

Za Boha a národ

For God and Nation

Slovak Catholic Falcon

Slovenský katolícky sokol

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

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

VOLUME CXIII

PASSAIC, NJ, APRIL 1, 2024

NUMBER 5186



MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPREME PRESIDENT LARRY M. GLUGOSH



I hope all of our Slovak Catholic Sokol members and officers enjoyed their Easter long weekend. It is a special time to spend with family and friends, while we gather together. Most of all, it is a wonderful time of reflection and prayer to God, as we count our many blessings and give thanks for all that we enjoy.

With this in mind, my heartfelt best wishes to all the new parents and grandparents who celebrated their new arrivals this past year. There is nothing more precious and beautiful than the arrival of a healthy new baby and celebrating with their first Easter. As someone who benefited from being enrolled in our organization at birth, I encourage you to obtain a life and/or annuity policy from our society. The premiums are the lowest at birth but the benefits flow and continue for many years, especially when they are in college. Being a member provides you an opportunity to receive an SCS scholarship, which I am proud to say, was awarded to me back in 1981.

Along with giving thanks, we can appreciate some of the quality programs and benefits our fraternal society has to offer to our members including our athletic events, scholarships and soon our summer fraternal programs like sokol picnics and Slovak festivals. Many of these activities are offered as benefits to our members as life and annuity policy holders and others are run through our churches and schools. We hope you participate in your local community events and celebrate our heritage, faith and fraternal spirit. Remember to also check our Slovak Catholic Sokol website, where you can see the Supreme Physical Fitness Board's monthly youth events.

As some of you are aware, many of our fellow fraternal benefit

societies have cancelled some of their benefit programs due to a lack of participation and/or financial concerns. At our Q1 Board of Directors meeting on April 6th we will recommend to maintain our fraternal benefits for 2024 but we need your support and participation. I encourage all of our members to take full advantage of the continued investment in our programs and hope to see you soon.

In fact, I recently attended our Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, Kathleen S. Watkins update to our group sports directors and presidents. It was great to see the interest in our program and also recognize some newly elected Group Presidents namely, John Papcun (Group 16), Nancy Kropolinsky (Group 17) and Diane Cincar (Group 19). On behalf of our organization, I would like to thank these individuals for stepping forward and wanting to lead their respective groups. I would also like to sincerely thank the outgoing Group Presidents for their years of dedication, sacrifice and commitment to our society. We know your newly elected leaders will build on the foundation you are established. On a personal note, I would like to recognize my life-long friend, Brother Chet Dziuba for all the good work, dedication and leadership he provided to our Canadian members, especially our youth. In addition to funding our fraternal programs, our newly elected Board of Directors will be reviewing and approving our 2024 budget. In speaking with our Supreme Secretary Scott T. Pogorelec, we are in agreement that our focus and key objectives for the board will be to maximize our income, reduce operational cost, optimize our fraternal spending and ensure we maintain good board governance through communication and cooperation. As I stated last summer, the point above is imperative to enable a good board to become great. I

(Continued on page 14)

Slovak Catholic Falcon Slovenský Katolícky Sokol

ISSN:0897-8107

Established April 15, 1911

Official Publication
of the Slovak Catholic Sokol

Issued Monthly

Editorial Staff:
Livia Karak

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

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

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

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

PHONE NUMBERS:
TOLL FREE NUMBER: 1-800-886-7656
HOME OFFICE: (973) 777-2605
or 777-2606

FAX NUMBER: (973) 779-8245
E-MAIL: Sokol205@aol.com
WEB SITE: www.scslife.org

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Slovak Catholic Sokol Public Group

FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY SCOTT T. POGORELEC, F.I.C.



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE RATES

Greetings from the Home Office! I hope everyone enjoyed Easter Weekend and spent valuable time with their friends and family during this spiritual weekend. Thankfully, all eggs have been accounted for and our Boys had a wonderful time!



The first Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at the Home Office on April 6th. Our Board, which is the highest governing body of our organization between Conventions, will be making the important decisions to ensure our successful future. We will get a chance to hear from our hired professionals who will report on our 2023 results and 2024 projections. The Home Office and Board of Directors will continue to look for ways to increase our income and minimize our expenses in this volatile environment. Starting in this issue of the Falcon, as well as the coming issues, you will have the opportunity to read the reports of our Directors, as well as the Official Minutes of the Board of Director's Meeting. I recommend that you take the time to read each report to acknowledge the time and effort put in by each of our Officers. I look forward to collaborating with our Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh, and the entire Supreme Assembly for the good and betterment of our beloved Society.

April also gives us a reminder that Uncle Sam will be looking for us! I am, of course, speaking about the dreaded Tax Day, Monday, April 15th. That is the deadline for submitting individual tax returns to the federal government for tax year 2023.

I hope that a giant refund will be in order for all our Sokol members! If in fact a refund is coming, have you thought about what you will do with the extra cash? I would like to urge all our members to investigate purchasing something that will secure not only your future, but also the future of your Family. This year, why not invest in a Sokol Annuity?

Our Vantage Collection of annuities offers financial protection and supplies you with the same fraternal benefits that a Legacy Life product would offer. The current rates are extremely competitive in this fiscal environment. Your investment can grow rapidly since there are no initial service, contract, or premium fees. Every dollar you pay in premium goes directly to your account's cash value and starts earning interest immediately. Another crucial factor is that most of our annuity products are tax deferred, meaning your gains are accumulated tax free and only get taxed upon constructive receipt of the gain. This allows for the growth to be compounded on the portion of earnings and not subjected to investment taxation. As you can see, the benefits of investing in our products are plentiful. So, think about using that tax return in one of the smartest ways possible in securing your future and retirement. If you have any questions, give us a call at the Home Office and we would be glad to assist you. For more information, you can also visit our website, www.slovakcatholicssokol.org.

Until next time, enjoy the warmer weather and have a wonderful April!

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

SOKOL CALENDAR

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

1ST QUARTER MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS at the Home Office in Passaic, NJ.

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.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

GROUP 5 BOWLING TOURNAMENT at AMF Riviera Lanes, 20 S. Miller Rd. in Fairlawn, OH. Same as last year. **THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING** at 11:00 a.m. at the lanes with bowling to follow at 12:30 p.m. Dinner at the Barberton Sokol Center after bowling. Contact the Group 5 Sports Director, Joe Underation @ 440-829-5942 with questions and to register a team.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

ASSEMBLIES 36 AND 214 will conduct a **COORDINATED MEETING** at 10:35 a.m. The meeting will be held at Saints Cyril and Methodius Church in Sterling Heights, Michigan following the 9:30 a.m.. Mass. New business will include 'Join Hands Day' activity and the anticipated Sokol Day Picnic for June 2024 (date to be announced). All members are welcome to attend. Coffee and donuts will be provided. God Bless our Great Fraternity. – **John M. Papcun**, *President Group 16*

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

GROUP 3 SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING will be held at the Sokol Hall, Rt 16, Douglas, MA at 10:00 a.m.. Coffee and

(Continued on page 23)

SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON PUBLICATION DATE

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

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

Thoughts from our Supreme Chaplain,
Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdivic
THE GREAT 50 DAYS OF EASTER

Most people don't think in terms of the Easter spirit. Yet the Easter season is a time that is filled with a spirit of joy and hope.



During the 50 days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost Sunday, we proclaim and sing the word "alleluia," which means "praise the Lord." We are reminded that Jesus has overcome death. We are given the assurance that our lives have meaning and purpose. And we have the promise of eternal life with Jesus in heaven.

Now that's something to celebrate.

But there's even more!

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he promised his disciples they would never be alone, because he would send the Holy Spirit to guide them. Then he commissioned his followers to spread his message all over the world and make disciples of all people. Ten days later, on Pentecost Sunday, the apostles heard a loud noise, and the Holy Spirit descended upon them in tongues of fire. When that happened, they received spiritual gifts that transformed their lives and gave them the power to touch the lives of others. They ran into the streets and began to tell people about Jesus. Each person in the crowd understood them in his or her own language. Thousands became believers that day.

So, the Easter spirit is more than just experiencing joy and hope. It's also a special call to share the Easter message with others.

Good news is contagious. Here are ways you can spread the good news this Easter season:

— Host a neighborhood gathering on Sunday afternoons. As the weather warms up, send the kids out to play and meet and greet the people who live next door. Ask everyone to bring a dish or beverage to share. What a great way to live out Jesus' command to "love our neighbor."

— Make Friday night movie night. Pick your favorite streaming service and watch a movie as a family every Friday night through the Easter season. Eat popcorn and movie snacks and talk about the takeaway lessons each person learned from the show.

