



*Za Boha a národ*

*For God and Nation*

# Slovak Catholic Falcon

## Slovenský katolícky sokol

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## MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPREME PRESIDENT

**MICHAEL J. HORVATH**

In three weeks, our families will come together to celebrate the happiest day of the year, Christmas



Day, Štedrý Deň and all the joys of the season. The next 25 days will go by quickly as we all prepare for Christmas Day; with all the shopping and cooking that is done to make Christmas the special day it is meant to be.

The Christmas Season has the special meaning of preparing us for the birth of the Christ Child, our Lord and Savior, Jesus. Its magical power helps us reach out to family and friends or brings us together to celebrate our Slovak traditions, Christmas wishes, Vinš, Christmas Eve dinner, Vilija, listen to Slovak and English Christmas Carols, Vianočné Koledy, and attending midnight Mass, Polnočnú Omšu.

Then on Christmas Day the joy of Christmas is really experienced as we see the beaming excitement on the faces of all the children we see on this happy and joyous day.

There are some Grinches who find it difficult celebrate this magical and spiritual time of the year, which no matter how old we are, Christmas helps us feel like children again. If there are Grinches out there, I pray the Christmas angels visit them to renew their Christmas spirit.

On November 4, 2022, our Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. and I had the opportunity to honor the Slovak Catholic Sokol 2021 Fraternalist of the Year, Brother Michael Matras. With his family and friends in attendance all celebrate Brother Matras' dedication to the Slovak Catholic Sokol and his

community. We know he will continue support our Society and pass on to others his giving spirit. Congratulations, Brother Matras.

On November 6, 2022, I was invited to represent the Slovak Catholic Sokol at a meeting of the Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh, Attending the meeting with me were the other Slovak Fraternalists who contributed to the Endowment that supported the creation of the Program and the Czechoslovak Nationality Room. The Slovak Ambassador to the United States, Honorable Radvan Jarorčík, attended the meeting and expressed his appreciation for the University of Pittsburgh being the only college or university in the United States offering a Slovak studies and language program. He thanked the Slovak Fraternalists for their ongoing support for the Program and for our efforts in preserving Slovak culture and heritage in the United States.

The Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors will have their 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly meeting December 4-5, 2022, our final Board meeting for 2022. The Board will review the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter business and begin planning for 2023. The Board has taken steps in the past two months to be more reactive to the changes to stay competitive in the marketplace.

On behalf of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Supreme Assembly and my family we want to wish all our members and their family and friends a very Blessed, Joyous, and Merry Christmas, Požehnané, Radosťné a Veselé Vianoce.

Stay Safe and Healthy!  
With God's Blessings to All!  
Zdar Boh!

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Slovak Catholic Sokol Public Group

**FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY**

**SCOTT T. POGORELEC, F.I.C.**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

I hope that all our members had a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday with their friends and family. Now it is on to Christmas! This special time of year gives us the opportunity to enjoy the excitement, color, and emotion of the season, especially through the eyes of the children and grandchildren. This holiday also allows us some time to reflect on the past year and look forward to the New Year ahead.



Over the past 117 years, our family-oriented fraternal activities have begun at our local levels and the ideas for these events have been generated at our Assembly and Wreath meetings. We need to continue to host our local lodge meetings and produce activities that can invigorate our current membership and hopefully, generate interest for potential members. I commend those lodges which continue to host interesting and fun activities. As our local lodges host their annual meetings, now is the time to think and plan for activities in the new year. In this ever-changing world, do not be afraid to think outside the box, but always remember our Sokol values of fraternalism, volunteerism, and service. To encourage such activities, I remind our members that the Home Office will assist an Assembly or Wreath by providing a financial incentive of \$100 for two such gatherings a year. The lodge needs to announce the activity in our official publication and follow up with photos and an article of the event. Activity and participation have always been a cornerstone of our society and it needs to continue to be one of our main hallmarks.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, our Board of Directors, and all our Supreme Officers for their dedication to the organization over the past year. I would also like to thank our Group Officers, Assembly Officers, and Wreath Of-

ficers for their effort and hard work in promoting our wonderful society. It is through your efforts that allows us to thrive as the Slovak Catholic Sokol. I ask you to continue your efforts and look for ways to not only increase membership but increase participation and frequency of your activities. The more people know about our organization, the better!

Speaking of membership, I urge all our members to evaluate not only your personal life insurance needs, but also the needs of your family, and consider purchasing life insurance protection from the Slovak Catholic Sokol. You can help strengthen and secure not only your financial portfolio, but also the organization that has given so much. Let's grow our "Sokol Family" together!

Finally, I would like to thank the unsung heroes of our organization. The Home Office Staff of the Slovak Catholic Sokol works tirelessly for our Society and rarely gets the praise that is justified. I would personally like to thank them all for their hard work and dedication over the past year. You truly are the engine that makes us go!

On behalf of my wife, Maggie, our sons, Reid Thomas and Cole William, and my entire family, I would like to wish all our Sokol and Sokolky a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year! May God bless you and your families!

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

**WISHING ALL OUR  
MEMBERS AND FRIENDS  
A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR  
FROM THE  
HOME OFFICE STAFF**

**Sokol Calendar**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4**

**GROUP 6** "Msgr. Andrews Hlinka" **CHRISTMAS PARTY** at the Clubhouse Grille at Cedarbrook Golf Course in Belle Vernon, PA. The party will begin at 3:00 p.m. with a buffet dinner.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6**

**WREATH 22 MEETING** starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Kollar Club, 3226 Jane Street, Pittsburgh (South Side), PA.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023**

**SLOVAK BALL** celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Slovak independence at The Royal Manor in Garfield, NJ starting 7 p.m. until 2 a.m. featuring double platinum folklore artist Štefan Štec. Music by Express Band. Black tie. Tickets information: [SLOVAKAMERICANCC.ORG](http://SLOVAKAMERICANCC.ORG)

**SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON  
PUBLICATION DATE**

The next issue of the **SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON** will be that of **JANUARY 1, 2023**. **DEADLINE** for all photos and information for this issue will be **DECEMBER 22, 2022**.

The next **SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL NEWSLETTER** will be posted on our website on **DECEMBER 15, 2022**.



**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

In observance of Christmas, the **HOME OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** for business on **MONDAY, DECEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>**. Likewise, to commemorate the New Year's observance, the Home Office will be closed for business on **MONDAY, JANUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2023**.



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

### IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

" You see, George, you really had a wonderful life. Don't you see what a mistake it would be to throw it away?"

*"The story of George Bailey, for the one or two people who still haven't seen the classic Frank Capra film, is a man driven to the brink of suicide when he comes to believe his life never really mattered."*



It's a message of hope. That maybe we can make a difference as long as we never give up.

What were the character traits that made George Baily's life "wonderful"?

**1) Selflessness. George lived the second commandment** "Love your neighbor as yourself." He lived sacrificially by the

principle of putting others first. He was a giver. His life was about contribution.

**2) Delayed gratification.** George and Mary had vision for the long term. Whether it was saving the Building & Loan, or fixing up the old house that became their home, or building the Baily Park subdivision. They understood the principle of investing in long term gain by enduring short term pain. They sowed into something bigger than immediate gratification.

**3) Appreciation.** Yes, it took angelic intervention to break George out of his despair, but his conclusion was to appreciate the life he had been given. As Joni Mitchel sang, "you don't know what you've got til it's gone." In fact, he was overjoyed to have it all back, problems and all. *"I'll bet it's a warrant for my arrest. Isn't it wonderful? I'm going to jail !"*

**There's a blessing to living for the benefit of others. Friends, and many of them.**

And conversely, not everybody is guaranteed to have "a wonderful life"; if you're only living for yourself, you can expect to reap what you sow. *Like Mr. Potter, you'll not have many friends.*

**"No man is a failure who has friends"**

The hope is that your life, my life, can make an impact, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant our contribution.

**You never know the difference you can make.**

## UNITED SLOVAK SOCIETIES OFFER SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS IN LORAIN, OH

The United Slovak Societies of Lorain, Ohio will again make available non-renewable, \$1,000.00 scholarship awards, to eligible high school seniors who will graduate in 2023. Applicants must maintain a GPA of 3.5 or better and enjoy membership of at least 5 years in any of the local Slovak Fraternal Lodges in Lorain.

The lodges include Wreath 111 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, First Catholic Slovak Union, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, and the National Slovak Society. To obtain rules and an application, please visit [www.americanslovakclub.com](http://www.americanslovakclub.com) or contact the scholarship coordinator, Sue Naelitz, at [snaelitz@hotmail.com](mailto:snaelitz@hotmail.com). Deadline for applications is May 30, 2023.

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 14, PITTSBURGH, PA

Held via Zoom Meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Group President Kathy Watkins. She welcomed everyone that was on the call and thanked them for attending. Opening prayer was led by Arlene Most, and The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ed Moeller. Roll call was taken. A total of 25 officers and members were in attendance.

President Watkins informed the Group that Diane Moeller had resigned as Group Treasurer due to health reasons. Arlene Most agreed to fill that position. Cindy Walkowiak agreed to fill the position of Group Secretary.

The treasurer's report was read and discussed by Arlene Most. Arlene complimented Diane on a wonderful job in recordkeeping which provided for a very smooth transition. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Janice Moeller and seconded by Supreme Physical Directress Katie Swift. In addition, Arlene read thank you messages that were received from Diane Moeller, Jozwiak family, Nancy Ramirez, and the Slovak Catholic Federation.

New Business

- Supreme Physical Directress Katie Swift inquired as to the status of the sale of the club or any news regarding it. Cindy Walkowiak explained that she believes it is now a furniture warehouse for office furniture components.

