

120 Years of Fraternal Progress
1892 - 2012



ISSN 0897-2958

Fraternally Yours™

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

VOL. 98, NO. 3

JANUARY 2012



*May the gifts
of the season...
peace, hope,
love, health
and happiness
be yours
throughout
the New Year.*

Happy
New
Year!

2012

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

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Fraternally Yours™



ISSN 0897-2958



Fraternally Yours,
ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,

is a monthly magazine published by the
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.
National Headquarters at 24950 Chagrin Blvd.,
Cleveland, Ohio 44122

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Phone (610) 373-2743 • Fax (610) 375-8333

Periodical Postage Paid at
Cleveland, OH 44101 and additional entries

Subscription Rate, Non-Members: \$6.00 — 1 Yr.

Printed at Triangle Press
6720 Allentown Blvd., Harrisburg, PA 17112

Postmaster: Send address changes to
Ženska Jednota,
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44122

Deadline for all articles is the 15th
of the month, 1½ months prior to the issue date.

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Lunch with God

There once was a little boy who wanted to meet God.

He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase
with Twinkies and a six-pack of root beer, and he started his journey.

When he had gone a few blocks from home, he met an old man.

He was sitting in the park near the water just staring at some birds.

The boy sat down next to him and opened his suitcase.

He was about to take a drink from his root beer, when he noticed
that the old man looked hungry, so he offered him a Twinkie.

The old man gratefully accepted it and smiled at him.

His smile was so incredible that the boy wanted to see it again,

so he offered him a root beer.

Once again, he smiled at him. The boy was delighted!

They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

As it grew dark, the boy realized how tired he was, and he got up to leave,
but before he had gone more than a few steps;

he turned around, and ran back to the old man, and gave him a hug.

The old man gave him his biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later,
his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face.

She asked her son: "What did you do today that made you so happy?"

The child replied: "I had lunch with God."

But before his mother could respond, he added: "You know what?

He's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!

Meanwhile, the old man, also radiant with joy, returned to his home.

His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and asked:

"Dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?"

He replied: "I ate Twinkies in the park with God."

But before his son responded, he added: "You know, He's much younger
than I expected."

Dear Friends,

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a
listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring. All of which
have the potential to make someone's day a very special one, or even turn
someone's life around. Our actions always speak louder than our words.

Happy New Year!

Warmly, Carolyn

CORRECTION

Sue Ann Seich, National Secretary and Stephen Hudak, National Treas-
urer were inadvertently omitted from the list of newly elected officers and
board members that appeared in a convention re-cap article on page 9 of
the December issue of *Fraternally Yours*.

Carolyn M Bazik, FCSLA National Editor

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, National Chaplain

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

Šťastný Nový Rok! Happy New Year! I hope that you and your family had a wonderful celebration of Christmas and the Holiday Season. May the joy that we shared during that special and holy time of the year enliven each of us to witness the gift that God the Father has bestowed upon us in the Incarnation of Christ Jesus our Lord. May Christ be our guide as we continue to live out the Good News He has entrusted to us so that our journey through this year may be grace-filled, charitable, and strengthening in the hope of His Resurrection.

The beginning of a New Year allows us to look at events of the past that enable us to build on the strengths that were amplified during 2011 and acknowledge our weaknesses so that we may be able to remedy them in the future. For example, many of us, including myself, may have run into the wall because of a physical illness. Some may have been warded off because these illnesses were self-inflicted such as not getting enough rest, not following a proper diet, not getting enough exercise, etc. Others may be illnesses that are surprising and not expected such as cancer, coronary disease, diabetes, etc. For the former, there is something we can do by self-discipline in the New Year. For the latter, we entrust our lives to Almighty God and the direction of our doctors and health care providers so that we may get better and/or be resolved to what disorder we possess and learn to cope with the situation.

As I personally look at the past year, I acknowledge that I have many weaknesses and I have to learn to take more time to appreciate the world that surrounds me. Daily I take the world for granted and fail to recognize the simple things of life. I am ungrateful for the good around me and at times do not recognize God's presence throughout each day. My health is good but I could be more faithful to exercising and better eating habits. There are days when I do not pray enough or have those moments of

meditating on the Word. As many of us have made New Year's resolutions, so have I to correct the above weaknesses in my life. Hopefully in 2013 I will be able to look back and say that I have made some leaps in getting better in my weaknesses.

I look back to the year 2011 and note some major fetes that have assisted me as a person, priest, and faith-filled Christian. On 1 August, I became the pastor of the three Slovak parishes in the city of Youngstown - Holy Name of Jesus, Saint Matthias, and Saints Cyril and Methodius. Our diocese, like so many other dioceses in the United States, is undergoing a reconfiguration because of the shift of population and the shortage of priests. My bishop has opted to keep ethnicity within the diocesan structure and there will be at least one church as a center of the ethnic identity. The challenge in my particular situation is to what church becomes the center and what two churches will have to close. This is a challenge to the parishioners and to me. Through the grace of the Holy Spirit, however, I believe that we will be able to come a decision that will strengthen us as Catholics and a people with a Slovak heritage.

On 18 September 2011, I was invested into the *Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem* at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, Illinois. The origins of the Order date back to the First Crusade that liberated Jerusalem. In 1103, the first king of Jerusalem, Baldwin I, assumed the leadership of the order and reserved the right for himself and his successors to appoint knights. Today, the aims of the Order are to strengthen in its members the practice of the Christian life; to sustain and aid the charitable, cultural and social works and institutions of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land; to support the preservation and propagation of the Faith in the Holy Land; and, to uphold the rights of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land. By recommendation of my bishop, His Eminence, Francis Cardinal George,

O.M.I., knighted me during the celebration of the Eucharist.

I was quite surprised when His Excellency, Peter Burian, the ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the United States awarded the *Medal of Honor of the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic* to our former president, Mary Ann S. Johaneck and former secretary, Irene Drotleff, and myself at the opening banquet of our Fortieth National Convention in Baltimore, Maryland on 9 October 2011. My relationship with Mister Burian goes back to the mid 1990's when he was *charge d'affaires* at the new embassy in Washington for the Slovak Republic. He is quite a remarkable person and the relationship that we have had over the years is a treasure that I hold with high dignity and respect. The honor that he bestowed upon us was a humbling experience and one that gives me more energy to promote my Slovak heritage. Upon further reflection, I thought of my four Slovak grandparents who emigrated from Slovakia at the beginning of the last century and realized their dreams becoming a reality for me in these United States. Awesome!

