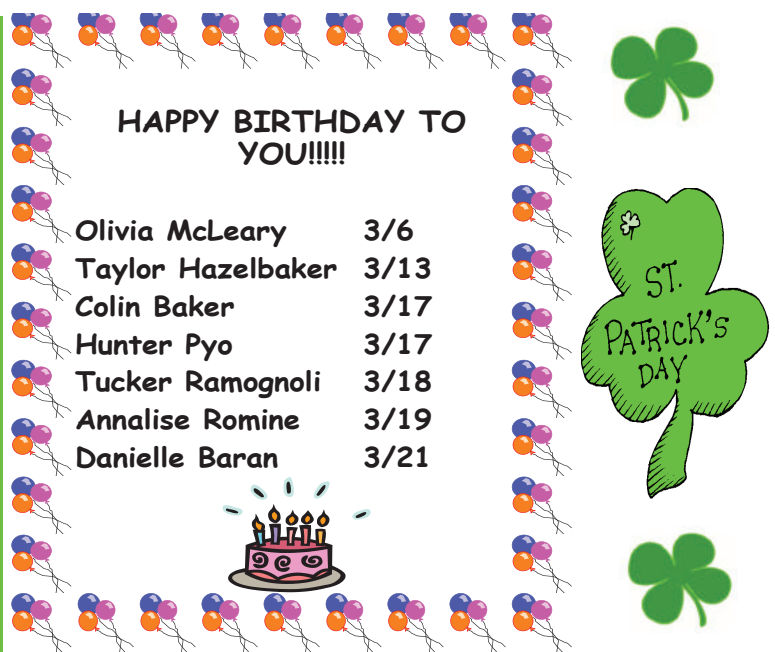
FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH COMPLETE INFORMATION.

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

Financial Totals for this Application	
Entry Fee for Each Event	
Prize Fee-\$10. ⁰⁰ + Bowling Fee-\$7. ⁵⁰ + Tournament Fee-\$4. ⁵⁰ = \$22. ⁰⁰	
Optional Events	Banquet + Bowling Entry
All Events-\$5. ⁰⁰ Banquet-\$29. ⁰⁰	\$100. ⁰⁰ per person
_____ Singles Event @ \$22 ea. = \$ _____	
_____ Doubles Event @ \$22 ea. = \$ _____	
_____ Team Event @ \$22 ea. = \$ _____	
_____ All Events @ \$5 ea. = \$ _____	
_____ Banquet @ \$29 ea. = \$ _____	
Total Enclosed \$ _____	



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik" - - March 2022





KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik" - - March 2022

WHAT IS LENT?

Lent is a _____ to prepare ourselves for the joy and new life of _____ Lent starts on _____ Wednesday and lasts 40 days. We think about what kind of person we are. During Lent we try harder to live like _____ lived. Jesus showed everyone he met _____ and kindness.

