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Fraternally Yours™

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

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SEPTEMBER 2012



120th
Anniversary
OF FRATERNAL SERVICE

**First Catholic Slovak
Ladies Association**

Starting on page 4

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,

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The Family Treasure

A 6-year-old girl I'll call Elizabeth knocked over a display case that contained a much-cherished vase once owned by her great-grand-mother. Her mom loved that vase and frequently referred to it as the family treasure. The vase hit the floor with a loud crash and shattered into pieces. Elizabeth, shocked and frightened at what she'd done, screamed and began sobbing.

Her mom came running into the room fearing the worst. Seeing the shattered vase, her heart sank. Then she saw Elizabeth sitting on the floor wailing. "I'm sorry, Mommy. I'm sorry, Mommy. I broke the family treasure!"

Seeing despair on her daughter's face, the mother's heart plunged further.

Faced with two powerful and conflicting instincts — one toward anger and blame, the other toward compassion and forgiveness, she sat next to Elizabeth, pulled her on her lap, and kissed her tears. "Sweetheart, when I ran in here, I was terrified that something bad had happened to our family's most precious treasure. But thank God, you're okay. Elizabeth, you are the family treasure."

Elizabeth's mom turned what could have been a painful incident and a lifelong source of guilt into an enduring source of affirmation and worthiness.

I wonder if I would have had the presence of mind to realize in the instant after an upsetting event that I could choose my reaction and that my choice would have a permanent impact on someone I love.

The reaction of Elizabeth's mom was nothing short of heroic and stands as a reminder that, even in the face of powerful emotions, we do have choices — and they really matter.

Dear Friends,

This month be aware of the choices you face each day and remember that they really matter. We teach our family and friends values with everything we say and do. The trouble is we're not always aware of what value we're teaching. Stop, think and remember you can always choose to **act** with kindness and compassion rather than to **react** with anger and emotion.

~ A kind heart is a fountain of gladness, making everything in its vicinity freshen into smiles.

~Washington Irving

Until next Month . . . Warmly, Carolyn



MORAL GUIDES FOR CATHOLICS – PRECEPTS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, National Chaplain

My dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

At the ending of our Fortieth Quadrennial Convention in Baltimore, Maryland last autumn, Mary Therese Tylus, a member of the Anna Hurban District of Chicago, came up to introduce herself to me. In the course of our conversation, Mary Therese asked if I would consider coming to their District and be the celebrant of their annual Saint Anne Day Mass in July 2012. It is easy for me to say “yes” when an event is over eight months away but those months fly by quickly. But I was honored that she asked me to keep the date open. And when the annual district presidents met at our home office in Beachwood, Ohio, this past May, the president of the Chicago District, Mary Therese, reminded me of my October commitment. Then there were a slew of e-mails that were sent to me that were full of details from Mary Therese, whom I soon nicknamed “Nervous Nellie of Chicago”! I thought I was one full of details but Mary Therese wins the gold medal! We filled in what I thought were all the blank spaces and the celebration was well planned.

How pleasant a day and Mass it was that included members of our Association not only from the Chicago area but also from Indiana and Wisconsin. The Mass was celebrated at Saint Linus Church in Oak Lawn, Illinois. The members of the Chicago District greeted fellow members and their guests with coffee, tea, and a variety of pastries. It was nice to hear all the pleasantries being exchanged and people

renewing their friendships. After that well planned period of hospitality, it was time for the celebration of Holy Mass. The music was very inspirational but the booklet I had made for the Mass had two lines of the four verse opening hymn not printed. (I was told that I should have e-mailed a copy to you know who and she would have caught the error! Nervous Nellie struck again and I had to be humbled.) The cantor was Susan Raymond and the organist was Mike Zlowaski, both wonderful in their musical talents. All the members of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and their guests actively participated in the Mass by their responses and their melodic voices! Before I began my homily, I asked everyone to get comfortable in their pews because I would not go over forty-five minutes with my homily!

The readers were Nervous Nellie and Jarmila Hlubocky, Chicago District Financial Secretary. Jarmila read the second reading in Slovak and then in English. Karen Morgenroth, S455 President, composed and read the prayers of the faithful. Members of the Chicago District acted as ushers and dutifully took up the Offertory collection at the appropriate time. The two servers of the Mass are parishioners of Saint Linus Church, Kristen DiPietro and Andrew Gacek and Judy Tybor-Knizner was the crucifer. Deacon Joseph Stalcup

performed his diaconal ministry throughout the liturgy.

Following the celebration of the Mass, the Chicago District hosted a luncheon at a nearby catering hall. The tables were delightfully set and plants arranged in the center of the tables. Holy Cards with the image of and prayer to Saint Anne were distributed each person present. All in all a great time was had by all, an excellent way to celebrate one hundred twenty years of fraternal progress in the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Chicago-style.

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the third paragraph of article 2043 states: “The faithful also have the duty of providing for the material needs of the Church, each according to his/her abilities”. Last month, I wrote how important it is for us to give of our TIME for the needs of our Church and the institutions associated with the Catholic Church. As you can see from above, it is important that we give of our TALENTS in serving the Church and its institutions. The planning of an event with hospitality, celebration of the Eucharist, and fraternal sharing in meals takes talents from everyone involved in order to make the event and day successful.

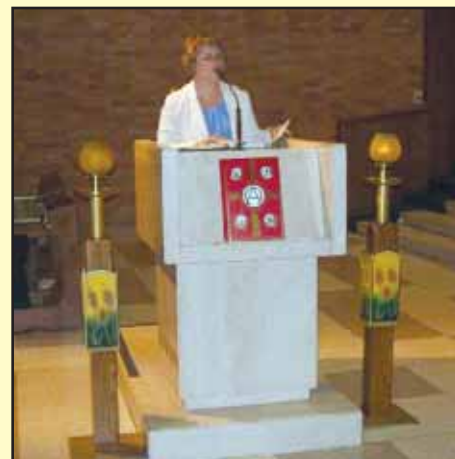
It takes TALENT to provide for both the material needs of the Church as well as spiritual needs of the Church. How much time do you share with your parish community and FCSLA? To be concluded . . .



L-R: Kristen DiPietro, Deacon Joseph Stalcup and Andrew Gacek.



L-R in back: Deacon Joseph Stalcup with Monsignor hiding; Middle, L-R: Lectors: Jarmila Hlubocky, Chicago District Financial Secretary, and Mary Therese Tylus, Chicago District President; Servers, L-R: Andrew Gacek and Kristen DiPietro.

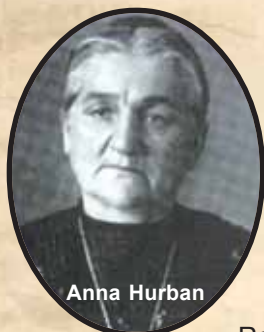


Lector: Mary Therese Tylus, Chicago District President.

The Rhythm of Our Work Goes on With Strength and Determination after 120 Years . . . !

"Great leadership requires the vision to see what's possible and the dedication to make it a reality"

Anonymous



Anna Hurban

We are in the midst of celebrating the 120th anniversary of our beloved Zenska Jednota. In August, 1892, called together by our Foundress, Mrs. Anna Hurban, a Slovak immigrant wife and mother, 15 delegates from different parts of our country met for our first convention in a church parish hall in Cleveland, OH. After consulting with Rev. Father Stephen Furdek, a leader in the Slovak-American community at the time, Mrs. Hurban already had convinced eight other Slovak women in Cleveland to form a national fraternal organization to provide death benefits, to improve the moral and social conditions of its members and to aid and assist members in times of need.

Those fifteen delegates and the first national officers were representatives from various parts of the United States where Slovaks lived: Cleveland, Minneapolis, Pittsburgh, Johnstown, Terre Haute and Yonkers. The delegates chose our name, our Patron Saint, St. Ann, and our purpose, which remain to this day. What a forward thinking woman Mrs. Hurban must have been!

How many organizations, whether businesses or fraternal benefit societies, have survived, let alone grown and thrived, after 120 years?

During this landmark anniversary year, it is important to note that the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is positioned well for a period of sustained managed growth. Our board of directors and managing officers are committed to take the steps necessary to manage that growth through product changes, continued monitoring of trends in key financial and other indicators, and study and implementation of appropriate infrastructure modification.

A.M. Best agreed with us when we articulated this philosophy and business strategy to them and we attained an A- (Excellent) rating in May of this year.

