



# Fraternally Yours™

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

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*Alleluia, He Is Risen!*

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA



## ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

### Fraternally Yours™



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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,

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## Easter Story

A holy man was having a conversation with the Lord one day and said,  
"Lord, I would like to know what Heaven and Hell are like."

The Lord led the holy man to two doors.

He opened one of the doors and the Holy man looked in.

In the middle of the room was a large round table. In the middle of the table  
was a large pot of stew, which smelled delicious and made the holy man's mouth  
water.

The people sitting around the table  
were thin and sickly. They appeared to  
be famished. They were holding spoons  
with very long handles that were  
strapped to their arms and each found it  
possible to reach into the pot of stew and  
take a spoonful. But because the handle  
was longer than their arms, they could  
not get the spoons back into their  
mouths.

The holy man shuddered at the sight  
of their misery and suffering.

The Lord said, "You have seen Hell."

They went to the next room and  
opened the door.

It was exactly the same as the first  
one. There was the large round table with  
the large pot of stew which made the holy  
man's mouth water. The people were  
equipped with the same long-handled  
spoons, but here the people were well  
nourished and plump, laughing and talk-  
ing.

The holy man said, "I don't under-  
stand."

"It is simple," said the Lord. "It requires but one skill. You see, they have learned  
to feed each other, while the greedy think only of themselves."

**"Remember this, when Jesus died on the cross, he was thinking of you."**

Dear Friends,

Easter is the gift of HOPE

Easter is the gift of PEACE

Easter is the gift of LOVE

Let us rejoice in Him,

Who gives them all.

May God bless you at Easter,

And keep you all year through.

May God give you all the faith it takes,

To make your dreams come true.

May His love and wisdom always help,

To guide you on your way.

May His light shine down upon you now,

To bless your Easter Day.

Until next month . . .

## Happy Easter!

Warmly, **Carolyn**

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA



# A FIFTY YEAR HISTORY – VATICAN II – THE DOGMATIC CONSTITUTION ON DIVINE REVELATION, *DEI VERBUM*

Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, National Chaplain

My dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

A habit that I remember as a child and still holds true for me as a priest today, is knowing where people sit when they come to church for the celebration of Mass. As a priest getting older, I may have noticed that Mary Imrich was in her regular pew this weekend (fourth from the back, side aisle on my left, towards the middle of the pew) but her sister Annie (whose husband I buried twelve years ago and always forget their last name) was not sitting next to her. Was Annie ill? Or was she out of town visiting her daughter? You know the story all too well because you may find yourself and your family in the same situation each weekend. You may or may not know your fellow parishioners' names, but you know where they sit!

My family always sat on the left side of the church where the Blessed Mother altar was and by the stained glass window that depicted the biblical scenario of Saint Peter's confession of Jesus (Matthew 16:13-20). As a very young child, I was enthralled with the various colors of the glass mosaic and how they would change with the bright sunlight versus a cloudy interval. As I grew older, I became more aware of the impetus that this biblical and historical event would have on the Church in the future because of the words of my patron saint and the command of our Lord. Later, through my studies of liturgical theology, I became more aware of how stained glass windows became common learning tools for Christians to educate themselves in the stories of the Sacred Scriptures.

Stained glass windows are not only a plethora of colors such as in a rose window but also portraits of images of the Trinity, the Blessed Mother, the saints, the prophets, etc. At the time, the artists of the windows also needed to respond to the eyes of the viewers who yearned to learn about their Faith. In the beginning days when stained glass windows became popular, people did not have the access to the Sacred Scriptures as we do today. There were no printing presses, people

were unable to read, Mass was in Latin and, at times, unintelligible for them. Private prayer and devotions became normative and the stories of the Sacred Scriptures in the windows became a source of biblical education. The windows on one side of the church structure portray the imagery of the Hebrew Scriptures, maybe starting with the seven days of Creation and ending with one of the final stories of the prophets, going from the sanctuary to the back of the church structure. On the opposite side of the church, from back to the sanctuary, depictions of the Christian Scriptures would be employed, maybe starting with the Annunciation of the Lord and ending with the a story from the Book of Revelation. Thus a short summary of salvation history from the Sacred Scriptures was depicted in the glass of those churches and cathedrals. The amount of stories would be as vast or limited with the amount of windows and the space afforded on each.

Catholics have always had a high regard for the Bible as God revealing Himself in human history along with the Sacred Tradition of the Church that continues to manifest itself within that history. In this day, we are no longer confined because of limited access to print and media. They are within a minute's reach through the multitude of bookstores, the Internet, and the many modern technologies that are available to us today. We should take advantage of these availabilities in order to nourish our spiritual lives through the reading of and meditation on the Sacred Scriptures. Not to do so exhibits a lack to satiate a hunger that is/should always be present to know our God as God revealed to us in human and salvation histories.

As Catholics, we have the obligation to read and investigate the Sacred Scriptures on a regular, dare I say, even on a daily basis. The Church's Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (the Latin reference to this constitution is *Dei Verbum*) stresses the importance of Christians under-

standing how God wants us to know of God's desire for us to know Him through the Sacred Scriptures. The Second Vatican Council Fathers declared: "In sacred Scripture, therefore, while the truth and holiness of God always remain in tact, the marvelous 'condescension' of the eternal wisdom is clearly shown, 'that we may learn the gentle kindness of God, which words cannot express, and how far He has gone in adapting His language with thoughtful concern for our weak human nature.' For the words of God, expressed in human language, have been made like human discourse, just as of old the Word of the eternal Father, when he took to Himself the weak flesh of humanity, became like other men" [paragraph thirteen].

*Dei Verbum* is an easy document to read and I recommend that you take time to peruse the twenty-six paragraphs that bishops of the Council composed to: encourage all the faithful to read the Bible; possess the Word of God with reverence; understand how the Sacred Scriptures are aligned with the Sacred Tradition of the Church; become more aware of the history of the Sacred texts as they were handed down through the centuries; and, relate how God's Word leads people to fulfillment in their lives. Thus the Council Fathers conclude in paragraph twenty-six: "In this way, therefore, through the reading and study of the sacred books, 'let the word of the Lord run and be glorified' (II Thessalonians 3:1) and let the treasure of revelation entrusted to the Church increasingly fill the hearts of men. Just as the life of the Church grows through persistent participation in the Eucharistic mystery, so we hope for a new surge of spiritual vitality from intensified veneration for God's word, which 'lasts forever' (Isaiah 40:8; cf. I Peter 1:23-25).

Oh, by the way, you may want to make one more resolution during the remaining days of this Sacred Lenten Season 2013 – introduce yourself and your family to that nameless parishioner that sits in the same pew each week!

## Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



### FCSLA: A BEACON OF FRATERNAL AND FINANCIAL STRENGTH THROUGHOUT OUR NATION

In my inaugural message to you a year ago, I emphasized the concept that for us, financial strength must go hand in hand with fraternal strength. We continue to build our branches throughout the United States with an entire spectrum of opportunities for us to promote the welfare of our members

and the communities in which we live, to promote our Catholic, Slovak and Slavic values and traditions and to develop leaders on the local level.

Every year, we ask branch officers to submit a Fraternal Activity Report to the home office so we can continue to track our progress as a fraternal benefit society. Our branch officers are in the midst of finishing up their reports for calendar year 2012. We then submit a combined report with data from our branches to the American Fraternal Alliance. It is helpful to see how the fraternal benefit system significantly contributes to the general welfare of our communities throughout the nation.

I am pleased to report that for calendar year 2011, the latest year for which we have data, FCSLA's branches across the country conducted over 224,000 fraternal events and over 37,000 community service projects, clocking tens

of thousands of hours for the benefit of our members and those in need in our communities. From gatherings for our members to matching funds projects, to Join Hands activities, to reaching out to members for their spiritual and temporal welfare, we provide key links to volunteer efforts in our entire nation.