Easter
Jesus
love
time
Ash



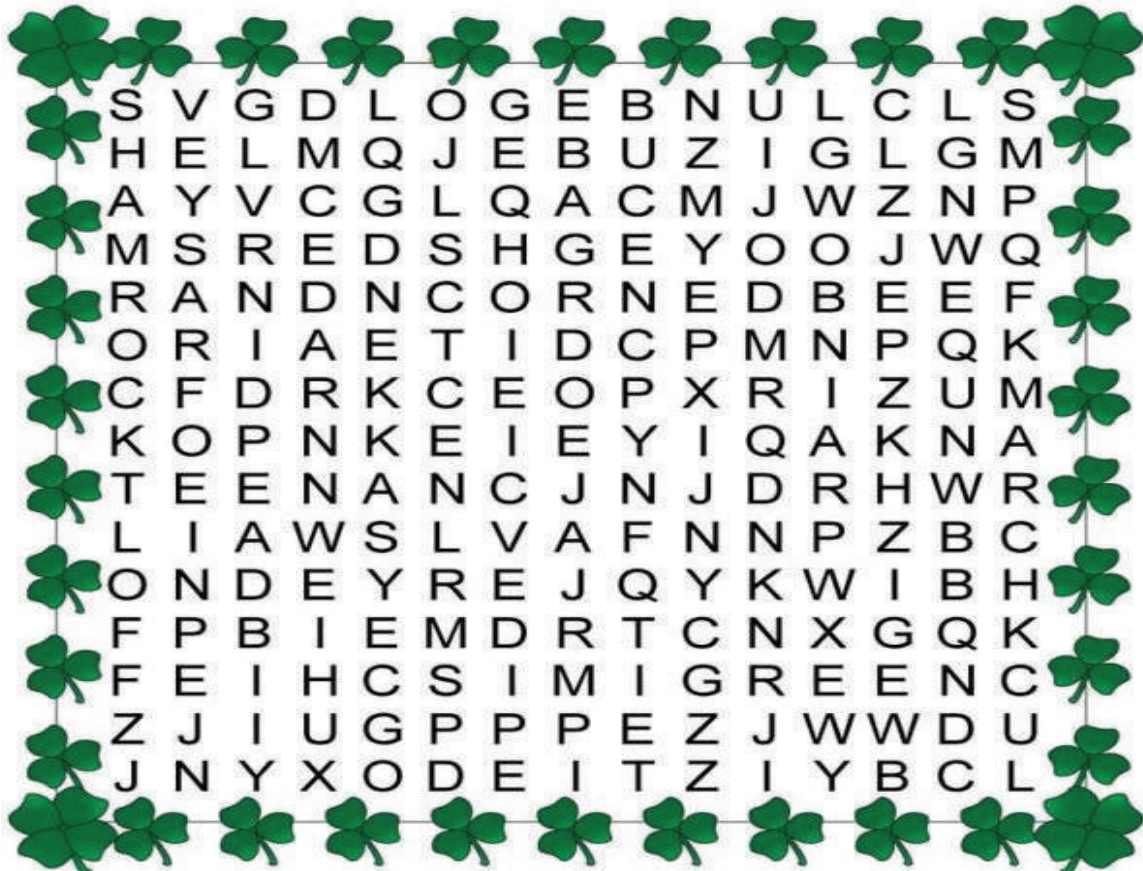
"He fasted for forty days
and forty nights..."





KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik" - - March 2022

St Patrick's Day Word Search!



Coins
Corned Beef
Fiddle
Gold

Green
Harp
Ireland
Leprechaun

Limerick
Luck
March
Mischievous

Rainbow
Seventeen
Shamrock
Snake



CALLING ALL KIDS, CALLING ALL KIDS!!

John Underation, Supreme Physical Director

Greetings, and I hope that 2022 is a year for all of us to start feeling a sense of normalcy in our daily lives, as the past two years have been hard on us all. The whole world is praying that this pandemic is in its last stages, and can be put in our rear view mirrors soon.



The Supreme Physical Fitness Board has just wrapped up their annual meeting via Zoom over the weekend of February 12th. As we reviewed last years Sokol Fest, International Golf tournament and the local activities submitted by the Groups, we discussed what was working to get members to events. As everyone would guess, it is having leadership to organize and recruit to each event. And that is the secret sauce! But we all know what happens to any organization that does not have a succession plan in place for leadership, it will slowly lose the activities that once were regular events to its members. This was a major discussion point during our SPFB meeting, and going into our 50th International Slet in 2023, we as an organization need to step up and make it a resounding success!

This leads me into who to turn to in this instance, THE KIDS!! I am referring the kids of those 40, 50 and even the 60 year-old generations that have attended Slets and other events over the years. Those kids who have not yet helped organize a Sokol event or taken any leadership roles for their wreath or assembly. Those kids that have not had a chance to make friends with people from Toronto, Wilkes Barre, Pittsburgh, Passaic, East Douglas, Cleveland, Reading, Youngstown, and all of the other great cities in which our fraternal brothers and sisters live. Those kids that need a chance to experience all of the great resources that the Slovak Catholic Sokol can offer them. And how does this happen you say? By being active in the events that we do offer, and bring your kids! I can vividly remember coming to Sokol events with my parents. They would put me at the end of the bowling alley with the other kids, and we would bowl just as long as they did. Bring your KIDS!! They may complain at first, but they will thank you on the way home.

Below is a list of the 2022 events that everyone will be bringing their kids to, and hopefully encouraging them to take an active role in their local area events as well. For the 30 and over Sokol members, I do want you to pay special attention to the details listed below for our 50th Slet in 2023.

1) International Bowling Tournament – Will be held May 13-14th in Brookpark, OH at the AMF Brookgate Lanes. Registration forms are on the SCS website.

2) International Clinic – Will be held July 14-17th in Kutztown, PA. We are headed back to Kutztown University after a 12 year hiatus, and the campus has improved even more with new housing, facilities and dining. Kutztown will be the site of our 50th Anniversary Slet in 2023. More details to follow in the coming months.

3) International Golf Tournament – Will be held August 12-14th at Treasure Lake Country Club in Dubois, PA. More details to come in future issues.