And finally, I am a grateful priest that I have the honor of serving you as your National Chaplain for the next four years. I acknowledge the remarkable background of the Reverend Micah Kozol who is a priest of the Greensburg Diocese and desired to be the in this position. Thank you Father for emphasizing the honor of being the chaplain, not taking it for granted and the necessity of always keeping our members in mind when making the decisions to guide our fraternal association in the future. God bless you and I ask for your prayers.

We are in a New Year with new challenges. We build on our strengths and attempt to correct our weaknesses. May we do so in the Holy Name of Jesus. And as the school children here at Saint Matthias Church use to pray, so may we: "Praise be Jesus Christ now and forever. Amen. All for the Love of God!"

Mary Ann Johaneek Honored with Slovak-American of the Year Award

Mary Ann Johaneek, National President of the FCSLA for the past sixteen years was honored on Thursday, November 17th with the Slovak-American of the Year Award during the Third Annual Slovak American Awards Dinner at the Washington Golf & Country Club in Arlington, VA. She received the award from Mr. Joseph Senko, Chairman of the Friends of Slovakia and His Excellency Peter Burian,

Slovak Ambassador to the United States. We congratulate Mary Ann and thank her for her years of dedicated service to the FCSLA and for her tireless efforts to support and promote our Slovak traditions as well as many ethnic and community events in the name of the FCSLA.

Congratulations Mary Ann — we are proud of YOU!



L-R: Joseph Senko and Ambassador Peter Burian present Mary Ann Johaneek with the Slovak of the Year Award.





— DEADLINE NOTICE —

Easter falls on April 8 this church year. The Editor would like branches to get their Christmas articles in by February 5th so that our news can be published in a timely fashion. Articles received after that date may not be published.

Jesus Remains Our Rock Foundation

Virginia Holmes, National Trustee

"FOR GOD and FOR COUNTRY!"

This is the motto that the founders and members of the FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION have lived by over the Society's entire 119 years history. Slovak women founded the Association as a self-help organization because women and children of the time were not able to obtain insurance. These women had a vision to form a society to aid one another, to enrich their Catholic faith, and to preserve Slovak traditions. As a 3rd generation member of FCSLA, I have personally witnessed members of the Association supporting their community, embracing their Catholic faith, and promoting Slovak traditions.

Those being said, fast-forward 119 years to the present. Consider this: I appeared with Cardinal Donald Wuerl, who at the time was Bishop of Pittsburgh, on the TV Program, Teachings of Christ. During that program, he stressed the importance of the ethnic fraternal in perpetuating ethnic traditions. We lost our ethnic churches, and now do we lose our ethnic fraternal that embraced the Catholic Church and revered her clergy?

From humble beginnings, FCSLA has emerged as a premier organization that has shared its many blessings. The Society has been extremely generous with donations of \$1,000,000 to Propagation of the Faith, \$1,000,000 for education of priests, and many millions of dollars to churches, educational institutions, religious orders and ministries, libraries, museums and community outreach programs. FCSLA does not cloister itself in a building. Not once has the Society ignored the need of others because they were not Slovak.

To imply that the issue on membership would necessarily mean Jesus has left the FCSLA is a very biased opinion.

However, the way we admit other ethnic Catholics into the Association is a business decision that must be thoroughly explored. There are many considerations e.g.:

How big do we want to grow?

How do we get there?

Do we grow organically or through mergers?

How diluted do we want to become?

Steve Jobs, founder of Apple, had a mantra, "Be Consistent". He didn't care how fast the competition grew. As a result, Apple sells fewer products than any other giants. But guess what? Apple's earnings far exceed them. In conclusion, do we race to be the biggest but financially weakest non-ethnic fraternal, or do we stay consistent and be the best Slovak/Slavic fraternal?

Rose Sipko Celebrates 98th Birthday

Rose Sipko celebrated her 98th birthday on September 3, 2011. A much favored resident of Pheasant Wood Nursing Home, in Peterborough, NH, Rose was surrounded by fellow residents, friends, staff and her daughter Beverly, son-in-law James Schaefer, (Summit Hill, PA) her grandson Dennis Schaefer and great-granddaughter Amanda Schaefer. Her son Gerald also surprised her by driving up with his daughter Cassandra of New Jersey. Lots of goodies to eat, presents, flowers and good times were had by all.

Rose, born in Lansford, PA, daughter of Verna and John P. Spack, is a life-long member of Sr. Branch 140, Lansford, PA. She was the wife of Stephen Sipko (Coaldale, PA) for 60 years. The couple resided in New Jersey until he passed away in 1992. After her oldest daughter Rosemarie died in 2002, Rose moved for health reasons to New Hampshire to be closer to her daughter Beverly. She enjoys the mountains, fresh air, and the friends she has made and says with the help of God she plans to live to 100.



Rose with granddaughter Cassandra.

Celebrates 50 Years As a Religious



On September 8, 2011, Sister Dorothy Dolak celebrated 50 years as a religious. She renewed her vows at a private Mass with her sister Cynthia Mauris of Adelphi, Maryland and her religious sisters. A festive dinner was enjoyed at Rico's restaurant.

Sister entered the Vincentian Sisters of Charity on September 8, 1961 from her home parish of Saint Dominic's in Donora, PA. She is the daughter of the late Stephen and Margaret Dolak.

In her religious life she earned a BA from La Roche College in Allison Park, PA, and a Masters in Education with Administrative Certification from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA. Sister Dorothy served the church for many years as a teacher in various grade schools in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and also taught at Vincentian High School. She then served as a principal for 17 years again in various schools.

Sister obtained a Pennsylvania Nursing Home license at the University of Scranton and was Administrator of Vincentian Regency Nursing Home in Allison Park for 11 years. Currently, Sister is the principal of Christ the Divine Teacher Catholic Academy in Aspinwall, PA.

Sister Dorothy continues to be proud of her Slovak heritage and still remains a member of Sr. Branch 127 in Monessen, PA.

Toths' Celebrate 60th Anniversary

Larry and Janet Toth (Sr. Branch 13, Braddock, PA) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary August 11, 2011. They are the parents of five children, six grandchildren and three beautiful great-grandchildren. They love and cherish their family and friends. With many happy memories in their years together they feel truly blessed.



40th Wedding Anniversary

Loretta and John Sever celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on October 9, 2011. They were married in St. Timothy's Church in Smithton, PA and currently belong to St. John the Baptist Church in Perryopolis, PA. They celebrated their special day with their son John Stephen and his wife Tara at the local restaurant.

Loretta is a member of Branch SZJ0, Beachwood, OH.