We are very proud of the efforts of everyone working at the branch level. We greatly appreciate all you do! Keep up the good work! God bless you and keep you strong, healthy and happy in our work together!

Fraternally Yours,

Cynthia Maleski, National President

### SR. BRANCH 101 ACTIVITIES

During the octave of Christmas, the Church celebrates the memory of the small children of the neighborhood of Bethlehem who were put to death by Herod – The Feast of the Holy Innocents. Sacrificed by a wicked monarch, these innocent lives bear witness to Christ who was persecuted from the time of His birth by a world which would not receive Him. Sr. Branch 101 (St. Louis, MO) assisted the Knights of Columbus of St. Mary Magdalen by displaying a plethora of white crosses.

These crosses are also displayed as a reminder of the The 40th Commemoration of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on Roe vs. Wade.

In the photo you can see the flag pole retrofitted by Branch funds.



**From JANUARY 1 through MARCH 31, 2013,  
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 Connects . . .

## THE DISABILITY WAIVER OF PREMIUM RIDER *Insurance for Your Life Insurance*

FCSLA is proud to announce a new rider which can be added to new applications for the 10 Pay, 20 Pay, and Life Paid Up at 85 and 20 Year Level Term Insurance plans. This new rider is the Disability Waiver of Premium Rider (WPR).

The WPR is actually insurance which protects a life insurance policy from lapsing due to the long term disability of the insured. Here's how it works. If the insured becomes disabled for six months or longer, the WPR goes to work, refunding any premiums made in those six months, and then continuing to pay all premiums which come due, as long as the insured continues to be disabled. All policy benefits remain in full force, cash values continue to grow, and any declared dividends continue to be paid. The only difference is that the WPR is paying the premiums instead of the insured! **The WPR is insurance on the life insurance against the peril of disability!** There is a small, extra premium for the WPR but this rider is so important that it is well worth that cost.

Let's look at how the new **WPR creates an insured savings plan:** Two young women, Sally and Susan, (age 25) each decide to set up a long term savings plan to supplement their retirement. They both choose \$100 monthly as the amount they can afford. Sally goes to the bank and sets up a savings account. Susan buys a \$100,000 20 Pay Life Certificate from FCSLA, with WPR. Both women faithfully deposit their savings month after month for two years. Then a dreadful thing happens! While riding together they are in a terrible auto accident and both are disabled for life! What will happen to their plans for saving money?

Six months later, Sally enters the bank in her wheel chair. She talks to the vice president of the bank. She asks him to continue putting \$100 per month into her account. He is sympathetic but, of course, there is nothing he can do for Sally. She has saved \$2,400 to that point, plus a little interest and that's all she will ever have!

At the same time, Susan fills out a claim form provided by FCSLA, and sends it in. After verifying Susan's condition with her doctor, FCSLA sends her a refund check for six months premiums and from that point on, the WPR will pay her premium, month after month, year after year, as long as she remains disabled. Since she has a 20 Pay Life Certificate, after 20 years it will be all paid up, just as if she had paid the premiums and it will continue to grow the rest of her life. At her age 65, she will have guaranteed cash value of \$44,300. Dividends may push that cash value much higher. And, all the while, Susan has had the protection of over \$100,000 of life insurance for the benefit of her loved ones.

There is no question as to which woman chose the better savings plan in the event of a disability. In fact, **the WPR is so important that I will recommend including it on every new certificate FCSLA sells!** Please contact your agent or licensed recommender for more information on the new WPR!



*May the Faith and Hope Given  
on that First Easter Morning  
Strengthen, Uplift and Inspire  
our Daily Lives that We May  
Truly Live the Meaning of Resurrection.*

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*Nech viera a nádej, ktoré sme dostali ako dar v to prvé  
Veľkonočné ráno, posilní, pozdvihne a povzbudí  
naš každodenný život tak, že môžeme naozaj  
porozumieť význam Vzkriesenia.*

*From the Desk of the*  
**National Secretary**  
*Sue Ann M. Seich*

Are you feeling "lucky"? March brings us the feast of St. Patrick on the 17th when all of us of Slavic descent become a little bit Irish. We wear our green and celebrate the day with our Irish friends or family members. We enjoy sharing in the phrase, "the luck of the Irish". I'm not sure where the phrase originated but I heard it many times in grade school. The Pastor and Associate Pastor where I went to school were both Irish and celebrated St. Patrick's Day as if it were a holy day.

We should all feel "lucky" to have found membership in our Association with all the fraternal benefits we receive. Some of us were enrolled at birth and others from a friend, a recommender, or one of our contracted agents. Being a member of our Association offers you and your family protection along with the support and care you may not receive from a commercial company.

On February 2, 2013 a member of our home office staff passed away. Mary Ann Yakubik was hired in August of 2012 to replace Kelly Shedlock in the Death Claims Department. Kelly was hired as Fraternal and Youth Director. Even though Mary Ann was only with us for a short time she became part of our home office family. She was a quiet gracious lady who did her work and often told me how "lucky" she felt to be working with all of us at FCSLA. I told her we were "lucky" she became part of our staff. She is going to be missed by all of us who worked with her. Several of us went to her wake and Funeral Mass to offer her two sisters and brother our sympathy, support and prayers. We expressed how "lucky" we were that Mary Ann came into our lives.

Would you consider sharing your "luck" with family and friends who are not members? Will you spread the word regarding the wonderful fraternal benefits FCSLA offers their members? Will you help us grow? If you are not a licensed recommender, contracted agent or have a fraternal exception for your state of residence, please contact your branch officer or the home office for assistance in enrolling a new member. We will happily assist you or the potential member in beginning their journey on the road to feeling "lucky".

Until next issue, may God keep you happy, healthy and loved.



## Indiana Slovak Day 2013

Mark your calendars for the Slovak Day Celebration in Northwest Indiana. On **July 21, 2013** we will celebrate mass, enjoy traditional Slovak dancing, eat and enjoy all things Slovak. For more information visit:

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

## Nuptials Exchanged in October

Laura Lynn Anzaldi (Sr. Branch 590, Pittsburgh, PA) and Christopher Anthony Mike, exchanged wedding vows on October 20, 2012 at St. Ferdinand Parish in Cranberry Township, PA. Presiding at the ceremony was Reverend George R. Dalton. The wedding reception was held at the Four Points Sheraton.

Laura is the daughter of James and Theresa Anzaldi of Butler, PA. Christopher is the son of James and Barbara Mike, of Cranberry Township, PA.

The couple honeymooned in the Pocono mountains and reside in Nashville, TN.

Bride Laura Mike, her mother Theresa Anzaldi, and grandmother Mary Jane Nadzam are all members of the FCSLA.



## Exchanged Wedding Vows

Jennifer Miksanek and Chris Strouse exchanged wedding vows June 30, 2012 at the Art Museum in Mount Vernon, IL.

Parents of the bride are Drs. Tony and Arlene Miksanek. Parents of the groom are Dan Strouse and Cheng Sun.

Best man was brother Kyle Straus and Matron of Honor was Jennifer's best friend, Jenny Ditch. Reverend Dan Whitfield officiated the wedding.

The reception with dinner and dancing was at the Art Museum in Mt. Vernon, IL.

Jennifer, Dr. Tony Miksanek and Grandma Rosemary are members of Sr. Branch 181 (Chicago, IL).



**HAVE YOU SIGNED UP  
A NEW MEMBER RECENTLY?**



# News from Your Fraternal & Youth Director

► Kelly Shedlock



As the Fraternal & Youth Director two of my biggest challenges will be to encourage branch officers to initiate branch activities and matching funds projects. Second will be to encourage our members to attend and participate in those activities and matching funds projects.