- Janice Moeller inquired as to why we did not have any representation at the recent clinic and it was reported that no one was available to go due to work commitments. There was further discussion regarding the Slet. Physical Director Aaron Kercell and Physical Directress Haley Schanck explained that it is their intention to bring a team to the Slet, so they will be reaching out via email and Facebook to potential participants.

- Supreme Physical Directress Katie Swift provided some information regarding the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Slet to be held July 12-16, 2023. Katie also mentioned that the date of the Convention is August 5 – 8, 2023 in Scranton, PA.

- Veronica Moeller extended her thanks for all the prayers, thoughts, cards, etc. that she received while she is dealing with health issues.

- President Watkins discussed ideas that were presented when she was in attendance at the

Group Presidents meeting. One thing brought up was that eve group should be participating in the Join Hands Day outreach program. Supreme Vice-President Ed Moeller suggested that we do a clothing drive for the homeless. A tentative date of April 30, 2023 was agreed upon for the Group to meet and collect items. Details will be posted on Facebook and emailed to the Group.

- President Watkins asked if everyone was receiving the Falcon via email. She asked if everyone could reach out to family members, friends, etc. and advise them that the Falcon can be received electronically. E-mails can be given directly to Scott at headquarters or to her and she will forward.

- A discussion was held regarding a donation to Children's Hospital during their telethon. Cindy Walkowiak made a motion to donate \$200. The motion was seconded by Arlene Most. Group Treasurer Arlene Most will call in a donation on the night of the telethon.

- President Watkins discussed that the Group would once again provide holiday meals for our shut in and elderly or ill members. Included with the meals will be handmade Christmas Cards and an ornament. Becky DiRenna will post on the Group's Facebook page, as well as the Sokol main Facebook page, asking for cards to be mailed to her home. All groups are welcome to send cards. A tentative date of Tuesday, December 13, 2022 was agreed upon.

(Continued on page 14)

## JUDITH MANYAK SELECTED AS 2022 FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR

Longtime and dedicated Group 3 activist Judith Manyak of East Douglas, MA has been selected as our 2022 Fraternalist of the Year. She is a member of Assembly 28.

Sister Judy Manyak has been an active Sokol Member of Wreath 18 since 1969, first as part of Group 2 then Group 3 when they merged with the Wreaths and Assemblies of Maine, Webster and Boston in 1993.



While not of Slovak descent, she married Brother Roger Manyak in 1963 and has immersed herself into the culture as if she was, fully supporting her husband, four children and eight grandchildren within the organization.

Sister Judy served as Assistant Directress for Group 2 from 1980-1992 and she has served as Physical Directress for Group 3 since their inception in 1993 and still holds this position today proudly serving with her granddaughters as her assistants. Her

love for teaching and leading the drill routines with the girls will never end. Sister Judy has led her junior and senior girls to numerous drill team and individual drill wins at International Slets over the years and to a Group 3 Championship at the 2017 International Slet.

Sister Judy has been active on the local level for over 50 years participating in Polka Parties, family day picnics and local Group 3 fund raisers including clam bakes, Octoberfests, chowder/chili contests, and baking for their Sokol Open. She has chaperoned, hosted and coached numerous Eastern District Volleyball and Basketball Tournaments as well as International Softball Tournaments cheering on first her children and then her grandchildren. Sister Judy also co-chaired with her daughter Lori, numerous Group 3 Children's Christmas parties always making sure there was a visit from Santa and gifts for the children. Sister Judy has served as Wreath 18 Treasurer since January of 2021.

On the International level, Sister Judy has represented Group 3 as a delegate at six International Conventions and served on the Nominating Committee in 2011 & 2015 and served as Chairperson of the Balloting Committee in 2019. She has made lifelong friends across the country that she holds dear to her heart.

In addition to her Fraternal activities, Sister Judy has been a lifelong member of St. Denis Church in Douglas, MA and an active member of their Catholic Women's Council (CWC) over 50 years. She has served as both President and Secretary of the CWC over those years. Sister Judy is an avid Crafter, sewing American Girl Doll cloths, numerous purses and bags, kitchen items, ornaments, and she creates a variety of decorations which she sells at craft fairs or gives as gifts for birthdays and holidays.

Sister Judith Manyak will be honored and receive the Fraternalist of the Year Plaque at an appropriate dinner.

## ASSEMBLY 180, CANTON, OHIO IS ALIVE AND WELL

Besides having the honor of serving you as your Supreme Treasurer, I have also served for the past 44 years as President of Assembly 180 in Canton, Ohio. At Assembly 180 we are like most assemblies and wreaths and don't have the number of active members as we once had But that hasn't stopped us, as we have remained active and supportive of our local churches and community. I am supported at every meeting by several members including Agnes Evanko, my longtime vice-president, Rose Croy, my longtime recording secretary, and of course my wife Michele.



The above picture shows us with Linda Miller of St. Mary's and represents our October project, our annual donation to the church food pantry. Other projects this year included a donation to the Ronald McDonald house, making blankets for the area needy, supplying turkeys for families at Thanksgiving, adopting families for Christmas, and providing school supplies for the YWCA homeless shelter.

While we all must fight the loss of active members, we still must do our part to show our communities the Sokol way of life.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Treasurer and as president of Assembly 180. – **Jim Knis**, *Supreme Treasurer and President of Assembly 180*



### SAVE THE DATE

## SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL 34<sup>th</sup> QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION

### AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

AT THE

### HILTON SCRANTON & CONFERENCE CENTER Scranton, PA



## SLOVAK AMBASSADOR VISITS PITTSBURGH

It was a busy weekend for Ambassador Radovan Javorčík, his wife Michelle, and Cultural Secretary Stanislava Buchtová. On Friday evening, November 4<sup>th</sup>, Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association held a reception for them with approximately 75 people attending. Guests included: Renáta Kamenárová, Director of the Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh; Rick Martin, Development Director of the National Czech and Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Bishop Larry Kulick of Greensburg; and Father Valarian Michlik, pastor of St. Gregory Byzantine Catholic Church.

On Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, they toured Pittsburgh, including a private tour of the Warhol Museum and an evening concert at Heinz Hall.

On Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, Ambassador Javorčík was a speaker at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Slovak Heritage Festival at the University of Pittsburgh.



L to r: Joseph Senko, Slovak Honorary Consul for Pennsylvania; Renáta Kamenárová, Director of Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh; Radovan Javorčík, Slovak Ambassador to the United States; Michelle Javorčíková, wife of the Ambassador; Rick Martin, Development Director of the Czech and Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

## GOLUMPKI SALE

Assembly 28, Group 3 in Douglas, MA will be selling home made Golumpki's on December 10, 2022. PREORDERS ONLY! \$4.00 ea.

Orders can be placed by messaging head chef Randy Manyak on facebook or emailing him at [rmanyak66@gmail.com](mailto:rmanyak66@gmail.com).

Orders can be picked up at the Sokol Hall Rt 16 Douglas, MA on December 10 between 12 noon until 4pm.

Let's be Thankful for our Sokol Heritage and Celebrate the Holidays with homemade ethnic fare.

**Christine Manyak**  
Group 3 Secretary

## 2021 FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR MICHAEL T. MATRAS HONORED



The 2021 Fraternalist of the Year celebration honoring Michael T. Matras from Group 6, Perryopolis, PA was held on November 4, 2022 at the Gianilli's II in Greensburg, PA. (L-r): Supreme President Michael J. Horvath, Michael T. Matras and Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, FIC.



2021 Fraternalist of the Year Michael T. Matras with his family during the celebration.

Brother Mike, life-long resident of Perryopolis, PA has dedicated his life to our fraternal organization for 40+ years. He has enrolled hundreds of new members and has aided in building Group 6's multiple sporting teams since the 1980's.

Brother Mike has promoted our Slovak fraternal brotherhood through his community outreach projects. He has chaired numerous events for Group 6, including the children's and adult Christmas parties and corn roast held every summer. Over the years, he has managed to construct multiple teams for our Sokol sports tournaments, including softball, bowling and basketball.

He has been the recipient of numerous Sokol sports awards over the years. He was awarded the Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award at our 69<sup>th</sup> International Bowling Tournament held in Wickliffe, OH in 2015. Brother Mike is also a veteran of numerous international Sokol conventions.

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 7

Group 7 “Rev. Joseph Murgas” held its 2022 annual meeting on Sunday, November 6, 2022, at St. Al’s/St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Meeting started with Mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Al’s/St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Fr. Richard Cirba, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

A luncheon was held immediately following Mass.

Amy Degnan Blasco called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Amy welcomed all and thanked everyone for attending.

Fr. Richard Cirba opened the meeting with a prayer.

Marty Degnan asked all to join in for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by Kim Graham, Reporting Secretary. There were 10 officers present (Amy Degnan Blasco, Gary Blasco, Fr. Richard Cirba, Marty Degnan, Kim Graham, Heather Horvath, Pam Lipski, Dawn Palchanis, Kelly Palchanis, Tony Rasimus); 4 excused (Joe Hvozdovic Jr., Frank Lipski, Matthew Malenovitch, August Palchanis) and 1 not excused (Kristopher Godlewski) for a total of 15 officers. There were also 3 delegates (Sue Horvath, Fr. Andy Hvozdovic, Rob Palchanis).

Amy Degnan Blasco described the events of 2021-2022 year-to-date which included the 2021 Annual Meeting held in November 2021 at the NE Slovak Club and the Annual 85th Sokol Day held in Plains in September 2022. Members attended the Penguin’s Hockey Game in March 2022 sponsored by Headquarters to promote the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Held annual flower fundraisers for Christmas 2021 and Easter 2022. Upcoming events include the 2022 Christmas Flower Sale and sponsoring a “Family or Families in Need” during the holiday seasons.