100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR EMMA SIMKANICH

Emma Simkanich of Levittown, PA (Sr. Branch 177, McKeesport) celebrated her 100th birthday on October 17, 2011. On Saturday, October 15, a mass was celebrated in her honor at St. Michael the Archangel Roman Catholic Church by Father Michael C. Dilorio.



Emma and brother Ed Frenock.

During mass, Father presented her with an Apostolic Blessing from Pope Benedict XVI, which Emma's daughter Kathy (also a member of Branch 177) requested for her.

Emma, her family, and friends continued her birthday festivities with a party at her home on Sunday, October 16. Nephews and their families traveled from California, Oregon,

and Florida, as well as Clairton and Mt. Gretna, PA to help her celebrate. Her youngest brother and only surviving sibling, 93-year-old Ed Frenock (and wife Dorothy) of Manheim, PA (Jednota Lodge 454) also attended.

The eighth of ten children, Emma was born in Leisenring #3 (Monarch, PA) to Joseph and Mary Frenock. She was married to the late John Simkanich for 61 years and has three children: John Simkanich (Kim), Patricia Alston (Ken), and Kathy Simkanich. She has three grandchildren: Maya Hunnewell (Rich), Sascha Simkanich (Jill), and Christine Alston. Emma also has three great-grandchildren: RJ and Nathan Hunnewell, and newborn Alana Quinn Simkanich.

Family and friends wished her many blessings on her very special day.



Emma and children (left to right) Kathy, John, and Pat.

RIGHT TO LIFE MARCH

Our presence at the 39th Annual Right to Life March on January 23rd, 2012 in Washington, D.C. is extremely important. First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and the First Catholic Slovak Union support the position of the Pro Life Movement.

The FCSLA and FCSU are once again offering free transportation from the FCSLA Home Office for this very important trip. For the past few years we have filled two buses for this march. Again this year, we will reserve two buses for the march. Our organizations are proud to encourage our members along with the many young students from area Catholic High Schools to participate. It is a very rewarding experience to actively participate and help to relay this very important message of supporting the Right to Life mission.



Will you join us? Please call Sue Ann at the FCSLA Home Office. Her phone number is 1-800-464-4642/Ext. 1051 or email her at sueann@fcsla.org for details or questions and to reserve your seat on the bus **before January 10th**.

If you would like to attend and are unable to join those leaving from the FCSLA Home Office, please look online for information and transportation from your area. There are many prolife groups that offer transportation. If you cannot find information please call or email Sue Ann for assistance.

FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH MARCH 31, 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%.

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Branch W016 — Brainard, NE

Autumn Brunch and Raffle

On October 30, Branch W016 held an Autumn Brunch and Raffle for the benefit of the Brainard Area Community Club.

The matching grant activity raised \$778.30 to be used for Brainard community activities.



Branch W016 members Mary Lou Meister and Joyce Rezac work together with Community Club President Tom Pesek to plan the October 30, 2011 Autumn Brunch.



Club members Bruce Bostelman and Dave Foster prepare the drinks for the FCSLA Matching Grant event.



Community Club officers Tom Pesek and Vern Dvorak, and Branch W016 members Joyce Rezac and Mary Lou Meister prepare to serve the brunch.



Branch W016 — Brainard, NE

Bake Sale

Branch W016 held a Matching Funds Bake Sale for the benefit of Brainard Holy Trinity PCCW on October 9, 2011.



Branch members, the PCCW members worked together raising \$600.25 that will be used to purchase coffee pots and other items needed by the PCCW funeral dinner committee.

Pictured left to right (bottom left): PCCW chairpersons Brenda Janak and Kathy Janak; W016 branch members Joyce Rezac, Father Matthew Eickhoff, Bernetta and Albert (Bud) Divis. Seated is branch officer Mary Lou Meister.

BRANCH 7 AND 66 MAKE DONATION TO SCHOOL

Two local branches of the FCSLA in Streator, IL have donated a new Smartboard to St. Michael Catholic School. Officers of St. Mary's Sr. Branch 7 and St. Ann's Sr. Branch 66 became aware of the need for another Smartboard at the school and decided to combine their resources to purchase one. There is currently one in the computer room, but scheduling its use must be done around computer classes. The new Smartboard and computer are housed in an empty classroom and therefore available at all times.

Mrs. Ashley Davis, Principal of St. Michael School, gave some of the FCSLA officers a demonstration of the new Smartboard, showing how it can be used in virtually every subject. She said that today's students are "visual" learners, and a tool like a Smartboard keeps them completely engaged and makes learning fun. Both students and staff are very excited by this donation, and our teachers are constantly on the lookout for new programs to use with it.



L-R: Ashley Davis, St. Michael School Principal; Ella Killian, Branch 7 President; Lucille Swain, Branch 66 President.

Surprise Farewell Luncheon for Retiring National Officers

National President Mary Ann Johaneck, National Secretary Irene Drotleff and National Treasurer John Janovec

The employees at the Home Office had a "Surprise Farewell / Congratulations on Your Retirement" luncheon on Tuesday, November 29th.

They were cordially invited to the lunchroom at 11:30. The employees pulled off the surprise! Mary Ann, Irene and John were all surprised and speechless at first.

Sue Ann Seich, on behalf of all of the employees gave a little speech expressing appreciation for all they do for the employees and the entire FCSLA organization. Sue Ann wished all of them best wishes and much



**National President
Mary Ann Johaneck**

happiness in their retirement. She ended by saying to them that they will be greatly missed.

Special gifts were given to the honoree by the employees. Mary Ann received a Waterford Crystal picture frame with a photo of her receiving the 2011 Slovak-American award in Washington, DC and a Swarovski crystal 2011 ornament set.

Irene opened her bag of gifts to find a Swarovski crystal heart necklace and matching heart bracelet.

John unwrapped his box only to find another wrapped box. Once he unwrapped the second box he found a two-tone gold and silver watch.

A wonderful lunch was brought in along with a date nut cake for dessert.



**National Secretary
Irene Drotleff**



**National Treasurer
John Janovec**

FCSLA SUPPORTS ONE LOVE FOUNDATION

FCSLA Sr. Branch 140 President Veronica Bazik and Financial Secretary/Treasurer Louise Dunstan presented Maria Stianchie, President of the One Love Foundation, Summit Hill, PA with a check to support the work of Father Sandy in Sierra Leone that was granted by the FCSLA Board of Directors.

It is the mission of the One Love Foundation to support St. Mary's Orphanage and the school projects of Sierra Leone as they struggle to move forward to a place of sustainability. The Foundation is grateful to the FCSLA for their support!



