



# Fraternally Yours™

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

VOL. 101, NO. 11

AUGUST 2015



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2015-16  
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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

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### *Fraternally Yours*™

ISSN 0897-2958



Fraternally Yours,  
ZENSKA 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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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  
Zenska 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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## Pennies from Heaven

I found a penny today  
Just laying on the ground,  
But it's not just a penny  
This little coin I've found.

Found pennies come from heaven,  
That's what I've been told,  
By Angels watching over us  
From their clouds of gold.

When an Angel thinks of you  
They toss a penny down,  
Sometimes just to cheer you up  
To make a smile from your frown.

So don't pass by that penny  
When you're feeling blue,  
It may be a penny from heaven  
That an Angel's tossed to you.

"In God We Trust" is not a phrase  
Just printed on a penny,  
It's something to remember  
When your troubles seem like many.

So when you're down and it seems  
Your life has a blue tint,  
That penny on a sidewalk  
May be truly "heaven-cent."

Dear Friends,

Remember this every time you pass a little penny in the parking  
lot or on the sidewalk.

I always thought it was for Good Luck, but I like this version  
better . . . hope you do too!

Until next month,  
Warmly,  
Carolyn



## SHARING IN THE PRIESTLY, PROPHETIC, AND ROYAL LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST ~ PART 2

**Very Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, D. Min., J.C.L., National Chaplain**

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

In order to become a member of the Christian community, each person must be baptized after the profession of faith which then incorporates the person accepting baptism as a member of the Church. For Catholics, the Rite of Baptism is accomplished by either infusion (the pouring of the water over the head of the person) or immersion (the entire body of the person into the water) three times, with the words invoked by the baptizer, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Immediately following the baptism of the person, and if the Sacrament of Confirmation is not celebrated, the celebrant says to following prayer over the newly baptized, "The God of power and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin and brought you to new life through water and the Holy Spirit. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation, so that united with his people, you may remain for-ever a member of Christ who is Priest, Prophet, and King" [Christian Initiation of Adults, in *The Rites: Volume One, Number 319*]. And once the prayer is completed, each of the newly baptized is anointed on the crown of the head with Sacred Chrism.

Sacred Chrism (used in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders) is consecrated at the Chrism Mass celebrated by the Diocesan Bishop during Holy Week, for many dioceses, on Holy Thursday morning. Two other oils (Oil of the Sick for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and Oil of the Catechumenate used also in the celebration of Baptism) are also blessed at this Mass and are distributed for use in all the parishes of the diocese. All of the sacred oils are from plants, usually olive oil, but Sacred Chrism has a perfume that is added to it because each member that is anointed with it is reminded of being that special member of the Body of Christ in His Priestly, Prophetic and Royal roles.

The emphasis here today is that all of us are called to share in the Prophetic Office of Christ. In the Hebrew Scriptures, men were called at various times in the history of the Chosen People to veer them back into the ways that Yahweh. The prophets were not men who aspired or "studied" to be take on this office but were men who were particularly chosen by Yahweh to carry on the burden – many times they

were not accepted by their own families as they prophesied; many times their message was not heeded in their own lifetimes; and, years may have transpired until the full understanding of what was being prophesied by this chosen individual may have become a reality. Their message was bold and radical to the people – a hard message that spoke of the reality of the present situation. For example, we read in the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel, of Yahweh's choice of Ezekiel to be His instrument of reversing the Israelites' direction away from His Law and aligning themselves once again with His Law. The sacred author scribes, "As the Lord spoke to me, the spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard the one who was speaking say to me: Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have revolted against me to this very day. Hard of face and obstinate of heart are they to whom I am sending you. But you shall say to them: Thus says the Lord God! And whether they heed or resist – for they are a rebellious house – they shall know that a prophet has been among them" (2:2-5).

For all of us Christians, the Prophet par excellence is Jesus Christ. The gift of the Father's love for all people of all time is personified in His Beloved Son. At the beginning of His Galilean ministry, Jesus prophetically proclaims, "This is the time of fulfillment. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). The message that Jesus continued to teach was radical, accepted and rejected by many. In the Gospel of Mark, we read of Christ's rejection by people of his own region. The sacred author writes, "Jesus departed from there and came to his native place, accompanied by his disciples. When the sabbath came he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished. They said, 'Where did this man get this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands! Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offense at him. Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.' So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from

curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith" (6:1-6).

Today, you and I are called to share in the prophetic ministry of Jesus because we have been incorporated in the Mystical Body of Christ through the sacred waters of Baptism and anointed with the Sacred Chrism that aligns us to this awesome yet difficult office that we are called to undertake. The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council remind us of what this office entails in the modern era. "The holy People of God shares also in Christ's prophetic office. It spreads abroad a living witness to Him, especially by means of a life of faith and charity and by offering to God a sacrifice of praise, the tribute of lips which give honor to his name (cf. Heb. 13:15). The body of the faithful as a whole, anointed as they are by the Holy One (cf. Jn. 2:20, 27), cannot err in matters of belief. Thanks to a supernatural sense of faith which characterizes the People as a whole, it manifests this unerring quality when, 'from the bishops down to the last member of the laity,' it shows universal agreement in matters of faith and morals" [Lumen gentium, 12].

The task for us modern day prophets is thus set before us. I wish that we were prophets that could predict what the daily lottery number would be! But that is not what is what our work of being prophets today is all about – ours is that of Jesus: "The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel". Is this easy? Is it palatable every day? Are we able to be prophets in every situation, with anyone and everyone we encounter? The Holy Spirit has been given to each of us baptized believers. We have been chosen. It is necessary for us to learn more about our Faith through the Sacred Scriptures, the teachings of the Church, and celebrations of the Sacraments. These are the necessary tools. But just as important are the ways by which we live our lives, the words that we speak, and the actions that we perform that make us prophets of Jesus Christ. He has chosen us! We become His Person when we take on His Words, His Promises, and Kingdom of God that He proclaimed. We, too, may be rejected but that does not mean that we have failed. Live His Prophetic Life and the Kingdom of God will be yours!! We cannot err in these matters of our Faith.

## Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Every August, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association celebrates Founders' Month by honoring our Foundress Anna Hurban and the band of eight sisters who gathered together to hold our first convention in Cleveland in 1892. At that time they established our beloved "Zenska Jednota" with its lofty objectives of granting benefits to our members, improving the

moral, mental and social conditions of our members, aiding and assisting our members and their families in case of sickness, death or old age, and upholding the doctrine of the Holy Catholic Faith. For this uplifting vision, we honor and thank them.

Our challenge during these dynamic times is to continue to live up to these ideals on a daily basis. It is always gratifying for me, as National President, to receive unsolicited notes of appreciation from those who are the recipients of our benevolent work in the communities which we serve. On this page you see the heartwarming letter of thanks we all received from Angel's Place, an agency serving at risk young families, which we have supported for over a decade.

I am delighted to report that FCSLA is in great financial condition. Our independent actuary has reported that we are seeing . . . "solid growth in sales, assets and surplus, with a generous value to members". Since 2012, we have

established fourteen new branches, as well. With our new membership criteria approved by our Special Convention in October, 2014, we have new sales and marketing opportunities so that many more individuals can take advantage of the great benefits we have to offer.

I am proud of the work that the managing officers, our board of directors and home office staff have done to further the purposes as set forth by our founders.

Our certified delegates have received the official Call to our 2015 41st Quadrennial Convention. I am confident that we will move our Association forward in our deliberations at this gathering in Louisville, Kentucky to further the mission of providing financial security to our members and embracing our Catholic values and Slavic traditions.

Let us honor the Blessed Mother on the Feast of the Assumption!

**Cynthia M. Maleski**  
National President

June 9, 2015

Dear Members of the First Catholic Slovak  
Ladies Association,

### Congratulations!

We would like to recognize you as part of our Decades of Dedicated Donors honoring the amazing people who have been a part of Angels' Place for a decade or more. Thousands of generous people have joined together to fulfill our mission.

We are thrilled to report that you have been supporting our organization for 12 years! We commend your loyalty and want you to know that your compassion has helped many hundreds of young people achieve their educational goals creating a better future for two generations.

Thank you for your kindness and dedication. God bless you for standing by us over the years. We wish you the same benefits of hope and renewal that your generosity provides to others.

Gratefully,  
Mary Winter, Director Emerita  
Beth E. Banas, Executive Director

## FCSLA Annuity Rates

Rates for our Elite Annuities:

**SILVER ELITE (5 YEAR)**

**3.00% APY\***

**GOLD ELITE (7 YEAR)**

**3.25% APY\***

**PLATINUM ELITE (10 YEAR)**

**3.50% APY\***

\*This rate is in effect 1/1/2015 thru 12/31/2015.