50th International Slet – Will be held July 12-16, 2023 at Kutztown University. Dust off those old track shoes, because we are

coming after as many alumni as we can to participate in this historic event! IMPORTANT SLET UPDATES: New OVER 30 age division in track! Yes, you read that right, over 30 age division. No need to run against those spry 19 year old's anymore, you get to run and throw against the less spry competitors. BONUS: We will be introducing a co-ed 3 on 3 basketball tournament for the 8-9 and the 10-12 age divisions. After many years of requests, the SPFB has decided to add this event for the Juniors. Save the date, and lets make the 50th Slet one for the ages.

I want to personally invite and encourage all of our members to take advantage of our fraternal events, because we are unique in what we do as an organization. We are reliant on our members participation to ensure that these programs can continue for generations to come. I also encourage anyone who has not signed up on our Slovak Catholic Sokol Facebook page to do so. It is an easy and convenient way to stay connected to events and friends on all levels of the Sokol organization.

Lastly, if you have not yet, tell your kids about the Slovak Catholic Sokol, and what it means to you. Encourage them to take a role in your local events, and show them how to be a leader, because if our kids don't, it will always be an uphill battle. Have a blessed New Year and I hope to see all of you at the 2022 events!

Faternally,
John Underation
Supreme Physical Director



100 years ago, JÁNOŠÍK, a Slovak black-and-white silent film had its world premiere in Chicago, IL on December 1, 1921. Jánošík, a movie about about the 17th century legendary highwayman Juraj Jánošík, a Robin Hood-like figure, and a folk hero, was directed by Slovak-American Jaroslav Siakel' (1896–1997). Born in central Slovakia, Siakel' immigrated to the United States in 1912 at the age of 16. The film Jánošík was made and financed by the Tatra Film Corporation founded by Slovak-Americans in Chicago. It placed Slovak film making as the 10th national cinema in the world to produce a full-length feature movie. – *Slovak-American Transatlantic Forum; Image: Slovak National Library*

SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS APPEAL OF THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC FEDERATION

A direct mailing for the 2022 Appeal has been sent to local district and branch leaders from the four Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations, members of the Slovak Catholic Federation, and previous donors. Your support is needed each year because money collected in the Appeal goes to help pay for the operating costs of the Pontifical College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome, the residence of priests from Slovakia selected by their bishops to undertake graduate studies.

As of February 13, 2022, \$5,820 from 45 donors has already been received for the 2022 Appeal.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to the 2022 Appeal but did not receive a letter asking for a donation is asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. Gifts received after November 30, 2022 will be credited toward the 2023 Appeal. Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

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



44TH ANNUAL SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS APPEAL

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Amount \$ _____

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



Life insurance is always a perfect gift for that special loved one. It's a gift that will last a lifetime. It cannot be lost, stolen, broken or squandered away. It is economical, worth something immediately and appreciates in value over the years.

Of course it is a Slovak Catholic Sokol life insurance policy or annuity plan. By providing your child, grandchild or other members of your family and friends with a Sokol insurance policy, you have a number of advantages which should be considered. It is first and foremost a lifetime of insurance protection at a cost that can never be replicated. It also creates a cash value account that may be used for future college expenses or some other of life's emergencies. And, you will have also protected that loved one's insurability which means that no matter what happens to their health in the future, they will always be insured under the policy you purchased for them.

Another important fact about life insurance is that it is the cornerstone of any financial plan. By purchasing a policy today when rates are low, you will have started that special child or grandchild off on the right road to financial success.

And in addition, the Slovak Catholic Sokol offers a number of fraternal benefits. Our athletic and gymnastic programs emphasize our belief in both physical and mental health, as well as our commitment to our fraternal way of life. Each year, our organization provides scholarship grants to our members. As a firm believer in the Catholic school system, we provide grants to students attending Catholic grade school and high school. We also offer a generous number of college scholarships as well.

So why not purchase that life insurance policy or annuity plan now so that the new year can start that loved one on the road to financial success. Give a call to our Director of Sales, Albert J. Suess, Jr. F.I.C. at tel. 1 855-874-9179 or 412 381-5431 who will provide you with all the rates and applications or see your local Assembly or Wreath officers or give us a call at the home office at 1 800 886-7656. While a Sokol life insurance policy makes a wonderful Christmas gift, it also serves as the perfect birthday gift, first Holy Communion, Confirmation or graduation gift as well. Think about it and start that favorite loved one on the road to financial success.

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.