Scenes from the 40th National Convention

Sunday, October 9 ~ Evening Banquet



Scenes from the 40th National Convention

Sunday, October 9 ~ Evening Banquet



Scenes from the 40th National Convention

Sunday, October 9 ~ Evening Banquet



Scenes from the 40th National Convention

Monday, October 10 ~ Opening Session & Evening Entertainment





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!



ALEXANDRA (LEXIE) ZULUAGA

(Jr. Branch 46, Lansford, PA) received her First Holy Communion at Holy Family Parish in Nazareth, PA on May 7, 2011. She is the daughter of John and Tracy Zuluaga. She is granddaughter of George and Sherry Kupec and Manuel and Gail Zuluaga.

Lexie is currently a third grader at Shafer Elementary School. She enjoys dancing, swimming and playing with her boxer, Chance.



CAMERON LEE WEHR

(Jr. Branch 142, Bethlehem, PA) received her First Holy Communion on May 7, 2011 at Holy Spirit Church in Palmyra, PA. She is the daughter of Dean and Kristin Wehr. Her mother Kristin, sisters, Alison and Gabrielle; and grandparents Helen and Dan Bobeck are all members of Sr. Branch 74, Bethlehem, PA. She is the great-granddaughter of Catherine Bobeck, Catasauqua, PA, and the late Anna Bartos of Bethlehem, PA.

Cameron is in the third grade at Forge Elementary School in Palmyra, PA where her favorite subject is math. She enjoys attending dance class and is also part of a gymnastics group. She also likes art and is very creative.



Scott Faust with Fr. Kenneth Medve, Pastor of St. Katharine Drexel Parish.



Scott Faust with Fr. Kenneth Medve.

WILLIAM and SCOTT FAUST received their First Holy Communion in April 2011 at St. Katharine Drexel Parish in Lansford, PA.

They are the sons of Linda Faust and grandchildren of Maryann and Joseph Terry of Coaldale, PA.

Both boys are members of Jr. Branch 46, Lansford, PA.



Winter Fun!

FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY



Sue Ann M. Seich

As your newly elected National Secretary, I will be contributing to our magazine in a monthly column, sharing ideas and information that will keep the lines of communication open between you, our member, and our association. The "Word Search" I created as your Fraternal and Youth Director proved to be a welcome addition to our magazine that entertained many of you. The following "Word Search" will be the final one I will create.

When our new Fraternal and Youth Director is hired I will share with he/she all of the activities that were created. A fraternal "thank you" is extended to all of you, who have participated in our FCSLA Contests and Challenges. May God watch over you and your entire family through the New Year of 2012.

Please mail your completed word search along with the entry form at right.

Mail to: Sue Ann M. Seich, National Secretary
24950 Chagrin Blvd.
Beachwood, OH 44122



Winter Word Search ENTRY FORM



Branch No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

**Deadline for Entries
is February 15, 2012!**



W	W	O	N	S	V	R	E	E	E	C	I	E	R	A	N
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BOOTS
COLD
FIREPLACE
FREEZING
GLOVES
ICE
ICICLES
IGLOO
MITTENS
NORTH POLE
PENGUIN
POLARBEAR

SCARF
SKATING
SKIING
SLED
SLUSH
SNOW
SNOWBALL
SNOWDAY
SNOWMAN
SNOWMOBILE
STOCKINGHAT
TOBOGGAN



IN MEMORIAM

MARTHA M. BANDURA Sr. Branch 66



Martha M. Bandura, 95, of Streator, IL, passed away Friday, October 14, 2011, at Heritage Health in Streator.

Martha was born June 18, 1916 in Streator. She was the daughter of

George and Anna (Kacvinsky) Handzus. She married John J. Bandura on May 16, 1940 at St. Stephen's Church in Streator. He died April 21, 2002.

She is survived by a daughter Georgia (Thomas) Wilkinson of Sparland; sons, John (Donna) Bandura of Danville, KY, and Daniel (Nancy) Bandura of Streator; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; sisters, Mary Kaschak, Ann Sauers, Elizabeth Elko, Helen Handzus and Evelyn Bottino and brothers, John, Andrew, Edward and George Handzus.

She was raised in Streator and graduated from St. Stephen's Grade School. She lived in Streator her whole life.

She worked as a drapery seamstress in Streator. She later worked at Paris Garter Factory, John and Joe's Florist and Jero Black.

Martha was a life-long member of St. Stephen's Church. She was very active with the altar and rosary society of her church. She especially enjoyed the times she spent with the ladies of St. Stephen's baking rozky prior to the holidays. She was active in the Parents Club, supporting St. Stephen's School.

She was a dedicated member of FCSLA – St. Ann's Society Branch 66. She served as the Treasurer for over 30 years and as President-Financial Secretary for about nine years. She was currently a member of St. Michael the Archangel Church.

THERESA M. HANIS Sr. Branch 445

Theresa M. Hanis, 83, passed away November 10, 2011. She was born September 4, 1928 to Wendelin "William" and Karoline (Kovalik) Pekarchik in Freesoil, MI.

She was very proud that she was the Valedictorian of her high school class.

Theresa met Stephen J. Hanis while working at the Norge and on August 28, 1948 they were married. They enjoyed 57 years of marriage and had 10 wonderful children.

She was raised on a farm and really enjoyed nature. She lived in her house since 1948. Theresa enjoyed bowling, gardening, reading, puzzles, and watching and feeding birds. She also loved being around people especially children.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Theresa is survived by her children, Stephen G. (Ruth) Hanis, George (Norma) Hanis, James (Beth) Hanis, Edward (Sharon) Hanis, David (Gail) Hanis, Albert Hanis, Arthur Hanis, Patrick (Stephanie) Hanis, Jean (Ken) Scarbrough and Diane Hanis; sisters, Rose Doyle, Ann Bednarez and Genevieve "Gene" Dravecky. She was preceded in death by her husband, Stephen J., brother, James Baker and sisters, Caroline Tamulonis, Joanne McDonald and Sister Jovita "Cecile."

ADRIENNE ESTHER ISKRA Sr. Branch 172



Adrienne Esther Iskra passed into the hands of God on Wednesday, March 16, 2011. Born on June 17, 1932 in Wilkes-Barre, PA, she was one of six children born to the late

Daniel and Esther Spak.

Adrienne was devoted to her husband, Joseph, of 58 years and her five children, five grandchildren and one

great-grandchild. Her husband, Joseph, passed away on Saturday, May 1, 2010. His obituary was published in the April 2011 issue of the *Zenska Jednota* magazine. Adrienne was a homemaker who enjoyed sewing and decorating, antique shopping, visiting flea markets and social conversations.