Minutes of 2021: The minutes of 2021 prepared by Kim Graham were read. A motion to accept the minutes as prepared and read by all was made by Tony Rasimas and seconded by Kelly Palchanis. All in favor.

Correspondence: Kim Graham stated to the group, no new correspondence to be read.

The Officer’s Reports: The reports were read by all present and since they were in good order a motion was made by Marty Degnan and seconded by Dawn Palchanis to accept the entire Officer’s Reports as submitted. All in favor.

Officer’s reports not submitted = 2

15 minute break:



Pictured first row, from l-r: Amy Blasco; Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic; and Rev. Richard Cirba. Second row: Marty Degnan, Rob Palchanis, Dawn Palchanis, Heather Horvath and Tony Rasimus. Third row: Sue Horvath, Pamela Lipski and Kim Graham. Also participating was Gary Blasco.

The Auditors’ Report: The auditors found the books in good order and all checks and statements were accounted for as reported by Gary Blasco. A motion to accept the report was made by Marty Degnan and seconded by Dawn Palchanis. All in favor.

The Treasurer’s Report: Kim Graham gave the treasurer’s report which was supported with an outline of income and expenses for the year. Balance in the checking account as of November 6, 2022 was \$13,091.08 and \$10,777.30 in the Sokol Secure Fund. A motion was made to accept the report by Kelly Palchanis and seconded by Gary Blasco. All in favor.

The Verifications Report was presented by Marty Degnan. It was verified that there were 10 officers present; 4 excused (Joe Hvozdovic Jr., Frank Lipski, Matthew Malenovitch, August Palchanis), and 1 not excused (Kristopher Godlewski) for a total of 15. There were also 3 delegates for a total of 13 in attendance. A motion to accept the report was made by Rob Palchanis and seconded by Pam Lipski. All in favor.

The Bonds and Salary Committee: Amy Degnan Blasco and Kim Graham. The Bonds and Salary Report was presented by Amy Degnan Blasco. The committee reported that they saw no need to increase salaries at this time. A motion to accept the report was made by Fr. Andy Hvozdovic and Seconded by Rob Palchanis Palchanis. All in Favor.

The Resolution Committee: Amy Blasco, Fr. Richard Cirba and Pam Lipski. The Resolutions Report was presented by Pam Lipski.

RESOLVE: To remember in prayer: Pope Francis, that God Bless him in all his endeavors as Vicar of Christ.

RESOLVE: To Pray for Bishop Joseph C. Bambera, Bishop of Scranton, and the faithful of the Diocese of Scranton as we continue to build up the kingdom of God. We especially support through our prayers the ongoing Parish Pastoral Planning in our Diocese as we vision forward in 2023 and prepare for the challenges we will face in the future as presented by Bishop Bambera.

RESOLVE: To Pray for our Clergy and Religious, that God grants them the strength and guidance they need in their Ministry. We especially, Pray for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life and for those struggling in a Vocation and Prayers for healing as we celebrate “National Vocations Awareness Week”.

RESOLVE: To work together for the growth of membership in our Group 7 Slovak Catholic Sokol.

RESOLVE: To acknowledge anyone observing a special occasion this year.

RESOLVE: To thank and appreciate all who helped with the preparation and participation in all the events of this year.

RESOLVE: To support the National March for Life. To pray for the Respect of Human Life and Religious Freedom in our Country.

RESOLVE: To encourage support and participation in all or any of the activities of Group 7’s Parent’s Club.

RESOLVE: To continue to work within Group 7 and our organization with the current and new officers, contributing our time and effort to the best of our ability and keep them in our Prayers.

RESOLVE: To pray for Peace in our Country and World especially the Ukraine during these violent and hostile times.

RESOLVE: To pray for all sick members of Group 7 who are sick and suffering at home and/or in a health care facility.

RESOLVE: To pray for all the deceased members of Group 7.

RESOLVE: To pray for all those elected to public office to serve the common good.

(Continued on page 20)



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 3 “REV. EDMUND MOCHAK”

Group 3, Rev. Edmund Mochak, held its annual meeting on Sunday, November 6, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the Sokol Hall, Douglas, Massachusetts.

After everyone enjoyed coffee and danish, The meeting was called to order by Group 3 President Kevin Conway at 10:15 a.m. Brother Kevin opened the meeting with a prayer. Brother Joe Brody led us all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Group 3 Secretary, Christine Manyak took roll call, there were 7 members present representing Wreath 18 and Assembly 28.

### Welcoming Address:

Brother Kevin welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance and commented that while we are few, are commitment is strong.

### Brother Kevin reviewed the purpose of the group:

“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.”

Minutes from the semi-annual meeting on Sunday, April 3, 2022, were reviewed by Secretary Christine Manyak. The minutes were accepted on a motion by Gary Manyak, 2nd by Joe Brody.

Treasurer’s report was presented by Brother Kevin in the absence of Treasurer Ralph Quinn. After discussion the report was accepted on a motion by Judy Manyak, 2nd by Roger Manyak. Brother Ralph has submitted his verbal resignation effective end of year. He has committed to completing the year-end report. Brother Kevin has asked for names of a replacement, and he will approach them to see if they are interested. David Cyr was one name that was mentioned and Kevin will reach out to him.

Physical Directress, Judy Manyak attended the clinic July to learn the new drills for the 50th Slet to be held next year. Unfortunately, she was not accompanied by her assistants due to previous commitments. She voiced how nice it was to finally see her fellow Sokolky after the 2 year hiatus caused by Covid. Plans for 50th Slet are still underway.

Physical Director, Gary Manyak attended the clinic in July accompanied by his assistant and son Zackary. He shared that it was a great collaboration between Directors, directresses and Supreme Fitness board to create the new drills in anticipation of our upcoming 50th Slet. He also had the pleasure of attending the International Golf tournament with his 3 sons.

Sports Directors report was submitted by John Manyak. Due to the continuation of Covid there were few events that Group 3 participated in. Our Physical Director and his assistant as well as our Physical Directress attended the Clinic in July to learn the drills for next years 50th International Slet. Group 3 sent 8 members to the International Golf Tournament this year and a good time was had by all. Group 3 also held their 47<sup>th</sup> consecutive local Sokol Open.

The reports of Physical Directress and Director as well as Sports Director were accepted on a motion by Roger Manyak, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Brody.

### Old Business:

\*The 47<sup>th</sup> Sokol Open, chaired by John Manyak who has taken over for his father Brother Roger, was a huge success again. Golfers continue to come play and enjoy the home cooked buffet. This year the money raised will be used to make upgrades to the hall and kitchen, 2 new refrigerators have been purchased. Brother Kevin thanked everyone for their contributions making this a success. Brother Richard McGarth has attended all 47 tournaments.

This year saw the highest turn out hosting 132 golfers.

\*We did not participate in this year’s Octoberfest, and we have heard from several people our presence was missed. We are planning a Golumpki fest in December. We are looking for volunteers to help make and sell the golumpkis at the Sokol Hall. Advanced orders are required. It has been difficult to get enough help to run the Octoberfest in addition to our other fund raisers. We are hopeful that we can resume our participation in the future.

### Grievances and New Motions:

\*We need to increase participation of parents in our fundraising activities

\*More activities to draw younger members

\*Obtain more Emails of members to improve communication about events and meetings

\*We do not have enough representation in the Slovak Falcon. We need to submit more information promoting Group 3 members.

### Resolutions:

\*Congratulations to our very own Judy Manyak for being awarded this year’s Fraternalist of the Year.

\*Congratulations to our local Group 3 scholarship winners: Katie Peloquin and Reese Slowik

\*Congratulations to Makenzie Cyr for being accepted into Northeastern University’s accelerated Nursing Program.

\*Congratulations to Gary Manyak for his appointment to Head Basketball Coach of the Nashoba Regional High School Boys Varsity team

\*Congratulations to our Group 3 Sokol Open Committee for another successful golf tournament.

\*Congratulations to our Group 3 Golfers who attended the International Golf Tournament

\*Congratulations to Samuel Bloniasz for being awarded the National 2022 SCS Scholarship Grant

\*Congratulations to Skylar Manyak for being awarded the Doctors Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship.

\*Congratulations to Peyton Manyak for being awarded the Abbot Jerome M. Koval, O.S.B. memorial High School Grant.

### New Business:

Discussion occurred regarding the future of the organization. Everyone is so busy with so many other commitments that membership and participation are decreasing. We need to think outside the box and create a new picture of the organization going forward.

Brother Kevin shared discussion at the Presidents meeting about where we go from here. The Supreme Officers recommended that we consider becoming more community based, assisting community, churches and other fraternal groups. Join them to help become more of a presence to perhaps increase membership and renew commitment of current members. The Group Presidents were tasked with 6 Goals:

1. Send 10 new emails to Scott before Christmas.
2. Submit an article for publication in the Falcon within 6 months
3. Plan an activity to participate in “Join Hands Day” held at the beginning of May and share this with Scott and the Falcon.
4. Each year, every group nominate a Fraternalist of the Year.
5. Create a communication page for your group
6. Make a donation to the Slovak Catholic Federation before 11/30/22.

Brother Kevin will work with Brother Joe Brody to get him the names and numbers of current Webster members so Brother Joe can reach out to them to increase their participation.