OBITUARIES



PAUL STEPHEN AWRAMKO

JANUARY 18, 2022 – DECEMBER 27, 1951

Paul Stephen Awramko of Paterson, NJ passed away on January 18, 2022. He was the owner of Paul's Bar & Bowling in Paterson, NJ.



A student at Eastside High School and graduate of Montclair State College in 1973. Paul initially worked as an accountant at Allied Chemical in New York City before returning to run the family business with his brother Eric until Eric's death in 2015. Paul was greatly respected by his many customers, quite a few became lifelong friends.

He was a lifetime active member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Assembly 162 in Clifton, NJ. He participated for many years in the Sokol Bowling Tournaments. Paul also was an accomplished bowler who participated for many years in the Sokol bowling league which met weekly at Paul's Bar & Bowling.

Paul was a health enthusiast who enjoyed tennis, golf, and was a member of the European Health Spa for many years. Paul loved spending time on the beach in Ocean Grove where he would read his health magazines and enjoyed spending time with his many close friends. While spending weekend days at the beach, he often bartended at the Osprey in Manasquan.

Paul was predeceased by his father Howard and mother Helen. He is also predeceased by his siblings: brother Eric 2015, sister Kathy Bethel in 2015 and brother Howard in 2020. The Awramko, Pitoniak, Toskovich, and Petruff families on his mother Helen's side of the family formed a bond years ago that remains so very strong.

Paul was predeceased by his father Howard and mother Helen. He is also predeceased by his siblings: brother Eric 2015, sister Kathy Bethel in 2015 and brother Howard in 2020. The Awramko, Pitoniak, Toskovich, and Petruff families on his mother Helen's side of the family formed a bond years ago that remains so very strong.

We will all miss our cousin Paul greatly. His cousin Gary Pitoniak known as "Cuz Gary" will deeply miss him. Paul loved and is survived by his Aunt Steffie Pitoniak. Paul will also be missed by his very dear friend Joseph Zarka of Wayne. Paul is survived by his nephews Ian and Roger Bethel of Florida, his nieces Jeanette Awramko of Minnesota, Kimberly Awramko of San Diego, Christine Awramko of NJ, and Jess Awramko of Los Angeles.

In Lieu of flowers, the family asks donations be made to The Tunnel to Towers Foundation.

The Mass of Christian Burial was held on January 31 at St. Philip the Apostle Church in Clifton, NJ. Interment followed in Laurel Grove Cemetery, in Totowa, New Jersey.

Our most sincere sympathies to the family and friends of Paul Stephen Awramko.

IN MEMORIAM

JANUARY 2022

ASSEMBLY/ WREATH	MEMBER	AGE	DATE OF DEATH
Assembly 11	Edward Batis, Joliet, IL	96	October 30, 2021
Assembly 11	Margaret Duris, Chicago, IL	78	
Assembly 11	Rev. Lawrence M. Duris, Chicago, IL	74	February 19, 2018
Assembly 11	Antoinette A. Cataldo, Oak Lawn, IL	84	January 2, 2022
Assembly 11	Helena Soltys, Orland Park, IL	82	January 12, 2022
Assembly 16	Robert F. Recker, North Huntingdon, PA	70	December 29, 2021
Assembly 16	Joseph J. Drapp, Pittsburgh, PA	92	December 1, 2021
Assembly 34	Donald J. Pikala, Minneapolis, MN	89	November 16, 2021
Assembly 59	William M. Martin, Mountain Top, PA	73	December 29, 2021
Assembly 74	Roger J. Cuffey, State College, PA	82	January 1, 2022
Assembly 86	Theresa Rickwalder, Gilbert, AZ	95	December 18, 2021
Assembly 104	Raymond P. Nowak, Cranberry Twp. PA	73	January 3, 2021
Assembly 108	George M. Vanish, Youngstown, OH	72	December 8, 2021
Assembly 312	Joseph R. Kolibas, Clark, NJ	97	December 26, 2021
Wreath 11	Carl Jurica, Johnstown, NY	84	October 26, 2021
Wreath 29	John Toth, New Castle, PA	85	December 30, 2021
Wreath 81	Mary Zubaj, Whiting, IN	92	December 24, 2021
Wreath 85	Irene Sobeck, McKees Rocks, PA	91	March 19, 2017
Wreath 85	Albert J. Wargo, Burbank, CA	75	November 29, 2021
Wreath 153	Joseph T. Pikus, Solon, OH	89	December 23, 2021

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent and takes place 46 days before Easter. As the date of Easter is calculated on the cycles of the moon, the date of Ash Wednesday will vary from year to year. The earliest possible date for Ash Wednesday is 4 February and the latest day is March 10.