— Surprise basket. Put together a small basket or box of goodies and deliver it to neighbors, shut-ins, grandparents, or a young couple with a new baby. Be sure to stay anonymous — leave the basket on the front steps, ring the doorbell, and run. Kids can make homemade greeting cards or cookies or pass on a gently used toy that they've outgrown. Pluck some flowers or herbs from your spring garden, add a prayer card and all of a sudden you can be spreading the good news of Easter joy.

REPORTS OF THE SUPREME OFFICERS FOR 2023

REPORT OF THE SUPREME CHAPLAIN

Pochvalen bud' Pan Jezis Kristus!

S pozdravom predstavestvo;

I wish to express my appreciation for the trust put in me by the delegates of the 34th Quadrennial Convention for once again electing me as your Supreme Chaplain.

In Compliance with Section 4.0 article (h) of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my report of activities for the calendar year 2023. The duties, obligations and responsibilities of the Office of the Supreme Chaplain are clearly spelled out in the Bylaws. I tried to the best of my ability to fulfill them.

Following is a listing and brief explanation of my activities:

I attended/ participated in all quarterly Board of Director meetings opening and closing each session with prayer, along with saying Mass for the meetings held in person to fulfill the Sunday obligation, which were called by our Supreme President. I was asked to attend/participate in the historical 50th International Slet July 13-16, held at Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA. I provided the Opening and Closing Masses for the participants and guests, along with assisting the Physical Fitness Board where needed.

As a delegate at the 34th Quadrennial Convention held August 4-8 in Scranton, PA I provided the opening and closing prayer for each session, arranged for the Opening of the Convention Mass as well as provide Mass for the other Convention days.

I participated in the 2023 Annual Meeting of Group 7, Rev. Joseph Murgas in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

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

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

I submitted twelve articles for publication in The Falcon, which I trust all found to be informative.

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

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

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

“A Sound Mind in a Sound Body”, and we defend our organization’s motto, “For God and Nation”.

As we begin our 119th year we can be very proud of our impressive past, may we commit ourselves to assure a promising future.

ZDAR BOH!

Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdovic
Supreme Chaplain

REPORT OF THE SUPREME PRESIDENT

Pochvalen bud’ Pan Jezis Kristus!

In compliance with Section 3.2, Article (g) of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my 2023 annual report to the Board of Directors and members for their review. Section 4.1 of the Constitution and Bylaws list the duties, obligations, and responsibilities of the Supreme President.

2023 the Society celebrated its 118th year and I chaired and presided over all the Board of Director meetings held in-person or virtual. I want to thank the Board for the work they did in 2023.

I wrote monthly articles that were printed in the Falcon to inform the membership of what I did in the previous month, insight to was planned for the upcoming months and messages of the need for life insurance and annuity investment in our Society.

I sat in on the 2023 Supreme Physical Fitness Board meetings held on January 14, 2023, in Pittsburgh, PA and offered my thoughts to their planning of our fraternal events, especially the 50th International Slet.

I met with the Governance Committee at their meeting held on January 20, 2023 in Washington, D.C. to learn of their By-Law recommendations and to offer my thought to them and help with the plans to present them at the 34th Quadrennial Convention to be held in Scranton, PA in August.

I represented the Slovak Catholic Sokol at the Slovak Catholic Federation’s 2023 spring meeting held in Wilkes-Barre, PA and the fall meeting held in Cleveland, Ohio. While in Cleveland for the Federation’s meeting I represented the Society at Abbott Gary Hoover’s 40th anniversary celebration. I met with the Supreme Auditors when they did the Annual audits done at the Home Office.

I attended the Sister Judith Manyak’s Slovak Catholic Sokol 2022 Fraternalist of the Year celebration held on April 15, 2023, at the Sokol Club in East Douglas, MA

I attended and participated in our 77th International Bowling tournament held May 19-20, 2023, at AMF Airport Lanes in Cheektowaga, NY. I had the privilege of awarding the 2023 Frank S. Petruff Memorial Sports Award for Bowling to Sister Kathleen Smolkowicz from Reading, PA.

Participated in the Slovak Catholic Sokol Scholarship Committee’s selection meeting.

I attended the Slovak Catholic Sokol 50th International Slet held July 12-16, 2023, at Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA.

I Chaired the Slovak Catholic Sokol 34th Quadrennial Convention held August 5-8, 2023, at the Scranton Hilton in Scranton, PA.

I attended the New York-New Jersey Fraternal Alliance

meeting held at the Tropicana hotel in Atlantic City, NJ. At the meeting I had the privilege of swearing in our Supreme Secretary, Scott T. Pogorelec, F.I.C. as the Alliance’s President for 2024.

I attended the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance’s annual meeting held on October 22-24, 2023, at the Sheraton in Erie, PA. I represented the Society on November 6, 2023, at Slovak Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh annual Slovak Festival.

I sat in on webinars PNC Investments, our investment professional advisor, the American Fraternal Alliance and others held during the year that helped give the Society and better understanding of what was happening in banking, investment and economic arenas and the Fraternal Benefit Society world.

Brother Scott and I talk a couple times a week to go over issues the Society faces and to discuss upcoming meetings and activities. I want to Thank Brother Scott for his ability to manage all that he has to do as our Supreme Secretary daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly. He has been able to manage the business and fraternal ends of the Society making sure everything is done efficiently and on time. He is a great partner in seeing that all he and I do is for the betterment of the Society.

Thank you to the Home Office staff, you are the true heart of the Society. You see to it that all the business is done professionally, courteously, on time and is correct. All members should be proud of your abilities and dedication.

I finish by giving Thanks to my wife, Suzanne, my family, Group 7, and Assembly 59, and Society members for the support they have given me this past year to help me fulfill my duties as the President of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Thank You. With God’s Blessings to All,

Zdar Boh!

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Horvath
Supreme President

REPORT OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY

Slavna Rocna Schodza!

In compliance with Section 4.3, Article (n) page 24 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, I hereby submit my written Annual Report for the year 2023 to the Supreme Board of Directors.

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

This past year our organization celebrated its 118th Anniversary as a fraternal benefit society. After reviewing all the financial reports, I am certain that you will concur with me that our organization, like others, has experienced and endured another year filled with challenges and uncertainties. The Society continues to remain financially strong even after providing numerous fraternal benefits and services to our members.

HOME OFFICE EFFICIENCY

The Home Office staff continues to be one of our most valuable assets. During the past year, we have consistently

(Continued on page 11)



GCU, NSS & SCS COMBINED NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

The GCU, NSS Life & Slovak Catholic Sokol Joint Bowling Tournament is fast approaching and we are pleased to offer you the following details:

Bowling... All bowling will take place at AMF Bowlero Pittsburgh Lanes 2440 Noblestown Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15205. The phone number is (412) 922-4622 and website is <https://www.bowlero.com/location/bowlero-pittsburgh>

Hotel... The DoubleTree by Hilton Pittsburgh-Greentree located at 500 Mansfield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15205 has a block of guest rooms available for \$119/night + tax for Thursday thru Saturday nights. You can reserve your room by calling **412-922-8400** and using Block Code:

Fraternal Societies Bowling Tournament. You can also scan the link on the back of this newsletter with your smartphone to go directly to the hotel reservation page for this event.

Application Format... Each society will receive applications from their own members, so that membership requirements can be verified. If you need additional applications: GCU members please contact: Basil Wahal-GCU Bowling Coordinator, 724-683-3924 or bwahal@GCUusa.com. Slovak Catholic Sokol members please contact: Kathy Watkins-Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics, 412-225-8233 or kathyw323@gmail.com. NSS Life members please contact Bethany Bonnar at 724-770-2093 or bbonnar@nsslife.org. **Application deadline is April 15, 2024.**

Team Event... The format will again be 4-Bowler Teams (Mens & Womens Only-No Mixed Teams), and team members may combine and send only one application if all fees are included. If bowlers are unable to fill all 4 positions on a team, we will assist you.

Additional Actual Prize Money... In an effort to increase participation from higher average bowlers, the GCU Board of Directors has again pledged an additional \$1,000.⁰⁰ to be used to pay actual score prizes across all tournament events. This will not have any affect on the handicap prizes which will continue to be paid as in the past.

Squad Time Assignments... There will be only one squad time for both the team event. Team bowling will take place on **Friday, May 17 at 6:30 PM**. The doubles & singles squads are scheduled for **Saturday, May 18 at 9 AM AND 12:30 PM**. If there are less than 120 bowlers enter in the Singles and Doubles events, there will only be one squad bowled at 10 AM.