She is survived by her five children, Donna Marie (Anthony) Godleski, South Bound Brook; Joseph D. Iskra, Trenton; Daniel (Roberta) Iskra, Middlesex; Adrienne (Robert) VanDoren, Flemington; and Diane (Michael) Peppe, Stockton, all of New Jersey. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Desiree Godleski, Daniel Iskra Jr., and wife Kelly; Nicole Iskra, Joseph Iskra, Jr., Kailea Iskra, and great-granddaughter, Avery Lee Iskra. Adrienne was the sister-in-law to Magdalen Iskra and Martha Iskra, FCSLA Sr. Branch 172 officers in Wilkes-Barre.

JOHN J. RUZINOK Sr. Branch 423



John J. Ruzinok, age 82, passed away September 29, 2011 from cardiac arrest. He died peacefully with his wife by his side. He was also undergoing radiation treatments for esophageal cancer at the Cleveland Clinic.

He was the son of the late John and Veronica Ruzinok. On May 14, 1955 he married Catherine (nee Patrick) at Nativity BVM Church in Cleveland, OH.

Survivors include four children, John M. (Lisa) of Houston, TX, James R. of Thompsons Station, TN, Catherine M. Nadolski of Elyria, OH, and Gregory J. (Carol) of Las Vegas, NV, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

His five grandsons and nephew were pallbearers.

John enjoyed bowling very much with the Garfield Heights AARP Group

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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

ST. LOUIS BRANCHES 101 AND 11 HONOR VETERANS

Joseph G. Miklovic, Branch Secretary

The St. Louis Branches (Sr. Branch 101 and Jr. Branch 11) honored all veterans and their spouses on Veterans' Day weekend by hosting a luncheon at St. Mary Magdalen Parish in South City. They honored those who have "served", and, "now serve" in uniform, as well as those who died in service to this great country.

Monsignor John Borcic, pastor at St. Mary Magdalen, commented, "On this day, this Veterans' Day luncheon, serves a very important purpose. It is how we recognize not just those who have given their lives in war, but all those who have worn the uniforms of service. This day, above all, is an opportunity to celebrate the choice one makes to serve their country. Roughly 1 percent of our population serves in the military, and as we consider the impact those individuals have had on

the world, defending freedom and protecting democracy, Winston Churchill once said, 'Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed, by so many, to so few.' "

Thomas Paine has said, "Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must undergo the fatigue of supporting it." Many of the veterans in

attendance at our luncheon have born that burden and experienced the fatigue of waging war in order to bring about peace. To them we said, "Thank you for your service and your sacrifice and for setting the example that inspired us to raise our hands in voluntary service to this great nation."

As Thomas Jefferson said, "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance." On this day, we gave thanks to live in a country where citizens from every generation willingly and courageously raise their hands to stand the watch.

At the conclusion of our luncheon, junior branch members, touchingly, handed out U.S. flags and buddy poppies to the vets in attendance as a thank you for providing the "blanket of freedom under which we all rest."

The St. Louis Branches 101 and 11 utilized the grant funds approved by the FCSLA Officers of the most recent 2011 annual convention to fund the luncheon, St. Michael medals, and A Soldier's Prayer Card. The officers of our branches thank the officers of FCSLA for their support and confidence in our branch activities.



Sr. Branch 101 member Leah Miklovic (right) is married to an active member of the U.S. Navy.

Branch W016 Celebration of Gratitude

Our FCSLA Branch W016 held a "Celebration of Gratitude" party on November 13, 2011 at the Brainard Holy Trinity Klein Center. The Parish PCCW assisted our group with the decorating and entertainment for the event. Branch members donated funds and time to make the event successful.



Our Spiritual Director Father Eickhoff arranged items he brought from his World Youth trip. He showed his slides as a part of the afternoon's entertainment.



Guest CeCe Steager with retiring Vice President Alyce Havlovic and newly elected VP Joyce Rezac look over the display table that showed symbols of biblical connections to our Mass Liturgy.



Members Jerome Svoboda and Clarence Greguras act as part of the clean up committee.



Jr. Branch 11 member Lilian Lyons presents a U.S. flag to WWII hero, her grandpa, Wil Schuchardt.



Participants at the luncheon.

Scholarship Winners Announced

The winners of Sr. Branch 161 and Jr. Branch 192 scholarships were honored at the District Scholarship banquet in August, at the Elm Tree, Struthers, OH. Five of the nine winners were in attendance. Virginia DeLuca, President, called each winner forward where he/she addressed the 165 people present. She presented a \$25 check from the Branch to each winner and Melanie Leonard, Treasurer, gave each winner a First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association cookbook. Winners unable to attend were Natasha Alvarez, Megan Eggleston, Alexis Gordulic and John Zajac.

In addition to the FCSLA scholarship, John Zajac was awarded the Anna S. Granchay Scholarship. Alexis Gordulic won the Katherine L. Sedlacko Family Trust Scholarship.

Eighteen members who applied for scholarships but were non-winners were sent a letter from Financial Secretary, Bernie Demechko, which contained a \$20 check and a note thanking them for applying and urging them to "try again next year."



Regi Demechko, Jr. Branch 192, opens the FCSLA cookbook which was given to her. She can now practice making kolache.



Winners, L-R: Jamie Dolan, Jill Jonda, Financial Secretary Bernie Demechko, Regi Demechko, President Virginia DeLuca, Joseph Sebest and John Bahmer.

— 15-DAY TOUR —

**SEPTEMBER 10-24, 2021: SLOVAKIA;
POLAND; VIENNA, AUSTRIA;
CZECH REPUBLIC, PRAGUE**

Included in the tour will be two (2) meals daily: breakfast and dinner, an English-speaking guide, bus transportation with restroom and air conditioning, all admits to the sights, rooms in 3 or 4 star hotels, all with private bath. Air transportation as a group, this way we can give you a better price and save you the hassle.

If you are interested call or write for a complete day-by-day itinerary and price. John's Tours, P.O. Box 154, Vandergrift, PA 15690. Call 724-567-7341 or 724-568-32 or call toll free 1-800-260-8687.

Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar

FCSLA members were very well represented among the 68 attendees at the most recent Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar in Chicago, IL. The Midwest Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation sponsored the seminar, which took place October 2, 2011 at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Casimir, on Chicago's Southside.