Ash Wednesday is observed mainly by the Roman Catholic Church and also by some Protestant denominations such as Methodists, Episcopalians, Presbyterians and Lutherans.

The name of the day comes from the custom that churchgoers are marked on the forehead with a cross of ash to symbolize death and regret for past sins. The priest will accompany the marking with a recital of Genesis 3:19 - "Remember that you are dust, and

to dust, you shall return". The tradition of marking with ashes began in the early church as a way for persistent sinners to outwardly show their desire for repentance. By the end of the 10th century, the custom had spread to all the faithful.

Traditionally the ashes are created from burning the palms used in the church on Palm Sunday the previous year. Palm Sunday marked the arrival of Jesus into Jerusalem after his 40 days and nights in the desert.

During the 40 days before Easter, Roman Catholics are supposed to abstain from all bodily pleasures, including the consumption of meat. This is intended to remember the fasting of Jesus, who spent 40 days in the desert before beginning his ministry. In the Catholic Church, Lent gets off to an appropriate start with Ash Wednesday as it is a day of fasting, abstinence from meat and repentance.

100. VÝROČIE KONSEKRÁCIE KOSTOLA SVÄTÉHO MICHALA V TRENTONE, NJ

12. decembra 2021 oslávil Kostol svätého Michala v Trentone, NJ 100. výročie svojho vysvätenia. Bol postavený slovenskými imigrantmi v severnej časti mesta, kde sa slovenská komunita v tom čase rýchlo rozrastala.

11. decembra 1921 sa v ňom konala prvá svätá omša, počas ktorej ho posvätil vtedajší trentonský biskup Thomas Walsh.

V začiatkoch kostol nemal stáleho kňaza. Sväté omše tam slúžili slovenskí a poľskí kňazi z blízkeho okolia. Prvým stálym kňazom vo farnosti svätého Michala bol o. Michael J. Kallok (1926-1931). Za jeho pôsobenia bola v roku 1927 postavená spoločenská hala pod budovou kostola a o dva roky neskôr aj fara.

Plány rozrastajúcej sa slovenskej komunity boli dokonca oveľa odvážnejšie. Na mieste dnešného parkoviska mal stáť väčší, majestátnejší kostol a pôvodná budova kostola mala byť prerobená na katolícku školu. Veľká hospodárska kríza, ktorá prišla v roku 1929, všetky tieto plány zastavila.

Významnú rolu v histórii kostola zohral duchovný otec Ladislav Rakvica (1936-1972). Vo farnosti pôsobil ako farár 36 rokov a aj po odchode do dôchodku prichádzal ďalších 10 rokov do Kostola sv. Michala každú nedeľu, aby tu odslúžil slovenskú svätú omšu.

20. októbra 1939 začal v Kostole svätého Michala s novénami a pobožnosťami k svätému Júdovi ako poďakovanie za jeho zázračné uzdravenie z veľmi vážnej choroby. Prosby mnohých veriacich boli vypočuté na orodovanie svätého Júdu Tadeáša, ktorý je patrónom ľudí v beznádejných a zúfalých situáciách. Pobožnosť k sv. Júdovi v Kostole sv. Michala si počas rokov získala v širokom okolí Trentonu veľkú popularitu a aj dnes sa tu koná pobožnosť k sv. Júdovi každý štvrtok o 7.30 hod. večer ako aj slávnostná 9-dňová novéna každý rok od 20. do 28. októbra.

S odchodom duchovného otca Ladislava Rakvicu sa z kostola vytratil aj slovenský jazyk na dlhých 20 rokov.

Ďalšími kňazmi, ktorí tu pôsobili boli Otec William Capik (1972-1974), O. Louis Kralowich (1974-1982) a Msgr. James Innocenzi (1982-2005).

V roku 2002 pani Mária Kolcunová iniciovala obnovenie slovenských bohoslužieb v Kostole sv. Michala. Vtedajší trentonský biskup John Smith jej žiadosti vyhovel. Msgr. Innocenzi, farár vo farnosti sv. Michala, prijal slovenskú komunitu s otvorenou náručou.

Duchovným otcom pre Slovákov žijúcich v okolí Trentonu sa stal Otec Vladimír Chripko, ktorý prichádzal každú nedeľu a počas sviatkov vysluhovať slovenské sväté omše a sviatosti v slovenčine. Svojím obetavým prístupom k ľuďom stmeloval slovenskú komunitu, ktorá pod jeho vedením rástla na duchovnom poli aj v počte svojich členov. Začalo sa s vyučovaním náboženstva v slovenskom jazyku. V rámci komunity sa konalo a stále koná mnoho kultúrno-spoločenských podujatí.