Friday Evening Hospitality... All bowlers (and pre-paid guests) are welcome to join in for food and fraternalism on Friday, May 17. The hospitality buffet will be served at Bowlero Pittsburgh Lanes beginning at 5 PM.

Saturday Evening Bowlers' Cocktail Reception... In the interest of fraternal camaraderie and to celebrate the GCU, NSS & SCS Combined National Bowling Tournament, a reception for bowlers and their guests will take place on Saturday evening May 18 at 5:30 PM at the DoubleTree Hilton Greentree Hotel. The evening will include hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and a two hour open bar. Guests are

welcome at a fee of \$65 per guest. Bowlers must complete the enclosed Hospitality Questionnaire form if they plan to attend the reception. There is also a space to register any guests that will accompany bowlers for the reception. Payment must accompany requests.

Saturday Cocktail Reception Fee... Bowlers planning to attend the reception on Saturday, May 18 the fee is listed on their respective organization's applications and payment can be included with the bowling application. Bowlers have the option of not participating in the reception on Saturday, May 18. If you do not plan to attend, please do not pay the reception fee with your entry fees.

Food & Beverage Reservations... Must be made in advance so we can be precise in our attendance guarantees. We have enclosed a Hospitality Questionnaire to complete and return with your application no later than **April 15, 2024**. This will enable us to prepare for the proper number of attendees.

Membership Requirements... Membership requirements for each organization are available on the reverse side of the individual society bowling applications.

Forms on Each Organization's Website... Remember, if you need extra applications, all of the forms for the National Bowling Tournament are available on your organization's website: GCU— www.GCUusa.com; NSS Life—www.nsslife.org or Slovak Catholic Sokol—slovakcatholicssokol.org.

Early Departure Fee... The DoubleTree Greentree Hotel has the following policy: In the event a guest who has requested a room within your block checks out prior to the guest's reserved checkout date, the hotel will add an early checkout fee in the amount of one room night and tax to that guest's individual account. Guests wishing to avoid an early checkout fee should advise the DoubleTree by Hilton Pittsburgh Green Tree at or before check-in of any change in planned length of stay. **Individual Cancellation...** Failure to cancel a guaranteed reservation 48 hours prior to arrival date will result in a charge equal to one night's room and tax from the date of arrival.

We'll be in Touch... An additional newsletter will be forthcoming with the complete bowling and event schedule, prize list and other important information. Plan now to have a great tournament!

SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL 2024 BOWLING TOURNAMENT

The 78th Annual Slovak Catholic Sokol International Bowling Tournament will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 17th and 18th, 2024 at the Bowlero Lanes in Pittsburgh, PA. The GCU and the NSS will be joining us again this year. All bowling information can also be found on the website. The submission deadline is **April 15, 2024**.

Bowlero Lanes Pittsburgh
2440 Noblestown Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

The lodging for bowlers and guests will be at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh -Greentree. The rate is \$119 plus tax for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night.

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pittsburgh - Greentree
600 Mansfield Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

412-922-8400 (use block code: Fraternal Societies Bowling Tournament)

Schedule:

Friday, May 17th

5:00PM - hospitality (including food and beverages) at the bowling alley

6:30PM - team events begin

Saturday, May 18th

9:00AM and 12:30PM - doubles and singles events begin

4:30PM - mass in the reception room at hotel

5:30PM - reception begins (2-hours)

Cost:

\$23.00 per event

\$5 for all events

\$35.00 for the Saturday evening reception

The total for each bowler participating in team, doubles, singles, all-events and the Saturday night reception is \$109.00. As part of our outreach program organized by our Supreme Vice President Andrea Tadlock, we will be raffling off a gift basket to support Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. We will also be accepting monetary donations. Details to follow in the Falcon, on the website, and on Facebook.

If you have any questions, please send me an email at kathyw323@gmail.com or text or call me at 412-225-8233. I will see you all in Pittsburgh!

Kathleen S. Watkins

Supreme Director of Sports and Athletics

ENTRY BLANK—78th ANNUAL

A JOINT TOURNAMENT OF GCU, NSS & SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL

“USBC MORAL SUPPORT CERTIFIED”

AMF Bowlero Pittsburgh Lanes ♡ Pittsburgh, PA

Friday, May 17 & Saturday, May 18, 2024

No applications will be accepted after April 15, 2024

No applications will be accepted after April 15, 2024

Please note: Bowling Fees must accompany this application for the bowlers to be registered in the tournament.
League bowlers must submit a copy of their league average sheet with their application.

BOWLER INFORMATION (LIST CAPTAIN FIRST)	SCS TOURNAMENT INFORMATION
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2022-23 _____ USBC No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2022-23 _____ USBC No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2022-23 _____ USBC No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ CERT/POLICY# _____ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2022-23 _____ USBC No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles <input type="checkbox"/> All Events

Please check one: Men's Events Women's Events

DOUBLE & SINGLES EVENTS—SATURDAY, MAY 18

9 AM 12:30 PM

TEAM EVENT—FRIDAY, MAY 17

Hospitality Meal Served 5 PM at Bowlero Pgh. Lanes Bowling Begins at 6:30 PM All Teams

Team Name: _____

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

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

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

Make Entry Fee payable to: Slovak Catholic Sokol Sports Account

Mail to: Kathy Watkins, 7019 Highland Creek Drive, Bridgeville, PA 15017.

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

FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH COMPLETE INFORMATION.

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

Financial Totals for this Application	
Entry Fee for Each Event	
Prize Fee-\$10.00 + Bowling Fee-\$8.00 + Tournament Fee-\$5.00 = \$23.00	
Optional Events	Reception + Bowling Entry
All Events-\$5.00 Reception-\$35.00	\$109.00 per person
___ Singles Event @ \$23 ea. = \$ _____	
___ Doubles Event @ \$23 ea. = \$ _____	
___ Team Event..... @ \$23 ea. = \$ _____	
___ All Events @ \$5 ea. = \$ _____	
___ Reception @ \$35 ea. = \$ _____	
Total Enclosed \$ _____	

Important to All Tournament Entrants Read Carefully Information Given Below Rules and Regulations of Annual Slovak Catholic Sokol Bowling Tournament

The purpose and aim of our organization in sponsoring annual bowling championships is to promote good sportsmanship, fraternalism and national interest in the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

As you know, each year the Supreme Assembly, recognizing the great importance of bowling in our organization, donates \$60.00 to the prize fund for each team entry entered in the International Tournament. This financial contribution on the part of our organization is added to the regular prize fee collected by the bowlers. All prize fees collected will be refunded 100% in prizes.

In order to successfully operate our tournaments, we must have cooperation and exact adherence to all entry rules and regulations which govern teams and individuals.

Please read these rules carefully. Do not overlook any detail. Comply with all requests at time entry blank is being filled out and when sending it in with the proper money order, certified check or check. Be sure you have the bowlers affidavits as of all sanctioned league averages for 21 games or more in accordance with our rules governing averages. This will speed up the mailing of prizes after results have been checked. Remember that false information will result in forfeiture of all rights to prizes.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The Slovak Catholic Sokol Championship Tournament is open to all members of our organization, both male and female (no juniors) who are in good standing and have been members for at least (3) three months SPL or (1) one year for all other policies, prior to the date of tournament with a minimum of \$3,000.00 coverage. Policy Holders - no Social Members. As mandated by the 2007 Convention, all new members enrolled after January 1, 2008 will require a new minimum of \$5,000.00 of insurance coverage to participate in the programs after January 1, 2020.

2a. All members of the competing teams must be members of the same Assembly or Wreath. There is no limit to the number of teams from each Assembly or Wreath.

2b. An Assembly or Wreath not having enough bowlers to make up a team may combine with another Assembly or Wreath to make up a team.

3. Doubles teams may be from any Assembly or Wreath for both Men and Women Divisions.

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

5. High Score recognition automatically extended to USBC members. Eligible nonmembers can qualify for high score recognition at their option by paying a \$5.00 participation fee. Affiliated membership is \$21.00.

6. There will be at least one prize for each (10) ten entries in each event, and each (20) twenty entries for All-Events for Men and Women.

7. All-Events (optional), shall be handicap. This prize fund is a separate entry (\$5.00) and no tournament expense fee is assessed for this. Only those entrants paying this fee are eligible. Please indicate All-Events entries by placing an "X" before names in Team Entry space on Entry Form side.

8. Prize fee will be \$10.00 per bowler per event. Cost of bowling and tournament expenses \$13.00 per bowler per event. Total = \$23.00 per event.