Additionally the guaranteed minimum rate for Elite Silver and Gold contracts issued in 2015 will be increased to 2%.

## GOOD THINGS CONTINUE TO HAPPEN AT FCSLA



Albert Heiles

Our sales are on an upswing and our annuity and life products continue to be well received by our representatives and our members as solutions to planning needs.

Two significant and exciting opportunities unveiled this month are the Friends and Family Membership Rewards Program and the Branch Membership Challenge.

The Friends and Family Membership Rewards Program is intended to encourage every existing member to recommend a new individual as a possible member of our society. Each valid referral earns the existing member \$10. Our hope is that our members nationwide will encourage their friends and family to take part in the fraternal and financial benefits of membership in FCSLA. I challenge everyone who is reading this message to ask him or herself, "Is everyone in my family a member of FCSLA?" and, if not, "Why not?" The outstanding design of our products, carefully partnered with unbeatable fraternal benefits, such as the

Newborn Infant, Post Mortem, Scholarships and Matching Funds fundraising benefit, ensure that every Christian can find desirable features of FCSLA membership.

In addition to Friends and Family, the Branch Membership Challenge asks each branch to participate in the growth of our society by introducing 5 new members to its branch in 2015. If they accomplish this minimum goal by September 30th, each branch will be recognized at the 2015 National Convention with a gift.

Growing membership is the life blood of any organization. By continuing the tradition of offering excellent products, member benefits and fellowship opportunities, we remain relevant and strong long into the future. FCSLA is committed to providing excellence to our members. It is time to reciprocate. We need every member to spread the news that being part of FCSLA is more than just financial certainty in an uncertain world. Its family and fellowship, helping others, caring about communities, and sticking together for the long run. I encourage each of us to take an active part in guaranteeing the security of our families' future.

### First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

of the United States of America  
Beachwood, OH



#### Friends and Family Membership Rewards Program • July 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

**We value and appreciate our Members! Thank you for telling everybody you know about us!**

*Submit this form by mail, fax or email*

FCSLA  
24950 Chagrin Blvd.  
Beachwood, OH 44122

Fax: 216-464-9260  
Email: [mlruben@fcsla.com](mailto:mlruben@fcsla.com)  
Website: [www.fcsla.org](http://www.fcsla.org)

**A valid referral meets ALL 3 of these requirements. Each valid referral earns you \$10!**

- Has completed contact information including address & phone number
- Is interested in FCSLA
- Is willing to meet with an approved FCSLA representative

#### Your (Current Member) Information:

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please Have An Insurance Professional Contact:

Prospect Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# News from Your Fraternal & Youth Director

► Kelly Shedlock



It has been a long time coming, but I am VERY EXCITED to announce the opening of Branches S635 and J537 in Wichita, KS. The grand opening dinner took place on June 16, 2015 at Hangar One Steakhouse. Congratulations to agent Cliff Cross and the members in Wichita!!

I am a person who likes to be and has to be organized. I always work ahead on projects at work so I am not scrambling at the last minute. I take pride in always being early for a meeting, dinner, etc. I had planned out my flight so that I would arrive in Wichita around 2:15 p.m. That would give me plenty of time to get my bags, rental car, check into my hotel, change clothes and freshen up before the opening Dinner at 6 p.m. I had planned to get to the restaurant around 4 p.m. to get set up before my dinner guests / FCSLA members arrived. Sounds like a good plan, right? Mother Nature didn't think so. I get a notice on my cell phone from the airline at 5 a.m. saying my 10:44 a.m. flight was delayed. Okay, no big deal it was leaving a little later, but I would still get to Wichita in plenty of time ... or so I thought. I finally left Cleveland at 2 p.m. I had to go through Chicago O'Hare. Well now I have missed my connecting flight. Next flight out of O'Hare to Wichita is 4:30 p.m. It's about 1 hr. 20 min. flight. I am scheduled to land in Wichita at 5:50 p.m. I finally landed at 5:55 p.m. Then I hope that my luggage found its way with me and I wasn't so concerned with my personal luggage I was worried about the duffle bag that had all the "goodies" for me to pass out at the dinner! Both arrived with me! I arrived at the restaurant at 6:30 p.m. I hate being late.

Once again I would like to apologize to Cliff and all the wonderful members for arriving "as is" straight from the airport. I like to dress in appropriate attire when I meet our members. They got me in jeans and a Dolphin Tale 2 t-shirt. (I like to travel in comfy clothes). Once again thank you all so much for your warm reception when I arrived. And thank

you for bearing with me as my agenda for the dinner pretty much went out the window.

Thank goodness Cliff "filled in" for me and got the dinner rolling. Thank you Cliff! I hope you all enjoyed your dinner (I thought the food was excellent) and the restaurant was pretty cool. We had a room all to ourselves. I think the name says it all. I wish I would have been able to talk to more of you one on one like I usually do. Your branch is going to do very well from the conversations I did have. As I write this article we do not have branch officers yet, but I am confident that we will have two or three very soon. I know it can sound a bit overwhelming, but it won't be. Once you get all the initial set up done it will be fun. I am always a phone call away, and if needed, I am willing to come out and see you again. Maybe we could wait until next year though. I do need to add that your new airport is beautiful!!!

*(Continued on page 9)*



## From the Desk of the National Secretary

Sue Ann M. Seich

This summer seems to be going by fast and especially this year with our quadrennial convention right around the corner. There are so many bits and pieces that have to be done and some have a long list of details. There are over 100 first time delegates that we want to make sure they have a positive experience beside all the experienced delegates who are attending. If you were at our Special Convention last October, you witnessed a first for our Association. It was the first time that electronic voting was used. There are not many other fraternal societies who have used this new way of voting and we may have been the first for all Slovak fraternal organizations. It proved to be very efficient in vote counting and also saved quite a bit of time.

At the December Board of Directors' Meeting your national officers voted to use electronic voting for the Quadrennial Convention. There will be time set aside for instructing everyone on how to use the devices. The device you will use is even easier than using a remote control for your television. If you attended the Special Convention please share with your branch delegates how voting was handled.

May God watch over, protect, and love you everyday of your life.

Until next time,  
**Sue Ann**

## Fraternal & Youth Director

(Continued from page 8)

I also wanted to thank agent Shawn Hopkins for coming to the dinner. Overall, the evening (once I got there) was great! Congratulations again to Cliff for all his hard work over the past few years! Now the fun begins with branch activities, matching funds projects – skies the limit!

Welcome to the FCSLA family Branches S635 & J537!

P.S. *I won't even tell you about my trip home the next morning (it was even worse than the trip there). I am still smiling!!!*



## FCSLA Accepting Applications for Interim National Secretary and Interim National Treasurer Positions

As mandated by the changes to the bylaws and the effective dates adopted at the Special Convention held in October 2014, First Catholic Ladies Association is accepting applications from qualified individuals for interim positions for National Secretary and National Treasurer in accordance with the process as approved by the Special Convention.

The National Secretary directs the operating activities of the Association on a full time basis and reports to the National President. The minimum qualifications for such position include a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university and possess ten years experience, demonstrating communication, organization and managerial skills. Insurance and/or fraternal benefit society experience a plus.

The National Treasurer monitors the financial conditions of the Association, oversees the Association's finances and investments on a full time basis and reports to the National President. All candidates must have either a CPA or MBA in finance or related fields from an accredited college or university and shall have ten years or more experience in the fields of business, finance or related fields.

If selected for the interim position, the candidate for each position has the potential of being considered for the permanent position and reports to the National President. Interested parties meeting the above qualifications should submit a detailed resume and cover letter to National President Cynthia Maleski, FCSLA National Headquarters, 24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122 on or before September 15, 2015.

## Branch W130 Enjoys Amana Trip

On Sunday, June 14, 43 members and guests enjoyed a bus trip to the Amanas. FCSLA Branch W130 of Clutier, IA hosted the event. A delicious lunch was served at a well known restaurant in Main Amana.

After lunch, members had the opportunity to shop at a variety of stores. Members were then treated to the play "The Andrew Brothers" at the Old Creamery Theater. It was a very enjoyable day for everyone.





## FCSLA 2015 FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR

~ Sherlyn Povondra ~

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is proud to announce the selection of Sherlyn Povondra of Tabor, SD as our 2015 Fraternalist of the Year. FCSLA has sent her nomination to the American Fraternal Alliance to be considered for national recognition. The 2015 American Fraternal Alliance Fraternalist of the Year will be announced and honored at the 129th annual meeting to be held in Indianapolis, IN in September.