# DRIVE TO 50 SALES CAMPAIGN

## CELEBRATING THE 50<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SLET

The Slovak Catholic Sokol will be reaching a significant milestone within the SOKOL World – We will be hosting and presenting our 50<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.scslife.org). Mail all completed Referral Lead Cards to:

Slovak Catholic Sokol  
P.O.Box 899  
205 Madison Street  
Passaic, NJ 07055

## 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 ● 2 YEAR ● 3 YEAR ● 5 YEAR ● 7 YEAR

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 16

President Andrea Papcun called to order the annual meeting of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Group 16 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Cyril and Methodius Church in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

The opening of the meeting began with a prayer of hope and peace followed with a moment of silence for the past year's diseased members.

Officer roll call was conducted with record made of the following attendees:

President: Andrea Papcun  
Vice President: John Papcun  
Secretary: Mark Papcun  
Treasurer: Laverne Eland  
Sports Director: Stephen Papcun  
Auditors: Sharon Papcun; Paula Papcun

Also in attendance were members at large Donald Papcun and Beth Penza.

Officer Reports as well as Assembly/ Wreath President Reports were subsequently submitted:  
Group 16 President Andrea Papcun:

President Andrea started by noting her ongoing continual dialogue with headquarters in her efforts to keep our Group updated on current events. She mentioned her efforts to purge the membership files of possible deceased members in an effort to close out policies. Andrea organized the collection and donation of children's toys to the SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish's annual festival. Andrea attended the SCS 2022 Group Presidents Meeting on October 1st in Scranton, PA. She encouraged members to initiate activities and events in the up coming year.

Vice President John Papcun:

Vice President John reported on his support provided to the President and overall Group members throughout the year.

Secretary Mark Papcun:

Secretary Mark reported that in accordance with our Slovak Catholic Sokol Bylaws, as secretary of our Group 16, he fulfilled his obligation to record the minutes of the last annual Group meeting held last October 19, 2021. Event items from the submitted minutes from last year were also noted in his Secretary report.

Treasurer Laverne Eland:

Laverne reported that as treasurer of Group 16 she fulfilled her duties to the best of her ability having kept the books, did the banking, making deposits and disbursement checks when needed.

Sports Director Stephen Papcun:

Stephen reported that as sports director he completed all requests/ requirements relative to his responsibilities.

Auditors:

Auditors Sharon Papcun & Paula Papcun verified the accuracy and integrity of the Treasurers financial report.

A motion to accept in unison all submitted reports was proposed by member Laverne Eland, seconded by Sharon Papcun and unanimously approved.

Assembly 36:

President Mark Papcun reported that Assembly 36 had not held a meeting subsequent to last year's Annual Group meeting. Therefore, there was no new business to report. Mention was made in regards to member Donald Papcun. While at-

tending the Annual National Bowling Event, Don was awarded the prestigious Petruff Award for his outstanding contributions throughout the years in promoting and participating in the annual event. Congratulations were extended by the members to Don who follows in the footsteps of former Petruff awardees from Group 16, Veronica Papcun and Michael Romancik. President Mark noted that efforts will soon be taken to hold an Assembly meeting in the Spring. He expressed a desire of having a six month interval between Group meetings and Assembly meetings in order to allow for progress reporting regarding action items agreed to by Assembly members during this Group 16 meeting.

Assembly 214:

Assembly 214 held a meeting on October 2, 2022 at the home of President John Pupik Jr. Roll call was taken with five Officers in attendance. A remembrance prayer was said for the deceased members. The treasurers report was read and audited. Officer reports were reviewed and subsequently approved. No specific new business noted.

President Andrea then opened up the floor for discussions of new business. The following items were addressed.

▶ Ideas and assignment of action items were discussed to comply with a request made from the Supreme Officers at the Annual President's meeting. The request was that all Groups submit, ideally on a monthly basis, pictures and descriptions of member participation made in community charitable events, and/or contribution presentations made by the Group members.

▶ 2022/ 2023 Budget. A non deficit spending commitment for the upcoming year was agreed. Spending would not exceed revenue.

▶ Officers salaries were reviewed and held at current levels for the upcoming year.

▶ Donations designations as follows:  
Slovak Catholic Federation to Rome as requested by Supreme Chaplain.

Blessed Solanus Casey Musical.

▶ Group 16 Centennial celebration in 2026. Formulation of Committee to be initiated next fiscal year.

▶ Upcoming 2023 Convention Delegate Attendees.

▶ Election of Officers 2023.

A motion to adjourn the meeting submitted by Laverne Eland. The motion was seconded by Stephen Papcun. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned.

These minutes dutifully submitted by:

**Mark Papcun**  
Group 16 Secretary  
October 25, 2022



## ASSEMBLY 36 CONTRIBUTED TO HALLOWEEN CANDY DRIVE



The seasons are changing.... Fall in all its' colorful glory is coming to an end!!! Every young boy & girl dream of the excitement & fun of Halloween. What does a young child do when his family is down on their luck. Families look to the local shelters for their daily meals, living support and a smile.

In the Detroit metropolitan area, we have the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. They serve hot, nourishing meals in a safe and welcoming environment. Guests can get a warm shower and clean clothes when needed. Staff can help with social & spiritual matters. Pantries are available for guests to take home food and supplies to assist & resolve the challenges they are facing.

This year a special Halloween Candy Drive has been set up. They wanted to give something to the Soup Kitchen children that come in for a meal. Slovak Catholic Sokol Assembly 36 - Detroit answered the call. They were one of many donors contributing to the request.

– **Andrea Ames Papcun**, *President, Group 16*

## HOW TO SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC FALCON

At the group presidents' meeting, all group presidents were tasked with three goals. One is to gather emails for people who may not be getting the electronic Falcon or other correspondence. If you are not receiving the monthly Falcon or Newsletter and you are not receiving emails regarding upcoming events, reach out to your group president. If your "older" parents, grandparents, aunts, or uncles do not have email, call 1-800- 886-7656 and ask to have the information mailed to them.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Slet is coming up. It is going to be a big year for Sokols! You don't want to miss the important information.

– **Kathleen Shoberg Watkins**

## WALKING PROGRAM

1. The purpose of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Walking Program is to promote a heart-healthy lifestyle. By exercising, each Walker will reach milestones to be eligible for awards. The pursuit of reaching the milestones leads to a healthier way of life.
2. To be eligible for participation, a Walker of any age, must be a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.
3. A member can start the program at any time during the year. The final Tally Sheet for that year must be submitted no later than January 31 of the following year.
4. Miles walked can be sent to the coordinator monthly, quarterly or at the end of the year. Information should include total miles walked and location/setting.
5. Mileage from each year will determine the prize awarded. Every Walker will receive an award.
6. Awards will be given for each milestone achieved by the 100's and will be determined by the coordinator.
7. Awards will be given in March of the following year.
8. Coordinator contact information: Nancy Kropolinsky, Supreme Assistant Physical Directress, 1853 Wingate Rd. Youngstown, Ohio 44514; [kropolinskynancy@gmail.com](mailto:kropolinskynancy@gmail.com); 330-727-2487.



Group 7 participated in a Trunk or Treat fund raiser on October 22 to benefit David Riviera, who is battling cancer. The Group build the Michael Myers themed house and distributed candy to approximately 500 children. Pictured (l-r): Kelly Palchanis, Amy Blasco, August Palchanis, "Michael" aka Rob Palchanis, Supreme President, Michael Horvath and Dawn Palchanis.



## GROUP 16 PRESENTED A DONATION TO THE FRIARS OF ST. BONAVENTURE MONASTERY

For Sokol members growing up in the Detroit Metro Area, the name of Solanus Casey has special meaning. He is "Our Saint"! We grew up hearing about all his blessings and special works. We prayed to him and asked for his help in healing. The Catholic Church in Rome has processed much information about Casey and has started the steps leading up to the Sainthood of Solanus Casey.

Important Stages of Solanus Casey Sainthood .....

1. Declared a Servant of God (1897-1957)
2. Declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II (1995)
3. Declared Beatified & called Blessed by Pope Francis (2017)

4. Final Stage is Sainthood. The Vatican is currently working on details to verify additional miracles attributed to Solanus Casey. Our hopes and prayers are this sainthood process is completed shortly. Solanus would be the 1st American-born man to be canonized a Saint.

Much has been written about Solanus Casey and is available through various media sources. Here are parts taken from an article published in the SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish Bulletin in Sterling Heights, MI and a Biography of Solanus Casey published by St. Bonaventure Monastery Detroit. Born Bernard Casey on November 25, 1870 in Oak Grove, WI. to an impoverished family, Casey was as ordinary as one could be. Possessing no innate talents, he lived a life that would touch and transform the lives of countless people. He invested as a Capuchin Brother in 1897 and was ordained a Franciscan Friar in 1904 taking the name of Solanus Casey. Due to difficulties in his studies, it was decided he would not be allowed to hear confessions nor preach sermons. In 1924, he was transferred to St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit.

Father Solanus spent his life in the service of people. As the "door keeper" for the Monastery, he met many people from every age and walks of life. They sought his help & prayers. Many believed he had the gifts of healing and prophecy and attributed their



healing to his prayers. He showed his love of God by loving all of God's people. By praying, feeding and making music with his violin.... he was able to manifest miraculous healing for those coming to him for help. While he personally faced many obstacles and disappointments, his life remains an example of how joy and personal fulfillment can triumph over any adversity.

St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit has become the Centerpoint of the Solanus Casey Center and the Capuchin Soup Kitchen ministries. Following the lead of St. Francis, they live and work with those in need of help. The Friars serve God through working in the communities needing help. It became known as a place for spiritual help as well as; a place to receive a meal. Solanus Casey worked endlessly on helping the poor and has forever expanded the Centers focus. Recently, Brother Al Mascia, a Friar from the Monastery tells the story of Casey via a musical production. "A Saint & His Fiddle" tells the story through original music and fiddle tunes played by Casey on his violin.