9. No entry money will be returned for any reason.

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

11. The Championship in both Men's and Women's Divisions will receive individual championship shirts. In the event of a tie for championship, lowest team handicap will receive shirts, cash prizes will be divided equally.

12a. Handicap (Men) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 240 and last season's 2022-2023 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of January 1, 2024. A male bowler whose current average of 21 games or more at time of entry is (10) pins or more higher than the previous season's average must use his current average. Male bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 175 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in the Joint Fraternal Tournament, the most recent 5 year history of Joint Fraternal Tournaments will be used. If none of the above apply, the average of 175 for men will be used. Male bowlers with an average over 240 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

12b. All participants will be governed by rating requirements of USBC Rule 319e. Average to be adjusted accordingly. Failure to use the current average shall disqualify score if submitted average is lower than correct average thereby resulting in a lower classification of more handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher. However corrections in averages may be permitted up to the completion of the first game of a series.

12c. Handicap (Women) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 200 and last season's 2022-2023 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of January 1, 2024. A female bowler whose current average of 21 games or more at time of entry is (10) pins or more higher than the previous season's average must use her current average. Female bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 150 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in the Joint Fraternal Tournament, the most recent 5 year history of Joint Fraternal Tournaments will be used. If none of the above apply, the average of 150 for women will be used. Female bowlers with an average over 200 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

13. Teams wishing to bowl all nine games as Team, Double and Singles in one day or a specific day or time must submit that request at time of entry. (Only if necessary)

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

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

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

17. Every consideration will be granted to request date/time preferences for out-of-town teams and individual bowlers. The success of the tournament depends upon all participants.

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

**ENTRIES CLOSE
MIDNIGHT, April 15, 2024**



Hospitality Questionnaire GCU, NSS & SCS Joint Bowling Tournament

*Please complete and return this questionnaire
with your bowling application.*

Bowler Name: _____

Friday Evening Buffet (*Free for Bowlers*)

_____ I will have a guest at the Friday Evening Buffet at Bowlero-Pittsburgh Lanes on Friday, May 17, 2024. Enclosed is my payment of \$15 per guest for the Friday Buffet.

Friday Buffet Guest _____

Friday Buffet Guest _____

Saturday Evening Bowlers' Cocktail Reception

Hot & Cold Hors D'oeuvres and two-hour Open Bar.

_____ **YES**, I will attend the Bowlers Reception at the Doubletree Greentree Hotel at 5:30PM ON SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024. I HAVE INCLUDED PAYMENT OF \$35 WITH MY BOWLING APPLICATION.

_____ I WILL HAVE A GUEST(S) AT THE BANQUET ON SATURDAY, MAY 18. ENCLOSED IS MY PAYMENT OF **\$65 PER GUEST** FOR THE RECEPTION.

SATURDAY GUEST _____

SATURDAY GUEST _____

SATURDAY GUEST _____

_____ **NO**, I WILL NOT ATTEND THE RECEPTION ON SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024.

**RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR BOWLING APPLICATION BY
APRIL 15, 2024.**

THANK YOU!

WREATH 54 ANNUAL MEETING – FEBRUARY 18, 2024

Held at Quaker Steak and Lube, Boardman, Ohio

Call to Order and Welcome: Vice President- Virginia Bartos

Opening Prayer: Nancy Kropolinsky

Pledge of Allegiance: Susan Babik

Roll Call of Officers and Members:

Loretta Smith, Sergeant of Arms

Judy Babik, Auditor

Virginia Bartos, Vice President

Nancy Kropolinsky, Recording Secretary

Mary Olexa, Financial Secretary

Members in attendance:

Acceptance of 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

Activity Reports:

Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Auditors

New Business

Walking program update:

Events promoted by the Supreme

Physical Fitness Board

New Motions

Election of Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Auditor, Auditor

Next Meeting Date: To be determined.

Adjournment

Nancy Kropolinsky

Recording Secretary

CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

Join the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius and the Slovak Catholic Federation in celebrating the Year of the Eucharist at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, PA. The Sisters will host this prayerful celebration which will include Eucharistic Adoration and a mini pilgrimage on Sunday, April 14, 2024, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Eucharistic Adoration will begin at 2:00 pm in Maria Hall. The Pilgrimage will take place on the grounds of Villa Sacred Heart, processing from Maria Hall to the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius with several stops for prayer along the way. Evening prayer, a reflection, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be held in the Basilica. All are welcome to this Eucharistic Service. The Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius is located at 1002 Railroad Street, Danville, PA 17821.

– Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SSCM

REPORTS OF THE SUPREME OFFICERS FOR 2023

(Continued from page 5)

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

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

With all the technological advances in our world today, our staff has implemented changes to make items more accessible and the changes have proven to be successful.

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

STATISTICS

The amount of Premium Income received during the year was \$5,275,000 of which \$1,900,000 was for life insurance premiums and \$3,375,000 was annuity premiums. The face amount of insurance written totaled \$5,600,000 and the total amount of insurance in force was \$238,309,000. The Society has 26,200 members with 28,450 certificates in force and 72 Assemblies/Wreaths. Assets as of 12/31/2023 were \$90,484,000 and the Adjusted Unassigned Funds total \$6,810,000. The Solvency ratio is a financially strong 107%.

COMMENTS

The Society was able to hold many successful activities throughout the year on the local, group, and national levels. I would like to commend our Supreme Physical Fitness Board on their efforts throughout the year, especially at our 50th International Slet held in Kutztown, PA. Our organization also successfully participated in the 34th Quadrennial Convention held in Scranton, PA.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

CONCLUSION

As the Slovak Catholic Sokol begins its 119th year as a Fraternal Benefit Society, the administrators of our organization will face numerous challenges concerning the life insur-

CAN VIRTUAL EVENTS REALLY LEAD TO PHYSICAL FITNESS?

By: Janice Matlon

Supreme Physical Fitness Board Member

As many of you have noticed in the last couple of months, the Supreme Physical Fitness Board and our Supreme Chaplain Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic have been leading a wide variety of virtual events. However, some of you might be asking yourselves, "What do virtual events have to do with physical fitness?" You might even say that they could be direct opposites of each other unless you're participating in a virtual fitness event (which we haven't offered... yet!).



In general, society is always in a debate about how much screen time is beneficial before it becomes detrimental. Well, let me try to explain how virtual events can, although indirectly, promote your physical health.

The first thing that comes to mind for me is that when I connect with others in any capacity, it helps to motivate me in my day. For example, when I step away from my work where I'm locked into my own individual world and take the time to interact with others, I'm snapped back into reality. A virtual event can take you away from your daily grind, whatever it looks like, and bring a different perspective to your day. A discussion with others about any given topic, whether that's a reflection question in Bible Study or a casual conversation in happy hour or book club, makes you think about things in a different way. It can serve as a simple break that leaves you refreshed when you resume the rest of your life once the Zoom meeting ends. For me, a conversation with others about a common topic gives me a boost of energy overall. You might find that it sparks you to want to clean the house like you've been putting off or to get on the treadmill in the corner of the room instead of using it as a place to gather random items! Maybe you find your energy to get up and active in other ways, though. If so, that is awesome, and I encourage you to keep doing what you are doing!

If you're finding yourself thinking that Zoom calls are "so

(Continued on page 22)

ance industry. I have the utmost confidence in our newly elected Supreme Board of Directors and our professionals that the membership of our fine organization will always come first. I look forward to working with our newly elected Supreme President, Larry M. Glugosh, and the entire Supreme Assembly for the good and betterment of our beloved Society.

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

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

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

Slovak Catholic Sokol SPFB Monthly Newsletter April 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.

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

Father Andrew Hvozdivic / Janice Matlon	Rosary will now be twice a month. (first and third Friday)	Father Andrew is unable to lead rosary on the 5 th , so it will be led by Janice Matlon --- make a note of the time change. Third Friday of each month - led by Janice Matlon 5:00PM (4:00PM CST)	April 5 th and April 19 th – time change 5:00PM (4:00PM CST)
Katie Swift	Youth Advisory Committee	7:00PM	April 1 st
Kristen Popik	STEM activities (children 14 and under)	7:00PM (day may vary each month)	April 15 th
Nancy Kropolinsky / Chris Antosy	Happy Hour / Games or Trivia	Third Thirsty Thursday of each month at 8:00PM EST	April 18 th
Dusan Dorich	Slovak History / language	Third Sunday of each month at 9:00PM EST	April 21 st
Katie Swift	Bible Study	Tuesdays at 8PM EST (Now that Lent has concluded, this will be once a month) c	April 23 rd
Zack Manyak	Book Club (will rotate between adult and youth books)	Adult (Apr, Sept, Nov) – 8:00PM EST Youth (May, Oct, Dec) **Book will be announced on Facebook at beginning of the month.	April 26 th

2024 Yearly Calendar of Events

May	June	July	Aug	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Bowling Tourney (17-19) Bowlero Lanes (Pittsburgh, PA) Join Hands Day	Family Fun Fest at Peek-n-Peak Resort in Clymer NY June 21-23 (Look for information on Facebook and on the website)	Virtual clinic (date TBD) July 20 th – National Sokol Sports Day - Each individual or group will do locally (details to follow)	Golf Tourney (9 -11) Treasure Lake, DuBois, PA	Pumpkin Carving Contest Costume 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)

The Walking Program is an ongoing activity. Keep track of your miles so that you can submit them at the end of the year to Nancy Kropolinsky at kropoinskynancy@gmail.com

Earn rewards each month by sending a photo and summary capturing the following monthly themes:

April- In observance of Easter, walk near or in a field of flowers.