Sherlyn (Sherry) Povondra is an active member of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. She not only attends the monthly meetings, she assists in organizing them, organizing the food/menu and helps setting up and cleaning up. Education is very important to Sherry.

The branch has a scholarship committee and Sherry is currently serving as Secretary of the committee. Branch W093 has a float in the annual Tabor Czech Days. Sherry is very involved with the entry of the float, its design and creation. She has a strong knowledge of their community and brings this information to the branch members for ways they can be involved in church and community activities, especially the youth of the branch.

She continues to help educate our youth members about their heritage and why volunteering is so important. She teaches by showing them. She doesn't ask anyone to do anything that she herself wouldn't do. Sherry is very proud of her Czech ancestry and a dedicated member of the Czech Heritage Preservation Society, Inc. in Tabor, SD.

She is currently serving as one of the Board of Directors. For the past 30+ years, she has helped and supported the historic St. John the Baptist Pioneer Rock Catholic Church organization at Lakeport, Yankton County having continued to stay involved with yearly cleanup and memorial service. Last year was no exception.

She is an active member of the St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Tabor and serves as a member and officer on its parish council and Altar & Rosary Society and various projects therein.

Sherry is a life-member in the Kortan-Hatwan American Legion Post Auxiliary. She has served in various offices during her 40 years of involvement. The past year she participated in their pancake breakfast, soup kitchen and other various organizational commitments.

Outside of the community, she is also involved with the Avera Sacred Heart Hospital Advisory Board in Yankton, SD.

Her ancestry, faith and community are very important to Sherry. She is very dedicated and has been involved with the same groups for many, many years and is active with all of them on an annual basis. Every project/event that Sherry is involved with can be considered a mentoring program. She teaches by doing. Everything she does impacts someone.

Sherry is a member of the FCSLA Branch W093, has



lived most of her life in Tabor, SD with her husband Dennis Povondra and her son, Mark who also resides in Tabor. She is currently serving her 25th year as a bank employee for the CorTrust Bank in Tabor.

During her son's educational years, Sherry helped establish the local PTA becoming an officer and active member. Sherry and the PTA saw a need to help the school raise funds for field trips, school equipment to help further the education of their children. Sherry and other members of the PTA raised money by working with the music department to host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser and lunch stands

to name a few. She knew that the education of their children was very important and wanted to help in any way she could. She continued inspiring others in the community by serving as Secretary for a newly established Bon Homme School Foundation. The foundation continues to lead the way in the community for the continued education of their children. Sherry also thought that all work and no play was not good either, so she became active with the after prom party – to encourage the future of our country to work together, make a difference, but also have some fun.

But, Sherry did not stop just because her son graduated. She has been involved in organizing and planning the first all school reunion in 1985 for Tabor High School and has been involved in the planning process every five years since, including the one being planned in 2015. These reunions will have an impact for many, many years.

As a member of the Tabor Area Chambers of Commerce, Inc., Sherry is currently serving as Information Chairperson of the Tabor Czech committee and responsible for scheduling many willing volunteers to sell souvenirs during the two full days of celebration. Having served in various leadership offices in the organization, she and the organization are busy with projects throughout the year, but especially well known for its commitment to the Annual Czech Days Celebration held each June. She is proud to be Czech and an American. The American flags flown on Tabor's main street on holidays are put up and taken down by volunteers from the Chamber and she inspires her family to volunteer to do so each Labor Day. Her love and enthusiasm is contagious and family, friends and the citizens of Tabor are happy to get involved.

In 1989, the state of South Dakota was celebrating its centennial and Sherry was instrumental in establishing a public library for a "lasting legacy project". Having a library science background, she and several others formed a committee to procure funding for a vacant building to be remodeled into a library. Several thousand books and other media were catalogued over the years since being established. Since this time, she continues to act as Chairperson for the Library Board and volunteers as a librarian for this volunteer

*(Continued on Page 9)*



## FCSLA 2015 Youth Fraternalist of the Year Award Winner ~ Ryan Holzman ~

We are proud to announce that Ryan Holzman of Branch S150 has been awarded the FCSLA 2015 Youth Fraternalist of the Year.

Ryan is a sophomore at Boyertown Senior High School in Boyertown, PA. He is a high honor student who is well rounded in extracurricular activities and volunteerism.

He is an altar server at St. Columbkil R.C. Church (for the past 6 years) and frequently fills in for others. Ryan was selected to serve at our retired pastor's funeral in September 2014 as well as a nun's golden jubilee Mass in April 2015. Ryan also volunteers his time for the church by helping to promote parish events: he is responsible for programming the TV monitor in the narthex and makes creative presentations which are updated on a weekly basis. He also helps with the church's annual basket party fundraiser, the Christmas Love Light Tree program and he volunteers when our parish sponsors the community soup kitchen twice a year.

Ryan is also involved in his community by serving food and beverages at a weekly bingo fundraiser held by the New Hanover Fire Company; he also helps at their chicken-barbecue dinners twice a year.

Ryan is exceptionally passionate about volunteering for those who are affected by MS and pediatric cancer. He belongs to a family Walk team and raises money for the National MS Society, culminating in participation in WALK MS of the Lehigh Valley last month. In addition, he volunteers for Catie's Wish Foundation in their annual outreach to the children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital each April.

Besides volunteering, Ryan plays the violin in his high school orchestra and he sings in their choir. He also enjoys playing baseball. Ryan is a great kid who gives 100% to whatever he is doing!

Ryan was nominated by his mom, Candace Holzman. She is very proud of her son's accomplishments.

The FCSLA congratulates Ryan for representing our younger generation of members. Ryan and members like him are the future of FCSLA. We are very proud to have Ryan as our member and as our 2015 Youth Fraternalist of the Year Award Winner. May God watch over him and all of his future endeavors.



## 100th Anniversary of Pilgrimage

The Milwaukee area Slovak community is celebrating its 100th Anniversary of the Pilgrimage to the Basilica of Holy Hill located at 1525 Carmel Road in Hubertus, WI.

This special anniversary will take place this year on Labor Day Monday, September 7. It will begin at 8:30 a.m. with the outdoor Stations of the Cross at the bottom of the Hill. At 9:30 a.m., Reverend Joseph Hornacek will celebrate a Holy Mass in the Basilica.

It all started in 1915 when our parents and grandparents walked the last 8 miles to get to this beautiful place to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady Help of Christians and sang Slovak songs and prayed the rosary.

This beautiful ritual takes place during the recitation and singing of the Stations when several young girls carry the statue of Our Lady on their shoulders bedecked with colorful streams of ribbons and rosemary.

After the Holy Mass, a brunch will be served at the Holy Hill Café. For those who would like to attend the brunch, please call Betty for reservations at 414-425-6137 or email Kathy at [Robkam4461@milwpc.com](mailto:Robkam4461@milwpc.com). All are welcome to attend and wear a Slovak costume.



## FRATERNALIST OF THE YEAR

*(Continued from Page 8)*

public library every Wednesday evening. This is truly a Legacy that will live on for future generations.

Sherry enjoys the involvement with others and the opportunities given. She continually strives to not only "keep things going as they are" but to make things "a little better" for the future.

FCSLA congratulates Sheryl Povondra for receiving this well-deserved recognition.

We are very proud to have Sherry represent us as our 2015 Fraternalist of the Year!



Find us on  
**Facebook**

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

**FCSLA 41st National Convention**  
**OCTOBER 3-8, 2015**  
**Marriott Louisville Downtown**  
Louisville, KY



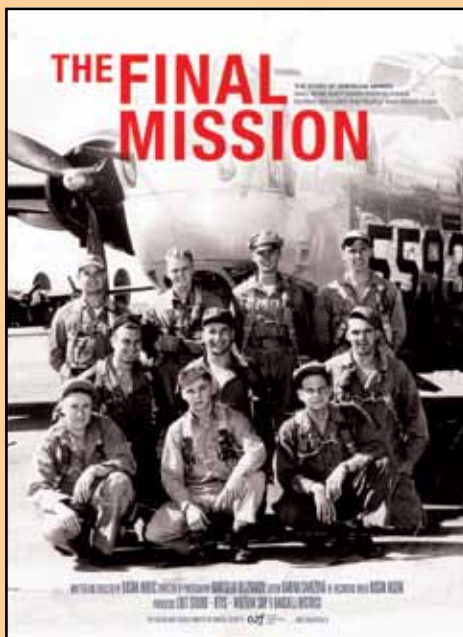
## Final Mission Documentary Airs in Youngstown, Ohio

On May 16th, Armed Forces Day in the United States, we were privileged to present a showing of independent Slovak filmmaker Dušan Hudec's film, *The Final Mission*. We were especially honored to have both Mr. Hudec and his producer, Darina Smržová in Youngstown, OH for this showing! *The Final Mission* or *Unknown Heroes (Neznami Hrdinovia)* as it is titled in Slovakia, is a story most people have never heard...neither here nor in Slovakia!

