



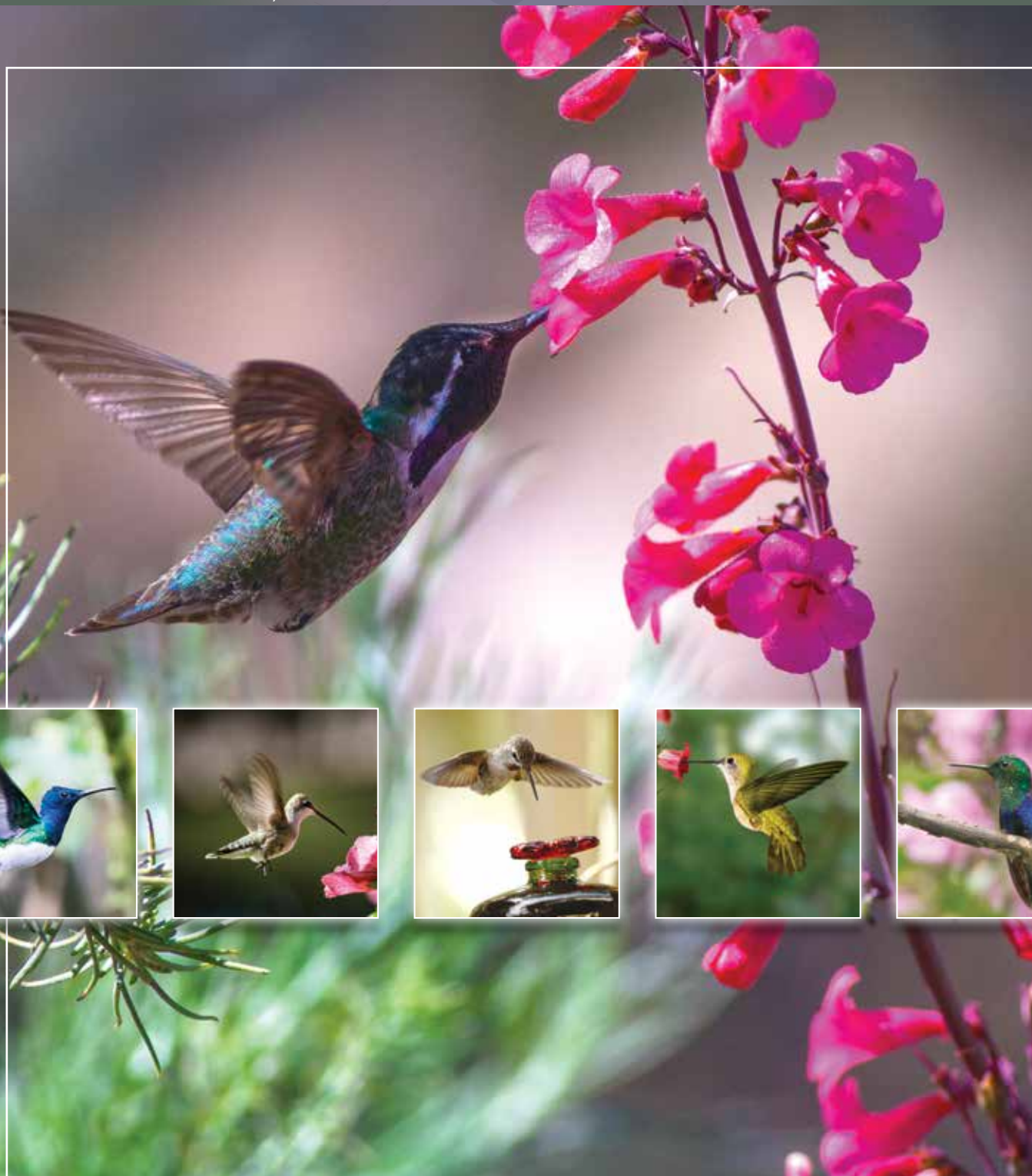
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Fraternally Yours®

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

Fraternally Yours, ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA®



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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,

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Gifts From The Heart

*Note: I've followed Michael Josephson over the last 15 years, reading his newslet-
ters and stories. The main theme is always one of love, appreciation and grateful-
ness. His work is about developing character in children, adults and community.
As you read, remember: gifts from the heart are the best ones you'll ever receive.*

According to legend, a young man while roaming the desert came across
a spring of delicious crystal-clear water. The water was so sweet he filled his
leather canteen so he could bring some back to a tribal elder who had been
his teacher. After a four-day journey he presented the water to the old man
who took a deep drink, smiled warmly and thanked his student lavishly for
the sweet water. The young man returned to his village with a happy heart.

Later, the teacher let another student taste the water. He spat it out,
saying it was awful. It apparently had become stale because of the old leather
container. The student challenged his teacher: "Master, the water was foul.
Why did you pretend to like it?"

The teacher replied, "You only tasted the water. I tasted the gift. The
water was simply the container for an act of loving-kindness and nothing
could be sweeter."

I think we understand this lesson best when we receive innocent gifts of
love from our loved ones especially young children. Whether it's a ceramic
tray, a flower picked from the yard, or a handmade art project, the natural
and proper response is appreciation and expressed thankfulness because we
love the idea within the gift, not necessarily the gift itself.

Dear Friends,

Gratitude doesn't always come naturally. Unfortunately, most children
and many adults value only the thing given rather than the feeling embodied
in it. This month we should try to remind ourselves and teach our loved ones
about the beauty and purity of feelings and expressions of gratitude. After all,
gifts from the heart are really gifts of the heart.

Until next month,
Warmly, Carolyn



Prayer to Our Lady of Sorrows

*O holy mother,
most afflicted by the bitter
sorrow which thou didst endure
at the foot of the Cross
during the Three Hours
agony of Jesus: vouchsafe to
assist all of us, the children of
thy sorrows, in our last agony,
that through thine intercession
we may pass from the
bed of death to form a crown
for thee in Heaven
Amen.*

www.ThePoweroftheRosary.com

EXTRAORDINARY YEAR OF MERCY: ~ AIDS FOR PROMOTING THE YEAR OF MERCY ~

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

(Continued from August Issue)

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

As you and I enter into the months of September, October, and November of this Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, I invite all the members of the FC-SLA to reflect on the Life of Jesus in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Maybe we can dedicate our spiritual lives by reading a synoptic Gospel each month, prayerfully reflecting on one or several passages each day that reveals Jesus as the gift of the Father's mercy on us and the world. The passages could be on one miracle, one proclamation that Jesus issued, or on any of the characters who hear the Word of God whether positively or negatively. Begin with the introduction of the gospel that is provided by the editors of the Bible, itself. It is a valuable resource of the author, language, history, themes, and audience of the Gospel. Then, begin your reading and spiritual journey. My hope is that you may be able to realize the mercy of the Father in the life, preachings, teachings, passion, death and resurrection of our Lord. The following are examples of stories from each synoptic Gospel that immediately came to my mind. But the stories and the miracles that take place can be aligned many times with our own spiritual experiences of everyday life.

From the Gospel of Matthew, I turn my attention to chapter 18: 10-14, about "The Lost Sheep" or "The Good Shepherd". Jesus states: "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father. What is your opinion? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills and go in search of the stray? And if he finds it, amen, I say to you, he rejoices more over it than over the ninety-nine that did not stray. In just the same way, it is not the will of your heavenly Father that one of these little one be lost. How merciful the Father is if one of us should stray from the flock

but always be found and welcomed back into the fold. Is it not consoling for each of us to know the Father always has His arms welcoming us back not matter how we have turned our backs and sinned? How precious a gift to have that mercy through our brother, Jesus!

The Gospel of Mark dedicates three verses to the miracle performed by Jesus on my patron saint's mother-in-law. We read in 1:29-31. "On leaving the synagogue he entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them". Like many of the miracles performed during the ministry of Jesus, I often wonder of the change the person experienced. Are we grateful for the many miracles that are performed upon us both spiritually and physically! How many times have we been afflicted with the sickness of sin? But Christ, the merciful Physician, is always there to relieve us of the pains

and diseases so that we may get up and do the will of the Father and to give assistance to our sick sisters and brothers! Do we reflect that gratuitously through better love of God and neighbor?

The Crucifixion scene in the Gospel of Luke (23:32-34) exhibits the ultimate mercy God the Father has for all people of all the ages: "Two others, both criminals, were led away with him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.' They divided his garments by casting lots. The Father allowed the Son to die for our sins that we in turn might die to self so that we might have Do we give ourselves daily to God and ours sisters and brothers selflessly? Are we able to do better, especially for those who have caused us anguish and pain?

The tone has been set! Pick up your Sacred Text and learn more about the Mercy of God through the Person of Jesus. Then live that Mercy!

The 23rd Edition of Our

SLOVAK-AMERICAN COOK BOOK



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

ALL ARE SOLD FOR CASH

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

(Please Print)

Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Enclosed find \$ _____ ☐ (Money Order)

☐ (Check) for _____ copies of the Cook Book.

Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



Dear fellow members,

In the last several issues of the magazine, you have received a substantial amount of information about two upcoming opportunities for the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association to grow in terms of new members and our asset base. These two merger opportunities are with societies with very similar religious and ethnic backgrounds:

Polish Union of the United States of North America and Polish Women's Alliance of America. As I write this article, delegate credentialing is underway. Delegates will soon thereafter receive detailed information about each merger opportunity and be asked to vote by written ballot.

The other way we bring in new members is through producers and through home offices sales. Many of us remember our grandmothers, mothers and next door neighbors ready to "sign up a new member" with the birth of a child, a marriage or someone graduating from school and getting a new job. What occasions to celebrate with a quality insurance product from FCSLA!

The ladies who have worked in the branches were (and are!) very wise in recognizing the need for an individual to have life insurance to cover funeral costs and some living expenses of the family in the event of death.

How many of you have reviewed your policy lately? Does it provide for the amount of protection that is needed to cover today's costs? Most of us have policies that were purchased when we were very young and may not even be enough to pay costs of minimal funeral expenses today. It is very easy to tuck our policy away in our strong box or a cedar chest at home with other important papers and not think about purchasing additional insurance for additional expenses for ourselves or other loved ones.

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association offers an

entire array of life insurance products to serve your needs. Our permanent life insurance products offer dividend options with cash values attached to them. Many of our members like our single premium product because all premiums are paid at one time.

Of course, since we are a fraternal benefit society, new members also may join a nearby branch and partake in its fellowship and community activities. We have the opportunity to engage in community service projects in which the branch participates. Members receive our magazine on a monthly basis, and our youth can apply for our scholarship awards. Our association is known for our generous fraternal benefits.