We must continue to find new and innovative ways to build financial and fraternal strength for our members, while striving to increase our membership. We have reconstituted

our board strategic planning committees to focus on key initiatives and we have appointed the Bylaws' Revision Committee, as defined by our 40th Convention, which we anticipate will begin its significant and historic work in the fall of this year.

Yes, the rhythm of our work goes on, as our 414 branches continue to lead fraternal and charitable works in hundreds of communities in the country, our districts lead business and fraternal events, our scholarship program provides over \$250,000 in scholarship awards to fine young members for their education, and our financial products continue to attract an increasing number of new members every year.

Projects and programs are wonderful, but we can only be a premier fraternal benefit society that promotes our Catholic values and the traditions of our Slavic cultures if we embody them in our daily lives and in our work for the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. Only through an overarching spirit of caring and cooperation for and by everyone — from our officers and board of directors to every

continued on page 5



Cynthia Maleski

Prvá konvencia I.K.S.Ž.J., odbývaná pri osade sv. Ladislava v Cleveland, Ohio



Vrchný rad (z ľava na pravo): Juraj Onda, Anna Ondrej, Anna Hudec, Anna Stanko, Barbara Onda, vlp. Ján Martvoň. **Stredný rad:** Alžbeta Brendza, Anna Gruss, Alžbeta Degro, Maria Soták, Alžbeta Susa. **Spodný rad:** Juraj Mihalčík, Maria Mihalčík, Maria Cisár, Ilona Ratkovich, Anna Hurban, Maria Onda a Anna Struňák.

St. Ann Statue Blessed and Dedicated

In honor of the Association's 120th Anniversary, National Chaplain Monsignor Peter Polando had a beautiful statue of St. Ann refurbished and repainted as a gift to the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. Monsignor blessed and dedicated the statue at the June Board of Director Meeting.



Pictured above are Monsignor Polando blessing the St. Ann statue and members of the National Board of Directors following the dedication ceremony.

120 Years . . . ! *continued from page 4*

member — can we chart a steady and strong course to achieve this vision for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren, and for those in our communities we wish to help.

We have recently hung a crucifix in our board room to remind us why we are Catholic, we have dedicated a new statue of St. Ann inside the home office and we have placed a complete handmade woman's Slovak national costume in our reception area. These are daily reminders of our roots, mission and vision.

As we celebrate this occasion with events in our districts and branches, let us rededicate ourselves to the same values and grit that our foremothers displayed in charting new territory in their time. Let us have the courage, working together, to do as Mrs. Hurban and her band of sisters did 120 years ago!

**God Bless the First Catholic Slovak
Ladies Association
and our Members During This,
our 120th Anniversary Year!**



MONESSEN, PENNSYLVANIA

As part of the FCSLA's 120th Anniversary we are taking a look back at our past and the history of some of our branches, the heart and soul of our organization. If you have information on the history of your branch and an old photo, please submit the information to Carolyn Bazik, Editor, by email or snail mail and I will try to work a few of these in future issues of Fraternally Yours. This month we feature Branch 88 from Monessen, PA.

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies' Union Branch 88 was organized on February 11, 1900 in the home of Catherine Hromey, 320 Schoonmaker Ave., Monessen, PA. Original organizers were: Catherine Hromey, Mary Wargo, Philomena Sowko, Anna Skurkay, Mary Skurkay and Anna Tesak (great-grandmother of Dorothy Urbanowicz, National Auditor).



25th anniversary of Branch 88



50th anniversary of Branch 88 of Monessen

FCSLA 2012 FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR

~ ROSEMARY T. GAY ~

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is proud to announce the selection of Rosemary T. Gay from Kansas City, KS as our Association's 2012 Fraternalist of the Year. Her profile has been sent to the American Fraternal Alliance to be considered for national recognition. The 2012 American Fraternal Alliance's Fraternalist of the Year Award will be announced and honored at the 126th Annual Meeting to be held in New Orleans, LA in September.



Rosemary is a widow with three grown daughters. She has five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren who are all members of Sr. Branch 211 or Jr. Branch 176. She is very committed to her FCSLA Senior Branch and volunteers tirelessly. She encourages her family to participate in all FCSLA activities. She also encourages them to volunteer at their church and in their community.

Rosemary assists the Junior Branch Officers preparing activities for the younger members.

Rosemary volunteers for many charitable and benevolent causes in her community. She is a lifelong member of Saints Cyril and Methodius Slovak Catholic Church where she serves as a Lector and Eucharistic Minister. She visits the sick and distributes communion to parishioners who are home bound, in the hospital or nursing homes.

Rosemary volunteers at the Strawberry Hill Museum. She promotes the Slovak Heritage along with explaining the culture and customs in many programs.

Recently Rosemary received a grant from the Kansas University to further her studies in the Slovak Institute in Bratislava.

Rosemary was nominated by her Sr. Branch 211, Secretary Theresa Planac who describes Rosemary as a person most deserving of this award.

FCSLA congratulates Rosemary T. Gay for receiving this well deserved recognition. She is a wonderful example of our "fraternal spirit" as she continues to make a difference in her family, the FCSLA, church and community. We are very proud to have Rosemary represent us as our "2012 Fraternalist of the Year".

Honors St. Ann, Our Patroness at Home Office



BEACHWOOD, OHIO

Members of the FCSLA staff and National Board of Directors took a moment to honor St. Ann, our patroness, as part of our 120th anniversary year during the June Board Meeting by gathering at our outdoor statue.



From JULY 1 through SEPTEMBER 30, 2012, older FCSLA annuities (issued prior to 2005) with a guaranteed minimum rate of

4.50%

**will earn a yield of 4.6025%.
NEWER FCSLA ANNUITIES (issued 2005 and after) with a guaranteed minimum rate of**

3.50%

will earn a yield of 3.5618% while those with a guaranteed minimum rate of

3.00%

will earn a yield of 3.0453%.

FCSLA, District Anna Hurban of Chicago Join Hands Day Event

Twenty-five members from the District Anna Hurban of Chicago met on Saturday, June 2, 2012 for its fifth annual Join Hands Day event at the Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital. The members spent the afternoon with approximately thirty-one of the resident veterans playing several rounds of very serious bingo games where vets were able to win some of the \$500 in commissary coupons available as prizes. To make the playing field fair, each of the vets received an initial gift of \$1 in coupons, and later on in the session, those who had not yet been lucky enough to win a game received another \$5 in coupons. A grand prize game of "cover your entire card" was played and the lucky



vet won \$50 in commissary coupons. District President Mary Therese Tylus stated, "This was so far the largest turnout of vets and members to come together for this event since its inception. Both the vets and members had a wonderful time enjoying each others' company."

This VA Hospital located in Maywood, IL is the largest of the Chicago-area Veterans' Hospitals and is well-known for its many programs and specialties including: blind rehabilitation, spinal cord injury, neurosurgery, radiation therapy, cardiovascular surgery, and serves as a Polytrauma Center for severely injured veterans with skilled medical professionals

who treat patients with traumatic brain injuries.

It truly was an afternoon of fun for all and a great way for our members to say thanks to these veterans who have given so much for our American freedom.



Our Mother of Sorrows — Patroness of Slovakia

In Slovakia the feast of Our Mother of Sorrows is a Catholic non-working national holiday celebrated on 15 September in the small town of Šaštín-Stráže in Western Slovakia at the National Basilica of Our Mother of Sorrows.

The pilgrimage to Šaštín traces its roots back to 1564 when the wife of a Hungarian nobleman commissioned a statue of the Sorrowful Mother to be erected as an answer to a prayer. Since that time this statue, the Šaštín Pieta, had become the focus of devotion for pilgrims. The Empress Maria Theresa noticed that a large number of pilgrims had continued to visit the shrine, so she requested that a larger church be built to house the Pieta. In 1764, with Maria Theresa in attendance, a cathedral was consecrated to the Mother of Sorrows in Šaštín.

In 1667 the Vatican approved the feast of Our Sorrowful Mother to be recognized and celebrated. In 1814 Pope Pius VII added the feast of Our Sorrowful Mother to the Roman Catholic calendar of Saints on the third Sunday in September. In 1913 Pope Pius X moved the feast to 15 September.

In 1927 Pope Pius XI first proclaimed Our Mother of Sorrows as patron of all Slovakia. In 1964 Pope Paul VI

strengthened this proclamation by designating the Šaštín cathedral to be a Minor Basilica, the first basilica in Slovakia. In 1995 Pope John Paul II added a golden crown to the statue.