This documentary film tells the story of American airmen shot down over Slovakia during WWII while on bombing runs from Italy to Germany and Poland. Literally hundreds of airmen were shot down, many dying in the crashes and others being taken captive and sent to POW camps. But 85 airmen were taken in and hidden from the Germans by Slovak villagers. This was as dangerous as hiding Jewish families from the Germans and could result in immediate execution of the family by the Germans if they were discovered.

Mr. Hudec visited the U.S. several times over the course of two years doing research in the National Archives and interviewing surviving airmen (in their 90's!) as well as family members. He also found surviving Slovak family members that took these downed airmen into their homes at such great risk and interviewed them also. When asked why he was interested in these stories 70 years after WWII, Mr. Hudec replied that when the communists were in control of Slovakia these stories could not be told and as the World War II generation passes into history, it is important to preserve these stories before they are lost.

So how did Youngstown come to be one of the first places this film was screened outside of Slovakia? Mr. Hudec's film was supported by the Slovak Audiovisual Fund and the American Embassy, as well as, the Indiana National Guard, but when he found he needed more funds in order to finish his film the Slovak community in Youngstown heard about this project and stepped up to help fund it. The American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley, FCSLA Branch 161 and Branch 169, the authors of Slovaks of the Greater Mahoning Valley, as well as the FCSLA National Headquarters office donated money to help him. As a way of thanking us Mr. Hudec asked if we would like to have a screening here in Youngstown! (Prior to this the film had only been shown in Washington D.C. and New York City before



coming to Youngstown. From here they traveled to Johnstown, PA, which also helped raise funds, and Chicago, IL! Pretty good company!)

Besides the film itself there was also a 24 poster display (printed with the generosity of Dr. Scot Irelan and the Theater Department at Youngstown State University) with much additional information and photos of the airmen and the families that protected them. When he was interviewed by John P. Brown, III, former AMVETS national commander for his Veterans Radio talk show on I♥Radio, Mr. Hudec told him that he wasn't looking for big city venues to show his film in, he was looking for places to show his film where he knew the people were emotionally tied to the story since he knew they would appreciate and remember it! Well, he was right

... in Youngstown over a hundred people showed up to view *The Final Mission*, and the poster display and kept Mr. Hudec and Ms. Smržová over an hour after the film asking questions about the events in the film. Mr. Hudec said they were overwhelmed with the kindness and interest shown by the people whom he met that weekend. And although they thanked us, we truly owe them thanks for making sure this story was not lost and forgotten.

For those interested in seeing this film, Mr. Hudec has kindly given me permission to screen it as often as I need and it was shown at YSU's Festival of the Arts in July the weekend after the Fourth and the posters will be shown at the Veterans building at the Canfield Fair from September 2nd until Labor Day. If you would like information about showings of the film and poster display feel free to contact me at [loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com](mailto:loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com) or 330-549-3760.

**Loretta Ekoniak**





# FCSLA Announces 2015-2016 Scholarship Awards



**Kelly Shedlock**

This issue of *Fraternally Yours* is **one** of the most if not the most anticipated issue of the year. It is my privilege as your Fraternal & Youth Director to present to all of you our many young members on the next several pages who are recipients of our 2015-2016 Scholarship Awards.

The FCSLA Scholarships are “one” of the most generous annual benefits our association offers to our membership. More than \$248,250 was awarded to young members of the Association. We believe that education is vital in the development of our future generations. We are proud of each and every one of our members who applied this year and thank them for participating in our scholarship program. If you did not receive a scholarship this year, please consider submitting an application next year. Information about next year’s program will be available on our website and in *Fraternally Yours* later this fall.

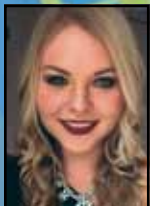
Congratulations to all our winners! Our wish to all the recipients and applicants is for you to have a future filled with success and happiness in all your endeavors! We are proud to have all of you as our members.

