

*Za Boha a národ*

*For God and Nation*

# Slovak Catholic Falcon

## Slovenský katolícky sokol

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### *STS. CYRIL & METHODIUS MEMORIAL - FEBRUARY 14*



## MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPREME PRESIDENT LARRY M. GLUGOSH



I hope this message finds our members and officers doing well and managing the difficult weather we have all been experiencing over the past several weeks, especially for those living in the mid-west. In years past, much of the bad winter weather would originate in the Canadian north but lately our storms are coming from areas like Texas. Regardless, let's hope we see some less severe temperatures in the coming weeks.

Despite our challenging weather, I was happy to arrive safely and attend my first official meeting as your newly elected Supreme President in Pittsburgh, PA. The meeting was the 2024 Supreme Physical Fitness Board meeting and held on January 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. It was a successful weekend and the newly elected board came forward with some good new ideas to help build back our fraternal benefit program. I hope you will participate in their new activities and bring back some former members that have to joined our events over the past few years for a variety of reasons.

I would like to take a moment to thank our outgoing Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Brother Jim Matlon and his Assistant Brother Frank Laury. Jim and Frank led the board for the past 8 years and did a solid job running our fraternal events and maintaining a focus on our program, especially during the most difficult time a few years ago due to COVID -19. I wish you both the best in the future and look forward to working with Brother Jim for the next four years, as a member of the Board

of Directors.

As we enter February, I certainly hope you will find some time to begin your spiritual reflect during the Lenten season. We often experience busy and stressful daily life schedules, which can sometimes make us unaware of the many wonderful blessings we have around us. Our family and friends should be our foundation, however, they sometimes play a secondary role to seemingly more important issues such as our work, social commitments and household duties that never seem to get done. This year Lent will begin early on February 14<sup>th</sup> which is also the feast day of St. Valentine. According to history, he was a clergyman during the Roman Empire and ministered to Christians that had been persecuted. He was buried on the 14<sup>th</sup> and we have celebrated his life, over the past thousand years.

So again, I hope you will take some quality time to reflect on your many blessings and share good thoughts, deeds and words with those in your life. I firmly believe we should share more quality time with our loved ones and those in need during this special time of the year. After all, they are individuals, who constantly give us strength, purpose and meaning each and everyday. We should let them know how important and special they are in our lives and never take them for granted. We never know when we might lose the privilege and opportunity to share these special moments and memories with them.

In addition to giving thanks and sharing more quality time with our loved ones, the Season of Lent also provides us the unique opportunity to "give up or sacrifice" something we truly enjoy. This could be

(Continued on page 22)

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**FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY**  
**SCOTT T. POGORELEC, F.I.C.**  
**PLAN AHEAD!**



Greetings from the Home Office! I am fairly sure it is because I am getting old, but these cold temperatures are starting to wear on me and making me yearn for the spring and summer ahead! Thankfully, the snow has been limited, but the potential is always there. In looking ahead, I hope all our members are getting ready for our upcoming 2024 fraternal schedule.



In preparation for our 2024 Fraternal Events, I had the pleasure of attending our Physical Fitness Board Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA on January 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>. Our Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh, Past President and Supreme Treasurer, Michael Horvath, and I were honored to be there sharing in the energy and excitement of the meeting. Many thoughts and ideas were exchanged, and I commend our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen S. Watkins, and our entire Physical Fitness Board for a well-run and efficient meeting. Our SPFB has begun to try to “look outside the box” in producing events that can positively engage our membership. The effort is there, but we will need your help!

We will need the cooperation and passion of our Members. As many of you know, hosting our fraternal activities is both time-consuming and costly. To justify these programs, we need to have the full and enthusiastic cooperation at our Groups, Assemblies, and Wreaths. We need your help to promote our various athletic programs within your own local Assembly or Wreath. Our local branches are the heart and soul of our fine Organization. Active and vibrant lodges are imperative to facilitate interest at our national events and are the cornerstone to the fraternal benefit system. Please take the time to attend a Lodge or Group meeting and promote these wonderful activities. Let

us look at what is on our calendar!

Our SPFB planned a Myrtle Beach trip for our members that includes a discounted price to attend during the first weekend in March. If you enjoy golf, the beach, and fraternalizing with fellow Sokols, this trip is for you. If you have any questions, please contact our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen S. Watkins, and she would be glad to help you.

For our loyal Sokol keglers, we have announced that our 78<sup>th</sup> International Bowling Tournament will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> in Pittsburgh, PA at Bowlero Pittsburgh. I hope our devout regulars and some fresh faces will join us as we celebrate this great weekend.

August will also give our avid Sokol golfers a chance to polish off their clubs and join us for the 69<sup>th</sup> International Golf Tournament held at Treasure Lake Golf Course in Dubois, PA on August 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see both old and new faces on the links!

Also, throughout the year, our SPFB has planned various virtual events that will allow our members to connect with each other from the comforts of their own home. Please log on to one of these events and you will be sure to have an enjoyable time.

As you can see, we have a busy year ahead of us. Mark your calendars and make it a point to be a part of these wonderful activities. If anyone has any questions regarding our sports programs, please contact our Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen S. Watkins, [kathyw323@gmail.com](mailto:kathyw323@gmail.com). You can also give me a call at the Home Office or email me at [scott@slovakcatholic-sokol.org](mailto:scott@slovakcatholic-sokol.org), and I will be glad to assist you.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Valentine’s Day, especially my three Valentines, Maggie, Reid Thomas, and Cole William! Until next time, stay safe, stay strong, and STAY POSITIVE!

Zdar Boh!

**Sokol Calendar**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

The Milwaukee **FASIANGY (PRE-LENTEN DANCE)** sponsored by Slovak League, Assembly 20 at 1:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church Hall, 917 N. 49<sup>th</sup> Street Milwaukee, WI. Slovak food and bakery will be available. A live band will provide music. The Tatra Slovak Dancers will have a performance at 3:00 p.m. Donation is \$5.00 per person. For more information, contact our Betty at 414-425-6137 or Ellen at 262-893-7483.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

**ASSEMBLY 59, WILKES-BARRE, PA** will hold its **2024 ANNUAL MEETING** on at the North End Slovak Citizens Club, North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA at 6:30 p.m. in the Club’s meeting room. After the meeting those attending will be treated to snacks and beverages. Assembly 59 members interested in attending the meeting should register with one of the Assembly’s officers.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

**GROUP 2 MEETING.** Mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church at 10 a.m. Lunch and meeting to follow at the convent. RSVP: 203-335-0418 or 203-209-1536.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 2**

**ASSEMBLY 11 ANNUAL MEETING** at the home of Financial Secretary Therese M. Buc, 9024 Del Prado Drive, Palos Hills, Illinois, beginning at 2 p.m. If you plan to attend please call Assembly 11 President Joe Seliga at (312) 342-8292.

**SUNDAY APRIL 7**

**SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 6 MSGR. ANDREW HLINKA** (Perryopolis) at 1:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse Grille (Cedarbrook Golf Course), Rostraver, PA. Reservations must be made by Monday, March 18. Please contact Terri Gardner at 724-929-8675 or Anna Mae Warnick at 724-736-4032.

**SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON PUBLICATION DATE**

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

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

# MINUTES OF THE SUPREME BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING

## Sunday, December 3, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

After a beautiful mass given by my Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S HvozdoVIC, Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, Called to Order the Quarterly Meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 3, 2023, and greeted all the members.

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

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

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

Supreme Chaplain..... Rev. Andrew S. HvozdoVIC  
Supreme President..... Michael J. Horvath  
Supreme Vice-President..... Edward D. Moeller  
Supreme Secretary..... Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C.  
Supreme Treasurer..... James F. Knis  
General Counsel..... John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq.  
Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics James C. Matlon  
Supreme Physical Directress ..... Katie Swift  
Supreme Physical Director ..... Martin Degnan

The record will show nine members of the Board of Directors are in attendance, with Chairperson of the Supreme Auditors, James G. Jerek, being excused.

Acknowledged

President Horvath informed the Board that they all have received the **Minutes** from our last Board meeting held on September 21, 2023, and published in the November 1, 2023, issue of the Slovak Catholic Falcon. Brother President entertained a motion for their acceptance, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq, seconded by Supreme Physical Director, Martin Degnan.

Approved (One abstain, Edward D. Moeller)

The Supreme President asked our Supreme Secretary if there were any **Communications**.

Brother Secretary informed the Board that there was one communication from Group 7 President, Amy Blasco, wishing the Board well on their deliberations.

Acknowledged

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

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

Several questions were presented and addressed to the satisfaction of the Board and President Horvath thanked Brother Secretary for presenting the report. President Hor-

vath then asked for a motion to accept the report, so moved by Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. HvozdoVIC, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon.

Approved

President Horvath called on the Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, for the **Physical Fitness Board Report**.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter report is the summation of 2023 activities and accomplishments of the Physical Fitness Board.

- 77<sup>th</sup> International Bowling Tournament, May 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> in Buffalo, NY
- 50<sup>th</sup> International Slet, July 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> at Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA. Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift, gave a summary of the Slet and an update to the future events.
- 68<sup>th</sup> International Golf Tournament, August 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, Kennsington & Flying B, Golf Courses, Canfield, OH

The Golf Financial Report will be completed when the 11 Championship shirts are finished and mailed out to the winners. All of the pictures taken and tournament results for the Bowling Tournament, the 50<sup>th</sup> International Slet and Golf Tournament are posted on the Slovak Catholic Sokol web site.

The Supreme Physical Fitness Board Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Pittsburgh, PA.

Sites that are confirmed for our 2024 Sports Program:

- May 17-18, 2024 Bowling Bowlero Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- August 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Golf Treasure Lake Resort, DuBois, PA

After a brief discussion, Brother President entertained a motion to accept the report, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller.

Approved

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

Counsel reported that there are two items to report on:

1. Brother Counsel informed the Board that he assisted the Supreme President, Supreme Secretary, and members of the Bylaw Committee in completing the final draft of the Constitution and Bylaws.
2. Brother John also reported on the sale of the print shop connected to the Home Office. A date has been set by the City of Passaic for final approval. The Supreme Secretary and General Counsel will update the Board accordingly.

After a lengthy discussion about the above items, President Horvath entertained a motion to approve the report, so moved by Supreme Treasurer, James F. Knis, sec-

ended by Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift.

Approved

President Horvath called upon Mr. Thomas Calimano and Ms. Cynthia Cole, PNC Institutional Asset Management, for the **Investment Report**.

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

Brother Calimano and Sister Cole addressed various questions from the Board concerning our performance outlook and they indicated the Society is weathering this volatile fiscal environment to the best of their ability.

The Board members thanked Mr. Calimano and Ms. Cole and President Horvath entertained a motion to accept the report, so moved by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon, seconded by Supreme Treasurer, James F. Knis.

Approved

Brother President began discussion about the **declaration of a dividend** for the year 2023 to be distributed during 2024. The 2022 dividend declaration issued in 2023 was up to \$50,000.00.

After a brief discussion, General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., moved that a dividend be declared for the year 2023 for up to \$50,000.00 payable in 2024 for all qualifying certificates, seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, James C. Matlon.

Approved

Brother President questioned the Board on the Annuity Interest Rates for January 1, 2024. After a lengthy discussion, the Board mutually agreed to keep the rates at their current level.

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

Brother Secretary informed the Board that the 2024 First Quarterly Meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on April 6, 2024, in Passaic, NJ at the Home Office.

Acknowledged

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

Supreme Vice-President, Edward D. Moeller, thanked the delegates of the 34<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Convention for voting him as an Honorary Supreme Officer, but at this time, he is declining the appointment.

Acknowledged

Having completed all the business on the agenda, Supreme President, Michael J. Horvath, entertained a **motion to adjourn**, so moved by General Counsel, John D. Pogorelec, Jr., Esq., seconded by Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics.

Approved

Supreme Chaplain, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic, led the Board in a **closing prayer**. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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

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

### GREAT THINGS YOU CAN DO THIS LENT

Ash Wednesday (February 14<sup>th</sup>) marks the beginning of Lent, the 40 days of preparation for the Easter season when Christians are called to deepen their spiritual lives through the practices of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. The belief is that our consistent participation in these practices — like exercise we do for our physical health — improves our spiritual well-being by stripping away all that is unnecessary and becoming more mindful of how God is working in our lives. Challenge yourself this year and go beyond the usual practice of “giving up” something. Now is a great time to take stock of your spiritual life and to grow in it.



Not sure where to start? Check out these suggestions:

Make a commitment to read the Sunday scriptures before Sunday Mass. In the same way that reading up on football players, opposing teams, and coaching strategies will help you experience a game more fully, familiarizing yourself with the readings ahead of time will help you experience them in a deeper way on Sunday.

Use Busted Halo's Lent Calendar, filled with Lenten-themed Daily Jolts and MicroChallenges to find new ways to practice the disciplines of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Each day of Lent, we'll offer an inspirational quote paired with a practical, challenging task that you can do that day to help keep your spiritual life on point. You can also find these challenges on our website, or when you follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

Try a new spiritual practice. Sign up for an hour of Eucharistic Adoration. Experience Mass at a parish that's made up of people from a different racial/ethnic group. Sign up for a silent retreat or spend at least one hour in silent meditation each weekend.

Think about what you usually spend your money on. Do you buy too many clothes? Spend too much on dinner out? Pick one type of expenditure that you'll “fast” from during Lent, and then give the money you would usually spend to a local charity.

Take something on — 40 days of letter writing, 40 acts of kindness, 40 phone calls to the important people in your life. Go to (or watch) a weekday Mass one day during the week. Many parishes offer them early in the morning, at noon, or after work. Daily Masses are often more intimate and shorter than Sunday Mass.

Buy a book of daily reflections and keep it by your bed. Local parishes often offer these for purchase during Lent, and there are some good ones available online. Try the Magnificat or a book by Edward Hays.

Make a commitment to fast from insensitive, cruel comments about others. So, no gossiping.