May- Join Hands Day- the first Saturday in May is about uniting the older generation with the younger in a day of volunteering. Add a walk to your volunteering activity.

June- Father- Son walk in recognition of Men's Health Month.

July- Is National Ice Cream Month. After your walk, treat yourself to some ice cream.

August- Taking a walk is a great way to honor yourself during National Wellness Month.

September- In observance of International Day of Peace, September 21, promote peace by taking a walk with your loved ones.

October- Take a walk in a Pumpkin Patch to celebrate National Pumpkin Seed Day.

November- Walk with gratitude and thankful intentions.

Outreach Corner

**Andrea Tadlock
Supreme Vice President**

As part of our outreach program, we will have a dedicated charity to contribute to at each of our events. Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh has been chosen as the charity for the Bowling Tournament. At the tournament, we will have a basket raffle where participants can take chances to win. We will also accept monetary donations from individuals, groups, wreaths, and assemblies. If you wish to contribute to this cause, please mail a check to:

Kathy Watkins
7019 Highland Creek Drive
Bridgeville, PA 15017

All checks should be made out to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Sokol Forward Join Hands Day Planning

There is plenty of time left to prepare for Join Hands Day on May 4th. Plan with members of all ages from your Group and brainstorm fun ideas to help those in need. Let's work together and plan a fun day of helping others. "Sokol Forward" and make a difference! Feel free to contact me at vp@slovakcatholicsokol.org to discuss your ideas.

There will not be any virtual events in June, July, and August.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SUPREME SECRETARY AS OF 12/31/23

ASSETS	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 510,093	\$ 682,735	INCOME		
Investments - Bonds & Bills	82,626,271	87,949,279	Investment Income	\$ 3,330,758	\$ 3,465,093
Investments - Stocks	5,285,700	8,983,322	Amortization of IMR	42,644	67,820
First Mortgage Loans	544,282	564,321	Dividends on Stocks	225,443	324,673
Loans on Certificates	362,431	326,282	Interest on Mortgages	25,032	24,801
Accrued Interest Receivable	788,444	856,034	Interest on Certificate Loans	25,357	23,255
Sokol Building/Land	320,487	324,225	Sale of Cookbooks	283	528
Accounts Receivable	39,910	39,649	Rent Received - Sokol Building	113,700	111,890
Due From Groups	-	-	Life Premium Income	1,890,000	1,932,000
Prepaid Items	6,362	24,560	Annuity Income	3,260,000	3,592,000
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 90,483,980</u>	<u>\$ 99,750,407</u>	Suppl. Contract	125,145	-
			Miscellaneous Income	42,354	13,073
			Sale of Securities/ Amortization	299,258	762,898
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 9,379,974</u>	<u>\$ 10,318,031</u>
Life Reserves	\$ 74,016,202	\$ 82,189,360			
Asset Valuation Reserve	1,335,889	706,914	EXPENSES	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Interest Maintenance Reserve	53,228	386,792	Death Benefit Claims Paid	\$ 1,508,976	\$ 1,940,021
Reserve for Supplemental Contracts	2,644,286	3,116,573	Interest Expense	90,656	97,860
Reserve Emp.			Fraternal Expenses	643,751	652,005
Retirement Plan	5,015,835	4,987,780	General Expenses	1,113,285	1,185,456
Reserve for Convention	20,000	170,000	Employee Retirement Expenses	408,608	393,114
Claims Payable	205,012	256,701	Commissions	242,455	265,758
Conversion - Canadian Currency	4,483	4,765	Annuity Benefits	13,253,331	10,644,403
Accounts Payable	25,000	30,000	Taxes & Fees	75,201	34,197
Sokol Secure Fund	1,351,573	1,452,638	Reserve Increase	(8,057,000)	(5,023,371)
Mary Jane Rich Scholarship Fund	85,000	85,000	Cash Surrenders	302,359	263,444
Emil Slavik Scholarship Fund	100,000	100,000	TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 9,581,622</u>	<u>\$ 10,452,887</u>
Dr's Lesko Medical Scholarship Fund	20,000	20,000	TOTAL INCOME (LOSS)	<u>\$ (201,648)</u>	<u>\$ (134,856)</u>
Yencha Memorial Scholarship	26,800	26,800			
Krista L Glugosh Memorial Scholarship Fund	24,000	24,000			
Dividend Payable	50,000	50,000			
Advance Premiums	32,650	28,492			
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$ 85,009,958</u>	<u>\$ 93,635,815</u>			
Adjusted Unassigned Funds	<u>\$ 6,809,911</u>	<u>\$ 6,821,506</u>			
TOTAL LIABILITIES & SURPLUS	<u>\$ 90,483,980</u>	<u>\$ 99,750,407</u>			

MESSAGE FROM OUR SUPREME PRESIDENT

(Continued from page 2)

I am confident we have the leadership, experience and the culture to achieve our objectives in our business plan and make sound decisions for our organization.

Again, I sincerely hope all of our Slovak Catholic Sokol members enjoyed their Easter long weekend and I look forward to seeing you very soon.

May God bless all of you!

Larry M. Glugosh
Supreme President

GROUP 7 MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ATTENDED THE WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON PENGUINS HOCKEY GAME VS THE LEHIGH VALLEY PHANTOMS – MARCH 9, 2024





KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

April 2024

EARTH DAY
APRIL 22nd



The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970. It was founded to help people understand their actions and how they affect the Earth. Earth Day continues to help people think about how to protect and care for our Earth.



Happy Birthday to You!

Elsa Yang	4/3
Nathaniel Roote	4/7
Hannah Maslar	4/10
Hailey Swift	4/11
Adeline Antosy	4/13
McKenzie McLeaf Royle	4/23



What Can I Do To Help The Earth?

You can help by encouraging your parents to purchase eco-friendly items, by turning off the lights when you leave a room, and by using less water.

Here are some other ideas on how you can help look after the Earth.



Take shorter showers



Use LED lightbulbs



Recycle



KIDS' CORNER "Detský kútik"

April 2024

Spring Jokes



Decode the answers to these spring jokes.

Code

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

How excited was the gardener about spring?

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 19 15 5 24 3 9 20 5 4 8 5
 _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 23 5 20 8 9 19 16 12 1 14 20 19

When is it best to go on a trampoline?

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 19 16 18 9 14 7 20 9 13 5

What kind of bow can't be tied?

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 1 18 1 9 14 2 15 23

How does a bee brush its hair?

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 23 9 20 8 9 20 19
 _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 8 15 14 5 25 3 15 13 2



ASSEMBLY 59, WILKES-BARRE, PA ANNUAL MEETING

The 2024 annual meeting of Assembly 59, Wilkes-Barre, PA was held on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at the North End Slovak Citizens Club. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Tony Rasimas, President.

The following officers and members were present: Tony Rasimas, President; Jennifer Kuren, Vice President; Michael Horvath, Treasurer; Pam Lipski, Secretary; Frank Lipski, Auditor; Heather Horvath, Terri Palchanis, Bob Palchanis, Heidi Knorr, and Kenny Coley.

President Rasimas offered greetings to the members and thanked them for attending this meeting, which meets the Assembly's obligation of the Slovak Catholic Sokol Bylaws. President Rasimas then asked Treasurer, Michael Horvath to open the meeting with a prayer. After the prayer, the body said the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the 2023 annual meeting held on March 2, 2023 were reviewed. A Motion to accept the minutes was made by Jenn Kuren, 2nd by Kenny Coley. Motion passed.