**Kelly Shedlock**  
Fraternal and Youth Director

## Theresa Sajan Awards \$1,750 Each



**ELLEN P. RINGLE**  
Deerfield, WI  
Pacific University  
College of Optometry  
Sr. Branch 376



**GLORIA M. SCHMITZ**  
DeKalb, IL  
The University of Miami  
Sr. Branch 66

## College Graduate Awards \$1,750 Each

**THOMAS F. ALZO**  
Canton, NY  
State University College  
Potsdam  
Sr. Branch 107

**JILLIAN R. BARTUSEK**  
Webster, MN  
Northwestern Health  
Sciences University  
Branch W056



**COLLEEN M. BEDNAR**  
Brunswick, OH  
Case Western  
Reserve University  
Sr. Branch 10



**LAURA E. DRAKE**  
Tafton, PA  
Marywood University  
Sr. Branch 72



**LINDSEY JENKINS**  
Chicago, IL  
The University of Illinois  
at Chicago  
Sr. Branch 23



**MEGAN JO LUKES**  
Protivin, IA  
Allen College  
Branch W033



**JACQUELINE McNULTY**  
Middlesex, NJ  
Montclair State  
University  
Sr. Branch 185





**CHRISTINE MIHELICIC**  
Haymarket, VA  
University of Virginia  
F. Batten School  
of Leadership  
Branch SZJO



**CHRISTIAN MIKSANEK**  
Rochester, MN  
University of Wisconsin  
Madison  
Sr. Branch 181



**NOREEN M. PETRASH**  
Center Valley, PA  
Edward Via College of  
Osteo Medicine  
Sr. Branch 140

**SARAH R. SAFFRAN**  
Mokena, IL  
Midwestern University  
Sr. Branch 352



**DIANA LYNN SANTAY**  
Denver, CO  
University of Florida  
Sr. Branch 81



**BRIANA K. SHULLICK**  
Lorain, OH  
Kent State University  
Sr. Branch 114



**SOPHIA M. VIGLIONE**  
Cleveland, OH  
Ohio State University  
Sr. Branch 581



**REBECCA C. VISINTAINER**  
Macungie, PA  
Rutgers-The State  
University of New Jersey  
Sr. Branch 45



**KRISTIN A. ZABRECKY**  
Cincinnati, OH  
Ohio State University  
College of Veterinary  
Medicine  
Sr. Branch 81

## College Senior Awards \$1,250 Each



**CHELSEY R. BILICK**  
Monessen, PA  
Carlow University  
Sr. Branch 88



**HEATHER N. DeHAAS**  
Perry, OH  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Sr. Branch 522

**EMILY K. DUHN**  
Independence, OH  
Hiram College  
Sr. Branch 481



**JESSICA M. GALASSO**  
Homer City, PA  
Slippery Rock University  
Sr. Branch 317



**GABRIELLE E. GONZALEZ**  
Valparaiso, IN  
Indiana University  
Sr. Branch 289

**KIMBERLY M. HOPKINS**  
Glassport, PA  
Belmont University  
Sr. Branch 200



**NICHOLAS T. KES**  
Lonsdale, MN  
Minnesota State  
University-Mankato  
Branch W056



**RACHEL ANN LAGORIO**  
Woodridge, IL  
North Central College  
Sr. Branch 81



**CONNOR J. MALÝ**  
Phoenix, AZ  
University of Arizona  
Branch SZJH



**COLLEEN McDERMOTT**  
Joliet, IL  
Northern Illinois  
University  
Sr. Branch 53

**TYLER J. MINCHOW**  
Lincoln, NE  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Branch W055

**STEPHEN B. ROBINSON**  
Saint Helens, OR  
University of Portland  
Branch W139



**KELLI S. SCHMITZ**  
Norwalk, WI  
Winona State University  
Sr. Branch 23



**ALYSSA M. SPRINGER**  
Uniontown, PA  
Saint Francis University  
Sr. Branch 177



**ALYSE WITTMAN**  
Bloomsburg, PA  
Pennsylvania State  
University  
Sr. Branch 319



**CLARISSA M. WRIGHT**  
Saint Joseph, MI  
Western Michigan  
University  
Sr. Branch 452



## College Junior Awards

\$1,250 Each



**EDWARD M. BROWN**  
Vallejo, CA  
University of California-  
San Diego  
Branch SZ10



**CARSON R. BRUESS**  
Ames, IA  
Iowa State University  
Branch W033



**JACCOB L. HALLOW**  
Valparaiso, IN  
Purdue University  
Sr. Branch 452



**NICOLE A. HEIBERGER**  
Elmhurst, IL  
Dominican University  
Sr. Branch 53



**JOSHUA W. HERMES**  
Hutchinson, KS  
Fort Hays State University  
Branch W133



**DANIELLE J. HOLM**  
Schaumburg, IL  
Harper College  
Sr. Branch 184



**NICOLE A. HVOZDOVIC**  
Mountain Top, PA  
University of Scranton  
Sr. Branch 38



**JENNA LYNN KOLBERG**  
Naperville, IL  
University of Iowa  
Sr. Branch 258



**JUSTIN KRUPA**  
New Wilmington, PA  
Wittenberg University  
Sr. Branch 161



**MEGAN LEA LEGRO**  
Kirkville, NY  
State University  
of New York-Brockport  
Sr. Branch 72



**ALINA M. LEHOCKY**  
Vernon Hills, IL  
Illinois Wesleyan  
University  
Sr. Branch 485



**MITCHELL E. LOTKO**  
Rockford, IL  
University of Missouri  
Sr. Branch 225



**JACQUELYN MISENCIK**  
Avon, OH  
University of Alabama  
Sr. Branch 524



**DANIEL JAMES  
SBLENDORIO**  
Rolling Meadows, IL  
Devry University  
Sr. Branch 485



**AVERY J. UMPHREYS**  
Council Bluffs, IA  
Missouri Western State  
University  
Sr. Branch 627



**RYAN JOHN ZIDEK**  
Greensburg, PA  
Saint Vincent College  
Sr. Branch 262

## College Sophomore Awards

\$1,250 Each



**JOHN PAUL BAHMER**  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH  
The University of Akron  
Sr. Branch 161



**NATHAN BERAN**  
Sachse, TX  
Benedictine College  
Branch W055



**BRENDAN T. BERTIG**  
Indiana, PA  
Duquesne University  
Sr. Branch 317



**ALEXA KRISTA BOYD**  
Binghamton, NY  
Rochester Institute  
of Technology  
Sr. Branch 417



**MATTHEW J. CARLTON**  
Crown Point, IN  
Columbia College-  
Chicago  
Sr. Branch 289

**ELIZABETH M. DAHLIN**  
Waconia, MN  
Loyola University Chicago  
Sr. Branch 262

**CALLI M. EICHHORN**  
Lockport, IL  
Lewis University College of Nursing  
Sr. Branch 225





**HALEY LYNNE FAUST**  
Center Valley, PA  
Villanova University  
Sr. Branch 140



**STEPHANIE M. FIRESTONE**  
Scottsdale, PA  
Indiana University of PA  
Sr. Branch 44



**LAUREN E. GETZ**  
Youngstown, OH  
Youngstown State  
University  
Sr. Branch 156



**ELIZABETH HOFFMAN**  
Kingston, PA  
Drexel University  
Sr. Branch 86



**ERIN B. KERNS**  
Lakeville, MN  
The University  
of Wisconsin-Madison  
Branch W056



**DYLAN R. KUDIA**  
Plainfield, IL  
University of Illinois  
Champaign/Urbana  
Sr. Branch 485



**ELIZABETH LATTYAK**  
La Grange Park, IL  
Dominican University  
Sr. Branch 421



**NICHOLAS LESCHINSKY**  
Chesapeake, VA  
University  
of South Carolina  
Sr. Branch 140



**VINCENT L. LOCASCIO**  
Saint Charles, IL  
Iowa State University  
Sr. Branch 485

**EMILY JADE LYONS**  
Poland, OH  
Gannon University  
Sr. Branch 161



**MITCHELL R. MALECHA**  
Faribault, MN  
University of Wisconsin-  
La Crosse  
Branch W056



**DANIELLA M. PARAS**  
Mars, PA  
John Carroll University  
Sr. Branch 233



**ABIGAIL A. PERSICKETTI**  
Manhattan, IL  
Lewis University  
Sr. Branch 53



**JOSEPH SEBEST III**  
Campbell, OH  
Youngstown State  
University  
Sr. Branch 161

**CLAIRE F. SIMEO**  
Glen Ellyn, IL  
Franciscan University of Steubenville  
Sr. Branch 90



**ROBERT M. SKUBAL**  
Greenfield, WI  
University of Wisconsin-  
Milwaukee  
Sr. Branch 376



**ANTHONY P. SOLT**  
Allentown, PA  
Boston University  
Sr. Branch 319



**LAUREN ANN TRACY**  
Greensburg, PA  
Clemson University  
Sr. Branch 44



**JESSE LEE ZELONKA**  
North Apollo, PA  
Slippery Rock University  
Sr. Branch 262



**LILIANA SU L. ZIGO**  
Arlington, MA  
American University  
Sr. Branch 161

## College Freshman Awards \$1,250 Each



**OLIVIA M. BARKLEY**  
McKeesport, PA  
Allegheny College  
Sr. Branch 77



**EMILY R. BARTOLONE**  
Massillon, OH  
University of Dayton  
Sr. Branch 301



**BRENDAN R. BESHOCK**  
Summit Hill, PA  
University of Pittsburgh-  
Bradford  
Sr. Branch 140



**JESSICA MARIE BONACCI**  
Louisville, KY  
Pennsylvania State  
University  
Branch SZJO





**MARIAN R. BORNHORST**  
Roswell, GA  
University of Georgia  
Sr. Branch 13



**KATIE M. CALLAHAN**  
New Castle, PA  
Slippery Rock University  
of Pennsylvania  
Sr. Branch 153



**MICHAEL J. CHIZEK**  
Clear Lake, IA  
The University of Iowa  
Branch W051



**KATHERINE CHLYSTA**  
Hudson, OH  
Kent State University  
Branch SZ10



**RYAN J. CHOMISTEK**  
Plano, TX  
Texas A&M University  
Sr. Branch 452



**MARY D. CHUDY**  
Lakewood, OH  
Ohio State University  
Sr. Branch 522



**COLIN P. CORCORAN**  
Catonsville, MD  
University of Maryland-  
Baltimore County  
Sr. Branch 481



**TRENT CHARLES CORK**  
Phoenix, AZ  
Iowa State University  
Sr. Branch 277



**SUZANNE M. CTVRTLK**  
Sugar Land, TX  
Texas A&M University  
Branch W077



**ZACHARY A. D'AMICO**  
Mount Pleasant, PA  
St. Vincent College  
Sr. Branch 98



**MADISON M. DANGLER**  
Yankton, SD  
The University  
of South Dakota  
Branch W093



**JOREY DIMOPOULOS**  
Schererville, IN  
Purdue University  
Sr. Branch 81



**LOGAN G. DOLEHIDE**  
Crestwood, IL  
Carthage College  
Sr. Branch 485



**JUSTIN M. DUMM**  
Verona, PA  
Penn State University-  
New Kensington  
Sr. Branch 590



**ELYSE K. FALCHEK**  
Spring, TX  
The University of Alabama  
Sr. Branch 172



**CIERRA L. FISHER**  
Osceola, NE  
The University  
of Nebraska-Kearney  
Sr. Branch 623



**JESSICA A. GJERDE**  
Ankeny, IA  
The University of Kansas  
Branch W051



**JACQUELINE GOLIAS**  
Royal Oak, MI  
Columbus College  
of Art & Design  
Sr. Branch 490



**SHANNON M. HARBACK**  
Streator, IL  
Eastern Illinois University  
Sr. Branch 7



**ALISON M. HARPER**  
Milan, OH  
Ohio University  
Sr. Branch 114



**WILLIAM J. HATCZEL**  
Munster, IN  
Ball State University  
Sr. Branch 452



**LINDSEY S. HERDA**  
Lonsdale, MN  
Minnesota State  
University  
Branch W056



**BRADLEY R. HRIPKO**  
Medina, OH  
University of Dayton  
Sr. Branch 30



**SETH M. JOHNSON**  
Fremont, NE  
University of Nebraska-  
Lincoln  
Branch W187





**LAUREN E. KING**  
Endwell, NY  
Ithaca College  
Sr. Branch 435



**COREY T. KINNANE**  
Winfield, IL  
Columbia College  
Chicago  
Sr. Branch 421



**NICOLE C. KOLESSAR**  
Exeter, PA  
Wilkes University  
Sr. Branch 615

**RYAN SCOTT KOVACIK**  
Highland, IN  
Ivy Tech Community College  
Sr. Branch 452



**WHITNEY A. KOVAR**  
David City, NE  
Wayne State College  
Branch W040



**MICHAEL R. KRAFT**  
Cleveland, OH  
John Carroll University  
Sr. Branch 141



**JESSE D. LESKANICH**  
Streator, IL  
Illinois Central College  
Sr. Branch 66



**SCOTT W. LINGLE**  
Ridgefield Park, NJ  
Ramapo College  
of New Jersey  
Sr. Branch 35



**TIMOTHY E. LOGAR**  
Denver, PA  
University of Pittsburgh-  
Johnstown  
Sr. Branch 172



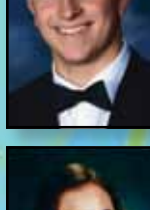
**MIA NICOLE MAHALKO**  
Perryopolis, PA  
West Virginia University  
Sr. Branch 88