FCSLA is a Fraternal Benefit Society. What is a Fraternal Benefit Society you may ask? They are membership organizations that form one of the nation's most effective and efficient volunteer networks, delivering billions of dollars of financial aid and community service to those who need it most. They unite individuals with a common bond and provide individuals with the ability to secure their families' financial security through a variety of life insurance and investment products.

In 2013 let's become more involved! Participating in projects and knowing you are helping someone will make you feel really good! Take a moment read the poem and ask yourself ....

## DO YOU JUST BELONG?

### ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER

the kind that would be missed?

### OR ARE YOU JUST CONTENT

that your name is on the list

### DO YOU ATTEND MEETINGS

and mingle with the flock

### OR DO YOU STAY AT HOME

and criticize and knock

### DO YOU TAKE AN ACTIVE PART

to help the work along

### OR ARE YOU JUST SATISFIED TO BE

the kind that "Just Belongs"?

### DO YOU EVER GO TO VISIT

a member who is sick

### OR JUST LEAVE THE WORK TO A FEW

and talk about the clique

### THERE'S QUITE A PROGRAM SCHEDULED

that I'm sure you heard about

### AND WE'LL APPRECIATE IT IF YOU

will come and help us out

### SO COME TO MEETINGS OFTEN

and help with hand and heart

### DON'T BE JUST A MEMBER

but take an active part

### THINK IT OVER MEMBER

you know right from wrong

### ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER

or do you "Just Belong"?

~ Author Unknown

## Attention Members 65 & Older!

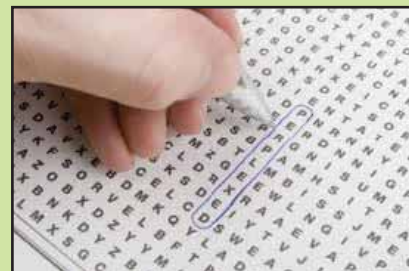
### A SPECIAL CONTEST JUST FOR YOU!

#### WORD SEARCH CHALLENGE 2013

- Complete six (6) straight months of Word Search Puzzles and receive a special gift along with your name in the *Fraternally Yours* Magazine.
- A Word Search Puzzle with a different theme each month will be in the *Fraternally Yours* Magazine starting April 2013 through September 2013.
- Complete the puzzles, mail them into the Home Office (you can mail them all at once or send them in one at a time), complete all 6 and you are a winner! It's as simple as that! All 6 puzzles must be in the Home Office by Friday, October 18, 2013.
- Everyone is invited to do the puzzles, however **to be eligible** for the prize and your name in the magazine you **must be a FCSLA member age 65 years and older!**

Be on the lookout in the  
April "Fraternally Yours" magazine for the  
2013 Word Search Challenge # 1.

If you have any questions  
please call Kelly at 1-800-464-4642 EXT 1051.



## Spring Meeting for Eastern PA Frances Jakabcin District

The Eastern PA Frances Jakabcin District will hold its Spring Meeting **on Sunday, April 21, 2013** at the Northampton Memorial Community Center, 1601 Laubach Avenue, Northampton, PA 18067 at 1:30 p.m. Bethlehem Branch 89 will be the host branch. Mark your calendars and save the date for this important meeting. District branches should RSVP attendance to President Veronica Bazik at 570-645-5253 by April 10, 2013.

## 65th Wedding Anniversary to be Celebrated in April

Ellsworth and Marlys (Wacha) Cizek will celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary at an Open House with family & friends on Sunday April 7th.

The couple were married April 6th at Holy Trinity Catholic Church north of Vining, IA, in 1948. Their children are Jacqueline and Louis



Winchip of Cedar Rapids, Joel and Connie Cizek of Waterloo, Jeffrey and Lynn Cizek and Jo Ellen and Ray Kubik, all of Traer. They have 13 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. They are members of Branch W149, Vining, IA.

## 90th Birthday Celebration

Mary Ondrick (Branch W500) of Pittsburgh, PA, celebrated her 90th birthday on October 20, 2012, with family and friends. Mary, seated right, is a lifelong member of the Branch W500 formerly of the Catholic Workmen. She enjoys cooking, baking and gardening. She is an excellent seamstress, making many of her own clothes. Mary is famous for the delicious cookies she bakes for the holidays.



## 50th Anniversary Celebrated with Nassau Trip

Recently Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Dudeck of Marino Valley, CA celebrated their 50th anniversary with a trip to Nassau.

The couple were married in Ontario, CA and are the parents of Ronald and wife Stephanie of Rancho Cucamonga, CA, Robert and wife Sherry of Beaverton, OR and Richard and wife Josephine of Redland, CA. They have eight grandchildren, Jeremy, Zachary, Quinn, Isabella, Leo, Marissa, Matthew and Nicholas.



## Plower's 62nd Wedding Anniversary

Jack and Ellen (Stockley) Plower of Conshohocken, PA were married on September 23, 1950 at Good Shepard Church in Philadelphia, PA.

The couple has eight children: Joanne McGuigan (Ed), John Plower (Gina), Thomas Plower (Marcia), Suzanne Whiting (Jim), Beth Anne Mascio (Philip), Mary Anne Decker (Andy), Michael Plower (Donna), Matthew Plower (Cathie Capriotti), 17 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

The photo (above) was taken on September 29, 2012 at a grandson's wedding in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

Ellen is a retired homemaker and Jack (John) served in the United States Marine Corps (Semper Fidelis!) and retired from the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in 1990. Ellen and Jack are active grandparents and participate in all family celebrations!

They are members of Sr. Branch 283 in Dunmore, PA.



## Attention!

If you would like to receive *Fraternally Yours* by email instead of through the mail please return this form to the attention of Marie Golias at the Home Office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

You will begin to receive *Fraternally Yours* by email as soon as the changes can be made.



## SR. BRANCH 30 HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

St. Ann's Lodge, Sr. Branch 30, and St. Helen's Lodge, Jr. Branch 29, held their annual Thanksgiving Celebration at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church (recently renamed Our Lady of Sorrows Parish) in Youngstown, OH. Approximately 82 members enjoyed delicious dinners prepared by the parish ladies as they gathered together in thanksgiving for our numerous blessings. A special monetary donation was made to The Paula and Anthony Rich Center for Autism located on the campus of Youngstown State University. Mrs. Geri Kosar, Vice-Chairperson of the Board of



L-R: Mary Lou DiPillo, President S30, Geri Kosar (Rich Center), and Catherine Kovalchik, Treasurer, S30.



Veronica Gleydura and Rita Smrek.

tribute to the memory of Paula and Anthony Rich and their unborn child who lost their lives tragically in a plane crash near Pittsburgh in 1994. The founders envisioned this Center as a beacon of hope for children and families afflicted with autism. According to recent statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, March 30, 2012), 1 out of 88 children age 8 will



James, Theresa (standing), and Earl Zouck.

have an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The Rich Center serves children ages 2½ through 14 who have an ASD diagnosis and families in the Youngstown area by providing Center and community-based services, as well as supporting research projects.

Branch members also brought canned goods for distribution by the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society. Attendees received a favor, compliments of the FCSLA Home Office, and enjoyed sharing time with other Branch members. Monetary door prizes were also awarded. This was a wonderful celebration for the Branches.



Marianne Evans with children Meganne, Morganne, and Mitchell.

### Telling Family + Friends = FCSLA's Future

## FCSLA 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Campaign

**The National Sales Manager and the Marketing Committee have planned five short sales campaigns for 2013.**

The first campaign began on January 1, 2013 and will run until March 31, 2013. This is a campaign about bringing in new members! It will be a contest, which will award prizes to the top 20 new member recruiters in the Association. There will be two tiers in the contest.

Tier "A" will be the top 10 producers in the number of new members submitted during the first quarter. These winners will be able to choose among prizes on a "prize page." These prizes will be at around \$400 in retail value.