V roku 2005 farnosť sv. Michala zanikla a kostol sa stal súčasťou susednej farnosti sv. Anny v Lawrenceville, NJ. Otec Vladimír začal vysluhovať aj anglické sv. omše pre americkú komunitu, ktorá zostala v Kostole sv. Michala.

Kórejská katolícka komunita pribudla do kostola v roku 2006.

O. Vladimíra Chripka vystriedal vo vedení slovenskej komunity v roku 2015 O. Peter Bujdoš, ktorý pokračoval v podpore duchovných a spoločenských aktivít. V roku 2019 sa slovenská komunita pod jeho vedením zaviazala na 5 rokov finančne podporovať nevyhnutné opravy na budove kostola. Aj takto sa trentonskí Slováci snažia zachovať a udržať dedičstvo našich



predkov.

Oslavy storočnice kostola boli nádherným vyvrcholením viac ako polročnej prípravy, obetovaného času a námahy mnohých dobrovoľníkov z Kostola sv. Michala. Boh štedro požehnal tento slávnostný deň. Kostol bol zaplnený do posledného miesta. Svätú omšu celebroidal trentonský biskup David O'Connell spolu s ďalšími 13 kňazmi a dvoma diakonmi. Aj Svätý Otec František poslal svoje apoštolské požehnanie. Čítania a prosby boli prednesené v jazykoch všetkých troch komunít Kostola sv. Michala; v anglickom, slovenskom a kórejskom.

Počas svätej omše zaspievali aj deti zo slovenskej komunity pieseň Vďaka Ti, Pane.

Pri príležitosti 100. výročia sa všetky tri komunity v kostole dohodli na inštalovaní mozaiky s vyobrazením Michala archanjela nad vstupné dvere do kostola. V závere slávnostnej sv. omše biskup David novú mozaiku požehnal.

Oslavy 100. výročia pokračovali po sv. omši v banketovej hale Ambassador v Trentone, na ktorej sa zúčastnilo viac ako 300 hostí. Oslavu spestrili krásnym kultúrnym programom deti zo slovenskej školy Pramienok, ktorá funguje pri Kostole sv. Michala.

V príjemnej atmosfére, o ktorú sa postaral Jaroslav Homola zo skupiny Relax sa ľudia zabávali až do neskorých večerných hodín.

Dakujeme našim slovenským predkom za krásny Boží stánek, za to, že si našli čas, energiu a hlavne financie na výstavbu kostola. Z rodnej krajiny si so sebou priniesli nielen pracovitost' ale aj pevne zakorenenú vieru v Boha a presvedčenie, že s jeho pomocou si dokážu v novej krajine vybudovať život o akom snívajú. Výstavba chrámu bol určite aj na vtedajšiu dobu odvážny zámer. Podarilo sa im však postaviť krásny útulný kostolík, ktorý až do dnešného dňa slúži svojmu účelu a aj po sto rokoch tu zaznieva ich rodná slovenská reč.

Aj dnes je Kostol sv. Michala v Trentone pre mohých Slovákov druhým domovom. Nachádzajú tu nielen duchovné posilnenie, možnosť pristupovať ku všetkým sviatostiam v slovenskom jazyku, ale aj príležitosť stretnúť sa s rodákmi na rôznych spoločenských akciách, zaspievať si, zatancovať, pomôcť si v núdzi, byť si navzájom oporou a udržiavať naše krásne ľudové tradície stále živé.

Slovenské sväté omše sa konajú v Kostole svätého Michala v Trentone každú nedeľu o 10.00 hodine dopoludnia.

- Dagmar Sabová

PODMIENKY STRATY SLOVENSKEHO OBČIANSTVA PRI NADOBUDNUTÍ CUDZIEHO SA ZMIERNIA

Podmienky, za ktorých dochádza ku strate štátneho občianstva, ak štátny občan Slovenskej republiky nadobudol cudzie štátne občianstvo, sa zmiernia. Vyplyva to z vládnej novely zákona o štátnom občianstve, ktorú schválili poslanci 16. februára.

Slovenskí občania neprídu o občianstvo SR, ak v čase nadobudnutia cudzieho občianstva mali v danom štáte povolený, registrovaný alebo inak evidovaný pobyt najmenej päť rokov a predložia o tom doklady.

Posilnia sa tiež právomoci rezortu vnútra pri kontrole splnenia podmienky pobytu na území cudzieho štátu. Ide o to, aby sa zamedzilo takzvaným fiktívnym pobytom.