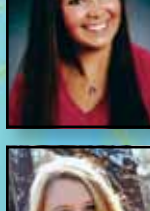
**BROOKE N. MARTIN**  
Belle Vernon, PA  
Saint Francis University  
Sr. Branch 88



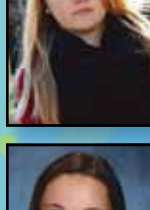
**NICOLE EVE MARTIN**  
Huntsburg, OH  
Miami University  
Sr. Branch 141



**JARED T. MICHAELS**  
Reedsville, PA  
Lebanon Valley College  
Sr. Branch 196



**KATIE MOSCALINK**  
Uniontown, PA  
Duquesne University  
Sr. Branch 88



**TABITHA A. OBORNY**  
Marion, KS  
Fort Hays State University  
Branch W110



**GRACE S. O'BRIEN**  
Scotch Plains, NJ  
University of Delaware  
Sr. Branch 44



**THEODORA PEREDNIA**  
Portland, OR  
Oregon State University  
Sr. Branch 81



**HANNAH REIDENBAUGH**  
Canonsburg, PA  
Duquesne University  
Sr. Branch 250



**MICHAEL J. ROSCOE**  
Cortland, OH  
Ohio State University  
Sr. Branch 269



**MITCHELL T. SCHUMACHER**  
New Prague, MN  
North Dakota  
State University  
Branch W001



**JOHN E. SETTER, JR.**  
Kenosha, WI  
Minnesota State  
University-Mankato  
Sr. Branch 273



**CASEY B. SOKOLOVIC**  
Winterville, NC  
North Carolina  
State University  
Sr. Branch 185



**ALEXANDER R. STANIK**  
Solon, OH  
The University of Akron  
Sr. Branch 1



**ABBEY QUINN STUBER**  
Cortland, OH  
The University of Akron  
Branch SZ10





**NATHAN L. THIES**  
Sterling, NE  
Southeast Community  
College  
Branch W008



**COLIN J. WADE**  
Prague, NE  
The University of  
Nebraska-Kearney  
Branch W013



**ERIN E. WALZ**  
Elk Grove Village, IL  
Carthage College  
Sr. Branch 485



**KATHERINE C. WIRTH**  
Bethlehem, PA  
Millersville State  
University  
Sr. Branch 319



**EMILY MARIE WYVRATT**  
Monongahela, PA  
Waynesburg University  
Sr. Branch 111



**RACHEL E. ZELENAK**  
Sterling Heights, MI  
Oakland University  
Sr. Branch 334



**ANNA E. GOGGINS**  
New Lenox, IL  
Providence Catholic  
High School  
Sr. Branch 53



**NICOLE L. MALKOVITS**  
Youngstown, OH  
Ursuline High School  
Sr. Branch 161



**STEVEN A. MATURA**  
Whiting, IN  
Bishop Noll Institute  
Sr. Branch 452



**ALYSSA A. MEDUNA**  
Colon, NE  
Bishop Neumann  
High School  
Branch W013



**ABIGAIL N. PAHOLSKI**  
Trail Creek, IN  
Marquette Catholic  
High School  
Sr. Branch 77



**LUKE J. POHOVEY**  
Indianapolis, IN  
Roncalli High School  
Sr. Branch 301



**LYDIA T. ROSNO**  
Sioux City, IA  
Bishop Heelan  
Catholic School  
Branch W055

## High School Junior Awards \$1,000 Each



**DAVID L. BAIRD, JR.**  
Wilkes Barre, PA  
Holy Redeemer  
High School  
Jr. Branch 362



**MICHAEL V. BELOVICH**  
South Charleston, OH  
Catholic Central  
High School  
Jr. Branch 504



**LIBBY C. FULTON**  
Nebraska City, NE  
Lourdes Central Catholic  
High School  
Branch W191



**KARINA A. GRAHAM**  
Wilkes Barre, PA  
Holy Redeemer  
High School  
Jr. Branch 362



**PAUL GREGORY JASON**  
Wilkes Barre, PA  
Holy Redeemer  
High School  
Sr. Branch 172



**COURTNEY A. MORRIS**  
North Royalton, OH  
Padua Francis  
High School  
Sr. Branch 141



**KRISTYNA NOSEK**  
Cleveland, OH  
Holy Name High School  
Sr. Branch 522

## High School Senior Awards \$1,000 Each



**JOHN L. DZUREC**  
Avon Lake, OH  
St. Ignatius High School  
Sr. Branch 481





**ETHAN JOHN SEFCHIK**  
Mount Pleasant, PA  
Greenburg Central  
Catholic High School  
Sr. Branch 44



**MACKENZIE L. ORAVEC**  
Finleyville, PA  
Seton-LaSalle Catholic  
High School  
Sr. Branch 77



**BENJAMIN M. REZAC**  
Lincoln, NE  
Pius X High School  
Branch W187

## High School Sophomore Awards \$1,000 Each



**JACK E. BAHMER**  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH  
Archibishop Hoban  
High School  
Jr. Branch 192