I hope you consider these words seriously during Life Insurance Awareness Month. Take care, my friends and enjoy the fine weather as we approach autumn. Join with me to take a long walk as we enter the fall season and breathe in the fresh air of our towns and countryside. Say hello to your neighbor as you pass by.

Fraternally,
Cynthia M. Maleski
National President

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 7/1/2016 thru 9/30/2016.

The credited rate is reviewed quarterly by the Board of Directors and will never go below the minimum guaranteed rate. The guaranteed minimum rate for Elite Silver and Gold contracts issued in 2016 is 2% APY and for the Platinum Elite is 2.5% APY.



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Facebook

FIRST
CATHOLIC
SLOVAK
LADIES
ASSOCIATION

FCSLA Accepting Applications For National Secretary Position

As mandated by the changes to the bylaws (approved at October 2014 Special Convention), The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of National Secretary.

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 ten years experience, demonstrating communication, organization and managerial skills. Insurance and/or fraternal benefit society experience a plus.

Parties interested in this full-time position at the Association's headquarters, meeting the above qualifications, should submit a detailed resumé and cover letter to National President Cynthia Maleski, Esq., FCSLA National Headquarters, 24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122 no later than November 15, 2016.

ST. ANDREW ABBEY BENEFIT OKTOBERFEST

Sunday, September 25, 2016

AMERICAN-CROATIAN LODGE

34900 Lakeshore Blvd., Eastlake, OH 44095

Mass at 2:00 P.M.

Followed by Hors d'oeuvres

Dinner / Raffle / Dancing

ADMISSION BY INVITATION ONLY

\$75.00 Individual

\$180 Family of 4

(2 adults and 2 children under 18 years old)

Additional children \$25.00 each

Children under 6 are free.

Slovak Raffle * Balloon Artist * 50/50

Hot Pretzels * Face Painting * Cotton Candy * Polka

For your invitation or for more information please contact:

Rose Stifter at St. Andrew Abbey (216) 721-5300 ext. 0

Debbie First at St. Andrew Abbey (216) 721-5300 ext. 156

All proceeds from this fundraising event will go to support the Mission of the Monks of St. Andrew Abbey.



The Value of a Smile...

It costs nothing, but creates much.
It enriches those who receive, without impoverishing those who give.

It happens in a flash, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever.

None are so rich they can get along without it, and none are so poor but are richer for its benefits.

It creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in a business, and is the countersign of friends.

It brings rest to the weary, sunshine to those who are frowning, and hope to those who are hopeless and defeated.

A smile is so valuable that it can't be bought, begged, borrowed, or taken away against your will.

You have to be willing to give a smile away before it can do anyone else any good.

So if someone is too tired or grumpy to flash you a smile, let him have one of yours anyway.

Nobody needs a smile as much as the person who has none to give.



DINNER TICKETS AVAILABLE

The United Slovak Societies will host their annual Chicken Paprikas Dinner at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH on Sunday, September 25th from 1-4 p.m. Dinner tickets are \$12.00 and will include paprikas, cabbage rolls, salad and dessert. A cash bar including Zlaty Bazant will be available. For advanced ticket sales, please contact Len Zilko at 440/988-3236.



Albert Heiles

September is really a very special month because it's officially called **Life Insurance Awareness Month**. It is our attempt to increase awareness of the features and benefits of the life insurance contract.

Many people believe there is no other product available in which for just a few dollars the miracle of a benefit many times its investment dollar amount can be realized.

Years ago, I heard a wonderful description of permanent life insurance titled "Just a Life Insurance Policy." The original author is unknown, but it appeared by the style and wording to have been written some time ago, but is still relevant today. Perhaps you'll enjoy my sharing it with you.

I AM A LIFE INSURANCE POLICY

- I am a piece of paper, a drop of ink and a few pennies of premium.
- I am a promise to pay.
- I help people see visions, dream dreams, and achieve economic immortality.
- I am education for the children.
- I am savings.
- I am property that increases in value from year to year.
- I lend money when you need it most, with no questions asked.
- I pay off mortgages, so that the family can remain together in their own homes.
- I assure people the daring to live and the moral right to die.
- I create money where none existed before.
- I am the great emancipator from want.
- I guarantee the continuity of business.
- I conserve the employer's investment.
- I am tangible evidence that a man is a good husband, father and a woman a good wife and mother.
- I am a declaration of financial independence and economic freedom.
- I am the difference between an old man or woman and an elderly gentleman or lady.
- I provide cash if illness, injury, old age, or death cuts off the breadwinner's income.
- I am the only thing that you can buy on the installment plan that your family doesn't have to finish paying for.
- I am protected by the laws that prevent creditors from assessing the money I give to your loved ones.
- I bring dignity, peace of mind and security to your family.
- I supply investment capital that makes the wheels turn and the motors hum.
- I guarantee the financial ability to have happy holidays and the laughter of children, even though father or mother is not there.
- I am the guardian angel of the home.

I AM A LIFE INSURANCE POLICY

So why Life insurance . . .

You work hard to provide for your family. But if you were taken out of the picture because of death, what would happen to your family's way of life? Money is needed to pay every day bills. And of course there are normal expenses like cooking, cleaning, home maintenance, and all other normal living expenses. If you're not around, someone will need to handle those functions and that costs money. Life insurance is the solution. Through a life insurance policy, your family members have the financial support until they're able to manage on their own.

The problem is when it comes to beginning a new life insurance policy, people have a tendency to procrastinate. People say to themselves "I know I need life insurance, but I'll get it later. . . . I'm fine. Don't allow this kind of thinking to enter your mind. We all hope to live long, happy lives. But what if that's not what happens in your case? You don't want to take any chances when it comes to your family's financial security.

FCSLA offers FOUR excellent permanent life insurance policies. The policies all offer excellent dividend options. We offer two policies that can be totally paid up in either 10 or 20 years with increasing cash value each year. We also offer a whole life policy in which the premiums will be lower than the 10 or 20 year premium policies, but spread out over a longer period of time. And lastly we offer a single premium permanent policy in which all the responsibility of premiums are covered in one year. This is a popular option because it frees up any concerns over future premium obligations in future years.

One of our many licensed representatives would be happy to sit down with you and review your current life insurance protection plan. We would also be happy to discuss how one of the FOUR FCSLA permanent policies might add to your financial security.

Remember, with our Friends and Family Referral Program, this is an excellent opportunity to help someone become more aware of the opportunity FCSLA offers in protecting them and their family with the use of a permanent life insurance policy. And, at the same time, as you are looking out to help someone else, you'll be participating in the FCSLA Referral Program in which you'll receive \$10.00 for every qualified referral provided to FCSLA.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at the home office and we'll be sure to have a licensed representative contact you to address any issues or help in any way possible with your life insurance needs.

Fraternally Yours,

Al Heiles, FIC, CLU, ChFC, AEP, CRC, LUTCF
National Sales Manager, FCSLA

Helen Kocan District Scholarship Winners Honored at Buffet Brunch

The Helen Kocan District preceded its June District meeting at Andorra Banquets with a beautiful Buffet Brunch honoring its Scholarship Winners and their parents. After the brunch was en-



Branch 289 President Leona Cupka presents gifts to scholarship winners Jillian Bridgeman and Alyssa Schneider.

Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Donates History Book

Bernie Demechko, Secretary of Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities, Inc. (YSC) presented the hard-bound history book, "Dejiny Mesta Spisska Nova Ves," to Cynthia Maleski, FCSLA National President. The 642 page book lists copies of documents, photographs, and valuable historical data from 1268-2010.

YSC donated \$3,000 toward the publication of the book and the YSC is listed in the forward of the book along with other contributors. YSC used part of its 2011 FCSLA convention donation for this project and this is indicated in a statement on the title page of the book.



joyed by all, President Margaret Abildua introduced each of the Scholarship Winners as they received an additional gift from their respective branch officers. At 3:30 p.m. the District Meeting convened with regular business and activity reports from each branch. President Margaret Abildua asked JoAnn Skvarek Banvich, National Board Member, to inform members and delegates of the impending mergers. She informed the delegates that they would soon be receiving a packet



National Director Joann Skvarek Banvich with scholarship winner Kristine Skvarek and Branch 452 President Mary Beth Kutcka.



District President Margaret Abildua with Branch 81 graduate student winners Emily Curosh and Erin Sarason.

with information. This triggered many interesting questions and discussions, which were answered very eloquently, by JoAnn, with information she had available. Plans were then finalized to attend the St. Ann's Day Celebration in Milwaukee, WI. A bus will be chartered to transport the forty-one Helen Kocan District members planning to make the trip.



Cindy Oresik, J184 President with scholarship winner Benjamin Wininger and Andrew Yurechko.



Branch 81 Treasurer Becky Coleman presents gifts to Erin Sarason and Emily Curosh.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR BRANCH W093, TABOR, SD

October 23 – Annual Halloween Party – 5:00 p.m. Potluck – Prizes for Best Costume-all ages, meeting and games too, in Beseda Hall.

November 13 – District 13 South Dakota State Meeting – Host W060, Tyndall at Noon. Request that ALL South Dakota members attend. RSVP for meal count to District Officer.

Monthly meetings and locations are subject to change. Direct any questions about the calendar of events to Joyce Sestak at 605-463-2268.

BRANCH 77 HONORED SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

On July 15, 2016, McKeesport Branch 77 honored scholarship winners and their families at a special dinner held at the Red Lion Inn in Elizabeth, PA.

Winners were Nicholas Barkley and Cassandra Fedor. Nicholas is a senior at Penn State University and will be studying international finance abroad. Cassandra is a sophomore at Point Park University and is majoring in Business Management. President Jerry Holmes also presented the winners a gift from the branch. Congratulations Nick and Cassie!



Nicholas Barkley with Mom Margaret and Dad Matt.



Cassandra Fedor with Dad Jim.



Nicholas and Cassandra with Branch President Jerry Holmes and National Trustee Virginia Holmes.



Nicholas and Cassandra with Branch Officers Carol Yurechko, Audrey Podlesny, Mary Ann O'Neil, Judy Fedor, Jerry Holmes, Virginia Holmes and Marian Greenland.

Premier Bakers at Simply Slavic Fest

Bernie Demechko, S161, and Emma Burin, S422, wait to be introduced on stage in the entertainment tent of Simply Slavic Fest in Youngstown, OH, in June.