Pray for somebody. As you're walking the streets, driving the highways, or waiting for a meeting to start, pick out a person who appears to be in need and pray for that person. Be mindful of the words of philosopher Philo of Alexandria, who said, “Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a great battle.”

## NEW BEGINNINGS – NEW IDEAS

That was the theme for the January Annual Supreme Physical Fitness Board Meeting. And as everyone knows and realizes, change is not an easy thing to accomplish when people don't want or necessarily think a change is needed. They're comfortable with the way things are, like an old cozy sweater on a cold winter day. But eventually and inevitably because times change, the way that we do certain things has to evolve with the times.

Because of all the advancements in society, including with technology, if we as an organization wish to remain relevant and vibrant, we need to adapt and implement changes also.

As I'm sure you'll see in the next few months, the Fitness Board will be



rolling out some new opportunities to connect with your Sokol friends and stay in touch. Sure, the regular activities will continue such as Bowling and Golf Tournaments and the Walking Program. But in the hopes of attracting more members to participate the Board has a few new ideas which we hope you will enjoy. These new ideas will be introduced by Sister Kathy Watkins our new Sports Directress. I'm not one to spill the beans, but she's laid out an interesting schedule of events that I'm sure will get your interest and hopefully get you more involved. As always if there are any ideas or suggestions that you'd like to add, she'll be more than happy to listen to your ideas.

But as we discussed at our meeting, we can suggest all the new ideas that we want but the success of the proposals we laid out depend on the members being engaged and involved. No, you don't need to take part in ev-

ery thing, just what interests you. Do you have to even participate at all? Of course not, but we as a Board hope that you'll at least check out one or two to see if it catches your attention. We've tried to include all the ages that make up our organization and have made programs from the young to the senior members.

I'm sure that there are quite a few members out there that have known me for a while and know how I sometimes feel about changes. I'm probably one of those people that resist until they involuntarily succumb to the way things must go forward. Not that there's anything wrong with doing things the way they've always been done. I still go out every Christmas and hunt down a tree to put up. I dye Easter eggs every year even if I don't need to. But during discussions at our meeting, I found myself feeling motivated because it is something brand new. Change can be scary but it's not something we should be afraid of.



Front row (l-r): Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member Janice Matlon, Supreme Asstant Physical Directress Nancy Kropolinsky, Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics Kathleen Watkins, Supreme Physical Directress Katie Swift, Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member Kristen Popik. Back row: Supreme Asst. Director of Sports and Athletics Robert R. Palchanis III, Supreme President Larry M. Glugosh, Supreme Physical Director Dusan Dorich, Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member Zack Manyak, Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member Christopher Antosy, Supreme Asstant Physical Director Marty Degnan, Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec.

Zdar Boh!  
**Marty Degnan**  
*Supreme Assistant  
 Physical Director*

### WALKING PROGRAM

Walking Program Miles are due by February 20<sup>th</sup>. Participants should send the miles to Nancy Kropolinsky either through email:

[kropolinskynancy@gmail.com](mailto:kropolinskynancy@gmail.com)

Or mail:

Nancy Kropolinsky  
 1853 Wingate Rd.  
 Youngstown, Ohio 44514

**Nancy Kropolinsky**  
*Supreme Assistant  
 Physical Directress*



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 16 HELD IN STERLING HEIGHTS, MI – NOVEMBER 11, 2023

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

He began the meeting with an announcement of the sad and sudden passing of our current acting President, Andrea Papcun. John explained that he would dutifully fulfill his obligation of the Vice President, which, in accordance with SCS By Laws, that he, in the event of the President's absence, would conduct the business of the meeting. Accordingly, acting President John Papcun submitted the following Agenda:

Call to Order of Meeting  
Prayer  
Opening Statement  
Roll Call of Officers  
Review and Approval of Prior Year Minutes  
Group Officers Reports  
Assembly Officer Reports  
Old Business  
New Business

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.

John Papcun presented his opening remarks. He started out by noting that this day would open a new chapter for Group 16. With the untimely passing of our President Andrea Papcun. He noted how Andrea had served admirably for many years with much dedication and enthusiasm. John then pointed out a memorial table set up in her memory as a moment of silence was observed. John also made note of this day of our meeting November 11<sup>th</sup> is Veteran's Day, and as such, John and his wife Sharon had assembled an additional table in honor of all Group members, past and present, that had served their country in the armed services. The opening remarks also made note that the meeting will include the nomination and election of officers, of which all positions would be up for reelection.

The opening remarks were followed by an Officer Roll Call which noted the attendance of the following:

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

Also in attendance were at large members Donald Papcun, Beth Penxa and Ron Gallik Jr.

Officer Reports, as well as Assembly/ Wreath President Reports, were subsequently submitted. Highlights of each Officer Reports are here noted:

Vice President John Papcun:

John began with his acknowledgment as acting Presi-

dent, and expressed his interest of continuing in this capacity, if so nominated and elected with the vote of the members. The year's activities were highlighted by the fine and relentless work of Beth Penxa in support of the Gianna House Project in Detroit, which was highlighted in the August edition of the National Publication of the SCS Falcon. John made mention of his attendance to the 34th Quadrennial Convention in Scranton PA, along with fellow delegates Sharon Papcun, Andrea Papcun and Mark Papcun. Also noted was that the Group had four members participate in the SCS National Annual Golf Tourney. No members bowled in the 2023 Annual Bowling Tournament. He encouraged all members, to the extent possible, to continue participation in these type of fraternal events.

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 15, 2022. 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.

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.

(Continued on page 9)

## \$62,000 IN S.C.S. SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE MEMBERS IN 2024

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 2024. Previous recipients of Slovak Catholic Sokol scholarship grants may reapply for a 2024 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](http://www.slovakcatholicsokol.org)

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

Andrea Tadlock  
Supreme Vice-President  
Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee  
vp@slovakcatholicsokol.org

### **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 31, 2024**

**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 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 webmaster, we have redesigned the application process and you should find it to be much more user friendly. You will find the on-line application on our website at [www.slovakcatholiccsokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholiccsokol.org) beginning December 1, 2023.

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.

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

### **3. SUBMIT ALL REQUIRED ELEMENTS PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE**

The application is clear and I just want to prevent a waste of your time and energy. Failure to include/complete any of the above items will result in the application being disqualified. To be honest, it is not easy for our committee when we need to disqualify applicants for simple yet important missing requirements.

Lastly, apply for all college scholarships for which you qualify in order to give yourself the best chance at receiving something.

There were several applicants who limited themselves to a particular scholarship. Competition was fierce for the larger \$ scholarships, but there seems to be more opportunity with the other scholarship offerings.

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

Good luck and Zdar Boh!

**Andrea Tadlock**

*Supreme Vice-President*

*Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee*

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## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 16**

(Continued from page 7)

The meeting Proceeded with New Business

New Officers were Elected as follows:

President: John Papcun

Vice President: Stephen Papcun

Secretary: Sharon Papcun

Treasurer: Laverne Eland

Sports Director: Beth Penxa

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

Donations designations as follows:

Giana House #16: \$200.