Brother Mascia has performed this event at the Center and at many Catholic parishes throughout the Detroit Metro Area. Slovak Catholic Sokol Group 16 Detroit/Rosford member Sharon Jozsa Papcun recently attended the musical held at SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish in Sterling Heights, MI and presented the Friars a donation to be used for all of their special works.

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 6

The annual meeting of Group 6. Msgr. Andrew Hlinka, was held on October 23, 2022 at the Back Porch Restaurant in Lower Speers, Belle Vernon, PA.

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by President Anna Mae Warnick. Roll call was taken with 30 members in attendance. The President thanked everyone for attending and led the group in grace. After lunch, the minutes were read from the previous meeting on April 22, 2022. Minutes were motioned and accepted then entered into record.

President Anna Mae Warnick requested everyone to notify the group when any changes in telephone number, e-mail or addresses, so we can keep our records up to date. She also wanted to confirm everyone was receiving a copy of the Falcon paper.

She also brought to the attention that 3 men from the group were recognized in the paper. Terri Gardner provided the group with information regarding the Christmas, reservations must be made prior to November 20, 2022.

Reports were given by all the officers and each report had motions to accept reports and they were all submitted into record.

It was addressed that if anyone had suggestions of places to hold future meetings to notify Terri Gardner or Anna Mae Warnick. The group agreed upon holding election of officers at the semi-annual meeting in April 2023.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m. and prayers of the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be were prayed before leaving.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Gardner, Secretary. Zdar Boh!

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 14

(Continued from page 4)

We will be looking for members in the area to help with dinner delivery.

- President Watkins then explained that the Governance Committee has been meeting to review our bylaws to ascertain whether modifications or changes need to be recommended at the Convention.

- A discussion was held regarding the ability of attending wreath meetings via Zoom if a member is not able to physically be present. Arlene will discuss this with Wreath 22 President Pam Kuchta.

- Janice Moeller asked for prayers for her sister, Carol Bombich, who underwent surgery today. All extended their thoughts and prayers.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Cindy Walkowiak and seconded by Diane Moeller. The closing prayer was given by Dolly Lutz. President Watkins asked to include in our prayers our deceased members, especially Richard Jozwiak, Supreme Physical Directress Katie Swift's father, who recently passed. Zdar Boh! Respectfully submitted, **Cindy Walkowiak**, Group 14 Secretary



## CHRISTMAS IN SLOVAKIA

In Slovakia, Christmas celebrations begin with Advent (a period of four Sundays and weeks before Christmas). Many Slovaks are Roman Catholics so this is the start of the important spiritual preparations for Christmas. During Advent there are lots of preparations to be made for Christmas. This includes cleaning the house, baking, shopping and buying the Christmas tree. Carps are also sold on the streets from big tanks (carp is eaten in the main Christmas meal).

Slovaks also celebrate the St. Nicholas' day on December 6<sup>th</sup>, or as they call him, Mikuláš. He comes in the evening of December 5<sup>th</sup> and gives presents to well behaved children.

Christmas Eve is the most important day of the Christmas season. It is called "Štedrý deň" (translated as the Generous Day) and its actual evening is called "Štedrý večer" (translated as the Generous Evening). The Christmas season is called "Vianoce". If you want to wish Merry Christmas to your Slovak friends, remember the phrase "Veselé Vianoce."

Each region in Slovakia has different traditions when it comes to food. The Christmas supper has lots of courses including wafers - oplátky served with honey or garlic (for a good health), fish, potato salad and sauerkraut soup – kapustnica, with sausage, meat, dried mushrooms and sour cream. Every family has its own secret recipe and some might include unusual ingredients such as dried plums or even apples. In some regions, kapustnica is replaced by a mushroom soup – hubová polievka. Special poppy seed dumplings ("makové opekance" or "bobálky") are often served as a dessert. Poppy seed or walnut rolls and variety of cookies are a must during Christmas.

After supper it's not Santa who brings the present. It's Baby Jesus. A common tradition is that the children leave the room when Baby Jesus comes with the presents. When the gifts are placed under the Christmas tree, someone rings the bell. That's the cue children are waiting for. They dash to the Christmas tree to open the presents. The very next day other relatives get together to enjoy and create memorable memories.

Once dinner has been eaten and presents opened, people usually visit their close family or neighbors and exchange small gifts. Many people attend the Midnight Mass which is the busiest church service of the year.

In some region after dinner "koledníci and vinsovníci," (carolers and well wishers) would start to arrive. All the carolers and well wishers were always rewarded by pastries, food, bacon or some drink to keep them warm. Later they all went to Midnight Mass, preceded by some most beautiful Christmas carols. There are many Christmas carols that are specifically of Slovak origin and they are very colorful. They were sung in the church, the family circle or in different processions below windows, at the time of Nativity plays, processions with the cradle, the snake, and the star, the Three Wise Kings, procession from house to house, and so on.

December 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> people spent time with the closest family.

### CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

*Money or carp scale* – placed under the table cloth to multiply family wealth

*Garlic* – to ensure good health for the family – each family member should eat a clove

*Honey* – to ensure goodness and abundance (so everyone is nice and good and there is plenty of everything) – either eaten on thin wafers or the head of the family makes a honey cross on the forehead of each family member

*Apple* – to be cut horizontally in two halves – if the seeds form a star, it symbolizes happiness and good health for the family. If they form a cross, this means problems, illness or even death.

*Nuts* – to be thrown in each corner of the room or at least to be eaten during the Christmas dinner to ensure the abundance

*One extra plate* – you need to be prepared for an unexpected guest as a symbol of mercy and fellowship. It is also interpreted as a plate for deceased family members.

### TRADITIONS FROM THE PAST

Historically speaking, there was a number of other traditions connected to the Christmas Day which have not survived the test of time.

A female stranger could not enter the house as it would bring bad luck.

If a family needed to borrow something on this day, it was a bad sign as well.

Everyone tried to have their behavior under control on the Christmas day as it was believed that the way one behaves on this day, they will behave so the following year.

Who sneezed in the morning of the Christmas Day, would live up to high age.

If you broke something on this day, the shatters would bring bad luck.

One could not hang the freshly washed clothes on this day to dry, as the one to whom it belonged would die.

The Christmas cookies and bread had to be baked before the sunrise and once the dough was prepared, women touched the fruit trees with the hands that prepared the dough to make sure they will bring plenty of fruits.

Figurines of domestic animals were made from water and flour in order to make them prosper the year after (the tradition of baking ginger breads in shape of different animals is believed to be inherited from this custom).

You could not sweep the house because if you did, you would also sweep away dead souls from the house.







# KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik" - - December 2022



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!!!

Scarlett Monahan	12/12
Dominic Roman	12/15
Aiden James McCoy	12/15
Riana Hoeck	12/24



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



*The True Meaning Of Christmas*

<p>In todays' day and time, it's easy to lose sight, of the true meaning of Christmas and one special night.</p> <p>When we go shopping, We say "How much will it cost?" Then the true meaning of Christmas, Somehow becomes lost.</p> <p>Amidst the tinsel, glitter And ribbons of gold, We forget about the child, born on a night so cold.</p>	 <p>The children look for Santa In his big, red sleigh Never thinking of the child Whose bed was made of hay.</p> <p>In reality, When we look into the night sky, We don't see a sleigh But a star, burning bright and high.</p> <p>A faithful reminder, Of that night so long ago, And of the child we call Jesus, Whose love, the world would know.</p>
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~ Written by Brian K. Walters

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nubia\\_group/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nubia_group/)



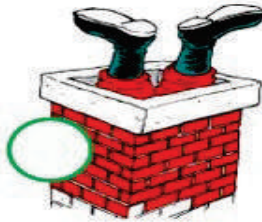


# KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik" - - December 2022

## CHRISTMAS VOCABULARY WORD SEARCH PUZZLE !

Find and circle the words in the word search puzzle and number the pictures

h	o	l	l	y	v	a	v	t	r	e	e	o	u	c
c	k	i	h	g	c	h	i	m	n	e	y	c	a	l
f	e	k	i	b	p	m	w	w	j	f	o	m	s	e
i	o	r	s	q	g	g	u	r	f	h	o	w	l	h
r	b	s	t	a	r	e	r	e	i	n	d	e	e	r
e	v	n	t	f	l	p	r	a	l	w	b	m	i	c
p	b	e	l	l	i	g	h	t	s	k	m	f	g	p
l	h	h	x	i	q	f	w	h	w	c	h	k	h	r
a	l	o	r	n	a	m	e	n	t	s	r	p	r	e
c	v	h	q	x	y	h	m	g	i	m	z	b	u	s
e	c	c	z	a	i	u	l	i	p	n	h	r	d	e
u	r	s	t	o	c	k	i	n	g	y	j	h	e	n
x	a	f	y	l	f	j	c	a	r	d	s	m	i	t
w	l	r	i	b	b	o	n	b	i	z	e	p	g	s
t	p	u	t	s	a	n	t	a	c	l	a	u	s	r



1. Santa Claus
2. tree
3. reindeer
4. sleigh
5. fireplace
6. stocking
7. presents
8. chimney
9. cards
10. ornaments
11. lights
12. bell
13. wreath
14. star
15. holly
16. ribbon





## KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik" - - December 2022

### The History of Santa Claus

Santa Claus, also known as Father Christmas or simply "Santa", is a figure which



comes from the Dutch figure of Sinterklaas. He is a historical, and legendary figure who in many Western cultures, is said to bring gifts to the homes of the good children during the late evening and overnight hours of Christmas Eve, December the 24th . The legend is based on

the tales concerning the historical figure of gift giver Saint Nicholas. While Saint Nicholas was originally portrayed wearing bishop's robes, today Santa Claus is described as a plump, jolly, white-bearded man wearing a red coat with white collar and cuffs, white-cuffed red trousers, and black leather belt and boots. This image became popular in the United States and Canada in the 19th century due to the influence of caricaturist and political cartoonist Thomas Nast. In the United Kingdom and Europe, he is identical to the American Santa Claus, but he is commonly called Father Christmas.