Emma was presented an award for placing third in the baked goods contest. Her winning recipe was a double-layered raspberry-filled cookie topped with stiffened meringue icing.

Since Bernie was first place winner in last year's baking contest, she was asked to judge this year's event, along with Mike Vallas and Mark Smesko, Youngstown Vindicator food editors, and Leslie Barrett, WFMJ television announcer. She wore the chef's hat and apron she received last year. Her prize winning recipe last year was nut "kolachiki" (small crescent shaped Kolache) that her Mom, Mary Slanina, made for special occasions. The use of lard in the recipe attests to the age of the recipe (vegetable shortening was not available yet) but is responsible for their extreme flakiness.



Bernie Demechko, S161, and Emma Burin, S422, at the Simply Slavic Fest, Youngstown, OH.

RADIO HOUR DINNER

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour will host its 34th Annual Dinner-Dance on Sunday, October 2, 2016 at the Westwood Golf Club in West Mifflin, PA. For more information call Sue Ondrejco at (412) 421-1204.

Francis Jakabsin District Fall Meeting Scheduled

Branch S230 will host the fall meeting of the Frances Jakabcin District of Eastern Pennsylvania on Sunday, September 25, 2016 at Northampton Community Center, 1601 Laubach Avenue, Northampton, PA 18067 at 1 p.m. Please RSVP your attendance plans to District President Veronica Bazik at 570-645-5253 by Saturday, September 17, 2016.

FR. CHRISTOPHER ECKRICH IS ORDAINED

On Saturday, May 28, 2016, Bishop James D. Conley of the Diocese of Lincoln ordained Fr. Christopher Eckrich, along with three other men, to the order of the priesthood at the Cathedral of the Risen Christ in Lincoln, NE.



Fr. Eckrich is the son of Gary and Mary Eckrich of Lincoln and has one sister, Valerie. He graduated from Pius X High School in 2008. In 2012, he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward, NE. Fr. Eckrich went on to receive his Master's Degree in Theology, graduating May 6, 2016 from Mount St. Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD.

Pictured with Fr. Eckrich are his parents and sister on the day of his First Mass of Thanksgiving at his home parish of St. Peter in Lincoln on Sunday, May 29. He is presently serving his first assignment as the Assistant Pastor at St. John the Apostle Catholic Church in Lincoln, NE. His mother, sister, and he are members of Branch W032 of Dwight, NE.

Michelle Giovagnoli Awarded Distinguished Leadership Award

Michelle A. Giovagnoli, a member of Sr. Branch 172 in Wilkes-Barre, PA and Director of Institutional and Academic Grants at King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA was awarded the 2016 Distinguished Leadership Award at a dinner celebrating Leadership Wilkes-Barre's graduation class. Michelle is a graduate of Penn State University.

A non-profit organization, which began in 1981, Leadership Wilkes-Barre's mission is to develop informed and community leaders who will serve, strengthen, and improve Northeastern Pennsylvania. Pictured with Michelle (center) are Magdalen I. Iskra (left) Sr. Branch 172 president, and Martha Iskra, vice-president of the Magdalen I. Iskra District of FCSLA.



Father Placid Makes History

Father Placid Pientek, OSB made history in June when he became the first Benedictine alumnus to reach the 80th anniversary of his graduation. Father Placid, who turns 98 years old on July 26, graduated in 1936 and is the oldest living alumnus of Benedictine High School, Cleveland, OH. He is also currently the oldest monk of the 721 Benedictine monks of the American-Cassinense Congregation of monasteries and he is the only monk to have professed his first monastic vows before 1940. He made his vows in 1939 and is also the longest serving Benedictine priest in the Congregation having been ordained in 1944 (72 years as a priest).



In the photo above, Father Placid is congratulated at Regina Health Center in Richfield, OH on June 1, 2016 by the four living abbots of Saint Andrew Abbey (L-R): Bishop (formerly Abbot) Roger Gries, OSB (1981-2001), Abbot Christopher Schwartz, OSB (2008-2013), Abbot Clement Zeleznik (2001-2008), and Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB (2014- present).

Christmas in July at Knoebels Grove Amusement Park

Jr. Branch 46, Lansford, PA enjoyed Christmas in July on Thursday, July 14th, 2016 at Knoebels Grove Amusement Park in Elysburg, PA. All members were invited to attend a day of fraternal fun and fellowship at America's largest free-admission Amusement Park. The Branch provided food and amusement tickets to each junior member and sold additional discounted tickets in their pavilion all day long. The Eastern PA District provided refreshments and a number of other district branches joined in the fun making it their event as well. Together we made new fraternal memories the old fashioned way, enjoying classic roller coasters, children and adult friendly rides, swimming and great food too!

Everyone left looking forward to next year. Mark your calendars now for Thursday, July 13th, 2017. This event has become an annual tradition and is always held in Pavilion D on the second Thursday of July and all District Branches are invited to participate!



44th Annual March For Life Friday, January 27, 2017 WASHINGTON, D.C.

For years, members of the Slovak/Catholic fraternal organizations (First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, First Catholic Slovak Union, Slovak Catholic Sokol and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union) have participated in this peaceful demonstration showing our support of and respect for the unborn.

WILKES-BARRE/HAZLETON AREA

A bus will leave Wilkes-Barre at 7 a.m. from the park and ride located on Route 309 in Wilkes-Barre Township. A second pick-up will be at St. John's Bosco Church on Route 93 leaving Hazleton approximately 7:30 a.m. Local branches and districts may sponsor the cost of members wanting to attend. Anyone interested in attending can call Theresa Kluchinski at 888-834-6614 or 570-823-3515 or e-mail Theresa@lpscu.org for more information. Cost is \$55; this includes bus transportation, snack on the bus, and dinner buffet at the Mountain Gate Restaurant on the way home.



The NSS Heritage Museum Presents **"Septemberfest"**

Saturday, September 24, 2016
11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY
HERITAGE MUSEUM**

351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317

Slovak cooking and craft demonstrations. Slovak dance performances. Slovak food, vendors and more! Featuring the largest animated wood carving in the U.S. Please call (412) 421-1204 for more information.

Rev. Jerome Lajack Celebrates 50 Years as Priest in the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland



Hundreds of family members, friends, former parishioners, clergy and religious crowded into St. Ladislav Parish in Westlake, OH on Sunday, May 22, 2016, as Father Jerome Lajack celebrated Mass marking the 50th jubilee anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Father Lajack's brother, Edward, concelebrated the Mass. Deacon Jim Armstrong gave the homily at the Jubilee Mass and spoke of

Father Lajack's untiring dedication to his vocation as priest and the needs of the faithful over the past 50 years, and of Fr. Lajack's willingness to serve, even in retirement. A reception was held after Mass.

Father Lajack served as the pastor at St. Wendelin Parish in Cleveland, a parish of Slovak origin, from 1977 until he retired in 2010. As a senior pastor emeritus in the diocese, Father Lajack now spends his time helping meet the liturgical needs of parishes throughout western portions of Northeast Ohio including St. Bernadette and St. Raphael parishes in Westlake, St. Julie Billiart in North Ridgeville and St. Joseph in Amherst, and others.

A life-long member of the FCSLA and current president of Branch 408, Father Lajack has been active in the organization for many years and had attended conventions. His mother, Mary, was secretary of the FCSLA for many years until her death in 1991.

Father Lajack was ordained a priest for service in the Diocese of Cleveland by Bishop Clarence Issenman at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Cleveland on May 21, 1966. His first parish assignment came in 1966 as he was appointed associate pastor at St. Jude parish in Elyria, OH. In 1972, Father Lajack was assigned as associate pastor at St. Richard Parish in North Olmsted, OH. In June of 1977, Bishop James Hickey named Father Lajack pastor of St. Wendelin parish in Cleveland. He retired in 2010.

Many FCSLA Branch 408 members attended the celebration including former National Chaplain Fr. Edward Lajack, Helen Gebura, Colette and Ray Peters, Cynthia and John Bacisin, Michelina Bacisin, Ruth Novak, Ruth Ann and Jane Havasi, Donna and Allison Bonvissuto, Cleveland District President Joyce Lechman, Donna Oroz, Jim and

Barbara Sekerak, former National President Mary Ann Johaneck, former National Secretary Irene Drotleff, Theresa and Joanne Yakubik, Agnes and Ann Stropkay, Pat Marano, Betty and Bernie Javorek, Rose Ann Kay, and Dolores Sirocky.

Congratulations to Father Jerome Lajack. May God continue to bless him in his apostolic work.

Fr. Edward Lajack (Fr. Jerome's brother) passed away on July 25, 2016. May he rest in peace.

Jubilee Celebration

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA recently celebrated the Jubilees of some of their members.



L-R: Sisters Pamela Smith, Seton Marie Connolly and Irene Marie Gaydos prepare for the entrance procession before the Jubilee Liturgy.

The Sisters celebrating jubilee anniversaries currently serve in the archdiocese of Chicago, IL and in the dioceses of Charleston, SC; Gary, IN; Harrisburg, PA; San Antonio, TX and Scranton, PA.

The celebration included a Mass in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius concelebrated by Rev. Kenneth Seegar, Pastor of St. Andre Bessette Parish, Wilkes-Barre, PA; and Rev. Gerard Heintzelman, Rector of the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius and Chaplain at Maria Hall. Liturgy was followed by a dinner with friends, family and community members of the Sister celebrants.



Celebrating anniversaries were: front row, L-R: Sister Jacqueline Ziobro (65 years), Sister Rosamund Dupock (75 years), Sister Janet Matlak (65 years). Standing, L-R: Sister Carol Therese Stofka (40 years), Sister Catherine Ann Morris (55 years), Sister Bernice Marie Balint (55 years), Sister Carol Ann Terlicher (40 years), Sister Paracleta Amrich (65 years), Sister Marcine Klocko (35 years), Sister Linda Marie Bolinski (45 years), Sister Jean Marie Holup (45 years). (Absent from photo – Sister Florence Marcin (70 years), and Sister Canice Adams (20 years)).

Attention Sr. Branch 172

All seasons luncheon free to all members on Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 12:00 noon at Genetti Hotel and Conference Center. Reservations required before September 16, 2016. Call Bernadette Yencha at 570-822-9843 or Magdalen Iskra at 570-824-0216.

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Sr. Branch 350

Osterhaut Library Benefit

Sr. Branch 350 of Shamokin, PA held a successful Matching Funds event for the "Friends of the Osterhaut Library" (FOL). Pictured is Branch President Rita Kcenich presenting a check to Library Director Richard Miller and FOL volunteer Theresa Roebuck while Branch Secretary/Treasurer Florence McCabe holds the FCSLA sponsorship sign and Branch Auditor Ann Hojola.