Within the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC a chapel was built to honor Our Mother of Sorrows, the Patroness of Slovakia. This monument was a gift from the First Catholic Slovak Union of the United States (Jednota). On September 5, 1965 this Slovak shrine was dedicated to Our Mother of Sorrows as a true and lasting tribute to the deep faith and faithful devotion of the Slovak people in Slovakia and America.

Sr. Catherine Laboure Bresnock, SS.C.M.



FCSLA Announces Our 2012 Youth Recognition Award Winner

We are proud to announce that Kristina Mizikar is our 2012 Youth Recognition Award Winner. Since birth she has been a member of FCSLA Jr. Branch 441. Kristina participates in many activities sponsored by her branch. She also participates in the Cleveland District's Join Hands Day projects by planting flowers, weeding flower beds, cookie decorating, serving food, clean up duty and enjoys spending time with the residents by painting their nails.



Kristina is a recent graduate of St. Bridget School in Cleveland, OH. In grade school she participated in a variety of activities. Kristina was a cheerleader, basketball player, choir member, band member and either played her clarinet or had a part in her school's productions. During her lunch hour she volunteers helping with learning disabled students. She seems to have a talent and the patience needed to assist these students. Kristina also serves as an altar server and a school crossing guard. She takes Karate lessons and spends time with her handicapped cousin offering her companionship whenever she has some spare time. Kristina is also a trusted babysitter.

Kristina is a very bright, cheerful and helpful young lady. Her father is in the United States Coast Guard and has been deployed several times. When her father is deployed she

gives her Mom an extra hand with meal preps, dishes, laundry and watching her younger brother.

She will be attending Holy Name High School in the fall. Kristina will be playing her clarinet in the High School Marching and Symphonic Bands. She would also like to play football (which the school allows).

Her nomination was submitted by her proud grandmother, Florence Mizikar, who is Secretary of Jr. Branch 441.

FCSLA congratulates Kristina Mizikar for representing our younger generation of members. We are very proud to have Kristina as our member and as our "2012 Youth Recognition Award Winner". May God watch over her in all of her future endeavors.

90th Birthday Celebration

Ann Fedorchak, Financial Secretary and member of Jr. Branch 184 of Gary, IN, turned 90 on June 27, 2012.

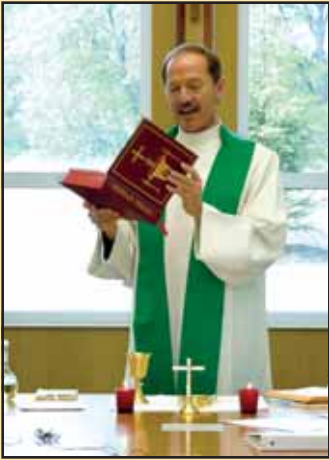
She celebrated with her family and received, among other gifts, a number 90 Chicago Bears jersey to commemorate this milestone. Now she is ready for football season. Go Bears!



ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

Okres Anna Hurban Purchases Travel Mass Kit

Okres Anna Hurban, Cleveland, OH, purchased a Travel Mass Kit for use at the Home Office when the Board Chaplain celebrates Mass. The kit contains a chalice which was inscribed with "In Honor of Mary Ann Johaneck - 2012", a Host box cap, 5-3/4" Cross, two 4 oz. Cruets, two 2" votive candles w/holders in a case. In addition a Roman Missal, Third Edition - Chapel Clothbound Edition was purchased in honor of Irene Drotleff and John Janovec. Pictured below are from daily Mass at the June 2012 Board of Directors Meeting when Monsignor Peter Polando, Board Chaplain blessed the donated items during celebration of the Eucharist.



Indiana Slovak Day Celebration 2013

Mark your calendars for the Slovak Day Celebration in Northwest Indiana. June 23, 2013 we will celebrate mass, enjoy traditional Slovak dancing, eat and enjoy all things Slovak.

For more information visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/SlovakDayCelebration>

Ohio State Representative Visits Home Office



Ohio State Representative Marlene Anielski (17th House District) stopped by the Home Office during the June Board of Directors Meeting to congratulate one of her constituents Stephen Hudak on his election to National Treasurer of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. Pictured are Rep. Anielecki presenting Steve with a congratulatory citation from the House.



Recently elected managing officers with Rep. Anielecki. L-R: Secretary Sue Ann Seich, Representative Anielecki, Treasurer Stephen Hudak, and President Cynthia Maleski.

St. Ann's Branch 114, Lorain, OH ANNUAL BINGO AND SOCIAL Sunday, October 21 at 1:00 p.m.

at the

**AMERICAN SLOVAK CLUB
2915 Broadway, Lorain, OH**

All members are invited to attend.

Please call President Bernadette Robertson at 440-282-8594 to make your reservations.



We Want to Hear From You!

- Did your children, grandchildren receive special awards or achievements in school?
- Baptisms? Confirmations? New Members?
- Participated in Volunteer and Community Projects?

If they are members of the FCSLA please send us a photo and short article about their special achievements!



MADISON KAY FITCHPATRICK

(J073, Kingston, PA) daughter of Jay and Stephanie Fitchpatrick (S086, Kingston, PA) of Leesburg, OH, made her First Holy Communion on May 20, 2012 at St. Benignus Church in Greenfield, OH with Rev. Mike Paraniuk officiating.

Madison attends Fairfield Elementary School in Leesburg and CCD at St. Benignus. Among her favorite things to do are dance, softball and golf. She is a 5th generation FCSLA member.

Madison is the granddaughter of Joanne Fitchpatrick (S086) of Leesburg, OH, Bonnie Tyler of Syracuse, NY and Steven Gillenwater of Jamestown, OH.



HANNAH LORRAINE KALINKEWICZ

, daughter of John and Maria (Komar) Kalinkewicz of Ballston Spa, NY, received her First Holy Communion at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Ballston Spa, NY on May 5, 2012. Hannah is a member of Jr. Branch 182 in Windber, PA. Her proud grandparents are Lorraine and Paul Komar of Ballston Spa, NY, and Joseph Kalinkewicz of Galway, NY. Hannah has recently been chosen as a young scholar in her Malta Avenue Elementary School. Hannah is a cheerleader, Girl Scout and Odyssey of the Mind Competitor.



MOLLY OLIVER, daughter of Lisa and Chris Oliver, a member of Jr. Branch 46, Lansford, PA, participated in a Race for Education at St. Mary's School in Annapolis, MD on April 20, 2012. She ran 5 laps which equals 2.5 miles. Her sister, Carolyn ran 7 laps or 3.5 miles and is also a member of Jr. Branch 46. Both children are great-nieces of Louise Dunstan. Louise is Financial Secretary of the Eastern PA District and holds the same office for Sr. Branch 140, Lansford, PA. Molly is pictured above with the red headband.

Chicago District Junior Branch Christmas Party

All Chicago District Junior Members are invited to a Christmas Party sponsored by the Chicago Junior Branches and District on Saturday, November 3, 2012 from noon to 3:00 p.m. at St. Simon Parish Gymnasium, 5135 S. California Avenue, Chicago, IL.

For more information about this exciting event, please go to the Chicago District Website found on www.fcsla.org to view the calendar of events and other important information.

“Jamie’s Dream Team” Hosts Fashion Show

On May, 20, 2012, Branch 77 of McKeesport, PA, was one of the proud sponsors of a fashion show to benefit “Jamie’s Dream Team”. Jamie Holmes was born with a rare disorder know at V.A.T.E.R. Syndrome and has endured over 30 surgeries in her young life. In 2005, at the age of 18, she founded “Jamie’s Dream Team” (JDT) to help people suffering from serious illness, disability or trauma. Jamie’s Dream Team is currently managed by a nine member community-based Board of Directors. Despite her continuing and consuming medical issues, Jamie is dedicated to helping others in need. All net proceeds realized from donations, sponsorships and fundraising events are used solely by Jamie’s Dream Team to fulfill dreams.



Our logo proudly displayed on the full theater screen.

Jamie’s Dream Team hosted its first fashion show entitled, “Beyond Belief” at the Dormont Hollywood Theater in Dormont, PA. Fashions were provided by Macy’s and Harley Davidson Fashions from Z & M Cycle Sales. All of the models suffer from some type of affliction. Jamie said, “It’s very important for these models to feel good about themselves. The more people who come to the fashion show, the more support they will have. It’s good for them to feel good about themselves and not worry about their illnesses.”