Assembly Treasurer, Michael Horvath provided the 2023 financial report of Assembly 59. He reported all Assembly's banking and checking accounts, Sokol Secure fund, income, and expenses were audited by the Assembly's Auditor, Frank Lipski. The Treasurer provided a detailed report of the Assembly's income of \$3,446 and its expenses of \$4,061. A Motion to accept the Treasurer's financial report was made by Tony Rasimas, 2nd by Frak Lipski. Motion passed.

The Assembly's activities were discussed:

Twelve members attended the 77th International Bowling Tournament held May 19 -20, 2023 in Buffalo, NY.

The Assembly had representation at the 50th International Slet held July 12-16, 2023, at Kutz town University.

Nineteen Assembly members were delegates at the 34th Quadrennial Convention held August 5-8, 2023, at the Scranton Hilton in Scranton, PA.

Fourteen Assembly members took part in 68th International Golf Tournament held August 18-20, 2023, in Canfield, Ohio.

Assembly members worked at the 85th Group 7 Sokol Day held September 2, 2023, at Plains Pavilion. Members helped make goulash, potato pancakes, haluski and did the cooking, along with helping at the other sections of the event.

The Annual Assembly Golf tournament was held September 24, 2021 at the Hollenback Golf Course in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Forty members and friends took part in the tournament.

President Rasimas informed the members the Society's Supreme Secretary; Scott T. Pogorelec informed him some other Assembly and Wreaths are closing and their members will be transferred to Assembly 59. This was due to the death of the one remaining office in an Assembly and no one to take over a Wreath because of the age of the one officer in the Wreath.

Next President Rasimas informed the body of 2024 National, Group and Assembly events and activities.

The International Bowling Tournament is May 12-19, 2024, in Pittsburgh, PA. International Golf Tournament is August 9 -11, 2024 at Treasure Lake, Dubois, PA

Jenn Kuren made a motion, 2nd by Frank Lipski to provide the snacks for the Wilkes-Barre Scranton Penguins Hockey game at the Penguins Ice Lounge on March 9, 2024. Motion passed.

Kenny Coley made a motion, 2nd by Frank Lipski to provide \$25 to each bowler and golfer at the international tournaments. Motion passed.

The annual Assembly 59 Golf Tournament will be decided when the Hollenback Golf course opens for the season.

Assembly members will again work and support the 86th Sokol Day when the dates is approved by the Plains Pavilion board.

Motion made by Terri Palchanis, 2nd by Pam Lipski to close Old Business of National, Group and Assembly. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Donations:

Pam Lipski made a motion, 2nd by Jenn Kuren to donate \$100 to North End Slovak Citizens Club for use of their facility. Motion passed.

Jenn Kuren made a motion, 2nd by Frank Lipski to donate \$100 to Slovak Catholic Federation. Motion passed.

Michael Horvath made a motion, 2nd by Frank Lipski, to make other donations that may come to light in the future, if funding is available. Motion passed.

Motion made by Tony Rasimas, 2nd Michael Horvath to close New Business. Motion passed.

The next meeting will be announced in the Falcon and posted on the Club's bulletin board and published in the local newspaper.

Meeting adjourned at 7: 30 p.m. Motion made by Heidi Knorr, 2nd by Bob Palchanis. Motion passed.

President Rasimas asked Treasurer Michael Horvath to close the meeting with a prayer.

Zdar Boh!

Respectfully recorded and submitted by
Pam Lipski, *Assembly 59 Secretary*

JOIN HANDS DAY – MAY 4, 2024

Join Hands Day is a volunteer event that started 24 years ago to inspire adults and youth to volunteer together in their community. Supporting your community and passing the volunteer spirit to our Sokol members of all ages is a wonderful opportunity. I am encouraging all our members to participate in this day to spread the joy of volunteering in your communities. There are no limits to what you can do!



After completing your activities, please send me your pictures and videos at vp@slovakcatholicsokol.org ; I will publish them in the Sokol Falcon and post them on Slovak Catholic Sokol social media. Volunteering is a beautiful experience for those on the receiving end and those giving. I cannot wait to see what our Sokol members do to spread the joy on May 4th!

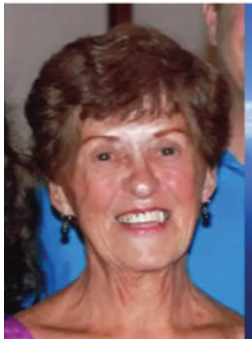
God Bless you in all that you do.

Andrea M. Tadlock, *Supreme Vice President*

OBITUARIES

CAROL J. GONDA 1941– 2024

Carol Gonda, 83, passed away Thursday, January 18, 2024, at her home, from complications of ALS, (Lou Gehrig disease).



Carol was born January 10, 1941, in Youngstown, OH, the daughter of Stephen Garcar and Elizabeth Yohman. She was a 1958 graduate of Chaney High School and a lifelong area resident. She worked as a bank teller for many years at Dollar Bank, which later became PNC Bank.

She was a parishioner of Our Lady of Sorrows at St. Mathias Catholic Church in Youngstown, OH, where she was very active in the church. She was a member of the Infant Jesus of Prague Guild and the Our Lady of Sorrows Senior Club and always enjoyed working at the Slovak Fest.

She was an active member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Wreath 54. She attended many conventions and bowling tournaments.

Her husband, Joe Gonda, whom she married September 24, 1966, passed away January 28, 2000.

Carol will be deeply missed and always remembered by her children, Mary (Steve) Liversage of Poland, Kathy (Mike) O’Shaughnessy, also of Poland and Joe “My Joey” (Mollie) Gonda of Canfield; her grandchildren, Nick (Anna Bue) and Steffy Liversage, Pdraig and Braeden O’Shaughnessy, Maria (Dan) Becker, Amanda, Alissa, Michael and Theresa Gonda; her great-grandson, Orion Liversage; sisters, Judy Birmingham, Patty Gordulic and Mary Gonda; her brother, Steve Garcar and many nieces and nephews.

Besides her parents and her husband, Joe, she was preceded in death by her brothers, Bob Garcar and Jim Garcar and her sister, Bernice Smith.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Mathias Catholic Church on January 27, with internemnt following at Lake Park Cemetery.

PATRICIA HOLECKO OBITUARY 1941 – 2004



Patricia A. Holecko, 82, passed away unexpectedly at home on January 5, 2024. She was born November 15, 1941 in Youngstown, OH, the daughter of Frank J. and Ann Amodio Holecko.

She was a 1959 graduate of Ursuline High School, received a B.S. in education from YSU, and did post-graduate work in education and health at YSU and Kent State. She was a

teacher for 30 years, five years in the parochial schools, and 25 years in the Youngstown public schools, retiring in 1990. She began a second career lasting 10 years as a massage therapist, a profession she studied prior to retirement. Pat’s favorite hobbies were golfing, bowling, and watching the Cleveland Guardians.

She was an active member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Wreath 54.

She will be deeply missed by two siblings, Nancy (George) Cap of Poland, and Robert Holecko of Scottsdale, Arizona; two nieces, Michele Laws, Kelly Ann Cap; two nephews, Michael Cap of Henderson Nevada, and Dr. Matthew M. Holecko II of Scottsdale, Arizona; great-niece, Sarah Laws; numerous cousins; and long-time friend, Donna.

Family and friends gathered to pay their respects on Friday, January 19, 2024 at the Rossi Brothers and Lellio Funeral Home, 4442 South Avenue in Boardman, OH followed by a memorial service.

CLIFFORD MOELLER OBITUARY

Age 86, son of the late Joseph and Marie, passed away peacefully on February 18th with his family by his side. Beloved husband of Veronica (Zamiska). Loving father of Edward (Janice), Sharon Monahan (Bob Paytas), Diane (Bob Nolen), Clifford Jr., and Keith. Grandfather of Joseph, Benjamin, Katie, Marisa, Matthew, Alaina, Clifford III, Jeremy and 14 great-grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews and his devoted caretakers, Angie and Karen. Cliff was the brother of the late Madeline “Honey”



Hirt, Mildred Page, Gert Bielewicz, Joseph, Kenneth and Regis Moeller.

He was a proud U.S. Army Veteran, retired from ABF and a member of Teamsters Local 249 and former President of Group 14 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. He was also a member of the NSS and Holy Angels Church. He will be remembered as one of Santa’s best helpers and be missed by all.

Mass of Christian Burial was held February 15 in St. Sylvester Church, Blessed Trinity Parish in Pittsburgh, PA on February 24.