Jr. Branch 318

St. Jerome's Race for Education

Jr. Branch 318, Coaldale, PA sponsored a Matching Funds Activity – St. Jerome's Race for Education, which was held on Monday, May 9th at Marian Catholic High School, Hometown, PA.



James Gelatko (in both photos above), J318, a student at St. Jerome's School, Tamaqua, PA participated in the Race for Education.

Sr. Branch 630

Mini-Golf Tournament

Members of Sr. Branch 630, Buffalo, NY, gathered for a mini-golf tournament to raise funds for St. Luke's Mission of Mercy in Buffalo. Pictured from left to right are: Jim Kaminski, President Lynn Zakowicz, Auditor Len Hoeglmeier, Nancy Kihl, Terry Schichtel, and Mary Jane Schichtel.



Attention!

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Email Address: _____

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

SR. BRANCH 524 ANNUAL SUMMER DINNER

Sr. Branch 524 branch officers decided to try something a little different for our Annual Summer Dinner. Sometimes it's good to change things up a bit. We had a few members that really liked what we had been doing and were a little hesitant. Usually we have a summer dinner with several other branches. It is very hard to meet your members and get to know them when there are so many members from other branches. But in the end we were getting two thumbs up from everyone that came to dinner. Everyone seemed to enjoy meeting new people. And a few of them even discovered they live close to each other! That was a goal of the branch officers – to create friendships and see what we all have in common.

We had dinner at Matteo's in Grand Pacific Junction, Olmsted Falls, OH. Little goody bags awaited our members at each place setting. It is a very quaint little town and very scenic. It was great to be able to meet everyone in person and get to know them. Everyone enjoyed their dinner! We had a few choices to choose from.

We were lucky enough to have a few of the Cleveland District Board come to the dinner, President Joyce Lechman, Secretary Barbara Sekerak and 2nd VP Barbara Shedlock. Thank you for coming. We enjoyed having you there.

We ended the evening with a Raffle. Thank you to all the members of S524 who came to the dinner. It was a pleasure and we hope that we can do something similar next year.



Slovak Heritage Programs

The Slovak Heritage Programs are held at Mt. Lebanon Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, PA from 7-9 p.m. It is free.

OCTOBER 3, 2016 — DISCOVERING YOUR SLOVAK ROOTS

Lisa A. Alzo, a specialist in Eastern European genealogy, will show you how to discover your Slovak roots. She will discuss the best resources to consult and how to overcome the most common pitfalls and obstacles associated with tracing ancestors back to Central and Eastern Europe.



Sr. Branch 88 Honors Scholarship Recipients

Recently Sr. Branch 88 of Monessen, PA recognized scholarship recipients at a dinner for the students, their parents and guests. Following a delicious dinner, President Dorothy Urbanowicz welcomed the group and Rev. Dr. Micah Kozoil, branch chaplain addressed the students about graduation, not being the end, but the beginning of a new phase of their lives. The following students were honored:

ABIGAIL SELF is a Sophomore at the University of Pittsburgh. She is studying Applied Developmental Psychology and American Sign Language on a pre-occupational therapy track. Throughout her life, even as a child, she loved children and knew she wanted a job that allowed her to help people. After shadowing and volunteering at a children's therapy center in high school, she knew she wanted to become a pediatric occupational therapist. Pediatric OT's help children with disabilities complete their occupations or activities of daily living. This includes feeding, dressing, handwriting, etc., they can work in school districts, outpatient centers and hospitals. With her background in sign language, she hopes to eventually work at the Western PA Residential School of the Deaf. When not studying, she attends Pitt's ASL Club events and taking photos for the student-run newspaper. This past spring she tutored at an after school program in the Hill District of Pittsburgh. At home, she works at Sarris Candies and volunteers at Washington Hospital's Children's Therapy Center. Abigail is the daughter of Kerry and Lisa Self

and the granddaughter of Judy and Ted Pettko.

ROBERT BETZA recently graduated from Pine-Richland High School. In high school he was involved in many clubs and activities some of which include Future Business Leaders of America, working with students who were diagnosed with a disability in the Best Buddies Program and also in the school's ski club. As a leader amongst his peers, he worked with others to enhance school spirit and raise money for various charities. During football season he teamed up with the KEY Club and raised \$1,000 toward a charity to honor a student who had passed away from leukemia. From a young age, he played sports and always had a passion to play basketball, football and baseball. He served on two mission trips to help less fortunate families in Mullens, WV where he replaced windows, installed gutter systems and painted houses. He has been involved in the church's Life Teen and Edge programs. He also

held jobs as cashier in Giant Eagle and is currently working as a bank teller for First Commonwealth Bank. This fall, he plans to attend Penn State Erie to study finance or supply chain management. Robert is the son of Robert A. and Robin Betza and the grandson of Robert and Rosemary Betza.

BAYLEY CLARK is a recent graduate of Charleroi High School. She served as Vice President of her class and Marching Band Cougarette captain. She was a member of the executive committee, school council, SADD, interact club, cougar crazies, mock trials and played varsity soccer. She participated in clean-up day in Charleroi and the Relay for Life as a team captain. She is also a dance instructor. Not only does she teach dance, she has been dancing since she has been two years old herself. Bayley plans to attend Seton Hill University where she will obtain a degree as a mental health therapist and minor in dance. She is the daughter of William and Beverly Clark.

Continued on Page 15



L-R: Robert A., Robin, Robert D., Rosemary and Robert Betza.



L-R: Beverly, Bayley and William Clark.



L-R: Judy Pettko, Abigail and Ted Pettko



Officers and scholarship recipients — L-R: Cindy Pawelec, Rev. Dr. Micah Kozoil, Flora Funtal, Ruth Todd, Bayley Clark, Robert Betza, Abigail Self, Dorothy Urbanowicz and Rosemary Betza.

The Junior Line



CAROLINE ROSE KCENICH celebrated her 6th birthday on May 18, 2016. She also graduated from Kindergarten on June 8th, 2016. Caroline is the daughter of Carolyn and David Kcenich of Sherman Oaks, CA. Caroline is a member of J207 and her parents S350. Her grandparents are Branch S350 President Rita Kcenich and the late Ted Kcenich of Plains, PA and Joseph and the late Karen Wheeler of Houston, TX.



STEPHANIE ANN GUMP, J077, Streator, IL lives in Bloomington, IL and attends Corpus Christi Catholic School. She is a straight "A" student; is an altar server at Mass frequently; volunteers as a Mother's Helper during other Sunday Masses and helps with Vacation Bible School. In her first year participating in track she went to the State Finals. Stephanie is the daughter of Beth (Risley) and Tim Gump and the granddaughter of Joan (Farkas) O'Donnell.



MALIA MUNLEY of Honolulu, HI was the recipient of the Principal's Award for 2016 at Punahou School. The Principal's Award goes to students from grades 9, 10, and 11. The selection process begins with informal nominations from students and faculty with the final selection made by faculty groups in concert with the Deans of each class. A student may receive this award only once. The award recognizes underclassmen that have demonstrated qualities of leadership, citizenship, and service to some area of the school community such as student government, athletics, drama, or service organizations. Many of the recipients are active in several fields. All distinguish themselves by their responsibility, their positive attitudes, their outlook, and their willingness to give of themselves. Malia is the daughter of Dr. Patrick and Lissa Munley of Honolulu, HI. She is the great-niece of Magdalen Benish, a member of S172, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Malia is a member of J362, also in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Scholarship Recipients *Continued from Page 14*

Sarah was unable to attend, but her bio follows:

SARA SEPESKY is the daughter of Dan and Ruth Sepesky. She recently graduated from Belle Vernon High School with a GPA of 4.2. Sarah is a 3 year letterwoman in varsity soccer, was named team captain, and All-Section player her senior year. She is a 4 year letterwoman in track and was named team captain in her senior year and was a WPIAL finalist her junior year. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and Social Studies Honor Society. She participated in Interact Club, Prom Committee, Spanish Club, Friends First Club, Outdoors Club, MIC SADD, Physical Ed. Club and Gifted. Her volunteer experience includes over 175 hours at Monongahela Valley Hospital's Physi-

cal Therapy Department, Relay for Life, Salvation Army bell ringing, Overly's Country Christmas, March for Parks, Ronald McDonald House, as well as local blood drives and food banks. Her work experience includes serving as a youth soccer referee for PA West for six years, cashier at Dairy Queen and statistician for Varsity Wrestling team. In addition she is a recipient of the Naomi Athletic Association Scholar Athlete Award and the Ryan Moravec Memorial Track and Field Award. She was nominated for the Judge Driscoll Scholar Athlete Award, the WPIAL Scholar Athlete Award, The Centennial Chevrolet Scholar Athlete Award and the Mid Mon Valley Hall of Fame Scholar Athlete Award. Sarah will attend Duquesne University majoring in Physical Therapy.

HAVE YOU SIGNED
UP A NEW MEMBER
RECENTLY?



IN MEMORIAM

PATRICIA RICCIARDELLO, W034

Patricia "Pat" Ricciardello died peacefully on March 8, 2016 with her beloved husband of 64 years, Ricc; her sons Ted (Pam) and Tom (Florence); her daughters Mary (Doug Sandvig), Carol (Bill Perry), Jean (Shane Phelps) and ten grandchildren that adored her by her side. She leaves behind family and many friends that she loved dearly and that loved her dearly. Born and raised in Verdigre, NE on August 13, 1931, she and Ricc moved to Patchogue, NY where they raised their family. She was a registered nurse, gourmet cook, an avid reader and expert seamstress. One never knew of these talents as she did them in her humble fashion without fanfare. Pat spent her 34 years of retirement in Vermont. It was her Camelot. She enjoyed taking walks with her friends, bird watching and entertaining the many friends on the Hill. The last 28 years she made her winter home in Houston to be near her children and grandchildren.

One of the great moments of her life was when she had an audience with Pope John Paul II. He presented her with rosary beads he had blessed and in greeting her he said "Ah, the mother." In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Martha's Kitchen, in care of St. Martha Catholic Church of Kingwood, 4301 Woodbridge Pkwy, Porter TX 77365.