The show hostess was Jennifer Miele, a Pittsburgh celebrity. Speakers were several of the individuals who have already received assistance from JDT. One of the models was Emily Olup, a member of Glassport’s Jr. Branch 56. She and her whole family are members of Glassport Sr. Branch 200 and Jr. Branch 56.



L-R: Carol Yurechko, Auditor, Marian Greenland, Financial Secretary; Judy Fedor, Recording Secretary/Junior Secretary and Pittsburgh District President; Jamie Holmes, Virginia Holmes, Treasurer. Seated is Irene Fedor, Vice President.



Branch Officers with Emily Olup, model and Mom Dana.



ASHLEY NICOLE JOHNSON, Jr. Branch 348, Whiting, IN, graduated from 8th grade at St. John the Baptist School in Whiting, IN, on Tuesday, June 5, 2012. She will be attending Whiting High School in the fall. Ashley is the daughter of Christine (Bonchik) Grzyb, Sr. Branch 452 and the granddaughter of Bob and Betty Bonchik, Sr. Branch 452 also of Whiting, IN.

Branch WO45 Picnic

The annual membership picnic of Branch WO45, Cedar Rapids, IA, was held on Sunday, July 22, 2012 in the St. Wenceslaus Gym Building.

Approximately 65 members attended the picnic despite temperatures in the high 90’s. Everyone enjoyed playing Bingo and the meal consisting of hamburgers, bratwurst, hot dogs, tomatoes, cucumbers, baked beans, rye bread, buns, kolaches and a beverage.

The monthly \$100 raffle was held as well as a 50/50 raffle for eight \$25 cash prizes.

Bingo callers John Salat (top right) and Joe Zachar (bottom right).



MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Sr. Branch 81 — Whiting, IN

Race for Education

Sr. Branch 81, Whiting, IN sponsored a "RACE FOR EDUCATION," a matching funds project at the St. John the Baptist Catholic Elementary School in Whiting, IN on May 18, 2012.

Children of all the grades, pre-school thru 8th grade participated by getting pledges for donations prior to the race, which took place at the church parking lot for grades one to four. Children received punches on their cards for each lap completed. The winners then received Olympic type medals as prizes. Grades five thru eight ran at the local public track. These winners also received Olympic type medals as prizes.

After completing the races, all runners and spectators enjoyed a variety of treats provided by the parents and students.

A total of \$30,000 was raised for the support of the school. Of this amount, \$1,235 was raised by Jr. Branch 58 members who attend St. John the Baptist School.



Marjorie Strbjak, Branch J058 Auditor with two runners.



Grades 5 thru 8 running at the high school track.



L-R: Father John Kalicky, Father Leon Flaherty, Margaret Abildua, Dorothy Hoover, Marge Strbjak, Annette Markovich and Florence Hovanec.



Grades 1 thru 4 preparing to run the race.



MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Sr. Branch 172 — Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Slovak Musician Benefit

FCSLA Sr. Branch 172, Wilkes-Barre, PA sponsored a Matching Funds Project with the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern PA. The purpose of the project was to raise funds for eight musicians from the Bratislava Conservatory of Music, Slovakia. The Slovak Society of Northeastern PA was responsible for hosting the musicians for four days. They were responsible for meals, lodging, and transportation. While in the area the musicians gave two concerts. In order to help defray the cost, the Slovak Society of Northeastern PA held an ethnic dinner at St. Ignatius Church, Kingston, PA.



L-R: Philip Tuhy, Chairman of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern PA, Magdalen I. Iskra, President of Branch 172, and Michael Stretanski, Coordinator of the dinner.

The dinner consisted of holupky, pirohy, kielbasi, vegetables, and wonderful homemade desserts. In conjunction with the dinner, Sr. Branch 172 donated prizes for the raffle and sold chances at the dinner. The raffle raised \$510.



Pictured above are Philip Tuhy, Chairman of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern PA, Magdalen I. Iskra, President of Senior Branch 172, and Michael Stretanski, Coordinator of the dinner and Board Members of the Slovak Heritage Society who assisted with the project. All participants pictured are members of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. Left to right are: Connie Plewniak, Helen Savinski, Mary Migatulski, Philip R. Tuhy, Magdalen I. Iskra, Michael Stretanski, Martha Iskra, Magdalen Benish, Bernadette Yench and Anna Hudock.

Jr. Branch 339 — Chicago, Illinois

Pancake Breakfast and Raffle

Chicago's Jr. Branch 339 sponsored a matching funds event "Pancake Breakfast and Raffle" for St. Bruno Parish's Boy Scout Troop 42 on Sunday, November 20, 2011, to assist in raising funds that will promote the troops' leadership camp activities. The Branch collected \$1,304.79 through its breakfast and raffle ticket sales. Jr. Branch 339 received donations from local vendors and retailers, which provided attendees the chance to win one of 75 raffle prizes, composed of gift cards and sports collectibles. Jr. Branch 339 President, Joyce Kelly, and Sr. Branch 287 President, Judy Tybor-Knizner, were greatly pleased with the wonderful turnout and most importantly, the hard work of the boy scouts who cooked and served breakfast to the attendees.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar, under the auspices of the Slovak Catholic Federation, will take place on Sunday, September 23, at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Casimir, 2601 W. Marquette Road, Chicago, IL 60629.

Eva Bustamante will discuss the history of Our Lady of Sorrows Slovak Catholic Cemetery in the Archdiocese of Chicago, which was founded in 1923. This will be of particular interest to people doing genealogical research. Afterwards she will answer questions, and distribute booklets.

Registration for the seminar will start at 1:00 p.m.; Ms. Bustamante will be welcomed at 1:45 p.m., with her presentation following. A buffet dinner will be served at 3:00 p.m.

The offering for this event is \$15.00. Prepaid registration can be arranged through John Jurcenko at (773) 763-0810. For more information, call Geraldine Hletko at (708) 387-7812.



IN MEMORIAM

MARGARET M. GABA Sr. Branch 485



Margaret M. Gaba, 91, of Hometown, IL, passed away peacefully on May 4, 2012 at Lexington of Chicago Ridge Nursing Home. Margaret was born on December 6, 1902 in Chicago, IL, the daughter of the late John and Anna Kolena, the wife of the late Frank Gaba, the mother of three children, Deanna Hull (late Raymond), Colleen Kopeck (Thomas); and John Gaba (Neenah), grandmother of seven and great-grandmother of six.

Margaret was a longtime member of the FCSLA and inherited the position of Recording Secretary of the FCSLA, Sr. Branch 485 and Jr. Branch 382 in the early 1970's from her mother, Anna, who was also Recording Secretary for many, many years. Her daughters, Colleen and Deanna are also officers of both branches carrying on family traditions.

Margaret loved to travel and was fortunate to be able to visit many countries and take a cruise to Alaska. Her favorite pastime was to read. She was a wonderful mother, devoted to her family, and will be dearly missed by everyone.

BENNY ANGELO ZITELLO Sr. Branch 169



Benny Angelo Zitello passed away June 5, 2012 at Park Vista Nursing Home in Youngstown, OH. He was born October 10, 1917, in Youngstown, OH, a son of the late Frank and Jennie Martone Zitello.

He served in the Navy during World War II and was a rigger at U.S. Steel for 43 years, retiring in 1979. Benny also ran the Zitello Grocery Store in Oakwood for many years. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus No. 274, the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the FCSLA Branch

169 and a former member of the U.S. Steel bowling league.

His first wife, the former Helen Delores Brusko, whom he married in August of 1940, died July 26, 1974.

Benny leaves his wife, the former Estelle Lenkovech, whom he married December 16, 1978; two sisters, Natalie McBride and Gloria (Bob) Jacubek, both of Youngstown; and three brothers, Stanley Zitello and John Zitello, both of Youngstown and Frank (Dorothy) Zitello of McDonald.

Benny was also preceded in death by a sister, Angeline Bozin and three brothers, Sam, Anthony, and Robert Zitello.

MICHAEL PAUL SONOGA Sr. Branch 169



Michael P. Sonoga, 91, passed away May 29, 2012, at The Woodlands at Austin Woods Rehabilitation Center.

Michael was born December 8, 1920, in Youngstown, OH, a son of the late Michael and Mary

Sedzmak Sonoga, and was a lifelong area resident.

He was a 1940 graduate of Wilson High School, and served in the U.S. Army as Staff Sergeant in charge of radio communications for the 448th Anti-Aircraft Battalion headquarters.