**THOMAS C. SCOTT**  
Pottstown, PA  
Pope John Paul II  
High School  
Jr. Branch 75



**THOMAS C. TEAGUE**  
Houston, TX  
Strake Jesuit College  
Preparatory  
Jr. Branch 29



**MAKENNA TKACH**  
Streator, IL  
Marquette Academy  
High School  
Jr. Branch 470

## High School Freshman Awards \$1,000 Each



**ZACHARY T. BEBLAR**  
Johnstown, PA  
Bishop McCort Catholic  
High School  
Jr. Branch 364



**BROOKE R. CHANDLER**  
New Middletown, OH  
Cardinal Mooney  
High School  
Jr. Branch 192



**DALTON F. BARTEK**  
Wahoo, NE  
Bishop Neumann  
High School  
Jr. Branch HOH



**RACHAEL D. CHRISTY**  
Quakertown, PA  
Lansdale Catholic  
High School  
Jr. Branch 211



**CHRISTINA A. JAVORKA**  
Lansing, IL  
Marian Catholic  
High School  
Jr. Branch 174



**PAULA C. CIKO**  
Carteret, NJ  
Assumption Catholic  
School  
Jr. Branch 219



**LUCY A. FURIAK**  
Greenwood, IN  
Roncalli High School  
Jr. Branch 58



**LOGAN M. JOHNSON**  
Kankakee, IL  
Bishop McNamara  
Catholic High School  
Jr. Branch 77



**CHAD R. ESCHBACH**  
Lansford, PA  
Our Lady of the Angels  
Academy  
Jr. Branch 321



**ASPEN M. JANSA**  
Wahoo, NE  
Bishop Neumann  
High School  
Branch W187



**KATELYN M. KANE**  
Toledo, OH  
Cardinal Stritch Catholic  
High School  
Jr. Branch 157



**KATRINA E. HORVATH**  
Summit Hill, PA  
Our Lady of the Angels  
Academy  
Jr. Branch 46



**CECILIA MARIE  
MINCHOW**  
Lincoln, NE  
Lincoln Pius X  
High School  
Branch W055



**MARISA Y. PLAGENS**  
Elkhart, IN  
Marian High School  
Jr. Branch 58





**ANDREW J. LOCASCIO**  
Bartlett, IL  
St. Walter School  
Jr. Branch 470



**BLAINE M. LAMMERS**  
Hartington, NE  
Cedar Catholic Junior  
High School  
Branch W093



**ANDREW J. LaROCK**  
Kutztown, PA  
St. Joseph the Worker  
School  
Jr. Branch 46



**ANNA C. SCHMIT**  
Pleasant Dale, NE  
North American Martyrs  
Catholic School  
Branch W184



**ANTHONY J. LEOMBRUNO**  
Canfield, OH  
St. Charles School  
Jr. Branch 257



**ANNA M. SAKO**  
Justice, IL  
St. Patricia School  
Jr. Branch 39



**CORA E. SCHULTZ**  
Streator, IL  
St. Michael School  
Jr. Branch 470



**VICTORIA N. OROS**  
Strongsville, OH  
Sts. Joseph and John  
School  
Jr. Branch 481



**ETHAN T. TINDIRA**  
Broadview Heights, OH  
Assumption Academy  
Jr. Branch 57

## 7th Grade Awards

\$750 Each

## 6th Grade Awards

\$750 Each

## 5th Grade Awards

\$750 Each



**OLIVIA R. ADAMEK**  
Lavista, NE  
St. Gerald Catholic School  
Branch W018



**JOSHUA T. BRAUN**  
West Bend, WI  
St. Frances Cabrini School  
Jr. Branch 334



**JUDE S. GUILLIATT**  
Minneapolis, MN  
Annunciation Catholic  
School  
Branch W017



**REGINA L. DEMECHKO**  
Copley, OH  
St. Hilary School  
Jr. Branch 192



**LUKE A. BRAUN**  
Fort Wayne, IN  
St. Joseph Hessen Cassel  
School  
Jr. Branch 106



**SAMANTHA ANN HERB**  
Exton, PA  
St. Joseph School  
Jr. Branch 318



**JENNA M. FREEBERG**  
Cedar Rapids, IA  
LaSalle Middle School  
Branch W045



**STEVEN J. KUKUCKA**  
Lorain, OH  
St. Peter School  
Jr. Branch 380



**ANNA ELEANOR METZ**  
Emmitsburg, MD  
Mother Seton School  
Jr. Branch 334



**JENNIFER R. KIST**  
Johnstown, PA  
Cathedral Catholic  
Academy  
Jr. Branch 260



**NOLAN R. LANE**  
Ravenna, OH  
St. Patrick School  
Jr. Branch 192



**OLIVIA TAYLOR PLEMONS**  
Whiting, IN  
Annunciata School  
Jr. Branch 348





**HANNAH J. THULIN**  
Wahoo, NE  
St. Wenceslaus School  
Branch W013



**AURELIA M. TOMAYKO**  
Natrona Heights, PA  
Our Lady of the Most  
Blessed Sacrament  
School  
Jr. Branch 126



**JUSTIN H. WININGER**  
Greenwood, IN  
Saints Francis & Clare  
School  
Jr. Branch 184



**BRANDON M. McCALL**  
Council Bluffs, IA  
St. Albert Catholic School  
Jr. Branch 533



**STEVEN J. McNEILL**  
McLean, VA  
St. John Academy  
Jr. Branch 158



**ERNEST L. PURNSLEY, III**  
Zelienople, PA  
St. Gregory Catholic  
School  
Jr. Branch 192

**CARTER JOSEPH HRITZ**  
Oaks, PA  
Saint Aloysius School  
Jr. Branch 76



**MARTIN J. MEYER**  
Torrance, PA  
Christ the Divine  
Teacher School  
Jr. Branch 202



**ISABELLA C. THORNTON**  
Canfield, OH  
St. Charles School  
Jr. Branch 231

## 4th Grade Awards

\$750 Each



**ALEXANDRA C. DONOGHUE**  
Delaware, OH  
St. Mary's School  
Jr. Branch 54



**TOBIAS J. JORDAN**  
Lincoln, NE  
St. Patrick's Catholic  
School  
Branch W191



**NATHAN P. LITVAK**  
Washington, PA  
St. Michael Parish School  
Jr. Branch 323



**ELLA V. MACHUSKO**  
Monessen, PA  
St. Sebastian  
Regional School  
Jr. Branch 157

## 3rd Grade Awards

\$750 Each



**ISAIAH DAVID COUFAL**  
David City, NE  
St. Mary's School  
Branch W184



**NATHAN MATTHEW GAYDOS**  
Irwin, PA  
Verna Montessori School  
Jr. Branch 112



**CLAUDIA R. GIESEN**  
New Prague, MN  
St. Wenceslaus School  
Branch W001



**BRADY M. GIRON**  
Silver Springs, MD  
St. Peter's School  
Jr. Branch 112

## 2nd Grade Awards

\$750 Each



**AIDEN PAUL BUGNER**  
Medina, OH  
St. Francis Xavier  
Elementary School  
Jr. Branch 174



**GREGORY W. FAKULT**  
Twinsburg, OH  
St. Rita School  
Jr. Branch 386



**NOELLE M. GARCIA**  
Burke, VA  
Holy Spirit Catholic  
School  
Jr. Branch 458

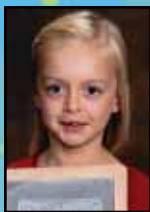


**DECLAN ANDREW HYER**  
Birdsboro, PA  
Immaculate Conception  
Academy  
Jr. Branch 8



**ABIGAIL L. SABOL SPARE**  
Hanover Township, PA  
St. Nicholas  
St. Mary's School  
Jr. Branch 362





**ANNE J. SEJBA**  
Fairlawn, OH  
St. Hilary School  
Jr. Branch 380



**NATALIE C. FADA**  
Liberty Township, OH  
St. Susanna Parish School  
Jr. Branch 149



**LOUISA M. PALUMBO**  
New Kensington, PA  
Mary Queen of Apostles  
Jr. Branch 138



**GRACE OLIVIA ZOLNA**  
Oak Lawn, IL  
St. Germaine School-  
Oaklawn  
Jr. Branch 322



**ISABELLA S. KOSLO**  
Germantown, WI  
St. Mary Parish School  
Jr. Branch 334



**JOSEPH F. STAVA**  
Wahoo, NE  
St. Wenceslaus School  
Branch W013

## 1st Grade Awards \$750 Each



**ALLISON M. BOREK**  
Somerset, PA  
St. Peter School  
Jr. Branch 112



**LAURA M. LUCAS**  
Chicago, IL  
St. Celestine School  
Jr. Branch 175



**MAKAYLA L. YAKO**  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH  
Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Jr. Branch 453

## 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!**

### Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*Celebrated every year on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven, before her body could begin to decay — a foretaste of our own bodily resurrection at the end of time. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts and a Holy Day of Obligation.*



### 30th Anniversary of Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar

The 30th Anniversary of the Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar will be held on September 20, 2015 at the Garden Chalet Banquets, 11000 South Ridgeland Road, Worth, IL.

Registration is at 12:00 Noon. At 12:45 p.m. Speaker Abbot Gary Hoover, O.S.B. of St. Andrew Slovak Benedictine Abbey in Cleveland, OH. Abbot Gary will speak about the Benedictine roots in Lisle, IL.; their service in the Chicago area and the establishment of the Abbey in Cleveland, OH. Lunch will follow with a family style meal. The cost is \$25 and the deadline is September 10th. Any reservation received after September 10th will be \$30 and there will be NO reservations at the door. Reservations can be made by calling John Jurcenko at 773-763-0810 or Geri Hletko at 708-387-7812. Reservations/checks may be mailed to: John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, IL 60631.