ELIZA BURKE, S140



Eliza Jane Burke, 69, of Newport Township passed away March 8, 2016, in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital surrounded by her loving family. Mrs. Burke was born in Plymouth on April 29, 1946, and was the daughter of the late Joseph and Anna Oshirak Dempsey. Eliza graduated from Plymouth High School and received her associate degree in business from Luzerne County Community College. She was employed for many years by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bureau of Disability. She and her husband, Joseph Burke, Jr., would have celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on March 10. Eliza's greatest love in life was her grandchildren. In addition to her husband, Eliza is survived by her daughter, Jane Marko and her husband, John; son, Joseph Burke III and his wife, Michele; sisters, Irene Frisbie and her husband, Leonard, Anna Magill, Barbara Powell and her husband, Richard, and Carol Dempsey; brother, Joseph Dempsey, Jr. and his wife, Martha; sister-in-law, Sonya Dempsey; and grandchildren, Kathryn, Benjamin and Joelle Olivette. The family requests that memorial contributions be sent to the Medical Oncology Prescription Assistance Fund, 382 Pierce St., Kingston, PA 18704.

KELLY M. HOUSTEAU, S202



Kelly M. Housteau, 53, passed away March 9, 2016, following an extended illness. Kelly was born October 28, 1962 in Youngstown, OH, a daughter of Robert and Mildred "Millie" Krotky McDonough, and was a lifelong area resident. She was a 1981 graduate of Ursuline High School, and earned an associate degree in early childhood education from Youngstown State University. Kelly was a homemaker and a member of St. Joseph Church in Austintown. She

had been an active volunteer at one time at the parish school, and she enjoyed cooking, baking, music, and caring for her cats. Kelly's husband, Charles R. "Chuck" Housteau, Jr., whom she married April 19, 1986, passed away November 19, 2010. Kelly leaves her son, Charles R. "Chuckie" Housteau III (wife, Amanda) of Boardman; her parents, Robert and Millie McDonough of Austintown; and her feline companions, Ruff and Ruby.

DOROTHY DLUBACK SABULA, S01



Dorothy Dluback Sabula, age 83 of Chardon, OH died March 12, 2016. Born August 24, 1932 in Brownsville, PA to Andrew and Anna (nee Pesosky) Dluback, she moved from North Bristol, OH to Chardon in 1963. She was a member of The Church of St. Mary in Chardon, active in the Christ Child Society and the 50+ Club. She also served as the Treasurer of Catholic Charities and the Geauga County Democratic Party. She is survived by her husband, Tom, whom she married March 30, 1952, sons Thomas Michael (Katherine) Sabula of New Boston, MI, Edward Matthew (Cynthia) Sabula of Alpharetta, GA, Andrew Martin (Lisa) Sabula of Marysville, OH and Stephen Mark (Barbara) Sabula of Florissant, CO and six grandsons. She also leaves her sister Margaret Koynock of Middlefield, OH. Dorothy requested donations be made in her memory to St. Mary's School, 401 North St., Chardon, 44024.

STEPHEN "MOOSE" ALMASY, S156



Stephen Gregory "Moose" Almas, 78, of Poland, OH died March 19. Stephen, affectionately known as Moose, was born February 9, 1938 in Struthers, a son of Stephen and Anna Ceremuga Almas. Raised in Struthers, Moose was a graduate of Struthers High School, Class of 1956. From 1957 until 1961 Moose served in the United States Army. Returning to the area he worked at the Youngstown Sheet & Tube from 1962 until 1970. In 1970 Moose acquired the Lavilla Bar & Restaurant, a favorite gathering spot for the Struthers community. An avid sports fan, Moose loved the Cleveland Indians and, until three years ago, the Cleveland Browns. Moose was a member of Christ Our Savior Parish at Holy Trinity Church. Moose is survived by his wife of 53 years, Sally Constantino, whom he married October 3, 1963; daughter, Dionne (Bob) Roberts of Canfield; son, Kevin Almas of Poland; four grandchildren; sister Mary Neichiporchick of New Middletown; sister-in-law, Josephine "JoJo" (Ronnie) Carabbia of Poland; and numerous nieces and nephews.

ANN RUGGERI, S10

Ann K. (Plasay) Ruggeri, 86, passed away March 26, 2016 in Saratoga Springs, NY. Born on February 25, 1930 in Petoria, PA, she was the daughter of the late Mark John and Mary (Sovich) Plasay, Sr., and was a graduate of St. Peter's Academy in Saratoga Springs, and St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing in Amsterdam. While working in the hospitals' emergency room, she first met her husband to be, Frank Ruggeri, while he was being treated for an injury. They were married on April 18, 1960 and would have

celebrated their 56th anniversary next month. She was a devout member and communicant of St. Clement's Roman Catholic Church her entire life and was conferred a Redemptorist Oblate in 1997. Survivors include her husband, Frank C. Ruggeri; her children, Mary R. (husband Robert) Offenburg of Durham, NC, Frank A. (wife Toni) Ruggeri of Cuyler, NY and Grace E. (husband Brian) Spicer of Fremont, OH; 12 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Memorials may be made in her name to the Alzheimer's Association, Pine West Plaza, Bldg. 4 Suite 405, Washington Ave. Ext., Albany, NY 12205 or the American Cancer Society, 1 Penny Lane, Latham, NY 12110.

GERTRUDE KOVACH, S422

Gertrude Kovach, 92, of Hellertown, died on March 28, 2016. Born in Bethlehem, PA on December 1, 1923, she was the daughter of the late Andrew and Anna (Fesko) Yurasek. She was the wife of the late John Kovach who died in 1996; they were married 49 years. Gertrude graduated from the Bethlehem Business College in 1942. She worked 10 years in the Transcribing Dept. at the Bethlehem Steel and also attended the Bethlehem School of Practical Nursing in 1962. She was a bowler, gardener and member of St. Theresa Catholic Church, Hellertown, where she sang in the choir, cooked and worked their thrift shop. Survivors: She will be lovingly remembered by her sons, Jack, and Jim and wife Debbie; three granddaughters. She was preceded in death by her son, Gerald; sisters, Irene Vasko, Anna Yurasek, Mary Ihle, Sophie Krise, and Katherine Tomko. Memorials may be made to the St. Theresa Catholic Church.

MARY PAVLOVICH, S417

Mary A. Pavlovich, 90, of Coaldale, PA passed away March 29, 2016. She was the widow of Joseph John Pavlovich, who died in 2004. Born in Czechoslovakia, she was a daughter of the late Stefan and Anna (Vargovich) Polak. She was a member of St. John XXIII Church in Tamaqua and was formerly a member of SS. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church in Coaldale. While a member of the Coaldale church she was president of the PTA of the former SS. Cyril and Methodius Elementary School, the Rosary Society, the funeral choir, the kitchen crew and for 68 years she served as auditor of the St. Ann's Branch 417 and 318 of the FCSLA. She was a 1943 graduate of the former Coaldale High School. Surviving are daughters, Regina Pavlovich of Coaldale, Patricia, wife of Joseph Bobeck of Drums, Marian, wife of Joseph Holly of Bethlehem, Beth Anne, wife of Thomas Walko of Bath; a son, Joseph S. Pavlovich and his wife, Kori, of Carlisle; seven grandchildren; brothers, John Polak and his wife, Kathleen, of Summit Hill, Joseph Polak and his wife, Grace, of Lancaster, and Stephen Polak and his wife, Jean Ann, of Allentown; a sister, Anna Skyrca of Johnson City, N.Y.; nephews and nieces.

MARY J. (OLSAVSKY) ONDEKA, S114

Mary J. Ondeka (nee Olsavsky), age 84, of Lorain, OH passed away on March 31, 2016. She was born in Lorain on September 12, 1931 and remained a life-long resident of the city; Mary was a graduate of Lorain High School. Mrs. Ondeka was a long-time parishioner of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Lorain where she was a member of the Mother's Club as well as the Rosary Society. She

was also a member and former treasurer of St. Ann's Lodge Branch 114 of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. Mary was currently attending St. Joseph Catholic Church in Amherst. She is survived by sons, James (Judy), Thomas, and John (Brenda) all of Lorain along with daughters, JoAnne (Jerry) Norris and Jacqueline Agustinelli, both of Elyria, and Frances (Chris) Ohle of Amherst. In addition, she leaves eleven grandchildren, six great grandchildren, and her sister, Evelyn (Bernie) Weber residing in Arizona.

GERALD A. POLOMSKY, S557



Gerald A. Polomsky, age 76, of North Ridgeville, OH passed away on April 1. He was born in Cleveland and had been a resident of North Ridgeville since 1977. Mr. Polomsky served in the US Navy from 1958-1962. He worked in Information Technology for Sherwin-Williams for 37 years, retiring in 1999. He was an active member of St. Julie Billiart Catholic Church in North Ridgeville where he was a Eucharistic minister, PSR teacher, sang in the choir and was also involved with the youth and prison ministries. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Mary Kay (nee Knapik); daughters, Karen Ryan (Patrick Lysaght) of Avon, Laura (Scott) Leili of North Ridgeville, Kate Hossler of Olmsted Falls; son, Kevin (Kim) Polomsky of Orlando, FL; six grandchildren; one great-grandchild; sister, Mary Ann Metyk of Fairview Park; brother, Martin (Sandra) Polomsky of Middlefield. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of the Western Reserve, 17876 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110, www.donate@hospicew.org.

JOHN ROGAN, JR., S70



John J. Rogan, Jr. of West Scranton, PA passed away March 22, 2016 ending his nine-and-a-half year struggle with kidney disease. He and his wife, Debbie Malos Rogan, celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary on March 21. Born in Akron, OH, he was the son of the late John J. and Ruth Browning Rogan. He was a graduate of Olyphant High School and was a Navy veteran. John was the bakery manager for Gerrity's Supermarket in West Scranton for more than 20 years, until his illness forced him into retirement. John held a private pilot license and was an avid skydiver during his military and civilian life. He is also survived by four sons, John T. and companion, Dawn Kolebuck, Carbondale; Eric J., Carbondale; Patrick, a City of Scranton Councilman, and his wife, Amanda, Scranton; and Josh, Pittsburgh. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Kidney Fund, 11921 Rockville Pike, Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852.

JANE L. (BROZEK) BALUN, S13

Jane L (Brozek) Balun, Forest Hills, PA, age 93, passed away on April 2, 2016. Jane was the last surviving child of Frank and Victoria (Podgurski) Brozek, who emigrated from Poland and raised their family in Braddock, PA, in the shadow of the Edgar Thomson steel mill. In addition to her parents, Jane was preceded in death

Continued on Page 18



IN MEMORIAM

by her beloved husband, William whom she loved from the age of 14; and also by her seven cherished brothers and sisters. Jane fashioned her spiritual life through her quiet, selfless generosity. She and Bill were inseparably aligned in every way and held their family as their first priority. She leaves behind two daughters to cherish her memory and grieve her loss, Lorraine Balun of Forest Hills and Patricia (Michael) Kidd of Tampa, FL; as well as many special nieces, nephews and friends.