Mr. Sonoga was an electrical foreman for Republic Steel, retiring in January of 1979, and was active in the Republic Steel Salaried Retirees Club.

He was a member of Holy Name of Jesus Church in Youngstown, and was a member of the Infant Jesus of Prague Guild at St. Matthias Church. Michael was also a member of Slovak Catholic Sokols Assembly #108, and the FCSLA Branch 169.

He was a bowler and avid golfer with the Sokols, the Holy Name Golf League, and with several other leagues. Mr. Sonoga loved gardening and fixing all things electrical, and he especially loved anything that had to do with astronomy.

Michael's wife of 65 years, Helen D.

Chintala Sonoga (a former officer of Br. 169 for over 50 years), whom he married January 15, 1946 in Holy Name of Jesus Church, passed away March 28, 2011.

Michael leaves his daughter, Dolores J. Sonoga, with whom he made his home; several nieces and nephews; and many extended family members and friends.

Michael will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

JOSEPHINE HANCIN Sr. Branch 422



Josephine Hancin, 91, passed away April 17, 2012, at her residence surrounded by her loving family and loyal dog, Lucky.

Josephine was born August 15, 1920, in Thomas, WV, the daughter of

the late Joseph and Josephine Batista Baucic.

She graduated in 1938 from Fowles High School where she was class valedictorian.

Josephine retired as a supervisor for the Trumbull Lamp Division of General Electric in 1982 after working there 43 years. She was a longtime member of SS. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church.

Josephine's husband, John C. Hancin, whom she married October 2, 1948, passed away April 4, 1990. Josephine and John traveled around the world on cruises and enjoyed great times together with friends.

Josephine leaves her loving family, two nephews, Richard Manz of Cortland and Bret (Joellen) Manz of Cortland; a niece, Barbara Ruiter of Cortland; three great-nieces, Jessica Hart of Warren, Jenna Manz of Cortland and Kayla Manz of Cortland; three great-great-nephews; and two brothers-in-law, Joseph Bednarik and Edward Hancin.

Josephine was preceded in death by two sisters, Jane Manz and Mary Bednarik; and three brothers and three sisters who died in infancy.

Material tributes may be made to the Heritage Fund of SS. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church, Warren, OH.

DOLORES MARIE DUNNING Branch W133



Dolores Dunning, 70, beloved wife, mother and grandmother passed away April 27 in Arlington, TX, after courageously battling cancer for 26 years.

Dolores was born on June 26, 1941 to Jean J. and Elizabeth (Baxa) Oborny. She graduated from F.H.S.U. Dolores married Leon Richard Dunning on July 4, 1963 in Timken.

She was a second grade teacher at Jefferson East in Hays, and Carroll Peak and Edward Briscoe schools in Fort Worth, TX. Dolores retired in 2000 after 36 years of teaching.

She was a member of St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church, St. Maria Goretti Women's Guild, the Fort Worth Womens Club, and Branch W133 of the FCSLA.

She was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband Leon; children Catherine Young and husband Thomas, Michael and wife Kelly, David and wife Renee, Gregg and wife Kellyann, and Jeffrey; grandchildren Sarah, Jonathan, Paul, Daniel, Deborah, Joshua, Audrey, Maria, Bridget, Clare, Michael, Adelaide, Joseph, Helen, Lucia, Greyson, and Emerson; brothers Edmund Oborny and wife Carol, Bison; Gene Oborny and wife Dee, Centennial, CO; Kenneth Oborny and wife Patty, Timken; Marion Oborny and wife Madonna, Hoisington; and sister Millie McCloy and husband Martin, Loveland, CO.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Cancer Society.

DONALD W. DOSCH Sr. Branch 313

Donald W. Dosch, 87, of Natrona Heights, PA, passed away January 31, 2012, at Allegheny Valley Hospital, Natrona Heights. He was born May 7, 1924, in Kittanning, the son of the late Calvin and Rozella Kerr Schwartz Dosch.

Donald was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Navy. He worked for the Jo-

seph S. Finch Co., Schenley Plant, where he met his future wife, Betty, and later retired after 40 years as a machinist from Liberty Mirror in Brackenridge. He was a member of Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Parish, Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Natrona Heights, VFW Post 894 in Natrona Heights and the Brackenridge American Legion Post 226.

Donald enjoyed gardening, taking care of his lawn, playing horseshoes, was an avid hunter and enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Dolny Dosch; children, Dr. Mark Dosch and Dr. Madeleine DuPree, of Boyton Beach, FL, Donna (David) Lucovich, of Inman, SC, Kathy (James) Dober, of Boiling Springs, SC, Darlene (Kim) Stobert, of Natrona Heights, Diane (Michael) Hill, of Natrona Heights, and Lori (Karl) Wefers, of Simi Valley, CA; 14 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Calvin, Charles, Robert, Kenneth, John (Jack) and Richard Dosch; two brothers in infancy; his sisters, Florence Dosch, Rosella Smith and Rita Klingensmith; and by his granddaughter, Kaitlin Ann Wefers.

JOHN ROBERT CYNAR Sr. Branch 28



John Robert "Bob," Cynar, was called to meet his risen Lord on May 13, 2012.

Born July 20, 1926, to Jacob and Victoria (Kopeck) Cynar, he was the youngest child of a large family – many

of whom were waiting to welcome him to eternal life, including his parents and nine sisters and brothers.

He is survived by his wife, Joanne (Grus); son, Philip Cynar, Pittsburgh, partner of Dan Robbins; daughter, Ann Marie Morgart-Bell, Peckville, PA, wife of Martin Bell; 5 grandchildren; and sister, Florence.

Bob was a devoted spouse. He and Joanne were married on the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, September 8, 1962. Bob also was a devoted employee of Bethlehem Steel, where he worked for almost 40 years. He retired in 1984, and during his 28 years of retirement, Bob pursued many interests and activities. Bob was a faithful volunteer at pierogi and gob-making fundraisers, fish fries and festivals at SS. Casimir & Emerich Church.

He loved cooking, gardening and yard work, as well as tinkering in a meticulously organized workshop – his "handyman's haven." Bob had a passion for nature, especially birds, and built bird-houses and feeders where many feathered friends found food and shelter in the trees of his backyard. Bob loved the company of dogs, particularly his pug, Taffy, and toy poodle, Muffin.

Bob's legacy to his family and friends are the memories of the many ways in which he touched lives with the faith, affection, skills and talents that were uniquely his.

He was a man of millions – not in dollars, but in generosity. Bob gave freely of himself, offering his best with love, humor, and the wisdom of a long and well-lived life. He is gone from our sight, but not from our hearts.



JR. BRANCH 46 HOLDS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS IN JULY PICNIC

Jr. Branch 46 in Lansford, PA held its annual Christmas in July at Knoebel's Grove Amusement Park in Elysburg, PA on Thursday, July 19, 2012. This year several sister's from St. Cyril & Methodius in Danville, PA joined in the fun along with other junior branches from the Eastern PA District that included Coaldale J318, Nesquehoning J321 and Catasauqua J158. A little rain didn't dampen the spirits of the over 100 families and friends who attended and enjoyed a day of fraternal fun and fellowship at the beautiful family owned park riding over 50 rides (including the Phoenix, voted the #2 wooden roller coaster in the world), swimming, and playing miniature golf!



ANNA HURBAN DISTRICT OF CHICAGO HOLDS ITS ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON

The Chicago Anna Hurban District hosted its annual scholarship awards luncheon for its nineteen Chicago District Scholarship winners on Saturday, June 23, 2012 at the European Chalet in Chicago, IL. The scholarship winners and their guests were congratulated by the District and Branch Officers and members. Anna Hurban District of Chicago President, Mary Therese Tylus, reported to all in attendance that this year the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association awarded scholarships to FCSLA members from first grade through and including graduate school in the amount of \$248,250 of which \$19,500 went to nineteen Chicago District members comprising of eight elementary, three high school, and seven college (ranging from freshman to senior year) and one graduate student. The nineteen scholarship winners are: Alyssa A. Anglin (J106), Mary E. Braun (J106), Noah P. Clements (J106), Julie G. Javorka (J174), Joseph T. Misovich (J174), Abigail C. Rahe (J174),

Jake T. Wargo (J175), Courtney N. Kinnane (J322), Brandon Robert Mariano (J339), Haylee C. Starzyk (J339), Amanda J. Ledvora (S046), Christian Miksanek (S181), Eric S. Mounce (S225), Mary C. Bajek (S287), Alexander Economou (S287), Sarah R. Saffran (S352), Shannon L. Dolehide (S485), Joseph John Sblendorio (S485), and Megan N. Sutphen (S485).