Podľa schváleného návrhu Slovákom žijúcim v zahraničí, ktorí sa významne zaslúžili o prínos pre komunitu Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí a ktorí majú na území SR povolený pobyt, možno udeliť štátne občianstvo aj bez trojročného nepretržitého pobytu na území SR.

Slovenské občianstvo budú môcť jednoduchšie nadobudnúť aj osoby so slovenským pôvodom, ak jeden z rodičov, prarodičov alebo praprarodičov bol československým štátnym občanom narodeným na Slovensku.

Z dôvodu príbuznosti českého jazyka, ktorý spája požiadavku základnej zrozumiteľnosti, sa u žiadateľov, ktorí sú alebo boli štátnymi občanmi Českej republiky, uplatňuje výnimka z požiadavky ovládania slovenského jazyka.

Výnimka platí tiež pre žiadateľov starších ako 65 rokov a žiadateľov, ktorí vykonali jazykové skúšky zo slovenského jazyka. Tieto výnimky sa uplatňujú aj u žiadateľov, ktorí majú platné osvedčenie preukazujúce postavenia Slováka žijúceho v zahraničí.

O slovenský pas prichádzajú ľudia, ktorí prijali občianstvo iného štátu na základe zákona prijatého za vlády Roberta Fica v roku 2010. Vtedajšia vláda tak reagovala na maďarský zákon. Ten zjednodušil udeľovanie občianstva zahraničným Maďarom.

V roku 2015 prijalo Ministerstvo vnútra SR nariadenie, ktoré umožňuje bývalým občanom požiadať naspäť o slovenské občianstvo na základe výnimky ministra vnútra. - SITA

VIETE, ŽE...

...slávny režisér, producent a scenárista Ivan Reitman, ktorý zomrel 12. februára vo veku 75 rokov, sa narodil v Komárne? Bol režisérom niekoľkých hitov, ktoré poznal celý svet – Krotitelia duchov (1984), Dvojčky (1988), Policajt zo škôlky (1990), Dave (1993), Junior (1994), Šesť dní, sedem nocí (1998), neskôr to boli filmy Hlavne nezáväzne (2011) či Lietam v tom (2009). Ivan Reitman sa narodil 27. októbra 1946 v Komárne vo vtedajšom Československu. Jeho rodičia boli židovského pôvodu. Matku počas druhej svetovej vojny odviekli do koncentračného tábora Osvienčim, otec pôsobil v domácom odboji. Rodina v roku 1951 z Československa emigrovala za príbuznými do Kanady. Reitman vyrastal v Toronte. Ako režisér sa presadil v 80. a 90. rokoch. Jeho najvýznamnejší úspech mu priniesol film Krotitelia duchov (Ghost Busters) z roku 1984, ktorý zarobil celosvetovo takmer 300 miliónov dolárov a získal dve nominácie na Oscara.

KRÁTKE SPRÁVY ZO SLOVENSKA



Vo veku 82 rokov zomrel v stredu 9. februára bývalý minister zahraničných vecí, poslanec Národnej rady SR a Európskeho parlamentu Eduard Kukan.