# PHOTO CONTEST

## Contest Eligibility:

- ♦ Must be a FCSLA Member **ages 16 and older**
- ♦ If you submit an entry and you are not a member your entry will not be considered
- ♦ Member must be the one that took the photo

## Deadline:

- ♦ **Friday September 30, 2015**
- ♦ Please mail entries to: FCSLA, Fraternal & Youth Director, 24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-5634

## Contest Rules:

- ♦ Photo may be in color or black & white
- ♦ No more than one entry per member
- ♦ Photo size 4x6 or 5x7, un-mounted (no touch-up or computer enhanced photos permitted)

## DO NOT WRITE ON THE PHOTO!!!!

On a separate sheet of paper **PRINT or TYPE**:

- ♦ Your Name, Age, Branch #, Email Address, and Complete Address
- ♦ A Brief Description Where & When your Photo was Taken and Title of your Photo

## Categories:

Animals  
Architecture  
Landscape / Scenic / Nature  
FCSLA Activity

## Prize list for each Category:

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$ 50.00 Gift Card to Best Buy  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$25.00 Gift Card to Best Buy  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$15.00 Gift Card to Best Buy

**Bonus:** Winners photos will be published in a future *Fraternally Yours* Magazine issue.  
*Good Luck!*



# REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

## BALANCE SHEET AS OF MARCH 31, 2015

### ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 24,732,434
Bonds	739,347,245
Preferred Stock	2,105,553
Common Stock	5,641,878
Investment Income Due & Accrued	11,337,586
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	5,772,808
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	3,124,498
Other Assets	163,021
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 792,225,023</b>

### LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 251,840,121
Annuity Reserves	425,773,894
Death Claims Payable	2,491,203
Unearned Premiums	530,964
Matured Endowments	349,781
Provision for Dividends Payable	2,549,391
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,221,954
Accrued Convention Donations	785,661
Provision for Future Conventions	538,818
Asset Valuation Reserve	7,510,887
Interest Maintenance Reserve	994,461
Other Liabilities	1,060,954
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 698,648,088</b>
Surplus	\$ 93,576,935
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS</b>	<b>\$ 792,225,023</b>

## INCOME STATEMENT

For the Three Months Ending March 31, 2015

### REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 1,707,627
Annuity Premiums	10,788,365
Investment Income	9,881,887
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	22,525
Rental Income	88,049
Other Revenue	4,201
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 22,492,655</b>

### EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 965,121
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	9,523,457
Insurance Benefits	1,720,407
Annuity Benefits	5,492,885
Commission Expense	289,386
Surrender Benefits	988,366
Post Mortem Benefits	397,833
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	13,358
Matured Endowments	14,679
Donation Expenses	12,470
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	61,116
Convention Expenses	39,000
Bank Service Charges	270
Data Processing Service Fees	43,359
Accounting Fees	3,300
Actuarial Fees	42,308
Legal Fees	3,739
Consulting Fees	35,733
Bonus to Branches	212,499
Fraternal Activities	12,719
Official Publications	104,925
Scholarship Awards	64,757
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	106,626
Fees — Directors	33,474
Salaries — Employees	350,631
Salaries — Officers	116,136
Interest Expense	70,268
Tax Expense	71,261
Depreciation Expense	64,233
Utility Expense	20,244
Postage and Printing	55,251
Advertising	6,273
Travel Expense	12,483
Insurance Department Fees	46,898
Sales Promotion	45,757
Rental Expense	88,049
Other Expense	95,391
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 21,224,662</b>

### Income (Loss) from Operations

Dividends to Members	\$ 1,267,993
<b>NET INCOME (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 647,792</b>





## Afternoon Lunch Parties

### PEACH-CUSTARD PIE

#### FOR THE CRUST

1 disk Pate Brisee  
All-purpose flour, for surface

#### FOR THE FILLING

4 medium ripe but firm peaches  
(about 1 $\frac{1}{3}$  pounds)  
2 large eggs  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup sugar  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  stick unsalted butter, melted  
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour  
Pinch of salt

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Make the crust: Roll out pate brisee to a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch thickness on a lightly floured surface. Fit dough into a 9-inch pie plate, and trim crust to a 1-inch overhang using kitchen shears. Fold edges under, and press to seal using the tines of a fork. Prick bottom of pie all over with fork. Freeze for 15 minutes.

Line crust with parchment, leaving an overhang on all sides. Fill completely with dried beans or rice. Bake for 20 minutes. Remove from oven; remove beans and parchment. Bake crust until bottom is lightly golden, about 11 minutes more. Let cool.

Meanwhile, make the filling: Bring a pot of water to a boil. Prepare an ice-water bath. Cut a small X into the bottom of each peach. Boil for 1 minute; transfer to ice-water bath. Let cool slightly. Peel and pit peaches. Halve 7 of the 8 halves to form wedges.

Whisk together eggs, sugar, butter, flour, and salt. Pour filling into pie crust. Place peach half in center, cut side down, and surround with wedges.

Bake for 45 minutes. (Tent crust with a foil ring after 15 minutes.) Transfer to a wire rack; let cool for 1 hour. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving.

### TOMATO AND AVOCADO SALAD

2 pounds assorted tomatoes (any color),  
sliced or halved if small  
1 avocado, halved, pitted, peeled,  
and sliced

Extra-virgin olive oil

Coarse salt and ground pepper

On a large plate or platter, arrange tomatoes and avocado. Drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper.

### COLD SOUTHWESTERN CORN AND SHRIMP SOUP

4 packages (10 ounces each) frozen corn  
kernels, thawed  
1 cup low-fat yogurt  
1 cup milk

$\frac{1}{3}$  cup fresh lime juice (from 2 or 3 limes)

1 teaspoon ground coriander

Pinch cayenne, pepper

1 pound cooked frozen shrimp, thawed,  
roughly chopped, reserving

4 whole shrimp

Coarse salt and ground pepper

1 cup grape tomatoes, halved

1 avocado, halved, pitted, peeled, and diced

In a blender, working in two batches, puree corn, yogurt, milk, lime juice, coriander, and cayenne. Strain through a fine-mesh sieve into a large bowl, pressing to extract as much liquid as possible; discard solids. Stir in chopped shrimp, and season with salt and pepper.

Serve garnished with tomatoes, avocado, and reserved whole shrimp.

### WHITE-BEAN SALAD WITH ZUCCHINI AND PARMESAN

2 cans (15 $\frac{1}{2}$  ounces each) cannellini beans,  
drained and rinsed

$\frac{3}{4}$  pound zucchini (about 2 small), trimmed,  
quartered lengthwise, and thinly sliced  
on the diagonal

4 ounces green beans, trimmed and thinly  
sliced on the diagonal ( $\frac{3}{4}$  cup)

2 ounces fresh Parmesan cheese,  
crumbled ( $\frac{1}{2}$  cup)

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup fresh basil leaves, torn

Grated zest and juice of 2 lemons

1 tablespoon olive oil

Coarse salt and ground pepper

In a medium bowl, place cannellini beans, zucchini, green beans, Parmesan, basil, lemon zest and juice, and oil; season with salt and pepper. Toss to combine.

### GRILLED ASPARAGUS FLATBREADS

1 loaf olive bread (about 1 pound),  
cut into 1-inch slices

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup plus 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive  
oil, plus more for drizzling

Coarse salt

8 ounces fresh ricotta

1 pound asparagus, trimmed

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup radish sprouts

Red-pepper flakes

Heat grill to medium-high. Brush both sides of bread slices with  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup oil. Grill until golden and charred in spots, about 1 minute each side. Season with salt. Dollop cheese among slices.

Toss asparagus with remaining 1 tablespoon oil; season with salt. Grill, turning occasionally, until crisp-tender, 5 to 7 minutes. Divide among bread slices. Top with sprouts; drizzle with oil. Season with salt and pepper flakes; serve.

### BLUEBERRY SLAB PIE

#### FOR THE CRUST

5 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for rolling  
1 $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoons coarse salt  
2 tablespoons sugar  
2 cups (4 sticks) cold unsalted butter,  
cut into small pieces  
1 to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  cups ice water

#### FOR THE FILLING

2 $\frac{1}{4}$  pounds fresh or frozen blueberries  
(8 cups)  
3 tablespoons cornstarch  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar  
1 tablespoon grated lemon zest,  
plus 3 tablespoons lemon juice

Make crust: In a food processor, pulse flour, salt, and sugar until combined. Add butter; pulse until mixture resembles coarse meal, with a few pea-size pieces of butter remaining. With machine running, add 1 cup ice water. Pulse until dough is crumbly but holds together when squeezed (if necessary, add up to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water, 1 tablespoon at a time). Do not overmix. Divide dough into 2 disks; wrap each tightly in plastic. Refrigerate until firm, at least 1 hour (or up to overnight).

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Make filling: In a large bowl, toss together blueberries, cornstarch, sugar, and lemon zest and juice. On a floured work surface, roll out 1 disk to a 12-by-16-inch rectangle. Place in a 10-by-14-by-1-inch rimmed jelly-roll pan. Pour in blueberry filling, then lightly brush edges of crust with water. On floured surface, roll out second disk to an 11-by-15-inch rectangle and lay over blueberry filling; press along moistened edges to seal. Fold overhang under, tucking it into pan, and crimp edges. With a paring knife, cut slits on top to vent.

Place pie in oven, then reduce heat to 375 degrees. Bake until crust is golden and juices are bubbling, 50 minutes. Let cool on a wire rack 1 hour. Serve warm or at room temperature.



## **The FCSLA Mission Statement**

We provide financial security to our members while embracing our Catholic values and Slavic traditions.

## **The FCSLA Vision is to:**

Be a Premier Fraternal Benefit Society that offers quality financial products and benefits.