Father John A. Jamnicky, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago, spoke on "The Journey of a Slovak Priest." Afterwards, Father Jamnicky answered questions from the audience. Attendees then enjoyed a delicious buffet luncheon.

Father Jamnicky's grandparents immigrated to Chicago's southeast side a century ago. He was ordained in 1972, and has had a very interesting ministry. He served as chaplain at Chicago's two airports, and at a parish in an inter-city African American neighborhood. He also was a traveling (by plane) missionary in Alaska, and a chaplain at San Quentin Prison in California. He is the founding pastor at St. Raphael the Archangel Parish in Old Mill Creek, IL, near the Wisconsin border. The parish is spending 12 million dollars to move the exterior of the closed St. John of God Church, a big old Polish church to Chicago's Southside, 50 miles north. This may serve as a cathedral church if the Archdiocese of Chicago splits off Lake County, IL as a new diocese.



Slovak Seminar President Geri Hletko (Sr. Branch 485) with speaker Father John A. Jamnicky.



Lorraine Vasek (Sr. Branch 421, Chicago, IL) and Lydia Berry (Sr. Branch 485, Chicago, IL) checked in attendees.



Geri Hletko (Sr. Branch 485, Chicago, IL) and Judy Tybor-Knizer (Sr. Branch 287, Chicago, IL).



The Board of Directors of the Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar with Fr. Jamnicky.



FCSLA 2012/2013 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

More than \$248,250 in Scholarship Awards!

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is pleased to announce its 2012-2013 Scholarship Program which is in fulfillment of one of the objectives of the organization. This year more than \$248,250 will be awarded to young members of the Association, which includes \$42,000 being awarded to elementary school applicants.



These elementary school awards are a benefit recently passed by the FCSLA Board of Directors. In this day of promoting education, one of the best means of offering assistance is by the Scholarship Program.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE \$1,250 EACH AND GRADUATE AWARDS ARE \$1,750 EACH

58 Freshmen • 27 Sophomores • 16 Juniors • 16 Seniors • 16 Full Time Graduate Awards

32 HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS AT \$1,000 EACH WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS:

8 Freshmen • 8 Sophomores • 8 Juniors • 8 Seniors

28 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AWARDS AT \$750 EACH WILL BE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:

7 for Grade 5 • 7 for Grade 6 • 7 for Grade 7 • 7 for Grade 8

28 EARLY ELEMENTARY AWARDS AT \$750 EACH

7 for Grade 1 • 7 for Grade 2 • 7 for Grade 3 • 7 for Grade 4

In addition, two (2) Theresa Sajan Scholarships are awarded to graduate students.

An eligible candidate for a FCSLA Fraternal Scholarship Award shall be a member of good standing for at least three years prior to date of application and hold a \$1,000 legal reserve certificate, a \$5,000 term certificate or have an annuity certificate. If applying for a Seminary or Deacon Scholarship it is necessary to complete all documents.

Winners will be chosen by a committee of impartial judges from the educational field and based on the following: Academic standing 50%, Family membership 15%, Leadership 20%, and extenuating circumstances 15%.

All applications and supporting documents must be completed and submitted to the Home Office no later than March 1, 2012.

Applications and further details for this program may be obtained by calling the Home Office, your local Branch Officer, or by visiting our website at www.fcsla.com or by completing the form on this page and mailing it to:

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association — Scholarship Department
24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122-5634



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION REQUEST

Please send me a scholarship application form. (PLEASE PRINT)

Branch No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Application requested for following award:

☐ College ☐ Graduate ☐ High School ☐ Seminary or Deacon Scholarship ☐ Grades 5-8 ☐ Grades 1-4

Annual Pre-Harvest and Awards Supper Held



Katee Rochford and Brandon Sobota, national scholarship winners.

Branch W006 recently held their annual Pre-Harvest and Awards Supper at Holy Trinity Catholic Church-Heun, rural Clarkson, NE. The evening began with the 6:30 p.m. Mass celebrated by Fr. Leo Rigatuso followed by a picnic supper of grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, salads and ice cream furnished by the Branch W006. Approximately 70 members and guests were present.

Honored were the national scholarship winners from Branch W006: Katee Rochford and Brandon Sobota. Also honored were the local branch scholarship recipients Brock Dvorak, Ethan Cada, Katee Rochford, Eric Grate and Brandon Sobota.



Branch W006 Officers Larry Kuzel and Rolland Svec serving ice cream.



L-R: Ethan Cada, Brock Dvorak, Katee Rochford, Eric Grate, Brandon Sobota winners of Branch W006 scholarships.

SLOVAK WORDS AND ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS

Color:

dark
black
blue/azure
brown
gray
green
light
orange
pink/rose
red
violet/purple
white
yellow
What color?
What color do you like?
I like blue.

Farba:

tmavý
čierny
modrý/belasy
hnedý
sivý/šedý
zelený
svetlý
oranžový
ružový
červený
fialový
biely
žltý
Akej farby?
Akú farbu máte radi?
Ja mám rád modrú.

Eagle Scout Ranking Achieved by Gerard Ondrey

Gerard Ondrey, a member of Sr. Branch 248 in Chicago, IL became an Eagle Scout through his involvement in Troop 208, Minnetonka, MN. The troop is sponsored by Oak Knoll Lutheran School.

His project involved setting up an after school tutoring program at Risen Christ School in Minneapolis, MN that ran for almost an entire school year. In addition he ran a calculator drive in order to furnish the school with calculators.

Currently Gerard is a freshman at Villanova University in Philadelphia, PA.



NOTICE: Date Change

Youngstown Sister Cities 15th Annual Slovak Heritage Tour

Youngstown-Spisaska Nova Ves Sister Cities has scheduled its 15th Heritage Tour to Slovakia for the **first two weeks of July 2012**. Jim and Kay Bench will again be tour guides. Look for more details in future articles during this year.

CHICAGO JR. BRANCHES 174, 322, 339 AND 427 SPONSOR CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR ITS AREA'S JUNIOR MEMBERS

FCSLA Jr. Branches 174, 322, 339 and 427 sponsored a Junior Christmas Party for its members on Sunday, November 13, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Simon Slovak Parish's gymnasium. The 33 children and 35 adults participated in snowman beanbag toss, cookie decorating, face painting, coloring contest, and several games of bingo. Svätý Mikuláš (St. Nicholas), Bishop of 4th Century Myra, Turkey arrived, gathered the children around him, and shared many interactive stories. St. Nicholas enlisted the children and parents to assist in bringing to life the story of Svätý Mikuláš. The audience was enlightened and enraptured by the story of

Saint Nicholas and his love of children. Svätý Mikuláš presented apples to all the children and was available for photos. The children and their guests feasted on a wonderful meal of chicken, macaroni and cheese, salads and chocolate cake. The Junior Branches Coloring Contest had three \$30.00 prize winners: Elizabeth Hirschbeck, Jr. Branch 174; Terese Gibas, Jr. Branch 322; and Michele Barbaro, Jr. Branch 287. A raffle was held and the grand raffle prize was a red bike which was won by Elizabeth and Jacob Hirschbeck of Jr. Branch 174.