**Read the passage carefully and then answer the following questions:**

1. Where does Santa originate from?

---

2. What is the story behind the legendary figure?

---

3. Describe Santa Claus?

---

4. How did the image of Santa Claus become popular in the US & Canada?

---



## TRADITIONAL SLOVAK CHRISTMAS RECIPES

### BOBALKI (SLOVAK SWEET BREAD BALLS) RECIPE

For the Dough:

- 2 cups water
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 5 tablespoons canola oil, or butter
- 2 packages active dry yeast
- 6 cups all-purpose flour



For the Syrup:

- 1/2 cup poppy seeds
- 1/2 cup honey

In a medium saucepan, bring to boil the water, sugar, salt, and oil or butter. Cool to lukewarm. Meanwhile, dissolve yeast in 1 tablespoon sugar and 1/2 cup warm water. Place flour in the bowl of a stand mixer or a large bowl. Add lukewarm water-sugar-oil mixture and yeast-sugar-water mixture. Combine thoroughly and knead until smooth, about 7 minutes in the mixer and at least 10 minutes by hand. Cover and let rise until doubled. Punch down dough and turn out onto a lightly floured surface. Roll dough 1/2- to 1-inch thick and cut into pieces that will result in 1-inch balls when rolled between the palms of the hand. Place on a parchment-lined or well-floured cookie sheet with dough ball sides touching. Place on a cookie sheet. Let rise, covered with oiled plastic wrap until nearly doubled. Bake 15 to 20 minutes in preheated oven – 375 F or until lightly browned. Cool completely.

Grind poppy seeds in a mortar and pestle with a little water or milk and set aside. When the bobalki are cool, break the balls apart and place them in a colander. Pour just enough boiling water over bobalki to soften them but not turn them into mush. Drain well. Pour warm honey and ground poppy seeds over all. Stir lightly and serve immediately.

### SLOVAK SAUERKRAUT CHRISTMAS SOUP

- 1 (32 ounce) package sauerkraut, chopped
- 2 1/2 quarts chicken water
- 6 black peppercorns
- 4 bay leaves
- salt to taste
- 2 cups dried forest mushroom blend
- 3/4 pound Hungarian style dry paprika sausage
- 3/4 pound smoked ham
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons sweet Hungarian paprika
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup sour cream



Place the sauerkraut, chicken broth, peppercorns, bay leaves, salt and mushrooms into a large pot, and bring to a boil. Add the sausage and whole piece of ham. Let it simmer over medium heat for 1 1/2 hours. Remove the meat from the soup, and set aside. Remove bay leaves, and dis-

card. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the onion, and fry until clear. Sprinkle the flour and paprika over the onion; cook and stir for a minute. Gradually stir in the water with a fork so that no lumps form. Bring to a boil, and allow to thicken. Cube the sausage and ham, and stir into the soup. Bring to a boil, and cook for another 10 minutes. To serve, ladle into bowls, and top with a dollop of sour cream.

### POPPY SEED AND WALNUT ROLL

Poppy Seed Filling:

- 1/2 pound poppy seeds
- 3/4 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup hot milk
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice



Dough:

- 1/2 cup warm water (100 degrees F/38 degrees C)
- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 1 (.25 ounce) package active dry yeast
- 2 cups all-purpose flour, or more if needed
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup butter

1 large egg, separated - white reserved  
*Poppy filling:* Place poppy seeds into a food processor; process until seeds are ground, about 1 minute. Mix poppy seeds, 3/4 cup sugar, hot milk, 1 tablespoon melted butter, and lemon juice together in a bowl until combined; cover and refrigerate while making bread. The filling will set up and thicken as it chills.

*Walnut filling:* 3 cups walnuts, 3/4 cup sugar, hot milk as needed.

Make the bread: Pour warm water into a small bowl; add sugar and sprinkle yeast on top. Let stand until yeast softens and begins to form a creamy foam, about 5 minutes. Whisk flour and salt together in a bowl. Cut in butter with 2 knives or a pastry blender until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add yeast mixture and egg yolk; stir to make a soft dough. Turn dough out onto a floured work surface and knead until smooth and slightly springy, about 5 minutes. If dough is too sticky, knead in more flour, about 2 tablespoons at a time. Cut dough into 2 equal pieces. Roll each piece out into a 12x16-inch rectangle. Spread half of the poppy seed filling over each rectangle, leaving a 1-inch border. Fold the 1-inch border back over the filling on all sides and press down. Pick up the shorter side of a dough rectangle and roll it like a jelly roll. Pinch ends together or tuck ends under to prevent filling from leaking out. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper; place filled loaves seam-side down on the baking sheet and allow to rise in a warm place until doubled, about 1 hour. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Beat egg white in a bowl until frothy; brush loaves with beaten egg white. Bake in preheated oven until dark golden brown on top, 30 to 40 minutes. Remove loaves from the oven and cover with a clean kitchen towel until cool to keep crust soft.



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 7

(Continued from page 7)

A motion to accept the report was made by Heather Horvath and Seconded by Sue Horvath. All in Favor.

The New Motions Committee: Kim Graham, Sue Horvath and Fr. Andy Hvozdovic. The New Motions Report was presented by Fr. Andy Hvozdovic.

1. Recommend that all Group 7 officers will hold a four year term coinciding with the Convention rules.

2. Recommend that a donation be given to the parish of the annual meeting Mass. Amount of \$150.00.

3. Recommend the minutes of the meeting be submitted within 90 days of the meeting (per the bylaws) to be published in the Sokol paper.

4. Recommend to hold Sokol Day with all assemblies and wreaths supporting the event.

5. Recommend a donation of \$200.00 to the North End Slovak Citizen's Club for the use of the club for monthly meetings.

6. Recommend that the Group 7 logo be worn on all uniforms in group activities.

7. Recommend that the Group Physical Director and Directress make a report at the annual meeting and include the number of participants in each program throughout the year an event is held.

8. Recommend that a donation of \$100.00 be sent to the SCS Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of all deceased members of Group 7.

9. Recommend that a donation of \$150.00 be sent to the Slovak Catholic Federation at the time of the Annual Appeal (already sent in August 2022).

10. Recommend that the Group President send a letter quarterly to the Slovak Catholic Sokol Board of Directors wishing them a successful meeting on behalf of Group 7.

11. Recommend that we participate in Join Hands Day and in the PA March of Life Day in Harrisburg, PA (held in September of each year).

12. Recommend to support new events on all levels of the Slovak Catholic Sokols.

13. Recommend to explore new fundraising events for Group 7.

14. Recommend the group auditors conduct semi-annual audit to help with fiscal year compliance.

15. Recommend that a donation of \$100.00 be sent to the Sisters of Ss. Cyril & Methodius.

16. Recommend that a donation of \$50.00 to the St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen in honor of living and deceased members of Group 7.

17. Recommend that a donation of \$100 be made to the food collection "Day of the Poor" at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish.

18. Recommend to continue to adopt a "Families in Need" for Christmas when funds are available.

19. Recommend that a donation of \$100.00 to the celebrant of the Annual Meeting Mass.

20. Recommend annually clean and plant at the Fr. Murgas Memorial Gravesite in the Sacred Heart Cemetery.

21. Recommend that a donation of \$100.00 to St. Theresa's Fund at Gate of Heaven, Dallas for assistance with the Wyoming Valley Men's Homeless Shelter when funds are available.

22. Recommend that a donation of \$100.00 be made to the NE PA Societies for "Make a Difference Day" annually when funds are available. Fund for donation is selected annually. 2022 fund selected is "The Luzerne County Domestic Violence Center".

23. Recommend moving funds from general checking ac-

count to Sokol Secure Fund when funds are available.

A motion to accept the report was made by Gary Blasco and Seconded by Pam Lipski. All in Favor.

The Technical Board Report: (Marty Degnan, Heather Horvath, Dawn Palchanis, Kelly Palchanis and Rob Palchanis) Kelly Palchanis read the recommendations for the upcoming year.

- To prepare and send letters to all Assemblies and Wreaths to survey the groups to determine eligible participants for Slet.

- To send qualified participants for the upcoming Slet.

- To use available facilities for practices and social events, e.g., North End Slovak Club or other facilities available.

- To pay entrance fees for tournaments; continue to charge for t-shirts.

- To apply to headquarters for allotments for gymnastic/track coaches.

- To continue activities within the Group such as bowling, golf tournament and to award prizes.

- To continue to encourage the Parent's Club with fundraisers for the upcoming year.

- To have all background checks updated when necessary and for all new coaches.

- For the Group to purchase props for drilling for the upcoming year, this would also include sporting equipment and first aid supplies when needed.

- To order "pins" with Group 7 logo for all participants to wear at all events.

A motion to accept the report was made by Tony Rasimas and seconded by Sue Horvath. All in favor.

The Nominations Report was presented by Fr. Andy Hvozdovic. All current officer positions will remain under their four-year term (nominated in 2019).

Chaplain – Fr. Richard Cirba.