Tier "B" will be the next 10 new member recruiters. These individuals will be able to select from a "prize page" with prizes around \$200 in retail value.

**All members are encouraged to participate in the new member campaign to keep the spirit of competition going!**

## SR. BRANCH 313 CHRISTMAS PARTY AND MEETING

On January 6, 2013, Sr. Branch 313 (St. Ann's Society), Natrona, PA, held its annual Christmas Party and meeting at St. Joseph's High School Science and Technology Community Center, Natrona Heights, PA. After an invocation by Sr. Lynn Szymkiewicz, CSJ, the National Anthem and sharing of oplatki, over 65 members and guests enjoyed a traditional New Year's pork and sauerkraut meal, homemade desserts brought by members, and information about our products and programs.

Officers include Cynthia Maleski, President and Financial Secretary, Norene Yandura, Vice President, Cecelia Szymkiewicz, Treasurer, Suzy Rapp, Fraternal Director and Vice President, Kate Szymkiewicz, Auditor, and Barbara Gajdosik, Jr. Order Secretary. Other members on the Christmas Committee include Tom and Marcia Szymkiewicz, Andrzej Groch and Elizabeth Groch.

Nationally known musicologist and accordionist Jerry Jumba played strolling Slovak and American music and branch members formed a mini-choir to sing along, even in Slovak! Some of the members formed a dance circle and danced the czardas.

Officers presented food items donated for our local food bank. Over 50 branch members participated in a Matching Funds raffle to benefit the local food bank and St. Vincent dePaul Society.

Members left saying that they could not wait until next year's party!



**St. Joseph's High School Principal Beverly Kaniecki accepts a donation from Sr. Branch 313. Bev and her entire family have recently become FCSLA members.**



**Sr. Lynn Szymkiewicz, C.S.J. (far right) giving the invocation at our party with some of the participants.**



**Several of Sr. Branch 313 officers presenting food donations to the food bank representative (far right). L-R: Suzy Rapp, Barb Gajdosik, Norene Yandura, Cynthia Maleski, and Allegheny Valley Association of Churches Food Bank representative.**

## Jonczak Family Attends Jr. Branch 138 Christmas Party



**Jr. Branch 138 (Natrona, PA) Christmas Party was held on December 9. Members of the Jonczak family attended this event. They are all FCSLA members, either in Jr. Branch 138 or Sr. Branch 313. Suzy Jonczak Rapp is one of our Jr. Branch 138's officers.**



**Mini-choir — L to R: Cynthia Maleski, Michele Svitek, Bernie Nowicki and Jerry Jumba.**



## FCSLA 2013 FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

The **First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association** is announcing its annual **Fraternalist of The Year Award program**. The award is given to an outstanding volunteer on the local level for branch, church and community involvement. The FCSLA selection will be submitted as a nominee for the American Fraternal Alliance Fraternalist of the Year Award.

All Officers and members are eligible to **submit** a name for this award. The nominee must be a member in good standing of the FCSLA with a history of fraternal and community service. **National Officers, Home Office Employees and previous recipients of this award are not eligible.**

Please submit their name, branch number and describe any / all significant involvement in fraternal and community services that should be considered. This will better assist our Independent Committee in the selection of the 2013 Fraternalist of the Year Award. The committee will select one nomination and submit that name to the American Fraternal Alliance. If you should have any questions, please feel free to call Kelly at the Home Office, 1-800-464-4642, EXT 1051 or email her at [kelly@fcsla.org](mailto:kelly@fcsla.org). You may also print this form off our website: [www.fcsla.org](http://www.fcsla.org).



**THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2013.**

All entries should be mailed to:  
Kelly M Shedlock, FCSLA Fraternal & Youth Director  
24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, Ohio 44122

Branch #	Print Name of Nominator	Phone #
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Signature of Nominator	E-mail
------------------------	--------

Nominee's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch # \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

**Nominee's Resume:** (only activities within the past 12 months will be considered) Please Print!

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

If more room is needed for nominee, please use a separate sheet of paper. THANK YOU!



## IN MEMORIAM

### FRANCES TILLIE (HORAK) GRAYBILL Branch W045



Frances Tillie (Horak) Graybill, 89, of Cedar Rapids, IA died peacefully surrounded by her family on November 26, 2012.

Frances was preceded in death by her loving husband, Bud, her parents Ben and Otilia, two brothers, Joseph (Helen) and George (Betty) Horak, two sisters, Helen Nemec and Mary Orr and her youngest son, James.

Frances was born January 30, 1923 in Cedar Rapids. She grew up on 18th Avenue S.W., walking across the 16th Avenue bridge railing to Saint Wenceslaus School where she graduated in 1941. Frances attended many area dances with the Kazimour girls, until she met Bud at Danceland after World War II. Bud and Frances were married at Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church on August 12, 1947. Bud had promised her "never a dull moment" and that is what their marriage was. This included dances, dinners, tennis and golf dates with several interesting people including her husband; trips to Europe, England, Bahamas, Bermuda, Mexico, Hawaii and both coasts of the U.S.

Frances has had many titles in her life: Ice Queen, Mrs. G, Bud's wife, Fran, Ma, Jimmy's Mom, Aunt Frannie and Grandma Fran. All of which she executed with grace and class. Her last years were busy with graduations, weddings, Golden Oldies and trying to keep the deer out of her yard.

She will be greatly missed by all.

### YVONNE MARY LISKA NOVACEK Branch W139

Yvonne Mary Liska Novacek peacefully passed from this world of natural

causes on December 15, 2012. She will be remembered for her bubbly personality, feisty attitude and kind demeanor.

Yvonne was born to parents Adolph "Ad" and Lorraine Liska on May 23, 1946 in Portland, OR. Yvonne lived with her family in Portland as her father Ad was a semi-pro baseball player and played as a pitcher for the Portland Beavers. She attended All Saints School and graduated from Grant High School. It was a trip to Nebraska that she met her life partner Alfred Novacek; she eventually moved to Nebraska and they were married in 1978.

In 1999, Alfred and Yvonne moved to Portland, OR and enjoyed their retirement. They became members of the St. Birgitta Catholic Church in Linton, OR and were active in Hollywood Boosters and the Hollywood Neighborhood Association. Yvonne was also very active in Czech Society of Oregon, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and the Czech Catholic Union. Yvonne had a warm and caring personality and quickly reconnected with old acquaintances and made new friends in Portland. She loved visiting with friends and family and keeping up on the comings and goings of others' lives. She was an avid gardener and she had a deep love for animals; especially her own beloved pets. She was strong willed and stood by her convictions; but was an individual who always tried to see someone's point of view.

Her memory will be cherished by her beloved husband, Alfred Novacek. Sons: Trevor and Sally Walsh, and Todd Walsh. Grandchildren: Beau Walsh, Sarah Walsh and Samantha and sister, Joyce and Charles Classen.

### JOHN L. HAAS Sr. Branch 44

John Louis Haas, 87, of North Huntingdon, died Thursday, December 27, 2012, in Excelsa Health Westmoreland Hospital, Greensburg, PA.

Mr. Haas was born May 25, 1925, in Connellsville, a son of the late Charles

and Elizabeth Auer Haas. He was a member of Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church of Irwin. John was a graduate of the former Scottdale High School. He served during World War II in the Navy on the USS Landsdale in Northern Africa in the Mediterranean Sea. He was a recipient of the European Victory Ribbon, the American Theater Ribbon and the Victory Medal.

John worked as a conductor-brakeman for the Penn Central and Conrail Systems and retired with more than 43 years of service for the railroad. He was a member of VFW Post 7812 of West Newton and a member of the United Transportation Union. John was an avid gardener and enjoyed building model airplanes and reading. He was also a car enthusiast, known to always have his cars in immaculate condition.