Samaritan House: 100

Current Year Activities noted as follows:

50<sup>th</sup> Slet; Attended by John and Sharon Papcun & Beth Penxa

Quadrennial Convention: Mark and Andrea Papcun; John and Sharon Papcun

2024 Planned Activities:

Hands Accross America (May 2024)

Sokol Walking Program (January 2024)

Summer Reading Program

Email Initiative

Holiday Packages

Group 16 Facebook Page.

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. Future minutes to be submitted by newly elected Secretary Sharon Papcun.

# 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, 2024** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

Application is also available on the Internet @

[www.slovakcatholicsokol.org](http://www.slovakcatholicsokol.org)

### DISQUALIFICATION

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

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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

### RETURN OF GRANT

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



## 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 2023-2024 school year.

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

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF THIS APPLICATION IS MARCH 31, 2024.** 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).

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

### 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, 2024** with a clear, small (2"x3" wallet size) head and shoulders photograph.

### 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 2023-2024 school year.

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

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF THIS APPLICATION IS MARCH 31, 2024. Return completed application to:  
SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL, 205 MADISON ST., P.O. BOX 899, PASSAIC, NJ 07055**



## KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

### February 2024

#### Saints Cyril and Methodius "The Apostles of the Slavs"

Brothers, Cyril and Methodius were born in Thessalonica, Greece in the 9<sup>th</sup> Century. Many Slavs lived in Thessalonica, and the brothers learned the Slavic language growing up. Coming from a devout Catholic family they eventually were ordained, became missionaries, and were sent to preach the Gospel to the Slavic people.

The brothers' compassion for the Slavs encouraged them to preach and to perform the liturgy in Slavic. The unorthodox use of Slavic during the Mass at that time made some clergy angry, and Cyril and Methodius had to defend their actions. Their love of God and compassion for the Slavic people enabled them to defend their methods. They were encouraged to continue the use of Slavic in the liturgy.

Cyril had a love of language. While translating the Gospel for the Slavic people, Cyril developed a new alphabet, Glagolitic. The alphabet became the basis for the Cyrillic alphabet used today in Russia.

Methodius became a bishop and continued preaching to the Slavic people. Cyril died before he was to be consecrated a bishop.

Because of their love for God and teaching the Gospel to the Slavic people, the brothers are considered the "Apostles of the Slavs." Their feast day is February 14<sup>th</sup>.



Learn more about SS. Cyril and Methodius at [https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=85](https://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=85)



#### Happy Birthday to You!

Joseph Phillips	2/12
Riley Slonac	2/23
Aiden Ahem	2/23
Mackenzie Ahem	2/23
Lauren Martyak	2/28





# KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

February 2024



## Color Time!!



SS. Cyril and Methodius Day  
February 14<sup>th</sup>



**Saint Cyril**



**Saint Methodius**



visit [twinkl.com](https://www.twinkl.com)





# KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

## February 2024

**Lenten Season**  
February 14 to March 28

### Lent Word Search

N Y S S Q O S A I Q S Q S E G  
 A M R S F C A L L W P G I B H  
 D E N I A L C S Y B O O M L L  
 O J G M V R R R A M N O O A Y  
 X M Q U J K I V L B T D N S O  
 F P A B Z N F D M E I F S T N  
 J O V S K P I C S T U R Q S F  
 C Y R N H Y C Y G R S I R U F  
 C J O T P E E C I A P D I P A  
 R P B N Y Q S O V Y I A S P S  
 O E C Q L D W O I A L Y E E T  
 S T B W O G A A N L A V N R Q  
 S E I D V V O Y G P T S C R W  
 R R K L E D F I S J E S U S J  
 P A L M S S R O O S T E R Z Z

ALMSGIVING  
 ASHES  
 BETRAYAL  
 CROSS  
 DENIAL  
 FAST

FORTY DAYS  
 GOOD FRIDAY  
 JESUS  
 LAST SUPPER  
 LOVE  
 PALMS

PETER  
 PONTIUS PILATE  
 RISEN  
 ROOSTER  
 SACRIFICE  
 SIMON



### Family Time Preparing for Lent



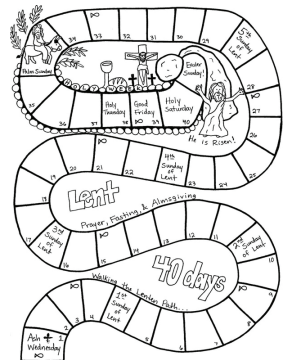
Lent is the 40-day period of prayers, fasting and almsgiving from Ash Wednesday to sundown on Holy Thursday. It is the time to prepare for the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is a special time for the whole family to prepare for Easter. A fun activity before Lent begins is to create a family Lenten calendar where the family can plan their activities from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday.

Some Lenten activity ideas that you and your family can plan for are:

- Prayer time
- Lenten meal menus for Ash Wednesday and Fridays.
- Alms collecting days
- Charity and volunteering days
- Attending Station of the Cross Services
- Holy Week activities

**What are your ideas to prepare for the resurrection?**



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 7

Sunday, November 5, 2023 – St. Robert Bellarmine Parish/St. Aloysius Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Group 7 “Rev. Joseph Murgas” held its 2023 annual meeting on Sunday, November 5, 2023, at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre, PA. A Mass to celebrate the Liturgy and remember the living and deceased members of Group 7 was celebrated by Fr. Richard Cirba at 11:00 a.m.

A luncheon and the meeting were held immediately following Mass.

Amy Degnan Blasco called the meeting to order at 12:50 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 Frank Lipski, Recording Secretary.

There were 10 officers present (Amy Degnan Blasco, Gary Blasco, Fr. Richard Cirba, Marty Degnan, Heather Horvath, Pam Lipski, Dawn Palchanis, Kelly Palchanis, Frank Lipski, Tony Rasimus); 3 excused (Joe Hvozdic Jr., Matthew Malenovitch, August Palchanis) for a total of 13 officers. There were also 4 delegates (Sue Horvath, Fr. Andrew Hvozdic, Rob Palchanis, Jennifer Kuren).

Amy Degnan Blasco described the events of 2022-2023 year-to-date which included the 34<sup>th</sup> Quadrennial Convention in Scranton PA in August 2022, the Annual Meeting held in November 2022 at the NE Slovak Club and the Annual 87<sup>th</sup> Sokol Day held in Plains in September 2023. 50<sup>th</sup> International Slet in July in Kutztown PA. Assembly 59 Butch Hvozdic Memorial Golf Tournament. Joining Hands cleaning & planting flowers at Sacred Heart Cemetery at Fr Murgas Grave. Members attended the Penguin’s Hockey Game in April 2023. Held annual flower fundraisers for Christmas 2022 and Easter 2023. Upcoming events include the 2023 Christmas Flower Sale and sponsoring a “Family or Families in Need” during the holiday seasons.

Minutes of 2022: The minutes of 2022 prepared by Frank Lipski 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: Frank Lipski read new correspondence from Home Office for the Slet expenses of \$103.02 (this bill was paid on 10/31/2023).

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

The Auditors’ Report: The auditors report was tabled for a later date.