President – Amy Degnan Blasco (recommendation made to increase annual salary to \$200).

Vice President – Marty Degnan.

Financial Secretary/Treasurer – Open Position. Kim Graham resigned (recommendation made to increase annual salary to \$200.00).

Recording Secretary – Open Position. Kim Graham resigned.

Reporter – Pam Lipski.

Auditors (3) – Gary Blasco, Joe Hvozdovic Jr., Tony Rasimas.

Sports Director – Dawn Palchanis.

Assistant Sports Direct – Heather Horvath.

Physical Director – Matthew Malenovitch.

Assistant Physical Director – Kristopher Godlewski

Physical Directress – Kelly Palchanis.

Assistant Physical Directress – August Palchanis.

Historian – Frank Lipski.

A motion to close nominations and recommendations were made by Fr. Andy Hvozdovic and seconded by Tony Rasimas. All in Favor.

Old Business: Amy Degnan Blasco – no old business at this time.

New Business: Amy Degnan Blasco

There are a few items:

1. Annual Reunion – Will be changed to offsite event in early 2023, possibly a Penguins Hockey Game.

2. Families in Need for the Holidays – Donations will be made to Fr. Richard Cirba & Fr. Andy Hvozdovic's parish families in need. Heather Horvath donated her salary check as a donation.

3. Parent's Club – Dawn Palchanis - Treasurer's report as of October 2022, Balance in account is \$4,057.00. Will continue to

sell lottery tickets for fundraiser lottery.

4. Sokol Secure Fund – recommendation to transfer \$3,000 to the fund.

5. Christmas Flower Sale – orders must be placed by deadline November 23rd.

6. 2023 Annual Meeting - Date and time TBD.

7. 2023 Sokol Day – Date and time TBD.

8. Flowers to Past Officers – will send Thanksgiving flowers to past officers to brighten their day.

9. Technical Board – to look into local area activities/fundraisers to give back to the community and give the Group a presence.

10. 2023 Convention – August in Scranton, PA.

A motion to accept new business was made by Gary Blasco and seconded by Dawn Palchanis. All in Favor.

Good of the Order: Amy Degnan Blasco thanked everyone for helping throughout the year. No one had anything else to add.

Sue Horvath made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Kelly Palchanis. All in Favor.

Fr. Andy Hvozdovic closed the meeting with a prayer.

Zdar Boh!

**Kim Graham**, *Group 7 Recording Secretary*

## OBITUARIE

### MARIAN HELEN CAMPANELLI JULY 1, 1934 – JUNE 14, 2022

Marian Helen Campanelli (née Patrovic), age 87, from Waldwick, NJ, was called home to her Lord on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 surrounded by her loving family.



“Marianka” was born in Manhattan, NY on July 1, 1934 and has been a resident of Waldwick, NJ for the past 64 years. She was a long-time parishioner of St. Luke’s Roman Catholic Church in Ho-ho-

kus, NJ. Prior to retirement, Marian worked as a secretary.

She is survived by her four loving children, Susan Grein and her husband Michael, Jacqueline Campanelli, Joseph Campanelli, and Steven Campanelli and his wife Erica, all of Waldwick, The highlight of her life was her seven grandchildren, Maryanna Grein, Katrina Grein-Topken, Thérèse Grein, Juliana, Joseph, Jessica, and Jordyn Campanelli.

Marian was predeceased by her husband and best friend Joseph Campanelli who died on July 28, 2000. They were married on September 8, 1956 at St. John Nepomucene Roman



### OCTOBER 2022

ASSEMBLY/ WREATH	MEMBER	AGE	DATE OF DEATH
Assembly 1	George Vojta, Pittston, PA	85	October 19, 2022
Assembly 11	Gerald E. Ohnemus, Quincy, IL	92	September 13, 2022
Assembly 11	Vivian Pastiak, Homer Glen, IL	98	October 5, 2022
Assembly 11	Anita B. Goss, Joliet, IL	95	October 15, 2022
Assembly 16	Richard S. Suchy, Katy, TX	66	October 14, 2022
Assembly 24	Francis S. Zabriskie, Boonton, NJ	94	October 23, 2022
Assembly 25	Paul Shenal, Smock, PA	57	September 17, 2022
Assembly 59	Mary Ida Gilbert, Kingston, PA	76	September 28, 2022
Assembly 59	Stuart Fenner, Nanticoke, PA	58	October 3, 2022
Assembly 59	Karen E. Spagnola, Wilkes-Barre, PA	72	October 7, 2022
Assembly 59	Darlene Quartman, Williamsport, PA	68	October 11, 2022
Assembly 85	Elizabeth Fabry, Vandergrift, PA	98	September 18, 2022
Assembly 86	Anna C. Pierson, Pittston, PA	94	October 8, 2022
Assembly 104	Virginia Skundrich, Pittsburgh, PA	97	October 1, 2022
Assembly 108	Marta Ferenchak, Royal Palm Beach, FL	63	February 28, 2022
Assembly 162	William J. Stefkovich, Cedar Grove, NJ	61	October 23, 2022
Assembly 176	Mary Benden, Ellwood City, PA	97	October 16, 2022
Assembly 179	Andrew Skladany, North Braddock, PA	88	October 19, 2022
Assembly 188	Michael F. Jacobbauski, Van Nuys, CA	98	October 13, 2022
Assembly 188	Bonita Brobst, Slatington, PA	66	October 12, 2022
Assembly 188	Margaret LaRocco, Sugar Loaf, NY	88	October 14, 2022
Assembly 261	Robert S. Karabinos, Reading, PA	80	October 5, 2022
Assembly 305	Jeanette F. Kalisuch, Akron, OH	93	September 4, 2022
Assembly 261	Juanieta Lamey, Jersey Shore, PA	85	September 27, 2022
Assembly 312	Edward Vodhanel, Campbell, OH	91	September 18, 2022
Wreath 15	Edward J. Jendrasak, Allison Park, PA	85	October 3, 2022
Wreath 81	Raymond Kovach, Grass Valley, CA	87	December 31, 2021
Wreath 85	William A. Crabb, Coraopolis, PA	86	July 1, 2022
Wreath 93	Joseph Valent, Franklin, WI	80	October 7, 2022
Wreath 93	James K. Mutz, Cedarburg, WI	57	October 8, 2022

Catholic Church in New York, NY. She was also predeceased by her firstborn child whom the Lord called home at birth who affectionately became known as Mary. She was predeceased by her parents Peter and Anna Patrovic, her sister Emily Demetriou, and her brother William Patrovic.

Marian was a member of wreath 168 in New York City. She was very active in the Slovak Catholic Sokol as a young girl and participated in many athletic events. She won sev-

eral medals, including one from a Milwaukee, WI Slet in 1946.

Visitation for Marian was held on Monday, June 20, 2022 and a Funeral Mass was held on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at St. Luke’s Church with burial at St. Lukes’s Cemetery.

Marian was devoted especially to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Divine Mercy, the Blessed Mother and her Rosary, St. Anthony, and St. Dymphna. She will be remembered with the deepest love, affection, and admiration by her family and friends.



## TAKÝTO ÚSPECH SA NEPODARIL ŽIADNEMU SLOVENSKÉMU SERIÁLU: UVIDIA HO DIVÁCI V USA!

Slovenská Televízia JOJ pokračuje v úspešnom umietňovaní svojich seriálov do celého sveta. V novembri oznámila, že prémiová miniséria *Ultimátum* sa môže dostať do svetovej ponuky vďaka účasti na medzinárodnom televíznom veľtrhu. Teraz oznámila, že jej najdrahší seriál *Slovania* smeruje do USA! Je to prvýkrát, keď bude vysielaný slovensko-ukrajinský seriál za oceánom.



Seriál *Slovania* nakrútila televízia JOJ v slovensko-ukrajinskej koprodukcii, v produkčnom trojlístku spoločností Wandal Production, European Partnership Media Group a Slovenská produkčná. Tak veľkovýpravny seriál bol iba v slovenských podmienkach nerealizovateľný, no s podporou ukrajinského ministerstva kultúry sa ho

podarilo nakrútiť vo svetovej kvalite. Po tom, ako JOJ Group postúpila vysielacie práva na výpravny seriál *Slovania* platforme HBO Max, prichádza ďalšia kľúčová správa o ďalšom úspechu. Seriál si môžu americkí diváci pozrieť v ponuke streamovacích služieb Amazon FreeVee, Tubi a The Roku Channel od 8. novembra. „Je to prvý seriál u nás, ktorý mapuje obdobie Slovanov tak hlboko do minulosti a okrem toho je veľmi dobre napísaný. Mix všetkých týchto atribútov spolu s filmovou produkciou a kvalitou prevedenia z nášho seriálu robí veľmi žiadaný produkt. Seriál *Slovania* od začiatku vzbudzoval veľkú pozornosť nielen na Slovensku, ale aj v zahraničí a som veľmi rád, že prekročil naše hranice až do Ameriky,“ povedal Marcel Grega, generálny riaditeľ JOJ Group.

O práva na seriál *Slovania* majú záujem aj ďalšie streamovacie služby a sú predmetom rokovania vo viacerých európskych krajinách. JOJ Group tak pokračuje v úspešnom predaji vlastnej produkcie do zahraničia, pričom v posledných rokoch mali o ňu záujem nielen krajiny z Európy a Blízkeho východu, ale aj z Latinskej Ameriky.