MARY ANN "MITZI" TREHARN, S156



Mary Ann "Mitzi" Treharn, 83, died April 7, 2016. She was born May 5, 1932, a daughter of John and Mary Hodak Sharisky, and was a lifelong Hubbard, OH resident. Mrs. Treharn was a 1950 graduate of Hubbard High School. She worked in the cafeteria for the Hubbard School District and was known as the "Ice Cream Lady." Mitzi was very active at the Victory Christian Center Church. Mitzi will be sadly missed by her loving husband, John Treharn, whom she married December 8, 1989; two daughters, Janice M. Poma of Hubbard and Mary Ann E. (Tom) Baker of North Carolina; two stepsons, John A. (Cindy) Treharn of Indiana and Mark A. (Carrie) Treharn of Girard; two stepdaughters, Linda D. (Paul) Noble of Bay Village, and Cheryl A. (Vendy) Tomko of Pennsylvania; two brothers, John (Anna Marie) Sharisky of Hubbard and Marty Sharisky of Austintown; one sister, Sandy Duble of New Castle, PA; daughter-in-law Kim Poma of Boardman; 15 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; her first husband, James P. Poma; and two sons, Jim and John Poma.

BRADEN JOSEPH FLICEK, W056



Braden Joseph Flicsek, age 9, died peacefully on April 10, 2016. Braden was born November 8, 2006, in Shakopee, MN to Craig M. and Kristin M. (Sticha) Flicsek. Braden was raised in New Prague and was currently a 3rd grader at Falcon Ridge Elementary School in New Prague. He was diagnosed with cancer 3 years ago but lived life to the fullest and was an inspiration to all who knew him. He was a consummate people-person, never complaining, and always willing to join in with any activity. Braden loved anything to do with sports, from hockey to basketball to baseball to playing catch with his dad and brothers. He always wanted to play tag, "You're It." He was a Lego master and this helped pass a lot of the time spent at the hospital. Braden made it known that his best buddy was his twin brother, Cole. He loved playing with family, cousins, and friends. Braden is survived by his loving parents, Craig and Kristin Flicsek of New Prague; siblings, Cole, Ella, Ethan, and Jack; grandparents, Norm and Denie Sticha of Elko and Mark and Carol Flicsek of Lonsdale; great-grandparents, Jeanette Sticha, Mildred Flicsek, Clara Nohava all of Lonsdale.

JOAN C. BILLIAS, S615

Joan C. Billias, 82, died May 7, 2015. Born in Wilkes-Barre, PA on June 3, 1932, she was the daughter of the late Frank Gabriel and Elizabeth Koscho Lukesh. She was raised and educated

in Forty Fort, PA and attended Drexel University in Philadelphia. Following her marriage she lived in Lancaster, PA, Queens, and North Babylon, and Long Island, where she raised her family. She moved to upstate New York and lived in Troy for the past seven years. She operated, with her sister Mary, an antique store called Welcome Friends in Kingston that focused on early Americana folk art. Joan was a devout communicant of Our Lady of Victory Church in Troy. She was the wife of the late William C. Billias, who died in 2011; loving mother of Mark C. Billias of Groton, MA, William F. (Joy) Billias of Troy, Elizabeth Allerton of New York City, Christopher (Anna) Billias of Glasgow, VA and Alexander Billias of Naples, FL; adored grandmother of seven; great-grandmother of one; dear sister of Mary (Edward) Bardsley of Mason, NH, Stephen Lukesh of Swoyersville, PA, Paul (Ann) Lukesh of Hershey, PA and the late Frank Lukesh. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Our Lady of Victory Church, 55 N. Lake Ave., Troy, NY 12180.

LARRY CARDA, W093



Larry died April 13, 2016. He was born May 31, 1937 to James and Anna (Hnilo) Carda of Tabor, SD. He graduated from Tabor High School in 1945. He served his country in the Army National Guard from 1955 to 1963. He married Darlene Kozak on July 2, 1958. He worked for a time as an electrician before moving to the family homestead and continued operating the family dairy for 35 years. For the next 21 years, he was a contractor for the Army Corps of Engineers at Gavin's Point and Ft. Randall dams. Except for his time in the service, he lived his entire life in the Tabor area. His greatest passion in life was always motorcycle riding. He traveled many roads through the years; no ride was as dear to his heart as Iron Mt. Road. Those left to cherish his memory include his daughters, Claudette Johnson, Carmen (John) LaCava, Christine (Mark) Young and Crystal Gerry; special friend, Eileen Tegels; sisters, Betty Trchka and Adeline Merkwani; 11 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends.

HELEN M. TKACH, S66



Helen M. Tkach, 84, of Streator, IL, passed away on April 16, 2016. Born August 10, 1931 in Streator she was the daughter of Matthew and Anna (Lescinsky) Coley. She married Robert J. "Pug" Tkach on April 11, 1953 at St. Stephen's Church, Streator. He preceded her in death on January 20, 2008. She is survived by sons, David (Chris) Tkach, Richard J. Tkach, Scott A. Tkach and William J. Tkach; daughters, Lynn Haydon and Debra Scudder, all of Streator; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and sisters, Maxine Dyas and Betty Koval, both of Streator. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and a son, Robert L. Tkach. Born and raised in Streator she attended Streator schools. She was a member of the former St. Stephen's Church and currently belonged to St. Michael the Archangel Church, Streator. She was a member of the Survivor's Club along with her close friends for over 60 years. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to any area youth sports program.

VERONICA J. "VERNA" DELANO, S423



Veronica J. "Verna" Delano, 95 of East Brady, PA, died April 22, 2015. Born May 31, 1919 in Ginter, PA, she was the daughter of Stephen J. and Agnes A. (Dija) Poshedly. On June 21, 1941, Verna married the late Arthur M. Delano at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Cleveland OH. He preceded her in death on June 3, 2001. Verna first worked at Montgomery Ward

in Butler, then as a cashier at Kroger in Kittanning and later Butler for 34 years. She was the oldest member of St. Eusebius Roman Catholic Church where she served as a Eucharistic Minister, taught CCD for 30 years and was a member of the former Ladies Guild. She was the former Secretary of the Bradys Bend Historical Society, loved tending her garden, enjoyed traveling, but above all, dearly loved her grandchildren. She is survived by her two sons, Arthur M. (Rhonda) Delano of Sugarcreek Twp., and David R. Delano of Butler; four grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren. The Delano family suggests that contributions be made in Verna's name to the Bradys Bend Historical Society, PO Box 451, East Brady, PA 16028.

JOHN J. GERBERI, S258



John J. Gerberi, age 79, of Brookfield, IL died April 17, 2016. He was a US Navy Veteran. Beloved husband of Eleanor P. Gerberi, nee Simko; fond father of Laura (Jeff) Pogwizd, Mary Ellen (Steve) Fiflis and Amy Gerberi; dear grandfather of five; dear great-grandfather of five; brother of Anne (Ted) Strojny, Mary (the late Bob) Silkowski, the late John Gerberi and

Michael Gerberi; uncle of many nieces and nephews. After retiring as a Repair Technician John was the President of the Adult Volunteer Program at Hinsdale Hospital for many years and worked part-time at Tischlers Grocery Store as the "Meat Counter Guy". John enjoyed spending time with family attending his five grandchildren's sport events and concerts. He also loved the Chicago Blackhawks. Memorials appreciated to the Lymphoma Research Foundation, 115 Broadway, Suite 1301, New York, NY 10006.

GARY PODHAJSKY, W130



Gary Podhajsky died April 4, 2016. He was born June 11, 1939 in Traer, IA. When he was 13 years old, he contracted polio, but lived his life not defined by the disease. He was married to Phyllis Hlas on September 9, 1961 and graduated from Upper Iowa University in 1962 with a degree in Engineering. Just after graduation, he and his new family moved to Colorado to work on the Atlas Rocket project team at The Martin

Company. Gary then landed a position at IBM in Boulder, CO where he retired in 1991, after 27 years. In 1968, Gary gave his heart to Jesus and after that time he was not shy about sharing his faith with others. His hobbies included woodturning, bird watching, photography, and crawdad fishing with his grandchildren. Gary is survived by Phyllis, his wife of 55 years, and his six children: Brian Podhajsky of Longmont, CO; Lori (John) Bixler of Arapahoe County, CO; Denise (Mike) Dean of Lake Oswego, OR; Brad (Becky) Pod-

hajsky of Parker, CO; Paula (Brent) White of Loveland, CO; Trina (Jay) Stocker of Windsor, CO; and Margie Podhajsky (daughter in law) of Thornton, CO; as well as eighteen grandchildren. Gary is also survived by his brother Mark (Linda) Podhajsky, brother Darrell (Linda) Podhajsky, and his sister Jolene (Pete) Sell.

MARY F. BABINAT, W130



Mary F. Babinat, 49, of Newton, formerly of Clutier, IA died September 24, 2015. She was born October 2, 1964, daughter of John and Thelma Schares Babinat of Clutier, IA. Mary graduated from North Tama High School, Traer, in 1983. She received a double major in executive secretarial and business at Ellsworth Community College and graduated in 1987 from

the University of Northern Iowa with a BA degree in accounting. She worked for Nolte, Corman & Johnson PC, CPA, for 29 years. A member of numerous boards, Mary also has taught several years at Buena Vista University and was a speaker at many regional conferences of School Administrators of Iowa and Iowa Association of School Business Officials. Mary was a member of the board for Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Davenport, an auditor for Miss USA, Iowa pageant and was on Sacred Heart Parish Finance Committee. In Clutier, she was an active member of St. Theresa Court 632, National Catholic Society of Foresters, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 130, and American Legion Auxiliary 453 Hora-Machacek Post. She is survived by a special friend, Richard Arp of Clutier; eight siblings, Joseph (Betty) Babinat of Marshalltown, Nancy (Richard) Bloom of Ackley, Julia Babinat, Margaret Babinat, Leo (Lisa) Babinat and Rita (Todd) Eichhorst, all of Clutier, Robert (Joyce) of Tama and John (Nadine) Babinat of La Porte City; and nieces and nephews.