YOUR BENEFICIARIES

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


IN MEMORIAM
JANUARY 2024

ASSEMBLY/ WREATH	MEMBER	AGE	DATE OF DEATH
Assembly 28	Jeffrey Richard Martin, Douglas, MA	65	December 5, 2023
Assembly 59	Rosalie Salansky, Dallas, PA	94	November 28, 2023
Assembly 59	Theresa Kopko, Wilkes-Barre, PA	92	January 16, 2024
Assembly 72	Bernadine M. Schumaker, Allentown, PA	84	December 17, 2023
Assembly 78	Paula Wilson, Bethlehem, PA	72	September 14, 2023
Assembly 78	Theresa Seaman, Hellertown, PA	100	January 18, 2024
Assembly 78	Dorothy M. Green, Bethlehem, PA	94	January 26, 2024
Assembly 86	Alberta A. Sapiego, Exeter, PA	94	January 1, 2024
Assembly 108	Thomas Stas, Youngstown, OH	83	December 25, 2023
Assembly 108	James David Dill, Struthers, OH	79	December 31, 2023
Assembly 162	Mary Cherepon, Phoenix, AZ	100	November 18, 2022
Assembly 162	Anthony S. Catello, Orangevale, CA	40	January 7, 2024
Assembly 163	Lucille J. Lutz, Monongahela, PA	90	January 22, 2024
Assembly 167	Tina Marie Savage, Akron, OH	44	January 3, 2024
Assembly 261	Charles Rimby, Kutztown, PA	93	January 21, 2024
Assembly 312	Joseph J. Lichman, Folsom, PA	66	November 9, 2023
Assembly 312	Andrew Sova, Garfield, NJ	97	December 20, 2023
Assembly 312	Mary Anderson, Superior, WI	99	January 6, 2024
Wreath 1	Yolanda M. Vasil, Brandon, FL	70	January 3, 2024
Wreath 15	Patricia E. Karbowsky, Allenport, PA	84	October 22, 2023
Wreath 22	Beverly J. Burkett, Brockway, PA	66	December 30, 2023
Wreath 54	Edith M. Babik, Youngstown, OH	92	May 22, 2023
Wreath 54	Carol J. Gonda, Youngstown, OH	83	January 18, 2024
Wreath 54	Patricia Ann Holecko, Youngstown, OH	82	January 8, 2024
Wreath 85	David Kent Mihalik, Jacksonville, FL	70	November 24, 2023
Wreath 85	Joseph Balobek, Pittsburgh, PA	92	January 4, 2024
Wreath 86	Jaclyn Jean DeAngelo, Torrington, CT	39	February 14, 2023
Wreath 93	Wayne Carl Hanusa, Sauk City, WI	83	January 17, 2024
Wreath 147	Mary Ann Starzec, Laurel, MD	82	December 15, 2023

FEBRUARY 2024

Assembly 6	Alberta Ann Medovic, Wheeling, WV	88	January 23, 2024
Assembly 9	Lawrence Beausoleil, Waterford, CT	61	February 9, 2024
Assembly 10	Cyril Risavi, Greenville, PA	90	January 29, 2024
Assembly 16	Andrew E. Olesko, Jr., Adah, PA	84	February 4, 2024
Assembly 16	Clifford A. Moeller, Sr., Pittsburgh, PA	86	February 18, 2024
Assembly 28	Joseph B. Brody, Webster, MA	86	February 5, 2024
Assembly 34	David W. Pasicznyk, Stacy, MN	68	December 5, 2023
Assembly 59	Anthony J. Shurmanek, Wilkes-Barre, PA	89	January 4, 2024
Assembly 72	Kathleen A. Banas, Quakertown, PA	76	January 11, 2024
Assembly 78	Mary Beth Whitehead, S. Riding, VA	59	September 5, 2023
Assembly 82	Robert Vincent Martyak, Hubbard, OH	66	January 7, 2024
Assembly 104	Rita Collins, Pittsburgh, PA	81	September 11, 2011
Assembly 104	Virginia H. Costa, Allison Park, PA	94	February 13, 2024
Assembly 108	Clifford P. Chuey, Campbell, OH	76	July 8, 2023
Assembly 155	Dolores Milanek, Reading, PA	92	May 2, 2023

Assembly 162	Rose O'Brien, Longs, SC	97	February 21, 2024
Assembly 167	Frances M. Lessiter, Marshallville, OH	82	January 16, 2024
Assembly 167	Irene J. Zimmerman, Mooresville, NC	92	February 9, 2024
Assembly 188	Thomas Radocha, Summit Hill, PA	76	January 7, 2024
Assembly 261	Joseph L. Gombar, Pottstown, PA	96	June 12, 2023
Assembly 312	Ann Csejka of Clifton, NJ	68	February 14, 2024
Wreath 1	Diane Santaniello, Seymour, CT	67	January 18, 2024
Wreath 15	Gary A. Pravlik, Mt. Pleasant, PA	66	December 30, 2023
Wreath 15	Cecilia Weibl, Valparaiso, IN	94	February 1, 2024
Wreath 29	Mary Ellen Magyar, Nashville, TN	82	January 30, 2024
Wreath 34	Gerald Gonda, B. Heights, OH	71	January 13, 2024
Wreath 81	Donald R. Clark, Munster, IN	92	May 24, 2023
Wreath 81	Eleanor Biel, Schererville, IN	97	January 23, 2024
Wreath 85	Lisa Ann Pasco, Conway, PA	58	January 30, 2024
Wreath 86	Michael Brady, Winsted, CT	41	January 21, 2024
Wreath 93	Dorothy S. Jameson, Franklin, WI	97	December 7, 2023
Wreath 93	Joua Lee, St. Paul, MN	89	February 25, 2024
Wreath 168	Theresa Immer, Somerset, NJ	98	January 23, 2024

SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS APPEAL OF THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC FEDERATION

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is in its 46th year raising money to assist the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome with its day-to-day operations. The Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors in addition to collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry. A direct mailing asking for donations was sent in February to local district and branch leaders from the four Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations, members of the Slovak Catholic Federation, clergy with Slovak ancestry, and previous donors.

As of March 18, the 2024 Appeal has received \$12,600.54 from 118 donors. Among the 27 donations received from Catholic Slovak Fraternal Branches and Districts, Assembly 11, Assembly 34, Assembly 59, Assembly 78, Assembly 162, and Group 2 of the Slovak Catholic Sokol have donated a combined total of \$700. Donations to date have also been received from 1 church, 20 clergy and religious, and 70 individuals. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

All wishing to contribute to the 2024 Appeal are asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. **Gifts received after November 30, 2024 will be credited toward the 2025 Appeal.** Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of

Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, OH. National President is Reverend Andrew S. HvozdoVIC, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake, PA and Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, PA Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Parochial Vicar with Senior Priest status at Our Lady of Grace Church, Penndel, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.



46TH ANNUAL SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS APPEAL

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Amount \$ _____

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

THE MUSEUM OF SLOVAK EMIGRATION TO NORTH AMERICA

BY MICHAEL J. KOPANIC, JR., PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS

On May 6, 2023, the Museum of Slovak Emigration to North America (Múzeum vysťahovaectva z územia Slovenska do Severnej Ameriky) officially opened in the eastern Slovak village of Ťahyňa, which is situated in lower Zemplín. Professor Martin Javor of Prešov University founded the museum, put together the collection, and continues to gather documents, fraternal items, and photos, which portray the life of Slovak emigrants.

In June 2023, Professor Martin Javor accompanied by his daughter Anna, visited the USA on short trip, stopping at some key Slovak and Rusyn sites in the USA. He was checking for resources for researching Slovak immigrants and to find materials for the museum.

One of the first places they visited was Perth Amboy, New Jersey, which 60 years ago was center of Slovak immigrants on the east coast. His visit there included the home of his ancestors, St. Nicholas Byzantine Church, the site of Holy Trinity Church (built in 1902 and demolished in the 1990s), and St. Nicholas cemeteries.

While in New Jersey, he visited the Home Office of Slovak Catholic Sokol in Passaic, NJ. He collected 1400 kg of books and other materials on a pallet, which he sent to Slovakia for the museum. His cousin Milan Javor and his cousin's husband assisted in packing the materials, as he is striving to save the cultural heritage of Slovaks in America.

Next, he traveled to Wilkes-Barre, PA where he visited the Memorial room of Jozef Murgaš, the site of his Sacred Heart (closed), Slovak Lutheran church of St. Matthew Slovak Lutheran Church (closed), and the grave of Jozef Murgaš in the former Slovak Botanical Garden in Dallas, PA. Audrey Wagner Cunfer, and Melinda Smith served as guides for his visits here.