John is survived by his loving family; his wife of 50 years, Mary Louise Hornick Haas; his son, Richard A. Haas and his wife, Mary Louise, of Hookstown, and their children, Billy, Mike, Jennifer and Kim; a sister, Marguerite Stashick, of Lorain, OH; a sister-in-law, Thelma Haas, of Connellsville; his special brother-in-law, Larry Hornick, of Mt. Pleasant, and special niece, Cindy Haines and her husband, Roger, of Bullskin Township; and his cousin, Betty Lou Wacko and her son, Colt, of Acme.

In addition to his parents, John was also preceded in death by the following brothers and sisters: Paul, Joseph, Charles and James Haas and Rosemarie Mickey and Elizabeth Senone.

### PAULINE M. KALMAN Sr. Branch 401



Pauline M. Kalman, 85, died August 21, 2012, at Liberty Health Care, Youngstown, OH. She was born February 11, 1927, in Hubbard, OH a daughter of John

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and Anna Smith Knapik and was a lifelong Hubbard resident.

Pauline graduated from Hubbard High School in 1945. She attended Youngstown Beauty School and was the owner of Polly's Beauty Shop, where her customers gathered for a great hairdo and a hearty laugh.

She was a devoted member of St. Patrick Parish, where she belonged to the Altar and Rosary Society and was a festival volunteer chairing the 50/50 booth for many years in costume. She was also a member of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. Pauline dedicated a lot of her free time after retirement to the Hubbard Alumni Association and tending to her grandchildren. She loved traveling with her family and was well recognized around Hubbard, walking with her group of dear friends.

Pauline leaves her husband, Michael J. Kalman, whom she married September 16, 1950; a son, Mickey (Jeanette) Kalman of Boardman; a daughter, Mary Kay (Dr. David) DelliQuadri of Poland; a sister, Mildred Kudelko of Sharon, PA; and five grandchildren, Jon, Jenna, Dave and Dan Kalman and David Angelo DelliQuadri. She also leaves many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, John Knapik and Joseph Knapik; and four sisters, Mary Pitonyak, Ann Choppa, Helen Rusbacky and Margaret Lawrence.

## **SR. JOAN MARIE MASSURA**

### **Sr. Branch 485**



Sr. Joan Marie Massura (formerly Wilma), passed away peacefully on July 9, 2012 at Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, IN at the age of 75. She grew up in Chicago's Gage Park neighborhood and attended St. Simon parish elementary school. Her

grandfather, Joseph Massura was a founding member of St. Simon parish and upon election by the building committee became the general contractor in 1928 when the church, school, rectory and convent were constructed. Her father, Edward M. Massura, was the general contractor in 1961 when the parish built a larger, more modern elementary school. Sr. Joan Marie graduated from the Slovak Girls' Academy (St. Cyril Academy) in Danville, PA and received her Bachelors Degree in Chemistry from St. Joseph University in Emmitsburg, MD. She furthered her studies and received a Masters Degree in Chemistry from Villanova University and a Masters Degree in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University Chicago. She entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA on October 2, 1955 and in July 2000 transferred her vows to the Sisters of St. Benedict, Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, IN.

Upon taking her religious vows in 1955, she began teaching at Lebanon Catholic High School in Lebanon, PA, and later at St. Collumba Elementary School in Bloomsburg, PA. She also provided instruction to the Sisters in formation of the Saints Cyril and Methodius religious community as well as being certified to teach college courses to the Sisters. She taught at Andrean High School in Merrillville, IN from 1969-1979 and 1984-1985. Sr. Joan Marie then answered the call to minister to teens for the Gary Diocese CYO as Director of Youth Ministry from 1980-1984. Upon completion of her Gary Diocese assignment, she began her ministry to the teens of Indianapolis as the CYO Director of Youth Ministry for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Sr. Joan Marie also served as the Director of Vocations for her Benedictine Community and was the Director of Programming at the Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center in Beech Grove, IN. Sr. Joan Marie also held positions as the Director of Religious Education at St. Barnabas Par-

ish in Indianapolis and the Director of Retreats at LaSalle Manor in Plano, IL.

With regard to civic responsibilities, Sr. Joan Marie was the first female member of the Beech Grove Lions Club and was a member of Anna Hurban District of Chicago S485 of the FCSLA and a member of the Czech and Slovak Society of Indiana.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Edward M. and Wilma (Kussy) Massura, her sister Dorothy M. Massura Lehocky, her brother Edward A. Massura, her sister-in-law Alice Massura, her nephew Edward Lehocky and niece Tina Lehocky. Sr. Joan Marie's large and loving Slovak family survives her, which includes her sister, Joan (late Bill) Wickers, Sr., brother, Robert (Beverly) Massura, sister-in-law Carol Massura, many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and nephews, cousins, two aunts and an uncle on her father's side, Therese (Leo J.) Tylus, Lydia (late Tom) Berry, Alfred (Eileen) Massura and an aunt on her mother's side, Marge (late Al) Kussy. The two religious communities of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius and the Sisters of St. Benedict, as well as many, many friends from around the globe also survive her.

Sr. Joan Marie spent nearly 54 years in active vocation as a religious and, true to her Slovak heritage, she always opened her heart to all who walked through her life making each and every person, whether a relative, a friend or mere acquaintance, feel special and loved.



# And the winners of the 2012 Creative Contest are ...

*A big "thank you" to all who took the time and made Thank You cards for the Troops!*

*We have very creative members which made the judging very difficult.*

**- Congratulations to all our winners! -**

*Please check our website [www.fcsla.org](http://www.fcsla.org) to see all the entries that were submitted for our creative contest.*

## First Place Winners!

### Group 1 (Ages 0-6)



### Group 4 (Ages 23-40)



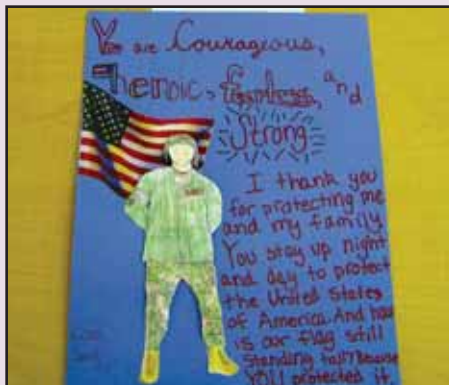
### Group 5 (Ages 41-65)



### Group 6 (Ages 66-Plus)



### Group 2 (Ages 7-13)



### Group 3 (Ages 14-22)



### Group 5 (Ages 41-65)



### Group 1 (Ages 0-6)

**1st Place** – Lilian Lyons, J-011  
Glendale, MO

**2nd Place** – Josef Miklovic, J-011  
St. Louis, MO

**3rd Place** – Parker Witlowski, W-187  
Beatrice, NE

### Group 2 (Ages 7-13)

**1st Place** – Sarah Fakult, J-386  
Middletown, MD

**2nd Place** – Annie Sheard, J-196  
Kenosha, WI

**3rd Place** – Sabrina Howard, W-130  
Omaha, NE

### Group 3 (Ages 14-22)

**1st Place** – Megan Fakult, S-010  
Middletown, MD

**2nd Place** – Mary Munshower, S-030  
New York, NY

### Group 4 (Ages 23-40)

**1st Place** – Layna Dias, S-283  
North Arlington, NJ

**2nd Place** – Peter Walters, Jr., S-035  
Branchburg, NJ

### Group 5 (Ages 41-65)

**1st Place** – Susan Sheard, S-273  
Kenosha, WI

**1st Place** – Michael Semego, S-011  
Munhall, PA

**2nd Place** – Tina Gray, S-149  
Commerce Township, MI

**2nd Place** – Margaret Cupka Worley,  
S-289 • Phoenix, AZ

### Group 6 (Ages 66 plus)

**1st Place** – Ann Kostrej, S-011  
Munhall, PA

**2nd Place** – Pauline Kunkel, S-452  
Munster, IN

**3rd Place** – Rose Pianalto, S-074  
Hutchinson, KS



## Blessing Baskets



The blessing of food baskets on Holy Saturday is a long-standing Central/Eastern European tradition that has been brought to the U.S. by immigrants from Slovakia, Poland, Lithuania, etc. Many times the baskets of food are covered with elaborate, hand embroidered cloths that are only used on Holy Saturday.