The Chicago District is proud of all of these scholarship winners and wishes them continued success in their studies. *(To see additional photos from this event go to: <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>)*



Scholarship winners with the Chicago District officers.



Back Row, L-R: Marcy C. Bajek, Julie G. Javorka, Amanda J. Ledvora, Alexander Economou, Eric S. Mounce and Sarah R. Saffran. Front Row, L-R: Jake T. Wargo, Brandon Robert Mariano and Abigail C. Rahe.



SISTERS OF MERCY CELEBRATE AS SISTER MARIE ANGELE PROFESSES FINAL VOWS

The Sisters of Mercy West Midwest (WMW) Community, made up of 721 women religious and 531 associates ministering across more than two-thirds of the United States, came together in celebration – either physically or spiritually by prayer – to celebrate one of its newer members professing final vows. Sister Marie Angele, RSM, of Omaha, NE, professed perpetual vows as a Religious Sister of Mercy on Saturday, June 2, at College of Saint Mary's Our Lady of Mercy Chapel. She is a member of Branch W018 in Omaha, NE.

Sister Judith Frikker, RSM, president of the West Midwest Community, says, "It is with immense joy that I, on behalf of the Sisters of Mercy, present Sister Marie Angele as she professes final vows in the West Midwest Community. This day affirms that God continues to call women to religious life," Sister Judith added.

How She Came to Mercy

Sister Marie's call to religious life actually happened in high school, but she didn't answer the call until 21 years after graduating. "God is very persistent in our lives," Sister Marie said, "Sometimes we go do the things we want to do but God has a way of coming back and calling us again."

An Omaha native, Marie attended St. Peter & Paul Parish elementary school in south Omaha. She is a graduate of Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School. In fact, she later served her alma mater as campus minister and theology teacher (1999-2004).

She holds a bachelor of art degree in dramatic arts from University of Nebraska at Omaha (1985), a master of fine arts in theatre from the University of Iowa (1988), and an MBA from Creighton University (2011). She has a Nebraska teaching certificate with an endorsement in religious education and speech & drama from Creighton University (2003) and a certificate in youth ministry from the Archdiocese of

Omaha and the Center for Ministry Development, Conn. (1998).

She worked at Christ the King Catholic Church in Omaha as the director of youth and young adult ministry (1994-1999) and at College of Saint Mary as coordinator of mission integration (2004-2005). She entered the Sisters of Mercy in September 2003.

Since entering the community, in addition to serving at Gross, she has ministered as a hospital volunteer at St. John's Medical Center in St. Louis, Mo., and has served at Mercy ministries in Laredo, Texas. She is currently the director of development of the West Midwest Community, a position she has held since 2011.

Sister Marie is a member of St. Margaret Mary Parish. She is the daughter of Albert and Carole Angele of Omaha.

ABOUT THE SISTERS OF MERCY: The Sisters of Mercy is one of the largest groups of women religious in the world. The Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas is an international community of Catholic women religious vowed to serve people who suffer from poverty, sickness and lack of education - with a special concern for women and children. In innovative and traditional ways, Sisters of Mercy address human needs through collaborative efforts in education, healthcare, housing, pastoral and social services, and advocacy. The Institute includes over 3,500 members and 3,100 associates who serve in North, South and Central America, the Caribbean, Guam, and the Philippines. For more information, see: www.sistersofmercy.org



Sister Marie Angele is shown with her parents, Albert and Carol Angele of Omaha, NE.



Sister Marie Angele, RSM, being affirmed by Sister Patricia McDermott, RSM, president of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas; Sister Judith Frikker, RSM, president of the Sisters of Mercy West Midwest Community; and Father Roc O'Connor, S.J., presider of Sister Marie's perpetual profession that was held June 2 at College of Saint Mary's chapel in Omaha, NE.

~ CELEBRATE ~ FCSLA's 120th Anniversary

Sr. Branch 81 Annual All Member Dinner

Sunday, September 23, 2012

ST. JOHN PANEL ROOM

1844 Lincoln Ave., Whiting IN 46394

No Charge for Sr. Branch 81 Members

All other members and guests ~ \$20.00

Reservations mandatory by September 16

Please Contact: Florence (219) 659-0913 or

Geraldine (219) 310-8428

SIMPLY SLAVIC FEST HAS ROYAL VISITOR

Kimberly Root, Miss Czech-Slovak Runner-up (2011), visited with FCSLA Youngstown District President, Bernie Demechko, at the Simply Slavic Fest in downtown Youngstown in June. Kimberly is a member of Branch 344, Campbell, and was a recipient of an FCSLA college scholarship

in 2006. Although she represented Ohio in the Czech-Slovak Contest, she currently resides in Las Vegas, NV.

At the Fest, Kimberly wore her Slovak kroj (costume) and mingled with the crowd all day. She also was a speaker at the evening activities in the entertainment tent.



She spoke of her involvement in the national contest held in Nebraska last summer.

At the national contest Kimberly gave a martial arts demonstration. When Kimberly entered the contest last year, she received financial support from Branches 344 and 161 and the National FCSLA organization.

Kimberly asked me to remind our young members at the Scholarship Dinner in August to enter the Miss Czech-Slovak contest for it is a rewarding experience to represent your beloved heritage.

Chapel Renovation

St. Joseph's Center Celebrated the Feast of the Ascension and the renovation of the St. Joseph's Center Chapel with a special Liturgy and reception on May 16. St. Joseph's Center received a grant from the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association designated for the renovations to the Chapel.



L-R: Ann Kwak, President of Wilkes-Barre Sr. Branch 615; Sister St. Francis Lyons, IHM, Director of Religious Education, St. Joseph's Center; Sister Maryalice Jacquinot, IHM, President and CEO, St. Joseph's Center; Sister Therese O'Rourke, IHM, President of the Congregation, Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary; Sister Ellen Carney, IHM, Councilor for Temporal Resources of the IHM Congregation.



Gathered after the Liturgy are (seated) Peter Kanton, St. Joseph's Center Board Member and Sister Eileen Miller, IHM. Standing, L-R: MaryCarol Kanton, St. Joseph's Center Auxiliary; Vincent Montoro, St. Joseph's Center Board Member; Mary Theresa Montoro, St. Joseph's Center Auxiliary; Sister Therese O'Rourke, IHM, President of the IHM Congregation and Reverend William Pickard, Chaplain of St. Joseph's Center.

Ordination to the Priesthood

Fr. John Joseph Michniuk of the Diocese of Covington in Kentucky was ordained to the holy priesthood by Bishop Roger Foys at St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington, KY on June 22, 2012. Fr. Michniuk offered a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Cathedral on Sunday, June 24, 2012. Fr. Michniuk is a member of Sr. Branch 524 and a past recipient of two Seminarian Scholarships from the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.



Fr. John Joseph Michniuk and Bishop Roger Foys.

David Stanko (S433) Exploring the OR in Haircolor™



A haircolor consultant for Redken 5th Avenue, spokesperson for Redken's Art of the Consultation and NYC-based salon colorist, David Stanko has developed, evaluated, launched and taught professional haircolor all around the world. With the successful launch of his "Lifestyle Coloring" and "Midtown Single" DVDs—and the anticipation of his upcoming "Formula Boss" guide—the demand for his signature classes that "explore the OR in haircolor™," has increased immensely. Attendance at his in-salon, distributor related and international appearances are at an all-time high.

Notes Stanko, who has 25-plus years in the industry, "Even with the proliferation of online learning, to which I contribute, there is still a great need for hands-on classes that blend technical, artistic, business-building and client-keeping information. Through my classes and my DVDs, online and even on Facebook, I show colorists various ways to have a continuous client flow and a healthy income for life by diversifying their clientele, customizing their color work and bundling services."

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"I'm always doing people's haircolor in my head: the woman sitting across from me on the subway, the girls who pass me at a sidewalk café," says Stanko. What would have made this person's color even better? I'm always exploring the 'or' in haircolor, wondering what brand I'd use and which shade I'd choose."

In both 1999 and 2000, David Stanko was named "Best Educator" and "Most Inspirational Educator" at Haircolor USA. His alma mater, Pittsburgh Beauty Academy, as well as the Pennsylvania Association of Private School Administration, have inducted him into their Halls of Fame. He customizes all his salon seminars in a manner that allows professionals to have as personalized a color program as his salon clients do. Explore more about David Stanko and view his color work at: www.davidstanko.com or check out stylistvoice.com where he interviews other celebrity hairstylists.