A special thank you to the Jr. Christmas Party Committee: Jeanette Palanca, Joyce

Kelly, Mary Therese Tylus, Lorraine Gibas and Carol Rosenthal for all their hard work and preparation in making this event a success, and to the financial sponsors: Jr. Branches 174, 322, 339, 427, individual FCSLA member sponsors Lydia Berry (Sr. Branch 485) and Deborah Uhrina (Sr. Branch 258) and raffle prize donors: Elite Sports Cards and Kubina-Tybor Funeral Home. The children, their parents, aunts, uncles, and grandparents had a wonderful time and all are looking forward to next year's party and visit from Svätý Mikuláš (St. Nicholas)! (To see all of the photos from this event, please go to <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>)



Elizabeth & Jacob Hirschbeck, Jr. Branch 174 winners of the grand raffle prize.



Sacred Heart Parish Closes After 85 Years

Monsignor Joseph Semancik hoped his congregation at Sacred Heart really listened to the first reading from the third chapter of Ecclesiastes — the “appointed time for everything under heaven” passage. To the birthing and dying and weeping and laughing, Monsignor Semancik added two: a time to retire and a time to close the church building.

After 85 years Sacred Heart Parish at 4423 Olcott Avenue, East Chicago, IN closed its doors on October 9, 2011 after the final two Masses. At 82 and after 46 years of service at Sacred Heart, Monsignor is retiring as well.

Likening the church building to a Holiday Inn on his parishioners’ journey of faith, Monsignor said, “We’re taking our journey to another inn.”

*“A parish is not
a building.
It’s a community.”*

Monsignor Joseph Semancik

Never a large parish, Sacred Heart had 90 families and 220 members at the time of its closing. Established for Slovaks of Indiana Harbor over the years, Sacred Heart became a more diverse community. The church is located a few blocks away from St. Stanislaus and St. Mary and is within a short driving distance of parishes in Whiting and north Hammond.

The Sacred Heart mission statement called upon parishioners to bring Christ into their own lives and the life of the community through sacrament, Word, and deed. According to Monsignor Semancik that mission can be fulfilled wherever the people go. The parish is a community not a building.

A salient point in Sacred Heart’s history is that its first resident pastor was Father Andrew Grutka who served the parish from 1942-1944. Father Grutka was chosen on Christmas Eve 1956 as the first bishop of the newly created Gary diocese, which had previously been part of the Ft. Wayne diocese. Bishop Grutka died on November 11, 1993.

In addition, Sacred Herat parish hosted many local FCSLA meetings and events for which we will always be grateful.

IN MEMORIAM

continued from page 16

4164 and was hoping to return, but due to his failing health he was unable to rejoin the league. He also enjoyed gardening, especially tending to his roses, fishing, and hunting.

He was a member of St. Monica Catholic Church in Garfield Heights, OH, the FCSLA Branch 423 of which his wife and daughter are officers.

Taps were played as the army placed the U.S. flag on the coffin. Burial will be at the National Veterans Cemetery in Rittman, OH at a later date.

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF AUGUST 31, 2011

ASSETS

Cash and Short Term Investments	\$ 16,282,558.51
Bonds	619,718,073.38
Preferred Stock	6,580,430.87
Common Stock	710,981.84
Investment Income Due and Accrued	9,658,862.92
Promissory Notes	33,653.64
Property Plant and Equipment, Net	6,646,051.34
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	1,885,871.11
Other Assets	199,963.02

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 661,716,446.63

LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 197,542,323.08
Annuity Reserves	350,847,054.50
Death Claims Payable	638,106.90
Unearned Premiums	572,719.00
Matured Endowments	322,388.00
Provision for Dividends Payable	2,126,334.00
Accumulated Dividends and Interest	3,727,615.73
Accrued Convention Donations	854,669.00
Provision for Future Conventions	672,455.00
Asset Valuation Reserve	6,943,374.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve	1,351,197.00
Other Liabilities	1,263,326.81
Provision for Annuity Certain Accounts	4,284,000.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES \$ 571,145,563.02

SURPLUS

Surplus	\$ 90,570,883.62
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TOTAL SURPLUS \$ 90,570,883.62

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS \$ 661,716,446.63

INCOME STATEMENT

For the Eight Months Ending August 31, 2011

REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 15,741,179.41
Annuity Premiums	13,874,315.68
Investment Income	23,733,606.05
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	87,325.58
Rental Income	269,801.00
Other Revenue	11,208.36