RITA E. ROMAN, S443

Rita E. Roman, 83, of Northampton passed away November 30, 2015. Born on January 10, 1932 in Allentown, she was the daughter of the late John G. Wallo and Anna (Brosky) Wallo-Stettler and step daughter of the late Clarence Stettler. Rita worked at Boise Cascade/Mail-Well Corporation from 1965 to 1997 and then retired. Rita was a Den Mother with the Boy Scout organization in 1961 at the former St. Lawrence Church in North Catasauqua. In 1972 she was inducted into the Minsi Trail Boy Scout Counsel then was elected Coordinator with the Cub Leaders Pow Wow and eventually became Unit Commissioner in 1998 until 2006. Rita received the highest achievement award of Silver Beaver on November 4, 1977. She remained an honorary member to date. Rita served as Vice President of Northampton Senior Ladies, was a member of Young At Heart and was a devoted member and greeter at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church. Survivors: daughter, Donna Roman, sons, William Roman and his wife Linda, Robert Roman and his wife Judith, five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be presented to Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church c/o Reichel Funeral Home, 326 E. 21st Street, Northampton, PA 18067.

Check out the FCSLA website
www.fcsla.org

Crabtree Pastor Takes Cooking Skills to Food Network 'Chopped' Episode

By Laura Urbani, Contributing Writer

Reprinted with permission courtesy of "The Catholic Accent".

CRABTREE — Delicious aromas from Benedictine Father Justin Matro's kitchen are well known to his community at Saint Vincent Archabbey and the parishioners of St. Bartholomew Parish, where he is pastor.

Recently, television viewers saw his culinary skills on the Food Network reality-based cooking game show "Chopped."

Father Justin's adventure began with a simple phone call.

Two years ago, Food Network producers contacted Benedictine Mother Mary Ann Noll, prioress of St. Emma Monastery, Greensburg. They were looking for religious people to be on the show, which challenges four contestants to make a four-course meal using surprise ingredients. After each course, a panel of judges chops one contestant from the competition. The last person standing wins.

There was no one at the monastery who met the show's requirements, so Mother Mary Ann suggested Father Justin.

"I had heard over and over again that Father Justin was a very good cook," she said.

A fan of the show, Father Justin was surprised and honored to hear from the producers.

"Food really is a very instrumental part of my ministry," he said. "Jesus used the context of a meal to present the Kingdom of God. It's a real way to bring people together."

After two lengthy phone interviews and a Skype interview, producers asked Father Justin to gather a small group so they could observe him speaking and cooking for them.

They were surprised to see almost 50 people attend the audition.

"They said they had never seen so many people when they do this," said Father Justin. "I told them you don't go to a small town much."

The producers were impressed with Father Justin's cooking knowledge and personality. They selected him as one of four contestants for the "Leap of Faith" episode.

But then they couldn't find others to round out the cast. The episode was put on hold.

Finally, last fall, Father Justin was informed the episode would move forward.

His competition was Rabbi Henschel Hecht of Rhinebeck Jewish Center in Rhinebeck, N.Y.; Sister of St. Francis Sara Marks from Philadelphia; and Pastor Areli Biggers, a family life pastor at Vineyard Church in Hopkinton, Mass.

The episode was filmed in December at Chelsea Market in New York City. After touring the studio and becoming familiar with the kitchen and pantries, Father Justin got a crash course in the repetitive nature of reality television. The contestants rehearsed standing in line and removing



Photo credit: "Courtesy of The Food Network"

ingredients from their baskets over and over again.

"The only thing that wasn't interrupted was the cooking," he said, noting that each contestant had their own cameraman.

The first course was the appetizer, with salmon, spring onions, raw white honey and Ezekiel bread as the ingredients. The contestants had 20 minutes to make something delicious.

"It was all very familiar ingredients," Father Justin said. He immediately thought of making seared salmon with mixed green salad and croutons.

"I saw the ingredients and just thought salmon on a salad," he said. "I went into autopilot and just started cooking the way I normally would."

Unfortunately, his salad didn't make the cut. While the judges complimented him on the perfectly cooked salmon, they

said it was too large to be an appetizer.

Pastor Biggers walked away with the \$10,000 prize.

"They ate my entire thing, but they still chopped me," he said, laughing. "At least I have that to cherish."

The "Leap of Faith" episode can be found on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sw82SCFr4A>

Father Justin is a member of Sr. Branch 88 in Monessen, PA.

Slovak Catholic Federation Northeast PA New Chapter

Northeast Pennsylvania newly formed Chapter — Mary, Our Mother of Sorrow, is looking for individuals to become members. The first meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2016 at 6 p.m. to be held at the Home Office of the LPSCU, 71 South Washington Street in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Anyone from the surrounding Wilkes-Barre area including but not limited to Scranton, Hazleton, and Danville are welcome.

The Federation's purpose is to promote the Slovak Catholic heritage and its awareness among Slovak Catholics in the United States as well as to establish and maintain the bonds of fraternal cooperation among Slovak Catholic societies and Slovak Catholics in the United States and to foster such bonds by the promotion and sponsorship of religious and social activities.

Current officers of this Chapter are: Rev. Andrew Hvozdic, Spiritual Advisor; Theresa Kluchinski, President; Michael Horvath, Vice President; Dolores Evanko, Secretary; James Yocum, Treasurer.

Anyone interested in attending this meeting should call or e-mail, Theresa Kluchinski at 570-823-3513 or Theresa@lpscu.org by September 30th.

Jack Daugherty Earns Eagle Scout Rank

Jack Daugherty of Rockford, IL recently attained the rank of Eagle Scout, Boy Scouting's highest rank. Jack is a member of Boy Scout Troop 123, Blackhawk Area Council, Wanchanagi District and crossed over to Boy Scouts on Leap Day, February 29, 2008.

He joined as a member of Jr. Branch 241, brother to Will also a member of Jr. Branch 241, son of Kevin Daugherty and Teresa Daugherty and the grandson of Mary Ann (nee Stroker) and Jim Daugherty. Mary Ann has been a member for over 60 years and has enrolled all the grandchildren.

To earn the rank of Eagle Scout, Jack fulfilled requirements in the areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills during his 7 years as a member of Troop 123. He has earned 26 merit badges.

Jack planned and executed an approved service project to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. His project was completed in August 2014 at Midway Village Museum in Rockford, IL. The project was a restoration of native wetland plants in an area that had fallen away due to mowing and erosion. The plants are surrounded by a limestone border to prevent the area from falling away again. It will hopefully grow for years to come and be a great place for people to come and see the wetland prairie that used to dominate this landscape.

Jack has held several leadership positions such as Quartermaster, Assistant Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, and Troop Guide, mentoring younger scouts in the basic skills of scouting. Jack also received special awards for: 100 Nights of Camping, Arrow of Light, NYLT Acorns, and Polar Bear.

In 2011, Jack was chosen to participate in the National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) program, a weeklong Youth Leadership Training program where future leaders are given tools and skills they need by other youth to prepare themselves for future responsibilities. Jack enjoyed his NYLT participant year and applied for a staff position the following year. Since then he has been on NYLT staff and this year he was chosen as the SPL for the 2016 course at Canyon Camp in Stockton, IL.

Jack has been employed full-time by Rockford Christian Schools for the past three years as a Summer Camp Counselor with 5-6 year old children and part-time during the school year as an after-school care counselor.

Jack currently attends Rock Valley Community College in Rockford where he made the Dean's list for the spring semester of the 2015-16 academic year. Jack recently was awarded a 2016 First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Scholarship.



PHOTO CONTEST

Contest Eligibility:

- Must be a FCSLA member age 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, October 28, 2016
- 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
- Limit of THREE entries per member (you can only win once)
- Photo size 4x6, un-mounted (no touch-up or computer enhanced photos permitted)
- Must be on photo paper
- Photo must be accompanied by the entry form below. (copy of entry form is acceptable)
- If you submit a scenic photo, no people should be in the photo.
- Previous winning photos are not eligible.

DO NOT WRITE ON THE FRONT or BACK OF PHOTO!!

Categories:

- * Animals
- * Architecture
- * Misc. - Nature
- * FCSLA Activity
- * Lakes / Mountains / Waterfalls
- * Skies / Sunsets / Tropical
- * Flowers /Gardens /Trees



Prize list for each Category:

- 1st Place - \$50.00 Gift Card
- 2nd Place - \$25.00 Gift Card
- 3rd Place - \$15.00 Gift Card
- Honorable Mention - \$10.00 Gift Card

Bonus: Winners photos will be published in a future *Fraternally Yours* Magazine and on the FCSLA Website.

Good Luck!

FCSLA 2016 PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY FORM (DEADLINE OCTOBER 28, 2016) PLEASE PRINT!

Name _____

Age _____ Branch # _____

Complete Address _____

Email Address _____

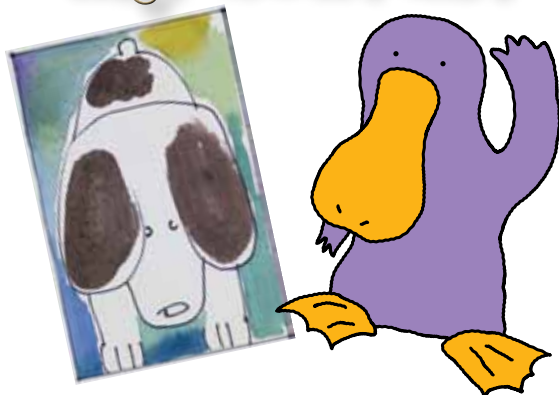
Category _____ Title of Photo _____

Where was your photo taken? _____

When was your photo taken? _____

Brief Description _____

ART CONTEST



Contest Eligibility:

- Must be a FCSLA member age 15 and younger
- If you submit an entry and you are not a member your entry will not be considered
- Member must be the one that created the artwork

Deadline:

- Friday, September 30, 2016
- Please mail entries to: FCSLA, Fraternal & Youth Director
24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-5634

Contest Rules:

- Only one entry per member
- Submission must be in color on paper or art board minimum 8½ x 11 in size
- Please complete the entry form below. (copy of entry form is acceptable)

THEME:

Draw a picture of your Pet(s)

— or —

Draw a picture of an animal you wish you could have as a pet – and tell us why.

Age Groups:

6 & Under • 7-10 • 11-13 • 14-15

Prize list for each Age Group:

1st Place - \$50.00 Gift Card
2nd Place - \$25.00 Gift Card
3rd Place - \$15.00 Gift Card

Bonus: Winners drawing will be published in a future *Fraternally Yours* Magazine issue and on the FCSLA website.