The tradition celebrates our joy of the Resurrection. The foods in the basket are our Easter meal and represent fare traditionally abstained from during Lent (in times when Lenten regulations were much more severe than today): meat, butter, rich breads, desserts. The food is placed in a wicker basket and brought to the church on Holy Saturday where it is blessed in a short liturgy.

The rules are relaxed for the modern Easter basket at the pre-feast blessing, but Slovak tradition calls for nine items to be in it.

### They are:

**Eggs:** Brightly decorated eggs are a symbol of new life in the risen Christ.

**Pascha, or Easter bread:** It's sweet and rich in eggs and butter. It's a symbol of Christ, Christians' "true bread."

**Kielbasa:** A spicy sausage that indicates God's favor and generosity.

**A piece of uncooked bacon, cured with spices:** It symbolizes the abundance of God's mercy.

**Salt:** It reminds people to flavor their dealings with others by Christ's example.

**Ham:** It was popular with Czechoslovakians because of its richness, and it is symbolic of Easter's great joy and abundance.

**Cheese:** A custard-style cheese, shaped into a ball and having a bland but sweet taste, indicates the moderation Christians should have in all things.

**Horseradish and beets:** They symbolize the suffering of Christ, who was put to death on a cross and rose from the dead three days later, defeating the sins of the world.

**Butter:** It's shaped like a lamb, a small cross or placed in a glass dish. It reminds people to have Christ-like goodness toward all things.

## FCSLA'S YOUTH RECOGNITION AWARD

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is announcing its annual Youth Recognition Award. There are countless young FCSLA members who participate in many service projects in their branch, church, school or community. This year we are once again asking for your assistance in recognizing a young individual for his/her volunteer activities. In all our branches there are individuals who stand out in a crowd because of their achievements. This is your opportunity to nominate an outstanding young member from your Senior or Junior Branch.

### FCSLA'S YOUTH RECOGNITION AWARD GUIDELINES

1. Nominee must be an FCSLA member for at least three years.
2. All family members of the Home Office Staff and National Officers are eligible to be nominated.
3. Previous recipients of this award will not be considered, but previous nominees who did not receive the award are eligible to be nominated.
4. A nominee must be between the ages of 6-22 years. (Received date will determine the age eligibility.)
5. Service projects/volunteerism must be between June 1, 2012 through May 1, 2013.
6. A paragraph of 250 words or less should describe what the individual has done to deserve being nominated for this award.
7. The entry form must be completed entirely and be at the Home Office by May 24, 2013.
8. The winner will be featured in our magazine and awarded a \$100.00 prize.
9. An independent committee will select the winner.

### 2013 FCSLA'S Youth Recognition Award

Branch # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Branch # \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

School/College/University \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate sheet of paper please describe in 250 words or less, all the volunteer efforts of your nominee and why he/she deserves this award.

Questions please call Kelly at 1-800-464-4642, Ext. 1051 or email [kelly@fcsla.org](mailto:kelly@fcsla.org)

**Mail to: Kelly M Shedlock, Fraternal & Youth Director  
24950 Chagrin Blvd. Beachwood, OH 44122**

**Entry deadline is May 24th, 2013.**



## 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!



Representative, Patrick is in Cub Scouts, some clubs, is on the Narbeth Travel Team for baseball; and he also enjoys playing soccer and basketball.

In May, Patrick made his First Holy Communion which was attended by his family, pictured below at brother Kevin's Baptism, Ed Zaroni, Patrick's father, is a member of Branch 376 and all of his sons, Patrick (9), Andrew (7), Kevin (1), Joseph (5), and Michael (3) are members of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association as well. Kevin is being held by Mom Anne Marie and Michael is being held by his father Ed.



Congratulations were sent to **PATRICK ZARONI** of Narbeth, PA by Sr. Branch 376 and Jr. Branch 334 in Milwaukee, WI, where he is a member of the Junior Branch. Patrick received a \$750 Third Grade Scholarship in 2012 from the National Office along with a \$100 check from the Junior Branch! He attends St. Margaret School in Narbeth, where he is the Third Grade Class



**JONATHAN RUDINSKY**, 5 years old, a member of Sr. Branch 235 with Svaty Mikulas at the Slovak Embassy in Washington, D.C. Jonathan has been attending the Svaty Mikulas party since he was 9 months old.



**ABIGAIL HEATH**, (Jr. Branch 364 of Johnstown, PA) of Severn, MD is shown holding her FCSLA scholarship check.

## YOUNGSTOWN SISTER CITIES SETS TRIP

Youngstown Sister Cities has scheduled its 16th Slovak Heritage Tour to Slovakia for July 9-July 23, 2013. Details will be given in future articles.

Contact Jim and Kay Bench: [jmbench@yahoo.com](mailto:jmbench@yahoo.com) or cell phone (724) 858-5843.

**July 9-23, 2013**



# Additional Photos from District Anna Hurban of Chicago Senior Branch Christmas Party Saturday, December 1, 2012

*Continued from February issue*





## Cook County IL Treasurer Maria Pappas Hosts Holiday Party

On Friday evening, December 7, 2012, Chicago District President, Mary Therese Tylus, Chicago District Financial Secretary, Jarmila Hlubocky and Sr. Branch 295 Auditor, Fay Hlubocky attended the International Tree and Holiday Exhibit hosted by the Cook County, Illinois Treasurer, Maria Pappas.

The exhibit displayed 87 miniature Christmas trees decorated by various ethnic organizations throughout Chicago that represented countries from around the world. The Slovak National Alliance decorated and sponsored the Slovak Christmas tree for this year's exhibit.

Ms. Pappas played the electronic keyboard and engaged all the attendees in singing Christmas carols in French, German, and English. A local Polish dance troupe entertained the guests with their traditional Polish dances. A good time was had by all in attendance!



L-R Chicago District President, Mary Therese Tylus, Slovak Christmas Tree decorated by Slovak National Alliance, Chicago District Financial Secretary, Jarmila Hlubocky and Sr. Branch 295 Auditor, Fay Hlubocky.



L-R: Chicago District Financial Secretary Jarmila Hlubocky, Chicago District President Mary Therese Tylus, Cook County IL Treasurer Maria Pappas and Sr. Branch 295 Auditor Fay Hlubocky.

## Attention Cleveland District Branches



### Mark your calendars for our 2013 District Meetings and Events!

All our meetings are held at  
**Light of Hearts Villa (LOHV)**  
283 Union St., Bedford  
At 12:30 P.M.

#### ~ District Meetings ~

Did you know that the meetings are opened to all members? They are not only for your branch officers. Please think about joining us for our meetings. Remember, you are all part of our Fraternal Organization.

#### DISTRICT MEETING DATES FOR 2013

- Saturday, March 2nd
- Saturday, June 15th
- Saturday, September 14th

#### ~ 2013 Events ~

*(more detail to follow at a later time for each event)*

- ❖ May 18th, Saturday — Join Hands Day
- ❖ July 26th, Friday — St. Anne's Day
- ❖ August 4th, Sunday — The Fest
- ❖ (the district will have a booth)
- ❖ Volunteer will be needed to man the booth.
- ❖ December 14th, Saturday — LOHV Christmas Party

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR BRANCH W093

Branch W093, Tabor, SD met on January 13, 2013 for a short meeting and election of officers. The current officers were re-elected as follows: President Gary Sestak, Vice President Eileen Sestak, Secretary Joyce Sestak, Treasurer Ev Kloucek. Newly elected Trustee is Janet Burbach. Endowment fund trustees were all re-elected as follows: President Terry Sestak, Secretary Sherry Povondra, and Treasurer Marilyn Sestak.