The Treasurer’s Report: Frank Lipski 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 5, 2023 was \$5,170.08 and \$17,005.34 in the Sokol Secure Fund. A motion was made to accept the report by Rob Palchanis and seconded by Fr. Andrew Hvozdic. All in favor.

The Verifications Report was presented by Marty Degnan. It was verified that there were 10 officers present; 3 excused (Joe Hvozdic Jr., Matthew Malenovitch, August Palchanis), for a total of 13. There were also 4 delegates for a total of 17 in attendance. A motion to accept the report was made by Dawn Palchanis and seconded by Jennifer Kuren. All in favor.

The Bonds and Salary Committee: Amy Degnan Blasco and Frank Lipski. 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 Dawn Palchanis and Seconded by Gary Blasco. All in favor.

The Resolution Committee: Fr. Richard Cirba, Frank Lipski 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 as the Synod on Synodality continues into 2024.

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 2024 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 in Ukraine and Middle East 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.

A motion to accept the report was made by Marty Degnan and Seconded by Heather Horvath. All in favor.

The New Motions Committee: Amy Blasco, Marty Degnan, Sue Horvath & Jennifer Kuren Sue Horvath and Fr. Andrew Hvozdic. The New Motions Report was presented by Fr. Andrew Hvozdic.

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 for all group activities.

7. Recommend that the Group Physical Director and Direc-

(Continued on page 23)

## Slovak Catholic Sokol SPFB Monthly Newsletter February 2024



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

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

Father Andrew Hvozdovic	Rosary	First Friday of each month at 4:00PM EST	Feb. 2nd
Kristen Popik	STEM activities (children 14 and under)	7:00PM (day may vary each month)	Feb. 12th
Nancy Kropolinsky / Chris Antosy	Happy Hour / Games or Trivia	Third Thirsty Thursday of each month at 8:00PM EST	Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup>
Dusan Dorich / Marty Degnan	Slovak History / language	Third Sunday of each month at 9:00PM EST	Feb. 18th
Katie Swift /Janice Matlon	Bible Study	Tuesdays at 8PM EST (every week during lent)	February 20, 27 Mar. 15, 12, 19, 26
Zack Manyak	Book Club (will rotate between adult and youth books)	Adult (Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec) – 8:00PM EST Youth (Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov)  **Book will be announced on Facebook at beginning of the month.	Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup>

February 5<sup>th</sup> – 8:00 PM via ZOOM (link goes here)

Katie Swift will be holding a youth advisory meeting for anyone who wants to be a part of the Youth Advisory Committee.

### 2024 International Sporting Events:

Bowling Tournament	May 17 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	Bowlero Lanes, Pittsburgh, PA
Virtual Clinic	TDB	TBD
Golf Tournament	August 9 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup>	Treasure Lake, DuBois, PA

### Additional Events/ Activities

Myrtle Beach Trip	Feb. 29 - Mar. 3	Bali Bay Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC
Family Weekend / Corn Hole Tournament	TBD	TBD

Don't forget to submit your walking program miles to Nancy Kropolinsky at [kropoinskynancy@gmail.com](mailto:kropoinskynancy@gmail.com)



**Rules:**

All SCS members are eligible to enter. One entry per member. Complete the crossword puzzle and email it to [Kathyw323@gmail.com](mailto:Kathyw323@gmail.com) (Put "SCS puzzle" in the subject line). Entries must be received by February 20<sup>th</sup>. Two winners will be drawn from the entries submitted. Each winner will be mailed a prize.

**\*\*You may also mail your entry to:**

**Kathy Watkins  
7019 Highland Creek Dr.  
Bridgeville, PA 15017**

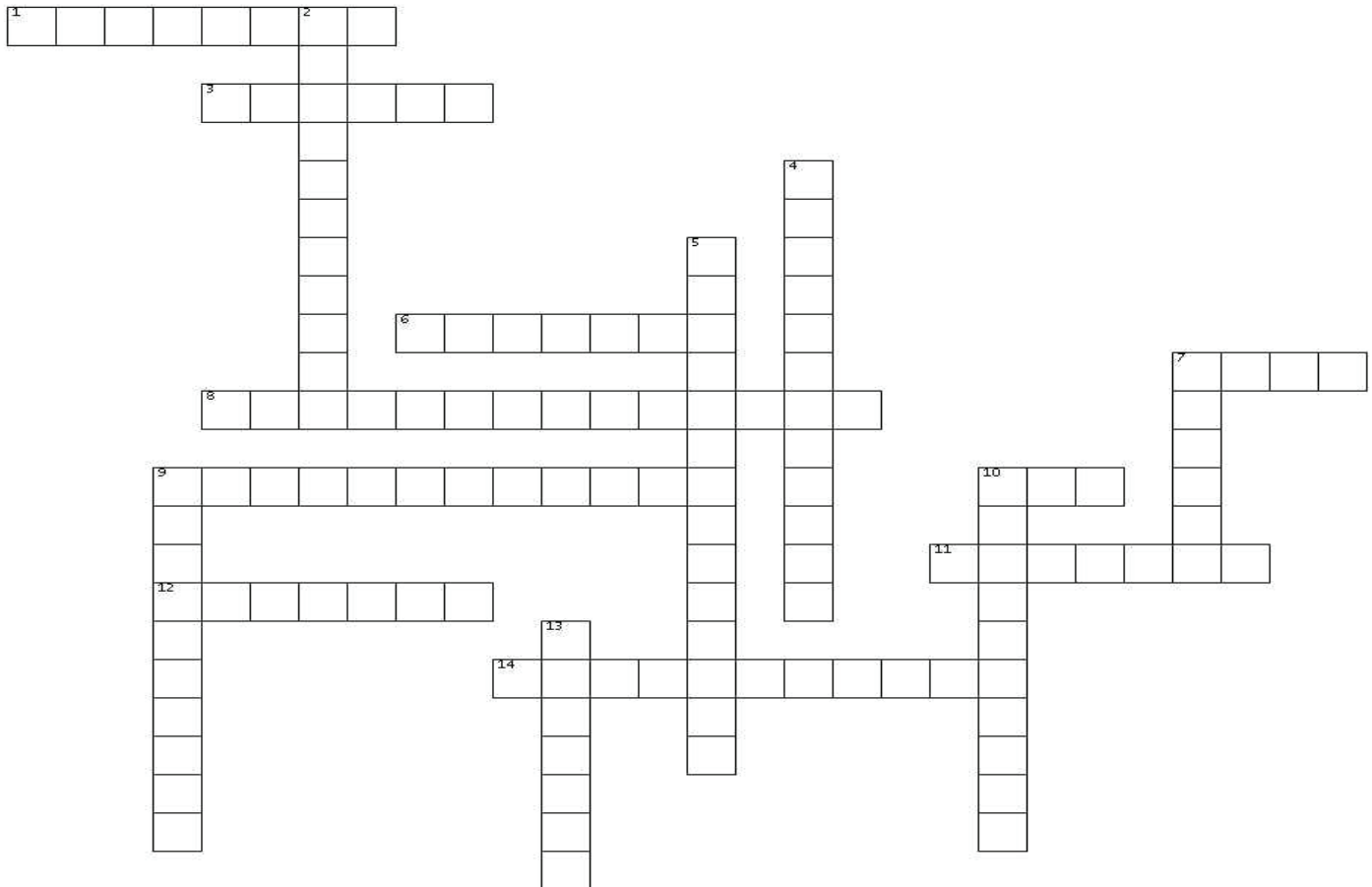
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____
Group: _____ Phone: _____

**ACROSS**

- The most Slets were held at \_\_\_\_\_ University.
- What is the document that governs our society?
- What is the title that comes before all national offices?
- The convention is held every \_\_\_ years.
- Who held the Supreme Secretary position the longest?
- Which state has the most groups?
- How many members are on the Supreme Physical Fitness Board?
- Which group won the highest number of consecutive Slets?
- Where was the only Slet held outside of the US?
- Who was the first president of the SCS?