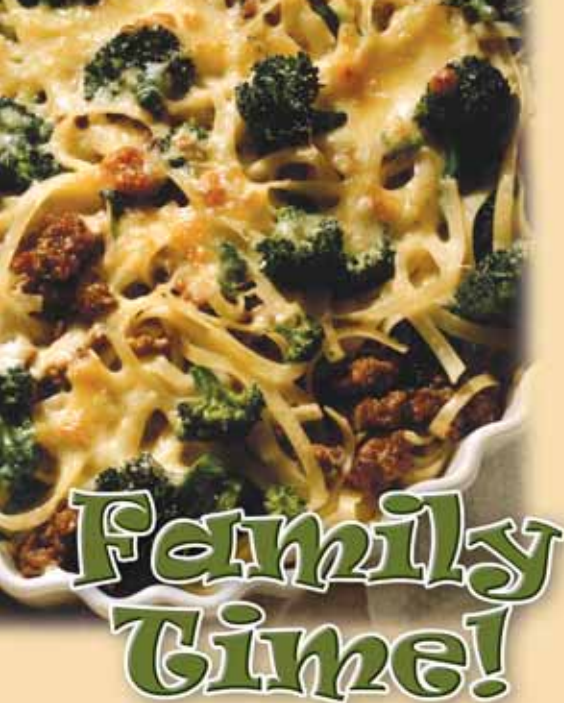
TOTAL REVENUE \$ 53,717,436.08

EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 15,969,323.00
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	9,084,054.00
Insurance Benefits	2,972,690.25
Annuity Benefits	12,861,234.02
Commission Expense	1,611,529.90
Surrender Benefits	1,014,371.12
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	107,562.50
Matured Endowments	13,958.31
Donation Expenses	231,311.45
Convention Expenses	121,604.96
Dividends to Members	1,400,000.13
Post Mortem Benefits	692,545.74
Bonus to Branches	648,690.00
Fraternal Activities	46,005.63
Bank Service Charges	37,978.19
Data Processing Service Fees	203,686.50
Accounting Fees	65,644.00
Actuarial Fees	103,936.00
Legal Fees	1,530.80
Consulting Services	89,517.50
Official Publications	227,579.00
Scholarship Awards	252,750.00
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	273,914.36
Fees — Directors	74,646.88
Salaries — Employees	972,572.89
Salaries — Officers	292,224.03
Interest Expense	167,130.48
Tax Expense	205,169.01
Depreciation Expense	193,624.00
Utility Expense	57,569.70
Postage and Printing	219,928.56
Advertising	60,948.09
Travel Expense	107,502.78
Insurance Department Fees	73,282.05
Sales Promotion	113,350.65
Rental Expense	269,801.00
Other Expense	338,526.76

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 51,177,694.24

NET INCOME \$ 2,539,741.84



BROCCOLI CHEESE CASSEROLE

- 8 cups of broccoli florets
- Salt for blanching water
- 2 strips of thick-cut bacon (about 2 ounces), cut crosswise into ¼-inch wide strips
- ⅓ cup all purpose flour
- 5 eggs, beaten
- ½ cup cream
- 1 cup whole milk
- 2 to 3 teaspoons of freshly cracked black pepper
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 8 ounces cheddar cheese, grated

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil (1 tablespoon salt for 2 quarts of water). Add the broccoli and boil for 3-5 minutes or until just tender enough so that a fork can easily pierce the floret, but still firm. Strain and rinse with cold water to stop the cooking.

While the water in step one is coming to a boil, cook the bacon pieces on medium heat in a frying pan until lightly browned, but not crisp. Remove to a plate lined with paper towels to absorb the excess fat. Set aside.

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Butter a 2½ quart casserole dish. In a bowl, whisk the eggs into the flour, then whisk in the cream and milk. Add the black pepper (more or less to taste), salt, and mustard. Mix in about a third of the cheese.

Place the parboiled broccoli florets in the casserole dish, sprinkling about a third of the cheese over the broccoli florets as you lay them down. Sprinkle the bacon pieces over the broccoli. Pour the egg, cream, milk, cheese mixture over the broc-

coli, moving the broccoli pieces a bit so that the mixture gets into all the nooks and crannies. Sprinkle the casserole with the remaining cheese.

Bake for 25-40 minutes, or until set and top is browned. Serves 5.

PORK MEDALLIONS WITH MUSTARD-CAPER SAUCE

- 1 lb. pork tenderloin, cut crosswise into ½-inch-thick rounds
- 2 tablespoons butter
- ½ cup sliced shallots
- 2 cups low-salt chicken broth
- ¼ cup whipping cream
- 3 tablespoon rinsed and drained capers
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

If the tenderloin cuts are not an even thickness, use a rolling pin or mallet to flatten them to an even ½-inch thickness. Sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Melt butter in heavy large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the tenderloin medallions to the pan and sauté them until browned and just cooked through, about 2 minutes per side. Remove the medallions from the pan to a plate while you make the sauce.

Add the shallots to the pan and cook for a minute, stirring. Add the cream and chicken broth. Increase heat to a boil and boil until the sauce has thickened a bit, about 3 to 5 minutes. Scrape up any browned bits from the bottom of the pan. Stir in the mustard and capers. Return the pork to the pan and simmer until the pork has reheated.

Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve immediately. Serves 3-4.

HOT CRAB DIP

- 1 8-ounce package of cream cheese
- ⅓ cup mayonnaise
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon water
- 2 green onions, sliced, greens included
- 3 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
- 1 tablespoon horseradish
- ¼ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- ½ teaspoon of Tabasco or more to taste
- ½ cup slivered almonds
- 1 cup of fresh lump crab meat (or a can of crab meat)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat together the cream cheese, mayonnaise, lemon juice, water, onions, and parsley until smooth. Mix in the Worcestershire sauce, Tabasco, and horseradish. Fold in the slivered almonds and lump crab meat. Place in an oven-proof casserole serving dish.

Bake until bubbly and heated through, about 20 minutes. Serve with crackers or thinly sliced baguette.

OVEN FRIED CHICKEN

- 1 jar taco sauce (8 ounces)
- 1 egg
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cups crushed cornflakes
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons cumin
- 1 teaspoon oregano
- Dash ground cloves
- Crushed red pepper to taste (optional)
- 2½ pounds chicken thighs
- 6 tablespoons butter, melted

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a shallow dish, whisk together taco sauce, egg and garlic. In a plastic or paper bag, combine cornflakes, chili powder, cumin, oregano, ground cloves and crushed red pepper if using. Dip chicken pieces in sauce; toss in cornflakes mixture; place on a greased shallow baking pan. Drizzle with butter; bake 45 minutes or until golden and tender, and juices run clear.

ALMOND JOY BARS

- 4 cups shredded coconut
- ¼ cup light corn syrup
- 1 package (11½ oz.) milk chocolate chips
- ¼ cup vegetable shortening
- 1 ounce whole natural almonds

Line two large cookie sheets with waxed paper. Set large wire cooling rack on paper; set aside.

Place coconut in large bowl; set aside. Place corn syrup in a 1-cup glass measure. Microwave on high for 1 minute or until syrup boils. Immediately pour over coconut. Work warm syrup into coconut using the back of a wooden spoon until coconut is thoroughly coated. Using 1 level measuring tablespoon of coconut, shape into a ball by squeezing coconut firmly in palm of one hand, then rolling between both palms. (*HINT: Measure out all of the coconut then roll into balls.*) Place 2 inches apart on wire racks. Let dry 10 minutes. Re-roll coconut balls so there are no loose ends of coconut sticking up.

Place milk chocolate and shortening in a 4-cup glass measure or 1½ quart microwave safe bowl. Microwave on high 1 to 2 minutes or until mixture can be stirred smooth and is glossy; stirring once or twice. Working quickly, spoon 1 level measuring tablespoon of the chocolate over each coconut ball, making sure chocolate coats and letting excess chocolate drip down onto waxed paper. While chocolate coating is still soft, lightly press whole almond on top of each. Let stand to set or place in refrigerator. Store in a single layer in airtight container. Keeps best if refrigerated. Makes 26.

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