Good Luck!

FCSLA 2016 ART CONTEST ENTRY FORM

(DEADLINE: September 30, 2016)

PLEASE PRINT!

Name _____

Age _____ Branch # _____

Complete Address _____

Email Address _____

Title of Artwork _____

Name of Pet(s) _____

Brief Description _____

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF APRIL 30, 2016

ASSETS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Cash & Short Term Investments | \$ 18,225,654 |
| Bonds | 780,869,626 |
| Preferred Stock | 2,005,553 |
| Common Stock | 4,491,624 |
| Investment Income Due & Accrued | 12,294,870 |
| Property Plant & Equipment, Net | 5,513,780 |
| Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest | 2,834,991 |
| Other Assets | 8,885,685 |

TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 835,121,783

LIABILITIES

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Life Reserves | \$ 253,223,538 |
| Annuity Reserves | 467,078,445 |
| Death Claims Payable | 2,181,817 |
| Unearned Premiums | 489,488 |
| Matured Endowments | 371,586 |
| Provision for Dividends Payable | 1,400,000 |
| Accumulated Dividends & Interest | 4,418,221 |
| Accrued Convention Donations | 126,000 |
| Provision for Future Conventions | 78,000 |
| Asset Valuation Reserve | 6,975,137 |
| Interest Maintenance Reserve | 1,180,671 |
| Other Liabilities | 1,363,517 |

TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$ 738,886,420

Surplus

\$ 96,235,363

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

\$ 835,121,783

INCOME STATEMENT

For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2016

REVENUE

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Insurance Premiums | \$ 1,142,792 |
| Annuity Premiums | 21,301,099 |
| Investment Income | 13,650,624 |
| Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve | 58,590 |
| Rental Income | 129,562 |
| Other Revenue | 2,413 |

TOTAL REVENUE

\$ 36,285,079

EXPENSE

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Increase in Reserves — Life | \$ (505,459) |
| Increase in Reserves — Annuity | 19,316,414 |
| Insurance Benefits | 2,523,501 |
| Annuity Benefits | 8,146,559 |
| Commission Expense | 568,513 |
| Surrender Benefits | 1,731,394 |
| Post Mortem Benefits | 413,969 |
| Miscellaneous Member Benefits | 24,865 |
| Matured Endowments | (2,497) |
| Donation Expenses | 32,137 |
| Change in Accrued Convention Donations | 84,000 |
| Convention Expenses | 50,521 |
| Bank Service Charges | 36,081 |
| Data Processing Service Fees | 112,290 |
| Accounting Fees | 26,785 |
| Actuarial Fees | 85,427 |
| Legal Fees | 57,382 |
| Consulting Fees | 43,283 |
| Bonus to Branches | 278,850 |
| Fraternal Activities | 50,496 |
| Official Publications | 146,152 |
| Scholarship Awards | 90,723 |
| Miscellaneous Employee Benefits | 110,599 |
| Fees — Directors | 60,394 |
| Salaries — Employees | 476,971 |
| Salaries — Officers | 151,542 |
| Interest Expense | 93,634 |
| Tax Expense | 98,692 |
| Depreciation Expense | 83,977 |
| Utility Expense | 30,751 |
| Postage and Printing | 76,475 |
| Advertising | 43,081 |
| Travel Expense | 35,847 |
| Insurance Department Fees | 62,443 |
| Sales Promotion | 50,458 |
| Rental Expense | 129,562 |
| Other Expense | 131,815 |

TOTAL EXPENSE

\$ 34,947,628

Income (Loss) from Operations

\$ 1,337,451

Dividends to Members

511,278

Subtotal Income (Loss)

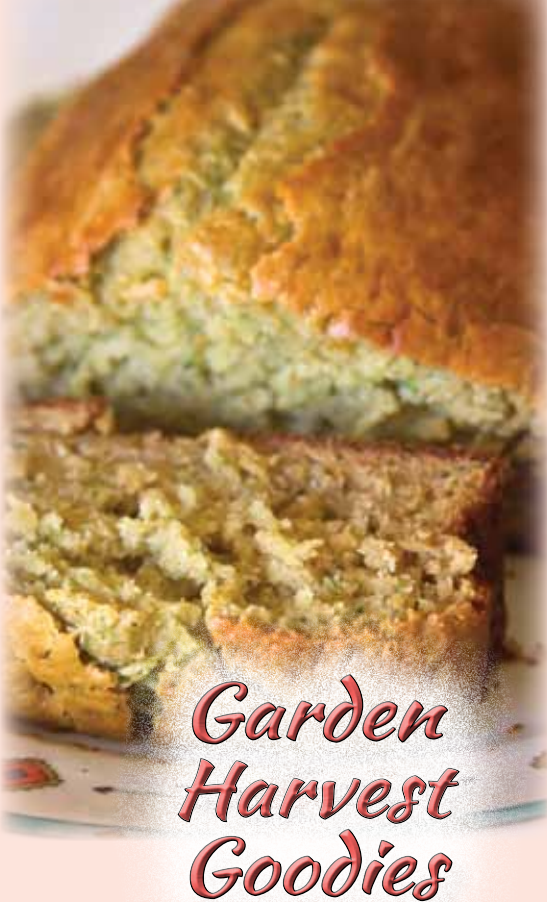
\$ 826,173

Capital Gains (Loss)

0

NET INCOME (Loss)

\$ 826,173



Garden Harvest Goodies

ZUCCHINI BREAD WITH LEMON HONEY BUTTER

- 3 large eggs
- 1 cup vegetable oil, plus more for greasing the pans
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups shredded zucchini (from about 1 medium zucchini)
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon zest
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon fine salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Honey Lemon Butter, recipe follows

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease two 9x5-inch loaf pans. In large bowl, beat together the eggs, oil, sugar and vanilla. Slowly add the zucchini. Add the lemon zest and mix thoroughly.

In a separate large bowl, combine the flour, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon and salt.

Slowly add the zucchini mixture until completely combined. Divide the batter between the prepared loaf pans. Bake until a toothpick comes out clean and the sides have started to brown, about 45 minutes. Let cool on a rack 15 minutes. Unmold and serve warm or at room temperature sliced with the Lemon Honey Butter.

LEMON HONEY BUTTER

- 4 ounces unsalted butter, softened
- 1 tablespoon honey

- 1 tablespoon lemon zest

Combine all ingredients and mix together well. Chill and serve.

CANDIED KIELBASA AND PINEAPPLE SPICED APPETIZER

- 1 tablespoon butter
 - ¼ cup shallots, minced
 - ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes
 - ¼ cup sherry
 - 1 cup apple juice
 - 1 cup cola (not diet)
 - ¼ cup brown sugar
 - 1 tablespoon spicy brown mustard
 - ¼ cup ketchup
 - 1 pound kielbasa, sliced into quarter inch slices
 - ¼ fresh pineapple, cut into small chunks
- In medium sauce pan, melt butter and add shallots and pepper flakes over medium heat. Sauté three minutes then add sherry. Cook to evaporate the sherry, about two minutes.

Add apple juice and bring to a boil then reduce to a fast simmer and cook down to a syrup, about ten minutes. Add cola and bring to a boil then reduce to a fast simmer and cook down to a syrup, about ten minutes. Add brown sugar, mustard and ketchup and simmer until thick and sticky, about five minutes (about the consistency of a thick maple syrup). Turn the burner off and leave sauce in the pan.

Heat a grill pan over medium heat and once hot, lay out half of the kielbasa slices and cook for five minutes. Turn each slice and cook for five more minutes. Add this batch to the sauce but leave the fat behind.

Pour the fat into a small bowl and wipe the pan clean. Repeat for the second half of the kielbasa, again adding to the sauce and pouring the fat into the small bowl. Turn the burner back on under the sauce at a low heat to stay warm while you grill the pineapple.

Wipe the pan clean and heat back over medium. Pour two tablespoons of the reserved fat onto the pan and once hot, place all of the pineapple pieces onto the hot fat.

Grill the pineapple for five minutes per side and add to the pan with the kielbasa.

WATERMELON SALSA

- 1½ teaspoons lime zest (from about 1 lime)
- ¼ cup fresh lime juice (from about 3 limes)
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- Freshly ground pepper
- 3 cups seeded and finely chopped watermelon
- 1 cucumber, peeled, seeded and diced
- 1 mango, peeled and diced
- 1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and minced
- 1 small red onion, finely chopped
- 8 fresh basil leaves, finely chopped

- ½ teaspoon garlic salt

Tortilla or pita chips, for serving

Stir together the lime zest, lime juice, sugar and ¾ teaspoon pepper in a bowl. Add the watermelon, cucumber, mango, jalapeño, onion and basil and toss gently. Chill the salsa until ready to serve. Add the garlic salt just before serving. Serve with chips.

ROASTED VEGETABLE MEATLOAF WITH BALSAMIC GLAZE

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 small zucchini, finely diced
- 1 red bell pepper, finely diced
- 1 yellow bell pepper, finely diced
- 5 cloves garlic, smashed to a paste with coarse salt
- ½ teaspoon red pepper flakes
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh thyme
- ¼ cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1½ pounds ground turkey
- 1 cup panko breadcrumbs
- ½ cup freshly grated Romano or Parmesan cheese
- ¾ cup ketchup
- ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Heat the oil in a large sauté pan over high heat. Add the zucchini, bell peppers, garlic paste and ¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes. Season with salt and pepper and cook until the vegetables are almost soft, about 5 minutes. Set aside to cool.

Whisk the egg and fresh herbs in a large bowl. Add the turkey, panko, grated cheese, ½ cup ketchup, 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar and the cooled vegetables; mix until just combined.

Gently press the mixture into a 9x5-inch loaf pan. Whisk the remaining ¼ cup ketchup, ¼ cup balsamic vinegar and ¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes in a small bowl; brush the mixture over the entire loaf. Bake for 1 to 1¼ hours. Let rest for 10 minutes before slicing.

RUM PUNCH

- 1 cup fresh lime juice
- 2 cups grenadine syrup
- 2 cups Jamaican white rum
- 1 cup light rum
- 2 cups fresh pineapple juice
- 2 cups fresh orange juice
- Pinch freshly grated nutmeg, optional
- Orange slices, for garnish
- Pineapple slices, for garnish

Mix all ingredients together in a pitcher or punch bowl. Chill in the refrigerator for at least 1 hour before serving. Garnish with orange or pineapple slices.

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.