Donations were given to the Radio Rosary, the Bon Homme after prom committee, and the Tabor Chamber of Commerce (Czech Days advertising).

The branch calendar of events was approved. With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

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## RECENT HOLIDAY PARTIES FOR BRANCH W093

Branch W093, Tabor, SD held its annual Halloween Party on October 28, 2012. During the meeting they were pleased to present a check for \$2,000 to Kathy Kortan, who is on the renovation committee for their parish council. The committee is in charge of remodeling the parish rectory, a project which was undertaken following the August car accident that critically injured their Priest, Fr. Daniel Moris. Fr Daniel had only been serving the parish for less than two months when the accident occurred and he is on a very long road to recovery. Prayers are with Father for his continued recovery. The rectory was in need of updating and the branch was happy to donate to this important project.



W093 members presenting Kathy Kortan with a check to help with the rectory remodeling project.



The branches annual Christmas Party was held on December 2, 2012. A potluck dinner followed a short meeting.

### FCSLA W121 DONATION



FCCLA Branch W121(New Hradec, ND) Branch President Curt Pavlicek is handing a check of \$250 to Kelly Koppinger of Trinity High School for a remodeling project for their Chapel. The funds were raised by selling Rada Cutlery.

Fifty year members were honored during the meeting although none could attend. The honorees were Dianne Kriz, Kevin Cuka, Mildred Miller, Ronald Cameron, Theresa Maraganis, and Kevin Wagner. Congratulations to these long time members.

A cookie exchange was conducted followed by a visit from St. Nick. Bingo was played and the day concluded with refreshments.



St. Nick with youth members of Branch W093.

### Branch W006 Continues Holiday Tradition

Members of Branch W006 located at Holy Trinity Catholic Church (Heun, rural Clarkson, NE) are shown preparing holiday sacks of treats for the youngsters to enjoy. Branch W006 has been filling holiday sacks annually for more than 30 years. Members shown are left to right are Magdalene Svec, Rolland Svec, Irene Sobota, Larry Kuzel, and Gene Sobota.



## Branch 77 Hosts Scholarship Celebration Dinner

On July 20, 2012, Branch 77 celebrated this year's scholarship winners and their parents with a dinner at the Boston Waterfront in Boston, PA. Branch 77 and 32 winners are as follows: Patrick A. Sullivan, College Freshman, Penn State, Greater Allegheny; Austin A. Paholski, High School Senior, Marquette Catholic High School; Cassandra L. Fedor, High School Sophomore, Serra Catholic High School; Brody T. Mihalyo, Grade 8, Bishop Mussio Junior High; Savannah J. Furlong, Mon Yough Catholic School and Maya Theresa Metcalf, Bishop John King Mussio Elementary School.



Branch officers with scholarship winners.



Cassie with parents Jim and Sally and her brother.

Patrick, Cassandra and Savannah were able to attend. Vice President Irene Fedor presented gifts to the winners, congratulated them on their accomplishments and recognized their parents.



Vice President Irene Fedor with Granddaughter Cassandra, Savannah and Patrick.



Savannah and parents Larry and Mari Beth.



Janice and Pete and son Patrick.

## Christine Hladik Receives her Ph.D. in Marine Sciences

Christine M. Hladik, member of Branch W108, received her Ph.D. in Marine Sciences on August 4, 2012 from the University of Georgia at Athens. She was also recognized as an Outstanding Educator while at UGA.

Dr. Hladik is the daughter of Bob and Margie Hladik, president and secretary of Branch W018 in Omaha, NE.

Dr. Hladik will finish her post-doctoral work at UGA in June. She has accepted a teaching position at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, GA, and will begin working there this summer.



Christine M. Hladik, PhD. with her parents, Margie and Bob Hladik, Secretary and President of Branch W018 in Omaha, NE.





# Branch W033 Annual Christmas Gathering and Meeting

On Sunday, December 2, 2012, Branch W033 (Spillville, IA) held their annual Christmas Party and meeting with 57 in attendance. The day began at 11 a.m. with a social hour followed by a delicious dinner.

The meeting opened with a prayer and remembrance of six deceased members. Reports were given and thank you notes were read. During the meeting the children in attendance were invited to the lunchroom to assemble Christmas crafts with Jenae Kuennen and Joanne Hagerman.

Four scholarships were awarded recipients were: Josh and Cole Stiba, \$250 each and Matthew and Mitchell Helmkamp, \$100 each. The branch

also has three National Scholarship winners: Megan Lukes, Rachel Frana and Josh Stiba. Josh was also awarded a State Scholarship.

Donations were awarded as follows: \$1,500 from the Matching Funds Breakfast & Raffle to St. Wenceslaus Catholic School room renovations plus another \$2,500 from the branch; \$100 to the Spillville, IA Library; \$100 to the Legion of Mary; and \$125 worth of groceries to a local food pantry.

A discussion was held concerning the continued work on the mosaic floor at St. Wenceslaus by John Kjolme as a result of the 2011 National Convention donation. John works alone and has other jobs. The work is painstaking

and slow but it will be worth it when the project concludes during 2013.

The State meeting was held in Duncan, IA with 11 members attending and 32 members attended the Annual Picnic on July 8, 2012.

Four branch members will say the Rosary during Lent on a local radio station.

All current officers were re-elected for another term. Four \$25 door prizes were given out and Adilla Kuhn (adult) and Max Klimesh (children) were announced as winners of the guessing game for two glass Christmas Trees filled with Christmas candy.

Bells sounded the arrival of Santa Claus with bags of treats for everyone. Bingo followed with prizes on and under the tree to choose from. Everyone had a wonderful day!



Branch VP Jerry Kuhn presents a \$100 donation check to Legion of Mary member Adella Kuhn for their organization.



L-R: Rory Kuennen, Sarah Opat, Kayleann Fjelstul, Shayla Kuennen, Alayna Kuennen with Dan Silhacek, W033 President.



Children with crafts they made — L-R: Max Klimesh, Olivia Opat, Alayna Kuennen and Kashton Riley. 2nd Row: Rory Kuennen. Back Row: Shayla Kuennen.



Members in attendance at the party.



Christmas Tree decorated with Bingo prizes.



Members organizing the food — L-R: Jack Zoulek, Joyce Zoulek, Joanne Hagerman, and Alice Klimesh.

## JOHN'S TOURS TRAVELS TO SLOVAKIA!

John's Tours of Vandergrift, PA has an extensive tour of Slovakia set for September 9-23, 2013 featuring stays in Bratislava, Piestany, Kosice and Krakow.

For a brochure and further information please write to John's Tours, PO Box 154, Vandergrift, PA 15690 or phone 724/567-7341 or 1-800-260-8687.

## Branch 093, Tabor, SD 2013 Calendar of Events

**April 7** – Easter Party, Noon, potluck & meeting at Beseda Hall, Tabor, SD

**May 1** – Deadline for Nominations for Fraternalist of the Year

**June 2** – Czech Day Float Assembly – Joe Sestak's Machine Shed 1:30 p.m. - volunteers needed

**June 20, 21, 22** – Czech Days in Tabor, SD – Volunteers needed

**July 1** – Deadline for W093 High School Seniors to apply for local branch scholarships. Contact a W093 officer for an application.

**July 7** – Monthly meeting after Mass in Tabor, SD

**August 4** – Annual Picnic in Sokal Park. Noon potluck, Branch W093 will supply refreshments and hot dogs. In the event of inclement weather will move to Beseda Hall.