Dobrodružný príbeh sa odohráva v 7. storočí nášho letopočtu, v čase pred spojením slovanských kmeňov. Hradiská Veľký stôl a Furnau v Karpatskej kotline majú dobré susedské vzťahy, príchod plieniacich kočovných kmeňov Avarov však pre všetkých znamená začiatok boja. Tento dvanásťdielny slovensko-ukrajinský seriál *Slovania*, ktorý sa nakrúcal v Žytomyri a v jeho okolí neďaleko Kyjeva, je fiktívnou rekonštrukciou historicko-dobrodružného príbehu.

## MEDZINÁRODNÝ VEDECKÝ SEMINÁR VENOVANÝ ŽIVOTU A DIELU ŠTEFANA BOLESLAVA ROMANA



V predchádzajúcom roku (2021) si Slováci doma i v zahraničí pripomenuli 100. výročie narodenia významného rodáka z Veľkého Ruskova (dnes Nový Ruskov) – Štefana Boleslava Romana. Dodnes málo poznané meno významného mecena slovenskej otázky v zahraničí, uránového kráľa a jedného z najbohatších mužov Kanady, sa zapísalo do slovenskej histórie najmä cez prizmu vzniku Svetového kongresu Slovákov (SKS). Tejto významnej exilovej organizácii krajanov, pôsobiacej v 70. a 80. rokoch minulého storočia, sa pripisuje zjednotenie politického exilu a spoločný boj za práva slovenského národa proti komunistickému režimu. Štefan B. Roman bol jej zakladateľom a dlhoročným predsedom.

V minulom roku Matica slovenská odhadila jeho prvú bustu na Slovensku – v Aleji národných dejateľov pred sídelnou budovou Matice slovenskej v Martine; natočila historický film venovaný jeho životu a dielu; vyvinula úsilie k vydaniu Romanových a Löblových ekonomických teórií na Slovensku – Zodpovedná spoločnosť (ktoré však stroskotali na neudelení licencie autorských práv od potomkov Romana) a založila Miestny odbor Matice slovenskej Š. B. Romana v Novom Ruskove, s cieľom trvalého udržiavania pamiatky Romana a osadenia jeho pamätníka. Matica mala v pláne usporiadať i spomienkový vedecký seminár, ktorý sa však pre pandemické obmedzenia neuskutočnil.

Svoje ambície naplnila v predvečer zasadania Rady pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí pri MS, 26. októbra 2022 a usporiadala medzinárodný vedecký seminár za prezenčnej účasti krajanov z Európy a virtuálnej účasti krajanov zo zámoria.

Pozvanie na podujatie prijali: Vladimír Skalský, predseda Svetového združenia Slovákov v Českej republike (Česko), Michal Spevák, st., prvý predseda obnovenej Matice slovenskej v Juhoslávii (Srbsko), Michal Spevák, ml., predseda spolku Čiernohorsko-slovenského priateľstva (Čierna Hora), Branislav Kulík, predseda Matice slovenskej v Srbsku (Srbsko), Branislav Slivka, bývalý predseda Matice slovenskej v Srbsku (Srbsko), Bohdan Kraus, zástupca Obce Slovákov v Českej republike (Česko), Ida Deskászová (zástupkyňa Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí zo Slovenska) a Pavol Demjanič (Slovenský historický ústav v Ríme, Slovensko). – **Zuzana Pavelcová, riaditeľka Krajského múzea MS**



## SLOVENSKÉ VIANOČNÉ RECEPTY

### LINECKÉ KOLIEČKA

600 g múka hladká  
300 g maslo  
200 g cukor práškový  
1 bal prášok kypriaci do pečiva  
1 bal cukor vanilkový  
2 ks nastrúhaný varený žltok  
2 ks vajcia  
štipka sol'



Všetky suroviny zmiešame a vymiesime hladké cesto, ktoré dáme do chladničky na 2 hodiny. Cesto rozdelíme na 3 kusy a rozvalkáme na hrúbku 4 milimetre. Dáme na plech a pečieme 12 minút v predhriatej rúre na 165 stupňov Celzia (330 F). Vy-chladnuté zlepíme lekvárom a poprášime va-nilkovým cukrom.

### MEDVEDIE LABKY

325 g hladká múka  
200 g práškový cukor  
200 g masla  
2 ks malé vajce  
60 g mleté orechy  
25 g kakao, trochu kypriaci prášok



Všetky suroviny zmiešame na nelepivé tuhé cesto, naplníme formičky a dáme piecť do predhriatej rúry na 150-180 stupňov C. Pečieme asi 10 minút. Z formičiek vyklápame ešte za horúca a hneď obalujeme v práškovom cukre.

### VANILKOVÉ ROŽTEKY

170 g hladká múka  
110 g maslo  
40 g práškový cukor  
50 g mleté orechy  
1 balíček vanilkový cukor



práškový a vanilkový cukor na obalovanie

Zo všetkých surovín vypracujeme cesto, ktoré zabalíme a odložíme na dve hodiny do chladničky. Potom cesto vyberieme a rukami postupne z neho odoberáme kúsky, z ktorých urobíme rožteky, ktoré ukladáme na plech vystlaný papierom na pečenie. Pečieme ich vo vyhriatej rúre pri teplote 150°C (300 F) asi 12 minút. Po upečení ich hneď obalíme v zmesi práškového a vanilkového cukru.

### MEDOVNÍČKY

280 g hladká múka  
140 g práškový cukor  
70 g mleté orechy  
3 ks vajce  
80 g zmäknuté maslo  
1 kávová lyžička mletá škorica  
1 kávová lyžička sóda bikarbóna



Do misy nasypeme múku, sódu bikarbónu, práškový cukor, mleté orechy, pridáme med, dve vajčka, zmäknuté maslo a mletú škoricu. Rukami spracujeme tuhšie cesto, ktoré uložíme na hodinu do chladničky. Rúru medzitým vyhrejeme na 180°C (360 F) a plechy vystelieme papierom na pečenie. Z cesta tvarujeme guľky, ktoré potrieme rozšľahaným vajíčkom a pečieme cca 15 minút. Upečené medovníčky sú mäkké a krásne voňavé.

## KRÁTKE SPRÁVY ZO SLOVENSKA



Ceny nehnuteľností za bývanie na Slovensku už citelne spomaľujú. „Pri pohľade na jednotlivé mesiace pozorujeme náznaky postupného obratu v cenovom vývoji, obzvlášť viditeľné v Bratislavskom kraji,“ hodnotí nové dáta Národnej banky Slovenska jej analytik Roman Vrbovský. Čísla medzi letom a jeseňou hovoria o náraste cien bytov a domov iba o 1,6 percenta. Skoro sa tak zastavil. Priemerná cena rezidenčných nehnuteľností tak vyskočila na 2 714 eur za štvorcový meter. Priemerná cena bytov je 2982 eur, priemerná cena domov je 2021 eur. V porovnaní s minulým rokom však ceny narástli o skoro 22 percent. Byty narástli o 24 percent za rok, domy narástli medziročne o 12,5 percenta.

Štatistický úrad informoval, že priemyselná produkcia v septembri 2022 medziročne klesla o 1,9 %, tempo poklesu však bolo nižšie ako v júli či v jarných mesiacoch. Medzimesačne, po zohľadnení sezónnych vplyvov, sa priemyselná produkcia znížila o 0,8 %. Z údajov, ktoré v novembri zverejnil Štatistický úrad vyplýva aj to, že zamestnanosť na Slovensku klesla v septembri až v polovici z desiatich sledovaných odvetví. Najviac zasiahnutý bol priemysel a veľkoobchod.

Za podporu a pomoc ukrajinským utečencom zo strany mesta sa 14. novembra v Košiciach poďakoval nový veľvyslanec USA v SR Gautam Rana. Veľvyslanec zároveň vyzdvihol činnosť Amerického centra v Košiciach, ktoré pôsobí v budove Štátnej vedeckej knižnice na Hlavnej ulici a je súčasťou celosvetovej siete American Spaces. Veľvyslanec Rana poukázal na možnosti študovania i cestovania v Spojených štátoch. K jeho prioritám patrí rozvoj obchodných a podnikateľských vzťahov. V tejto súvislosti označil Košice za slovenské Silicon Valley s početnými technologickými firmami a možnosťami rozvoja vzťahov s americkými partnermi.

Spotrebiteľské ceny tovarov a služiebna Slovensku v októbri 2022 medzimesačne poskočili o 1,2 % a priemerná úroveň zdražovania z mesiaca na mesiac v tomto roku je 1,3 %. Medziročne inflácia od januára minulého roka bez prestávky rastie a momentálne s hodnotou 14,9 % dosahuje najvyššie hodnoty od začiatku milénia. Informoval o tom Štatistický úrad (ŠÚ) SR. Najväčší vplyv na celkovú infláciu majú dynamicky rastúce ceny v dvoch odboroch - potraviny s nealko nápojmi a bývanie s energiami, ktoré tvoria takmer polovicu výdavkov domácností. Potraviny boli aktuálne medziročne drahšie o 26,8 % aj nealkoholické nápoje rástli dvojciferným tempom už štvrtý mesiac. Vyššie ceny v odbore doprava dlhodobo podporované najmä drahšími pohonnými látkami v októbri mierne znížili dynamiku nárastu v porovnaní s minulým rokom na 20,4 %. Index spotrebiteľských cien sa v októbri 2022 medziročne zvýšil za domácnosti zamestnancov o 14,6 %, za nízko príjmové domácnosti o 15,5 %, za domácnosti dôchodcov o 16,4 %. V súhrne za desať mesiacov roku 2022 sa spotrebiteľské ceny medziročne v priemere zvýšili o 12,2 % (za domácnosti zamestnancov o 12,1 %, za nízko príjmové domácnosti o 12,4 %, za domácnosti dôchodcov o 13,3 %).



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## **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>

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.

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