**DOWN**

- In which city was the first Slet held?
- Who was the first Physical Director?
- Who was the first Physical Directress?
- What is the name of the official publication?
- Which group won the most total Slets?
- How many Founding Fathers were there?
- Which city is home to the Home Office of the SCS?



## MINUTES OF THE 2024 SPFB MEETING

### First Session: Friday, January 12th – 7:00 PM

Open Meeting	* Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins
Prayer	* Supreme Asst. Physical Director, Marty Degnan
Pledge of Allegiance	* Supreme Asst. Physical Directress, Nancy Kropolinsky
Roll Call	* Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics, Robert Palchanis III <b>All are present, 14 members</b>
Recording Secretaries	* SPFB Members - Janice Matlon, Christopher Antosy
Welcome and Remarks	* Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh * Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec * Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich * Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift

### Notes from welcoming remarks

- Thank you to Former Director of Sports and Athletics, Jim Matlon, Former President, Mike Horvath, and Former Asst. Director of Sports and Athletics, Frank Laury for their work over the past eight years.
- Brother Scott made a note that Sister Kathy is the first female Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics.
- We have to emphasize local activities. We as a Board can't directly make individual groups and assemblies meet, but we can encourage them with communication and technology.
- The success of the SPFB is dependent upon working collaboratively as a team.
- The former SPFB is thankful for everyone's work the past four years and is looking forward to working with everyone.
- The SPFB stressed that communication between the SPFB and local leaders needs to be more consistent.

### Meeting Objectives & Goals \* Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins

- Two of the biggest goals are communication and follow-through. We have to help at the local and group levels to be more involved as well. We are not going to get participants nationally if we don't get them locally.

- Integrating new activities both in-person and virtually.

### Old Business

Approval of minutes from the SPFB meeting held on Jan 13-14, 2023

- Brother Dusan made a motion to approve the minutes, and Brother Marty seconded it.

### Review 2023 Slet at Kutztown University \* Supreme Physical Fitness Board

\* Everyone had a great time at the Slet even though it was hectic with the loss of a day.

\* Originally, the numbers were low, so the event was cut back one day. When the numbers increased, it created some difficulties.

\* Many of the groups expressed that they wish there was more time.

\* The cafeteria flooding and the meals being moved to a site across campus was out of the control of the SPFB.

\* The university being short-staffed also caused some difficulties that were unavoidable.

\* There was a lot of positive feedback about the over 30 age group.

\* There was a lot of positive feedback on all male and all female drill teams as opposed to junior and senior.

\* Brother Jim explained that some of the track and field challenges involved things the university promised but did not follow through with. Brother Frank had to bring equipment from his own track team so that the track events could be run. There were lots of facility issues that were out of our control such as equipment that was in the way on the track and the fact that sprinklers were going on in the long jump pit.

\* The participants really liked going to Dorney Park. The 30 and over age group made it have more of a family feel. The little moments added up to make a memorable Slet.

\* The water stations were a problem. This will be rectified for the next Slet.

\* The lack of time and the facilities issues created some difficult situations throughout the Slet.

\* The memorial table honoring members of past Slets was a positive that we will try to carry on in some way.

\* There was positive feedback about doing the Mass drill and inviting past participants to join.

### Review of 2023 Bowling & Golf Tournaments

\* previous Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics,

**James Matlon**

- Airport Lanes was a good price, and even though numbers were down, we think that it's out of our control due to a lack of interest. The SCS was still the biggest group there.
- There were 165 golfers at the golf tournament, which was great, and it was the first time being in Ohio since 2006, so it was good to draw a different crowd that was more local to that region.
- Brother Larry wondered whether the other organizations that participate in tournaments with us are expecting to bring any more participants moving forward.
- Brother Jim answered that they are trying to bring more members based on location, and one of the other organizations is struggling with participation overall.

**Review 2023 Falcon Articles \* Supreme Physical Director, Dusan Dorich**

- Brother Dusan acknowledged that most jobs were fulfilled.
- Sister Nancy did a great job reporting the Walking Program.

**Review of Yearly Activity Reports \* Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift**

- Sister Katie handed out the summary of each group's activity in the last year. She emphasized that the most beneficial events are those that are low-cost and can accommodate everyone. Sister Katie did not receive a response from several of the groups regarding their yearly activities.
- Brother Chris said that there could be a disconnect in the type of the communication that happens. Even though we think that we are communicating directly, people are misinterpreting and skewing information. It also connects back to the follow-through.
- Brother Scott emphasized that we need to reach out to groups by speaking to people who we know will respond. It does not always have to be the group president or sports director.

**Report of Walking Program \* Supreme Asst. Physical Directress, Nancy Kropolinsky**

- Groups 4, 17, and 9 participated for prizes.
- Sister Katie thinks that the walking program is one that we should really push as an organization. We can really promote the interest to those who are 55 and older. People are also hoping to get an official log to promote tracking mileage.
- Group 17 would meet on the first Saturday of the month at noon, and even though only about 5 people showed up, it worked well.

**Correspondence from Groups \* Supreme Physical Directress, Katie Swift**

- Sister Katie shared several well wishes from Group Presidents, Group Sports Directors and Physical Directors and Directresses.
- Sister Katie read the correspondence from Group 4 and it was discussed by the SPFB. All comments and suggestions will be addressed and a follow up letter will be sent to Group 4.

**Closing Remarks**

- Brother Mike reflected on how the past 8 years were a joy despite the challenges we had to face. He reiterated that we have to work on events at a local level. He said that we are going to continue Slets no matter what. Communication and follow-through are important. Our activities are what makes us unique. Making changes will help us improve, but membership is also declining. We have to figure out how to bring the youth into our organization. We have to be positive and try new things. Brother Mike wishes this Board the best for the future.
- Sister Kathy once again thanked Brothers Mike and Jim for their years on the Board.
- Brother Jim closed in prayer, remembering those who had passed away and those who were sick.
- Brother Chris made a motion to close the meeting, and it was seconded by Sister Katie.

**Second Session: Saturday, January 13th – 9:00 AM**

Open Meeting \* Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins

- Sister Kathy said that we had great discussion in the previous session and several new ideas were brought forward for consideration. We need to focus on what we can incorporate this year.