**September 8** – Monthly Meeting after Mass in Tabor, SD

**October 27** – Annual Halloween Party with a noon potluck. Prizes for best costumes all ages, meeting, games and fun for all. Beseda Hall, Tabor, SD

**November 10** – District 13 South Dakota State Meeting – Host Tyndall – Request that ALL FCSLA members attend, RSVP for meal count to District Officers.

**December 1** – Annual Christmas Party, Noon potluck, cookie exchange, meeting, honor 50 year members and "Fraternalist of the Year", games and visit from St. Nick in Beseda Hall, Tabor, SD.

**December 29** – Communal gathering to celebrate the "Feast of the Holy Family" at Mass. Potluck brunch following Mass in Beseda Hall. Honor 2013 scholarship winners. Members and family and all parishioners are invited to potluck just bring a dish to share. Branch will supply coffee and juice.

Monthly meetings and locations subject to change – any questions contact Branch secretary Joyce Sestak @ 605-463-2268.

## Santa Helpers from Jr. Branch 257

Junior Branch 257, Campbell, Ohio members were Santa helpers following Mass in Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. The children passed out some "Holiday Cheer" with candy canes to the congregation at St. John's Slovak Church.

After all their hard work, Junior Branch Secretary Renee Zura treated them to lunch. It was nice to see everyone excited for the Christmas Season.



**Pictured are two of Santa's Helpers Jacob Zura and Angeleah Matzye.**

## Kent Dudince Sister City Association

# 11th Annual Anniversary Banquet

**Sunday, May 19, 2013**

Kent Elks Lodge Hall

Elks Lane, State Route 59

(behind Twin Star Bowling Lanes, 2245 SR 59)

**1:00 p.m. Social Hour • 2:00 p.m. Dinner**

**3:00 p.m. Program**

**Music by Johnny Pastirik**

**during Social Hour and Dinner**

*Dancing following the program*

**Pittsburgh Slovaks**

**Slovenske Mamicky of Greater Cleveland**

**Vocal Ensemble**

**Lucinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble of Greater Cleveland**

Tickets: \$20 per person

Catered by Tom's Country Place

Advance ticket sales only (by May 10)!

***Ticket order with directions will be mailed, please include names of all guests.***

Donation of baked goods would be appreciated.

*Make checks payable to:*

Kent-Dudince Sister City Association

725 Fairchild Avenue, Kent, OH 44240

Any questions please call 330-606-6108

## The 23rd Edition of Our

# SLOVAK-AMERICAN COOK BOOK

No books are sold or delivered C.O.D.

**ALL ARE SOLD FOR CASH**

The cost of each book is \$9.00. A carton of 18 books is \$144 (\$8.00 per book). Canada residents \$11.00 U.S. money order per book. *Send only money order or check payable to:* First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Attention: Cook Book Department, 24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122.

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Enclosed find \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ (Money Order)

☐ (Check) for \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the Cook Book.





## OVER-THE-TOP DELICIOUS CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER EGGS

- 4 cups powdered sugar
- 1½ cups creamy peanut butter
- ¼ cup butter or margarine, melted
- 2-3 tablespoons milk
- 3 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 tablespoon shortening

Mix together the powdered sugar, peanut butter, and butter. Add the milk one tablespoon at a time until it becomes a nice workable dough. It will be just like play dough, it will be really easy to work with. Form the dough into egg shapes, and place in the freezer for about an hour.

Place the chocolate chips and shortening in a glass measuring cup. Microwave 1 minute at a time stirring in between until completely melted. (You can also use a double boiler if you prefer.)

Dip each egg in the melted chocolate and place on waxed paper until set. Once they are set you can trim any excess chocolate off that may pool at the base with a pairing knife to make them look pretty. You could also decorate them with royal icing and make a really special Easter treat.

## FRENCH TOAST EASTER EGGS

- 1 loaf (1 pound) French bread, cut into ¾-inch slices
- 4 eggs
- ⅔ cup orange juice
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon grated orange peel
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup butter
- Strawberry, mint and grape jellies

Cut each slice of bread with a 3-in. oval cookie cutter; discard crust. In a bowl, beat eggs, orange juice, sugar, orange peel

and salt. Melt butter in a large skillet. Dip both sides of bread into egg mixture; cook in butter until golden brown on both sides. Meanwhile, heat jellies in microwave-safe bowls just until warm. Transfer each to a separate plastic or pastry bag; cut a small hole in the corner of bag. Decorate French toast to resemble Easter eggs. Serves 6-8.

## PASKA LOAVES

- 2 cups milk
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 12 ounces (3 sticks) butter
- 3 packages active dry yeast
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 cup warm water (no hotter than 110 degrees)
- 3 large eggs at room temperature
- 8 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- Milk or beaten egg yolk

In a small saucepan, heat milk, ½ cup sugar, salt and butter over low heat until butter melts and sugar dissolves. Cool to lukewarm (no hotter than 110 degrees).

Dissolve yeast and 1 tablespoon sugar in warm water placed in a mixing bowl or stand mixer bowl that has been warmed. Let mixture stand for 5 minutes. Add eggs, milk mixture and 4½ cups flour. With the dough hook attachment, mix on speed 2 for 1 minute.

Continue mixing on medium speed, and add remaining flour, ½ cup at a time, and mix about 2 minutes or until dough clings to hook and cleans sides of bowl. Continue mixing 2 minutes longer or until dough is smooth and elastic. It will be sticky to the touch.

Place dough in greased bowl, turning to grease top. Cover and let rise in warm place about 1-2 hours or until doubled. Punch down dough and divide in thirds, reserving a small piece of dough from each to make decorations. Shape each into a round loaf and place in greased round (7x3-inch) bread pans. Using reserved dough, decorate with cross in center or braids around the edge. Cover and let rise in warm place 1-2 hours or until doubled.

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Gently brush tops of risen dough with milk or beaten egg yolk. Bake 40 minutes or until golden brown and instant-read thermometer registers 190 degrees. Remove from pans immediately and cool on wire rack.

## ROASTED RACK OF LAMB

- ½ cup fresh bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 teaspoon salt

- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 (7 bone) rack of lamb, trimmed and frenched
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Move oven rack to the center position.

In a large bowl, combine bread crumbs, garlic, rosemary, 1 teaspoon salt and ¼ teaspoon pepper. Toss in 2 tablespoons olive oil to moisten mixture. Set aside.

Season the rack all over with salt and pepper. Heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a large heavy oven proof skillet over high heat. Sear rack of lamb for 1 to 2 minutes on all sides. Set aside for a few minutes. Brush rack of lamb with the mustard. Roll in the bread crumb mixture until evenly coated. Cover the ends of the bones with foil to prevent charring.

Arrange the rack bone side down in the skillet. Roast the lamb in preheated oven for 12 to 18 minutes, depending on the degree of doneness you want. With a meat thermometer, take a reading in the center of the meat after 10 to 12 minutes and remove the meat, or let it cook longer, to your taste. Let it rest for 5 to 7 minutes, loosely covered, before carving between the ribs.

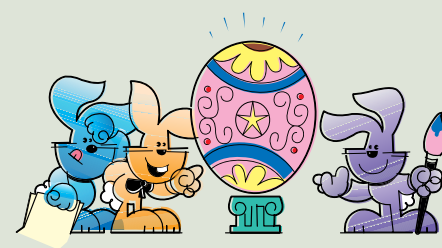
## BROCCOLI QUICHE

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 onion, minced
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 2 cups chopped fresh broccoli
- 1 (9 inch) unbaked pie crust
- 1½ cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- 4 eggs, well beaten
- 1½ cups milk
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Melt butter in a large saucepan over medium-low heat. Add onions, garlic and broccoli. Cook slowly, stirring occasionally until the vegetables are soft. Spoon vegetables into crust and sprinkle with cheese.

Combine eggs and milk. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in melted butter. Pour egg mixture over vegetables and cheese.

Bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes, or until center has set.







## PERIODICAL

3/13

### 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*