David is a member of Sr. Branch 433 in East Pittsburgh, PA.

Slovak Catholic Federation Plans Pilgrimage of Faith for 2013

Rev. Philip Altavilla, V.G., National President, Slovak Catholic Federation, announced that a special Pilgrimage of Faith is being organized for April 14-26, 2013, to celebrate a number of milestones in the history of the Catholic Church: the **Year of Faith** declared by Pope Benedict XVI in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the convening of the Second Vatican Council by Blessed Pope John XXIII and the 20th anniversary of the publication of *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*; the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Pontifical College of Saints Cyril and Methodius, Rome, Italy, due to the vision and efforts of Cardinal Joseph Tomko, assisted by the late Bishop Andrew Grutka and many committed Slovak Catholics from America and Canada; and the Jubilee Year in Slovakia, recalling the 1,150th anniversary of the arrival of Saints Cyril and Methodius to preach the Gospel to the Slavic peoples.

Those wishing to participate are reminded that this event is a Pilgrimage and not an ordinary tour. Given the places that are to be visited and dignitaries that are to be met, elements of the itinerary may change, even at the last minute. This pilgrimage is organized through Danube International Travel Agency, Nyack, NY, and is presented as an opportunity to celebrate both Catholic faith and Slovak heritage.

Pilgrims will depart from Philadelphia on Sunday, April 14, 2013, with arrival the following day in Rome. Five full days will be spent in Rome which will include visits to major religious and historic churches and sites. While in Rome, pilgrims will attend the weekly Wednesday papal audience with His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, and will visit the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Pilgrims will reside at the same hotel the entire time in Rome.

Following a visit to Rome, pilgrims will fly to Vienna, Austria, and then transfer to motor coach to spend the remainder of the pilgrimage in Slovakia. While in Slovakia, pilgrims will stay at a hotel in Bratislava for five days and will visit places such as: Trnava, Šaštín and Nitra, the site of the oldest Christian Church in Slovakia. Nitra was the center of the evangelization mission of Saints Cyril and Methodius, with Saint Methodius having served as Archbishop of Nitra. The pilgrimage will also include a visit to Velehrad, Czech Republic, where Saint Methodius is believed to have died in 885 a.d.

Pilgrims will depart from Vienna, Austria, to Philadelphia on Friday, April 26, 2013. The cost of the air and land package is \$3,900.00 per person based on double occupancy. The single supplement is an extra \$780.00. Space on the pilgrimage is limited so initial registration with a \$100.00 down payment must be submitted by **Saturday, September 15, 2012.**

To download a registration form and to review the itinerary, visit: www.slovakcatholicfederation.org. Please send registration form and down payment to: Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.G., Saint Peter's Cathedral, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503. For more information, contact Father Altavilla at (570) 344-7231 or Anna Korcak at Danube International Travel Agency at (845) 353-7792.

SLOVAK WORDS AND ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS

Translate into Slovak and then vice versa:

In the morning I get up very early. I start the day like every other man. Because I live quite far away, I go by train. The teacher demands neatness and accurate work. We also like to be neat and tidy. We do our work accurately and quickly. I am in school all day. But that does not mean that I don't go out in the fresh air. At school we also have time for various games. When I have free time I read. At home we talk.

Ráno vstávam veľmi skoro. Deň začínam tak, ako každý iný človek. Pretože bývam dosť ďaleko, chodievam vlakom. Učiteľ žiada poriadok a presnú prácu. Ale dobrý poriadok máme radi aj my. Každú prácu konáme presne a rýchlo. Celý deň som v škole.

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MAIL OR FAX TO:

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122
FAX: (216) 464-9260

Ale to neznamená, že nevychádzam na vzduch. V škole máme čas aj na rozličné hry. Keď mám voľný čas, čítam. Doma sa rozprávame.

VOCABULARY

bohatý – rich

družstvo – co-operative

hádám (= asi) – perhaps, maybe

chodiť chodievat' – to go

chorý, á, é – ill, sick

jar – spring

jeseň – autumn

leto – summer

matka – mother

môcť – to be able to

najmä – above all, particularly, especially

napríklad – for example, e.g.

neznámy, a, e – strange, unknown

nuž – well

o – about, at

otec – father

pekne – nicely

počúvať – to listen, to obey

povedať – to say, to tell

predseda – chairman

pri – at, near, close to

priateľ – friend

nepriateľ – enemy

příklad – example

prísť – to come

robiť – to do, to work, to make

robotnícky – working, worker's

robotník – worker

rodina – family

sedieť – to sit

sestra – sister

skúsenosť – experience

smiech – laughter

spievať – to sing

stará matka – grandmother

starý otec – grandfather

stôl – table; desk

strácať – to lose

šťastný, á, é – happy

ťažký, á, é – hard, heavy, difficult

v(o) – in

vidieť – to know

vlastne – in fact, actually

vobec – at all

všetci – all, everybody

zima – winter, cold

zmysel – sense

známy, a, e – well-known, acquaintance

Slovak Catholic Federation Mid-Year Annual Appeal Report

Since 1978, the Slovak Catholic Federation has been conducting the SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal which begins each year in the month of February during the closest weekend to the Feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius. To date, I wish to report that **\$17,514.89** has been collected; this is roughly \$5,000.00 short from last year's Mid-Year Report. Now in its 34th year, this Appeal has primarily been taken up in parishes of Slovak heritage in the United States.

As we are all very much aware, the days of "ethnic parishes" are becoming a thing of the past. More and more Slovaks reside in different parts of the country and no longer claim to belong to a parish of Slovak heritage. For this reason, many Slovaks may not have the opportunity to hear about, let alone participate in, this Annual Appeal. If it were not for the Slovak Catholic fraternal societies and their publications, communication to American and Canadian Slovaks would not be possible. In recent years, we have seen an increase in individual donations apart from the parish collections. Also, most of the Slovak fraternal societies have also been making contributions to this collection from their National Boards of Directors, along with a number of local branches, wreaths, assemblies, and lodges. The Appeal continues during the entire calendar year 2012.

This Appeal assists the Church in Slovakia by supporting the training mission of the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome, Italy (formally known as the Slovak Institute or *Ustav*). In addition, funds are distributed to those Religious Communities of both men and women which share a counterpart which belongs to the Slovak Conference of Religious. These communities are: the Vincentian Sisters of Charity (*Ruzomberok*); Dominican Sisters (*Dunajska Luzna*); School Sisters of St. Francis (*Zilina*); Daughters of St. Francis (*Bratislava-Prievoz*); Byzantine Catholic Sisters of St. Basil the Great (*Secove and Presov*); Franciscan Friars Minor (*Bratislava*); and House of St. Benedict (*Bacurov*).

As various groups will be holding summer picnics, along with several fraternal national conventions this year, I would ask that consideration be given to kindly taking up a collection in support of the Slovak Catholic Federation Appeal. All donations are tax deductible. In 2010, this Annual Appeal totaled **\$40,049.25**.

Individuals, groups, parishes and organizations are all welcome to make a donation to this Appeal. Make checks payable to: Slovak Catholic Federation and send them directly to Dolores Evanko, National Secretary-Treasurer, 173 Berner Avenew, Hazleton, PA 18201.

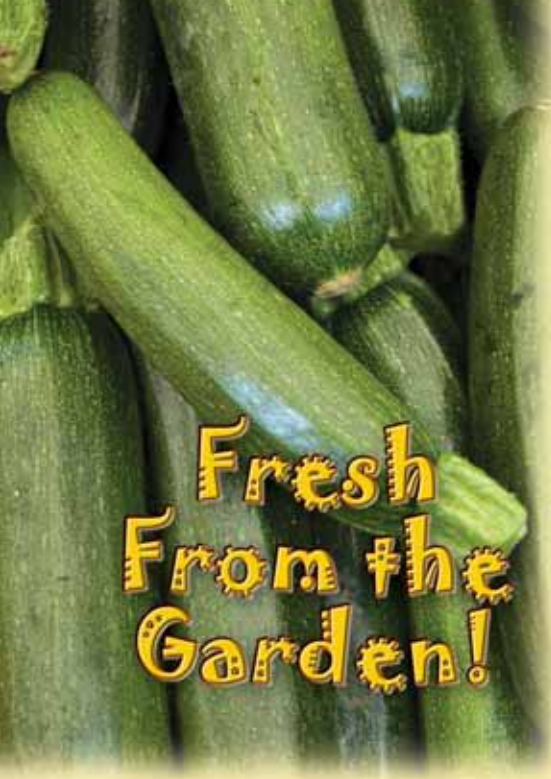
I pray that Almighty God reward all of us who participate in the support of the Church in Slovakia through the Slovak Catholic Federation's 34th Annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal. Thank you for your continued support.

Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdo vic

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF JUNE 30, 2012

ASSETS	
Cash and Short Term Investments	\$ 24,226,759.41
Bonds	654,574,558.86
Preferred Stock	5,530,960.16
Common Stock	984,981.63
Investment Income Due and Accrued	10,604,765.74
Bond Liquidating Trust	0.00
Property Plant and Equipment, Net	6,427,881.08
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	2,060,838.30
Other Assets	170,396.08
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 704,581,141.26
LIABILITIES	
Life Reserves	\$ 232,617,679.08
Annuity Reserves	372,467,538.39
Death Claims Payable	615,570.87
Unearned Premiums	617,484.00
Matured Endowments	330,306.00
Provision for Dividends Payable	2,199,041.00
Accumulated Dividends and Interest	3,873,471.79
Accrued Convention Donations	143,200.00
Provision for Future Conventions	104,000.00
Asset Valuation Reserve	6,530,357.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve	1,263,938.00
Other Liabilities	1,539,947.91
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 622,302,534.04
SURPLUS	
Surplus	\$ 82,278,607.23
TOTAL SURPLUS	\$ 82,278,607.23
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	\$ 704,581,141.26
INCOME STATEMENT	
For the Six Months Ending June 30, 2012	
REVENUE	
Insurance Premiums	\$ 21,134,257.12
Annuity Premiums	11,862,720.66
Investment Income	18,533,342.36
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	44,303.00
Rental Income	208,343.00
Other Revenue	7,503.45
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 51,790,469.59
EXPENSES	
Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 23,374,679.00
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	8,521,538.89
Insurance Benefits	2,351,364.74
Annuity Benefits	11,460,945.91
Commission Expense	2,375,347.35
Surrender Benefits	1,045,256.25
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	35,579.01
Matured Endowments	14,100.36
Donation Expenses	129,099.82
Convention Expenses	79,833.30
Dividends to Members	1,078,232.50
Post Mortem Benefits	549,221.87
Bonus to Branches	450,000.00
Fraternal Activities	36,873.99
Bank Service Charges	16,694.92
Data Processing Service Fees	121,235.39
Accounting Fees	72,664.70
Actuarial Fees	134,605.00
Legal Fees	1,264.00
Consulting Fees	56,792.50
Official Publications	175,033.22
Scholarship Awards	(443.00)
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	178,774.51
Fees — Directors	81,523.04
Salaries — Employees	669,450.19
Salaries — Officers	218,875.02
Interest Expense	123,890.35
Tax Expense	154,774.76
Depreciation Expense	147,618.00
Utility Expense	44,078.32
Postage and Printing	178,352.38
Advertising	53,380.15
Travel Expense	73,521.68
Insurance Department Fees	61,837.91
Sales Promotion	90,927.23
Rental Expense	208,343.00
Other Expense	322,262.46
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 54,687,528.72
Income (Loss) from Operations	\$ (2,897,059.13)
Capital Gains (Loss)	\$ 1,110,117.81
NET INCOME	\$ (1,786,941.32)



SAUSAGE-STUFFED SQUASH

- 4 medium summer squash (zucchini, yellow or a combination), halved lengthwise
- 12 ounce(s) Italian pork sausages, casing removed
- 1 can(s) (14.5 oz.) diced tomatoes in juice with roasted pepper, not drained

Scoop flesh from squash leaving a ¼-inch-thick shell. Dice flesh.

Cook sausage and diced squash in a large nonstick skillet, breaking up sausage with a spoon, approximately 5 minutes or until browned and cooked. Remove to a bowl and stir in tomatoes.

Put squash halves cut side down in skillet. Add 2 tablespoons water, cover and cook 2 minutes. Turn squash over, cover and cook 2 minutes until crispy-tender. Fill with sausage mixture. Cover; cook over low heat 2 minutes to reheat.

CRISPY EGGPLANT WITH SPICY TOMATO SAUCE

- 1 eggplant, peeled and cut into ¼ inch slices
- salt to taste
- 2 eggs
- 2 tablespoons milk
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- ½ cup wheat germ
- 2 cups tomato sauce
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

Preheat an oven to 400 degrees.

Sprinkle the eggplant slices with a little salt on each side. Place onto a baking

sheet, and set aside for 10 minutes. After 10 minutes, blot with paper towels to remove the moisture that has accumulated. Meanwhile, beat the eggs and milk together in a mixing bowl; set aside. Mix the Parmesan cheese and wheat germ until evenly combined; set aside.

Dip the dried eggplant slices into the egg, allow excess egg to drip off, then press into the Parmesan cheese mixture until coated on both sides. Gently shake off any excess Parmesan cheese, and place the eggplant slices onto a baking sheet. Repeat with remaining eggplant slices.

Bake in the preheated oven until tender and golden brown, 15 to 20 minutes. While the eggplant slices are baking, cook and stir the tomato sauce and cayenne pepper in a saucepan over medium heat until hot. When the eggplant is done, pour the sauce over top, and sprinkle with mozzarella cheese to serve.

GARDEN VEGETABLE CASSEROLE

- ¼ cup olive oil
- 3 small zucchini, cut in half lengthwise then into ¼-inch slices
- 3 small yellow squash, cut in half lengthwise then into ¼-inch slices
- 2 green bell peppers, cut into bite-size strips
- 2 red bell peppers, cut into bite-size strips
- 3 banana (or hot) peppers, seeded and chopped
- 2 sweet onions, sliced
- 5 eggs
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 8 ounces processed cheese food (eg. Velveeta), cubed
- 2 cups seasoned bread crumbs
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- garlic powder to taste
- onion powder to taste
- seasoned salt to taste
- black pepper to taste

Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees. Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium high heat. Add zucchini, yellow squash, green and red bell pepper, and onions; cook, stirring occasionally until slightly softened. Meanwhile, in a bowl, whisk together eggs, cream, and flour.

When vegetables are tender, drain skillet of excess liquid and arrange in the bottom of a large glass baking dish. Season as desired with seasonings of choice, and stir to blend flavors. Distribute cheese cubes evenly over the vegetables. Pour in the egg mixture, and spread bread crumbs and Parmesan cheese over the top.

Bake in the preheated oven for 45 minutes to 1 hour, or until bubbling hot. Remove cover during the last 15 minutes to brown top lightly. Serve immediately.

PEACH KUCHEN

- ½ cup margarine
- ¼ cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 (29 ounce) can sliced peaches, drained
- 3 tablespoons white sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour a 9 inch springform pan. Sift together the flour, baking powder and salt. Set aside.

In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg, then stir in the vanilla. Beat in the flour mixture. Spread dough with hands over the bottom and 1 inch up the sides of prepared springform pan. Arrange peach slices in a spoke pattern over the dough. Sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon.

Bake in the preheated oven for 35 to 40 minutes, or until golden brown.

STRAWBERRY ANGEL FOOD DESSERT

- 1 (10 inch) angel food cake
 - 2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
 - 1 cup white sugar
 - 1 (8 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
 - 1 quart fresh strawberries, sliced
 - 1 (18 ounce) jar strawberry glaze
- Crumble the cake into a 9x13 inch dish.

Beat the cream cheese and sugar in a medium bowl until light and fluffy. Fold in whipped topping. Mash the cake down with your hands and spread the cream cheese mixture over the cake.

In a bowl, combine strawberries and glaze until strawberries are evenly coated. Spread over cream cheese layer. Chill until ready to serve.





PERIODICAL

9/12

The FCSLA Mission Statement

Established in 1892, the FCSLA provides financial security to its members nationwide through its premier life insurance and annuity products. Sales of these products allow FCSLA to serve both its members and the community with fraternal and charitable opportunities that promote Catholic and Slavic traditions.

The FCSLA Vision is to:

- *Promote the temporal and spiritual welfare of the members through fraternal and charitable activities in our communities*
- *Promote our Slovak Catholic values and traditions and all Slavic cultures*
- *Be a premier Fraternal Benefit Society that offers quality financial products and benefits*