Prayer \* Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member, Kristen Popik

Pledge of Allegiance \* Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member, Chris Antosy

Roll Call \* Supreme Assistant Director of Sports and Athletics, Robert Palchanis III  
**13 members present**

**New Business**

- \* Discussion regarding activities calendar for the year and SPFB responsibilities and assignments
  - Sister Kathy said that she has created a monthly calendar of virtually events based on a survey of what our members would like to see. In addition, there will be a monthly e-newsletter that will include puzzles/contests that will give members an opportunity to win prizes.

(Continued on page 20)

# MINUTES OF THE 2024 SPFB MEETING

(Continued from page 19)

## 2024 Tentative Yearly Activity Calendar

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec
	Myrtle Beach Trip (Feb. 29 - Mar. 3)  Youth advisory Committee (via Zoom)	Myrtle Beach Trip (Feb. 29 - Mar. 3)  Most Creative Egg contest (14 and under)		Bowling Tourney (17-19)  Join Hands Day	Family Weeknd / Corn Hole Tourney (Place and time TBD)	Virtual clinic (date TBD)  July 20th – National Sokol Sports Day - Each individual or group will do locally (details to follow)	Golf Tourney (9 -11)		Pumpkin Carving Contest  (pictures submitted and people will vote on FB)	“Day of Giving”  Each group will do locally (details to follow)	Christmas lights and Ugly Christmas Sweater contest  (pictures will be submitted and people will vote)

Monthly / Annual Activities	Person responsible	Falcon Article Schedule
Newsletter (with puzzles for prizes)	Kathy Watkins /Katie Swift	<b>Jan - Rob</b>
Virtual Rosary	Father Andrew Hvozdovic	<b>Feb - Marty</b>
Virtual Bible Study	Katie Swift /Janice Matlon	<b>Mar. - Nancy</b>
Virtual Book Club	Zack Manyak	<b>Apr. - Janice</b>
Virtual Happy Hour / Trivia	Nancy Kropolinsky / Chris Antosy	<b>May - Katie</b>
STEM Children’s Activities	Kristen Popik	<b>June - Dusan</b>
Most Creative Egg Contest (8th grade and under)	Chris Antosy	<b>July - Nancy</b>
Walking Program	Nancy Kropolinsky	<b>Aug. - Katie</b>
Virtual Slovak history / language	Dusan Dorich / Marty Degnan	<b>Sept. Kristen</b>
Virtual pumpkin carving contest	Zack Manyak / Kristen Popik	<b>Oct. - Zack</b>
Virtual Christmas lights contest	Chris Antosy	<b>Nov. - Chris</b>
Virtual Ugly Christmas sweater contest	Marty Degnan	<b>Dec. - Marty</b>
<p><b>***All specifics for each virtual event (including the Zoom link) will be in the monthly newsletter</b></p>		

- Sister Katie emphasized that even though members of the Board are leading and are in charge, we can ask other members to lead it, especially after seeing the first one. A Board member would host.
- Some members of the BOD will also be helping out with the virtual activities.
- Sister Kathy also pointed out that at the Group Presi-

- dent’s meeting, it was agreed upon that each group should be doing a Join Hands Day event organized by the group president (or a designee).
- Brother Scott suggested that there be continued ongoing communication with Physical Directors and Directresses each month as has been happening the past few years.
- We will also need to incorporate monthly communication

with the Group Sports Directors.

- A discussion ensued about bringing back basketball and/or softball tournaments as co-ed. This is an option in the future, but we have to gauge interest this year and possibly plan for the following year.
- Brother Chris and Sister Kristen said that this basketball/softball could be run locally first to see if there would be interest in doing something nationally
- Sister Nancy reminded us that on National Golf Day, we encouraged people to play golf in 2020 because we couldn't run a normal tournament.
- Sister Kathy said that we can have a National Sokol Sports Day on July 20 so that people can send pictures of themselves playing any sport. You can do this locally and participate in your own area.
- Sister Katie said that we can really emphasize that this is your time to try to organize a softball and/or basketball team. We can also see what kinds of sports people are playing.
- Brother Larry suggested that we have a day to promote service. The SPFB will be incorporating the "Day of Giving" in November.
- Brother Larry also commented that when we are communicating with groups/assemblies/wreaths, we should contact people who are active, even if they don't have an actual position.
- Brother Jim also made a point that emphasizing community service can help us determine who the Fraternalist of the Year can be.
- If anyone in the organization has a skill, talent or an idea and would like to help organize an online event, you are encouraged to reach out to an SPFB member and try to host it.

**Site recommendations for the Clinic/Slet**

- Brother Dusan referenced a list he compiled of what colleges we can use. The three colleges that we are narrowing it down to are Indiana University of PA, Edinboro, and Slippery Rock.
- Sister Kathy commented that several members asked for a cornhole tournament. Sister Katie Swift is researching venues. The thought is to combine it with the clinic.
- Brother Zack compiled a list of camps he researched for future events.
- Sister Nancy said that a camp is the way to go because we can incorporate family events and cornhole all at once.

Brother Scott questioned whether a clinic is necessary with the technology we have today. The SPFB discussed the pros and cons regarding a virtual clinic and determined that the organization would be best served by having the clinic virtually. A drill review can be presented at the cornhole tournament if anyone would like.

Sister Kathy summarized our final decision that we are having a Family Weekend that includes a cornhole tournament and kids' activities. People will pay their own way as they do for a bowling and a golf tournament.

○ We discussed how SNPJ would again be a great place. We can also look at other location options.

○ Sister Katie asked about for clarification of the timeline of the Family Weekend.

○ Brother Rob asked about outside members coming to Family Weekend.

- Brother Scott said that we would need waivers, and those non-members would be paying out-of-pocket as are the members.

**Discussion on the next Slet**

- The major change is adding a day back because this is necessary.
- Brother Scott emphasized that we need to know by this summer what each group's numbers are going to be.
- There was a general discussion about active groups reaching out to inactive groups for funding.
  - Sister Kathy suggested that Brother Jim, as a Supreme Officer, write an article that explains the "adopt a group" format.
- Sister Nancy asked about how we are proceeding with the Memorial Table that was created this year. Brother Zack recommended making the Memorial Table something that is put onto a digital frame instead of physically having to carry around frames and materials. The SPFB agreed that this is the way we should proceed.

**Third Session: Saturday January 14th – 12:15 PM**

Sunshine Fund \* Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member, Janice Matlon

2024 Falcon Article Assignments \* Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member, Zack Manyak

- Brother Zack gave us a list of the months that we agreed upon for Falcon article submissions.

2023 Physical Fitness Board Recommendations \* Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen Watkins

- Sister Kathy reviewed the recommendations that she will be presenting at the BOD meeting.
  - We added some recommended funds for prizes for virtual contests.
  - We added recommended funds for the cornhole tournament within the Family Weekend.
- Sister Katie reviewed the General Rules and Regulations. Updates will be discussed at hte virtual clinic.