Pôsobil vo viacerých funkciách na československých veľvyslanectvách v Lusake (Zambia, 1968 - 1973), vo Washingtone (USA, 1977 - 1981), Addis Abebe (Etiópia, 1985 - 1988). V roku 1990 bol vymenovaný za veľvyslanca - stáleho predstaviteľa ČSFR (Česká a Slovenská Federatívna Republika) pri OSN v New Yorku (1990 - 1993). Po vzniku samostatnej Slovenskej republiky ju v rokoch 1993 - 1994 zastupoval ako veľvyslanec - stály predstaviteľ pri OSN. Na 48. Valnom zhromaždení OSN ho zvolili za predsedu Výboru pre humanitné, sociálne a kultúrne záležitosti. V roku 1993 získal čestný doktorát na Upsala College v New Jersey. Bol tiež držiteľom titulu doktor honoris causa z Petrohradskej štátnej univerzity a členom výboru poradcov v Global Panel Foundation.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Pandémia v SR skrátila strednú dĺžku života. Nárast počtu zomretých v roku 2021, ktorý je možné vidieť z predbežných údajov Štatistického úradu SR, sa s najväčšou pravdepodobnosťou odzrkadlí v ďalšom skrátení strednej dĺžky života u oboch pohlaví. Kým v predpandemickom období zomieralo na Slovensku ročne v priemere 51 000 až 54 000 osôb, v prvom roku pandémie stúpol tento počet na necelých 60 000. V roku 2021 umrelo dokonca viac ako 72 000 osôb, čo v relatívnom vyjadrení predstavuje približne 13 úmrtí na 1000 obyvateľov.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Zamestnanosť na Slovensku v roku 2021 medziročne klesla naprieč celou ekonomikou, výnimkou boli informačné a komunikačné činnosti, ktoré zvýšili pracovné kapacity o 4,8 percenta v porovnaní s rokom 2020. Bol to zároveň jediný sektor, ktorý prijal viac zamestnancov aj v porovnaní s obdobím pred pandémiou nového koronavírusu. Medziročne vzrástla zamestnanosť aj vo vybraných trhovských službách, a to o 0,2 percenta. V ostatných ôsmich sledovaných odvetviach bol zaznamenaný pokles zamestnanosti od 1,5 percenta v doprave a skladovaní a 9,2 percenta v ubytovaní.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Na medzinárodné vojenské cvičenie vo výcvikovom priestore Lešť a na letisku Sliač, ktoré trvá od 1. do 14. marca, sa zúčastňuje približne dvetisíc amerických vojakov. Po takmer dvoch rokoch plánovania, za účasti ozbrojených síl 13 krajín, sú slovenskí vojaci pripravení na prijatie cvičiacej spojeneckej jednotky. Cieľom je preveriť spoločnú pripravenosť na rýchle a efektívne presuny spojeneckých jednotiek v zimných podmienkach, vedenie obranných operácií a ich komplexná logistická podpora. Cvičenie je organizované pravidelne každé dva roky a je pevnou súčasťou spojeneckých výcvikových aktivít a nepatrí teda do série opatrení reagujúcich na aktuálnu bezpečnostnú situáciu na Ukrajine. Cvičenie je plánované okrem Slovenska v Nemecku, Poľsku, Českej republike a v pobaltských krajinách. Po skončení cvičenia je plánované stiahnutie všetkých nasadených spojeneckých jednotiek do svojich mierových posádok v Nemecku.



Slovak Catholic Sokol

205 Madison St., P.O. Box 899, Passaic, NJ • USA • 07055

Our Ever-Popular, 304-Page Sokol Cook Book

is Now in its Fourth Edition

Just \$15.50 which includes postage and handling
Sokol Assemblies and Wreaths can order a case of
12 cook books for just \$170.00

Place your order today!

Make check or money order payable to:

Slovak Catholic Sokol

P.O. Box 899 – 205 Madison Street

Passaic, N.J. 07055

(Canadian orders kindly add an additional \$15.00 for postage)



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP _____

NUMBER OF BOOKS _____

(Effective January 1, 2015)

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Have you found yourself looking for a way to memorialize a lost loved one or fellow Group/Wreath/Assembly member? Why not make a donation in their honor to the newly developed Memorial Scholarship fund? Your donation will assure that an annual scholarship be given out to a college age student who best exemplifies the meaning of fraternalism and volunteerism. Here's how it works: Send a check or money order to the Memorial Scholarship Fund clearly indicating the name to be memorialized. You can find a donation form on line at



[http://slovakcatholicsokol.org/
members/memorialfrmframe.htm](http://slovakcatholicsokol.org/members/memorialfrmframe.htm)

or simply send your donation to: James F. Knis, SCS Museum Treasurer, 6385 Harbor Drive, N.W., Canton, OH 44718. Your bequest will be recognized in the Falcon as well as permanently added to the Memorial Scholarship Donation Log which will be kept at the Sokol Museum. Depending on the amount of funds collected, we will be able to award at least two \$1,000 scholarships annually. The hope is that the donated funds will begin a self-perpetuating interest bearing scholarship account.

Have you recently lost a loved one? You might consider earmarking donations to this fund in their memory.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR REQUEST FOR SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON

P.O. BOX 899 • 205 MADISON STREET
PASSAIC, N.J. 07055

☐ NEW ☐ CHANGE ☐ CANCELLATION

Certificate No. _____

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Old Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Follow Us On TWITTER

- * Upload the Twitter app on your phone or go to www.twitter.com
- * Click "Sign up for Twitter."
- * Provide basic information about yourself. ...
- * Choose your username. ...
- * Click "Create my account."
- * Search physicalfitnessboard and click follow

INSTAGRAM

- * Upload the Instagram app on your phone or go to www.instagram.com
- * Click "Sign up" and enter your e-mail
- * Create a username and password
- * Provide basic information about yourself. ...
- * Click "Create my account."
- * Search physicalfitnessboard and click follow