Heading west, the Javors then stopped to visit the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA, the former Slovak girls' school, St. Cyril Academy. Sister Loretta Marie, the Director of Jankola Library, accompanied them on a guided tour. Professor Javor was struck by the beauty of the Basilica of St. Cyril and Methodius. The colorful stained-glass windows are decorated with details and subjects from the history of immigration. They concluded their stop with a visit of the Jankola library with its rich collection of books from Slovakia.

The last stop of the Javors was in the Cleveland area where they visited the Slovak Institute at St. Andrew's Benedictine Abbey. Milan Kobulský, the director of the Slovak Institute, served as their guide. They all agreed to cooperate in saving the cultural heritage of Slovaks in America.

After Javor returned to Slovakia, I met him in Košice on July 16, 2023, and he took me to tour the Kasigarda Museum, so I was able to personally see his rich collection of Slovak immigrant memorabilia. Later that week, I spent the day with him at Prešov University and he showed me the wealth of archival material and newspapers he had collected. He noted that there is a great deal of interest in Slovak emigration to North America in Slovakia among his young students but sees interest fading in the USA as ethnic churches close and most of the younger generation ignores its immigrant roots. For Slovaks, rediscovering the history of emigrants is largely unknown, as the communists suppressed this aspect of Slovakia's history.

Finally, in early November 2023, Professor Javor visited me at my home and copied some of my documents and a manuscript which concerned Slovak immigrants. He went on to spend sever-



Ťahyňa, home of Kasigarda, the Museum of Slovak Emigration to N. America (photo: Michael Kopanic).



Prof Martin Javor showing Museum of Slovak Emigration to North America (photo: Michael Kopanic).

al days with Bishop Larry Kulick at the Greensburg Diocese and toured a number of churches there and in the Pittsburgh Diocese.

On April 20, 2024, he will be delivering a keynote address at the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library (NCSML) in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The Symposium is sponsored by the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International. For info, go to: <https://cgisi.org/2024-cgisi-symposium>.

If you are traveling to Slovakia to visit the Museum and please contact Professor Martin Javor, to arrange a visit. The Kasigarda website is: <http://www.kasigarda.sk/en/kasigarda-2/>. There also is a Facebook site under title "Kasigarda. Múzeum vysťahovaectva z územia Slovenska do Severnej Ameriky". Kasigarda's Facebook site is: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100054841476795>.

Donations via Paypal and/or an in-person visit to the museum are very welcome. He is also interested in rare books and original documents and will pay for their shipping. For Paypal, send donations to: javorisko@gmail.com or Martin.Javor@kasigarda.com. You may contact Professor Javor by e-mail at javorisko@gmail.com.

CAN VIRTUAL EVENTS REALLY LEAD TO PHYSICAL FITNESS?

(Continued from page 11)

2020,” what I’m wondering is: do you interact with your Sokol friends from other groups outside of our normal international tournaments and traditional events? My guess is that most of you do not, which brings me to the primary goal of the SPFB-led virtual events: building camaraderie so that you might be motivated to go to an event that you would not normally outside of the Sokol world. Do you normally pick up a bowling ball or a golf club? Maybe this is now the year you’re persuaded to try it! By connecting with fellow Sokol members monthly or multiple times a month, our hope is that it encourages participation in all capacities within our organization. It brings the Slovak Catholic Sokols to the front of your mind more than just on occasion throughout the year. Hopefully it brings an increasing number of members out to our bowling and golf tournaments that certainly contain the physical activities we are promoting as the SPFB! We specifically hope to build up participation with kids more as well with book clubs for youth, STEM activities, and a youth advisory committee to bring in events that would help generate ideas that kids, adolescents, and even young adults want to see...unlike us “true” adults trying to run the show and take our best guesses!

Maybe I am stating the obvious to some of you, and it might be even more obvious if you have taken the time to join any one of our Zoom calls in either February or March and know that there is plenty to laugh at and memories to be shared on almost all calls that take place. From ridiculous comments that are made to amusing pictures that are shared from one screen to the next, you never know what to expect, and it might bring more smiles to your day. When your days become a little bit brighter, it could bring a spark of energy to the day itself or encourage you to come on out to any tournament later this year. Whether it’s book club, happy hour, STEM activities, Bible study, lessons in our Slovak history, or the Rosary, may these events help to unite us as members of the Slovak Catholic Sokols and promote participation across the board.

Sokol Calendar

(Continued from page 3)

danish will be available. All members are welcome to attend and assist in planning events for Spring and Summer. We are hoping to increase participation in our events. – **Christine Manyak**, *Group 3 Secretary*

JUNE 9, 2024

A **PORK AND SAUERKRAUT DINNER** to be held at Incarnation Of Our Lord Church, Bethlehem, PA. Sponsored by the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Assembly 78. All proceeds benefit Incarnation Of Our Lord Parish. Mass at 2 p.m. and dinner to follow at LaBuda Reception Hall. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased at the Church or contact Fran Blannar at 610-509-8059, Assembly 78 President.

ZA SOCIALIZMU PÝCHA PRIEMYSLU, DNES HLÁSI HROMADNÉ PREPÚŠŤANIE

Trenčiansky výrobca obrábacích strojov spoločnosť Trens končí v konkurze a hromadne prepúšťa. O prácu príde vyše 200 zamestnancov. Končí sa tak 85-ročný príbeh firmy z Považia, ktorá zažila svoju najväčšiu slávu za socializmu. Počas svojho najväčšieho rozmachu, teda v 80. rokoch, zamestnávala skoro 4 800 ľudí.

Firma priznala, že zamestnancom ešte dlhuje novembrové výplaty. Tie by však mali byť uhradené z garančného fondu. „V súvislosti s licenčnými nariadeniami nám neboli povolené rôzne vývozy a prišli sme takto o množstvo zákaziek a zálohových platieb a to intervenovalo výrazne chod spoločnosti, dramaticky,“ povedal pre spravodajský portál Marko Daniš, predseda predstavenstva spoločnosti Trens. Spoločnosť v minulosti vyrábala tisíce sústruhov ročne a vyvážala svoje produkty až do 85 krajín celého sveta.

Úpadok spoločnosti sa začal období po páde komunizmu a privatizácii podniku. Dobré je to vidieť aj na počtoch zamestnancov. Vrchol zamestnanosti mala firma v 80. rokoch, keď pre ňu pracovalo skoro 4 800 ľudí. Strmý pád a niekoľko vln prepúšťania prišli v nasledujúcich rokoch. V roku 2004 vo firme pracovalo už len zhruba 700 ľudí, v roku 2009 došlo k ďalšiemu prepúšťaniu a firma sa náhle stencila na 500 zamestnancov. Tento rok dostalo výpoveď aj posledných 200 ľudí. Aj keď firma v roku 2022 skončila v malom zisku, predtým dlhé roky končila v hľbokej strate.

Úpadok spoločnosti je vidieť v posledných rokoch aj z jej tržieb, ktoré kontinuálne klesali. Kým v roku 2018 mala tržby na úrovni skoro 15 miliónov eur, predviani to bolo už len vyše 10 miliónov eur. V Trenčíne tak končí ďalší z veľkých socialistických podnikov. Výrobné haly teraz zrejme čaká rozpredaj. Mesto Trenčín tak prichádza po výrobcovi oblekov spoločnosti Ozeta a producentovi textilii spoločnosti Merina o ďalšiu spoločnosť s bohatou históriou.

Región Trenčín si však drží už dlhodobo nízku nezamestnanosť. Nájsť si novú prácu tak zrejme pre bývalých zamestnancov Trensu nebude zložitá. Nezamestnanosť v kraji bola za november tretia najnižšia na Slovensku, nižšie hodnoty vykazoval Bratislavský a Trnavský kraj. Hlavný ukazovateľ nezamestnanosti bol v okrese Trenčín na úrovni 1,96 percenta a bol tak najnižší z deviatich okresov Trenčianskeho kraja.

História podniku siaha až do roku 1937. Práve vtedy sa česká firma Walter rozhodla časť výroby leteckých motorov presunúť na Slovensko. Významným obdobím pre spoločnosť boli 50. roky, keď reštrukturalizácia priniesla zmenu výrobného programu s orientáciou na výrobu hrotových sústruhov špeciálnej techniky na vojenské účely.

Na stránke podniku sa ďalej píše, že preň bol dôležitý rok 1963, keď sa stal samostatným národným podnikom s názvom TOS Trenčín. V nasledujúcich rokoch patrili pod TOS Trenčín podniky v Galante, Spišskej Novej Vsi a prevádzka v Hornom Srní. Podniku sa darilo a v roku 1986 v ňom pracovalo až 4 764 pracovníkov. – *Pravda.sk*



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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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