**2024 International Sporting Events**

Bowling Tournament May 17th-19th Bowlero Lanes, Pittsburgh, PA

- Sister Nancy will work the tournament.

Golf Tournament August 9th -11th Treasure Lake, DuBois, PA

- Sister Kristen will work the tournament.

**Additional Events/ Activities**

Myrtle Beach Trip Feb. 29 - Mar. 3 Bali Bay Resort, Myrtle Beach, SC

Join Hands Day First Sat. in May Will be done locally by each person or group

Family Weekend / Corn Hole Tournament June (date TBD) TBD

National Sports Day July 20th Will be done locally by each person or group

Day of Giving Choose a day in November Will be done locally by each person or group

(Continued on page 22)



## DECEMBER 2023

ASSEMBLY/ WREATH	MEMBER	AGE	DATE OF DEATH
Assembly 10	Emil Stone, Hermitage, PA	78	December 1, 2023
Assembly 39	Emil J. Slavik, St. Clairsville, OH	86	November 30, 2023
Assembly 59	Jay Murphy, Jr., Plains, PA	56	November 20, 2023
Assembly 108	David Hlebovy, Youngstown, OH	62	December 2, 2023
Assembly 162	Dorothy Morrissey, Verona, PA	86	November 13, 2023
Assembly 162	Albert J. Pogorelec, Clifton, NJ	84	December 5, 2023
Assembly 162	Elaine Andras, Mentor, OH	86	December 5, 2023
Assembly 182	Joseph Besterici, Passaic, NJ	79	December 25, 2023
Assembly 219	Mary Ann Crosby, Yonkers, NY	87	December 22, 2023
Assembly 312	Johanna Stoeckler, Saint Cloud, FL	82	October 12, 2023
Wreath 3	Joseph Michael Sherbak, Lisbon Falls ME	68	December 19, 2023
Wreath 11	James W. Pollack, Midland MI	82	December 5, 2023
Wreath 22	Irene O. Pomietto of Pittsburgh, PA	100	December 18, 2023
Wreath 47	Mee Vang, Brooklyn, MN	70	December 10, 2023
Wreath 85	Albert B. Martonik, Coraopolis, PA	93	November 27, 2023
Wreath 85	Mary Ann Simson, New Berlin, WI	83	December 16, 2023
Wreath 93	Sue S. Hackner, Crystal Falls, MI	93	October 25, 2023
Wreath 93	Theresa M. Mlodzik, West Bend, WI	67	November 15, 2023
Wreath 93	Sai X. Yang, Holmen, WI	67	December 1, 2023
Wreath 147	Helen Mary Niznik, Pringle, PA	91	November 15, 2023

## MINUTES OF THE 2024 SPFB MEETING

(Continued from page 21)

### Final Comments

- Brother Larry commented that this year is a building year, and it is important to go back to your groups to get them to participate in our events. We need to be ambassadors within our own group.
  - Brother Scott commented that we should not get discouraged if national events don't work. We need to do things at a local level in a different format. He emphasized that we need to get our kids back. Events have to start at a local level. We have to overcome challenges.
  - Brother Jim said thank you for the 32 years on the SPFB and good luck to the board. He also thanked former Supreme Sports Director of Sports and Athletics Ed Moeller for helping him in his original transition to the position and former Assistant Sports Director Frank Laury for a successful and enjoyable eight years of working together.
  - It is very important that all members of the SPFB follow through with the new virtual assignments.
  - We will meet at 4:10 PM to go to mass at St. Margaret's Church.
- Closing Prayer      Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member,  
Zack Manyak
- Brother Rob motioned to close the meeting with a second by Nancy.

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPREME PRESIDENT

(Continued from page 2)

a special food, dessert or even a fun activity. I remember a few years ago, one of our children who has an interesting sense of humor suggested that she and her sisters should give up doing school homework. We didn't think her Catholic teachers would be impressed, so we opted to give up chocolate instead.

Kidding aside, as parents and grandparents we need to guide our children and grandchildren in this important sacrifice. We need to ensure they understand that the real purpose of this personal and individual sacrifice is to demonstrate our love, thankfulness and spiritual appreciation for God's gifts and His ultimate sacrifice to all of us.

On behalf of my entire Slovak Catholic Sokol family, we would like to wish all of you a safe, reflective and passionate Lenten season. As well, I sincerely look forward to seeing you soon at one of our many wonderful fraternal events in the coming months.

May God bless all of you!  
Zdar Boh!

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GROUP 7

(Continued from page 15)

dress 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.

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.

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 an amount to be determined, as needed to the St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen in honor of living and deceased members of Group 7.

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

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

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

20. Recommend that a donation of \$100.00 be made to the NE PA Societies for "Make a Difference Day" annually when funds are available.

21. Recommend moving funds from general checking account to Sokol Secure Fund when funds are available.

A motion to accept the report was made by Kelly Palchanis and Seconded by Dawn Palchanis. All in favor.

The Technical Board Report: (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 the Clinic.

- To send qualified participants for the upcoming Clinic.

- 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.

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

The Nominations Report was presented by Fr. Andrew Hvoz-

dovic. All positions, except Historian, were up for reelection. Current officers will retain their positions for another four-year term.

Nomination for Historian – Jennifer Kuren. A motion to accept the nomination was made by Dawn Palchanis. Jennifer Kuren accepted the nomination. All in favor.

Chaplain – Fr. Richard Cirba

President – Amy Degnan Blasco

Vice President – Marty Degnan

Financial Secretary/Treasurer – Frank Lipski

Recording Secretary – Frank Lipski

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 – Position Open

Physical Directress – Kelly Palchanis

Assistant Physical Directress – August Palchanis

Historian – Jennifer Kuren

Father Andrew Hvozdovic swore in all officers for their 4-year term.

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

New Business: Amy Degnan Blasco

There are a few items:

1. Hockey Night - March 9, 2024 Penguins Hockey Game

2. Families in Need for the Holidays – Donations will be made to Fr. Richard Cirba & Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic's parish families in need.

3. Parent's Club – Dawn Palchanis - Treasurer's report as of November 2023, Balance in account is \$3,754.03. Sold Superbowl & Lottery tickets, Slet t-shirts & Candy sales resulted in \$1,127. Will continue to sell lottery tickets for fundraiser. Also, will look into depositing money into the Sokol Secure Fund

4. Donations-Sue Horvath suggested donating to 3 displaced nuns. Frank Lipski suggested \$300. Motion made by Kelly Palchanis & Seconded by Dawn Palchanis. All in favor.

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

6. 2024 Annual Meeting - Date and time TBD.

7. 2024 Sokol Day – Date and time TBD.

8. Flowers to Past Officers – will send Christmas 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. Kelly Palchanis-Gave a Sports Activity Report for 2023.

A motion to accept new business was made by Sue Horvath and seconded by Kelly Palchanis. All in favor.

Good of the Order: Amy Degnan Blasco thanked everyone for helping throughout the year. Sue Horvath added special thanks to Amy for her leadership, time and patience.

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

Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic closed the meeting with a prayer.

Zdar Boh!

**Frank Lipski**, Group 7 Recording Secretary



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

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

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